

BENEFITS OF A LIFE IN TAMPA

Florida is growing faster and gaining popularity with every passing year, but nowhere is that more apparent than in the **Tampa Bay area**. **Hillsborough County** has increased by 6,353 residents in 2010 according to University of Florida researchers, second only to Miami-Dade. **Tampa residents** are affectionately called Tampanians. The great thing about Tampanians is that most of us are not originally from here. We are all discovering this city together. We moved here because it's an amazing city. *Amazing* for more reasons than one:

Climate

Living in Tampa means spending winters in t-shirts and light sweaters, enjoying temperatures in the mid 70's. Summers in the high 90's are ideal for hot weather lovers, and contrary to popular belief, the summers are not much hotter than summers in other four-season areas of the country. Florida showers occur May through October, are usually short and a good way to clear the air.

Economy

Tampa may be a popular retirement destination, but it is just as much a medical and technological haven that continues to attract young and intelligent forward thinkers. Home to hundreds of medical technology companies, medical device manufacturers and suppliers, pharmaceutical firms, bio-tech companies and information technology firms, **Tampa Real Estate** sits at the forefront of research and advancement.

Beaches

Every **Tampa Home** is only a short drive to the water. Beaches like Honeymoon Island (<http://www.romantichoneymoonisland.com/about.html>) boast turquoise waters and sandy beaches, while others like Caladesi Island Park boast a top spot on beach rankings for its beautiful nature trails and thrilling kayak trails (<http://www.floridastateparks.org/caladesiisland/>).

Sophisticated City

People underestimate the cultural aspects of **Tampa Real Estate**. We receive all of the Broadway Theater that other major cities enjoy, along with a good selection of art museums – from the Salvador Dali Museum to the St. Petersburg Museum of Fine Arts. There are also two notable cities worthy of New York City borough status. Ybor City (<http://www.ybor.org>), the most popular destination for the Cuban population, is defined by its hand-rolled cigars, narrow brick streets, and authentic Spanish cuisine. Hyde Park, affectionately known as the SoHo district, is Tampa's center for nightlife, bars, restaurants and upscale boutiques.

Attractions

From swimming with the fishes at the Florida Aquarium and exploring the Southeast's largest science center, the MOSI, to getting a thrill from the Busch Gardens roller coasters and wandering through the exotic-species-packed Lowry Park Zoo – there is always something to do in Tampa. The best part is - **Florida residents** receive special discounts on many of the attractions, as well as on cruise packages, hotels, and resorts.

Events

The events alone that come to Tampa are reason to invest in **Tampa Real Estate**. The Outback Bowl, the Florida State Fair, Fiesta Day, Guavaween (New Orleans Style Halloween), the Annual Victorian Christmas Stroll, the Tampa Cigar Heritage Festival, and Tampa's biggest event of all –the Gasparilla Festival are all available right outside your door.

Sports

Whether you are a diehard sports fan, or just love the thrill of a crowd and a big sports arena, Tampa Bay is where all the action is. Local sports teams include the NFL Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the NHL Tampa Bay Lightning, the MLB Devil Rays, the University of South Florida Bulls, the University of Tampa Spartans and serves as the site for the New York Yankees spring training.

Food Destination

When people think Tampa, they may not immediately think “food destination,” but it is, in fact, home to some of the most authentic ethnic restaurants, namely Cuban, Spanish and Sicilian cuisine. Of course when **Tampa Homes** are located right off the ocean, amazingly fresh seafood is to be expected. The above factors result in a huge selection of restaurant choices, varying from upscale to casual. Even our steakhouses are amazing. Bern's Steakhouse (<http://www.bernssteakhouse.com/>), for example, is a Tampa hot spot that can only be described as a gastronomic adventure, with its 6,500 label wine collection, 21 choices of caviar and the best cut of steak in Florida.

Benefits

Tampa Real Estate has one very alluring quality - Florida does not have a state income tax. **Tampa residents** are not taxed on retirement plans, get the benefit of a lower property tax assessment, do not have to worry about an estate tax, and can easily bring their pension plans from out of state and increase their value because, of course, pension plans are not taxed.

Shopping

Tampa has shopping for every taste and budget. The International Plaza is a vast mall that features all of the luxury designers as well as the major chains. But then there are also the variety of unique stores and boutiques best known to the trendy Hyde Park and historic Ybor City.