

absn.gcu.edu



Welcome to Tucson, Arizona

Your path to nursing starts here.

GRAND CANYON
UNIVERSITY®

Find your purpose. Live your passion.

You no longer have to wait to start nursing school. Our ABSN program can put you on an accelerated path to the profession, with three start dates a year. So as you consider relocating to Tucson to begin your education, we thought it would be helpful to provide a snapshot of what life in southern Arizona is like.



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City Character

Every city has a unique story to tell and we're about to showcase what makes Tucson one of a kind.



Tucson is the second-largest city in Arizona and one of the longest continuously inhabited cities in the United States. It has a rich historical and archeological record that dates back more than 4,000 years.

Tucson has an attractive, modern downtown with a small historic district, surrounded by suburbs laid out in a grid. It's an area that denotes an eclectic blend of Native American, Spanish, Mexican and Anglo-American influence.

As vibrant as it is laid-back, the city is a haven for art lovers, a destination for outdoor thrill-seekers and a scenic wonderland for those who crave blue skies and sunshine.



Local Economy

Tucson has a diverse number of large employers in both the public and private sectors—from education, government and health care to technology, manufacturing and the military.



HEALTH CARE SECTOR

These are among the city's largest health care employers:

- Carondelet Health Network
- TMC HealthCare
- Southern Arizona VA Health Care System

TOP HOSPITALS IN TUCSON

- TMC HealthCare
- Oro Valley Hospital
- Northwest Medical Center

Lay of the Land

Located in Pima County, Tucson rests in the heart of the Sonoran Desert. Known for its beautiful scenery, the area features flowering deserts, rolling hills, rugged canyons and pine-topped peaks. Tucson is also home to the saguaro cactus. Exclusive to the Sonoran Desert, these majestic cacti symbolize the American Southwest.

While these tree-like columnar cacti can grow up to 60 feet tall, it takes them a long time to get there. A 10-year-old saguaro might only be 1.5 inches tall. Its iconic arms won't begin to sprout until it's between the ages of 50 and 70.

Four notable mountain ranges surround the city—the Santa Catalina Mountains to the northeast, the Tucson Mountains to the west, the Rincon Mountains to the east and the Santa Rita Mountains to the south.

CLIMATE

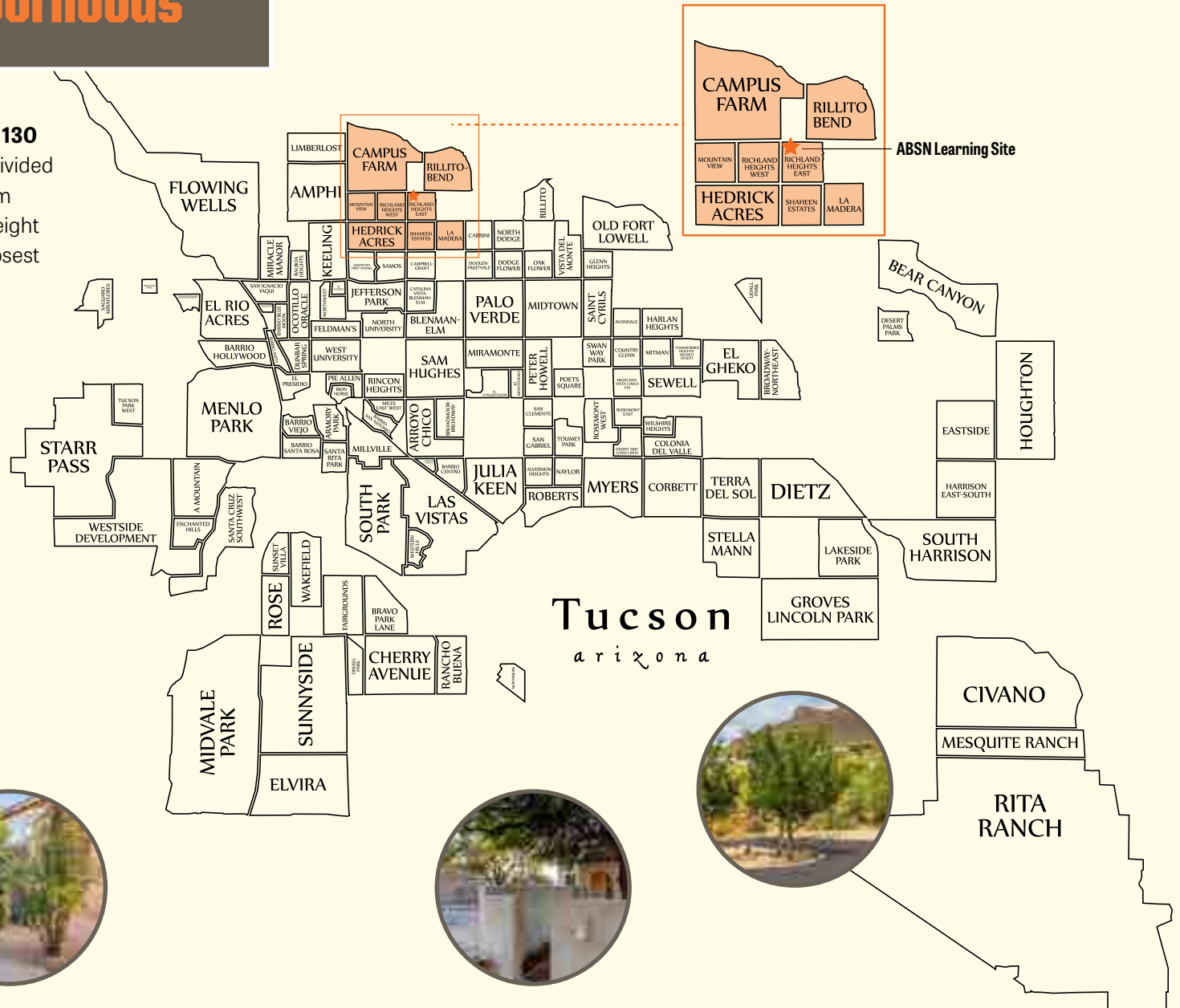
While the annual precipitation in Tucson is low, when it does rain, it pours. During monsoon season, which runs mid-June to late September, the clouds can roll in at any point, bringing heavy rain, high winds and lightning with them.



