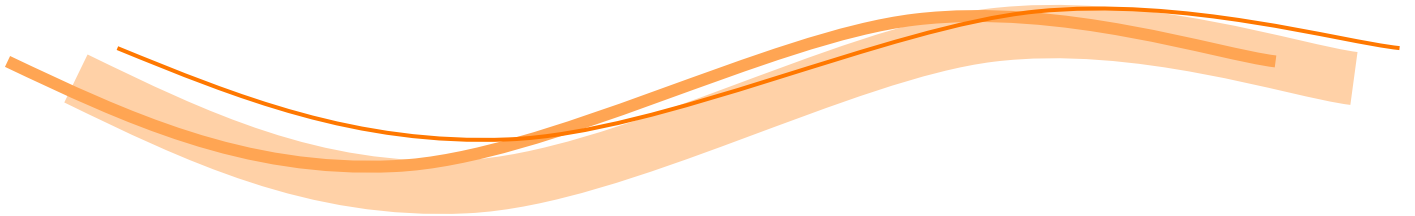




SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA





SCOTTSDALE ARIZONA

Capture the magic of Scottsdale

Scottsdale, Arizona offers you sunny skies and the beauty of the lush Sonoran Desert with iconic saguaro cacti and magnificent mountain ranges as the backdrop to luxury resorts, championship golf courses and rejuvenating spas. This urban oasis boasts myriad arts and cultural offerings, a thriving chef-driven culinary scene, high-energy nightlife, and unique boutiques. Whether you want to learn to be a cowboy, pamper yourself in a tranquil spa, experience an adrenaline rush with high-octane adventures or get away from it all in a desert hideaway, Scottsdale is calling.

Sonoran Desert Bliss

Scottsdale is set in the heart of the lush Sonoran Desert where adventurous souls find themselves along miles of pristine hiking trails, atop boulder-strewn mountains and in the gondolas of colorful hot-air balloons. Guided off-road Jeep tours provide a glimpse into the rugged desert. For those in search of their inner cowboy, horseback excursions follow rugged trails blazed by the area's first settlers. And if you're seeking relaxation and rejuvenation, many of Scottsdale's celebrated spas offer treatments incorporating indigenous ingredients that will soothe, smooth and pamper you to perfection.

A Round On and Off the Course

With more than 330 days of annual sunshine and nearly 200 pristine golf courses in the area, golfers will find Nirvana in the world's finest golf destination – Scottsdale. From the verdant, tree-lined fairways of traditional links designs to the drama and challenge of desert target-style layouts, players of all skill levels will achieve their perfect game in Scottsdale. And for those seeking an after-dark adventure, the city's 19th hole activities abound! Downtown boasts sizzling nightlife ranging from high energy dance clubs, sophisticated lounges and boot-scootin' saloons to poolside beach bars, casual Mexican cantinas and trendy tiki bars.

Celebrated Resorts and Rejuvenating Spas

For travelers seeking unadulterated rest and relaxation, Scottsdale's resorts and spas surround you with breathtaking desert views and all the creature comforts you crave. From full-service resorts to cozy boutique accommodations, you'll find nearly 70 outstanding properties. And with more spas per capita than any other city in the United States, Scottsdale is an internationally recognized hot spot for health, relaxation and restoration. Experience the Sonoran Desert in a whole new way with spa treatments using indigenous ingredients like golden desert

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	<p>honey, fragrant sage and lavender, and rich adobe clay.</p> <p>Artistic Inspirations Scottsdale's captivating desert setting has inspired generations of artists and architects. The city is a vibrant cultural destination, brimming with more than 100 art galleries as well as dozens of renowned festivals and an award-winning public art program. From the world-renowned Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin West and soon-to-debut Paolo Soleri Bridge and Plaza to the world's largest museum of musical instruments and the cutting-edge Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, Scottsdale appeals to everyone's artistic side.</p>
Location	Scottsdale is in south central Arizona in the United States and is bordered to the west by Phoenix and Paradise Valley, to the north by Carefree, to the south by Tempe, and to the east by Fountain Hills and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
Geography	The city is located in the Salt River Valley, or the, "Valley of the Sun", in the northern reaches of the Sonoran Desert. Immediately to the east and northeast of Scottsdale is the McDowell Mountain Range. Scottsdale borders the city of Phoenix and town of Paradise Valley to the west, Tempe to the south, and Fountain Hills to the east.
Name	Scottsdale is named after the two brothers who founded the city – see "History" below.
Population	230,000 in 2010
Language	English and Spanish
Currency	US Dollar. Currently the Canadian Dollar is at par with the US Dollar (November 2010)
Tipping	Tipping is voluntary in Arizona and generally not included in the bill. (There are exceptions. Some restaurants may automatically add a 15% - 18% gratuity for groups of a certain size.) Generally, restaurant servers and taxi drivers are tipped 15-20%. Bellhops receive \$1 to \$2 per bag taken to a room and airport sky caps are tipped \$1 per bag.
Government	Arizona entered the Union on Feb 14, 1912
Documentation	Canadians now need a passport when flying or driving to the US.
Time zone	Arizona is in the Mountain Standard Time zone, which is two hours behind Toronto and Montreal on EST. With the exception of the Navajo Nation in the northeast corner of the state, Arizona does not observe Daylight Saving Time.
Health	No problems, but remember to take travel insurance as medical treatment can be extremely expensive in the US.
Safety tips	Normal precautions in the cities; take special care to hydrate properly if hiking in the desert.

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CLIMATE	
General climate	From the desert floor to the highest pine covered mountain peak, Arizona's renowned sunshine ensures that nearly every day is a perfect one for sightseeing, playing a round of golf, skiing a slope, or simply relaxing by a sparkling swimming pool.
Today's weather	23 degrees Centigrade and sunny (cool at night) 12 Nov 2010
Best time to visit	Generally, the peak, or busiest season in the desert areas (southern half of the state) lasts from January through March; the next most popular shoulder season is from April to May and September through December; and the season when visitors can find the greatest values is June through August. Peak and value seasons in the mountainous regions (in the northern half of the state) are the opposite of the desert areas. Generally, peak season is from June through August, shoulder season is April to May and September through December, and value season is January through March.

