

2022 ARIZONA GUIDE

**Have Fun
in the Sun**

**Schedule Events
With Little Fear of
Bad Weather**

**Exploring
Arizona**

**The Grand Canyon
State Abounds With
Family-Friendly
Activities**

SPG

A Premier Travel Media publication
www.SportsPlanningGuide.com



Welcome to **ARIZONA!**

Destinations across Arizona often create a lasting impression. But what makes Arizona truly unique is its ability to inspire an adventurous spirit in visitors and residents alike. This ability to inspire serves as a guiding principle for our work at the Arizona Office of Tourism and we're excited to share it with you.

Arizona is truly a destination for travelers. Road-trip excursions and bucket-list experiences beckon from every corner of the Grand Canyon State. To not heed their call while you're considering Arizona would be a pity, if not a crime. Below are a few ways you might extend your trip to Arizona and many more are available at visitarizona.com.

SEE THE WORLD'S GRANDEST CANYON

Inarguably breathtaking, the Grand Canyon is one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World and Arizona's most-visited attraction. If you've never seen it in person, it's time to rectify that. Stretching 277 miles from end to end, the canyon's multihued rock walls descend more than a mile to the Colorado River below. There are several ways to see the Grand Canyon, from scenic rim overlooks to hiking trails to air tours.

**"Arizona's
ability to
surprise and
delight awaits
every visitor."**

WANDER THROUGH WINE COUNTRY

As Arizona's reputation for quality wines grows, so does the popularity of the Verde Valley. This green-and-gold river valley—one of three wine regions in the state—is home to seven wineries and eight tasting rooms. The trail winds through lush canyons with stops in Cottonwood, Jerome, Sedona, Clarkdale and Cornville. The Verde Valley is about an hour-and-a-half drive from Phoenix, and be sure to designate a driver or hire a shuttle if you plan to hit every winery on the trail.

SAVOR SMALL-TOWN SOUTHWESTERN CHARM

Any road trip is more memorable when it includes little towns with big personalities. Arizona has those in spades. Several such towns are located along Route 66, which snakes across northern Arizona. Fans of the hit-making band the Eagles will appreciate "standin' on a corner in Winslow, Arizona," a 2021 TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice award winner. Down the road, in Kingman, day-trippers will find classic cars, neon signs and the Historic Route 66 Museum.

Another cool escape north of Phoenix is the mile-high city of Prescott. It's famous for Whiskey Row, a collection of saloons that sprung up during the gold rush to quench the thirst of cowboys, miners, gamblers and outlaws. The town is filled with Victorian architecture and boasts 700 buildings listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Southern Arizona is also home to a famously charming mile-high town: Bisbee. *USA Today* named Bisbee America's best historic small town, and Frommer's declared it one of the "Best Places to Go" in the world in 2018. This former mining camp is now populated by artists and free spirits whose wares fill shops and galleries on Main Street. Off the main drag, murals adorn alley walls and sculptures decorate the tiny yards of Victorian homes. Arizona's ability to surprise and delight awaits every visitor. I invite you to enjoy the diversity and splendor of the Grand Canyon State!

Debbie Johnson

Director, Arizona Office of Tourism



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ON THE COVER:

Lost Dutchman State Park

Photo courtesy of Micah Adams



Aspens in the Fall, Flagstaff

Photo courtesy of John Weatherby



EXPLORING ARIZONA

**From North to South and East to West, the Grand Canyon State
abounds with family-friendly sights and activities**

By Randy Mink

Whether it's urban amenities, fun on the water or frolics in wide-open spaces, Arizona simply offers the best of the West.

For the traveler, Greater Phoenix has every kind of recreational, cultural, dining and retail experience imaginable. Sprawling across the Sonoran Desert in the middle of the state, it is one of the country's largest metropolitan areas and lacks for nothing. Known as the Valley of the Sun, this population center comprises not only Phoenix but also Mesa, Scottsdale, Tempe, Glendale, Chandler, Gilbert and a dozen or so other communities. Some of the nation's best resorts, renowned for their golf courses and luxurious spas, make the Valley a year-round vacation destination.

Those new to the Valley are surprised to find so many parks, preserves and other easily accessible oases where they can commune with nature and enjoy outdoor activities. Phoenix's South Mountain Park and Preserve, the world's largest city park, is a vast wilderness with mountain-desert trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding.

In the middle of Gilbert, the paved trails at Riparian Preserve at Water Ranch are frequented by bird- and wildlife-watchers; the sanctuary also has a fishing lake and

covered picnic areas. Desert Botanical Garden, on 150 acres just outside downtown Phoenix, showcases more than 4,000 species of cacti, succulents, trees and flowers.

Desert environments aren't normally associated with bodies of water, however Greater Phoenix overflows with refreshing options on its lakes and rivers. Kayak, pedal boat and paddleboard rentals are available for exploring Tempe Town Lake in downtown Tempe. In the Lower Salt River Recreation Area in Tonto National Forest, visitors who go tubing and kayaking down the Salt River may see wild horses cooling off at river's edge and grazing on underwater foliage. Located near Mesa, the popular playground, with its three lakes and two rivers, attracts boating, rafting and fishing enthusiasts as well.

Lush golf greens also provide a striking contrast to the arid landscapes. Some 200 courses in the Valley of the Sun cater to every skill set and budget. Many of these public and resort courses come with spectacular mountain views.

Golfers can sharpen their skills in style at TopGolf's high-tech driving ranges in Gilbert, Glendale and Scottsdale. Each location has dozens of climate-controlled bays for hitting microchipped golf balls at a target on the field. Amenities include a restaurant, multiple sports bars,



Photo courtesy of the Arizona Office of Tourism



Photo courtesy of the Arizona Office of Tourism

musical entertainment and a rooftop terrace with fire pit.

