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North Scottsdale, The Place to Be.

By Joan Ewart

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North Scottsdale! Anything North of Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd is considered North Scottsdale.

Yesterday the outer reaches, today the place to be! When we first started coming to Scottsdale, Shea Boulevard was essentially the northern part of Scottsdale...and Shea Blvd was just a two lane road that went to Fountain Hills, a newly formed community east of Scottsdale. Shea Blvd essentially ended at 90th Street! In 1984 or thereabouts, Scottsdale Ranch started building at 96th and the rush was on. Cactus Road was a long string of Arabian Horse Farms, today sadly, most of those are gone. Scottsdale Airport was practically in the middle of the desert, now in the middle of air noise disputes. A trip to Crazy Ed's Satisfied Frog (as it was called in those days) seemed to take forever. Rawhide was the thoroughly western experience located in the desert. Today Rawhide is being relocated and sold as lots for more upscale dwellings. Wow, what 25 years can do.

Scottsdale kept annexing and annexing until now it covers approximately 185 square miles. Population in 1980 was 88,412 and today in 2004 it is 202,705, based on the 2000 census. Median age is 41 – so much for the myth that Scottsdale is for retirement only.

Pinnacle Peak is the landmark of North Scottsdale! North Scottsdale is a study in contrasts, admittedly the new luxury is taking over from the Old West, but as long as Greasewood Flats, an old stagecoach stop exists, the Old West will be alive in North Scottsdale. Greasewood Flats, by the way has some really great hamburgers and is very scenic. Across the road the new multi-million Four Seasons Resort. A study in contrasts to say the least.

Sassi – a new Italian restaurant, costing \$10,000,000 is special to say the least, set at the base of Pinnacle Peak on 6 acres of desert, it may become as famous as Pinnacle Peak itself.

Pinnacle Peak Patio, another throw-back to the old days, a western steak house where many a business man lost his tie on visits past. The trip was worth it 25 years ago and still worth it today for food and fun!

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North Scottsdale, the area north of Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd up to Carefree Highway has awesome desert scenery and even though the area is growing by leaps and bounds, there is every effort to preserve this natural beauty. Many upscale residential communities, such as Grayhawk, DC Ranch, Desert Mountain, Troon, Sincuidados, The Legends and more keep much open space and try to blend with environment. Along with these communities of course there are a multitude of world class golf courses, boutiques, shops and malls to support the increase in population. There are also new restaurants, and resorts. These resorts are desert oriented and very popular for visitors to the area. For a special treat we suggest a visit to North Scottsdale.

To read more about Scottsdale, be sure and visit <http://insider-scottsdale.com>

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An artist, a writer and world traveler, devotes many hours to authoring and maintaining major travel web sites. Publishes many articles on travel spots around the world.

Scottsdale Residential Real Estate – Getting A Lay Of The Land

By John Wesley

Scottsdale residential real estate allows people to live in the lap of luxury. Located in Maricopa County Arizona, Scottsdale is renowned as a luxury resort town. But, the desert heaven of Scottsdale wasn't always this way.

It is believed that the Hohokam and Anasazi Indians moved into the area around 300 BC. They were an agricultural people, and the deserts which are now known as Scottsdale was not particularly plentiful with water.

Together, these tribes built approximately 125 miles (200 kilometers) of canals. The Hohokam and Anasazi effectively watered the entire area with these canals, turning the desert into an area with rich soil for farming. Now, the area is lush with greenery, turning Scottsdale into a desert oasis.

Scottsdale residential real estate residents enjoy not only the lush greenery that the canals produce, but also the lifestyle that living on a body of water creates. The Hohokam Indians suddenly vanished around 1400 AD, adding mystery to Scottsdale's past.

Today, getting around Scottsdale has become easier with the highway of Route 17, Route 51, the 101 Loop and the 202 Loop. With all roads having three (3) or four (4) lanes, getting downtown from Scottsdale residential real estate can take ten minutes, depending on the time of day. Between four

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o'clock and six o'clock, expect getting around the Scottsdale residential real estate area to easily take at least forty–five minutes.

Scottsdale, Arizona is essentially divided into four (4) areas: Old Town (South Scottsdale); Downtown (Civic Center/ Fashion Square); Central Scottsdale; and North Scottsdale. Old Town (South Scottsdale) was once known as the "poor" side of town, with many soup–kitchens and a median resale home value around \$100,000.00 USD. This has recently changed and many old buildings are being replaced with safer, more aesthetic architecture. The median resale home price in Old Town has recently skyrocketed to around \$200,000.00 USD.

Downtown Scottsdale residential real estate is seeing a recent up–rise in luxury condos. Downtown is known to be a more eclectic and cultural area, and the streets are often filled with foot traffic after dark as residents enjoy the Downtown night life.

Central Scottsdale has a long history of Scottsdale residential real estate luxury. Movies and television shows such as Beverly Hills 90210 and Clueless have shot scenes in this area, with large, luxury mansions as the backdrops.

North Scottsdale is where the majority of new Scottsdale residential real estate is being built. As the city expands northward, new residents are enjoying the beautiful mountain views in the area. The median new home price in North Scottsdale is approximately \$750,000.00 USD, with many home prices in the millions.

Because each area of Scottsdale, Arizona has its own unique style, Scottsdale residential real estate has something for anybody who is looking to live in the lap of luxury. As the area is seeing a lot of

growth, new jobs are constantly being created in the area. At this rate of growth, Scottsdale may soon rival Phoenix in population and businesses. However, Scottsdale residential real estate is determined not only to maintain luxury, but improve upon it, meaning housing prices have nowhere to go but up!

For more free information about buying, selling, and investing in the greater Phoenix, Arizona real estate market visit the Phoenix Real Estate Talk! web site at

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You'll also find a discussion forum for asking questions and free e–mail mini–courses for enhancing your real estate knowledge.



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