GETTING AROUND	
Getting There	Air Canada launched its Montréal-Phoenix non-stop flights on November 6 th 2010. The seasonal service, operating Saturdays and Sundays until April 30, 2011, offers flights timed to facilitate convenient connections to/from Ottawa, Québec City, Saint John, Fredericton, Halifax and Charlottetown. In addition, Air Canada has added a daily flight until April 30, 2011 to its existing year-round daily Toronto-Phoenix service. Flying time from Toronto and Montreal to Phoenix is around 4.5 hours.
Cities	The desert oasis of Greater Phoenix (of which Scottsdale is a part) is now the fifth largest city in the US, attracting travelers year-round to its golf courses, spas and magnificent resorts.
Distances	Scottsdale is 4 hours drive from the Grand Canyon, 6 hours from Los Angeles, 1 hour 40 mins from Tucson and just over 6 hours to Las Vegas. It's just a few minutes to Phoenix, Tempe and Mesa in the Valley of the Sun.
Trolley	Explore downtown Scottsdale with the City's free trolley In 1986, Ollie the Trolley started rolling down the streets of Old Market in Omaha, Nebraska. Ollie's owner, Margaret Dunn of Atypical Transportation Company, expanded the fleet to include 11 trackless trolleys operating in the West. In 1994, Ollie and his family became permanent residents of Scottsdale. Ollie the Trolley has since become the official operator of the City of Scottsdale's Downtown Circulator and the Neighborhood Connector. www.olliethetrolley.net
Trains	Hop on board the Polar Express for a nighttime journey to the "North Pole" with Grand Canyon Railway. The 30-minute train ride leaves from Williams, Ariz. and arrives at the "North Pole" where Santa Claus and

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	<p>his reindeer greet you upon arrival at their Christmas village. Along the way, listen to a reading of "The Polar Express" while sipping hot chocolate. The Polar Express Package includes the roundtrip excursion, a one-night stay at the Grand Canyon Railway Hotel, and breakfast and dinner.</p> <p>There is no rail service to Scottsdale, but Amtrak will sell you a ticket and then put you on a bus from either Tucson or Flagstaff to nearby Phoenix. Scottsdale is the largest American city that has never had a rail line.</p>
Car Rental	All major car rental companies are represented at Phoenix Airport; I rented a car from Enterprise on my trip and the service was excellent.
Buses	Public bus service in the Phoenix Metropolitan Area is operated as Valley Metro, and provides regular, frequent bus service throughout the city.

ACCOMMODATION TYPES	<p>The incredible array of accommodation options is one of the many reasons to visit Scottsdale. On my trip I stayed at three hotels, all of which were wonderful:</p> <p>The Phoenician A visual masterpiece of nature, architecture and fine art, The Phoenician is a AAA Five Diamond luxury resort that rises majestically from the base of Camelback Mountain. Embodying the spirit and vitality of the Southwest, guests are immersed in the exclusive privacy found within 250 acres of glorious gardens, fountains and manicured lawns. Recreational amenities include 27 holes of championship golf, a 12-court Tennis Garden, nine swimming pools, a 16- foot water slide, a private two-acre Cactus Garden, a \$25 million art collection and the acclaimed Centre for Well Being spa with a peaceful Meditation Atrium. The Phoenician is home to Il Terrazzo, boasting authentic Italian cuisine and J&G Steakhouse, a sophisticated steakhouse offering prime cuts of meat and seafood, created by Jean-Georges Vongerichten. 6000 East Camelback Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85251 www.thephoenician.com</p> <p>The Hermosa Inn, a boutique hideaway... On lush desert, in view of Camelback Mountain, lies The Hermosa Inn. The Inn, the former home of cowboy artist Lon Megargee, has been an oasis of gracious Arizona hospitality since the 1930s. To this day you can see a reproduction of a Megargee oil painting inside the high end Stetson line of cowboy hats. The 35 unique rooms and suites are individually decorated in classic Spanish hacienda style. Each guestroom is distinct with most boasting fireplaces and private patios. Artful American cuisine is served in one of the Valley's most popular</p>
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	<p>restaurants, LON's. The Hermosa's Stetson Room, boardroom, library and wine cellar make for a one-of-a-kind place to hold an intimate meeting or private dinner. The Hermosa Inn is a member of Historic Hotels of America.</p> <p>5532 N. Palo Cristi Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85253 www.hermosainn.com</p> <p>Hotel Valley Ho is one of the best known mid-century modern hotels in the country and offers architectural walking tours of the buildings and grounds. Led by experts from Scottsdale's Ultimate Art & Cultural Tours, the walks give a historical perspective to the mid-century modern design of the Hotel Valley Ho which opened in 1956. The hotel was designed by Edward L. Varney, an architect who was light years ahead of his time. He incorporated intelligent, minimalist design creating this Arizona landmark. Over the years Hotel Valley Ho was the "private" getaway spot for Hollywood stars visiting Arizona including Humphrey Bogart, Marilyn Monroe, Zsa Zsa Gabor, Janet Leigh and Tony Curtis. The hotel also was the location for teenage heartthrobs Robert Wagner and Natalie Woods' 1957 wedding reception.</p> <p>6850 E. Main Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85251 www.HotelValleyHo.com</p>
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LIFESTYLES	
Kids	<p>Scottsdale is a place where kids can be kids and parents can be big kids. Revel in rough and tumble dune buggy adventures and safari wildlife tours (javelinas, coyotes and snakes). Soak in Scottsdale's stunning Sonoran Desert from atop a soaring hot air balloon or while riding on horseback! Discover living history with Native American hoop dancers and staged Wild West shootouts; or explore exotic wildlife such as venomous Gila monsters and carnivorous Roadrunners. In short, Scottsdale takes its family fun very seriously.</p>
Teens	<p>Although Scottsdale is smack dab in the middle of one of America's largest deserts, families are never left high and dry. Fairmont Scottsdale Princess' kid-friendly Sonoran Splash is a 6,000-square-foot water recreation area featuring two of the state's longest resort water slides. The Phoenician boasts nine pools and an 11-million gallon Necklace Pool and Lagoon where families can help feed the resident Koi fish. But that all pales in comparison to the spine-tingling excitement of the 165-foot waterslide, which is transformed during summer holidays into an "electric waterslide" complete with fog, lasers and pulsating music.</p> <p>Kierland Golf Club (www.kierlandgolf.com) has rolled out a family golf program where young aspiring pros learn the fundamentals of putting, chipping and full swings, as well golf etiquette, rules and history of the</p>

