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Many years ago, when we began wintering in Arizona, I began to keep a list of the neat things to do while here. As this list has grown, I realized that it might have some value to folks who aren't familiar with the area. It's been fun to keep it updated and to pass it out to anyone who showed an interest. With that in mind, it's now placed here for our HOA page. I hope that you enjoy some of the links... BobF

Stuff to do while in ARIZONA!!! (10/15/2021)  
(alphabetically)

**(COVID has changed the availability of some of these functions)**

1- **[“A” Mountain](#)**

<https://www.visittucson.org/business/sentinel-peak-mountain>

Right inside Tucson!! A really neat drive up the mountain. Great view from up there. A bit scary, but hey...

2- **[Apache Trail](#)** (Road)

[https://www.americansouthwest.net/arizona/apache\\_trail/index.html](https://www.americansouthwest.net/arizona/apache_trail/index.html)

**The Trail has been “permanently” closed since a 2019 flood ruined the roadway. Before heading that way, check this website.**

East of Phoenix – gorgeous scenery! Will take 4 hours or so... more if you stop for a burger and soda at Tortilla Flats. Go to Apache Junction and get on the “Apache Trail”. At the end, turn right at Roosevelt dam and go back to Phoenix on the highway around the Superstition Mountains. It's all "Scenic Highway" back to Phoenix.

3- **[Arivaca, Arizona](#)**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arivaca,\\_Arizona](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arivaca,_Arizona)

Road to the town is paved and smooth, but like all roads in Arizona... curvy! It is Open Range country, so watch for cows crossing the road!!! Just a nice scenic ride.

4- **[Bisbee, AZ](#)**

<https://www.bisbeeaz.gov/>

In the southeast part of the state, a mining town, with huge open pit mine. Nice scenery. Go through Tombstone and stop at Boot Hill. The Gunfight at OK Corral is fought there every day!!

5- **[Canyon Lake Boat Trip](#)**

<https://dollysteamboat.com/>

On Apache Trail, before you get to Tortilla Flats is Canyon Lake. Boat takes you through an area devoid of human presence. Call ahead for tickets.

6- **[Colossal Cave](#)**

<https://colossalcave.com/>

A cave system opened many years ago and easily walked through. It's Southeast of Tucson.

7- **[CPAC \(Community Performing Arts Center\)](#)**

<https://www.performingartscenter.org/>

Always something to see. A fun Theater venue...

8- **[Desert Museum](#)**

<https://www.desertmuseum.org/>

West of Tucson toward Kitt Peak. Same road as to **[Old Tucson Studios](#)**  
<https://oldtucson.com/closed/> and the **[Saguaro National Park – West](#)**  
<https://www.nps.gov/sagu/index.htm>

9- **[Gadsden Coffee](#)**

<https://www.gadsdencoffeeandtea.com/>

23 Miles west of I-19 on Arivaca Rd. Very scenic, just don't hit a cow in the road... it's "Open Range". (NOTE: Gadsden's is no longer a coffee shop, but it still sells a variety of ground coffee to take home.)

10- **[Gaslight Theater](#)**

<https://www.thegaslighttheatre.com/>

In east Tucson on Broadway Street. A fun time every time. The players interact with the audience all in good fun. Pizza, popcorn, ice-cream served. Table seating. Call ahead!! Gaslight is ALWAYS on our agenda.

11- **[Grand Canyon](#)**

<https://www.nps.gov/grca/index.htm>

You can take a Railroad trip to the Canyon from Williams. It's a nice ride with Western entertainment provided. It's 2 hours up to the Canyon with about a 4 hour layover, and a 2 hour trip back. Since you can never "see" the Grand Canyon in it's entirety... this trip is well worth the time and effort. It's just right.

12- **[Green Valley, Arizona](#)**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green\\_Valley,\\_Arizona](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green_Valley,_Arizona)

Retirement community!!! Our winter getaway, check this one out!!!  
(We live here now!!)

