



# WELCOME

## GUIDE TO LIVING IN PARMA

Thinking about making Parma, Ohio your home? This resource guide is designed to help you get to know the city, from essential services and local schools to parks, dining, and community events. Whether you're new to the area or just looking to explore more of what Parma has to offer, you'll find everything you need to settle in and make the most of life in this welcoming and vibrant community.



# BRIEF HISTORY

Parma, Ohio started out as farmland in the early 1800s, named after Parma, New York — and stayed a quiet rural village for over a century. But after World War II, the city exploded with growth as families settled into newly built neighborhoods.

By the 1950s and '60s, Parma became one of the largest suburbs in Ohio — a true symbol of the American dream with tree-lined streets, backyard barbecues, and a whole lot of hometown pride. Parma, Ohio, has a population of approximately 80,000, making it the seventh-largest city in the state.

Over the years, Parma has produced its fair share of local legends and claims to fame: Les Horvath, the first Ohio State Buckeye to win the Heisman Trophy, called Parma home.

Chef Boyardee (yes, the real guy!) lived in the area — and his famous food brand became a household name across the country.

And of course, Mike “The Miz” Mizanin, WWE superstar and reality TV icon, proudly reps Parma every chance he gets.

Add in a little national attention from Saturday Night Live skits back in the day, and Parma's earned its place as a working-class town with character, culture, and a sense of humor. Today, it's a mix of that old-school charm and new energy — where people still know their neighbors and take pride in being from “good ol' Parma.”





# COST OF LIVING

Parma, Ohio, offers a cost of living that's notably lower than the national average, making it an affordable place to reside. According to BestPlaces.net, Parma's overall cost of living index is 83, which is 17% lower than the U.S. average.

**Housing:** Housing is a significant factor in Parma's affordability. The median home cost is approximately \$177,200, which is about 47.6% less expensive than the national average of \$338,100.

**Rentals:** Renting is also more affordable; a two-bedroom unit averages \$1,070 per month, compared to the national average of \$1,430.

**Utilities and Transportation:** Utility costs in Parma are about 6.3% lower than the national average, while transportation expenses are approximately 16.1% less.

**Groceries and Healthcare:** Grocery prices are slightly lower than the national average, and healthcare services are about 11.3% less expensive.

In summary, Parma's cost of living is generally lower than both state and national averages, particularly in housing, utilities, transportation, and healthcare, contributing to its reputation as an affordable city.



# HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

## Number of Households

There are 34,489 households in Parma, with an average household size of 2.34 individuals  
(Source: Wikipedia)

## Median Household Income

The median household income in Parma is \$65,848 (Source: Data USA)

## Median Home Price

The median home price in Parma is approximately \$200,000 (Source: Redfin)

## Average Rent Prices

1 Bedroom, 1 Bathroom: \$850 per month  
2 Bedroom, 1 Bathroom: \$1150 per month  
3 Bedroom, 1 Bathroom: \$1550 per month  
(Source: Rentometer)

## Property Tax Rate

Parma's mill rate in 2025 is 2.7%, falling below most suburbs around it like Middleburg Heights (2.75%), Parma Heights (2.82%), Seven Hills (2.86%)

## Crime Statistics

Parma, OH is widely seen as a safe and comfortable place to live. Crime rates here are well below the national average — with a total crime score of just 11.63 compared to the U.S. average of 33.37. Both violent (5.14) and property (6.49) crime rates come in lower than national figures.

Locals on platforms like Nextdoor mention the occasional issue, like minor property damage or a missing pet, but overall, the community feels secure, tight-knit, and peaceful.  
(Source: Nextdoor)



# EDUCATION/SCHOOLS

## School Ratings

Parma is home to a handful of elementary, middle and high schools that serve different geographic pockets of Parma. Parma is also home to several specialized schools, private schools, virtual learning academies and pre-schools.

