

# Arizona Bike Tour: Sonoran Desert & Saguaro National Park



"I thought it was well balanced in every respect. The contrast of Patagonia only served to amplify the difference of the other two locations. I liked the contrast! Loved the route choices each day! Good trip!" - Kevin White, Sojourn Guest

> 6 Days / 5 Nights | **Rating:** Intermediate | **Start / End:** Tuscon, AZ See the Departure Dates and Pricing Details

Our Southern Arizona tour is one of our signature trips and features extraordinary weather, unique landscapes, and diverse cycling routes. Highlighted by Men's Journal and Outside magazines, who named this a "Life-List-Worthy Tour," the trip is a favorite warm winter getaway for cyclists looking to escape cold winter weather. Enjoy cycling through Saguaro cactus forests and expansive grasslands framed by rugged mountains. As the most seasoned bicycling vacation operator in the region, Sojourn offers an experience that extends well beyond the seat of your bike. Visit the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, enjoy a private luncheon, and a stroll through Tubac, one of the nation's top towns for traditional Southwestern art. Take an exhilarating ride to the Patagonia Lake State Park. The warm sunshine provides opportunities to rejuvenate your body and mind as you ride, relax by swimming pools, hike, play golf, bird watch, and immerse yourself in Southwestern culture. Cycling routes include options for energetic leisure as well as avid cyclists, guaranteeing plenty of miles for all.

#### BOOK THIS TRIP:

RESERVE ONLINE | CONTACT US | CALL 802.425.4771

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# Travel the Sojourn Style

### "I'm so glad I chose Sojourn. I haven't done that much laughing in a very long time!" - Corinne Campbell, Sojourn Guest

#### **EXPERIENCES, NOT BIKE TOURS**

While we love our cycling, it makes up only one facet of what a true Sojourn trip entails. We believe in immersing ourselves in local cultures and discovering the hidden gems of the world.

#### UNWAVERING ATTENTION TO SERVICE

Our commitment to provide you with unwavering service starts from the moment you first interact with the Sojourn team. We believe the little details matter and make the Sojourn vacation a life-list worthy experience for our guests.

#### **REGIONAL PLANNING SPECIALISTS**

From Vietnam to France to Glacier National Park, we are committed to offering exceptional trips in regions with which we are deeply familiar. We personally design and operate each of our trips.

#### PROFESSIONAL TRIP LEADERS

Gracious, engaging, and intelligent, our expert team of tour leaders consist of professionals from all walks of life and make exceptional travel companions. Always a step ahead, they are adept at everything from spinning wrenches to whipping up fabulous picnic lunches.

#### PREMIER ACCOMMODATIONS

We carefully select from some of World's renowned hotels. From highly reviewed and acclaimed Maria Cristina in San Sebastian, Spain or the Reverie Saigon, Vietnam, one of the leading hotels in the World.

#### YOUR VACATION, YOUR PACE

We believe that at the end of the day, you are at the helm of your own vacation. We offer an array of day-to-day options to enable you to approach each day at your own pace.

# Sunday: Day 1

Your tour leaders will meet you at the Tucson Airport for the transfer to Hacienda del Sol, your beautiful accommodations for the next three evenings. Hacienda del Sol sits atop the foothills below the Santa Catalina Mountains and features spectacular views of the mountains and the city below – especially at night. This afternoon, your leaders will fit you to your bike and provide an overview of the week. You will also have time to relax and unwind from your travels by the pool or on the lovely grounds of Hacienda del Sol.

### GOOD TO KNOW

Every Sojourn trip is different in their own unique ways. We want you to be aware of them so that you can only have the best experiences possible. Please know, whichever trip you choose we are committed to make it the trip of a lifetime!

The Hacienda is a historic property set on 34 beautiful acres in the foothills of the Catalina Mountain range. In 1929, John and Helen Murphey created this desert retreat in the foothills of the Santa Catalina Mountains. The property features expansive views, extraordinary gardens, swimming pool and hot tub. The property, originally a school for the daughters of society's elite families, has been beautifully transformed in Southwestern style into a magnificent boutique property. Get acquainted with your fellow travelers during a welcome reception and buffet this evening.

