

A group of people are gathered around a wooden picnic table outdoors, toasting with glasses of beer and orange juice. A woman in a black dress with gold polka dots stands and laughs while holding a glass. A man in a black t-shirt is also toasting. A woman in a red top is seated at the table. A woman in a blue and white striped dress is seated with her back to the camera. A man wearing a white cowboy hat is also visible. The table is set with plates of food, glasses, and a pitcher. The background shows trees and a bright, sunny day.

VISIT MESA

CITY LIMITLESS®

DESTINATION GUIDE

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE / FRESH FOODIE TRAIL® / HISTORY & HERITAGE / CITY LIMITLESS® / FAMILY FUN



OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

Located in the Sonoran Desert, Mesa is surrounded by a rich, vibrant and verdant playground for sought-after outdoor recreation. Within minutes from our collection of resorts and hotels, guests can immerse themselves into a legendary landscape – a region full of intrigue and awe that continues to inspire and amaze our visitors every day. From hiking mountain tops to kayaking along calm rivers and canyon-carved lakes, nearly every outdoor pursuit can be experienced here in the Sonoran Desert.

DAY 1 - DESERT EXPLORATION

NATURE CENTER DESERT TOUR - 1 HOUR

Educational series on the desert flora and fauna are offered daily. Programs feature talks with the Ranger. Guided tours can be scheduled throughout Usery Mountain Regional Park. 30+ miles of trails, including barrier-free trails and options for mountain biking and equestrian use.

HIKING & BIKING TOURS - 4+ HOURS

REI Co-op Adventure Center Arizona is one of the few outfitters that lead guided pack trips into the Superstition Wilderness, part of the Tonto National Forest. Single and multi-day hike and bike tours include an in-depth education on the Sonoran Desert. The extensive trails and jagged mountain peaks vary in length and height throughout the Superstition Mountain range. Overnight tours available.

GOAT YOGA - 1 HOUR

Arizona Goat Yoga connects yogis with farm animals. Whether you are in warrior pose, downward dog or simply meditating, these lovable goats help motivate and challenge you to be your best. During the guided yoga class, these gentle, sweet, and loving animals roam the fields and are placed by the instructor on guests that are in specific poses. Class attendees have described goat yoga as therapeutic and effective in relieving their daily stresses of life.

LAKE CRUISES - 1 + HOURS

Hop aboard for a 90-minute narrated tour in air-conditioned comfort and see exotic Arizona wildlife, towering canyon walls, and dramatic desert vistas. The Desert Belle cruises along Saguaro Lake and The Dolly Steamboat, a replica sternwheeler, glides along the cactus-studded shoreline of Canyon Lake. Photo opps on this tour are limitless!

CANYONEERING - FULL DAY

Hosted by 360 Adventures, this rugged excursion into the slot canyon walls of the Upper Salt River has visitors climbing cliff faces, rappelling into pine forest pools, and exploring hidden desert passages. Arizona's natural terrain includes streams and cascading waterfalls and an incredible geology unlike anywhere else in the world.

DAY 2 - AERIAL ADVENTURES

FIGHTER COMBAT AERIAL FLIGHTS - 2 HOURS

Located at Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport, visitors can take a half-day flying lesson and embark on a Top Gun aerial mission. All flights are provided by a Military Fighter Pilot and include an authentic tactical briefing, air combat flying experience, formation, high-speed low-altitude fly-by and aerobatic maneuvers in the sky.

ARIZONA'S AVIATION HISTORY - 2 HOURS

Mesa is entrenched in aviation history and continues to serve as one of the leaders in aviation technology and education. At Commemorative Air Force Airbase Arizona Museum – Arizona Wing, daredevils can take to the skies on a variety of war birds and view aviation exhibits. Pilots take visitors on thrilling aerial adventures on a variety of aircraft including the popular Sentimental Journey – a B-17 Bomber known as WWII's Flying Fortress.

HOT AIR BALLOON EXPERIENCE - 3 ½ HOURS

Get picked up before sunrise at your Mesa hotel and taken to a launch site in the northern Sonoran Desert. Hot air ballooning offers one of the most tranquil views of the desert landscape. Each experience is followed by a hot breakfast.

ADD-ON ACTIVITIES: SPORTS IN MESA

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL SPRING TRAINING, FEBRUARY AND MARCH, ANNUALLY - 3 HOURS

Major League Baseball has a long and storied history in Mesa, having served as the spring training host of the Chicago Cubs since 1952 and also the spring training home of the Oakland Athletics. Record numbers of visitors flock here for this experience every March. Domestic and international tour operators and their clients can schedule behind-the-scenes tours at the stadiums and also private suite events during Spring Training and at other times of the year.

TEE OFF AT 40+ GOLF COURSES

Whether you're a pro or just learning how to perfect your swing, hit the links in Mesa for some of the best golf in the Southwest. Mesa is home to world-renowned golf featuring breathtaking views of sweeping vistas set against the natural beauty of rugged mountains and blue western skies. And, with near perfect weather it's possible to enjoy the sport year-round. More than 40 golf courses are within a half-hour drive of downtown offering a variety of options from challenging desert golf to traditional links play.

FAST FACT:

Mesa is only a four-hour drive to the Grand Canyon. Many tour operators will pick up from Mesa hotels and offer day and overnight trips to Grand Canyon National Park.



