

The Community of Fountain Hills

(Information from [Fountain Hills Community Guide 2012-2013](#) and [Community Profile 2017](#))

Fountain Hills is recognized throughout Arizona for its pristine views and its natural, undisturbed beauty. Fountain Hills is blessed with majestic mountain scenery and panoramic desert landscapes. It truly is a community that has earned the phrase, "Come for a day; stay for a lifetime."

It is conveniently located near the Phoenix metropolitan area, yet it is surrounded by a buffer zone of natural features, and the governmental entities preserve the small-town atmosphere and protect it from future urban sprawl. The McDowell Mountains divide Fountain Hills from Scottsdale to the west. McDowell Mountain Regional Park, consisting of 21,000 acres and forty miles of hiking trails, borders the north boundary of town. Fort McDowell Indian reservation protects the eastern border of town and the Salt River Indian reservation buffers the south side of town.



The golf communities of Rio Verde and Tonto Verde, located just a few miles north of Fountain Hills, do not have business districts, so the residents are closely tied to Fountain Hills. The residents are very involved in the churches, civic organizations and social affairs of our town.

Fountain Hills is a totally planned community developed by the McCullough Corporation beginning in 1969. In late 1989 voters approved self-government, and the first elected Town Council took their seats in June 1990. Fountain Hills is still Arizona's newest municipality. The term "planned community" has a positive connotation and has resulted in a beautiful Mediterranean-style town designed to fit the beautiful features and topography of the desert foothills. The term "planned community" might imply tract homes of boring sameness, but in Fountain Hills about 75% of the homes are custom built.

Among its Accolades:

- ❖ 1993. Listed in the book "50 Fabulous Places to Raise Your Family."
- ❖ 1997. Parenting magazine named Fountain Hills as one of the 10 "great" places to raise families from throughout the entire US.
- ❖ 2006. Phoenix Magazine named it as the "best" place to live in the Phoenix Metropolitan area.
- ❖ 2009. Business Week listed the community as the "best affordable suburb" in Arizona.
- ❖ 2013. Arizona "Top Booming Suburbs" in Best Places to Living Ranking by Coldwell Bank.
- ❖ 2016. "Most Playful City, USA" Sixth time – honored by KaBOOM.

The developers built a city park and thirty-acre town lake as a central feature for the community with the world's tallest fountain in the center of the lake as a central focal point. Under optimal conditions, the fountain can eject a stream of water 560 feet high and operates daily for about fifteen minutes on the hour between 9:00 AM and 9:00 PM. Fountain Park hosts kids' movies, outdoor concerts, Ballet Arizona, a championship level 18-hole disc golf course, our Veterans Memorial and Splash Park. Fountain Park is also the site of Easter Sunrise services held by the Fountain Hills Ministerial Association. The town also maintains several other parks and recreational areas. Saguaro Lake is a short fifteen to twenty-minute ride northeast of town.



A few years ago, the new 31,000 square foot Civic Center and adjacent 15,000 square foot Town Library and City Hall opened. Within the library building is the River of Time Museum operated by the Fountain Hills and Lower Verde Valley Historical Society.



Medical Services

A variety of medical services are available to children, adults, senior citizens and their pets. Fountain Hills is home to numerous family practice medical offices and a variety of other physicians who offer specialized services. It is only a fifteen-minute drive to the major medical facilities Mayo Clinic Scottsdale and Scottsdale Honor Health Shea hospital. There are several facilities in Fountain Hills that provide nursing care and assisted living. These include several homes in a residential setting as well as Fountainview Village, a self-contained community for seniors located two blocks from Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, as well as Morningstar.

Schools

The Fountain Hills School District operates an elementary school, middle school and high school. As of 2018-2019, school enrollment is approximately at 1,500 students. All schools have received an "excelling" rating from the Arizona Board of Education. There is a Montessori Charter school, a Christian home school educators group, and preschool programs.



Fountain Hills High School

Churches of Fountain Hills

There are about twenty church congregations and a dozen church buildings in town. Four of the church structures are near Shepherd of the Hills. Most of the churches are affiliated with Fountain Hills Ministerial Association.

Transportation Services

Automobile access to any part of the metropolitan area or outlying areas is very convenient and rapid from Fountain Hills. Driving time to Sky Harbor airport is less than thirty minutes by car. Shuttle bus service is available to Sky Harbor, the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, and express bus service is also available to Scottsdale and Phoenix metro areas. There are also several private car services. Most major boulevards in town have marked lanes for bicycles and joggers.

Distinct Attributes of Fountain Hills

The town of Fountain Hills is a small town suburban community and it is nearing the completion phase of its growth. The estimated population in 2010 was 22,489, and when fully completed the population will be 36,540. 14.4% of the population is under 18 years of age, 85.6% is over age 18, and the median age is 53.9 years. The 2010 census indicated that the median household income was \$75,038.



There are four eighteen-hole golf courses in Fountain Hills, plus a golf course opened by the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, and four courses in the neighboring communities of Rio Verde and Tonto Verde. Tourism is a major factor in the economy. The 25,000-acre Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation borders Fountain Hills on the east, and this small tribe of Native Americans are quite affluent with earnings from their gaming casino. The tribe has been prudent with the use of their wealth and invested these profits in other long-term enterprises to sustain a sound financial future.

Trends in the Community that should be addressed in the next five years

In Fountain Hills, with a current population of 22,489, only a small percentage attends church on a regular basis, so there is a great opportunity for evangelism.



For more information:

www.fhaz.gov Town of Fountain Hills

www.fhusd.org FH Unified School District

www.fountainhillschamber.com FH Chamber