REVIEWS AND ADVICE FROM CURRENT STUDENTS

NORTHWESTERN GRADUATE SCHOOL



- **HOUSING DATA**
- NEIGHBORHOODS EXPLAINED
- **APARTMENT RATINGS**

TOP PROPERTIES

LANDLORD INFO

RENTER RESOURCES



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Top apartments, based on the feedback of Northwestern Graduate students

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GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE GUIDE



Start with the Housing Facts section. This section should help you determine the type of apartment you'd like to live in and how much you should expect to pay in rent.



Read about different neighborhoods and narrow down your search to parts of the city that you like most.



Use the Apartment Ratings section to identify the best apartment buildings across the categories (e.g. best amenities, highest rated) that matter most to you.



Visit VeryApt.com to read reviews, get pricing, and set up appointments for the apartments you like most.

ABOUT THE DATA IN THIS GUIDE

All of the data in this guide are based on feedback from real renters in Evanston/Chicago. We asked students to rate their apartments on a scale of 1-10 across six categories:



Overall



Value



Management



Amenities



Location



Safety

Based on their feedback, we compiled a list of the best apartment buildings for students. If you are interested in additional data that is not in the guide or have a housing question, you can reach us at contact@veryapt.com.

DISCLAIMER: The reviews and ratings presented throughout the guide and the VeryApt website do not reflect the opinions, position, or endorsement of VeryApt. The responses and reviews presented are solely those of the survey respondents. VeryApt assumes no responsibility for readers' or users' interpretation of the data. The results do not in any way constitute a warranty or representation by VeryApt as to the quality, safety, or other features of a property. We encourage you to check all available sources of information about properties prior to renting.



Where Northwestern Graduate students live

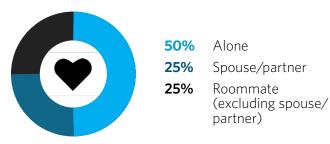
25%



30% Downtown Evanston20% Northeast Evanston15% Rogers Park10% Uptown

Other (<5% each)

Who Northwestern Graduate students live with



26% of Northwestern Graduate students live with pets

What type of properties Northwestern Graduate students live in



35% Large property (50+ units)35% Mid-size property

Mid-size property (10-49 units)

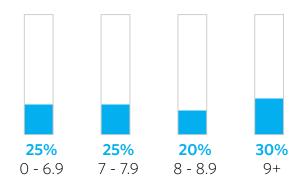
30% Small property (2-9 units)

What size residences Northwestern Graduate students live in

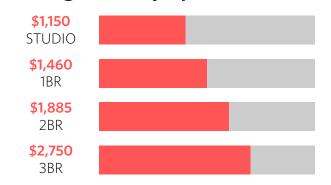


25% Studios35% One bedrooms30% Two bedrooms10% Three or more bedrooms

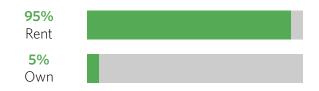
Distribution of property ratings



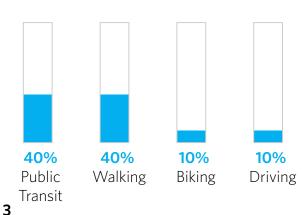
Average rent by apartment size



Rent versus own



Commute methods



Rent with Confidence

Time Savers

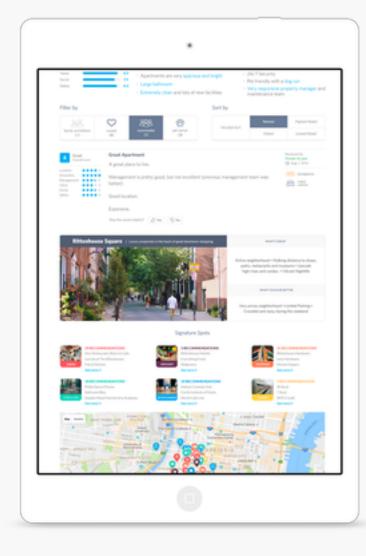


All the information you need in a single place. Photos, prices, floor plans, maps, and amenities - VeryApt has you covered.

Concierge Service



On demand rental experts that can provide apartment recommendations, set up apartment tours, and help you with your rental application - all at no extra cost.



