

Asheville listed on Forbes Travel Guide's Top 12 Destinations for 2025
-Forbes, 2025

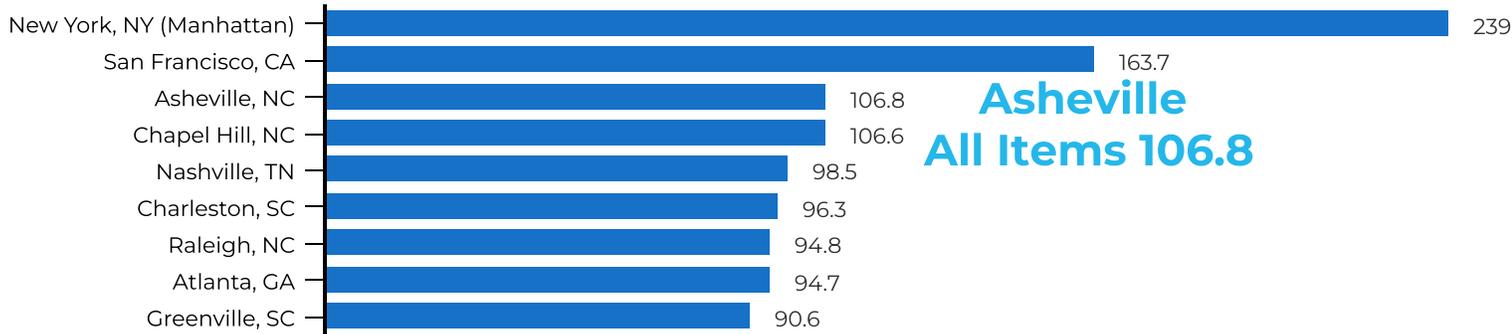
Asheville Metro Cost of Living

Asheville selected as 2025 "Nicest Place in America"
-Reader's Digest, 2025

2025 Annual Average

Region (National Average=100)	All Items	Food	Housing	Utilities	Transp.	Healthcare	Misc.
New York, NY (Manhattan)	239.0	116.1	511.3	117.7	119.2	143.3	129.6
San Francisco, CA	163.7	115.4	254.0	150.1	141.8	124.3	120.6
Asheville, NC	106.8	99.4	113.3	95.6	92.7	115.3	109.6
Chapel Hill, NC	106.6	100.6	119.7	88.0	92.1	119.6	104.4
Nashville, TN	98.5	99.9	102.1	97.2	90.5	91.4	98.0
Charleston, SC	96.3	102.6	95.8	102.0	95.2	75.8	95.8
Raleigh, NC	94.8	100.5	87.5	89.6	88.9	116.4	98.4
Atlanta, GA	94.7	101.3	83.2	102.5	104.3	98.4	96.8
Greenville, SC	90.6	98.6	73.2	88.9	97.3	108.2	98.5

Overall Cost of Living (All Items) Asheville compared to other areas



Asheville Metro

for sale
Home Price - '25 Annual Average
Average: \$556,296
Median: \$450,000
Source: Canopy MLS

for rent
Rent
2 bd Apartment
Median: \$1,703
Source: Apartments.com

Healthcare Costs

Region	Optometrist Visit	Doctor Visit	Dentist Visit
Asheville	\$156.58	\$145.54	\$133.11
National Median*	\$133.00	\$145.73	\$120.73
National Average*	\$140.11	\$153.83	\$123.57

Supported by:



Source: C2ER Cost of Living Index, 2025 Annual Average Data: 257 participating Urban Areas published February 2026
NOTE: * Average / median established patient charges in the 283 participating areas nationwide.

Updated: February 2026



About the C2ER *Cost of Living Index*

The *Cost of Living Index* measures **relative** price levels for consumer goods and services in participating areas at a point in time. The Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER) produces the *Cost of Living Index* to provide a useful measure of living cost differences among participating urban areas at the point in time. Items on the index reflect categories of typical consumer expenditures and are assigned weights according to government survey data. Because the number of items priced is limited, it is not valid to treat percentage differences between areas as exact measures and there is no confidence interval due to judgment sampling (each participating region is self-reporting). Small differences should not be considered significant or even as indicating absolutely which area is more expensive. Additionally, the index does not measure price change over time (inflation) and because the mix of participants changes per reporting period, it is not recommended that index data from different points be compared as such (the measure reflects a point in time based on variables at that point).
Source: C2ER

The average for all participating areas is equal to 100 and each participant's index is read as a percentage of the average for all places. The Asheville Metropolitan Statistical Area's annual average index has hovered around the national average over time. The area's annual average index has ranged from **95.6 to 106.2** dating back to 1990. Dynamics that may contribute to locational index shifts may include the following considerations:

The Asheville Metropolitan Statistical Area's annual average index has hovered around the national average over time.

- The index measures relative price levels. Therefore, prices that are increasing or decreasing faster in other areas as compared to the Asheville Metro will have an impact on Asheville's index.
- The number and makeup of participants at any point in time, including how much more or less expensive these locations are, will impact the Asheville Metro's index.
- The weights assigned to the index categories may change based on the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Expenditure Survey. By extension, these changes may shift the proportional impact of each category on the locations.
- Regions are self-reporting and while C2ER undergoes a three-stage review process to ensure data quality, shifts may occur as a result.