

ARIZONA

OFFICE OF TOURISM

A Brief Update of News Around Arizona March 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, Kim Todd at ktodd@tourism.az.gov or Marjorie Magnusson at mmagnusson@tourism.az.gov.

Culinary

Charro Del Rey in Tucson Now Open

The family behind El Charro Café, Charro Steak and Sir Veza's opened [Charro del Rey](#) in downtown Tucson. The menu features the Flores' family take on Mexican-style seafood inspired from Culiacán, Sinaloa and San Carlos. Charro del Rey is Tucson's "galería de mariscos", a gallery-like menu of classic "Charro Family" takes on seafood and prime dishes that range from the staples of coastal dinner house menus and the marinated mariscos made famous in such Mexican regions as Sinaloa and Sonora. The new restaurant is set inside a 100-year-old vintage building and filled with local and Mexican art. Charro del Rey offers a raw bar showcasing fresh and seasonal oysters, crab legs, ceviches, one of Tucson's most significant champagne collections, menu of spirits and plenty of local craft beer. Hours of operation are Sunday – Thursday from 4:00 pm – 10:00 pm and Friday – Saturday from 4:00 pm – 11:00 pm.



Charro del Rey

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Kitchen West at The Scottsdale Resort at McCormick Ranch Launches the “Five C’s Supper Series”

[Kitchen West at The Scottsdale Resort at McCormick Ranch, A Destination Hotel](#) is now offering a monthly “Five C’s Supper Series” incorporating the “Five C’s” of Arizona – copper, cattle, cotton, citrus and climate – in conjunction with Grand Canyon National Park’s Centennial. The five, three-course dinner events will be paired with wines from celebrated Arizona vineyards. The series will conclude in June 2019 with the copper dinner. The maximum number of guests allowed is sixteen; reservations can be made by calling Kitchen West.



Kitchen West / Citrus Menu

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Attractions

Bisbee Science Lab Now Open

The Bisbee Science Exploration and Research Center (BSERC) celebrated the grand opening of its [Bisbee Science Lab](#) in Bisbee, Arizona. The Lab features two virtual reality stations, hands-on and interactive STEAM experiences for children. Guests will have opportunities to provide feedback regarding exhibits and experiences that will inform the Lab’s future efforts. The Bisbee Science Lab is a project of the Bisbee Science Exploration and Research Center, a non-profit, public/private partnership between the City of Bisbee, Freeport McMoran, M. Greene Planning & Resource Development, Rural Activation and Innovation Network and University of Arizona South. The Lab is located at 24 Main Street in old Bisbee.



Bisbee Science Lab

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City Park

New Multi-Use Center Opening in Downtown Tucson

The all-new [City Park](#) is expected to open by Fall 2019 on Congress Street in downtown Tucson. This multi-use complex currently under development will house a food hall, two restaurants, an entertainment venue with a bowling alley and a pinball arcade, a bar, a private event space and connecting ground-floor patios. The top level of the five-story structure will offer a 2,600-square-foot rooftop deck for events like concerts or conferences.

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Hotel News

JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa Nears Completion on the Addition of Six New Luxury Pool Suites

[JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa](#) is nearing completion on its six new pool suites. This addition rounds out a compilation of enhancements the resort began in 2018, totaling \$8 million. The new pool suites are located by the entrance to and overlooking the resort's popular 1,600 linear foot Lazy River. The suites are be approximately 500 square-feet and feature an air-conditioned, indoor seating area with a flat panel TV, private half bath, wet bar, mini-refrigerator and safe. Each suite also has an exterior patio with a ceiling fan, misting system, flat screen TV, privacy drapes and soft seating. The suites are replacing what used to be the poolside fitness center. In addition, the resort's Revive Spa expanded its fitness center to almost 3,500 square-feet adding all new Life Fitness exercise machines, six new Peloton spin bikes and cardiovascular equipment complete with WiFi capabilities and TV screens. Just outside the fitness center, the spa's new 600 square-foot yoga lawn, lined with artificial grass, overlooks the resort's 21,000 square-foot Chef's Garden and is able to accommodate group yoga classes in season.



