

Welcome to Utah!



**Hill AFB, Utah
Family Support Center**

UTAH FACTS

- The name “Utah” comes from the Native American Ute tribe and means “people of the mountains” or “home on mountaintop”.
- State Capital: Salt Lake City.
- Statehood Day: January 4, 1896 (45th state).
- Highest Point: Kings Peak 13,528 ft (Uinta Mountains, Duchesne Co. - NE part of state).
- Lowest Point: Beaver Dam Wash 2,350 ft. (Near St. George, Washington Co. SW part of state).
- Size: 84,900 square miles and ranked 11th largest state in the U.S.
- Population: Over 2 million, 85% live along the Wasatch front (From Logan to Provo).
- Famous Utahans: Author Steven Covey (Seven Habits of Highly Effective People), Outlaw Butch Cassidy, Dr. Robert Jarvic (inventor of the artificial heart), actor Robert Redford, skier Picabo Street and football quarterback Steve Young (direct descendent of Brigham Young).
- 94% of Utahans age 18-64 are rated literate, the highest literacy rate in the US.
- 85% of Utah’s population lives along the Wasatch front; 49% of this population are members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS, or Mormons). Of the total state population, approximately 64% are LDS. Most world religions are represented in the state; to locate a place of worship, contact the Base Chapel at 777-2106.



WEATHER AND CLIMATE

Utah’s climate is high desert, which means that generally the summer daytime humidity is low, usually less than 30%. This low humidity is what gives us “the greatest snow on earth” – our winter snowfall is fine and powdery! Northern Utah has four distinct seasons, and while the southern desert area (Utah’s “Dixie”) can get quite hot in the summer, the winters there are mild, with average daytime temperatures around 55-60°. Here’s a brief description of the weather in northern Utah.

Spring

The spring is usually our rainiest time of the year, but there’s still lots of sunshine (an average of 237 sunny days a year!), and the weather is mild. Trees begin to bud and daffodils bloom in late March or early April. In early spring, you can ski in the mountains in the morning, and golf in the valleys in the afternoon! The weather can be very changeable at this time of year, though, so it’s best to be prepared.



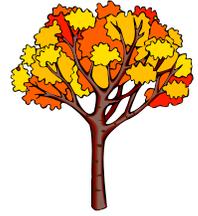
Summer

Summers are dry and hot, with daytime temperatures in the high 80’s and 90’s, and at night it can go down to the 60’s. There are occasional evening thunderstorms, which can bring brief high winds, but these seldom dampen your summertime activities! Because it is dry, many homes don’t have air conditioners, and instead have “swamp coolers”. These coolers work by putting moisture into the air, and use much less electricity than air conditioners.



Autumn

Cool nights and temperate days make fall a favorite season for many. You may need a jacket in the morning, and by lunchtime be comfortable enough to go out in shorts and a t-shirt. The many deciduous trees turn all shades of gold, yellow, orange, and red, sprinkling the mountainsides with an autumn “rainbow”. The first snowfall can be as early as October, but “serious” snow that stays doesn’t usually occur until after Thanksgiving.



Winter

Along the Wasatch front, winter temperatures seldom go below freezing during the day, but it gets much colder at night, often into the teens. So don’t leave your pets outside at night! The local communities are used to regular winter snowfall, and the roads are promptly plowed and kept clear. Sorry, but the amount of snow here doesn’t justify buying that four-wheel drive SUV! Our Christmases are almost always “white”, but the majority of snow usually falls in January and February. If you are concerned about driving in the winter, the Family Support Center’s Relocation Assistance Program has “Winter Driving” videos, available for check-out.

GEOGRAPHY - The Great Salt Lake

The Great Salt Lake is both the largest body of water between the Great Lakes and the Pacific Ocean and the largest salt lake in the Western Hemisphere. The Great Salt Lake is the major remnant of Lake Bonneville, a large freshwater lake that occupied much of western Utah during the Pleistocene area (75,000 to 7,250 BC). The Great Salt Lake receives water from streams originating in the surrounding mountains. Its high salinity is caused by the accumulation of minerals because the only outlet of water is through evaporation – no streams flow out of the lake. It measures 92 by 48 miles, but is only, on average, 13 feet deep.

