

## ST LUCIE COUNTY

# Money named Port St. Lucie FL among 50 best places to live in U.S., citing job growth



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With 10% job growth expected by 2028 and over 60 parks and recreation areas, Port St. Lucie was named among the 50 best places to live in the U.S. in 2024, according to Money.

Cities were chosen based on livability, equity and sustainability, according to Money, a for-profit personal finance website and magazine that ranks best cars, colleges, health care, financial services, travel destinations and more. Other criteria included affordability, schools, job market, poverty level, community engagement and receptive public officials.

Money did not rank the cities this year, but listed them in five categories to highlight their strengths:

- Culture hubs
- Best kept secrets
- New boomtowns
- Suburbs with soul
- Not just college towns

## Port St. Lucie is a boomtown with natural beauty

Port St. Lucie, now Florida's sixth largest city, was categorized as a new boomtown, with a growing population of 231,790 people and high job growth, according to Money.

Jobs are expected to grow by 10.4% from 2023 to 2028 — the 32nd largest in the nation — according to a 2024 study of over 900 U.S. cities by the financial services company Moody's Analytics.

Money cited the city's 3.5-mile warehouse district along Interstate 95, now home to FedEx, Amazon and Cheney Brothers. Costco plans to build a distribution facility there in the next year, which is expected to generate over 500 jobs, according to Money. City officials have said it will create about 406 jobs, including temporary construction jobs and 265 full-time warehouse jobs averaging \$55,350 a year plus benefits.

Among recreational activities, Money cited:

- The public, city-owned Saints Golf Course
- Eggstravaganza Easter egg hunt at Whispering Pines Park and Paddle Center
- Free River Nights at Veterans Park from October through April
- McCarty Ranch Reserve, which offers camping; walking, biking and horseback riding trails; over 300 acres of lakes for fishing, kayaking and canoeing; and an 18-hole disc golf course.

The other U.S. boomtowns listed are:

- Buffalo, New York
- Rock Hill, South Carolina
- New Braunfels, Texas
- Lancaster, Pennsylvania
- Clarksville, Tennessee
- Tulsa, Oklahoma
- Rogers, Arkansas
- Frederick, Maryland
- Boise, Idaho

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