Intelligent Search



Personalized apartment recommendations based on the amenities you want, your proximity to school or work, and your desired price range.

Trusted Reviews



Hundreds of verified apartment reviews from current and past tenants that help you make an informed decision about where you want to live.

WHY WE STARTED VERYAPT

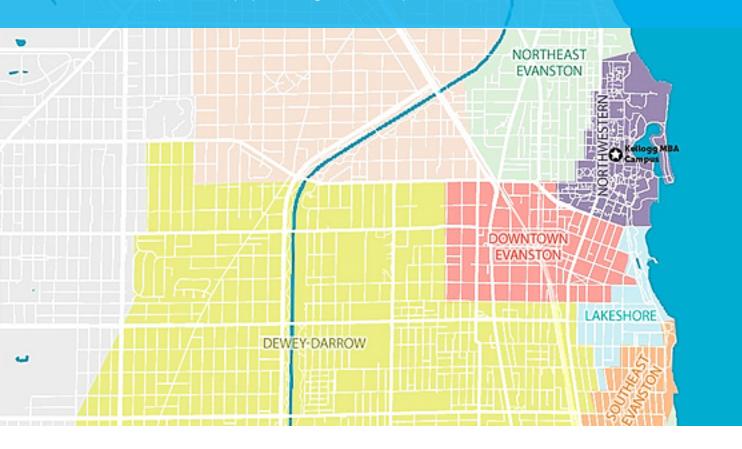
VeryApt was born from the simple realization that the small things about an apartment are often the most important: a friendly doorman, lots of sunlight in the living room, a running trail nearby, or that amazing hole-in-the-wall Thai restaurant across the street. We understand that the frustrations of apartment hunting are universal, but share a belief that it doesn't have to be. We know what makes an apartment truly feel like home is unique for each person and that's why our focus is on bringing you personalized recommendations based on timely, relevant, and real user reviews. We'll be there every step of the way to help you find your perfect apartment.





NEIGHBORHOODS EXPLAINED

An overview of the most popular neighborhoods for Northwestern Graduate students





Downtown Evanston

30% of Northwestern Graduate students

Downtown Evanston is the most popular neighborhood for students. Most of the social gatherings happen here at the local apartment buildings and event venues. The walk to campus is 15-20 minutes and students who drive typically cut costs through car pooling or rideshare apps.



Rogers Park (Chicago)

15% of Northwestern Graduate students

Rogers Park is a Chicago neighborhood that is directly south of Evanston and provides great waterfront access.
Students like living here because of the various dining/bar options along N Clark Street, and access to outdoor activities at Loyola Park and Beach.



Northeast Evanston

20% of Northwestern Graduate students

This area is a quieter, more suburban area than Downtown and offers a very convenient commute to class. The Northeast offers diverse property types like rental houses and smaller walk-up properties which typically offer more space for the price.



Uptown (Chicago)

