



Relocation Guide

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OF THE SUN.

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History of Arizona



The state of Arizona is a strange blend of past and present. On Mesa tops are Native American villages where ancient rituals are still carried out to this day, their origins lost in time -- and at the Lowell Observatory scientists use the most modern scientific advances to map the contours of the moon!

Long before the Spaniards arrived in the state, Arizona was inhabited by three very different ancient cultures that followed the main geographical areas of the state:

The Hohokam who inhabited the Southern Deserts and built elaborate canals that can still be seen today to irrigate the desert landscape.

The Mogollan in the Central Mountain region.

The Anasazi on the Northern Plateau.



Other than the ruins of their cultures that have been found, we do not know much about these early peoples or what brought about their decline.

The first European visitors, that we know of, were members of a Spanish expedition, which was shipwrecked in the Gulf of Mexico in 1528. Four survivors from this wreck roamed the Southwest after escaping from the Indians.

One of the survivors, a slave named Esteban, is honored in black history as one of the earliest American pioneers.

In 1539 he lead a small search party from Mexico to locate the Seven Cities of Cibola and the gold that they



were said to hold. Although this search ended in his death at the hands of Zuni Indians, he paved the way for the area to be claimed by Spain.

In 1692, the Jesuit missionary Father Eusebio Francisco Kino established a mission at Guevavi, eight miles north of what is now Nogales.

The beautiful Mission of San Xavier del Bac, recalls these far off days. In the following years more missions were built and the area was ruled by Spain. However, during the last 10 years of Spanish rule there was continual warfare as Spanish soldiers tried to protect Mexico from raids by the Apache and Comache Indians. When Mexico gained independence from Spain in 1822, they inherited the unrest and the area. Troops crossed the land on their way to California during the war between the United States and Mexico in 1846 and opened Arizona to its first American settlers.

Into the state came the professional big-game hunters, Mormon settlers, Confederate veterans, gold seekers, cattle and sheep ranchers, and the gunfighters who made Tombstone, Bisbee and other mining towns notorious.

The treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, signed in 1848, gave the United States the territory north of the Gila River and in 1853 additional land was purchased from Mexico for a southern railroad.

In 1863 after a huge gold field was discovered, President Abraham Lincoln created the Arizona Territory. Many early pioneers were attracted to the new Territory because of its gold, silver and copper resources.

In 1888 copper surpassed gold and silver in importance as new uses were found for the metal and Arizona became the nation's leading producer of this resource. Many other pioneers came to farm the fertile soil and benefit from the long growing season.

Arizona remained a territory for many, many years and did not become a state until 1912.

Arizona's population growth in the last half of the 20th century has been tremendous, especially in its major urban centers.

Between 1950 and 1960 its population increased more than 74%. In the next decade the increase was 36%, still larger than any state except Nevada. In the 1970s the increase in residents was more than 53%.

According to the 1990 census, it was one of the five Southwestern states that continued to attract more people in search of a better environment.

Geography

Arizona is bounded on the north by Utah, on the east by New Mexico, and on the south by the Mexican state of Sonora.

On the west the Colorado River flows for almost the entire length of the state. The river separates Arizona from California and part of Nevada.



The Grand Canyon State is almost square.

From north to south its greatest length is 395 miles, and its greatest width is 343 miles. The surface of Arizona rises from a low point of about 100 feet above sea level,

in the southwestern corner of the state, to a high point of more than 12,000 feet in the northern part.

Almost the entire state is drained by the Colorado River and its chief tributaries the Little Colorado, the Bill Williams, and the Gila. After entering Mexico, the Colorado drains into the Gulf of California.

With 113,417 square miles Arizona is the sixth-largest state. Divided into three distinct regions, the northern plateaus, the central mountains, and the southern deserts, there is a variety of climates as well as unique plants and animals in each region.

The Northern plateau is noted for its many canyons and



there are outstanding examples of volcanic activity in the Flagstaff area. Humphrey's Peak, an extinct volcano within the San Francisco Mountains is the highest point in the state at 12,633 feet.

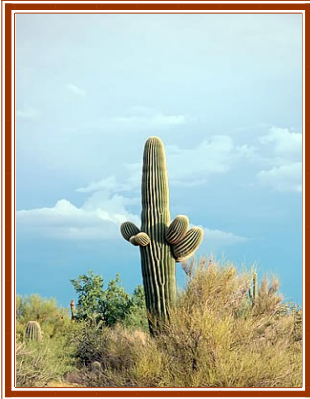
The Central Mountains start at the Mogollon Rim with



the upper reaches covered by pine forest. From here they run diagonally across Arizona in a NW-SE direction and some of the peaks rise above 10,000 feet.

The region is rich in minerals and the area has many recreational areas in its lakes and ski resorts. Arizona has sixty-seven natural and man-made lakes. .

The Southern Deserts in the lower third of the state are part of the Sonoran Desert, containing some of the most

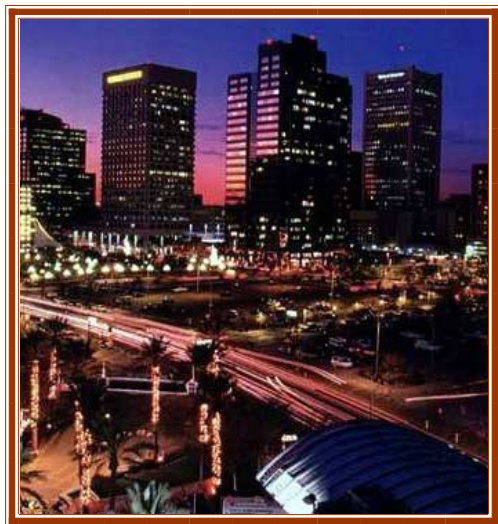


unique plants and animals, more than in any other desert area. The beautiful Saguaro Cactus grows here, growing to heights of up to 60 feet when they reach maturity, which is at about 100 years old!

The Colorado, the Gila and the Salt River partially water this area and man-made canals dot the landscape. Areas of the southern deserts are cultivated with orange groves or vegetables and grain, providing food for the nation. Arizona's two largest cities, Phoenix and Tucson are located in the southern deserts.

Cities Around the state

Phoenix, the state capital and largest city, is a shipping point for truck crops, cotton, fruits, and beef and an important industrial city. The second largest city, Tucson is a manufacturing and resort center in the cotton and mining area.



Of the next seven cities in size, six of them are in the Maricopa County area surrounding Phoenix. They are Mesa, Tempe, Glendale, Scottsdale, Chandler, and Peoria. The Sun Cities are large retirement

communities. The northern city of Flagstaff is an educational and cultural center.

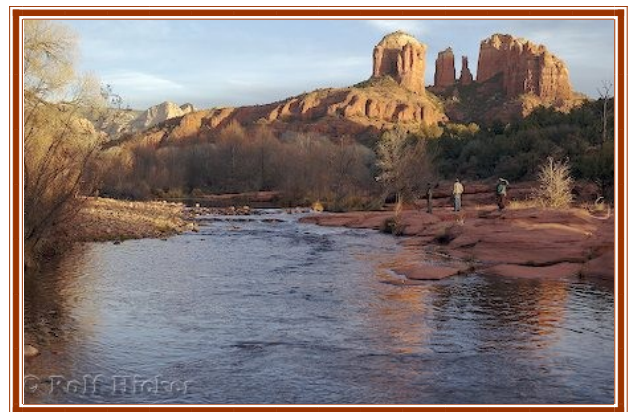
Climate & Recreation

Arizona has a widely varied climate. In the southwest part of the state, daytime temperatures above 100 F are normal during the summer months.

The extremely dry air, however, allows the heat to radiate rapidly so that the nights are cooler. At higher elevations in the east-central part of the state, winter temperatures as low as -37 F have been recorded.

Arizona receives very little rain because the high Pacific coast mountains block moisture-laden clouds from the ocean, although during the months of August and September Monsoon rains fall on an almost daily basis, mostly in the evenings.

Most of the rain clouds that reach the state are blown up from the Gulf of Mexico. Average annual precipitation (rain and snow) ranges from about 3 inches at Yuma in the southwest, to 18 inches at Flagstaff in the central part of the state where there is skiing during the winter months.



Southern Arizona's mild winters and northern Arizona's cool summers draw millions of vacationers to the state each year. Arizona has more national parks and monuments than any other state.

Tourists also visit the state's golf and tennis resorts, Indian villages, natural scenic splendors, dude ranches, and desert and mountain playgrounds.

Professional sports in Phoenix are basketball's Phoenix Suns, football's Arizona Cardinals, Baseball's Arizona Diamondbacks and Ice Hockey's Phoenix Coyotes. The

state is also the site of many of professional baseball's Cactus League spring training camps.

Natural Resources, Manufacturing & Agriculture

Arizona's wealth lies in its mineral deposits. Rich copper veins make the state the main copper-producing area in the United States and one of the greatest in the world. Arizona is also among the leading states in production of gold, lead, silver and uranium.



In the northern areas of the state is the largest Ponderosa pine forest in the United States.

The state's commercial trees include yellow pine, fir and spruce, although most timbered areas are set aside as forest reserves.

Tourism is also a major industry because of the states winter climate, awesome scenery, open spaces and Native American cultural influence.



At one time the states economy was said to be based on the "4 C's" - Copper, climate, cattle and citrus and then coal was added to the list.

However, manufacturing and the service industry have become increasingly important.

Today Arizona's plants produce copper, processed foods, aircraft, electrical machinery, computer equipment, electronic equipment and there are many businesses in the service field.

Despite Arizona's dry climate, the river valleys and deserts where irrigation is used are suitable for farming. Arizona is thought to be very dry, but irrigation has changed a lot of the Southern desert area into rich farmland with citrus, cotton and melon farms.

There are Indian pueblos on the mesas and cattle towns on the plains. Grasses grow throughout the state, and the northern plains have excellent grazing for cattle and sheep.

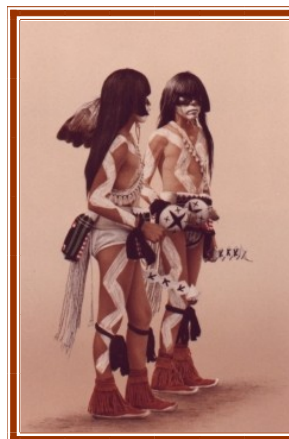
Arizona shares the waters of the Colorado River with California and since rain is sparse, dams and reservoirs have been built to store water. It is brought to the valleys through irrigation canals and ditches.



Arizona is rich in the production of cotton and ranks high in the Nation for oranges and grapefruits. Truck crops, cattle, hay, milk and wheat are also important crops to the states economy. There are also several successful wine producers.

Native Americans

Arizona is enriched with the cultures of many Native American tribes. On the high plateau is the Navajo Reservation, the largest in the nation.



The Navajos are a proud tribe with many of them living the nomadic life of their ancestors driving bands of sheep across their lands. They are world famous for weaving blankets and rugs from their wool, and equally famous for their lovely silver and turquoise jewelry.

On the high mesas, within the Navajo Reservation, live the Hopi Indians. Unlike the Navajo, the Hopi are a stationary people, many of them living in homes built centuries ago. The Hopi village of Oraibi is the oldest known continuously inhabited town in the United States.

The Apache tribes now live mostly in the forests and rolling hills of the east central portion of the state.

In the bottom of the Grand Canyon live the Havasupai who farm and live almost completely isolated from the world.

And, there are the Hualapai, the Mohaves, the Maricopas, the Chemehuevis, the Cocopahs, the Akimel O'odham (formerly known as the Pima Indians), the Tohono O'odham (formerly known as the Papago Indians) and the Yaquis and others.

Plants & Animals

The plants and animals of Arizona are as varied as its scenery and climate.

Many cacti are native to the state (many of them protected under state law) including the Saguaro and the organ pipe, the "teddy bear" cholla, the prickly pear, the yucca and the century plant.

There are also many other desert plants including creosote bushes, mesquite trees and palo verde trees.

Palm trees are a common sight in southern Arizona, although they are not native to the area and Phoenix and Tucson are always a blaze of color from flowering trees, scrubs and flowers that bloom nearly year round.

In the Spring the desert is bright with cactus plants and desert trees in bloom, and if there has been rain the



desert floor is covered with fast growing desert wildflowers.

The Sonoran Desert has over 2,500 species of desert plants, but the most unusual and stunning are the cacti. There are some sixty-eight native varieties which produce varying shades of red, orange and yellow blossoms during March, April and May. The most common ones in the Sonoran are the saguaro, cholla, prickly pear, organ pipe and barrel cacti.

The majestic giant saguaro cactus can grow 60 feet tall and at night bears the white blossoms which have been designated as the state flower.

After sixty to seventy years this tall giant begins to form arms and finally reaches full size after about a hundred and fifty years. The edible red fruit is used for jelly and wine by the Papago Indians, and is also fare for desert birds.



The nemesis of the desert hiker is the cholla with its needlelike thorns that break off easily and cling to whatever touches them. The pieces laying on the ground seem to jump up and attack ankles.

The flat prickly pear bears edible fruit made into jams and jellies and has hard seeds that are used to make oil. Their large flowers color the desert in shades of yellow, orange, pink and red.



jaguar, big horned sheep and the roadrunner.

Desert animals, birds and reptiles include the rattlesnake, prairie dog, coyote, javelina, horned toad, jack rabbit,

Wild turkey, mountain lion, deer, elk and bear roam the vast national forests and in northern Arizona is the largest stand of Ponderosa pines in the world, as well as aspen, walnut, maple, juniper, oak and pinyon pine.



Arizona State Parks



Arizona's parks feature everything from swimming, fishing and boating to camping, hiking and from century old military posts, prehistoric Indian writings and dwellings to beautiful desert scenery.

Historical Parks

Fort Verde State Historic Park is in Camp Verde, on I-17 and is the best preserved example of an Indian Wars period fort in Arizona. Fort Verde was home to officers, doctors, families, enlisted men, and scouts and the primary base for General George Crook's U.S. Army scouts and soldiers.

Today visitors can see three historic house museums, Commanding Officer's Quarters, Bachelors' Quarters and Doctor's Quarters on Officer's row, all furnished in the 1880s period.

In the former Administration building there are interpretive exhibits with period artifacts on military life, Indian Scouts and Indian Wars history. Approximately 92 miles north of Phoenix.



Yuma Territorial Prison State Historical Park is in Yuma, off Interstate 8. From 1876 to 1909 this historic prison was home to some of the West's most notorious criminals. A total of 3,069 prisoners, including 29 women, lived within these walls during the prison's thirty-three years of operation.

Their crimes ranged from murder to polygamy, with grand larceny being the most common. No executions took place at the prison because capital punishment was

administered by the county government. The park is approximately 181 miles southwest of Phoenix.

Tombstone Courthouse State Historic Park is in the notorious town of Tombstone off US 80. Built in 1882, during the wild west days of Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday the courthouse is now a museum exhibiting artifacts of Tombstone's lively past and is the place where the famous murder trial of the Earp's took place. While there visit Big Nose Kate's Saloon, the O.K. Corral, the historic Birdcage Saloon and Boot Hill. Tombstone is approximately 185 miles southeast of Phoenix.

Jerome State Historical Park is off US 89A in Jerome, a one-time copper mining town. Built on the side of a mountain Jerome is now a thriving art community. The park museum was designed to house visiting mine officials and now displays antique mining equipment and minerals as well as the home itself. Nestled in the mountains approximately 145 miles north of Phoenix.



Riordan Mansion State Historic Park is in Flagstaff. Riordan Mansion State Historic Park includes two almost identical homes built in 1904 by Michael and Timothy Riordan. The homes are connected by a rendezvous room and altogether contain 13,000 square feet of floor space and sit atop Kinichi Knoll in Flagstaff. The Riordan brothers were members of a prominent Arizona family who played a significant role in the development of Flagstaff and northern Arizona and were involved in lumber, railroads, cattle, banking, and politics. Original furnishings, antiques and personal family items are on display. Approximately 145 miles north of Phoenix.

McFarland Historical State Park is in Florence, off US 89. Named after the former U.S. Senator, Arizona Governor and State Supreme Court Justice Ernest W. McFarland, the park features the first Pinal County Courthouse.



The history of the park's building provides visitors with a look into the past. The building represents a transition between Sonoran and Anglo-American architecture

with its wood-shingled pitched roof surmounting traditional adobe brick walls. Like most buildings in Territorial Arizona, the original 1878 structure was constructed by hand using native materials.

Soil from the area was used to make adobe bricks which were laid on a trench foundation filled with river rocks. All lumber for the floors and roof was hauled by wagon from northern Arizona.



Tubac Presidio State Historic Park is in Tubac, off I-19. In 1752 the Spanish established a presidio (fort) and Mission in this area.

The church and the military were the vanguards of Spanish frontier expansion throughout New Spain. The Jesuit, Eusebio Francisco Kino, established missions from 1687 to 1711 to Christianize and control Native Americans in the area.

Kino established nearby Tumacacori in 1691, and Tubac, then a small Piman village, became a mission farm and ranch. Spanish Colonists began to settle here during the 1730s, irrigating and farming the lands along the river and raising cattle, sheep and goats on the northern frontier of Spain's New World empire.

The park encompasses the old presidio site and features a restored 1880 schoolhouse, Indian and Spanish

artifacts and an underground exhibit of the presidio's foundation. Approximately 156 miles southeast of Phoenix.

Desert Parks



Lost Dutchman State Park is at the base of the Superstition Mountains, on AZ 88, the Apache Trail. Named after the fabled lost gold mine, this park is located in the Sonoran Desert at an elevation of 2000 feet. The park offers a variety of hiking trails, nature trails, 70 regular campsites, picnic facilities, and special programs throughout the year. Approximately 36 miles east of Phoenix.

Catalina State Park is at the base of the Catalina Mountains, on US 89. This scenic desert park offers camping, hiking, picnicking, bicycling, horseback riding, plant and wildlife viewing, and an archaeological site, all just a few minutes from Tucson. The park encompasses 5,493 acres at elevations near 3,000 feet. Approximately 80 miles south of Phoenix

Picacho Peak State Park on Interstate 10. In 1846, the Mormon Battalion, on their way to California to fight in the war with Mexico, constructed a wagon road through Picacho Pass. The forty-niners traveled the same road on their way to California.

The most significant



Civil War battle in Arizona took place near Picacho Peak on April 15, 1862. The battle lasted for 1-1/2 hours, and three Union soldiers were killed. Every March, "The Civil War in the Southwest" comes alive again as over two hundred re-enactors converge on Picacho Peak on foot and horseback.

Visitors enjoy viewing exciting mock battles that took place in Arizona and New Mexico during the Civil War. Also on display at the March reenactment are recreated military camps and living history demonstrations. Approximately 80 miles south of Phoenix.

Boyce Thompson Southwestern Arboretum on US 60,. Encompassing 323 acres, the Arboretum is Arizona's oldest and largest botanical garden. It was the first purely botanical institution in the inter-mountain states. Approximately 80 miles south of Phoenix.

Educational Parks

Homolovi Ruins State

Park is off Interstate 40 near Winslow. The name means "Place of Mounds". In the high grassland of 14th century northern Arizona, an ancient people found a home along the Little Colorado River. These people, known to archaeologists as the Anasazi, paused in their migrations to till the rich flood plain and sandy slopes before continuing north to join people already living on the mesas, people who are today known as the Hopi. There are six archaeological sites forming the focus of this unique park. Approximately 206 miles northeast of Phoenix.



Oracle State Park is off the old Mt. Lemmon Rd. Set in the foothills of the Santa Catalina Mountains, Oracle Park is a wildlife refuge open to accredited educational groups for nature study. Approximately 110 miles southeast of Phoenix.

