

Rankings

Compiled by the *Asheville Metro Business Research Center*

The Asheville area has been recognized by a wide range of print and on-line publications.

2009

Ranked #8 of Top 10 Metro Areas for Quality of Life *Business Facilities Magazine*, July 2009

Ranked #2 as One of the Nation's Top Arts Destinations *AmericanStyle Magazine*

Ranked #6 Best Metro Places for Business & Careers *Forbes.com*, March 2009

Included in 21 Best U.S. Towns for Baby Boomers' Active Retirement <http://www.bestboomertowns.com>

2008

11 of 20 Best Places to Retire *Black Enterprise magazine*, October 2008

7 of Top 10 Best Midsize Cities for Doing Business *Inc.com*, July 2008

46 of 200 Best Performing Large Cities, 2nd Biggest Single-Year Gainer *Milken Institute*, September 2008

2 of the Top 25 Small-City Art Destinations for 2008 *AmericanStyle magazine*, June Issue 2008

26 of 200 Large Metros Best Places for Business & Careers *Forbes*, March 2008

41 of 100 Best Places to Live and Launch *CNN Money.com*, March 2008

2007

5-Star Business Opportunity Metro *Expansion Management* August 2007

Best Southern Town *Outside magazine's August edition* 2007

7 of Top U.S. Cities to live in *Frommer's Cities Ranked & Rated 2nd Edition*, May 2007

23 of 200 Large Metros Best Places for Business & Careers *Forbes*, April 2007

1 of the top 100 places to live in 2007 *Relocate-America*, April 2007

2 of Top 10 easy spring weekend getaways *MSNBC*, April 2007

3 of the Top 10 up-and-coming travel destinations *VirtualTourist Spring* 2007

1 of 10 America's Best Eco-Neighborhoods *Natural Home*, January/February 2007

2006

24 of 200 Large Metros Best Places for Business & Careers *Forbes*, May 2006

7 of 50 Smart Places to Live *Kiplinger's Personal Finance*, May 2006

2 of America's Top 25 Small Town Arts Destinations *AmericanStyle*, Summer 2006

Designated Preserve America Community by First Lady Laura Bush October 2006

1 of 10 America's Best Eco-Neighborhoods *Natural Home*, December 2006

See reverse for 2002-2005 Rankings



Asheville Metro Business Research Center is a service of the Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce, supported in part by the

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COALITION for Asheville-Buncombe County

2005

One of the Five Best Places to Retire *Money Adviser, Consumer Reports September 2005*
8 of 10 Best Places to Live *MSN/Sperling's Best Places July 2005*
19 of Top 25 Most Secure U.S. Places to Live *Farmers Insurance Group June 2005*
31 of 168 Small Metros Best Places For Business And Careers *Forbes May 2005*
31 of 394 Regions, Entrepreneurial/Innovation Index *Small Business Administration April 2005*
8 of America's Top 25 Small Town Arts Destinations *AmericanStyle, Summer 2005*
11 of 50 Best Places To Live *Men's Journal April 2005*

2004

One of Ten Great Adventure Towns *National Geographic ADVENTURE magazine, September 2004*
One of "Five Cities That Are Special" *USA TODAY, July 2004*
10 of America's Top 25 Arts Destinations *AmericanStyle, Summer 2004*
Best Place to Live, Number 8 of 331 Metros *CitiesRanked and Rated, March 2004*

2003

Top Ten Towns for a Second-Home Investment *MSN Money, October 2003*
Best College Towns (#4 Warren Wilson College) *Outside magazine, September 2003*
Best Places To Retire *MSN July 30, 2003*
Top 15 Dream Towns (Best Places to Reinvent Your Life) *AARP magazine, May/June 2003*
18 of America's Top 25 Arts Destinations *AmericanStyle Summer 2003*
Top Family Getaways *Parents magazine, April 2003*
Top Safe & Cheap Getaways (One of Five) *USA TODAY, April 4, 2003*

2002

Mountain Biking: Where To Ride (1 of 4 Cities) *National Geographic ADVENTURE magazine, Dec 2002/Jan 2003*
America's Happiest City for Women *Self magazine, October 2002*
Top 15 Most Popular Cities to Live *Harris Poll, September 2002*
Grade A- for Twenty-Five Years of Economic Strength *POLICOM Study of U.S. Metros July 2002*
One of America's Dozen Distinctive Destinations *National Trust for Historic Preservation July 2002*
13 of America's Top 25 Arts Destinations *AmericanStyle Summer 2002*
One of America's 5 Best Biking Towns *Bike magazine June 2002*
Ranked 14 of 200 Metros for One-Year High-Tech Output Growth *Forbes-Milken Institute Best Places May 2002*
Ranked 3rd in Top 10 Great Literary Trips in the Nation *Book magazine May/June 2002*
The 20 Best Places to Retire in the World *Barron's March 2002*
One Urban Haven in the World *The Wallpaper magazine Annual Round-up Jan/Feb 2002*
29 of Top Fifty Hottest Cities for Manufacturing Expansions & Relocations *Expansion Management magazine, January 2002*