13- **[Green Valley Astronomy Club](#)**

<https://sonoraastronomicalsociety.org/>

Meets at the "La Placada" retirement center east of town.. They meet on the second Tuesday of every month except June-September. Take Continental Rd. east from I-19 to Whitehorse Canyon Rd. Turn Left and go to the first stop sign. Turn left again and go to the first stop sign again. Turn right and follow the road around to the "Activity Center".

14- **[Hummingbird Man](#)** (In Memoriam)

<http://birdfotos.com/brdwatch/rancho/rancho02.htm>

and

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ujN4osRD22E>

Check the webpage and see if this is still going on. Best during the migration time of the year. You will need to call and see when you are welcome. (Jesse Hendrix has passed away)

15- **[Jerome, Arizona](#)**

<http://azjerome.com/jerome/>

Between Prescott and Sedona is the old mining town of Jerome. Perched high on a mountainside, it's quite a place to visit. A nearby Museum has open air artifacts from the mining days, and was only 5 bucks to get in...

16- **[Kartchner Caverns](#)**

<https://azstateparks.com/kartchner/>

Southeast of Tucson. On highway 90, south of I-10. Reservations required. Easy access.

17- **[Kitt Peak National Observatory](#)**

<https://www.noao.edu/kpno/>

Several walking tours available, and a gift shop... no food available. Above 7000 feet, difficult walking for some.

18- **[Longhorn Grill](#)**

<https://www.longhorngrillandsaloon.com/>

Neat restaurant a few miles South of Green Valley at the Amado exit on Hwy I-19

19- **[Mount Lemmon](#)**

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recrea/coronado/recrea/?recid=25678>

Northeast of Tucson. Paved, smooth road to the top. Great scenery and a nice Café at the top. Lance Armstrong used the mountain road as a training ground!!! Unbelievable!!!

20- **[Meteor Crater](#)**

<https://meteorcrater.com/>

East of Flagstaff on highway 40 is the best-preserved Meteor Impact Crater on Earth. It is about a mile across and 800 feet deep, was created about 50,000 years ago. It is an impressive sight!

21- **[Madera Canyon](#)**

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recrea/coronado/recrea/?recid=25760>

There is a 25 mile (or so) road trip from Green Valley into the Santa Rita Mountains which takes you to Madera Canyon. It's a bird watchers paradise I understand, with hiking trails galore. At the top, there is a picnic area with a great view of the valley below. A nice day trip...

22- **[Old Tucson](#)**

<https://oldtucson.com/closed/>

This is where many of the Hollywood Western movies were made!! You might even remember seeing some of the buildings and mountain backdrops in a favorite Western. There are activities, gunfights, a Saloon, a train ride around the perimeter, a wagon ride, and museum. (Old Tucson has Closed!)

23- **[Pecan Grove & Store](#)**

<https://www.pecanstore.com/>

On Sahuarita Road north of Green Valley. If you like Pecans – go there!! It's the largest irrigated Pecan Grove in the country. (Unfortunately, the Store is scheduled to permanently close this winter.)

24- **[Diamondback Bridge](#)**

<https://www.visittucson.org/business/rattlesnake-bridge>

As you go into Tucson from I-10 onto Broadway Street, there is a pedestrian bridge which they have modified to resemble a rattlesnake. It is a mile or so east of the Interstate. Really a cute landmark!

25- **[Petrified Forest](#)**

<https://www.nps.gov/pefo/index.htm/index.htm>

East of Meteor Crater as you near the New Mexico border, is Petrified Forest National Park. It takes a couple of hours to drive through, but longer if you stop at the scenic turnoff's and get a closer look. Some areas are spectacular. Don't miss the "Blue Mesa Road" turn off.

26- **[Prescott, Arizona](#)**

<https://www.prescott-az.gov/>

The road from Wickenburg to Prescott is truly wonderful. Switchbacks, and climbing all the way. From Prescott, you can go over the mountain, through Jerome and on to Sedona.

27- **[Roosevelt Dam](#)**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theodore\\_Roosevelt\\_Dam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theodore_Roosevelt_Dam)

At the northern point of the Apache Trail road is Roosevelt Dam. If you take Apache Trail Rd., you will be ready to stop and stretch your legs and relax for a few minutes at the Dam overlook. Restroom facilities are available there!!!

