

GREATER

# PHOENIX

POCKET RELOCATION GUIDE

Settling In

Tax & License

Transportation

Healthcare

Academics

Cultural Attractions

Sports & Recreation

Family Adventures

Historic Sites

Shopping

Community Profiles

and much more...



SAMPLE

## POCKET RELOCATION GUIDE

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Greater Phoenix Convention

& Visitors Bureau

Maricopa County Government

Mesa City Government

Peoria City Government

Phoenix City Government

Scottsdale City Government

Tempe City Government

Town of Fountain Hills

U.S. Census Bureau



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From small towns like Fountain Hills and Carefree to sprawling cities like Phoenix, Mesa, and Glendale, the Valley of the Sun offers diverse settings and communities that cater to every imaginable lifestyle.



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# Welcome Home



Anchored by the nation's sixth largest city, the state capital of Phoenix, the Valley of the Sun draws together vibrant suburbs, friendly small towns, urban villages, and other major cities to embrace every lifestyle and environment. Serving as a leading business and cultural hub of the Southwest, Phoenix is the heart of a rapidly growing metropolis. The reasons behind this region's phenomenal growth are rooted in the enviable high quality of life and a cost of living that compares favorably with other leading cities across the nation.

The very same bright sunshine, superb recreational opportunities, and first-rate attractions that draw millions of tourists and seasonal visitors have made the Valley one of the most popular relocation destinations in the nation. Tourism and hospitality, healthcare, education, retail activity, high-tech manufacturing, and construction are just a few of the established and growing industries. Accolades for the Valley of the Sun are abundant. Expansion Management magazine recently cited the desirability of the Phoenix Metropolitan area in its report on "America's 50 Hottest Cities," ranking it second only to Jacksonville, Florida, as a preferred site for business.

## Services

Efficient and extensive, the Valley's vast transportation network includes high-speed freeways that traverse every quadrant and loop the metropolis. Fixed-route buses, park and ride lots, ride sharing and vanpool assistance, special lanes for high-occupancy vehicles, and dial-a-ride services are already in place. Plans for light rail are underway, with the first segment from central Phoenix to East Valley cities scheduled to open in 2006. Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport ranks among the nation's busiest, managing more than 20 passenger airlines. Nearly 60 public school districts offer a complete range of educational services,

complemented by a selection of private schools, both independent and parochial. Traditional and special programs offer students ample space to learn, grow and meet their unfolding academic and social challenges in a safe, supportive atmosphere. The high school curriculum is geared toward college preparation, vocational training, and grooming today's students to assume vital, productive roles as young leaders in a competitive marketplace.




Arizona State University stands as the undisputed leader in higher education, serving more than 44,000 students on its sprawling campus in Tempe. Maricopa County manages a network of respected community colleges that offer affordable vocational and college-track programs close to every metropolitan address. A wealth of general and specialized institutions also call the Valley of the Sun home. Included on this impressive list are DeVry Institute of Technology, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture, Grand Canyon University, High-Tech Institute, ITT Technical Institute, DeVry University's Keller Graduate School of Management, and Thunderbird Garvin School of International Management. Newcomers can look forward to state-of-the-art healthcare service throughout the metropolitan area, encompassing such world-renowned innovators as the Mayo Clinic. Banner Health serves as one of the Valley's largest employers and one of the largest, nonprofit healthcare systems in the entire nation. Scottsdale Health, the John

C. Lincoln Health network, and Vanguard Health represent other major systems that efficiently manage the Valley's hospitals and specialty care centers. Support facilities meet every need, from family practice and emergency walk-in care centers to same-day surgery, rehabilitation therapies, and sports medicine. Area hospitals are active in the community, providing health screenings, classes, immunization clinics, and public education programs.


### Climate

Glorious sunny winters, balmy autumn days, and the pervasive perfume of springtime blooms are all a part of the seasonal changes in the Valley of the Sun. From October through April, the daytime temperatures range from mid 60s to mid 80s, melting in the glow of spectacular sunsets into cool desert nights. Occasional rain and thunderstorms occur primarily during the winter months, but snow is extremely rare and short-lived — even in the Valley's higher elevations.

Desert temperatures rise above the 100-degree mark from June through early September, although Arizona's characteristic low humidity adds to the comfort level. Virtually every environment is air-conditioned, from homes and automobiles to businesses and entertainment establishments. Many cafes or restaurants with outdoor seating provide cooling "mistlers" that encourage residents to enjoy the sun-drenched climate on all but the hottest of summer days.



**National Weather Service**  
Phoenix Home Page  
[www.phx.noaa.gov](http://www.phx.noaa.gov)





## Settling In

### Major Utility Providers

#### •Electricity

#### Arizona Public Service

602-371-7171

www.aps.com

#### City of Mesa

480-644-2221

www.cityofmesa.org

#### Salt River Project

602-236-8888

www.srpnet.com

#### •Natural Gas

#### City of Mesa

480-644-2221

www.cityofmesa.org

#### Southwest Gas

602-861-1999

www.swgas.com

#### •Water/Sewer & Waste Removal

Providers vary throughout the valley. Check with your city or county offices for details.

#### •Outlying Area Providers

#### Arizona-American Water

480-948-5410

www.azamwater.com

#### Arizona Water Company

480-982-2201

www.azwater.com

#### Chaparral City Water Co.

480-837-9522

www.scwater.com

#### •Waste Removal

#### Waste Management of Phoenix

602-268-2222

800-DUMPSTER

www.wmphx.com

#### •Telephone

#### Qwest

866-244-NIN

www.qwest.com

#### •Cable Television

#### Cox Communications

623-594-1000

www.coxcable.com

## Tax & License

### Personal State Income Tax

Arizona imposes a personal income tax that uses the federal adjusted gross income as the starting point for tax computation. Since Arizona uses the federal adjusted gross income, any income that is taxable for federal purposes will also be subject to Arizona tax unless specifically excluded. Additions include interest income from non-Arizona municipal bonds. Subtractions include interest from federal government obligations, social security benefits, and those benefits that were received under the Railroad Retirement Act.

