



A Roundup of What's New in AZ

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Resorts, Hotels & Spas

Greater Phoenix and Central Arizona

The Global Ambassador Luxury Hotel to Open in November

The newest luxury hotel in Phoenix, The Global Ambassador, will open in mid-November and will provide guests an elevated hospitality, culinary and wellness experience. Enjoy staying in beautifully designed rooms and trying innovative cuisine at the hotel's five original dining experiences. One not to miss is théa, a rooftop restaurant where guests can enjoy Mediterranean-inspired dishes while taking in stunning views of Camelback Mountain. Along with fine cuisine, the hotel offers world-class amenities including a wellness center with an expansive fitness level and spa.

Egyptian Motor Hotel Recently Opened in Downtown Phoenix

The recently opened [Egyptian Motor Hotel](#) in downtown Phoenix is a mecca for live entertainment, nightlife and premium culinary offerings. With murals all around, the hotel has 49 retro modern rooms, each with an acoustic guitar for guests to enjoy. Music enthusiasts can spend time at Egyptian Live, an outdoor bar and entertainment venue where guests can watch performers from inside the bar or from their room's balcony. Visit the hotel's restaurant, [Chilte](#), the first brick-and-mortar outpost for the popular Phoenix food truck, that serves new-school Mexican food.

Aji Spa and Kai Awarded Five Stars in Forbes' 2023 Travel Guide

Aji Spa and Kai at [Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass](#) both received [Five Stars in Forbes' 2023 Travel Guide](#), a world-renowned authority in authenticating Five Star service. The resort's American Indian restaurant, [Kai](#), is the only restaurant in Arizona to earn the Five-Star accolade and has maintained this status for 15 years. This is the fourth time the resort's spa, [Aji Spa](#), has earned the Five-Star accolade, providing guests with native spa treatments.

VAI is Creating the Ultimate Entertainment Destination Opening in Glendale in 2024

[VAI Resort](#) is creating the ultimate desert oasis, a 60-acre luxurious retreat. Opening late 2024, the resort will include an entertainment epicenter with a \$40 million, state-of-the-art concert stage for 8,000 showgoers that will feature top acts with prime viewing from hotel room balconies and VIP skyboxes.

VAI will include a six-acre swimming sanctuary and temperature-controlled white sand beaches with a man-made 52,000-square-foot party island, Konos Island, with a Mediterranean restaurant, private cabanas, DJ booth and a 16-person aerial bar ideal for sipping cocktails while enjoying panoramic views from 130 feet in the air. With approximately 1,200 luxurious rooms and suites across three towers, the VAI experience will include 12 upscale restaurants, seven of which will feature waterfront views, 10 exclusive bars and lounges, and a shopping corridor with high-end retail. The resort is a two-minute walk from State Farm Stadium, home of the Arizona Cardinals, and a 20-minute drive from Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport.

The Omni Tempe Hotel Opens

The largest hotel in Tempe, the new [Omni Tempe Hotel](#), offers visitors the ideal stay for those whose travel plans consist of work and play. Opened on April 28th, the hotel's spacious meeting space and Sun Devil Ballroom are ideal for conferences. This high-rise hotel offers unparalleled views of ASU's campus, four onsite dining options and a pool that guests can swim in between their trips to downtown Tempe. Guests can visit downtown Tempe's lively bars or have dinner with a view at the hotel's rooftop restaurant and bar.

Moxy Phoenix Downtown

Opening in Fall 2023

Unafraid to alter guests' expectations of the hotel experience, [Moxy Phoenix Downtown's](#) playful nature and willingness to break the rules of a "typical" hotel stay is where free-spirit travelers belong. With check-in at the bar, guests can enjoy a glass of local wine or brew before settling in or can stop by the award-winning cocktail bar, [Bitter & Twisted](#), located underneath Moxy. For business travelers that desire an out-of-the-box experience that still ensures productivity, the "Plug and Meet" gathering area is ideal for brainstorming sessions and presentations.

The Ritz-Carlton Paradise Valley, the Palmeraie

Opening in Fall 2023

For those who travel to shop and stay in luxury, the [Ritz-Carlton Paradise Valley](#) in Scottsdale is calling your name. Guaranteed to offer luxurious experiences and accommodations, staying at the Ritz-Carlton Paradise Valley will enhance your 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 shopping paradise where shoppers can wander through more than 60 specialty boutiques and stop for dinner at one of the dozen restaurants that offer a wide range of cuisine.

Newly Opened Hilton North Scottsdale at Cavasson

Located at the northwest corner of Loop 101 and Hayden Rd, the six-story [Hilton North Scottsdale at Cavasson](#) features 237 elegantly appointed guest rooms, resort-style amenities, and a sophisticated 15,000-square-foot event center. The full-service property also boasts a top-floor event space and terrace overlooking the stunning McDowell Mountains, the trendy Desert Pony Tavern, a coffee shop, a fitness center and a resort-style swimming pool. Perfect for guests attending the Waste Management Phoenix Open due to its close proximity.

From Clear Skies to Clear Springs: Castle Hot Springs Offers a New Travel Experience

[Castle Hot Springs](#), and regional semi-private jet service [JSX](#), have joined forces to offer an exclusive new '[best-in-class](#)' luxury travel experience, until the end of June 2023. The new travel package allows customers to simply hop on & fly via JSX, arriving at a private air terminal at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and within one hour enjoy exclusive benefits at Castle Hot Springs, including a resort discount and choice of custom amenities.

Award-Winning Chef Alex Stratta Tapped to Lead Culinary Program at Fairmont Phoenix

Alessandro "Alex" Stratta, a two-Michelin star and James Beard Award-winning chef, has been selected to lead the culinary program at [Fairmont Phoenix](#), the highly anticipated new luxury hotel destination in downtown Phoenix, which is scheduled to open in early 2025. Stratta is creating the overall vision and menus for the five onsite restaurants, including an Italian coastal steakhouse, Mexican cantina, speakeasy, pool bar and lobby bar. After opening, he will continue to lead the culinary teams and oversee all day-to-day food and beverage operations. Stratta has enlisted Erik Segelbaum of SOMLYAY and GoodSomm wine club to build an accessible yet adventurous beverage program for the property. In addition to the hotel's 225 guestrooms, the property will feature 151 Fairmont branded residences, as well as a collection of luxurious penthouses.