The Bonneville Salt Flats of the western Great Salt Lake Desert were formed when Lake Bonneville receded and evaporated. The salt flats are actually the bed of that once massive lake, and are composed mainly of potash salts ranging in thickness from less than one inch to six feet. It’s one of the flattest areas on Earth, and the world speed trials are held there in October.

EARLIEST INHABITANTS

The Anasazi and Fremont Indians lived in Utah about 2,500 years ago. Across much of northern Utah, the Fremont relied mainly on hunting and gathering for much of their food. Further to the south, in the Four Corners area and across the southern portion of Utah, the Anasazi adopted a farming lifestyle, raising corn, beans and squash. The Anasazi also domesticated the turkey and used it as an important source of food.



Other Native American groups living in Utah more recently include the Ute, Southern Paiute, Navajo, and Northern and Eastern Shoshone. The Ute once held claim to much of Utah and all of

western Colorado. They ranged well onto the Great Plains of eastern Colorado into Nebraska and south into New Mexico. The Ute lived by hunting, fishing, gathering and trading with other Native American groups in the area. During the late 1800s, the Ute lost most of their lands and were restricted to reservations in southern Colorado and northeastern Utah.

UTAH HISTORY, EXPLORERS & SETTLERS

Mexicans and Spaniards were the first known Europeans to enter what is now the state of Utah. Juan María Antonia Rivera led at least two expeditions into the area of present-day Utah in 1765. Twelve years later, a 10-man exploration team led by two Franciscan priests came through Utah looking for a route between Santa Fe, New Mexico and Monterey, California. They entered Utah from the east near the present town of Jensen, in September 1776. By the early 1800s trade with the Indians in Utah was well established.

In the 1820s trappers explored most of Utah's rivers and valleys and some of the desert land. Jedediah Smith, one of the great explorers, made several significant journeys through Utah. It was his rediscovery of South Pass in Wyoming that allowed thousands of immigrants to travel west by wagon. Trapper Jim Bridger reported his sighting of the Great Salt Lake in 1824. Miles Goodyear established Fort Buenaventura on the Ogden River in 1845.

In April 1847 the pioneer company of Mormons led by Brigham Young started from Winter Quarters, Nebraska, heading to Utah. An advance party entered the Salt Lake Valley on July 22, 1847. The rest of the group entered on July 24, which is now a state holiday – Pioneer Day.



Communication between East and West became increasingly important between 1850 and 1870. The overland freight brought needed goods to Utah settlers. The Pony Express brought both mail and news in its short nineteen months of operation. In 1868, Union Pacific began to build part of the transcontinental railroad through Echo and Weber canyons. On May 10, 1869, workers joined the Central Pacific and the Union Pacific railroad lines at Promontory Summit, Utah.

UTAH TODAY

Utah is a leader in information technology. It is home to numerous high-tech companies including Gateway and Novell. In 1998 Scarborough Research Corp. stated that Salt Lake City had more personal computers per household than any other city in the United States.

Tourism has become a major economic factor year-round with the development of Utah's ski industry, and recreation areas such as Lake Powell, and over 50 state and national parks, monuments, and recreation areas.

Another growing multi-million dollar industry in Utah is film and television production. Popular television shows produced in Utah include "Promised Land" and "Touched by an Angel." Motion pictures filmed in Utah include: 2001: A Space Odyssey (1968), Butch Cassidy and the

Sundance Kid (1969), Footloose (1984), Thelma and Louise (1991), Forrest Gump (1994), Independence Day (1996), The Wild Wild West (1999), and Mission Impossible II (2000).

LIQUOR LAWS

The sale and service of alcoholic beverages is regulated by the State of Utah. Alcoholic beverage control is a concept that Utah shares with other states and countries. Utah's liquor laws are based on the general philosophy of making alcoholic beverages available in a manner that reasonably satisfies the public demand. In this respect, however, the state does not promote or encourage the sale or use of alcohol.

Legal Age

A person must be at least 21 years of age or older to purchase and consume alcohol in Utah. The following is a summary of how residents and visitors to Utah may obtain alcoholic beverages.

Wine, Liquor, and Beer

Full liquor service is available in licensed restaurants, airport lounges, and private clubs. Patrons may order liquor by the drink, wine by the glass or bottle, and beer in bottles, cans and on draft. Packaged liquor, wine, and heavy beer (over 3.2%) are available in State Liquor Stores and Package Agencies.



