



# LIFESTYLE TRAVEL ITINERARIES



CULTURE SEEKER / ADVENTURE EXPLORER / FRESH FOODIE  
CITY LIMITLESS® / ACTIVE FAMILY





# ADVENTURE EXPLORER

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 Ranger Brennan. Guided tours can be scheduled through Utery Mountain Regional Park. 30+ miles of trails climb enough in elevation to experience spectacular vistas of the Greater Phoenix skyline.

### HIKING & BIKING TOURS – 4+ HOURS

Arizona Outback Adventures 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!

## DAY 2 – ADVENTURES SET ON OVERDRIVE

### 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.

### HIGH PERFORMANCE DRIVING – 3 HOURS

Experience the Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving. Courses feature the adrenaline-pumping adventure at high speeds at Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park. Classes start at 3 hours in length to a full-day experience.

### 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.

### 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.

### FAST FACT:

Mesa, Arizona is only four hours from the Grand Canyon. Many tour operators will pick up from Mesa hotels and offer day and overnight trips to Grand Canyon National Park.

### WRIGLEYVILLE WEST: CHICAGO CUBS MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL – 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.







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

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.

SUPERSTITION DAIRY FARMS – 2 HOURS

Enjoy public tours of a fourth generation dairy farm. Tours show visitors daily life on a working family farm. Learn about modern dairy operation. Features a petting zoo, fresh milk and homemade ice cream, and a fully stocked boutique featuring fresh eggs, cheeses, and local jams and honey.

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.

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.

CRAFT BEERS & BREWERY TOURS – 2 HOURS

Hop aboard an Arizona Brewery Tour and get a behind-the-scenes look at the Mesa area’s best craft breweries. The two-hour experience features a private custom tour with tastings, food pairings, safe and fun transportation between 3 breweries and a knowledgeable beer guide and take-home souvenir.



**THE ORANGE PATCH - TOURS AVAILABLE  
NOVEMBER – APRIL – 1 HOUR**

The Orange Patch is one of Mesa’s original citrus growers with 110 acres of citrus and 30 acres of sweet corn. Peak season for citrus production is January and February. Guests visiting are welcome to watch the picking and production process with special tours offered for groups. Fresh squeezed orange juice served daily, fresh honey, and other Arizona-grown products are available for sale.

**A TASTE OF NEW MEXICAN CUISINE:  
BLUE ADOBE SANTA FE GRILL – 1 HOUR**

The spicy flavor of red and green chilis from New Mexico combine with traditional Southwestern style cooking. Specialties include the spicy Carne Adovada, consisting of pork simmered in red chili and served in a flour tortilla.

**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.

**A CRAFTSMAN COLLECTIVE:  
BARNONE – RETAIL AND DINING OPPORTUNITY**

A new gathering place was made from an 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.



**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.

**GARAGE EAST:**

This self-described farm winery is part of the Barnone collective at Agritopia. Featuring the award-winning blends of Arizona winemakers Todd and Kelly Bostock, wine lovers can enjoy wines on tap, have fun doing their own on-site blending of wines, and even try the newest craze, breakfast wine, featuring seasonal fruits from Agritopia’s organic farm.

**POSTINO WINE CAFÉ:**

Each week, the wine menu features thirty-six unique, approachable wines. Paired with simple, delicious food with local ingredients. The outdoor dining options are plentiful and the scene inside the wine café is vibrant and festive with hand-selected tunes for every generation.

**THE WINDMILL WINERY:**

The Windmill Winery offers one of the most unique farm settings near Mesa. Located in historic Florence, Arizona, you’ll find a picture-perfect rural farm with giant red barn and recycled-stone pathways and surrounding mountain views. The Wine Tasting Room is open weekly, with special sommelier-guided tasting events by appointment.



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 Natural 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.





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.

ROCKIN’ R RANCH – 2 HOURS, SEASONAL

Enjoy gunfights and gold panning, western shops, and hot Dutch oven biscuits. Featuring an all-you-can-eat BBQ beef or chicken dinner followed by a spectacular Western stage show featuring the world famous Rockin R’ Wranglers.

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, as well as off-roading in tom cars with Green Zebra Adventures.

QUEEN CREEK HORSESHOE PARK & EQUESTRIAN CENTER – 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.



