



Travel Classics West Pre-Tour A Taste of Tucson

(Maximum of 6 Participants)

Sunday, Nov. 12 – Thursday, Nov. 16, 2017



Thanks for coming to Tucson for Travel Classics West. Yes, we're going to show off the city as much as we can during the conference itself, but aren't you curious to see more? After all, Tucson was just named the second-best city in America on Resonance's Best Cities list (among cities with a population under a million, to be fair). Plus, we're still the only UNESCO City of Gastronomy in the United States.

So, let's explore Tucson together, the western, the weird, the wonderful. Culture, creativity and cuisine. Art, airplanes and the brand-new AC Marriott in the heart of the city's cultural center (the first new hotel downtown since the 1970's). Experience a bit of the Old West on horseback at Tanque Verde Ranch, then a bit of the New West with a chef-focused lunch. Getting a taste of what UNESCO saw in Tucson, learn about heritage grains in a baking class taught by a master at Barrio Bread and savor local ingredients in plates of sublime food at Welcome Diner and PY Steakhouse. Plus, great beer and whiskey made by craftsmen with stories as interesting as their drinks are delicious. We'll take in a series of new murals decorating downtown, take a trip through aviation history, see the Sistine Chapel of the American Southwest and so much more.

This is your invitation to see parts of Tucson that locals often keep to themselves. We'd love to help start your Travel Classics West experience off in an unforgettable way.

Sunday, November 12, 2017



Welcome Dinner and Overnight at **Loews Ventana Canyon Resort** at approximately 6:00 pm.
High above Tucson's Catalina Mountains discover a natural retreat at Loews Ventana Canyon Resort. A playground of visitor delights includes: the luxurious Lakeside Spa & Tennis Center; canyon hiking; professional stargazing; two Tom Fazio-designed PGA golf courses and lighted tennis courts; two swimming pools; a fitness center; nearby riding trails and more. Relax in the comfortable elegance of one of their spacious guest rooms featuring a private balcony, over-sized tub, and breathtaking views of the desert mountains and night sky.

Monday, November 13, 2017



Breakfast at **Loews Ventana Canyon Resort**

Morning Visit to **Pima Air & Space Museum**

Be amazed at one of the largest aviation and space museums in the world! Featuring over 300 historical aircrafts, from a Wright Flyer to a 787 Dreamliner. Sitting on 80 acres, the museum encompasses six indoor exhibit hangars (three dedicated to WWII) and offers docent-led walking tours and exclusive bus tours of the 2,600-acre "Boneyard", a U.S. military and government aircraft storage facility.

Horseback Riding at **Tanque Verde Ranch** followed by Chef's Table Lunch with Chef Justin Macy
Tanque Verde Ranch is one of America's old time cattle and guest ranches, located on 60,000 acres of Tucson's most breathtaking desert landscapes and nestled amongst the Rincon Mountains and adjacent to Saguaro National Park. Established in 1868, Tanque Verde Ranch is recognized as the last luxurious outpost of the old west providing guests with plush accommodations, unparalleled amenities and a vast array of exciting activities including horseback riding, mountain biking, fishing, hiking and more.

Dinner at a **local restaurant**, TBD

Overnight at **Loews Ventana Canyon Resort**

Tuesday, November 14, 2017



Breakfast at **Loews Ventana Canyon Resort**

Tour of Native Seeds/SEARCH

Since its founding in 1983, Native Seeds/SEARCH has pursued its mission to conserve, distribute and document the adapted and diverse varieties of agricultural seeds and their wild relatives, and tell the stories behind these seeds in the cultures of the American Southwest and northwest Mexico. This treasured Tucson nonprofit organization promotes the use of these ancient crops by gathering, safeguarding, and distributing their seeds to farming and gardening communities.

Bread baking class with master baker, Don Guerra at Barrio Bread

Don Guerra opened bakeries in Flagstaff, AZ and Ashland, OR before returning to Tucson where he taught K-12 students for seven years. Over time, Don yearned to return to the artistry and passion of his baking days and started experimenting with new recipes. A "garage bakery" remodel yielded Barrio Bread in 2009 and the Community Supported Baker was born. Don is committed to working with local farmers, chefs and other food producers to strengthen and grow the local food economy. In 2015 he was awarded a USDA Local Food Promotion Grant that helped him increase collaboration with others and expand production with a new bakery. Today's baking class will highlight his work with heritage grains.

