



# Phoenix, Arizona



Phoenix, the capital of Arizona, was named after the bird of mythology that was reborn from its own ashes because the city was built on the ruins of the former Hohokam civilization, which occupied this area between approximately 200 BCE and 1450 ACE.

Phoenix has a mix of museums and historical sites. The Pueblo Grande Museum and Archaeological Park is located in a Hohokam village ruin and is dedicated to the study and interpretation of the Hohokam culture. The Heard Museum portrays historic and contemporary Native American arts and cultures. Historic Heritage Square contains the remaining residential structures from the original town. Pioneer Arizona Living History Village depicts pioneer life in the Arizona territory. Museo Chicano promotes knowledge and appreciation of Latino cultures. Other museums include the Phoenix Art Museum, Arizona Science Center, Arizona Military Museum, Arizona Mining & Mineral Museum, Wells Fargo History Museum, Children's Museum of Phoenix, Musical Instrument Museum, Phoenix Police Museum, and the Arizona Capitol Museum.

The various performing arts venues include the US Airways Center, Dodge Theatre, Orpheum Theatre, Great Arizona Puppet Theater, Celebrity Theatre, Symphony Hall, Valley Youth Theatre, and Herberger Theater Center. These venues host music, opera, drama, and dance performances and Broadway and family stage shows.

## NEIGHBORHOODS

Phoenix is divided into 15 urban villages that are classified as developed, substantially developed, or developing. Developed urban villages include the Central City, which is surrounded by many of the city's oldest residential neighborhoods, such as Roosevelt. Housing styles in this neighborhood include Queen Anne, vernacular Neoclassical Revival, Bungalow, Period Revival, Prairie School, and Modern. Many homes in the Encanto-Palmcroft Historic Neighborhood were built prior to World War II and feature Period Revival styles such as Spanish Colonial Revival, Mediterranean, Tudor, Colonial or Federal, French Cottage, Pueblo, Ranch, and Eclectic. Alhambra, Camelback East, and North Mountain are other developed urban villages.

Ahwatukee, a substantially developed urban village, is characterized by custom homes built on preserve lots and homes with horse facilities adjacent to neighborhoods consisting of more ordinary homes. This neighborhood also has rental options, including single-family homes, condominiums, and apartment complexes with many amenities. Located near the Phoenix Mountain Preserves, homes in Paradise Valley Village range from affordable single-family homes and condominiums to luxury estates and homes with horse facilities on large lots. Foothills, Deer Valley, and Maryvale are the other substantially developed urban villages.

Agricultural areas; homes with horse facilities; and large residential acreage, planned communities, and historic neighborhoods comprise developing urban villages. Housing styles in South Mountain Village include farmhouses in National American Folk and Bungalow styles and exemplify the diverse historic character of the village. Other architectural styles include Spanish, Pueblo, Tudor, English Cottage, and Mission. Desert Ridge is a master planned community in Desert View Village. Estrella, Laveen, New Village, and North Gateway are other developing urban villages.

## PARKS AND RECREATION

Phoenix has more than 200 parks throughout the city, including 6 desert-mountain parks. Amenities vary by park but may include lighted ball fields and courts, playgrounds, ramadas, horseshoe courts, and exercise courses. The city maintains 28 swimming pools, 140 tennis courts, 5 dog parks, 5 18-hole championship golf courses and 3 9-hole courses, and 4 skate parks. In addition to these amenities, Encanto Park also has a lagoon for fishing, paddleboats, and canoes and is home to the Enchanted Island Amusement Park. South Mountain Park, the largest

municipal park in the country, offers 51 miles of hiking trails through the Sonoran Desert. North Mountain Park in the Phoenix Mountains Preserve features hiking and riding trails, the Penny Howe barrier-free nature trail, and an orienteering course among its many amenities. Pioneer and Military Memorial Park serves as a monument to the pioneer families of Arizona.

Desert Botanical Garden features more than 50,000 desert plants, including 139 rare, threatened, and endangered plant species from around the world.

Animals in the Phoenix Zoo live in exhibits that replicate their natural habitats.

The nearby Sonoran Desert National Monument, which is the most biologically diverse North American desert, contains an extensive saguaro cactus forest as well as many significant archaeological and historic sites, three wilderness areas, and remnants of several important historic trails.

The Arizona Diamondbacks (baseball), Phoenix Suns (basketball), Phoenix Mercury (women's basketball), and Arizona Rattlers (arena football) are Phoenix's professional sports teams. In addition, Phoenix hosts spring training for many major league baseball teams.

## EDUCATION

Phoenix has 325 public schools in 30 school districts. In addition, the city has more than 200 charter and private schools.

Phoenix has many opportunities for higher education. Arizona State University has many undergraduate and graduate programs at its Downtown Phoenix Campus. Grand Canyon University is a private Christian university that offers undergraduate and graduate programs. University of Phoenix, Anthem College, Ottawa University, CollegeAmerica Phoenix campus, Western International University, DeVry University, and Argosy University offer undergraduate and graduate degree programs for working adults. American Indian College offers programs in Christian ministry, education, and business with a focus on Native Americans. The Art Institute of Phoenix offers various design, media arts, and culinary programs.

The University of Arizona College of Medicine—Phoenix features a full 4-year program and is located on the Phoenix Biomedical Campus in downtown Phoenix.

The Phoenix campuses of Maricopa Community Colleges offer occupational and academic associate's degrees through GateWay Community College, Phoenix College, Paradise Valley Community College, Rio Salado College, and South Mountain Community College.

## HEALTH CARE

Phoenix is served by 11 hospitals that have approximately 3,600 acute-care beds. These facilities include hospitals dedicated to pediatrics, cardiology, burn care, and surgery. In addition, the Carl T. Hayden Veterans Affairs Medical Center provides inpatient acute-care, mental health, and substance and alcohol abuse rehabilitation for veterans. The city also has facilities that specialize in long-term acute-care and long-term psychiatric care.

## CITY STATS

2008

City Population	1,569,917
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	4,287,323
Per Capita Personal Income,	\$36,156
Phoenix-Mesa-Glendale, AZ, MSA	