

Ten Best Los Angeles Neighborhoods for Actors

by [Paul Valentino](#)

source: [LA neighborhoods for actors](#)

There are three major areas that actors in Los Angeles should focus on. Those are:

- **Central Los Angeles (moderate to high in crime; cost low to moderate)**
- **San Fernando Valley (moderate to low in crime; cost moderate to high)**
- **Westside Los Angeles (expensive and safe)**

All three areas are completely different from each other, and they're comprised of several smaller cities or neighborhoods.

The difference between these areas and their neighborhoods is the quality of living and the cost of rent. These two factors, paired with logistics, is what I considered when picking out ten of the best cities for actors to live (listed below).

Tip: before you decide on the neighborhood, make sure to visit it at different times of the day. What looks safe during the daytime may have a completely different look and feel at night.

SHERMAN OAKS

([Google Maps](#))

Besides Los Feliz, this is probably my favorite choice for a Los Angeles neighborhood that's good for actors, mostly because it's safe, relatively close and can be somewhat affordable. It also has quick access to 101 and 405 freeways,

which is important for those last minute audition calls. However, being in The Valley, it can still be considered “further from the biz.”

- **Pros:** Affordable, safe, walk-friendly
- **Cons:** A little far, not much to do, no metro access
- **Rent:** \$1,300-\$1,500 (1 bedroom)
- **Crime:** Low
- **Rating:** 4/5 (4 out of 5)

STUDIO CITY

([Google Maps](#))

Right next to Sherman Oaks, this is similarly good neighborhood for actors to live in Los Angeles for pretty much the same reasons as those mentioned above. Everything here is similar to what Sherman Oaks is like, but you’ll probably have a few more actors, a bit more crime and will be closer to auditions in Burbank and Hollywood.

- **Pros:** Affordable, more things to do
- **Cons:** Still a little far, no metro access
- **Rent:** \$1,100-\$1,400 (1 bedroom)
- **Crime:** Medium
- **Rating:** 3/5

NORTH HOLLYWOOD

([Google Maps](#))

Quite possibly the most popular neighborhood in The Valley among struggling actors. Many artists and showbiz folk live in North Hollywood, otherwise known as NoHo. There’s always something happening here, and you can find a play or other

type of performance to go to pretty much any day of the week. It's slightly higher on crime and can seem a bit run-down.

- **Pros:** Affordable, a lot of things to do, metro access
- **Cons:** Higher crime, a little run-down
- **Rent:** \$1,000-\$1,200 (1 bedroom)
- **Crime:** Medium
- **Rating:** 3/5

BURBANK

([Google Maps](#))

This is the famous Burbank, and arguably the nicest area in The Valley. The rent will run higher, but you'll live close to Disney, Universal and Warner Bros studios, find many things to do in here, and a lot of auditions take place in Burbank. It's a well-maintained area that's also safe with plenty of restaurants, theaters, shops and other things a young actor would love.

- **Pros:** Safe, nice area, plenty of things to do, close to some auditions
- **Cons:** Expensive, parking issues
- **Rent:** \$1,400-\$1,600 (1 bedroom)
- **Crime:** Low
- **Rating:** 5/5

WEST HOLLYWOOD

([Google Maps](#))

Finally, we're moving south. West Hollywood is known as the favorite neighborhood of homosexuals and the wealthier class, which automatically makes it a very nice place to live. It seems that whenever you enter WeHo, everything

immediately seems brighter and more colorful. West Hollywood is very well-maintained and safe, has a ton of things happening on a daily basis, but the lack of freeway access and expensive rent means it's not ideal.

- **Pros:** Safe, nice area, plenty of things to do, central location
- **Cons:** Expensive, no freeway access, parking issues
- **Rent:** \$1,400-\$1,600 (1 bedroom)
- **Crime:** Low
- **Rating:** 5/5

LOS FELIZ

([Google Maps](#))

Los Feliz is the best area on the east side of LA. It's a nice looking neighborhood with a few things to do here and there, full of younger people and has a strong presence of arts. It feels like an improved version of North Hollywood, but not as active. Parking isn't as difficult here as in some other parts of the town, and you don't see as many actors as in NoHo. This can be your best choice if you can afford the slightly higher rent price than North Hollywood.

- **Pros:** Clean, safe, calm, close to some auditions
- **Cons:** Can be difficult to find an apartment
- **Rent:** \$1,300-\$1,500
- **Crime:** Low
- **Rating:** 5/5

SILVER LAKE/ECHO PARK

([Google Maps](#))

Silver Lake and Echo Park neighborhoods are close to each other, thus they are often slapped together as one. They're very similar in many ways, although Silver Lake is the originator of its culture. These neighborhoods are famous for their art-focused feel and many, many hipsters, musicians and artists. Actors are as not as prevalent here, surprisingly.

- **Pros:** Nice area, very artsy, many things to do
- **Cons:** Somewhat expensive
- **Rent:** \$1,400-\$1,600
- **Crime:** Medium
- **Rating:** 4/5

HOLLYWOOD

([Google Maps](#))

Not everybody will advise living in the infamous Hollywood, but I think if you know how to pick a good area in this neighborhood, you can win big time in terms of rent price and logistics. It's close to West Hollywood, but the culture and the feel of it couldn't be more different. It is way more run-down, more dangerous and you'll always find how to get in trouble here.

- **Pros:** Affordable, central location, nightlife, metro access
- **Cons:** Not safe
- **Rent:** \$1,100-\$1,300
- **Crime:** High
- **Rating:** 2/5

GLENDALE

([Google Maps](#))

Another area that you won't hear being labeled as the best place to live mostly because it's a little further, but I don't think that it's that far to discount it completely. Glendale is the capital of LA's Armenians, but it's a relatively safe area that has enough things to do and see. The rent can be affordable and you still get quick access to auditions in Burbank or Central LA.

- **Pros:** Somewhat affordable, decent area
- **Cons:** Far
- **Rent:** \$1,200-\$1,400
- **Crime:** Medium
- **Rating:** 3/5

KOREATOWN

([Google Maps](#))

K-town is the next on the list after Hollywood where you can win in terms of rent prices if you're willing to be cautious. It's not the safest neighborhood in Los Angeles, but it's definitely not as bad as it used to be a decade ago. The biggest problem will be parking as Koreatown seems to be overpopulated, but the diversity is great and you'll find people of all walks of life here.

- **Pros:** Affordable, somewhat close to things
- **Cons:** A little unsafe, overpopulated, parking issue
- **Rent:** \$1,000-\$1,200
- **Crime:** Medium
- **Rating:** 2/5

Conclusion

For the most part, either one of these ten choices listed below can be a good place to live if you're moving to Los Angeles to work in the entertainment industry. Therefore, I'd suggest to look at this list as being in no particular order.

How were these picks made?

I considered the three major factors that would matter to aspiring showbiz professionals in Los Angeles:

1. Cost of rent
2. Safety of living
3. Logistics

It's highly advisable for anybody moving to Los Angeles to not rush with making the decision – spend some time exploring these neighborhoods.

What would I pick?

My personal choice would be these three neighborhoods, but it depends what you can afford since all three differ in pricing with *WeHo* being the most expensive:

1. West Hollywood
2. Los Feliz
3. Sherman Oaks

If you can afford living in West Hollywood, do that. Aside from the lack of a freeway access, it's very centrally located and in general is just a great area to be.

If not, your next best choice would be Los Feliz. A little cheaper with less things to do and not as centrally located, but you'll get to Burbank auditions faster.

Finally, if you can't afford *WeHo* and can't find a place in Los Feliz, then Sherman Oaks would be the next best thing.