

Arizona and New Mexico with the Grand Canyon

We know you won't come to Arizona and miss the Grand Canyon but we thought we'd take you on a whistle stop tour of New Mexico and southern Arizona as well. Covering a minimum of 7 nights, we know you will want to stay longer in several of these locations.



DEPARTS FROM > PHOENIX or ALBUQUERQUE
DURATION > 8 DAYS
DISTANCE > 1,300 MILES

MOTORHOME ITINERARY

Day 1 > Pick up your motorhome from Cruise America in Phoenix and zip straight down Interstate 10 to Tucson where you can expect more than 300 days of sunshine every year! Mild, spring, fall, and winter temperatures are legendary. While summer does heat up, Tucson's combination of low humidity and medium altitude makes higher temperatures feel more comfortable. Whispering Palms RV is the place to stay; small and close to downtown. [100 miles to Tucson](#) ★ Visit the iconic Mission San Xavier del Bac and don't miss Old Tucson or the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum [www.whisperingpalmsrv.net](#)

Day 2 > You will certainly want to spend some time in Tucson so we haven't given you much further to drive today. But there is a reason why we are staying at Benson: it is so close to Tombstone and the OK Corral. You will want to visit either today or tomorrow. So less than an hour's drive to Butterfield RV Resort in the San Pedro Valley surrounded by four distinct and separate mountain ranges. [50 miles Benson](#) ★ Visit Tombstone and see where Wyatt Earp and the other 'good guys' won the Gunfight at the OK Corral [www.rv-resort.com](#)

Day 3 > A longer drive today, but as on Interstate 10 still a little over three hours. So time for Tombstone first if you didn't get there yesterday. En Route you may want to stop at historic Bowie (1880 is historic in the USA!) just before you cross the state line into New Mexico. Look out for the high peaks of Mt Graham (10,717ft), Dos Cabezas Range (8,363 ft) and the Chiricahua Mountains (9,796 ft)

You are headed for Las Cruces and Hacienda RV Resort, within walking distance of historic Old Mesilla (Billy the Kid's hangout), and all the special shops and fine restaurants it provides – maybe a night to eat out! [230 Miles to Las Cruces](#) ★ Visit the Steins-Railroad Ghost Town and Billy the Kid's Shakespeare [www.haciendarv.com/index.html](#)

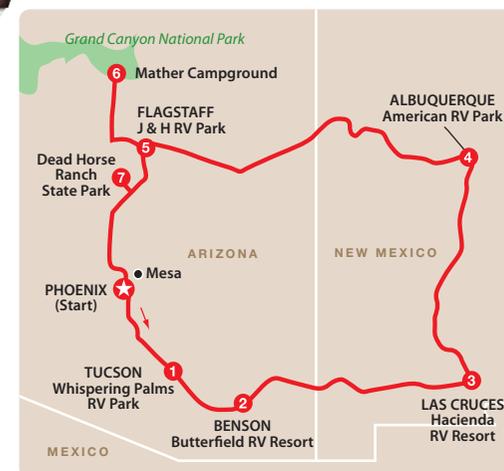
Day 4 > This morning you are only minutes to downtown Las Cruces, the second largest city in New Mexico, offering theatres, museums, wonderful dining, and gracious Southwest hospitality. Do check the website for great local information and visit before you start your four hour drive. The major city of New Mexico is your destination today and on the way we're sure you will want to stop at 'Truth or Consequence' to find out why its name was changed from 'Hot Springs'. Be sure to visit the historic bath house district. Then head on to American RV Park, the highest rated in the State. If travelling during the week of October 2-9, book WELL in advance as it's the hot air balloon festival in Albuquerque. [235 miles to Albuquerque](#) ★ Visit Socorro for the Old San Miguel Mission dominated by the massive South Baldy mountain [www.americanrvpark.com](#)

Day 5 > A longish drive today but as it is all on Interstate 40 it should take less than five hours. You will want to break your journey at the Petrified Forest National Park between Chambers and Holbrook and then continue through Cocino National Forest to Flagstaff and the J & H RV Park. [310 miles to Flagstaff](#) ★ Visit Sandia Peak and the world's longest aerial tramway [www.flagstaffrvparks.com](#)

Day 6 > We have been to and love the Mather Campground at the Grand Canyon National Park South Rim. It has no water or electric hookups but it does have coin operated hot showers and toilets. Nothing like waking up in the natural silence of a natural campground. [95 miles to Grand Canyon National Park](#) ★ Visit The Grand Canyon! Along it, down in it or hovering over it [www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/cg-sr.htm](#)

Day 7 > You may enjoy visiting the home of the Grand Canyon Railroad in Williams before heading south. You will definitely want to stop in Sedona on your way to the interestingly named Dead Horse National Park in Cottonwood – and there is a story behind the name. There are over 100 large RV sites available on a first-come, first-served basis and they advise calling a couple of days ahead to secure a site. If you unlucky, there are ten or more campgrounds in the Sedona area which can be prebooked. [155 miles to Dead Horse Ranch National Park](#) ★ Visit Oak Creek Canyon before you reach Cottonwood [www.azstateparks.com/Parks/DEHO/index.html](#)

Day 8 > 125 miles to return your Motor Home to Cruise America in Mesa.



Above: Remains of the Petrified Forest
Photo: Larry D Fellows



Ceremonial Indian dance
Photo: New Mexico Tourism Department/Mike Stauffer



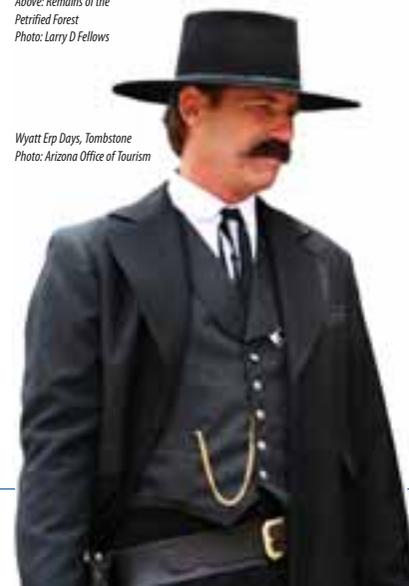
Mission san Xavier del Bac, Tucson

Photo: Arizona Office of Tourism



Downtown Flagstaff at night

Photo: Arizona Office of Tourism



Wyatt Earp Days, Tombstone
Photo: Arizona Office of Tourism



A dory in Upset Rapid, Colorado River

Photo: Geoff Gourley Photography