

ARIZONA

THE GRAND CANYON STATE

Arizona: What's New for 2024



Left to right: Kemper and Ethel Marley Foundation Astronomy Discovery Center at Lowell Observatory, Flagstaff.; Photo: Lowell Observatory. The Ritz-Carlton Paradise Valley, The Palмираie, Scottsdale; Photo: The Ritz-Carlton Paradise Valley, The Palмираie. Mattel Adventure Park, Glendale; Photo: Mattel Adventure Park.

With the new year quickly approaching, Arizona has new attractions, hotels and experiences in store. Here is a round-up of highly anticipated openings for 2024.

Attractions

New Rockin' River Ranch State Park to Open in Camp Verde

Opening 2024

Be one of the first to visit and explore Rockin' River Ranch State Park in [Camp Verde](#). Spend the day at [Arizona's newest state park](#) and enjoy hiking trails, kayaking or fishing while you take in remarkable views of the cottonwood tree-lined Verde River. Then, have a picnic at this day-use-only park. After visiting, take the opportunity to explore the surrounding Verde Valley for even more outdoor adventures such as visiting Montezuma Castle National Monument and touring the area wineries.

New Astronomy Discovery Center Coming to Lowell Observatory

Opening November 2024

Infinite wonders await at the new [Kemper and Ethel Marley Foundation Astronomy Discovery Center](#) at Lowell Observatory in [Flagstaff](#), which will enable visitors to explore the origins and growth of the universe through the lens of astronomy with new exhibits and experiences. For example, the new Universe Theater will take guests on a journey through the galaxy with the help of the theater's awe-inspiring two-story, 165-degree curved LED screen. While there, visitors can also marvel at Flagstaff's famous dark skies and explore at the Giovale Open Deck Observatory.

The First Tribally Owned Coaster in The US Opens at Sunrise Park Resort

Opening Memorial Day Weekend 2024

Jump on the [Sunrise Apache Alpine Coaster](#) at [Sunrise Park Resort](#) in the White Mountains of eastern Arizona for a thrilling ride experience. This 3,287-foot track coaster is owned and operated by the [White](#)

[Mountain Apache Tribe](#), who also owns Sunrise Park Resort, a ski resort in the winter and outdoor recreation playground during the summer.

2024 NCAA Men's Final Four Returns to Glendale

April 2024

The legendary college basketball tournament returns to crown a champion in Arizona this April with the [Men's Final Four](#) games hosted at the [State Farm Stadium](#) in [Glendale](#). In between games, visitors can explore [Westgate](#) for entertainment including shopping, dining and nightlife before embarking on adventures across the state.

First-Ever Mattel Adventure Park To Open in Glendale

Opening 2024

See the Mattel toys and board games you love come to life at [Mattel Adventure Park](#), the first-ever Mattel-branded theme park opening in [Glendale](#). Join Barbie at the Barbie Beach House attraction where fans of all ages can curate an ultimate wardrobe with Barbie through hologram technology. Then hit the four-level Hot Wheels go-kart track for a thrill before speeding off on the Hot Wheels Twin Mill Racer and Hot Wheels Boneshaker rollercoaster.

Hotels

Tin Can Alley Airbnb To Welcome Travelers on Route 66

Opening Spring 2024

With the Route 66 Centennial only two years away, [Kingman](#) will welcome visitors exploring the Mother Road at [Tin Can Alley](#) starting in Spring 2024. This new Airbnb experience along Route 66 allows guests to stay overnight in renovated vintage Airstream trailers, footsteps away from the city's numerous museums, retro diners and memorabilia shops. Be sure to start every adventurous day at Mud on 66, the onsite coffee shop in a transformed mid-century tavern, and end it at Scoops, a refurbished 1939 Mobile gas station serving delicious ice cream.

VAI Resort Brings Oasis to the Desert

Opening 2024

The ultimate desert oasis is the best way to describe the coming [VAI Resort](#) in [Glendale](#). With its white sand beaches and six-acre swimming pool, VAI takes a lazy day at the pool to the next level with Konos Island, a man-made place to party. Konos Island offers guests a Mediterranean restaurant, private cabanas and an aerial bar to take in panoramic views from 130 feet in the air. Guests will have everything they need to create a memorable trip thanks to its entertainment epicenter, shopping corridor, ten exclusive bars, and 13 deluxe restaurants. This property and its associated Mattel Adventure Park are among the primary reasons Frommer's named Glendale as one of its [Best Places to Go](#) in 2024.

The Ritz-Carlton Paradise Valley, The Palmeraie to Open

Opening 2024

The [Ritz-Carlton Paradise Valley, The Palmeraie](#) is designed with the luxury traveler in mind. Guaranteed to offer high-end experiences, this resort will enhance any trip to Arizona with its world-class spa, views of Camelback Mountain and specialty dining. Adjacent to the resort will be [The Palmeraie Shops](#), an open-air paradise where shoppers can wander through more than 60 boutiques and dine at one of the dozen restaurants.

First Grand Hyatt Property in Arizona

Opening late 2024

[The Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort & Spa at Gainey Ranch](#) will undergo an approximately \$110 million renovation and be rebranded as the Grand Hyatt Scottsdale Resort & Spa, making it the first Grand Hyatt property in Arizona. Guests will enjoy the newly renovated guest rooms, pools, spa, fitness center and event spaces in between exploring the endless activities within [Scottsdale](#).

Caesars Republic Scottsdale Set to Open as First Non-Gaming Caesars Hotel in U.S.

