

ARIZONA

HISTORY

Arizona was home to Native nations, then part of Spain and Mexico, before it joined the United States. All of them helped build the state.



The First Peoples

People have lived in Arizona for more than 12,000 years. The Hohokam farmed the desert near today's Phoenix. They dug hundreds of miles of canals by hand to bring river water to corn, beans and cotton. In the north, Ancestral Pueblo people built stone villages. The Hopi village of Oraibi has been lived in since about 1100. Later the Navajo and Apache came from the north.

Spain and Mexico

In 1540, the Spanish explorer Coronado crossed Arizona looking for cities of gold. In 1680, the Hopi joined a Pueblo uprising, killed the priests in their villages and stayed free of Spanish rule. In the 1690s, Father Eusebio Kino started **missions** among the O'odham and brought cattle and wheat. In 1751, O'odham fighters killed more than 100 settlers. Spain then built forts, and soldiers founded Tucson in 1775. Mexico won its freedom from Spain in 1821, and Arizona became part of Mexico.

Joining the United States

The United States won a war with Mexico in 1848 and took the land north of the Gila River. In the Gadsden Purchase of 1853, it agreed to pay Mexico 10 million dollars for the land south of the river. During the Civil War, settlers in the south sided with the Confederacy, which allowed slavery. Union soldiers from California

took the area back in 1862. In 1863, Congress made Arizona a **territory** and banned slavery there.

The Navajo and Apache Wars

Navajo and Apache bands raided ranches, mines and wagon trains. Soldiers and settlers attacked their camps. In 1864, the Army burned Navajo crops and marched more than 8,000 Navajo about 300 miles to a camp in New Mexico. A **treaty** in 1868 let them return to a **reservation** in their homeland. The Apache leader Cochise made peace in 1872. Geronimo fought on until 1886, when he surrendered and the Army sent his band to Florida. Other Apache stayed in Arizona. Today Arizona is home to 22 Native nations.



Building a State

Railroads crossed Arizona in the 1880s. Miners dug copper at Bisbee, Jerome and Morenci. Settlers cleaned out old Hohokam canals and started Phoenix, which became the capital in 1889. Roosevelt Dam, finished in 1911, stored Salt River water for farms. Arizona became the 48th state on February 14, 1912.

The Desert Fills Up

In World War II, clear skies made Arizona a good place to train pilots. Afterward, air conditioning made summers easier, and many families moved in. A canal 336 miles long now carries Colorado River water to Phoenix and Tucson. Phoenix is the fifth largest city in the country.

ARIZONA THROUGH TIME

1540	1680	1775	1848	1863	1886	1912	1935
Coronado crosses Arizona	The Hopi end Spanish rule	Tucson is founded as a fort	Land north of the Gila joins the U.S.	Arizona Territory is created	Geronimo surrenders	Arizona becomes the 48th state	Hoover Dam is dedicated

PEOPLE TO KNOW

Father Eusebio Kino	Priest. Started missions in the 1690s.
Cochise	Chiricahua Apache leader in the 1860s.
John Wesley Powell	Ran the Grand Canyon by boat in 1869.
Ira Hayes	Pima Marine in the Iwo Jima flag photo.
Sandra Day O'Connor	First woman on the Supreme Court.

WORDS TO KNOW

mission	a church and farm settlement started by priests
territory	land run by the United States that is not yet a state
treaty	a written agreement between nations
reservation	land kept by a Native nation for its people