LODGING: Hacienda Del Sol, Tuscon, AZ 520-299-1501 <u>www.haciendadelsol.com</u>

# Monday: Day 2

Saguaro National Park East – This morning you'll be greeted to a spectacular introduction to the Sonoran Desert. Plan to visit the informative visitor center at the entrance to the Park, including the self-guided walk through the gardens. The giant Saguaros, along with dozens of other types of cacti, are ever-present along our lightly traveled one-way loop through the east side of Saguaro National Park. Pause along the ride to relish in the peaceful desert landscape and listen to the birds sing. Your leaders will provide a delicious picnic lunch in the park, allowing you plenty of time to explore by bike and by foot. After lunch, join the return ride through Tucson to Hacienda del Sol or opt for the van shuttle and enjoy time by the pool or indulging in a spa treatment. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a private dinner in The Murphy Room at Hacienda del Sol.

LODGING: Hacienda Del Sol, Tuscon, AZ 520-299-1501 <u>www.haciendadelsol.com</u> CYCLING OPTIONS: 27 Miles 32 Miles 52 Miles



### Tuesday: Day 3

Tucson Mountain Park and the Arizona Desert Museum – Today's ride winds west along another section of The Loop then climbs through Tucson Mountain Park before descending into the west side of Saguaro National Park. Those up for a challenge can climb beautiful Gates Pass. The desert landscapes are particularly striking during today's rides where "forests" of giant Saguaro cacti—the iconic symbols of the Southwest—stretch for miles. Opt for an extended ride or visit the highly regarded Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, featuring more than 300 animal species and 1200 varieties of plants in a beautiful natural setting. Join a docent-led tour along the two miles of walking trails or explore the open-air exhibits on your own. This stunning outdoor museum is a must-see and features its own aviary and raptor free flight demonstrations. Hikers might enjoy a nearby trek high above the desert floor that offers a great opportunity for some off-bike exercise.

### **KEEPING YOU**

We're constantly looking for ways to enhance our trips. We'll do our best to notify you of any changes in this itinerary. Other changes may be communicated to you on the trip by your leaders.

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Following your visit to the Desert Museum, those up for a challenge can tackle the steep climb back over Gates Pass before returning to Hacienda del Sol. Relax by the pool or soak in the hot tub following your ride. Lunch and dinner are on your own today.

LODGING:

Hacienda Del Sol, Tuscon, AZ 520-299-1501 <u>www.haciendadelsol.com</u> CYCLING OPTIONS: 28 Miles 37 Miles 48 Miles Patagonia Lake State Park – The morning begins with a van shuttle out of town to Sonoita Mercantile, a quaint country store and deli. From here, set out on an exhilarating ride to Patagonia Lake State Park, where the roads are lightly traveled, and open vistas inspire a sense of freedom and "get away from it all" rejuvenation. Patagonia Lake is made up of a visually stunning 265 acres, with the sapphire blue hues of the waters wonderfully accenting the wheat colored fields and red rock mountains that fill the background.

### MULTIPLE ROUTE

Itching for that **EPIC** (Extra Pedal if Crazy) ride? No problem, we'll show you our favorite hills. Looking for more downtime? Your trip leaders will tell you the best days to take a break. All Sojourn tours have multiple route options to accommodate your riding skill or desires!

CYCLING OPTIONS:

19 Miles

23 Miles

44 Miles

The lake is also the site for today's lunch. Following lunch, opt for an epic ride to Christus Rex Lutheran Church. Continue into the artsy town of Tubac and the Tubac Spa & Golf Resort at Otero Ranch. Tubac is full of interesting shops and galleries. It is also the site of a former Presidio that was created to protect the nearby mission from Apache attacks. Arrive early and unwind in your spacious hacienda before joining us for dinner at Elvira's Restaurant, home to award-winning Mexican dishes. The fireplace in your room will take the chill off the evening as desert temperatures dip.

