THE ARIZONA TRAIL

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AZ OFFICE OF TOURISM

Appreciate AZ: Explore More, Leave No Trace



PLAN AHEAD & PREPARE

There's so much more than just desert in Arizona. Planning ahead and preparing for the state's diverse terrain and temperatures means you'll be able to safely experience all that Arizona has to offer.



STICK TO TRAILS

Wander with wonder, but please stick to the trails and camp only on existing or designated campsites. When you minimize your impact, you help protect plants, animals and yourself.



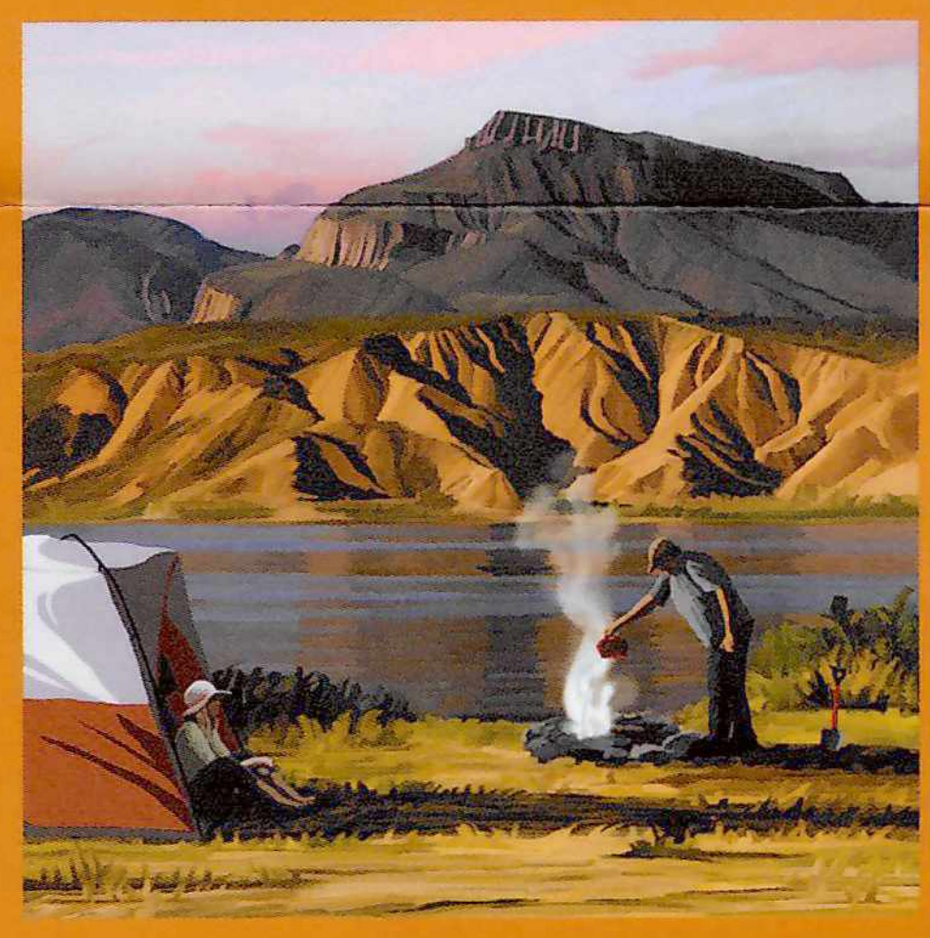
TRASH YOUR TRASH

Ecosystems are delicate and even organic trash can have a negative impact. So, when it comes to trash and waste, pack it in and pack it out.



