

# Louisville

No matter where  
in the world you're  
from, a place to feel  
right at home.



Relocation Guide to Welcome International Families



# Welcome To Louisville, Kentucky!

Welcome to Louisville, Kentucky, a place we call “Possibility City.” Whether you are an immigrant professional, a student attending our universities or a foreign-born worker transferring from elsewhere in the United States, this quick information guide was created to help you learn more about how to benefit from this terrific community. We’re glad you’re here and we want to help you to get the most out of your move.

This compact guide provides important information you need to know about getting around Louisville, which businesses and professional groups can help you adjust to living here, and a good overview of the community’s diverse activities, places and events. Also, by visiting [www.LouisvilleInternationals.com](http://www.LouisvilleInternationals.com), you can connect with our expatriate community, attend events and learn more about opportunities that will help make you feel at home. It is our sincere hope you find this guide helpful and useful.

Welcome to Louisville!

- Greater Louisville International Professionals & G.L.I.P. Women’s Resource Group

## Did you know? Louisville has:

- 80,000 foreign-born residents
- 80 languages spoken in our school system
- More than 100 international events a year
- The largest annual celebration and showcase of cultures in the region: World Fest
- More than 1,600 people moving from abroad each year
- One of the largest refugee resettlement populations in the US.
- Eight sister cities throughout the world
- 200 international companies and several Fortune 500 global companies

## The Locals Know and so Should You!

- The City of Louisville was founded in 1778 by George Rogers Clark and is named after King Louis XVI of France.
- “Kentuckiana” is a term used to describe “Greater Louisville”: the city proper and surrounding counties, cities, and towns, including those immediately across the river in Southern Indiana.
- Three major college basketball teams are supported in Louisville: the Kentucky Wildcats (University of Kentucky), the Louisville Cardinals (University of Louisville), and the Indiana Hoosiers (Indiana University). It’s fair to say the UK v. U of L rivalry is among the most heated in college basketball.
- Many Louisvillians pronounce their home city “Looavull,” though no one will mind if you pronounce it “Louieville” or any other way you would with your accent! We embrace diversity!



Information in this guide was provided by a focused group belonging to the G.L.I.P Women s Resource Group and Greater Louisville Inc. Special thanks to: Senait Mareligne, Christine Payne, Nathalie Poirier, Harsha Dronowat, Peggy Baas, Sophie Maier, Winnie Chen, Anna Ozhgikhina, Sabina Sisc-Morris, Jacki Westwell, Nicole Eovino, Michelle Hayward, Anne Valois, Emma Roberts, Silvia Hameder.

# First Things I should know when I arrive to Louisville:

Essential to an enjoyable stay here is ensuring your government documentation is current, establishing a bank account, earning a driver's license, finding healthcare resources and much more. Following are helpful guidelines to lead you to the proper authorities who will help you in that quest.

## 1. Identification

### Social Security Number (SSN)

A Social Security Number (SSN) is one of our country's most important pieces of identification (I.D.). An SSN is often used to open bank accounts and apply for credit, enroll at doctors' offices, obtain a U.S. driver's license, acquire utility services (electrical and water), access federal, state and local benefits, and much more. Social security numbers are provided to residents, U.S. citizens and special visa holders. For more information visit:

Official Social Security website: [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

Local Office:  
10503 Timberwood Circle, Suite 50  
Louisville, KY 40223  
888-280-5851

### U.S. Driver's license:

A U.S. driver's license is a common I.D. used for activities such as boarding airplanes, opening bank accounts, showing proof of age (i.e. buying cigarettes or alcohol) and writing personal checks, so keep it on you at all times.

All non-U.S. citizens may drive in the U.S. using valid foreign licenses and International Permits for up to one year from the date of admission into the U.S., provided their home country is a Geneva Compact member state. Drivers from non-Geneva Compact countries must obtain a Kentucky license within 30 days of establishing residency in Kentucky.