JW Marriott Desert Ridge

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Oxygen Hospitality Buys First Arizona Hotel

[Oxygen Hospitality Group, Inc.](#), announced their incursion into the Phoenix hospitality marketplace with the acquisition of the [Wyndham Garden Phoenix Midtown](#). Located just north of the Phoenix downtown area off the city's main thoroughfare of Central Avenue and Osborn Road, the six-story, 160-room property marks the company's first Arizona acquisition. Oxygen Hospitality plans a multimillion-dollar property renovation that will elevate it to a full-service hotel. The Wyndham Garden Phoenix Midtown features 5,000 square-feet of meeting and ballroom space, a restaurant, fitness center, business center, outdoor pool, on-site beach volleyball and tennis courts and outdoor garden space for receptions and weddings.



Wyndham Garden Phoenix Midtown

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Caesars Entertainment Announces the First Non-Gaming Hotel in the U.S.

[Caesars Entertainment Corporation](#) announced plans to open [Caesars Republic Scottsdale](#), its first non-gaming hotel in the United States. Caesars Republic Scottsdale will be located adjacent to the Scottsdale Fashion Square and will be a four-star hotel. Caesars Entertainment will license its brand, advise on design elements and integrate the loyalty network Total Rewards. This modern 11-story glass structure with 266 rooms will be developed at the intersection of North Goldwater and East Highland Avenue. The high-profile location will allow the hotel guests the ability to walk to the state's most elegant mall. Caesars Republic Scottsdale will house a 7,000-square foot column-free ballroom with 34-foot sliding glass doors that open out onto the adjacent lawn, suitable for outdoor events for up to 600 people. The ballroom is divisible into four sections and can accommodate banquets up to 500. The new hotel is set to break ground in the second half of 2019.



Caesars Republic Scottsdale

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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.

Two resolutions to commemorate the Grand Canyon Centennial were read on Tuesday, February 26 at the Arizona Legislature. Identical versions of the resolutions were read in the Arizona State House of Representatives and Arizona State Senate. AOT was joined by members of the Grand Canyon Conservancy Board, National Park Service employees from Grand Canyon NP as well as the new Arizona State Parks & Trails Director, Bob Broscheid. Both resolutions were unanimously adopted.

These resolutions served as a perfect opportunity for us to remind elected leaders why our national parks and public lands are vital to Arizona's citizens, economy, history, and global reputation.

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

http://azleg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?clip_id=22237&autostart=0

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



The Centennial Summerfest and star party will take place on June 22-29, 2019. During the day, the Centennial Summerfest will bring together park partners to highlight Arizona. The star party, at night, will celebrate the Grand Canyon National Park designation as an International Dark Sky park. Visitors on the South Rim will learn about dark skies with the Tucson Amateur Astronomy Association and on the North Rim with the Saguaro Astronomy Club of Phoenix.

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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](#), as well as at several other locations in northern Arizona. After 50 years, it's time to celebrate Flagstaff's scientific role in the Apollo Moon Missions of 1969.

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John Wesley Powell Museum, Page

The [John Wesley Powell Museum](#) is a nonprofit organization that started in 1969 by local volunteers. The museum's mission is to collect, preserve, and interpret the history of John Wesley Powell, the City of Page, and the Colorado Plateau. [John Wesley Powell](#) is known for his trips down the Green and Colorado River in 1869, and is credited with leading the first group of white men down the Colorado River through present day Grand Canyon.

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Desert Caballeros Western Museum, Wickenburg

In 2019, [The Desert Caballeros Western Museum \(DCWM\)](#) will celebrate 50 years since opening its doors to the public on May 9, 1969. Originally founded by members of the Wickenburg community to preserve the history of the town, five decades of continued support from locals and visitors alike has transformed the Museum into a nationally celebrated center for Western art and history.

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www.youtube.com/user/ArizonaTourism

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

Official State Visitors Guide: <http://www.visitarizona.com/visitors-guide>

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