

**Travel Classics Pre-Tour**  
**Scottsdale: Absolutely Avant-Garde**  
**Scottsdale, Arizona**  
(Maximum of 8 participants)  
Sunday, Nov. 13-Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016



**Scottsdale's Sonoran Desert**

There's something electric about the Sonoran Desert. It has a pulse. One that's so vibrant it beckoned artists like the legendary Fritz Scholder and formidable architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright for eons. But it's also a place of healing. And a place of culinary innovation. No place is the Sonoran Desert's restorative, rejuvenating and innovative powers more evident than in Scottsdale, where unbridled passion meets sheer talent.

**Sunday, Nov. 13, 2016**

Arrive at Phoenix Sky Harbor on Sunday, Nov. 13 and transfer to [Boulders Resort & Spa](#), one of Scottsdale's crown jewels. Nestled in the foothills north of Scottsdale, Boulders Resort & Spa is named for the 12-million-year-old granite boulders that dot the landscape. The resort's 160 guest casitas and 62 villas are shaped into the natural terrain, many bordering the two 18-hole championship golf courses and the property's renowned spa. The Boulders just underwent a full renovation of its casitas and the property's signature Palo Verde Restaurant, where the group will dine on the first evening.



**The Boulders Resort & Spa**

**Monday, Nov. 14, 2016**

**Get inspired in our Sonoran Desert playground.** Head outdoors for a day of adventure that might include hiking, rock climbing and rappeling, or mountain biking to get a firsthand look at the setting that has and continues to inspire great minds. Indulge in a well-earned spa treatment at The Boulders Spa featuring indigenous Sonoran Desert elements in a place that is commonly referred to as "the World's finest resort-spa destination."



**Rock Climbing at The Boulders Resort & Spa**

**Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2016**

**Walk in the footsteps of the greats.** Visit [Taliesin West](#), the winter home and still functioning architectural school of the so-called father of American architecture Frank Lloyd Wright. In addition, stop into some of Scottsdale's lesser known creative hubs, like [Cosanti](#), the residence and studio of the late Paolo Soleri, also a visionary architect. Also stop by [CattleTrack](#), an artist commune that's been called home by the likes of Vernon Swaback, a Frank Lloyd Wright protégé, and contemporary artists such as Bill Smith and Brent Bond, who are taking the antiquated art techniques of blacksmithing and printmaking and reinvigorating them with the help of technology and unbridled creativity.



**Taliesin West**



Be among the first to stay at [Andaz Scottsdale](#), the destination's newest resort opening in October 2016. Drawing inspiration from greats like Alexander Girard, Frank Lloyd Wright and Paolo Soleri, the property's interior will feature mid-century, desert designs that pay homage to the 1950s. Andaz Scottsdale Resort & Spa will include 201 bungalow-style guest rooms, a full service spa and salon, and 20,000-plus square feet of meeting and event space on more than 22 acres of land. In an effort to capitalize on local partnerships in the community, the resort also is working with nearby artist compound CattleTrack to develop programming.

### Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2016

**Experience Scottsdale's Downtown Renaissance Firsthand.** Head to vibrant downtown Scottsdale, home to myriad new, local businesses. Taste test your way through several Arizona wine tasting rooms and sip along the Scottsdale ale trail, which boasts some of the state's award-winning brews. End the day at [FnB](#), where Charleen Badman, a three-time James Beard Award Chef of the Southwest finalist, serves up creative dishes focusing on the area's agricultural bounty.

### Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016

Group press trip concludes. Head to Omni Scottsdale Resort & Spa for the kick off of Travel Classics West.