CHANGING THE GAME

BELL BANK PARK POWERED BY LEGACY SPORTS USA

Now open, Bell Bank Park is a 320-acre world-class family sports and entertainment complex born out of the visionaries at Legacy Sports USA and fulfills the mission of Legacy Cares. The one-of-a-kind complex, and first of its kind in the nation, features a 5,000 seat Outdoor Stadium, 2,800 seat Indoor Arena, (35) Soccer/ Lacrosse/Football Fields, (57) Indoor Volleyball Courts, (8) Baseball and Softball fields, (20) Basketball Courts, (41) Pickleball Courts, (12) Beach Volleyball Courts, Obstacle Course Racing Park, (22) Futsal Courts, Gymnastics Center, Dance Studio, Cheer Center, Sports Performance Center, Family Fitness Center, Wellness Center, esports Center, Kids Play Center, a 400 ft. zip line, 2.7 acre Great Lawn for concerts and events, a Sports Restaurant and Bar and so much more. With numerous playing fields, Bell Bank Park serves as a major hub for professional, club, and recreation competition at various levels of expertise and proficiency. The Park expands beyond sports. The team at Bell Bank Park will create festivals, signature experiences and live concerts that feature national touring acts. The Park is the newest spot for activity of all kinds in the Southwest, a thriving entertainment destination in Mesa serving the entire Greater Phoenix region.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EVENTS OR TO EXPLORE THE PARK, VISIT [BELLBANKPARK.COM](https://bellbankpark.com)





Even though Mesa is in the heart of a desert, visitors can take advantage of the city's close proximity to a water recreation paradise. There are three lakes and two rivers that allow for desert boating, fishing, rafting, kayaking and water skiing. Or, partake in the ever-popular activity of "tubing", a leisurely float along the cool waters of the Salt River via inner-tube!

DAY 3 - A DESERT OASIS

KAYAKING THE LOWER SALT RIVER - 2 HOURS

Schedule a guided kayaking tour along the Lower Salt River with your launch point at Saguaro Lake Ranch, or Granite Reef Recreation Area. Both spots offer easy water access. The Salt River can experience Class 3 rapids depending on the time of year.

BIRDING TOURS - 2 HOURS

Birding is a popular sport in Arizona, whose diverse terrain is home to more than 500 species. From hummingbirds and flycatchers to loons, herons and the occasional bald eagle, the treasure hunting in Mesa for birds is endless.

STAND UP PADDLE BOARDING - 1 ½ HOURS

The sandy shoreline at Saguaro Lake offers convenient parking and walk-up access for paddle boarding tours. Mesa has a number of paddle boarding outfitters that provide group lessons and paddle board rentals along Saguaro Lake, featuring 22 miles of shoreline and the Lower Salt River. Fitness SUP classes are also held at Mesa's aquatic centers and special events take place year round including moonlight paddle boarding, yoga SUP and happy hour group paddle events on the water!

TOUR ITINERARY ADDITIONS: FRIDAY NIGHT SKIES AT MESA PLANETARIUM - AVAILABLE FIRST FRIDAY, MONTHLY

Visitors can view the night sky and explore the universe and solar system in the Mesa Planetarium featuring a rooftop observation deck at Mesa Community College.

WILDFLOWER WALK - SEASONAL

Wildflower season varies each year and is dependent on fall and winter rainfall amounts. Blooms are usually at their peak in mid-March. From the scarlet display of ocotillo blossoms, the yellow sea of Mexican poppies and the prickly pear cactus full of bright fuschia-colored fruit, it's a colorful time to hit the trail.



FRESH FOODIE TRAIL®

In Mesa, our bountiful harvest is one that we proudly share with our visitors. Fresh experiences and a treasured heritage of family farms and long-standing festivals make for lasting memories. Mesa serves as a culinary gateway to Greater Phoenix, with the region's neighboring farms providing a continuous bounty of seasonal goods for visitors to enjoy at restaurants and resorts throughout Arizona. The agri-tourism experiences make up the Fresh Foodie Trail®, a linked collection of farm and culinary attractions and experiences unique to Mesa that keep visitors coming back for more.

DAY 1 - FARM TO FORK

QUEEN CREEK OLIVE MILL - 2 ½ HOURS

Arizona's only family-owned and operated working olive mill and farm where olives are grown and pressed for the production of high quality extra virgin olive oil. Visitors can enjoy a full-length tour and tasting. VIP tours include lunch at del Piero - the mill's Tuscan-inspired eatery paired with wine. When the weather is ideal, guests can dine outside in the lush olive grove.

SCHNEPF FARMS - 2 HOURS

Enjoy a traditional American family farm and 300-acre peach orchard. Annual events include the Pumpkin & Chili Festival (Oct), Peach Festival (May) and Blossom Festival (Feb). Farm dining includes fresh baked pies and cinnamon rolls, homemade fudge, and a variety of jams and preserves. Events feature hay rides, train rides and live entertainment. Recipient: Arizona Governor's Designated Treasure Award.

LUNCH & DINNER DOWN THE ORCHARD - 2 HOURS

Visitors can make reservations for an exquisite dining experience at Schnepf Farms for their Dinners Down the Orchard program. Held in the middle of the organic peach orchard on their 300 acre farm, this event is held several times a year. Dinners are farm casual and include numerous courses paired with wine and served at sunset and under the stars.

