

ARIZONA GUIDE

**EXCURSIONS FROM SCOTTSDALE TO
THE GRAND CANYON, SEDONA & BEYOND**



SCOTTSDALE
ARIZONA



Scottsdale's central-Arizona location makes it the perfect base-camp from which to explore all the wonders Arizona has to offer. From the scenic grandeur of the Grand Canyon and Sedona in the north to the historic streets of Tombstone in the south, here's your guide to exciting day trips from Scottsdale!

DRIVE TIMES

Arizona's network of well-maintained freeways makes getting to all four corners of the state a breeze. As you can see by the drive-time chart at right, most of the state's most popular destinations are less than 4 hours from Scottsdale by car.



FROM SCOTTSDALE TO:	MILES/KM	DRIVE TIME
Flagstaff	153 / 246	2 hrs., 15 min.
Grand Canyon	237 / 381	4 hrs
Jerome	120 / 193	2 hrs.
Kartchner Caverns	170 / 273	2 hrs., 40 min.
Monument Valley	328 / 528	6 hrs., 45 min.
Page	282 / 454	4 hrs., 30 min.
Prescott	134 / 216	2 hrs.
Sedona	124 / 200	2 hrs.
Tombstone	188 / 303	3 hrs.
Tucson	118 / 190	1 hr., 45 min



PRESSED FOR TIME?

Join Westwind Air Service for an air tour! Their signature Grand Canyon tour departs from nearby Phoenix and includes a 25-minute scenic overflight of the Canyon and a ground tour by Jeep! Other Westwind destinations include Monument Valley, Sedona and Antelope Canyon.

WESTWIND AIR SERVICE

480.991.5557 | westwindairservice.com

GRAND CANYON

At 277 miles (446 km) long and up to 18 miles (29 km) wide, the Grand Canyon is immense in both size and grandeur. To view this breathtaking natural wonder on a day trip, we recommend heading for the South Rim, the park's main entry point, which is an easy 3.5-hour drive north of Scottsdale and is open year-round.

For more information please visit nps.gov/grca.



RIM TRAIL

This easy, partially paved trail runs from Grand Canyon Village to Hermits Rest and provides excellent Canyon views with fewer crowds. Walk as far as you'd like and use the park's free shuttle bus system to return to your starting point.

GRAND CANYON VISITOR CENTER

Here you'll find information on South Rim attractions, hiking opportunities, the park's free shuttle bus system and park ranger programs. Take the short walk from the visitor center to Mather Point for your first view of the Grand Canyon.



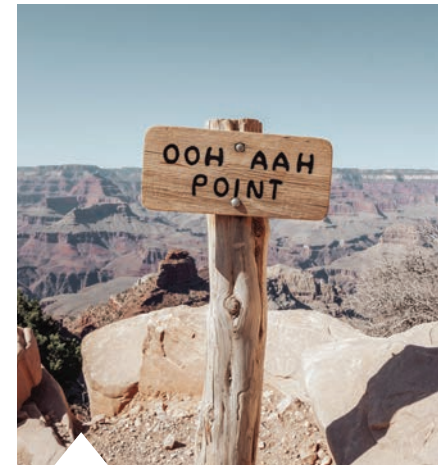
DESERT VIEW WATCHTOWER

This unusual tower and the adjacent overlook offer vistas of the Colorado River below and the Painted Desert to the east. Adjacent to the Watchtower is a Trading Post featuring Native American art and crafts.



HISTORIC VILLAGE

The Village is home to retail shops, museums and art galleries as well as several historic buildings like the Hopi House and the beautiful El Tovar Hotel, which has been welcoming guests since 1905.



SCENIC OVERLOOKS

There are several scenic overlooks on the South Rim that provide panoramic views of the Canyon and great opportunities for photography. Among the most popular are Yaki, Mather, Mohave, and Hopi.



