



HOSPITALS:

- OSF St Francis Medical Center (downtown Peoria), includes nationally-ranked OSF Children's Hospital of Illinois
- Unity Point Health-Methodist Hospital (downtown Peoria)
- Unity Point Health-Proctor Hospital (central Peoria) – small hospital, but great for outpatient testing

SCHOOLS:

1. Morton Community Unit School District (community population of 17,000)
 - 5 Elementary Schools, 1 junior high, 1 high school (about 1,000 students in 9-12 grades)
 - Known for strong band programs
2. Washington Community Schools (community population of 16,000, located 15 minutes north of RHMA)
 - 3 Elementary schools, 2 middle schools, 1 high school (about 1,300 students in 9-12 grades)
 - Central Intermediate (K-8th) and Washington Community High School are known for working well with homeschool families that wish to participate in music, clubs, and sports
3. Tremont School Community Schools (community population of 2,200, located 15 minutes south of RHMA)
 - 1 Elementary school, 1 middle school, and 1 high school (about 330 students in 9-12 grades)
 - Small-town feel
4. Peoria Christian School (located 17 minutes from RHMA office in central Peoria)
 - K-12 grade private Christian education, middle school 5-8 grade meets in separate building
 - New PCS families can apply for 50% off first year tuition for K-8th graders
5. Homeschool Co-ops (PAACH is a good area-wide resource)
 - 24:7 K-12th grade, meets at Bethany Community Church in Washington, weekly on Fridays
 - Tri-County Co-op: K-12th grade, meets at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Groveland, weekly on Fridays

COLLEGES:

- Bradley University (Peoria, IL), private school with most students receiving scholarship aid, 5,400 Students, 100 undergrad programs, 30 grad programs
- Eureka College (Eureka, IL), private School, 600 Students
- Illinois Central College (East Peoria and Peoria, IL), traditional two-year style continuing ed school with associate degrees
- Illinois State University (Normal, IL), state school, 18,000 undergrad students, 160 degrees offered
- Lincoln College (Lincoln, IL), private school, 700 students, 15 degrees offered

AIRPORTS:

- Peoria International Airport General Wayne A. Downing Airport (PIA) – about 15 minutes from RHMA, free parking, 13 destinations on 3 airlines + connections
- Central Illinois Regional Airport in Bloomington (BMI) – about 40 minutes from RHMA, free parking, 8 destinations on 4 airlines + connections
- Chicago O'Hare/Midway and St Louis Lambert Airports are 2.5-hour drive for lower fares but cost of parking

POPULAR AREA ATTRACTIONS:

1. Paid Attractions

- Caterpillar Visitors Center
- Peoria Riverfront Museum
- Wildlife Prairie Park
- Peoria Zoo (highly recommend watching for free days, but has some great animals)
- Fon du Lac Farm Park (petting zoo, watch for discount/free days)

2. Free Attractions

- Grandview Drive (great for walks, picnics at overlook areas, family pictures)
- Splash Pad (water playground Memorial Day-Labor Day) on Kingsbury Rd. in Washington
- Forrest Park Nature Center (hiking trails and nature center)
- Spring Creek Preserve (short hikes and shallow water wading)

3. Seasonal Attractions

- Morton Pumpkin Festival (mid-September, includes parade, carnival rides, all things pumpkin to eat)
- Tanner's Orchard (apples, pumpkins, corn maze, open beginning late summer, 40 min. north of RHMA)
- Handel's *Messiah* Performance (Sunday before Thanksgiving) at Grace Church in Morton
- Parade and Festival of Lights (Christmas light parade and display in East Peoria)

4. Food and Drink Suggestions

- Uncle Bob's Ice Cream (Eureka, IL)
- Alexander's Steakhouse (Peoria, cook your own steaks)
- Zion Coffee (Peoria), The Blend (Washington), Eli's Coffee (Morton)
- Avanti's Ristorante (3 area locations, reasonably priced area go-to)
- Holland's (Washington, old-time candy store and popcorn)