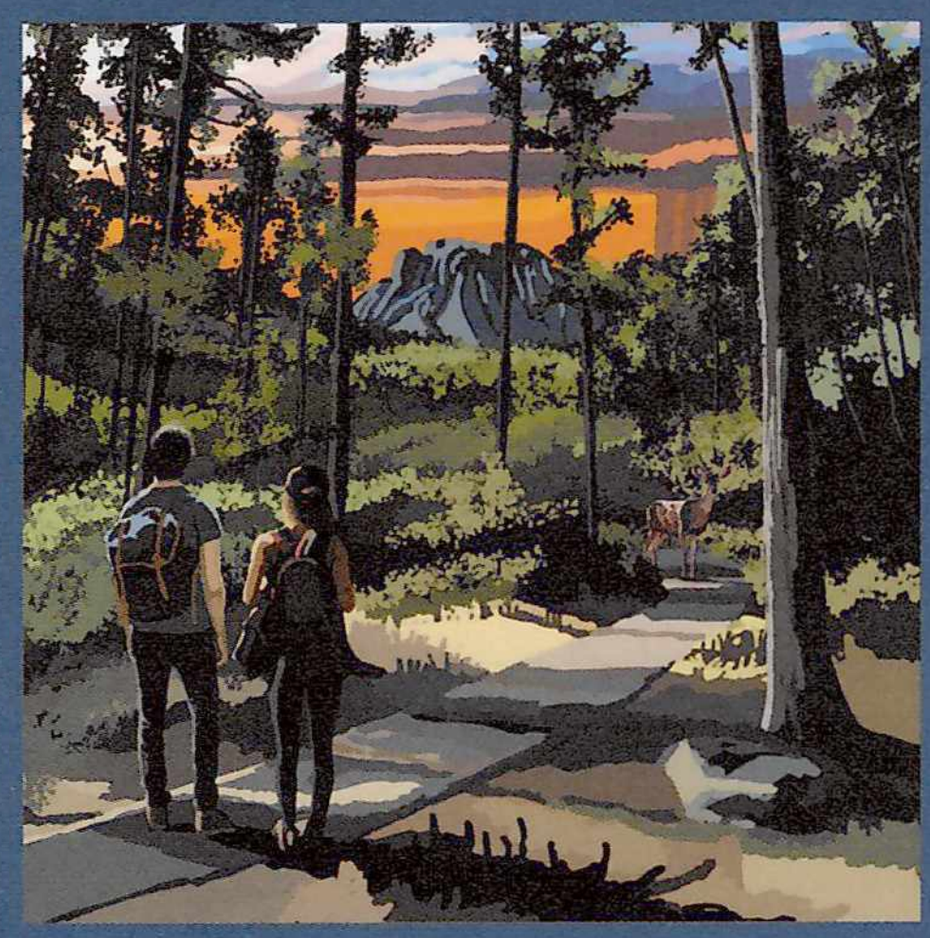
LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND

In Arizona, there is so much to discover and history to explore. Take pictures and make memories, but please don't take mementos or leave a mark.



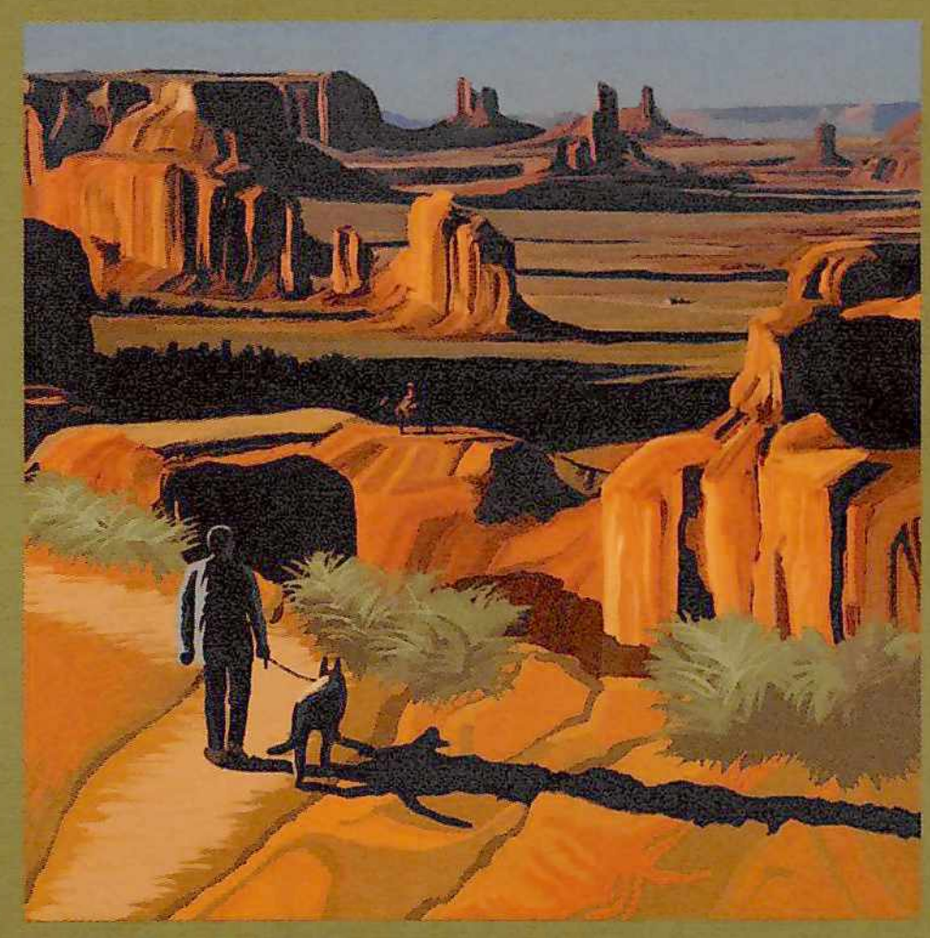
BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE

