



THE TOP 10 SCENIC DRIVES IN THE NORTHERN ROCKIES

Thinking of heading to the cool, green north? Discover the Top 10 Scenic Drives in the Northern Rockies—ten spectacular drives through some of North America's most scenic mountains, lakes, charming towns, and historic places. A consortium of state travel bureaus and tour operators has combined to promote the Northern Rockies as North America's newest destination for travelers who seek an authentic experience with scenic beauty, wildlife and recreation that delivers a connection with the environment, American Indian cultures and North American history. From Arizona in the summer, it's a quick dash north through Utah, and the journey begins.

Online now and launching with full details in early fall 2009, this site encapsulates the very best of the Northern Rockies, offering a convenient new way to research and plan Rocky Mountain travel adventures. This gateway site has extensive information about All-American Roads, National Parks, and the scenic byways and historic trails that connect them.

Retrace the path of Lewis & Clark through Montana, Idaho, and Washington. Tour the hot springs of the Kootenay Rockies. Plumb the prehistoric depths of Hells Canyon, or witness an awe-inspiring Old Faithful eruption, one of the most timeless signatures of Yellowstone National Park.

Use this site to explore the countless natural wonders, historical sites, and cultural attractions that make this region so legendary and inspiring. Plan an unforgettable Rockies vacation that embraces the principles of green travel, and help us protect, preserve, and enhance these treasured destinations, ensuring that they remain unspoiled for generations to come.

The Top 10 Scenic Drives in the Northern Rockies spans five US states (Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Washington and Oregon) and two Canadian provinces (British Columbia and Alberta) and includes four All-American Roads, ten National Parks and Recreation Areas, and four connecting National Historic Trails.

For more info: www.drivethetop10.com ■



WHAT'S NEW IN SEDONA

Visitor of the Month- New Feature

The Sedona Chamber of Commerce has a new feature on their social media outlets and website. They will be choosing a Visitor of the Month at random and interviewing them on camera, getting their trip highlights, details, notable facts and more. They are then sharing this on our Social Media outlets: Twitter, Facebook and VisitSedona.com. They hope this will enable them to reach new potential visitors, with happy tales of current visits, straight from the source.

Sedona Home to Three Trip Advisor Awards

Sedona is home to three of the Top Ten selections for TripAdvisor's Traveler's Choice awards for "Best Bed & Breakfast and Inns." TripAdvisor is an online travel and booking tool that provides recommendations for hotels, resorts, inns, vacations, travel packages, vacation packages, travel guides and lots more.

Coming in at number one is Canyon Villa Inn of Sedona (photos, above), an award-winning inn with bedside, patio, and deck views of the Red Rocks of Sedona. Guests bask in the warm Arizona sun by a seasonally heated pool and stargaze cool evenings by a crackling fire. Les Belch, Owner and Operator of the Canyon Villa said, "of all the awards we have received this one from TripAdvisor is the most meaningful because it comes straight from the people that have visited and stayed with us, it's extra special."

At number two is Boots & Saddles Romantic Bed and Breakfast. A hint of the Old West in comfort and luxury is what they strive to offer their guests. With spectacular views, romantic fireplaces and gourmet breakfast it is easy to see why Boots & Saddles has been on the Best B&B list in Sedona for the last two years by TripAdvisor.

Finally, at number three is Canyon Wren Cabins. With a superb Oak Creek location and a specialty in romantic getaways for two, or quiet singles retreats, the Canyon Wren Cabins are a hidden escape in Sedona. With amenities and views like these, they are a clear choice for number three. ■



WHAT'S NEW IN TUCSON

Beat the dog days of summer with extended hours and special programs from these three Tucson attractions:

Tucson Botanical Gardens opens to dog walkers on Tuesdays 7-8:30am during Dog Days of Summer, and Thursdays 5-9pm for Twilight Thursdays with live, all-ages entertainment, the return of the Prehistoric Gardens exhibit and buffet dinners catered by the Gardens Café, through August.

Tucson Children's Museum opens on Monday nights, from 5-8pm, for Monsoon Mondays, with reduced \$1 per person admission, through Labor Day.

Pima Air and Space Museum stays open late one summer Saturday per month (June 27, July 25, August 29) for tours of special hangars and kid-friendly, hands-on activities during Night Wings.

70 Years of Old Tucson Studios. Arizona's Hollywood in the Desert celebrates 70 years of moviemaking magic on July 25 with an exhibit of never-before-seen production stills from classic Westerns (some starring John Wayne or Clint Eastwood), including *Gunfight at the OK Corral*, *Rio Lobo*, *Bonanza*, *McClintock*, *Gunsmoke*, *The Three Amigos*, *Young Riders*, and *Tombstone*. Columbia Pictures built old Tucson Studios in 1939 as a frontier-town set for *Arizona*, the first major outdoor movie of the time. It's been the site for more than 300 Western-themed film and TV projects. It's also an all-ages entertainment venue with live shows, thrilling stunts, saloon musicals and Old West dramas. www.OldTucson.com.

Motor Sport Circuit for Karters. Musselman Honda Circuit is an outdoor motorsport circuit for both recreational and serious kart drivers, a replica of the famous Suzuka Kart Circuit in Japan, known by professional kart drivers as one of the best in the world. Teens can practice defensive driving, adults can develop skills, and spectators can have a blast watching the action. Operated by the Southern Arizona Kart Club, the Circuit has group events, kart rentals, racing programs, and a retail shop. For information, call (520) 245-5278.

These and more activities: www.visitTucson.org ■

