Orange County Walk Scores

Walkable Neighborhoods

Imagine living in a community that's design and layout allowed you to get to the bank, the grocer, and the post office without your car. Imagine not only asking your realtor about the number of bedrooms and baths, but also what the Walk Score is for the property.

"Walkable neighborhoods offer surprising benefits to the environment, our health, our finances, and our communities," according to Walk Score, a consortium of planners and environmental experts whose mission is to promote more walkable neighborhoods. It further explains that towns that have walkable neighborhoods experience reduced pollution, increased public health, higher property values, and more community involvement.

Orange County Walk Scores

For our purposes Friends of Harbors, Beaches, and Parks looked at the Walk Score for the city hall for each Orange County city because it is often in the "downtown." And then we looked at the average that was calculated by the Walk Score website. Interestingly, these numbers may be very different numbers. For each city's Walk Score (both city hall and the city's average) see the reverse side of this flyer.

Walkable Neighborhood Features

- They have a "center," be it a main street or public space
- There are enough people to allow businesses to thrive and transit to operate frequently
- Mixed income and mixed uses are near businesses
- People have nearby places to recreate in
- Buildings are close to the street and parking is in the rear
- Residents can walk to work and school
- Streets accommodate bicyclists, walkers, and transit

Measuring Walk Scores

Walk Score measures how easy it is to live a car-lite lifestyle—not how pretty the area is for walking. "Walk Score uses Google maps to compute the distance between residential addresses and nearby destinations." The algorithm looks at 13 categories and awards points for each between ¼ to 1 mile. Amenities within ¼ mile receive maximum points, while no points are awarded for amenities further than one mile. The categories include, grocery store, coffee shop, movie theatre, park, bookstore, drug store, clothing and music store, restaurant, bar, school, library, fitness, and hardware store.

For a detailed description of the algorithm, please see the Walk Score Methodology white paper found at: http://www.walkscore.com/professional/methodology.php.

Friends of Harbors, Beaches, and Parks works to protect the natural lands, waterways, and beaches of Orange County.

www.FHBP.org

Dayle McIntosh Center

City Hall and City Average Walk Scores

City	Walk Score of City Hall	Average Walk Score for the City
Aliso Viejo	85	52
Anaheim	94	63
Brea	82	63
Buena Park	63	68
Costa Mesa	71	76
Cypress	63	70
Dana Point	51	61
Fountain Valley	72	65
Fullerton	86	69
Garden Grove	71	69
Huntington Beach	72	67
Irvine	72	60
La Habra	82	68
La Palma	72	67
Laguna Beach	98	53
Laguna Hills	80	59
Laguna Niguel	72	53
Laguna Woods	55	52
Lake Forest	35	53
Los Alamitos	68	49
Mission Viejo	75	53
Newport Beach	100	63
Orange	92	63
Placentia	51	60
Rancho Santa Margarita	91	46
San Clemente	78	55
San Juan Capistrano	74	47
Santa Ana	82	65
Seal Beach	95	52
Stanton	71	74
Tustin	88	64
Villa Park	65	49
Westminster	78	66
Yorba Linda	83	46

Note: These Walk Scores were calculated via the www.WalkScore.com website tool.