

THE TRAVEL NURSE'S GUIDE TO:

# Central Florida





# All About Central Florida

Palm trees, sunny days, world-class theme parks, and a wide variety of natural attractions—these are just a few of the things that have people flocking from all over the world to visit Central Florida. The region has become synonymous with the Orlando area and it's conveniently located in the middle of the state, making day trips to nearby cities and beaches a breeze.

## Living that Florida Lifestyle

Talk to any experienced travel nurse, and they'll be sure to tell you about one of the biggest benefits of traveling: the money. You can make an excellent living as well-compensated travel nurse. You'll earn a good living, and since your housing is also paid for (more on that in a minute), you can sock away some of that money for a rainy day.

## Other benefits of taking a travel nursing assignment in Central Florida:

The City of Orlando is nicknamed "the City Beautiful," and it's no wonder why. The city is home to distinct architecture, hundreds of lakes (the largest of which is Lake Apopka), towering skyscrapers, and plenty of walkable areas to explore by foot or bike.

There are countless benefits to living in Central Florida, and the cost of living is certainly on that list. According to data from Payscale:



Orlando's cost of living is 5% lower than the national average, with living expenses coming in at 6% below national averages.



The median rent was noted at \$966.34 / month according to their data, which is an important consideration for travel nurses. Most major travel nursing agencies, such as American Mobile Healthcare, offer several housing options to accommodate their travel nurses.

# Living the Central FL Life?

**At American Mobile, the housing team is readily available to find every travel nurse a home where they will feel safe and comfortable during any travel nurse assignment, and we offer company-paid housing.**

The other option is to utilize the generous housing stipend and to find your own Central Florida housing through Airbnb, FurnishedFinder.com, and Apartments.com. Some even elect to stay in hotels for shorter assignments, and there is no shortage of those in this area! Regardless of the chosen path, Orlando offers a wonderful lifestyle for travelers.

Since you'll be saving money on living expenses and enjoying competitive compensation, travel nurses can enjoy an elevated lifestyle. Spend your day:

## Relaxing on a nearby beach

*(be sure to check out Cocoa Beach—just an hour drive from Orlando)*

## Becoming active by paddle boarding or kayaking on one of the many lakes.

*Lake Eola Park is a fan favorite located in the heart of Downtown Orlando.*

Live like a local in Central Florida by working hard and then enjoying a laid-back yet active lifestyle!

# Central Florida's Healthcare Scene

Travel nursing is a great way for nurses to expand their skills, experience, and clinical knowledge by working in some of the nation's top healthcare facilities and learning from talented nursing clinicians, physicians, and peers.

Central Florida is a hotspot for healthcare and it's home to several notable medical establishments. Teaching hospitals, award-winning medical centers, long-term care facilities, children's hospitals, and an assortment of clinics can be found throughout the Orlando area.



**Regional Medical Centers** - Several major medical centers can be found throughout Central Florida and assignments are available throughout most nursing specialties including ER, ICU, Med-Surg, L&D, and Oncology just to name a few. There is also one Level 1 Trauma Center in this area. Patients range in all ages and acuity levels and travel nurses can gain excellent clinical experience as they work with patients presenting with a variety of different conditions.



**Hospitals / Teaching Facilities** - Central Florida is home to a top teaching facility that is highly rated and nationally ranked, making it a great place for any traveler looking for their next nursing assignment. If you're looking to work with cutting-edge technology, a teaching facility is an excellent place to learn and grow.



**Children's Hospitals / Pediatric Facilities** - There are three pediatric facilities in this area, all members of the Florida Association of Children's Hospitals. And there is also one Level III neonatal intensive care unit. Nurses specializing in pediatrics, L&D, and postpartum care will find wonderful opportunities to work with today's youth patient population.



**Nursing Homes / Long-Term Care Facilities** - According to U.S. News & World Report, there are 72 licensed nursing homes in the Orlando metro area.



**Nursing/Medical Higher Education** - Higher education options include University of Central Florida; University of Central Florida College of Medicine; Rollins College; Lake-Sumter State College, Seminole State College of Florida, and Valencia College.

# Top Things to See, Do & Eat

## Top Activities / Experiences:

Known as the “Theme Park Capital of the World,” there is no shortage of fun and laughs to be had in Orlando. Perhaps the most iconic of them all is the Walt Disney World® Resort. There’s nothing more magical than that famous set of mouse ears. Here, you’ll find:

- [Magic Kingdom® Park](#)
- [EPCOT®](#)
- [Disney’s Hollywood Studios®](#)
- [Disney’s Animal Kingdom® Theme Park](#)
- [Disney’s Typhoon Lagoon®](#)

Looking for something an experience that brings your favorite cinematic experiences together? Look no further than Universal Orlando Resort where travel nurses can explore both lands of The Wizarding World of Harry Potter™ at Universal Studios Florida and Universal’s Islands of Adventure. If you need a break from amusement parks, be sure to check out Universal City Walk, which is an attraction in and of itself. This modern attraction features a variety of restaurants, shops & family shows.

## The other main Central Florida theme parks:

- [SeaWorld](#)
- [Discovery Cove](#)
- [Legoland](#)
- [Busch Gardens \(Tampa\)](#)

Another fun fact: Orlando is also referred to as the “Hollywood of the East,” due to multiple movie studios that can be found throughout the city.