### Deductions and Exemptions

Taxpayers may take a standard deduction or itemize their deductions. The standard deduction and personal exemptions for a single person or a married person who files a separate return is \$6,225. The deduction and personal exemption for head of household or a married couple who file a



### Municipal Contacts for Public Works & Water Utilities Avondale

623-478-3230

www.avondaleaz.org

#### Buckeye

480-386-4691

www.buckeyeaz.org

#### Chandler

480-782-2280

www.chandleraz.gov

#### El Mirage

623-933-1228

www.cityofelmirage.org

#### Gilbert

480-503-6800

www.ci.gilbert.az.us

#### Glendale

623-930-3190

www.glendaleaz.org

#### Goodyear

623-932-3015

www.goodyearaz.gov

#### Mesa

480-644-2221

www.cityofmesa.org

#### Peoria

623-773-7160

www.peoriaaz.gov

#### Phoenix

602-262-6251

www.phoenix.gov

#### Scottsdale

480-312-2461

www.scottsdaleaz.gov

#### Surprise

623-875-4290

www.surpriseaz.com

#### Tempe

480-350-8361

www.tempe.gov

#### Tolleson

623-936-7111

www.tollesonaz.org



## Cost of Living Comparison

METRO AREA	COMP	GROC	HOUSING	UTILITIES	TRANSPORT	HEALTH
New York, NY	201.2	133.7	362.4	149.8	111.7	131.4
San Francisco, CA	174.8	144.1	290.6	98.8	120.1	123.4
Los Angeles, CA	157.4	137.3	261.5	107.9	112.2	118.4
Washington, DC	145.9	116.4	224.0	117.3	106.7	116.1
Boston, MA	138.9	119.3	179.1	129.6	109.7	132.3
New Haven, CT	124.3	115.5	151.1	118.0	105.1	131.4
Ft. Lauderdale, FL	117.4	101.1	151.5	100.9	102.8	109.6
Las Vegas, NV	114.8	98.3	135.9	123.7	109.3	106.4
Portland, OR	112.7	120.8	111.7	125.6	107.7	111.6
Richmond, VA	108.4	101.2	116.0	101.0	104.8	99.4
Chicago, IL	103.3	103.5	109.1	100.5	105.0	101.3
Denver, CO	99.6	106.7	101.9	96.7	94.0	106.0
Phoenix, AZ	99.0	99.2	97.6	91.4	105.2	101.7
Atlanta, GA	97.7	93.3	98.1	86.5	106.7	99.0
Charleston, SC	97.7	97.9	94.0	96.8	97.4	113.4
Raleigh, NC	94.0	100.6	81.4	101.1	101.6	116.4
Dallas, TX	93.3	97.5	75.8	115.7	104.9	99.9

Source: ACCRA Cost of Living Index, 2006 Based on 100% as the national average

joint return is \$12,450. Taxpayers may itemize deductions on their Arizona state return even if they filed a standard deduction on the federal tax return. For information on income tax or answers to your questions, contact:

**Arizona State Tax Information**  
1600 West Monroe  
Phoenix 800-352-4090  
[www.azdor.gov](http://www.azdor.gov)

### Property Tax

The assessment ratio for owner-occupied residential property is 10 percent of full cash (market) value. This combined rate is the sum of state, county, municipal, school, and special district rates. For more information, contact the county assessor:

**Maricopa County Assessor**  
301 W. Jefferson Street  
Phoenix 602-506-3406  
[www.maricopa.gov/assessor](http://www.maricopa.gov/assessor)

### Vehicle License Tax

Arizona imposes an annual motor vehicle license tax or VLT in lieu of the personal property tax that many other states impose on automobiles.

### Arizona Department of Transportation

Vehicle License Division  
Phoenix 602-255-0072  
[www.azdot.gov](http://www.azdot.gov)

### General Sales/Use Tax

Retail sales tax in Arizona is 6.3 percent. Counties and municipalities add to this base state sales tax rate. Use taxes of 5.6 percent apply to merchandise purchased outside of Arizona such as catalog or Internet orders where no tax was paid but the goods are "used" in Arizona.

### Pet Licenses

Arizona requires annual licensing of all dogs at least four months

of age. Those who are new to the state have 30 days to comply with rabies vaccination and registration. Rabies vaccinations are recommended for cats as well. For further details, contact:

**Maricopa County Animal Care & Control**  
602-506-PETS  
[www.maricopa.gov/pets](http://www.maricopa.gov/pets)

### AZ Humane Society

602-997-7585  
[www.arizonahumaneociety.com](http://www.arizonahumaneociety.com)

### Boating, Fishing & Hunting

Licenses are required for fishing, hunting, and boating in Arizona. For more information on resident and non-resident license fees as well as boating regulations.

### AZ Game & Fish Department

Main Headquarters  
Phoenix 602-942-3000  
[www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov)

## Transportation

The Valley of the Sun provides an efficient, comprehensive network of airports, interstates and high-speed thoroughfares, and mass-transit alternatives for commuters. Planners on city, state, and county levels constantly work to update and expand transportation facilities to enhance the convenience of daily living throughout the valley.

### Air Travel

#### Sky Harbor International Airport

3400 Sky Harbor Boulevard  
Phoenix 602-273-3300  
Parking Info 602-273-4545  
[www.phxskyharbor.com](http://www.phxskyharbor.com)

### Public Transportation

#### Valley Metro Public Transit

Info Line 602-253-5000  
TDD 602-261-8208  
[www.valleymetro.org](http://www.valleymetro.org)

Options include a network of fixed-route buses or car/van pools that enjoy "express" HOV lanes on freeways, local shuttles, and park-and-ride lots. Call for further details.