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	<p>game. Next, the youngsters take on one of the club's three nine-hole courses decked out with junior tees to make the course more playable for younger golfers.</p> <p>Tubing: Known as Arizona's "floating picnic," tubing on the Lower Salt River is a great way to soak up the sun and enjoy Scottsdale's Sonoran Desert scenery, including wildlife like javelina, hawks and wild horses. Rent a tube from Salt River Tubing & Recreation, then hop on the shuttle bus for a ride to the river and enjoy the warm sunshine and cool river waters!</p> <p>Salt River Tubing & Recreation, located on Power Rd. in Mesa, 7 miles north of the Highway 202/Power Road exit Tel: 480-984-3305 /www.saltrivertubing.com</p>
Romance	<p>Scottsdale is perfect for a romantic getaway: world class resorts, soothing spas, stunning desert scenery, sumptuous restaurants and sunsets that paint the sky in unbelievable colours.</p>
Honeymoons & Weddings	<p>Scottsdale is an increasingly popular wedding destination: here are some recommendations:</p> <p>The Phoenician can handle any wedding, big or small. For a grand event, hold your ceremony inside the recently opened Camelback Ballroom, located at the base of iconic Camelback Mountain. The \$40 million facility can host outdoor receptions in a connecting plaza and provides stunning views of the surrounding desert and mountain landscapes. For Southwestern flair, host a rehearsal dinner at the property's historic Jokake Inn adobe house, complete with a western cookout.</p> <p>Plan your dream wedding, straight from the pages of a fairytale, at the Fairmont Scottsdale Princess . A personal assistant helps coordinate every detail, from photography to entertainment, leaving you worry-free. The hotel can host every step of the celebration from engagement and bachelorette parties to couples' massages for the newlyweds and even golf tournaments for the groom and his guys. On the big day, say "I do" in a picturesque setting like the intimate Fragrance Garden complete with blooming roses or amongst the relaxing waterfall in Princess Falls.</p> <p>Prefer a less traditional approach to weddings? W Scottsdale Hotel & Residences' Wow Vows program helps create the perfect day with tailored choices to match your passions and tastes. From 1920's inspired speakeasy weddings to commitment ceremonies, your wedding specialist makes the special day a true reflection of you. The hotel even lends a helping hand on honeymoon preparation, offering a free four-day getaway at one of its tropical locations like Puerto Rico.</p>

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	And relive your wedding day with a free night's stay at W Scottsdale on your one-year anniversary.
Seniors	Many Canadians have bought winter retirement homes in Scottsdale as it's the ideal antidote to the long Canadian winter.

UNIQUES	
Surprising	Arizona has the largest percentage of land designated as Native American Tribal land.
History	<p>The Scottsdale area was originally inhabited by the Hohokam, one of the four major prehistoric archeological cultures in the region that is now the American Southwest. From 800 AD to 1400 AD, this ancient civilization farmed the area and built irrigation canals, constructing more than 200 kms of canals, much of which remains extant today.</p> <p>Following the collapse of the Hohokam culture, the region became populated by the Pima. Scottsdale was a Pima village known as Vaşai S-vaşonī, meaning "rotting hay." Following European settlement, some Pima remained in their traditional dwellings, even well into the 20th century.</p> <p>The first Anglo company staked claim in the region in 1868. Jack Swilling set up the Swilling Irrigation Canal Company to refurbish and improve upon the ancient irrigation system originally constructed by the Hohokam. However, the influx of Anglos would not significantly increase until twenty years later. In the early 1880s, U.S. Army Chaplain, Winfield Scott, who was lured in to help promote Phoenix and the surrounding area, was impressed with the region and paid the paltry sum of \$2.50 an acre for a 2.6 km² stretch of land where the city is now located.</p> <p>Winfield's brother, George Washington Scott, became the first resident of the town, which was then known as Orangedale. The Scott brothers were known as adept farmers, capable of cultivating citrus fruits, figs, potatoes, peanuts and almonds in the desert town. Scott was known to have encouraged others to create a desert farming community in the region. The town's name was changed to Scottsdale in 1894.</p> <p>In 1937, internationally renowned architect Frank Lloyd Wright set up his "winter camp" at the foot of the McDowell Mountains, establishing what is now known as Taliesin West. Scottsdale and the rest of Phoenix have seen a lasting influence from Frank Lloyd Wright. Many buildings throughout the region were designed by the famous architect.</p> <p>The city was incorporated on June 25, 1951.</p>
Books	Frommer's Arizona 2011: as always, the Bible for travellers Arizona – Lawrence Cheek: an excellent regional guide
1000 Places to See Before You Die	Valley of the Sun – Scottsdale and Phoenix The Phoenician – 'A desert palace with royal golf' Taliesin West – Frank Lloyd Wright's winter campus
Must Sees	For me, it's a tie between Scottsdale's urban chic mix of culture and

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	great resorts and dining...and the magic of the desert scenery on its doorstep.
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SPORTS ACTIVITIES	<p>The city is the spring training home of the San Francisco Giants, who practice at Scottsdale Stadium in Downtown Scottsdale. Scottsdale Stadium also hosts the Scottsdale Scorpions, a minor league baseball team in the Arizona Fall League.</p> <p>Though none play specifically in the city of Scottsdale, all of the "Big Four" major league sports organizations have franchises and play within the Phoenix Metropolitan Area - NBA's Phoenix Suns, NFL's Arizona Cardinals, NHL's Phoenix Coyotes and MLB's Arizona Diamondbacks.</p>
Golf	<p>Scottsdale is a golfing Mecca...Here's a few facts and figures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Golf courses: 51 in Scottsdale, 207 total in the surrounding area -Golf holes: 1,233 holes (includes 51 courses) -Rounds of golf: Scottsdale and the surrounding area host an estimated 12 million rounds of golf a year -Largest annual event: The PGA TOUR's Waste Management Phoenix Open, which draws approximately 500,000 spectators during the tournament at TPC Scottsdale. <p>TPC Scottsdale, home of the Waste Management Phoenix Open (known as the "World's Greatest Party on Grass") is set in the Sonoran Desert and surrounded by the majestic McDowell Mountains. TPC Scottsdale, a PGA TOUR Facility, embodies the standards of excellence in golf operations worldwide. The Stadium Course, designed by the team of Tom Weiskopf and Jay Morrish, is a masterful blend of challenge and playability for the enjoyment of all levels of golfers, professional and amateur alike. TPC Scottsdale's Stadium Course, built in 1986, hosted its first Phoenix Open (now known as the Waste Management Phoenix Open) in 1987. The Waste Management Phoenix Open is the largest attended golf event in the world with 500,000 spectators. It will be held February 3 to 6 in 2011. 17020 North Hayden Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85255 Tel: 480-585-4334 ext. 226 Fax: 480-585-3151 www.tpc.com</p>
Fishing	<p>The fishing scene in Arizona is as diverse as the landscape. Large and small lakes around the state offer excellent fishing for warm-water game fish such as largemouth, smallmouth, and striped bass. Good trout fishing can be found up on the Mogollon Rim and in the White Mountains, as well as in the easily accessible section of the free-running Colorado River.</p>
Horse riding	<p>Put on your boots and spurs because it's time for some Sonoran Desert adventure – cowboy-style! Whether you're a green-horn or an experienced rider, Scottsdale's outfitters have the ideal horse for you.</p>