## Elementary Schools

Pleasant Valley Elementary  
Dentzler Elementary  
Ridge-Brook Elementary  
Green Valley Elementary  
Thoreau Park Elementary  
John Muir Elementary

## Middle Schools

Shiloh Middle School  
Greenbriar Middle School  
Hillside Middle School

## High Schools

Valley Forge High School  
Normandy High School  
Padua High School (Private)  
Holy Name High School (Private, Parma Heights)

(Source: <https://www.parmacityschools.org/our-district/our-schools>)



# RECREATION

Parma boasts a robust parks and recreation system, with over a dozen city parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, and access to the Cleveland Metroparks. From walking trails and picnic areas to seasonal events and youth programs, there's something for everyone to enjoy year-round.

## **Best Parks & Recreation Areas**

Nike Park: Small playground and exercise area along with a community pool plus softball and soccer fields.

Veterans Memorial Park, sometimes called State Road Park, has a long walking trail, playground, baseball fields, volleyball courts, frisbee disc golf course and borders Ridgewood Golf Course.

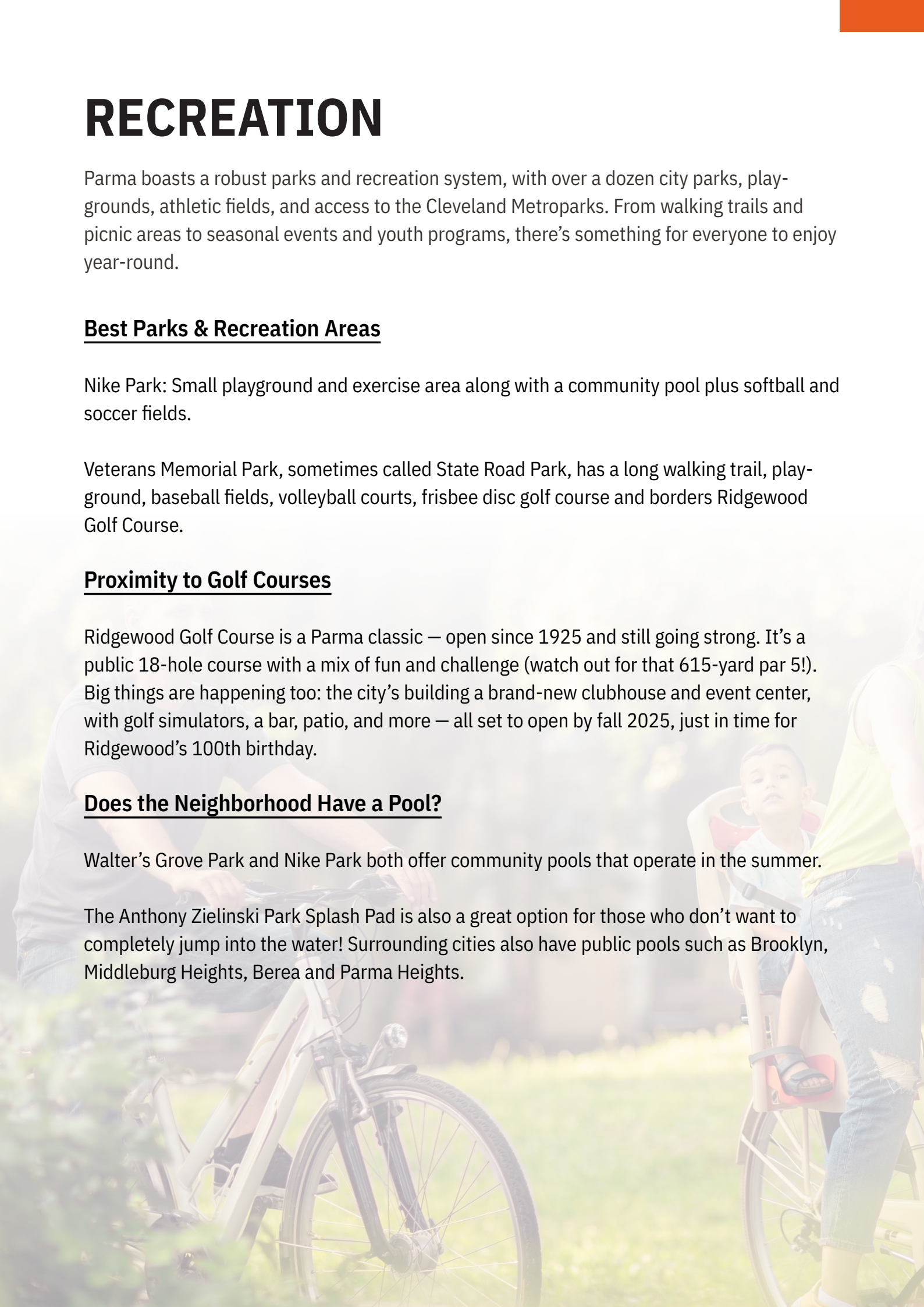
## **Proximity to Golf Courses**

Ridgewood Golf Course is a Parma classic — open since 1925 and still going strong. It's a public 18-hole course with a mix of fun and challenge (watch out for that 615-yard par 5!). Big things are happening too: the city's building a brand-new clubhouse and event center, with golf simulators, a bar, patio, and more — all set to open by fall 2025, just in time for Ridgewood's 100th birthday.

## **Does the Neighborhood Have a Pool?**

Walter's Grove Park and Nike Park both offer community pools that operate in the summer.

The Anthony Zielinski Park Splash Pad is also a great option for those who don't want to completely jump into the water! Surrounding cities also have public pools such as Brooklyn, Middleburg Heights, Berea and Parma Heights.





# TRANSPORTATION

Parma offers convenient transportation options, including easy access to major highways and public transit through the Greater Cleveland RTA. Whether you're commuting to downtown Cleveland or getting around locally, you'll find reliable and accessible ways to travel.