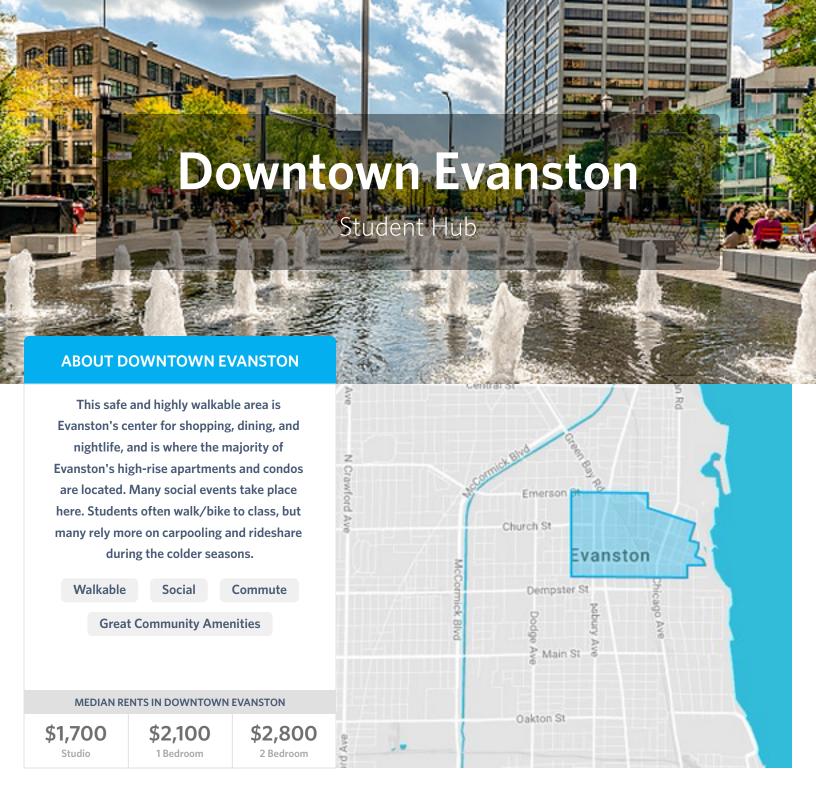
10% of Northwestern Graduate students

Uptown is a Chicago neighborhood that lies between Evanston and downtown Chicago. Because of it's quieter nature, Uptown is a good for families. The area has plenty of dining options and easy access to public transit. Montrose Beach is a popular spot to visit along with the various parks throughout the neighborhood.

Other Neighborhoods

less than 1% each

- 5 Lakeview (Chicago)
- 6 Edgewater (Chicago)
- 7 Southeast Evanston
- 8 Dewey-Darrow
- 9 Lincoln Park (Chicago)
- 10 North Evanston



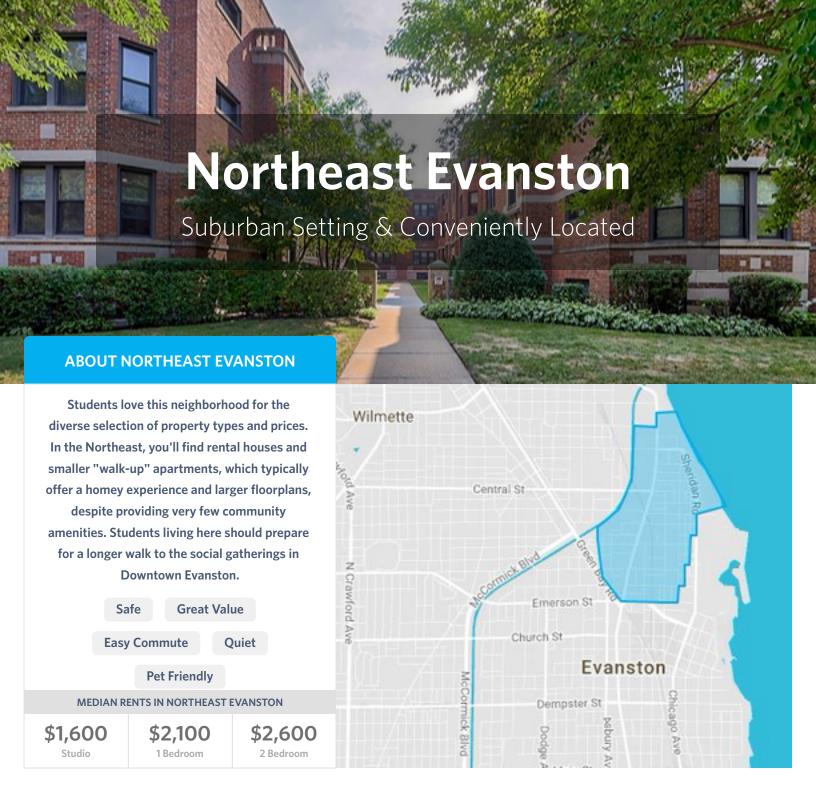
WHAT RESIDENTS THINK ABOUT DOWNTOWN EVANSTON

Review by NU Graduate Student ♀ 617-625 GROVE ST

Safe, walkable area, even late at night depending on the streets you take. Great for convenience in terms of getting to campus, no car needed, access to many public transit options. You lose out in terms of cheap food options and fun nightlife... But the lake and beach are within walking distance and you live close to other NU students making it well worth it for me.

Review by NU Graduate Student 9 1616 HINMAN AVE

Very walkable, I can get to pretty much anything I need on foot. Bus stops and the L are not far at all, but service is somewhat irregular. Lots of restaurants in the area, but not all that many very affordable options. No nightlife in the area. Beautiful views of the lake only a short walk away.



