



WHAT'S NEW IN TUCSON

Celebrate the Day of the Dead Tucson Style. Altars festooned with photographs, sugar skulls, skeleton figurines, flowers, candles, and colored tissue-paper cut-works appear in museum displays and store windows in Tucson during late October and early November. These icons are part of the traditional Mexican celebration known as Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead. Community altars and exhibits will be open at Arizona History Museum, La Pilita Museum, Tohono Chul Park, and Tucson Children's Museum. The annual All Souls Procession Weekend, November 6-8, includes a photo exhibit, a fundraising evening of fun and entertainment, a children's procession, and the All Souls Procession, an annual non-motorized parade through Downtown Tucson. New this year is the All Souls International Film Festival, a forum for people to actively explore the phenomena of death through cinema, sponsored by the Tucson Film Office and hosted at the Loft Cinema, October 29 at 7 pm. www.allsoulsprocession.org.

Sample Global Cuisine, World Music. A highlight of the free Tucson Meet Yourself festival, October 9-11, is the delicious, homemade food. Cooks from diverse ethnic clubs and organizations offer an array of food and drinks from around the world (including the American Southwest), which reflect each group's traditional cultural heritage. The food court and folk music and dance performances are staged among the trees, gardens, fountains, and public art at El Presidio Park, La Placita Village, and Tucson Convention Center Plaza. New this year is a market- place of folk artists who will demonstrate their crafts and offer handmade items for sale. Special events will include a fashion show, a low rider car show, and a corrido (Mexican folk ballad) contest. Learn more at www.TucsonMeetYourself.org.

Spellbinding Cave Marks 10 Years. Many of the extremely fragile, limestone cave formations inside Kartchner Caverns State Park have been continuously growing for tens of thousands of years. In the half-mile-long Throne Room, a 21-foot, wire-thin soda-straw stalactite is the second longest on record in the world. The massive 58-foot-tall Kubla Khan column resembles a giant redwood tree. These and other unusual formations can be experienced on a guided tour of this spellbinding underground landscape, located south of Tucson near Benson. Visit during the tenth anniversary celebration of its grand opening, November 7-8, and enjoy a weekend of insightful presentations, information booths and fun kids' activities. Reserve a tour at 520-586-2283 or azstateparks.com/Parks/KACA.



Two-for-One Tee Times. Omni Tucson National Resort is offering two-for-one green fees after noon, September 1-30. The Omni Tucson National, located on Tucson's northwest side, recently completed a \$30 million renovation with improvements to the golf shop, the addition of national restaurant Bob's Steak and Chop House, and remodeled guest rooms along the Catalina Golf Course, home to countless PGA Tour and NCAA events, including the Chrysler Classic of Tucson; it boasts two distinctly different 18 hole courses and has been named one of Golf Digest's "75 Best Golf Resorts in North America" and is a Condé Nast Silver award winner. More information: www.tucsonnational.com.

Tribute to Ansel Adams. Ansel Adams, the famed American landscape photographer, co-founded a world-class photography museum at the University of Arizona, in Tucson, in 1975. This museum, the Center for Creative Photography, holds America's foremost collection of Adams' works as well as collections by nearly every other major, modern North American photographer. A survey of more than 100 photographs by Adams (1902-1984) will be presented at Tucson Museum of Art, October 10 -February 14. The Ansel Adams: A Legacy exhibit is a tribute to one of the 20th century's most admired artists featuring many of his most famous images, including works that were originally printed by the artist himself in his California darkroom and given to the Friends of Photography to represent his legacy. For details, visit www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org.

A Weekend in the Country. Enjoy a weekend in the country, less than 100 miles east of Tucson. Pick produce at Apple Annie's or other area family farm, hike the trails in Chiricahua National Monument, or explore the vineyards and wineries in Southeastern Arizona. Don't miss the 2nd Annual Willcox Wine & Art Festival, October 17-18, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the historic Railroad Park in Willcox. Taste wines produced at eight Arizona wineries, meet winemakers and vineyard growers, and snack on appetizers while listening to live music. Browse a juried art and crafts show, and stock up on locally produced foods. For festival details, visit www.AZWineFestival.com. Learn more about Southeastern Arizona cities and attractions at www.DiscoverSEAZ.com.

