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Columbia County

A FLORIDA COUNTY GUIDE · NORTH FLORIDA & FIRST COAST

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REGION

North Florida & First Coast

COMMUNITIES TO START WITH

Lake City, Fort White

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Lake City is a North Florida service and logistics center at the meeting of Interstates 10 and 75, with springs and rural communities nearby.

Lifestyle: Logistics · Springs · Regional services

Columbia County by the numbers

Population Census estimate	71,789	At the last full count 2020 Census	69,698
Median age	40.7	Aged 65 and over	20.3%
Under 18	22.2%	Median household income	\$59,205
Median home value what owners estimate	\$194,900	Homeownership	72.5%
People per household	2.47	Average commute	25.8 minutes

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, published January 2026, read September 19, 2026. Survey figures are estimates; median home value is what owners estimate their home is worth, not a sale price.

Communities to compare

Lake City

Start with Lake City to understand the established center, nearby services and everyday rhythm within Columbia County.

Fort White

Use Fort White to compare housing patterns, main-road access and the shopping or medical stops used during a normal week.

Places that reveal the county

Ichetucknee Springs State Park

Eight springs join to make a six-mile river so clear that people float it on inner tubes all summer.

Falling Creek Falls

A tea-colored waterfall in deep woods north of Lake City, reached by a short accessible boardwalk.

Lake City–Columbia County Historical Museum

The county's museum fills the May Vinzant Perkins House, an 1870s home in downtown Lake City.

Alligator Lake Recreation Area

A thousand acres of lake, marsh and cypress on the edge of Lake City, with miles of levee trails and more than 150 kinds of bird.

O'Leno State Park

The Santa Fe River dives underground here and comes back up three miles away, and a 1930s swinging bridge crosses it.

Lake Isabella Historic District

A neighborhood of 145 historic houses around a lake southeast of downtown Lake City, listed in the National Register since 1993.

Osceola National Forest

Florida's smallest national forest, and the one that holds Ocean Pond, Big Gum Swamp and the Olustee battlefield.

Lake DeSoto

The lake in the middle of downtown Lake City, ringed by a walking path and used for the town's markets and holiday events.

Rum Island Park

A small county park on the Santa Fe River where a clear spring runs straight into the river's tea-colored water.

Where to check

Florida disaster preparedness maps · Official evacuation-zone, route and storm-surge planning maps.

floridadisaster.org

Florida school accountability reports · Current state school and district accountability information.

fldoe.org

Florida community health data · County-level public health indicators and community reports.

flhealthcharts.gov

Florida housing resources · State resources for homebuyers, renters and local assistance programs.

floridahousing.org