SADDLE-UP FOR ADVENTURE

For the adventure of a lifetime, take a mule ride down into the Grand Canyon! Full-day and overnight mule train rides into the Grand Canyon are great fun, but you'll need to plan ahead as these rides are often booked up more than six months in advance. One-hour rim rides by mule or horseback also are available and can usually be booked within a week or two of your visit.



GRAND CANYON NORTH & WEST RIMS

The Grand Canyon's more rustic and secluded North Rim is open annually from mid-May to mid-October, offers several scenic overlooks and hiking trails, and is approximately 7.5 hours from Scottsdale by car. The West Rim, about 4.5 hours from Scottsdale by car, is home to the Skywalk, a horseshoe-shaped cantilever bridge with a glass-bottom walkway.



FAMOUS FALLS

You've probably seen photos of the striking blue-green waters of Havasupai Falls, but do you know what gives them their distinct color? It's due to spring-fed waters that are rich in magnesium, calcium and high concentrations of bicarbonate. Located at the bottom of the Grand Canyon, Havasupai Falls is accessible only via a strenuous 10-mile hike (each way) or a short helicopter flight plus a 2-mile hike. *Please note: The Havasupai Tribe administers the land, which lies outside the boundary and jurisdiction of Grand Canyon National Park. Reservations are **required** for all hikers and campers.*



Spotlight: NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

If you decide to turn your Grand Canyon trip into an overnight adventure and have some extra time, check out these nearby attractions:

Flagstaff

A laidback college town, Flagstaff is home to the Lowell Observatory, the Flagstaff Extreme Adventure Course and Arizona Snowbowl ski area. flagstaffarizona.org

Williams

This Route 66 town is known as the "Gateway to the Grand Canyon." Hop aboard the Grand Canyon Railway for a scenic trip to the Canyon or visit bears, bison, wolves and more at Bearizona Wildlife Park. experiencewilliams.com

Wupatki National Monument

This ancient Pueblo ruin is located just 6 miles north of Flagstaff. A self-guided trail takes you through the ruins and past the blowhole, a fascinating geologic feature. nps.gov/wupa

SEDONA

Part artists' community, part New Age spiritual center and part outdoor adventurer's dream, Sedona is definitely worth a day trip on your Scottsdale vacation. An easy two-hour drive north will get you there, leaving you plenty of time to explore all of Sedona's offerings, including the area's famous red rock formations.

For more information please visit visitsedona.com.



RED ROCK STATE PARK

Start your Sedona explorations at the Red Rock State Park's Miller Visitor Center. Here you can pick up trail maps, get information about the red rock formations you'll see around town and purchase a day pass, which you'll need to park at most Sedona trailheads.



PINK ADVENTURE TOURS

Pink Jeep tours have been a Sedona must-do since 1960. Choose from more than a dozen different excursions, including the thrilling Broken Arrow Tour, Ancient Ruins Tour and Touch the Earth vortex tour.



WEST FORK TRAIL

This easy trail is 6 miles (9.6 km) round-trip and includes several stream crossings. Though best known for its vibrant fall foliage, West Fork is beautiful year-round, from spring's flowers and songbirds to winter's occasional blanket of snow.



SLIDE ROCK STATE PARK

If you're visiting in summer, grab your swimsuit and head to the slippery, natural water chute at Slide Rock. You can sun along the banks, splash in Oak Creek or explore nearby hiking trails.



CHAPEL OF THE HOLY CROSS

Perched high atop Sedona's red rocks, the Chapel of the Holy Cross is a must-see on your Sedona itinerary. Guests can view numerous works of commissioned art, light a candle for a loved one or attend the Friday afternoon mass.



TLAQUEPAQUE ARTS & CRAFTS VILLAGE

Tlaquepaque is home to dozens of specialty shops, art galleries and restaurants. Goods run the gamut from casual fashions and leather goods to Native American jewelry, crystals and contemporary art.



