# About Utah

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Name</th>
<th>Utah</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nickname</td>
<td>Beehive State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capitol</td>
<td>Salt Lake City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Area</td>
<td>84,904 sq. mi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Area</td>
<td>82,168 sq. mi.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Area</td>
<td>2,736 sq. mi.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Highest Elevation</td>
<td>13,528 ft.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lowest Point</td>
<td>2,000 ft.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>2,855,287</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timezone</td>
<td>Mountain</td>
</tr>
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Other Utah Symbols

**Motto:** Industry

"Industry" officially became the State Motto on March 4, 1959. "Industry is associated with the symbol of the beehive. The early pioneers had few material resources at their disposal and therefore had to rely on their own "industry" to survive. The word "industry" appears on both the State Seal and the State Flag.

**Nickname:** The Beehive State

**Tree:** Blue Spruce

The blue spruce (Picea pungens Engelm) was chosen by the Utah State Legislature in 1933 to be the state tree. The tree is found in the Wasatch and Uinta mountains at elevations between 6,000 to 11,000 feet. It can be transplanted successfully and is widely used as an ornamental tree. Its foliage is generally silvery blue in color and has the ability to withstand temperature extremes.

**Animal:** Rocky Mountain Elk

The Rocky Mountain elk, *Cervus canadensis*, became the official state animal in 1971.

Sometimes called *wapiti* by the Shawnee Indians and the scientists of later times, the American Elk was first named by early English colonists. They were once found over most of the United States and southern Canada, but hunters have killed so many of them that they survive only in regions west of the Rocky Mountains. The largest herds live in Yellowstone Park, on Montana's Sun River, and in Washington's Olympic Mountains. They are also plentiful on most mountain ranges in Utah.

A member of the deer family, the elk lives in close association with the deer and moose throughout much of Utah. Only the male elk carry antlers. They can spread more than 5 feet. Antlers grow during the summer and are shed in the late winter. The cows (female elk) are smaller than the male and do not have antlers. Mature bulls stand up to 60 inches at the shoulder and may weigh over 700 pounds.

They usually eat the grasses. They also eat the twigs and needles of fir, juniper, and trees and shrubs during a harsh winter.

Wolves and cougars are among the natural enemies of elk, as well as bear and coyotes that look for calves and sick animals.

**Emblem:** Beehive
Utah Flag

The Legislature of Utah by an act, approved April 3, 1896, provides for the State seal and specifies: 'That 'The Great Seal of the State of Utah' shall be two and one-half inches in diameter, with the following device inscribed thereon: In the center thereof a shield, with the American eagle with outstretched wings perched thereon; the top portion of said shield thereof pierced by six arrows across the shield, below the arrows, the word 'Industry' appears, and beneath the word 'Industry' a beehive, on either side of which are growing sego lilies. Directly below the beehive are the figures '1847,' and on either side of said shield is our National Flag. Encircling all, near the outer edge of said Seal, beginning at the lower left hand portion and ending at the lower right hand portion thereof, are the words, 'The Great Seal of the State of Utah,' at the base are the figures '1896.'"

Each state in the country has customarily adopted a state Flag. Since the colonial Days of 1775 each state designed their flags to help distinguish the ideas and tradition of that particular state. The original Utah State Flag was adopted by the State Legislature in 1896 and revised in 1913. The beehive on the shield stands for hard work and industry.

The date 1847 is the year the Mormons came to Utah. A bald eagle, the United States national bird, perches atop the shield and symbolizes protection in peace and war. The sego lily is a symbol of peace and a U.S. flag appears on each side, symbolizing Utah's support to the nation. The Utah State Flag, as we know it today, was originally designed for the battleship Utah in 1912. It was later made the official flag of Utah when Governor William Spry signed House Joint Resolution 1 in 1913.
Utah History

The state known as Utah began when Brigham Young led a group of Mormon pilgrims seeking freedom from religious persecution into the Great Salt Lake Valley, where they established a settlement in 1847. The golden spike completing the first transcontinental railroad line was driven at Promontory, Utah, in 1869, leading to a further influx of settlers.

Utah's majestic mountains, lakes, and deserts were first beheld by man some 12,000 years ago. Through the millennia that followed, these Paleoindian big-game hunters were succeeded by a number of other early culture groups including the Desert Archaic, Anasazi, and Fremont. About a thousand years ago, such Numic-speaking hunter-gatherers as the Shoshones, Utes, Southern Paiutes, and Goshutes began moving into Utah, and they were joined by an Athapaskan group, the Navajos.