Red Rock State Park located in beautiful Sedona sits next to Oak Creek and is a photographer's delight. Arizona's famous Oak Creek meanders through this scenic park, creating a diverse riparian habitat abounding with plants and wildlife. This riparian habitat, the land-

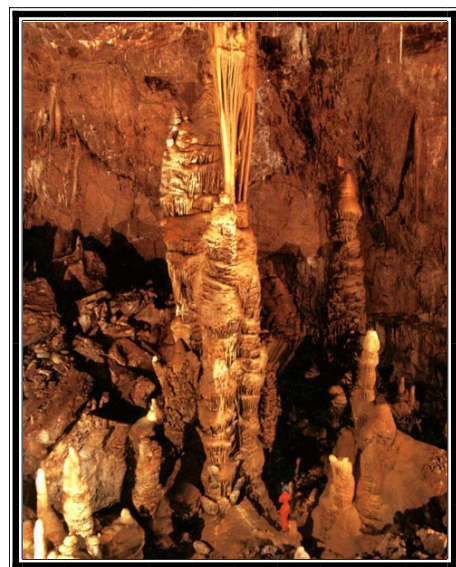
based ecosystem closely associated with Oak Creek, provides the setting and the opportunity for Red Rock State Park to offer a center for environmental education. Approximately 120 miles north of Phoenix.



Kartchner Caverns State Park is located off I-10 near Benson. These incredible caves are open to the public, through guided tours. Reservations are recommended. Kartchner Caverns is home to:

- one of the world's longest soda straw stalactites - 21 feet 2 inches (Throne Room)
- the tallest and most massive column in Arizona, Kubla Khan: 58 feet tall (Throne Room)
- the world's most extensive formation of brushite moonmilk (Big Room)
- the first reported occurrence of "turnip" shields (Big Room)
- the first cave occurrence of "birdsnest" needle quartz formations
- many other unusual formations such as shields, totems, helictites, and rimstone dams.

Approximately 160 miles southeast of Phoenix.



Water Parks

Dead Horse Ranch State Park off US 89A Despite its distinctive name, Dead Horse Ranch is situated amidst an abundance of life along the Verde River.

A six-mile reach of the river is known as the Verde River Greenway. Its unique ecosystem, the Cottonwood / Willow riparian gallery forest, is one of less than 20 such riparian zones in the world. Life along the river changes with the seasons, giving visitors a glimpse of the numerous species of migrants, resident songbirds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and fish.

The developed portion of Dead Horse Ranch State Park covers 423 acres. The 3,300 foot elevation accounts for the mild temperatures that are ideal for camping, mountain biking, hiking along the Verde River, canoeing, picnicking, fishing, or just wading in the cool water. Approximately 90 miles north of Phoenix.



Slide Rock State Park is located in the heart of Sedona in Oak Creek Canyon. The park is named after the famous Slide Rock, a stretch of slippery creek bottom adjacent to the homestead.

Visitors may slide down a slick natural water chute or wade and sun along the creek. Fishing, swimming and picnicking are favorite pastimes here. Approximately 125 miles north of Phoenix.

Buckskin Mountain State Park is just north of Parker on AZ 95. Buckskin Mountain State Park commands one of the finest views along the Parker strip, an 18-mile stretch between Parker Dam and Headgate Dam. Mountains line the river on both the Arizona and California sides, and the wildlife is as varied as the recreational opportunities along the river. This picturesque park provides scenic respite, mountain hikes, a desert escape and fun-filled water adventure.

The nearby River Island about one mile north, is ideal for tent campers.

A sandy beach, cove, and boat launch area are also located at the River Island. In the summer, Buckskin and River Island are popular for boating, jet skiing, swimming and camping. In the winter, visitors appreciate the mild climate and enjoy camping, fishing and hiking in the park. Approximately 10 miles northwest of Phoenix.



Lake Havasu State Park has two recreation areas—Cattail Cove and Windsor Beach. The scenic shoreline of Lake Havasu State Park is an ideal place to enjoy beautiful beaches, nature trails, boat ramps, and convenient campsites. This spot is truly a water sport haven located near the famous London Bridge of Lake Havasu City. Approximately 190 miles northwest of Phoenix.

Roper Lake State Park is located off US route 191 near Stafford. Located at the foot of Mt. Graham, the park has camping facilities. The lake is stocked seasonally and is off limits to gasoline powered boats.



After a long day of driving or hiking, the natural hot springs at Roper Lake are not only inviting, they're invigorating! Roper Lake State Park provides a great place to spend a few days or just a few hours.

Desert vegetation, a peaceful lake and a view of Mount Graham, just a few miles away, frames a beautiful picture for visitors to enjoy. Approximately 170 miles southeast of Phoenix



Lyman Lake State Park

Created as an irrigation reservoir by damming the Little Colorado River, this 1,200-acre park encompasses the shoreline of a 1,500-acre reservoir at an elevation of 6,000 feet. It is fed by snowmelt from the slopes of Mount Baldy and Escudilla Mountain, the second and third highest mountains in Arizona. Water is channeled into this river valley from a 790-square-mile watershed extending into New Mexico.

Because of its size, Lyman Lake is one of the few bodies of water in northeastern Arizona with no size restrictions on boats. Lyman Lake really comes into its own during the spring, summer, and fall.

Summer days, with temperature highs in the 80's to low 90's, are perfect for fishing, swimming, leisure boating, water-skiing, hiking or just plain relaxing. Approximately 225 miles northwest of Phoenix.



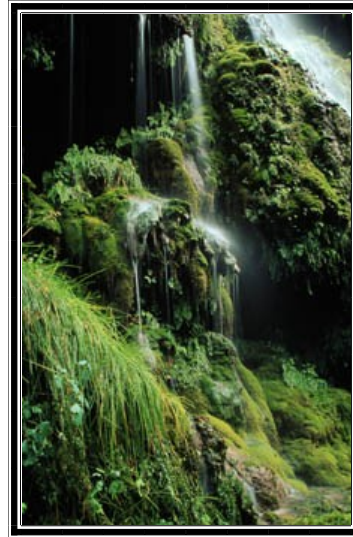
Alamo Lake State Park off US 60 at Wenden. Alamo Lake State Park is one of Arizona's best kept secrets. The stark desert beauty is reflected

off the water. Cacti dot the mountainous landscape that surround the lake.

Nestled in the Bill Williams River Valley away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life, Alamo Lake State Park offers outdoor fun, premier bass fishing, rest and relaxation.

For nature lovers, spring rains bring an abundance of wild flowers and the lake environment attracts a variety of wildlife year round, including bald and golden eagles, waterfowl, foxes, coyotes, mule deer and wild burros. Stargazers are sure to enjoy the unbelievable view of the

night sky with the nearest city lights some forty miles away! Approximately 140 miles northwest of Phoenix.



Tonto Natural Bridge State Park

Although this state park has no lake or fishing it is still technically water based. Tucked away in a tiny valley surrounded by a forest of pine trees, Tonto Natural Bridge has been in the making for thousands of years. It is believed to be the largest natural travertine bridge in the world.

The bridge stands 183 feet high over a 400-foot long tunnel that measures 150 feet at its widest point. Approximately 250 miles northeast of Phoenix near Payson.

V

Over 39,000 acres of land are designated as state parks classified as water, desert, historical or educational.

For more information about the parks listed here, contact

Arizona State Parks

(602) 542-4174

www.pr.state.az.us/

V

National Park Monuments



The Grand Canyon is in the northern part of the state and fifteen other national monuments are scattered throughout the state. Plus there are 14.6 million acres of national forest, parks and recreation areas.



Canyon de Chelly National Monument is near Chinle on the Navajo Reservation. Five periods of Indian culture are represented in these incredible cliff dwellers' ruins nestled within red sandstone walls. Approximately 313 miles northeast of Phoenix.

Casa Grande Ruins National Monument is near Coolidge off AZ 87 and contains an imposing four-storey building dating from the late Hohokam period, probably 14th century and



contemporary with other preserved ruins in Arizona such as the Montezuma Castle Monument. Village sites and irrigation canals are evident. Approximately 50 miles southeast of Phoenix.

Chiricahua National Monument features the "Wonderland of Rocks", Large expanses of volcanic rocks eroded into dramatic pinnacles and spires, an interesting variety of vegetation and some unusual wildlife species. Not many people visit, since the monument is quite remote and access is difficult. This land was once controlled by the Apaches under Cochise. Approximately 228 miles southeast of Phoenix.



The Grand Canyon National Park and Monument is one of the seven wonders of the world and is unbelievably breathtaking. The Colorado river runs through the canyon for 277 miles. The South Rim is open year-round while heavy snows close the North rim during late October until mid-May.

The Canyon is sometimes too vast to take in at first sight. A hike down beneath the rim gives a more intimate and manageable perspective.

The two main south rim trails are the Bright Angel and the South Kaibab; this connects with the North Kaibab route which links to the north rim. There are also many longer (unmaintained) paths suitable for experienced hikers, leading both to the river and along the canyon, such as the Lava Falls Trail near Tuweep.



Montezuma Castle National Monument off I-17, is a five-story cliff dwelling with 20 rooms, built by the Sinagua Indians in the thirteenth century. The castle is just two miles from I-17 (exit 289; north Camp Verde) at the end of a side road that winds across flat scrubland and down into the valley formed by Beaver Creek - a small stream, but a reliable source of water all year round and hence a good locality for the Sinagua to establish a home.

Today there is a visitor center with a small museum, and a short paved nature trail leading past the ruins, which are not visible from the approach road, through gardens with good examples of cacti and other local plants.

A picnic area is located near the visitor center, in the shade of sycamore trees beside the creek. Since 1951, visitors have not been permitted to climb up to the ruins due to their unstable condition so there is not much to do other than take a few photographs but the site is definitely worth a visit. Approximately 110 miles north of Phoenix.

Navajo National Monument off US 60, is the site of the largest of Arizona's cliff dwellings. Located on the Navajo Reservation Navajo National Monument preserves three intact cliff dwellings of the Ancestral Puebloan people.

A visitor center, museum, three short self-

guided trails, two small campgrounds, and a picnic area provide service to travelers that make the trek to this remote hamlet. The most accessible ruin "Betatakin" has 150 rooms. Approximately 220 miles north of Phoenix.



Organ Pipe National Monument. The desert west of Tucson is about the hottest and driest in the USA. Much



of the land is within the boundaries of the huge Barry M. Goldwater Air Force Gunnery Range and closed to the public but there is also a large Indian reservation, home of the Tohono O'Odham people.

The whole area is quite densely covered by various types of cactus

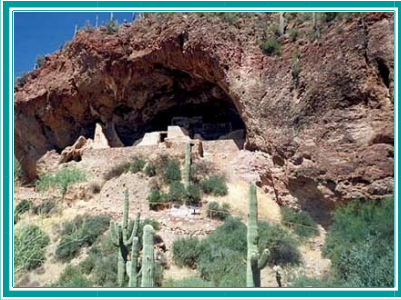
including the ubiquitous saguaro, sacred to the local tribe, and the much rarer organ pipe; these grow only in the far south of the state and particularly strongly in the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument - an extensive section of protected desert bordering Mexico approximately 125 miles southwest of Phoenix.

Petrified Forest National Park

On first impression, the Petrified Forest may not sound very appealing as it comprises stone log fragments scattered over a rather remote and otherwise featureless section of Arizona desert. Apparently it comes as a disappointment to some who expect the trees still to be standing in thick rocky groves instead of lying flat in sections as they are.

The petrified logs are extremely beautiful with most unexpectedly bright colors, and the park contains a section of the scenic Painted Desert so it is well worth a visit especially as the site is quite easily reached, being close to the main east-west route interstate 40. Approximately 217 miles northeast of Phoenix.

Tonto National Monument off AZ 88 is a fourteenth century Salado Indian pueblo, visible from the visitors center. The monument consists of the ruins of two cliff dwellings established by the Salado Indians in about 1300 AD.



The southeast-facing settlements were built quite high up a steep hillside within well-protected natural caves overlooking the Tonto Basin, which is now flooded forming Theodore Roosevelt Lake. Originally the Salt River flowed through the Basin, which was therefore well irrigated and fertile. As with many other ancient peoples of the Southwest, the Salado appear to have abandoned their villages suddenly, early in the fifteenth century, for reasons which are not known. Approximately 80 miles east of Phoenix.

Tumacacori National Monument.

was once a Pima Indian Village, of which very little remains. The site became a



Spanish mission in 1697 when Jesuit Father Kino arrived. The ruins of a massive church which was never completed are here, along with a museum and some beautiful cacti in the gardens. Approximately 160 miles from Phoenix.

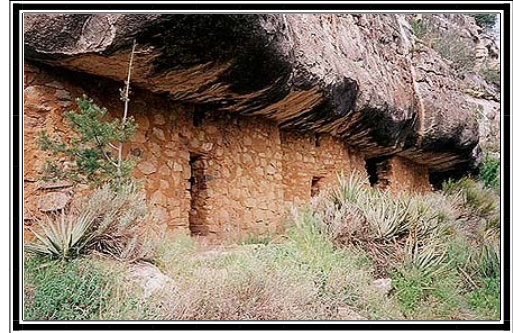


Tuzigoot National Monument the ruins of a 110-room pueblo can be seen on this site situated on the top of a barren knoll. Most of the buildings are now just ruins, but the main building is still intact with a restored roof and

can be toured. The visitors center displays artifacts found at the site. The ruins are wheelchair accessible. Approximately 106 miles north of Phoenix.

Walnut Canyon National Monument More than 300 Sinagua Indian cliff dwellings from 1120 AD are on the ledges in the Walnut Canyon

Many of the dwellings were built around a U-shaped meander in Walnut Canyon, where the creek circles around 3 sides of a high rocky plateau, almost creating an 'island'. Approximately 155 miles north of Phoenix



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*There are
additional national
historic sites, forests
and recreational
areas in Arizona.*

*For more
information contact:*

**US National Park Service
(602) 640-5250**

Or

**Arizona Office of Tourism
(602) 364-3700**



The Valley of the Sun



The newcomers wasted no time in building a community to suit their needs. They planted fields of corn, beans, squash and cotton; built homes, apartment buildings and an outdoor recreation center, hosted games in their ball courts and celebrated special occasions in a revered ceremonial spot.

Although this story could characterize people of today, it describes the Hohokam Indians, the first culture known to call the "Valley of the Sun" home.



After living in the valley for more than ten centuries, the Hohokam disappeared leaving a legacy that has helped modern civilization thrive here in the valley. The irrigation system that transports water through the metropolitan Phoenix area closely follows the system of canals they established so long ago.

The Phoenix metropolitan area, known as the Valley of the Sun, is home to almost 3 million people and includes many outlying cities. The area's explosive growth over the last decade has made it one of the largest metropolitan areas in the country.

The three major reasons people relocate to the Valley of the Sun are warm weather, wages and weekends.

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As the area's anchor city, Phoenix provides opportunities to its residents and those of neighboring cities

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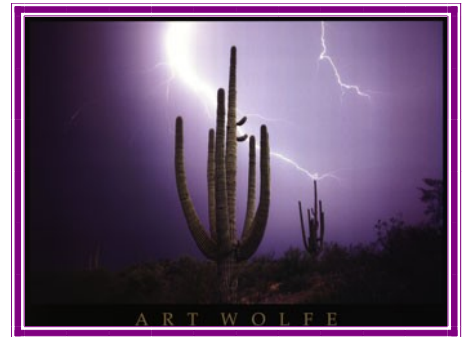
Shining brightly more than 300 days each year, the sun does much more than generate a good tan.

It attracts industries searching for a warm, dry climate that won't interfere with their distribution networks, telecommunications or administrative operations. Eight months out of the year, Valley residents enjoy pleasant, spring-like temperatures. It is rare to have a golf game rained out.

The summer is a different story. Temperatures more often than not are over 100 degrees during June, July, August and September. However over-used, the common defense, "But it's a dry heat" is true.

Given a choice, most Midwesterners would rather be in Phoenix at 105 degrees than Chicago at 85 degrees. Humidity is also non-existent here until August, when the monsoons drop sheets of welcome rain.

These evening thunderstorms, with their dramatic lightning displays, are almost an attraction in themselves. The average annual rainfall in the Valley is only 7.66".



Sunny days and comfortable temperatures are the rule November through April, making this time the most enjoyable and popular time of year to visit.

Vacation resorts are plentiful throughout the valley and the most popular outdoor activities are golfing, hiking, hot air balloons and scenic day trips in to the nearby desert or to one of the nearby mountain towns.

All the major professional sports leagues have Phoenix teams and in March every year Major League Baseball's

Cactus League spring training is a huge draw for visitors and locals alike.

The Salt River and Verde River reservoir system east



and northeast of Phoenix provides scenic mountain lakes very popular for power boating, water skiing and fishing. Several Reservation casinos, greyhound tracks and horse tracks are available both in town and on the outskirts of town.

While the city of Phoenix is situated in the desert, Arizona is far from being a dry, desolate land. Palms, olive, pine and citrus trees are prevalent as landscaping for parks, homes and boulevards.

Orange blossoms perfume the air throughout March and April, Roses, poppies and hundreds of other flowers bloom spectacularly almost all year round. Desert conditions actually exist in only 40 percent of Arizona.

The sun has shaped the Valley's active, outdoor lifestyle, allowing people to pursue their recreational passions almost any time of the year. There are over 1,000 tennis courts and 150+ golf courses around the valley.

Within a couple of hours drive from Phoenix are large, blue lakes, cool pines, the historic Colorado river, the majestic San Francisco Peaks and the awesome Grand Canyon. Consider this fact: Phoenix boasts the highest per capita boat ownership in the nation and that major snow-skiing facilities are within several hours drive.

Mountain ranges circle the valley, creating a mecca for hikers and campers. Camelback Mountain, Piestewa Peak, Papago Park, site of the Phoenix Zoo and Desert Botanical gardens, and Thunderbird Park are just a few that rise from the valley floor.

V

As the area's anchor city, Phoenix provides opportunities to its residents and those of neighboring cities. The beauty of the area is a constant pleasure and provides a sense of magic to the spirit

V

South Mountain Park which at 16,500 acres is the largest municipal park in the nation, is a favorite spot for horseback riding, hiking, biking and picnicking.

About three million people from a wide array of cultures, call the Valley home. Hispanic and Native American heritage is especially influential and is expressed in everything from clothing styles to cultural events.

The Valley has a reputation as a popular retirement destination and the many communities built to serve active adults continues to grow. Arizona has approximately one million residents 55 and over.

The Valley of the Sun is flourishing and is a wonderful place to live.

Climate Average Temperatures For Phoenix		
	High	Low
January	65.7	44.4
February	75.0	49.9
March	79.8	52.7
April	85.9	60.0
May	94.6	68.2
June	106.3	79.9
July	107.5	73.9
August	104.7	83.0
September	99.8	75.0
October	94.5	70.3
November	75.8	53.0



Phoenix, Arizona



Hundreds of years before any of the cities in the eastern part of our country were so much as clearings in the wilderness, a well-established, civilized community occupied the land we now know as Phoenix.

The Pueblo Grande ruins, which were occupied between 700 A.D. and 1400 A.D. testify to our city's roots.

Although the wide Salt River coursed through the Valley of the Sun, there was little rain, and no melting snow to moisten the brown earth from river to mountain range on either side.

The former residents were industrious, enterprising and imaginative. They built an irrigation system, the major part of which was some 135 miles of canals, and agriculture flourished.