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	<p>Once you're saddled up, your guide will lead you down pristine desert trails where you'll encounter curious desert wildlife and beautiful plants and cacti. Options vary by outfitter and can include river crossings, cattle drives, stagecoach and hayride combo tours, and pony rides for the littlest buckaroos.</p> <p>Fort McDowell Adventures P.O. Box 17597, Fountain Hills, AZ 85269 480-816-6465 / www.fortmcdowelladventures.com Ride the trails of the wild mustangs through the Verde River. City-slicker cattle drives, trail rides, hayrides and camping available.</p> <p>MacDonald's Ranch 26540 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85255 480-585-0239 / www.macdonaldsranch.com Guided horseback rides, hayrides, cowboy cookouts and cattle drives. Just minutes from most Valley resorts.</p> <p>Windwalker Expeditions 5447 E. Skinner Dr., Cave Creek, AZ 85331 888-785-3382 / www.windwalkerexpeditions.com Specializing in private rides for discriminating equestrians. Their professional guides accommodate English and Western disciplines.</p>
Hiking	<p>With over 450 kms of paved paths and over 400 kms of unpaved trails in Scottsdale, there's plenty of choice.</p> <p>Camelback Mountain The area's most prominent landmark, Camelback Mountain features sheer red cliffs, the Praying Monk rock formation and the familiar camel's silhouette. The 75.8-acre park is a favorite hiking and climbing spot, and Camelback Mountain's telltale hump draws thousands of hikers each year. Hiking to the top is not for beginning hikers – the two summit trails are strenuous climbs over sometimes-tricky trails. Some easier trails allow close-up exploration around Camelback's base. This is my favourite trail in the area and I have hiked it twice now – each time was memorable!</p>
Cycling	<p>There's great mountain biking here! I experienced a trip with Arizona Outback Adventures, biking in the McDowell Mountain Regional Park followed by hiking Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve. It's an exciting downhill single track ride on a high-performance mountain bike; beginning in Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve and on to McDowell Mountain Regional Park. Bordered by Tonto National Forest to the east, the Park offers sweeping, unobstructed views into the Verde River Valley as well as the Mazatzal, Superstition, and Goldfield mountain ranges. We cruised past giant Saguaro, lush Palo Verde, and spiny Teddybear Cholla. The</p>

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	<p>mostly smooth gradual downhill provides an exhilarating experience for experts and novices alike.</p> <p>The morning found us ascending the shady north slope of Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve. Our route was a rigorous climb of over 1,000 feet to a boulder strewn ridgeline. In addition to wondrous rock formations, breathtaking views of Scottsdale and its surrounding mountain ranges unfold as we gained elevation. The summit goal was Tom's Thumb, a towering monolith of granite projecting thumb-like above the Valley of the Sun. After exploring the summit, we descended along a series of steep and stony switchbacks towards our pickup location. We explored rocky outcrops and hidden caves, some of which house snoozing javelina and sleeping desert tortoises.</p>
Soft Adventure	<p>Desert Wolf Tours Desert adventure in a Tomcar and firearms course with Desert Wolf Tours. Their excursions are truly unique in that guests above the age of 18 do the driving. The Tomcar was originally developed for use by the Israeli Defense Forces special operations units, and Desert Wolf Tours owns a fleet of these vehicles that our guests self-pilot, during guided tours through the beautiful Sonoran Desert. Experience the Sonoran Desert up close where you may see javalinas, desert mule deer, coyotes, rattlesnakes and others. Contact: Zev Nadler, Owner Tel: 480-203-1639 www.desertwolftours.com</p> <p>Hot-Air Ballooning Get a bird's-eye view of the Sonoran Desert from the basket of a hot-air balloon. You'll be able to watch as your pilot and crew roll out the colourful balloon and inflate it with large fans at the launch site. After you hop into the basket, you'll take off gently and fly high over cactus studded mountains, valleys and washes. Because the balloons are so quiet, you'll see desert animals scurrying about, undisturbed in their natural habitat. When you land, you'll receive a certificate commemorating your flight.</p>

CULTURE	<p>Visitors to downtown Scottsdale can experience Scottsdale ArtWalk, a tradition that has taken place in Scottsdale for more than 30 years. "America's Original ArtWalk" takes place every Thursday evening from 7 to 9 p.m. primarily along Main Street and Marshall Way in downtown Scottsdale. Visitors can proceed at their own pace while admiring the public art and enjoying a casual stroll through downtown Scottsdale which is home to approximately 100 art galleries. A free trolley service for the area is available. For more information, visit www.ScottsdaleGalleries.com</p>
Arts	<p>Scottsdale is a city of art, from our renowned museums and popular Arts</p>

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District to an expansive public art collection that will soon include the first constructed bridge designed by renowned Italian architect, Paolo Soleri.