- To learn more about non-U.S. Citizens' requirements for applying for Kentucky Driver's Licenses and required documentation, residency requirements, testing, and license expiration, visit [drlic.kytc.ky.gov/non\\_us/non\\_us\\_ctzns.htm](http://drlic.kytc.ky.gov/non_us/non_us_ctzns.htm)
- For a list of Geneva Compact countries, visit [transportation.ky.gov/drlic/non\\_us/geneva.htm](http://transportation.ky.gov/drlic/non_us/geneva.htm)

**The driver license test** involves a written exam (available in English and many other languages) and a practice driving exam on a road course.

- For locations to apply for both written and driving tests, visit [www.louisvilleky.gov/Residents/drivers\\_license.htm](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/Residents/drivers_license.htm)
- A Kentucky driver license manual is available at [www.kentuckystatepolice.org/pdf/2006\\_ky\\_drivers\\_manual.pdf](http://www.kentuckystatepolice.org/pdf/2006_ky_drivers_manual.pdf)
- For Southern Indiana driver's license information, visit [www.in.gov/bmv/index.htm](http://www.in.gov/bmv/index.htm)

### If stopped by the police in your car, you should:

- Stop the car as safely and as quickly as possible
- Keep your hands where the officer can see them or on the steering wheel
- **DO NOT** step out of the car unless asked.
- Avoid confronting the officer
- When requested, produce your driver's license, registration, and proof of automobile insurance
- If given a ticket for a traffic violation, accept or sign it.  
You will have a chance to dispute it afterward if necessary.

## 2. Banking and Finance

### Opening a bank account:

Most Americans utilize bank accounts to safely store money and for other financial services. You may find it helpful to visit **Bank On Louisville**, a city-based program that partners with local banks and credit unions to offer free or low-cost accounts for people who have never opened a bank account.

[www.louisvilleky.gov/economicdevelopment/BankOnLouisville](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/economicdevelopment/BankOnLouisville)

**Before you go ...** Prepare to present the following documents at your local bank:

- Social Security Number (SSN) or Non-citizen Alien Registration number
- Photo ID (driver's license; passport or state ID)
- Proof of your U.S. address and contact details

### Debit Cards

A debit card (sometimes called a "check card") is generally provided following the opening of a checking account, and allows you to make purchases in stores without using cash, and to use automatic teller machines (ATMs) for cash withdrawals. When an item is purchased with a debit card, the money is withdrawn directly from your bank account.

### Credit cards:

Credit cards allow users to make purchases "on credit" and pay for purchases at a later date often for a fee or "at interest." Eligibility requirements for credit cards are often based on income level, length of residence, and most importantly, credit history. How much credit is extended to users and what interest rate borrowers pay can change as good payment history is proven.

Ask your bank about these types of credit cards (in order of ease to obtain):

- **Secure credit card:** Users make a deposit against the credit limit of the account (i.e. \$500, \$1,000). The bank holds the deposit for up to a year and the user must keep up regular repayments on any purchases on the card.
- **Retailer credit cards** are issued by clothing stores, gas stations, etc., have easier credit approval and lower credit limits.
- **Bank Credit Cards:** Users may qualify for a bank credit card once they build a credit-score (which is a measurement of lending worthiness).
- **Non-Financial institution credit cards** (i.e. CitiBank, CapitalOne) solicitations are often mailed to you once you've obtained a Social Security Number and you have applied for credit.



### Building Credit:

Many international citizens arrive in the U.S. without prior credit history or they are unable to transfer credit history from their home country. If you are planning to stay in the U.S. for an extended period and believe you may need to borrow for certain purchases, it is a good idea to start building your credit history. Credit history is used to get a car loan, to purchase a home and more. A good credit history may lower the rate at which you may borrow money, plus, some employers request credit scores.