Spectator sports also are a big visitor draw in Greater Phoenix. Every February and March, 15 Major League Baseball teams come to compete in spring training games at 10 stadiums throughout the area. Among the most highly attended Cactus League venues are Scottsdale Stadium, spring home of the San Francisco Giants, and the Chicago Cubs' Sloan Park in Mesa. During the regular Major League season, the hometown Arizona Diamondbacks play at air-conditioned Chase Field in downtown Phoenix.

At shopping/dining/entertainment complexes throughout the Valley of the Sun, families find indoor fun galore. Arizona Boardwalk in Scottsdale, for example, is home to Odyssey Aquarium; Butterfly Wonderland, the largest conservatory of its kind in the country with more than 3,000 free-flying butterflies; and Pangaea: Land of the Dinosaurs, a collection of more than 80 animatronic beasts from the prehistoric past.

Arizona Mills in Tempe, the state's largest outlet mall, houses SEA LIFE Arizona Aquarium and LEGOLAND Discovery Center, a play place for children ages 3-10. Kids can get creative in a variety of activities at Crayola Experience in Chandler Fashion Center, the state's second-

largest shopping mall (after Scottsdale Fashion Square). Mavrix, an amusement center with 22 lanes of bowling, 85 arcade games, laser tag and places to eat and drink, entertains kids and parents alike at The Pavilions at Talking Stick Shopping Center in Scottsdale. Also popular with families are the Musical Instrument Museum in Phoenix and the Phoenix Zoo.

Tucson, the state's second-largest city, is the tourist magnet of southern Arizona. Like Greater Phoenix, it boasts a number of high-end resorts and has some big-time attractions. Pima Air & Space Museum claims one of the largest private collections of aircraft in the world; on display in hangars and outside are more than 300 planes, including World War II fighters and an Air Force One used by Presidents Kennedy and Johnson. Providing a great introduction to desert plants and wildlife is the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, a zoo, aquarium, botanical garden and natural history museum all rolled into one.

Bordering Tucson are the East and West units of Saguaro National Park, where hiking trails spotlight the majestic saguaro, the cactus variety that graces classic Arizona landscapes. Sabino Canyon, in the Santa Catalina Mountain foothills, is another place offering inspirational panoramas.

In the far northwestern corner of Arizona, Lake Havasu's 450 miles of shoreline set the stage for some of the state's best water recreation. On this dammed section of the Colorado River, one can rent everything from water skis and kayaks to small fishing boats and roomy houseboats. The planned community of Lake Havasu City stakes its claim to fame on the London Bridge, a stone-by-stone reconstruction of the fabled bridge that spanned the River Thames from 1831 until 1968. A must-do is walking across the bridge or passing under it by boat.

Flagstaff, set against the backdrop of pine forests and snow-capped peaks, is a thriving college town that many travelers visit on their way to and from the Grand Canyon, 80 miles to the north.

At Arizona Snowbowl, a small ski resort, summer visitors can hop aboard the Agassiz ski lift, which provides a scenic ride through the Coconino National Forest. Lowell Observatory gives tours during the day and at night allows guests to use its telescopes for viewing the planets, stars and other celestial wonders. Storied Route 66 passes through the heart of downtown Flagstaff, a delightful historic district full of shops, eateries and landmark buildings. **SPG**



HAVE FUN IN THE SUN IN ARIZONA

Tournament planners can schedule events with sunshine in the forecast

By Jason Paha

When scheduling an outdoor sporting event across much of the country, a major problem planners face is the unpredictability of weather.

The United States records an average of 205 sunny days per year, meaning inclement weather can wreak havoc on outdoor tournaments considerably more than 1/3 of the time. That is, unless your event takes place in Arizona.

With 300-plus days of sunshine per year, planners aiming to schedule an outdoor tournament can do so in Arizona with almost zero trepidation.

Here are some locations in the Grand Canyon State that have excellent outdoor sports facilities and are also perfect for those looking to embrace Arizona's enticing natural beauty.

CHANDLER

The Chandler Tennis Center is a beautiful venue that features 15 newly renovated, lighted courts and offers recreational leagues, tournaments and drop-in play. The 3,000-square-foot facility is a perfect locale for tennis players of all ages to hone their skills. Outdoor enthusiasts will also cherish Chandler's picturesque Sonoran Desert terrain, which is ideal for those who prefer to hike, mountain bike, cycle, horseback ride, kayak, fish and even explore the area in a hot air balloon.

FLAGSTAFF

Flagstaff is a popular outdoor destination and features a variety of trail systems hikers love to embrace. The city has easy access to mountains and canyons including the Grand Canyon, whose South Rim is just over an hour drive from Flagstaff. Grand Canyon National Park is one of the planet's greatest natural wonders as it stretches 277 miles long, 18 miles wide and reaches a depth of more than a mile. Famed as one of the Seven Wonders of the World, the park is unmatched in the vistas and views it offers visitors.

GILBERT

Children can feel like a professional ballplayer at Cactus Yards, home to eight baseball fields modeled after legendary major league fields: Ebbets Field, Sportsman's Park, Dbacks Field, Wrigley Field, Yankee Stadium, Angel Stadium, Fenway Park and the Polo Grounds. Gilbert is also a tremendous spot to birdwatch thanks to the Riparian Preserve that contains close to 200 species of bird. It's a perfect spot to take a long stroll and survey the surroundings.

GLENDALE

Camelback Ranch is the Spring Training home ballpark of the Los Angeles Dodgers and Chicago White Sox. This state-of-the-art 10,000-seat stadium with 3,000 lawn seats,



Camelback
Ranch

Photo courtesy of City of Glendale

118,000 square feet of clubhouse space and eight practice fields features picturesque walking trails, one-of-a-kind fan photo opportunities and a five-acre lake that separates the Dodgers and White Sox practice areas.

LAKE HAVASU

Lake Havasu is a year-round fishing paradise where anglers savor the lake's scenic natural beauty as they reel in bass, bluegill, sunfish, catfish and crappies. For those looking to get their blood pumping, Lake Havasu City BMX is a USA BMX-sanctioned non-profit race track which is perfect for bikers to perform their tricks. Another great outdoor spot is Tinnell Memorial Sports Park, Arizona's largest skate park and the largest multi-use skate park in the Southwest at 40,000 square feet.

