



ADVENTURES  
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## ARIZONA SONORAN DESERT SAMPLER

### Trip Summary

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Settle in at [Tanque Verde Ranch](#) - recognized as the last luxurious outpost of the old west and located on 60,000 acres of Tucson's most breathtaking desert landscapes
- Saddle up for a private lessons and private group rides to see the ranch from a unique perspective
- Lace up - hike under the towering saguaros and explore some of the Southwest's most diverse landscapes
- Experience some of the unique flavors of Tucson
- Treat your tired muscles to a massage at the ranch's spa and relax at the indoor/outdoor pools and hot tubs

877-439-4042    adventuresingoodcompany.com    info@goodadventure.com  
2601 S. Lemay Ave Ste 7, PMB 455 Fort Collins, CO 80525

## TRIP AT A GLANCE

Location:	Tucson, AZ
Activities:	Multisport
Arrive:	Arrive in Tucson by 3 PM (flying) or 4 PM (driving) on Day 1.
Depart:	We'll be back at the Tucson airport by 11 AM and you can plan flights out after 1 PM on the last day.

### Trip Overview

Nestled on the outskirts of Tucson, the Tanque Verde Ranch, is an ideal spot for exploring the surrounding mountains and desert. Each day is a new activity, with lots of fun in the desert sun. We'll start the week with a Cowgirl Cookout and spend some time improving our riding skills and strengthening our hiking legs on nearby trails. A trip to southern Arizona wouldn't be complete without an opportunity to also explore its culture and cuisine, with fabulous meals and margaritas. Tanque Verde Ranch is our base for this fabulous adventure in the Sonoran Desert!

Maximum group size: 12

### Rating

This trip is for women in good physical condition who can hike for three to six hours a day in a desert environment. There will be hikes of over six miles on three of the days and also some time to relax at the ranch. You will have the option to participate in all of the hikes if you train for a level 3 rated trip by engaging in aerobic conditioning, such as walking vigorously up hills, jogging, cross-country skiing or stair stepping for 30 - 45 minutes at least 3 - 4 times a week. **Rating: 1 [2] [3]**.

### What's Included

- 1 - 2 experienced AGC guides based on group size
- Five nights of double occupancy accommodation
- All meals except dinner on Day 4
- All transportation once you arrive in Tucson, AZ
- National Park and other entry fees
- Private horseback ride

**What's not included:** Travel to and from Tucson, one dinner, travel insurance, spa services, alcoholic beverages, and guide gratuities.

## OUR ITINERARY

Below is the itinerary we have planned for the trip. As is true on any adventure travel trip, plans for any specific day may be modified due to weather considerations, unforeseen circumstances, new opportunities, and group interests.

### DAY 1

Welcome to the beautiful southwest! Please plan to arrive at the Tucson International Airport by 3 PM or if you're driving, at the Tanque Verde Ranch by 4 PM. After brief introductions, we'll settle into Tanque Verde Ranch, our home base for the trip. Located on the edge of the Rincon Mountains and overlooking the rolling foothills of Saguaro National Park, Tanque Verde Ranch offers charming, southwestern lodging, and is one of Tucson's top destinations for horseback riding and other outdoor activities. We'll take a short hike to familiarize ourselves with the ranch and then gather for a cowgirl cookout! After dinner, relax around the campfire or enjoy the sunset from the courtyard outside our rooms. (D)  
Overnight: Tanque Verde Ranch

### DAY 2

What could make a delicious breakfast even better? Riding a horse, mountain biking, or guided nature walk to it! We'll saddle up this morning and ride out to our awaiting breakfast cookout. Enjoy pancakes fresh off the griddle and a full spread of breakfast options before heading back to the ranch in the same manner in which you came. We'll change our clothes and then stretch our legs on a hike in neighboring Saguaro National Park. With a picnic lunch and daypacks for a 5-6 mile hike of Gardwood Dam and Little Wildhorse Tank trail, the afternoon is ours to explore. The first 30-minutes are fairly flat and then we'll have a few challenging ups and downs but the views and variety of cactus and wildlife along the way are worth it! This hike will also take us to Little Wildhorse Tank – a natural pool and one of the only perennial areas for water in the park. We'll have lunch on the trail and time to marvel over all the interesting plants and animals. We will get back to the ranch in time to take a quick dip in the pool or hot tub and freshen up before heading into Tucson for dinner and a margarita, if you choose! (B, L, D)  
Overnight Tanque Verde Ranch

