# REVIEWS AND ADVICE FROM STUDENTS IN THE PHD, MASTER'S AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

# CWRU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE HOUSING GUIDE 2024 —

HOUSING DATA NEIGHBORHOODS EXPLAINED APARTMENT RATINGS TOP PROPERTIES LANDLORD INFO RENTER RESOURCES



Intelligent Apartment Search

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Using the VeryApt site alongside this guide

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Compiled from CWRU Med Graduate student reviews

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**LANDLORDS** Ratings for landlords and management

companies

# **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 Cleveland. 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 CWRU Med Graduate 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.

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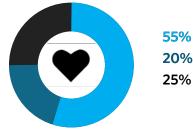


# Where CWRU Med Graduate students live



- **30%** Coventry
- 25% Cedar-Fairmount20% University Circle
- 20% Little Italy
- 5% Other

# Who CWRU Med Graduate students live with



- 55%Alone20%Spouse/partner
  - Roommate (excluding spouse/ partner)

25% of CWRU Med Graduate students live with pets

# What type of properties CWRU Med Graduate students live in

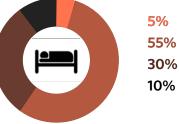


**30%** Large property (50+ units)

**25%** Mid-size property (20-49 units)

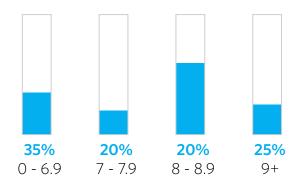
**45%** Small property (2-9 units)

# What size residences CWRU Med Graduate students live in



% Studios or efficiences
5% One bedrooms
0% Two bedrooms
0% Three or more bedrooms

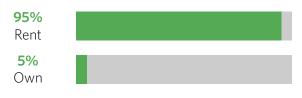
# Distribution of property ratings



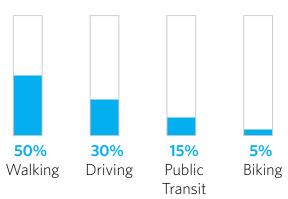
# Average rent by apartment size



# Rent versus own



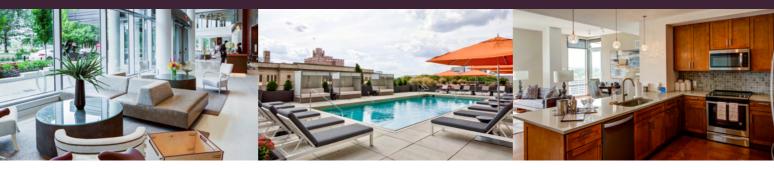
# **Commute methods**





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**ONE** UNIVERSITY

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### **Time Savers**

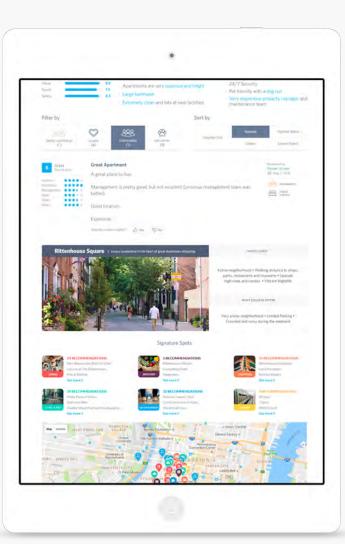


All the information you need in a single place. Photos, prices, floor plans, maps, and amenities -VeryApt has you covered.

## **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.

**Julia Rizio** VP Operations juliar@veryapt.com



# Urban sophistication at its absolute finest.

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A modern, amenity-rich community that includes onsite shopping and an exclusive 24-hour concierge service.

15-min walk to CWRU - Next to Cleveland Clinic's main campus - State of the art fitness center - Complimentary dog walking service - Sky deck - Resident lounge

Well-appointed loft-style apartments and townhomes with stunning views, in the ideal downtown location.