### Motor Vehicle Information

#### • Drivers License

As soon as state residency is established, a new resident is required to obtain an Arizona driver's license. No grace period applies. Visit the nearest licensing office and bring all pertinent documents, including legal proof of age and identity.

#### • Vehicle Registration

Newcomers are required to register and title all vehicles in Arizona. Unlike some states, Arizona requires that you complete any required emissions testing before registering your vehicle. You must also obtain proof of Arizona

vehicle insurance. Other required documents include:

- ☐ Out-of-state driver's license
- ☐ Social security card or other form of signature ID
- ☐ Vehicle title along with any lien release papers
- ☐ Current vehicle registration
- ☐ Proof of age, if applicable

#### Arizona Department of Transportation

Motor Vehicle Division  
602-255-0072  
800-324-5423  
[www.azdot.gov/mvd](http://www.azdot.gov/mvd)

#### MVD Office Locations

602-255-0072  
[www.azdot.gov/mvd](http://www.azdot.gov/mvd)

#### • Mandatory Insurance

Every vehicle in Arizona must be insured for bodily injury and property damage before it can be registered. For details contact:

#### Arizona Department of Insurance

602-912-8444  
800-325-2548  
[www.id.state.az.us](http://www.id.state.az.us)

#### Emissions Testing

New residents must complete any required emissions testing before registration. Simply bring the vehicle's current out-of-state



registration and/or title to the testing center. When testing is complete, you will receive paperwork that will be necessary at registration and titling. Vehicles in the Phoenix metro area are tested every other year, although most vehicles of the newest five model years are exempt. After the initial testing for newly registered vehicles, renewal registration forms clearly state whether an emissions test is required. Take your vehicle with appropriate documents and test fee to any vehicle emissions testing facility. The model year and engine type of your vehicle determines which type of test your vehicle needs to receive. For more information about obtaining an emissions test, contact:

#### Car Care Hotline

General Information  
800-284-7748  
[www.azdeq.gov/enviro/air/vei](http://www.azdeq.gov/enviro/air/vei)

#### Safety Regulations

Arizona law requires drivers and passengers to properly use safety belts when they ride in a passenger vehicle on Arizona roadways. A child under 5 years of age and weighing less than 40 pounds must be placed in a properly secured child safety seat.



## Academics

From preschool through the university level and professional studies, quality educational opportunities are always available throughout the Valley of the Sun. A number of independent private and parochial schools supplement the public school system, adding diverse educational environments and approaches to teaching. Arizona public schools are dedicated to promoting common goals: To encourage citizenship and social responsibility, to offer equality of educational opportunity, and to foster optimum personal growth.

### Child Care Resources

#### Child Care Resource & Referral

Statewide Information  
800-308-9000  
[www.arizonachildcare.org](http://www.arizonachildcare.org)

#### Association for Supportive Child Care

800-535-4599  
480-829-0500  
[www.asccaz.org](http://www.asccaz.org)

### Private Education

#### •Non-Public School Information

**Arizona State Department of Education**  
Phoenix 602-542-4361  
[www.ade.az.gov](http://www.ade.az.gov)

#### Diocese of Phoenix

Roman Catholic Schools  
Phoenix 602-354-2345  
[www.diocesephoenix.org](http://www.diocesephoenix.org)

### Jewish Education Resources

Tempe 480-897-0588  
[www.evjcc.org](http://www.evjcc.org)

### Home Schooling

**Maricopa County Schools Home Schooling Department**  
Arizona Department of Education  
602-506-3144  
[www.maricopa.gov/schools](http://www.maricopa.gov/schools)

#### Public Education System Arizona Department of Education

1535 West Jefferson Street  
Phoenix 602-542-5393  
[www.ade.az.gov](http://www.ade.az.gov)

#### •Charter Schools

**Arizona Charter Schools Association**  
Phoenix 602-424-2512  
[www.azcharters.org](http://www.azcharters.org)

•**Exceptional Student Services**  
**Exceptional Student Services**  
Phoenix 602-364-4000  
[www.ade.az.gov/ess](http://www.ade.az.gov/ess)

#### •Public School Districts

**Maricopa County Superintendent of Schools**  
Phoenix 602-506-3866  
[www.maricopa.gov/schools](http://www.maricopa.gov/schools)

### Higher Education

#### •Community College System

**Maricopa Community College System**  
2411 West 14th Street  
Tempe 480-731-8000  
[www.maricopa.edu](http://www.maricopa.edu)

#### •Arizona University System

**Arizona State University**  
University & Main Avenue  
Tempe 480-962-9011  
[www.asu.edu](http://www.asu.edu)

#### Arizona State University-West

4701 W. Thunderbird  
Phoenix 602-543-5500  
[www.west.asu.edu](http://www.west.asu.edu)

#### Northern Arizona University

South San Francisco Street  
Flagstaff 888-628-2968  
[www.nau.edu](http://www.nau.edu)

#### University of Arizona

Euclid & Speedway Boulevard  
Tucson 520-621-2211  
[www.arizona.edu](http://www.arizona.edu)

## Healthcare

Newcomers to the Valley of the Sun can look forward to some of the nation's most progressive healthcare services and institutions, including the internationally famous Mayo Clinic and its associated hospital. Leading systems like Banner Health and Scottsdale Healthcare combine with acclaimed institutions including Phoenix Children's Hospital and the Arizona Heart Hospital to provide the most advanced diagnostics and treatment. Medical centers, clinics, specialized practices, and supportive care centers combine to form a strong network that meets every need close to home.



