

# Boise, Idaho

## Joys of Boise

Between university activities and groups, festivals, speakers, shows, concerts, and many accessible and affordable events, Boise offers a variety of options for JVs to pursue their interests and discover new ones—four seasons of outdoor recreation - hiking, biking, skiing, camping, whatever your pleasure. The network of support people, former JVs, and partner agency staff is tight-knit and committed. Boise JVs have enjoyed perusing art and exhibiting their works in Boise's Freak Alley, an outdoor venue for murals, graffiti, and public art. It is said to be the largest outdoor gallery in the Northwest and has been a Boise institution since 2002.

## About Boise

Boise lies in a swath of green on the ancestral lands of the Newe (Shoshone) and Panati (Bannock) peoples. A growing city, the Boise-Nampa metro area has a population of 750K. It's also an essential hub for services and amenities, with no other metro area for 300 miles. It's a refugee resettlement community and the home of Boise State University. Boise is "large enough and diverse enough for many opportunities, but small enough to be able to network and feel like you are contributing in significant ways." (Melissa Mezo, Terry Reilly, 2020) The Sawtooth Mountains rise at Boise's northeastern flank, and the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area and the Givens Hot Springs lie to the south. The Snake River flows west of town, with high desert and Lake Owyhee past its banks. The Boise River runs through downtown, with accompanying parks and trails, including the 25-mile Boise Green Belt.