DAY 2 - FLAVOR-FILLED DINING & CULINARY EDUCATION

AGRITOPIA - 1 ½ HOURS

Forage with the farmers at Agritopia. This urban farm features a designed patchwork of specialty crops with pathways that allow visitors to easily view the growing produce. The same-day harvest is sold at The Farm Stand, as well as the being served at Joe's Farm Grill and The Coffee Shop. All of the produce grown on the farm is grown under the USDA organic protocol. Educational tours with farmers are offered featuring heirloom crops and growing practices.

JOE'S FARM GRILL - 1 HOUR

This original farm home was built in 1966 and is surrounded by 100-year-old trees and a community farm and garden. Today it is a modern burger stand and full-scale restaurant serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. Featured on Food Network's Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives with Guy Fieri - the chefs make their own pickles, marinades and use the fruit, vegetables, and herbs from The Farm at Agritopia.

PROOF BREAD - 1 HOUR

Specializing in sourdough pastries and chunky loaves, their signature style of Old-World baking traditions is a welcome nosh spot in downtown. Their naturally leavened croissants and flaky pastries (that could easily rival any European bakery) are made fresh daily. Visitors can sign up for sourdough bread making classes that switch out each season.

TRUE GARDEN URBAN FARM - 1 HOUR

This 5,000-square-foot vertical urban farm is a center of education sharing knowledge on how to produce healthy and nutritious food using no soil. Visitors can enjoy their weekly farmer's market featuring living produce and stop in for seminars and food-education programming about organic growing practices, nutrition and overall health and wellness.

ARIZONA WINE EXPERIENCES

Few know that Arizona offers up fertile ground for winemaking in the Southwest. In fact, each year more and more Arizona wines are earning national acclaim. The state now has 90 licensed wineries producing great grapes from the soil-rich desert plains south of Tucson to the high desert hilltops outside Sedona. Enjoy local wines at several stops on the Fresh Foodie Trail including Garage East at Agritopia, Postino Wine Cafe and the Windmill Winery.

CITY LIMITLESS® BEERS & BREWS TOUR - 2 HOURS

Available as a digital passport from your smart phone, check in and win at Mesa’s participating breweries and coffee shops. Players can collect stickers, earn prizes and be awarded a collector’s edition race medal for checking in and checking out all participating locations. Whether you’re looking for a latte or a lager, Mesa has plenty of stops to choose from on this tour.

A CRAFTSMAN COLLECTIVE: BARNONE

A new gathering place was made from a World War II era grain storage Quonset hut. The structure has been brought back to life as an innovative artisan collective on Agritopia’s urban agriculture campus. Barnone features 14 resident small businesses across a wide array of disciplines including an Arizona farm winery and a nano-brewery. Two restaurants are onsite, Fire & Brimstone featuring hearth-based cooking using locally grown and foraged ingredients, and Uprooted Kitchen, a vegan eatery featuring produce grown steps away in the Agritopia farm.

DINE IN THE WILD: CLOTH & FLAME DINNERS - 3 ½ HOURS

This memory-making dining experience takes place in the middle of the stunning Superstition Wilderness. Events range from intimate 12-person brunches to corporate events for 300. Enjoy several tasty courses featuring the seasonal harvest while dining with new friends under the stars.



DAY 3 - DINNER & A SHOW

ORGAN STOP PIZZA - 2 HOURS

There is no other place in the country like Organ Stop Pizza. The mighty Wurlitzer pipe organ takes the stage every evening with a live musical performance. Built in 1927, its nearly 6000 pipes, numerous percussions, and countless traps are masterfully presented by the restaurant’s world-class musicians.

BARLEEN’S ARIZONA OPRY - 2 HOURS

The West is alive at the Opry. Guests can enjoy a family-style, home-cooked meal while enjoying a show at Barleen’s Arizona Opry Theater. This Main Stage performance features side-splitting comedy and beautiful musical harmonies and wholesome family fun.



OUTDOOR PATIO DINING IN MESA

In Mesa, you can dine outside all year long. The city has hundreds of outdoor patios to choose from - some with misters to cool off, others with incredible views at sunset. Grab your friends for Sunday brunch or bring the family for live music, you can always plan on great weather. Check out these popular patios.

THE PATIO AT LAS SENDAS

Awarded “100 Scenic Restaurants in America” by Open Table, this patio restaurant comes with amazing views of the mountains that surround Greater Phoenix and twinkling city lights, while overlooking one of Mesa’s most stunning golf courses. You’ll fall in love with Arizona’s unbeatable sunsets while you enjoy a handcrafted meal from their unique menu. Live music almost every night is a bonus for diners. Go online for special chef-driven and wine showcase dinners offered year-round.

12 WEST BREWING CO. TAP ROOM & RESTAURANT

This multi-level patio in the heart of Downtown Mesa is the perfect place to post up for a game, or happy hour with friends! With an evolving beer selection, and a tasty menu (seriously- get the homemade mac and cheese!) this is one of the top patios to sit and watch the hustle and bustle of Downtown life.


JALAPEÑO BUCKS

Customers love Jalapeño Bucks’ award-winning “buckin’ good BBQ” and an open-air dining experience as unique as the menu. Their outdoor seating includes picnic tables nestled between acres of citrus trees - one of the oldest operating orchards in Arizona dating back to 1915. See if you can spot a hummingbird from this patio while you enjoy the fresh air and chow down on their signature dishes.