The ultimate fate of this ancient society is a mystery, but the accepted belief is that it was destroyed by a prolonged drought. Roving Indians, observing the Pueblo Grande ruins and the vast canal system these settlers left behind, gave them the name of "Ho Ho Kam" - the people who have gone.

Phoenix's modern history begins in 1867 when Jack Swilling of Wickenburg was traveling through the area.

The land was fertile, free from rocks and safe from heavy frost; all it needed was water. In 1868, Swilling organized the Swilling Irrigation Canal Company, moved into the Valley and began digging a canal. As the water flowed into the area, so did the settlers.

The number of pioneers grew so rapidly that by 1870 it was agreed that a permanent townsite had to be established.

With the purchase of 320 acres, the official townsite was designated. Today this area would be bounded by Van Buren and Jackson streets, Seventh Avenue and Seventh Street.

Like all new settlements, the town needed a name. Darrell Duppa, a resident, suggested the name "Phoenix" after the legendary Phoenix bird.

According to legend, a bird was consumed by fire in its own nest, and a new and more beautiful bird arose. Duppa believed the new city would arise "Phoenix-like" from the ancient Pueblo Grande ruins.

Captain William Hancock was appointed to make the first survey of the townsite and to lay out the town lots. Phoenix contained 96 blocks. Washington Street, the main thoroughfare, was 100 feet wide.

On April 10, 1874, President Ulysses S. Grant issued a patent for the present site of Phoenix. The townsite was purchased for \$550 and individual lots were sold for \$11 each. Phoenix was officially incorporated on Feb. 25, 1881.

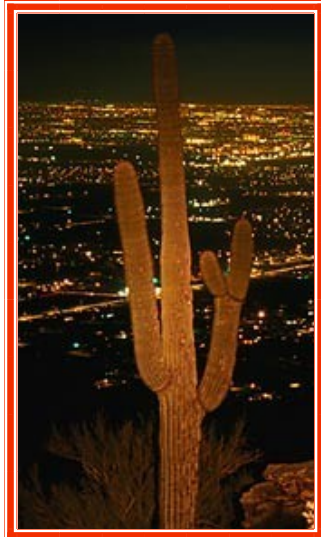
Look quickly around the city of Phoenix. It has not looked like this for very long and the future promises progress and more change.

Phoenix has grown to become the nation's sixth most populous city with about 1.5 million residents. Unlike many other cities, Phoenix has grown rapidly in a relatively short period of time.

Before World War II, Phoenix was a sleepy little southwestern town best known for its climate, cotton, cattle, citrus and copper, known locally as the "Four C's".

During the post war years, word began to spread that Phoenix was a civilized city with abundant sunshine and recreational pleasures to share.

Phoenix is a tapestry of neighborhoods including the historic homes of the Encanto District, the cozier adobe homes of the Willo district, a country club lifestyle encircles the famed Arizona Biltmore Hotel, and some of the most expansive estates line the lightly wooded, curbless streets of north Central Avenue.



South Mountain Village represents one of the “urban villages” designated by the Phoenix Planning commission. The goal of these “urban centers” within the city is to offer a unique choice of lifestyle in which residents may live, work and play.

On Phoenix’s south edge is the popular area known as the Ahwatukee Foothills. Ahwatukee is an Indian word meaning “house of my dreams” or “magic place of my dreams”. One of the areas attractions for residents is its convenience to the East Valley and also downtown Phoenix. Driving SUV’s instead of covered wagons, families are still coming to Phoenix. Tourism is one of the metropolitan area’s leading industries employing over 250,000 residents.

That’s good news for Phoenixians who have at their disposal year-round the restaurants, retail centers and recreational areas targeted to tourists.



The Phoenix calendar is filled with festivals and events that reflect residents Hispanic, African-American, Oriental, Native American and Anglo cultures.

While economically, ethnically and culturally diverse. Phoenixians have two things in common: an appreciation for sunny weather and an active outdoor lifestyle. Phoenix is considered one of the sunniest cities in the country, enjoying sunshine over 300 days a year.

True to its name, downtown Phoenix is being transformed from a boring commercial core into a hub for business, sports and arts.



In the heart of downtown the Arizona Diamondbacks play in Chase Field, a 48,500 seat stadium featuring a retractable roof and natural grass playing field.



The Phoenix Suns Basketball team play at the US Airways Center just around the corner from Chase field. US Airways center also hosts over 200 concert and sports events each year.

Other highlights of downtown Phoenix include the Herberger Theater, which invites patrons in for brown-bag lunch performances, the restaurants of the Arizona Center, the new Dodge Theatre, the Orpheum Theater, once considered the most luxurious playhouse west of the Mississippi.

Recently restored this ornate Spanish Baroque Revival Theater is used for performing arts and community and civic events.

The downtown revitalization project in Phoenix includes the Phoenix Civic Plaza, the Central Library and the Phoenix Art Museum,

In the heart of Copper Square the Convention Center has been undergoing a \$600 expansion project.

2006 saw the phase 1 opening of the West Convention Center with over 62,400 sq. ft of exhibit space, 48,000 sq. ft of meeting space, a 45,300 sq. ft multi-purpose ballroom and the newly renovated Symphony Hall that offers a 2,400 seat theater.

Phase 2 of the expansion began in late 2006 and when completed will bring the total sq. footage of the Convention Center to 900,000 sq. ft. When completed the Convention Center will be among the top 20 convention centers in the nation.

Phoenix is also constructing a light rail system that will run near the cities major downtown sports facilities, office buildings, Sky Harbor Airport, through Tempe and a mile into Mesa.



Sky Harbor Airport is located just minutes from downtown Phoenix and is one of the busiest airports in the nation.

To keep pace with its ever growing traffic, Sky Harbor built the Barry Goldwater Terminal, a modern, expansive facility that reflects the character of its hometown.

Sky Harbor has rapidly become the Southwest's commercial hub.

Phoenix 2007 Points of Pride

The Phoenix Pride Commission is proud to present the 30 favorite Points of Pride in Phoenix selected by more than 40,000 Valley residents. This list consists of great places to visit in Phoenix.

1. **Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa**
2. **Arizona Center**
3. **Ben Avery Shooting Facility**
4. **Camelback Mountain**
5. **Cricket Pavilion**
6. **Deer Valley Rock Art Center**
7. **Desert Botanical Garden**
8. **Encanto Park**
9. **Heard Museum**
10. **The Herberger Theater Center**
11. **Historic Heritage Square**
12. **Japanese Friendship Garden - Ro Ho En**
13. **Mystery Castle**
14. **Orpheum Theatre**
15. **Papago Park/Hole-In-The-Rock**
16. **Thomas J. Pappas School**
17. **Patriots Square Park**
18. **Phoenix Art Museum**
19. **Phoenix Mountains Park and Recreation Area**
20. **Phoenix Zoo**
21. **Pueblo Grande Museum and Archaeological Park**
22. **Shemer Art Center and Museum**
23. **South Mountain Park**
24. **St. Mary's Basilica**
25. **Symphony Hall**
26. **Telephone Pioneers of America Park**
27. **Tovrea Castle and Carraro Cactus Garden**
28. **US Airways Center**
29. **Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza**
30. **Wrigley Mansion**



Northeast Valley



The northeast section of the Valley of the Sun consists of Scottsdale, Paradise Valley, Fountain Hills and Carefree/ Cave Creek.

Scottsdale



Centuries before Columbus discovered America, Arizona was home to numerous Native American tribes. Impressive ruins and rock art testify to the artistry of these Ancient tribes. The Scottsdale canal system was created hundreds of years ago by the Hohokam tribe. In the 1800's the flag

of the Mexican republic flew over most of Arizona.

The presence of this culture is reflected in the area's mission style architecture and Spanish street names. Later in the 1800's pioneers in the Conestoga wagons crossed the plains and miners came to look for gold & silver in the mountains surrounding the area. In 1888 Winfield Scott, the founder of Scottsdale, often surveyed his homestead (which he brought for \$2.50) with great satisfaction.

His venture encouraged others and the desert was soon blooming with citrus trees, sweet potatoes and peanuts. The first one-room school house opened in 1896 and in 1897 the first general store and post office was built.

Scottsdale was incorporated on June 25, 1951. It has since bloomed into an international resort destination and offers the best of both worlds: the sophisticated culture and attractions of the new West and the sense of adventure of the Old!

Scottsdale offers a gold mine of adventure among a luxurious setting. Glide over mountains and desert in a hot-air balloon, explore the worlds of the cowboy and Native American and the cultures of both the New World and Europe

Scottsdale is truly the destination of Presidents, film stars and foreign royalty who have found the town to their liking over the years.

Accommodations range from 5-star internationally renowned resorts like the Biltmore and The Phoenician to cozy, more modest lodgings. Rates can be high during the winter months -- but there are wonderful summer savings at most of the resorts and hotels.

Many of Scottsdale's Resorts and Hotels offer golf packages. Some packages offer a choice of more than a dozen courses!

From cowboy rodeos to Native Indian powwows, golf and tennis tournaments to spring training baseball games, parades, art exhibits, classic car auctions, jazz festivals there is always something to do

With more than 2,500 boutiques, shops and mall designed to indulge your very want and need, and with choices ranging from rare antiques to original one-of-a-kind crafts and jewelry, unique clothing to unusual gifts and furnishings, Scottsdale is a dedicated shoppers dream come true.

The settings are as unique as the shopping -- a Moroccan-inspired oasis and an Italian-style village, Scottsdale's charming "neighborhoods" of shops -- around 5th Ave., Marshall Way, Main Street and Old Town and the huge high-tech Malls including the newest addition Scottsdale's Fashion Square.

And, at different times of the year, special venues -- craft fairs, Native American festivals and farmer's markets-- appear to tempt with handmade and homegrown treasures.

Scottsdale has approximately 120 galleries, studios and

museums that attract art lovers from all over the United States, Canada and abroad.

Scottsdale is also a magnet for the performing arts. Music, dance, theatre and cinema definitely have their place in the "Valley of The Sun".

Enhanced by a sculpture garden, the Scottsdale Center for the Arts annually stages almost 1,000 events. Adding to the cities cultural riches are an intimate adobe recital hall, a community theatre, a symphony orchestra and a jazz society.



If Golf is your passion there are over 125 golf courses in Scottsdale and the surrounding area.

Or watch the pros -- Scottsdale hosts The Phoenix Open, the LPGA Standard Register Tournament, The Tradition at Desert Mountain. From well-conditioned greens and fairways, to breathtaking scenery, to approximately 360 days of sunshine a year, Arizona golf is truly an enjoyable experience.

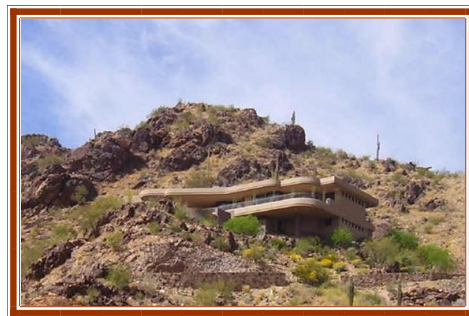
Experience Spring training with the San Francisco Giants baseball team at the Scottsdale Stadium. Between spring training and a series of year-round events and celebrations, the stadium is a focal point for Scottsdale's residents. Scottsdale also hosts the Franklin Templeton Tennis Classic, the first stop on the ATP/IBM world tour.

Located 7 miles north of Scottsdale's downtown area, the Scottsdale Airport is a general aviation reliever facility and is home to many corporate aircraft in the valley. Approximately 8,000 passengers a

year travel through Scottsdale Airport to see the numerous sights across the State of Arizona.

Paradise Valley

Paradise Valley is located 9 miles northeast of downtown Phoenix in the Central Valley, nestled between Phoenix and Scottsdale with Camelback Mountain soaring above the town.



There are actually two Paradise Valleys. The first is the more secluded Town of Paradise Valley. The Town Paradise Valley can be described as a town sprinkled with secluded acre sized lots, upscale resorts, beautiful desert plants and very few businesses. It is a town that enjoys living with wonderful views of Camelback and Mummy Mountains.

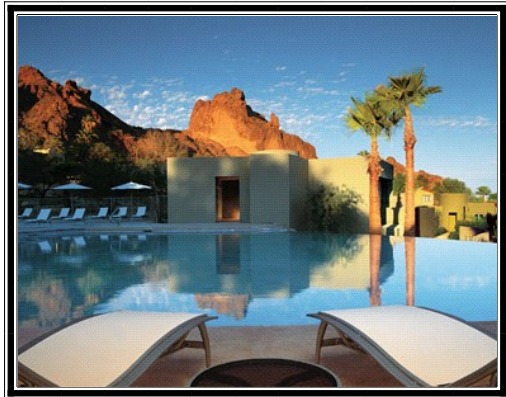
The second is Greater Paradise Valley a larger, more diverse community that encompasses businesses large and small. Its core is Paradise Valley Mall, the regional shopping center. Settlement in Paradise Valley did not begin in earnest until post World War II. Paradise Valley, which is in Maricopa County, was a rural residential area with few commercial entities. Though the homes were modest in size and style, they were on large parcels of land, usually one to five acres.

In the late 1950's, Phoenix and Scottsdale were looking to expand their respective boundaries.

Residents who lived in Paradise Valley area feared that they would lose the rural lifestyle they had become accustomed to and would soon be swallowed up by Phoenix or Scottsdale, and eventually subdivisions, shopping centers, new zoning laws and property taxes would take over their town.

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*There is no postmark
that says "Paradise
Valley, the community
is considered a "village"
of Phoenix*
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These concerned residents formed a "Citizens Committee for the Incorporation of The Town of Paradise Valley, Arizona," who set out with petitions urging residents to join them in their attempt to incorporate Paradise Valley. The residents' main goals were to keep zoning to a one house per acre minimum; to keep the area entirely residential; and to keep government regulation to a minimum. In April 1961, the Citizens Committee for Incorporation presented their petition to the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. On May 24, 1961, incorporation was granted and the Town of Paradise Valley was established.



With a population of approximately 2,000, the first Town Council was formed. During the early years of the Town's history, the Council spent most of its time establishing the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Board of Adjustment, redefining zoning ordinances, and annexing property.

By 1968, the boundaries of the Town of Paradise Valley were pretty well set, with only a few scattered county islands and a handful of neighborhoods adjacent to the Town boundaries that would eventually be annexed. In 2000, with a population over 13,000, only two county islands remain – the community of Clearwater Hills west of Tatum Boulevard and the Franciscan Renewal Center on Lincoln Drive.



Throughout the Town's 40-year history, the residents have strived to preserve the Town's original mission – to maintain a residential community in a quiet and country-like setting with little government intervention. The majority of the Town is still zoned for one acre lots with one house per lot.

No multiple housing units or common walls are permitted. Any land use other than residential must be authorized by a Special Use Permit, which may only be granted after public hearings before both the Planning Commission and the Town Council. Some authorized Special Uses are: religious facilities, resorts, medical clinics, stables, golf courses, or private schools.

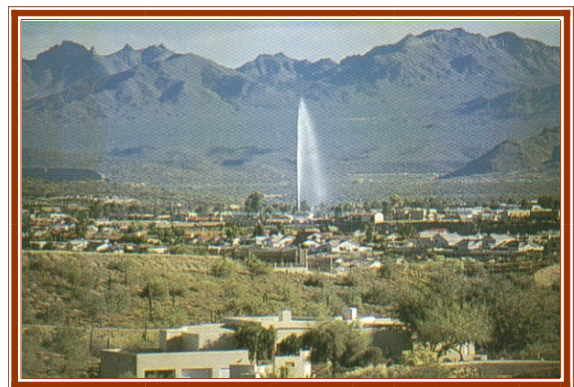
Fountain Hills

Most likely the biggest reason people move to Fountain Hills is the natural desert beauty -- breathtaking mountain ranges dominate the near and far landscapes, while the desert environment found in arroyos and neighborhoods is often spectacular as well.

With a population of about 20,000 people, residents take advantage of the "hometown" atmosphere while still enjoying the "big city" amenities of Scottsdale and Phoenix just 30-40 minutes away.

When Fountain Hills is fully developed, the projected population is estimated to be about 28,000 and so the small town feeling should remain. Incorporated in 1989, Fountain hills is blessed with a quiet quality of life for people of all ages.

Separated from the rest of the Metro area by the McDowell Mountains, the community is characterized by uncongested streets in the desert hills and arroyos, and air that is cleaner and clearer.



Fountain Hills takes its name from a giant fountain which was created and designed to be the centerpiece of the community. This fountain can send a snow white jet stream of water 560 ft. into the blue desert sky. It is recognized by the Guinness Book Of Records as the "tallest fountain in the world".

The fountain is still higher than any fully operational fountain in the world at the present time. It towers above a 28 acre lake in the center of Fountain Hills' 32 acre Fountain Park.



During the day it reflects the shifting shades of sunlight and at night, golden spotlights located in the fountain's base illuminate the first 300 feet of the water column while the upper portion is bathed in a silver glow from powerful mercury vapor lights on the lakeshore.

It is operated daily for periods of either 15 or 30 minutes on the hour, depending on the time of year, and from about 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Weather and wind conditions can also control operations.

It is the centerpiece and landmark of Fountain Hills. The performance of The Fountain exceeds its nearest rivals. At Canberra, Australia, the Captain Cook Memorial Jet attains an operating height of 450 feet, while in Lake Geneva, Switzerland, Le Jet D'Eau has a maximum height of 435 feet, New York City's Delacourte Fountain Rises 400 feet, and Pittsburg's new Point Fountain, 500 feet.

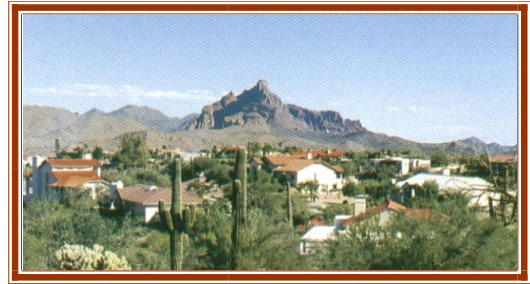
The area offers some of the best opportunities to experience the Sonoran Desert available in the Southwest. Relax poolside at one of the fine resorts, hotels, or bed and breakfasts or play a round of golf on one of seven local golf courses.

For the more adventurous type, enjoy hiking, horseback riding, Hummer tours, water sports on the Verde River or Saguaro Lake, or take a scenic desert drive, one of the finest in the valley.

Residents have a wide choice of recreation, both at home and in surrounding areas. Fountain Park is a great place for picnics, games, walking and bicycling.

Golden Eagle Park has new facilities for tennis, softball,

baseball, soccer, basketball and other sports for the young and old. The Community Center and Senior Center have clubs, crafts, bridge, aerobics, arts, cultural and civic events.

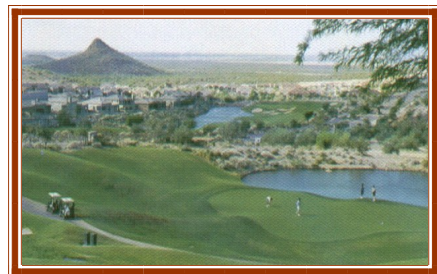


McDowell Mountain Park, adjacent to Fountain Hills, has 20,000 acres of pristine outdoor recreation, and Saguaro Lake with its boating and fishing is just 12 miles away.

Fountain Hills is located close to well known shopping, restaurants and the arts. It is just a short drive to the famous White Mountains or a day trip to the red rock beauty of Sedona, the natural wonders of the Grand Canyon or the southwestern atmosphere of Tucson.