# Phoenix Attractions



From the sophistication of Scottsdale and the downtown Phoenix cultural centers to the rural atmosphere that prevails in the region's small towns, the Valley of the Sun is a study in contrasts and variety. Rodeos and opera, symphony and NASCAR racing, vast expanses of high desert and canyon lakes — facilities and activities for every imaginable interest or hobby can be found at a location close to home.

The Valley of the Sun excels in offering attractions that please every age group. Those who enjoy spectator sports events can look forward to cheering professional teams for stadium and arena football, baseball, hockey, and basketball. Some of the most popular baseball teams in the nation make the Valley their home for spring training, while events like the FBR Open (formerly Phoenix Open) PGA Golf Tournament and the All-Arabian Horse Show attract international crowds.

Communities throughout the valley have developed many wonderful museums, art galleries, venues for the performing arts, and colorful festivals. Glendale takes pride in its status as “Arizona’s Antique Capital,” while Scottsdale specializes in exclusive

boutiques and high fashion. Downtown Phoenix has transformed in recent decades from a quiet business district into a bustling hub of activity. Dazzling performing arts centers such as Phoenix Symphony Hall, Dodge Theatre, the Herberger Theater, and Orpheum Theatre are all surrounded by uniquely designed sports stadiums and the lush landscaping of the Arizona Center for shopping, relaxing, and entertainment.

With the Valley’s reputation for abundant sunshine and four-season activity, the opportunities for outdoor adventure and recreation are equally well developed. Horseback riding, hot air ballooning, hang gliding, rock climbing, backpacking, hiking, biking, camping, boating, ice skating, and water

sports are just a few of the possibilities that are available in or near the metropolitan area. Many of the residents of Metropolitan Phoenix are avid skiers, taking advantage of fine ski resorts in the White Mountains, Tucson, or Flagstaff as well as cross-country ski trails along the Mogollon Rim. Housing throughout the Valley ranges from modest family homes in welcoming neighborhoods to stunning master-planned communities where some of the



world's finest estates overlook pristine golf-course fairways. The vast open space that once surrounded Metropolitan Phoenix is rapidly giving way to beautiful residential villages complete with sparkling lakes, golf courses, tennis courts, lavish clubhouses, fitness and spa centers, miles of multi-purpose trails, shopping, and schools. Even in the heart of the city, upscale neighborhoods like Biltmore, Arcadia, and Encanto-Palmcroft still command top dollar for majestic homes shaded by mature greenery. Throughout the Valley of the Sun, you'll discover the natural beauty and relaxing Southwestern lifestyle that has made Metropolitan Phoenix one of the world's most desirable locations.

**Day Trips**

Few states can claim the sheer diversity of topography and natural environments that have made Arizona such a popular tourist destination for worldwide visitors. From the wonder of the Grand Canyon to exquisite formations in the Katchner Caverns or the towering beauty of the White Mountains, every direction you travel from the

Valley of the Sun offers spectacular sights and fresh new experiences. For more information on Arizona treasures, contact the Arizona Office of Tourism.

**Arizona Office of Tourism**  
602-275-5816  
866-275-5816  
[www.arizonaguide.com](http://www.arizonaguide.com)

**North of Phoenix**

Camp Verde 928-567-9294  
[www.campverde.org](http://www.campverde.org)

Flagstaff 928-774-9241  
[www.flagstaffarizona.org](http://www.flagstaffarizona.org)

Prescott 800-266-7534  
[www.prescott.org](http://www.prescott.org)

Sedona & Oak Creek Canyon 800-266-7534  
[www.visitsedona.com](http://www.visitsedona.com)

**East of Phoenix**

Paysen & Rim Country 800-672-9766  
[www.rimcountrychamber.com](http://www.rimcountrychamber.com)

White Mountains 800-573-4031  
[www.pinetoplakesidechamber.com](http://www.pinetoplakesidechamber.com)

**South of Phoenix**

Bisbee 877-424-7234  
[www.bisbearizona.com](http://www.bisbearizona.com)

Mount Lemmon & Ski Valley 520-885-1181  
[www.mt-lemmon.com](http://www.mt-lemmon.com)

Mission San Xavier Del Bac 520-294-2624  
[www.sanxaviermission.org](http://www.sanxaviermission.org)

**South of the Border**  
Know & Enjoy Mexico  
Online Tourism Information  
[www.knowmexico.com](http://www.knowmexico.com)

## Family Adventures

Metropolitan Phoenix provides an abundance of beautiful parks, lively entertainment centers and amusements as well as highly acclaimed science and nature attractions that are all designed to capture the attention of children of all ages. Many of the valley's cities and towns have developed recreation programs and organized activities, from sports leagues to arts and crafts.



### Educational & Nature Centers

#### Arizona Science Center

Phoenix 602-716-2000  
[www.azscience.org](http://www.azscience.org)

#### The Phoenix Zoo

Phoenix 602-273-1341  
[www.phoenixzoo.org](http://www.phoenixzoo.org)

## Cultural Attractions

Dazzling performing arts complexes and cultural venues are scattered throughout the Valley of the Sun, anchored by the world-class facilities that are clustered in downtown Phoenix.

