

## After Hours



### BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

POPULATION: 621,767 (2016)

GDP: US\$187.4 billion (2016)

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: 3.7%, compared to national average of 4.1% (September 2017)

AVERAGE WEEKLY SALARY FOR ALL INDUSTRIES: US\$1,000 or more

AVERAGE HOURLY WAGE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGERS: US\$54.58 compared to national average of US\$47.56 (2016)



## TRAVEL

### Baltimore, Maryland

**SITUATED IN THE HEART** of the mid-Atlantic region, Baltimore is Maryland's most populated city, accessible by rail, port and highway — and served by three major airports. The city was established in 1729 and carries a rich history as the birthplace of what would become the US national anthem and the first commercial railroad system.

Once notorious for its drugs and violence, as portrayed through TV shows such as *Homicide* and *The Wire*, Baltimore has made major strides in the right direction in the past few years. Now recognized as a knowledge capital, its growth is being driven by an influx of millennials and entrepreneurial activity, as well as top-tier research institutes, such as John Hopkins University. With the corporate bases of major players such as Exelon Constellation, Transamerica and T. Rowe Price in its downtown core, Baltimore ranks 13th out of the top 25 largest metro areas in the US for employment density.

The city is gearing up to transform even further with five major development projects in the works that will total almost US\$9 billion. New luxury apartments, millions of square feet of office space, new parks and a revamped shipping port are just some of the changes coming.

### Facts for investors

**1 KEY BUSINESS** The downtown hub supports many industry sectors, including biotechnology, medical, education and professional services. It has two state-of-the-art biotechnology business parks.

**2 COLLEGE CROWD** Drawn to affordable housing and job opportunities, the number of educated millennials has grown by more than half since 2000. Baltimore ranks No. 8 in the US for top millennial destinations.

**3 UP AND GROWING** A 25-year waterfront project, Port Covington, is among the largest real estate developments of its kind in the country. Upon completion, it will include up to 18 million sq. ft. of new, mixed-use development and is expected to generate thousands of jobs along with better access to the waterfront.

**4 ACTIVITY IN THE BURBS** The city isn't the only place getting a makeover. Many surrounding counties have embarked on their own major redevelopment projects.

### Leisure tips for business travellers

**1 HISTORY UP CLOSE** Baltimore houses more public landmarks per capita than any other US city. The last sail-only Civil War vessel built by the navy that's still afloat, the USS *Constellation*, sits in the Inner Harbor and is open for tours.

**2 FOR THE ART-MINDED** The Baltimore Museum of Art has the world's biggest collection of Matisse paintings.

**3 SEAFOOD DELIGHT** Known for its Maryland blue crab, the city offers various restaurants promoting fresh seafood and other local fare. In 2015, Zagat ranked Baltimore the No. 2 Food City in the US.

**4 NAVIGATION IS EASY** Touting itself as a walkable city, Baltimore also features a bike-share service, water taxis and bus rides around the downtown core via the free Charm City Circulator.

**5 BASEBALL BENEFITS** Baltimore is the birthplace of baseball legend Babe Ruth and visitors can still tour the townhouse-turned-museum he grew up in. The city's Camden Yards was named best ballpark in the major leagues for three years running and is where Cal Ripken Jr. broke the record for most consecutive baseball games played.

— *Rosalind Stefanac*

