

# LIVE LIFE BETTER IN BAKERSFIELD

## URBAN SOPHISTICATION, SMALL TOWN CHARM

The undiscovered gem of the California Central Valley, Bakersfield offers the very best of the California Lifestyle. Ideally situated within two hours of Los Angeles, Central Coast beaches or the Sierra Nevada Mountains, Bakersfield's cultural and recreational opportunities are almost limitless. With high quality homes in beautiful master planned communities available for less than almost anywhere else in California, Bakersfield has become the preferred choice for a growing number of career and family oriented professionals.



## SOCIAL LIFE

Meeting new friends and getting involved in the community is the hardest part of a move to any new city. In Bakersfield it's easy, with an array of social settings that include the area's finest country clubs. Classic clubs like Seven Oaks, Stockdale and Bakersfield Country Club offer members organized social activities, tennis, swimming, restaurants and stunning golf courses that rival the best in the country. In addition to the private country club courses, there are several public courses in and around Bakersfield.



## OUTDOOR RECREATION

From sky diving to snowboarding to surfing Bakersfield residents are always a short drive from enjoying their favorite outdoor activities. A scenic drive through the Kern River Canyon brings you to Kernville, the starting point for Kern River fly fishing, kayaking, hiking, camping and some of the best white water rafting in the country. A short drive west and you'll soon be experiencing the excitement of coastal sailing, surfing, whale watching and deep sea fishing. Right here in town a growing number of cycling and running clubs take advantage of our 30 mile bike path that runs along the Kern River. Families and children fill numerous picnic areas and playgrounds at sites like The Park at River Walk, Mill Creek Linear Park, and numerous beautiful neighborhood parks.



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## SHOPPING

The influx of young professionals to Bakersfield has brought with it the demand for a sophisticated shopping experience. Answering that call are a selection of upscale boutiques where savvy shoppers will find the latest designer offerings for men and women as well as fine jewelry, household furnishings and home accessories. You can find the most wanted brands like Michael Kors, White House | Black Market, Coach and more at the Outlets at Tejon, just 20 minutes south of Bakersfield.



## DINING

Nothing beats a night out for a fine dinner. From Mama Tosca's, which restaurant critic Pete Tittl called "the beacon of class and dignity," to the inspired Blue Elephant Thai Cuisine, you'll always get a delightful and delicious culinary experience from Bakersfield's accomplished chefs. In addition to an international selection including Italian, Indian, Caribbean, Mexican and Asian restaurants, Bakersfield is also home to the largest collection of Basque restaurants in the United States, offering family-style seating, hearty courses, and red wine throughout the meal.

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Bakersfield residents are never at a loss for entertainment with a variety of new and historic venues from which to choose. Enjoy an evening under the stars with the Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra at the new Bright House Amphitheater. Stroll through a visiting exhibit at the Bakersfield Museum of Art or explore "First Friday" when downtown comes alive with art, music, film and special events. Catch a comedy show, concert or classic film at the historic Fox Theater or visit country music legend Buck Owens' Crystal Palace, home of the famous "Bakersfield Sound."



## SPORTS

Excitement is the name of the game for Bakersfield's first class baseball, hockey and basketball teams. The Bakersfield Train Robbers, a pro baseball team in the Pecos League, call Sam Lynn Ballpark home. The Bakersfield Condors rule the ice at Rabobank Arena for ECHL hockey action. In basketball, the Bakersfield Jam boast a roster full of future NBA stars and are affiliated with the Los Angeles Clippers and the Golden State Warriors. College sports are well represented through California State University Bakersfield and Bakersfield College. Auto racing fans can indulge themselves at Auto Club Famoso Raceway, Bakersfield Speedway and Buttonwillow Raceway. The American Youth Soccer Organization brings cheers at the Kaiser Permanente Sports Village, a 170 acre state-of-the-art sports complex, and a number of youth baseball, basketball and football programs are also available.

## GROWTH AND THE FUTURE

Over the past decade Bakersfield's population has grown over 40.6%, making it California's 9th largest city and ranking it among the top 25 fastest growing cities in the nation. It's not surprising then that such well known names as State Farm Insurance, Chevron, Frito Lay, Nestle, Grimmway Farms and Aera Energy LLC choose to call Bakersfield and Kern County home. The city's medical community has also experienced explosive growth. Acute care, diagnostic and laboratory facilities include the latest advances in medical imaging and robotic surgery as well as alternative and non-traditional medicine. The strength of Bakersfield's economy will continue to provide a wealth of opportunity and attract the best and brightest in a multitude of fields from medicine to aerospace.

**For more information about Bakersfield life, history and economic opportunities:**

**Bakersfield Convention and Visitors Bureau • [www.visitbakersfield.com](http://www.visitbakersfield.com)**

**Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce • [www.bakersfieldchamber.org](http://www.bakersfieldchamber.org)**

**Kern Economic Development Corporation • [www.kedc.com](http://www.kedc.com)**

**City of Bakersfield Economic Development Department • [www.bakersfieldcity.us](http://www.bakersfieldcity.us)**