



Cincinnati - City Business Guide

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Overview

Cincinnati, a key business center, is ranked one of the best U.S. cities to live in for its low crime rate, efficient transportation infrastructure, and steady economic growth rate. Cincinnati's early development as a city was related to its 1835 position as the largest pork producer in the U.S. Located on the Ohio River, the city also benefited economically from the many shipbuilding companies that settled here during the steamboat boom. Currently, such major corporations as Procter & Gamble, Milacron and Cincinnati Bell are based in Cincinnati. While Cincinnati is a Midwestern pillar, its sensibility combines European charm and Southern-style hospitality. Among its sites of interest are the Bicentennial Commons a 22-acre riverfront park built to celebrate its 200th birthday, and the Cincinnati Museum, housed in the restored Union Terminal train station. Sports fever also runs high in the city, in support of its professional football (the Bengals) and baseball (Reds) teams.

Business Etiquette

- * Formal dress is the norm for corporate executives and those working in the legal, consulting, accounting and banking industries. Dress is more casual in other sectors, particularly in the technology domain and particularly during hot summer weather.
- * Appointments should be made and kept punctually.
- * It is customary to open and end a meeting with a handshake.
- * Casual conversation, lasting a few minutes, often starts a meeting.
- * Business cards can be presented at the start or end of a meeting.
- * Privacy should be respected in business contexts.
- * An open and direct business style is the norm.
- * Deals should be followed up and confirmed in writing as quickly as possible.
- * Friendships in the business community are key to getting things done.
- * Ask where (and when) smoking is permitted.
- * If invited to someone's house, it is customary to bring flowers or another hostess gift.

Chamber of Commerce

Cincinnati Chamber Of Commerce

Tel.: +1 513 579 3120

Embassies and Consulates

Content unavailable.

Business Centers

Business centers provide a range of services that include secretarial, translation/interpretation, and office services, including computer rentals, audio/visual equipment rentals, cellular phone rentals, copy and printing services, and temporary office space and staff.

HQ Global Workplaces

1500 Chiquita Center, 250 E. 5th St.; Tel.: +1 513 721-0900

Executives Suite

119 E Court Street; Tel.: +1 513 632-5345

Executives Suite Plus

9624 Cincinnati Colmbs Road, Cincinnati, OH 45241; Tel.: +1 513 777-0200

Hyde Park Executive Service

3666 Paxton Avenue # 3; Tel.: +1 513 871-9399

Hamilton County Business Center

1776 Mentor Avenue Suite 100; Tel.: +1 513-763-5010

Conference and Exhibition Centers

Cincinnati Convention Center 525 Elm Street; Tel.: +1 513 352-3750

Cintas Center 1624 Herald Avenue; Tel.: +1 513 745-3428

Este Conference Center 6270 Este Avenue; Tel.: +1 513 679 2028

Cincinnati Club Bldg 30 Garfield Pl Ste 10; Tel.: +1 513 241-3464

Oasis Golf Club & Conference Center 902 Loveland-Miamiville Road; Tel.: +1 513 583-8383

Rookwood Conference Center 3805 Edwards Road, Suite 700; Tel.: +1 513 458-6600

Sharonville Convention Center 11355 Chester Road; Tel.: +1 513 771-7744

The Kolping Convention Center 10235 Mill Road; Tel.: +1 513 851-7951

Translation Offices

Cincilingua Translation Service

Tel.: (513) 721 8819

Translations Unlimited

Tel.: (513) 674-0716

Vice Versa Translation Service

Tel.: (513) 677-5338

Courier/Messenger Services

Direct Express Delivery

+1 513 541-0600

DHL

+1 800 225-5345

FedEx

+1 800 238-5355

UPS

+1 800 742-5877

Internet Connection Place

All upper-range and most medium-priced hotels are equipped with dataports that allow guests to use laptop computers. Many hotels offer business centers equipped with computers and Internet access. Outside hotels, cyber cafes are available including:

Cody's Café

Tel.: +1 513 569-0555

Sitwell Coffee House

Tel.: +1 513 281-7487

Visas & Customs

Passports valid for at least six months after arrival are required for all. In general, travelers visiting the U.S. are required visas. However, under the Visa Waiver Program, citizens of Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom are allowed to stay for 90 days without a visa. Citizens of Canada and Mexico do not need a visa but must carry proof of citizenship and identity.

Beginning October 26, 2004, all travelers, including children of any age, who want to travel visa-free to the United States under the Visa Waiver Program must have a Machine-readable passport.

Duty-free allowances are 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 2 kilograms of tobacco, 1 liter of alcohol, and gifts worth up to \$100. Meat products, seeds, plants, fruits, and hazardous goods are prohibited.

Phone Information

The Cincinnati area code is 513.

Emergency Phone Numbers

Emergency police, fire, and ambulance 911

Tips and Rules for Use of Phone in Country

For local calls, dial the seven-digit telephone number. For long-distance calls within the U.S., dial 1, then the three-digit area code, then the seven-digit number. For long-distance calls outside the U.S., first dial 011 and the country code. Four special prefixes, "800," "888," "877," and "900," are not area codes but indicators of special services. "800," "888," and "877" are toll-free calls. The "900" numbers charge you for the call and are often expensive. For collect calls or operator-assisted calls, dial "0" instead of "1". For local directory assistance, dial 411. For long-distance information, dial 1, and then the appropriate area code followed by 555-1212.