Northern Arizona – Resorts, Hotels and Spas

Aiden by Best Western Opens in Flagstaff

Boasting scenic views of the striking San Francisco Peaks, [Aiden by Best Western in Flagstaff](#) is a new boutique hotel set in a historic building featuring mid-century architecture. Aiden's design embraces a local charm aesthetic by

displaying art from Arizona artists while its 96 rooms are styled to reflect the nearby natural landscape. Guests are offered opportunities to soak in the heated pool, play lawn games and drink local beers in the lobby cocktail lounge.

Village Camp Opens in Flagstaff

[Village Camp](#) is the newest outdoor resort in Flagstaff offering visitors refreshing getaway in its adventure cabins and RV site. At this mountain resort, guests can enjoy lounging in cozy cabins inbetween spending time at the pool, dining in the luxury clubhouse and listening to live music at the amphitheater.

Americana Motor Hotel Reopened

Inspired by Flagstaff's wide-open spaces, natural wonders and lunar history, the reimagined [Americana Motor Hotel](#) reopened this summer. Located right on historic Route 66, Americana Motor Hotel offers adventure and convenience for travelers. The retro-futuristic motor hotel has 89 artful guestrooms, a year-round heated pool, a spacious backyard for guests to play cornhole, and a firepit with telescopes nearby for guests to explore the star-spangled sky in the world's First International Dark Sky City (Flagstaff).

North Central Arizona – Resorts, Hotels and Spas

Air Village: Boutique Lodging to Open in Prescott

Opening its doors this fall (2023), [Air Village](#), the first of its kind in Prescott, will offer boutique lodging featuring classic Avion trailers that have been completely renovated with a modern and luxurious style. Located alongside Granite Creek and just one block south of the Courthouse Square and Whiskey Row, Air Village offers 10 individual short-term "Avions" filled with modern amenities and a private outdoor seating area for guests to enjoy with their pets.

North America's First Landscape Hotel, Ambiente, Opened in December

The highly anticipated [Ambiente, A Landscape Hotel](#) opened December 26, 2022 in Sedona. Ambiente features 40 cubed-shaped, glass-encased Atrium guest rooms designed to blend in with the surrounding geography and provides 360-degree panoramic views. Each Atrium provides a petite kitchen with complimentary refreshments and on-demand wine dispensers with a selection of Northern Arizona wines. Private rooftop decks offer a daybed for sunbathing and stargazing experiences.

The recently opened [Ambiente™ Sedona](#) has unveiled its full-service signature restaurant, Forty1's very first menu along with a glimpse into its dining space. Led by Executive Chef Lindsey Dale, Forty1 has an ever-evolving menu of dishes centered around locally grown and seasonal ingredients sourced from the surrounding region such as nearby Blue Bird Farms. Guests will enjoy the robust cocktail program within the restaurant's inviting atmosphere that remains minimalist and earthy by design.

Mii amo Reopened

[Mii amo](#), a destination spa in Sedona, reopened in February, after undergoing a multi-million dollar renovation and expansion. The expansion includes a new light-filled movement and fitness wing, a signature restaurant, a dedicated consultation wing with a spectacular view of Boynton Canyon, and a private suite of spaces exclusively for Journey guests, guests that reserve an all-inclusive multiple-day Mii amo experience, in addition to new treatment rooms, guest rooms and suites.

Southern Arizona – Hotels, Resorts and Spas

Leo Kent

Newly Opened

Steps away from many of the most popular attractions in downtown Tucson, this new boutique hotel allows visitors to jump from one adventure to the next. Once a skyscraper that held office spaces, the hotel's design and cuisine take inspiration from its downtown location. [Leo Kent's](#) close proximity to the Tucson Convention Center, Tucson

Museum of Art and the University of Arizona ensure guests are immersed in Tucson's culture. Relish the Southwestern cuisine Tucson is known for at the hotel's restaurant St. Cruz after exploring all of downtown or embarking on a Sonoran Desert adventure.

The Eddy Hotel

Opened in February

Nestled in the Catalina Foothills of Tucson, this new boutique hotel offers comfort and plenty of space for meetings or events. Soak in views of the iconic Santa Catalina Mountains and dip into the outdoor heated pool after hiking the nearby Chuck Huckleberry Loop. Venture around the Catalina Foothills to discover art galleries and endless shopping opportunities. At [The Eddy Hotel](#) guests can use their Hilton rewards to stay minutes away from midtown.

Western Arizona – Hotels, Resorts and Spas

Stay Near Grand Canyon West at Grand Canyon Glamping Resort

[Grand Canyon Glamping Resort](#), located a few minutes away from Grand Canyon West and the Skywalk, combines adventure and luxury lodging to provide a thrilling glamping experience. Enjoy a memorable trip while staying in the resort's covered wagons, tipis or glamping tents, each equipped with modern amenities. Guests can choose from endless outdoor adventures including horseback riding, ATVing or viewing the Grand Canyon's West Rim from a birds-eye view on a helicopter tour.

Arizona Attractions

Greater Phoenix and Central Arizona

Phoenix to Host AT&T WNBA All-Star Game in 2024

[AT&T WNBA All-Star 2024](#) will take place in Phoenix, Arizona at the Footprint Center, home of the Phoenix Mercury, on July 19-20, 2024. This will mark the third time Phoenix will host the annual Women's National Basketball Association All-Star Game where the best players in the league compete. Along with the game, visitors can watch the players battle for victory in WNBA skill challenges and in the three-point contest before exploring downtown Phoenix's nightlife and culinary scene.

JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge Resort & Spa's New AquaRidge Water Park Opens

Guests can now experience three new thrilling water slides at [JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge Resort & Spa's new AquaRidge Water Park](#). The \$18 million transformation of this 140,000-square-foot pool experience includes a renewed Canyon Creek Lazy River and a refreshed Wildfire Grove with two pools and a waterfall. For an enhanced pool day, book a private cabana at Wildfire Grove to lounge by the pool all day.

City Brew Tours Now Offers Tours in Phoenix

[City Brew Tours](#), the nation's leading brewery tour company, recently made its Phoenix debut, providing beer enthusiasts the chance to sample dozens of beer styles at local breweries within metro Phoenix. Led by local beer experts, the public and private tours give guests behind-the-scenes access to breweries and the process of beer-making. Guests will enjoy experiencing Arizona's thriving craft beer scene by exploring a number of local breweries. Learn more or book a tour [here](#).

New Route 66 Exhibit at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport

Catch a glimpse of historic Route 66 at [Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport's](#) newest exhibit, [Stories from the Mother Road](#), as the centennial celebration of Route 66 approaches. At the exhibit, visitors can admire photos of the popular attractions along the iconic road and snap a photo with a large-scale cutout image of a 1942 Ford Super Deluxe Woody Station Wagon. Stop by to learn about Route 66 and start planning your road trip during its centennial anniversary in 2026 for a one-of-a-kind experience. *Stories from the Mother Road* is located within Terminal 4, level 3, and does not require a plane ticket to experience. The exhibit will be on display until April 2024.

Scottsdale Fashion Square's New Restaurant, Élephante, to Open in 2024

[Élephante](#), an upscale and experimental restaurant, is coming to [Scottsdale Fashion Square](#) in 2024. This is the first location for Élephante outside of Los Angeles. The restaurant will offer a sophisticated cocktail lounge exclusive to this Arizona location. Diners will enjoy the restaurant's jungle oasis ambiance and an expansive menu that includes signature wood-fired pizza, fresh pasta, seafood and a wonderful beverage program of crafted cocktails.

Pueblo Grande Museum and Archaeological Park Renamed S'edav Va'aki Museum

Pueblo Grande Museum and Archaeological Park was recently renamed to [S'edav Va'aki Museum](#) to honor the Hohokam culture. The S'edav Va'aki Museum is an archaeological site located in Phoenix where visitors can explore replicated houses and a demonstration garden filled with native crops. While at the museum, stroll along ancient irrigation canals, observe artifacts from the Hohokam people and enjoy the children's hands-on gallery.

Whitewater Rafting on the Upper Salt River this Spring

This spring experience the thrill of whitewater rafting on the Upper Salt River and enjoy the best river season in more than 25 years thanks to an exceptionally wet winter and spring in the West. Join [Salt River Rafting](#) to raft through the 2,000- foot deep Salt River Canyon, commonly referred to as "Arizona's Other Grand Canyon", with more than a dozen rapids to enjoy. A day trip away from Phoenix or Tucson, [whitewater rafting](#) the Salt River is an adventure to try this spring.

New Museum of Illusions at Arizona Boardwalk

Experience the impossible at the new [Museum of Illusions](#) at [Arizona Boardwalk](#) in Scottsdale. With more than 60 mind-bending exhibits, discover a collection of intriguing images and perspective-changing rooms that will challenge the way your brain interprets reality. The Museum of Illusions joins the attractions available at Arizona Boardwalk, an entertainment destination that has nine different attractions all in one location. The complex also offers multiple shopping and dining options.

Ripley's Believe It or Not! Reopens at Arizona Boardwalk

[Ripley's Believe It or Not!](#) the world-famous attraction featuring oddities has reopened at Arizona Boardwalk in Scottsdale. The attraction showcases a large collection of the world's most bizarre and unbelievable items, including numerous new additions like a brick once part of the famous 'yellow brick road' from the motion picture, *The Wizard of Oz*; a larger-than-life statue of the 'Predator' made entirely from scrap metal; and a portrait of Tom Cruise - drawn with cigarette ashes!

Mattel Adventure Park

Opening 2024

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 her Beach House attraction to curate the ultimate wardrobe. Drive your own Hot Wheel through the Hot Wheels Go-kart track before embarking on the Hot Wheels Twin Mill Racer roller coaster. Talk to Thomas on the Thomas Adventure Train: Treasure Hunt™.

Cactus League Spring Training

Throughout March, the [2023 Cactus League Spring Training](#) season was in full swing across central Arizona. Fifteen Major League teams played games daily at 10 ballparks located throughout the metro Phoenix area. If you are a baseball lover, it doesn't get better than this: sunny weather and affordable tickets. The fun doesn't stop with peanuts, hot dogs and home runs. When not at the stadium, visitors can enjoy the endless travel opportunities offered by Arizona's stunning landscapes and sunny spring season. We have put together a few trip ideas [here](#).

Gucci Opens New Scottsdale Men's Store

[Gucci](#) opened a new men's boutique in Scottsdale Fashion Square. Marking the second dedicated men's store for Gucci in the United States, the boutique offers men's shoes, luggage, small leather goods, belts, jewelry & watches,

and eyewear, for guests to explore. The new boutique will complement the Gucci women's location within Scottsdale Fashion Square, allowing guests to explore the expansive Gucci collection at the shopping center.

UFO Experience: The Truth is Out There

A new attraction exploring the history and fascination of UFOs and extraterrestrial life has opened at Arizona Boardwalk in Scottsdale. [UFO Experience: The Truth is Out There](#) features more than 200 alien artifacts and recordings that support claims of life outside of planet earth dating back to ancient encounters through modern day sightings. The exhibit's interactive elements include a spaceship boarding pass, 3D film, an "alien hunter" laser shooting game, hands-on analysis of alien specimens, a "moon bounce" for pint-sized visitors, and video/audio recordings of famous sightings worldwide.

