As the Mayor of this great city, I am honored to welcome you to Mesa, Arizona! From a rising arts and innovation district in Downtown Mesa to the most beautiful desert in the West, Mesa has not just something for everyone, it has everything. For example, the third largest city in Arizona is home to the Mesa Marathon where you can qualify for the Boston Marathon and then wind down at one of our fine hotels or celebrate at one of our local restaurants or breweries. Mesa also shares an undeniably authentic Arizona experience out on our trails and parks where you can mountain bike, hike or horseback ride. Keep your eyes open for javelina, cardinals and chuckwalla along with gorgeous vistas of majestic cactus-studded forest and be sure to explore the legendary Superstition Mountains.

Adults and children alike will marvel at the new dinosaur Suskityrannus hazelae on display at the Arizona Museum of Natural History. The dinosaur was discovered by Mesa’s own Sterling Nesbitt! Families will also enjoy the i.d.e.a. Museum and Mesa’s one-of-a-kind parks that feature a Ninja course, climbing tower, zip lines, splash pads and more. Visitors should take note that Mesa is the country’s first Autism Certified City. This means that many folks in our hospitality industry; city government and business community have undergone training to recognize those on the spectrum and be able to provide an excellent experience for all.

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No matter how long your stay is in Mesa, we hope that you take advantage of our 325+ days of sunshine to see a Spring Training game, golf at one of our 40+ courses, or enjoy dinner al fresco before a show at the award-winning Mesa Arts Center. This is Mesa City Limitless®.

The Honorable John Giles
Mayor, City of Mesa

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A LOOK INSIDE

01 • WELCOME TO MESA
04 • 20 Things to Do in Mesa in 2020
07 • ADVENTURE EXPLORER
08 • Buckle Up For Adventure
09 • Kid-Approved Stops on the Apache Trail
12 • Pick Your Peak: Hiking in Mesa
13 • CULTURE SEEKER
15 • Let Us Entertain You!
16 • 72 Hours in City Limitless®
19 • FRESH FOODIE
20 • Chef For the Day on Mesa’s Fresh Foodie Trail®
21 • Tacos For Days
22 • ACTIVE FAMILY
23 • Welcome to the First-Ever Autism Certified City
24 • Why Mesa is Great For Every Family
26 • Geocaching: Hide & Seek Fun For All Ages
28 • FEATURES
28 • Freshly Brewed: Explore Mesa’s Expanding Beer and Coffee Scenes
30 • A Thriving Desert Oasis—Tonto National Forest Service
31 • Swing Away in City Limitless®—Sweet Treats From Mesa’s Popular Asian District
32 • EVENT CALENDAR
39 • Seasonal Events, Food Trucks & Farmers Markets

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CITY LIMITLESS®
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2020 Visitors Guide | City Limitless® | 03

03
A NEW DECADE FOR DISCOVERY

Mesa, Arizona serves up an inspiring desert destination unlike any other here in the Southwest and the city is ready to ring in a new decade and all the exciting adventures, experiences and discoveries that come along with it in 2020! Be sure to tag, pin, post and share your journey through City Limitless® with us and we’ll be sure to follow along for the ride.

20 THINGS TO DO IN MESA IN 2020

1. Order a finger-licking BBQ & human-powered food from Jalapeño Bucks
2. Go wild horse watching along the Lower Salt River
3. Play with goats and cuddle cows at Arizona Goat Yoga
4. Catch some waves in the desert on our Flowrider
5. Go glamping at The Cozy Peach
6. Go on the big pig chair or big elephant swing at Desert Discovery Wildlife Park
7. Rent a bike and tour the city on two wheels along the Rio Salado Parkway
8. Cool off with prickly pear ice cream at Tortilla Flats
9. Stop and smell the 9,000 rose bushes at the Rose Garden at Mesa Community College
10. Sit on the big pig chair or big elephant swing at Desert Discovery Wildlife Park
11. Satisfy your sweet tooth with unicorn tacos at Jake’s Unlimited
12. Get flushed away on the seven-story Revolution at Golfland Sunsplash Water Park
13. Get your motor running at Motorcycles on Main
14. Tour ancient Hohokam ruins at Mesa Grande Cultural Park
15. Get flushed away on the seven-story Revolution at Golfland Sunsplash Water Park
16. Cool off with prickly pear ice cream at Tortilla Flats
17. Get your motor running at Motorcycles on Main
18. Pop the question at the Elvis Presley Chapel at Superstition Mountain Museum
19. Sit on the big pink chair or hug Humpty Dumpty on Downtown Mesa’s Sculpture Walk
20. Step back in time and celebrate aviation history at Commemorative Air Force Museum

Visit Mesa, Arizona for an inspiring desert destination unlike any other here in the Southwest and ready to ring in a new decade and all the exciting adventures, experiences and discoveries that come along with it in 2020! Be sure to tag, pin, post and share your journey through City Limitless® with us and we’ll be sure to follow along for the ride.

@VISITMESA / #VISITMESA

visitmesa.com
By Land…

Thrill-seekers can discover the Sonoran Desert landscape on a guided tour with Stellar Adventures. This popular outfitter offers a variety of off-road vehicles to choose from including open-air Hummer tours where they lead the way on the dusty desert trails that surround the city. For a real treat, ask about their private stargazing tours where guests can witness a full moon rising and have an incredible one-on-one telescopic viewing of Arizona’s famous night sky with a local astronomer.

Take the wheel and conquer the rocky hillsides of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Reservation with Green Zebra Adventures on a professionally guided off-roading tour. Made to withstand the rugged terrain of off-roading, traversing by Tomcar is one of the more skillful ways to explore the landscape. Arizona Outdoor Fun also offers their fleet of ATVs and UTVs to visitors looking to get an up-close experience in the desert. Gear up with their top-of-the-line equipment and marvel at the mountains on every side of you during this guided thrilling adventure on four wheels.

Apache Trail Tours offers 4x4 tours and on-road scenic journeys exploring the historic Apache Trail just west of Mesa. Hop in one of the jeeps, take a step back in time, and enjoy the narrated ride on this scenic byway that is steeped in Arizona history. As you pass the mysterious Superstition Mountains and head into the foothills of the Tonto National Forest, the area continues to pay homage to its Western roots which took shape during the gold rush in the late 1880s.

Kart racing fans can test their speedway skills on the tracks at Octane Raceway located within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Riders can decide to be a member of the pit crew challenge and race against the clock or compete in groups where it’s all about the need for speed.

BY AIR…

Unobstructed views of the Valley of the Sun are best from above. Rainbow Ryders colorful hot-air balloons take you up, up, and away while you relax and enjoy a 360-degree view of the majestic northern desert mountains at sunrise. Hot Air Expeditions also offers a bird’s-eye view of Arizona’s desert vistas. Once you’ve returned from cloud nine, pop the cork and enjoy a traditional Champagne toast and breakfast with the flight crew.

Family-owned Westwind Air Service takes you higher still with scenic air tours to the Grand Canyon. On their aerial tours and unique charter flights, visitors can glide above the stunning natural wonder for unforgettable views and memories to last a lifetime.

Ever dreamed of skydiving? iFly offers indoor skydiving for low-risk adrenaline junkies who aren’t quite ready to jump out of a plane. The thrilling indoor wind tunnel gives fliers a sense of freedom unlike any they’ve known in a safe and fun environment.

Prefer two wheels? Adventures Out West offers a one-of-a-kind Segway voyage off the beaten path where visitors can learn about desert flora and spin circles around giant Saguaro. Mountain biking enthusiasts can rejoice in the extensive trail system at Usery Mountain Regional Park with miles of pathways to carve out an adventure on wheels. Unforgettable views are served up at every turn. The most popular path for bikers is the seven-mile Pass Mountain Trail.

There may be no better way to ride through the vast, striking Sonoran Desert than by horse like a true explorer in the wild wild West. The journey on horseback starting out at Saguaro Lake Ranch’s on-site livery will not disappoint as they take guests out to see carved-out canyons and cliffsides alongside the Lower Salt River. Trail guides caravan up and over cactus-lined ridges for unbelievable views of Saguaro Lake and the Four Peaks Mountain Range. At sunset, visitors may even catch a glimpse of the treasured wild horse herd that dwells along the edge of the water in this region.

Saddle up at Fort McDowell Adventures for a trail ride across the stunning reservation. For a true Western adventure, ‘move em on, head em up’ during a 2-hour guided cattle drive where city slickers assist local cowboys with ranch life duties.

Dreaming of big adventures? Visitors will be hard pressed to choose just one when planning their bucket list vacation to the Southwest. Mesa offers up two legendary playgrounds – the Tonto National Forest and the iconic Superstition Wilderness – where adventures and epic experiences can be had on land, on the water and up in the air!
**BY WATER...**

Lake lovers can cruise along towering canyon walls on Canyon Lake aboard the Daily Steamboat and catch glimpses of wildlife during a narrated tour. A special evening out is their dinner and astronomy cruises after sunset. Live entertainment and open-air breezes, set out on the Desert Belle at Saguaro Lake.

Paddle along Mesa's waterways via paddleboard or kayak when you rent from one of Mesa's many outfitters. Their permitted access to our shorelines makes hopping in and hopping off the water a breeze. Don’t rule out a peaceful float via inner-tube with Salt River Recreation. Open all summer long, this activity has a long-standing history of one of the more unique ways to cool off in the desert heat. For wet and wild fun, head out of town to the Upper Salt River Canyon with outfitters Salt River Rafting or Mild2Wild Rafting. Both outfitters lead guided rafting tours down roaring rapids in some of Arizona’s most secluded country. Call ahead as these seasonal experiences are only offered in the spring when enough desert rain serves up ideal conditions for a raging river.

No matter which way you choose to explore, jaw-dropping views and spectacular desert sights await outdoor enthusiasts of all ages. Uncover the beauty of the Sonoran Desert in Mesa by air, by land, and on the water!