In restaurants, liquor, wine and heavy beer (over 3.2%) may be served from noon to midnight. Beer (3.2%) is available from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Patrons must be dining in the restaurant in order to be served an alcoholic beverage. Patrons may be served at their table or in a waiting area. Wine lists and alcoholic beverage menus are provided only upon request. There are approximately 500 licensed restaurants in Utah, and most are located in the Salt Lake, Park City, Ogden, and Provo areas.

In private clubs, liquor, wine, heavy beer, and beer may be served from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. But on Sundays and holidays, liquor, wine and heavy beer may be served only from noon to midnight. Clubs sell alcoholic beverages with or without food, and patrons may be served at a bar or table. Many clubs provide live entertainment. Although clubs are primarily for members and their guests, most clubs offer temporary "visitor card" memberships for a nominal fee (usually \$5 for two weeks). The visitor card allows the visitor and up to five of his/her guests to use the club. There are approximately 300 private clubs that offer full alcoholic beverage service. Most are located in the Salt Lake, Park City, Ogden, and Provo areas.



THE ARTS

The Utah Arts Council is the primary agency in Utah through which state and national funds are funneled to stimulate and encourage the arts in the state. The council distributes funds appropriated directly for the arts by both the Utah State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. It acts as a state coordinator and advisor,

having an awareness of various programs that might be underway at any given time around the state. The council assists with professional help where needed and provides direct matching grants to more than 200 nonprofit organizations across the state.

Arts in Utah include the Utah Opera, the Shakespeare Festival, Broadway shows at the Capitol Theater, Ballet West, the Utah Symphony, the Repertory Dance Theater, and more. Many arts productions are taken “on the road” and can be enjoyed right here in Ogden! For additional information, go to <http://www.utah.gov/about/arts.html> or call 801-236-7555.

SPORTS

The Utah Jazz is Utah’s professional basketball team. Utahns are “fanatical” about their team! Even if you don’t like the Jazz, they will play *your* favorite team some time during the season! Tickets are reasonably priced.



Other Utah teams:

Utah Grizzlies - Hockey

Utah Freezz - Soccer

Ogden Raptors - Baseball

The Salt Lake Stingers - Baseball

The Utah Starzz - Women’s Basketball

Top-quality college sports are also played at Utah’s colleges and universities:

Brigham Young University

College of Eastern Utah

Dixie College

Salt Lake Community College

Snow College

Southern Utah University

University Of Utah

Utah State University

Utah Valley State College

Weber State University

For more information on sports in Utah, go to <http://www.utah.gov/visiting/sports.html>.

Golf

Utah has more golf courses per capita than anywhere else in the USA! Thanks to Utah’s diverse climate, you can golf every day of the year. In northern Utah, you can golf starting in early spring through late autumn. In the spring, you can even ski in the morning, then play golf in the valleys in the afternoon! When it’s snowy up north, go down south to Utah’s “Dixie” and golf all winter! And right here, Hill AFB’s golf course has been rated #1 in the Air Force!



Hunting & Fishing

You can fish year-round in Utah. The BX Customer Service has fishing licenses for sale. Hunting in Utah has become a popular family activity, and hunting tags are now sold by lottery. For information about hunting and fishing, contact the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources at (801) 538-4700 or <http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/>.

Skiing

Utah is home to “The Greatest Snow On Earth”; an incredible 500 annual inches of dry powder snow; and an infrastructure of 14 mountain resorts - 11 of which are within a one hour driving radius from Salt Lake City and its international airport.



