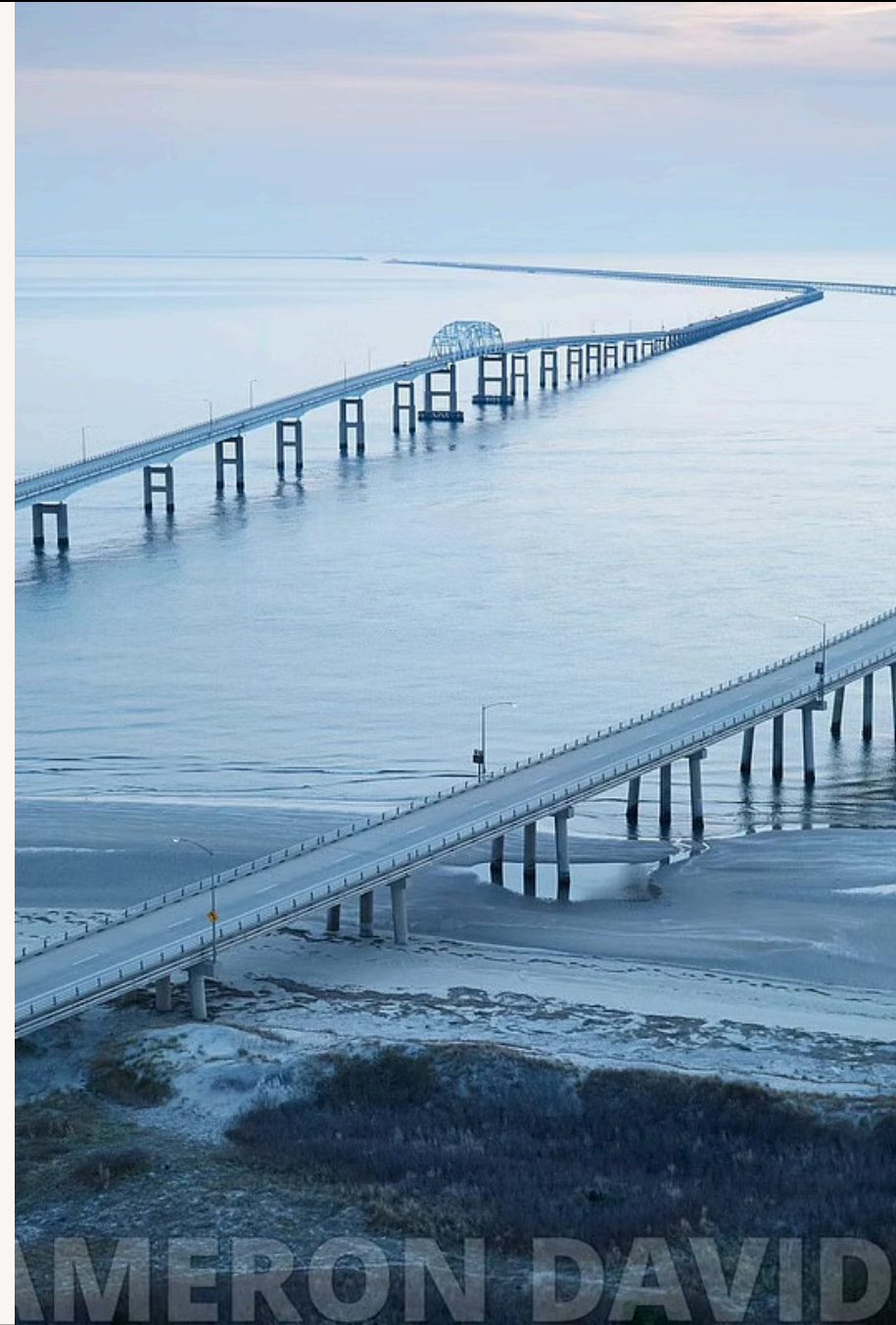


# Living in Chesapeake, Virginia: A Local's Guide to Communities, Lifestyle & Real Life

Discover where to live, what to do, and how to feel right at home.



AMERON DAVID

# Welcome to Chesapeake — and welcome home.

If you're thinking about moving to Chesapeake, Virginia, this guide will simplify your search and help you feel like a local before you even unpack a box.

I'm Jason Edwards — a Navy vet turned local Realtor — and I specialize in helping military families, first-time buyers, and relocating homeowners navigate the Hampton Roads market with clarity and confidence.



Whether you're PCS'ing to Norfolk Naval, buying your first home, or just exploring your options, this lifestyle guide gives you a real-world look at Chesapeake's most loved neighborhoods and how locals live, play, and connect here.



# Top Communities in Chesapeake

Chesapeake offers diverse neighborhoods to match your lifestyle, from waterfront properties to family-friendly suburbs with excellent schools. Let's explore the most sought-after communities in the area.



# Great Bridge

Great Bridge feels like the heart of Chesapeake — a balanced mix of historic charm, shopping and dining, great schools, and established neighborhoods.

## What Makes It Special

- Historic district with waterway access
- Community events and local festivals
- Excellent school district
- Mix of established and newer homes

## Perfect For

- Families seeking community
- Boating enthusiasts
- History lovers
- Those wanting walkable amenities



The Great Bridge Lock Park offers residents beautiful water views and access to the Intracoastal Waterway, making it a favorite spot for both locals and visitors.



# Grassfield



Grassfield's newer developments feature family-friendly designs with sidewalks perfect for evening strolls and kids riding bikes.

Highly rated schools, newer construction homes, and wide sidewalks make Grassfield perfect for growing families.

## Community Highlights

- Top-rated Grassfield High School
- Modern homes built within last 10-15 years
- Family-oriented community events
- Quick access to shopping centers

## Market Insight

Grassfield is one of Chesapeake's most desirable areas, offering community feel with suburban convenience — and it tends to go fast when listings hit the market.