MESA

Legacy Sports Park is a \$300 million, 320-acre multi-use family sport and entertainment complex of outdoor and indoor team athletic facilities that will open in January 2022. The park will feature state-of-the-art training and wellness centers, nutrition professionals and a wide selection of dining options. Those seeking an active outing prior to that date can embrace Saguaro Lake Guest Ranch, which offers visitors the chance to kayak and tube the Lower Salt River

and Saguaro Lake. The ranch also features numerous hiking and biking trails.

PHOENIX

Reach 11 is a perfect complex for athletes, regardless of skill level. This massive venue contains 18 lighted soccer fields, 17 grass fields and one artificial turf playing surface. The facility also boasts two traditional grass baseball fields and two accessible rubberized baseball fields which are perfect for athletes comfortable playing in any environment. Ability360 continues a 40-year tradition of promoting programs to empower people with all disabilities to live independent lifestyles within their community. Its sports and fitness center is one of only a handful of centers in the country designed for individuals with disabilities and it provides exceptional adaptive sports, recreation, aquatic and fitness programs. Phoenix is also home to an extraordinary outdoor landscape including South Mountain Park, the largest municipal park in the U.S., perfect for hikers of all abilities.

SCOTTSDALE

The Scottsdale Sports Complex is a 71-acre sports facility that has amenities to accommodate a variety of field sports including soccer, rugby, football, ultimate frisbee and lacrosse. The complex contains 10 grass fields, four regulation-sized and six international-sized with soccer goals installed on all fields. The city boasts eight lakes and rivers within an hour's drive. Among those include the scenic Salt River, which is popular for water rafting, tubing, kayaking, canoeing and fishing; and Bartlett Lake, a desert gem containing a full-service marina with pontoon and ski boat rentals.

TEMPE

Built in 2005, Tempe Sports Complex includes seven athletic fields and four softball fields. The skate park, featuring two bowls and multiple street-style ramps, is a social hub for skaters of all experience levels. Tempe is also an outdoor haven as it is home to Tempe Town Lake, a desert paradise that provides visitors with aquatic recreation and outdoor activities year-round. This two-mile-long body of water is a popular destination for visitors to kayak, sail, fish, row and even jog. Another favored destination is "A" Mountain, also known as Hayden Butte in downtown Tempe. Hikers of this mountain are rewarded with views of the lake, Arizona State University and rock drawings left hundreds of years ago by ancient people.

TUCSON

From breathtaking Sonoran Desert views to the bustling and vibrant downtown area, Tucson gives travelers the best of both worlds. Kino Sports Complex is a multi-purpose sports venue which provides facilities for both professional and amateur level sports. Less than 14 miles from Tucson resides Saguaro National Park, which contains hundreds of miles of hiking trails and covers 91,327 acres in two districts. The Eastern Rincon Mountain District rises to more than 8,000 feet and includes more than 128 miles of trails. The Western Tucson Mountain District is lower in elevation with a denser saguaro forest. **SPG**

CHANDLER, AZ

UNWIND IN THIS VIBRANT CITY FILLED WITH FAMILY-FUN ACTIVITIES AND FABULOUS OUTDOOR OPTIONS



Chandler Tennis Center

Located in Metropolitan Phoenix, sunny Chandler is home to a variety of outdoor recreation options that will keep your family happy and active. Chandler also offers a wide range of family-friendly activities, world-class golf facilities and a vibrant downtown filled with excellent restaurants and a multitude of shopping options.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

► **Downtown Chandler** is a vibrant community featuring eclectic shops, enticing restaurants and exciting events throughout the year. From fine art to popular breweries, downtown Chandler, which features original buildings from the early 1900s, is a great spot to gather.

FACILITY SPOTLIGHT

Chandler Tennis Center

Tennis

This beautiful center at Tumbleweed Park features 15 newly renovated, lighted courts and offers youth, teen and adult group tennis lessons, recreational leagues, tournaments and drop-in play. The USTA award-winning 3,000-square-foot facility is a perfect locale for tennis players of all ages to hone their skills and have fun.

Snedigar Recreation Center

Baseball, softball, soccer, skating, cricket

Named after fallen Chandler Officer James Snedigar, the facility is a massive 90-acre sports complex located in South Chandler. The center features two professional-sized baseball fields, four softball fields, four Little League baseball fields, 12 soccer fields, a skate park, a dog park, a full-sized cricket field and a 9,000-square-foot recreation center.

Scan to discover more of what
Visit Chandler offers
sports planners at
SportsPlanningGuide.com



PLANNER PERSPECTIVE

"We were introduced to the Chandler community five years ago and we now host over 10 running events in Chandler annually and consider Visit Chandler one of the most welcoming and supportive organizations we work with and an integral part in each of our event success stories."

— Sheri Nichols,
Managing Director
131 Event Productions



Snedigar Recreation Center

Downtown Chandler

Events

Downtown Chandler offers a great blend of annual festivals, nightlife, family-fun activities, live music and a variety of activity-based events. It is also home to such venues as Soho63, a hip and historic wedding and event venue. Other venues in the downtown district include two hotels, two outdoor stages, and the Chandler Community Center, which provides one-stop quality recreational and educational activities for all ages. The center offers multipurpose rooms, a courtyard and a full-size prep kitchen.



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GILBERT, AZ

A BURGEONING HOT SPOT IN ARIZONA, GILBERT IS A GREAT PLACE TO PLAY BOTH INDOORS AND OUTSIDE

Desert Sky Park



Residing east of Chandler and south of Mesa, Gilbert has surged from an agricultural community into an Arizona hot spot. Gilbert's popularity grows by the day as excellent restaurants continue to open in its revitalized downtown while its art scene grows more renowned.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

- Downtown Gilbert, known by the locals as the **Heritage District**, is a collection of more than 30 restaurants in a vibrant space.
- **Riparian Preserve at Water Ranch** covers 110 acres and houses approximately 298 species of birds.

