

Arizona

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HISTORY



Arizona was originally a part of the Mexican state of Sonora before being taken over by the United States in 1848 as a result of the Mexican-American War. It started as part of the Territory of New Mexico but split into its own territory in 1863. Arizona became a state in 1912, beginning mainly as a rural area depending on agriculture, but during the 1940s, the state saw a boom in population as people began to appreciate the warm climate.



P3N0M



The US Dollar is the official currency of the United States.

Credit Cards

Credit cards are widely accepted throughout the city.

ATMs

ATMs are widely available.

HELPFULINFO



Climate

The climate varies significantly throughout the state due to its different elevations. The lower elevations have a desert climate with mild winters and extremely hot summers. The northern part of the state is on a plateau, giving it much colder winters and mild summers.

Electricity

The United States uses 120-volt electricity outlets.



Technology & Communication

Arizona has good internet coverage. Cellphone coverage is good in populated areas, but if traveling into rural areas, you may have a harder time getting good reception.

Infrastructure & Transportation

The primary mode of transportation is by car, which is also the only way to get to the many rural areas. Public bus systems are available in cities such as Phoenix, Tucson, Yuma, and Flagstaff. There is also the Valley Metro Rail that connects Phoenix to cities like Mesa and Tempe.

In Case Of An Emergency

The emergency number for the United States is 911 for police, fire, and ambulance.

Language

English is the predominant language in Arizona, but the state is also known to have the largest number of speakers of Native

American languages such as Navajo and Apache.



LGBT Travel

Arizona was not very accepting of the LGBT community until the early 2000s when laws began to be passed that allowed same-sex marriages and adoptions, as well as discrimination laws protecting them. Many of the major cities do welcome the LGBT community.

Religion

Christianity is the most common religion, mainly consisting of Evangelicals, Catholics, and Mormons.



Getting There

Many of the state's largest cities have their own airports, with Phoenix's Sky Harbor International Airport being the largest.

Amtrak trains serve all major cities except Phoenix, which receives service from an Amtrak bus.

Driwing

Americans drive on the right side of the road. Rental cars are widely available, as well as ridesharing and taxis in the cities.

THE EXPERIENCE

Culture

Arizona is rich in southwestern, Native American, and Mexican culture. Enjoying the outdoors is a passion throughout the state as the landscape is its most attractive feature. Many Native American reservations offer visits to see their festivals and ceremonies.

There are also numerous Hispanic neighborhoods offering authentic Mexican goods, foods, and fiestas.



Bucket List

See the Grand Canyon
Visit the Desert Botanical Garden
See a gunfight reenactment at a Wild West park.
Visit the Chapel of the Holy Cross
Swim or raft in Lake Mead



Family Travel Highlights

Phoenix Zoo

Grand Canyon

Tombstone

Children's Museum of Phoenix

Lake Mead



Tourism Authority

Arizona Office of Tourism

Phone: (866) 275-5816 or (602) 364-3700

Web: www.tourism.az.gov



Foods To Try

Sonoran Hotdog: bacon-wrapped hotdog in a bread pocket
Mesquite bread
Salsa made with chiltepin peppers
Pozole: Mexican stew
Navajo taco



Drinks To Try

Snowcone margarita
Kombucha
Honey Lavender Latte
Regional wines from Arizona vineyards



Photography Hot Spots

Grand Canyon
Red Rock State Park
Lake Mead
London Bridge
Havasu Falls



Souvenirs To Buy

Live cactus
Sandstone crafted items
Salsa
Turquoise jewelry
Native American pottery