SHOPS ON 89A & UPTOWN SEDONA

Just past Sedona's infamous "Y" roundabout, you'll come to a shopper's paradise filled with dozens of boutiques, galleries and restaurants.



Spotlight: NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

Along Interstate 17 between Scottsdale and Sedona are several fascinating sites to see:

Arcosanti

This prototype town is based on the late Italian architect Paolo Soleri's concept of "Arcology," architecture coherent with ecology. Public tours are offered daily. arcosanti.org

Montezuma Castle National Monument

This five-story cliff dwelling was inhabited by the Sinagua people for more than 300 years. A self-guided 1/3-mile loop trail leads you past the dwelling along spring-fed Beaver Creek. nps.gov/moca

Montezuma Well

Another Sinagua cliff-dwelling, Montezuma Well is a tranquil site offering trails around the rim and to the bottom of the well. More than 1.5 million gallons of water flow into the well every day. nps.gov/moca

NAVAJO & HOPI LANDS

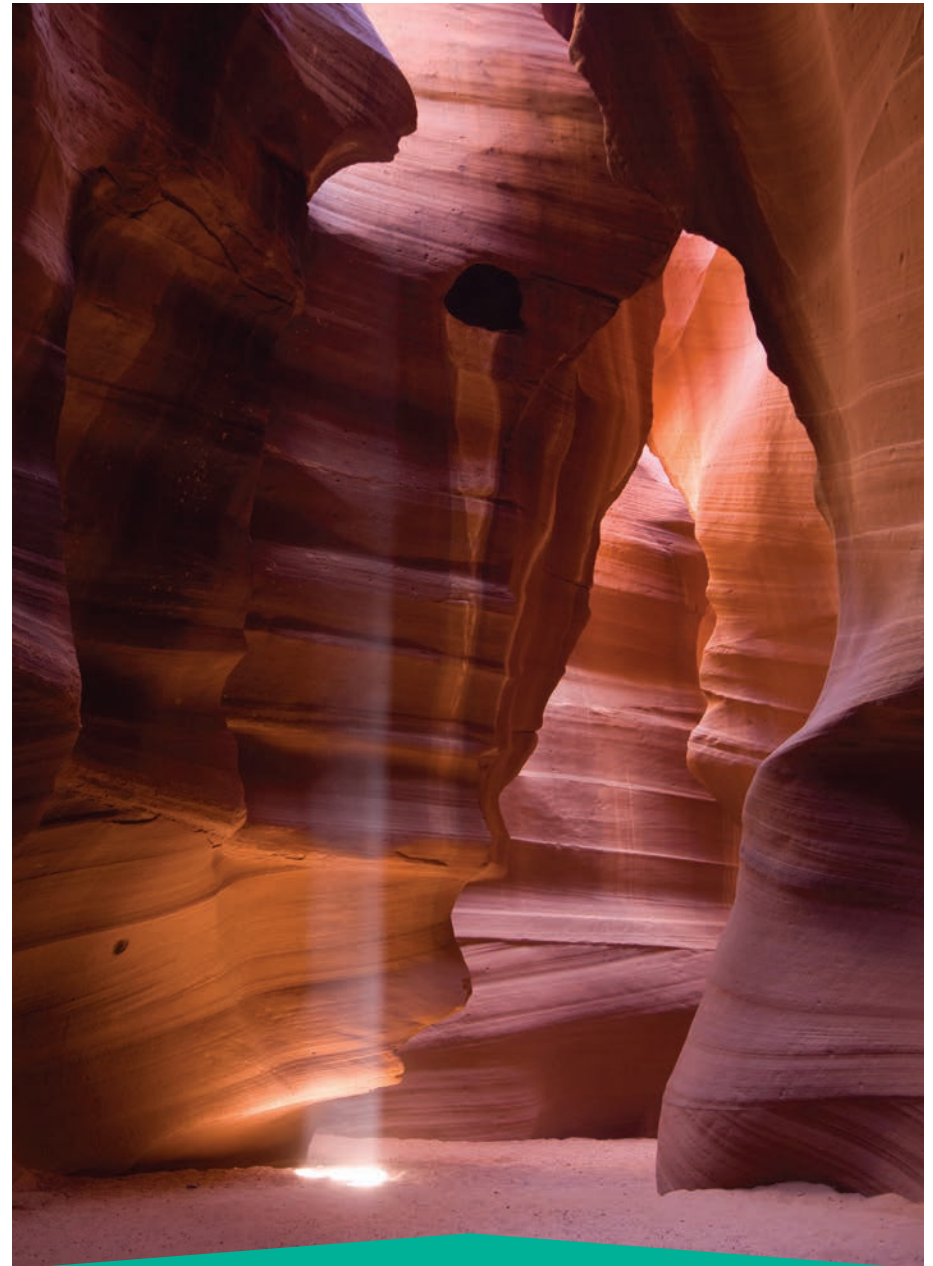
If learning more about Arizona's Native American cultures is on your itinerary, set aside time to visit the Navajo and Hopi nations in northeastern Arizona. This striking landscape is home to tribal cultural centers as well as some of the state's most beautiful natural wonders. Due to the extended distances between points of interest, this region is best explored on a 2- or 3-day trip from Scottsdale.

