

In the West: 20 towns of the future

Palo Alto, San Diego, Tucson, Pasadena, Denver, Boise, Fairbanks, and more: Here's why to live in these cities now

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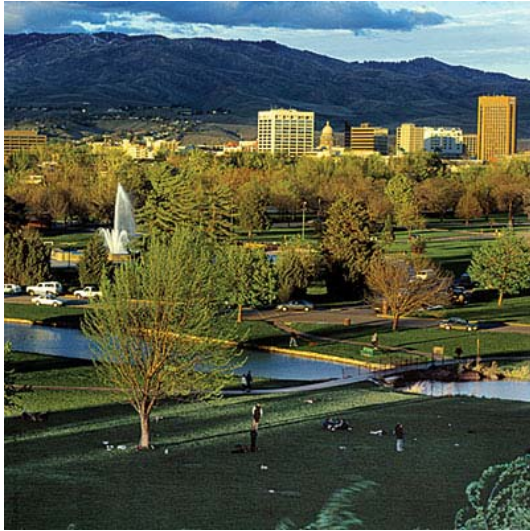


Photo by Glenn Oakley, story by Christine Ciarmello and Samantha Schoech

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Boise, ID: Work and play

Got a start-up idea? Boise wants you. The Idaho city has garnered high marks from *Forbes* as one of the top places to start a business. **Micron** is a top gun and the city's biggest employer, **Inovus Solar** is here, and nearby you'll find **Tsheets** and **Sky Detective**.

Good work means a little play too: **Boise Bicycle Project** discounts bikes for residents (and teaches them how to fix their two wheels); and the ski area 16 miles from downtown, **Bogus Basin** resort, is a nonprofit, keeping extracurricular sports affordable. Life should be a balance.

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