QUEEN CREEK OLIVE MILL

You will surely make picture-perfect memories when you visit this Tuscany-inspired grove and patio. The mill is home to more than 7,000 olive trees on the 100-acre farm. Not only can you enjoy their Italian inspired menu, but customers can also shop their award-winning olive oils or take a tour of the mill when they visit. Make special reservations for their seasonal community Tavolo Dinner Series, featuring several courses all served al fresco!

HISTORY & HERITAGE



One of the most popular day trips for anyone visiting Mesa is along the historic Apache Trail through the mysterious Superstition Mountains and into the foothills of the Tonto National Forest Forest - the fifth largest forest in the United States. To this day, the area continues to pay homage to its Western roots which took shape in the late 1800s. 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.

DAY 1 - THE APACHE TRAIL

GOLDFIELD GHOST TOWN - 1 ½ HOURS

In its heyday after the first gold-strike in 1892, Goldfield Ghost Town was a busy bustling little outpost perched atop a small hill between the mighty Superstition Mountains to the east and the Goldfield Mountains to the west. Today, visitors can walk down Main Street, explore the many shops and historic buildings and tour the historic Mammoth Gold Mine. Activities include the Superstition Zip Line, the Mystery Shack, and hop aboard the train at the Goldfield Train Depot, featuring a narrow-gauge railroad that takes visitors on a fun ride around the town.

APACHE TRAIL OFF-ROAD TOUR - 2+ HOURS

Off-road desert tours offer a heart-pumping adventure into the Sonoran Desert! Stellar Adventures’ all-terrain vehicles can hold up to 8 guests in one vehicle and offers some of the best photography options as you leave the city limits and head into the Tonto National Forest.

CANYON LAKE CRUISE - 1 ½ HOURS

Complete your Apache Trail experience with a sunset tour along Canyon Lake on a “Mark Twain” voyage aboard the Dolly Steamboat, a replica of a sternwheeler paddleboat. The 90-minute nature cruise or twilight dinner cruise is the perfect complement to the Apache Trail experience.



TOUR ITINERARY ADDITIONS: RANGER-GUIDED TOUR OF LOST DUTCHMAN STATE PARK

Home of the Lost Dutchman Mine, one of the most famous “lost mines” of the West. Five hiking trails are here that range in distance and elevation. Open year-round from sunrise to 10 p.m., the U.S. Forest Service protects this popular designated wilderness area. Special events include Stargazing, Moonlight Hiking, and a series of desert-inspired activities and an on-going lecture series.

TORTILLA FLAT STAGECOACH STOP - 1 HOUR

Tortilla Flat is an original stagecoach stop settlement during the construction of the Roosevelt Dam. Today, there are six full-time residents and a saloon with saddles for barstools and walls decorated with currency and business cards from around the world. Open for breakfast and lunch.

THE WILD SIDE

Before sunrise and after sunset, along the waters of the Tonto National Forest and into the adjacent Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Reservation, visitors have a pretty good chance at catching a glimpse of Arizona's wild horse population. There are as many as 500 of these magnificent animals roaming the water's edge on the lower Salt River and the shoreline around Saguaro Lake. Their enigmatic presence is a common sight when visitors are kayaking, paddle boarding, or tubing down the river, as the horses emerge from the surrounding desert forest to cool off in the water and graze on the underwater foliage. According to historical records, the horses have been living on the Salt River reservation before the National Forest was created in the early 1900s. The wild horses are watched over by the tireless efforts of the Salt River Wild Horse Management Group. This non-profit is dedicated to the freedom of the wild horses, which has allowed them to live and wander peacefully over the years. If you are lucky enough to spot a horse or herd when you visit Mesa, remember to be respectful of their space and natural habitat. Snap the code to learn more.



DAY 2 - ARIZONA HISTORY & NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE

ARIZONA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY - 2 HOURS

The Southwest Gallery presents information on the ancient cultures of Central Arizona including the Hohokam, Anasazi and Mogollon cultures. Enjoy intricate displays with dwellings and artifacts including jewelry manufacture, pottery making, and hunting activities. Other galleries feature dinosaurs, Arizona's cosmic night skies, and geology.

WESTERN FILM STARS TAKE CENTER STAGE AT SUPERSTITION MOUNTAIN MUSEUM - 1 HOUR

Arizona has been the backdrop to hundreds of Hollywood Western movies and television shows. Visitors can tour the original buildings for Apacheland Movie Ranch including the Elvis Presley chapel in the movie El Charro. While visiting, be sure to view the collection of Lost Dutchman Mine maps dating back more than 100 years.

NATIVE AMERICAN DISCOVERY AT MESA GRANDE RUINS - 1 HOUR

This ancient Hohokam mound features an interpretive trail. The archaeological staff of the Arizona Museum of Natural History have helped preserve and develop the Mesa Grande Cultural Park, which is estimated to date to A.D 1100-1450. Guided tours and viewing archaeological digs available upon request. You can also learn about Arizona's ancient canal systems and aqua ducts built by the Hohokams and how the desert thrives to this day because of their engineering.