Fountain Hills schools rank among Arizona's highest in student achievement. There are two elementary schools, a middle school and a high school, plus a private K-12 religious school. There is also a new K-12 Charter school and a number of licensed pre-schools noted for their excellence.

The Community has two primary health care centers, one affiliated with Mayo Clinic and one with Scottsdale Memorial Hospital. Both are fully staffed. The Fountain Hills Medical Clinic offers walk-in service and there are dentists, orthodontists, optometrists, chiropractors, physical therapists, podiatrists and veterinarians who have local practices.



Fountain Hills also has three great Golf Courses open to the public. Desert Canyon Golf Course that is superbly scenic and acclaimed for its challenging play. This 18 hole course is a par 71, 6097 yards. The course appeals to both experts and beginners.



Sunridge Canyon is a 18-hole, par 71 course that winds through a lush desert canyon and is nationally rated as #42 of the top 100 U.S. Courses.

The Golf Club at Eagle Ridge Mountain sweeps around mountain ridges and has wonderful views over Scottsdale and Mesa. It is a great 18-hole course, Par 71 with 6,755 yards.

Cave Creek/Carefree

To even the casual observer, these adjoining towns quickly reveal their distinctiveness from one another.

While Cave Creek enjoys a reputation for celebrating and preserving its illustrious past, Carefree's growing prominence as a hub of contemporary southwestern art and culture is equally deserved

Over time, the communities have become living complements to one another-each with its own lore and legend, each with a singular stake in the vibrant historical and cultural record that marks the region, as distinct as the two communities might be, however, they also share a great deal in common.

Visitors are often struck by the natural grandeur and sheer physical beauty of their setting.



En-route to the towns, the stark, open-to-sky country common to the lower desert regions is replaced by rolling hills, deeply etched desert washes and craggy mountain vistas that characterize the "Desert Foothills", as the area surrounding Carefree and Cave Creek is known.

Cave Creek was named for the small stream that rises in

the hills to the northeast and flows southwesterly for 25 miles before reaching Paradise Valley. The stream, in turn, was named from a high, overhanging bluff along its west bank that forms a wide, open cavern about two miles north of the present day Cave Creek.



People have taken shelter there for centuries. A bloody skirmish occurred within the cave between Apache Indians and U.S. Troops in 1873.

Ancient Hohokam Indians stayed in the area from around 800 A.D. until 1400 A.D. Many reminders of their living in the area still remain. Stone huts, pit houses, terraced field and irrigation ditches were left behind.



There are also many petroglyphs that were carved by the Indians. The Cave Creek area has a rich archeological foundation.

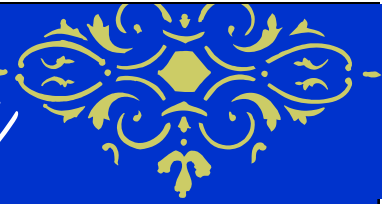
Dozens of prehistoric sites have been discovered. However, many more remain undisturbed.

The Sonoran Desert-the broad southwestern plain on which the Cave Creek and Carefree are set-is typically arid, but due to the gradual, 2,500-foot elevation of the towns, visitors find themselves in the midst of a surprisingly lush landscape: great towering stands of saguaro cactus, brilliant green palo verde, the light luminescence of teddy bear cholla, sturdy tangles of mesquite and ironwood trees, spidery ocotillo, and a host of other flora dot the roadsides and surrounding hills.

With natural phenomena such as these in and around Carefree and Cave Creek, it's easy to understand how the great power of the desert can utterly captivate visitors. By day, the brilliant, azure-blue skies set in sharp relief the dusky tans and ochres that color the land.



The East Valley



Tempe, Mesa, Chandler and Gilbert are the communities that make up the East Valley, along with Apache Junction and Queen Creek.

Mesa

Mormon settlers arrived in the area in March 1877. These early settlers found thousands of fertile acres awaiting them. The land, however, would be useless unless they could find a way to bring water to tableland above the river.

While exploring they discovered a sophisticated irrigation canal system throughout the Salt River Valley.

The canals were built by an Indian tribe that we call the Hohokam - the departed ones. They were the first people to settle Arizona. No one knows where they came from or where they went. Evidence of their civilization can be seen today at the Park of the Canals and Mesa Grande Ruins.

Impressed with the flat terrain, the early settlers called the area "Mesa" the Spanish word for tabletop.

Today, Mesa is a commercial, manufacturing, agricultural and tourist center, housing seven of the top 500 manufacturers listed in Fortune magazine. Located just 12 miles east of Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport Mesa is the third largest city in Arizona.

Mesa is the home to the state's largest school district that is ranked in the top 100 nationally. Mesa Community

College, with an enrollment of over 200,000, is one of the largest in the United States.

Area shopping is great and with two massive regional malls and several large shopping centers there is plenty to choose from.

The city of Mesa is home to two airports, Falcon Field and Williams Gateway airports. Falcon Field Airport in northeast Mesa is home to more than 850 aircraft and 80 businesses, including Boeing Helicopter Systems. It is a general aviation airport and is a reliever to Phoenix Sky Harbor International. The airport serves general aviation and corporate aircraft.



Falcon Field is also home to the Champlin Fighter Museum ... home of the world's largest private collection of flyable vintage fighter aircraft, featuring the history and memorabilia of the pilots who flew them and the Confederate Air Force Museum.

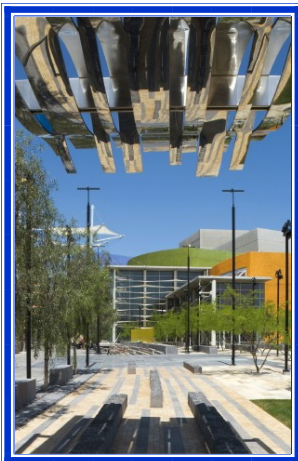


"Sentimental Journey", the most authentically restored WWII B-17 flying today. Other authentic warplanes from WWII are also on display along with memorabilia of the war years.

Williams Gateway Airport rose from what was once Williams Airforce base in southeast Mesa. The airport serves a variety of aircraft -- corporate, cargo, general aviation and military.

Williams Gateway Airport is a reliever to Phoenix Sky

Harbor International Airport and is the site of the Arizona State University's east campus.



The new Mesa Arts Center is a 212,755-square-foot performing arts, visual arts, and arts education facility, the largest and most comprehensive arts center in the state of Arizona.

Located in the heart of downtown at Center and Main Streets, Mesa Arts Center reflects the city's rich tradition of family, community and pride.

Tempe

Many century's ago, the prehistoric Hohokam Indians farmed and traded in the fertile Salt River Valley where they engineered elaborate and sophisticated irrigation systems. The disappearance of the Hohokam remains a mystery today.

In 1865 the U.S. Army arrived at the Salt River Valley and established Fort McDowell. After the arrival of the cavalry came pioneers including Wickenburg resident Jack Swilling, who directed the renovation of the Hohokam canals, and Charles Hayden, who built a flour mill and began a ferry service across the Salt River.

Hayden's Ferry, as Tempe was know then, was also the only vehicle crossing the Rio Salado. The town grew slowly with merchants and saloons along the dusty main street and was renamed "Tempe" by an English traveller who compared the area to the Vale of Tempe in Greece.



In 1886, the Arizona Territorial school opened with a class of 31 students in the building known today as "Old Main" on the Arizona State University Campus.

The home of the Arizona State University, this once

college-dependant town has diversified its economy and brought in more than 200 manufacturing firms.

Tempe has in excess of 70 research parks where firms like Motorola, General Semiconductor Industries and Allied Signal are located. Arizona State University Research Park covers 323 acres.

The store-lined sidewalks of Downtown Tempe offer a unique sampling of quaint shops and boutiques featuring art, furniture, books, antiques, jewelry, apparel, and souvenirs.

In every direction you will find conveniently located shopping centers. Arizona's largest value-oriented mall, Arizona Mills is also located in Tempe.

The cities of the Salt River Valley are historically founded on innovation and the manipulation of waterways for civilization.



For centuries, the Salt River brought life to the valley, providing water for crops, power for industry and habitat for wildlife. By the 1930's people had turned their back on one of Arizona's most significant tributaries. Many cities have been affected by the Salt River, and many cities benefit from the Rio Salado -- a project that brings life back to the river.

The Arizona Department of Transportation and Maricopa County constructed a bank-stabilized floodway channel within the Salt River. This recovered land from the flood plain is now developed into a park system along the banks of the river.

Resorts, restaurants, retail shops and marinas compliment Rio Salado Park. The focal point of the project is a two-mile Town Lake. The lake provides the largest usable body of water in the metro Phoenix area. Combining the ancient canals built by the Hohokam

Indians with the modern manipulations of the Salt River, such as the Roosevelt Dam and the 220 acre Town lake, Rio Salado is a great asset to the region.



Tempe's resources and landlocked condition required creative planning efforts to realize the vision of Rio Salado. Reintroducing water to a dry riverbed provides unique problem-solving challenges.

The City of Tempe's portion of the Rio Salado project extends approximately 5.5 miles in length from the Mesa border, west to the Phoenix border. It is approximately 1 mile wide.

Recently named one of the top 10 college towns by the *New York Times*, Tempe has shared a special pride with

Arizona State University for more than a century. Appointed to Research Level I status in 1995, ASU also currently enrolls the largest student population in the Southwest (approx. 49,000 students).



and various cultural centers that rival any in the nation. The State Arboretum on campus is something you won't be able to explore at any other University -- no other university has one!

ASU also has the 22nd largest of all American libraries

and numerous museums including the Art Museum, the Gallery of Design, Lifes Sciences Center, Meteorite Collection, the Museum of Anthropology, the Museum of Geology, the Nelson Fine Arts Center and the Northlight Gallery.

A walking tour of the campus will give you a glimpse of ASU's incredible architecture. The Law Library (2nd only to Harvard) is designed to look like an open book. The Music building is more commonly referred to as the Wedding Cake and Gammage Auditorium is Frank Lloyd Wright's last public structure design

Neighborhoods throughout Tempe feature every style home, from turn-of-the-century adobe homes to luxury compounds with acreage and horse privileges.

Chandler

In 1891, Dr. Alexander John Chandler, the first veterinary surgeon for the territory of Arizona, bought 80 acres of land from the federal government south of Mesa in the Salt River Valley. Dr. Chandler studied the relatively new science of irrigation engineering and was instrumental in building an early system of canals in what was then an arid desert.

The town then consisted of three wooden shacks -- the town site office, a dining hall and the Morrison Grocery. There was also a billboard marking the site of the elegant future Hotel San Marcos.



Dr. Chandler had an ambitious plan that was well ahead of his time. He envisioned a landscaped central park that

would be surrounded by businesses. The walkways in front of the buildings would be covered by a trellis-like roof, supported by colonnades. Deed restrictions required land owners to build on their land within one year.

The City of Chandler's history has a largely agricultural basis. In 1954, the year of Dr. Chandler's death, Chandler became a city. It has experienced terrific growth ever since.

Since 1980 it has grown in population by more than 150,000. Just as significant as the population growth is Chandler's economic diversification, adding manufacturing and technology components to the agricultural economy.

Chandler has become one of the fastest growing cities in the nation. In recent years, Chandler's borders have been expanded and the population has boomed.

The economic base of Chandler has been diversified. While agriculture is still somewhat of a vital element, Chandler now enjoys a strong manufacturing and electronics sector.



The downtown storefronts have been restored to a modern version of their original turn-of-the-century look, and the plaza has been redesigned and named after the City's founder. The Center for the Arts, new parks, restaurants and retail centers mark an exciting future.

Family festivals such as the Ostrich Festival, and a host of other annual events, make Chandler a popular draw for travelers from all across the nation. And the citizens of Chandler enjoy a quality of life unsurpassed in the Valley today. It certainly appears that Dr. Chandler knew what he was doing the day he dreamed of this jewel in the desert.



The Chandler Center for the Arts, located in Historic Downtown Chandler, is a world-class facility that showcases many talents, from The London City Opera to Jay Leno as well as The Nutcracker. Performances by Rita Moreno, James Earl

Jones, the Bacon Brothers, jazz artist Irvin Mayfield, the Phoenix Boys Choir, the Amazing Kreskin and Gaelic Storm (the Irish group from the film Titanic) are just a handful of the featured performer.

The Ostrich festival is a community family event featuring



live ostrich races and ostrich-themed activities, national and regional entertainment, upscale arts and crafts, marketplace,

Saturday morning parade, carnival, 130-foot bungee tower, spectacular food, an interactive kids area, and much more.

The City of Chandler has a colorful and long standing tradition of Ostrich Ranching. Chandler and Maricopa County led the nation in raising ostriches for their stylish and expensive plumes. To celebrate the city's rich history as well as provide a first-class community event, The Chandler Chamber of Commerce created the Ostrich Festival in 1989.

Historic Downtown Chandler is full of unique shops, restaurants and galleries to meet all tastes. And



while you're there, take some time to browse through the antique shops at Market Square, just a short walk away on Wall Street. This quaint garden setting is filled with antique shops, a homemade fudge store, an old-fashioned restaurant and much, much more.

Gilbert

In 1902, the Arizona Eastern Railway was asking for donations of right of way in order to establish a rail line between Phoenix and Florence. A rail siding was established on property owned by William "Bobby" Gilbert. The siding and the town that sprung up around it eventually became known as Gilbert.

Because of the area's rich land, Gilbert became a center for growing and shipping cattle, sheep, dairy products, grains, melons, cotton, and alfalfa hay. During World War I, the cavalry needed an ever-increasing amount of alfalfa to feed their horses. Gilbert helped supply their need, becoming known as the Hay Shipping Capital of the World.

In 1920, the town's 500 citizens incorporated, and Gilbert was officially born. Over the next 50 years growth was slow-to-moderate. Then, beginning in 1980, Gilbert experienced a population boom. In the last decade and a half, Gilbert has grown at a pace unparalleled by most communities in the United States, increasing population from 5,717 in 1980 to approximately 122,000 in January 2002.

The town's history has been captured in the Gilbert Historical Society Museum. Located in a building that was once the original Town School, this unique museum is open between October and May, Tuesdays from 1-4pm and Saturdays from 9am-4pm.



Gilbert is the ninth fastest growing community in the nation. Doubling in size every five years since 1980 the town has faced many challenges of preserving the small town atmosphere of the community.

Insulated from the fast pace of Phoenix, Gilbert offers many amenities including parks, equestrian trails, fishing, boating and local business services, all within walking distance. Gated communities, as well as horse properties are available in Gilbert.

A home town to enjoy! Gilbert provides a wide variety of activities for the enjoyment of its residents through the Parks and Recreation Department. Horse shows at Rodeo Park, sports programs such as soccer and softball leagues, and adult education are a few of the programs offered through the recreation department. The Easter Eggstravaganza, Halloween Carnival, So Long to Summer Fest, Summer Concerts in the Park, and the

Christmas Tree Lighting are annual events presented by the Parks and Recreation Department.

Apache Junction

One of the first groups to the area was the Peralta family. The Peralta family traveled up from Mexico in 1840 and developed a rich gold mine in the Superstition Mountains on the eastern edge of Apache Junction.

Then in the 1870's Jacob Waltz, known as "the Dutchman" found a descendant of the Peralta family, and supposedly located the mine. The Dutchman claimed that the gold in the mine could be cut away with a knife it was so rich.

Needless to say, the Dutchman died in 1891 without revealing the mine's exact location. Today the legend continues, along with the search for the Lost Dutchman's Mine in the Superstition Mountains.



Apache Junction received its name due to its location. The town is at the western end of the Apache Trail, at the junction of U.S. Highway 60 and State Highway 88. The Apache Trail was created in 1905 as a route from Phoenix and Globe to the construction site of the Roosevelt Dam.

The route helped to transport needed supplies. This route also parallels the Apache Indian's ancient path through the canyons.



The Apache Trail has continued to be one of the most scenic drives in Arizona. During 1922 a traveling

salesman named George Cleveland Curtis decided to make this area his home.

He chose this spot to sell sandwiches and water to those traveling along the highway outside of Phoenix. One year after arrival, Curtis filed a homestead claim and built the Apache Junction Inn.

By the 1950's others arrived in town and began living in RV parks and small houses. There were enough residents at this time to form a town. They wanted to call it Superstition City. However, the name could not be changed because it was noted as a historical site.

Thus, the name Apache Junction has stayed. In 1978, Apache Junction was incorporated. Since then, the town has structured its growth and encouraged new businesses and homebuilders to come to the area.

Apache Junction has long been a popular destination of winter visitors because of its mild winter climate. The town has attracted as many as 300,000 winter visitors a year. Apache Junction is in Central Arizona. It lies partially in Maricopa County and mostly in Pinal County.

The Superstition Mountains stretch along the eastern side of town. Superstition Peak reaches 5,057 feet. It is located at the juncture of U.S. Highway 60, U.S. Highway 89 and State Highway 88.

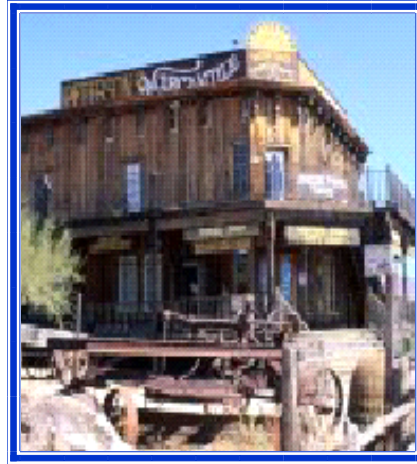


The town is most easily accessible by State Highway 60 (Superstition Freeway) from Phoenix. It is just 25 miles east of downtown Phoenix in the East Valley.

The climate is Sonoran Desert. The weather is warm and dry most of the year. There is often a trace of snow, sleet or hail each year. The average low temperature is 52.9 degrees F. The average high temperature is 84.9 degrees F.

Apache Junction continues to attract those who want to escape the cold winter months in other parts of the country. The town sits at an elevation of 1,715 feet. The southwest dry climate gives Apache Junction a summer

high temperature of 104 degrees and winter low temperature of 35 degrees. Apache Junction caters mostly to recreation seekers and retirees.



There are several attractions in and around Apache Junction. The Goldfield Ghost Town was a gold mine boomtown in the 1890's. Today the Mammoth Mine has been reconstructed, so that visitors can see what life was like back then.

Visitors will see mining pieces, antique shops, an underground mine and railroad equipment. The town has exhibits you can tour, along with carriage rides, a railroad train tour and gold panning.

The Apache Greyhound Park 'N Swap is great place to shop for bargains in the morning and enjoy dog races in the afternoon. It is a day of fun. Apache Junction's location is ideal for outdoor activities.

The famous Apache Trail is a winding road that takes drivers north out of town up to a series of lakes. This drive is one of the more breathtaking drives in the state.

The Lost Dutchman State Park is a 320-acre site with many activities available to its visitors. The Superstition Mountains offer hiking and the quest for the Lost Dutchman's Gold. Legend has it that the gold is hidden somewhere in the mountains. There is a visitor's center, camping, picnicking, mountain biking and horseback riding trails at the park.

Queen Creek

Queen Creek is one of the best kept secrets in the valley.

Exceptional climate, natural recreational areas



and rural lifestyle combine to make this one of Arizona's best small towns. Since its incorporation in 1989, the Town of Queen Creek has fulfilled residents' dreams for the community.



The Town has adopted several award-winning plans designed to guide future growth, planning and land use as well as provide amenities.

The Town has grown from rich rural roots to what is one of the most innovatively planned family friendly home towns in Arizona.

Today, the Town's General Plan calls for the preservation of the Queen Creek Wash and the Sonoqui Wash as public trails and open space.