LODGING: Tubac Spa & Golf Resort, Tubac, AZ 520-398-2211 <u>www.tubacgolfresort.com</u>

# Thursday: Day 5

Pena Blanca Lake – Today, ride to beautiful and remote Pena Blanca Lake. The winding route dips and climbs through unusual rock formations as it approaches the lake. Your guides will provide a picnic lunch overlooking Pena Blanca Lake, which also features hiking trails that you are free to explore. The ride following lunch parallels a creek that flows along a trail used centuries ago by missionaries who settled in the region. After the day's ride, make yourself at home at the Tubac Spa & Golf Resort at Otero Ranch. This peaceful oasis features an outdoor pool, luxurious spa, golf course (Tin Cup was filmed here), and restaurant. The Resort's golf course is nestled among cottonwood and mesquite groves and traverses the banks of the Santa Cruz River and is considered one of the top courses in the region. This evening gather with fellow travelers for your final trip dinner in a private dining room at the resort.

**BOOK THIS TRIP ONLINE OR CALL 800-730-4771** 

LODGING: Tubac Spa & Golf Resort, Tubac, AZ 520-398-2211 <u>www.tubacgolfresort.com</u> CYCLING OPTIONS: 29 Miles 36 Miles 62 Miles



# Friday: Day 6-

Trip Concludes – Following breakfast this morning at Tubac Golf Resort, your leaders will transfer you to the airport in Tucson. Arrival time at the airport is 10:00am and, as such, we suggest your flight reservations be planned for departure after 11:00am.

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## Tour Accommodations

### Hacienda Del Sol, Tucson

This historic Spanish Colonial style property is full of authentic southwestern charm. Pool and fine dining. (3 Nights)

5501 N. Hacienda del Sol Road Tucson, AZ, 85718 <u>www.haciendadelsol.com</u> | 520.299.1501

### **Tubac Golf Resort & Spa at Otero Ranch**

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Otero Ranch was created by the first Spanish land grant in the southwest. Enjoy spacious and luxurious haciendas of this historic yet upscale property featuring its own spa, golf course, restaurants and pool. (2 Nights)

1 Ave De Otero Road, Tubac, AZ, 85646 <u>www.tubacgolfresort.com</u> | 520.398.2211



TOUR START	2:00pm Group transfer from Tucson International Airport on Sunday. 3:30pm – Welcome meeting at Hacienda del Sol.	
TOUR CONCLUSION	10:00am – Group arrival back at Tucson International Airport on Friday. Departing flights should not be scheduled prior 11:00am. Those with earlier flights can arrange transportation through the hotel.	
TRAVEL TO/FROM TOUR	Fly into Tucson International Airport (TUS). Parking available at TUS for those driving to tour.	
DAYS/NIGHTS	6 Days / 5 Nights	
INCLUDED MEALS	All meals breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 4 dinners.	
RATING	Intermediate, 25 – 60+ mile ride options on most days. Terrain is rolling with some longer climbs.	
ACTIVITIES	Cycling, hiking, options for golf and bird watching.	

# Dates & Pricing







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# What's Included?

EQUIPMENT	Road or hybrid bike, helmet, rear light, seat bag for road bike or rack bag for hybrid, map case, water bottle, and jersey. Bring clipless pedals, seat, or helmet for a more personalized fit.	
VAN SUPPORT	Rides supported by a Sojourn van as well as a tour leader on a bicycle.	
TOUR LEADERS	Two experienced tour leaders guide each trip from start to finish.	
RIDE NOURISHMENT	A selection of snacks and refreshments are supplied throughout all rides.	
RIDE INFORMATION	Detailed route directions, maps, downloadable GPS routes, and a daily briefing are provided.	
OFFICE SUPPORT	At your service 9:00am – 6:00pm EST, Monday – Friday. 802-425-4771	
DETAILED INFORMATION	A full complement of detailed trip and travel information will be provided upon confirmation of reservation.	
E-BIKES & TANDEMS	Electric Assist Bikes are available on all tours where permitted (conditions apply). Tandems are also available on on our US and Canada tours for an additional fee. <b>Call us at 1-802-425-4771 for details</b> .	

### Weather

Average	Feb	Mar	Oct
High °F	67°	72°	84°
Low °F	41°	44°	56°
Precip. Inches	0.7	0.7	1.1

### WE'RE HAPPY TO CHAT!

Call: 802.425.4771 Write: info@gosojourn.com Visit: GoSojourn.com

### **PRICES & SCHEDULE**

All prices and schedules are subject to change at any time. Click <u>HERE</u> to view the latest departure dates & prices.