Northern Arizona – Arizona Attractions

Arizona Gets New National Monument Near Grand Canyon

Arizona's newest monument, [Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni, Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument](#), was designated by President Joe Biden in August. The name honors the tribes' ancestral homelands, with "Baaj Nwaavjo" meaning "where Indigenous peoples roam" to the Havasupai people and "I'tah Kukveni" meaning "our ancestral footprints" to the Hopi people. The monument encompasses sacred sites to several tribes. While there is no visitors' center, the land offers recreational opportunities such as hiking, hunting and camping.

Witness the World's Largest Single Loom Navajo (Diné) Rug in Winslow

The [world's largest single loom Navajo \(Diné\) rug](#) is now on display at the Affeldt Mion Museum at the La Posada Hotel Depot. As part of the new permanent Hubbell-Joe Rug exhibit, visitors can learn about the rug's incredible story of being created in the 1930s to draw tourists to Winslow and its journey to once again being displayed in Winslow after being stowed away for years.

Adventurous Antelope Canyon Tours

In addition to providing slot canyon tours, [Adventurous Antelope Canyon Tours](#) recently established IKG Air, LLC (IKG Air), the first 100% Navajo-owned aviation company providing air services and tours throughout the region with its helicopter and fixed-wing division. The Navajo-owned air company's goal is to offer air service and tours to Sedona and the Grand Canyon area, expanding the tour offerings to highly visited Arizona destinations. Air operations and tours are scheduled to begin in the 2nd quarter of 2023.

Southern Arizona – Arizona Attractions

Newly Opened Last Supper Museum

Visit the [Last Supper Museum](#) in Douglas to see the world's largest collection of last supper art. Every medium is represented including coal, mother of pearl, volcanic ash, and gourds, among many others. Paintings and sculptures from all over the world representing more than 50 countries are displayed. Open every day but Monday, art lovers will appreciate this new hidden gem that was recently Roadside America's "Sight of the Week!"

The First Trail in Texas Canyon Opens this September

For the first time, visitors will be able to hike within [Texas Canyon](#) near Dragoon in southeastern Arizona. Located on the property of the Amerind Museum, this 5.7-mile trail offers geological wonders like tafoni and whale rock. The trail will only be open during the day, with no camping onsite allowed. Admission to the trail will be \$10-12, and free for children under 10 years of age.

Presidio Museum in Tucson Launches New App

[The Presidio San Agustin del Tucson Museum](#) has launched a new app called [Presidio Museum Tours](#) that takes visitors on self-guided tours of the Turquoise Trail and the Presidio Museum. While walking on the Turquoise Trail, the app automatically explains the stops on the trail allowing visitors to learn about the historic sites around

downtown Tucson. The app is free to download, but to use the Turquoise Trail Tour there is a \$10 charge. Download the app from [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

Peralta Regional Park Is Officially Open

Located a few miles north of U.S. 60 near Gold Canyon, the [Peralta Regional Park](#) in Pinal County is 498 acres in size and designed as a backcountry recreation experience. The new park has nine miles of non-motorized trails, 31 camping sites, and a stargazing node for guests to view the area's dark skies. Open from dawn until 10 p.m. every day, explore the park during the day and make a reservation to camp overnight. Please note, the park has no electricity, water, or trash service, so campers must pack in what they need and pack out all waste.

Farmstead Hospitality at Tirrito Farm

[Tirrito Farm](#) is a farmstead hospitality destination located in south-eastern Arizona just 30 minutes from the Chiricahua National Monument. The farmstead includes a craft brewery, restaurant, dairy, farm store, event center, suites and more. The farm has over 200 farm animals — including goats, dairy cows and chickens for guests to see. Sustainability and increased quality truly go hand in hand with the farm growing and sourcing local ingredients.

Los Milics Vineyards

Recently opened with a new tasting room, and more to come, in 2023

In Elgin, near Tucson, [Los Milics](#) is an expanding winery in southern Arizona that recently debuted its new tasting room and plans to open nine luxury casitas in 2023. Located in “one of the fastest-growing wine regions in the country”, Los Milics' new wine-tasting room's architecture enhances the experience for wine enthusiasts with its stunning mirrors, steel pillars, and breathtaking views of the Mustang Mountains. The upcoming addition of casitas design will honor Southern Arizona.

Barrio Viejo Nominated for National Historic Landmark Designation

Earning designation in 2023

Stroll through [Barrio Viejo](#) in Tucson to explore the largest barrio in the US which will soon be a national historic landmark. Discover the 100-year-old history of this mile-long barrio and its influential role in establishing Tucson's culture. Those passionate about architecture will appreciate the architectural significance of the barrio with its largest collection of Sonoran Row houses in the US.

Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument Alamo Canyon Campground Opened For Advanced Reservations

Reservations Began Jan. 1, 2023

[Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument's Alamo Canyon Campground](#) will be available year-round for reservations. With only four sites available, birders, photographers, and dark sky enthusiasts who desire to camp at the mouth of Alamo Canyon in the Ajo Mountains will want to make reservations in advance. Visitors can make reservations on the same day they plan to arrive, as long as sites are available. To book a reservation visit [Recreation.gov](#) or call 1-877-444-6777

Old Tucson Returns

In October 2022, [Old Tucson](#) re-opened its doors to the public. The Western town's legacy is rooted in its 1890-themed buildings, which serve as the backdrop for popular movies such as the Three Amigos, El Dorado, and Tombstone. And while Old Tucson will continue to woo filmmakers, visitors will also get a chance to experience it firsthand. Visitors can take a trip back to the late 1800s for a firsthand look at the Wild West with a host of characters trained in immersive theater. Old Tucson's opening days and times are limited, so please call ahead to confirm: (520) 883-0100.

Lake Havasu City Hosts the 2023 Liqui Moly Pro Watercross International Cup

[The Liqui Moly Pro Watercross International Cup](#) will make its debut in the western United States this year at the Havasu Riviera Marina at [Lake Havasu](#) from Sept. 29 to Oct. 1. Similar to a motocross competition featuring dirtbikes, pro watercross pits individual jet ski racers against each other on an open water course with speeds reaching 85 mph. After watching the thrilling races, visitors can embark on their own jet ski ride with rentals available throughout the city.