Minimize fire impacts by using only designated fire pits and keeping your campfire small, safe and attended. Arizona's hot, dry climate is perfect to catch a blaze, making this principle ever so important.



RESPECT WILDLIFE

Arizona's great outdoors is home to more than 800 species of wildlife. It's best to observe them from a distance, so be prepared to stop and let the wildlife stay wild.



SHARE THE OUTDOORS

Arizona's landscapes provide the perfect backdrop for reflection. Respect others and their unique connection to the land. Let's all enjoy the natural world together.



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ARIZONA TRAIL NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

MAP OF THE ARIZONA TRAIL

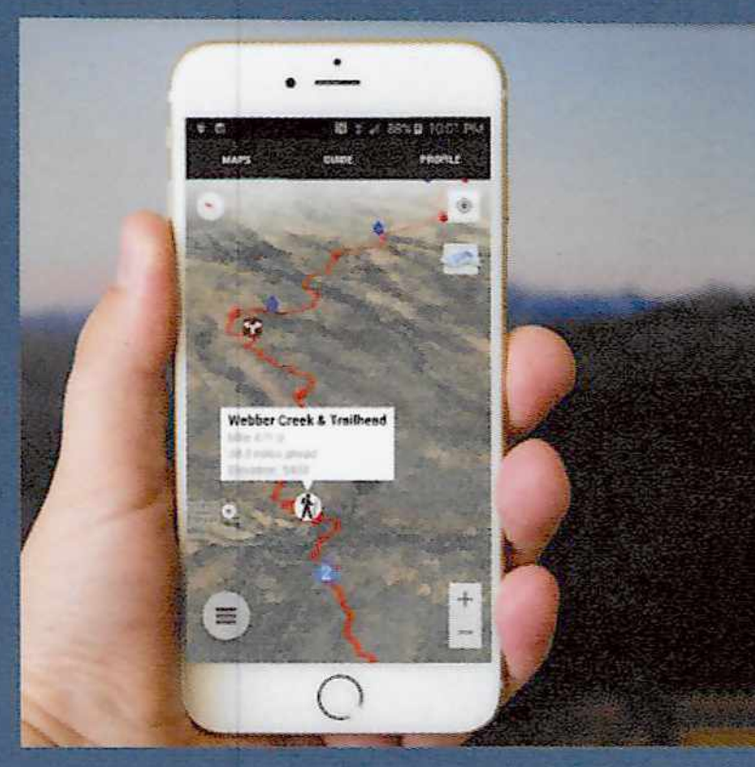
The Arizona National Scenic Trail is an 800+ mile continuous path from Mexico to Utah, linking deserts, mountains, canyons, forests, communities and people.

It is open to non-motorized forms of outdoor recreation, including hiking, running, backpacking, mountain biking, horseback riding, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. It is free and open to the public every day of the year, and no permits are required to explore and enjoy the trail (except when entering and camping within Saguaro and Grand Canyon National Parks).

The Arizona Trail is a national treasure that traverses some of the most breathtaking landscapes in North America. Whether you are interested in day tripping from one of the many trailheads or crossing the entire length of the Grand Canyon State, the adventure of a lifetime is waiting for you on the Arizona Trail.

FarOut Arizona Trail App

GPS-enabled map of the Arizona Trail with water sources, waypoints, offline topo maps, satellite imagery, photographs and much more! Download it today in your app store!