5-min drive to CSU - Penthouse-level sundeck & party room

- State of the art fitness center - Business center - Steps from sporting events, entertainment, night life, restaurants

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE



WAREHOUSE DISTRICT | 1BR, 2BR, 3BR

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1

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# WAREHOUSE DISTRICT | 1BR, 2BR

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5-min drive to CSU - Bi-level fitness Center - Rooftop patio and lounge - Community e-lounge - Theater room - Easy commute to Downtown, Playhouse Square, The Flats

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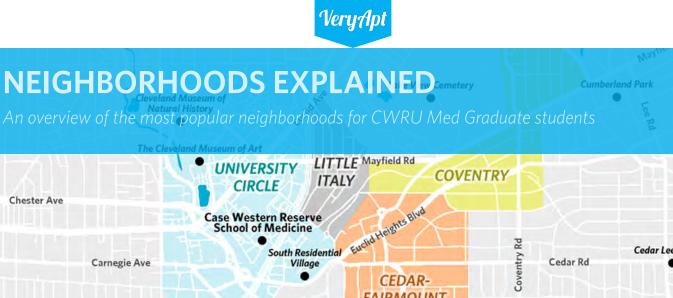


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#### 30% of CWRU Med Graduate students

Coventry is the most popular neighborhood for CWRU Med students. The selection of bars, restaurants, and shops keeps this neighborhood exciting.



Little Italy

20% of CWRU Med Graduate students

Little Italy is a charming neighborhood with brick roads, tall trees, and great Italian restaurants. The commute to campus is very manageable.



#### 25% of CWRU Med Graduate students

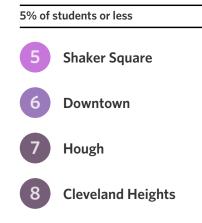
University Circle is home to Case Western and several other Cleveland landmarks like the Cleveland Museum of Art, and the Cleveland Botanical gardens. Class is always an easy walk away.



#### 20% of CWRU Med Graduate students

Cedar Fairmount is a quiet residential neighborhood with lots of graduate students and young professionals. There are a few shops and restaurants on Cedar Road.

### **Other Neighborhoods**





# QUICK COMMUTE

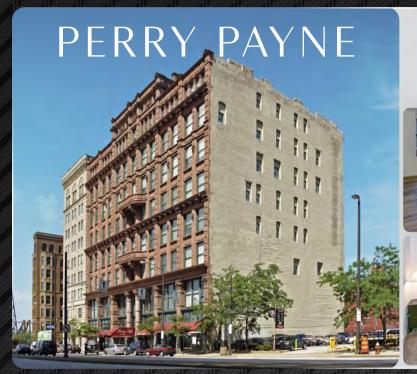
5-min drive to CSU 15-min drive to CWRU

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Schedule a tour to see our amenities and get to know the neighborhood. Mention VeryApt when you reach out!

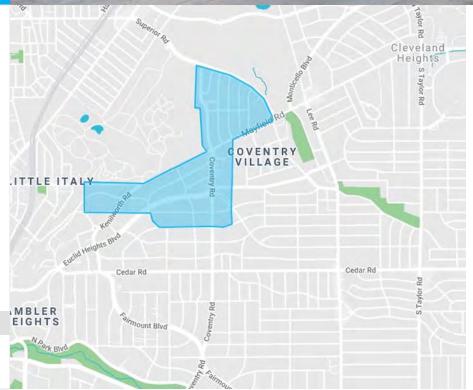
# Coventry

Great bars and restaurants in a trendy neighborhood

### **ABOUT COVENTRY**

Coventry is the most popular neighborhood for CWRU Grad students. Considered one of the trendiest neighborhoods in Cleveland Heights, Coventry is home to a selection of hip coffee shops, restaurants and bars. Students in Coventry generally appreciate living near their classmates, being in walking distance to nightlife, and having easy access to groceries.





### WHAT RESIDENTS THINK ABOUT COVENTRY

### \*\*\*\*

#### Review by CWRU Med student

PALMETTO

Coventry has a lot of charm. There are some decent places to grab food, and it is a pretty walkable neighborhood overall. It's quite close to campus, but there can be a decent amount of traffic and noise in the area.

### \*\*\*\*

#### Review by CWRU Med student

#### CRESTVIEW

I love the Coventry area. It's very walk able and has everything you need- hardware store, grocery store, coffee shops, thrift store, multiple food options, and a community garden.

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 Laundry Facilities
 On CWRU Shuttle Route
 Limited Covered Parking Available





# Reserve Overlook 1, 2, 4 & 5-BR



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Brand New Apartments
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 Off Street Parking Available

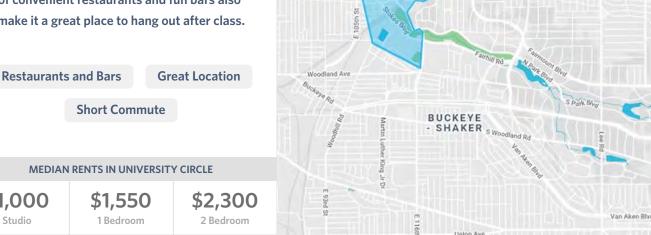


# **University Circle**

Walk to class and live in Cleveland's cultural hub

### **ABOUT UNIVERSITY CIRCLE**

University Circle is in many ways a cornerstone of Cleveland culture. It boasts beautiful landscapes and several landmarks like the **Cleveland Museum of Art, Severance Hall, the** Cleveland Botanical Gardens, and the Natural History Museum. University Circle's selection of convenient restaurants and fun bars also make it a great place to hang out after class.