Ski Resorts:

Alta Ski Area (Park City – for skiers only, no snowboards allowed)

Beaver Mountain Ski Resort (Logan – also has tubing)

Brian Head Ski Resort (Cedar City, south of Provo – also has night skiing and tubing)

Brighton Ski Resort (Park City – also has night skiing, kids under 10 ski free w/ adult)

Deer Valley Ski Resorts (Park City)

Elk Meadows Ski Resort (Cedar City, south of Provo – has a snowboard park and terrain garden)

Nordic Valley (Huntsville, east of Ogden – also has night skiing and tubing)

Park City Mountain Resort (Park City – also has night skiing)

Powder Mountain Ski Resort (Huntsville, east of Ogden – also has night skiing, snowcat and helicopter skiing to remote slopes)

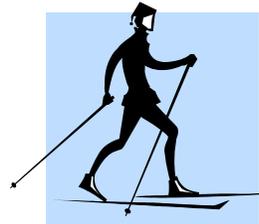
Snowbasin Ski Resort (Huntsville, east of Ogden)

Snowbird Ski Resort (Park City – kids 12 and under ski free w/ adult)

Solitude Ski Resort (Solitude, Utah, Park City area)

Sundance Ski Resort (Sundance, Utah, east of Provo)

The Canyons Ski Resort (Park City – has a snowboard/ski stunt “park” and night tubing)



Cross country skiing is offered at:

Brian Head (435) 677-2035

Homestead Cross Country Ski Center in Midway, Utah (800) 327-7220

Solitude Nordic Center (800) 748-4754

Sundance Nordic Center (801) 223-4170

White Pine Touring Center, Park City, Utah (435) 615-5858

Tickets and Tours, located in the Thornton Community Center, Bldg. 460, has discount lift tickets for most ski resorts.

NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS AND FORESTS

Utah has 45 state parks – too many to list here! For information, call (801) 538-7220 or go to <http://parks.state.ut.us/parks/parklist.htm>. Many of Utah’s State Parks have camping, fishing, boating, hiking, and other recreational activities.

Utah also has many National Parks and Forests:

Arches National Park (435) 259-8161
Ashley National Forest, Vernal, (435) 789-1181
Bryce Canyon National Park (435) 834-5322
Canyonlands National Park (435) 259-7164
Capitol Reef National Park (435) 425-3791
Cedar Breaks National Monument (435) 586-9451
Dinosaur National Monument (970) 374-3000
Dixie National Forest, Cedar City, (435) 865-3700
Fishlake National Forest, Richfield, (435) 896-9233
Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area (435) 784-3445
Glen Canyon (Lake Powell) National Recreation Area (520) 608-6404
Golden Spike National Historic Site (435) 471-2209
Hovenweep National Monument (303) 749-0510
Manti-LaSal National Forest, Price (435) 637-2817
Natural Bridges National Monument (435) 692-1234
Rainbow Bridge National Monument (520) 608-6404
Timpanogos Cave National Monument (801) 756-5238
Uinta National Forest, Provo, (801) 342-5100
Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Salt Lake City, (801) 524-3900
Zion National Park (435) 772-3256



All Terrain Vehicles



The best-known off-road state park is Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park near Kanab. The USDI Bureau of Land Management and USDA Forest Service manage many trails and areas throughout the state, which are open to all-terrain vehicles. It is best to contact the land manager of the area in which you would like to ride, and contact that agency for their up-to-date recreation map, which will show trailheads, openings, and closures.

USDI Bureau of Land Management: (801) 539-4001

USDA Forest Service: (801) 524-3900

FAMILY FUN & DAY TRIPPING

There are a wide variety of inexpensive family activities to do in the local area. Here's just a few to get you started!

Antelope Island State Park, 4528 West 1700 South, Syracuse, (801) 773-2941

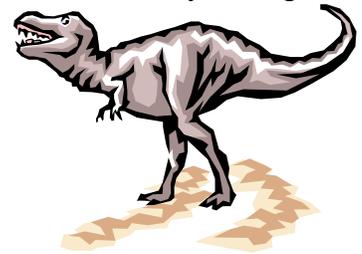
Activities on Antelope Island include saltwater swimming, sunbathing, camping, picnicking, photography, bird watching, and wildlife watching. Hikers, cyclists, and equestrians can enjoy more than 30 miles of roads and trails. There are a full range of facilities available – modern rest rooms, hot showers, picnic shelters, a group-use pavilion, boat launching ramp, marina, camping, guided tours, and a food, beverage and gift concessionaire. Admission is \$8 per vehicle, \$4 per bicycle.