**PLAYFUL CITY USA**

**KID-APPROVED STOPS ON THE APACHE TRAIL**

Whether punning for gold or feeling your way through an underground mine, the Apache Trail offers an enriching experience for every member of the family. One of the most popular day trips for anyone visiting Mesa, the historic Highway 88 curves through the mysterious Superstition Mountains and past the frontiers of the Tonto National Forest. On this scenic drive guests will encounter an authentic Old West stagecoach stop, a ghost town, the famous Elvis Presley Chapel, and the majesty of a mountain lake, all nestled in the beautiful Sonoran Desert landscape that captures the true essence of Arizona.

**GOLDFIELD GHOST TOWN**

Cowboys and cowgirls are sure to rustle up a good meal and a fun time at Goldfield Ghost Town. Head out on horseback at the OK Corral or take a ride on Arizona’s only operating narrow gauge railroad. Time your visit to their gunfights in the public square and soar above the town on the Superstition Zipline. Stop into Mother Lode Mercantile for their famous prickly pear fudge and gold nugget fudge (among others) and browse one of the sweetest old tyme candy collections in town.

**GET SOME GRUB**

Hungry kids and more importantly, hungry moms and dads, will want to schedule time for hearty nibbles at Tortilla Flat, an original stagecoach stop beyond Canyon Lake. As well as being home for six adventurous people, Tortilla Flat has a charm that has surpassed time. Real saddles serve as bar stools where you can enjoy a cold brew or sarsaparilla. The unique wallpaper is festooned out of dollar bills from visitors worldwide. Killer chili on top of everything is a favorite here, along with their big burgers and Southwest-inspired dishes.

**CRUISING THE CANYON WALLS**

Head out on Canyon Lake for a ‘Mark Twain’ voyage aboard the Daily Steamboat, a replica of a sternwheeler paddleboat. Cruise the lake’s secluded inner waterways and photograph desert bighorn sheep and other wildlife.

**BEFORE OR AFTER THE TRAIL ...**

Kids like history too, especially when there are dinosaurs involved! Not on the trail but certainly not to be missed, is Dinosaur Hall at the Arizona Museum of Natural History. Experience an indoor flash flood running down a three-story mountain decked with some of the largest creatures to ever roam the planet. Interactive learning for kids is the highlight at the i.d.e.a. Museum. Engaging exhibitions change throughout the year with ArtVille being a staple for visitors all year long. The art-town is the perfect play space for children under 5 years old to create their own masterpieces.
Hiking enthusiasts know the options are endless when it comes to exploring the Sonoran Desert terrain that surrounds Mesa, but those in the know flock year-round to Usery Mountain Regional Park to take their turn at heading to the top of Mesa’s iconic Wind Cave Trail. The trail is a central focal point inside the 3,600-plus-acre county park offering sweeping views of the city and the distant skyline. Usery is one of the more popular Arizona parks and it shares an expansive border with the Tonto National Forest (the most-visited ‘urban’ forest in the U.S. with approximately 5.8 million visitors annually). Hikers heading to the top will appreciate the switchbacks that help reduce the labor-intensive climb. Giant boulders throughout the 3.2 mile uphill climb serve as resting stops and platforms for taking it all in. Once at the wind cave, visitors will find hanging rock daisies and a shady respite before making the return trip to the bottom. For more top trails, consider these epic journeys into the wild:

- Hieroglyphic Trail, Superstition Wilderness
  Special sights along this trail include petroglyphs and seasonal pools. Etched into the basalt cliffs are ancient petroglyphs.
- Siphon Draw, Lost Dutchman State Park
  Four-mile round trip hike with an incredible lava-formed canyon at the top. Experienced hikers can push on to complete the Flatiron trail.
- Moonlight Trail, San Tan Regional Park
  Perfect short 1.3 mile scenic easy hike for all to enjoy with easy access. Trail has an elevation gain of 180 feet with wide open vistas.

TRUSTED TRAILHEADS

PICK YOUR PEAK: HIKING IN MESA

Arizona’s original casino is getting bigger and better with state-of-the-art everything! We’re talking a larger gaming floor, new bingo hall, covered parking, delicious dining options, and more. And don’t worry, we’re still open during construction.

MORE FUN THAN EVER

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COMING 2020

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Minimum age to participate in Gaming is 21 years of age. Gambling problem? Call 1-800-NEXTSTEP.

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THIS IS THE PLACE TOCOME GET YOUR FUN ON!
National touring acts, local bands and resident performing arts companies all hit the stage when visitors are in town. In fact, Mesa is such a hotbed for entertainment some have compared the city to a mini-Nashville with music studios dotting Main Street and the Mesa Music Festival luring in thousands of fans each November for jam sessions. There has never been a shortage of options on any given evening (or afternoon).
**DAY ONE**

Start with a trip to Agritopia, an urban oasis that is home to Arizona winery, Garage-East. Order a wine flight, served beaker-style, and a wood-fired pizza from Fire & Brimstone next door. Then check out the craftsman shops at Barnone for some original souvenirs. Before you jet, stroll the manicured grounds of the multi-generational community, including the original homestead that dates to 1927.

Grab a quick but tasty trio of empanadas at Latin-inspired Crackin’ Cafe will hit the spot. Then walk over to Jarrod’s Coffee, Tea, & Gallery for a caffeine boost, where nitro cold brew is served on tap.

**DAY TWO**

Get your morning started with a scenic hike on the Vista Trail at Usery Mountain Regional Park. The expansive county park is Mesa’s best showcase of the Sonoran Desert within city limits. Make time to stop by the Nature Center to learn all about desert preservation and the diverse habitat. After working up an appetite, a breakfast sandwich from What’s Crackin’ Cafe will hit the spot. Then walk over to Jarrod’s Coffee, Tea, & Gallery for a caffeine boost, where nitro cold brew is served on tap.

**DAY THREE**

A late departure will ensure there is plenty of time for brunch at T.C. Eggington’s where they have more than a dozen different omelettes to choose from. Make sure to call ahead, this is a popular joint for locals. Before packing up, load up on homemade Arizona salsas to take home from Jalapeño Bucks. For last minute shopping, The Village Square at Dana Park is lined with name brand retailers and sidewalk sales. Don’t miss the Belgian chocolate dipped ice cream cones and hot, made-to-order crepes at Crème and Chocolat. And finally, en route to the airport, stop by The Orange Patch. Visitors shop back citrus of all varieties year-round from this charming roadside stand that has shared their bounty for generations of Mesa visitors. Snag some coveted Arizona wines from The Original Blue Adobe for the latest release.

**TRIP PLANNING TOOLS**

72 HOURS IN CITY LIMITLESS®

Explore Mesa like a local and hit up some of the most popular spots around City Limitless® for a weekend full of adventure, shopping, and farm-to-table fare. While 72 hours isn’t enough time to explore all that Mesa has to offer, this jam-packed three-day itinerary is a perfect planning guide for any weekend!

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To view more lifestyle themed itineraries for Mesa, Arizona and access other trip planning tools head online to VisitMesa.com.
FRESH FOODIE

Harvest Dinner, Agritopia

UPICK ORGANIC GARDEN
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- Visit the Country Store & Bakery for family favorite recipes and fresh farm taste

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- Peach Season (May - June)
- Night Lights Festival
- The Good Life Festival
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Dinner & Show $40
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SEASON RUNS THROUGH APRIL 2020
2019–2020 SEASON BEGINS NOVEMBER

For more info: barleensdinnershow.com  2275 E. Old West Highway | Apache Junction, AZ 85119

Visit SchnepfFarms.com or call (480) 987-3100
In addition to food glorious food, Mesa’s Fresh Foodie Trail® also offers hands-on opportunities for visitors looking to sharpen their culinary chops in the kitchen. Recognized as a gourmet gateway to Greater Phoenix, the area is where top chefs forage with farmers and source local goods for their ever-changing menus. Several farms that make up the Fresh Foodie Trail® now offer a variety of cooking classes and tours for visitors.

Queen Creek Olive Mill is celebrating their Italian roots with new pizza making classes. Offered on the first Wednesday of each month, the course promises to teach all the classic skills required for an authentic pizza pie. From tossing dough, applying just the right amount of sauce and balancing all the flavorful toppings, these interactive classes are great for all ages. The Mill’s standout feature is their giant brick oven in the middle of the indoor eatery where attendees will be taught how to fire their pie to perfection. In addition to savory pizza options, guests can make dessert pizzas with the Mill’s famous honey mascarpone cheese. Reserve an apron online.

Pretzels, pies, tamales and tortillas are just some of the tasty baked goods that are part of Hayden Flour Mills at Sossaman Farms cooking class series. After a major expansion, their fully-equipped kitchen is ready for epicures-in-training (of all ages!) that want to get to the heart of how to make dough rise. Known for their handcrafted ancient and heritage grains, the classes all feature Hayden Flour Mills product including Egyptian farro, blue corn, purple barley and their popular White Sonoran wheat flour. All classes are listed online with event dates and pricing. Visitors can also sign up for The Grain Experience introductory tours held Thursdays and select Saturdays starting at 10 a.m. Head online for event dates and times.

Belly up to the bar at Garage-East and ask local vintners there to serve up a blended glass of Arizona wine. This unique tasting room offers over 20 different wines from across the state, paired with food options from local restaurants and food trucks. Enjoy a wide variety of handcrafted cocktails and specialty drinks, all paired perfectly with their selection of white, red, pink and green wines. This unique tasting room located at the heart of downtown Mesa is sure to pair with their roasted mushrooms and poblano peppers or Arizona street corn on the side. A true Mesa original, Backyard Taco serves up an array of award-winning tacos and a massive condiment bar full of fixings giving guests a chance to build their own tasty tortilla-wrapped creation. Add a Crazy Potato to your order for an unexpected punch of flavor. Located in the Mesa Riverview shopping complex, Matta’s Grill & Cantina has been satisfying locals’ penchant for Mexican food for more than 60 years with savory Tex-Mex style cuisine. All the family recipes here are made from scratch and their best-selling menu item is the “New World.” Stop by Matta’s for a true Mesa original experience.

