

# KLAMATH FALLS NAMED IN TOP 100 PLACES TO LIVE

## Best places to live in America: Portland, and Klamath Falls

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earned spots on its annual list of the 100 best places to live.

“We received nominations of great communities across the country, all vying to be part of the annual list,” said Steve Nickerson, president and chief executive officer of the Michigan-based company. Relocate-America.com is a website providing relocation resources for customers planning a move.

In addition to being nominated, communities are screened according to people and neighborhoods, the beauty of the area, quality of schools, activities, and the economic and environmental health of the community.

Portland is, of course, the commercial and cultural capital of Oregon.

Klamath Falls, near the Oregon-California border, is home to the Oregon Institute of Technology and depends chiefly on agriculture and timber activity for its livelihood.

The No. 1 spot to live in America, according to the survey, was Asheville, N.C. The only Portland that cracked the Top 10 was the one in Maine, which came it at No. 6. San Francisco (No. 7) was the only West Coast city named to the Top 10.

In addition to Portland and Klamath Falls, four Washington state cities made the list: Bellingham, Seattle, Spokane and Vancouver.



That's right, Klamath Falls.

Relocate-America.com announced that two Oregon cities -- Portland and Klamath Falls --

## Klamath Falls a top place to live

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the United State to live in 2007, according to Relocate-America.com, a Web site that provides resources for people wishing to relocate.

Cities on the list were nominated by a member of their communities and the nominations were reviewed by Relocate-America.com's editorial team. Many nominees cited people, neighborhoods, beauty, schools, activities and the area's economic and environmental health, the Web site said.

The editorial team also examined education, crime and housing for that past year, a Relocate-America.com news release said. It has released its top 100 list for the past 10 years.

The top place to live in America is Asheville, N.C., the site said, and the only West Coast town to make the top 10 was San Francisco, Calif., which ranked No. 7.

The Web site ranked the top 10 and categorized the remaining 90 cities alphabetically. Four Washington cities - Seattle, Spokane, Vancouver and Bellingham - and six California cities - Berkeley, Exeter, Rancho Cucamonga, San Diego and San Francisco - also made the top 100.

Klamath Falls City Manager Jeff Ball said he was pleasantly surprised by the honor. When asked what he thinks the town's draw is, he said, “We've got great, friendly people and beautiful country.”

Ernestine DeHaven, 34, moved to Klamath Falls 2-1/2 years ago from Phoenix, Ariz., when her husband got a military transfer to Kingsley Field. She enjoys the friendliness and says the town doesn't have the traffic and high housing prices she encountered in Phoenix.

“When I first moved here, one of the first things I noticed was how friendly and laid back people were,” DeHaven said. “People actually look you in the eye and said, ‘Hi.’ ”

DeHaven also said the beautiful Klamath Basin countryside makes living in Klamath Falls enjoyable.