WHAT RESIDENTS THINK ABOUT NORTHEAST EVANSTON



Review by NU Graduate Student

ENGELHEART

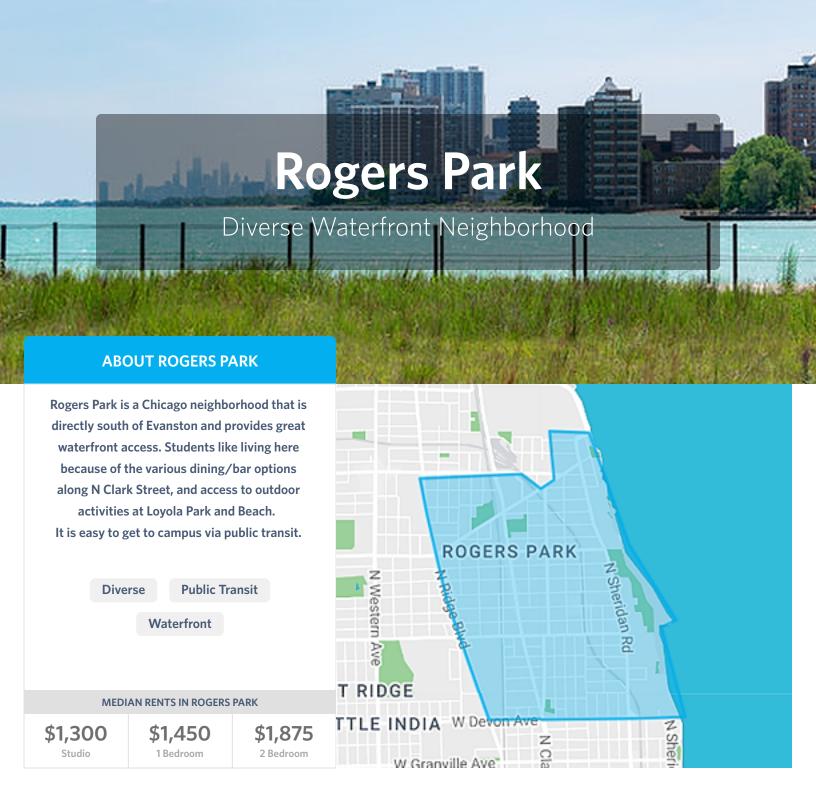
Seems to be a nice neighborhood that is available to both families and college residents. Nicely surrounded by quaint restaurants.



Review by NU Graduate Student

GARRETT PLACE

The neighborhood is quiet, even during the holiday season, and football games. The area has lots of trees and flowers during spring and summer. On Halloween and Christmas, many houses decorate their porches and sidewalks.



WHAT RESIDENTS THINK ABOUT ROGERS PARK



Review by NU Graduate Student ♀ 1154 W LUNT AVE

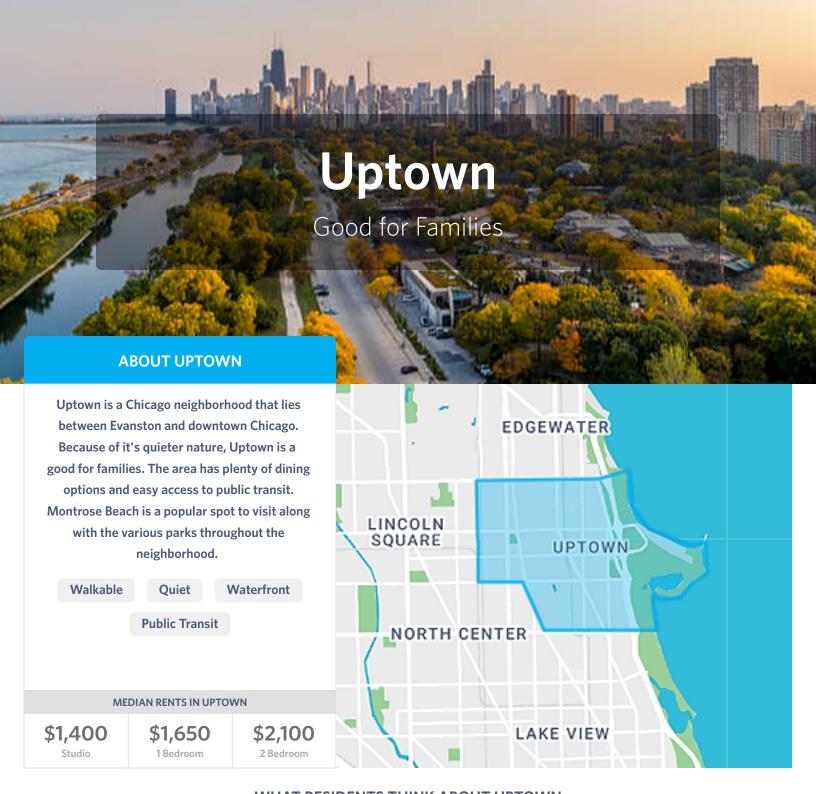
I love living in Rogers Park. I live close to the lake as well as the red line and I feel like I can walk or train to most places. The rent prices are very affordable compared to other neighborhoods. People are friendly and it feels like a welcoming diverse neighborhood. Although safety can be a concern depending on the specific area, it is easy to avoid situations that feel unsafe. I can take either the CTA or the intercampus shuttle to campus.