APPRECIATE AZ

The Arizona Office of Tourism has partnered with Arizona State Parks & Trails, Arizona State Lands, Arizona Game & Fish Department, and Arizona Department of Transportation to expand the Appreciate AZ message and promote responsible tourism and recreation messages across Arizona. To learn more about how you can leave no trace when exploring Arizona's outdoors, visit **LeaveNoTraceAZ.com**

It took more than three decades to make the dream of a cross-state trail a reality.

Thousands of volunteers contributed to the design and construction of the path that has quickly become one of the most popular destinations in the Southwest. In order for the Arizona Trail to be sustained into the future, your help is needed.

The Arizona Trail Association (ATA) is the nonprofit organization whose mission is to protect, maintain, enhance, promote and sustain the Arizona National Scenic Trail as a unique encounter with the natural environment. By becoming a member of the ATA, you support our mission and ensure the Trail will be here for future generations.

Hundreds of trail stewards take responsibility for the care and maintenance of the Arizona Trail from border to border. Spending a few days each year caring for the trail is a great way to give back to a natural resource that positively affects so many people (and plants and animals). You are invited to join us for a trail work event, and to become a steward of the Arizona National Scenic Trail.

Learn more at aztrail.org/volunteer

AZTrail.org

SEASONAL ARIZONA TRAIL ATTRACTIONS

WINTER



1 SIERRA VISTA - US/MEXICO BORDER
3.8 miles : out & back

From Montezuma Pass in the Huachuca Mountains hike southbound on the AZT. Stay left at the Coronado Peak Trail junction, then stay right at the Joe's Canyon Trail intersection, and finally stay left at the Yaqui Ridge Trail. This hike takes you to the international border and the AZT's southern terminus. Views of the sky islands of Sonora are incredible.



2 ORACLE - HIGH JINKS RANCH
3.6 miles : out & back

This short jaunt on the AZT connects two significant historic sites. Begin at the American Flag Trailhead near the old American Flag Ranch (the oldest standing territorial post office) and head southbound/west, crossing a few dirt roads and meandering through oaks and boulders. After 1.8 miles you'll reach High Jinks Ranch, which is on the National Register of Historic Places and once was owned by Buffalo Bill Cody. It's now a hiker's rustic bed and breakfast. Turn around here.



3 SUPERIOR - ALAMO CANYON
5 miles : out & back or loop

From Picketpost Trailhead, head south on the AZT for 2.5 miles through colorful volcanic tuff boulders. A side trip into Arnett Canyon is a worthwhile endeavor, where ample shade exists along the riparian corridor.When the trail descends into Alamo Canyon, either hike back to the trailhead through the sandy arroyo or reverse your route along the AZT.



4 VAIL - RATTLESNAKE MURAL
2.8 miles : out & back

From the Gabe Zimmerman Trailhead take the AZT southbound. You'll overlook a deep canyon to your left, and head toward the highway through creosote and yucca. When you reach the rattlesnake mural, you've made it to your turnaround point. On your way back, enjoy inspiring views of the Rincon Mountains.

SPRING



5 VAIL - CIENEGA CREEK
1 mile : out & back

Hike northbound on the AZT from the Gabe Zimmerman Trailhead. Descend into cottonwood-filled Davidson Canyon. At Cienega Creek take a left following the creek bed to a railroad trestle and then turnaround. Spend as much or as little time in the area as you like but be mindful of this precious resource. A permit from Pima County is required to enter Cienega Creek Natural Preserve if you venture off the AZT.



6 FLAGSTAFF - SANDY SEEP
3 miles : out & back

From the Sandy Seep Trailhead, join the AZT in 0.1-mile. Head west/left along the AZT for 1.4 miles of wildflowers and easy terrain. Turn around at the junction of the Christmas Tree Trail and the Heart Trail.



7 PAGE - VERMILION CLIFFS VIEW
2 miles : out & back

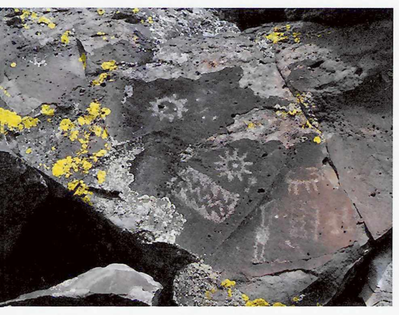
From the AZT's northern terminus monument at Stateline Campground, follow the AZT south over a few rolling hills and up the steady climb. Enjoy views of the dramatic Vermilion Cliffs to the east. Climb for about 2 miles or until you enter North Larkum Canyon and the piñon-juniper forest obscures the view. Turn around and enjoy the downhill back to the trailhead on the Arizona-Utah border.