Interactive AI-powered Exhibit Featuring ‘Guardian Angel of Route 66’ Opens in Kingman, Arizona

Now Open

A new exhibit featuring a digital version of Angel Delgadillo, widely known as the “Guardian Angel of Route 66” in Arizona, recently opened to the public at the [Kingman Visitor Center](#). The free exhibit invites visitors to ask an Artificial Intelligence (AI) version of Delgadillo questions to learn about his experiences living along Route 66 in Seligman, Arizona and fighting for its preservation. Visit this new exhibit now or during the U.S.’ Route 66 Centennial Celebration in 2026.

Arizona Tours

Western Arizona

Ales & Trails Passport

Lake Havasu City has a new opportunity for people seeking the ultimate craft beer and trail-trekking adventure. Go Lake Havasu, Lake Havasu City's official tourism organization, has launched [Ales & Trails Passport](#): a web-based mobile app rewards program for exploring the region's rich brewery culture and 1,800-mile network of scenic hiking, mountain biking and off-road trails.

Oatman Bus Tours from Lake Havasu City

Lake Havasu’s [London Bridge Resort](#) is now offering a six-hour [bus tour](#) to Oatman each Tuesday beginning at 10:00 a.m. This fully-narrated bus tour only travels 54 miles northwest of Lake Havasu City on Old Route 66, but steps back in time to the wooden sidewalks and 1880s-style buildings when gold miners and gunslingers filled the town. There is time to enjoy the Ghost Rider Gun Fighters group shootout, do a little shopping and have lunch. A highlight for many is seeing some of the furry natives - the burros. They are direct descendants of the pack animals brought to the area by gold miners during the 1800s. The tour is seasonal, from September to May, and reservations are required for this \$25 tour. The tour is not wheelchair accessible.

A Walkabout Kingman with Jim Hinckley

The [Walkabout Kingman](#) is an interactive and audio-narrated self-guided tour of significant sites along Route 66 and in historic downtown Kingman. Tour locations include Hotel Beale, where Charles Lindberg stayed when he flew into Kingman in 1929 to dedicate Arizona’s first commercial airport, and the original St. John Methodist Church, where Clark Gable and Carole Lombard were married in 1939.

Arizona Tourism Industry News

Greater Phoenix and Central Arizona – Arizona Tourism News

Scottsdale’s Museum of the West Named #1 Western Museum for 2023

[Western Spirit: Scottsdale’s Museum of the West](#) earned the prestigious title of “#1 Western Museum” in True West magazine's special 70th-anniversary issue. Selected by True West editors, this award acknowledges the Western Spirit’s mission to preserve the cultural heritage of the American West through its Western and American Indian art and artifacts exhibits. Visit its newest exhibit, Western Pop: Andy Warhol & Billy Schenck, to see colorful Western-themed art.

Phoenix's Century Grand Named Best U.S. Cocktail Bar

The innovative [Century Grand](#) was awarded the 2023 Best US Cocktail Bar by Tales of the Cocktail Spirited Awards this past summer for its specialty cocktails and immersive themed bars. Selected by a panel of more than 250 industry experts, Century Grand accepted the award from Tales of the Cocktail Foundation, a nonprofit that hosts events such as the Cocktail Spirited Awards to support the beverage industry. Thanks to the bar's three-in-one venue, visitors can enjoy a drink in a pirate ship, vintage train cabin or New Orleans-themed bar.

Castle Hot Springs Recognized in Wine Spectator's 2023 Restaurant Awards

[Castle Hot Springs'](#) onsite restaurant, [Harvest](#), has been honored for its outstanding wine program in [Wine Spectator's 2023 Restaurant Awards](#), which celebrates the world's best restaurants for wine. Harvest earned the Best Award of Excellence, which is given to restaurants that offer superior presentations of a wide variety of wines from across multiple wine-growing regions. Harvest offers a farm-inspired dinner tasting menu that evolves continuously with the ingredients grown on the resort's sustainable farm.

The City Of Sedona Is Now The Official DMO for Sedona

On July 1, the [City of Sedona](#) became the official Destination Management Organization (DMO) for Sedona, taking over from the Sedona Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau. As Sedona's DMO, the city will take media and travel trade requests, which should be sent to media@sedonaaz.gov. For information on booking group events or travel trade resources, email travel@sedonaaz.gov.

Ambiente Recognized in Condé Nast Traveler's 2023 Hot List

Ambiente Hotel in Sedona, Arizona was recognized in *Condé Nast Traveler's 2023 Hot List* which highlights the world's best new hotels. As the only Arizona hotel to make the list, Ambiente stands out as it enables guests to be immersed in Sedona's breathtaking nature when staying in its cubed-shaped, glass-encased atriums designed to harmonize with Sedona's geography and offers guests their own distinct panoramic view. Opened earlier this year, Ambiente is the ideal adults-only getaway.

Scottsdale joins the Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC)

Scottsdale is the third U.S. city to become a part of the Organization of World Heritage Cities, an organization of 250 cities that have a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Scottsdale was established as a World Heritage City because of the UNESCO World Heritage Site designation of Taliesin West, the winter home of architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Visitors can witness the craftsmanship of this attraction on a [guided tour](#) and visit private living spaces only available on the tour. For those who like to explore at their own pace, the 60-minute [audio tour](#) takes visitors around the property including fan-favorite rooms such as the Drafting Studio and the Garden Room.

Lynx Air Starts New Toronto-Phoenix this Fall

[Lynx Air](#) announced new routes to Phoenix from Toronto's Pearson International (YYZ) starting this fall. Service will be offered Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays making it even easier for Canadians to explore Arizona.

Frontier Airlines Launches New Nonstop Service to Phoenix

[Frontier](#) Airlines plans added nonstop service to Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport to Houston and Tampa with daily flights to Tampa International Airport. Flights to Houston's George Bush Intercontinental Airport will run three times a week starting in June.