Notable Neighborhoods

The City of Tucson has more than 130 neighborhoods—all of which are divided up into six wards. Our ABSN program site is located in Ward 3, with these eight neighborhoods being among the closest to the facility:

- Campus Farms
- Hedrick Acres
- Richland Heights East
- Richland Heights West
- La Madera
- Mountain View
- Rillito Bend
- Shaheen Estates



Area Apartments

While the Tucson metro area has an exhaustive list of apartments, here are five complexes located less than two miles from our ABSN program site.

Treehouse Apartments

3636 N. Campbell Ave., Tucson, AZ 85719
520.777.8055 | mytreehouselife.com

Casa Presidio Apartments

2002 E. Fort Lowell Road, Tucson, AZ 85719
520.795.5000 | casapresidio.com

Sandstone Apartments

405 E. Prince Road, Tucson, AZ 85705
520.887.0773 | sandstoneapt.com

College Town Apartments

1300 E. Fort Lowell Road, Tucson, AZ 85719
520.327.9569 | collegetowntucson.com

Fox Point Apartments

3700 N. Campbell Ave., Tucson, AZ 85719
844.479.6544 | foxpointapts.com



Treehouse Apartments



Casa Presidio Apartments



Sandstone Apartments



College Town Apartments



Fox Point Apartments

Cultural Oasis

Tucson has a high number of outstanding performing and visual arts groups and inspiring galleries for a city its size. So if you love culture, this mini-mecca for the arts won't disappoint.

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum

A zoo, natural history purveyor and botanical garden all in one, this living museum recreates the natural landscape of the Sonoran Desert Region. Get close-up views of bobcats, mountain lions, prairie dogs, roadrunners and more on an almost two-mile path through 21 acres of desert.

desertmuseum.org

Arizona Theatre Company

For more than 50 years, this professional theatre company has produced a rich variety of world drama, including classic and contemporary plays as well as musicals and new works.

arizonatheatre.org

Carnival of Illusion

Inspired by the golden age of magic, this unique brand of magical theater incorporates ancient mysteries, world travel and astonishing illusions.

carnivalofillusion.com



Tucson Meet Yourself

Every October, this “folklife” festival in downtown Tucson focuses on presenting artists and communities that carry on living traditions rooted in a group's definition of identity, artistry and cultural significance.