Review by NU Graduate Student

9 1246 W PRATT

Quiet and safe, next to the beach, and easy access to everywhere. It also has good grocery stores nearby.



WHAT RESIDENTS THINK ABOUT UPTOWN



Review by NU Graduate Student ? W LAWRENCE AVE

Uptown is amazing! Unfortunately, there are a lot of constructions on nearby CTA stations.



Review by NU Graduate Student 9 4521 N. MALDEN

Uptown has a lot to offer. There are some beautiful buildings here, lots of trees, and it's not far from the lake. Plenty of coffee shops and restaurants are easy to walk to.





KEY

•••• Excellent for a category

••• Great

•• Average

Below average

\$\$\$\$ \$1800+ per renter

\$\$\$ \$1500-\$1799

\$\$ \$1200-\$1499

\$ < \$1200

* Prices subject to change and may vary significantly by room type

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		Paris, Marie			Best Popular	Beer Pets		Ame Ament	Zanties Valle		Safer
	1	1		1	8	<u> </u>	1	4	720	/ 🕉	/ %
1013 Sherman Ave	Apt	9.0	\$	*			••••	•••	••••	••••	••••
1111 Church Street Evanston	Apt	7.5	\$	*			••	•••	••••	•••	•••
1154 W Lunt Ave	Apt	7.0	\$			*	••	••	•••	•••	••
1200 Simpson St	Apt	8.0	\$				••••	••	••••	••	•••
1246 W Pratt	Apt	9.7	\$\$				••••	••••	•••	•••	••
1301 W Argyle St	Apt	6.0	\$		~		••	•	•	•	••
1406 Elmwood Ave	Apt	7.2	\$				••	•	••••	•••	••
1500 Chicago Ave	Apt	7.9	\$\$\$				•••	••	•••	••	••••
1570 Oak Avenue	Apt	7.1	\$				••	•	••••	•	••
1575 Oak	Apt	8.0	\$\$	~			•••	•••	••	••	••
1576 Oak	Apt	8.0	\$\$				•••	•••	••••	•••	•••
1616 Hinman Avenue	Apt	7.1	\$\$				••	•	••	••	••••
1621 Ridge Ave	Condo	8.0	\$\$				••••	••	•••	••••	••••
1717 Evanston	Apt	6.0	\$\$\$\$				••	••	•	••	••
2000 W Summerdale Ave	Apt	7.0	\$\$\$			~	•••	••	•••	•••	••
211 E Delaware	Apt	7.3	\$\$\$				•••	•••	••	••	•••
2208 Sherman Ave	Apt	8.0	\$\$				•••	•	•	•	••
2238 Sherman Ave	Apt	7.0	\$\$				•	•	•••	•	••
2253 Ridge Ave	Apt	8.0	\$\$\$				••	••	••••	•	•••
2738 N Pine Grove	Apt	7.0	\$	~			••	••	•••	••••	•••
2970 N Sheridan	Apt	7.2	\$				•••	•••	•••	••	••••
424 W Diversey	Apt	7.3	\$				••	••	••	•••	••
4639 N Broadway St	Condo	7.0	\$\$\$				••	••	•	•••	••
617-625 Grove St. Apartments	Apt	6.9	\$\$				••	••	••	•	••

^{**} Buildings with fewer than 3 reviews or ratings below 7.0 are not listed in this guide but reviews can be found online at VeryApt.com.