The most common public phone is the coin-operated type. Telephone-card phones are becoming increasingly common.

Tips and Rules for Use and Rental of Mobile Phones

There are several cellular service providers in the U.S., including: Verizon Wireless, T-Mobile, Cingular, AT&T Wireless, and Sprint PCS. Mobile phone numbers follow the regular telephone number convention, with the seven-digit telephone number followed by the area code.

If you choose to bring your cellular phone into the U.S., be sure to check with your home cellular service provider to establish compatibility of your phone with systems abroad. Rent a locally compatible cellular phone before you arrive to obtain reasonable rates and reliable service.

Money

Foreign currency must be exchanged to U.S. dollars. Money can be exchanged at banks and various foreign-exchange services. Most restaurants, shops, and hotels will take travelers' checks and major credit cards. Travelers can also withdraw cash from ATMs.

The basic unit of U.S. currency is the dollar, which equals 100 cents. Coins are the copper penny (1 cent) and four silver coins: the nickel (5 cents), the dime (10 cents), the quarter (25 cents), and the half-dollar (50 cents). Silver \$1 coins and "golden" dollar coins also exist. Paper bills come in denominations of \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100.

Tippling

- * **Restaurants** 15 to 20 percent of bill, none at fast-food restaurants
- * **Bars** About US\$1 per drink or 10% to 15% of drink prices
- * **Airport Skycap/Porter** US\$1 per piece of luggage
- * **Taxis** 10 percent of fare
- * **Hotel Bell Desk** US\$1 per piece of luggage or per taxi summoned
- * **Hotel Housekeeping** US\$1 per person per day
- * **Hotel Room Service** 15 percent of bill
- * **Parking Attendant/Valet** 15 percent of parking rate
- * **Haircare/Personal Services** 20 percent of bill

Time Difference

Cincinnati is in the Eastern time zone (Greenwich Mean Time minus five hours). From early April through late October, Georgia switches to daylight-saving time.





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VAT & Taxes

The sales tax in Cincinnati is 6%

Voltage

110V AC, 60Hz. Plugs are of the flat, two-pin type.

Local Transportation

The minimum tax fare is \$3, which is often enough to get you from downtown to most places of interest, and can be usually found on the west end of Fifth Street. The Queen City Metro provides inexpensive bus service through the city. The best way to move between downtown Cincinnati and the sights across the river in Covington and Newport, KY, is via the South Bank Shuttle Tank shuttle bus, which picks up at Fountain Square in front of the Westin Hotel.

Health Info

No specific immunizations are needed to enter the United States. For more information, contact the Center for Disease Control at 1 800 311-3435

Climate

Winters in Cincinnati are often snowy, and rain is common in spring. Summer weather tends to be hot and humid with frequent thunderstorms. Cincinnati's most pleasant season is autumn.

Public Holidays

- * **New Year's Day** January 1
- * **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** Third Monday in January
- * **Presidents' Day** Third Monday in February
- * **Easter** Sunday in mid-March or early April
- * **Memorial Day** Last Monday in May
- * **Independence Day** July 4
- * **Labor Day** First Monday in September
- * **Columbus Day** Second Monday in October
- * **Veterans' Day** November 11
- * **Thanksgiving** Fourth Thursday in November
- * **Christmas** December 25

Where to Eat

At **Tousey House**, the chef Kristy Schalck serves a prix-fixe menu of three courses in historic downtown Burlington. Featuring classic French and Northern Italian cooking, **Maisonette** has been awarded five stars. On Friday and Saturday nights, the main dining room of the **Palm Court** switches to Orchids, with a fine-dining menu in a French art deco style. Elegant **La Normandie** has been serving steaks in Cincinnati for 70 years. Downtown, the **Bistro JeanRo** serves everyday French dishes in a typical Parisian atmosphere. For a stunning riverside view and a meal of Cincinnati's best ribs, try **Montgomery Inn Boathouse**. Creative American cuisine is paired with carefully selected wines at **The Phoenix**. **Arborea** offers a selection of reasonably priced seafood in a fashionable setting.

Local Gift Ideas

Saka's, Tiffany's and Cincinnati's many chic malls, like Forence Mall and Kenwood Towne Centre, are good places to find brand names and designer items. Cincinnati Art Galleries has a fine collection of 19th and 20th century American and European paintings, Rookwood pottery, and various antique objects.

Leisure Time

Cincinnati is the home of many eminent cultural institutions. Three museums are located in the Cincinnati Museum Center the Museum of Natural History and Science, Cincinnati Historical Society Museum and Cinergy Children Museum. An OMNIMAX Theater is also part of the center's facilities. Cincinnati Art Museum has an impressive collection that includes paintings, sculptures, photographs and musical instruments. Of special note is the Museum's Rosewood Pottery Gallery. Among the riches found at the Tat Museum are some Rembrandt canvases and fine examples of delicate Chinese porcelain. The Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Ballet and Cincinnati Opera also provide the city with a lively performing arts scene. Considered one of the best American zoos, Cincinnati Zoo is the country's second oldest. Over-the-Rhine area is the city's liveliest area for nightlife, while Mount Adams area is a favorite on summer nights. If you visit during baseball season (April to September), consider taking in a game of home team Cincinnati Reds, who were also the first professional baseball team.

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