**WALK**

Parma is a walkable city with well-maintained sidewalks, tree-lined neighborhoods, and convenient access to parks, shops, and local restaurants. Many areas are pedestrian-friendly, making it easy to enjoy daily errands or a casual stroll through the community.



**BUS**

Getting around Parma's pretty easy — RTA buses run through the city and can get you into downtown Cleveland without a hassle. Parma's Transit Center is a stop for many buses that serve Cuyahoga County's south west suburbs.



**COMMUTE**

Parma's central location makes it an attractive city for residents in terms of commute time. The average commute time for residents to downtown is approximately 20 minutes. The average commute time to the east side is approximately 25-30 minutes. The average commute time to the west side is approximately 20-25 minutes.



**BICYCLE**

Parma is becoming increasingly bike-friendly, with dedicated bike lanes, multi-use trails, and easy connections to the Cleveland Metroparks. Whether you're commuting or enjoying a weekend ride, the city offers safe and scenic routes for cyclists of all levels.

# NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

## **Best Places to Eat**

Parma offers a variety of dining options, including Italian, Polish, and American cuisines.

Napoleons Pizza

Marsellas Pizza

Das Schnitzel Haus

Chuppas Marketplace

## **Best Coffee Shops or Cafés**

Love Coffee is one of the newest additions to Parma with their cozy atmosphere and kind staff, we can see them being around a long time.

## **Shopping & Grocery Access**

Parma's got you covered when it comes to shopping — from big-name grocery stores to local markets and plazas, you'll find just about everything you need without going far.

Chuppas Marketplace

PV Euro Market

Giant Eagle

Marc's

Colozza's Bakery

Samosky's Home Bakery

Rudy's Strudel and Bakery

Gentile's Bakery, Catering and Deli

## **Real Estate Market Trends**

Parma has experienced heavy real estate appreciation the last 5-10 years. With average home prices nearly doubling in that time, from \$100,000 in 2015 to \$200,000 in 2025.

## **Hottest Take on Parma:**

Parma is home to best produce market in Northeast Ohio. We believe Chuppa's Marketplace puts the West Side Market to shame. It's easier to park, the produce is better, the shopping experience is much more efficient.



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