28- **[Sabino Canyon](#)**

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recrea/coronado/recrea/?recid=75425>

Northeast of Tucson is gorgeous Sabino Canyon. We never went there until 2011... our bad!!! It is absolutely spectacular!!! A not to miss attraction if you are in the area. Bring your camera. It is a National Park, and a fee is collected to enter. They do honor the National Parks Pass if you have one. Bring cash for the tram ride to the top, they do not accept plastic. No food or drink is available on site, so bring a lunch and water with you. Wear walking (hiking) shoes.

29- **[Sedona, Arizona](#)**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sedona,\\_Arizona](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sedona,_Arizona)

Sedona has much to keep you occupied. Drive up to the top of the Mesa to the airport and have a lunch at the restaurant up there. The "Chapel of the Rocks" is in town and a real photo opportunity. Try to find "Snoopy Rock" It can be seen from downtown. Cathedral Rock Park is a nice spot to take a walk. It's an easy trail back into an area where you get a great look at the Cathedral Rock formation. This is "Red Rock" country and it is gorgeous.

30- **[Sunset Crater](#)**

<https://www.nps.gov/sucr/index.htm>

This is a volcanic crater north of Flagstaff on highway 89 and easily accessible by car. Hiking trails are inside the park.

31- **[Texas Canyon](#)**

On the main highway (I-10) in southeast Arizona. Crazy rock formations. Wonderful!

32- **[Titan Missile Museum](#)**

<https://titanmissilemuseum.org/>

North of Green Valley. Last Titan ICBM site in existence. Saved from destruction by a treaty with Russia. Takes a couple of hours to do... fun...

33- **Tubac, Arizona**

<https://www.desertusa.com/desert-arizona/tubac-az.html>

On I-19 south of Green Valley... Arts and crafts town with plenty of handiwork to see. Kind of like Mackinaw Island in Michigan...

34- **Tucson Cathedral** on Stone Street

<http://www.cathedral-staugustine.org/>

Early Mass on Sunday is a Mariachi Mass, totally in Spanish with a Mariachi Band. It was a treat to attend.

35- **Old Mission (Tucson)**

<https://www.sanxaviermission.org/>

Southwest of Tucson out in the desert, an old Spanish Mission church is kept as a museum. There is a lot of old stuff out there. You can see it from I-19.

36- **Tucson Air Museum**

<https://pimaair.org/>

On southeast side of Tucson is an Air Force Museum with literally thousands of planes. There is a tram tour which is narrated and offers a lot of history. Worth a trip!

37- **Williams, Arizona**

<https://www.williamsaz.gov/>

West of Flagstaff about 30 miles, Williams is a gateway to the Grand Canyon. It is here that you can board the railroad train to the canyon. It requires a day to ride up, see the canyon, and ride back, so plan accordingly.

38- **Wineries**

<https://southernarizonaguide.com/dining-and-lodging/adventures/wine-tasting-in-southern-arizona/>

Make a fun day of doing a "Wine Crawl" There are several good wineries on the other side of the Santa Rita Mountains, and you get to see some good scenery while you are at it...

39- **Whipple Observatory**

<https://www.cfa.harvard.edu/facilities-technology/cfa-facilities/fred-lawrence-whipple-observatory-mt-hopkins-az>

Southeast of Green Valley, on top of the Santa Rita Mountains, stands Whipple Observatory. A day trip is available to the top by reservation only. You are driven up the mountain in a schoolbus. One lane, kinda scary... Great trip.

40- **The Villas**

<https://greenvalleyhomes.com/villas/>

If you get off I-19 at Green Valley on Esperanza Road and go west to the traffic light, the Villas are to the left. That road is La Canada. Just take a second to drive through the area and get a look. They were built in the early '60's as retirement homes, but are now winter get-a way's. There are about 900 units and are selling for under 100G. I understand that a few years ago, they couldn't give them away!!! A month during the winter "season" commands about \$1500 rental! Not too bad...