Arizona has deep roots in the citrus industry when explorers brought the curious fruit with them to the ‘New World.’ Stop by The Orange Patch and join their complimentary tours of their production facility. Visitors love to taste shop and walk the grounds of the citrus orchards while taking in the fragrant orange blossoms each season.

Take the bounty home from Schnepf Farms where visitors can pick their own veggies, fruit and even flowers for the dinner table. Their U-PICK gardens change by the season but feature every type of produce under the Arizona sun. Visitors can also help farmers propagate and plant the gardens during certain times of the year. Fresh baked pies and pastries are available for take away at the Farm Fresh Bakery.

To download a map of this guided path rich with homemade ice cream, peaches, heritage grains, avocados, local citrus stands, fresh baked pies, farmers markets and so much more head to FreshFoodieTrail.com.
Mesa, Arizona is the first-ever Autism Certified City in the U.S. designated by the International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES), the result of nearly a year-long quest to tailor travel experiences for individuals with autism and their families.

The effort behind the designation was launched by Visit Mesa to encourage hospitality businesses to participate in specialized autism training geared toward executives and front-facing service staff. The training helps better recognize Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and service the needs of ASD travelers from the planning stages of a vacation to when they arrive in the destination, and throughout their stay.

“Our goal is to ensure individuals with autism and their families enjoy their perfect vacation in Mesa,” said Visit Mesa President & CEO Marc Garcia. “As a parent of a child diagnosed on the spectrum, not only is inclusivity the right thing to do; it makes business sense.”

In total, almost 60 businesses and organizations in Mesa and the surrounding area completed autism certification training and each of those entities is now deemed a Certified Autism Center by IBCCES. The effort was immediately embraced by other city organizations including the Mesa Chamber of Commerce and numerous non-profit organizations. More than 500 Mesa Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities employees and 1,200-plus Mesa Police Department public safety and law enforcement officers have completed autism certification training. In total, nearly 4,000 community members have undergone autism certification.

“IBCCES certifies organizations around the globe,” said Myron Pincomb, IBCCES Board Chairman. “Mesa stands out for the drive of its leaders and the commitment, passion and engagement of the business community. We’re proud to say that through this partnership and the IBCCES certification, individuals with autism or sensory sensitivities can feel confident; they will have a positive experience in Mesa.”

In Recovery, launched their Community Resources and Partners program to make families feel comfortable while traveling. Copa Connect works to help autistic children and teens by reducing depression, stress and anxiety, building confidence and increasing socialization so they can enjoy greater independence in a one-on-one program. The team provides support services and recreational activities for families with children visiting Mesa, using a variety of techniques including arts and crafts, animals, sports, games, dance and movement, drama, music and community outings. Copa Connect is led by Certified Analyst Professional who continuously works to achieve the best in facility and community activities by development of curriculum-based instruction or specifically designed learning or sensory centers. Therapeutic Recreation Specialists (TRS) are finger printed and have cleared a central registry background check in addition to being trained in basic disabilities and instruction. Each TRS has been certified through the International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES). Applied Behavioral Analysts (ABA) and autism focused trainings.
WHY MESA IS GREAT FOR EVERY FAMILY

BY JEN MALLIA

In my house, sun and fun are top considerations when it comes to family vacations. Of course, each of us have different interests and different ideas about where to go. Luckily a recent visit to Mesa, Arizona checked all the boxes for all of us.

And a major bonus? Mesa has a bunch of visitor attractions, businesses and city services that are going through dedicated Autism Certification to make sure the city is a welcoming place for everyone— including travelers on the spectrum.

Planning a family vacation is always a bit nerve-wracking. If you or a member of your family has an Autism Spectrum Disorder or sensory processing issues, the stakes feel a little higher. The heightened sense of awareness or worry some feel in these places can feel compounded when traveling. We all love vacations, but disrupted routines, different foods, sleeping in strange beds—it can get to be a bit much. Knowing you are visiting a place where they have made an effort to understand some of the special considerations of an ASD traveler can make all the difference.

GET MOVING

Two of our favorite playgrounds in all North America are located right in Mesa. That might sound like an exaggeration, but let me assure you... it is not. My youngest is a playground connoisseur; searching for a different idea about where to go. If you have a kid whose body needs to move, you know that creative playgrounds with lots of opportunity for climbing and free-form play are a must-even on holiday. Our stamp of approval goes to Pioneer Park (which also hosts The Mesa Farmers’ Market and Flea on Saturday mornings year-round) and to Mesa Riverview Park with its spider web-inspired climbing tower – the world’s tallest so we were told. At Pioneer Park, accessibility is seen throughout the design with long walkways able to accommodate wheelchair users and the illusion of playing in the tree tops. Mesa Riverview features the latest hands-on play equipment including slides, spinners and swings allowing for hours of play time. On the edge of the park, curious climbers can test their skills and scale a 300 ft. natural linear climbing wall complete with a covered fort. We especially loved the 75-foot zip line and splash pad and child-size picnic tables. Both award-winning parks went through the IBCCES audit to assess how sensory processing issues may be affected. You can access the report for these parks and others through the City of Mesa Parks website, MesaParks.com.

For something completely different, a drive out to Dutchman Mine—ask for a baggie to collect your loot from the staff members and unexpected excursion. During the hour-long “goga” session, the class is led hopping onto participants as they go. Goat yoga works best for kids who can join in the class and don’t feel too skittish around animals, as the goats jump on participants indiscriminately. This is animal therapy of the fun kind.

HANDS ON FUN

Sometimes kids like to do a deep dive into the ‘how’ and the ‘why’ of the world around us. The Arizona Museum of Natural History is the ideal size to explore during a warm Mesa afternoon. It has a wide variety of things to touch and do, without being an overwhelming size. The big hits with my guys were the animatronic figures on Dinosaur Mountain and panning for gold in the Lost Dutchman Mine—a baggie to collect your loot from the staff members outside at the mine.

For iconic Arizona desert landscapes, Usery Mountain Regional Park has it all. Cactus, cacti and more cactus! Choose to hike the family-friendly Wind Cave Trail or spend your time at the Nature Center and get close access to all the desert critters and creepy crawlers. Just behind the center is ‘The Backyard’, an extensive piece of land where you can spot a bunch of Sonoran Flora and the occasional hummingbird or heron. Check the Maricopa County Parks website for real-time programming if you want to join a family activity such as a movie in the desert or bird-watching. Find the Ranger hikes, stroller cruises or even a blacklight hunt for scorpions.

Come hungry to Jake’s Unlimited for endless food and fun for the family. Jake’s Unlimited was the first attraction in Mesa to become Autism Certified and it shows. While this is a full-sensory play zone, be sure to ask staff when you need a time out and they will find an area on site to rest. As a mom of picky eaters, the buffet options had plenty of safe choices for children with food aversions.

FOR SPECIAL INTERESTS

One of the joys of knowing someone with ASD is the chance to learn from them. I’ve been able to learn more facts than I ever imagined I’d need to know on various subjects. If you or your child’s interests revolve around sea creatures or baseball, Mesa has what you need.

The OdySea Aquarium has been working hard with various organizations to make sure they are a welcoming, comfortable place for every family. Staff members with a seashore above the pocket, on their shirts have gone through autism awareness training and are equipped to help you with your needs. With features like their Pet Palace video that helps people know what to expect at the aquarium, to a room away from the hustle and bustle that’s stocked with sensory items or to autism awareness weekends that feature lower volumes and fewer people, OdySea is a great example of what welcoming autism travel looks like. My guys were taken with the Behind the Scenes Sharks tour where we enjoyed an up-close look at the inner workings of the aquarium, and the calming OdySea Voyager that lets you sit in theater-style seats and rotate through four major exhibits. If sitting for extended periods isn’t for you, visit during the hour before closing when you are free to walk through the Voyager at your own pace.

If baseball is in your blood, you are going to want to plan a visit in the spring. Arizona is home to the Cactus League Association which serves as the spring training host for 15 major league teams. It’s the perfect opportunity to see pro ball in a smaller stadium for a fraction of the price of a regular season game. Sloan Park, home of the Chicago Cubs, is another Mesa attraction that completed Autism Certification. You can sit in the grass above the outfield for a bit more room and ease of movement than in the stands, and familiar food faves like Chicago dogs and deep-dish pizza are in abundance. As a bonus, it is steps from Mesa Riverview Park!

We felt welcomed and beyond at ease in Mesa, and I think you will too. It was a great feeling to know that so many businesses care enough about ASD travelers to make this kind of effort, with the added benefit of being able to relax knowing it will be ok if (or when!) things don’t go as planned.

BY JEN MALLIA

Jen Mallia is a travel and lifestyle writer and member of the Travel Media Association of Canada (TMAC). Her family-focused work has appeared on Today's Parent, Family Fun Canada, Birth Issues Magazine and SheKnows, among others. She is a mom to two amazing kids with sensory sensitivities and shared symptoms with ASD who loves to travel and explore new destinations.
Visit Mesa has partnered with the experts at Geocaching HQ to bring visitors an incredible hide-and-seek travel quest throughout the city. Visit Mesa’s GeoTour was developed as a way to engage travelers on the autism spectrum and provide a fun way to explore all corners of the city on a quest for caches. Perfect for any visitor, the tour is a strategic collection of geocaches anchored at many of Mesa’s participating Certified Autism Centers and city parks. From outdoor adventurers to tech-lovers, the popularity of the sport is growing. Visitors that find at least 5 geocaches on Visit Mesa’s GeoTour can then visit the Mesa Visitors Center (120 N. Center St, Mesa) during regular business hours to collect a special souvenir celebrating their adventure! Find all of the geocaches and you will earn the digital souvenir directly in the Geocaching app.

GET TREASURE HUNTING THROUGHOUT MESA IN THREE EASY STEPS!

