

The town of Cave Creek is named after the small stream originating in the hills to the northeast that flows southwest for 25 miles before reaching the vicinity of Paradise Valley. The town of Cave Creek was first settled as a community in 1870 and incorporated in 1986. Cave Creek is located in northern Maricopa County. Phoenix sits to the southwest, Carefree to the east and Scottsdale to the southeast. The town encompasses approximately 31 square miles. Cave Creek is well situated for access to regional transportation. Interstate Highway 17 is located roughly eight miles to the west via the Carefree Highway. This north/south route connects Phoenix and Flagstaff. Air transportation is available at Scottsdale Municipal Airport, Deer Valley Airport and Sky Harbor International Airport.

Principal Economic Activities

Cave Creek's core stretches for one and a half miles at the northern foothills of Black Mountain with the Spur Cross Conservation Area in full panoramic view. The architectural styles are eclectic, but all respect the desert environment in which the community sits. Settled in 1870 by gold miners, the town was finally incorporated more than a century later by a community that shares the same rugged individualism. Cave Creek attracts bicyclists, hikers, riders of motorcycles and, perhaps most

reflective of its heritage, equestrians to a variety of businesses and events. A diverse mix of restaurants, coffee shops and retail establishments provide a thriving economic setting for tourists and residents alike. More than 30 annual events, including several sponsored by the town, attract visitors from all over the valley.

Scenic Attractions

Several regional parks surround Cave Creek offering hiking, climbing, horseback riding, mountain biking and other recreation. Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area is the newest addition to Maricopa County's Regional Parks system. The conservation area encompasses 2,154 acres of diverse, rugged upper Sonoran Desert. Cave Creek Regional Park is located north of Phoenix and this 2,922-acre park sits in the upper Sonoran Desert. This desert oasis, ranging in elevation from 2,000 feet to 3,060 feet, provides any hiker or equestrian majestic views. The Gateway Desert Awareness Park inside the town of Cave Creek offers children play structures, an informative trail, amphitheater, a demonstration garden and much more.

Community Facilities

Cave Creek offers a broad range of community facilities including the Cave Creek Museum, Desert Foothills Library, Cave Creek Memorial Arena Rodeo Grounds and Rancho Manana Golf Club. For the equestrian lovers, Cave Creek has Spur Cross Stables, Cave Creek Trail Rides and MTM Ranch.



Community Profile for
Cave Creek, Arizona



BASIC INFORMATION	
Founded:	1870
Incorporated:	1986
Elevation:	2,200 ft.
Location:	Maricopa
Distance to major cities:	
Phoenix:	32 miles
Tucson:	144 miles
Las Vegas:	286 miles
San Diego:	381 miles
Los Angeles:	399 miles

POPULATION			
	2000	2010	2023 (est.)
Cave Creek	3,955	5,005	5,021

Office of Economic Opportunity

SALES TAX / TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX	
Cave Creek	3.00%
Maricopa	0.70%
State	5.60%

Arizona Dept. of Revenue & Arizona Tax Research Foundation

LABOR FORCE			
	2000	2010	2022
Civilian Labor Force	2,114	2,558	3,500
Unemployed	31	137	88
Unemployment Rate	1.5%	5.4%	2.5%

Office of Economic Opportunity

WORKFORCE EDUCATION ATTAINMENT		
	Count	Share
Less than high school	141	2.8%
High school or equivalent, no college	533	10.7%
Some college or Associate degree	1,221	24.4%
Bachelor's degree or advanced degree	3,107	62.1%

American Community Survey

INDUSTRY (RANKED BY EMPLOYMENT)		
	Count	Share
Professional, scientific, & administrative services	1,410	42.9%
Education, health care & social assistance	362	11.0%
Other services, except public administration	272	8.3%
Arts, entertainment, food & recreation services	256	7.8%
Finance, insurance & real estate	210	6.4%
Wholesale trade	191	5.8%
Retail trade	181	5.5%
Construction	146	4.4%
Information	80	2.4%
Transportation, warehousing, & utilities	71	2.2%
Public administration	67	2.0%
Manufacturing	42	1.3%

American Community Survey

This profile was prepared by the Arizona Commerce Authority in cooperation with local sources. For further information, please contact:

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