### How does it work?

The **FICO** scoring system is the formula designed to evaluate or "score" a person's credit worthiness. What determines your score are your payment history on loans or credit card, your income, how much debt you have, how long you've had credit, the types of credit you have, and whether you have applied for credit recently.

Scores range from 300 to 850, and the higher the score, the better your credit is considered to be, which increases the likelihood an institution will give you credit. Most lenders use a score of 700 or higher for consideration of their best rates and terms.

### How do I build my credit history?

Once you've obtained credit through cards or loans or utilities, the most important thing to do is to make all payments for bills and credit cards on time. Your payment history makes up a large percentage of your credit score, and even one late payment can make a big negative impact on your overall score.

Only obtaining credit, through a credit card or loan (i.e. car, personal, mortgage), will build your credit score. Start with the easiest places to get credit, such as through obtaining a secure credit card. Paying rent or utility bills in a timely fashion will not build your credit, however failing to pay these or paying them late can harm your credit standing.

### How to check my credit history?

Check your free credit score annually at [www.AnnualCreditReport.com](http://www.AnnualCreditReport.com).

## 3. Health Care

Since the United States does not have a universal health care system like many other countries, our health care system is made up of a variety of providers including general doctors and specialists, hospitals and urgent care centers. Additionally, all individuals are responsible for acquiring their own health protection plans either through their employers or through individual plans.

### Health Insurance 101:

#### The Purpose of Health Insurance

Health insurance protects you from the potentially high cost of medical care by covering specific health care services. Although those who are insured generally pay a monthly premium, as well as co-payments or co-insurance costs for specific services, the cost for insurance is far less than the cost for medical care when paid solely by you. Many people obtain health insurance through their employers, but if you haven't or cannot, individual health insurance is available. (To learn more about obtaining an individual policy, visit this link: [www.ehealthinsurance.com](http://www.ehealthinsurance.com))

**Tip:** Always carry your health insurance card and a photo ID with you in case you are hospitalized.

The standard of living is high, the cost of living is low, life is good.

#### Major types of health insurance policies:

**Managed care plans** provide coverage for health services in form of lower out-of-pocket costs to patients who use doctors from a network (an approved group of doctors, third-party providers and hospitals). The vast majority of U.S. citizens have managed care plans. The three types include **health maintenance organizations** (HMOs), **preferred provider organizations** (PPOs) and **point-of-service** (POS) plans.

A **fee-for-service plan** means the doctor or other health care professional is paid a fee for each health care service provided to the patient. Patients can see the doctor of their choice and the claim is filed by either the health care professional or the patient.

A **consumer-directed plan** is designed to give consumers more control over a portion of their health benefit spending, typically through a health fund or account that can be used to pay for covered medical expenses.

An overview of American health insurance is available at [www.healthcare.gov/foryou/generalinformation/101](http://www.healthcare.gov/foryou/generalinformation/101)

#### Types of doctors:

**Primary Care Physician** – This doctor can be a family doctor, general practitioner, pediatrician or an internal medical doctor who takes care of your basic needs.

**Specialist** – This is a doctor with a specific medical expertise. In many cases, your primary care physician will need to refer you to a specialist for your health insurance to cover that cost.

**Urgent Care** – An urgent care physician sees patients without scheduled appointments in a facility outside of a hospital. Such physicians treat minor ailments not requiring a hospital emergency room visit, but they may refer such patients to a hospital for more intensive care.

#### Visiting the Doctor:

When you arrive at a doctor's office, you will have to provide your insurance card and a photo ID. In the exam room, an assistant will likely weigh you and take your temperature and blood pressure. Next, the doctor will visit you and ask questions about your symptoms. The doctor may provide you with a treatment plan, a prescription for medicine, or will request further medical tests. The insurance company will be billed by the doctor, and you have to pay your portion. You might also have to pay a co-pay on the spot, so be prepared to do that.

**Important!** If you have to visit a doctor frequently because of a health issue, be sure to learn the details of your insurance plan. Some pay only for a certain number of visits!