For more information, please visit discovernavajo.com or hopiculturalcenter.com.



MONUMENT VALLEY NAVAJO TRIBAL PARK

Monument Valley's colorful sandstone buttes and spires have been featured in Western films dating as far back as the 1930s, as well as in contemporary films like *Forrest Gump*, *Mission: Impossible II*, and *The Lone Ranger*. A 17-mile self-guided drive provides views of iconic monuments like The Mittens, John Ford's Point and the Three Sisters, or you can opt for jeep or horseback tours with a Navajo guide. Called *Tsé Bii' Ndzisgaii* (Valley of the Rocks) in the Navajo language, Monument Valley is an enchanting earthscape that is one of the most photographed places in North America.



ANTELOPE CANYON

This complex of scenic slot canyons shaped by eons of wind and water erosion is renowned for its undulating angles and dramatic shafts of light. A permit and tour guide are required for visiting the canyon, which can easily be purchased online.



CANYON DE CHELLY

The Navajo people have a deep, mystical bond to this 26-mile-long red stone canyon that is best known for its sheer sandstone cliffs, White House Ruins and prominent Spider Rock spire. You can view Canyon de Chelly from public overlooks along the rim, hike with a park ranger or join a tour with a Navajo guide.

TIPS FOR VISITING NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

- Remember that you are a guest and treat people, animals and property with respect.
- Always ask permission before photographing people, buildings and cultural activities.
- Do not enter sacred areas or graveyards.
- Understand that each community operates under its own government, rules and regulations.
- Visit the local cultural center for orientation and information before exploring on your own.
- Check all fluid levels and keep your gas tank full, as service stations can be few and far between.



NAVAJO INTERACTIVE MUSEUM

Located in Tuba City, this museum approximates the journey Navajos take through life. Exhibits include Navajo culture, traditions, family systems and more. The museum also features a traditional Navajo Hogan (dwelling), as well as Navajo docents who will help guide you through the various exhibits.



HOPI CULTURAL CENTER

The Hopi people live in 12 independent villages spread across three mesas, and are known for silversmithing, katsina doll carving, woven baskets and intricate pottery. Located on Second Mesa, the Hopi Cultural Center offers a hotel and restaurant, and is a good place to connect with a Hopi guide who can provide insight into Hopi life and history.



