



## A Brief Update of News Around Arizona August 2019

The **Arizona Office of Tourism** is pleased to provide this monthly update of new and noteworthy items regarding Arizona's tourism industry. For more information, contact Becky Blaine at [bblaine@tourism.az.gov](mailto:bblaine@tourism.az.gov), Kim Todd at [ktodd@tourism.az.gov](mailto:ktodd@tourism.az.gov) or Marjorie Magnusson at [mmagnusson@tourism.az.gov](mailto:mmagnusson@tourism.az.gov).

### Flight Service

#### **American Airlines adds four new destinations for the winter travel season from Phoenix Sky Harbor**

[American Airlines](#) announced plans for additional growth in Phoenix with the addition of four new winter seasonal routes. So far this year American has announced 11 new destinations from [Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport](#) (PHX). On December 18, 2019, American will launch service from Fort Lauderdale International Airport (FLL); Colorado Springs Airport (COS); Hector International Airport (FAR) in Fargo North Dakota; and Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG).



American Airlines, Phoenix Sky Harbor

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#### **Brand-new RV and vacation cottage resort near Camp Verde**

[Verde Ranch RV Resort](#), the new RV and cottage resort near Camp Verde, is scheduled to open August 2019. Verde Ranch has 400+ full hookup RV sites with 50 AMP service; guests can choose from river front sites, pull through options, and fire pits. The RV resort offers 16 fully furnished cottages with studio, one or two bedroom room options. Wifi and cable is available at all RV sites and cottages. The resort provides onsite amenities for guests, including a pool, two Jacuzzis, pickleball courts, clubhouse, river recreation access, fitness center, pet parks, and concierge kayak and ATV rentals.

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Pool Deck, Verde Ranch RV Resort



Covered RV Camp Sites, Verde Ranch RV Resort

## Hotel News

### **New sustainability focused hotel by Westin in Scottsdale**

[Westin](#) hotel revealed their new sustainability-focused property, [Element](#), on June 26, 2019. The 157-room hotel is located in the southwestern corner of [SkySong](#), the ASU Scottsdale Innovation Center complex. The new location is the second Element brand hotel in Arizona. Inspired around sustainability and a healthy lifestyle, Element strives to provide guests with healthy food options and convenient physical activity. Light fixtures and flooring throughout the hotel are built from recycled materials. The hotel's gym is equipped with yoga balls, weights, mats and other fitness accessories, and water bottle filling stations are located throughout common areas. The cardio equipment provides guests the option to connect their streaming service while working out. The hotel offers a bicycle check-out program where visitors can borrow a bike, as well as a lock and helmet, from the hotel to explore the area. The tires of the bikes and other parts are made of recycled materials. Element offers two complimentary breakfast options, a rotating hot breakfast that changes daily and includes avocado toast and sweet potato hash, or a yogurt parfait bar and continental breakfast. The hotel's pool is filled with saline water, which does not use chemicals like traditional chlorine pools. Guests staying for longer terms in the hotel have the option to forgo housekeeping services in exchange for \$5 of hotel credit per day. The hotel is the first one in Arizona to feature Element's "communal rooms," which include either four or five hotel rooms with access to a shared common room outside the hotel bedrooms.

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King Suite, Element Hotel



Fitness Center, Element Hotel

# ARIZONA

## OFFICE OF TOURISM

### **GreenTree Hospitality Group adds first boutique collection property to the brand's portfolio**

[GreenTree Hospitality Group, Inc.](#) announced the addition of GreenTree's first boutique collection property — The [Clarendon Hotel and Spa](#). The four-star boutique hotel located in Downtown Phoenix offers several room options, including Deluxe Room, Junior Suite and Pool View Suite. This marks the eleventh property in the brand's U.S. portfolio. The Clarendon Hotel and Spa's amenities include The Clarendon Spa, the Oasis Pool, featuring a silver-coated water wall, six outdoor cabanas, and a 50-person hydro spa. Recent property upgrades include the exterior's southwestern landscaping, the contemporary building exterior, modern art, a coffee shop, and Tuft and Needle mattresses in every room. For dining, and events and meetings, the property has a full-service food and beverage outfit called Tranquilo, a vibrant mod-Mex catina; several meeting rooms; and SkyDeck, a rooftop bar/hangout space, which provides guests and customers spectacular views of Phoenix's skyline and surrounding mountains.