FACILITY SPOTLIGHT

Cactus Yards Baseball, Softball

Cactus Yards offers an experience like few others. Guests can play like a professional at one of its eight ballfields modeled after legendary major league fields: Ebbets Field, Sportsman's Park, Dbacks Field, Wrigley Field, Yankee Stadium, Angel Stadium, Fenway Park and the Polo Grounds. The facility is also home to a fieldhouse and batting cages, where sluggers can grab some batting practice.

Desert Sky Park Football, soccer

This lovely new park features four multi-use fields, a fitness course, a kids' playground and a lake with plenty more to come. When construction is complete, Desert Sky Park has the potential to incorporate 16 multi-use fields including a Championship Field with integrated shade and seating, a sensory playground, plaza areas and a trailhead.

Scan to discover more of what
Gilbert, Arizona offers
sports planners at
SportsPlanningGuide.com



PLANNER PERSPECTIVE

"Cactus Yards is the best overall ballpark in the state of Arizona for our baseball tournaments and leagues. It's also now nationally recognized by out-of-state teams as the place they want to play, bringing in economic impact to the community."

— Rick Perreault,
USSSA Baseball-AZ State Director



Gilbert Regional Park Basketball, Pickleball, Volleyball, Tennis

This multifaceted park offers post-tension concrete basketball courts with sports surfacing and striping as well as reinforced rims and backboard. Another amenity includes 16 competition-ready pickleball courts; made up of 15 standard dimension courts and one all-accessible showcase court. Lighting is designed to Class II standards for tournament play and have push button controls allowing for two courts to be lit at one time. The park also houses six competition-ready lit sand volleyball courts.



TOWN OF GILBERT, ARIZONA

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GLENDALE, AZ

THIS SPORTS MECCA, KNOWN AS THE SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT, IS HOME TO THE UPCOMING 2023 SUPER BOWL, 2024 MEN'S FINAL FOUR AND ANNUAL FIESTA BOWL. CHAMPIONS PLAY HERE!



Westgate Entertainment District

With 16 hotels and growing Glendale offers more than 1,800 room nights including on-trend, boutique-style properties. Glendale is located 20 minutes from Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport offering nonstop service to more than 114 domestic cities and 24 international destinations.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

► **Westgate Entertainment District**
The "District of Fun" is a premier entertainment destination for live events, business, concerts, sporting events, celebrations, and a \$6 million Bellagio-inspired dancing water feature.

FACILITY SPOTLIGHT

State Farm Stadium

Football, Sporting Events, and Festivals

Delivering a world-class experience for fans, event organizers and participants. The stadium offers an innovative approach to sports facility design by incorporating the first retractable natural grass playing field in North America. It is also the first completely retractable roof to operate at an incline. The stadium's exterior skin of shimmering metal panels reflects the shifting desert light.

Camelback Ranch - Glendale

Spring Training, Baseball Tournaments, Sporting Events

Home of the Los Angeles Dodgers and Chicago White Sox, this spring training facility offers 10,000 stadium-seats and 3,000 lawn seats. The 141-acre campus has 118,000 square feet of clubhouse space with four major league and eight minor league practice fields.

Scan to discover more of what Visit Glendale offers sports planners at SportsPlanningGuide.com



PLANNER PERSPECTIVE

"We could not be more thrilled to partner with the City of Glendale on Section 7. Their flexibility, hospitality and overall professionalism is second to none. There is no city in America that we would rather host this event in than Glendale, Arizona."

— Matt King,
Chief Operating Officer, Position Sports
Organizer of Section 7 Basketball Tournament



Gila River Arena

Gila River Arena

Sporting and Entertainment Events

This state-of-the-art multipurpose facility hosts national and international chart-topping recording artists and a variety of sporting events. The arena features two separate concourses on two seating levels, providing guests with non-restricted views of the action. The arena features an intimate seating bowl with modern amenities and anchors Westgate Entertainment District.



VISIT GLENDALE

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GLENDALE, ARIZONA

Champions Play Here!



Foothills Recreation &
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Volleyball
Tournaments



Camelback Ranch –
Glendale



Basketball
Tournaments

FACILITIES

- 8 Sports Venues
- 14 Football & Soccer Fields
- 24 Baseball Fields

ACCOMODATIONS

- 16 Hotels
- 1,800+ Guest Rooms
- 600,000+ sq. ft. of Event Space

ENTERTAINMENT

- Tanger Outlets – 90+ High End Shops
- Westgate – 40+ Restaurants
- Gila River Arena – A-List Concerts

LOCATION

- Over 300 Days of Sunshine
- 20 Minutes from Phoenix Sky Harbor Int'l Airport
- 4 Hours from the Grand Canyon

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LAKE HAVASU CITY, AZ

DISCOVER ARIZONA'S PLAYGROUND AND HAVE THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE IN THIS SUNNY PARADISE

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Go Lake Havasu offers
sports planners at
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Lake Havasu City BMX



Lake Havasu City is perfectly centered within easy driving from Southern California, Las Vegas and Phoenix to make it the ideal host for regional tournaments.



Tinnell Memorial Sports Complex

With more than 300 days of sunshine a year and a unique mix of tranquil waters, rugged mountains and a slew of fun, it's difficult to stay inside when you are in Lake Havasu City. This is the perfect place for hikers, bikers, boating enthusiasts, anglers, golfers, shoppers and lovers of fine food. Book your vacation escape to Lake Havasu City and Play Like You Mean It®.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

► Lake Havasu City is located on the beautiful Colorado River. From fun and adventure on the channel near the London Bridge to the quiet inlets like Teal Cove, the lake is spacious enough for everyone who wants to spend time on the water.

FACILITY SPOTLIGHT

Lake Havasu City BMX

Biking

Set amid the scenic Lake Havasu City desert backdrop, this USA BMX-sanctioned nonprofit race track is a perfect place for bikers to strut their stuff. Feel the excitement of BMX racing as riders whip around the track and fly through the air to conquer jumps along the way. This non-motorized sport connects with all ages and has an open enrollment encouraging riders, young and old, to join in on the fun or watch from the stands.