# CITY LIMITLESS®



From farm to fork dining, Western shopping, Native American Artist shows and immeasurable outdoor recreation, Mesa is a city that knows no bounds — a gateway destination to one of the most dynamic regions in the country. A gateway to discovery, adventure and endless possibilities from A to Z. Welcome to Mesa. City Limitless®.

DAY 1 – MESA – CITY LIMITLESS

MESA ARTS CENTER CAMPUS TOUR – 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.

METRO LIGHT RAIL – 1 HOUR

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, and in front of the renowned Mesa Arts Center.

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: DANA PARK VILLAGE SQUARE – 2 HOURS

This fashion-focused lifestyle center is a reflection of some of Mesa’s most affluent neighborhoods. Wide pedestrian walkways, spacious patios for outdoor dining, fountains and palm-tree-lined driveways are surrounded by upscale retail stores. Fucshia Day Spa offers spa treatments for visitors.

PIONEER PARK - 1 HOUR

Anchored in the heart of the city on Main Street and Mesa Drive, Pioneer Park completed an \$8M overhaul and now features an oversized multi-story ADA-compliant playground and a splash pad which includes a 15-foot-high water wall that is the first of its kind in Arizona. The 9,000-square foot playground is designed to feel like you are playing in the tree tops. Parents love being able to play alongside their kids taking advantage of the 500-foot-long elevated ribbon walkway that connects the main central plaza area to the playground.

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.





## FAST FACTS:

Mesa, Arizona boasts 484,587 residents and is the 36th 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 million, projected to be 6.3 million by 2030.

## DAY 2 – NEW WAYS TO STAY, DINE & UNWIND

### GLAMPING, NEWEST WAY TO STAY

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 and café offers full, cooked-to-order breakfast, lunch and dinner as well as an assortment of baked goods for visitors. Guests can choose from Airstreams, Spartan Manor and Spartan Mansion, Silver Streak, Pullman Train and more.

### LUXURY CAMPING IN THE WILDERNESS

Nestled at the southeastern base of the Superstition Mountains in Mesa, this luxury camping experience is other-worldly, combining all the amenities of a five-star resort but closer to nature, much closer. Silent nights and starry skies are all part of the full-sensory overnight fun in the desert, the site itself set on 200 acres of untouched Arizona land. Guests overnighing at Tela Peralta will be treated to long-table group dinners in the desert steps away from each tent. Hands-on activities including guided hiking tours, outdoor fitness classes and a variety of resort-style activities personalized to this magical natural setting.

### FARM-TO-TABLE DINING EXPERIENCE, OSTERIA – 2 HOURS

The focus here is on fresh, organic and local. Enjoy the laid-back atmosphere while noshing on northern Italian cuisine featuring housemade pasta, pizzas from the wood fire grill, and farm-to-table spreads featuring Steadfast Farms and McClendon's Select local organic produce. Mornings start with fresh warm pastries and espresso on their patio and evenings, guests can enjoy a dozen wine taps, local craft beers and their exclusive craft cocktail program.

### TOUR & TASTE AT ARIZONA'S FIRST CIDERY – 1 HOUR

New in Downtown Mesa is 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.