Since its inception in 1985, **Scottsdale's Public Art Program** has commissioned more than 70 permanent public artworks that are on display around the city, enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors alike. Here are 5 public artworks you won't want to miss on your next trip to Scottsdale:

1. **"Love"** by Robert Indiana: Conceived when the United States was consumed by the Vietnam War, Indiana's "Love" sculptures, one of which resides on Scottsdale Civic Center Mall, became a symbol for peace.
2. **"Knight Rise"** by James Turrell: This Skyspace installation at the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art frames the sky as pure color and shows us "the changing light of the sky, altering what we see with our own eyes."
3. **"Jack Knife"** by Ed Mell. This giant bronze of a cowboy on a bucking bronc in the round-about at Marshall Way and Main Street gives a nod to Scottsdale's Western heritage.
4. **"The Doors"** by Donald Lipski: What would it be like to stand inside a kaleidoscope? Find out when you venture inside this monumental work on the southwest corner of Camelback and Scottsdale roads.
5. **"Horseshoe Falls"** by Michael Maglich: Tall pillars made of stacked horseshoes, an iconic symbol of the West, stand within a horseshoe-shaped concrete seating wall on the southeast corner of Indian School Road and Marshall Way.

On Saturday, December 11, 2010, downtown Scottsdale will witness an extraordinary event with the dedication of the **Paolo Soleri Bridge and Plaza**, located at the Scottsdale Waterfront. This historic moment is the culmination of years of creative design, planning and construction by world-famous Italian architect Paolo Soleri, who is perhaps best known for his magical bronze wind bells and forward-thinking concept of "arcology." Join us as we celebrate this momentous occasion with the exhibition "Bridges: Spanning the Ideas of Paolo Soleri" at the **Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art** (through Jan. 23, 2011), as well as these exclusive special events:

VIP Arcosanti Tour: Dec. 10, 8:45 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

VIP Cosanti Tours: Dec. 11, 8:45 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. & Dec. 12, 9:15 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Soleri Bridge Dedication: Dec. 11, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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	<p>To book tours and see a list of events for the Soleri Bridge Dedication weekend, please click here.</p> <p>For more information on Scottsdale's vibrant arts and cultural scene, visit us online and start planning your next getaway today!</p>
Architecture	<p>Cosanti is the gallery, studio, and residence of Italian-American architect Paolo Soleri featuring terraced landscaping with experimental earth-formed concrete structures. Soleri is best known for Arcosanti, the prototype "arcology" community founded in the high desert in 1970, approximately 70 miles north of Phoenix. Cosanti is where Soleri and his late wife Colly Soleri had established their residence in metropolitan Phoenix several years before, in 1956, on a site just a few miles away from Taliesin West (where Soleri studied), and which has since been surrounded by suburban multi-million dollar luxury houses. Cosanti has been designated as an Arizona historic site.</p> <p>6433 Doubletree Ranch Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85253 Tel: 480-948-6145 Fax: 480-998-4312 Cell: 480-206-8228 www.cosanti.com</p> <p>Construction is underway on the Soleri Bridge and Plaza in downtown and will be completed in November, with a public dedication on Dec. 11. Designed by famed Italian designer, and former student of Frank Lloyd Wright, Paolo Soleri, the bridge will be the first one of the artist's designs to be built, although he has designed more than 60 bridges over the past 60 years. The structure will demonstrate the importance of solar movement and feature two, steel-clad 64-foot-high pylons that create a shaft of light. Depending on the time of year, the sun's shadow will cross the bridge that spans onto the south side of the historic Arizona Canal. To celebrate Soleri and commemorate the bridge's debut, guided tours of the bridge and Soleri exhibition Bridges: Spanning the Ideas of Paolo Soleri at Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art will be offered Dec. 10-12. Tours of Cosanti, Soleri's gallery, studio and residence, and his "arcology" community Arcosanti, located one hour north of Scottsdale, also will be offered.</p>
Music	<p>Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts</p> <p>One of the Southwest's premier performing-arts halls, the newly renovated Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts is recognized for its diverse, high-quality presentations of classical and world music, dance, jazz and theater, educational programs and festivals, which serve more than 300,000 people annually.</p>
Films	<p>Films shot in Arizona include: Planet of the Apes; Traffic; Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas; Contact; Jerry Maguire; Wyatt Earp, Return to Tombstone.</p>
Museums	<p>Taliesin West</p>

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	<p>Taliesin West, famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright's winter home and school from 1937 until 1959, is now one of the most popular tourist attractions in Arizona. The complex is located in the northeast fringe of the city, at the base of the McDowell Mountains.</p> <p>Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art Located in Scottsdale's popular Old Town district, the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art (SMoCA) features the most compelling modern and contemporary art, architecture and design from around the globe. Designed by award-winning architect Will Bruder, SMoCA's minimalist building (an ingenious renovation of a former movie theater) includes a public "skyspace" by the acclaimed artist James Turrell (one of only a handful in the world), where visitors can experience the ever-changing light of the desert sky. SMoCA also presents a wide variety of changing exhibitions, educational programs and special events for adults and families. 7374 East Second Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85251 www.smoca.org</p> <p>Musical Instrument Museum The Musical Instrument Museum (MIM) welcomes the young and the old, the uninitiated and the knowledgeable, to explore and experience the rich diversity of the world's music and musical instruments. MIM collects and displays musical instruments from every country in the world, preserving, protecting, and sharing these gifts with future generations. Museum guests will enjoy a close encounter with the instruments themselves, enhanced by state-of-the art audio and video that brings to life the sounds and sights of these instruments as experienced in their cultures of origin. The music of the entire world awaits you at MIM. 4725 East Mayo Boulevard, Phoenix, AZ 85050 www.themim.org</p>
Festivals	<p>The 3rd annual Crave AZ event will welcome foodies January 28-30, 2011, on a culinary adventure in downtown Scottsdale. Immerse your taste buds in mind-blowing flavors, drink in the majestic desert backdrop and relish independent dining group Savor Scottsdale's culinary celebration along the Arizona Canal. This year's event features something for every type of palate, from the decadent Grand Tasting featuring 40 of the top independent restaurants in the Valley to the sommelier-led Battle of the Grapes.</p> <p>And don't forget to save room for your next Scottsdale food journey at the 33rd annual Scottsdale Culinary Festival in April 2011. The</p>

