LIFESTYLE

The City of Scottsdale is a premier community in Arizona with a distinguished history of economic vitality and prosperity. Scottsdale is a place where people from around the globe come to be a part of “the vibe.” People who locate in Scottsdale enjoy:

- Higher quality of life with a lower cost of living in comparison to other major urban centers across the U.S.
- Proximity and accessibility to major domestic and international markets via Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and Scottsdale Municipal Airport.
- Scottsdale is an environmentally conscious community with a long history of open space preservation and financially sustainable municipal operations and facilities.

Scottsdale continues to be recognized nationally and internationally for its beautiful landscape, vast retail offerings, attainable quality of life and community safety. The city offers a mix of lifestyle options for all income levels and living preferences, such as modern urban living, high-end estates and family neighborhoods.

Before becoming a global destination for business, Scottsdale was - and remains - renowned for its exceptional recreational amenities. Professionals from all walks of life have made Scottsdale their home as a result of the City’s commitment to long range planning and providing a higher quality of life for its citizens.

Hospitality and Resorts

Scottsdale is an internationally recognized tourism destination community widely known for its golf courses, recreational amenities, climate and high-end resorts. Downtown Scottsdale’s urban "boulevard" hotels, nightclubs, numerous events and attractions, dining and art galleries complement the Old Town western heritage. This coupled with the open spaces of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve provide visitors a unique and exciting destination for travel.

Spas

Scottsdale’s renowned resort and day spas (more than 50 in all) are known for innovative treatments inspired by Sonoran Desert Botanicals, Native American traditions, and healing techniques from cultures around the world. You’ll also find nutrition experts and workout options that will help you meet your fitness goals.

Shopping

Scottsdale is known for its unique shopping with sun-drenched outdoor promenades and upscale fashion centers offering a mix of notable national retailers and exclusive treasures available only in Arizona.

Dining

Start with acclaimed chefs creating bold flavors that flirt with your taste buds. Mix in mesquite-fired frontier fare and cross-border influences from Latin America, California and beyond. Top it all off with young chefs boasting raw talent and innovative ideas and it’s easy to see how Scottsdale earned its spot at the table with the premier dining destinations in the country.

Scottsdale Nightlife

You’ll find great nightlife options throughout Scottsdale, but when it comes to the most excitement per city block, downtown is the place to be. When the sun goes down, it sizzles with late-night diversions, including wine bars, lounges and dance clubs. More than 90 acclaimed restaurants and decadent dessert spots, neighborhood pubs and high-energy dance clubs are within walking distance. If you use up all your energy on the dance floor, taxis, Uber and Lyft await to whisk you back to your car or resort.

Arts and Culture

Scottsdale is home to one of the most concentrated collections of art in the nation with more than 40 art galleries. Scottsdale also offers acclaimed museums, architectural wonders, the Scottsdale Art Walk, world-class performance spaces and an award-winning public art program.

RECREATION

Active Lifestyle

Scottsdale was recently ranked among the top cities in the nation to lead an active lifestyle. Residents enjoy neighborhoods which straddle the Indian Bend Wash, a flood-control greenbelt and recreational jewel. It includes a 17-mile stretch of off-the-street multi-use paths, parks, a skate park, disc golf, community gardens and other amenities. Just to the west, Camelback Mountain and Echo Canyon Park offer some of the Valley’s most popular hiking trails, not to mention breathtaking views. To the south, Papago Park is a mountain biking, hiking and trail-running haven, with a canal path flanking it for recreational cycling. Directly south of Papago Park is Tempe Town Lake, which features a multi-use path that ties into the Indian Bend Wash system and offers kayak, canoe or paddle board rentals.

Recreation Facilities

Scottsdale’s recreation activities include walking, skating, jogging, fishing, soccer, basketball, volleyball and swimming. A wide variety of leisure activities await the new resident. The facilities where these activities are held also make great locations for corporate or social functions.

Golf

With more than 125 Scottsdale-area golf courses and 300 plus days of sunshine annually, access to golf is unlimited.

Hiking and Climbing

Scottsdale is one of a handful of gold-level bicycle-friendly communities in the nation, with more than 350 miles of bike lanes, dedicated bike paths and trails. There are more than 2,500 bike trails in Scottsdale, allowing visitors and residents to access nearly any part of the community by bicycle.

Paddling

The Scottsdale area is home to more than eight scenic lakes and rivers that are perfect for getting your feet wet on a river rafting, tubing or kayaking adventure. The calm waters of the Lower Salt River are ideal for wildlife watching from a raft, kayak or inner tube, while the Upper Salt’s class III and IV rapids provide plenty of white water thrills and chills.