DAY 3 - THE WILD, WILD WEST

HORSEBACK RIDING AND MORE AT FORT MCDOWELL ADVENTURES - 2 HOURS

This guided tour horseback ride leads visitors along the Verde River, a preservation site for bald eagles, wild mustangs and other Arizona wildlife. Cattle drive adventures are also available. In addition, groups can arrange Desert Segway tours of the landscape.

QUEEN CREEK HORSESHOE PARK & EQUESTRIAN CENTRE - 2 HOURS

This state-of-the-art equestrian facility serves as a venue for incredible equestrian events year-round such as Western and English riding competitions, car shows, concerts and festivals. Horseback riding is available along the Sonoqui Wash trail featuring lush Sonoran Desert landscapes and scenery.

SAGUARO LAKE RANCH - OVERNIGHT

The historic ranch is one of the most scenic guest ranches in the Southwest and one of Arizona's hidden treasures. There are 20 rustic cabins with panoramic views of a wilderness made famous by the writings of Zane Grey and you can have cowboy cookout dinners. Experience the "Old West" the real cowboy way - on horseback. Experienced wranglers and horses will make sure you have both a fun and a safe ride. Or, go kayaking on the Lower Salt River departing from the ranch. See wild horses, deer, great blue herons, osprey, bald eagles, and other native wildlife.

CITY LIMITLESS®



Visitors can gain easy access to Mesa hotels and the city's core via Metro Light Rail. With the addition of the PHX Sky Train, connecting to and from the airport has never been easier. The passenger train carves through Downtown Mesa, in front of three museums, Benedictine University's Mesa campus, the new ASU @ Mesa City Center campus, and in front of the renowned Mesa Arts Center. The rail extends into central Mesa taking visitors to the heart of the Asian District.

DAY 1 - EXPLORING MESA

MESA ARTS CENTER - 1 HOUR

Mesa Arts Center is the largest performing arts, visual arts, and arts education facility in the Southwestern United States. The seven-acre campus is an inviting oasis by day and a luminous beacon by night. Serving as a central gathering place for visitors and residents, Mesa Arts Center architecture is inspired by the unique character of the Sonoran Desert - a rich desert, mountain and canyon environment. The Shadow Walk, a shaded outdoor plaza, hosts free concerts throughout the year.

DOWNTOWN MESA SCULPTURE WALK - 1 ½ HOURS

Walking around Downtown Mesa you will find Mesa's Permanent Sculpture Collection. Around every bend and strewn along Main Street are 38 different pieces that make up the city's public art collection. It doesn't matter which direction you are looking - they are everywhere! Guided tours available.

SHOPPING: MAIN STREET IN MESA

Downtown Mesa is an eclectic collection of historic neighborhoods, some dating back to the late 1800s. Today, Main Street has stunning storefronts and is known for its vintage shops and fun retail stores including The Boutique, Gotham City Comics, Atomic Age Modern, Sonoran Moon Vintage, Old Brick House, Main Street Harvest, Soul Center Mesa and more.

MESA MARKETPLACE & SWAP MEET - 2 HOURS

Mesa Market Place is a covered open-air market that is open year-round and admission is always free. Shop at more than 1,400 spaces featuring 700 small business merchants. Enjoy live music in the food court and get ready to bring home some unique Arizona treasures.

DID YOU KNOW?

When early Phoenix settlers made camp along the Salt River, they referred to the land above the bluff as the "mesa." This is a Spanish word meaning table. Residents then began referring to their community as Mesa or Mesa City. The original Mesa town site was one-square mile and registered in 1878.

EVENT CALENDAR

Snap for the most up to date Visit Mesa Events Calendar available online. All dates are subject to change.





FAST FACTS

Mesa, Arizona boasts 504,258 residents and is the 37th largest city in the United States and the second largest city in the Phoenix Metro area. Mesa, Arizona is larger than Atlanta, Miami, and Minneapolis in the United States. The city covers 133 square miles in the Greater Phoenix metropolitan area: a 21-city region with a total population of 4.85 million, projected to be 6.3 million by 2030.

DAY 2 - NEW WAYS TO STAY, DINE & UNWIND

GLAMPING AT THE COZY PEACH, VINTAGE TRAILERS - OVERNIGHT

At Schnepf Farms, a fourth-generation family homestead, visitors can go glamping (camping in style) in their collection of original 1950s-era auto trailers. Each trailer faces west toward the outlying San Tan Mountains to capture Arizona’s idyllic and sought-after sunsets. This new brand of roughing it also includes individual barbecues and patio tables and chairs. The Fresh From the Farm bakery features an assortment of baked goods for visitors. Guests can choose from Airstreams, Spartan Manor and Spartan Mansion, Silver Streak, Pullman Train and more.

NEW: ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY IN MESA

Downtown is now home to Mesa’s Digital Innovation District: ASU @ Mesa City Center. The \$75 million development offers programs from the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts featuring courses on digital and sensory technology, experiential design, gaming, media arts and film production from the Sidney Poitier New American Film School. The campus’ two-acre Plaza @ Mesa City Center is the newest outdoor community space and park that will serve as a gathering place for collaborations among students, the community and the industry.