## DAY 3 – COMPLETING THE JOURNEY

### ARIZONA'S AVIATION HISTORY – 2 HOURS

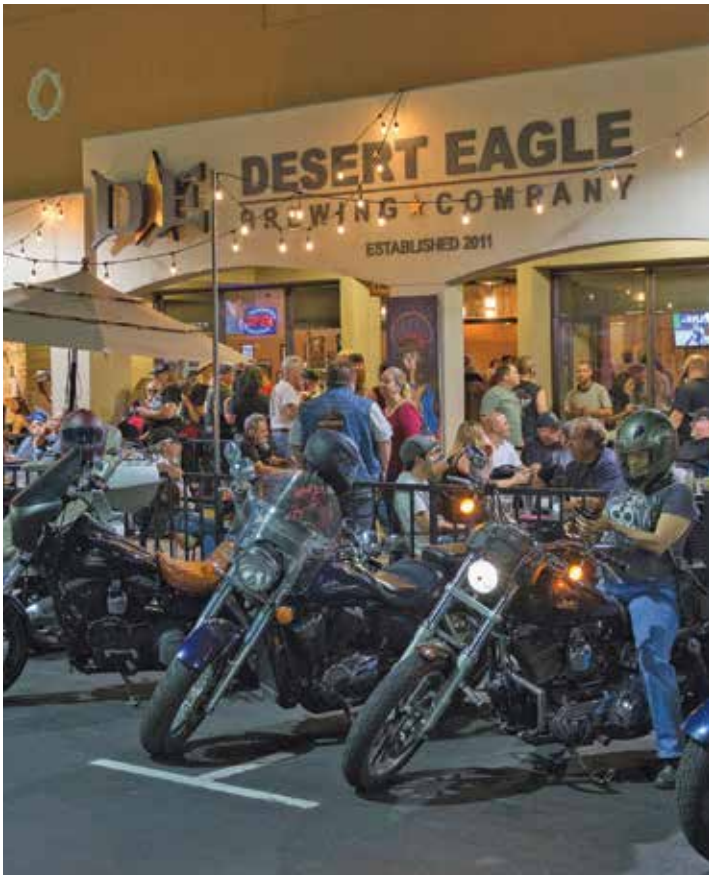
Mesa is entrenched in aviation history and continues to serve as one of the leaders in aviation technology and education. At Commemorative Air Force Museum – Arizona Wing, daredevils can take to the skies on a variety of war birds and view aviation exhibits. Pilots take visitors on thrilling aerial adventures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

### NATIVE AMERICAN JEWELRY – 1 HOUR

At All Tribes Trading Post visitors can order custom-designed Native American jewelry. This wholesale to public store offers some of the market's highest quality Native American Indian Turquoise and Silver jewelry and Native American art. All Tribes represents artists from reservations across the U.S. and their jewelry workshop features in-house Native American silversmiths and artists working to create new designs, custom orders and repairs.

### MOTORCYCLES ON MAIN STREET – 2 HOURS

On the first Friday of every month, Downtown Mesa hosts Motorcycles on Main Street. Motorcycle fans and owners come out to enjoy live music and events from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.





# ACTIVE FAMILY



Mesa has you covered. 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.

### STRATUM LASER TAG – 2 HOURS

Experience the most action-packed fun in the city at the world’s largest technotainment arena. Plan for family bonding time with 15 levels of laser tag, 90 ramps, towers and bridges. Laser tag is perfect for the high-tech and adventurous family.

### 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, Cinemark Theatre, and the soon-to-open Union Brickyard (Fall 2018) featuring beach volleyball, ping pong, cornhole, event space and more.

## 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.

### DESERT TRAILS MOUNTAIN BIKING PARK – 1 ½ HOURS

At 35 acres, this new outdoor playground is surrounded by Arizona’s iconic desert landscape and includes a series of hiking and biking trails, a pump track, a kids’ skills track and shaded ramadas. The trails consist of a 3/4-mile perimeter trail for hiking and non-motorized bike use. There are three progressive flow trails for downhill bike use ranging from beginner to expert. The skills track, pump track, and three flow trails are designed to introduce and progressively develop new skills for BMX-style bike riding. The entire park was designed by Norris Design Group & Alpine Bike Parks, with local input from volunteers with the Gravity Riders Organization of Arizona (GROAZ). Park hours are from sunrise to sunset.

### SURF’S UP! MESA FLOWRIDER – 1 HOUR

Visitors can escape the crowded hotel pool and head to the Rhodes Aquatics Complex in Mesa. Here, desert surfers ride the waves on the FlowRider, the ultimate in water recreation and fun. The sport of flowriding combines all board sports into a wild and exciting ride on a continuous wave with as much force and power as the ocean. Intended for all age swimmers, visitors to Mesa can enjoy the experience all summer long with special themed sessions including Family Night.

## DAY 3 – PLAYFUL CITY USA

### JAKES 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!

### LEGOLAND® DISCOVERY CENTER – 1 ½ HOURS

Located at Arizona Mills, the new LEGOLAND® Discovery Center features the biggest box of LEGO® bricks in the world! Families will enjoy 2 LEGO® rides, a 4D movie theatre, MINILAND® and learn from the experts on building the best LEGO® creations.

