

# DAY TRIPS FROM PHEONIX

Arizona is sometimes called the land of contrast because of the changing scenery and activities that are offered. You can swim and play tennis in the morning in Phoenix, and spend the afternoon fishing, hiking or sightseeing in the cool pines in Flagstaff.

The following driving tours are easily accessible from Phoenix and will add to the enjoyment of your visit.

## GRAND CANYON

The Grand Canyon is one of the great natural wonders of the world. The South Rim is open year-round and features nature walks, mule rides down the canyon and the rim drives. The North Rim is open from mid-May until sometime in October. Lodging is available for visitors who want to spend more time exploring the Canyon, and reservations can be made by calling toll-free (800) 528-0483.

The Canyon is a 5-hour drive from Phoenix. Take Interstate 17 north to State Highway 179 from Phoenix to

Sedona; Highway 89A from Flagstaff to Tusayan. Leaving the Grand Canyon, take State Highway 64 to Cameron and go south on U. S. 89. Turn left off 89 at Wupatiki National Monument and Sunset Center. Rejoin 89 into Flagstaff and from Flagstaff take Interstate 17 back to Phoenix.

## SEDONA/OAK CREEK CANYON

Sedona, a cultural community of 9,000, has become a mecca for art lovers and collectors who are drawn to this little community by more than a dozen commercial galleries featuring paintings, Indian art, sculpture and art objects.

Deep red rock formations and multi-colored buttes make this resort area unique throughout the area. Many of these boutiques are located in Tlaquepaque, a shopping village in Sedona, named after a little town near Guadalajara, Mexico, which was once the leading producer of crafts and glassware. A short distance from Tlaquepaque is the Chapel of the Holy Cross, a beautiful structure located on a higher altitude, providing a breath-taking view of the majestic red rock country.

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Sedona is a 2 1/2 hour drive one way from Phoenix. Take Interstate 17 north to Junction 179. Exit for Sedona — Oak Creek Canyon and enjoy the spectacular view of Oak Creek Canyon, rivaled only in its beauty by the Grand Canyon.

### PRESCOTT

The small community of Prescott was founded after the discovery of gold in 1863 and was the first permanent capital of the Arizona territory. The early settlers had to contend with claim jumpers, outlaws and Indians. While in Prescott, stop at the Sharlot Hall Museum complex. You will see the first territorial governor's mansion, the historic 1857 John C. Fremont House and the restored 100 year old Bashford House.

The fastest route to Prescott is north on the Black Canyon Freeway (I-17) to Cordes, then northwest to State Route 69. Less than two hours one-way.

For the more leisurely traveler, a longer, more scenic route is available via Wickenburg, Congress, Yarnall and Kirkland Junction.

### APACHE TRAIL

This world-famous trail winds through spectacular desert mountain scenery to the city of Globe. Highlights

of this trip include the dams and lakes of the Salt River.

As you start up the trail (official beginning is State Highway 88), the Superstition Mountains appear on the right. The legend of the Lost Dutchman's Gold Mine originates from this mountain range. Stories about Jacob Waltzer (or Waltz or Walz), nicknamed the "Dutchman", have been told for many generations. Legend has it that the Dutchman often appeared in public with pockets-full of gold nuggets and anyone who attempted to follow him was never seen alive again. There is some evidence that the man existed and that he was probably a miner from the thriving Vulture Mine near Wickenburg. However, no one has ever found the fabled gold mine.

About a 4 hour drive round trip. Follow U.S. Highway 60 east of Phoenix for 34 miles to Apache Junction. Turn left on State Highway 88 to the Trail. After passing Roosevelt Dam and Tonto National Monument, make the return loop to Phoenix by Highway 60.