01 • To access on mobile, download the free Geocaching® app available in your app store
02 • Log in or sign up and search for the Visit Mesa Autism Travel GeoTour and view the current list of geocaches hidden in Mesa and throughout our region
03 • Turn on your Location Services and search under GeoTours GT48C for the Visit Mesa Autism Travel GeoTour

Off you go! Remember to log your activity on the app and leave a treasure behind for others to find. Happy hunting!

WHAT IS GECACHING?
Geocaching is an outdoor treasure hunting game where players use a mobile app or dedicated GPS device to find cleverly hidden containers called geocaches. Today, there are more than 3 million geocaches in over 190 countries.

10 TIPS BEFORE YOU GECACHE
01 • Use your eyes, hands, and geo-senses.
02 • Look for something that seems out of place.
03 • Geocaches are often disguised.
04 • Think like a detective.
05 • Geocaches should never be buried.
06 • Look high, look low, look around.
07 • Respect your surroundings.
08 • Check the hint.
09 • Watch for previous activity.
10 • Be patient. They’re out there!

GET TREASURE HUNTING THROUGHOUT MESA IN THREE EASY STEPS!

01 • To access on mobile, download the free Geocaching® app available in your app store
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The art of brewing coffee may not have much in common with the act of brewing beer, but the makers of these two craft beverages often find a place side by side in our neighborhoods. With both having such a wide range of flavors and ways to enjoy, the drinks are the perfect morning-to-night combination.

EXPLORE MESA’S EXPANDING BEER AND COFFEE SCENES

The Brewer Research Institute is one of Mesa’s largest breweries and taprooms, and is a perfect meeting spot for groups large and small. The brewery specializes in hop-forward IPAs but be sure to check out its seasonal offerings that are often paired to its made-from-scratch menu.

1641 S Stapley Dr, Mesa

THE BEER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Thanks to a recent expansion, the Beer Research Institute is one of Mesa’s largest breweries and taprooms, and is a perfect meeting spot for groups large and small. The brewery specializes in hop-forward IPAs but be sure to check out its seasonal offerings that are often paired to its made-from-scratch menu.

31 S Robson, Mesa

PAIR CUPWORKS

Located inside the Cider Corps taproom, Pair Cupworks has quickly gone from a quiet weekend pop-up to downtown Mesa’s first roaster. Kimkak Em serves his small-batch roasts as pour-over coffees and partner Eugenia Tra brews their artisanal tea. Open five days a week. Pair plans to expand to a full espresso bar in early 2020.

31 S Robson, Mesa

12 WEST BREWING COMPANY

The brewery at Agritopia will soon be joining the Mesa beer scene in the building it’s named for. 12 West Main Street. Owner Bryan McCormick designed the two-story taproom to be a central hotspot on Main Street.

12 W Main St, Mesa

CIDER CORPS

Cider may not be brewed but the drinks Josh and Jason Duran are making in the state’s first cideri and taproom fit right with the craft beverage community. The brother’s craft cider styles have included everything from a seasonal pie series with pumpkin, chestnut, and strawberry rhubarb, to chef-inspired collaborations like the 40 Myke-Myke with honey, arbol and ancho chile to pair with its in-taproom pizza.

31 S Robson, Mesa

BARRIO BREWING CO.

One of the state’s original craft breweries, Barrio Brewing opened a taproom near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport in 2017. Valley visitors can now sip on its flagship Barrio Blonde, the longest continually-brewed beer in Arizona, or try a pint of its two Great American Beer Festival-winning styles Barrio Rojo and Nolan Porter while watching the planes take off and land. Other seasonal brews and a full menu round out the experience.

5803 S Sossaman Rd, Mesa

OLD ELLSWORTH BREWING

As Queen Creek’s first brewery and taproom, Old Ellsworth Brewing is meeting the demand for craft beer in the far East Valley. Home brewers and friends Brian Mckean and Ryan Bostronm offer a changing rotation of brews like books, barley wines and farmhouse ales that go beyond the ever-popular IPA. Complementing the beers is a hearty pub menu that is known for its wings and poutine.

22005 S Ellsworth Rd, Queen Creek

SUPERSTITION COFFEE AT QUEEN CREEK

Superstition Coffee fits right in at the working atmosphere at Queen Creek Olive Mill. Owner Bill Mohrweas and his family roast their beans on site and are happy to share their knowledge of the process. Superstition Coffee builds its roasts for rich, big and bold coffees, and serves everything from espressos to lattes and drip.

25062 S Maridian Rd, Queen Creek

ARIZONA WILDERNESS BREWING CO.

Arizona Wilderness quickly rose to international cult beer status when it opened in 2012 thanks to a social media buzz backed by innovative brews. Wilderness continues to deliver on its reputation and commitment to honor Arizona’s resources. Its small batch beers typically highlight Arizona’s agricultural and foraged ingredients.

721 N Arizona Ave, Gilbert
A THRIVING DESERT OASIS

Embraced by the Sonoran Desert, Mesa is surrounded by water. Within minutes of the city’s collection of hotels and attractions, visitors can immerse themselves into a legendary landscape—a region full of intrigue and awe. There are three lakes and two rivers that offer quick and easy access to desert boating, fishing, rafting, stand-up paddleboarding, kayaking, and other water sports. During the summer months, plan for the ever-popular activity of “tubing,” a leisurely float along the cool waters of the Salt River via inner-tube!

As the fifth largest forest in the United States, the Tonto National Forest is one of the most-visited “urban” forests in the U.S. The Tonto National Forest Service oversees all the Mesa area lakes and the lower Salt and Verde rivers as well as many streams in the area. A Tonto Pass, a daily (24-hour) recreation pass for visitors, is required for more than 50 recreation sites within the Tonto National Forest. The Pass must be displayed on the vehicle rear-view mirror. The passes sell for $8 per vehicle plus a watercraft use fee of $4 per watercraft. Passes are available at 200 locations in the Mesa area including nearby convenience stores and also online and by mail, and can be purchased at kiosks at the recreation sites. Many of the lakes area businesses operate under special permit from the Forest Service.

FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON VISITING THE TONTO NATIONAL FOREST CALL 480-610-3300 OR VISIT FS.USDA.GOV/TONTO

There are more than 40 golf courses in Arizona’s third-largest city, and every single one of them will offer a different view or unique shot-making choice unlike the other. Mesa is surrounded by mountain ranges that shape our northern, southern and eastern skylines and many of the area’s tee boxes put players in front of sweeping vistas set against the natural beauty of the desert and blue Western skies. First on your tee sheet should be a round at Longbow Golf Club which has also earned its share of praise after being recognized by Golfweek magazine as one of the top 20 courses in Arizona in their Best You Can Play, State by State ranking. Opt to play the course on a Longbow GolfBoard, a fun alternative to rolling the hills in a traditional cart. Save the date for the annual PING Heather Farr Classic hosted by the American Junior Golf Association each April, where future stars of the sport enjoy the spotlight. For a challenging round of desert golf check out Las Sendas Golf Club which takes advantage of the breathtaking views of both Red Mountain and the Superstition Mountain range. Designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr., the course has matured into one of the most beautiful courses in Arizona and ranks as one of the top 50 courses in the nation. Just north of the city is We-Ko-Pa Golf Club, developed by the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation and managed by Troon Golf. Their two spectacular 18-hole layouts are certain to challenge and inspire golfers of all levels. We-Ko-Pa Golf Club is consistently ranked as one of the best top 100 modern courses in Arizona. Mesa’s own Augusta Ranch Golf Club is the top short course in the state with its par-31 course offering the perfect round for players of all abilities. With PGA instructors on staff, visitors can sign up for a tune-up lesson before dusting off their clubs. In east Mesa, Sunland Springs Golf Club offers 27-holes with views in all directions of the Superstition Mountain range. The remodeled full-service pro shop and clubhouse can equip any visitor short on clubs and other must haves for a round in the desert. The Salt River community north of the city is home to Talking Stick Golf Club, a traditional links course with long tree-lined fairways. Featuring iconic design elements one would expect from a Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw designed course, visitors can sign up for their golf coaching program and enhance their skills while on vacation. For a fun, relaxed take on the sport, right around the corner is TopGolf, also part of the Talking Stick destination.
For tickets and more information on events held at Mesa Arts Center, call 480-644-6500 or visit MesaArtsCenter.com. For all other event listings, call or visit websites listed for exact days, hours of operation and admission prices. All event listings are subject to change.

JANUARY

1 / New Year’s Day Brunch at the Mill
Queen Creek Olive Mill. 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

3-5 / 48th Annual Flagg Gem and Mineral Show
Mesa Community College
flagginformationfoundation.org

3-5 / Tolyuo Con Anime Convention
Mesa Convention Center. 480-644-2178
tolyucon.com

4 / Wordplay Café: Rediscovery
Mesa Arts Center

4-5 / Wild Old West Dinner Show: Pioneer Pepper and the Sunset Pioneers
Farnsworth Hall at Dreamland Villa. 480-415-9572
dreamlandvilla.org

6-8 / Southwest Gospel Festival
Mesa Arts Center

8-12 / Arizona Cutting Horse Association, Jump Start the Year
Queen Creek Horseshoe Park and Equestrian Centre. 480-358-3710
azcha.com

9 / Lecture: The History of Arizona Cutting Horse Association, Jump Start the Year
Queen Creek Horseshoe Park and Equestrian Centre. 480-358-3710
azcha.com

10 / Dick Clark’s Countdown to the 1960’s Starring the Rave Ons!
Queen Creek Performing Arts Center 480-987-7469
qcpc.com

10-26 / She Kills Monsters, presented by Mesa Encore Theatre
Mesa Arts Center

15 / Claire Ryan & the Crosby’s Superstarion Views. 480-854-1778
cali-am.com/concerts

16 / Claire Ryan & the Crosby’s Towerpoint RV Resort. 480-934-8180
cali-am.com/concerts