CIRCLE

### WHAT RESIDENTS THINK ABOUT UNIVERSITY CIRCLE

### \*\*\*\*

\$1,000

Studio

**Review by CWRU Med student** 

**•** FAYNE APTS

Easy access to campus, Uptown, and Little Italy. Near Red Line station.

### \*\*\*\*\*

**Review by CWRU Med student** 

Cedar Ro

#### COMMODORE PL

Cleveland

Heights

Univ He

Shake

Van Aken Blyd

You are in the heart of University Circle, the cultural center of Cleveland. During the school year, you will constantly see students walking and in the restaurants. If you use common sense, it is for the most part safe.

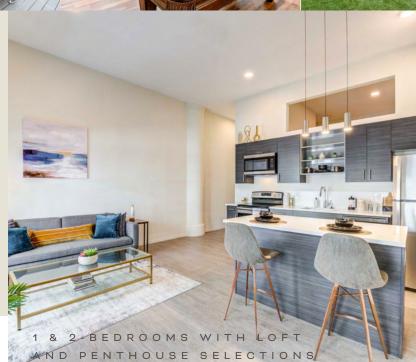




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# Little Italy

Live close to campus in a historic neighborhood

### **ABOUT LITTLE ITALY**

Little Italy is a picturesque neighborhood with brick roads, tall trees, and charming Italian shops and restaurants. Most people tend to live in town homes in this area. The walk from Little Italy to campus is very manageable, and the Little Italy-University Circle RTA station is just down the road. The area has a homey feel to it and the crowd is a little older than some of the other university-focused areas.

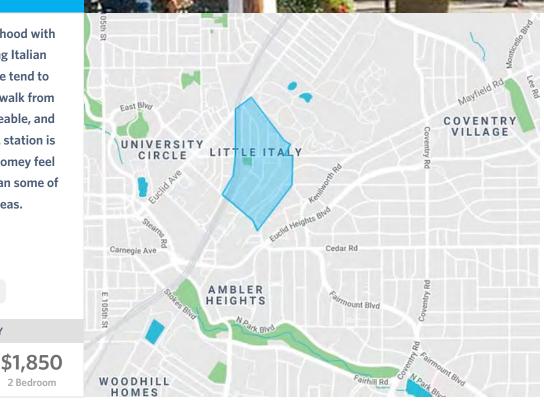
Scenic Streets

Easy Commute to Class

MEDIAN RENTS IN LITTLE ITALY

\$1,300

1 Bedroom



### WHAT RESIDENTS THINK ABOUT LITTLE ITALY

### \*\*\*\*

\$1,100

Studio

Review by CWRU Med student

♀ 1955 E 120TH ST

Little Italy is a great old neighborhood. It is highly walkable with easy access to the RTA and bike lanes. You can get to almost anything you need in a mile or less. Parking is a hassle if you do choose to have a car. Demographic has slightly shifted making the neighborhood more college aged and therefore temporary.

#### \*\*\*\*

#### **Review by CWRU Med student**

♥ MURRAY HILL RD

Little Italy has everything you can ask for. Amazing authentic Italian restaurants, bakeries, coffee shops, bars, you name it. A great spot to hit no matter what you're in the mood for.

# Cedar Fairmount

Residential area southeast of campus

### ABOUT CEDAR FAIRMOUNT

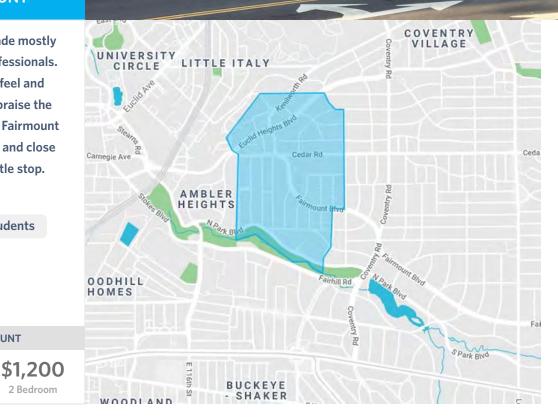
Cedar Fairmount is a community made mostly of graduate students and young professionals. Despite its mellow neighborhood feel and limited nightlife options, students praise the area for its quiet atmosphere. Cedar Fairmount is within biking distance to campus, and close to an RTA stop and a CWRU Shuttle stop.