### In Case of an Emergency:

Louisville is internationally recognized for its top-flight hospitals, of which there are several to choose from. Should you have an emergency requiring an immediate visit, select from these hospitals to see which might be closest or be accepted by your insurance:

- **Baptist East:** [www.baptisteast.com](http://www.baptisteast.com)
- **Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's HealthCare:** [www.jhsmh.org](http://www.jhsmh.org)
- **Norton Healthcare:** (multiple hospitals) [www.nortonhealthcare.com](http://www.nortonhealthcare.com)
- **University Hospital:** [www.uoflhealthcare.org](http://www.uoflhealthcare.org)

## 4. Transportation

#### Purchasing or leasing a car:

As you search for a new residence or employment, you'll realize how owning a car is very useful in Greater Louisville. The city is very spread out and our roads are easy to navigate. Buying or leasing a car from a dealership or private party is fairly simple. Most dealers have large inventories of cars, and sale prices are negotiable. Good credit, stable income, insurance eligibility, and a driver license can lead to a car purchase in a couple of hours. Financing is available through banks and through the car dealers themselves. To protect your investment, we encourage you to learn more about best practices to buy or sell a vehicle at [www.dmv.org/ky-kentucky](http://www.dmv.org/ky-kentucky)

**Tip:** If you are buying a used car, it's **wise to check its actual value** at [www.kbb.com](http://www.kbb.com), and its accident history and maintenance records at [www.carfax.com](http://www.carfax.com)

**Public Transportation:** TARC provides public transportation in the Greater Louisville area with bus routes in Jefferson, Bullitt and Oldham counties in Kentucky and Clark and Floyd counties in Indiana. All TARC buses accommodate wheelchairs and are equipped with bicycle racks. For maps and schedules, go to [www.ridetarc.org](http://www.ridetarc.org)

**Louisville International Airport (SDF)** Just 10 minutes from downtown, Louisville International Airport is a low-fare airport that draws travelers within a 200-mile radius of the city. The airport now has nonstop service to 28 destinations and numerous convenient connections to cities worldwide. The airport accommodated more than 3.3 million passengers in 2010.

**Bicycle routes:** Louisville is a bicycle-friendly town. Visit [www.louisvilleky.gov/BikeLouisville](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/BikeLouisville) to learn about the area's best routes.



## For Families and Kids...

Louisville has been recognized many times by national publications as one of America's "most livable" cities, making it an ideal place to raise families. In addition to the numerous public and private school options and a near-endless number of child-focused and family-centered activities, the area has several parks and recreational areas where kids can just be kids among the safety of their family circle.

#### Education

The American educational system is among the world's most highly regarded, and opportunities to attend first-rate schools extends throughout the Greater Louisville area at all levels and for all ages. As part of a child's assimilation into American

culture, anyone between the ages of 6 and 16 must be enrolled in school. Our public school system is offered at no cost.

Regardless of their country of origin or their ability to speak English, all foreign children who plan to enroll in the Jefferson County Public School (JCPS) system must register first through its English as a Second Language (ESL) program. After each foreign student's English-speaking abilities are assessed there, they are assigned to a school where they may receive further help. Contact the county ESL office at (502) 485-3623 or visit [www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/programs/ESL](http://www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/programs/ESL) to learn more.

Should you or your child require additional **ESL resources**, several are listed below:

- Kentucky ESL: [www.freewebs.com/kyesl/index.htm](http://www.freewebs.com/kyesl/index.htm) or (502) 585-9062
- Best English ESL: [www.bestenglishesl.com](http://www.bestenglishesl.com) or (502) 409-2031
- University of Louisville: [www.louisville.edu/english/iesl](http://www.louisville.edu/english/iesl) or (502) 852-5901
- Los Monitos Language Center Accent Reduction Program: [www.losmonitos.com](http://www.losmonitos.com) or (502) 893-0933

You'll regularly hear the phrase, "K through 12," which simply means kindergarten through 12th grade. K through 8 is considered "grade school" or "primary education," and grades 9 through 12 are considered "high school" or "secondary education. In the U.S., children officially start school in kindergarten around age 5 and graduate high school in 12th grade around age 18. Some parents send their children to pre-school, commonly called "pre-K," for a head start.