Lunch at **Welcome Diner**

The Welcome Diner is a southern-tinged, southwestern located, farm to table American fare diner. They scratch cook with the finest local ingredients – made with integrity by their purveyor partners. Welcome Diner is situated in a classic Googie architecture building, designed by California architect Ronald Bergquist, and built for the Sambo's restaurant chain in 1964.

Tasting at **Iron Johns Brewing Company**

Iron John's Brewing Company is a small-batch, community supported microbrewery that creates craft beers in small, handmade batches. Their brewing system's capacity is two barrels (that's about 60 gallons per batch) and all their beer is bottled by hand. The barley is milled on site and they use only whole grain, hops, spices and yeast in the brewing process. Unique beers are brewed and released on a weekly basis.

Check into the brand-new **AC Hotel by Marriott**

Savor downtown Tucson's vibrant culture at the AC Hotel by Marriott, where you'll find locally inspired artwork in the lobby and enjoy craft beers and unique spirits sourced from southern Arizona in the AC Lounge. Live like a local while exploring an original Tucson event like the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show, Rodeo Parade, or All Souls Procession. Enjoy a signature AC cocktail by the rooftop pool while watching the iconic Tucson sunset over the Catalina Mountains.

Enjoy dinner at a **downtown restaurant**, TBD

Wednesday, November 15, 2017



Breakfast at **Hotel Congress**

This historic hotel located in the heart of downtown Tucson will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2019. Forty guest rooms retain their timeless appeal with vintage radios and antique iron beds. A fully operational 1930s-era switchboard and the rumble of occasional trains contribute to the ambiance, making for a unique and memorable stay. Enjoy the beautiful lobby, dine in the award-winning Cup Café, pull up a stool in the Tap Room or take in a show at Club Congress.

Walking tour focusing on **murals in downtown Tucson**

Last year, Tucson received the wonderful addition of eight new murals in the downtown area. This collaborative project between several organizations, funded by various grants and donors, and designed by multiple artists, draws attention to the creative community in Tucson. Blank walls spur the imagination and possibility of what could be, and with these blank walls no longer blank, the hope is that tagging will decrease in these areas. But more than simply deterring such behavior, this program has provided an opportunity for the community to express itself in a fresh, bold way.

Visit to **Mission San Xavier del Bac**

This Catholic mission built in 1783 and located about 10 miles south of downtown Tucson is generally considered the best example of Spanish Colonial architecture in the United States, but that description only scratches the surface of the beauty and history of this place. The interior and exterior are both breathtaking and the story of the church is a fascinating insight into the history of this region.

Lunch at **PY Steakhouse** at the Casino Del Sol Resort

One of only five Forbes 4- and 5-star restaurants in Arizona, PY Steakhouse brings a new era of dining to southern Arizona. The finest cuts of meats, fresh seafood and a wine list second to none, coupled with outstanding service in an elegant dining room create an evening unlike any other. The culinary scene starts here.

Tour of **Hamilton Distillers**, makers of Whiskey del Bac

After years of crafting furniture that was authentic, lasting, and handmade – wood kiln dried in house, furniture assembled with mortise and tenon joints, and finished with hand applied oil and wax – there was never any question or contemplation that Hamilton’s whiskeys would be made otherwise. They do everything right in house. They malt their own barley, and they mash, ferment, distill, barrel and bottle under one roof. After learning that so many “craft” or “artisan” American whiskeys actually come from the same mega-distillery in Indiana, they especially are proud to say they do it all themselves.

Enjoy a light, tapas dinner at the **AC Hotel by Marriott**

Thursday, November 16, 2017



Breakfast at the **AC Hotel by Marriott**

Tour of **Franklin Auto Museum**

For more than 40 years, the home of the late collector Tom Hubbard has been the center of Franklin Automobile history. Featuring more than 20 antique and classic Franklin automobiles, as well as a collection of prehistoric

artifacts collected by archaeologist Alice Carpenter, the museum is located in a quiet subdivision in the center of Tucson.

Arrive at **Westin La Paloma Resort and Spa** at approximately 11:00 am.

The Iconic Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa is a lush, 250-acre desert retreat nestled in the foothills of Tucson's Santa Catalina Mountains boasting breathtaking mountain, desert and golf course views. La Paloma, meaning "dove" in Spanish, is the perfect haven for a special restful weekend getaway, exciting family vacation or insightful business trip. The resort features five swimming pools, a 27-hole Jack Nicklaus Signature golf course, Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spa, five restaurants, a Tennis & Health Center, Westin Kids Club and retail shopping.

Experience destinations, hotels and attractions from around the state at the **Arizona Media Marketplace**, coordinated by the Arizona Office of Tourism.