

Arkansas

The Natural State



Flag:

A [diamond](#) on a red field represents the only place in North America where diamonds have been discovered and mined. The twenty-five white stars around the diamond mean that Arkansas was the twenty-fifth state to join the Union. The top of four stars in the center represents that Arkansas was a member of the Confederate States during the Civil War. The other three stars represent Spain, France and the United States, countries that had earlier ruled the land that includes Arkansas. Flag adopted 1913.



Arkansas (*The Natural State* — 1995)

The earliest known nickname for Arkansas seems to be Bear State, recorded first in 1858, and this is a nickname to which several states have laid claim. It was also sometimes known as ***The Bowie State*** and ***The Toothpick State*** (both alluding to the Bowie knife, the favourite weapon of the area, and which was sometimes called "a toothpick knife"), and the ***Hot-water State*** (because of the number of hot springs in the area). However, the first official nickname for Arkansas came in 1923 when the legislature designated the state as ***The Wonder State***. In more modern times, Arkansas has had the unofficial nickname of ***The Razorback State***, but was more officialy known as ***The Land of Opportunity*** for many years. Arkansas licence plates display another nickname (***The Natural State***) which became the state's most recent official nickname in 1995.

Economy:

Agriculture: Poultry and eggs, soybeans, sorghum, cattle, cotton, rice, hogs, milk.

Industry: Food processing, electric equipment, fabricated metal products, machinery, paper products, bromine, vanadium.