Clarendon Hotel and Spa

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## **Accolades**

### **Sandra Day O'Connor House officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places**

[The National Park Service](#) has officially listed the [Sandra Day O'Connor House](#) in Tempe in the [National Register of Historic Places](#). The nomination was prepared by the [State Historic Preservation Office](#) and was unanimously approved by the Arizona Historic Sites Review Committee on March 22, 2019. The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's list of properties considered worthy of preservation. Justice O'Connor resided in the house from 1958 until 1981. The home was the center of O'Connor's life during her ascent to the pinnacle of the judiciary. While living there, she endured discrimination in the 1950s and early 1960s when no law firm in Phoenix would hire a woman, raised her three sons, established herself as an attorney and judge, and then rose to become the first female Supreme Court Justice. O'Connor's home became a regular gathering place for Arizona's most influential individuals.



Sandra Day O'Connor House

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## **We-Ko-Pa Resort & Conference Center awarded a TripAdvisor 2019 Certificate of Excellence**

The [We-Ko-Pa Resort & Conference Center](#) was awarded a [TripAdvisor® 2019 Certificate of Excellence](#). The designation

honors accommodations, restaurants, attractions and vacation rentals around the world that have consistently earned great traveler reviews and delivered quality customer experiences. To qualify for a Certificate of Excellence, an accommodation must maintain an overall TripAdvisor rating of at least four out of five, meet the minimum number of reviews, and listed on TripAdvisor for the full 12-month qualifying period between April 1 and March 31. Only 10 percent of companies on TripAdvisor earn the Certificate of Excellence award.

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We-Ko-Pa Resort & Conference Center

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### Summer Staycations



Parker Watercraft Rentals

**Family-owned watercraft rentals in Parker announces Spring Break hours and rates**  
[Parker Watercraft Rentals](#), the family-owned and operated personal watercraft company on the Parker Strip, announced their spring hours and rates. Pending water levels, patrons are invited to enjoy the Parker Strip with Parker Watercraft Rentals starting at just \$250 per day, plus tax and gas. Full day rentals are available 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. and include life jackets, all safety equipment, anchor, and dock line.

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### **The Scottsdale Resort at McCormick Ranch Offers “Rock Your Staycation” summer deals**

The [Scottsdale Resort at McCormick Ranch](#), A Destination Hotel is bringing back “Rock Your Staycation” this summer with room rates starting as low as \$97 on the weekends, a \$30 daily resort credit, two \$25 Luna Spa vouchers (per reservation) and a 50 percent discount on the daily resort fee. Use promo code: ROCK19 at checkout. The daily resort fee is \$29 plus tax, which includes valet or self-parking, fitness center access, bicycle use, Wi-Fi, and daily newspaper. These rates are available for stays May 24 – Sept. 1, 2019 (based on availability; blackout dates and cancellation fees do apply).

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Golf Course Patio, Scottsdale Resort at McCormick Ranch



King Suite, Scottsdale Resort at McCormick Ranch



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## FOUND:RE Phoenix Hotel celebrates the season with “Summer Fun Package”

The [FOUND:RE](#) announces their “Summer Fun Package” deals available from May 24 – Sept. 2, 2019. Room rates start at



\$129 plus tax and include 25 percent off the standard rate for a “re:markable” room, \$25 poolside food and beverage credit and poolside swag (including sunglasses, a pool floatie and sunblock) per stay. Booking dates are from May 1 – Sept. 2, 2019.

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Suite, FOUND:RE

## The Hermosa Inn announces hot summer 2019 rates and cool dining dates

Available May 19 – Sept. 30, 2019, [The Hermosa Inn](#) offers rates starting from \$149, plus tax and resort fee of \$32. The resort fee includes valet parking, two drink tickets per room, \$25 daily food and beverage credit, and daily poolside treats. Based on availability, guests will receive a free upgrade and early check-in and late checkout.

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King Suite, Hermosa Inn



LON's Wine Cellar, Hermosa Inn



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### Cool Summer Rates at Arizona's Three JW Marriott Resorts

The [JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa](#) announced a "Splash Into Summer" deal that includes a \$50 resort credit, a \$10 donation to Phoenix Children's Hospital, and resort fee (which includes high speed internet, two comp hours of pickleball, comp use of driving range, tennis courts and two hour bike rental). Prices start at \$199 and is available May 23 – Sept. 7, 2019. Must use promo code SPU when booking. JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa in Tucson unveiled new summer special called "Casitas & Rita's" includes overnight accommodations in a luxurious casita, two specialty-handcrafted margaritas per night and a \$50 resort credit per night. Prices starting at \$199, and is available May 24 – Sept. 2, 2019. Must use promo code ES1 when booking. JW Marriott Camelback Inn Resort & Spa "Fling & Swing" summer special includes overnight accommodations, unlimited golf for two per day beginning at 1 p.m. day of arrival, and \$50 resort credit per night. Prices starting at \$189, and is available March 27 – Sept. 7, 2019. Must use promo code 33G when booking. All prices do not include tax or resort fee and are based on availability.

