

The Gold Coast offers spectacular views for Northeast Ohio renters

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Lakewood's Gold Coast runs along Edgewater Drive and Lake Avenue on the Lake Erie shore. It showcases a stretch of luxury high-rise apartments that draw residents from all over Northeast Ohio and beyond. Most of the people who live in these elegant and inviting apartments chose their suites because of the spectacular views that they provide of Lake Erie.

Marine Towers West

Rita Ryland, 65, lives in San Francisco most of the year. She and her husband have an apartment there that looks out over the San Francisco Bay. When they began to anticipate their retirement years, they thought they would try living in Cleveland before deciding whether to move here permanently. Five years ago, they rented an apartment at Marine Towers West at 12540 Edgewater Drive.

"I rented the apartment sight unseen," Ryland said. "I did an online search for 'Lake Erie views in Cleveland,' and Marine Towers West popped up." She called the manager and trusted his word that the view was spectacular.

The Rylands' Gold Coast apartment has two bedrooms, two baths and a solarium that overlooks Lake Erie.

"We have a view of the lake from every room," she said. "Lake Erie is the white diamond of Cleveland. It is a precious jewel."

She loves living at Marine Towers West.

"I like its diverse population, both culturally and age-wise," she said. "The residents range from infants to those in their mid-90s. The managers are service-oriented, and they care about the property."

She enjoys the time she spends in Cleveland.

“Clevelanders are wonderful.” She is particularly impressed with Northeast Ohio’s business owners. “People here care about their businesses. They remember customers and greet them by name, and that’s usually in just two or three visits.”

She tries to buy locally, getting some of the first furnishings for her apartment at Plantation Home on Detroit Avenue. She frequents Blackbird Bakery in Lakewood and Heinen’s in Rocky River. Her favorite restaurants are Lola, Flying Fig, Parallax, and Table 45.

She appreciates the Gold Coast’s easy access to freeways and the drivability of Greater Cleveland. She especially enjoys the scenery along Edgewater Drive. When she drove her brother along this route during a visit, he said, “It is like driving through Architectural Digest.”

Shoreham Apartments

Virginia Sauerbrei-Baron chose her 10th floor apartment at Shoreham Apartments at 11800 Edgewater Drive because of the view. And after living at the Shoreham for 10 years, she is still enamored with the view.

“The first thing you see when you walk in the door is the horizon. The view is breathtaking. It’s like a drawing,” she said.

Sauerbrei-Baron is the widow of Harold Sauerbrei, who was general manager and vice president of the Cleveland Browns in 1970s. She always lived on the east side but decided that she needed a complete change. She moved from a condominium on Shaker Boulevard to the Gold Coast because “her friends lived here.”

She described her suite as very spacious.

“It’s large enough to fit almost all of the furniture from my previous residence.”

When she wants to entertain her bridge group, she reserves the Shoreham’s community room on the building’s first floor.