Opening in February 2024

Visitors seeking fine dining and a convenient luxury shopping experience should book their next vacation at [Caesars Republic Scottsdale](#), the first non-gaming hotel from Caesars Entertainment in the U.S. Located near Scottsdale Fashion Square, the 11-story lifestyle hotel offers two new dining concepts created by celebrity chef Giada De Laurentiis that will serve Romanian and Italian-inspired cuisine.

Dual-Branded TownePlace Suites and Fairfield by Marriott Property to Open in Tempe

Opening early 2024

Aqua-Aston Hospitality will open a new dual-branded Marriott International hotel in [Tempe](#). Located in the heart of the Phoenix metro area, guests can easily explore countless retail, restaurant and entertainment venues, such as nearby Tempe Market Station, before returning to the hotel's comfortable [Fairfield Inn rooms or TownePlace Suites](#) to relax before heading to the pool or onsite restaurant and bar.

The Scottsdale Resort & Spa by Hilton to Reopen After Multi-Million Dollar Makeover

Opening in 2024

Once known as the Scottsdale Resort at McCormick Ranch, the resort has transformed into [The Scottsdale Resort and Spa](#) after undergoing multimillion-dollar enhancements. Guests will enjoy the revamped guest rooms and spa along with the resort's brand-new hidden speakeasy, signature restaurant, indoor golf simulator and lounge.

The Global Ambassador

Opened December 2023

Oriented around its plaza courtyard, [The Global Ambassador](#) in Phoenix offers an elevated hospitality experience with incomparable views of Camelback Mountain. An ideal spot for foodies with five original dining experiences onsite, guests can easily enjoy fine dining every night. Unwind at the ultra-luxe spa before sipping a cocktail and observing the sunset sky when dining at the rooftop restaurant, *théa Mediterranean Rooftop*.

Celebrations

Boyce Thompson Arboretum to Celebrate Centennial Anniversary in 2024

Celebrate 100 Years of the [Boyce Thompson Arboretum](#) in [Superior](#) by exploring its new exhibits, tours and sustainability programs. In the new Spiny Splendor exhibit, marvel at hedgehog cacti, named after the arboretum's founder, Colonel William Boyce Thompson, surrounded by fiberglass sculptures decorated by local artists. Leading up to the new year, the arboretum will launch its 100 Tree Spree, where they will plant 100 trees and host new sustainability educational programs in 2024.

Chiricahua National Monument to Celebrate Centennial Anniversary in 2024

Visit the [Chiricahua National Monument](#) in 2024 to celebrate this hidden gem's centennial anniversary and hike among whimsical rhyolite rock pinnacles, better known as hoodoos, made from the remains of an ancient volcano eruption. Explore the area's 17 miles of hiking trails, including the popular Echo Canyon Trail, where travelers can immerse themselves among the irregular rock formations. Additionally, the bipartisan [Chiricahua National Park Act](#), which is under consideration by Congress, would designate the monument as the state's fourth national park.

Saguaro National Park Becomes the World's Ninth Urban Night Sky Place

[Saguaro National Park](#) in [Tucson](#) was designated the newest certified [Urban Night Sky Place](#) in November 2023, the second National Park to earn this recognition, for implementing sustainable lighting that allows for an authentic nighttime experience despite its proximity to an urban area. Here, visitors can marvel at the park's sea of saguaro cacti before stargazing at the starry skies at night.

Places to Go in 2024

Tucson: Condé Nast's Best Places to Go for 2024 and Good House Keeping's 2024 Family Travel Awards

Condé Nast Traveler recognized Tucson as one of the [best places to go in North America in 2024](#), especially for embracing its rich history and culture. Travelers are encouraged to explore downtown's historic [Barrio Viejo](#), which contains the largest collection of Sonoran Row houses in the U.S. The area is also set to receive a National Historic Landmark designation in 2024. While at Barrio Viejo, enjoy dining and shopping before visiting the nearby [Tucson Museum of Art](#) to celebrate the museum's centennial anniversary. A must-visit for families, Tucson's numerous museums, outdoor recreation and fine cuisine earned the city recognition in [Good Housekeeping's 2024 Family Travel Awards](#).

Arizona: Best Destination to Travel in 2024

Arizona was the only U.S. state that earned a spot on luxury tour operator [Abercrombie & Kent's List of the best destinations to travel in 2024](#). The tour operator highlighted Arizona's diverse experiences, including the Verde Valley wine-growing region, Tucson's thriving culinary scene as the first UNESCO City of Gastronomy, Scottsdale's ongoing sustainability efforts and the new Ambiente hotel in Sedona as reasons to visit, along with exploring the iconic Grand Canyon, Route 66 and Navajo Nation.

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About the Arizona Office of Tourism: The [Arizona Office of Tourism](#) works to strengthen and grow Arizona's economy through travel and tourism promotion, positioning Arizona as the [leading tourism destination](#) for domestic and international travelers. In 2022, tourism employed more than 179,000 Arizonans and contributed over \$3.9 billion in tax revenue to our federal, state and local economies.

Appreciate AZ: The Arizona Office of Tourism promotes sustainable tourism practices across the Grand Canyon State's spectacular landscapes and unique destinations through its Appreciate AZ program. [Appreciate AZ](#) is Arizona's statewide program for responsible tourism, which educates residents and visitors on doing their part to recreate responsibly and keep the state beautiful for future generations.

Photos: <https://azot.sharefile.com/d-s83777801fc794b22ad523683390279ca>

For more information and inspiration: www.visitarizona.com