Biking

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Ranked No. 1 City in the U.S. to Live an Active Lifestyle

SOURCE: WALLETHUB
The average cost of a two bedroom apartment in downtown Scottsdale is often HALF that of many major metro areas like San Francisco, Austin or New York.

Scottsdale’s Median Household Income is $74,961
- 42% more than Arizona
- 33% more than the U.S.

Source: 2018 APPLIED GEOGRAPHIC SOLUTIONS

Cost of Living Comparisons

Scottsdale has a population of more than 240,000 with an overall median age of 47 and a median age downtown of 36.

Source: ESRI BUSINESS ANALYST ONLINE 2018

Community Demographics

15-Minute Drive Time Figures

General Demographic Characteristics

Source: ESRI Business Analyst Online 2018
Scottsdale is perfectly situated, with mountains, desert and beaches all in less than a day’s drive or short flight to other major markets.

Where else can one enjoy over 300 days of sunshine a year, a multitude of outdoor activities, world-class shopping, dining and entertainment options? If you need a change of scenery you are a short 1.5-hour drive from hiking, skiing or sledding in the mountains at Flagstaff or Pinetop-Lakeside. Don’t like mountains? You’re also a short one-hour flight from the beaches of San Diego or entertainment venues in Las Vegas.

Scottsdale Airport
With 164,058 operations in 2016, Scottsdale Airport is one of the busiest single runway facilities in the nation. U.S. Customs “US-VISIT” is available seven days per week and allows visitors from all over the world to visit Scottsdale.

Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport
Sky Harbor is one of the 10 busiest airports in the United States. More than 120,000 passengers, 1,200 aircraft, and 800 tons of cargo pass through Sky Harbor each day. The airport is served by 15 major airlines with daily nonstop service to 80 domestic and 20 nonstop international destinations. Additionally, Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport is home to two major national airline hubs: American Airlines and Southwest Airlines.

Local Transportation
Scottsdale offers wonderful transit options for its residents, visitors and businesses. Transit services in Scottsdale are provided by Scottsdale’s Trolley system and Valley Metro. Scottsdale has four trolley routes to help you get around town. The Scottsdale trolley system is free to ride and connects with Valley Metro’s transit system giving you access to the greater Phoenix metro area. Whether you’re running errands, shopping, going to one of our premier special events or heading across town, there’s a trolley for you. Scottsdale supports the emergence of technology and innovation as we were one of the first communities to welcome autonomous vehicles for testing purposes and the first community in Arizona to welcome dockless bike share.

LOCATIONAL BENEFITS

Scottsdale is a short:
• 6 hour drive to Los Angeles
• 5 hour and 30 min drive to San Diego
• 5 hour drive to Las Vegas

“Being able to walk to work has been awesome and gives me such a downtown city-living vibe, I can’t even remember what it’s like to have to deal with a rush hour commute and I don’t ever wanna go back.”
- Becca Fox, Project Manager, JDA Software
Both small and large businesses enjoy unprecedented support through networking opportunities, educational programming, talent attraction and numerous other programs. Scottsdale is home to more than 25,000 businesses with nearly 20 percent of Arizona corporate headquarters calling the city home. More than 90 percent of Scottsdale’s software companies are growing with more than 10 percent software employment growth forecast in Arizona over the next five years. Other leading growth industries include technology, finance and insurance, real estate and rentals, health care and social services, and accommodation and food services.

Open for Innovation

The City of Scottsdale has become a hotbed for startup activity since 2010. According to Hoover’s Inc., from 2010 to 2017 nearly 17,000 companies have started operations in Scottsdale. Scottsdale makes up 33 percent of Arizona’s total number of deals and 16 percent of the total amount invested in Arizona companies since 2012. According to CB Insights, there has been more than a billion dollars invested in Scottsdale based firms since 2012, with nearly $330 million in 2016 alone.

Not only are there great companies in our community, region and state, but collaborative ecosystem resources such as AZ Tech Council, EmpoweredPhX, StartupAZ Foundation, InvestSW, Phoenix Startup Week and EyesPhX are advancing initiatives and connecting thought leaders. These resources are just a glimpse into what is available for an entrepreneur looking to scale operations in Scottsdale and join a thriving, diverse and generous community.