Tinnell Memorial Sports Complex

Skateboarding

One of the top five largest skateparks in the U.S. and the largest multi-use skatepark in the Southwest at 40,000 square feet, Tinnell is dedicated to local fallen soldier and BMX rider Patrick Tinnell, along with Colin Sasseeen, who lost his life skating in his front yard. This multi-use skatepark is a Street League Skateboarding-

certified facility and is also open to BMX and scooters. Its street course design is inspired by Street League Skateboarding's skate plaza-style course skated by professional skateboarders at the 2013 X Games in Brazil.

Cypress Park

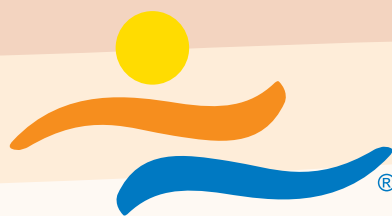
Baseball, soccer

Cypress has beautiful lake views and plenty of space to enjoy soccer, baseball, playtime or just lying on the sprawling grass and taking in the sun and sights. This soccer tournament-friendly park hosts the only regulation 73-yard-wide soccer field in the city and other various-sized soccer fields as well.



GO LAKE HAVASU

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Director of Experiences
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GO LAKE HAVASU

Play like you mean it.®

Set against a spectacular lake and mountain backdrop, Lake Havasu City's scenic sports facilities please athletes and spectators alike. Get in the action or watch from the sidelines at Tinnell Memorial Sports Park—the largest skate park in Arizona—our soccer fields, our baseball diamonds and, of course, our beautiful lake under blue skies. Whether for group competition or individual play, contact us to see how to make your sports event super special! 928.453.3444

GoLakeHavasus.com

MESA, AZ

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MAKE MESA A DESTINATION VISITORS CAN'T WAIT TO REVISIT

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Visit Mesa offers
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PLANNER PERSPECTIVE

"Working with Visit Mesa has been more than an enjoyable experience. When we run events across the country, we like to connect with the local destination marketing organization to help enhance the overall experience of our participants."

— Mark Dvoroznak,
Director, National Business Development
Prep Baseball Report Tournaments



Both upscale and urban, Mesa is a thriving hub of business, culture, arts, recreation and entertainment with culinary outposts and retail shops providing an appealing charm and character exclusive to the city. Mesa is garnering national attention as the culinary gateway in the Southwest.

FACILITY SPOTLIGHT

Legacy Sports Park Soccer

Legacy Sports Park, an impressive \$300M, 320-acre multi-use family sport and entertainment complex of outdoor and indoor team athletic facilities will open in January 2022. The park will feature state-of-the-art training and wellness centers, nutrition professionals and a wide selection of dining options. Legacy Sports Park expands beyond sports; it will also feature an e-gaming center, a multi-purpose arena, and an outdoor amphitheater designed for live events, family shows, exhibitions, conventions, and award ceremonies.

Superstition Mountains, Skyline's fast pools and coveted outdoor plaza are a popular destination.

Gene Autry Baseball Complex Baseball

Gene Autry Baseball features a total of three professionally-groomed, full-size (90-foot bases) baseball fields, batting tunnels and an eight-pack covered pitching station. There is a 47-acre park area nearby that includes playground equipment, four lighted sand volleyball courts, and ramadas of varying sizes.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

► Sloan Park is a 15,000-seat ballpark in Mesa with seven practice fields and the adjacent The Nike Performance Center. Chicago Cubs fans flock to Mesa every March for Spring Training action at the park.

Skyline Aquatic Center Swimming

Mesa is home to some of the best aquatic facilities in the Southwest and is one of the nation's premier swimming destinations. Mesa's most in-demand venue is Skyline Aquatic Center. Offering a view of the majestic



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While Mesa, Arizona is nationally known for its world-class sporting and aquatics facilities, it's also known for so much more than that. Come create an unforgettable memory.

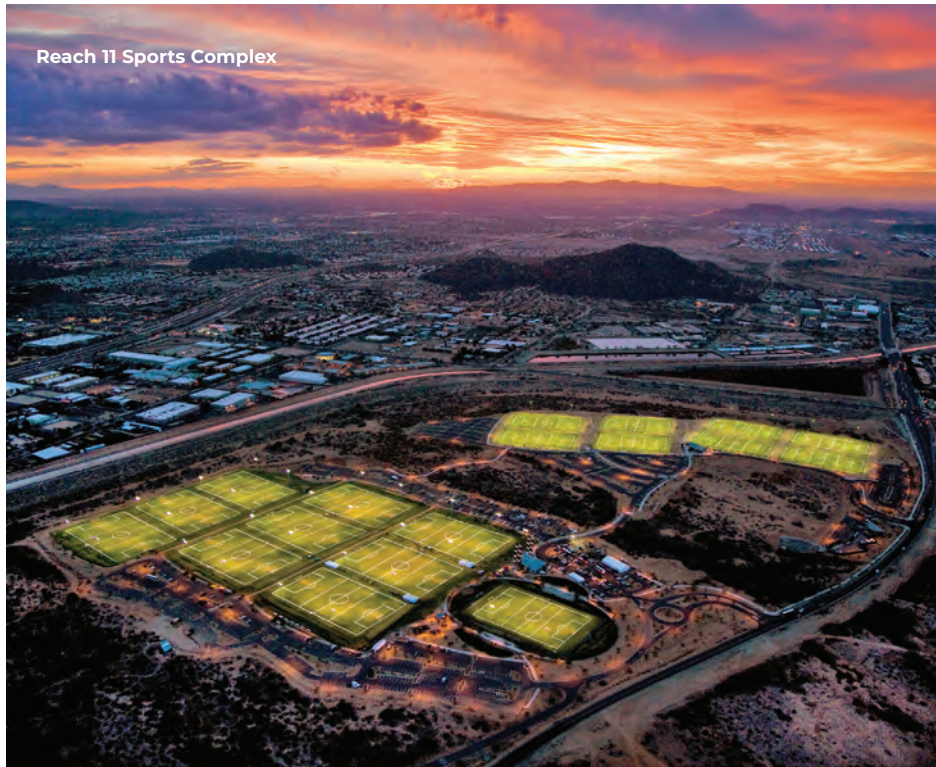
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PHOENIX, AZ