Lots of Students **Easy Commute** 

**MEDIAN RENTS IN CEDAR FAIRMOUNT** 

\$930

1 Bedroom



### WHAT RESIDENTS THINK ABOUT CEDAR FAIRMOUNT

### \*\*\*\*\*

\$780

Studio

REFLECT

**Review by CWRU Med student** 

• DERBYSHIRE RD

2 Bedroom

Within walking distance from campus & Coventry, some good shops and resteraunts. No grocery store (closed a year ago), will need a car/friend/instacart. Access to dry cleaning and a couple salons/barbershops. Not generally super loud, but there are a decent number of sirens and the occasional loud neighbor party. Likely more noise if you're facing Cedar.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

#### **Review by CWRU Med student**

### ♀ INTEGRITY

Cleveland Heights is a nice area! I am on a nice and fairly quiet street, but it is easy to get to the main street. There is not much around though and it takes time to get to anywhere with stores.

# APARTMENT RATINGS

**VeryApt** 

# **KEY**

...

••

- ••• Excellent for a category
  - Great
  - Average
- Below average
- \$\$\$\$ \$1260+ per renter
- \$\$\$ \$840-\$1259
- \$\$ \$780-\$839
- \$ <\$780

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

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	and and	Raffic T		1	8		ne ne	Ame	Vallie V		Safer.
10000 Lamont Ave	Apt	6.0	\$\$\$	ĺ	ĺ	ĺ	••	••	•	•	••
12509 Cedar Rd	Apt	6.0	\$\$				••••	•	•	••••	••••
1955 E 120th St	Apt	7.5	\$\$			~	•••	•••	••••	••••	••
2109 Random Rd	Apt	6.0	\$\$				•••	••	•	•	•••
2220 Murray Hill Rd	Apt	8.0	\$\$			~	••••	••	••••	••••	••
2331 Bellfield Ave	Apt	8.0	\$\$				••	••••	••••	••••	••••
2504 Derbyshire Rd	Apt	6.0	\$\$				•	•	••	•	••
2646 Mayfield Road	Apt	8.0	\$				••••	•••	••••	••••	••••
2655 Hampshire Rd	Apt	9.0	\$\$		~		••••	•	••••	••••	••
Artisan	Apt	10.0	\$\$		~	~	••••	••••	•	•••	••••
Axis at Ansel	Apt	7.8	\$\$\$\$	~			••	••••	•••	••	••
Bertland Building	Apt	7.8	\$\$				••••	•••	••••	•••	••••
C. Roberto	Apt	6.0	\$\$				•••	••••	••	••••	••••
Centric	Apt	7.7	\$\$	~	~		•••	•••	••	•••	•••
Commodore Place Apartments	Apt	6.8	\$\$\$				••	••	••••	•	••
Courtyard Apartments	Apt	9.6	\$				••••	••	••••	••	••••
Crestview	Apt	6.0	\$\$				•	•	•••	•	••
Esther's Place	Apt	6.0	\$\$				•	•	••	••	••
Euclid3	Apt	7.4	\$\$				••••	••	••	•	••••
Fayne Apartments	Apt	7.5	\$				••	•••	••••	•	•••
Glenville CircleNorth	Apt	7.8	\$\$\$				••••	••	••••	••	•••
Hazel 8	Apt	8.9	\$\$\$\$				••••	••••	•••	•••	••••
Heights Apartments on Overlook	Apt	6.0	\$\$				•	•	•	•	••
Innova	Apt	8.2	\$\$\$\$		~	~	•••	•••	•	•	••
Kemper Place	Apt	6.7	\$				••	••	••	•	••
Kensington Place	Apt	7.4	\$\$	~			••	••	•••	••	••