TOUR & TASTE AT ARIZONA’S FIRST CIDERY - 1 HOUR

Downtown Mesa is home to Cider Corps, staking the claim of being Arizona’s first cidery. Owned and operated by the Duren brothers, Jason and Josh, the Downtown Mesa tap room’s name honors Jason’s service in the military. Offering ciders in a dozen seasonally-inspired flavors, the Durens ensure to halt the fermentation process at the peak of sweetness ensuring no added sugars are needed. Be sure to ask for them by name at a number of area restaurants and breweries where they are featured on tap.

SAN TAN FLAT GRILL & SALOON - 2+ HOURS

Located at the end of a long dusty road in the Town of Queen Creek is San Tan Flat. This is a great Country Western bar in the heart of the Sonoran Desert. Live musical entertainment is offered Wednesday through Sunday. Keep an eye out for local cowboys and cowgirls. Full restaurant serves lunch and dinner.

CALLING ALL COUNTRY BOYS AND COUNTRY GIRLS: DIERKS BENTLEY’S WHISKEY ROW - 2 HOURS

Dierks Bentley’s Whiskey Row is an American gastropub unlike any other. In a crowded space, Dierks Bentley’s Whiskey Row stands out with award winning food & drinks, exhilarating nightlife, and a rock & roll attitude inspired by Dierks himself.

RODEO ROUND UP!

Get your cowboy boots ready and head to Horseshoe Park & Equestrian Centre to see one of the many English and Western equestrian events that take place throughout the year. Horseshoe Park is also home to several prestigious organizations including the Arizona Cutting Horse Association, Arizona Reined Cow Horse Association, Arizona Reining Horse Association, Hershberger Performance Horse Sale and Joan Usher Barrel Horse Racing. Held each spring in March is the annual Roots N’ Boots Queen Creek Pro Rodeo where visitors of all ages can enjoy carnival rides, rodeo performances and attractions that the whole family will love. For those who want to see the best of the best take the ropes, come on down in November to watch the Professional Bull Riders compete for the gold in the Navajo Nation Queen Creek PBR. The top bull riders in the world take on some of the rankest bucking bulls in America – live music, dancing and Western entertainment is all part of the rodeo fun!



MESA BY THE NUMBERS



300+ Sunny Days per Year (on average)



900+ Restaurants



2 Major Airports including Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport and Falcon Field



504,258 Population (Census, 2020)



3rd LARGEST City in Arizona



40+ Golf Courses (200+ in Greater Phoenix)



5,301 Hotel Rooms in Mesa



37th LARGEST City in the U.S.