WITH PROFESSIONAL TEAMS GALORE, A BUSTLING DOWNTOWN AND BEAUTIFUL SONORAN DESERT SCENERY, PHOENIX IS A MUST-VISIT DESTINATION

Scan to discover more of what Visit Phoenix offers sports planners at SportsPlanningGuide.com



Reach 11 Sports Complex

"Phoenix is a mecca for sports. From our professional sports franchises to collegiate level to youth and amateur, Phoenix enjoys sports at every level, all year long. Our sports facilities can host any type of event, and our diverse portfolio of hotels and resorts ensures there are accommodations at every price point."

— Chris Robertson,
Director of National Accounts at Visit Phoenix



Footprint Center, home of the Phoenix Suns

Whether you're up for hiking to stunning mountain views, strolling among the Desert Botanical Garden's collection of 50,000 desert plants or hunting down murals in the arts district, there are endless sights to take in between games in Phoenix. As the urban heart of the Southwest, this city is also home to innovative restaurant concepts and lively nightlife. With a wide array of cultural attractions, surrounded by endless natural beauty, there's always something new to explore in Phoenix.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

► Musical Instrument Museum offers music lovers the option to travel the world through sound, and Heard Museum celebrates cultures and art of American Indians of the Southwest.

FACILITY SPOTLIGHT

Reach 11 Sports Complex

Baseball, Soccer

Reach 11 is an ideal complex for all athletes to play, regardless of skill level. This massive venue features 18 lighted soccer fields (17 grass and one artificial turf playing surface). The facility also boasts two traditional grass baseball fields and two accessible rubberized baseball fields, which are perfect for athletes comfortable playing in any environment.

Rose Mofford Sports Complex

Soccer, Softball, Basketball, Volleyball, Tennis, Pickleball

This lighted complex, perfect for late-night competition of any kind, features four soccer fields, six softball fields, four basketball courts, four volleyball courts (two asphalt and two sand). It is also home to eight tennis courts, three pickleball courts, and eight racquetball courts.

Professional Sports

Basketball, Baseball, Football, Hockey

With several professional teams competing here, Phoenix is a go-to destination for sports fans. Devin Booker and the Phoenix Suns invited the world to their homecourt during the 2021 NBA Finals. Each year, following Cactus League Spring Training, the MLB's Diamondbacks bring America's pastime to a climate-controlled ballpark in downtown. The NFL's Cardinals, led by star quarterback Kyler Murray, hit the field that will play host to Super Bowl LVII in 2023. The NHL's Coyotes take the ice at one of city's dozen venues (with more coming soon). Regardless of your favorite sport to watch, you will definitely find a team to root for in this vibrant city.



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ROOM TO PLAY IN PHOENIX

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SCOTTSDALE, AZ

EXPERIENCE EXCITING URBAN ATTRACTIONS IN THE CENTER OF ARIZONA'S PICTURESQUE SONORAN DESERT



Located in Maricopa County, Scottsdale, Arizona, has been called "The West's Most Western Town." Scottsdale is set in the heart of the Sonoran Desert, and its McDowell Sonoran Preserve is the largest urban preserve of its kind in the United States. Scottsdale also is home to the McDowell Mountains and in close proximity to the Tonto National Forest and the Salt River.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

► Popular Scottsdale attractions that also offer flexible meeting and event space include Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin West, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, OdySea Aquarium, Mavrix and Topgolf.

FACILITY SPOTLIGHT

Scottsdale and Bell Road Sports Complexes

Soccer, rugby, football, ultimate frisbee, lacrosse

These sports complexes contain bermuda grass fields which are all professionally groomed and regularly maintained. The Scottsdale Sports Complex features six international-sized fields (225' x 360', four lighted) and four regulation-sized fields (186' x 300', unlighted). The Bell Road Sports Complex, which opens in Spring of 2022, features six additional international-sized fields (225' x 360', five lighted).

WestWorld of Scottsdale

Equestrian, car shows, festivals, concerts

With a large variety of entertainment and dining options, WestWorld is a great venue for hosting events of many kinds. The grounds cover 386 acres in close proximity to the McDowell Mountains and offer 300,000 square

Scan to discover more of what
Experience Scottsdale offers
sports planners at
SportsPlanningGuide.com



PLANNER PERSPECTIVE

"Experience Scottsdale is innovative and progressive. They recognize the value events bring to their community and their support for event producers is second to none. Their lodging options and facilities are some of the best in the country and everything is first class!"

— Baseball client,
Fort Collins, CO



feet of exhibit space. WestWorld is well known for its equestrian center, which has hosted hundreds of events over the years.

Scottsdale Stadium

Baseball, events, festivals, trade shows

Built in 1955 and located in Old Town, Scottsdale Stadium is home to the San Francisco Giants during Cactus League Spring Training and hosts a wide variety of events year-round. The main Stadium capacity is 12,000 people, and the facility also is equipped to host weddings, conferences and family gatherings.



EXPERIENCE SCOTTSDALE

Erika Pumphrey

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epumphrey@experiencescottsdale.com

www.experiencescottsdale.com/meetings/sporting-events

Game On!

When it comes to top-notch facilities for sporting events of all kinds, Scottsdale's definitely got game.



In Scottsdale, we back up our out-standing sports facilities with year-round sunny skies, hotels and resorts in all price points, exciting off-the-field recreation options, great dining and nightlife, and a lush Sonoran Desert setting. Here are just a few of Scottsdale's facilities that offer flexibility, comfort and top-notch amenities for tournaments, games, league play and practices.