16 / Lecture: Jacob Waltz: The Early Years
Superstition Mountain Museum 480-983-4888
superstitionmountainmuseum.org

17 / Stanley Clarke Band
Mesa Arts Center

17 / Dolly Parton: Starring Karen Hester
Queen Creek Performing Arts Center 480-987-7469
qcpc.com

17-19 / Grand Canyon Tostitos Expo
Mesa Convention Center. 480-644-2178
facebook.com/grandcanyontotititos

18 / spark at dark
Mesa Arts Center

19 / Ballet Folclórico Nacional de México de SILVIA LOZANO
Mesa Arts Center

20 / MLK Parade
Downtown Mesa
mesacc.edu/mlkparade

22 / Hot Go Live
Pursuit of the Black Panther
Mesa Arts Center

23 / Catalyst Quartet
Mesa Arts Center

23 / Lecture: Close Calls with Death
Superstition Mountain Museum 480-983-4888
superstitionmountainmuseum.org

24 / The Fab Four
Mesa Arts Center

24 / The Rat Pack: A Tribute to Frank, Dean and Sammy
Farnsworth Hall at Dreamland Villa 480-415-9572
dreamlandvilla.org

24-25 / Lisa Lamponelli’s Lesin It
Mesa Arts Center

24-27 / The Marvelous Wonderettes
Queen Creek Performing Arts Center 480-987-7469
qcpc.com

25-26 / 50th Annual Mesa Coin Show & Sale
Mesa Convention Center. 480-644-2178
mcc.anetclubs.org

25-26 / Brian Lattles
Old West Show & Auction
Mesa Convention Center. 480-644-2178
oldwestevents.com

29 / Mystery Science Theatre 3000 Live
Mesa Arts Center

29 / Lovin’ Life Expo
Mesa Convention Center. 480-348-0343
lovinlifeexpo.com/expos

29 / ARTRageous: Art & Music Experience
Mesa Arts Center

FEBRUARY

Jan 13–Mar 12 / Out To Lunch Concert Series
Mesa Arts Center

1-28 / Peach Blossom Celebration
Schnebly Farms. 480-987-3100
(Dates dependent on weather. Call for exact dates)
schneblyfarms.com

1 / Mesa Historic Home Tour
Surrine House
480-835-2180
mesahistoricmuseum.com

1 / Festival of the New Oil
Queen Creek Olive Mill. 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

1 / Sampling at the Superstitions
Superstition Mountain Museum 480-983-4888
superstitionmountainmuseum.org

1 / Great Canadian Picnic
Phoenix South Mountain Park
602-309-1552
canadianpicnic.com

1 / BYU Living Legends
Queen Creek Performing Arts Center 480-987-7469
qcpc.com

7 / Rockin’ Mon: A Tribute to Elton John’s Early Years
Queen Creek Performing Arts Center
480-987-7469
qcpc.com

7 / Valentine’s Day Love Bug Dance
Queen Creek Library Rec Annex
Queencreek.org/LoveBug

7-9 / 16th Annual Arizona Electric Festival
Superstition Airport. 480-525-2311
aeelectricfestival.com

8 / Mesa-Phoenix Marathon
Mesa Riverwalk
twophoenixmarathon.com

8-9 / Wild Old West Dinner Show: Pioneer Pepper and the Sunset Pioneers
Farnsworth Hall at Dreamland Villa 480-415-9572
dreamlandvilla.org

8-15 / Canada Week
Queen Creek Olive Mill. 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

16 / Lecture: Jacob Waltz: The Early Years
Superstition Mountain Museum 480-983-4888
superstitionmountainmuseum.org

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Mesa Convention Center. 480-348-0343
lovinlifeexpo.com/expos

29 / ARTRageous: Art & Music Experience
Mesa Arts Center

3 / 18th Annual Arizona Renaissance Festival
Highway 60, Apache Junction
520-463-2600
(12:30pm, Thursdays only)
renfestinfo.com

6-6 / Company A Musical Comedy
MCC Performing Arts Center
480-461-7172
mesacc.edu/arts
21 / Sangria Social
Queen Creek Olive Mill, 480-888-9290
quencccreekolivemill.com

22 / Bandemonium, presented by Salt River Brass
Mesa Arts Center

22-23 / 32nd Annual Desert Woodcarving Show and Sale
Mesa Convention Center, 480-644-2417
desertwoodcarvingshow.com

26 / Mark & Maggie O’Connor
Mesa Arts Center

27 / The Music of David Bowie - presented by The Phoenix Symphony
Mesa Amphitheatre, 480-644-2560
presented by The Phoenix Symphony

27-29 / Military Vehicle Show
Queen Creek Horseeshoe Park and Equestrian Centre, 480-358-3710
azchome.com

3-19 / Beerfest Madness: The Musical
Mesa Arts Center

3-19 / Bloom Bash
Queen Creek Olive Mill, 480-888-9290
queenccreekolivemill.com

5 / USA Synchro-2020 US Junior & US High School Team Championships
Skyline Aquatic Center
teamusa.org/user-synchronized-swimming

5 / Lecture: The Preservation of the Salt River Horses
Superstition Mountain Museum 480-983-4888
superstitionmountainmuseum.org

5 / ABBAFAB: ABBA Tribute
The Villages at Val Vista, 480-832-2550
cal-am.com/concerts

9 / Notasha Paremski, Piano
Mesa Arts Center

9 / Presentation: A Musical Celebration of Arizona
Superstition Mountain Museum 480-983-4888
superstitionmountainmuseum.org

9 / A Tiny Tots Egg Hunt
Downtown Mesa, 480-890-2613
downtownmesa.com

11 / Easter Egg-sperience
Veritucci Farms, 480-882-1482
verituccifarms.com

12 / Easter Musical Lunch
Organ Stop Pizza, 480-813-5700
organstoppizza.com

17-20 / International Jazz Day Festival
Mesa Convention Center, 480-644-2178
zapcon.com

20-23(24) / Western Athletic Conference-Men’s Golf Championship of Intercollegiate Athletics
Las Sendas Golf Club

25 / Broadway Spring Round 2020 Concert
MCC Performing Arts Center, 480-461-7172
mesacc.edu/arts

25-26 / ZopCon 2019
Mesa Convention Center, 480-644-2178
zopcon.com

26 / International Jazz Day Festival
Mesa Arts Center

26 / Fiesta! - presented by Salt River Brass
Mesa Arts Center

MAY

1-31 / U-Pick Peaches
Schnepf Farms, 480-987-3100
(sales dependent on harvest. Call for exact dates)
schnepffarms.com

1-31 / U-Pick Peaches
Veritucci Farms, 480-882-1482
(verituccifarms.com)

12 / Easter Musical Lunch
Organ Stop Pizza, 480-813-5700
organstoppizza.com

17-25 / Newsies
Queen Creek Olive Mill, 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

20 / Sangria Social
Queen Creek Olive Mill, 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

21 / Father’s Day Musical Lunch
Organ Stop Pizza, 480-813-5700
organstoppizza.com

22 / Father’s Day Free Admission
Superstition Mountain Museum 480-983-4888
superstitionmountainmuseum.org

JULY

4 / Arizona Celebration of Freedom
Downtown Mesa
azcelebrationoffreedom.org

4 / Corn Roast
Queen Creek Olive Mill, 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

15-17 / Wings over Arizona For St. Jude
Superstition Air Park Arizona
wingsaz.com

19-20 / Brian Cubbertson
Mesa Arts Center

19-22 / National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Men’s Golf Championship
Las Sendas Golf Club
naia.org/sports/mgolf

20-23(24) / Western Athletic Conference-Baseball Post-Season Tournament
Mesa HoHoKam Stadium
wscports.com

25 / Memorial Day Grill at the Mill
Queen Creek Olive Mill, 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

26 / International Jazz Day Festival
Mesa Convention Center, 480-644-2178
zapcon.com

26 / Neal & Jody Dee
Mesa Arts Center

26 / Exceptional Prom
Sheraton Desert Oasis Resort & Spa, 480-358-3710
azchome.com

26 / Pops Cabaret: Viva Las Vegas
Downtown Mesa, 480-890-2613
downtownmesa.com

26 / Queen City Summer Concert Series: Michael McDonald & Friends
Queen Creek Olive Mill, 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

26 / Queen City Summer Concert Series: The Beach Boys
Queen Creek Olive Mill, 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

26 / The Legend of Robin Hood, presented by Mesa Encore Theatre
Mesa Arts Center

27 / International Museum Day
Superstition Mountain Museum 480-983-4888
superstitionmountainmuseum.org

27-29 / The Office! A Musical Parody: presented by Symphony of the Southwest
Mesa Arts Center

APRIL

1 / Domencia Dance
Mesa Arts Center

2 / Phoenix Jazz Festival 2020
Downtown Mesa, 480-358-3710
azchome.com

2 / Free Comic Book Day
Queen Creek Olive Mill, 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

2 / Free Comic Book Day
Mesa Arts Center

4 / CycloMesa: Unchained Bicycle Festival
Downtown Mesa, 480-890-2613
cyclo Mesa.com

4 / The Beatles’ Abbey Road with Classic Albums Live
Mesa Amphitheatre, 480-644-2560
mesa amp.com

4 / Exceptional Prom
Sheraton Desert Oasis Resort & Spa, 480-358-3710
azchome.com

4 / Mesa RiverView Grand Prix
Mesa RiverView
grandprixscottsdale.com

4 / Smithsonian Museum Day
i dear Museum, 480-644-2488
ideamuseum.com

4 / Drum Zoo 2020
Mesa Arts Center

4 / Wordplay Café: Story Slam
Mesa Arts Center

10 / Mother’s Day Musical Lunch
Organ Stop Pizza, 480-813-5700
organ stoppizza.com

10 / Mother’s Day Brunch at the Mill
Queen Creek Olive Mill, 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

10 / Mother’s Day Free Admission
Superstition Mountain Museum 480-983-4888
superstitionmountainmuseum.org