White men came along much later. Their first significant incursion came in 1776 as a party of Spanish explorers traveled much of the length of present-day Utah. Led by Franciscan friars Dominguez and Escalante, these intrepid men were scouting a northern route from Santa Fe to Monterey and seeking to promote Christianity among the Indians. On numerous occasions Escalante noted in his diary the natural beauty of Utah's pristine landscape.

Nearly fifty years would elapse before the next group of whites came to Utah. These were the mountain men searching for beaver. Such colorful characters as Jim Bridger, Etienne Provost, Miles Goodyear, and Jedediah Smith explored, trapped, mingled with the Indians, and gave dozens of place names to the area's distinctive geographical features.

Then came the Mormons in 1847, questing for a religious sanctuary in the remote West. Immigrating in large numbers, they laid out communities, built homes and churches, established farms supported by an irrigation system, skirmished with the native people, achieved territorial status in 1850, and generally prospered. Non-Mormons came too, especially after precious metals were discovered in the 1860s, and they added diversification to Utah's society. By the time of statehood in 1896, the total population approached a quarter of a million people.

Development of coal mines, railroads, and other industries beckoned the "new immigrants" during the early decades of the twentieth century, and Greeks, Italians, Slavs, Chinese, Japanese, Mexicans, and other ethnic groups further enriched Utah's cultural fabric.

Though troubled by the Great Depression of the 1930s, Utah's economy found new life during and after World War II. Defense, mining, steel, and petroleum-refining industries led the economic surge at mid-century. Tourism, recreation (especially skiing), light manufacturing, and the service industries have recently emerged as economic pillars.

During Utah's centennial year of 1996, its population topped 2 million people. Due to the state's larger-than-average family size and its strong rate of immigration, robust growth is projected well into the future.
Utah Maps

Utah Outline Map
Utah Map with Cities
Utah County Linkes Map
Utah Map with Latitude and Longitude
Utah News

- Environment Groups Set for New Fight Over Drilling on US-Managed Utah Land
  - New York Times 09/19/2013

- Utah’s 'wage gap' is fourth-biggest in the nation
  - Salt Lake Tribune 09/19/2013

- 2013–2014 Utah Jazz Season Preview
  - HoopsWorld 09/19/2013

- Utah football: Whittingham, Ute players downplay baptism video
  - Salt Lake Tribune 09/19/2013

- Utah Undie Run rescheduled â€” to Mormon conference weekend
  - Salt Lake Tribune 09/19/2013

- Count My Vote starts drive to replace Utah's election system
  - ksl.com 09/19/2013

- Success in Utah County comes down to chemistry
  - Daily Herald 09/19/2013

- Many children remain unnecessarily uninsured in Utah
  - Deseret News 09/18/2013

- Analysis: Utah-BYU Position Breakdown
  - Salt Lake Tribune 09/19/2013

- Engineers Pay $100000 for Utah Mine Collapse
  - ABC News 09/18/2013

Utah News Source: Google News

View News from Other States
Utah Climate

Sunny skies prevail most of the year in Utah. There is an average of about 65 to 75 percent of the possible amount of sunshine at Salt Lake City during spring, summer, and fall.

SPRING: Spring in the Salt Lake valley is generally mild and green, while the Wasatch Mountains are still laden with snow. Many outdoor enthusiasts enjoy skiing in the morning, then golf in the valley during the afternoon. Seasonal Averages / Spring (March, April, May) Average daytime highs of 61 degrees and average evening lows of 44 degrees.

SUMMER: Summer in Salt Lake is pleasantly warm. July is the hottest month with an average daytime high of 89, which is comfortable considering the consistently low humidity of the area. Seasonal Averages / Summer (June, July, August) Average daytime highs of 86 degrees and average evening lows of 64 degrees.

FALL: Fall is the favorite season of many who visit and live in Utah. Vibrant colors splash across the mountains and canyons as the cooler temperatures turn the leaves all shades of gold, purple, red, green, and brown. During the late fall and winter months, anticyclones tend to settle over the great Basin for as long as several weeks at a time. Under these conditions, smoke and haze accumulate in the lower levels of the stagnant air over the valleys of northwestern Utah, frequently becoming an obstruction to visibility. This is also true of fog which may persist for several weeks at a time. Seasonal Averages / Fall (September, October, November) Average daytime highs of 64 degrees and average evening lows of 46 degrees.

WINTER: When the snow falls, Salt Lake becomes a winter paradise. Skiers come from around the world to ski world-class resorts and The Greatest Snow on Earth! An average 535 inches of light, dry powder snow falls on the Wasatch Range just 40 minutes from downtown. By contrast, the valley receives approximately 59 inches of snow during the season and the above-freezing temperatures keep roads free from ice and snow build-up.