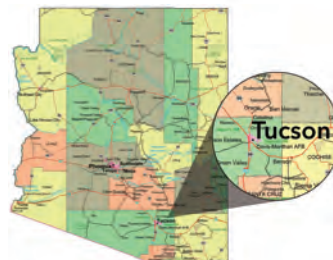




Tucson, AZ



Tucson, Arizona, is located in the Sonoran Desert and is surrounded by five mountain ranges. Originally an Indian village called Stookzone, meaning water at the foot of black mountain, the Presidio San Agustín del Tucson (fort) was established in the area in 1775 and Spanish settlers arrived in 1776. Following the Gadsden Purchase of 1854, Tucson officially became part of the United States and later served as capital of the Arizona Territory from 1867 to 1877.

The Arizona Historical Society's 4 Tucson museums are among the city's many cultural attractions. The Arizona History Museum's focus is southern Arizona history from Spanish colonial through territorial eras. Exhibits at the AHS Downtown Museum depict early Tucson homes and businesses, including the Romero barbershop, drugstores, and police and fire departments. The Fort Lowell Museum depicts military life on the Arizona frontier. The Sosa-Carrillo-Frémont House is a historic adobe that was built in the 1870s.

The reconstructed Presidio San Agustín del Tucson consists of a small corner of the original Presidio, including the 20-foot adobe tower (torreon) and the high adobe walls. The University of Arizona's Arizona State Museum contains comprehensive collections of American Indian basketry and pottery and Navajo textiles; the museum hosts an annual Southwest Indian Art Fair in February. The Mini Time Machine Museum of Miniatures displays antique and contemporary miniatures. Modern American photography is the focus of the Center for Creative Photography's exhibits. Gadsden-Pacific Division Toy Train Operating Museum presents toy train operating layouts and railroad memorabilia. Natural history collections from around the world are displayed at the International Wildlife Museum. Located on the grounds of the Pima Air & Space Museum, which is home to more than 300 airplanes, the 390th Memorial Museum is dedicated to the B17 and the World War II/8th Air Force "Sky Pioneers." La Pilita Museum's featured exhibit tells the story of Tucson's Barrio Viejo. More than 20 antique and classic Franklin automobiles are on display at the Franklin Museum. Other museums include the Tucson Museum of Art, Museum Of Contemporary Art, Tucson Desert Art Museum, Children's Museum Tucson, Postal History Foundation, Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, and Jewish History Museum.

The nearby Tohono O'odham Reservation is home to the Mission San Xavier Del Bac, which is considered the finest example of mission architecture; the Tohono O'odham Nation Cultural Center & Museum; and the Kitt Peak National Observatory, which contains the world's largest collection of optical telescopes.

The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson Mountain Park offers a zoo, botanical garden, art gallery, natural history museum, and aquarium.

Tucson's opportunities for performing arts include theatrical options at the Arizona Theatre Company, Broadway in Tucson, The Rogue Theatre, Gaslight Theatre, and Carnival of Illusion. Venues for musical productions include the Tucson Music Hall, Anselmo Valencia Tori Amphitheater, Reid Park Demeester Outdoor Performance Center, Fox Tucson Theatre, and Leo Rich Theatre. Musical performances range in style from the Tucson Symphony Orchestra, Tucson Chamber Artists, and ARIZONAOPERA to country, classic rock, jazz & blues, and singer/songwriters. Other musical, theatrical, and dance performances are available on the campuses of the University of Arizona and Pima Community College.

NEIGHBORHOODS

The Downtown's residential neighborhoods include historic districts with a variety of architectural styles that show the successive cultures in Tucson. Most of the structures in El Presidio, Tucson's oldest neighborhood, date between 1860 and 1920 and include Sonoran, Transformed Sonoran, Transitional, American Territorial, Mission Revival, and Craftsman Bungalow styles. Armory Park features homes in red-brick Victorian, Queen Anne, Mission and Spanish Colonial revival styles with mature street trees, ornamental lamps, and large lawns.

Sam Hughes neighborhood is one of the city's oldest historic and traditional neighborhoods. Houses were built between 1920 and 1950 in architectural styles that include Hispanic colonial, Sonoran, and Pueblo. Most of the homes in the Blenman-Elm neighborhood are ranch style with Spanish Revival influences that were popular between the 1920s and the 1950s. Winterhaven was developed between 1949 and 1961 and features modern ranch-style residences, wide curving streets, dominant green lawns, and non-native trees. Housing styles range from Moroccan to Spanish and Italian Mediterranean in the El Encanto neighborhood that features lushly landscaped homes built in the

1930s on palm, citrus, and eucalyptus tree-lined streets. The newer Civano neighborhood is an environmentally conscious planned community that utilizes "green" building techniques and offers energy-efficient adobe and Sonoran-style homes in desert hues. In addition to these neighborhoods, Tucson has many golf and retirement communities.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Tucson has 127 parks and playgrounds, including 17 recreation centers, 10 swimming pools, 6 off-leash dog areas, 5 golf courses, 5 skate parks, and 53 tennis courts. Featuring a paved plaza, veterans' memorials, small rose garden, large fountain, and various art pieces, El Presidio Park in the downtown is a favorite location for many community festivals. Reid Park, the City's most centrally located park, features a large lake and a small pond; a rose garden with 101 species of roses and more than 800 individual plants; the Reid Park Demeester Outdoor Performance Center; and the Reid Park Zoo.

The Tucson Botanical Gardens promotes responsible and appropriate use of plants and water in a desert environment through education and demonstration.

La Fiesta de los Vaqueros, also known as the Tucson Rodeo, is a nine-day celebration that includes bull riding, bareback and saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, tie-down roping, team roping, women's barrel racing, and the world's longest nonmotorized parade.

EDUCATION

The Tucson Unified School District educates approximately 49,000 students in 58 elementary schools, 14 middle schools, and 12 high schools. The district offers comprehensive schools, magnet schools, and alternative schools. Some portions of the city are served by Amphitheater Unified School District, Flowing Wells Unified School District, Sunnyside Unified School District, and Vail Unified School District.

The University of Arizona offers undergraduate and graduate degrees. The University's Arizona Health Sciences Center (AHSC) includes the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy and the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. Southwest University of Visual Arts and The Art Institute of Tucson offer bachelors and associate degrees. Pima Community College, Brown Mackie College, Pima Medical Institute Brookline College, Carrington College-Tucson Campus, ITT Technical Institute, and Tucson College offer associate degrees in such fields as business, technology, health care, and legal studies.

HEALTH CARE

Tucson is served by the following hospitals:

The University of Arizona Medical Center: University Campus, which includes Diamond Children's Pediatric Medical Center (479 licensed beds) and South Campus (245 licensed beds)

Carondelet Health Network: St. Mary's Hospital (401 licensed beds) and St. Joseph's Hospital (486 licensed beds)

Tucson Medical Center (607 licensed beds)

The Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (277 beds)

In addition, Kindred Hospital-Tucson and Cornerstone Health Care Group offer long-term acute care beds.

CITY STATS

2012

City Population	524,801
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	992,394
Per capita personal income, Tucson, AZ MSA	\$36,335