tucsonmeetyourself.org



Cultural Oasis



Civic Orchestra of Tucson

Founded in 1975, this 60-piece volunteer community orchestra presents free concerts to residents. Soloists are well-known musicians from Tucson and across the country. cotmusic.org

DeGrazia Gallery in the Sun Museum

Founded by architect Ettore DeGrazia, this outdoor museum is a unique art installation in the middle of the desert, featuring various exhibits and historic buildings. degrazia.org

Museum of Contemporary Art Tucson

A pioneering museum that hosts rotating exhibitions by locally, nationally and internationally renowned contemporary artists. moca-tucson.org

The Rialto Theatre

A historical venue that presents amazing theater productions and extremely diverse live music performances. rialtotheatre.com

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Tucson Festival of Books

Every March, amazing authors visit the city for the fourth largest literary event in the country. It's also the only nonprofit book festival of its kind, donating all proceeds to local literacy programs. tucsonfestivalofbooks.org



Science Hub

Tucson is a hotbed of scientific discovery and observation. More specifically, if you're a fan of aerospace or astronomy, the city will take your interest to new heights.

Biosphere 2

Dedicated to the research and understanding of global scientific issues, the facility serves as a laboratory for controlled scientific studies, an arena for scientific discovery and discussion and a far-reaching provider of public education.

biosphere2.org

Flandrau Science Center & Planetarium

This facility is a fun and educational science center that explores the entire universe. It's also the only planetarium in the area, with a 16-inch telescope that provides great views of Saturn's rings and Jupiter's cloud belts. flandrau.org

Kitt Peak National Observatory

Founded in 1958 as the country's first national observatory, Kitt Peak is the perfect place to view the night sky. Located on the Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation, the observatory is home to the McMath solar telescope, the world's largest solar observation instrument. noao.edu/kpno

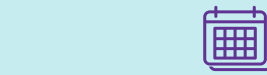


Science Hub



Pima Air & Space Museum

One of the largest air and space museums in the world, the museum showcases over 100 years of aerospace history via more than 350 aircraft and spacecraft, from a Wright Flyer to a 787 Dreamliner. pimaair.org



Tucson Gem, Mineral & Fossil Showcase

Every February, the city hosts this highly anticipated event where hundreds of vendors get together and sell ancient and modern things that sparkle and shine. tgms.org



Did You Know?

Arizona scientists have participated in high-profile NASA missions, including

the Phoenix Mars Lander and the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter.



Outdoor Adventures

Whether you're looking for a little Zen or a lot of thrills, there's no shortage of outdoor adventures in and around Tucson.

Catalina State Park

Located at the base of the majestic Santa Catalina Mountains, this park is a haven for desert plants, including 5,000 saguaros and wildlife. Spanning 5,500 acres, the park has foothills, canyons and streams to explore as well as equestrian, birding, hiking and biking trails. azstateparks.com/catalina

Colossal Cave Mountain Park

With 2,400 acres to explore, there's a lot to see and do here. While hiking, running, mountain biking and horseback riding are popular activities above ground, six stories below the surface are amazing cave formations that showcase millions of years of geological activity. colossalcave.com



Take a Hike

Thanks to the beautiful mountain ranges that surround the city, Tucson is a hiker's paradise, with accessible trails that include:



Mt. Lemmon
Windy Point
Aspen Loop Trail

Catalina State Park
Canyon Loop Trail



Tucson Mountain Park
Hidden Canyon Trail
Golden Gate Trail

Saguaro National Park West
King Canyon Trail



Saguaro National Park East
Tanque Verde Ridge Trail



Outdoor Adventures

El Tour de Tucson

Every November, the city hosts the largest bicycling event in Arizona. perimeterbicycling.com



Reid Park Zoo

A 24-acre campus that houses hundreds of animals in naturalistic exhibits, including African elephants, capybaras, gibbons, jaguars, rhinos and tigers. reidparkzoo.org

Tucson Botanical Garden

A five-acre oasis of beauty, inspiration and education, this must-see destination has a wide variety of specialty gardens to peruse, including Aloe Alley, the backyard bird garden, the herb garden and the pollinator garden. It's also home to a seasonal tropical butterfly display. tucsonbotanical.org



Mountain Bike Mecca

Whether you're a beginner or advanced rider, the Tucson area has amazing mountain bike trails waiting for you to explore, including:



The Sweetwater Preserve, a series of beautiful, well-maintained loop trails on Tucson's western edge that satisfy every level of rider.