These and more activities: www.visitTucson.org ■



WHAT'S NEW IN SEDONA

Wine Country Tours for Women Only
Sedona Wine Country Tours offers two new wine experiences for women only. Get some girlfriends together for the Wild Women Wine Tour. You will be picked up by van, limo or luxury mini coach (minimum of 10 and maximum of 24). The good times roll with Mardi Gras beads and stories en route to the wine country, where you'll learn about wine and food pairings.

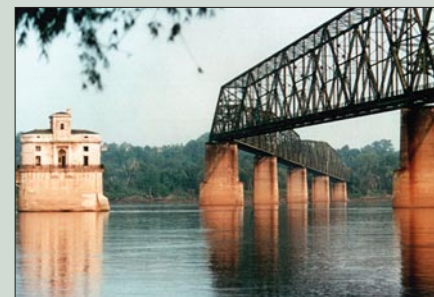
Wine, Weddings and More presents tours for wedding parties, bachelorette parties or a pre-wedding getaway. A Wining, Dining and Romance Tour is great as a wedding gift. Other tour offerings include art wine and walking tours in Jerome and Uptown Sedona. For information on discounts, call Sedona Wine Country Tours at 928-554-4072 or www.SedonaWineCountryTours.com.

The Fiesta del Tlaquepaque on September 12 is a true celebration of Mexican Independence Day. Continuing a long tradition of fabulous food, music, dance and entertainment for young and old, this year's Fiesta promises to be extraordinary. The flower-strewn streets of Tlaquepaque will ring with the music of strolling mariachi and fiery flamenco dancers. Visit the variety of artists located throughout the Arts and Crafts Village representing their shops and galleries.

1st Friday at the Galleries. On the first Friday of each month, from 5-8pm, members of the Sedona Gallery Association offer a showcase highlighting artists, special exhibits and art events. These special art receptions give locals and Sedona visitors alike the opportunity to enjoy light refreshments while beginning their weekends with an exploration of Sedona's exciting art scene. The Sedona Trolley provides free transportation from gallery to gallery.

19th Annual Sedona Arts Festival. The red rocks of Sedona provide the backdrop for the award-winning Sedona Arts Festival on October 10-11. The Festival will showcase over 150 world-class artists and craft persons, continuous live musical entertainment, great food, an extraordinary raffle, the interactive KidZone and this year—the Tony Curtis Art Tent.

The Sedona Arts Festival is recognized as one of the best festivals of its size in the nation. Artists have been carefully chosen by an experienced jury to represent a wide variety of mediums and styles of the highest quality including excellence in ceramics, fiber art, jewelry, mixed media, photography, painting, sculpture and wood. Many new artists will be represented alongside the best and brightest from Sedona. ■



ROUTE 66 ST. LOUIS FESTIVAL

The place where historic Old Route 66 crossed the mighty Mississippi River will be the site of a festival dedicated to The Mother Road. The St. Louis Route 66 Festival will be held Saturday, October 3, at the Old Chain of Rocks Bridge. The event offers 7 hours of fun and activities on both the Missouri and Illinois sides of the historic bridge, which is now one of the world's longest pedestrian and biking spans. Highlights of the festival include a classic car display lining the bridge, Route 66 authors and speakers, and live musical entertainment. American road food—from barbecue to frozen custard—will be available for sale. Some of St. Louis' favorite musicians will perform throughout the day.

For many decades the Old Chain of Rocks Bridge was a key link in the beloved Route 66. Today, the Bridge is a significant connection in the Missouri-Illinois trail system and is part of The Confluence, a riverside conservation, heritage and recreation corridor being developed in the heart of the St. Louis region. Trailnet, a not-for-profit organization that promotes active living through bicycling and pedestrian activities and The Confluence, in partnership with the city of Madison, Illinois, renovated the Bridge as a bicycle/pedestrian bridge. In 2006 the Old Chain of Rocks Bridge was added to the National Register of Historic Places as part of a Route 66 application designating significant structures along the historic route from Chicago to Los Angeles.

DIRECTIONS AND MORE INFORMATION

From Lambert-St. Louis International Airport, I-270 is just to the north, running east-west. To reach the festival site on the Missouri side, head east on I-270 (reaching the Mississippi River some 7-8 miles north of downtown St. Louis), exit at Riverview Drive and go south just 100 yards. The bridge entrance will be on your left (east). Additional parking is available at North Riverfront Park, one mile south on Riverview past the waterworks. www.confluencegreenway.org/route66festival.php ■



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