SEPTEMBER

11-21 / Morion and the Merry Men, A New Legend of Robin Hood, presented by East Valley Children’s Theatre
Mesa Arts Center

18-21 / Mesa International Film Festival
Downtown Mesa
mesamusicfest.com

20 / Sangria Social
Queen Creek Olive Mill, 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

21 / Father’s Day Musical Lunch
Organ Stop Pizza, 480-813-5700
organ stoppizza.com

22 / Father’s Day Free Admission
Superstition Mountain Museum 480-983-4888
superstitionmountainmuseum.org

AUGUST

14 / Sangria Social
Queen Creek Olive Mill, 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

15-16 / Messy Fest
Queen Creek Horseeshoe Park and Equestrian Centre, 480-888-1709
messyfest.com

15-17 / Wings over Arizona For St. Jude
Superstition Air Park Arizona
wingsaz.com

19-20 / Brian Cubbertson
Mesa Arts Center

22 / Father’s Day Free Admission
Superstition Mountain Museum 480-983-4888
superstitionmountainmuseum.org

JUNE

6 / Corn Roast
Queen Creek Olive Mill, 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com

9 / Amore Eterno: A Mother’s Day Maricopa Concert Celebration
Mesa Arts Center
26-27th Annual Garlic Festival
Queen Creek Olive Mill 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com
Sep 28-Nov 1 / Annual Fall Festival and Corn Maze
Vertuccio Farms 480-882-1482
vertucciofarms.com

**NOVEMBER**
7 / Women’s Day Out Expo
Mesa Convention Center women’sdayoutexpo.com
7 / 8th Annual Olivepalooza
Queen Creek Olive Mill 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com
7 / Bacon, Blues & Brews Festival
Founders Park Queen Creek 480-358-3000
baconbluesandbrews.com
7-9 / Rubber Stamp Show
Mesa Convention Center 480-644-2178
rubberstampexpo.com
Nov 15-21 / Fall Out to Lunch Concerts
Mesa Arts Center (12:30pm, Thursdays only)
11 / East Valley Veterans Parade
Downtown Mesa
evvp.org
11/15 / Arizona Cutting Horse Association End of the Trail & Futurity
Queen Creek Horseshoe Park and Equestrian Centre 480-358-3710
azchha.com
11-21 / Mesa Music Festival
Downtown Mesa
mesamusicfest.com
Nov 20-21 / Christmas Tree Lots
Mesa Arts Center
donwntownmessa.com
Spark at Dark
2nd Friday - (8pm-10pm)
Mesa Arts Center 480-644-6500
mesaartscenter.com
Wheels & Whata’s Crackin’ 2nd Saturday - (7:30am)
What’s Crackin’ Café 480-264-6832
whatscrackincafe.com

20th-21st / 3rd Annual Roy Track
Queen Creek Horseshoe Park
23-25th Annual Roy Track Memorial Pow Wow
Location TBA 602-799-0260
24 / Pumpkin Splash
Brinmall Aquatic Complex 480-644-5087
messoparks.com
31 / Trick or Treat Main Street
Downtown Mesa 480-890-2813
downtownmessa.com
31 / Vintage Wings & Wheels
Street Bods Car Show
Arizona Commemorative Air Force Museum 480-924-1940
oczaf.org

**DECEMBER**
Nov 27-Dec 31 / Merry Main Street
Downtown Mesa
merrymainst.com
Thru Dec 31 / Merry Main Street
Downtown Mesa
merrymainst.com
Thru Jan 21 / Out to Lunch Concert Series
Mesa Arts Center
(12:30pm, Thursdays only)
Thru Jan 6 / Christmas Tree Lots
Mesa Arts Center
donwntownmessa.com
Thru Jan 6 / Christmas Tree Lots
Mesa Arts Center
donwntownmessa.com
5 / Santa Fly-In
Arizona Commemorative Air Force Museum 480-924-1940
oczaf.org
5 / Holiday in the Creek Festival & Parade
Queen Creek Town Center 480-888-1709
queencreekolivemill.com
12 / Queen Creek Kid’s Christmas Car Show & Toy Drive
Desert Mountain Park 480-888-1709
ThaAMachine.com
12-13 / Phoenix Feline Fanciers Cat Show
Mesa Convention Center 623-217-4205
phxfeline.com
19 / spark at dark
Mesa Arts Center
19 / Sangria Social
Queen Creek Olive Mill 480-888-9290
queencreekolivemill.com
2nd Friday Night Out
Downtown Mesa 480-890-2813
2ndfridaynightout.com
DownTown Mesa Festival of the Arts
1st & 3rd Saturdays - (10am-4pm, Oct-Apr)
Downtown Mesa 480-603-7520
dtmessa.com
Spark at Dark
2nd Friday - (8pm-10pm)
Mesa Arts Center 480-644-6500
mesaartscenter.com
Farmers Market and Flea
Saturdays 8am-1pm Winter
Pioneer Park
mesafrfarmersmarketandflea.com
Mesa Festival Food Trucks
Saturdays 11:30am-3pm
Pioneer Park 480-599-2207
azfarmtrucksfestival.com/mesa-festival-food-truck
Mesa Music Festival
1st Friday (seasonal) - 7pm
Boulder Mountain Park
facebook.com/mesafoundersday
Merry Main Street
Nov 27–Dec 31 / Merry Main Street
Downtown Mesa
merrymainst.com
FARM. FRESH. FOODIE. FAMILY.
Small-town charm and modern amenities make Queen Creek a top destination for agritainment experiences, foodie finds, playful adventures, and family fun!
QueenCreek.com/VisitTheQC
Seasonal Events
1st Friday Motorcycles on Main Bike Night
(6pm)
Downtown Mesa 480-890-2813
downtownmessa.com
1st Friday MCC Astronomy Night
(6pm, First Fri & Last Sat)
MCC Planetarium 480-461-7027
mesacc.edu/planetarium
Coffeeneers & Classics Car Show
4th Saturday - (9am-noon)
StreetScapes Classic 480-926-1344
streetscapesclassic.com
Food Trucks & Farmers Markets
Farmers Market at AgriTopia
Wednesdays (seasonal) - 9am-1pm
AgriTopia
agritopiafarm.com/farm-night
Mesa Farmers Market and Flea
Saturdays 8am-1pm Winter
Pioneer Park
mesafrfarmersmarketandflea.com
Mesa Festival Food Trucks
Saturdays 11:30am-3pm
Pioneer Park 480-599-2207
azfarmtrucksfestival.com/mesa-festival-food-truck
Queen Creek Food Truck Festival
Fridays 5:30-9pm
Queen Creek Library
defestivals.com/queen-creek-queen-creek-food-truck-festival
True Garden Market
Wednesdays & Saturdays - 9am-4pm
True Garden Urban Farm 480-305-9885
truegarden.com
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Canyon Lake Marina & Campground 18302 N Hwy 88, Tolleson 480-286-9233 canyonlakemarina.com

Arizona’s only olive farm and mill featuring boutique, hand-crafted extra virgin olive oil. Experience includes gourmet marketplace showcasing local foods, local wine and craft beers, baked goods, geopolis, unique gifts and farm-to-table dining. Tours of the mill offered daily and include the cold press process. See also The Eatery at Queen Creek Olive Mill under Dining. 

Superstition Wilderness 6338 N Apache Trail, Apache Junction 480-982-4685 oazotoparks.com/superstition

The Arboretum brings together plants from the planets many varied deserts and dry lands displaying them alongside unsolded examples of the native Sonoran Desert vegetation.

Desert Mountain Park 22201 N Innes Rd, Queen Creek 480-358-3095 queenec种族/recreation

The Eastmark Great Park (Featuring The Orange Monster and Splash Pool) 5100 S Eastmark Pkwy, Mesa 480-646-2352 mesaparks.com

Superstition Farms 602-432-6865 superstitionfarms.com

Flax and showy poppies. Guests enjoy a post-flight catered breakfast and champagne toast.

» See ad on page 11

Arizona’s only olive farm and mill featuring boutique, hand-crafted extra virgin olive oil. Experience includes gourmet marketplace showcasing local foods, local wine and craft beers, baked goods, geopolis, unique gifts and farm-to-table dining. Tours of the mill offered daily and include the cold press process. See also The Eatery at Queen Creek Olive Mill under Dining. 

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Superstition Farms 602-432-6865 superstitionfarms.com

Flax and showy poppies. Guests enjoy a post-flight catered breakfast and champagne toast.

» See ad on page 11
Best Western Plus Mesa 1563 S Gilbert Rd, Mesa 480-826-3600 • 800-790-7234 bestwesternmoranzona.com Newly remodeled and conveniently located on Hwy 60 between Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport and Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport. Over 100 attractions, tours, and museums are within a 30-minute drive from the hotel. Amenities include 24-hour business center, complimentary hot breakfast, fitness center, pool, hot tub, and pillow-top mattresses.

Courtyard Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport 6907 E Ray Rd, Mesa 480-351-7088 marriott.com/phxmgx Newest hotel at Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport featuring state-of-the-art lobby, The Bistro, and flexible spaces with free WiFi throughout. Access latest news, weather, and airport conditions via the GoBoard™. Amenities include fitness center, outdoor pool and whirlpool. Located near ASU Polytechnic Campus, Apple Inc. golf, and attractions including San Tan Village, Schnepf Farms, Queen Creek Olive Mill, and more. Complimentary airport shuttle.

Holiday Inn & Suites 1600 S Country Club Dr, Mesa 480-964-7020 877-424-2449 ihg.com Newly renovated. Located off Hwy 60 in Central Mesa. Featuring Mesa’s largest outdoor pool with cascading waterfalls, 9,000 square-feet of event space, nine meeting rooms and an outdoor event deck. Amenities include high-speed internet and children eat free at on-site restaurant. Guest rooms include microwaves and refrigerators, ideal for extended and business stays. Near golf and entertainment at the Mesa Arts Center.

