

### Who Knew? - By Stanton Southwick

During a recent office activity, we had a Nevada trivia challenge. I did not get very many of the answers correct but I learned some interesting things about Las Vegas and Nevada. I thought it would be fun to share my new trivia knowledge with you. Did you know...

1. There are only 4 cities in the world named Las Vegas.
2. There is more shrimp consumed in Las Vegas than anywhere else in the world!
3. Las Vegas Blvd has been called 5th Street, the Salt Lake Highway, and the Arrowhead Highway but never the Nevada Highway.
4. The first street to be paved in Las Vegas was Fremont Street in 1925.
5. It costs \$51 an hour to keep the light on top of the Luxor shining.
6. In Death Valley, the Kangaroo Rat drinks ZERO ounces of liquid its entire life!
7. Nevada has more mountain ranges than any other state.
8. Even though Nevada is called the Silver State, it is the leading gold producing state in the nation. The only country in the world that produces more gold than Nevada is South Africa.
9. Construction hard hats were invented specifically for the construction of Hoover Dam.
10. The hottest temperature ever recorded in Nevada is 125 degrees Fahrenheit. The coldest temperature ever recorded is minus 50 degrees Fahrenheit.
11. It is illegal to drive a camel on any highway in Nevada, but city streets are OK.
12. Blue jeans (Levis) were invented by Reno-based tailor Jacob Davis.



*"But if you go over the line, you don't want to get stuck in a Nevada State court room. Honestly, because Nevada has been doing a good job of putting California criminals in jail. I mean, we couldn't put OJ in jail, but they did. We couldn't put Paris Hilton in jail, but they did."*  
 ~James Belushi

### Favorite Flora:

#### Artemisia tridentata - By Caryl Davies



Artemisia tridentata, Big Sagebrush, is the official state flower of Nevada. It appears on our state's flag as well as in our state's song. It grows across vast areas of the Great Basin Desert and in the desert of several southwest states. This silvery gray-green shrub typically grows to 3-6 feet in height but can grow to 12 feet along rivers or more wet areas. It produces small yellow flowers in the late summer or early fall. Big Sagebrush has a strong aromatic fragrance. You can especially smell it after a rainstorm.

Artemisia tridentata has antiseptic, disinfectant and digestive properties and was used by Native Americans for medicinal purposes including treating headaches, colds, internal bleeding, and disinfecting wounds. The bark was used for weaving mats, starting fires, and the hard, dense wood was used for fires.

Artemisia tridentata is hardy and survives dry conditions and poor soil. No wonder this beautiful shrub became Nevada's state flower... it is tough, durable, and a true survivor. Just like us Nevadans.

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Crystal Wash, Nevada  
Matt Durham