Spotlight: NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

The Navajo Nation is in proximity to several other Arizona points of interest:

Lake Powell

This expansive artificial reservoir is popular for water sports of all kinds, including fishing, kayaking, jet skiing and houseboating. lakepowell.com

Meteor Crater & Barringer Space Museum

More than 50,000 years ago, a huge meteorite struck this site resulting in a crater that is more than 700 feet deep, 4,000 feet across and 2.4 miles in circumference. meteorcrater.com

Petrified Forest National Park

Visit the Rainbow Forest Museum for information on the region's paleontology, then hike any of the short trails or drive to park overlooks for amazing views of colorful petrified wood. nps.gov/pefo

Horseshoe Bend

At Horseshoe Bend, the Colorado River meanders around a massive sandstone escarpment. Hiking and kayaking are popular ways to enjoy the Bend. horseshoebend.com

PRESCOTT

Once the territorial capital of Arizona, Prescott is a small town with a grand history. You can make the drive from Scottsdale north to Prescott in just about two hours, which will leave you plenty of time to explore highlights like these.

For more information please visit visit-prescott.com.



GRANITE DELLS

Surrounding Prescott's Watson Lake, the Granite Dells consist of exposed bedrock, large boulders and unusual rock formations. Hiking and bouldering are popular activities in the Dells, or rent a kayak to explore the lake.



COURTHOUSE PLAZA

Prescott's lively town square is where residents and tourists gather for good times at special events like concerts and holiday light festivals.

WHISKEY ROW

Live music from dozens of venues fills the street, and you'll hear everything from country to blues and Jazz. You'll also find outstanding restaurants, shops and plenty of great people watching.

SHARLOT HALL MUSEUM

Home to the restored territorial Governor's Mansion, which was built in 1864, the museum features historic buildings, compelling exhibits and lush gardens.



Spotlight: JEROME

Perched a mile high atop Cleopatra Hill, Jerome is an historic copper mining town turned artist enclave. An easy 2.5-hour drive north from Scottsdale puts you on Jerome's steep winding streets where you'll find attractions such as these.

For more information please visit sedonaverdevalley.org.



Jerome Historic State Park

Visit the historic home of mining mogul Jimmy "Rawhide" Douglas, an adobe mansion filled with artifacts, historic photos and a 3D model of the 88 miles of tunnels dug beneath the town.

Shops & Galleries

Be sure to save time to browse Jerome's eclectic selection of shops, galleries and wine-tasting rooms, including the Jerome Artists Cooperative Gallery and Caduceus Cellars.

TUCSON & SOUTHERN AZ

Nicknamed The Old Pueblo, Tucson lies 2 hours southeast of Scottsdale and is the gateway to a variety of state parks, natural wonders, quirky towns and Old West history in southern Arizona.

For more information please visit visittucson.org.



SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK

Scenic drives, overlooks and hiking trails for all abilities provide unparalleled views of majestic saguaro cacti (the tall ones with arms), which only grow in the Sonoran Desert. The saguaro blossom is Arizona's state flower.

ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

The ASDM was founded in 1952 and features an aquarium, zoo, botanical garden, natural history museum, art gallery and two miles of walking paths.



TOMBSTONE

Tombstone, "The Town Too Tough to Die," is home to the infamous O.K. Corral, where daily reenactments of the gunfight between the Earp brothers and the Clantons and McLaury's thrill visitors. For more chills and thrills, take a nighttime ghost tour of The Bird Cage Theatre!



BISBEE

Bisbee is a former copper mining boomtown with a rich history. Must-sees here include the Queen Mine Tour, Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum, Bisbee's Heritage Stairs, the historic Copper Queen Hotel, and an eclectic selection of restaurants, bars, shops and galleries.



KARTCHNER CAVERNS

Kartchner Caverns is one of the world's only "living" caves open to the public. Daily tours showcase breathtaking underground formations like the Rotunda-Throne Room and Kubla Kahn, the largest column formation in Arizona.



MOUNT LEMMON SKY CENTER

The Sky Center offers several public options for viewing the cosmos, including SkyNights, which includes an astronomy lecture, light dinner and guided navigation of the night sky. (*Note: Reservations required for all programs.*)

WINE COUNTRY

Arizona boasts three distinct grape growing regions and a bounty of award-winning wineries. Here's a quick look where to experience the best of Arizona wine.

