

What's it Like to Live in Cornelius?

Cornelius NC real estate brings a lot to the table. While a small town, Cornelius boasts an amazing mix of available real estate options. The proximity to Charlotte also helps to alleviate the town from any normal small town doldrums.

Cornelius NC borders the eastern and southern coast of the largest freshwater body in North Carolina, Lake Norman. Lake Norman NC offers activities for those interested in sailing, swimming, boating, and skiing. Live on the water or in one of the many Lake Norman Neighborhoods. Neighboring Charlotte gives the adventure seeker limitless possibilities for activity. The city plays host to almost any form of entertainment or shopping imaginable. Catch a performance of the Charlotte Symphony, or spend a day in one of the amazing shopping centers downtown or uptown. The commute from Cornelius NC is barely noticeable at 25 minutes. Maybe you are a golfer or a yachtsman. The Lake Norman coastline allows you to choose from any number of country clubs sporting championship courses or Yacht clubs with amazing marinas for ready access to the lake. Cornelius NC real estate shares all the excitement of a bustling city with all the refinement of a decadent waterfront community. Cornelius NC waterfront homes and waterfront lots will meet the needs of first time buyers or the most discriminating Lake Norman luxury home buyer.

But What About Affordability?

In reference to the above-mentioned Business Week ranking, Cornelius finished just behind South Weber, Utah, and just ahead of West Des Moines, Iowa. Pewaukee, Wisconsin – a suburb of Milwaukee – was rated as the most affordable suburb. Cornelius officials were delighted with the ranking, even if it did put them behind Pewaukee. "It's better than being in the bottom 10," said Mayor Jeff Tarte, "and we didn't even have to lobby for it." Added Town Manager Anthony Roberts, "Just be sure you note that I was town manager when it happened." To qualify for the ranking, towns had to fit the population guidelines (5,000 to 60,000) and be within 25 miles of one of the nation's most populated cities. Charlotte turned Cornelius into a qualifier, and, for good measure brought Fort Mill, S.C., (number 10 in the rankings) in, too. Only the top-ranked suburb in each state was listed. Magazine editors said they "weighed a variety of factors including livability (short commutes, low pollution, green space), education (well-educated residents, high test scores), crime (low personal and property crime), economy (high job growth, low unemployment rate, high family income) and affordability (median household income, cost of expenditures), but noted that "affordability was most heavily weighted in our calculations." The stats came from a variety of (mostly) government sources. The "Business Week" editors noted the fact that "about 31 percent of residents (in Cornelius) are married with children," and that "the average commute is 31 minutes." Cornelius had a higher median household income (\$87,016) than Pewaukee, but lagged behind in median household price (actually a good thing for affordability). Pewaukee had more households with children, a shorter commute and a lake of its own (Pewaukee Lake). On the other hand, it's rooted to Wisconsin's frozen tundra, so, presumably, there were some minus points for that.

Residents Love the "Growing Small Town" Vibe

Cornelius NC was a sleepy little town 20 miles from Downtown Charlotte until Lake Norman was created in 1963 and I-77 was completed. Now it's a thriving town of 25,000 residents and has a mixture of historic homes, centered around Old Statesville Road, and newer properties around Lake Norman.

You can live in Cornelius, enjoying the life style of North Carolina's largest man made lake, and be just minutes from one of the best economic and employment centers in the country in Charlotte. The economic scale, the educational level and the diversity of the "North Meck" towns - Cornelius, Davidson and Huntersville - brings in the better restaurants, shopping and cultural activities. As the residents say, "Get a Lake Norman Life".

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