### 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

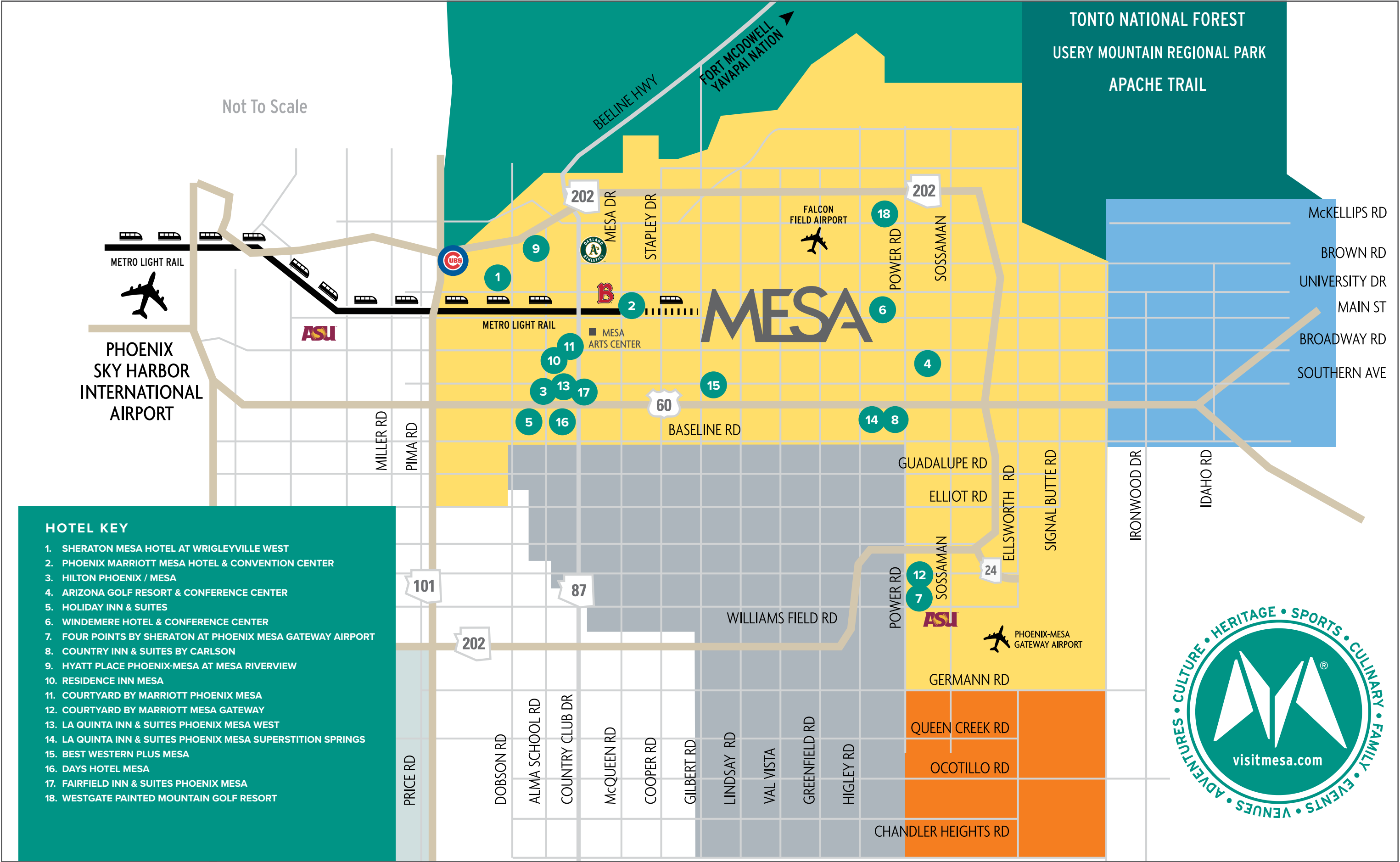
Play and learn at the largest aquarium in the Southwest! More than 30,000 animals and marine life is on display. Swim with the manta rays or play with penguins, and don’t miss the OdySea Voyager rotating aquarium ride. This impressive attraction holds more than 2,000,000 US gallons of water and spans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

### HEAD TO SEE SEA LIFE – 1 ½ HOURS

Head to Sea Life Aquarium where families can have close encounters with seahorses, sharks, rays and more. Enjoy the guided interactive learning experience as you tour through the aquarium.











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