



DANBURY, CT AREA INFORMATION

[Danbury](#) is a city in Fairfield County, Connecticut, located along the Still River approximately 70 miles northeast of New York City. Its population is around 85,000, and it is within the New York Combined Statistical Area and the Bridgeport Metropolitan Area. The city is named for Danbury, England, the place of origin of many of its early settlers. It is nicknamed the “Hat City” because of its prominent history in the hat industry; for a period in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, it was the center of the American hat industry. The mineral danburite is named for Danbury. The community of Danbury is known as an excellent place to start a business and a great community that is committed to preserving a high quality of life and strives to encourage creativity, diversity, and innovation.

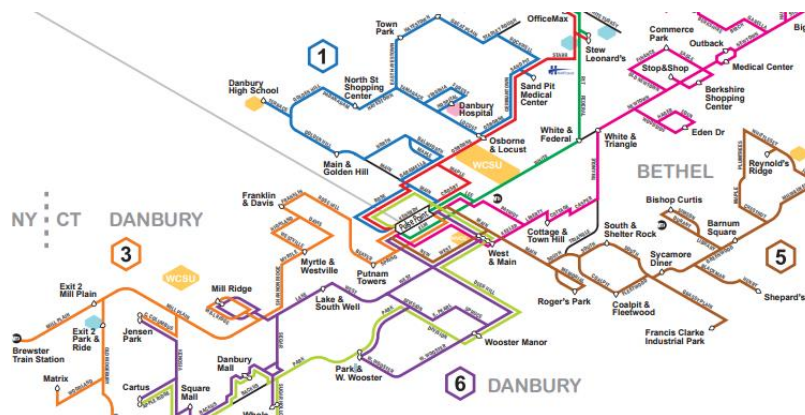
[Area Vibes Score](#) – Danbury scores a 72 livability rating, with strengths in amenities and low crime rates.

Transportation

While Danbury does offer public transportation via trains and buses, the majority of residents use a car as their main form of transportation. Interstate 84 and U.S. Route 7 are the main highways in the city. I-84 runs west to east from the lower Hudson Valley region of New York to Waterbury and Hartford. US 7 runs south to north from Norwalk (connecting to I-95) to the Litchfield Hills region. The two highways overlap in the downtown area.

Danbury is the terminus of the Danbury branch line of the [MTA Metro-North Railroad](#) which begins in Norwalk, where transfers to New York City are available. Local bus service is provided by the [Housatonic Area Regional Transit](#) (HART). The city is also the location of the [Danbury Municipal Airport](#).

HART System Map



Schools

Generally, to register your child for school you will need to have a passport and/or birth certificate, proof of immunizations, any applicable past school records and proof of residency. Most public schools have boundary areas, and you must show proof (i.e. copy of lease or home purchase agreement) to be allowed to register in that particular school. Please always confirm requirements with the school you are interested in before assuming that your child will be able to attend that school.

Grade level in the public school system is determined by the age of the child. Typically, the child must be 5 years old by September 1st to enter kindergarten. School districts may be very strict about the age requirement, but inquire with the school district you are interested in to determine if there are any exemptions for foreign students who are ahead in grade level. You may also want to ask about any gifted or advanced programs as well as their English as a Second Language (ESL) Programs. Some elementary schools also offer a pre-Kindergarten program for children who miss the September 1st requirement. You may inquire at the school districts for availability.

Contact your IOR Destination Services Consultant for more assistance with schooling questions.

Public, Private, and Preschools

A complete listing of public schools in Danbury can be viewed [here](#).

A complete listing of private schools in the Danbury area can be viewed [here](#).

A directory of preschools in the Danbury area can be viewed [here](#).

Additional Resources

- www.greatschools.org
- www.eschoolprofile.com
- www.schooltree.org

Colleges/Universities

- [Colleges and universities near Danbury](#)



Courtesy of [The Odyssey](#)

Recreation

Parks

Danbury is home to a number of beautiful, family-friendly [parks](#). At [Tarrywile](#), you can explore over 722 acres of hiking trails and incredible nature views. Looking for adventure? Don't miss out on [Bear Mountain Reservation](#), a dog-friendly hiking destination. Check out the beaches at [Candlewood Lake](#) or take the kids to one of the [playgrounds](#). To learn more about parks and recreation in Danbury, click [here](#).



Museums

Danbury prides itself on being a hub for learning and innovation. Want to learn more about the Hat City? Stop by the [Danbury Museum and Historical Society](#). Located downtown, the Museum always has an exciting exhibit on display. Take a tour through the Joan and Mary Rider House built in Danbury's post-Revolutionary War period or the Marian Anderson studio that Marian used when she and her husband lived in Danbury. How about a train ride? Maybe a ride on a real operating turntable? The [Danbury Railway Museum](#) has what you are looking for! Thousands of people from all over the world have come to tour the Railway Museum.

Downtown

The [city center](#) offers endless possibilities for [dining](#) and entertainment. Downtown Danbury is home to a multitude of diverse cuisine that highlights our community. With a summer concert series and a number of events throughout the year, this downtown partnership will keep you entertained. For more information about City Center Danbury events, click [here](#).



Fair Mall

Now bustling with tons of fine shops and restaurants, the [Danbury Fair Mall](#) stands in the place of the century-old Danbury Fairgrounds. At 1.3 million square feet, it is one of the largest malls in Connecticut!

Obtaining a Driver's License

In the US, a driver's license or ID card is issued by each individual state and not by the federal government. Since there is no national identity card in the USA, and many Americans don't have a passport or carry around a birth certificate, a driver's license issued by your state is often the only official piece of identification for many citizens. Since 9/11, you will need to show a valid driver's license or State ID card to enter many big office buildings.

If you have an out-of-state or out-of-country license, you may use it for as long as you maintain your residency in the state where it was issued. If you are moving permanently to Connecticut, you may use your out-of-state license for only your first month here. To change to a Connecticut license, bring your Social Security card, another form of ID, and multiple utility or phone bills verifying that you are a Connecticut resident to a motor vehicle facility. You'll have to pass written and eye exams, and usually a road test.

For general information and instructions on how to obtain an official state ID card or driver's license, visit the [Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles](#).

Your Destination Services Consultant will also assist you with the proper procedure.