

48 HOURS IN MESA, ARIZONA

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#MESACITYLIMITLESS



Mesa is Arizona's third-largest city and is surrounded by the natural Sonoran Desert beauty of Tonto National Forest – a recreational playground for every outdoor adventure possible. This urban hot spot offers up an assortment of lifestyle and leisure pursuits for visitors heading to the Southwest. In Mesa, you will find the largest arts and cultural complex in the state, a mouthwatering collection of locally-owned restaurants, a vibrant downtown featuring an emerging arts collective, and Arizona's Fresh Foodie Trail®. Mesa is a modern-day desert hub, where landscapes are legendary and the region's deep-rooted agricultural and Western heritage still shines.

DAY 1 - THE OLD WEST AND THE GREAT OUTDOORS

SUPERSTITION MOUNTAIN LOST DUTCHMAN MUSEUM

This 12-acre "museum" includes the Elvis Presley Memorial Chapel, Apacheland Barn with movie memorabilia, The Gallows, 20-Stamp Mill and Nature Walk - all located at the base of the Superstition Mountains. Step back in time and discover Arizona's storied Old West history of gold-mining and movie-making.

GOLDFIELD GHOST TOWN – ARIZONA TERRITORY CIRCA 1893

The Valley's only authentic historic town is a replicate of the 1890's town that bears its name. Once a booming mining town with 50 working mines, by 1900, it was a ghost town. The town has been re-created and includes a steak house, saloon, mercantile, museums, bordello, gold-panning, jeep tours, horse-back riding, narrow-gauge railroad, mine tour, and much more.

CANYON LAKE MARINA

Since 1925, The Dolly Steamboat, a sternwheeler paddleboat has cruised this lake amid the grandeur of the Superstition Mountains, and the inner waterways of the "Junior Grand Canyon". Take a 90-minute afternoon or sunset dinner cruise daily. Or, plan for a Twilight cruise at night, also available with guided astronomy.

TORTILLA FLAT

In 1904, this stagecoach stop (now home to six residents) was a needed respite amid rugged desert and mountain terrain in Arizona. Today it is a popular stop on the Apache Trail, offering a rustic restaurant with saddles as barstools and the best burgers in the state! Along the wooden boardwalk is a mercantile, country store with Prickly Pear Cactus gelato & post office.

HIKING, BIKING, KAYAKING, PADDLE BOARDING, STAR-GAZING . . .

If you just want to spend a day enjoying the magnificent Sonoran Desert (the lushest desert in the world), you've come to the right place. Located in the heart of the Tonto National Forest is an outdoor lover's paradise. Nowhere in the world will you see this vegetation, with its star attraction - the giant Saguaro Cactus.

THE MINING CAMP RESTAURANT

Designed to look like an old 1880's mining cook shack, this restaurant has been serving hungry travelers since 1961. Situated below the stunning Doc Palmer Mine in the Superstition Mountains, meals are served family-style in the main restaurant, or a la carte in the new steakhouse. Shop in the Trading Post and check out the replica hotel, saloon, and assay office.

DAY 2 - FRESH FOODIE TRAIL



AGRITOPIA, JOE'S FARM GRILL, AND BARNONE

Start with breakfast at Joe's Farm Grill (featured on Food Network's Diners, Drive-Ins & Dives), then visit the BarNone Craftsman's Community located in a rustic Quonset hut next door, and the organic community gardens. This innovative artisan collective has an urban agriculture feel.

OLIVE OIL 101 TASTING & TOUR OF QUEEN CREEK OLIVE MILL

Arizona's only family-owned and operated working olive mill offers visitor's the experience of touring the farm, tasting organic olive oils and vinegars, and learning about the pressing process. Guests are invited to dine at Eatery - the mill's Tuscan-inspired restaurant, shop in the marketplace, and sample the latest olive oil spa products!

EAT YOUR VEGGIES: TRUE GARDEN

This vertical urban farm is a center of education, sharing knowledge on how to produce healthy and nutritious food using no soil. Visitors can enjoy the weekly farmer's market featuring living produce, and stop in for seminars and food-education. The solar-powered True Garden is a showcase for living food, grown aeroponically.

SCHNEPF FARMS - ENTERTAINMENT AT ITS FINEST!

With a rich history in Arizona's agriculture community, Schnepf Farms is dedicated to educating and informing guests about preserving a legacy of family farming. 250,000 guests annually enjoy events such as the Peach Festival, Pumpkin & Chili Party, Easter Egg-Citement, 4th of July Celebration and Winter Wonderland. Pick fresh fruit and vegetables for your dinner!

SUPERSTITION DAIRY FARMS TOUR - FARMERS CHEESE & ICE CREAM TASTING

Guests can enjoy public tours of this fourth-generation dairy farm. Learn about a modern dairy operation and how farmers are environmentally conscious, while treating all animals like family! Also on site is the SuperFarm Super Food Truck, Petting Zoo, Milk Bar featuring home-made ice cream, and the Mooster's Moo-tique, a fully stocked boutique.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.VISITMESA.COM

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