# Top Things to See, Do & Eat

Ok, ok, we know that theme parks aren't for everyone. Not to worry, Orlando offers plenty of other attractions, experiences, and fun things to do that don't involve rollercoasters and animated characters. First up on our list:

## ICON Park

ICON Park is located on 20 acres in the heart of Orlando's International Drive. Here you'll find over 40 restaurants, The Wheel at ICON Park—a 400-foot-tall observation wheel, SEA LIFE Orlando Aquarium, Madame Tussauds Orlando, and Arcade City.

## **Adventure seeker? Consider:**

- Go-karting
- An escape room
- Indoor skydiving
- Ax-throwing

All of these activities can be found around the I-drive area. There are also airboat rides and alligator tours. And speaking of animals, a visit to Orlando isn't complete with a trip to the Central Florida Zoo. You'll feel like you've entered a jungle as exhibits are nestled amongst lush, green tropical foliage. The zoo has 23 acres of native gardens and more than 500 animals including an insect zoo, a reptile house, a children's area with animals that kids can feed and pet, and a splash playground for those hot days.

Don't forget to get dressed up and head out to an event hosted at the Orlando Museum of Art or the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.



# Top Things to See, Do & Eat

## Yum! All about the Eateries:

Now that you've worked up a healthy appetite with all of those activities, it's time to explore the most delicious food Orlando has to offer. Lucky for travel nurses, you'll never run out of a new place to try during a typical 13-week assignment!

The options are endless here. According to restaurant research firm The NPD Group, there are over 7,000 restaurants in Orlando, Daytona Beach, Melbourne. Cuisine types vary throughout different neighborhoods and regions, with a wide variety of international flavors to be sampled. From traditional Southern BBQ to mouth-watering Cuban cuisine, there's something for every food lover here.

Now, here are some of the yummiest of the yummy foods to eat and restaurants to visit in Orlando—these culinary delights have been featured in magazines, blogs, articles, and “most famous” lists:

### [Pizza Bruno](#)

Named to Conde Nast Traveler's “21 Best Restaurants in Orlando.” House favorite is the Crimson Ghost pie which is adorned with mozzarella, soppressata, basil, and Mike's Hot Honey.

### [Hunger Street Tacos](#)

Born out of the pandemic, this spot has the most delicious tacos and quesadillas—made from scratch using imported blue Oaxacan corn.

### [Wine Bar George](#)

This Disney Springs staple isn't just for tourists. Locals love coming here for its extensive wine list and fun weekend brunch.

### [Winter Park Biscuit Company](#)

Vegetarian or plant-based diet? This will be your place. Every single thing on the menu—including the sauces—is plant-based.

### [Kabooki Sushi](#)

Go there for the super-fresh sushi, sashimi, and the famous omakase experience—which includes a chef-selected multi-course dinner.

### [The Ravenous Pig](#)

Its legendary charcuterie boards will have you coming back for your fix of meat and cheese on the regular.

### [Knife and Spoon](#)

John Tesar of Top Chef fame is the chef at this Ritz-Carlton gem. Known for its strip and rib-eye steaks and slightly-spicy creamed spinach.

### [Domu](#)

Sure there may be a line out the door at times, but there's a reason for it. House-made noodles, fluffy buns, and craft drinks are just a few of the stand-outs you'll imbibe on here.

**Then there's the theme park food, which is another category! Just a few of our must-haves: the DOLE Whip® icy treat from Magic Kingdom® Park, Granny's Apple Fries at LEGOLAND®, and the Butterbeer at the Wizarding World of Harry Potter in Universal Studios.**

# Why work for American Mobile?

From the award-winning healthcare facilities to the celebrated theme parks and attractions found throughout the city, Orlando is an ideal destination for travel nurses of all ages, skill levels, and backgrounds. It's a place where you can boost your income and skills while having fun at the same time!

Ready to get started on a travel nurse assignment in Orlando? Lucky for you, we have the largest database of travel nursing jobs in the industry. Head over to our job search page to find jobs across Central Florida (and in other cool locations, too)!

We know you have a lot of options when it comes to selecting your travel nursing agency, and it's our goal to make American Mobile your #1 choice. In addition to the competitive pay and free housing, our travel nurses also enjoy countless other benefits when they work with the industry leader. Our travel nurses and their families gain access to premium PPO and HMO optioned health benefits. Moreover, we provide health insurance, life insurance, vision insurance, and disability insurance for our nurses as well as their families.

American Mobile travel nurses also enjoy access to the largest clinical support team of all staffing agencies.

Customer service and support are taken extremely seriously here and we provide 24/7 clinical support to each one of our healthcare professionals. That means if you are on assignment in Orlando and you have an issue—support is just an email, text, or call away—regardless of what time of day it is.

Even if you aren't yet licensed in the state of Florida, we can help you there too. Our recruiters and licensure staff will ensure you have the necessary documents needed to accept your next nursing assignment.

## Do you have more questions about travel nurse assignments in Central Florida?

We've got you, just apply today or give us a call to get started on your Orlando adventure today!