Canada Flair Airlines Coming to Phoenix Sky Harbor this Fall

Canada's [Flair Airlines](#) will begin operations from Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport this fall, offering flights from Calgary, Vancouver and Edmonton starting on Oct. 30.

American to Add More Flights to Its Winter Schedule from Phoenix Sky Harbor

This November, [American Airlines](#) will add more than 25 daily departures from

[Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport](#) (PHX) including new service to Jacksonville, FL (JAX). Additionally, the airlines will resume nonstop service to Wichita, KS (ICT) from Sky Harbor for the first time in more than three years.

This winter season, the airline will operate 12% more daily flights in comparison to last winter while providing nearly 4% more seats – offering even more opportunities for customers to get to where they want to travel.

Two Arizona Hotels Awarded Five Stars in Forbes' 2023 Travel Guide

[The Canyon Suites at The Phoenician](#) in Scottsdale and [The Ritz-Carlton, Dove Mountain](#) in Marana both received [Five Stars in Forbes' 2023 Travel Guide](#), a world-renowned authority on Five Star service. The Canyon Suites at The Phoenician in Scottsdale is a AAA Five Diamond hotel that offers guests elegantly designed rooms, private cabanas at the pool, and easy access to Camelback Mountain's hiking trails. The Ritz-Carlton, Dove Mountain in Marana is a luxury hotel where guests can relax at the spa, play golf or hike the Tortolita Mountains.

New Highway Signs Designating Arizona's Wine Regions

Travelers exploring Arizona will start seeing new highway signs this month (April) that signify when they're entering one of Arizona's three officially recognized wine regions, or American Viticultural Areas (AVAs). The Arizona Office of Tourism partnered with the Arizona Department of Transportation to create and implement 13 wine region signs.

Awesome Arizona, the Latest Book from Roger Naylor

In *Awesome Arizona*, Roger Naylor, "the Dean of Arizona Travel Writers," has amassed 200 amazing facts and fascinating commentary about his beloved state. This fast-paced, funny encyclopedia captures the essence of the sixth-largest state, from its rowdy past to its epic landscapes. Learn about the West's most legendary gunfight, the best-preserved meteor crater on earth, how Arizona saved the unicorn, and so much more. Published by the University of New Mexico Press, the book is now available for [purchase](#).

Two Locations In Arizona Were Recognized In the New York Times List Of Places To Go In 2023

[Tucson](#) and [Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park](#) were recognized in the *New York Times* list of places to go in 2023. The article recognized [Barrio Viejo](#) in Tucson as a must-visit for travelers. Discover the 100-year-old history of this mile-long barrio and its influential role in establishing Tucson's culture. The Barrio is expected to earn National Historic Landmark designation this year. Observe towering sandstone buttes when exploring Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park. Hike through the valley to witness Mitten Butte, a well-known symbol of the American West.

Castle Hot Springs earned recognition in Travel + Leisure's 500 Best Hotels in the World in 2023

[Castle Hot Springs](#) was recognized in [Travel + Leisure's 500 Best Hotels in the World](#), an honor earned after receiving votes from Travel + Leisure's readers in the annual World's Best Awards survey. Castle Hot Springs is an adult-only desert oasis where guests can find tranquility soaking in the hot springs and relaxing within their luxurious rooms. The resort has been recognized by Travel + Leisure in the past earning its [Number 1 Resort Hotel in Arizona](#) in 2021 & 2022.

Sky Harbor Wins Award for its Commitment to Digital Equity and Accessibility

[Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport](#) received an award in the International Data Corporation (IDC) Government Insights' sixth annual Smart Cities North America Awards (SCNAA) in the category of Digital Equity and Accessibility for its innovative initiatives that help travelers who are visually and hearing impaired. The airport supports travelers who are blind or have low vision through Aira, a free service that uses a mobile app to assist passengers in navigating the airport. Thanks to the airport's hearing loops, hearing-impaired visitors can have their hearing aids connected to the public address system to listen to announcements clearly.

Mesa partners with Wheel the World

Mesa has partnered with Wheel the World, a program designed to provide travelers with advanced information on accessible experiences in Mesa and connect them with suggested itineraries based on their personal requirements. The program allows visitors to book hotels and tours and provides reliable accessibility information in advance to

ensure their travel to Mesa is enjoyable. This free service is available to all visitors and can be accessed through [AccessibleMesa.com](https://www.AccessibleMesa.com) and [WheeltheWorld.com](https://www.WheeltheWorld.com)

The PHX Sky Train Celebrates its 10th Anniversary this Year

The [PHX Sky Train](#) celebrates its 10th anniversary this month with the first stage of the train having opened on April 8, 2013. The PHX Sky Train has become popular with travelers throughout the years and currently serves 37,700 riders a day. The last stage of the train was completed in 2022.

Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport Breaks Record

[Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport](#) recently broke its record for the single busiest day on February 13, the day following the Super Bowl, with 200,000 visitors coming through the airport.

Scottsdale Ranked No.26 on Tourism Sentiment Index's Most-Loved Destinations

Tourism Sentiment Index released the 2023 edition of "[Leading Places: The 100 Most Loved Destinations Around the World](#)" which highlights the 100 most loved destinations based on consumer sentiment with Scottsdale ranked 26th. Scottsdale being included in the ranking means the city offers a quality visitor experience and delivers the joyfulness that visitors expressed online.

Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport Starts The New Year Receiving Two Awards

The Aviation Safety Advisory Group of Arizona gave [Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport](#) the Airport of the Year Award for the airport's continuous efforts in promoting aviation safety. Additionally, Phoenix Sky Harbor and its partner, Kiewit Infrastructure West Co, received a Build Arizona Award for the Terminal 2 Concourse Demolition and Apron Reconstruction Project from Arizona General Contractors.

Scottsdale Is Recognized In *Conde Nast Traveler's* Best Destinations in the World: Gold List 2022 Places To Visit

The global editors at *Conde Nast Traveler* recognized Scottsdale as one of their favorite places to visit by including the city in [Conde Nast Traveler's Gold List 2022](#). Scottsdale was recognized as a sunny oasis filled with thrilling outdoor attractions and one-of-a-kind resorts.

