

## DEFINING THE SONORAN DESERT REGION

The subject matter of this show is limited to the Sonoran Desert Area. This “Sonoran Desert Region” encompasses a very large, and sometimes surprising, land area. This land is filled with characteristic flora, fauna, landforms, objects, weather, architecture and people (Native Americans, Hispanics, cowboys, ranchers, miners, carvers, potters, weavers, etc.)

Take a look at the map and see that the Sonoran Desert Region reaches west across the southern tip of California through some of the Imperial Valley to El Centro and Indio. It extends up the Colorado River from Yuma to Needles. To the north, Sonora stops at the Mogollon Rim; on the east it goes to the base of the White Mountains and just east of Tucson. To the south it goes to about Tubac, cutting sharply down into Mexico along the western portion of the State of Sonora, including Puerto Penasco, Kino Bay, Hermosillo and Guaymas. It also includes most of Baja.

Subject matter can include: Imperial Valley Farms, Sand Dunes, El Centro and Indio, SW AZ, Colorado River towns, Gila Bend, Phoenix, mining towns, ghost towns, Indian Reservations, Tucson and vicinity, Sonoran coastal towns, and a few inland areas of Sonora. Geographic changes within the region stretch from sea-level desert to Canadian-like Mt. Lemmon, the riparian atmosphere of east Tucson mesquite bosques and mid-western-like-farmlands.

NOT INCLUDED: upper Colorado River (Laughlin, Las Vegas), Grand Canyon, NE AZ Indian country, Mogollon Rim, White Mountains, Nogales, SE AZ (Patagonia, Sonoita, Bisbee,) eastern State of Sonora and the southern tip of Baja.

For an excellent description of the Sonoran region, check a page on the Desert Museum’s website:

[http://desertmuseum.org/center/edu/docs/background\\_info.pdf](http://desertmuseum.org/center/edu/docs/background_info.pdf)

