

# ARIZONA - RED ROCKS & CANYONS

Arizona is rightly famous as the Grand Canyon State. However dig a little deeper and natural beauty is everywhere in this warm and hospitable year-round destination. The mighty canyons and mesas will certainly enthrall you but so will the rich history of the Ancestral Puebloans and the wild west days of Wyatt Earp and the OK Corral.

Navajo Rug Weaver



## Motorhome Itinerary

**Day 1** > Pick up your motorhome from the Cruise America depot near Phoenix and drive for just over 100 miles to the city of Tucson. In the spring, autumn and winter the weather is just about perfect, but even during the hot summers, the low humidity will make it feel more comfortable.

📍 115 miles to Tucson ★ Stop at the fabulous Pima Air & Space Museum with its collection of vintage & modern aircraft.

🌐 <https://koa.com/campgrounds/tucson-lazydays/>



Tucson

**Day 2** > Spend the morning in the Tucson area by visiting the nearby Saguaro National Park to see the mighty Saguaro Cactus, the iconic symbol of the American southwest. Some are over 50ft tall, weigh 8 tonnes and can live to 200yrs old. Continue to the famous town of Tombstone "The Town Too Tough to Die" with its wooden sidewalks and saloon doors. 📍 50 miles to Benson ★ Stop at the iconic San Xavier del Bac, the best-preserved mission church in the US. Visit the site of the OK Corral where the Earps and the Clantons battled it out and the fabled Boothill Graveyard where the losers now rest. 🌐 [www.rv-resort.com](http://www.rv-resort.com)

**Day 3** > Head east along Interstate 10 through the hot and dry Arizona Desert. Before heading into the central forested regions of the state, stop at Fort Bowie. This is now a National Historic Site and is reached by an exhilarating 1.5-mile trail that details the historic battles between the Apache and the US. Army in the late 1800's. 📍 160 miles to Globe ★ Visit the Besh-Ba-Gowah Museum a few miles outside

Globe with one of the largest collections in the world of Salado Indian artefacts.

🌐 <https://apache-gold-casino.com/resort/rv-park/>

**Day 4** > Travel north and stop at the Petrified Forest National park to see the world's largest collection of fossilized wood, some dating back over 225 million years. Interstate 40 splits the park in two, but if you have the time do take in the northern part too and the Painted Desert which offers astonishing views with its different coloured sands. 📍 135 miles to Holbrook ★ Drive a beautiful section of Rte.66 through the centre of Holbrook along Navajo Boulevard.

🌐 <https://koa.com/campgrounds/holbrook/>

**Day 5** > A spectacular day awaits as first up is the magnificent Canyon De Chelly National Monument (pronounced 'd-shay') this is easily on par with any national park you will see on this trip. Two sandstone walls emerge to what become thousand-foot cliffs and the long-abandoned cliff dwellings left by the Ancestral Puebloans. The day keeps getting better as next stop is the iconic Monument Valley with its instantly recognisable sandstone buttes and pinnacles that come into view as they soar above the desert landscape.

📍 197 miles to Monument Valley ★ Hike the White House Trail in Canyon De Chelly, one of the best hikes in the Southwest. Take a guided tour of Monument Valley with one of the Navajo run operators. 🌐 <https://gouldings.com/monument-valley-rv-campgrounds/>

**Day 6/7** > After heading back through Kayenta, continue onto Lake Powell where we suggest you spend the next 2 nights enjoying a fabulous array of sites for you to visit, including Antelope Canyon, Arizona's most famous and beautiful slot canyon, Horseshoe bend where the mighty Colorado River performs a 180 degree about turn inside Marble Canyon and the Rainbow Bridge National Monument, the largest natural bridge in the



Horseshoe Bend

world. 📍 130 miles to Wahweap ★ Enjoy the astounding beauty of the Lake Powell area with all the adventures it can offer. 🌐 <https://www.lakepowell.com/rv-camping/wahweap-rv-campground/>

**Day 8** > Head south until you reach the small town of Cameron before turning west to one of the wonders of the natural world, the Grand Canyon. However many times you may have seen pictures of it, or watched it on TV, nothing can quite prepare you for the view of a canyon that is over a mile deep and up to eighteen miles wide! Stop at the Mather campground which is walking distance from the rim. 📍 139 miles to The Grand Canyon ★ Hike the superb Bright Angel Trail into the Canyon but do stay for at least 2 nights as it is a full day hike. 🌐 <https://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/cg-sr.htm>

**Day 9/10** > Head to lively Flagstaff with its wild west charm and Route 66 history. Continue south along Oak Creek Canyon Drive as it descends an astonishing 4,500 ft through Oak Creek Canyon and into Sedona. We suggest 2 nights here to enjoy a multitude of outdoor activities. The campground is just a short walk into town allowing you to enjoy a night out. 📍 113 miles to Sedona ★ Visit the Lowell Observatory to see the site where the existence of the dwarf planet Pluto was first confirmed. Enjoy the natural water chute at Slide Rock State Park. 🌐 <https://ranchosedona.com/home/>

**Day 11** > The quickest way back to the Phoenix area is along Interstate 17, but we would suggest



## Journey Details

DEPART	Phoenix
DURATION	12 days
DISTANCE	1,245 miles

a quick detour to the now arty town of Jerome set high up on the hillside of the Verde Valley. Before arriving at one of our favourite campgrounds at Lost Dutchman State Park in the stunning Superstition mountains. 📍 156 miles to Lost Dutchman State Park ★ Learn about the legendary Lost Dutchman Mine, full of gold and yet to be found! 🌐 <https://azstateparks.com/lost-dutchman/camping-and-cabins/rv-and-tent-camping>

**Day 12** > It is just a short 30-minute drive back to our flagship depot in Mesa. If you have the time, we would certainly suggest spending a few nights in nearby Scottsdale with its fabulous resorts and shopping.