Delta Hotels by Marriott Phoenix Mesa 200 N Centennial Way, Mesa 480-833-5555 • 800-445-8667 phoenixmesa.marriott.com Newly renovated. This signature Delta property features 274 guestrooms and suites, flexible meeting space, comfortable lobby and common areas, as well as two on-site dining venues Café Atul and AZ Brew. Located adjacent to the Mesa Convention Center. Delta hotel is ideal for business travelers and groups alike. Amenities include free WiFi, complimentary bottled water upon arrival, and a grab & go market for snacks or a quick bite. Full-service fitness center and outdoor pool on-site.

Hilton Phoenix/Mesa 1011 W Holmes Ave, Mesa 480-898-8300 • 800-627-7468 phoenixmesa.hilton.com The Hilton Phoenix/Mesa is a dynamic, atrium-style hotel with a resort flair. Located 15 minutes from Phoenix-Sky Harbor International Airport. Hilton’s new modern design provides contemporary comfort to all guests. The renovated hotel features oversized guest rooms and suites, atrium bar. The Resident on-site restaurant, specialty coffee bar, room service, state of the art fitness center, heated pool, spa, business center, WiFi throughout and 20,000 square-feet of flexible conference and event space.

Residence Inn Phoenix Mesa 1541 E Van Buren St, Phoenix 480-461-3000, 800-309-8203 residenceinnphoenixmesa.com Newly renovated hotel featuring value visitors are looking for when they travel. Amenities include free WiFi, complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, free parking. Guest rooms feature microwave and refrigerator, flat-screen TVs, suites with sofa sleeper options and King bedrooms. Near golf courses, shopping, and Downtown Mesa.

Ramada by Wyndham Mesa Downtown 250 W Main St, Mesa 480-824-9233 wyndhamhotels.com Ramada by Wyndham Mesa Downtown offers 42 guest rooms and suites located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Amenities include free WiFi, complimentary hot breakfast, and parking. The hotel is conveniently located near downtown shopping, restaurants, and recreation.

Sleep Inn Mesa Superstition Springs Center 6347 S 202nd Ave, Avondale 480-807-7760 choicehotels.com Sleep Inn Mesa Superstition Springs Center is ideally located near Superstition Mountain and Downtown Avondale. Amenities include free WiFi, hot breakfast, and parking.

La Quinta Inn & Suites Phoenix Mesa West 902 W Grove Ave, Mesa 480-844-8767 800-753-3757 laquintaphoenixmesawest.com La Quinta Inn & Suites Phoenix Mesa West is conveniently located on Hwy 60 near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Amenities include complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and parking.

La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West 902 W Grove Ave, Mesa 480-844-8767 800-753-3757 LaQuinta.com La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West is conveniently located near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Amenities include complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and parking.

La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West 902 W Grove Ave, Mesa 480-844-8767 800-753-3757 LaQuinta.com La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West is conveniently located near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Amenities include complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and parking.

La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West 902 W Grove Ave, Mesa 480-844-8767 800-753-3757 LaQuinta.com La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West is conveniently located near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Amenities include complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and parking.

La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West 902 W Grove Ave, Mesa 480-844-8767 800-753-3757 LaQuinta.com La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West is conveniently located near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Amenities include complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and parking.

La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West 902 W Grove Ave, Mesa 480-844-8767 800-753-3757 LaQuinta.com La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West is conveniently located near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Amenities include complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and parking.

La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West 902 W Grove Ave, Mesa 480-844-8767 800-753-3757 LaQuinta.com La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West is conveniently located near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Amenities include complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and parking.

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La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West 902 W Grove Ave, Mesa 480-844-8767 800-753-3757 LaQuinta.com La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West is conveniently located near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Amenities include complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and parking.

La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West 902 W Grove Ave, Mesa 480-844-8767 800-753-3757 LaQuinta.com La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West is conveniently located near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Amenities include complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and parking.

La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West 902 W Grove Ave, Mesa 480-844-8767 800-753-3757 LaQuinta.com La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West is conveniently located near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Amenities include complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and parking.

La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West 902 W Grove Ave, Mesa 480-844-8767 800-753-3757 LaQuinta.com La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West is conveniently located near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Amenities include complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and parking.

La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West 902 W Grove Ave, Mesa 480-844-8767 800-753-3757 LaQuinta.com La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West is conveniently located near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Amenities include complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and parking.

La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West 902 W Grove Ave, Mesa 480-844-8767 800-753-3757 LaQuinta.com La Quinta Inn & Suites-Phoenix Mesa West is conveniently located near Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Amenities include complimentary hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and parking.

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Mesa, Arizona 85201
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MARRIOTT.COM/PHXDE

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saguaroikeranch.com
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GLAMPING

The Cozy Peach at Schnepf Farms
22601 E Cloud Rd. Queen Creek
480-987-3300
schnepfarms.com
Guests can make reservations to stay overnight at The Cozy Peach, the farm’s onsite glamping experience. The plush, newly restored vintage trailers include Airstreams, a Spartan Manor and Spartan Mansion. Silver Streak, a vintage Pullman Train and more.

> See ad on page 18
Each spring, wildflowers pave Mesa’s nearby hiking trails and the desert overflows with hues of red, purple, orange, yellow and blue—all accompanied by the vibrant green shades of Arizona’s indigenous desert flora. Wildflower season varies each year and is dependent on fall and winter rainfall amounts. Blooms are usually at their peak in mid-March but can start as early as February. As a reminder, picking wildflowers is illegal and can have harmful effects on the desert ecosystem. Seasonal activities such as wildflower walks, guest lectures, and photography outings are scheduled at our parks.

### Active Retirement Communities

- **Agave Village Mobile Home Park**
  - 7807 S Main St, Mesa
  - 480-896-5350
- **Apache Wells RV Resort**
  - 2656 N 56th St, Mesa
  - 480-332-8300
  - 888-940-8989
- **Arizona Cowboy RV Park**
  - 120 S Crismon Rd, Mesa
  - 480-966-3383
- **Arizona Maverick RV Park**
  - 201 S Crismon Rd, Mesa
  - 480-966-3383
- **Brighten Estates**
  - 8421 E Main St, Mesa
  - 480-282-3515
- **Broadway Estates**
  - 345 S 58th St, Mesa
  - 480-282-3515
- **Brookhaven RV Resort**
  - 2760 S Royal Palm Rd, Apache Junction
  - 480-282-3515
  - [treehousecommunities.com](http://treehousecommunities.com)
  - See ad on page 54
- **Cal-Am Resorts**
  - 888-940-8989
  - [cal-am.com](http://cal-am.com/resorts)
- **Canyon Vistas RV Resort**
  - 6601 E Hwy 60, Gold Canyon
  - 480-282-8844
  - 888-940-8989
  - [cal-am.com](http://cal-am.com/resorts)
- **Canyon Manor Resort**
  - 7750 E Broadway Rd, Mesa
  - 480-984-1111
- **Century Mesa RV Park**
  - 9736 E Main St, Mesa
  - 480-980-3076
- **Chaparral Ranch**
  - 825 N Dobson Rd, Apache Junction
  - 480-282-3515
  - [treehousecommunities.com](http://treehousecommunities.com)
  - See ad on page 54
- **Circle Bar Lodge & RV Park**
  - 6547 E Main St, Mesa
  - 480-985-9323
- **The Cliffs**
  - 3300 E Broadway Rd, Mesa
  - 480-832-0002
- **CountrySide RV Resort**
  - 2701 S Dobson Rd, Apache Junction
  - 480-982-1537
- **Desert Vista RV Resort**
  - 124 S 56th St, Mesa
  - 480-653-3383
- **Dreamland Villa Retirement Community**
  - 320 A Main St, Mesa
  - 480-832-3461
  - [dreamlandvilla.org](http://dreamlandvilla.org)
  - See ad on page 15
- **Eagle View RV Resort**
  - 9605 N Fort McDowell Rd, Fort McDowell
  - 480-789-5310
  - [eagleviewrvresort.com](http://eagleviewrvresort.com)
  - Asah Geelho Oru (Eagle View RV Resort) is the ultimate destination for Southwest RVers. 150 sites available on a daily, weekly, or monthly rental basis featuring available RV & booth storage.
- **Greenfield Estates**
  - 2345 E Main St, Mesa
  - 480-282-3515
- **Good Life RV Resort**
  - 3403 E Main St, Mesa
  - 480-832-4990
  - 800-999-4990
  - [cal-am.com](http://cal-am.com/resorts)
- **Green Acres RV Park**
  - 2052 W Main St, Mesa
  - [greenacresrvpark.com](http://greenacresrvpark.com)
- **Greenfield Village RV Resort**
  - 9040 E Baseline Rd, Apache Junction
  - 480-282-3515
  - [treehousecommunities.com](http://treehousecommunities.com)
  - See ad on page 54
- **Naples RV Resort**
  - 3020 E Main St, Mesa
  - 480-832-1770
  - mesaicompete.com
- **Riverview RV Resort**
  - 2701 E Alfar Ave, Mesa
  - 480-282-3515
  - [treehousecommunities.com](http://treehousecommunities.com)
  - See ad on page 54
- **Silver Sands RV Resort**
  - 8265 E Southern Ave, Mesa
  - 480-373-7000
  - 800-354-0054
  - sherwind.com
- **Skyhaven Estates**
  - 800 W Apache Trail, Apache Junction
  - 480-282-3515
  - [treehousecommunities.com](http://treehousecommunities.com)
  - See ad on page 54
- **Springhaven RV Resort**
  - 4420 E Main St, Mesa
  - 480-832-3515
  - [treehousecommunities.com](http://treehousecommunities.com)
  - See ad on page 54

Go to our directory for details or visit mesaco.com. Greenfield Village is more than a resort...it’s a way of life! Why Greenfield Village Resort? Greenfield Village is a PREMIER resort & one of the few 55+ resorts in Arizona, where YOU own your land & home!