VERDE VALLEY

This lush riparian valley about 2 hours north of Scottsdale includes the towns of Cottonwood, Cornville, Camp Verde and Sedona, to name a few. Scattered among these high-desert towns you'll find more than 25 wine-tasting rooms representing prestigious labels such as Caduceus Cellars, Alcantara Vineyards, Javelina Leap and Page Springs Cellars.

vwinetrail.com



SONOITA

The first location in Arizona to be designated as an American Viticultural Area, Sonoita lies in the rolling grasslands of southeastern Arizona, about 2.5 hours from Scottsdale. A trip to Sonoita for tasting fruits of the local terroir at wineries like Dos Cabezas Wine Works, Rune Wines and Callaghan Vineyards also puts you in easy reach of southern Arizona points of interest including Kartchner Caverns, Tombstone and Tubac. sonoitaelginchamber.org



WILLCOX

About 3 hours southeast of Scottsdale are Cochise County and the Willcox Bench alluvial plain, where most of Arizona's grapes are grown. Here, rich alluvial and volcanic soil mixtures, seasonal monsoon rains and higher elevations combine to produce wines with their own unique Arizona flavor profiles. Choose from 10 farm wineries offering tours and tastings, including Aridus Wine Company, Carlson Creek Vineyard, Pillsbury Wine Company and Birds & Barrels. And if you're visiting in spring, don't miss the annual Willcox Wine Country Festival in May. willcoxwinecountry.org



THE GRAPE TRAIN ESCAPE

Each summer, Verde Canyon Railroad gives you the opportunity to sample wines by Arizona, national and international vintners while enjoying a scenic train ride through the lush Verde Canyon. Each tasting is paired with a complementary appetizer.

VERDE CANYON RAILROAD

800.582.7245 | verdecanyonrr.com



SCOTTSDALE WINE TRAIL

Old Town Scottsdale is home to tasting rooms from several of the state's most acclaimed vineyards, including LDV Winery, Carlson Creek and Arizona Stronghold. Stop in for a tasting, small plates and fascinating facts about Arizona wine.

SCOTTSDALE WINE TRAIL

480.664.4822 | scottsdalewinetrail.com



MERKIN VINEYARDS OLD TOWN

A popular stop on Scottsdale's Wine Trail, Merkin Vineyards boasts an experience that's nearly 100% Arizona. Their wines are made from Arizona estate-grown grapes and are complemented by house-made culinary delights using locally grown and artisan ingredients.

MERKIN VINEYARDS

480.292.8602 | merkinoldtownscottsdale.com

ROUTE 66

Route 66, known as “America’s Mother Road,” runs from Chicago to Santa Monica, but some of its most memorable photo ops and attractions are alive and thriving in Arizona.

For more information, search “Route 66” at ExperienceScottsdale.com.



WINSLOW

Roll into Winslow and you can practically hear the Eagles urging you to “Take it Easy.” This quirky northern Arizona town (located 57 miles southeast of Flagstaff) is home to Standin’ on the Corner Park. The park features a life-sized bronze of a guitar-playing balladeer and a mural depicting that iconic girl in a flatbed Ford. It’s the perfect photo op for Eagles’ fans!



SELIGMAN

Halfway between Flagstaff and Kingman is where you’ll find Seligman, the starting point of the annual Route 66 Fun Run – a 150-mile rolling party on wheels for classic car and truck fans and anyone else who wants to drive Route 66. Stop by Delgadillo’s Snow Cap for an Oink Burger and a frosty milkshake.



OATMAN

With a population that barely tops 100, it’s fair to say that Oatman is a small town. But what it lacks in size it makes up for in personality, thanks in no small part to the dozens of wild burros that roam the streets. A handful of souvenir shops, restaurants and sweet shops add to the town’s eclectic ambience.



