

# Yuma Territorial Prison State Historic Park

On July 1, 1876, the first seven inmates entered the Territorial Prison at Yuma and were locked into the new cells they had built themselves. At **Yuma Territorial Prison State Historic Park** walk through the actual strap iron cells and solitary chamber of Arizona Territory's first prison. Now a museum, the building houses photographs and colorful exhibits of those who once "involuntarily" stayed there and the prison life they had to endure. A total of 3,069 prisoners, including 29 women, lived within the walls during the prison's 33 years of operation. Despite an infamous reputation, written evidence indicates that the prison was humanely administered, and was a model institution for its time. The only punishments were the dark cells for inmates who broke prison regulations, and the ball and chain for those who tried to escape. Come experience this fascinating slice of Arizona history. The park offers a museum with exhibits, a gift shop, video presentation, picnic area, and restrooms.

[Link to Yuma Territorial Prison State Historic Park](#)



Arizona State Parks Foundation is an Arizona 501c3 non-profit organization that supports Arizona State Parks through advocacy, friend building and fund raising. [www.arizonastateparksfoundation.org](http://www.arizonastateparksfoundation.org)



**\$5,815,585**

## 2006-2007 Site Facts

**Visitation: 58,694**

**Economic Impact: \$5,815,585**

**Local Jobs Supported: 84**

Yuma Territorial Prison State Historic Park attracted 58,694 visitors in fiscal year 2007. The total economic impact of expenditures made by these guests, directly and indirectly, is estimated to be \$5.8 million, making the park a critical component of the local economy. In addition, tourism spending at this level supports an estimated 84 jobs in Yuma County.

**Arizona State Parks and historic sites make up a significant portion of Arizona's tourism industry. Over 2 million people visited Arizona's diverse state parks in fiscal year 2007 generating \$266 million in economic impact, \$22.7 million in state and local taxes and supporting more than 3,300 Arizona jobs.**