

# Phoenix

Our history in Phoenix is as colorful as the ancient peoples, immigrants and settlers who shaped it. If you're a history buff, no trip here is complete without a visit to the museums dedicated to telling Phoenix's story---places like Pueblo Grande Museum and Archaeological Park, Heard Museum and the Phoenix Museum of History.



For now, though, here's a lesson in Phoenix history 101: The Hohokam people inhabited what is now Greater Phoenix until about 1450 A.D. they created the first major urban civilization in the Salt River Valley and developed a canal system that's still in use today. In 1865, the U.S. government established Fort McDowell here, and settlers such as Jack Swilling began farming the land.

The city of Phoenix was established in 1868. Two years later the first survey and census of the city noted it was a mile long and a half mile wide, with 74 dwellings and a population of 250. Today, greater Phoenix covers about 2,000 square miles and the population exceeds 3.8 million.

America's fifth largest city still has real cowboys and rugged mountains and the kind of cactus most people only see in cartoons. Phoenix is the gateway to the Grand Canyon, and its history is a testament to the spirit of puebloans, ranchers, miners and visionaries.



Projected against this rich backdrop is a panorama of urban sophistication. Resorts and spas that drop jaws and soothe souls. Stadiums and arenas worthy of the world's biggest sports spectacles. Restaurants with inspired cuisine and inspiring patio views. Golf courses that beckon players the year round. Shopping centers as stylish and eclectic as the fashions they house.

This is Greater Phoenix---Arizona's urban heart and America's sunniest metropolis. Sunshine and sonoran Desert, it means you can do things here you couldn't dream of doing anywhere else. Our mountains are in the city, so you can hike 50 miles of trails at South Mountain, see the city from Piestawa Peak, or hike our famous natural landmark, Camelback Mountain with a red-rock profile seen throughout the city, or take a guided tour of the world's lushest desert on a horse or in a hot air balloon. You can also experience the great outdoors from shopping at Biltmore Fashion Park, Kierland commons, the boutiques in downtown Phoenix, or vintage home and garden shops on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Downtown Phoenix features excellent cultural and theatrical venues within blocks of each other, including the Arizona Science Center, the Dodge Theater, Symphony Hall, and the Orpheum Theater. Urban style housing is being developed and historical neighborhoods are popular as residents are discovering the benefits of living and working in the central business district.

Sports are abundant in downtown Phoenix as well as other area communities:

- [Arizona Cardinals NFL football](#)
- [Arizona Diamondbacks MLB baseball](#)
- [Arizona Rattlers AFL arena football](#)
- [Arizona Sting NLL lacrosse](#)
- [Phoenix Coyotes NHL hockey](#)
- [Phoenix Flame IHL basketball](#)
- [Phoenix Mercury WNBA basketball](#)
- [Phoenix Prowlers NWFA football](#)
- [Phoenix Roadrunners ECHL hockey](#)
- [Phoenix Suns NBA basketball](#)

The Phoenix Civic Plaza convention Center, undergoing a \$600 million expansion to triple its size, hosts major conventions and trade shown every month.

Major interstate hiways I-10 and I-17 serve Phoenix, along with an expanding regional freeway system. Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport is the 6<sup>th</sup> busiest airport in the world for aircraft operations with an average of 1,300 daily commercial airline flights. It is the 11<sup>th</sup> busiest airport in the world for passenger traffic with more than 39 million passengers annually. There are more than 80 non-stop flights per day to Los Angeles and surrounding southern California cities. Rail service available in Phoenix includes Burlington Northern Santa Fe and Union Pacific.

Well-known companies such as USAA, Avnet, Honeywell, Petsmart, On Semiconductor, Ping, Phelps Dodge Corporation have chosen Phoenix for their corporate or regional headquarters. Industry giants STMicroelectronics, American Express, Sumco Southwest, Prudential, Charles Schwab, Mayo Clinic, eBay, GoDaddy.com, iPower, and Lydian Data Services all have major operations in Phoenix.

Experience the beauty of Arizona Golf with affordable rates and excellent playing conditions! Phoenix Golf encompasses 8 unique golf courses, 5 - 18 hole championship courses and 3 - 9 hole courses strategically located throughout the City of Phoenix. All of the Phoenix Golf courses are over seeded annually for optimum playing conditions. Courses offer varied layouts and landscapes, full service pro shops, practice facilities and equipment rentals. Experienced PGA/LPGA teaching professionals are available for individual lessons and group clinics. Experience golf, Phoenix style!



1.5 million residents call Phoenix their home. Phoenix offers excellent educational institutions from kindergarten to graduate school; there is the perfect program and perfect school for you and your family. Phoenix is home to 325 public schools in 30 school districts along with more than 200 charter and private schools.

Housing in metropolitan Phoenix is as diverse as its residents. You have a gamut of choices from apartment style condominiums, townhomes, single family homes in planned communities with HOA, single family homes in non HOA neighborhoods, horse properties (small & large), mountainside estates & luxury

condos with everything from the spa, retail shops & restaurants in the building. The home of your dreams is right here in our wonderful community, surrounded by scenic beauty, and all for a median housing cost of \$255,000. Residential and commercial development is always affected by transportation availability.

Phoenix Light Rail is bringing people into and out of Downtown. This means fewer restaurants, and retail venues closing due to lack of business plus less auto congestion & pollution. Another positive is Downtown then becomes more attractive to home owners and tenants who enjoy the vitality of Downtown life.



Hardly a weekend passes in Phoenix without a Community event taking place somewhere in the city. And, quite often, there are more than one happening at the same time.

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