

AMERICA'S 10 BEST SMALL CITIES

The best-performing principal cities of the metropolitan areas within the United States with populations between 200,000 and one million. A principal city is defined as the largest city in each metropolitan statistical area.

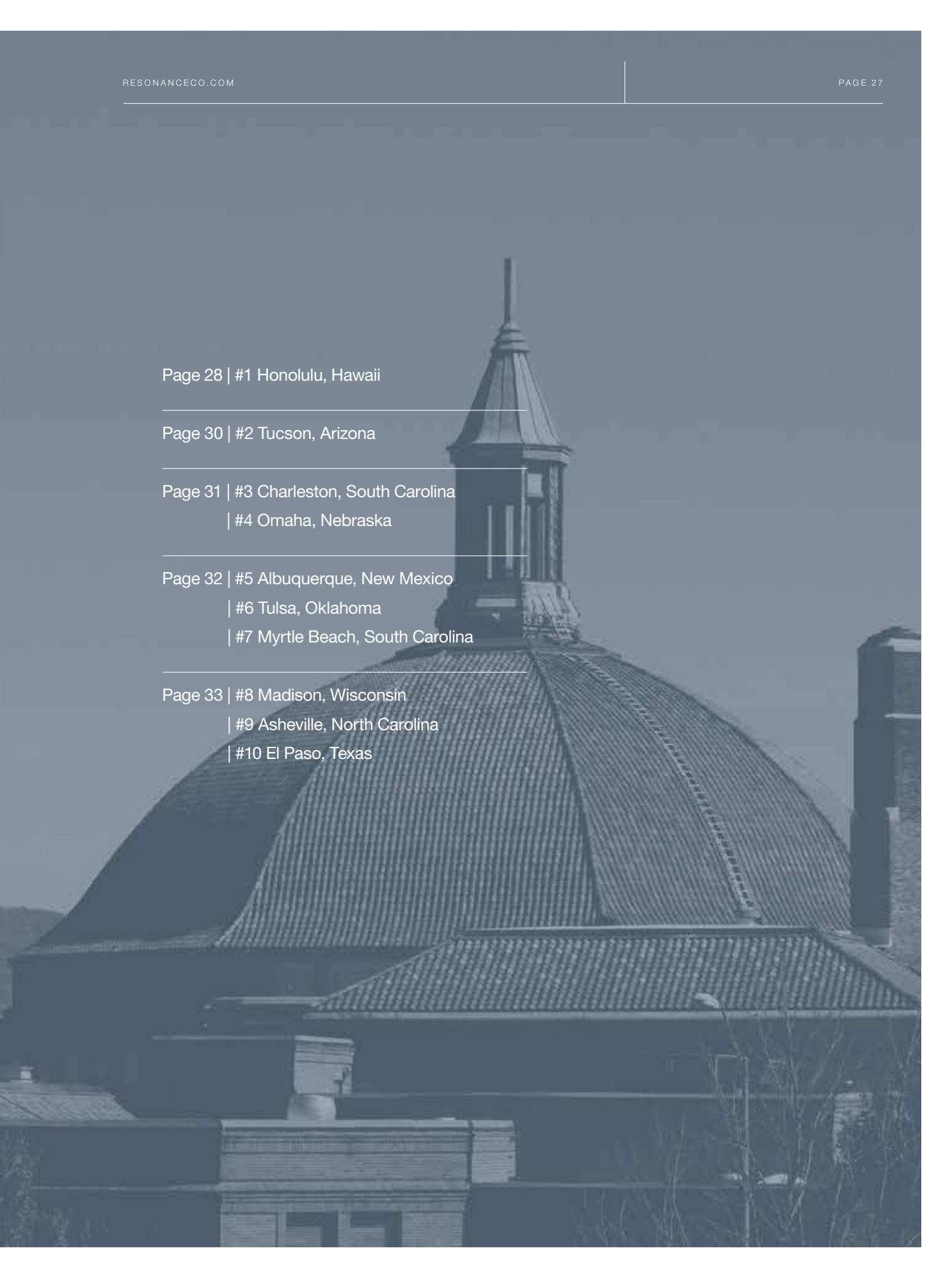
Page 28 | #1 Honolulu, Hawaii

Page 30 | #2 Tucson, Arizona

Page 31 | #3 Charleston, South Carolina
| #4 Omaha, Nebraska

Page 32 | #5 Albuquerque, New Mexico
| #6 Tulsa, Oklahoma
| #7 Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Page 33 | #8 Madison, Wisconsin
| #9 Asheville, North Carolina
| #10 El Paso, Texas



2. TUCSON

Youthful, delicious and ambitious, Arizona's second city has never been hotter.

POPULATION

CITY: 528,374 | METRO: 998,537

At a shade under a million residents, Tucson just snuck into our Small Cities ranking. Not surprisingly, it dominates in our Product category, ranking second only to Charleston in our Museum sub-category and second to Myrtle Beach for Entertainment. The desert city boasts University of Arizona museums (including a biosphere), planetariums and casinos, in addition to only-out-here attractions like caving adventures and Old West tours.

Its Place ranking is also impressive (scoring #5 in Parks & Outdoor Activities and #7 in Neighborhoods & Landmarks), and it's set to ascend rapidly due to a torrent of new investment in parks, the new Sun Link LRT, and walkability designed to pull the sprawling population together, closer to downtown.

Urban innovation that taps its outdoor bounty by increasing access to it is not a hard sell for a town where almost 25% are aged 20 and 34. Emboldened city leaders have been swinging for the fences, first by telling the world that Tucson is "The Winter Training Capital of America," made possible by the area's five mountain ranges long used as Stairmasters by cyclists and triathletes in the know.



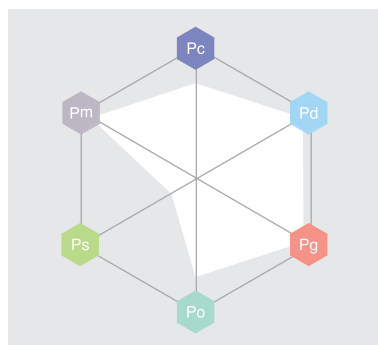
MEXICAN AND U.S. HISTORY DANCE IN THE DESERT IN TUCSON

More recently, Tucson wasn't satisfied with its 700 miles of bike lanes. The result? Even more incentives to cycle, facilitated by new mixed-use bike boulevards along less popular driving roads—more than 150 miles worth.

Despite its obsession with placemaking, this town knows how to kick back, too, as indicated by its #2 overall ranking among Small Cities for Programming, including finishing only second to Honolulu in our Culinary sub-category and third-best in the nation for Shopping and Culture. Nightlife ranked an impressive #4.

And you read that right: Tucson is a booming foodie Mecca, the oldest continually farmed city in North America (extending back more than 4,000 years) and the first recipient of UNESCO's Creative Cities Network designation for gastronomy, designed to prioritize food as part of cultural heritage worth protecting. And devouring.

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- Pc Place
- Pd Product
- Pg Programming
- Po People
- Ps Prosperity
- Pm Promotion