# Hickory



## Rural Charm

Hickory offers larger lots and more breathing room between homes, perfect for those who want space without sacrificing convenience.



## Sought-After Schools

The Hickory school district is among the most desirable in Chesapeake, though increasing popularity has led to some overcrowding issues.



## Housing Options

From established neighborhoods to newer developments, Hickory offers diverse housing options typically with more square footage than other areas.

While schools here are among the most sought after, the area offers a quieter lifestyle that's still only minutes from shopping and commuter routes.



# Deep Creek

Deep Creek offers a more affordable option with quick access to the I-64 corridor. It has a mix of older homes, newer builds, and townhomes.

The area is particularly popular with:

- Military families (easy commute to bases)
- First-time homebuyers looking for value
- Commuters who need quick access to Norfolk and Virginia Beach



## 15-20%

**More Affordable**

Than other Chesapeake communities on average

## 25 min

**Commute**

To Norfolk Naval Station

# Greenbrier



Greenbrier serves as Chesapeake's commercial hub, offering residents convenient access to shopping, dining, and entertainment without sacrificing residential charm.

Greenbrier is Chesapeake's shopping and business hub. You'll find condos, townhomes, and neighborhoods tucked behind the main roads.

## Area Highlights

- Major shopping centers and restaurants
- Mix of housing options at various price points
- Grayson Commons new construction condos
- Business district with employment opportunities
- Central location within Chesapeake

## Perfect For

- Young professionals
- Downsizers seeking convenience
- Those wanting a lock-and-leave lifestyle
- Shoppers who love having everything nearby





# Things to Do in Chesapeake

Living in Chesapeake means enjoying a perfect balance of suburban comfort with plenty of activities for every lifestyle. From outdoor adventures to culinary experiences, here's how locals spend their time.



# Top Restaurants Locals Love



## The Butcher's Son

Upscale American chophouse offering premium cuts, weekend brunch, and an impressive bourbon selection. Perfect for date nights and special occasions.



## YamaChen's Sushi

Consistently ranked best sushi in Chesapeake with creative rolls, fresh sashimi, and authentic Japanese dishes in a comfortable atmosphere.



## Cutlass Grille

Caribbean-fusion restaurant featuring jerk chicken, coconut shrimp, and island-inspired cocktails. Vibrant atmosphere with friendly service.

## Amber Lantern

Romantic waterfront dining on the Intracoastal Waterway with seafood specialties and stunning sunset views.

## Surf Rider

No-frills local seafood joint with the freshest catches, famous crab cakes, and homemade pie.



# Outdoor Adventures



The Great Dismal Swamp Canal Trail offers 8.5 miles of flat, scenic paths perfect for walking, cycling, and wildlife spotting.

## **Oak Grove Lake Park**

Locals love it for running laps around the 1.5-mile trail, fishing from the pier, and peaceful morning walks.

## **Northwest River Park**

Campgrounds, kayak rentals, hiking trails, and disc golf course make this a versatile outdoor destination.

## **Chesapeake Arboretum**

A hidden gem with 48 acres of native trees, nature trails, and a calming atmosphere away from city noise.

## **Chesapeake Planetarium**

Family-friendly and free (just call ahead to reserve spots) for stargazing and educational programs.

# Family-Friendly Fun



## FunVille Indoor Playground

Especially popular with families with children under 10, offering a safe, clean environment for active play regardless of weather.

## Chesapeake Jubilee (May)

The city's biggest annual event featuring carnival rides, fireworks, concerts, and food trucks that bring the whole community together.



## Regal Greenbrier Theatre

A/C and popcorn make for a solid rainy day activity, with stadium seating and the latest releases for family movie nights.

## Battlefield Park

Modern playground equipment, walking trails, and historic ties to the Battle of Great Bridge make this a fun and educational destination.



# Local Nightlife & Breweries

## Big Ugly Brewing

Veteran-owned brewery with rotating taps, food trucks, and a relaxed atmosphere. Their barrel-aged stouts have developed a strong local following.

## The Garage Brewery

Chill local spot with indoor/outdoor seating, trivia nights, and a variety of craft beers in a converted auto garage space.



## The Bunker Brewpub

Military-themed taproom with live music and house-brewed beers (nearby in Virginia Beach but worth the short drive).

## Eagle's Nest Rockin' Country Bar

If you like dancing, line dancing, or people-watching, this energetic venue offers live country music and a lively atmosphere.

# Events & Hometown Traditions

Throughout the year, Chesapeake hosts events that bring the community together and create lasting memories for residents:



## Chesapeake Jubilee

The city's biggest event of the year featuring carnival rides, BBQ competitions, live music, and fireworks each May.



## Wine Festival

Annual gathering at Chesapeake City Park with local wineries, artisan vendors, and live music in a relaxed outdoor setting.



## Friday Farmer's Markets

Small town meets food trucks and local makers during summer months, creating a community gathering space.



## Holiday Light Display

City Hall transforms from Thanksgiving to New Year's with a dazzling drive-through light show called Fa La La Land that's become a family tradition.

## 4th of July Fireworks

The annual celebration at Chesapeake City Park draws big crowds with a spectacular fireworks display and festive atmosphere.



# Planning a Move to Chesapeake? I've Got Something for You.

Download my free **Hampton Roads Relocation Guide** packed with insider information you won't find anywhere else:

- PCS tips specific to Norfolk Naval and surrounding bases
- Cost of living breakdowns by neighborhood
- My top 10 relocation mistakes to avoid
- Local resources for military families

**Grab it now:**

[Download the Relocation Guide](#)

**Questions?**

[Book a free call](#) or text me directly

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