The 50 Year Trail System, a series of scenic trails for intermediate and advanced riders, is located northwest of Tucson, near Oro Valley and Catalina.



Mt. Lemmon, the crown jewel of Tucson's mountain bike scene, offers advanced riders multiple steep, technical trails and the challenge of higher altitudes.



City of Gastronomy

Tucson has a rich agricultural heritage, thriving food traditions and culinary distinctiveness, resulting in it being the first U.S. city to earn the coveted City of Gastronomy title from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Multi-layered Food Culture

Tucson's agriculture heritage goes back more than 4,000 years, starting with native Hohokam and O'odham people of the Sonoran Desert and evolving with Spanish and U.S. colonization.

Today, the city has a reputation for serving up some mean carne asada tacos, Sonoran hot dogs and prickly pear margaritas to name a few.



Top Eats in Tucson

Tucson has a highly diverse culinary scene. These popular restaurants are just a small taste of what the city has to offer.

Cafe Poca Cosa, an upscale Mexican cafe known for its fresh, creative fare. cafepocacosatucson.com

DOWNTOWN Kitchen + Cocktails, a chic locale for eclectic global fare and creative libations. downtownkitchen.com

Feast, a relaxed bistro for market-driven, eclectic cuisine. eatatfeast.com



What Is a Sonoran Hot Dog?

A hot dog that's wrapped in bacon and grilled, served on a bolillo-style hot dog bun, and topped with pinto beans, onions, tomatoes and a variety of additional condiments.



City of Gastronomy

Prep and Pastry, a “craft” breakfast and lunch destination. prepandpastry.com

The Coronet, a place where classic sensibility meets international cuisine. coronettucson.com



Marana Gastronomy Tour

Get an immersive, full-circle experience that rolls the Tucson area’s food history and the current innovations of the local dining scene into one flavorful afternoon. discovermarana.org/gastronomy-tour

El Charro Café

Established in 1922, El Charro Café in Tucson is the oldest Mexican restaurant in the United States continuously operated by the same family. It may also be the birthplace of the chimichanga. elcharrocafe.com



eegee's

Known for its refreshing Italian ice selection and creative flavors of the month, eegee's is a Tucson treasure. Founded in 1971 from a vending truck, the locally owned restaurant chain has nearly 30 locations, selling more than a million gallons of its famous frozen treat each year. eegees.com

Local Directory

GOVERNANCE

City of Tucson

tucsonaz.gov

Pima County

webcms.pima.gov

Arizona Department of Transportation

azdot.gov/business/district-contacts/contacts-southcentral-district

ANNUAL EVENTS

visittucson.org/visit/events/categories/top-annual-events-tucson



UTILITIES

Tucson Electric Power Company

tep.com

Southwest Gas Corporation

swgas.com

Tucson Water Department

tucsonaz.gov/water



NEWS OUTLETS

Arizona Daily Star

tucson.com

Tucson Sentinel

tucsonsentinel.com

Tucson Weekly

tucsonweekly.com

RADIO STATIONS

93.7 – Today's Hits

krq.iheart.com

96.1 – Classic Rock

klpx.com

98.3 – Hip Hop

hot983.iheart.com

99.5 – Country

kiimfm.com

102.1 – Rock

kfma.com

TV STATIONS

ABC 9

kgun9.com

CBS 13

kold.com

Fox 11

kold.com

NBC 4

kvoa.com

Shopping Destinations

Bookmans

A regional chain that buys and sells all things entertainment, from books to instruments. bookmans.com

Foothills Mall

An indoor regional shopping mall that features more than 90 stores and outlets. shopfoothillsmall.com

Fourth Avenue Shopping District

Home to eclectic shops selling local art, fashion, books, furniture and decor. fourthavenue.org

La Encantada

A luxury shopping experience that features exclusive retailers and breathtaking views of the Catalina Mountains. laencantadashoppingcenter.com



Mercado Dan Agustin

A place where local vendors sell everything from fresh Mexican sweet bread to Southwestern art. mercadodistrict.com/mercado

Tucson Mall

A large retail center with more than 170 stores and popular casual dining options. tucsonmall.com

Tucson Premium Outlets

A place to score extraordinary savings on exceptional brands. premiumoutlets.com/outlet/tucson





GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY®

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