202 Parks



8 MILES from Phoenix Sky Harbor Int’l Airport



28 MILES of light rail access from Mesa hotels and Downtown Mesa

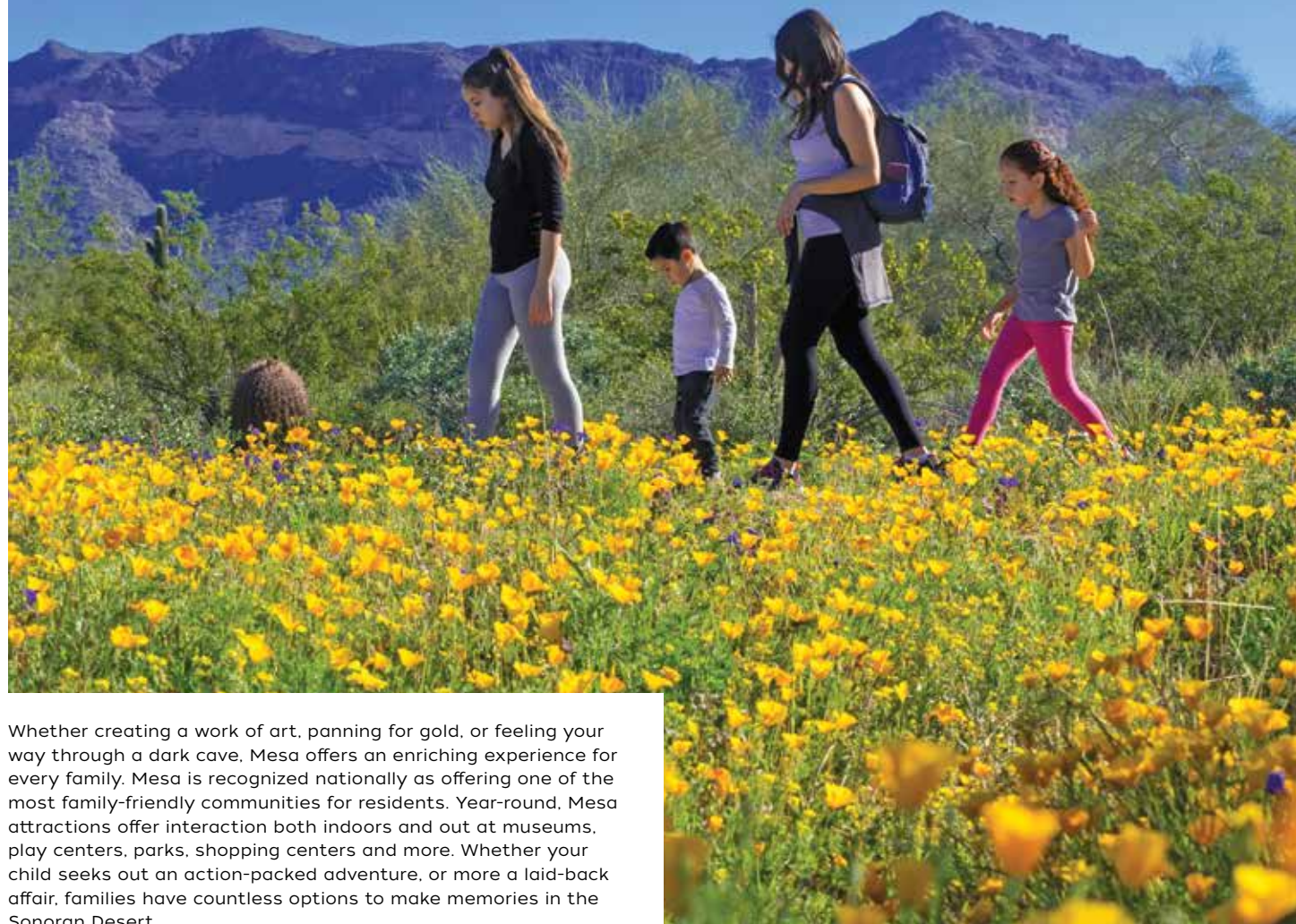


ASIAN DISTRICT MESA·AZ

Mesa’s Asian District comprises more than 70 Asian-themed restaurants, grocery stores and other service and retail businesses along a two-mile stretch in West Mesa. The tangram logo is symbolic of the different Asian cultures coming together in a unified district community while maintaining the individuality of each culture.

LEARN MORE AT ASIANDISTRICTMESA.COM

FAMILY FUN



Whether creating a work of art, panning for gold, or feeling your way through a dark cave, Mesa offers an enriching experience for every family. Mesa is recognized nationally as offering one of the most family-friendly communities for residents. Year-round, Mesa attractions offer interaction both indoors and out at museums, play centers, parks, shopping centers and more. Whether your child seeks out an action-packed adventure, or more a laid-back affair, families have countless options to make memories in the Sonoran Desert.

DAY 1 - FAMILY-FRIENDLY FAVORITES

ARIZONA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY - 2 HOURS

Known locally as the place "where dinosaurs roar and so much more". Don't miss the three-story waterfall that simulates a flash flood in the Arizona desert. Galleries feature Arizona's cosmic night skies, Native peoples and geology. Gold panning and the Paleo Dig Pit are must-do activities for kids.

I.D.E.A. MUSEUM - 1 HOUR

This interactive play place is designed for all ages including mom and dad. Kids are encouraged to explore their imagination through design in art, science and technology. The museum schedules hands-on daily activities in three exhibit areas.

SHOPPING: MESA RIVERVIEW - 2 ½ HOURS

Mesa's largest outdoor retail complex with defined restaurant and entertainment districts. Dining options are abundant. Anchor experiences include Bass Pro Shops and Cinemark Theatre.

DAY 2 - PARKS AND PLAY

MESA RIVERVIEW PARK - 2 HOURS

Two playgrounds featuring slides, spinners and swings allow for hours of play time for little ones. On the edge of the park, curious climbers can test their skills and scale a 300-foot natural linear climbing wall complete with a covered fort. The biggest attraction here is the world's tallest rope climbing tower that stretches 50 feet into the air. A 75-foot zip line and oversized splash pad complete the park's playground amenities. The five-acre urban lake has three bridges and numerous access points. The palm tree-lined walkway leads visitors to and from the adjacent Mesa Riverview shopping complex and Sloan Park, home to Chicago Cubs spring training.

USERY MOUNTAIN NATURE CENTER - 2 HOURS, SEASONAL

Scorpion hunts by blacklight, animal "hide and seek" adventures, toddler cruises up miniature mountain tops and even edible adventures snacking on desert plants as you go are on the docket at the Nature Center at Usery Mountain Regional Park. Operated by Maricopa County Parks, one of the largest regional park systems in the United States, the nature center is the most immersive desert educational offering for guests seeking insight into the Sonoran Desert. Inside, rangers are on hand to guide guests into the wonders of the Sonoran Desert before taking in some unique programming - everything from stargazing sessions, fitness hikes and "Find the Ranger" programs are offered year-round.

SURF'S UP IN CITY LIMITLESS®!

Late 2022, Mesa, Arizona will be home to a 37-acre surf, shop, gym and multi-use development project called Cannon Beach - Revel Surf Park. The oasis will bring the ocean to Arizona in a place unlike any other in the Grand Canyon state. Revel Surf will anchor the development with a 3.3-acre surf lagoon that features the world's first Swell MFG's Traveling Surf Technology and UNIT Surf Pool's Stationary Rapid Surf Technology, in one location. Expect the most epic and diverse wave sets for every level of surfer. Whether you are a spectator or participant there is something for everyone at Cannon Beach - specialty dining, fish tacos on the beach, day spa, gym, splash pad for kids, and overall good vibes.

DAY 3 - PLAYFUL CITY USA

JAKE'S UNLIMITED - 1 ½ HOURS

A restaurant, park and family fun and recreation center - all in one fun stop. Features include Go-Karts, a Game Pavilion, Kiddie Rides, Bumper Cars, a Rock Climbing Wall, and Laser Tag. All-you-care-to-eat Pizza Buffet with delicious, pizza, pasta, salad, and soda. And don't forget dessert!