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

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# APARTMENT RATINGS

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Legacy @ltasca	Apt	8.0	\$\$				••••	••••	•••	•••	••
Mornington Apartments	Apt	6.0	\$				•	•	•••	•	••
Overlook Manor	Apt	6.5	\$\$ #####				•	••	••	•••	••••
Park Lane Villa	Apt	7.7	\$\$\$\$				••	•••	••	•••	••••
Quarter	Apt	9.0	\$\$				•••	••••	•••	••••	•••
Reserve Overlook	Apt	8.0	\$\$\$	~			••	••	•••	•••	••
Southgate Towers	Apt	9.0	\$\$				•••	••••	••••	••••	••••
Stratford Arms	Apt	6.2	\$\$		~		•	•	••	••	••
Sunrise	Apt	6.0	\$\$				•	•	•	•	••
The Archer	Apt	9.1	\$\$\$				••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
The Ascent	Apt	8.5	\$\$\$\$				•••	••••	••••	•••	•••
The Bingham	Apt	8.8	\$\$\$				••••	••••	•••	••••	•••
The Brantley	Apt	6.0	\$\$\$				•	•	•	••	•••
The Commercial Building	Apt	7.5	\$\$\$				••	••••	••	••••	••
The Concord Apartments	Apt	8.4	\$\$				•••	•••	•••	•••	••••
The Edge	Apt	6.0	\$\$				•	•••	••	•••	•••
The Frederick	Apt	6.4	\$				•	••	•	••	••
The Hat Factory	Apt	8.2	\$\$\$				••••	••••	••••	••••	•••
The Highland Building	Apt	8.7	\$				•••	•••	•••	•••	••
The Lennox	Apt	9.2	\$				••	•••	•••	••	•••
The Lumos	Apt	8.0	\$\$\$\$				•••	•••	•	••	••
The Palmetto	Apt	6.4	\$	~		~	••	••	•	••	••
The Terminal Tower Residences	Apt	8.0	\$\$				•••	•••	•••	••••	••
The Vantage Apartments	Apt	7.1	\$\$\$				•••	••••	••	•	••
The Wilson Building	Apt	6.0	\$				•	••	•	•••	•••
Twin Flags	Apt	6.0	\$\$				•	•	•	••	••
University East Apartments	Apt	7.3	\$\$\$				••	•	••	••	••
Waldorf Towers Apartments	Apt	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.

V Troe

### **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.



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Walking distance to CWRU, the Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals





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# MOST POPULAR

Buildings with the most CWRU Med Graduate students

### READ MORE REVIEWS AT VERYAPT.COM

What students typically look for:



- Excellent location
  - Reasonably-priced apartments
  - Solid amenities



# TOP 5





#### Review by CWRU Medical Student

"I can walk to case western in less than 20 minutes/close to bus stop. Lots of restaurants within 1 block. Very spacious apartment for 1 bed/1bath. Covered parking."



### Review by CWRU Medical Student

"This property has a washer and dryer in the building, a cityowned parking lot adjacent to it, and a private parking lot directly behind it. Management is very quick to respond to maintenance issues. While true that Integrity properties are more expensive than properties from other landlords, the extra money is worth it, in my opinion, because of how reliable Integrity is. Integrity communicates with me over every detail, something I greatly appreciate."



#### **Review by** *CWRU Medical Student* "Management is very good. Maintenance is fast and reliable. Premises is constantly clean and pretty safe."

# 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**





#### Review by CWRU Medical Student

"I love my apartment. It's spacious. It's an old building, so the walls are thick, unlike what I'd read about a lot of newer apartment buildings, but it's been renovated, so the rooms don't look or smell old. It's quiet and it's in a beautiful neighborhood- a short walk to the new Van Aken District. Without parking, my rent for a 1BR/1.5ba is \$995, which is just below my limits, but it's so worth it. Parking is a heated garage with locked access. Only downside is shared laundry (\$2.10ea/wash and dry), unless you choose a townhouse, which is obviously a higher rent. Heat is on gas, which is included in the rent. And, it's only a 15min drive to campus! Or, you can pick up the Rapid right outside your front door. As for safety, I've only been here about 4 months, but nothing scary has happened so far. I was really nervous about living alone, but I feel fine there."





#### Review by CWRU Medical Student

"very safe and clean area; sometimes hard to get ahold of management; maintenance very responsive; some creaky floors; smaller apt buildings so not many "neighbors" - quiet"



**Review by** *CWRU Medical Student* "Great for a young professional environment with an updated, modern living style compared to Cleveland Heights"

# BEST FOR AMENITIES

Highest-rated properties for amenities

READ MORE REVIEWS AT VERYAPT.COM

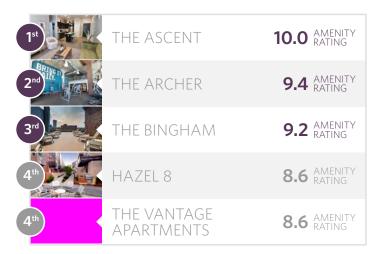
What top amenity properties typically offer:



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



# TOP 5





"Pros: Everything is brand new and fancy, management is top notch. Cons: Pricy and located against two big roads so a little loud."



