



# **LIBERTY CITY:**

A Tradition of Excellence,  
A Commitment to the Future

Number 7 in the excellence in Liberty series.



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For over two hundred years, Liberty City has played an active role in the life of the nation. A cradle of the American revolution. Liberty City honors its proud past by maintaining a commitment to excellence. Now here is this commitment more evident than in Liberty's desire to provide its citizens with the widest variety of recreational activities and cultural events. Liberty Mayor Joe Delvane summarizes this commitment: "Liberty City's reputation as a vibrant, liveable community is nationwide. Our historic theaters, gourmet restaurants and big league sports teams provide great sources of civic pride. The Tempest River, running through the very heart of our city, and Liberty Park enable our citizens to participate in out door activities of all types. I'm proud of the recreational opportunities existing in Liberty City and pledge to maintain this level of excellence."



**PERFORMING ARTS:** The Voltaire Center for the Performing Arts houses the Liberty City Ballet, The Liberty Symphony Orchestra and The Liberty City Opera.

**SPORTS:** Liberty City boasts a full slate of professional sports. Freedom Stadium is home to Major League Baseball's Liberty City Red Birds and the National Football League Bandits. The Liberty City Angels play professional Basketball in the Civic Center.



**THEATER:** Opened in 1889 the historic Tempest Theater has showcased live stage productions for over 99 years. Performances by national touring companies and the Theater's own repertory players include classical and contemporary drama, tragedy and comedy. The Tempest Theater's annual Shakespeare festival is the largest event of its kind in the country. This years schedule includes the first every theatrical staging of William Faulkner's novel, *The Shound and the Fury*.

The Liberty City dramatic community also includes; The Liberty Free Players, The Liberty Experimental Theater, and the English Language Drama Society.

**RECREATIONAL SPORTS:** The Tempest River, flowing through the center of the City, enables Liberty's citizens to enjoy a full range of activities, including boating, water skiing, swimming, or simply strolling along the river's well groomed banks with someone special.

Liberty Park offers acres of tree lined jogging paths, baseball diamonds, soccer fields, playgrounds and picnic areas. On land and in the water, citizens of Liberty can do it all.



**EATING AND DRINKING:** The restaurants and bars in Liberty City are numerous and varied, serving a wide array of foreign and domestic cuisines. The world acclaimed Vincent's With A "V" heads an impressive list of gourmet restaurants in Liberty City. From the finest in luxury dining to more moderately priced fare, Liberty's restaurants cover the ethnic and culinary spectrum: Italian: Emile's, St. Augustine's Table, Moma Angeline's; Mexican: Corazon's, The Rio Grande; Oriental: The Samuri, and Charley Wang's.

After dinner adjourn to one of Liberty City's colorful taverns and night clubs such as The Bell Bottom Blues Club, The E.R., The Dugout, The Icehouse and Molly Blooms.



**Mayor**  
Joseph K. Delvane

## LIBERTY CITY: FACTS AND HISTORY

**City population:** 1,784,500 (1980 census)

**Metro area population:** 4,793,900 (1980 census)

**Mayor:** Joseph K. Delvane

**Daily newspapers:** 3. Number of commercial radio stations (am): 9.  
Number of commercial TV stations: 5.

Liberty City, coextensive with Liberty County, is the ninth largest city in the United States. The site was originally settled by Dutch colonists in the 17th century. In 1688 a Quaker community named the city New Strafford, but during the American Revolution, city patriots renamed the settlement, Liberty City.

A site of important conflicts during the Revolutionary War, Liberty City played a central role in the early political life of the nation. Liberty City was the site of both Banks of the United States—the first from 1791 to 1811, the second from 1816 to 1836. During the War of 1812, when the British laid siege to Washington D.C., Congress declared Liberty City as the nation's provisional capital. Liberty City also served as an important stopping point in the underground railroad and was a major center of the abolition movement in the 1860's.

The diversified Liberty City economy includes industries such as printing and publishing, shipbuilding and the manufacture of machinery, textiles, and chemicals.

A major renovation of the land on both sides of the Tempest River, occurred during the 1970's. This renovation transformed a formerly depressed area in the geographic heart of the city, into a proud business and tourist district, with fine hotels, restaurants and executive office space.