### Valleywide Venues

#### ASU Gammage Center for the Performing Arts

Arizona State University  
 Tempe 480-965-5062  
[www.asugammage.com](http://www.asugammage.com)

#### ASU Kerr Cultural Center

Scottsdale 480-596-2660  
[www.asukerr.com](http://www.asukerr.com)

#### Chandler Center for the Arts

Chandler 480-782-2680  
[www.chandlercenter.org](http://www.chandlercenter.org)

#### The Glendale Arena

Glendale 623-772-3200  
[www.glendalearenaaz.com](http://www.glendalearenaaz.com)

#### Mesa Arts Center

Mesa 480-644-6501  
 Box Office 480-644-6500  
[www.mesaarts.com](http://www.mesaarts.com)

#### Scottsdale Center for the Arts

Scottsdale Civic Plaza  
 Scottsdale 480-994-ARTS  
[www.scottsdaleperformingarts.org](http://www.scottsdaleperformingarts.org)

#### Tempe Center for the Arts

Tempe 480-350-5287  
[www.tempe.gov/arts](http://www.tempe.gov/arts)

#### Tempe Performing Arts Center

Tempe 480-350-5287  
[www.tempe.gov/arts](http://www.tempe.gov/arts)

#### Arizona Commission on the Arts

For further details on art and culture in Arizona, visit this organization online or contact them by telephone:

#### Arizona Commission on the Arts

602-255-5882  
[www.azarts.gov](http://www.azarts.gov)



### Phoenix Downtown Venues US Airways Center

201 E. Jefferson Street  
 Phoenix 602-379-2000  
 Tickets 602-379-7800  
[www.usairwayscenter.com](http://www.usairwayscenter.com)

#### Dodge Theatre

400 W. Washington Street  
 Phoenix 602-379-2888  
[www.dodge-theatre.com](http://www.dodge-theatre.com)

#### Herberger Theater

222 East Monroe  
 Phoenix 602-252-8497  
[www.herbergertheater.org](http://www.herbergertheater.org)

#### Orpheum Theatre

203 W. Adams Street  
 Phoenix 602-534-5600  
[www.phoenix.gov/phxstages.html](http://www.phoenix.gov/phxstages.html)

#### Phoenix Symphony Hall

225 E. Adams Street  
 Phoenix 602-534-5600  
[www.phoenix.gov/phxstages.html](http://www.phoenix.gov/phxstages.html)

#### Phoenix Center for the Arts

1202 N. Third Street  
 Phoenix 602-262-4627  
[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

#### Phoenix Theatre

100 E. McDowell Road  
 Phoenix 602-254-2151  
[www.phoenixtheatre.net](http://www.phoenixtheatre.net)



## Sports & Recreation

From the excitement of professional team sports to world-class golf courses, Metropolitan Phoenix and the high Sonoran desert provide some of the nation's finest attractions. Phoenix and Glendale both boast superb venues for the valley's popular professional teams.

### Valley Sports Venues

#### Cardinals Stadium

Glendale 602-379-0102  
[www.azcardinals.com](http://www.azcardinals.com)

#### Chase Field

Phoenix 602-462-6400  
[www.azchasefield.com](http://www.azchasefield.com)

#### The Glendale Arena

Glendale 623-772-3200  
[www.glendalearenaaz.com](http://www.glendalearenaaz.com)

#### HoHoKam Park

Mesa 480-964-4467  
[www.hohokamstadium.com](http://www.hohokamstadium.com)

#### Maryvale Baseball Park

Phoenix 623-534-6441  
[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

#### Peoria Sports Complex

Peoria 623-773-8700  
[www.peoriaaz.com](http://www.peoriaaz.com)

#### Phoenix Municipal Baseball Park

Phoenix 602-262-6111  
[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

#### Scottsdale Stadium

Scottsdale 480-312-2586  
[www.scottsdaleaz.gov/stadium](http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/stadium)

#### Sun Devil Stadium

Arizona State University  
Tempe 480-965-2381  
[www.thesundevils.com](http://www.thesundevils.com)

#### Surprise Stadium

Surprise 623-266-4500  
[www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com)

#### Tempe Diablo Stadium

Tempe 480-250-5205  
[www.tempe.gov/diablostadium](http://www.tempe.gov/diablostadium)

#### US Airways Center

Phoenix 602-379-2006  
[www.usairwaycenter.com](http://www.usairwaycenter.com)

#### Wells Fargo Arena

Arizona State University  
Tempe 480-965-2381  
[www.thesundevils.com](http://www.thesundevils.com)

### Golfing

Metropolitan Phoenix offers some of the most panoramic, enjoyable, and challenging golf courses in the entire nation. Ringed by rugged mountains and breathtaking Sonoran desert beauty, the Valley of the Sun is home to an exhaustive list of exceptional courses.

Complementing the public or semi-private courses listed in this guide are many private courses and exclusive golf clubs. Legendary golf-course architects in the ranks of Tom Weiskopf, Jack Nicklaus, and Robert Trent Jones, Jr. have transformed the Valley into a showcase of magnificent golf courses.

### Professional Golf Tournaments

#### FBR Open

(formerly Phoenix Open)

Tournament Players Club  
17020 North Hayden Road  
Scottsdale 602-870-0163  
[www.fbropen.com](http://www.fbropen.com)

#### The Safeway International

LPGA Tournament  
Phoenix 602-495-GOLF  
[www.safewaygolf.com](http://www.safewaygolf.com)



#### Arizona Ski Resorts Arizona Snowbowl & Nordic Ski Area

Flagstaff 928-779-1951  
[www.arizonasnowbowl.com](http://www.arizonasnowbowl.com)

#### Mount Lemmon Ski Valley

Tucson 520-885-1181  
[www.mt-lemmon.com](http://www.mt-lemmon.com)

#### Sunrise Park Resort

Greer 800-772-7669  
[www.sunriseskipark.com](http://www.sunriseskipark.com)

#### Elk Ridge Ski & Outdoor Recreation Area

Williams 928-234-6587  
[www.williamsskiarea.com](http://www.williamsskiarea.com)





## Arizona Parks

From the world's largest metropolitan park to thousands of acres of regional parks and sparkling recreational lakes, the area surrounding Metropolitan Phoenix is nature's own playground. While communities offer exceptional parkland filled with sports facilities and amenities, governments on every level have preserved vast acres of pristine desert and mountain landscapes that encourage every type of outdoor activity and adventure.