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	<p>nation's longest continually running food festival draws more than 40,000 gourmands annually to raise money for the local arts and art education programs.</p> <p>Back for its 21st year, Celebration of Fine Art will continue to connect art lovers with artists of all mediums and styles Jan. 15 through March 27, 2011. The outdoor showcase brings together 100 artists to display their work and expertise across 40,000 square feet of space.</p> <p>Partake in the 58-year-old Parada del Sol parade Feb. 12 to celebrate the Hasknife Pony Express riders as they complete their 320km trek from the Mogollon Rim to deliver mail to Scottsdale. The annual tradition will culminate in a traditional block party with games, dancing and food in downtown.</p> <p>Scottsdale Arts Festival will take place March 11-13 on the Scottsdale Civic Center Mall with local bands, online art auction and the work of 200 jury-selected artists from across the country.</p> <p>Or, bring the whole family to the McDowell Mountain Music Festival April 29-31 at The Compound Grill for a lineup of bands from across the globe representing a variety of musical genres.</p>
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OTHER ACTIVITIES	
Shopping	<p>SouthBridge Along the south side of the canal is SouthBridge, a three-acre retail, dining, and cultural center that defies strip mall culture with its no-chains-allowed mentality. When finished, the \$41 million district will boast more than 30,000 square feet of retail space and a variety of independent restaurants, all unique in design and concept. Both the SouthBridge and Waterfront districts play host to several events throughout the year including Crave AZ, a culinary festival unique to Scottsdale.</p> <p>Scottsdale Waterfront The \$250 million Waterfront district has made its home along the north side of the historic Arizona Canal. The development sprawls 1.1 million square feet and features 198 luxury condominiums in two, 13-story towers, several restaurants like Wildfish Seafood Grille and Olive & Ivy Restaurant & Marketplace, local boutiques, and national retail outlets. Scottsdale Waterfront also features ample public open space, an outdoor amphitheater, recreation paths along the canal, and eye-catching public art. The district's must-see anchor public art piece,</p>

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	<p>The Doors, is a three-story, walk-in kaleidoscope structure.</p> <p>Scottsdale's Downtown Arts District Visitors to Scottsdale Downtown will find more than 500 one-of-a-kind specialty shops and boutiques, extraordinary art galleries, magnificent restaurants, nightclubs, entertainment venues, salons, and museums. The downtown area consists of four unique districts. Historic Old Town encompasses many historical establishments such as the Rusty Spur Saloon and Cavalliere's Blacksmith Shop, while Fifth Avenue Shops feature Southwest and Native American arts and crafts. Marshall Way Arts District is known for its diversity of media, from handcrafted wearable art to limited edition prints, and unique collector's pieces. Visitors will find fine restaurants and some of the world's major sources of art and antiques in the Main Street Arts & Antiques District.</p> <p>Scottsdale Fashion Square Scottsdale Fashion Square is the Southwest's distinctive address for premier shopping, dining and entertainment. Scottsdale Fashion Square offers a compelling retail experience and after a \$130 million renovation in fall 2009, the largest shopping mall in the Southwest reached a grand total of more than two million square feet of shop space with over 225 stores. Elite brands including Burberry, Boss Hugo Boss, kate spade, Lacoste, Louis Vuitton, Tiffany & Co., Gucci, Juicy Couture and St. John are now under the same roof as the county's first Microsoft store and the grandest of all department stores, Barneys New York. Recognized as a tourist destination, Scottsdale Fashion Square is a powerhouse, its unequalled ability to deliver exclusive shoppers. Please visit the Concierge Desk for a complimentary visitor guide, courtesy of the Scottsdale Convention & Visitors Bureau as well as a free Shopping & Dining Incentives Book.</p> <p>Scottsdale Quarter formally dedicated its public gathering space, The Quad, in November 2010 and announced nearly 30 new retail and restaurant tenants, including a flagship Nike location. The Quad is a park-like public gathering and entertainment space, and the home of Tres Cordilleras, three public art sculptures designed as functional park benches by artist Larry Kirkland. The region's largest pop-jet water fountain is featured in the 28-acre shopping, dining and entertainment district. And while new restaurants and shops will continue to be announced throughout the season, the current opening line-up for fall/winter 2010-11 includes companies like Narcisse Champagne Lounge, TK's Urban Tavern, lululemon athletica, Deegie's Carma and more.</p>
Markets	With more than 80 antiques shops and specialty stores, downtown

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	<p>Glendale (northwest of downtown Phoenix) is the Valley's main antiques district. You'll find the greatest concentration of antiques stores just off Grand Avenue between 56th and 59th avenues. A half-dozen times each year, the Arizona Antique Shows (tel. 602/717-7337; www.azantiqueshow.com), Arizona's largest collectors' shows, are held at the Arizona State Fairgrounds, 19th Avenue and McDowell Road</p>
Spas	<p>Scottsdale boasts the highest number of destination spas per capita of any city in the United States!</p> <p>A peaceful haven for mind, body and soul in the heart of the Sonoran Desert, the stunning Centre for Well-Being at The Phoenician offers a diverse menu of stimulating and healing spa treatments, including both Old World programs and innovative services that detoxify and reinvigorate. This 22,000 square-foot Scottsdale spa also includes 24 private treatment rooms, a private consultation room, weight training and cardiovascular studios, a Waters Bar, a full-service salon and a Meditation Atrium.</p> <p>I tried the Shea Butter Wrap with Honey Avocado Foot Therapy: 100% pure Shea butter is lightly massaged over the body. While wrapped, a gentle foot exfoliation prepares you for a revitalizing foot masque. A soothing scalp, neck and foot massage complete the service.</p> <p>The Centre also has a seasonal spa program, featuring a trio of unique services that relax as well as rejuvenate. Available now through January 6, 2011, each treatment serves as a complement to the resort's published spa menu.</p> <p>On-the-Go Facial Glow -- \$59, cleanse, tone, exfoliate or mask, and hydrate the skin with this popular 25-minute service. It is ideal for those who are trying to stretch time between their full-service facials, or who just need a quick refresher.</p> <p>Pep in Your Step -- \$99, revitalize and recharge with this 50-minute treatment, which begins with a massage of the back, neck and shoulders. Next, indulge in a salt scrub of the feet, followed by a cooling peppermint lotion foot massaged.</p> <p>Stress Express -- \$99, this 50-minute journey is led by their intuitive meditation guide and focuses on freeing the body and the mind of tension and stress.</p>
Nightlife	<p>Named by the New York Times as one of the "hippest and most happening" places in the country, Scottsdale is home to a variety of high-end nightclubs, restaurants, hotels, lounges and bars. Over the past decade in particular, these establishments have grown in great numbers, many catering to a more young, fashion-conscious crowd. This is evident by the growing number of trendy, style-conscious hotels that have opened up throughout Downtown Scottsdale which equally</p>

