

Phoenix

There's more than one way to discover a destination.

By Shawn Gilliam



WHERE TO STAY //
Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort & Spa
Rawhide, a replica of an 1880s Old West town, sits just up the road from this Chandler resort and its AAA Five Diamond restaurant. wildhorsepassresort.com



MORNING // **Saba's Western Store and Saba's Famous Texas Boots**
The two Old Town Scottsdale locations for this longtime Western-wear outfitter are good bets for your getup, with boots in every size and color. sabas.com



AFTERNOON // **Trail Ride at Ponderosa Livery Stable**
Hire a horse and guide at South Mountain Park—the country's largest municipal park—and kick up some dust on your way to a panoramic city view. arizona-horses.com



DINNER // **Monti's La Casa Vieja**
What was built as a hacienda on the Salt River in present-day downtown Tempe and has been run as a restaurant since the 1890s is now a maze of comfy Western-style dining rooms famous for steak dinners. montis.com



MORNING // **Desert Botanical Garden**
Lose yourself amid 50,000 plants at this 150-acre garden tucked within the expansive Papago Park. dbg.org



WHERE TO STAY // **Royal Palms Resort and Spa**
Just off busy Camelback Road, the villas, casitas and guest rooms here, buffered by lush gardens, feel a world away. royalpalmsresortandspa.com

Oasis Seeker

AFTERNOON // **The Spa at Camelback Inn**
Calming, up-close views of Camelback Mountain complement desert-inspired spa services, such as a massage that uses heated basalt stones. camelbackspa.com



Old Town Scottsdale's 1952 cowboy sign (lasso and all) at the corner of Scottsdale Road and Main Street makes for a fun photo op.

DINNER // **Lon's at the Hermosa**
Dine on the relaxed patio at this hacienda-turned-restaurant in Paradise Valley. Produce used in the dishes comes from lemon, orange, and grapefruit trees and a one-acre organic garden, all on site. lons.com



Art and Design Buff

WHERE TO STAY // **The Clarendon Hotel**
Hop to museums and galleries from this circa 1975 motor hotel, brightly remade with colorful modern rooms and a pool lined with private cabanas. goclarendon.com



MORNING // **Taliesin West**
Don't miss Frank Lloyd Wright's architecture school and former winter home in the foothills of Scottsdale's McDowell Mountains. The 90-minute tour is a must. franklloydwright.org



AFTERNOON // **Phoenix Art Museum**
Modern and contemporary art, including that of the American West, commands the most space here. phxart.org



EVENING // **Roosevelt Row**
Scottsdale has a lockdown on the gallery scene, but this downtown Phoenix arts district draws locals and visitors up for more edge. After a gallery/studio walk, catch an indie flick at FilmBar. rooseveltrow.org



Desert Explorer



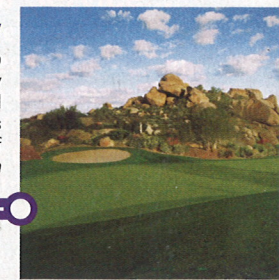
WHERE TO STAY // **Sanctuary Camelback Mountain Resort & Spa**
Camelback Mountain trailheads lie within easy reach, but views from the rooms, infinity pool and Jade Bar make this an especially spectacular stay. sanctuaryaz.com



MORNING // **Camelback Mountain**
Lace up the boots and hit the recently reopened Echo Canyon Summit or Cholla trails for an intense hike to the summit of this mountain landmark. phoenix.gov/parks

MIDMORNING // **McDowell Sonoran Preserve**
Mountain biking is the fastest way to explore the 60 miles of trails through the Sonoran Desert landscape here. mcdowellsonoran.org

AFTERNOON // **Troon North Golf Club**
Tee times mean magnificent scenery at the nearly 200 golf courses in and around Phoenix, and the desert is at its dramatic best here, in the shadow of Pinnacle Peak. troonnorthgolf.com

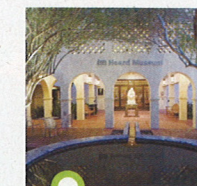


Budding Anthropologist

MORNING // **Pueblo Grande Museum Archaeological Park**
Explore this excavation of a 1,500-year-old Hohokam village to see how Phoenix's original inhabitants lived. pueblogrande.com



MIDMORNING // **Heard Museum**
One of the top museums devoted to the arts and culture of Native Americans from the Southwest. heard.org



AFTERNOON // **Musical Instrument Museum**
Six thousand instruments and artifacts representing 200 countries are on display at this massive museum. mim.org



DINNER // **Barrio Café**
It was here, in a working-class Latino neighborhood, where chef Silvana Salcido Esparaza first shared her edgy Mexican fare. barriocafe.com



On the Web
For more must-sees in Phoenix, go to Delta's Taking Off blog at takingoff.delta.com.