



Often called the Heart of Kentucky, the centrally located Bluegrass region offers much of what Kentucky is all about—thoroughbred horses, bourbon, basketball, natural beauty, history, and southern hospitality. Ringed by the stunning horse farms that give this area its reputation and personality, Lexington is known as the “Horse Capital of the World.” The city is the state’s second-largest with a growing urban area that has just the right mix of big city excitement and small town charm. Come enjoy one of the world’s most unique and beautiful areas at the ASC 2009 Fall Convention & Expo at the Marriott Griffin Gate Resort & Spa.

October Weather in Lexington

High 68°C/20°C

Low 46°F/8°C

The mean average temperature in Lexington is 54.9 degrees Fahrenheit. Annual precipitation is 45.68 inches. Lexington and the Bluegrass Region have four distinct seasons that include cool plateau breezes, moderate nights in the summer, and no prolonged periods of heat, cold, rain, wind, or snow.

Brief History of Lexington

When European settlers arrived on the scene, the Bluegrass region was in use as a hunting ground for numerous Native American tribes. Daniel Boone was one of the first Anglo-Saxons to explore the area. He helped establish Kentucky's first forts in Harrodsburg and Boonesboro. Lexington was founded in 1775, seventeen years before Kentucky became a state. William McConnell and a group of frontier explorers were camped at a natural spring when word came from nearby Fort Boonesboro that the first battle of the American Revolution had been fought in Lexington, Massachusetts. In honor of the battle, the group named their site “Lexington”. By 1820, Lexington, Kentucky, was one of the largest and wealthiest towns west of the Allegheny Mountains. So cultured was its lifestyle, our city soon gained the nickname "Athens of the West."

Geography

Fayette County consists of 283 square miles of gently rolling plateau in the center of the inner Bluegrass Region. The area is noted for its beauty, fertile soil, excellent pastureland and horse and stock farms. Poa Pratensis (bluegrass) thrives on the limestone beneath the soil's surface, playing a major role in the area's scenic beauty and in the development of champion horses. Numerous small creeks rise and flow into the Kentucky River.

Time Zone

October to April: Eastern Standard Time

April to October: Eastern Daylight Savings Time

Corporations/Industry in Lexington

Traditional products of the area include horses, bourbon, tobacco and handcrafts, but an increasing diversity of products and services contributes to a healthy economy. Major employers in the Lexington area include:

*Ashland Inc.
Clark Material Handling Company
General Electric Company
GTE Products Corporation
Jif Peanut Butter
Johnson Controls
Lexmark International
Link-Belt Construction Equipment Company
Long John Silver's
Square D Company
Toyota Motor Manufacturing, U.S.A., Inc.
The Trane Company
United Parcel Service
University of Kentucky
The Valvoline Company*

The Council of State Governments, the National Tour Association and the Association of Retail Travel Agents are national organizations that are headquartered in Lexington. Also, the National Horse Center at the Kentucky Horse Park is the national headquarters more than 30 equine associations.

Universities/Colleges in Lexington and the Region

*Asbury College
Asbury Theological Seminary
Berea College
Bluegrass Community and Technical College
Centre College
Eastern Kentucky University
Georgetown College
Kentucky State University
Lexington Theological Seminary
National College of Business and Technology
Midway College
Spencerian College
Sullivan University
Transylvania University
University of Kentucky*

Sales and Hotel Taxes

Kentucky state sales tax is 6 percent. Groceries are exempt. There is a hotel tax of 6 percent and a state fee of 1%, bringing the total tax on hotel rooms to 13.4%.

Hotel Information

Marriott Griffin Gate Resort & Spa

1800 Newtown Pike

Lexington, Kentucky 40511 USA

Phone: (859) 231-5100

Fax: (859) 255-9944

Taxis

The taxi fare between Bluegrass Airport (LEX) and the Marriott Griffin Gate Resort is approximately \$25. The distance is 12 miles.

Driving Directions

From Bluegrass Airport (LEX)

Hotel direction: 12 miles W

Turn left on Man-O'-War Boulevard from Airport Parking Area. Go East on Versailles Road (US 60) approximately 2 miles to Second New Circle Road (North) Exit. Follow New Circle Road approximately 4 miles to Newtown Pike Exit 9B North toward I-64 & I-75. Follow Newtown Pike for approximately 1.5 miles to Griffin Gate Boulevard. Resort entrance is on the right.

From Greater Cincinnati International Airport (CVG)

Greater Cincinnati International Airport is a major hub for Delta/Northwest Airlines, with hundreds of flights in and out daily. If you are having trouble finding convenient flight times in/out of Lexington, you could consider renting a car at CVG and making the hour long drive to Lexington. The Marriott Griffin Gate is located not far from the interstate highway you would travel in on.

Hotel direction: 68 miles S

Take I-275 East approximately 4 miles to I-75 South towards Lexington. Follow I-75 South approximately 65 miles to Lexington. Interstates 75 and 64 combine as one north of Lexington. Take Exit 115 (Newtown Pike/SR 922) South off I-75/64. Follow Newtown Pike/SR 922 approximately .4 mile to second light and turn left onto Griffin Gate Drive. Once on Griffin Gate Drive, you are on the resort property. Main entrance for resort is to the left of Griffin Gate Drive.

Estimated taxi fare: 100.00 USD (one way)

From Louisville Staniford International Airport (SDF)

Hotel direction: 80 miles SE

From the airport, take I-264 East approximately 4 miles to I-64 East towards Lexington. Follow I-64 East for approximately 80 miles to Lexington. Interstates 64 and 75 combine as one north of Lexington. Take Exit 115 off Interstates 64/75 South (Newtown Pike/SR 922). Follow Newtown Pike/SR 922 South approximately .4 mile to second light and turn left onto Griffin Gate Drive. Once on Griffin Gate Drive, you are on resort property. Main entrance for resort is to the left.

Estimated taxi fare: 115.00 USD (one way)

Marriott Griffin Gate Hotel Arrival Information

Check-in: 4:00 PM

Check-out: 12:00 PM

Hotel Parking

Complimentary on-site parking

Valet parking, fee: 20 USD daily

\$12 Valet parking fee for day parking and special events

The Spa at Griffin Gate

Appointment is required. Phone (859) 288-6175.

Some Favorite Lexington Restaurants

JW's Steakhouse (located in the Griffin Gate Marriott)

Jonathan's @ Gratz Park (859) 252-4949

Malone's Steak House (859) 335-6500

Merrick Inn (859) 269-5417

Dudley's Restaurant (859) 252-1010

Joe Bologna's Restaurant & Pizzeria (859) 259-0495

deSha's (859) 259-3771

Yamamoto Japanese Grill & Sushi (859) 272-6668

Holly Hill Inn (859) 846-4732

Black Tulip (859) 859-846-9923

Check with the hotel concierge for more restaurants, reservations and dress code

Important Note to all Attendees:

The fall meet of thoroughbred horse racing at nearby Keeneland Race Course will be taking place over the dates of the ASC 2009 Fall Convention & Expo. This draws large crowds to the Lexington area and hotels will fill up very fast. Please make your hotel reservations as early as possible. ASC kindly asks that you only reserve the number of rooms you need, so other attendees will not be turned away because the ASC hotel room block fills up. We appreciate your consideration.