### MOGOLLON RIM

This magnificent geological fault, which was named after Jean Ignacio Flores Mogollon, governor of New Mexico (1712-1715), is referred to locally as "The Rim." The dramatic face of the rim consists of a multicolored wall of rock, dotted by pine, manzanita and oak shrub. This giant wall of rock juttled upward a mile above sealevel when the earth's surface shifted a thousand years ago. Several layers of grey shale, creme-colored limestone and deeper colored sandstone accent the rim's edge.

The Rim was made famous by author Zane Grey who spent many hours writing, hunting and fishing in this beautiful area. The Rim inspired many of his novels. Zane Grey's cabin is still standing for visitors to see and relive the past.

About a 1 1/2 hour drive one-way. Take Highway 87 northeast of Phoenix to Payson. Just beyond Payson, turn right on Highway 260. About 17 miles from the turnoff, watch for signs of Zane Grey's Cabin just after passing Kohl's Ranch. While at the cabin, stop at the fish hatchery up the road and see pools of fish raised from eggs by the Game & Fish Department. After returning to the main road, continue 14 miles past Tonto Creek (a great place for a picnic lunch) to the Wood Canyon Lake exit. Turn left at the sign and you'll be on the Old Rim Road. The road becomes an unsurfaced forest highway and frequently winds within a few feet of the fault line, providing a gorgeous panoramic view of the Rim.

### MONTEZUMA CASTLE AND WELL

This impressive ancient Indian cliff dwelling is nestled high above Beaver Creek and is over six centuries old. The Aztec Emperor, Montezuma, for whom the castle is named, never saw the famous structure. The Sinaguas, Pueblo Indians who moved into the Valley during the

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twelfth century, built the cliff dwelling from limestone and adobe. When the white settlers saw it years later, they concluded only the Aztecs could have designed the castle and they named it accordingly. The structure was built on a steep cliff to protect the Indians' property rights. The Visitors' Center is open from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. daily and contains exhibits, artifacts and early historic relics.

About 7 miles northeast of the Castle on the Park Service Road is Montezuma's well, a limestone sink hole with a natural spring. Early Indians used this natural spring for irrigation purposes and the well still provides nearby Beaver Creek with a daily water supply of over a million gallons. The well is 55 feet deep and 470 feet wide. From the parking lot at the well, follow the trail to the surrounding plateaus - the result of volcanic lava flows.

To get to Montezuma's Castle, take Interstate 17 north to the Montezuma Castle turnoff just past the beautiful Verde Valley. About 1 1/2 hours one-way.

## TUCSON

Heading south from Phoenix, a two hour ride will take visitors to Tucson, where a good bet for unforgettable sights is the Saguaro National Monument — Tucson Mountain Park area just west of the city.

Here are found examples of desert botanical species set amidst rolling foothills terrain. The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, regarded as one of the finest facilities of its kind anywhere, has its home here, too, featuring an array of desert life - - from insects to reptiles, birds and animals, as well as desert plant species - - all in natural settings that give the feel of being a part of the desert.

A few miles away, the scene shifts to the wild west at Old Tucson, a movie set constructed years ago to resemble Tucson of the 1880's. It's still the scene of many movie and television productions and also offers reenactments of shootouts and street brawls, stagecoach rides and other western-style activities for the enjoyment of visitors.

If time permits, a short ride south from Tucson to San Xavier del Bac Mission, just off Interstate 10, is worthwhile. Known as "The White Dove of the Desert," the mission was built by Franciscan Friars nearly 200 years ago and is regarded as the finest example of Spanish mission architecture in the country. The Franciscans still operate the mission for Papago Indians in the area, but the public is welcome to tour the facility daily.

Take Interstate 10 south about 2 hours to the Congress Street exit in Tucson.

Using Phoenix as a gateway, visitors can see the beauty of the state of Arizona — from the cool pines of the north country to the desert scenery and wild west atmosphere of Southern Arizona. And it's easy to make lodging arrangements prior to arrival in Phoenix by calling toll-free (800) 528-0483 for information on rooms and to make reservations. Reservations can also be made at the Grand Canyon Lodges, South Rim, by calling this toll-free number. ■

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