Men's Journal Recognized We-Ko-Pa Golf Club As The #1 Golf Course In Arizona

Men's Journal recently recognized We-Ko-Pa Golf Club as the #1 golf course in Arizona. Reconnect with nature when playing golf on the two award-winning courses at the [We-Ko-Pa Golf Club](#), owned by the [Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation](#). While the [Cholla](#) golf course is a target-style desert course, the [Saguaro](#) course is more traditional where you will play among hundreds of Saguaro cacti.

Mesa Partners With Wildjoy For A New Adventure Explorer Passport

[Visit Mesa](#) launched a new mobile-exclusive [Adventure Explorer Passport](#) in partnership with Wildjoy – one of the state's leading adventure guide companies. The free digital passport features a list of curated adventures selected by [Wildjoy](#) CEO, Lacy Cain, making it easy to embark on thrilling adventures in and near Mesa. Each experience is marked by geo-coordinates allowing users to check in and earn points to win prizes. To activate the Adventure Explorer Passport click [here](#).

Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport Earns 'Experience Obsessed' Award from Uber

Recently, [Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport's](#) Ground Transportation team was awarded Uber's Experience Obsessed Award for improving the customer experience for Uber drivers and passengers. Due to its high volume of Uber trips, the airport provided Uber dedicated curbs at both Terminals 3 and 4 with a significantly expanded footprint from which to operate.

PHX Sky Train® Connecting Airport Terminals to Car Rental Center is Now Opens

Launched Dec. 20, 2022

A 2.5-mile extension of the [PHX Sky Train®](#) connects the existing line between the 44th Street PHX Sky Train® Station and Terminal 3 to the 24th Street PHX Sky Train® Station / 24th Street Express Pay Parking and the Rental Car Center. The 24th Street PHX Sky Train® Station features a convenient option for travelers arriving from the West Valley and downtown, with improved access to and from nearby freeways.

Phoenix Sky Harbor Is the First Airport to Offer Waymo Rider-Only Autonomous Vehicle Service [Phoenix Sky Harbor International](#) sets a global milestone to becoming the first airport in the world to offer travelers the ability to take a Waymo autonomous vehicle as a means of transportation to and from the airport. Waymo offers Trusted Tester participants, individuals that Waymo has selected from its confidential “Trusted Tester” program, to test the cars’ latest features, provide feedback and the ability to catch a ride 24 hours, seven days a week, in Waymo’s fully electric Jaguar I-PACE equipped with the fifth generation Waymo Driver.

Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport is a Sustainability Leader among U.S. Airports

[Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport’s](#) commitment to being an industry leader in [sustainability](#) was recently recognized by the Airport Council International’s Airport Carbon Accreditation Program (ACA). It is currently the **only airport in the U.S. to have achieved the Transformation certification**, and only one of three airports in the U.S. to have achieved the Level 4/4+ rating tier. Additionally, Phoenix Sky Harbor was recognized by Airports Council International - North America (ACI-NA) with the 2022 **Environmental Achievement Award** in the Innovation Category for the newly opened Eighth Concourse in Terminal 4. From a ceiling comprised of recycled plastic bottles to walls incorporating sustainable paper atop recycled concrete, the Eighth Concourse features a cooling system that recycles and saves water, charging stations for electric ground service vehicles, and thousands of LED lights and water-efficient fixtures.

Northern Arizona – Arizona Tourism News

Petrified Forest National Park and Ischigualasto Provincial Park Are Now Sister Parks

[Petrified Forest National Park](#) and [Ischigualasto Provincial Park](#) in Argentina became sister parks in August. The parks share similar paleontological, geological, biological and archaeological resources. This new arrangement encourages the two park teams to explore opportunities for collaboration on management and conservation issues. Though over 5,000 miles apart, both sites share extraordinary scientific importance by providing fossiliferous continental sediments representing the Triassic Period of geological history.

Grand Canyon National Park Moves Overnight Backcountry Reservations to Recreation.gov for 2024

[Grand Canyon National Park](#) will transition its overnight backcountry permitting system to [Recreation.gov](#) for trips starting in 2024 and beyond. This move will help streamline the process by reducing approval times and allowing approximately 80 percent of backcountry permits to be directly reserved and purchased online. Backcountry permit charges for 2024 will be \$10 per permit or lottery application plus a nightly charge of \$12 per person for below-rim areas and \$4 per person for above-rim areas.

North Central Arizona – Arizona Tourism News

Enjoy Scenic Flight Tours Over Monument Valley with Westwind and Redtail Air

Westwind and Redtail Air have partnered with Goulding’s Lodge to provide visitors a bird’s-eye view of Monument Valley on their [scenic flight tours](#). Westwind’s day trip tour includes amazing views of the Valley’s famous red sandstones from the air before landing to embark on an off-road tour through the park to see the formations up close and learn about Navajo culture. Thanks to multiple departure locations throughout the state, travelers have several options to fit their schedules. For those who seek to stay longer, Redtail Air’s tour can also include an overnight stay at Goulding’s Lodge.

Prescott Recreation Services Launches Junior Ranger Program

The City of Prescott Recreation Services Park Rangers has created a free Junior Ranger program to promote Prescott's historic attractions, outdoor recreational opportunities and [Appreciate AZ Leave No Trace Principles](#). The program offers free downloadable guidebooks that map out all of Prescott's historic sites and recreational spaces helping children explore Prescott in a responsible manner. Within the guidebook, there is a special passport that outlines the city's museums and attractions. Children who visit at least seven of the passport sites and take the [Appreciate AZ pledge](#) can earn a Prescott Junior badge!