^{***} Some buildings with fewer than 3 reviews are included above because of high ratings but do not appear in the top 10 lists.



APARTMENT RATINGS

RATINGS		, ag	/ /	/ .e.	101	/5	milies	2/3			/ /
	Today du	Ratii		Mos	Beer Poular	\d\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\	Man Amilies	Ame Ame	Vali.		Safet, a
6954 North Greenview Avenue	Apt	9.0	\$\$				•••	••••	••••	••	•••
722 Clark St	Apt	9.0	\$\$				••••	•••	••••	••••	••
801-811 Simpson St	Apt	8.0	\$\$				••••	••••	•	•	••••
816 Forest Ave	Apt	9.9	\$				•••	•	•••	•	••
860 Hinman	Apt	8.0	\$				••••	•••	•••	••	••••
996-1012 Main St	Apt	6.0	\$\$\$				••	•	••••	••••	••
Alef Park	Apt	7.0	\$\$			~	••	••	•	••••	••
Aqua	Apt	9.4	\$\$\$\$		~		••••	••••	•••	••••	••••
Crossings at Danada	Apt	9.0	\$				••	•••	••	•••	••
Dover Court	Apt	7.0	\$\$				••	•••	•	•••	••
Glenmoor Manor	Condo	6.0	\$\$\$				••••	•	•	•	••
Halsted Flats	Apt	8.8	\$\$\$\$				••••	••••	•••	••••	••••
Hollywood Towers	Condo	7.5	\$\$				•••	•••	••	•••	•••
Marquee Chicago	Condo	8.7	\$\$\$\$				••	••••	••••	••••	••••
McManus Living-Learning Center	Apt	7.2	\$\$	~			••	•••	••	••••	•••
Oakdale Terrace	Apt	8.6	\$\$\$				•••	••••	••	••••	••••
Optima Horizons	Condo	8.3	\$\$\$\$		~	~	••	••••	•	•••	•••
Optima Old Orchard Woods	Apt	9.3	\$\$\$				••••	••••	••	••	••••
Optima Views	Condo	7.1	\$\$\$\$		~		••	•	•	•	••
Residences of Sherman Plaza	Condo	9.5	\$\$\$\$		~		••••	••••	•	••	•••
The Granville Condominiums	Condo	9.0	\$				••	•	••••	•	•••
The Main	Apt	7.8	\$\$\$\$				•••	••••	••	••	••
The Seneca	Apt	8.5	\$\$\$			~	••	••••	•	•	••
Towers	Condo	6.0	\$\$\$				••	•	••	••••	••

ABOUT OUR CATEGORIES

Property Type

Apartment (Apt) Properties with one building manager. Often have

consistent pricing/features.

Condo Properties with multiple owners. Lease terms and

features can vary significantly by unit.

Key Building Factor Ratings

Overall Rating Overall feedback on building quality.

Popularity Estimated # of students in the building.

Living Situation Ratings

Families How students with partners and/or children rated the building.

Pet Owners How students with pets rated the building.

Building Quality Ratings

Management Maintenance and service quality.

Amenities In-room and building features beyond the basics.

Value Building quality given cost of rent.

Social Building community and social scene.

Safety Building neighborhood safety.

MOST POPULAR

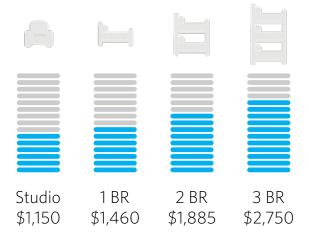
Buildings with the most Northwestern TGS students

READ MORE REVIEWS AT VERYAPT.COM

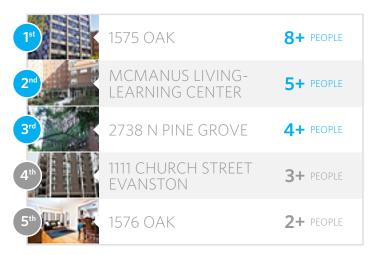
What the most popular properties typically offer:



- Excellent location
- Reasonably-priced apartments
- Solid amenities



TOP 5



1575 OAK

owntown Evanston

\$\$

8+



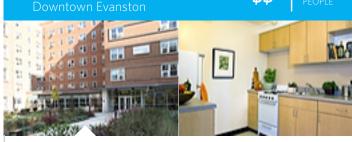
Review by Northwestern Graduate Student

"Clean, with every appliances working, warm during winters although central heating has to be complemented with additional heating in the peak of the winter. No pests. Responsive maintenance. I like the location because it's a good distance to walk in good weather and close to various bus stations including one that connects to the NU campus. Coin laundry is additional cost. Elevator is slow but better than not having one."

