

Lodging information and Suggestions for PAGES VICS18 in Tucson, Arizona

Last revised August 26, 2017

The winter in Tucson and much of southern Arizona is the 'high season', as the weather and several large events draw visitors and part-time residents to the state. As a consequence, the hotel and B&B rates will be higher in January than much of the rest of the year (although less expensive than February).

Most of the locations below (except for the periphery resorts) are accessible on foot, by bike, and by the Modern Streetcar (http://www.sunlinkstreetcar.com/documents/images/Route_Map.jpg).

Downtown

AC (Marriott) Hotel Downtown Tucson

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/tusad-ac-hotel-tucson-downtown/>

The newest hotel downtown (opening early Autumn 2017, part of Marriott's AC Hotel ('European inspired design hotel')). Right on the Modern Streetcar line, near Downtown restaurants and bars (including our Icebreaker location). Rooftop pool with impressive views of the mountains. Probably going to be really nice, judging by the AC Hotels elsewhere in the US. Expensive by Tucson standards, \$\$\$

Hotel Congress

<http://hotelcongress.com/hotel/>

Cool, funky, and potentially very loud, depending on which bands are playing downstairs at Club Congress, the Hotel Congress was where small-town Tucson police finally caught up with notorious bank robber John Dillinger in 1934. Located right on the Modern Streetcar and in the midst of the best of Downtown and the adjacent 4th Avenue's funky shops and bar scene. Great breakfast downstairs at The Cup Cafe, great outdoor seating, several bustling bars for beer or cocktails, and one of the best music venues in Tucson. The place can be loud. Like, really, potentially Death Metal Mariachi Band levels of loud. So, it's totally awesome, \$

Barrio Viejo and Armory Park

Downtown Clifton

<http://downtowntucsonhotel.com/>

A recently remodeled mid-century motel on the border of the historic Barrio Viejo and Armory Park neighborhoods, very cool large and spotless rooms with southwestern décor and a helpful, friendly, and knowledgeable local staff, cool murals, easy parking if you decide to rent a car, and record players and hip vinyl to lend. Walking distance to the Modern Streetcar, our local favorite bar The Owls Club, best breakfast in town at 5 Points Market and Café, Ethiopian food at Café Desta, and the rest of Downtown. Popular but relatively few rooms, \$\$

West University

Peppertrees Inn

<https://peppertreesinn.com/>

One of the places the university puts visiting faculty and job candidates, right on the Modern Streetcar line, quiet, and easy walking to campus and the restaurants and bars of Main Gate Square, just to the west of the University. Parking available. Extremely friendly and helpful owners and a delicious breakfast brought to your room or served out in their peaceful courtyard. \$\$/\$\$\$

The Big Blue House Inn

<http://144university.com/>

Popular with many regular visitors to Tucson, away from the bustle of Downtown and the university, but still walking distance to the Modern Streetcar, easy biking distance to campus, and a short stroll to funky-cool 4th Avenue and the Warehouse Arts District. Spotless clean with an eclectic décor, \$\$

Tucson University Park Hotel

<http://www.tucsonuniversityhotel.com/>

Previously a Marriott property, this is the closest hotel to campus itself and (last we checked) still has their standard chain-hotel vibe despite their branding loss. Comfortable, big rooms. Just seconds from the Modern Streetcar and adjacent to the restaurants and bars in the Main Gate Square area west of the university, an easy and quick walk to campus, \$\$/\$\$\$

Sam Hughes/East of the University

Adobe Rose Inn

<https://aroseinn.com/>

The other B&B where the university tends to host visiting faculty and faculty job candidates, nestled in the peaceful and older historic Sam Hughes neighborhood just east of campus. Good breakfast and southwestern décor, friendly owners, \$\$/\$\$\$

Aloft Tucson University

<http://www.alofttucsonuniversity.com/>

Part of the Aloft chain – clean and fairly standard rooms near the northeastern corner of campus and immediately adjacent to the Sam Hughes neighborhood, \$\$