**Parochial schools** are elementary and high schools run by religious organizations whose purpose is to infuse a general education practicum with the values of their particular faith. They are privately and primarily funded through student tuition and include many options serving students in grades K-12.

**Magnet schools** in the JCPS system focus on a specific subject (such as environmental studies), offer training for a specific career (such as engineering), or provide a specialized learning environment. More information on magnet schools and programs: [www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/Parent/Choice.html](http://www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/Parent/Choice.html)

To learn how to register your child in a Jefferson County School, visit [www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/About/FAQ.html](http://www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/About/FAQ.html)

#### International Baccalaureate (IB) Programs

- **Atherton High School (Public)** - Diploma Program [www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/Schools/High/Atherton/IB.html](http://www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/Schools/High/Atherton/IB.html)
- **Whitney Young Elementary (Public)** - in the process of receiving certification for the IB Primary (elementary) Years Program. Contact Barbara Dempsey at [Barbara.dempsey@jefferson.kyschools.us](mailto:Barbara.dempsey@jefferson.kyschools.us) for information.
- **Sacred Heart Academy (Private)** - Diploma Program [www.sacredheartacad.com/academics/international.shtml](http://www.sacredheartacad.com/academics/international.shtml)
- International Studies Career paths are offered at Fairdale High, Seneca High, and Atherton High [www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/Showcase/ShowcaseHS.html](http://www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/Showcase/ShowcaseHS.html)

If you're ready to explore **Post Secondary** opportunities, Louisville has great programs, many ranked top in the nation! Visit [www.greaterlouisville.com/hire](http://www.greaterlouisville.com/hire) or [www.educationkentucky.org](http://www.educationkentucky.org) for links to universities and colleges in the region

#### Childcare Options:

Finding the right childcare to suit your needs can be challenging. The good news is there are many different options available: full-time day care, babysitting, summer programs, school education and more. Below is an overview of some options. The quality of programs available can vary, so it is worth checking out different providers before making a decision. Consider checking out:

#### Community Coordinated Childcare

This nonprofit organization operates as a resource center for parents, employers and childcare professionals. (502) 636-1358. [www.4cforkids.org](http://www.4cforkids.org)

#### Association of Community Ministries:

The ACM represents 15 independent community ministries and more than 340 religious congregations providing social services to Jefferson County residents. Programs range from childcare to eldercare, classes of all types, and summer programs and are neighborhood-specific. (502) 329-8299. [www.louisvilleministries.org](http://www.louisvilleministries.org)

#### Parents Day out (PDO) / Mothers Day out and Preschool Programs

Many local churches run "Parents' Day Out" programs designed specifically for

children ages 6 weeks to 5 years (pre-kindergarten). The programs usually run 2-3 mornings a week, depending children's ages.

#### Daycare Providers

Designed to provide care for children aged 6 weeks to 5 years old (pre-kindergarten). Daycare is usually full time, 5 days a week, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

#### Nannies and babysitting services

Parents and your local childcare provider are a good source of babysitters' referrals. Other options are:

- Southern Baptist Theological Seminary: Post your childcare needs on its website, and students can then apply to help online. Open to the public of all faiths. (502) 897-4721 [www.sbts.edu/current-students/services/employment/how-to-apply/off-campus-employment](http://www.sbts.edu/current-students/services/employment/how-to-apply/off-campus-employment)
- Sullivan University: The school's well-established nanny program offers training and certification. There is a request form online as well as tips for hiring a nanny. (502) 413-860 [www.sullivan.edu/Early\\_Childhood\\_Education](http://www.sullivan.edu/Early_Childhood_Education)
- Family Tree: Family Tree offers nanny care, childcare for sick children, eldercare, and household help. Its services are highly rated and it is a locally owned and operated business. (502) 895-9998. [www.familytreecareservices.com](http://www.familytreecareservices.com)