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Pool, JW Marriott Desert Ridge

### Summer Staycation Packages at the We-Ko-Pa Resort & Conference Center



Pool at We-Ko-Pa Resort & Conference Center

[We-Ko-Pa Resort & Conference Center](#) announced their one and two-night summer staycation packages. A one-night stay includes a deluxe guest room with one king or two queen beds, \$25 food and beverage credit, one \$10 casino slot play, 25% off regular priced spa services, and a waived \$25 resort fee. Prices start at \$99, not including taxes. A two-night stay includes a deluxe guest room with one king or two queen beds, \$75 food and beverage credit, one \$10 Casino slot play, 25% off regular priced spa services, and waived \$25 resort fee, per night. Prices start at \$189, not including taxes. The summer staycation packages are available May 1 – Aug. 31, 2019.

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## Summertime room packages and activities at L'Auberge de Sedona

[L'Auberge de Sedona](#), A Destination Hotel in Sedona, announced their "Cooler by Nature" summer package, available now until Sept. 30, 2019. The package includes a two night stay, up to 20 percent off cottages and suites, and \$40 credit at [ETCH Kitchen + Bar](#). L'Auberge de Sedona offers exclusive summertime activities such as creekside dinner [at Cress on Oak Creek](#), summer nature-focused spa and wellness treatments at L'Apothecary Spa, or a customized hike through The Hike House.

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Cress on Oak Creek, L'Auberge



Cottage, L'Auberge

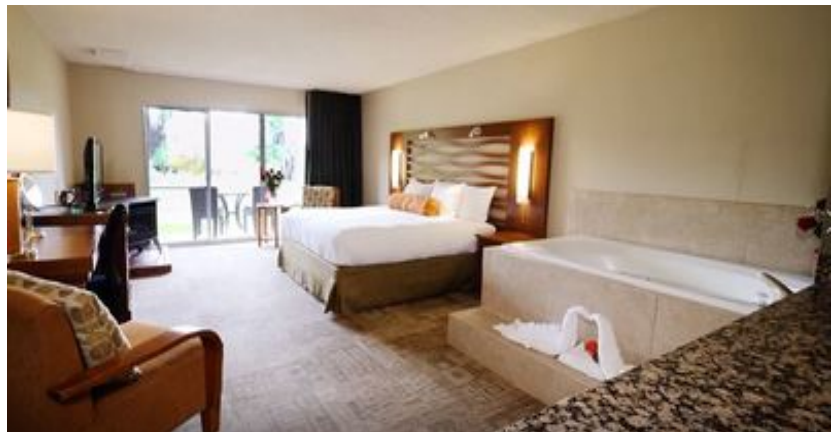
## Poco Diablo Resort announced Sizzling Summer Deal

As part of their Sizzling Summer Deal, [Poco Diablo Resort](#) is offering guests free room upgrades, late check out on availability, reduced pet fee, and a free appetizer per room at [T.C.'s Bar and Grill](#). Standard room rates start at \$139 per night with a free upgrade to a Deluxe room. Deluxe room rates start at \$169 per night with a free upgrade to Poco King or Elite Spa room. Poco Diablo Resorts' summer package is valid for guests staying during the dates of July 21 – September 21, 2019.

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Elite Spa Room, Poco Diablo Resort



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### **“Steak-Cation” Summer Package at JW Marriott Camelback Inn Resort & Spa**

[JW Marriot Camelback Inn Resort and Spa](#)’s “Steak-cation” summer package includes accommodations in a luxurious, adobe-style casita, and a \$100 credit to [Lincoln](#), the award winning, JW steakhouse. Room rates begin at \$269 per night, not including taxes. The “Steak-cation” summer package is available May 24 – Sept. 2, 2019, excluding Sundays and Mondays from June 30 – Aug. 26, 2019. Must use promo code ZJ8 when booking.