Arizona Inn

<http://www.arizonainn.com/>

Old-school close-in resort, southern Arizona style. Comfortable and plush, in the quiet Catalina Vista neighborhood just north and west of campus, lots of parking, an on-site restaurant and bar, and a pool, expensive \$\$\$

Elsewhere

JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort and Spa

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/tussp-jw-marriott-tucson-starr-pass-resort-and-spa/>

The closest of the Tucson resort type properties to Downtown, in the outskirts of the city, the JW Marriott is nestled into a corner of the Tucson Mountains (which are the remnants of a Mesozoic volcanic caldera) to the west of town. Golf of course, pools, and easy access to Tucson Mountain Park for hiking or trailrunning, \$\$\$

Hacienda del Sol

<http://www.haciendadelisol.com/>

in the foothills of the Catalina Mountains, the Hacienda del Sol is a beautiful, southwestern-style resort with good food, amenities, and a tranquil setting, \$\$\$

Other options

There are also a number of hotels located along or near Interstate 10 to the west of Downtown along the Santa Cruz River and reasonably close to both Downtown and the Modern Streetcar line. These hotels cater mostly to long-distance car travelers on I-10 and then to the thousands of Gem and Mineral Show attendees who come to Tucson every February. They are of varying quality, but the ones with the best reviews and/or the best access to Downtown and the University are: Country Inn and Suites (<https://www.countryinns.com/tucson-hotel-az-85745/aztuccty>) and the Riverpark Inn (<http://www.theriverparkinn.com/> - which is located right at a Modern Streetcar stop and walking distance to the Mercado neighborhood with its shops and restaurants and to the Santa Cruz River park), \$/\$\$

AirBnB

Tucson has a number of inexpensive yet often very nice and frequently historic AirBnB options, including entire houses, apartments, or 'casitas' (smaller houses behind a main home). We recommend looking in neighborhoods such as: Downtown, the Mercado, the Presidio, Barrio Viejo, Armory Park, Pie Allen, Iron Horse, West University, or Sam Hughes. Here are few options to check out that we can recommend either based on location (in most cases) or some personal knowledge:

Mercado and Menlo Park (west side, a mix of new construction in a mixed use work/live environment and an older close-in neighborhood. Easy access to Downtown and campus via the Modern Streetcar or walking. Near the Mercado San Agustin with its open-air market, restaurants, shops, coffee, bikes, and a good bar)

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/8444466>

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/7619527>

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/10212247>

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/4503292>

Presidio (one of the oldest and prettiest neighborhoods in Tucson, immediately adjacent to Downtown. Older historical properties, some bungalows, and rebuilt urban adobe)

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/20504242>

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/9403740>

Barrio Viejo (wonderful neighborhood, but depending on how far south you are you might be somewhat distant from the University on foot – a 45-minute walk or 15-minute bike/drive - and a 10- to 15-minute walk to the Modern Streetcar)

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/12826527>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/14140072>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/13354304>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/16143856>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/16193018>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/8836824>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/2331730>

Armory Park (as with adjacent Barrio Viejo, a wonderful neighborhood, but depending on how far south you are you might be somewhat distant from the University on foot – a 45-minute walk or 15-minute bike/drive - and a 10 to 15-minute walk to the Modern Streetcar)

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/4996223>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/15127718>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/11531348>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/11777642>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/15007353>

Downtown/Pie Allen/Iron Horse (Downtown and the neighborhoods adjacent, almost entirely on the Modern Streetcar or a short walk to campus. A mix of modern apartments or lofts, renovated adobe, and funky 4th Avenue apartments. Tons of restaurants, nightlife, and fun shops)

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/16273731>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/11636694>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/16895216>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/20455298>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/16225605>

West University (close to the University and the Modern Streetcar, tons of restaurants and bars)

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/10192894>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/5011558>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/1809672>

Sam Hughes and east of the University (larger well-appointed houses or casitas, easy walking distance or pleasant bike ride to campus, but away from restaurants, shops, bars, and other amenities)

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/16739661>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/10656541>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/20215282>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/20215243>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/11743995>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/2115534>
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/6451352>