WESTWORLD OF SCOTTSDALE

- **Tony Nelssen Equestrian Center (TNEC):** 300,000 sq. ft. consisting of a central equidome flanked by two multi-purpose halls (117,000-sq.-ft. North Hall and 37,000-sq.-ft. South Hall). Seating capacity 3,400. Fully climate controlled. The TNEC's flexible design and barrier-free, continuous space allows multiple events to take place simultaneously.
- **The Fields:** A 20-acre grass field split into two areas ideal for polo and other flat-field sports.
- **Equestrian Arenas:** 10 total with access to horse stalls.
- **Monterra:** 17,000-sq.-ft. indoor/outdoor event facility.

SCOTTSDALE STADIUM

- Full-size **Stadium Field** (lighted) with grandstand, bleacher and berm seating for 11,000
- Full-size **Practice Field** (unlighted)
- **The Lodge** multi-level outdoor event space for groups of all sizes
- **The Fieldhouse**, a 10,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art space with pre-function area and patio
- **The Banyan Room**, a 3,000-square-foot room with patio
- **The Press Level**, a versatile space for 20 to 120 people

SALT RIVER FIELDS AT TALKING STICK

- Full-size **Stadium Field** (lighted) with stadium and berm seating for 12,000
- 12 **Practice Fields**
- Numerous indoor/outdoor **Multi-Use Spaces**

SCOTTSDALE SPORTS COMPLEX

(pictured)

- 6 **International-size Fields** (225' x 360'; 4 lighted)
- 4 **Regulation-size Fields** (186' x 300'; unlighted)
- 1 full-size **Basketball Court** (lighted)

BELL ROAD SPORTS COMPLEX

(Opening Spring of 2022)

- 6 **International-size Fields** (225' x 360'; 4 lighted)

TEMPE, AZ

A VARIETY OF ATTRACTIONS AND INCREDIBLE NATURAL BEAUTY MAKE TEMPE ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR DESTINATIONS IN ARIZONA



Photo courtesy of Tempe Tourism

With breathtaking landscapes and a vibrant college town, Tempe is on the rise as one of the hottest destinations in the Southwestern U.S. From outdoor attractions and sightseeing ventures to excellent retail and dining opportunities, this metropolitan area is ideal for a week-long getaway.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

► **Downtown Tempe** offers endless entertainment and dining options for any time of day. Countless culinary choices cover a wide array of cuisines, from quick eats to fine dining.

FACILITY SPOTLIGHT

Tempe Sports Complex Softball, Skating

Built in 2005, Tempe Sports Complex boasts several recreational opportunities. The complex includes seven athletic fields and four softball fields. The skate park, featuring two bowls and multiple street style ramps, is a social hub for skaters of all experience levels. For those who prefer a more leisurely activity, the two-acre dog park is also a great option.

Sun Devil Fitness Fitness

Train like a collegiate athlete at Arizona State University's world class fitness complex. The facility is designed to be a center of recreational sports, intramural sports, and overall physical wellness. With an array of free weights, exercise machines, and even a swimming pool open year-round, the complex offers enough fitness opportunities to appeal to everyone.

Scan to discover more of what Tempe Tourism Office offers sports planners at SportsPlanningGuide.com



PLANNER PERSPECTIVE

"Tempe is a vibrant urban destination for tournaments just minutes from PHX Sky Harbor airport. By hosting high-level competitions like IRONMAN® triathlons and Cactus League Spring Training our convenient location and sunny skies create a winning game plan."

— Judy Stowers,
Race Director IRONMAN Arizona



Photo courtesy of Tempe Tourism

Tempe Town Lake

Kayaking, Sailing, Fishing, Rowing, Jogging

Located in the heart of the Phoenix Metropolitan area, Tempe Town Lake is the perfect place to soak up the sun this season. The desert haven provides visitors with aquatic recreation and outdoor activities year-round. Guests can do anything and everything, whether it be kayaking, sailing, fishing, rowing, jogging, or even simply picnicking. Patrons may use their own watercraft equipment on the lake with a permit.



TEMPE TOURISM OFFICE

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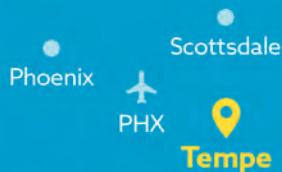
Considering the Western region for your next sports event? Check out Tempe.

- Just minutes from Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport
- Wide array of sports venues and recreational facilities
- Outdoor activities are endless with Tempe Town Lake, bike paths, and trails
- Many hotels offer complimentary transportation or are conveniently connected via Metro Light Rail
- More than 6,500 hotel rooms with a variety of properties to meet every need and budget
- Delicious dining options for proper refueling

Create a winning game plan by contacting the Tempe Tourism Office Sports Team.



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TUCSON, AZ

THE ULTIMATE DESTINATION FOR ADVENTURE SEEKERS,
TUCSON IS A GREAT PLACE TO GET OUTDOORS AND GET ACTIVE



Kino Sports Complex

From breathtaking Sonoran Desert views to the bustling and vibrant downtown area, Tucson gives travelers the best of both worlds. Resort hotels, spas and modern trendy restaurants are perfect for the urban explorer while the Sonoran Desert, Saguaro National Park, Sabino Canyon, and Catalina State Park allow for endless hikes.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

► The **Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum** is a 98-acre museum made up of a zoo, aquarium, art gallery, botanical garden and natural history museum.

FACILITY SPOTLIGHT

Kino Sports Complex

Multi-use, Baseball, Soccer, Rugby, Lacrosse, Pickleball

This multi-purpose sports venue provides facilities for both professional and amateur level sports, as well as cultural events. As the largest entertainment venue in Southern Arizona, the complex is equipped to host tournaments, concerts, fundraisers, training sessions and more. The North Complex is composed of an event center, a 3,000+ seat stadium and grandstand field. The Main Complex has a baseball stadium and 7 regulation sized baseball fields with concessions and clubhouses. The South Complex accommodates field sports such as soccer, rugby, lacrosse and has 20 lighted pickleball courts.

