



State - Arizona
Population - 1.6 million
Size - 6th largest city in United States
Weather - Tropical wet and dry climate
Language - English, Spanish
Specialty Food - Chimichangas, Ranch Fries, Cowboy steak



The town of Phoenix was settled in 1867, and incorporated in 1881 as the City of Phoenix. Phoenix served as an agricultural area that depended on large-scale irrigation projects. Until World War II, the economy was based on the "Five C's": cotton, citrus, cattle, climate, and copper. The city provided retail, wholesale, banking, and governmental services for central Arizona, and was gaining a national reputation among winter tourists.

The post World War Two years saw the city beginning to grow more rapidly, as many men who had trained in the military installations in the valley, returned, bringing their families. The population growth was further stimulated in the 1950s, in part because of the availability of air conditioning, which made the very hot dry summer heat tolerable, as well as an influx of industry, led by high tech companies.

The population growth rate of the Phoenix metro area has been nearly 4% per year for the past 40 years. That growth rate slowed during the Great Recession but the U.S. Census Bureau predicted it would resume as the nation's economy recovered, and it already has begun to do so. While currently ranked 5th largest city in the United States by population, it is predicted that Phoenix will rank 4th by 2020.



Places of interest

Grand Canyon - Take in Arizona's breathtaking beauty with a tour that takes you to the incredible Grand Canyon and the Navajo Indian Reservation. Stop for pictures of Red Rocks of Sedona completes an educational and visually striking journey into the state's heartland.

Musical Instruments Museum - Embark on a fascinating journey through sound at the world's largest musical instrument showcase. Hear, see, and feel the spirit of music around the globe as you explore engaging exhibits for music lovers of all ages at Phoenix's Musical Instrument Museum (MIM).

Scottsdale Segway tour - Whirl through the venerable, antiquated town of on a Scottsdale Segway Tour—the most popular tour in Scottsdale. Reap the benefits of gliding with a small group for added fun and safety. Discover the historic charm of Scottsdale like never before.

Indoor Sky diving - Experience all the plummeting, free falling, and soaring sensations of skydiving without ever getting on a plane. This indoor skydiving experience puts you in a vertical wind tunnel, where you can float weightlessly in space for an unforgettable adrenaline rush in totally safe surroundings.

Hummer tour of Sonoran Desert - Buckle up for an off-road adventure in an H1 Hummer as you blast around dusty roads and through rushing creeks. With an expert driver manning the wheel, explore the Bulldog Canyon trail as it winds through the Sonoran Desert's challenging terrain.