### AZ State Parks

#### Arizona State Park Headquarters

Phoenix 602-542-4174

[www.pr.state.az.us](http://www.pr.state.az.us)

### Major Metropolitan Parks

#### Cave Creek Recreation Area

Cave Creek 623-465-0431

[www.maricopa.gov/parks](http://www.maricopa.gov/parks)

#### Dreamy Draw

Phoenix 602-262-7901

[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

#### Encanto Park

Phoenix 602-261-8993

[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

#### Estrella Mountain Regional Park

Goodyear 623-922-3811

[www.maricopa.gov/parks/estrella](http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/estrella)

#### McDowell Mountain Park

Fountain Hills 480-471-0173

[www.maricopa.gov/parks/mcdowell](http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/mcdowell)

#### Papago Park

Phoenix 602-256-3220

[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

#### Phoenix Mountains Park

Phoenix 602-262-7001

[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

#### San Tan Mountain Regional Park

Pinal County 602-506-2930

[www.maricopa.gov/parks/santan](http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/santan)

#### South Mountain

##### Park/Preserve

Phoenix 602-495-5458

[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)



### Parks & Recreation Resources

#### City of Chandler

480-782-3727

[www.chandleraz.org](http://www.chandleraz.org)

#### City of Gilbert

480-503-6200

[www.ci.gilbert.az.us/parks](http://www.ci.gilbert.az.us/parks)

#### City of Glendale

623-930-2820

[www.glendaleaz.org](http://www.glendaleaz.org)

#### City of Mesa

480-644-2198

[www.cityofmesa.org/parksrec](http://www.cityofmesa.org/parksrec)

#### City of Peoria

623-773-7137

[www.peoriaaz.com](http://www.peoriaaz.com)

#### City of Phoenix

602-262-6862

[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

#### City of Scottsdale

480-312-7957

[www.scottsdaleparks.com](http://www.scottsdaleparks.com)

#### City of Tempe

480-350-5200

[www.tempe.gov/pkrec](http://www.tempe.gov/pkrec)

#### Maricopa County

602-506-2930

[www.maricopa.gov/parks](http://www.maricopa.gov/parks)

### Arizona Lakes

Arizona claims more than 65 natural and man-made lakes, the largest group being the six reservoirs in Tonto National Forest. These bodies of water — Apache Lake, Bartlett Reservoir, Canyon Lake, Horseshoe Reservoir, Roosevelt Lake, and Saguaro Lakes — as well as the Verde and Salt Rivers are easily accessible to Phoenix area water-sport enthusiasts. Other water attractions close to home include Lake Pleasant and Tempe Town Lake. The vast water playground of Lake Mead lies just inside the Nevada border, while Lake Powell in northern Arizona and the southwestern Lake Havasu are additional points of pride.





## Shopping

Aficionados of shopping will find a virtually endless selection of malls and plazas, factory outlet centers, and quaint shopping districts. Sprawling malls like the Chandler Fashion Square, Arrowhead Towne Center, and the Fashion Square in Scottsdale showcase hundreds of popular retailers, eateries, and restaurants. Whether your passion is high fashion or the discounts of an outlet center, Metropolitan Phoenix offers a paradise of retail centers, upscale malls, and open-air markets.

### Factory Outlet Malls

#### Arizona Mills Factory Stores

5000 Arizona Mills Circle  
Tempe 480-491-7300  
[www.arizonamills.com](http://www.arizonamills.com)

#### Oak Creek Factory Outlets

6601 Highway 179  
Sedona 928-284-2150

#### Outlets at Anthem

4250 West Anthem Way  
Phoenix 888-482-5834  
[www.outletsanthem.com](http://www.outletsanthem.com)

## Historic Attractions

Metropolitan Phoenix celebrates a rich and fascinating history around every corner. Many exceptional resources like the Heard Museum showcase the splendor and majesty of the Southwest's Native American artistry. Grand landmarks combine with fine museums to preserve and interpret Southwestern culture, both ancient and modern.

### Valley Landmarks

#### Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa

Phoenix 602-955-6600  
[www.arizonabiltmore.com](http://www.arizonabiltmore.com)

#### Mystery Castle

Phoenix 602-268-1581

#### Orpheum Theatre

Phoenix 602-534-4874  
[www.phoenix.gov/phxstages.html](http://www.phoenix.gov/phxstages.html)

#### Pueblo Grande Museum &

#### Archaeological Park

Phoenix 480-495-0901  
[www.pueblogrande.com](http://www.pueblogrande.com)

#### Outlets at Casa Grande

2300 East Tanger Drive  
Casa Grande 800-405-5016  
[www.outletsatcasagrande.com](http://www.outletsatcasagrande.com)

#### St. Mary's Basilica

Phoenix 602-354-2100  
[www.stmarysbasilica.org](http://www.stmarysbasilica.org)

#### Tovrea Castle and the Carraro Cactus Garden

Phoenix 602-262-6412  
[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

#### Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza

Phoenix 602-542-4581  
[www.dlapr.lib.az.us/museum](http://www.dlapr.lib.az.us/museum)

#### Wrigley Mansion

Phoenix 602-553-7386  
[www.wrigleymansionclub.com](http://www.wrigleymansionclub.com)



### Regional Shopping Malls The Arizona Center

Phoenix 602-271-4000  
[www.arizonacenter.com](http://www.arizonacenter.com)

### Arrowhead Towne Center

Glendale 623-979-9764  
[www.arrowheadtownecenter.com](http://www.arrowheadtownecenter.com)

### Biltmore Fashion Park

Phoenix 602-953-6311  
[www.shopbiltmore.com](http://www.shopbiltmore.com)

### Chandler Fashion Center

Chandler 480-812-8848  
[www.chandlerfashion.com](http://www.chandlerfashion.com)

### Desert Sky Mall

Phoenix 623-849-6661  
[www.desertskeymall.com](http://www.desertskeymall.com)

