

Minneapolis/St. Paul Visitor Information

[Minneapolis](#) is a vibrant, cosmopolitan city located at the heart of the upper midwest. It is known for its [beautiful lakes](#) and world-class theater scene, including the renowned [Guthrie Theater](#). The [Fitzgerald Theater](#), in nearby St. Paul, is home to Garrison Keillor's *Prairie Home Companion*. The [Minnesota Orchestra](#) and [Minnesota Opera](#) offer a variety of first-rate concerts and productions during the summer months. The [Minneapolis Institute of Arts](#), [Weisman Gallery](#), and the [Walker Art Center](#) have superb collections. The [Uptown](#) neighborhood is known for its restaurants, biking trails, and bohemian shopping district. The [Mall of America](#), accessible from downtown Minneapolis via [light rail](#), is the world's second largest enclosed mall in terms of retail space but is the grandest in terms of total enclosed floor area – over 520 stores! Summer in Minneapolis is nothing short of stunning with its balmy [weather](#) and beautiful river walks which draw visitors from all regions.

There is much to interest Victorian scholars in the Twin Cities area, including [Summit Avenue](#), a grand boulevard in [St. Paul](#) lined with magnificent examples of Victorian domestic architecture. The University of Minnesota's [Wilson Library](#) has a superb collection of nineteenth-century periodicals, and the [Wangensteen Library](#) has an extensive collection of Victorian medical journals. Also worth exploring at the University of Minnesota is the [Hess Collection](#), which holds story papers, dime novels, and other inexpensive, popular literature from the 19th and 20th centuries. The [Bakken](#) & [Mill City](#) museums likewise provide a glimpse into the area's Victorian past.

Great bookstores in the Twin Cities area include [Micawber's Books](#), [Common Good Books](#), and [Birchbark Books](#). The [Loft Literary Center](#) hosts a variety of readings and workshops.