8 KEARNY - GOLDEN SPIKE
5.2 miles : out & back

From the Kelvin Access Trailhead, take the AZT northbound (west). For the first 1.3 miles, the trail follows a road, then heads north at the railroad tracks. Enjoy the views of the Gila River below. You'll reach the "golden spike" after 1 mile. This is where the final mile of the AZT was built in 2011. The "DS" on the spike is in memory of Dale Shewalter, the Father of the AZT.

SUMMER



9 FLAGSTAFF - PICTURE CANYON
2.8 miles : loop

From the Picture Canyon Trailhead, take the Tom Moody Trail Loop, which circles 2.8 miles through a natural and cultural preserve and shares 0.5-mile with the AZT. Enjoy canyon vistas, petroglyphs and interpretive sites.



10 SUMMERHAVEN - MARSHALL PEAK LOOP
3.3 miles : loop

Enjoy a break from the summer heat on the top of Mount Lemmon. From the Marshall Gulch Trailhead, travel west on the AZT/Marshall Gulch Trail #3 for 1.3 miles. Turn south/left at the trail junction onto the Aspen Trail #93 skirting Marshall Peak on its west and south sides. In 2 miles, you'll be back where you started.



11 PINE - OAK SPRING
6.8 miles : out & back

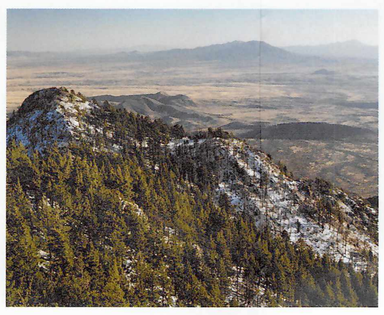
From the Pine Trailhead, take the AZT southbound, and be careful crossing Highway 87. Travel 3.4 miles into the wooded Oak Spring Canyon. Enjoy the spring, and double back when you're ready.



12 TUSAYAN - COCONINO RIM
2 - 4 miles : out & back

From the Grandview Lookout Tower, travel southbound along the AZT, following the Coconino Rim for some amazing views. Set your own turnaround point, depending on available time and energy. If you're not afraid of heights, consider climbing up the Grandview Lookout Tower back at the trailhead. The view into one of the seven natural wonders of the world (without the crowds) is unforgettable.

AUTUMN



13 SIERRA VISTA - MILLER PEAK
9.6 miles : out & back

This is perhaps one of the toughest climbs along the AZT, but it can be done in a day hike for an experienced hiker. Beginning at Montezuma Pass, hike northbound on the AZT until the Miller Peak junction. It's 0.5-mile to the summit and this trail enters the Miller Peak Wilderness and provides a beautiful and challenging hike to the highpoint of a sky island.



14 TUCSON - SYCAMORE RESERVOIR
4.6 miles : out & back

From the Gordon Hirabayashi Trailhead, hike west on the AZT. In about a mile you'll enter the Pusch Ridge Wilderness at Shreve Saddle. Take in the views! Then descend 1.3 miles into Bear Canyon and your destination, Sycamore Reservoir. This reservoir was built to supply water to the Prison Camp once on the site of Gordon Hirabayashi Campground.



15 TUCSON - HUTCH'S POOL
12.2 miles : out & back

Follow the directions above for the itinerary to Sycamore Reservoir. Stay straight onto East Fork Trail #24A passing Trail #99, #22, and #23. In 1.6 miles you'll join West Fork Trail #24 and begin to contour alongside Sabino Creek. Travel 1.5 more miles and cross the creek. Hutch's Pool will be just north of the trail by 0.25-mile. Enjoy the water along small sandy beaches and pools before returning to the Trailhead.



16 PATAGONIA - CASA BLANCA CANYON
Choose your own distance

Just north of Patagonia, turn off Scenic Byway 82 onto Casa Blanca Canyon Rd. to the trailhead. Walk 1/3-mile to reach the Arizona Trail. From here, you can head west into the foothills of the Santa Rita Mountains, or east into the Canelo Hills. Out-and-back is your best bet, but mountain bikers can enjoy a 35-mile loop by connecting the AZT with the Temporal Gulch Connector Trail, Forest Road 72, and the Patagonia Train Track Trail.