MCMANUS LIVING-LEARNING CENTER

\$\$

5+ PEOP



Review by Northwestern Graduate Student

"This building is primarily for Kellogg and international students but is also open to other graduate students. Pros: most ideal location and convenience (furniture provided, free laundry, deal exclusively with university personnel, etc); graduate student community; mostly well-maintained and clean. Cons: expensive; some dated furniture and appliances; common dorm-style living limitations [cont.]"

2738 N PINE GROVE
Lincoln Park

\$ 4+
PEOPLE

Review by Northwestern Graduate Student

"This apartment is definitely great for starting out if you're on a tight budget. The location is excellent! You get a neighborhood living whiles surrounded by 2 main streets with diverse restaurants and lots of outdoor activities options. It's close to transportation and grocery stores (Target, Trader Joe's)...[cont.]"

HIGHEST RATED

Buildings with the best overall ratings

READ MORE REVIEWS AT VERYAPT.COM

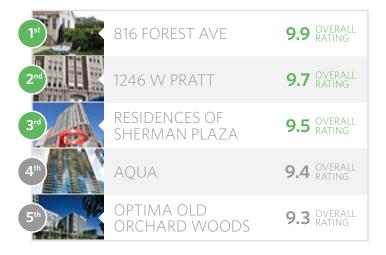
What the highest-rated properties typically offer:



- ✓ High-end amenities
- Close proximity to work/ school
- ✓ Nearby stores/grocery
- Excellent management



TOP 5



816 FOREST AVE

Southeast Evanston, 816 Forest Ave

9.9 OVERAL



Review by Northwestern Graduate Student

"Excellent distance from Evanston Lakefront, which makes it very convenient to bike or walk to NU campus and for outdoor activities such as running. Fantastic bang-for-buck if you don't mind having roommates. Neighborhood is very family friendly, and most of my neighbors are families with children. Being about 2 miles from campus, this area is great if you bike to work. We are also close to the purple line and I believe other public transit too so if you don't want to bike or walk you can take those too."

2nd

1246 W PRATT

Rogers Park, 1246 W Pratt Blvd

\$\$

9.7 Dveral rating



Review by Northwestern Graduate Student

"What the property manager showed me in the virtual visit was exactly what I found. No surprises. The management service is outstanding, and the apartment is huge, with great closets. The building is recently renovated, has excellent appliances and heat included, and is close to Northwestern's Shuttle stop and Morse station (red line)."

 3^{rd}

RESIDENCES OF SHERMAN PLAZA

avis St \$\$\$

9.5 OVERAL



Review by Northwestern Graduate Student

"This building is absolutely perfect to live in. The location is very convenient for accessing downtown Evanston and for walking to campus and is right next to the CTA #201 bus line as well as the Davis Metra and L stations. Amenities are fairly nice, with a communal lounge area/outdoor space and small gym. The building is very secure and management is great...[cont.]"

BEST FOR AMENITIES

Highest-rated properties for amenities

READ MORE REVIEWS AT VERYAPT.COM

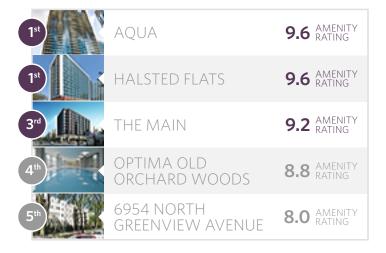
What top amenity properties typically offer:



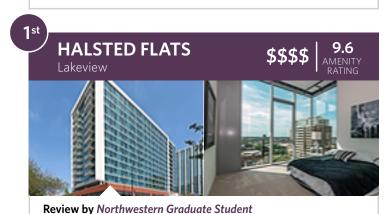
- ✓ Great common spaces
- Convenient location
- ✓ Excellent management
- ✓ Newer construction



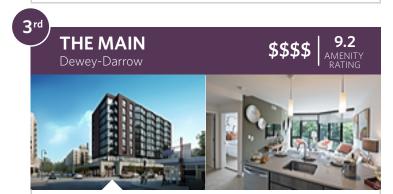
TOP 5







"Great place, but expensive and a bit of a hike to campus."