Tucson Convention Center

Multi-use, Volleyball, Hockey, Indoor Football

Located in the heart of downtown Tucson, the Tucson Convention Center is comprised of 205,000 square feet of event space and nearly

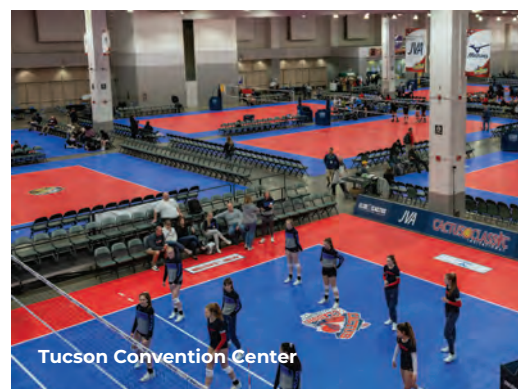
Scan to discover more of what
Visit Tucson Sports offers
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PLANNER PERSPECTIVE

"We are currently working on bringing two events to Tucson and Visit Tucson Sports has been a pleasure to work with. Their sports director, Luchie Javelosa, has done a wonderful job in educating us on the city, sports venues and hotels. We are looking forward to a long-term partnership with Visit Tucson Sports."

— Eric Carlyle,
SDLT, Compete Sports Diversity, CEO



Tucson Convention Center

9,000 seats in the arena. Ballrooms, pre-function spaces, and exhibit halls are just some of the aspects available to make any event a success.

Oro Valley Aquatic Center

Swimming, Artistic Swimming, Water Polo

Found in James D. Kriegh Park, this family-friendly and accessible aquatic center has everything needed to cool off on a sunny Arizona day. Oro Valley Aquatic Center is open year-round with a giant water slide, interactive splash pad, a 25-yard recreation pool and an Olympic-sized, 50-meter competition pool, complete with a Colorado Time System, touch pads and a scoreboard.



VISIT TUCSON SPORTS

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From **preseason Major League Soccer** to **aquatics** and **cycling events**, Tucson's sporting venues can tackle it all. Take your play off the field and explore **Tucson's vibrant nightlife** or indulge your culinary curiosity in a **UNESCO City of Gastronomy**.

With over 300 days of sunshine, Tucson makes it easy to keep the game going.

Contact Luchie Javelosa
LJavelosa@VisitTucson.org
520.770.2129

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SPORTS

FLAGSTAFF, AZ

THIS FOUR-SEASON SPORTS DESTINATION HAS SOMETHING FOR LOVERS OF CULTURE AND THE GREAT OUTDOORS



Flagstaff is a popular outdoor destination and is home to a variety of trail systems. The city has easy access to majestic mountains and canyons including the Grand Canyon, whose South Rim is less than a mile from Flagstaff. The city is also a fantastic shopping spot as it features more than 50 shopping options in its downtown area.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

► **Downtown Flagstaff** is renowned for having a fantastic social scene, as it offers the best of modern dining, craft brews, local art and community events all packed into a fun, laid-back atmosphere.

FACILITY SPOTLIGHT

Wall Aquatic Center

Swimming

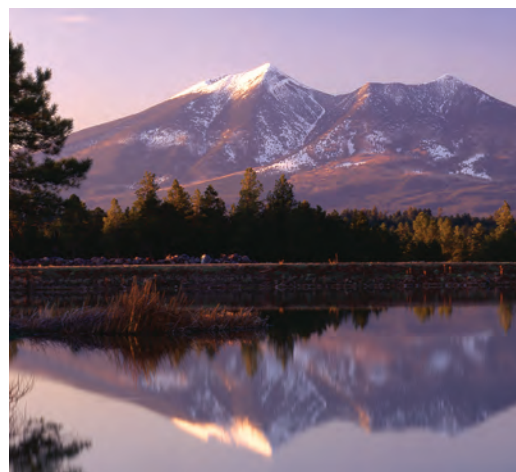
The new Wall Aquatic Center, located in the Aquatic and Tennis Complex on the campus of Northern Arizona University, offers NAU and the Flagstaff community one of the finest high-altitude swimming facilities in the world. The facility features a 50-meter by 25-yard competitive pool with a movable bulkhead to convert it to Olympic size. It also houses a separate 25-meter by 25-yard by 17-foot-deep dive tank with a three-line 10-meter dive tower and one and three-meter springboards.

J. Lawrence Walkup Skydome

Football, basketball, indoor track and field

Home to the Northern Arizona football, men's and women's basketball and indoor track and field teams, it is one of the most unique venues in all of college athletics. Open for 44 years, the dome underwent a major renovation in 2010-11, at a cost of \$26 million. Fans enter the 10,000-

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seat building to a panoramic view of the field on the east and west concourses and their comfort is ensured with 21-inch-wide chair back seating. Once the largest wood-span structure of its kind in the world, the Skydome covers an area of 6.2 acres, with the roof spanning more than 500 feet and rising 142 feet above the playing surface. The Skydome showcases a REALGRASS surface installed in the spring of 2008. The 96,000-square-foot surface is covered with Mondo and the track contains a six-lane, 300-meter non-banked loop with the infield containing enough area for six NCAA-standard basketball and volleyball courts as well as two regulation tennis courts.



DISCOVER FLAGSTAFF

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FLAGSTAFF, AZ

YOUR FOUR SEASON SPORTS DESTINATION



Flagstaff is an avid outdoors community, taking advantage of its many trail systems to enjoy the year-round accessibility of the mountains and canyons.

STAY & PLAY RESPONSIBLY



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A SPORTS TOWN *with no rival.*

When it comes to hosting sporting events, Arizona knocks it out of the park and puts up some impressive stats:

- 300+ days a year of sunshine
- Downtown core less than four miles from an international airport
- Pristine outdoor venues for groups of all sizes
- Renowned dining and entertainment
- World class resorts and meeting spaces

Given all of that, it's no wonder Arizona is where champions train and play. When you're ready to play in the big leagues, plan with us.

ARIZONA
THE GRAND CANYON STATE

ArizonaMeetings.com