Bear Lake, Logan, 1-800-882-4433, www.bearlake.org

Bear Lake is often called the Caribbean of the Rockies for its intense turquoise blue water. This resort area is known for excellent boating and water-skiing. You can jet-ski, swim at one of the many white-sand beaches, boat, water-ski, scuba dive, sail, camp and picnic, fish, golf, horseback ride, hike and cycle on the many trails, view birds and wildlife, and even go cave exploring! The region is famous for its delicious raspberry crop, and has a raspberry festival every August. In the winter, go downhill or cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and ice fishing!

Eccles Dinosaur Park, 1544 E. Park Blvd., Ogden, (801) 393-3466, www.dinosaurpark.org

See life-size replicas of the creatures that lived two hundred million years ago. Realistic sculptures of more than one hundred dinosaurs fill the Park. These creatures are reproduced based on the findings of fossil skeletal remains. The artists bring the dinosaurs to life by adding the muscles, skin and coloration, teeth and claws. You can hear the dinosaurs walking and roaring, the crash of trees brought down by powerful herbivores, the calls of pterodons gliding through the air brought to you by a high quality sound system throughout the Park. This six-acre outdoor museum is unique in its exhibition of full-bodied creatures of the Dinosaur Age. Dinosaurs found in Utah are specially featured. Admission for adults is \$4.00, children 3-17, \$2.50.



Fort Buenaventura Park, 2450 A Ave., Ogden, (801) 621-4808

<http://www.ogdencvb.org/Weber/fortb.html> The Fort is located on 32 acres of secluded wooded land along the Weber River. A fort and cabins were re-created on the original site using 1840s building techniques. Cabin furnishings depict life in 1846, and authentic artifacts are displayed. The Fort was the first permanent Anglo settlement in the Great Basin. It was established in the fur trapping ear by Miles Goodyear, a mountain man, trapper, and horse trader. There are guided tours of the fort and cabins, nature walks, picnicking, horseshoes and volleyball, and a visitor center and trading post. Mountain Men rendezvous are enacted three times a year, usually around Easter, in September, and around Thanksgiving. Admission is \$4 per vehicle.



Hogle Zoo, 2600 East Sunnyside Avenue, Salt Lake City, (801) 582-1631, www.hoglezoo.org

Utah's Hogle Zoo nurtures respect and appreciation for the natural world by providing diverse educational, recreational, and conservation opportunities. This is accomplished through imaginative exhibits and programs and professional animal care. The zoo's newest inhabitant is a polar bear, born Dec. 12, 2001. Admission is \$7 per adult, \$5 per child.

Lagoon, Farmington, (801) 451-8000

While it's not Disneyland, Lagoon is the largest amusement park in the area, and adds a new ride every year! There's plenty to keep family members of all ages busy, including Lagoon A Beach, a six acre water park, Pioneer Village, a reconstruction of a typical frontier community as it might have existed in the late 1800s, and X-Venture, a set of rides to thrill adults! During the weeks leading up to Halloween, come to "Frightmares" for scary and not-so-scary rides and

events for the whole family. Regular admission at the gate is \$29.95, but buy your tickets on-base at Tickets and Tours for only \$26.50. Season passports are also available!

Kennecott Bingham Canyon Copper Mine, 25 miles SW of Salt Lake City, (801) 252-3234
Known as the “richest hole on Earth”, this gigantic mining operation has yielded more than 15 million tons of copper metal, as well as vast quantities of gold, silver, and molybdenum. It is the largest man-made excavation in the world. A Visitor’s Center inside the mine features informative exhibits and videos about the half-mile deep mine. Admission is \$4 per vehicle.

Ogden Nature Center, 966 West 12th Street, (801) 621-7595, www.ogdennaturecenter.org



The Ogden Nature Center is a living treasure in the heart of Ogden. It’s a 127-acre wildlife sanctuary and wildlife rehabilitation center, with quiet walking tours, a gift shop, and year-round nature education programs. Some of the nature education programs are aimed specifically at children, and have included making a bird feeder, astronomy, “touch a reptile” (snakes and lizards), and bird-of-prey flying demonstration. Admission is less than \$2.50 per person, and annual memberships are available.

OUTDOOR RECREATION EQUIPMENT RENTAL

Hill AFB’s Outdoor Recreation has a variety of equipment available to rent, including camping equipment and trailers, skis and snowboards, canoes and fishing boats, wave runners, snowmobiles and ATVs, just to mention a few. Call Outdoor Rec at 777-9666 for more information!