These washes are usually dry and home to many kinds of birds and wildlife. There might have been a time when the washes and the creeks throughout the valley had more water in them more often than they do today. But early in the 20th Century, a series of dams and reservoirs changed the waterways in the southwest.

Today, during the rainy season, and when the dams release water from the reservoirs, the creek beds and washes still do fill up and the water will run.

And in the event of a 100-year flood, the washes and creeks will be important to keep the floodwater from damaging homes and property.

V

*The Valley's backyard peaks are
favored by those who like to have fun
close to home.*



Some East Valley Attractions

Apache Lake

Roosevelt Lake

Saguaro Lake

Salt River Lakes

Tempe Town Lake

All these beautiful lakes, just a short drive or as with Tempe Town Lake, within town, to a wonderland of fishing, boating or hiking

Arizona Museum for Youth—Downtown Mesa

Museum provides hands-on art activities for children.

Champlin Fighter Museum—Mesa

Chandler Historical Museum

Collection of prehistoric Southwestern pottery and exhibits on the history of Chandler.

Gilbert Historical Center

The center displays items from Gilbert's early days. Building is listed on Register of Historical Places.

Lost Dutchman State Park

Located at the foot of the Superstition Mountains, site of the Lost Dutchman gold mine legend. Campsites, programs, interpretive trails.

Mesa Southwest Museum

Permanent exhibits include Southwest Dinosaurs, frontier history, and ancient Arizona cultures. Hands-on displays.

Usery Mountain Recreation Area

Camping facilities and a field archery complex



The West Valley



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The West Valley is comprised of the cities of Glendale, Peoria, Surprise, El Mirage, Avondale, Goodyear, Litchfield Park, Buckeye, and the adult communities of Sun City & Sun City West.

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The West Valley is the fastest growing area of the Valley of the Sun. The cities that make up the West Valley were, for the most part, sleepy farming towns not too many years ago.

Glendale

Glendale was settled over a century ago as a haven from the sins of the world and the rest of the rollicking Arizona Territory. W.J. Murphy's dam and canal brought water to the desert area allowing many immigrants with their varied cultures to build their dreams in the rich soil. Railroad service and the ice plant made this agricultural area Arizona's largest shipping center.

During World War II pilots from across the nation trained at Luke & Thunderbird fields. After the war thousands of returning airmen made Glendale their home. Farming made way for housing and industry and Glendale became a dynamic urban center.

Glendale Municipal Airport's modern two-story terminal

contains spacious offices, large conference rooms and a full-service restaurant.

The airport, which serves as a general aviation reliever for Sky Harbor International Airport in Phoenix, is just a short five mile drive west of downtown Glendale and five miles east of Luke Air Force Base.

Glendale's "college connection" now links four institutions of higher learning. Midwestern University chose Glendale as the location for its new College of Osteopathic Medicine which opened in September 1996

Also serving Glendale are the American Graduate School of International Management, the only school in the U.S. devoted exclusively to international management careers; Arizona State University's West Campus; and Glendale Community College.

Old Towne Glendale and Historic Catlin Court Shops are home to many antique stores, eateries and specialty shops.

White picket fences and brick-trimmed sidewalks lined with gaslights, gardens and gazebos lead you back into time.



Historic Craftsman bungalows, beautifully restored to recapture their residential charm, quaint shops and galleries filled with folk art, crafts, antiques and collectibles all make downtown a great place to visit.

Visit the Old Towne Shopping District, a turn-of-the-century town center. Glendale brings history to life in the most appealing way.



Majestic trees, brick sidewalks and gaslights grace Murphy Park in Glendale's town square. You can even

sit a spell at the actual soda fountain from the movie, *"Murphy's Romance,"* starring Sally Field and James Garner.

The Glendale Town Trolley makes a convenient loop through the Old Towne Shopping District and Historic Catlin Court Shops District. This free treat is a wonderful way to get your bearings and plan your day -- hop on and off at the many conveniently located stops.

Take home a souvenir from the colorful Glendale Saturday Market. In the heart of the city, historic Murphy Park is the site of a bustling outdoor market each Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., October through May.

More than 75 artists and crafters provide a festive atmosphere and a wonderful selection of hand-crafted gifts. Join a Thursday evening Antique Walk and step back in time.

Tour the sweetest factory around. The Cerreta Candy Company is a Willy Wonka wonderland. This family-owned and operated business makes candy for Disneyland, Magic Mountain and Knott's Berry Farms.



The new University of Phoenix stadium, home to the Arizona Cardinals NFL team, recently hosted Super Bowl XL11.

Jobing.com Arena adjacent to the Cardinals Stadium is the home of the Phoenix Coyotes NHL team as well as hosting many concerts and additional sporting events, including figure skating and All-Star games.



The first phase of Westgate City Center anchored by these stadiums is 6.5 million square feet of offices, shops, restaurants and residential units. Planned are 2,000 townhouses, condominiums and apartments.



With complete build-out, the center will cover a half square mile and will include 2 restaurants and 4 million square feet of shops and office space. The planned 80,000 convention center at the Marriot Renaissance Hotel is nearing completion.

Luke Air Force base, the largest jet fighter training base in the world, is located in west Glendale and serves as its largest employer.

Peoria

The early settlers of Peoria enthusiastically headed west because of William J. Murphy's glowing reports of a soon to be reclaimed desert agricultural Mecca, which would be springing forth as which would be springing forth as the result of the construction of the 40 mile Arizona Canal. The first families set up residence and named their new community after their hometown of Peoria, Illinois.

The 1888 establishment of the Peoria Post Office gave the little town's chosen name "legal status". Sometime

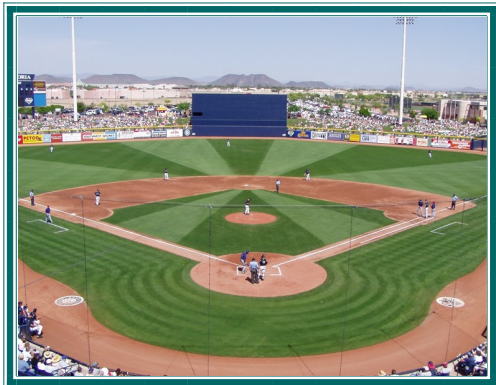
between 1887 and 1897, two other residents of Peoria, Illinois, Delos S. Brown and K.B. Greenhut, obtained four sections of land from the government and their original plat of the townsite of Peoria, Arizona was filed on March, 24 1897.

Until recently, Peoria appeared on maps as a patchwork of parcels sandwiched between Glendale to the east and Sun City to the west. A rapidly growing population and recent annexations have made Peoria one of the fastest growing cities in the United States.

One of the best school districts in the state, affordable housing, and close proximity to downtown Phoenix are largely responsible for the influx of new residents.

While many Peoria residents may work within the city limits, the majority are employed in neighboring Phoenix or Glendale.

The continuing growth is managed through the city's Master Plan. The city has attracted commercial, light industrial, medical and tourism development and has a strong economic base.



Some of Peoria's attractions include: Peoria Sports Complex - The nation's largest Spring Training facility, home of the San Diego Padres and the Seattle Mariners.

The facility boasts a 10,000 seat lighted stadium and 12 practice fields. March spring training offers 30 straight games of baseball. The Arizona Fall Baseball League features the Peoria Javelinas and the Sun Cities Solar Sox, October through the first weekend in December.

The stadium also hosts a full slate of activities throughout the year, such as other baseball leagues (Korean, Japanese, and Little League), concerts, car shows, and trade shows.

Cowtown, Arizona - An Authentic 1800's western ghost town is in Peoria featuring live gunfights, blacksmith shop, cantina, saloon, general store, horseback riding, Hummer and Bronco Tours, paintball combat zone and a museum.

Originally built by Hollywood stuntman Ron Nix, Cowtown has been used as a western set for television shows and movies such as Deadman starring Johnny Depp.

Peoria also offers a wide range of community facilities including a community center, swimming pools, new library, 16 parks, three golf courses and 14 tennis courts.

The Challenger Learning Center of Arizona was the first approved site in the Southwest and joins 29 other centers operating in the U.S. and Canada.



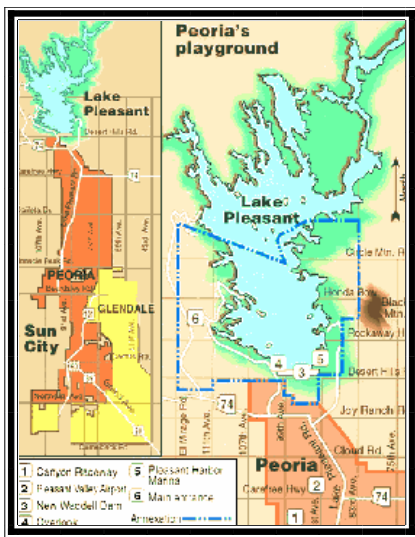
The Center is located at Sunrise Mountain High School in the Peoria Unified School District, North of Union Hills and adjacent Loop 101. Visit an exciting hands-on space lab where students and educators team up for a space flight simulation.



Peoria is also the home of Lake Pleasant, a 24,000 acre water wonderland surrounded by beautiful high desert.

The park features hiking trails, campgrounds, a 10,000 acre lake, birdwatching, the Desert Princess Dinner Cruise and the Pleasant Harbor Marina that features boat ramps, a convenience store, deli, harbor slips and dry storage.

The marina also rents a wide variety of water craft ranging from party boats to jet skis, power boats and fishing boats.



Surprise

Surprise, located just 35 minutes west of downtown Phoenix, and minutes away from Peoria, was founded in 1929 and incorporated as a city in 1960. The name "Surprise" came from the fact it was the name of the founder, Homer C. Ludden's hometown in Nebraska.

Surprise started out as a small farming village and when it was incorporated in 1960 had 500 residents.

Over the past 40 years, Surprise has grown to over 98,000 residents in 2007. The city offers a broad range of living styles, from small family subdivisions, adult communities to a number of secluded ranches.

The key to the City of Surprise is the people who live here. They are the same people who have helped formulate and implement the plans for the future, the people whose strong work ethic, training and desire for a high quality of life have helped give their employers an edge in a very competitive marketplace.

Over 70 percent of the residents of Surprise are under the age of 65, making it one of the youngest communities in the greater Phoenix area.

The city of Surprise offers a unique blend of urban and

rural living. The proximity to Phoenix, Peoria and other Valley of the Sun communities gives residents convenient and quick access to urban centers.



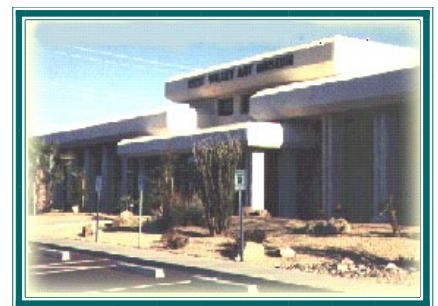
Golf is a year-round activity in the area, and the City of Surprise offers six beautiful public golf courses. There are also many other courses within a 30-minute drive



Within a short distance of Surprise is Lake Pleasant, which offers boating, sailing, water skiing, swimming, camping and scenic boat tours.

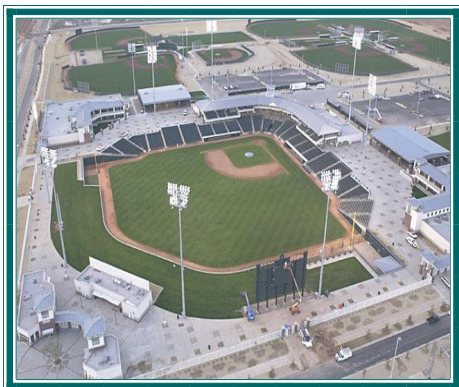
The ASU Sundome Center for the Performing Arts is located in nearby Sun City West - about 5 minutes away. The Sundome is host to well known entertainers, as well as National and International traveling shows. The Sun Bowl in Sun City is approximately 10 minutes away and provides a beautiful outdoor setting for concerts.

Surprise is the home of the West Valley Art Museum which exhibits the work of national, international and local artists as well as a variety of collections and also the home of the Heard Museum West.



The City has constructed a 10,500-seat multi-purpose Recreation and Major League Spring Training Campus on land owned by the City of Surprise, Arizona and hosted their first Spring Training Season in 2003.

The Complex houses the Major League baseball teams. The Texas Rangers and The Kansas City Royals for the



spring training season and for other related player development programs.

In addition, the City uses the facilities for adult and youth recreation

programs, community events and programs, special events and meeting facilities.

The stadium/amphitheater complex and baseball practice fields are incorporated into a master-planned municipal center including administrative offices, recreation/aquatic center, 23,000-square-foot library, and 35-40 acre passive park.

Surprise defines vibrant Southwest living; a place of educational excellence where community, family, and traditions are built, And, towering over Surprise are the White Tank Mountains and the White Tanks Regional Park.

El Mirage

Located in the northwestern quadrant of the Greater Phoenix region, El Mirage is a distinguished community that encompasses 11 square miles of opportunity.

Ideally positioned along U.S. 60, the Burlington Northern Railroad and Thunderbird Road, El Mirage has experienced 55% population growth within the past 10 years.



Being just 25 miles from downtown Phoenix and Sky Harbor International Airport, affords the City of El Mirage all the amenities of a major metropolitan area while

maintaining a small community atmosphere.

The labor force and availability of real estate make El Mirage the right location for home or business.

El Mirage has a wonderful small town feel with opportunities in its future. The town was founded in 1937 as a farm town. The town's heritage is Hispanic, which is evident in many of its celebrations.

Today El Mirage's population is over 40,000. It sits at an elevation of 1,100 feet. El Mirage has a sunny climate with a summer high temperature of 102 degrees and a winter low temperature of 33 degrees.

Even though El Mirage began as a farm community, it is

beginning to grow economically with new businesses coming to the area. However, El Mirage will never lose its small town family roots.



Several migrant farm workers founded El Mirage

in 1937. This group was in search of a permanent place to live and raise their families. El Mirage became the perfect spot to live and work. The community continues to be strong and those that come to the town to live, remain for many generations.



In 1951, the town was incorporated. Farming was and still is what makes the town prosper. El Mirage is small town. While other towns around El Mirage are growing, El Mirage has received a very slow steady increase in population. Today, El Mirage has chosen an aggressive policy for attracting new businesses to the city. El Mirage will be a town of the future. It has no property tax and an ideal location near the Santa Fe Railroad and freeways

Some of the more popular local events include the



Founders Day March, Cinco de Mayo, and Fiesta Patrias in September. There are not many small

town experiences to be found in the Phoenix metropolitan area anymore as rapid growth is transforming small sleepy communities like El Mirage to busy thriving cities.

Avondale

A bustling residential community in the West Valley region of Maricopa County, Avondale is situated along the Agua Fria River. The City of Avondale is ranked one of the fastest growing residential areas of Maricopa County, Arizona. With over 75,000 current residents, Avondale has come a long way from its agricultural past.

Parks, recreation areas, picnic ramadas, and nature trails are found throughout the city. These amenities create a vital balance to the city's incredible growth in commercial and residential development.

Unique to Avondale are the three rivers that traverse the City - the Gila, Salt and Agua Fria Rivers. The convergence of these rivers within Avondale presents a unique opportunity to build an open space system around resources meant to convey flood waters.



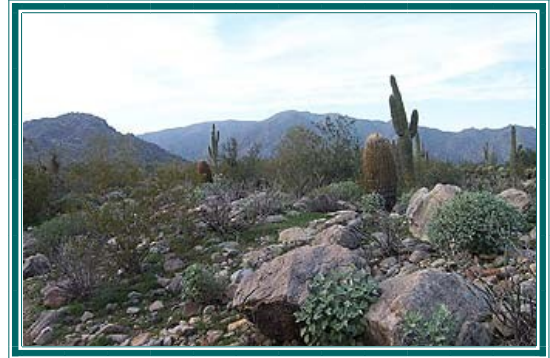
Avondale is home to Phoenix International Raceway, a world-class motor sports venue nestled in the foothills of the beautiful Estrella Mountains. Today, Avondale is a popular NASCAR destination. Each year, racing

enthusiasts and race teams converge in Avondale for races such as the Copper world Classic, Indy car and NASCAR, as well as other entertainment, spending hundreds of millions of dollars.

Attendance at Phoenix International Raceway is equal to that of three Super Bowls and the figures are increasing each year! Avondale's award winning Wetlands project,

assures the City an adequate water supply for the next 100 years. Avondale is the first West Valley city to achieve this milestone.

Estrella Mountain Regional Park, on the city's southern boundary, has 19,000 acres with an 18-hole golf course as well as camping, horseback riding and picnicking.



The 26,000-acre White Tanks Mountain Regional Park, to the northwest, features unusual petroglyphs, hiking trails, a waterfall and scenic desert vistas.

The City of Avondale offers a broad range of community facilities including six parks, community and senior centers, a library, seven golf courses, two handball courts, 12 tennis courts and several ball parks.

Goodyear

The town of Goodyear was born as a result of the formation of the Goodyear Aircraft Corporation (GAC) which came into existence in December 1939 as an offshoot of the earlier Goodyear-Zeppelin Corporation which built lighter-than-air craft.

The technology in light metal alloys developed for use in the airships Akron and Macon was responsible for the first military contracts awarded to GAC. The Glenn L. Martin Company, which produced the B-26 Maurader bomber, asked Goodyear to design and build the ailerons and flaps for the B-26.

The U.S. economy accelerated under orders for war commodities in Europe and Goodyear expanded production to keep pace. GAC's successful work as an airframe builder was noticed by several major aircraft manufacturers and thus received early contracts to work on the Grumman TBF-1 Avenger torpedo bomber, the Curtiss-Wright P-40 Warhawk fighter, Navy patrol blimps and training blimps.

There are a variety of attractions in Goodyear. A fun place to spend the day is the Duncan's Family Farm. The farm has a petting area, antique tractor display, farmer's market and much more.

There are many special events such as Easter egg hunts and festivals that make a trip to the farm a memorable one.



horseback riding and picnicking.

A great outdoor activity in Goodyear is the Estrella Mountain Regional Park. This 19,840-acre park offers hiking, camping,

There is also an 18-hole golf course set against a beautiful backdrop of natural desert beauty and check out the Cool Desert Jazz Festival in October.

Litchfield Park

Litchfield Park is a planned residential community, 16 miles west of central Phoenix. It is a unique suburban community boasting a small town atmosphere and casual lifestyle. Litchfield Park is just north of Interstate 10 with easy access to metropolitan Phoenix. It was incorporated in 1987.

Litchfield Park started in 1916 when Goodyear Tire and Rubber bought farm land to grow Egyptian long-staple cotton to use in tire cords. This project was developed by Paul Litchfield, then a junior executive with Goodyear.

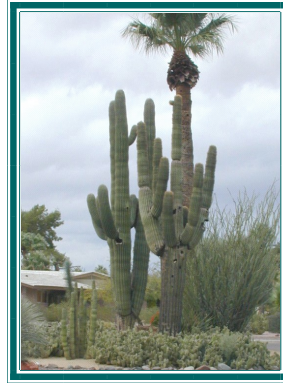
The company town was given his name in 1926. Litchfield Park was headquarters for Goodyear Farms, which had thousands of acres under cultivation.

From 1931 to 1944, it was also the test site for Goodyear auto, truck and tractor tires. In the 1960's, Litchfield Park designed a master-plan for development including several self-sufficient villages. Positive aspects of the village concept can still be seen today.