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	<p>cater to the nightlife crowds. Most notably, the Morgan Hotel Group's uber-hip, all-white Mondrian Hotel, the FireSky Resort & Spa - a Kimpton Hotel, the independent mid-century chic Hotel Valley Ho and the more recently added W Hotel by Starwood Hotels.</p> <p>The majority of nightlife is concentrated in Downtown Scottsdale, between Camelback and Osborn roads. This is the most active and popular nightlife destination in the Phoenix Metropolitan Area. Similar to well-known nightclub districts in other major cities, much like Miami's South Beach, most of Downtown Scottsdale's major bars and clubs are generally located within walking distance, often providing a vibrant and buzzing scene during most evenings. Thursdays through Sundays being the most active, as crowds of over 40,000-strong are known to congregate to this area.</p>
Casinos	<p>Southeast Scottsdale borders the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. In 1998, the tribe opened the first permanent casino in Scottsdale, Casino Arizona, at Loop 101 and McKellips Road. The success of Casino Arizona led to the construction of a second location, Casino Arizona at Indian Bend, in a temporary facility less than 13 km north.</p> <p>In 2010, Casino Arizona at Talking Stick opened. The 240,000 square foot casino is adjoined to the newly constructed 15-story Talking Stick Resort & Spa, which features the Talking Stick golf course, a 36-hole golf course designed by Ben Crenshaw and Bill Coore. Today, the two casinos collectively have over 2,000 slot machines and 100 table games.</p>

CUISINE	
Food	<p>Arizona Food Tours Presents A Taste of Old Town Scottsdale</p> <p>A Taste of Old Town Scottsdale is a walking food and historical tour activity that opens your mind and palette with tales full of rich history-one taste at a time. It is one of the fun things to do while visiting and sightseeing in the Scottsdale area. Sample great food and sip fine wine as you travel through time to some of the same streets that have been stomped on by the cowboys of the early 1900's frontier. You will be guided through Old Town Scottsdale from past to present and discover how it has grown throughout the years and why it is still, today one of the most popular and tasty tourist destinations in the US.</p> <p>www.arizonafoodtours.com</p> <p>Your tour may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Rusty Spur Saloon, the oldest saloon in Old Town Scottsdale, where you will sample some old fashion grub and listen to live cowboy music. • Outrageous Olive Oils and Vinegars, one of the most distinctive

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	<p>shops in the Phoenix area, where you will sample fresh olive oils and unique flavored vinegars.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Su Vino Winery, the first and only winery in Old Town Scottsdale, where you will have an opportunity to learn about winemaking and sample some fine wine. • Frank and Lupe's, one of the best New Mexican restaurants in the Phoenix area, where you will sample a taste of the old Southwest with a stuffed Sopaipilla. • Cowboy Ciao - Cowboy Caio, one of the most unique restaurants in Old Town Scottsdale, where you will sample one of their famous signature dishes, "Pig n Pudding". It is a creation of sweet corn polenta, chipolte pulled pork, cojita cheese and dried cranberries. • The Sugar Bowl, a 50 year landmark in Old Town Scottsdale, where you finish up with a Top Hat Sundae. It is crème-puff pastry stuffed with vanilla ice cream and topped with hot fudge.
Drink	<p>Appreciate the art of a handcrafted cocktail? You will after sipping one of Jason Asher's drinks at jade bar & edge at Sanctuary on Camelback Mountain Resort and Spa. The cocktail guru placed first in Bombay Sapphire & GQ magazine's "Most Inspired Bartender 2010" competition, beating the top movers, shakers and stirrers on the national bar scene. Try one of Asher's blends like the award-winning beet and yuzu gimlet, while enjoying views of Camelback Mountain. If you're feeling inspired, enlist in Asher's Mixology 101 class, where you'll learn how to create your own cocktails as well as tips, techniques and the history of your favorite drink. The class costs \$30 per person and reservations are suggested</p>
Restaurants	<p>Walking around downtown Scottsdale can certainly work up an appetite. Here are a few area restaurants to satisfy your cravings:</p> <p>Cowboy Ciao Modern American Cuisine and a 3,000-label wine list create a memorable experience.</p> <p>Don & Charlie's Restaurant Expansive sports memorabilia collection and championship dining specializing in BBQ ribs, steaks, chicken and fresh fish.</p> <p>Geisha A Go Go Tokyo's quirky pop culture ambiance and a traditional Asian-style menu.</p> <p>Olive & Ivy Restaurant A magnificent blend of the flavors and timeless elegance of the Mediterranean with contemporary California chic.</p> <p>Il Terrazzo Restaurant, The Phoenician Experience a new era of casual elegance for breakfast, lunch, and dinner at Il Terrazzo. Dine on a progressive menu of authentic Italian fare, including a variety of hand-crafted breads and fresh pastas created at The Phoenician by culinary artisans. Complete your table with a</p>

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	<p>selection of distinct beverages and spirits, from espresso to Pellegrino and signature Bellini's. Il Terrazzo brings the true, savory essence of the "bel paese" to the Sonoran Desert. Personally recommended.</p> <p>FnB FnB is a trendy gastropub in downtown Scottsdale featuring sophisticated comfort food and seasonal, local, organic and sustainable produce whenever possible with dishes like braised lamb shank with couscous or roast chicken with spaetzle and mushrooms. Opened in December 2009, they have evolved to currently feature a wine list of solely Arizona wines. Personally recommended. 7133 E Stetson Dr. Scottsdale, AZ 85252 www.fnbrestaurant.com</p> <p>Trader Vic's, Hotel Valley Ho Under the culinary stewardship of the renowned Charles Wiley, Trader Vic's provides iconic Polynesian fare for tiki bar fans in demand of large tropical drinks. One of the major design elements is the 20-foot outrigger canoe hanging from the main dining room, which has floor-to-ceiling glass walls overlooking lush tropical gardens, giving guests a feeling of tropical escape. Other features such as lava rock walls and orchids add to the tropical experience. The Luau Room, a semi-private dining area that overlooks the main dining room, features rain sticks, masks and artifacts providing a Polynesian ambiance for private dinner parties. Trader Vic's boasts itself on using the finest, farm-fresh ingredients from local purveyors and specific seasonings for its Polynesian cuisine. The culinary team uses a variety of multi-ethnic island cooking methods including the slow-roasting methods of the trademark Chinese fired oven and the custom-built Wok stations by longtime Trader Vic's supplier, Joe Yick. Personally recommended. Hotel Valley Ho, 6850 E. Main Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85251 www.HotelValleyHo.com</p>
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MORE INFO	
Brochures	A vacation in Scottsdale will entice all your senses. Explore all the options in their award winning 2010 Destination Guide. Fill out the form at http://www.scottsdalecvb.com/planning-tools/visitor-guide and they will put your complimentary issue in the mail today. Or phone 1-800-309-1428.
Website	www.ExperienceScottsdale.com