#### Review by CWRU Medical Student

"Downtown living is the best - you are central to the East side and west side of town. 10-15 minutes from campus. Safe area and next to the Flats! Lots to do downtown. 2 floor gym and community area in apartment building - good for studying spot."



Review by CWRU Medical Student

"Great community, friendly people and lots of dog owners. There's many people in their 20's. I've had no issues with maintenance. Can be a louder area on weekends, but that's because it's by a street with a good amount of bars. Not a bad thing in my opinion."

# BEST FOR VALUE

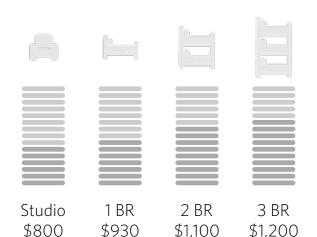
Highest-rated properties for value

### READ MORE REVIEWS AT VERYAPT.COM

What top value properties typically offer:

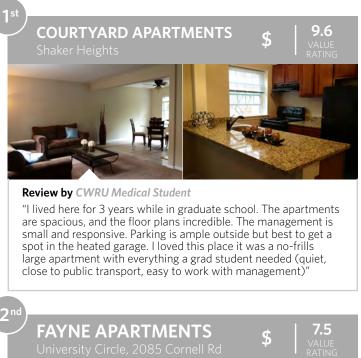


- Great price-to-space trade off
- Good location
- Solid amenities and basic features



# TOP 5







### Review by CWRU Medical Student

"Older building but updated appliances. Clean living space. Management is helpful and timely. Location close to campus is convenient."



**Review by** *CWRU Medical Student* "Good location, its quiet, price is very affordable. Close to transport and school. Lots of families."

# Townhomes

Smaller properties and how to find them

### **ABOUT TOWNHOMES**

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	LARGE	R FLOOR PLANS	
	8+ BEDROOMS AV	'AILABLE	MORE PRIVA	CY
WI	HY YOU MAY W	ANT TO A		IOME
NC	DOORMAN	LESS CO	NVENIENT LOCAT	IONS
0	LDER CONSTRUC	TION	LIMITED AMENI	ΓIES

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 CWRU Med 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.



### **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.

### **TIPS AND ADVICE**



### **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.

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### 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.

# LANDLORD GRADES and the Renting Process

GRADE	LANDLORD
C+	Cleveland Heights Apartments
<b>A-</b>	Flaherty & Collins Properties
<b>A-</b>	Geis Companies
B-	Integrity Realty Group
B+	Montlack Realty
<b>A+</b>	Town Management
C+	University Circle Inc.
<b>A+</b>	WXZ Development
B-	Waldorf Towers Apartments
<b>A+</b>	Warehouse District

# Landlord Grades

Grades were assigned to landlords by using a combination of management ratings and overall ratings for the properties they manage.

# Understanding THE RENTING PROCESS

If this is your first time renting, here is a heads up on what the process is like:

## **Application process**

You will be asked to **fill out an application** for an apartment. Likely this will include an **application fee (\$30-50)** and potentially a deposit (up to one month's rent). If you're an international student, you **may have to provide alternate information** - in the absence of a social security number, bank accounts, etc., often landlords will accept your visa documents and acceptance letter. Landlords will use your information to approve you based only on your credit history and income. In the event where there are issues, a landlord may grant the application on the condition that a guarantor cosigns the lease.

## After you're approved

A landlord will often ask for a **security deposit** and **prepaid rent**. A landlord typically charges up to two months' rent as a security deposit and will ask for up to two months in prepaid rent. Anything beyond this is more than normal. At the end of your lease and after you **give proper notification that you are moving out** (typically 60-90 days), the **landlord has 30 days to return the security deposit at the end of the lease**. The landlord may not return the deposit in full if there are claimed damages to the property or other charges outstanding.

## What to look out for

Check for additional charges or obligations that could cost you more than the listed price of a property. This could include move-in/move-out fees, renters insurance requirements, condo fees, common electrical fees, etc. Definitely ask about what previous electrical/utility bills have been to get a feel for any additional monthly costs there may be. Be sure to research the landlord and management company before placing any sort of deposit. If you have any specific questions, feel free to reach out to us at contact@veryapt.com.

QUESTIONS?



**CONTACT@VERYAPT.COM** 

# READY TO MOVE?

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