#### Jewish Community Center: [www.jccoflouisville.org](http://www.jccoflouisville.org)

The JCC has a variety of childcare programs open to members and nonmembers. There are options for infants, toddler and a drop-in babysitting service. JCC also offers a variety of summer camps for children age 20s months through 9th grade. Open to the public of all faiths (502) 459-0660

#### YMCA

The "Y" offers programs at various sites for children ages 6 weeks to 13. (502) 587-2118 [www.ymcalsouthern.org](http://www.ymcalsouthern.org)



## International Sports Leagues, Clubs, and Associations

You don't have to live in Greater Louisville long to see how we love sports of all kinds. Throughout the area there are sports leagues for players of all ages, not to mention an impressive variety. From sports enjoyed by the mainstream here, to games with more international flair, such as cricket and Australian rules football, you can nearly always find a match to play or watch.

#### Soccer (a.k.a. "football")

- Louisville Soccer Alliance (502)459-8070 [www.louisvillesoccer.com](http://www.louisvillesoccer.com)
- Mockingbird Valley Sports Complex [www.mockingbirdsoccer.net](http://www.mockingbirdsoccer.net) (502) 896-2412
- United 1996 Futbol Club – Premiere Soccer Academy for Under 17 - [www.united1996fc.com](http://www.united1996fc.com) This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it. (502) 429-9014.
- Pickup games with internationals, contact Gionatan Surrinti at 502.759.1185

#### Tennis

Louisville Tennis Center  
[www.louisvilleky.gov/MetroParks/outdoors/louisvilletenniscenter](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/MetroParks/outdoors/louisvilletenniscenter)  
Springhurst Tennis Club [www.springhurst.com/](http://www.springhurst.com/) (502) 412-2950

### Racquetball

Louisville Indoor Racquet Club [www.lirctennis.com](http://www.lirctennis.com) (502) 426-2454

### Bocce

[www.gotchabocce.net](http://www.gotchabocce.net) or (502) 554-1700

### Badminton:

Louisville Badminton Club: Call Charles Norton (502) 426-3219

### Rugby

Louisville Rugby Football Club [www.louisvillerrugby.org](http://www.louisvillerrugby.org)

### Swimming

Mary T. Meagher Aquatic Center (502) 897-9949

### Table Tennis

[www.sitta.org](http://www.sitta.org) or call John Riley (502) 952-3800

### Australian Football

Louisville Kings – Call Chris Parsley (502) 489-7919 or Jack Jacobs (502) 821-9253

### Ballet/Dance

Louisville Ballet School [www.louisvilleballet.org](http://www.louisvilleballet.org) (502) 583-3150  
Jennifer's Academy of Dance [www.jennifersacademyofdance.com](http://www.jennifersacademyofdance.com)

### Cricket

Contact Pavan Posani at [pkposani@gmail.com](mailto:pkposani@gmail.com)

- Access cultural showcases spotlighting different immigrant groups that have settled in Louisville.
- Participate in free story time and other programs offered for children and teens.

For more information, contact Sophie Maier at [sophie@lfpl.org](mailto:sophie@lfpl.org) or at (502) 574-1720, or check out [www.lfpl.org/internationals.htm](http://www.lfpl.org/internationals.htm)

### Southern Indiana Libraries:

New Albany Floyd County Public Library - [www.nafclibrary.org](http://www.nafclibrary.org)  
Clark County Public Library – [www.jefferson.lib.in.us](http://www.jefferson.lib.in.us)

## Shopping Guide

You want it? You can likely find it in Greater Louisville. From international chain department stores selling brands you recognize to boutique stores selling specialty items, Louisville has an incredible array of places to shop, be it under roof at modern malls or in unique neighborhoods whose shops have their own fashion flair.