The City of Scottsdale, in partnership with Arizona State University, created the ASU Scottsdale Innovation Center SkySong which opened in 2008. SkySong provides startup businesses access to new technologies, capital networks, business education and a skilled workforce. SkySong is nearing full occupancy in all four buildings with more than 1,200 people currently working at the multi-use development. The project is projected to generate almost $10 billion in economic impact over the course of the next 30 years.

Arizona State University is guided by eight design inspirations that influence its growth and transformation. Among these guiding principles are deep commitments to valuing entrepreneurship in all its forms, transforming society by being connected to social needs, and being socially embedded in communities through mutual beneficial partnerships and ASU Startup School advances these three aspirations.

Whether you’re a budding entrepreneur, engineer, C-level executive or a STEM professional, you’ll find limitless opportunities in Scottsdale. Recently ranked one of the Top 10 Best Cities to Launch a Startup by DataFox and the No. 1 City to Live an Active Lifestyle and get a job by WalletHub, Scottsdale has something for everyone.

Arizona has made a concerted effort in recent years to create a business-friendly environment by cutting red tape and repealing overly burdensome regulations that would otherwise make business more difficult for innovative firms.

Looking for more reasons to choose Scottsdale as a location to grow your career or business?

Ranked one of the best cities in the U.S. for cybersecurity professionals

Top city in the country to launch a startup in 2016

No. 1 city in the U.S. to get a job in 2017

Top 100 best communities for young people

Career opportunities at dozens of rapidly expanding companies in an inclusive startup scene

Tax Rates

The Arizona Department of Revenue collects the tax on behalf of the City of Scottsdale.

Recent state legislation has reduced Arizona’s corporate income tax rate by 30 percent, reduced Arizona’s commercial property assessment ratio, and increased personal property tax exemptions by 15 percent.

The State of Arizona has aggressively cut business taxes to lower the cost of doing business by offering:

- No corporate franchise tax
- No income tax on dividends from out-of-state subsidiaries
- No worldwide unitary tax
- No sales tax on manufacturing equipment
- Eighty percent sales factor for corporate income tax, ramping up to a 100 percent option over time

Scottsdale has a labor force of 129,708 people and an unemployment rate of 3.9%, with top jobs by occupation in office and administrative support, sales, and executive managers and administrators.

SOURCE: 2018 GIS PLANNING

FEATURED FIRMS

- Accelede
- Appointment Plus
- Apriva
- Axon (Taser)
- Clearlink
- CVS Health
- Early Warning Services
- Fender
- General Dynamics
- Global Med
- GoDaddy
- Groupon
- HonorHealth
- Indeed
- JOA Software
- Mayo Clinic
- Nationwide Insurance
- Nautilus Insurance
- NRG Energy
- Orion Health
- PayPal
- Paradox
- Sisense
- Tailwave
- TD2
- The Hartford
- Troon Golf
- Vanguard
- Vixxo
- Weebly
- Web.com
- West Pharmaceutical
- Yelp
- ZocDoc

The Hartford
- ZocDoc
- Nautilus Insurance
- NRG Energy
- Orion Health
- PayPal
- Paradox
- Sisense
- Tailwave
- TD2
- The Hartford
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SOURCE: 2018 GIS PLANNING
Public and Private Schools

There are 41 private schools in Scottsdale serving 3,427 students. The student/teacher ratio of 6:1 is lower than the state private school average of 9:1. For those with special needs children, Scottsdale offers a significant array of private schools to meet your needs such as Devereux - Arizona, Gateway Academy and Brightmount Academy (Special Program, K-12, one-on-one instruction).

Scottsdale currently has 61 primary and secondary schools including several highly ranked private schools such as the Basis School Inc. (charter school), Foothill Academy and Great Hearts Academies- Scottsdale Preparatory. In fact, according to U.S. News & World Report 2014-2017, Basis Scottsdale Charter School has been consistently ranked one of the top two schools in the nation out of more than 19,400 public high schools in the country for “Best High Schools, National Rankings.”

Scottsdale Unified School District (SUSD) serves more than 24,000 students at 30 schools (one online). It prides itself on its academic achievements and places an emphasis on student extracurricular activities in academic challenges, music, theater and sports. Average SAT scores exceed both state and national averages. SUSD had a 88.6 percent graduation rate in 2017.

Scottsdale Unified School District:

- 90% graduation rate
- 92% of graduates go on to college
- Class of ’16 earned $55.6 million in scholarships
- Nationally ranked schools
- Award-winning academics, arts and athletics

SOURCE: SUSD 2016-17 ANNUAL REPORT

Scottsdale and the Greater Phoenix area are home to some of the state’s highest accredited higher education institutions which offer programs for both professional and technical training. Institutions include:

Arizona State University (ASU)
ASU is one of the largest public universities in the United States with more than 98,000 undergraduate and graduate student enrollments in 2016-17 on four campuses across Greater Phoenix.

Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD)
MCCCD is one of the largest networks of community colleges in the nation with more than 265,000 students. It offers more than 1,000 occupational programs to propel the region’s workforce.

Grand Canyon University (GCU)
GCU is a premier private university that prepares learners to become global citizens, critical thinkers, effective communicators and responsible leaders.

Scottsdale and the Greater Phoenix metro area offer many smaller colleges and specialized institutions with virtually unlimited options to continue your educational growth or to ensure your children receive the highest education possible.

For the third year in a row, U.S. News & World Report named ASU the most innovative school in the U.S. in its 2018 college rankings, AHEAD of Stanford (#2) and MIT (#3).
Scottsdale has something for everyone, from million-dollar houses on golf courses to hip urban condos and multifamily developments and quality homes popular with families, second-home buyers, empty nesters and millennials. Expect an urban and upscale lifestyle with resorts, sought-after restaurants and shopping, golf courses and popular outdoor attractions.

The Scottsdale Area Association of Realtors represents real estate agents across Scottsdale and the Phoenix area, and has a number of members who specialize in domestic and international relocation services to assist individuals and families unfamiliar with the area find the perfect home for their needs.

Generally, Scottsdale has been better insulated to market events/changes over time compared to other Valley cities. Scottsdale is a community that is no longer sprawling compared to other valley communities, and is now cycling to a redevelopment phase with multi-family housing being the strongest market. The multi-family developments in Scottsdale provide housing that satisfies contemporary preferences for unit finishes and community amenities in desirable locations.

Scottsdale residents spend an average of 22 minutes commuting to work.

From routine care to acute and specialty care, from infancy to old age, Scottsdale provides a range of healthcare offerings rarely matched in other communities. Mayo Clinic, with campuses in Phoenix and Scottsdale and 6,223 total Arizona employees in 2015 serves 100,000 patients per year with an integrated, team-based approach. It is also ranked the #1 hospital in Arizona. It is nationally ranked in 10 adult medical specialties including cancer, pulmonology, neurology & neurosurgery, geriatrics, cardiology & heart surgery, gastroenterology, orthopedics and more.

Honor Health offers 3,700 affiliated physicians in Arizona and has three acute care hospitals in Scottsdale alone, with outpatient centers such as the Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center and Honor Health Greenbaum Specialty Surgical Hospital.

Numerous additional hospitals and outpatient healthcare centers exist in Scottsdale, and the region is home to many additional premier institutions such as Banner MD Anderson Cancer Center and Phoenix Children’s Hospital which is nationally ranked in ten pediatric specialties.

If you are considering living or working in Scottsdale, Arizona – you are in great hands.

In 2017, the Scottsdale Police Department reported the Part 1 Crime Rate to be at the lowest level in the history of the department at 24.7 per 1,000 residents, and the Part 1 Crime Volume decreased by 3.1 percent from 2016. Robbery decreased by 10.7 percent from 2016 and Burglary decreased by 10.7 percent from its 5-year average.

In 2017, the men and women of the Scottsdale Fire Department consistently responded to more than 36,000 calls for service with the highest degree of caring for their constituents. They are an integral member of the most progressive fire service response system in the United States known as the Phoenix Regional Dispatch and Deployment System, which in 2017 experienced a renewal of the intergovernmental response agreement and strengthened its collaborative approach.

### Residential Market Sales Activity by ZIP Code (as of March 2018)

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Source: Scottsdale Area Association of Realtors March 2018.
“Vanguard is proud to be a part of the vibrant Scottsdale community. Our crew enjoy the variety of experiences Scottsdale has to offer including; thriving performing arts and culture, recreational opportunities and all that comes with living and working in Scottsdale.”

- Deborah Akinsipe, HR Site Lead, Vanguard

“Scottsdale’s in Arizona, baby, and Arizona is one of the last great states. I love the way it protects business. It’s second to no one in beauty in a large number of ways. Taxes are fair.”

- Bob Parsons, Founder, GoDaddy

“We set up shop in Scottsdale, Arizona, a resort town in the middle of the desert. Why Scottsdale? Seriously, we stare at palm trees and mountains... from our office chairs. We’re within miles of world-class resorts, spas, golf, and hikes. We own houses with yards. We have time for family and friends. And we never, ever shovel snow.”

- Tim Welsh, Nomadic Agency