### Fiesta Mall

Mesa 480-833-5587  
[www.shopfiesta.com](http://www.shopfiesta.com)

### Metrocenter

Phoenix 602-997-2642  
[www.metrocentermall.com](http://www.metrocentermall.com)

### Paradise Valley Mall

Phoenix 602-996-8846  
[www.theparadisevalleymall.com](http://www.theparadisevalleymall.com)

### Phoenix Spectrum Mall

Phoenix 602-249-0670

### SanTan Village

Gilbert 602-953-6471  
[www.shopsantanvillage.com](http://www.shopsantanvillage.com)

### Scottsdale Fashion Square

Scottsdale 480-949-0202  
[www.fashionsquare.com](http://www.fashionsquare.com)

### Superstition Springs Center

Mesa 480-832-0212  
[www.superstitionsprings.com](http://www.superstitionsprings.com)



# Community Profiles



The eyes of the nation have definitely turned toward the Valley of the Sun, as it rapidly expands toward the position of the fifth largest city in the nation. The visionary leadership, careful planning, and targeted promotion that marked the 1980s resulted in explosive growth within every possible arena of activity and endeavor. Phoenix, already Arizona's capital city as well as the seat of government for Maricopa County, has assumed a whole new global identity in recent years as "The Place" to live, work, and play in the Southwest.

Swaying palm trees, abundant sunshine, crystalline lakes, and the haunting beauty of the high Sonoran desert are just a few of the natural features that make life in the Valley of the Sun so appealing. Anchored by the city of Phoenix and its kaleidoscope of neighborhoods, this region supports a number of rapidly growing communities in every direction.

Central Phoenix serves as a cultural and professional sports hub that is also welcoming vibrant new residential options like luxurious lofts that blend with beautifully renovated historic homes in the heart of the city. Nearby, the prestigious Biltmore neighborhood features the famous Arizona Biltmore

Resort and exclusive custom homes shaded by mature greenery.

As central Phoenix stretches toward Scottsdale, the close-knit enclave known as Arcadia offers ranch-style homes with deep-set front yards that are often shaded by small groves of citrus trees. Northeast Phoenix encompasses the area commonly referred to as Paradise Valley as well as Moon Valley and Deer Valley, filled with homes in diverse architectural styles along quiet streets. The southernmost Phoenix urban village of Ahwatukee is geographically more closely aligned with the adjacent city of Tempe—which serves as the gateway to the East Valley.

### East Valley Communities

The area commonly called “East Valley” encompasses a number of cities and planned communities that actually sprawl south and east of Phoenix and Scottsdale. Tempe is well-known as the home of Arizona State University, although Sky Harbor International Airport is another important facility in this area. Like Tempe, the city of Mesa has emerged as



an economic power in its own right and now boasts the largest cultural complex in the entire valley. The undeveloped land that once highlighted the outlying Chandler and Gilbert communities has given way to scores of new residential neighborhoods and commercial or industrial development. New-home developers continue to expand the residential opportunities in the East Valley in beautiful enclaves nestled in outlying areas like Queen Creek, Ocotillo, and Sun Lakes. Many of these new developments feature first-rate recreational amenities like championship golf courses or multi-purpose trails through scenic open space.

### Northeast Valley Communities

The economic leader in the Northeast is Scottsdale, home to an airpark filled with light industry and one of the busiest single-runway airports in the nation. This desirable city with a reputation for livability offers a selection of neighborhoods and environments that are virtually unlimited. Some of the valley’s most exclusive planned communities are nestled in

North Scottsdale, complemented by the city’s world-class shopping facilities, fine dining, and vibrant arts community. Small-town living in an upscale environment near Scottsdale is available in the sister communities of Cave Creek and Carefree, the towns of Fountain Hills and Paradise Valley, and the active retirement communities of “The Verdes.” The master-planned community of Anthem nestles to the far north.

### West Valley Communities

Home to world-class sports venues like Glendale Arena and Cardinals Stadium, Glendale anchors the rapidly growing Northwest quadrant of the valley. Arrowhead Ranch in Glendale has introduced scores of new neighborhoods to this long-established city that boasts the finest antiques district in the state and some of the valley’s most popular special events. The neighboring city of Peoria, once known for its agriculture and open space, has experienced a real boom of new construction in recent decades. Emerging cities like El Mirage and Surprise are also attracting throngs of newcomers to attractive neighborhoods and affordable new homes, while the Sun Cities and Sun City Grand planned communities cater to active seniors. The completion of the 101 Loop around the valley has accelerated the pace of development in these far northwestern communities, making them convenient for commuters. The once sleepy region that sprawls over the Southwest valley is now booming with new construction in cities and towns like Avondale, Buckeye, Goodyear, Litchfield Park, and Tolleson. Golf courses, recreation centers, neighborhood parks, commercial conveniences, and new business and industry are transforming this area served by the Interstate 10 corridor.



GREATER PHOENIX COMMUNITY REFERENCES

**East Valley Communities**

**Chandler**

**City Hall**

480-782-2200    [www.chandleraz.org](http://www.chandleraz.org)

**Chamber of Commerce**

480-963-4571    [www.chandlerchamber.com](http://www.chandlerchamber.com)

**Gilbert**

**City Hall**

480-503-6000    [www.ci.gilbert.az.us](http://www.ci.gilbert.az.us)

**Chamber of Commerce**

480-892-0056    [www.gilbertaz.com](http://www.gilbertaz.com)

**Mesa**

**City Hall**

480-644-2066    [www.cityofmesa.org](http://www.cityofmesa.org)

**Chamber of Commerce**

480-969-1307    [www.mesachamber.org](http://www.mesachamber.org)

**Ocotillo**

**Chandler City Hall**

480-782-2200    [www.chandleraz.org](http://www.chandleraz.org)