The following places to shop were recommended by a group of international women and are not inclusive of all stores in Louisville. You can use the internet (Google) or the Yellow Pages to locate a store near you.

### Malls:

- **Mall St. Matthews:** [www.mallstmatthews.com](http://www.mallstmatthews.com)
- **Oxmoor Mall:** [www.oxmoorcenter.com](http://www.oxmoorcenter.com)
- **Jefferson Mall:** [www.shopjefferson-mall.com](http://www.shopjefferson-mall.com)
- **The Summit:** [www.thesummitonline.com/louisville](http://www.thesummitonline.com/louisville)
- **Greentree Mall, Clarksville IN:** [www.greentreemall.com](http://www.greentreemall.com)
- **Riverfalls Mall, Clarksville, IN:** [www.riverfallsmall.com](http://www.riverfallsmall.com)
- **Global Food Market:** 737 S. 8th St. Louisville KY 40202

**Super Stores** (stores that sell groceries, clothing, hardware, pharmacy, retail services and have international food sections...)

- Kroger
- Meijer
- Wal-Mart
- ValuMarket
- LiquorBarn
- World Market
- Whole Foods
- Target

**Souvenirs of Louisville/Kentucky Pride Products:** Louisville Stoneware, Taste of Kentucky, Why Louisville, Louisville Visitors Information Center

**Louisville Farmers' Markets:** [www.louisvillecsa.com/csa/marketlist.aspx](http://www.louisvillecsa.com/csa/marketlist.aspx)  
**Pick Your Own Farm:** [www.pickyourown.org/KY.htm](http://www.pickyourown.org/KY.htm)

## International Food and Dining

Louisville has one of the best and most diverse dining scenes of any community in the United States. This includes a large number of authentic restaurants and grocery stores serving international cuisines and foods from all over the world. For a comprehensive list of local, independent restaurants, visit: [louisvilleoriginals.com/restaurants](http://louisvilleoriginals.com/restaurants).



## Louisville Free Public Library

The Louisville Free Public Library is a treasured local resource for those who enjoy reading or need to do research. Through its 18 locations around the city, you and your family can gain access to hundreds of thousands of books, magazines, newspapers, programming and more, as well as the free use of computers. A library card is free with just a photo ID and proof of address in Jefferson County. Borrowing books from the library is also free.

In addition to normal library services, the library is also a great place to:

- Check out foreign language books, movies and music, including a children's collection which can assist with multilingual education.
- Check out material for learning English including books, DVDs, and CDs. Advanced grammar and "idiom" books are quite popular with professionals.
- Preparation for citizenship and other academic admissions testing through library books and media, as well as free test preparation web services.
- Check out Kentucky history material and neighborhood-specific histories.
- Join an English Conversation Club. Practice idioms, slang and the English language with other international residents.
- Join the Spanish Language Literary Salon, Arabic Salon, and French Circle—all providing a foreign language forum to discuss literature, art, music and culture.

Don't just entertain the possibilities,  
let them entertain you.





# Other Helpful Information:

## Useful Links

### Louisville Metro Services

[www.louisvilleky.gov](http://www.louisvilleky.gov)

**MetroCall 311** – Dial 311 to obtain information or request a service from Louisville Metro Government.

[www.louisvilleky.gov/MetroCall/](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/MetroCall/)

### Call 911 for emergencies

### Metro Chamber of Commerce

[www.GreaterLouisville.com](http://www.GreaterLouisville.com)

### Convention & Visitor's Bureau

[www.gotolouisville.com](http://www.gotolouisville.com)

### Louisville Magazine

[www.loumag.com](http://www.loumag.com)

### Events/Places to go

[www.louisville.com](http://www.louisville.com)

### Independent Restaurants:

[www.louisvilleoriginals.com](http://www.louisvilleoriginals.com)