The Wigwam Resort hotel, a four-star establishment, is a highlight of Litchfield Park. It was originally built for Goodyear executives visiting the farming operations. In 1929, The Wigwam opened to the public and soon

became a fashionable and exclusive resort. The Wigwam provides some 700 jobs to the local economy.

Luke Air Force Base, two miles north of Litchfield Park, is the largest training center for F16 fighter pilots in the world.



Many Litchfield Park residents are retired military personnel. Morton Salt has a facility just north of Litchfield Park. Nearby Goodyear is home to Rubbermaid, Inc., Lockheed Martin and Lufthansa German Airlines Pilot School. Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station is 30 miles away and provides additional job opportunities.

The city of Litchfield Park offers a range of community facilities including a library, swimming pool, three golf courses and six parks with baseball and soccer fields.

The library, parks and pools are open to the public. The town has an active community calendar including a 4th of July celebration, a Country Fair, a Native American Arts Festival, and the annual Christmas in the Park.

Buckeye

Buckeye is located 30 miles west of downtown Phoenix in the West Valley. It is south of Interstate 10 and north of State Highway 85. Buckeye covers 225 square miles.

Located just close enough to downtown Phoenix to be convenient for work, sightseeing and an exciting nightlife, yet far enough away to retain a comfortable small-town feeling.

Therefore, the residents who are proud to call Buckeye home have the best of both worlds. They can take advantage of offerings found around a metropolitan city and throughout its western suburbs, and then return to the quiet comfort of home.

Buckeye continues to hold on to its early beginnings as a small farming town. Today Buckeye has a population of 40,000. The summer high temperature is 107 degrees and the winter low temperature is 43 degrees

There is one attraction in town you won't want to miss.

The Buckeye Historical and Archeological Museum has interesting artifacts from the town's beginning. The museum's front is a replica of Buckeye's first general store.



Several regional parks that surround Buckeye offer golfing, hiking, climbing and other recreation. Buckeye Hills Regional Park provides facilities for day visitors and a shooting range. Robin Butte Wildlife Sanctuary, along with other portions of the Gila River, have opportunities for bird and wildlife viewing.

The Sun Valley Parkway takes visitors into vast areas of the Sonoran Desert, with scenic vistas and views of the surrounding mountains. The



Parkway extends the length of the scenic White Tank Mountains and connects with the Wickenburg Highway at Sun City West.

And of course, Arizona is known for some of the best golf in the world, and Buckeye will soon be getting its own. Verrado, a Master plan community snuggled into the foothills of the White Tank Mountains in the first of many communities planned around the area.

For those who like horseback riding, there's Eagle Mountain Stables, located in Rainbow Valley just south of Buckeye.

In El Dorado, located in Tonopah, Arizona, just west and minutes from Buckeye, you can enjoy a large subterranean hot springs of pure odorless, tasteless mineral water naturally heated by Mother Earth. Some say it's like bathing in liquid silk, making one's hair and skin feel like velvet.

The Hellzapoppin Rodeo, the Rodeo parade, car show,



in February and a Halloween Carnival.

demolition derby and Street Fair are held in November every year. Other events include Pioneer Days and the Buckeye Bluegrass Festival in the Spring, the Senior Pro Rodeo

Founded in 1888 and incorporated eight decades ago as a 440 acre town, Buckeye has surged into the 21st century with a planning area of almost 600 square miles. While Buckeye's population of about 40,000 residents is expected to increase at a rapid rate over the next few decades, the family friendly festivals sprinkled throughout the year help maintain the small-town feel that makes Buckeye a nice place to visit – and to live.

Some West Valley Attractions

Heard Museum West—Surprise

The northwest Valley branch of the popular Native American museum

West Valley Art Museum-Surprise

With a permanent collection of more than 4,000 pieces, a variety of classes, concerts and other community programs, the West Valley Art Museum has become a jewel west of Loop 101.

Arizona Broadway Theater-Peoria

Popular musical dinner theater

Challenger Space Center

Since 2000, the Challenger Space Center has been dedicated to the educational outreach mission of the Space Shuttle Challenger, inspiring children through hands-on space mission simulations.

The Bead Museum-Glendale

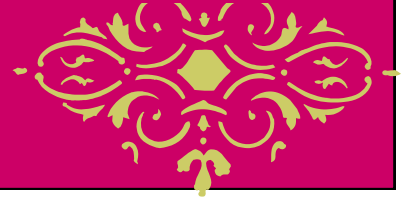
Discover the diverse cultures of the world through ornamental art. Founded in 1984, the museum features more than 100,000 beads from across the globe, some dating to 40,000 B.C. The museum's current exhibit, "Silver: From Fetish to Fashion," examines how people around the world use silver in their beadwork and jewelry.

Westgate City Center

With a host of shops, restaurants and massive billboards lining the buildings, Westgate claims to be Times Square of the West Valley. A bold claim to be sure, but there is plenty to do in this outdoor shopping center, from occasional live music to sporting events and concerts at neighboring Jobing.com Arena and the University of Phoenix Stadium.



North West Valley Adult Communities



Many of the large established adult communities are in the Northwest Valley.

Sun City

January 1, 1960. The dawn of a new decade and dawn of a new era for retirees. For it was on that day that the Del E. Webb Development Company began selling homes for its newest project: An active adult retirement community. The community, called Sun City, was the first of its kind in the nation. The first of its kind in the world, for that matter.

Spurred on by the early success of Youngtown, established in 1955, Webb Company officials developed the idea of taking the "retirement" community concept to the next level.

Youngtown was created for retirees living on minimal, fixed incomes. The homes were small - the amenities were non-existent.

Del Webb toyed with the idea of creating a self-sustaining community that would be all encompassing with affordable housing and recreation.

In the late 1950s the company acquired 20,000 acres of land adjacent to Youngtown.

In 1959 the Webb Company began work on the then-unnamed community. First to be built was a shopping center, followed by a golf course and a recreation center. That simple pattern — small neighborhoods built close to recreational and shopping amenities — would set the stage for all master-planned retirement communities to follow.

The community didn't get its name until about a month prior to its Jan. 1 grand opening. The new project was called the "Marinette Retirement Community" until a new name could be found.

A nationwide contest was held to name the community and, as legend has it, Del Webb himself selected the winning name after seeing it among the thousands of entries.

The positive publicity showered on the community certainly attributed to its continual popularity, but word of mouth played a key role in Sun City's success.

Those who purchased homes after 1960 were often friends of those already living in Sun City. Friends told their friends who in turn told their friends about this new and exciting lifestyle

Many of the remaining pioneers, in fact, fondly recall how close-knit the community was back in the early 1960s.



Friendship, socializing, recreation and fun were — and continue to be — the main staples of living in Sun City. Sun City is self

contained with its own shopping, restaurants, banks, medical, post office and gas stations. Sun City offers the largest selection of home styles, single family, condos, vacation apartments, patio homes, duplexes, quads & chalets, ranging in sq. ft. from 700 to 3800

Residents of Sun City have access to 7 Recreation Centers and 8 golf courses. 2 bowling alleys, miniature golf, boating and fishing, billiards



and pool, swimming, hot tubs, lawn lawn bowling, shuffle board, ping pong, racquet and handball, basketball, soft ball and other activities are all available to Sun City Residents along with 130 chartered clubs.

Sun City West

Sun City West is a mature, lush oasis nestled in the valley of the sun, near Phoenix, Arizona.

With more than 320 days of sunshine, it is far away from the harsh winters. The community sports four high quality recreational complexes, nine impressive golf courses, and our own thirty lane bowling alley.

These extensive facilities are available at a surprisingly low cost. Sun City West offers a diverse range of homes. Golf fees are among the best in Arizona.



Four great recreation centers serve the community and residents have an array of activities to choose from: 6 Swimming

pools -3 indoor, 3 outdoor, Bowling lanes, Tennis courts, Mini-golf courses, Outdoor and indoor walking tracks, Bocce courts, Lawn bowling rinks, Pool, Billiard and Snooker tables, Racquet and Handball courts, a Softball field, Shuffleboard courts, Large ballrooms and work space for many clubs

In addition, space has been provided for 270 garden plots for those wishing to grow fresh vegetables and flowers year-round.



The Sun Cities Saddle Club offers residents a place to keep a horse and to join others in trail rides. A large, secure storage lot provides space for RVs, boats and trailers when they are not being used.



Even the dogs have their own Doggie Park. You can truly be as active as you

like as the four Recreation Centers are open every day of the week

You can relax and enjoy life in Sun City West! You'll find it a friendly active community, filled with people from every state in the nation, as well as international seasonal visitors.

Anyone who visits has found that Sun City West offered extraordinary variety and value found nowhere else.

Sun City Grand

Sun City Grand is an active adult community 45+ located in Surprise, Arizona. Residents have lots to do with 4 championship golf courses, 5 swimming pools, 2 fitness centers, 3 onsite restaurants and resort style living in over 9,500 homes.



A variety of clubs and interest groups give residents the opportunity to experience a full range of activities.

Sun City Grand has many activities including golf, tennis, table tennis, ping pong, pickle ball, art, billiards, bocce ball, bridge, canasta, ceramics, writing, memoirs, genealogy, family history, cribbage, chess, scrabble, dancing, dominoes, acting, stage, euchre, fishing, gardening, putting, hiking, language study, lawn bowling, mahjonn, music, photography, pinochle, poker, stitching, travel, woodcraft, wood working, horseshoes, softball and many more.





Run by ASU the Learning Academy offers enrichment courses to the residents of Sun City Grand and the surrounding communities.

The benefits of attending classes at the Academy include stimulating your curiosity, engaging your mind, and building new relationships. Courses on a variety of topics are offered such as history, relationships, art history, music, archeology and religion. You can explore your favorite subjects or discover new areas of interest.

The classes are held at the Chaparral Center.



The Academy also offers opportunities to learn while you travel to distant places. The courses are taught by competent Sun City Grand residents or Arizona State University faculty. For all these courses there are no tests, homework, grades, or pressure—just enjoyment and stimulation.

Sun Village

Located in Surprise, between Sun City Grand and Sun City West, Sun Village is a gated active adult community and the only one with a 24 hour gate guard.

With approximately 2,500 homes spread over 320 acres this private community has landscaped walking paths and biking trails throughout the community, winding around the beautiful flowers and sparkling lakes.

Sun Village homes have something for everyone...low maintenance one or two bedroom condos, villas and

casitas, detached patio homes with two or three bedroom floor plans and a great selection of large single family detached homes, including some with a guest house or casita.

Sun Village has a true small neighborhood feel with organized resident activities including trips, pot-luck get-togethers, clubs and much more.

There is a large Ballroom/theatre/auditorium and a residence lounge with a big screen TV and weekly VCR movies. The library has many books, magazine and newspapers available and there are arts and crafts studios, billiards, card rooms and a full service restaurant in the recreation center.



Sun Village also has one of the Valley's largest outdoor heated swimming pools (7000 sq. ft) and therapeutic

whirlpool spas. There is also a fitness center and lighted outdoor sports facilities including tennis courts, shuffleboard and horseshoe pits.

The 18 hole Golf course has many challenging water features and there are Men's and Ladies golf leagues available for the avid golfer.

Corta Bella

This unique age-restricted community is Arizona's first gated, country club community. When completed Corte Bella will have a total of 1,850 homes.



Homes in this unique community range from 1,350 to 3,000 square feet. The mission style architecture was inspired by homes in Santa

Barbara, California and the floor plans reflect a wide range of lifestyles from living and dining rooms, to open great rooms designs.

Many of the floor plans allow for adding a detached casita or courtyard entryway.



Every resident is a member of the social club and has access to the private golf course. Sticking to the “Country Club” theme, Corte Bella is both upscale and down-to-earth.

At the 7,500 sq. ft Social Club you can meet friends for casual dining.

The fitness club and spa offers more than 10,000 sq. ft of space with cardio and weight-training areas, an aerobics studio, spa treatment rooms, separate men’s and ladies lounges and locker rooms, indoor whirlpool, steam rooms and additional services such as massages and facials can be arranged upon request.

Arizona Traditions

Located in Surprise, in the shadows of the White Tank Mountains, this active adult golf and country club community is built by Continental Homes and is a gated community.

Arizona Traditions is a unique community built on former agricultural and ranch land. When planning this community the developer incorporated this aspect into the design.

The golf clubhouse is reminiscent of the local cotton gins that once dotted the area and the golf course has a park-like design. The Grand ballroom located



at the community center is reminiscent of many of the dance halls of the past.

The par-70 course with its rolling terrain and mature pine trees lining the fairways was built in the traditional parkland style with fairways adjacent to each other instead of having homes on both sides.



The 7,000 sq. ft clubhouse is a wonderful place to relax after a great round of golf with a cold drink or food from the outdoor grill.

The 24,000 sq. ft. community center offers lots of varied classes and a library, the grand ballroom, a card & social room, locker rooms, pool, spa, steam rooms and tennis courts.



The new resort style swimming pool is a great way to relax and enjoy the wonderful weather in the Valley of the Sun.

There is also a sports bar with a big screen TV and the only fitness center in the area sponsored by the Arizona Heart Institute. The center features state-of-the-art equipment, special programs, seminars and an annual health fair to assist residents with their health needs.

Arizona Traditions has a small town feel. With seven water features, flexible floor plans with features like whirlpool tubs, built-in entertainment centers, hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings and granite countertops, it is a community focused on providing a relaxing and stimulating place to live.

Pebble Creek

Located in Goodyear, Arizona PebbleCreek has a small town feel complemented by big city activities just a drive away including major professional sports, shopping, and major universities.

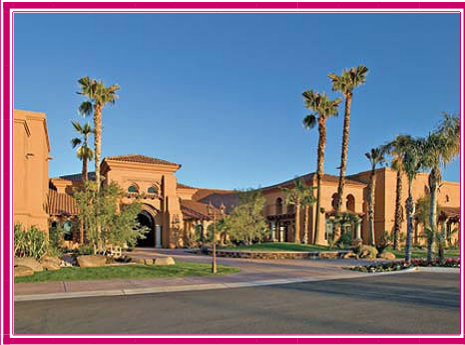
Lavish landscaping, sparkling lakes and first-class amenities provide PebbleCreek residents with a country club lifestyle.



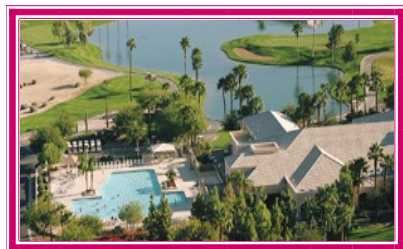
The Eagle's Nest Clubhouse is one of PebbleCreek's hubs for social and recreational activities. With 40,000 sq. ft under roof the

Eagles Nest is impressive with an inviting atmosphere.

The new Tuscany Country Club Clubhouse has quickly become the neighborhood gathering place, along with the Eagle's Nest. The rich woods and great views coupled with great food invite you to linger a little longer.



If Golf is your game, you'll love teeing up at the Eagle's Nest Golf Club or at Tuscany Falls.



Both 18-hole courses are located within the PebbleCreek Community. Eagle's Nest has wide fairways, subtle mounding

and extraordinary greens in the traditional style. The course features seven lakes and commanding views of the White Tank Mountains.

Tuscany Falls was designed by Dick Bailey, noted golf course architect and has dramatic mounding, rolling fairways and strategically placed bunkers.



With the White Tank Mountains as a backdrop to its rolling fairways and palm trees Tuscany Falls is a great course to play. The signature hole is number 13, where golfers must carry more than 100 yards over water from the tee to the green.

Water is an added challenge at Tuscany Falls with 10 lakes that come into play around the course. With all the amenities of PebbleCreek it is hard to decide what to do next!

If you are a swimmer you will love the lap pool or relaxing with friends around the oversized outdoor swimming pool.



Ventana Lakes

Ventana Lakes is an Adult Community located in the Northwest Valley at Beardsley and 99th Avenue. Although the subdivision lies within Peoria, Arizona, some of the homes have a postal address of Sun City, which borders the subdivision to the south.

Ventana Lakes is a lake community with three artificial lakes -- there is no Golf Course.



The main recreation center houses the fitness center, steam room, library and general purpose

room. Nearby buildings house crafts, cards and billiard rooms. There is also an indoor racquet ball court.

Nearby is the Yacht Club recreation facility which has an Auditorium with rooms. Close to the Yacht Club are Bocce Ball courts, a volleyball/basketball court and a pool and jacuzzi.

Ventana Lakes has many social activities including Billiards, Card Circles, Ceramics, a Computer Club, Crafts, Aquarobics groups, a Bocce Ball group, Horseshoes, Volleyball teams and many other special interest activities.

Numerous social dinners and breakfasts are sponsored to raise funds for recreational purposes with special entertainers and varied menus. The major social events and meetings are held at the Yacht Club.

Trilogy at Vistancia

One of the newest "Active Resort Style Living" subdivisions in the Northwest Valley, Trilogy at Vistancia is set in a lush desert oasis at the foothills of North Peoria, close to Lake Pleasant. Unique in that this 55 or older gated community is located within the 7,100 acre multi-generational new Vistancia community, Trilogy is one of many intimate villages, each with it's own amenities.

Trilogy offers a new and interesting lifestyle for active adults with a championship golf course, tennis a Center for higher learning and an expansive fitness center.

The 35,000 sq. ft Kiva Club offers such amenities as a Concierge service and a Business center,



The Alvia spa, surrounded by beautiful gardens, is a relaxing escape for residents offering massages, pedicures, manicures, facials, aromatherapy and classes that include yoga and meditation.

Trilogy Golf Club at Vistancia is an 18 hole course. The

course is a daily fee course, although Trilogy residents will receive preferential playing privileges and pricing. The Golf Club offers a 11,000 sq. ft clubhouse including the Verde Grill, a full-service restaurant offering breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Located in Peoria, Arizona, Westbrook Village was developed by UDC Homes (now Shea Homes), a company with lots of experience in creating beautiful adult communities.

Westbrooke Village

Westbrook Village is made up of central recreational areas surrounded by attractive individual neighborhoods.



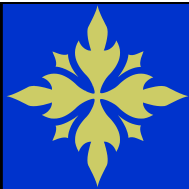
Lush grass and parkways that wind throughout Westbrook Village create a beautiful, quiet community.

Recreational facilities include two championship 18-hole golf courses, Westbrook Village Country Club - The Lakes and Westbrook Village Golf Club - The Vistas. There are two large recreation and social centers, featuring Olympic size swimming pools, fitness facilities, therapy pools, tennis courts, par jogging courses, woodworking and billiards.

There are also two great restaurants. Westbrook Village is home to many social clubs and hobby groups. And, recently added, the beautiful Reflection Garden.



Approximately 20 minutes away is beautiful Lake Pleasant. All the amenities of Arrowhead Mall are just 2 miles away with lots of shopping, banks and restaurants, and downtown Phoenix is just 25-30 minutes away.



The Housing Picture



During 2007 the overall median price of single family homes in Maricopa County and the Valley of the Sun decreased in 14 out of 28

cities and 74 of 110 zip codes.

In the same period, the overall median price for the Condo/Townhouse market experienced the same ratio. The valley wide decrease in the overall median price from August 2006 to August 2007 was approximately 7%.

After enjoying a 5 year median price increase in the 90% range, the Phoenix area overall median price was approximately \$260,000 at mid 2007.

Phoenix are home prices are still well below California cities and the other west coast cities of Seattle and Portland, as well as many Florida communities.

The Valley feature numerous master plan communities, many with a variety of amenities.

Major retail building occurring throughout the Valley will provide nearby shopping for residents of most new communities.