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MUSEUM - 2 ½ HOURS

This award-winning global museum features MIMkids Musical Adventures. Families can engage in interactive musical activities and learn more about instruments and cultures from around the world.

ODYSEA AQUARIUM - 3 HOURS

Play and learn at the largest aquarium in the Southwest! More than 30,000 animals and marine life is on display. Swim with the manta rays or play with penguins, and don't miss the OdySea Voyager rotating aquarium ride. This impressive attraction holds more than 2,000,000 US gallons of water and spans over 200,000 square feet.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

MESA, ARIZONA: AUTISM CERTIFIED CITY

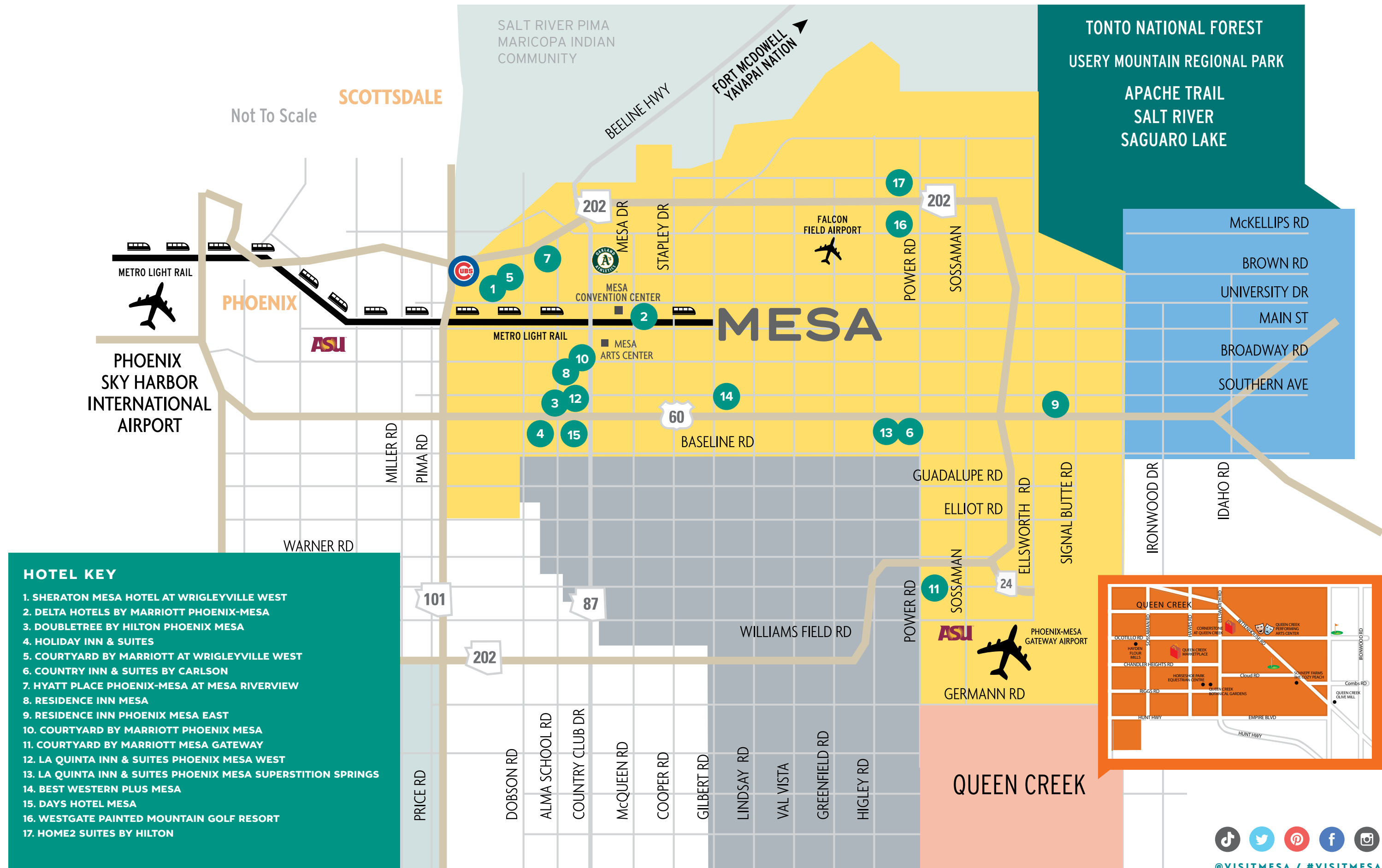
Mesa, Arizona is the first-ever Autism Certified City in the U.S. designated by the International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES). The effort behind the designation was launched by Visit Mesa to encourage hospitality businesses to participate in specialized autism training geared toward executives and front-facing service staff to 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.

In total, more than 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 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, as well as the Mesa Fire Department. To date, nearly 5,000 community members have completed or committed to the autism certification.

Visit Mesa has developed an extensive online resource for travel planning to City Limitless®. **AccessibleMesa.com** offers tips, tools, and in-market services including digital itineraries featuring 360-degree videos of our Certified Autism Centers and other notable venues in Mesa. Download the Autism Travel Guide at **AutismTravelMesa.com**.



In an analysis of 2018 data from nearly a dozen states, researchers at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that among 8-year-olds, 1 in 44 had been diagnosed with autism.





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