### Get Involved!

#### All volunteer opportunities in the community:

[www.metrounitedway.org](http://www.metrounitedway.org)

#### Want to know more about Louisville?

[www.liveinlou.com](http://www.liveinlou.com)

#### Want to know more fun things to do in Louisville?

Go to [www.gotolouisville.com](http://www.gotolouisville.com)

## International Showcase, Stay Connected to the World:

**International Films/Videos:** Wild & Wooly Video, Blockbuster, Netflix.com, and various international Indian and African grocery stores (check Food Guide)

**International Music:** Ear-X Tacy, Louisville Free Public Library

**International Theaters/Movies:** [www.apextheaters.com](http://www.apextheaters.com)  
(Baxter Theater in the Highlands and Village 8 Cinemas in St. Matthews).

### International News:

*BBC World Services at Your Door!*

Tune to WFPL 89.7 FM every weekday at 9 a.m., 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Watch the news at "KET" TV Channel every day at 6 p.m.

## Travel Tips

Becoming a member of AAA Travel Agency (American Automobile Association) provides you with maps and guides from US and World Countries, as well as travel emergency insurance and an International Driver License.

**Currency Exchange:** For immediate over the counter service, visit Fifth Third Bank Downtown or Louisville International Airport branch. Call your bank ahead to check availability of currency.

### \*Top 25 words you may not have learned in school...

1. **Back burner** = deal with it later
2. **Beat** = tired
3. **Cheesy** = cheap, outmoded
4. **Dicey** = unpredictable, risky
5. **Drop the ball** = to mess something up
6. **Eye popper** = something or someone visibly astounding
7. **Flaky** = unpredictable person
8. **Flick** = movie
9. **Goof off** = waste time
10. **Guts** = courage, fearlessness
11. **Go bananas** = to go slightly crazy
12. **Icky** = unpleasant, gross
13. **Kicking back** = relaxing
14. **Knockout** = beautiful woman, handsome man
15. **Make waves** = cause problems
16. **Mellow** = relaxed
17. **Neat** = cool, impressive
18. **Nuke** = to cook something in the microwave oven
19. **Quick and dirty** = done fast, but not well
20. **Riot** = something or someone very funny
21. **Uptight** = to be nervous, anxious
22. **Touch base** = to meet up again later
23. **Vanilla** = plain, simple
24. **Y'all** = You all, everyone in a group
25. **Zip** = nothing

\*Glossary comes from USA Visitor's Guide,  
by Sundeep Dronowat

There's a limit to what you can do in  
Louisville. Your Imagination.



Greater Louisville  
**International Professionals**  
 A Greater Louisville Inc. Initiative

# Become A Member *NOW!*

Greater Louisville International Professionals (G.L.I.P.) showcases Louisville's welcoming and inclusive nature by serving as a trusted source of information, conversations and connections between international professionals and the region's business community. G.L.I.P. also offers a valuable forum for the area's professionals or companies doing business internationally and thinking with a global perspective.

- Events
- Memberships
- International Events In the Community
- Connections
- International Organizations



## COUNTRY AMBASSADORS

The program identifies one Ambassador for each country represented in the metro area community. These ambassadors serve as a point person and resource for their respective countries, and help new international residents acclimate to the city. Ambassadors also manage a webpage showcasing their countries' presence in Louisville, from restaurants and shops to cultural events and associations. Currently, 49 ambassadors and country pages have been created on the G.L.I.P. website, and more are added monthly to reflect our growing community.

## WOMEN'S RESOURCE GROUP

As an initiative of several female G.L.I.P. members, the Women's Resource Group focuses on helping spouses and families of new-to-Louisville international professionals get connected and settled in their new community. The group engages in outreach to spouses of professionals who have recently relocated to Louisville, and is evolving to include events and social mentors.

To Become A Member, Visit:  
**WWW.LOUISVILLEINTERNATIONALS.COM**

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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