

Popular Local Attractions

TEMPE

[Desert Botanical Garden](#) – Discover the tranquil vibrancy of desert plants nestled amid the red rocks of the Papago Buttes. Special event Nov 4 & 5: [Día de Muertos](#)

[Phoenix Zoo](#) – largest privately owned, non-profit zoo in the United States

[Papago Park](#) – offers exceptional hiking and a wide array of recreational facilities. Comprised primarily of sandstone, the range is known for its massive buttes that rise and fall throughout the park. The trails that interlace the area are generally easy treks. The smooth footing and low elevation gain make it a popular place for running and mountain biking.

[Hole in the Rock](#) - a natural geological formation in Papago Park, great hiking trail

[Tempe Town Lake](#) – more than 2-mile long lake was created by damming a portion of the dry Salt River and adding water, [map](#) of amenities includes [boat rentals](#)

[“A” Mountain at ASU](#) – Explore this 0.7-mile out-and-back trail. Generally considered a moderately challenging route, it takes an average of 29 min to complete. This is a very popular area for birding, hiking, and running.

[Tempe Public Art](#) - Tempe's diverse collection of permanent and temporary public art complements the natural and built environment through innovative place-making, installations and infrastructure enhancements

[ASU Campus Tour](#) – Explore ASU’s Tempe campus through a self-guided walking tour.

PHOENIX

[Heard Museum](#) – is recognized internationally for the quality of its collections, exhibitions, educational programming and festivals. The Heard presents the stories of American Indian people from a first-person perspective, and offers exhibitions that showcase traditional and contemporary art. You can ride the Valley Metro [light rail](#) to the museum from ASU.

[Musical Instrument Museum](#) – The MIM tunes you into thousands of instrument sounds with a headset that syncs seamlessly as you move through its galleries. Take a world tour of cultural instruments and pop culture artists, and return for a live music experience at MIM Music Theater, a year-round concert series hosting more than 200 international acts.

[Phoenix Art Museum](#) - The Southwest's largest fine art museum features a collection of contemporary work and global masterpieces. You can ride the [Valley Metro light rail](#) to the museum from ASU.

[Taliesin West](#) – Tours of Taliesin West , Frank Lloyd Wright's winter home, offer insight on how the masterful architect was inspired by the desert surroundings. Visitors walk through rooms, gardens, walkways and Wright's entertainment pavilion on the grounds while learning about his organic architecture. Taliesin West was inscribed to the UNESCO World Heritage List on July 7, 2019, after being submitted for nomination by the National Park Service in November 2018. Find out more here.

[South Mountain Park and Preserve](#) – At more than 16,000 acres, South Mountain Park and Preserve is one of the largest municipal parks in the country. The park includes 51 miles of scenic desert trails for hiking, horseback riding and mountain biking leading to breathtaking views. Trails can be found at 48th Street and Guadalupe or from Central Avenue.

[Camelback Mountain](#) - The panoramic view from the "hump" of this iconic landmark, named for its resemblance to a kneeling camel, is worth scaling its two tricky trails, Echo Canyon and Cholla.