Desert landscaping has a significant presence throughout the Valley of the Sun. A large majority of housing areas have a very distinct desert setting with differing species of cactus, drought hardy flowing shrubs and natural desert plants.

Phoenix, the largest city in the Valley covers a vast geographical area, offering a diverse housing market.

As the hub city, downtown Phoenix is a core employment and culture center with projected growth spurred by the new light-rail system. Arizona State University has added a Phoenix campus and several central neighborhoods are undergoing upscale makeovers.

The East Valley, home to several of the valley's high-tech employers, has mature neighborhoods as well as a large number of fill-in communities. Major home building is still in progress on the outskirts.

The cities in the northeast valley are the most fashionable and high priced areas. Upscale housing often includes golf courses, mountain preserves and mountainside elevations.

Located on the north side of Camelback Mountain, Paradise Valley has the highest home prices in the Valley with many homes in the several million dollar range.

The west valley is the fastest growing area in the Valley of the Sun. Business offices, retail outlets and sports venues are rapidly being built and large master plan communities, with a home town feel are being built in all of the major cities.





Newcomers Information



Arizona Driver's License, Title & Auto Registration.

Arizona issues an extended driver license that continues to the age of 65, although photo and vision screenings need to be updated every 12 years. At 60 years and over drivers will receive a 5 year license with a renewal date every 5 years, also requiring vision and photo updating.

Temporary residents such as out of state students or military personnel may apply for a 5-year license regardless of age. The applicant must have valid proof of identity and age. Foreign applicants will be processed in accordance with Arizona authorized presence requirements. Driver license fees vary from \$10 to \$25 depending on age group. Vehicle registration fees are based on the make, model and year of the vehicle. Every car (unless it is a model year 1966 or earlier) must pass emission inspection each year before it can be registered.

License-Hunting & Fishing

To hunt in Arizona, a six-month residency requirement exists before a license can be purchased. The game includes deer, javelina, antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, bear and turkey. Seasons and locations are announced annually by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Fishing licenses do not have residency requirements, but both resident and visitor must purchase one. There are over 550 year-round fishing spots in Arizona and the catch can be trout in the streams and bass, crappies, blue gills and channel cat in the lakes. There are no size or weight limits but there are limitations on the number of certain species you can have in your possession.

Climate

Residents of Phoenix and the Valley of the Sun enjoy year-round sunshine (more than 300 sunny days a year) and low humidity which makes summer heat more comfortable than other southern climates

Residency

Newcomers are considered residents of Arizona if they own or rent a residence for six months or more; accept a job; register children in school; obtain a state driver's license or maintain a business that is taxed by the state.

Mileage Chart from Phoenix

Ajo	110
Ash Fork	152
Benson	156
Bisbee	205
Casa Grande	45
Clifton	207
Coolidge	51
Douglas	229
Flagstaff	145
Florence	61
Holbrook	191
Hoover Dam	259
Gila Bend	68
Globe	87
Grand Canyon	228
Kingman	186
Lake Havasu City	206
Nogales, Arizona	175
Nogales, Mexico	176
Parker	169
Prescott	102
Safford	164
Sedona	119
Show Low	174
Sonoita	161
Springerville	220
Tombstone	181
Tubac	155
Tucson	111
Wickenburg	58
Willcox	192
Yuma	184

Pets

Arizona law requires all dogs over 4 months to be vaccinated and licensed. A new resident has a thirty-day grace period from the date of entry. The licenses are issued after proper proof of rabies vaccination by Maricopa County. Cats are exempt from this law.

All incorporated areas of Maricopa County have strict leash laws. Dogs must be kept on owner's property, either tied or within a fence and must be on a leash with a person on the other end if they are on the street. Remember, pets need time to acclimate themselves to Arizona's heat. Always make sure a pet has plenty of water and shade when outside and never leave a pet in a parked car.

Property Taxes

Maricopa County property tax for homeowners is based on the assessed value of the home. Assessed value is 10% of the full cash value (about 80% of market value), which is determined by the Assessors Office.

The tax rate varies by district in which the home is located. The average tax rate for Maricopa County is \$13-\$15 for every \$100 assessed value.

Voter Registration

To vote in local and national elections, you must be registered at least twenty-nine days prior to the election. You must be at least 18 years old, a citizen of the United States and a resident of Arizona.

State, County & City Taxes

Arizona Sales tax	5.6%
Maricopa County	0.7%
Pinal County	1.0%

Maricopa County Cities

Avondale	2.5%
Buckeye	2.0%
Carefree	3.0%
Cave Creek	2.5%
Chandler	1.5%
Fountain Hills	2.6%
Gila Bend	3.0%
Gilbert	1.5%
Glendale	2.2%
Goodyear	2.0%
Guadalupe	3.0%
Litchfield Park	2.0%
Mesa	1.75%
Paradise Valley	1.65%
Peoria	1.8%
Phoenix	2.0%
Queen Creek	2.25%
Scottsdale	1.65%
Surprise	2.2%
Tempe	1.8%
Tolleson	2.5%

North Pinal County Cities

Apache Junction	2.2%
Casa Grande	1.8%
Coolidge	3.0%
Eloy	3.0%
Florence	2.0%
Maricopa	2.0%

Rates are subject to change without Notice.

Taxes—State Personal Income

A personal income tax is levied on residents and nonresidents earning income in Arizona. The state uses a graduated rate structure and the Federal Internal Revenue Code as the basis for tax computation. Arizona taxable income is based on federal adjusted gross income, with several additions and subtractions. Arizona stipulated exceptions and itemized deductions are applied to determine the Arizona taxable income.

For more information, contact:

Arizona Department of Revenue's Taxpayer Assistance line; (602)255-3381



Education



Education is a high priority in the Metro Phoenix area. There are innovative special programs in the public schools, fine private schools and an extensive college system.

Public Schools

Maricopa County has fifty-seven school districts serving over 400,000 students. Programs that build a solid foundation of basic skills, reading, language, math, science and social studies are emphasized throughout the area.

Gifted, honors and advance placement programs are open to talented students. English as a second language programs are also available. All districts have special education programs which address the needs of children with moderate to severe disabilities, mental or physical. Extended school year programs and homebound programs are available options.

Metropolitan Phoenix School Districts

Apache Junction

Apache Junction Unified District #43

Avondale

Avondale Elementary District. #44
Agua Fria Union High District. #216

Buckeye

Buckeye Elementary District. #33
Buckeye Union High District. #201
Liberty Elementary District. #25

Cave Creek

Cave Creek Unified District. #93

Cashion

Littleton Elementary District. #65

Chandler

Chandler Unified District #80

El Mirage

Dysart Unified District #89

Fountain Hills

Fountain Hills Unified District. #98

Gilbert

Gilbert Unified District. #41

Glendale

Glendale Elementary District # 41
Glendale Union High District. #205

Goodyear

Avondale Elementary District. #44
Agua Fria Union High District. #216

Laveen

Laveen Elementary District. #59

Litchfield Park

Litchfield Elementary District. #79

Mesa

Mesa Unified District #4

Paradise Valley

Paradise Valley Unified District. #69

Peoria

Peoria Unified District #11

Phoenix

Alhambra Elementary District. #68
Balsz Elementary District. #31
Cartwright Elementary District. #83
Creighton Elementary District #14
Deer Valley Unified District. #97
Fowler Elementary District. #45
Isaac Elementary District. #5
Madison Elementary District. #38
Murphy Elementary District. #21
Osborn Elementary District #8
Pendergast Elementary District #92
Phoenix Elementary District. #1
Phoenix Union High District. #210
Riverside Elementary District. #2
Roosevelt Elementary District #66
Saddle Mountain United #90
Washington Elementary District. #6
Wilson Elementary District. #7

Queen Creek

Queen Creek Unified District #95

Scottsdale

Scottsdale Unified District #48

Surprise

Dysart Unified District #89

Tempe

Tempe Elementary District #3
Kyrene Elementary District #28
Tempe Union High School District #213

Tolleson

Tolleson Elementary District #17
Tolleson Union High School Dist. #214
Union Elementary District #62

The Public School system in Arizona is divided into elementary, high school and unified districts.

The elementary districts include kindergarten through eighth grades. The high school districts include the ninth through twelfth grades. The unified districts include kindergarten through twelfth grades. There are some junior high schools, but most of these include just the seventh and eighth grades and are therefore are in the elementary districts.

For school reports on each district go to www.ade.state.az.us

Universities & Colleges

Arizona State University (ASU) is located on a 700-acre Main Campus in Tempe. More than 64,000 students attend ASU's Main and the three anchor campuses; West Campus and Downtown Campus in Phoenix and the Polytechnic Campus in Mesa. Following is a list of schools and their locations:

School of Applied Arts and Sciences, Polytechnic
Katherine K. Herberger College of the Arts,
Tempe

W. P. Carey School of Business, Tempe
College of Design, Tempe

Mary Lou Fulton College of Education, Tempe
School of Educational Innovation and Teacher
Preparation, Polytechnic

Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering, Tempe
School of Global Management and Leadership,
West

Graduate College, All

Honors - Barrett, The Honors College, All
College of Human Services, West

Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass
Communication, Tempe

Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Tempe
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Tempe

Morrison School of Management and
Agribusiness, Polytechnic

New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and
Sciences, West

College of Nursing & Healthcare Innovation,
Downtown **Phoenix**

College of Public Programs, Downtown Phoenix
School of Sustainability, Tempe

College of Teacher Education and Leadership,
West

College of Technology and Innovation,
Polytechnic

University College, All

The University of Phoenix is based in Phoenix and offers studies in business, criminal justice and security, education and teaching, healthcare, technical and engineering, nursing, medical computer science and more. With six outlying centers; The Chandler, Mesa, Northwest and West Valley Learning Centers and the Hohokam Campus, the University covers most of the Valley of the Sun.

Tempe ITT Technical Institute offers Bachelor of

Science degrees in electronics, computer programming, web development, computer drafting and design, computer networking, business, criminal justice and health sciences.

Grand Canyon University is a private, liberal arts school offering over fifty majors.

Western International University offers degrees in business, science and art during flexible one-month semester formats. Teaching sites are located in Phoenix.

The Thunderbird American Graduate School of International Management offers a master's degree in international management

Other area schools include:

Ottawa University Arizona

Embry Riddle University

Northern Arizona University

Arizona State University West

DeVry University

Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture

High-Tech Institute

Maricopa Community College System is comprised of ten colleges, two skilo centers and multiple satellite education centers around the valley. Offered are Associate of Arts, Associate of applied science and Associate of General Studies degrees. The colleges in the system are:

Chandler/Gilbert Community College

Estrella Mountain Community College

GateWay Community College

Glendale Community College

Mesa Community College

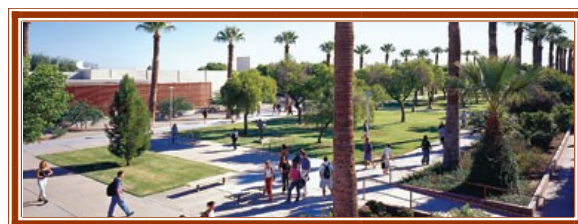
Paradise Valley Community College

Phoenix College

Rio Salado College

Scottsdale Community College

South Mountain Community College





Around the Valley



Museums

Below are some of the area's museums and attractions.:

- ♦ **The Heard Museum** exhibits Southwest Native American cultures and art.
- ♦ **The Arizona Science Center** has 350 "hands-on" exhibits for all ages.
- ♦ **The Hall of Flame Museum** is the world's largest exhibit of firefighting equipment.
- ♦ **Arizona State Capitol Museum** includes the legislative chambers, courts and Governor's office from when Arizona was a territory.
- ♦ **Carnegie Center** honors people who have contributed to Arizona's heritage.
- ♦ **The Phoenix Museum of History** focuses on Arizona's territorial period from the 1860's to the 1920's.
- ♦ **Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum** displays ores and minerals from Arizona, and exhibits on all phases of earth sciences.
- ♦ **Pueblo Grande Museum and Cultural Park** was once a village of the Hohokam people. The museum's permanent displays feature artifacts from 500 AD.
- ♦ **The Champlin Fighter Museum** is devoted solely to fighter aircraft and the pilots who flew them. From World War 1 through Vietnam.
- ♦ **Mesa Southwest Museum** highlights the Southwest Native American culture and the dinosaurs of the Southwest.



- ♦ **Heritage Square** consists of eight restored buildings



from the late 1800's. These buildings were part of the original Phoenix town site.

- ♦ **Arizona Doll and Toy Museum** features exhibits of antique dolls, doll-sized furniture and carriages and toys.
- ♦ **Museo Chicano** is a museum of authentic Chicano art.
- ♦ **The San Tan Historical Society Museum** dedicated to preserving the historical records of Queen Creek and is housed in the historic Rittenhouse School building.
- ♦ **Salt River Project Museum** has exhibits and video presentations on prehistoric Native Americans and the history of Arizona's water and electrical power.
- ♦ **Hoo-Hoogam Ki Museum** features displays of baskets, artifacts, pottery of the Pima-Maricopa Native Americans.
- ♦ **Scottsdale Historical Museum** features displays, photographs and artifacts of early Scottsdale.
- ♦ **Cave Creek Museum** features Native American and Pioneer artifacts.
- ♦ **Chandler Historical Museum** has artifacts from Pioneer Days.
- ♦ **Gilbert Historical Museum** displays historical artifacts from Gilbert.
- ♦ **Tempe Historical Museum** features a permanent exhibit plus changing displays on the history of Tempe.
- ♦ **Mesa Historical Museum** features a 4,000 piece collection housed in an early 1900's schoolhouse depicting Mesa's pioneer history.

Art Museums & Galleries



- ◆ **The Phoenix Art Museum** features over 13,000 art works in one of the largest visual art museums in the Southwest.
- ◆ **Scottsdale**, known across the nation as an art center has over 110 art galleries and about half of them participate in the Thursday night **Artwalk**.
- ◆ **The Scottsdale Center for the Arts** emphasizes contemporary art.
- ◆ **The Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art** features five indoor galleries and an outdoor sculpture garden.
- ◆ **The Fleischer Museum** features impressionist art and sculptures.
- ◆ **Arizona State University** has more than 20 museums and galleries and 20 pieces of public art.
- ◆ Other museums include the **Mesa Contemporary Arts**, the **Shermer Art Center and Museum** and the **West Valley Art Museum**.

Attractions

- ◆ **The Desert Botanical Garden** has over 20,000 plants covering 150 acres in Papago Park.
- ◆ **The Phoenix Zoo** is also located in Papago Park and is the largest nonprofit, privately funded zoo in

the country. There are more than 1,300 animals, reptiles and birds.

- ◆ **Wildlife World Zoo** in Litchfield Park is a 45-acre park with more than 320 rare and endangered species, including white tigers and albino alligators.



- ◆ **Out of Africa Wildlife Park** features lions, Bengal and Siberian tigers, spotted and black leopards and others in a natural habitat. There are also reptile exhibits.
- ◆ **Rawhide**, on the Gila River Indian Reservation, features a 1880's Old West Town with stagecoaches, train and burro rides, gold panning and sunset cookouts.
- ◆ **Pioneer Arizona Living History Museum** is another Old West town recreated with original and reconstructed buildings is staffed by personnel dressed in period costumes.
- ◆ **Taliesin West** the desert home of Frank Lloyd Wright is a National Historic Landmark. It occupies 600 acres of Sonoran Desert in the foothills of the McDowell mountains.
- ◆ **Mystery Castle** is a futuristic 8,000 square foot structure of native stone. It is furnished with Native American artifacts and antiques.
- ◆ **Tovrea Castle** is another familiar Phoenix landmark, Tovrea Castle sits atop a cactus-covered hill like a giant tiered wedding cake. Now owned by the city of Phoenix, the castle is an historic preservation project of the Phoenix Historic Preservation Office and the Parks, Recreation and Library Department. The castle currently is not open to the public.

Theatre



- ◆ **The Herberger Theater** is actually two different theaters; Center Stage and Stage West. Herberger Theater is the home of the Arizona Theater Company, Ballet Arizona and Actors Theater of Phoenix.
- ◆ **The Arizona Theatre Company** is the states leading professional resident company. They perform from October to May at the Herberger theater.
- ◆ **Phoenix Theatre** is the oldest community theater in the United States, founded in 1920.
- ◆ **The Queen Creek Performing Arts Center** performs in Queen Creek.
- ◆ Other theater groups include:
 - ◆ **Black Theatre Troop**
 - ◆ **Grady Gammage Memorial Auditorium**
 - ◆ **The Lyceum Theatre**
 - ◆ **The Tempe Performing Arts Center**
 - ◆ **Tempe Little Theater**
 - ◆ **The Scottsdale Community Players**
 - ◆ **Mesa Encore Theatre**
 - ◆ **The Chandler Center for the Arts**

- ◆ **The Mesa Symphony Orchestra** performs November through June at various locations in the East Valley.
- ◆ **The Cricket Pavilion** hosts musicals, concerts, dance and comedy throughout the year.
- ◆ **Kerr Cultural Center**, a adobe concert center in Scottsdale hosts jazz fests and concerts.
- ◆ **The ASU Activity Center** in Tempe features live concerts and entertainment.
- ◆ **The Lyric Opera Theater's** home is also at ASU at the Music Theater.
- ◆ **The Sundome Center for the Performing Arts** in Sun City West is the largest single level theater in the country with 7,048 seats and features concerts, musical theater and celebrity performances.
- ◆ **The Veteran's Memorial Coliseum** features year-round country, rock and roll and contemporary music.
- ◆ **The US Airways Center** in downtown Phoenix, **Jobing.com Arena** and **University of Phoenix Stadium** in Glendale all have celebrity concerts throughout the year
- ◆ **The Dodge Theater** in downtown Phoenix also has many productions and shows throughout the year.



Music

- ◆ **Phoenix Symphony Hall** is the home of the **Phoenix Symphony** and offers a variety of entertainment throughout the year.
- ◆ **Arizona Opera** also calls the Phoenix Symphony Hall home when in Phoenix. They also perform in Tucson.
- ◆ **The Scottsdale Symphony Orchestra** presents concerts from November to June at the **Scottsdale Center for the Arts**.

Dance

- ◆ **Ballet Arizona** performs at the Herberger Theater, the Symphony Hall, Scottsdale Center for the Arts and at ASU.
- ◆ **Southwest Arts and Entertainment** brings and International array of dance and music companies to the valley, from classical ballet to modern dance.

Sports

Baseball



The Arizona Diamondbacks major league team plays at Chase Field in downtown Phoenix. The team was formed in 1998 and won the World Series in 2001

and the National League West Pennant in 2007.

Springtime in the Valley of the Sun brings several major league teams to Cactus League Spring Training and the valley resounds with the crack of bats at several locations around town. Below is a list of the Spring Training facilities and the teams that play there:

Cactus League Spring Training

Surprise Stadium

Kansas City Royals
Texas Rangers

Peoria Sports Complex

San Diego Padres
Seattle Mariners

Maryvale Baseball Park

Milwaukee Brewers

Scottsdale Stadium

San Francisco Giants

Phoenix Municipal Stadium

Oakland A's

Hohokam Park

Chicago Cubs

Tempe Diablo Stadium

L.A. Angels of Anaheim

The Arizona Diamondbacks Spring Training Camp is in Tucson, along with the Chicago White Sox, at Tucson Electric Park. Also playing in Tucson are the Colorado Rock-

Basketball



The US Airways Center downtown is the home of the **Phoenix Suns'** NBA team. Also playing at the US Airways center are the **Phoenix Mercury** Women's National

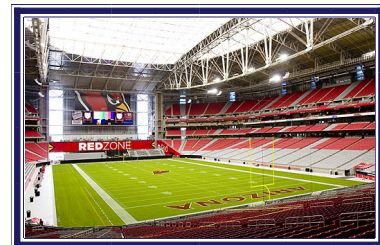
Basketball Assoc. team who play from the end of June through August.