Review by Northwestern Graduate Student

"It is a very nice and new building with good amenities. Close to the Main Stations, and intercampus stops downstairs. However we lost our bikes (in the bike room) and thanks to the renter's insurance we can get some money back. Also rent increases a lot yearly."

BEST FOR VALUE

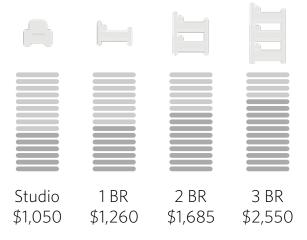
Highest-rated properties for value

READ MORE REVIEWS AT VERYAPT.COM

What top value properties typically offer:



- Great price-to-space trade off
- Good location
- Solid amenities and basic features



TOP 5



THE GRANVILLE CONDOMINIMUMS

5 | 9.7



Review by Northwestern Graduate Student

"The apartment is close to Noyes subway station and within 10-15 minutes' walk to Tech Institute of Northwestern University. Quite safe. The price is affordable. Heat and dishwasher are provided. It is an old apartment, so the utilities might not be very new. Air conditioners are not installed, and you may need to buy a portable one. There is laundry in the building."

722 CLARK ST Downtown Evanston \$\$ 9.4 VALUE RATING

Review by Northwestern Graduate Student

"The room was advertised as a studio, but it has a dining room and a walk-in closet. This makes the unit about 1.5 time more spatial than typical studio and the price is very reasonable considering the location in a less busy northern part but still in downtown Evanston. The room can get a bit cold in winter, but the house engineer is very friendly and responsive. He came in to fix my issue right away."



Review by Northwestern Graduate Student

"It is an old apartment. The heaters are steam heaters for the whole building group (3 buildings), which you cannot control yourselves. The location is fairly close to the campus, especially Tech. However, getting groceries is a bit far without a bike. There is a bike parking room which outsiders cannot get in. There are storage rooms in the basement for tenants. The mailroom needs a key to enter or someone in the room to buzz you in...[cont.]"



Townhomes are apartments in older buildings, typically a few stories tall. They usually do not have a doorman, an elevator, or many amenities, but can be cheaper and more spacious than the apartment and condo units in high-rises.

WHY YOU SHOULD CONSIDER A TOWNHOME

CHEAPER

LARGER FLOOR PLANS

3+ BEDROOMS AVAILABLE

MORE PRIVACY

WHY YOU MAY WANT TO AVOID A TOWNHOME

NO DOORMAN

LESS CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

OLDER CONSTRUCTION

LIMITED AMENITIES

MORE MAINTENANCE ISSUES

Finding a townhome

Townhomes can be challenging to find because they tend to be individually owned and do not have full time leasing managers. Townhome listings are typically available ~60 days in advance. You can find a townhome by searching online listings, contacting a landlord directly, or by working with VeryApt's Concierge Team who can help identify some options.

Preparing for a townhome search

Most Northwestern Graduate students opt for larger properties in order to live closer to other students and simplify the housing search. That said, there are plenty of wonderful townhomes - be prepared to visit more properties to find that perfect home, carefully examine the pros/cons, and move quickly if you find a unit you love.

TIPS AND ADVICE



Reliable Landlords

Check online reviews and talk to previous tenants to find out about your landlord. Look for one that responds quickly to maintenance requests and has a history of returning deposits.



Noise and Neighbors

Sounds often travel well through townhomes and you can easily be disturbed by barking dogs, music, or construction. Check out the surrounding area to get a sense for what it may be like.



Lease Terms

Leases with independent landlords are negotiable. Check your lease for restrictions on sub-letters and visitor policies. You may be able to avoid a rent increase by locking in a longer lease.



CONTACT@VERYAPT.COM

READY TO MOVE?

For more detailed reviews and personalized recommendations, visit our website below:

GET STARTED!