**Chamber of Commerce**

480-963-4571    [www.chandlerchamber.com](http://www.chandlerchamber.com)

**Queen Creek**

**Town Hall**

480-358-3000    [www.queencreek.org](http://www.queencreek.org)

**Chamber of Commerce**

480-888-1709    [www.queencreekchamber.org](http://www.queencreekchamber.org)

**Sun Lakes**

**County Offices**

602-506-3011    [www.maricopa.gov](http://www.maricopa.gov)

**Chamber of Commerce**

480-969-1307    [www.mesachamber.org](http://www.mesachamber.org)

**Tempe**

**City Hall**

480-350-8221    [www.tempe.gov](http://www.tempe.gov)

**Chamber of Commerce**

480-967-7891    [www.tempechamber.org](http://www.tempechamber.org)

**Northeast Valley Communities**

**Anthem**

**County Offices**

602-506-3011    [www.maricopa.gov](http://www.maricopa.gov)

**Carefree, Cave Creek**

**Carefree City Hall**

480-488-3686    [www.carefree.org](http://www.carefree.org)

**Cave Creek City Hall**

480-488-1400    [www.cavecreek.org](http://www.cavecreek.org)

**Chamber of Commerce**

480-488-3381    [www.carefree-cavecreek.com](http://www.carefree-cavecreek.com)

**Fountain Hills**

**City Hall**

480-837-2003    [www.fh.az.gov](http://www.fh.az.gov)

**Chamber of Commerce**

480-837-1654    [www.fountainhillschamber.com](http://www.fountainhillschamber.com)

**Scottsdale**

**City Hall**

480-312-6500    [www.scottsdaleaz.gov](http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov)

**Chamber of Commerce**

480-945-8481    [www.scottsdalechamber.com](http://www.scottsdalechamber.com)

**Town of Paradise Valley**

**Town Hall**

480-948-7411    [www.townofpv.com](http://www.townofpv.com)

**Chamber of Commerce**

602-254-5521    [www.phoenixchamber.com](http://www.phoenixchamber.com)

**The Verdes (Rio Verde, Tonto Verde)**

**County Offices**

602-506-3011    [www.maricopa.gov](http://www.maricopa.gov)

**Chamber of Commerce**

480-945-8481    [www.scottsdalechamber.com](http://www.scottsdalechamber.com)



## GREATER PHOENIX COMMUNITY REFERENCES

### Northwest Valley Communities

#### Arrowhead Ranch

##### Glendale City Hall

623-930-2000 [www.glendaleaz.org](http://www.glendaleaz.org)

##### Chamber of Commerce

623-937-4754 [www.glendaleazchamber.org](http://www.glendaleazchamber.org)

#### El Mirage

##### City Hall

623-972-8116 [www.cityofelmirage.org](http://www.cityofelmirage.org)

##### Chamber of Commerce

623-583-0692 [www.northwestvalley.com](http://www.northwestvalley.com)

#### Glendale

##### City Hall

623-930-2000 [www.glendaleaz.org](http://www.glendaleaz.org)

##### Chamber of Commerce

623-937-4754 [www.glendaleazchamber.org](http://www.glendaleazchamber.org)

#### Peoria

##### City Hall

623-773-7000 [www.peoriaaz.com](http://www.peoriaaz.com)

##### Chamber of Commerce

623-979-3601 [www.peoriachamber.com](http://www.peoriachamber.com)

#### The Sun Cities

##### County Offices

602-506-3011 [www.maricopa.gov](http://www.maricopa.gov)

##### Chamber of Commerce

623-583-0692 [www.northwestvalley.com](http://www.northwestvalley.com)

#### Surprise, Sun City Grand

##### City Hall

623-583-1000 [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com)

##### Chamber of Commerce

623-583-0692 [www.northwestvalley.com](http://www.northwestvalley.com)

### Southwest Valley Communities

#### Avondale

##### City Hall

623-478-3000 [www.avondale.org](http://www.avondale.org)

##### Chamber of Commerce

623-932-2260 [www.southwestvalleychamber.org](http://www.southwestvalleychamber.org)

#### Buckeye

##### Town Hall

623-386-4691 [www.buckeyeaz.gov](http://www.buckeyeaz.gov)

##### Chamber of Commerce

623-386-2727 [www.buckeyevalleychamber.org](http://www.buckeyevalleychamber.org)

#### Goodyear

##### City Hall

623-932-3910 [www.goodyearaz.gov](http://www.goodyearaz.gov)

##### Chamber of Commerce

623-932-2260 [www.southwestvalleychamber.org](http://www.southwestvalleychamber.org)

#### Litchfield Park

##### City Hall

623-935-5033 [www.litchfield-park.org](http://www.litchfield-park.org)

##### Chamber of Commerce

623-932-2260 [www.southwestvalleychamber.org](http://www.southwestvalleychamber.org)

#### Tolleson

##### City Hall

623-936-7111 [www.tollesonaz.org](http://www.tollesonaz.org)

##### Chamber of Commerce

623-932-2260 [www.southwestvalleychamber.org](http://www.southwestvalleychamber.org)

### City of Phoenix

##### City Hall

602-262-6011 [www.phoenix.gov](http://www.phoenix.gov)

##### Chamber of Commerce

602-254-5521 [www.phoenixchamber.com](http://www.phoenixchamber.com)

##### • Phoenix Urban Villages

Ahwatukee Foothills, Camelback East, Central City, Deer Valley, Desert View, Encanto, Estrella, Laveen, Maryvale, North Gateway, North Mountain, Paradise Valley, South Mountain

##### • Phoenix Neighborhoods

Arcadia, Biltmore, Moon Valley

*Arizona Office of Tourism*

**602-275-5816**

**866-275-5816**

[www.arizonaguide.com](http://www.arizonaguide.com)

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