

GRAYS HARBOR

Street Market

Approaching Aberdeen, visitors are greeted by a sign saying “Come As You Are”, a sentiment coined by one of Aberdeen’s most famous natives, Kurt Cobain. That greeting aptly captures the community’s warm and welcoming spirit. Early settlers of Scottish descent are credited with naming the city. “Aber,” a Gaelic term, refers to the place where rivers meet. Considering that Aberdeen sits at the mouth of the Wishkah and Chehalis Rivers, the city is well named.

This location lent itself to the establishment of early industries including sawmills and salmon canneries. In 1889, the city was incorporated. Several historical homes from this period still overlook the harbor. In recent years, downtown improvements such as new artwork, landscaping, and traffic lights have made it more pedestrian friendly and future improvements are planned. As the area’s largest retail center, Aberdeen is home to a variety of local and national businesses. Grays Harbor College is also found here, along with Grays Harbor Community Hospital, the newly renovated D & R Theater, the Aberdeen Museum of History, Driftwood Playhouse and Bishop Center, Lake Aberdeen, the Chehalis River Athletic Complex and the Aberdeen Library. The city has a number of parks, each offering unique amenities like the skate park in Pioneer Park or the walking trail that traverses along the Chehalis River at Morrison Riverfront Park.

Aberdeen was singled out from 219 small cities as being one of the 10 best micropolitan areas in which to live in the United States in Scott Thomas’ book, *Rating Guide to Life in America’s Small Cities*.

Few places rate higher for beauty, amusement and recreation than Aberdeen. We welcome you to come and enjoy our special corner of the world!

[Back to Grays Harbor Street Market Website](#)