HOLBROOK

Full of kitschy roadside charm, Holbrook is best known for the whitewashed concrete and steel teepees and vintage cars that make up Wigwam Village – a great overnight stop for explorers of all ages! Other storied sites include the Bucket of Blood Saloon and Blevins House.

SLEEPING ACROSS ARIZONA

Turning your day trip into an over-nighter? Here are some of local expert Roger Naylor's favorite places around the state to rest your head.



CASTLE HOT SPRINGS, MORRISTOWN

Luxury accommodations, starry desert skies, a chef-driven restaurant and restorative hot springs await you at Castle Hot Springs. There's no TV, Wi-Fi or cell service, so this getaway is perfect for those in need of a digital detox. castlehotsprings.com



HASSAYAMPA INN, PRESCOTT

This red brick building topped with a bell tower dates back to 1927 but has been updated with all the modern comforts. The grand lobby features dramatic wall murals, stained glass, a fireplace and old-time elevator. hassayampainn.com



THE SHADY DELL, BISBEE

The closest thing to a time machine you'll find in Arizona, this vintage trailer park boasts eight beautifully restored aluminum trailers, as well as a Tiki Bus and Chris-Craft yacht for guests to enjoy. theshadydell.com



LA POSADA, WINSLOW

Opened in 1930 along historic Route 66, the airy, hacienda-style La Posada has been painstakingly restored and features guestrooms named for celebrities who have stayed there. Stop by the on-site Turquoise Room for world-class Southwestern cuisine. laposada.org



GRAND HOTEL, JEROME

The goosebump-inducing Grand Hotel is located in the former United Verde Hospital building, which operated from 1926-1950. Ghostly figures, orbs of light, slamming doors and strange voices are just a few of the phenomena guests have reported. jeromegrandhotel.net

GHOST TOWNS

Back in the day, Arizona represented the raggedy edge of the frontier. Communities sprang up for a variety of reasons but not all survived. Today, ghost towns dot the Arizona landscape. They come in varying stages of decline, but each has its own story.

Search “ghost towns” at [ExperienceScottsdale.com](https://www.experiencescottsdale.com) to learn more.

ROUTE 66 GHOST TOWN

Two Guns survived for decades as a tourist stop on Route 66, but today the hollowed-out remains of trading posts, gas stations, and a roadside zoo are all that remain. Don’t be surprised if you detect an eerie presence here – Two Guns has a tragic history that includes the massacre of 42 Apaches at the “death cave” in 1878.

VULTURE CITY

Located 12 miles outside of Wickenburg is the site of one of Arizona’s most productive gold mines at Vulture City. Walk the graveled half-mile path to see the collection of weathered historic buildings surrounded by old mining equipment such as the stamp mill and headframe. Open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily.

GHOST TOWN TRAIL

Just outside of Tombstone a lonely dirt road weaves through desert scrub and links Gleeson, Courtland and Pearce, three former mining communities strung along the length of Arizona’s Ghost Town Trail. Gleeson boasts a museum that’s open to the public the first Saturday of every month, while Pearce survives with several historic buildings and shops.



GOLDFIELD GHOST TOWN

As a mining town, Goldfield saw its heyday in the 1890s. Sadly, when the vein faulted, so did the town. Today, this restored ghost town welcomes visitors from around the world to walk its Main Street and enjoy mine and ghost tours, a saloon and a variety of retail shops.

GOLDFIELD GHOST TOWN

480.983.0333 | goldfieldghosttown.com

GO WITH THE PROS!

Professional ground tour operators offer fun day trips from Scottsdale to statewide points of interest including the Grand Canyon, Sedona, Monument Valley and Southern Arizona. Visit [ExperienceScottsdale.com](https://www.experiencescottsdale.com) for listings of local tour operators.

For more information on all there is to see and do in The Grand Canyon State, go to [visitarizona.com](https://www.visitarizona.com).



ExperienceScottsdale.com

Please note that dates and other details published in this guide are subject to change without notice. Updated: 06/22