

## Local Info

Across the Tennessee Valley, signs point to one simple truth: Ours is a community rich in history yet characterized by progress. Nestled in the heart of the Ocoee Region in Southeast Tennessee, our area offers unsurpassed natural and physical beauty, charming homes and ranches, a galvanized and focused business community, quality education at all levels, plenty to see and do year-round, and traditional family values and an overall exceptional quality of living. Below you will find valuable information on our warm and friendly communities, and just a few of the reasons why we love to live, work, and play in East Tennessee.

**Bradley County and the City of Cleveland**

**Cost of Living**  
Living costs in East Tennessee are about 9.2 percent below the national average based on the third quarter 2005 ACCRA report. Based on the prices of 59 different items, the report measures intercity cost differences for consumer goods and services. Taxes and non-consumer expenditures are excluded. In the all-items index, which includes grocery items, housing, utilities, transportation, healthcare, and miscellaneous goods and services, Cleveland's living costs are 90.8 percent. The U.S. average is 100 percent. Housing costs in Cleveland and Bradley County are 17.6 percent below the national average as reflected in the second quarter 2004 ACCRA cost of living survey. Per Capita City Income: 2000-\$19,412 Effective Buying Income: 2000-\$35,870

### Climate

Cleveland, Tennessee, enjoys a moderate climate with four distinct seasons. Summers are temperate, allowing residents to enjoy all sorts of outdoor activities without the discomfort of extremely high temperatures. Fall colors rival those of the New Beautiful sugar maples and hardwoods produce a rainbow of colors. Winter brings just enough snow for the kids to have fun, but adults can still get around. Spring blossoms with the beauty of dogwoods and wildflowers in a symphony of aromas.

Precipitation 71/44 degrees F Average Hi-Lo Temps Avg. Frost-free days-228 JAN-47/39 degrees F Average Rainfall-54.6 inches  
Relative Humidity- 72% AUG-87/64 degrees F Average Snowfall- 5" NOV-61/36 degrees F

### Population

Cleveland : 37,192

Charleston : 700

County : 50,073 Total: 87,965

### Recreation

Cleveland has a wealth of recreational activities, including three municipal community centers, the Boys & Girls Club, the YMCA, three municipal pools, three private club pools, a private racquetball club, city parks with 11 tennis courts, one municipal golf course, a county park with fitness trail, softball and baseball fields, two private golf courses, two bowling alleys, four theatres, a stock car racing track and BMX track, and organized programs in youth and adult softball, baseball, soccer and football. Camping, hiking and fishing are available in nearby state and local parks.

**Hamilton County and the City of Chattanooga**

Hamilton County was created by an act of the Thirteenth Tennessee General Assembly meeting at Murfreesboro on October 25, 1819. The county then did not extend south of the Tennessee River. The section south of the river, including the site of Cherokee Chief John Ross's Landing in present-day Chattanooga did not become a part of Hamilton County until the disputed Treaty of 1835 that led to the Indian Removal and the "Trail of Tears." The creation of the new county from the frontier of Southeast Tennessee was brought on by a treaty with the Cherokees in 1817 known as the Hiwassee Purchase. By its terms, the Indians yielded large sections of Alabama and Georgia as well as the Sequatchie Valley and the area that became Hamilton County. The county was named in honor of Alexander Hamilton, who was secretary of the treasury in George Washington's administration. At the time of the 1820 census, Hamilton County reported 821 residents. Today, Hamilton County boasts an estimated 295,000 residents. Rich in history of the American South, blessed with scenic beauty that enhances every aesthetic experience, proud of its heritage and excited about its future, Hamilton County offers a bounty of cultural and recreational activities which enhances its reputation as a thriving business center and a great place to raise a family.

**Chattanooga**, the 4th largest city in the state, is located in Southeast Tennessee near the border of Georgia at the junction of four interstate highways. The city has received national recognition for the renaissance of its beautiful downtown and redevelopment of its riverfront. The city boasts the most productive affordable housing program in the nation, and is notable for leveraging development funds through effective public/private partnerships, with significant civic involvement on the part of private foundations. Chattanooga was one of the first US cities to effectively use a citizen visioning process to set specific long-range goals to enrich the lives of residents and visitors.

### A Thriving Community

The Chattanooga Convention and Trade Center is solidly booked by groups who return to the city year after year for a good time and a great facility that has recently been expanded. Public entities and private citizens worked together to build the 20,000 seat Max Finley Stadium completed in 1998. The city and county have developed an extensive greenway system which includes 5 miles of constructed riverwalk beginning downtown and meandering through the historic art district and several parks. The city supports a downtown shuttle fleet of zero-emission electric buses - manufactured here in Chattanooga - for commuters and visitors wishing to park-and-ride.

### Things to do.

Attractions such as the Tennessee Aquarium, Lookout Mountain, Civil War battlefield sites, the African American Museum, and the Appalachian Trail bring thousands of people to the area, as do events like the Riverbend Festival, Bessie Smith Strut, Fall Color Cruise, the Creative Discovery Museum for children, and the Southern Writers Conference. Chattanooga is the home of NCAA Division I-AA national football championships and hosts the national softball

championships every year. People who love the out-of-doors use Chattanooga as a base for hang-gliding, bass fishing, mountain climbing and caving expeditions; the verdant Smoky Mountains and Tennessee River watershed support the greatest variety of flora of any area in the United States. Commerce, Jobs and Economy  
The local economy includes a diversified mix of manufacturing and service industries, four colleges, and several preparatory schools known throughout the South. "Sustainability" is a key concept for industry and government working together for enlightened development. With its scenic beauty, stable population and economy, civic vitality and cross-sector partnerships, fiscal integrity, and strategic location, Chattanooga enters the 21st century as one of the most progressive and livable mid-size cities in the US. In this decade the city has won 3 national awards for outstanding "livability", and 9 Gunther Blue Ribbon Awards for excellence in housing and consolidated planning.