College basketball is represented by **ASU Sun Devils** who are a member of the Pacific 10 Conference.

Football

The National Football League **Arizona Cardinals** play at the 67,000 seat University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, site of Super Bowl

XL11 in 2008. The University of Phoenix Stadium is also home to the **Fiesta Bowl**, one of the five largest college bowl games in the country.



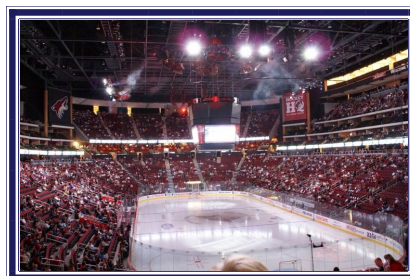
The ASU Sun Devils football team play at Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe, along with the **Insight Bowl games**. The **Arizona Rattlers** Arena Football team play at the US Airways Center.

Soccer

The Arizona Sahuaros play at the Brazell Field on the campus of Grand Canyon University from April until August.

Hockey

The National Hockey League **Phoenix Coyotes** play at the Jobbing.com Arena in Glendale.



Horse Racing

Thoroughbred racing can be seen at **Turf Paradise** one of the Southwest's premier racing facilities.

Greyhound Racing

Year-round racing can be enjoyed at the **Phoenix Greyhound Park**.

Auto Racing

The **Phoenix International Raceway** is home to such events as the **Indy Car Races** and the **NASCAR Winston Cup**.



Another racetrack in the area is the **Firebird International Raceway** where National Hot Rod Association drag races are held.

Golf and Tennis

The **FBR Open** is played each year in Scottsdale with over 100,000 fans attending each day.

Other professional golf tournaments in the valley are: **PING LPGA; the Legends Classic and Senior PGA The Tradition**. Tennis tournaments include the **Open Tennis Championships** and a **Nabisco Grand Prix** event.

following websites on the internet for listings:

www.golfguideusa.com
www.arizonagolfer.com
www.golfhub.com



Tennis is also a popular pastime with over a thousand courts across the Valley. The City Par4ks Department in each town will have a list of public courts available.

Horseback riding through the desert countryside is a sport shared by many and is one of the best ways to enjoy the beauty of the area. Horse rentals and guided trail rides can be arranged through numerous stables around the valley.

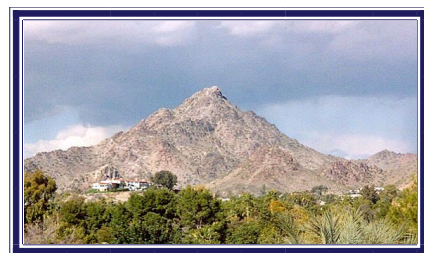
To spend a relaxing day, enjoying the sun and floating down the Salt River, head for Salt River Tubing and Recreation in Mesa. Tub rentals and bus shuttles are available in May.

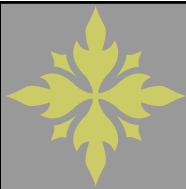
Every community in the area is enhanced by lovely municipal parks. While too numerous to list there are some parks that are unique:

- ◆ South Mountain Park/Preserve
- ◆ Phoenix Mountains Preserve
- ◆ McDowell Mountain Regional Park
- ◆ White Tank Mountain Regional Park
- ◆ North Mountain Preserve
- ◆ Papago Park
- ◆ Tempe Papago Park
- ◆ Lake Pleasant Regional Park

Recreation

The Valley of the sun has over 150 golf courses, some of the best in the country. To see area courses go to the





The Economy



The Phoenix Metro economy continues steady growth across a wide choice of industries.

In June 2007 the Phoenix economy was ranked number one for Business Recruitment and Attraction in an Expansion Management Study.

National companies continue to locate operations to Metro Phoenix. Over 150 of the Fortune 500 companies maintain a presence in the Valley of the Sun.

A study by location consulting firm, Boyd Co. of Princeton, New Jersey ranked the Phoenix area 28th out of 30 metro areas in the overall cost of doing business. New companies are drawn to the valley by the quality of life, cost of living, a skilled workforce, good universities and a favorable business climate. These factors also encourage workers to relocate to the Valley.

The region has worked hard to attract companies from six main categories; high-technology, bioscience, business services, software, tourism and transportation and distribution.

The Valley of the Sun has long been a center for high tech jobs in semiconductor manufacturing and related fields. The state ranks fourth in the nation for people employed in computer chip manufacturing.

Health care and the biosciences are both projected to be major players in the continued economic growth of the valley. The population growth has spurred the building of new Health Care and medical facilities, along with medical schools, throughout the Valley of the Sun. Hospital expansions alone are expected to add over 70,000 new Health Care jobs over the next few years.

The bioscience industry is heavily research based, but in recent years that research has spun off endeavors for drug and medical product development. In the last five years that "new spinoff" has added more than 12,000 highly paid jobs to the area, with the total reaching 80,000.

Call Centers are a major Valley enterprise with more than 250 centers employing over 125,000 people. Among the

largest of this group are eTelecare Global Solutions, JP Morgan Chase, The Vanguard Group, USAA, Charles Schwab & Company and Verizon Wireless.

Tourism, including the annual "Snowbird" migration remains a mainstay of the Valley's economy. Over 34 million visitors annually contribute 18.6 billion dollars to the state's economy, supporting 320,000 direct and indirect jobs. The Valley of the Sun attracts a large share of the tourist dollar.

New and expanding business mean increased job opportunities for people relocating to the Valley. The Metro Phoenix annual non-farm job gain through November of 2007 was 47,289. The metro Phoenix unemployment rate in November of 2007 was 3.5% comparing favorably with the National rate of 4.7%.

Copper is booming world wide, creating a resurgence in mining throughout Arizona. With mines reopening throughout the state, including Globe, Miami, Superior and Safford, construction employment in the mining area is expected to rise. As the metropolitan area supporting these mines, the Valley's workers in these fields should increase.

Greater Phoenix is among the nation's fastest-growing regions, consistently recognized for our strong job growth and entrepreneurial environment. The Valley of the Sun strategic Southwest location has made the area a choice business and innovation hub with international access for aerospace, high-tech, bioscience, advanced business and sustainable technologies companies.

The average age of the workforce is 33. and there are 110 languages spoken, the 3rd highest number recorded in any region in the U.S. The Valley is home to Arizona State University—the nation's largest university system and largest producer of natural sciences and engineers in the country—and the Maricopa Community Colleges, Arizona's largest provider of job training.





The Move

Helpful Hints for Relocation



A Moving Timetable

Four weeks before you move ...

- ❖ Get estimates from several movers and select one.
- ❖ If not using movers, reserve a rental truck and plan your route.
- ❖ Gather moving supplies, including boxes, newspapers, tape etc. Think about how you will move really heavy items.
- ❖ Get rid of unnecessary items, especially those that will be inexpensive to replace.
- ❖ Start packing a few boxes each day, instead of waiting until the last minute.
- ❖ Turn in your change of address form at the post office
- ❖ Provide your new address and moving date to subscriptions. Cancel those you no longer want.
- ❖ Call friends and relatives, notify organizations you belong to and professionals you do business with.
- ❖ Gather up important documents you might need, including medical and insurance records, passports, academic records, birth certificates, prescriptions, school transcripts (some districts require that they be sent directly from the prior school)



Two Weeks before you move...

- ❖ Schedule to disconnect utilities and discontinue other home services.
- ❖ If possible, arrange for utilities to begin when you arrive at your new home
- ❖ Transfer financial accounts to new city

- ❖ Get your vehicles checked and serviced
- ❖ Defrost the freezer and refrigerator
- ❖ Remember to pick up everything you've recently had repaired or cleaned
- ❖ Dispose of all hazardous and toxic household materials in a safe and legal manner. These are dangerous and sometimes illegal to ship.
- ❖ Confirm arrangements with movers or truck rental company.
- ❖ Schedule a baby sitter to care for small children and pets on moving day.

The Day before you move ...

- ❖ Remind helpers when to arrive and pickup rental truck, if necessary.
- ❖ Check car's gas, oil and tires
- ❖ Withdraw enough cash or traveler's checks for the move.
- ❖ Pack your necessities for the trip. Go to bed early! Tomorrow is the big Day!

The Day you move ...

- ❖ Meet movers and show them around.
- ❖ Keep important documents, valuables and cash at hand to be transported with you.
- ❖ Once everything is loaded make a final inspection to make sure nothing gets left behind.
- ❖ Turn off the lights, lock the doors and windows, drop off keys with real estate agent or landlord.
- ❖ Stay until the movers drive away. Do not leave before they do.



Moving with children

Moving can be an especially traumatic experience for youngsters. More than anything else children fear the unknown: What will my new school be like? Who will my new friends be? Can I still be a scout? Will I ever see my old friends again? Will my new room be as nice as my old room? The more information you give a child in advance about their new environment the more secure they will be.



One way to ease their emotional transition is to make them part of the move.

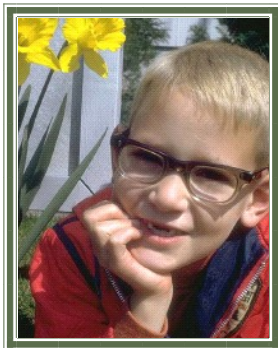
Give children their own sorting and packing to do, and assign age-appropriate tasks, such as filling out change of address forms or helping with pets.

On moving day children can help load the car and come along on the final sweep through the house.

Before you leave, visit children's favorite places together and take pictures for a scrapbook. Get friend's photographs and addresses, along with stationary for your child to write them along the way.

Most importantly, help your children form a positive mental image of your family's destination. If they have never seen their new home, show them pictures of the new house and neighborhood, including their new school.

Change is stressful for parents and children alike, but together you can transform your anxiety to excitement about your family's new home.



Children's Books on Moving

For preschoolers, suggested books are:

Moving Day by Toby Tobias

I'm Moving by Martha Whitman Hickman

Moving by Wendy Watson

Good choices for children 5 to 8 include:

I Don't Live Here! By Pam Conrad

I'm Not Moving by Penelope Jones

Moving Molly by Shirley High

For pre-teens, good choices include:

Lost and Friend by Jean Little

Circle of Giving by Ellen Howard

Anastasia Again by Lois Lawry

Aldo Applesauce by Johanna Hurwitz

Mildred Murphy &

How Does Your Garden Grow by Phyllis Green

Moving with Pets

Moving day can be a very traumatic and potentially dangerous experience for an animal, with doors and gates left open to accommodate the activities of the movers who are busy jostling furniture and have little time to watch out for pets. You may wish to

place your pet with a boarder or friend until the house is empty and you are ready to leave. When transporting your pet, you have a number of options, each with its own precautions.



Small Animals

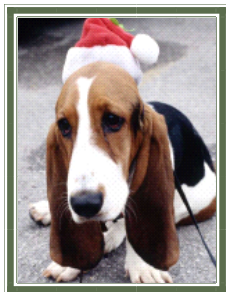
Small animals like birds, hamsters, gerbils, etc., can safely be transported in their cages in your car. Just be sure that food and water sufficient for the entire trip are available to them. The cage should be covered with something to keep the animals restful and quiet, but allow sufficient ventilation. The only danger to these animals is drafts and extreme hot or cold temperatures. So, take care when parking your car.

Fish

Transport each fish separately in a bowl or jar half filled with water. If moving long distances, giving the fish away and restocking the aquarium at the new home should be seriously considered. Fish do not travel well.

Dogs & Cats

Many dogs and cats, when transported by car, tend to get upset and nervous, even car sick. Further, they are used to their schedule and must have regular rest stops, and be watered and fed. If your trip is long, be aware that while some hotels provide pet facilities, others do not allow pets at all. So, you should call in advance to determine which hotels are available to you.



If you decide to transport your pet by air, you will need a health certificate from your veterinarian. Most airlines provide special shipping containers for pets, which are shipped in the baggage

compartment. To reassure your pet, place some item of your clothing in the container with him. As well, consult your veterinarian for possible tranquilizers that might be used to ease your pet's journey.

Moving Houseplants

Houseplants are a special concern, and before taking a plant consider:

1. whether it will even fit in your new home and
2. whether or not it might just be cheaper to replace the plant with another when you get where you're going.

If you decide to take plants along with you, follow these guidelines:



Four Weeks before you move

- ❖ Check with U.S. Department of Agriculture for any restrictions that might apply. Some states severely

restrict the entry of certain plants.

- ❖ Prune the plants to facilitate packing.

One Week before moving

- ❖ Place the plants in black plastic bags, each with a pest/bug strip.
- ❖ Seal the bag and place in a cool area overnight. This will kill any pests the plant may be harboring.



The Day before moving

- ❖ Place the plants in cardboard boxes or containers. Stuff crumpled newspaper between the containers to hold them in place. If necessary, use paper to cushion the leaves.
- ❖ Place a layer of wet paper over the plants to keep them moist.
- ❖ Close the boxes and punch air holes in the tops.
- ❖ Mark all boxes DO NOT LOAD to prevent them from being loaded indiscriminately among other items on the truck.

On Moving Day

- ❖ Load plants into your car.
- ❖ During the trip, try to park in shaded areas if the weather is hot, and in sunny areas if the weather is cold.

Upon Arrival

- ❖ Unpack plants as soon as possible
- ❖ For the first few days avoid exposure to the sun

Forwarding Your Mail

To make sure you get all your mail at your new address, take the following actions:

- ❖ As soon as you start looking for a new home, begin to prepare a list of individuals and companies who will need to know your new address. When you receive mail, write down the sender and the address.



- ❖ If change of address cards are included in your magazines or billings, collect them and keep them all together. As soon as you know your new address and the date of your move, fill out all the cards and send them. If possible, they should be sent sometime in the 30 days before your move.

- ❖ •Notify your local post office branch of your move by filling out a "Change of Address" form. You can obtain a blank form from any post office branch.

- ❖ Submit the form as soon as you know your new address and the date of your move. It may take a week to ten days for the form to become active at the post office. This period could be shortened if you personally submit the card to your carrier, as he or she will be responsible for forwarding your mail.

- ❖ If your entire family has the same last name, and you are all moving to the same new address, you will only have to fill out one card. Separate forms must be submitted for each last name and each new address.

- ❖ The Post Office will forward first-class, priority and express mail for one year at no charge. Second-class mail, such as magazines and newspapers, will be forwarded for 60 days at no charge. Third-class mail will not be forwarded at all unless you specifically request it. Fourth-class mail will be forwarded for one year if your new address is local; if you move out of the area, it will still be forwarded, but you will have to pay any forwarding expenses.

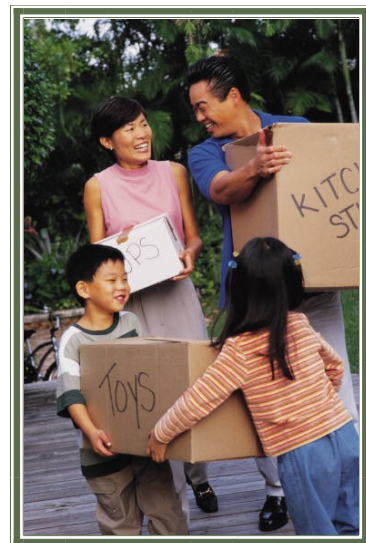
- ❖ After one year, your mail will no longer be forwarded. Make sure you let everyone who sends you mail know of your new address.



Tips on Packing

Follow these guidelines in packing your household goods. You will save a great deal by packing yourself.

1. Use strong containers that are in good condition and that can be secured tightly with packing tape. These can usually be purchased from your moving company. Purchase special boxes for dishes, wardrobe and other special items.
2. Label each box with its contents, which room it should go in, whether it is fragile and whether it should be loaded last so to be unloaded first.
3. Don't load more than 50 pounds into any one box, and make sure the weight is evenly distributed.
4. Cushion contents with newspaper or other packing material to prevent breakage. Use tissue paper for items that might be soiled by newspaper. Towels and cloth napkins are great for wrapping fragile items.
5. Pack books tightly in small boxes. Alternate bindings and wrap valuable books separately.
6. Have your rugs and draperies, that are not part of the sale, cleaned before moving and leave them in the wrappings for easier handling.
7. Remove all breakables and liquids from drawers and pack them separately. Seal medicines and other containers to prevent leaking and pack in a leak-proof bag or container.
8. Pack linen and clothing in drawers, but don't overload them.
9. Carry all valuables with you. Don't pack jewelry, documents, coin or stamp collections or anything that will be difficult to replace. Contents of a safety deposit box can be moved for you by your bank.



Garage Sale Tips

- Allow plenty of time—three to four weeks—to prepare for the sale.
- Choose a date that will not conflict with holidays or other special events that might lure prospective customers away.
- Weekends are more convenient for more people than weekdays.
- Your sale is likely to attract more customers if you join together with neighbors in an effort to have more merchandise.
- Practical household goods, collectibles, bicycles, children's toys and clothes, sports equipment and garden tools are popular items; adult clothing has less appeal and should be priced accordingly.
- Merchandise your items attractively in neat, clean surroundings. Paper tablecloths offer a pretty setting for glass and ornamental items.
- Cluster things in categories; place the most desirable items in the back of the garage so browsers are urged to look at other merchandise on the way.
- All items should be clean, polished and in good repair.
- Locate your appliance table near an outlet so customers may try before they buy.
- Be sure there is adequate parking and a place to load large items.
- Have plenty of paper bags and boxes for packing and newspapers for wrapping glass items.
- Place a classified ad in the local papers, including 3 or 4 specific items for sale, directions and date and time of the sale. Take advantage of free publicity provided by bulletin boards in grocery stores and other public places.
- Provide directional signs to your property if needed, using an indelible felt tip pen.
- If your home is listed for sale, have your Realtor hold



an open house on the same day as the sale, thus increasing interest in both the house and the sale,

- Visit other sales to form an idea on how to price things, but remember that garage sale shoppers are looking for "bargains". Be prepared to bargain and lower your prices.
- Really valuable items, such as antiques should not be sold at a garage sale, because it is unlikely they will bring the desired price. On the other hand, nothing is too worthless to be valuable to someone. Have a giveaway box of odds and ends.
- Post a notice that all sales are final and payment must be in cash.
- Have plenty of change in a cash box kept in a protected spot. Keep a record of sales, especially if there are several sellers.
- On a hot day have ice water or lemonade available so people will stay longer
- Provide coffee for early bird shoppers.

After holding one or two garage sales, you can probably add some newly discovered tips of your own. A bit of organization will make for a successful sale and an uncluttered house!

Important Records

The Bank: Savings accounts, checking accounts, Christmas club accounts, safety deposit boxes and other bank items should be transferred to your new city. Ask your banker if they have a corresponding bank at your relocation area.

Important Papers and items such as Wills, birth records, tax records, jewelry should be moved only after you have rented a new security box, so as to avoid possible loss.

Investments: If you presently deal through a brokerage house or investment service such as a bank trust department or mutual fund, they might have a branch where you are locating. If not, special arrangements have to be made, since most securities are held in "street name" form and red tape delays are common.

Accountant, Financial Advisor, Lawyer: Many people use an accountant or tax service who normally store previous years records. Remember not to leave these behind. The same holds true for files held by your lawyer or financial advisor.

Miscellaneous Items: Some other things should be transferred. They include doctor, dental and hospital records, eyeglass prescriptions, and school records.



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