- **Big-name concessions - Public Welcome**
- Tennis courts, pickleball, croquet, bocce ball
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- On-site sales & rentals office
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  - Mailing address
  - 111 S. Greenfield Rd, Mesa, AZ 85202
  - Physical Address
  - 99 S. Quinn Circle, Mesa, AZ 85206
  - [GreenfieldVillage.com](http://GreenfieldVillage.com)
New Homes Starting from $50,000

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Glenhaven
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Mesa, AZ 85213

Paradise Valley Ranch
16005 N. 32nd Street
Phoenix, AZ 85032

Parkhaven
306 S. Recker Road
Mesa, AZ 85206

Rosehaven
10540 E. Apache Trail
Apache Junction, AZ 85120

Longhaven
5201 W. Camelback Road
Phoenix, AZ 85031

Mesa Village
2701 E. Alred Avenue
Mesa, AZ 85204

Newhaven
2015 Old West Highway
Apache Junction, AZ 85119

Skyhaven
800 W. Apache Trail
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4220 E. Main Street
Mesa, AZ 85205

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Arizona Golf Resort
18 holes, par 71, yardage 6542
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arizonagolfresort.com

Augusto Ranch Golf Club
18 holes, par 70, yardage 3846
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480-354-2134
augustoranchgolf.com

Dobson Ranch Golf Course
18 holes, par 72, yardage 6712
2155 S Dobson Rd, Mesa
480-644-2291
dobsonranchgolf.com

Las Sendas Golf Club
18 holes, yardage 6925
7755 E Single Creek Dr, Mesa
480-396-4000
lassendasgolf.com

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3000 104th St. Rd, Gilbert
480-461-0050
bar noneaz.com

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480-989-5822
dickersonsweddings.com

Global Bikes
1010 W Southern Ave, Mesa
480-892-1315
globalbikemesa.com

Meza Marketplace Swap Meet
10550 E Baseline Rd, Mesa
480-380-5572
mesamarketplace.com

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Located at Goldfield Ghost Town
4650 N Mammoth Mine Rd
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480-983-8500
motherlodeaz.com

Valleymart Village
325 N Gilbert Rd, Gilbert
480-467-5535
valleymartvillage.com

SunLife Resort
480-981-9500 • 888-940-8989
sunliferesort.com

» See ad on page 54

Golfweek. Designed by Ben Crenshaw. In addition to the two 18-hole courses, there are 27 holes at Talking Stick. The 36-hole Sun Lakes facility at Sun Lakes Resort consists of nine holes each by David McLay Kidd and Jack Nicklaus.

Astonishingly, the shotmaking choices players face here are infinite.

The shotmaking choices players face here are infinite.

Recognized as one of the “Top 100 Resort Courses in the World” by Golf Digest, Windyke is one of the Top 10 Golf Courses in the Phoenix metropolis and skyline helping make Arizona one of the Top 100 Golf Courses in the United States.

We-Ko-Pa Golf Club consists of the Cholla and We-Ko-Pa courses and is one of the Top 100 Resort Courses in the Country. Designed by Greg Norman, the Cholla course is a par 72 measuring 6966 yards and its sister course, the We-Ko-Pa, a par 71 measuring 7137 yards. The courses feature rolling fairways, small greens and water traps throughout.

Arizona, you will play on a world class layout and be one of the Top 10 Golf Courses in the metro area. Las Sendas Golf Club is the only other Top 10 Golf Course in the Phoenix area.

A doctor in the 1920s decided to build a community around a golf course near Mesa. The village of Casa Grande, which is Spanish for ‘Little House’, was planned as a retirement community for Arizona physicians. The idea was to provide a setting for a relaxing retirement in a peaceful, rural environment.

Tourists and golfers from around the world come to enjoy the camaraderie and the beauty of the course, which features a variety of open and tree-lined fairways. The course is set among the stunning desert landscape and offers a challenging test of golfing skill.

The course is open to the public and is a popular destination for both casual and serious golfers. Whether you’re a seasoned pro or a beginner, you’ll find something to enjoy.

You’ll find the course challenging, but the scenery and ambiance are sure to make your round memorable.

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CULTURAL TRENDS

SWEET TREATS FROM MESA’S POPULAR ASIAN DISTRICT

There’s never been a better time to indulge your sweet tooth in Mesa, especially if you’re a fan of Asian desserts. These crazy creations have taken social media by storm with everyone posting mouth-watering photos making the hunt for them part of the appeal.

From frosty rolled ice cream to refreshing boba-bursting drinks to curiously fun bubble waffles, these sweet spots stretch throughout the city offering inspiring, innovative and, yes, Instagram-worthy treats that will make your taste buds think they’ve died and gone to dessert heaven.

MISS DESSERT

Inspired by desserts from China, Vietnam, Malaysia and other Asian locales, Miss Dessert offers a unique menu of sumptuous sweets. Try authentic desserts like sago, a sweet pudding mixed with fruit such as coconut nectar, mango and durian. Yoji nectar with green tea ice cream and vanilla snow served with Thai purple sticky rice. And don’t leave without having a signature “pancake,” a delicate dough pocket filled with mango and durian. Miss Dessert also serves a variety of drinks, from milk tea and fresh fruit tea, to cheese tea, a popular drink topped with cheese cream.

1832 W Broadway Rd #103, Mesa

THE STREET BOBA CAFÉ

These days, you can find a boba tea house just as easily as you can find an ice cream spot. But when it comes to variety, The Street offers an impressive assortment of drinks in a rainbow of flavors. Try a fruit smoothie bursting with fruit, from strawberry, peach and banana, to kiwi and pineapple. For a refreshing slushy, try passion fruit, lychee or green apple. You can also get a milk smoothie in taro, red bean, blueberry, apple, strawberry, peach and mango. Coffee and tea lovers will enjoy the chai tea, coffee, mocha and Asian teas. For a finishing touch, add your favorite boba or jelly to your order.

1133 N Dobson Rd, Mesa

TEA SNOW BOBA

For more boba fun, Tea Snow is the place to go for specialty boba drinks that are as tasty as they are unique. Choose from 15 house specials, including the Thai Dessert made with fresh jackfruit, homemade pudding, coconut jelly and coconut cream and the Five Color Dessert, filled with smashed mung bean and taro, red tapioca, and pandan jelly. Tea Snow also offers a variety of colorful blended drinks packed with fruits like mango, strawberry, and spicy watermelon, as well as coffee (sea salt coffee, anyone?) and tea, from milk and Tha, to green and white.

66 S Dobson Rd, Mesa

SWEET TREATS FROM MESA’S POPULAR ASIAN DISTRICT

Chinese-inspired desserts, like the famous “pancake,” a delicate dough pocket filled with mango and durian, are a popular attraction at Miss Dessert.

MEXICAN/SOUTHWESTERN

Rancho di Tia Rosa
1542 W University Dr, Mesa
480-396-8787
891 N Higley Road, Gilbert
480-632-8226
1542 W University Dr, Mesa
480-632-8226
1533 N Dobson Rd, Mesa
480-964-7242
1033 N Dobson Rd, Mesa
480-964-7242
66 S Dobson Rd #150, Mesa
480-964-7242
66 S Dobson Rd #150, Mesa
Infused sparkling waters.

Artistic Touch Catering LLC
54 W Main St, Mesa
823-252-0798
artistictouchcatering.com

Cloth and Flame
2029 N Loyal Ave, Phoenix
480-826-0028
clothandflame.com

Nothing Bundt Cakes
2235 E Baseline Rd #103. Gilbert
480-892-1657
nothingbundtcakes.com

Serrano Events & Catering
141 S Arizona Ave, Chandler
480-857-0343
serranoaz.com

Stellar Catering
602-402-0564
stellarfavor.com

Straight to the Plate Catering
500 W Southern Ave #26, Mesa
502-349-1208
straighttotheplate.com

Choose from a variety of delectable offerings, including

- Genbu Waffles
- Nothing Bundt Cakes
- Serrano Events & Catering
- Stellar Catering
- Straight to the Plate Catering

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**VENUES & GROUP SERVICES**

**CATERING**

**EXHIBIT & DÉCOR SERVICES**

**VENUES**

**The Chateau**

7000 E Main St, Mesa
480-527-3482
thechateauaz.com

**Farnsworth Hall**

6135 E University Dr, Mesa
480-415-9572
dreamlandvillas.org

Our mission is to offer events, activities and facilities for the enjoyment of our residents and to maintain Dreamland Villas status as a 55+ age-restricted retirement community: See the calendar of events for events open to the public. > See ad on page 15.

**La Puesta del Sol and Rose’s Ranch**

at Fort McDowell Adventures
4803 N Howsnot Rd, Fort McDowell
480-780-6160
fortmcdowelladventures.com

Features waterfront facilities offering indoor/outdoor dining for up to 500 guests, full bar and catering. Dirty Dick’s Saloon, Old Tyme Photo Painter, fire pits, stage, open-air barbecues and more.

**Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament**

9201 E Via De Ventura, Scottsdale
480-291-7555
medievaltimes.com

**Mesa Amphitheatre**

263 N Center St, Mesa
480-644-2560
mesamp.com

**Queen Creek Horseshoe Park & Equestrian Centre**

20464 E Riggs Rd, Queen Creek
480-358-3710
queencreek.org/hpec

A venue for English and Western equestrian events, as well as home shows, RV and car shows, as well as home shows, RV and car shows.

**Regency Garden**

25 N Bobson, Mesa
480-648-5908
regencygarden.com

**The Vistas Pavilion at Las Sendas Golf Club**

7555 E Eagle Crest Dr, Mesa
480-396-4000
lasendas.com

**APPLICATION & TERMINATION**

Our mission is to offer events, activities and facilities for the enjoyment of our residents and to maintain Dreamland Villas status as a 55+ age-restricted retirement community: See the calendar of events for events open to the public. > See ad on page 15.

**The Chateau**

7000 E Main St, Mesa
480-527-3482
thechateauaz.com

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