Experience Prescott Teams With EnChroma To Loan Color Blind Glasses To Visitors

[Experience Prescott](#), the [City of Prescott Tourism Office](#) and [EnChroma](#) – makers of glasses for color blindness – formed a partnership to make the city's top popular tourist destinations accessible to millions of people who are color blind. The city has purchased 52 pairs of EnChroma glasses and distributed them to seven popular tourist locations throughout the city for color-blind guests and the public to borrow ensuring everyone can see colors clearly and vibrantly while visiting Prescott.

Western Arizona – Arizona Tourism News

Lake Havasu Is The Only Southwestern Lake Selected In USA Today's 10Best Reader Survey

[Lake Havasu](#) is a top 10 winner in the 2023 *USA Today* 10Best Readers' Choice travel awards for both [Best Lake](#) and [Best Lake for Water Sports](#). Thanks to public votes, Lake Havasu earned second place in both categories, showcasing the city as the perfect getaway for those seeking a water playground. As the only southwestern lake selected, Lake Havasu offers a perfect way to spend sunny summer days relaxing lakeside or kayaking, boating or water skiing at the city's gorgeous lake.

Desert Diamond Distillery Awarded Gold Outstanding Medal

The International World Spirit Competition has awarded a 99/99 (a perfect score) Gold Outstanding medal to [Desert Diamond Distillery](#), Arizona's oldest craft distillery located in Kingman, for their 11-year barrel-aged Rum. This award is the only perfect score for rum in 2023 and showcases Arizona's building reputation for aged spirits of all kinds.

Southern Arizona – Arizona Tourism News

Chiricahua National Monument: A Hidden Gem

Located near [Willcox](#), [Chiricahua National Monument](#) is a hidden gem in Southern Arizona where visitors can 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. As one of the region's "sky islands," guests will encounter four ecosystems to explore as they travel higher in elevation throughout the monument. Additionally, the bipartisan [Chiricahua National Park Act](#), which is under consideration by Congress, would designate the monument as the state's fourth national park, joining the [Grand Canyon](#), [Petrified Forest](#) and [Saguaro National Parks](#). The designation would help increase awareness of this beautiful area of the state and boost conservation efforts in Southern Arizona.

Tubac Earns 'Best Small Town Arts Scene' Award for Third Consecutive Year

[Tubac](#) recently was named "Best Small Town Arts Scene" in the 2023 *USA Today* 10 Best Readers' Choice travel awards, marking the third consecutive year the city has earned first place. Thanks to public votes, Tubac continues to be recognized by art lovers for its 100-plus shops and galleries. When visiting, learn how to paint and sculpt from Arizona artists at the [Tubac School of Fine Arts'](#) multi-day workshops starting this October or attend the city's annual [Festival of the Arts](#) held in February, the oldest arts festival in Southern Arizona.

Saguaro National Park Moves to Cashless Fee System

[Saguaro National Park](#) has transitioned to accepting only electronic payments for its entrance fee, which will improve accountability and reduce risk. All entrance fees can now be paid at the automated fee machines located outside the

Fee Kiosk in the Rincon Mountain District or the Red Hills Visitor Center in the Tucson Mountain District. Individual, private vehicles and motorcycle entrance fees may be purchased here, as well as the Saguaro Annual Pass and the America the Beautiful Pass. Saguaro National Park in Tucson offers visitors the opportunity to see countless magnificent saguaro cactuses, iconic symbols of the American West.

New Air Service Comes to Tucson International Airport

Starting December 2023, Alaska Airlines will offer direct service between Tucson International Airport and Orange County, CA (John Wayne Airport.) Find out more about this seasonal air service [here](#).

Tucson Botanical Garden Ranked #4 in the Nation

[Tucson Botanical Garden](#) earned fourth place in USA Today's [Readers' Choice Awards for 10 Best Botanical Gardens across the nation for 2023](#), with visitors enjoying its Barrio Garden and Butterfly Pavilion. Tucson Botanical Garden combines nature with culture allowing visitors to explore the different native plants along with observing a variety of exhibits that focus on history and art. Families will appreciate the Children's Discovery Garden and the 17 different themed gardens.

Tucson was recognized by AARP as an Ideal Spring Break Getaway for Adults

For its Western culture and art scene, Tucson was among [AARP's 3 Top Destinations for the Best Adult Spring Break of Your Life](#). The article highlighted how visitors can feel like a cowboy or cowgirl when staying at [White Stallion Ranch](#), a guest ranch where guests can ride horses or learn archery. Visitors are also encouraged to participate in Tucson's art scene at the [Ehertson Gallery](#) on South Convent Avenue and at the [MSA Annex](#) in the [Mercado District](#) before staying at the vintage [Hotel Congress](#) in downtown Tucson.

Sierra Vista Launches Visitor App

[Visit Sierra Vista](#) has launched a free digital Sierra Vista Adventure Guide app available on the App Store and Google Play that makes it easier to learn what makes Sierra Vista an extraordinary place to visit. Now visitors and residents alike can access information, photos, maps, and fun facts about the area with a swipe of their finger. The app will be continuously updated, ensuring the most accurate information is available. Other useful features include one-click links to Sierra Vista's social media, audio walking tours, attraction ranking, itinerary planning, and more.

Celebrations

2023

- **The Yuma Daily Sun Newspaper Celebrates 150 Years** (Yuma)
- **Lake Havasu City's Polar Plunge Turns 50**

2024

- **Chiricahua National Monument Centennial**
- **Phippen Museum's 50th anniversary**

2025

- **Page** celebrates its 50 year anniversary as a city


2026

- **Route 66 Centennial Celebration**
 - Arizona's Route 66, also known as the Mother Road, has been more than a road. Its people and places have inspired writers, filmmakers, photographers and artists. Its (almost) 100-year history boasts neon, classic cars, diners, and cowboys as well as spectacular vistas and mystical landscapes.


For More Information: For more information on these topics and others, see the official Arizona travel and vacation guide from the Arizona Office of Tourism at www.visitarizona.com. Find in-depth AZ visitor information and videos

about visiting the state of Arizona, including comprehensive directories of Arizona hotels, dining and shopping, as well as things to do and places to visit throughout the Grand Canyon State.

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