HOTEL PRIZE PARTNER	<p>The Phoenician A visual masterpiece of nature, architecture and fine art, The Phoenician is a AAA Five Diamond luxury resort that rises majestically from the base of Camelback Mountain. Embodying the spirit and vitality</p>
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	<p>of the Southwest, guests are immersed in the exclusive privacy found within 250 acres of glorious gardens, fountains and manicured lawns. Recreational amenities include 27 holes of championship golf, a 12-court Tennis Garden, nine swimming pools, a 16- foot water slide, a private two-acre Cactus Garden, a \$25 million art collection and the acclaimed Centre for Well Being spa with a peaceful Meditation Atrium. The Phoenician is home to Il Terrazzo, boasting authentic Italian cuisine and J&G Steakhouse, a sophisticated steakhouse offering prime cuts of meat and seafood, created by Jean-Georges Vongerichten.</p> <p>Address: 6000 East Camelback Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85251 Tel: 480-423-2657 Fax: 480-947-4311 Website: www.thephoenician.com</p>
Location	Conveniently located just minutes from Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, The Phoenician is nestled at the base of Camelback Mountain, near the burgeoning entertainment, shopping and cultural districts of Scottsdale.
Facilities	Enjoy blue skies and warm Sonoran sun while relaxing in nine acres of inviting resort pools. The Phoenician is home to a plethora of poolside amenities and adult relaxation areas, as well as inviting, kid-friendly areas perfect for the whole family.
Accommodation	Whether you choose an elegant guest room in the main hotel or an intimate private casita located just steps from the main lobby, The Phoenician offers one of Scottsdale's finest luxury hotel experiences defined by exceptional service and unparalleled attention to detail
Activities	<p>Discover a resort vacation filled with diverse activities, incredible cultural attractions and plenty of relaxation at The Phoenician. In addition to the resort's renowned USGA Championship golf course and the luxurious Centre for Well-Being spa, you can also choose from such diversions as tennis, hiking, tours and something for every member of the family.</p> <p>The Phoenician's 27-hole golf course offers the challenge and diversity golfers long for, plus the beauty and tranquility that makes the game even more enjoyable. Twenty-seven holes have been grouped into three distinctive nines – the Oasis Nine, the Desert Nine and the Canyon Nine – each aptly named for capturing the many profiles of the resort's acreage, and offering several 18-hole combinations.</p>
Restaurants	Choose from 10 restaurants and lounges, each offering culinary delights in an ideal setting. Whether you crave the American-Italian cuisine at Il Terrazzo, the sophisticated classics at J&G Steakhouse, or one of our more casual spots for food and drinks, you'll enjoy an intimate experience surrounded by The Phoenician's startling natural beauty. I personally recommend Il Terrazzo!

AIRLINE PRIZE	Air Canada
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PARTNER	
Flight details	<p>Air Canada launched its Montréal-Phoenix non-stop flights on November 6th 2010. The seasonal service, operating Saturdays and Sundays until April 30, 2011, offers flights timed to facilitate convenient connections to/from Ottawa, Québec City, Saint John, Fredericton, Halifax and Charlottetown. In addition, Air Canada has added a daily flight until April 30, 2011 to its existing year-round daily Toronto-Phoenix service.</p> <p>Operating schedules are as follows:</p> <p>Montreal – Phoenix Saturdays – Sunday until April 30, 2011 AC 1281 YUL/PHX Depart 08h05 Arrive 11h29 AC 1282 PHX/YUL Depart 12h20 Arrive 18h56</p> <p>Toronto (YYZ) – Phoenix (PHX) daily year-round AC 589 YYZ/PHX Depart 09h30 Arrive 12h11 AC 590 PHX/YYZ Depart 13h00 Arrive 19h05</p> <p>Toronto (YYZ) – Phoenix (PHX) daily until April 30, 2011 AC 1289 YYZ/PHX Depart 19h55 Arrive 22h36 AC 1290 PHX/YYZ Depart 08h00 Arrive 14h05</p> <p>The carrier will operate the Montréal and Toronto services using newly refurbished 120-seat Airbus A319 aircraft in a two-cabin configuration offering a choice of Executive Class and Economy service. The A319 jets feature Air Canada's personal entertainment system with 8.9-inch wide digital in-seat monitors and touch-screen controls offering hours of audio and video on demand programming at every seat. Other features include in-seat power within reach of every customer.</p> <p>Visit www.aircanada.com for more information.</p>
CURRENT DEALS	<p>Currently (8th November 2010) Air Canada is offering Toronto to Phoenix flights from just \$199 one way.</p>
PERSONAL EXPERIENCES	<p>From my latest trip to Scottsdale (November 2010):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Hermosa Inn - Desert adventure in a Tomcar and firearms course with Desert Wolf Tours - TPC Scottsdale golf course, home of the Waste Management Phoenix Open (known as the "World's Greatest Party on Grass") - Cosanti Arizona historic site - The Phoenician hotel - Shea Butter Wrap with Honey Avocado Foot Therapy at Centre for Well-Being, The Phoenician

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Il Terrazzo Restaurant, The Phoenician- Arizona Outback Adventures biking in the McDowell Mountains- Hotel Valley Ho- FnB restaurant- Scottsdale ArtWalk- Camelback Mountain hike- A Taste of Old Town Scottsdale- Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art- Musical Instrument Museum- Hotel Valley Ho- Trader Vic's restaurant- Soleri Bridge and Plaza- SouthBridge- Scottsdale Waterfront- Scottsdale's Downtown Arts District- Scottsdale Fashion Square |
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