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Lincoln, JW Marriott Camelback Resort & Spa

### **Mormon Lake Lodge offers “Giddyap Mountain Getaway” summer packages**

Located southeast of Flagstaff, [Mormon Lake Lodge](#) announced their “Giddyap Mountain Getaway” summer packages. There are three packages to choose from, each include a horseback-riding excursion, a meal and an overnight stay in a Mormon Lake Lodge cabin for two. Sunrise Mountain Saddle Up package offers a one-night cabin for two, a 1.5-hour guided horseback ride at 7:30 a.m., and breakfast at 9 a.m. The room rate is \$198 plus tax and \$55 per person for additional person in same cabin, and \$45 per person for an additional one-hour horseback ride. Chow Time Late Morning Ride package offers a cabin for two, a two hour guided horseback ride departing at 9:45 a.m., and lunch in the lodge. The room rate is \$239 plus tax and \$72 per person for additional person in same cabin, and \$45 per person for an additional one-hour horseback ride. Dinner Bell Afternoon Ride package offers a one night cabin for two, a 1.5-hour guided horseback ride at 4 p.m., and dinner at the steakhouse. The room rate is \$229 plus tax and \$72 per person for additional person in same cabin, and \$45 per person for an additional one-hour horseback ride. Guests can add an additional night to any summer package for \$98 per night.

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Two-bedroom cabin, Mormon Lake Lodge



Guided Horseback Ride, Mormon Lake

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Hot air balloon, Hot Air Expeditions

## **Hot Air Expeditions offers Summer Sunshine Special on hot air balloon rides**

Until September 23, 2019, [Hot Air Expeditions](#) is offering special summer pricing for morning hot air balloon rides. The complete experience takes around three to four hours; one hour designated to the hot air balloon ride, the remaining hours consist of viewing the inflation of the balloon and the post flight catered meal. Hot Air Expeditions prepares a catered dining experience after each balloon ride. Guests can expect set up tables, linens and china in the middle of the desert and catering through [Vincent's on Camelback](#). Use promo code SUNSHINE20 at check out to receive \$20 off per person.

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## **Pink Jeep Tours and Hilton Sedona Resort at Bell Rock announce Diamondback Gulch Adventure Package**

[Hilton Sedona Resort at Bell Rock](#) collaborates with [Pink Jeep Tours](#) to offer guests the Diamond Gulch Adventure Package. The summer package includes one guest room or suite, \$50 food and beverage credit per night, one Diamondback Gulch tour for two adults with Pink Jeep Tours. The Diamondback Gulch tour consists of a 2.5-hour off-roading jeep tour through the Verde Valley and red rocks of Coconino National Forest. Hilton Sedona Resort requires a two-night minimum stay to qualify for the Adventure Package.

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Diamond Gulch Tour, Pink Jeep Tours



Hilton Sedona Resort at Bell Rock





## **Centennial Celebrations in 2019**

### **Grand Canyon Centennial, Grand Canyon National Park**

The [Grand Canyon](#) celebrates 100 years of its designation as a national park. The Centennial year will feature virtual and in-park events throughout 2019 at the South Rim, North Rim, Desert View, Inner Canyon, and surrounding gateway communities.

Watch it here: Senate (starts at 11 min 35 sec mark) -

[http://azleg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?clip\\_id=22237&autostart=0](http://azleg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?clip_id=22237&autostart=0)

Read it here: <https://www.azleg.gov/legtext/54leg/1R/bills/SR1001S.htm>

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### **Hotel Congress, Tucson**

The hotel was established in 1919, but while digging up historical facts about [Hotel Congress](#), the building was constructed in 1918 with a soft opening in November of that year. The celebrations will continue through 2019 with events toasting the hotel's dedication to serving the Tucson community.

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## **Semicentennial Celebrations in 2019**

### **Lunar Legacy, Flagstaff**

On July 20th, 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first person to set foot on the moon. All astronauts who walked on the Moon – including Neil Armstrong, Alan Shepard, and Buzz Aldrin – completed their training in [Flagstaff](#), and at several other locations in northern Arizona. After 50 years, it is time to celebrate Flagstaff's scientific role in the Apollo Moon Missions of 1969.

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[www.youtube.com/user/ArizonaTourism](http://www.youtube.com/user/ArizonaTourism)

**Newsroom:** <http://newsroom.visitarizona.com/>

**Official State Visitors Guide:** <http://digital.milespartnership.com/view/central/arizona-official-state-travel-guide/arizona-2019-20>

**Additional inspiration:** <http://www.visitarizona.com/planning/local-word>