### DAY 3

We will have an early morning, so we can explore a totally different ecosystem in the Santa Rita Mountains, a 90-minute drive south to explore Madera Canyon. The canyon is one of the most renowned birding locations in the United States and we'll have ample opportunities to add to our bird lists on the 6.5-mile Josephine Saddle Loop via Super Trail. The trail follows a moderate grade for 3.6 miles before reaching the Josephine Saddle. This is the perfect spot to enjoy our lunch and keep our eyes and ears open for wildlife, including the stunning Elegant Trogon! At Josephine Saddle, the trail branches in several directions and we'll return via Old Baldy trail, descending the 1700 feet we just climbed up but in only 2.2 miles. After our hike,

we will head to Tubac to explore this thriving artist community with over 100 galleries, shops and great restaurants. You'll have the option to stroll the town at your own pace before dinner at Elvira's - an iconic, vibrant and award-winning Mexican restaurant. If you want to try mole while in Arizona, this is the place to do it!

Overnight Tanque Verde Ranch (B, L, D)

#### **DAY 4**

Today we drive about an hour to the top of Mt. Lemmon, stopping along the way at a few of the highlights and viewpoints. Our trail is the 4.5 mile Aspen/Marshall loop with many viewpoints and an intro to fire ecology, and witnessing new growth after the 2020 wildfire in the area. We'll be back at the ranch by mid-afternoon with the option to see the desert in the golden afternoon light by horseback. Or you can relax at the pool, schedule a massage or partake in one of the numerous activities and amenities at the ranch. Tonight, you can dine at the ranch at your leisure. Overnight at Tanque Verde Ranch. (B, L)

#### **DAY 5**

Today begins with another early breakfast and plenty of cowgirl coffee! We'll then drive a short distance to Sabino Canyon and catch a shuttle to the Seven Falls trailhead. It's one of Tucson's most popular hikes (it's easy to see why) and worth getting there early to beat the crowds. On this 6-mile out and back trail, we'll be surrounded by saguaros, cholla, ocotillo and the beauty of the Sonoran Desert. And after a gradual and steady climb, we'll be rewarded with the views of Seven Falls and time to relax and dip into the cool pools. After our trail lunch, we'll hike back to the trailhead for the short shuttle ride down the canyon. Sadly, our time together is coming to end but we'll share a tasty final dinner together at a Tucson landmark restaurant. Overnight Tanque Verde Ranch (B, L, D)

#### **DAY 6**

Wow, it's our last day, already? We sure packed a lot of fun into these 5 days together! You are free to leave any time after breakfast. We will have you to the airport by 11 AM for flights out after 1 PM. Or there are shuttles and ride-shares available for a fee if you would like to leave at another time.

## ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION

### Getting There

1. Arrive at the Tucson International Airport (TUS) by 3 PM on the first day of the trip.
2. If you are driving, plan to be at the Tanque Verde Ranch by 4 PM. There will be options to park your vehicle for the duration of the trip at the Tanque Verde Ranch.
3. Details will be provided in the Pre-Departure document sent 4 months prior to the start of your trip.

If you would like assistance with airfare, we recommend contacting our AirDesk Partner, [Exito Travel](#). Start by submitting this [form](#). Just fill in your dates and destinations, including any additional notes about preferred carriers, class of service, possible stopovers, etc., and an agent will typically respond via email within a few hours. If you prefer to call, the number is 800-655-4053; be sure to tell them you are traveling with Adventures in Good Company.

Please note: Exito charges a one-time, non-refundable processing fees of \$35 per passenger.

### Accommodations

There are five double-occupancy "salas" rooms available each with two queen beds, as well as two single occupancy "casitas" for a supplement. All of the rooms are located on the north side of the property in "Quail Hollow" with a nice grassy courtyard that invites you to relax and enjoy the sunset with your travel companions. The casitas are more spacious with their own sitting areas and are available for a supplement of \$895, which can be as a single supplement. Both are [described here](#).

### Travel Insurance

We recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer travel protection through Travelex Insurance Services. For more information on the available plans or to enroll, visit [www.travelexinsurance.com](http://www.travelexinsurance.com) or call 1-800-228-9792 and reference location number 06-0331.

Travelex Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209. All products listed are underwritten by, Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276.

## CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellation charges reflect the many expenses Adventures in Good Company cannot recover if you cancel, even if you must do so due to illness, injury, or personal emergencies. These fees are not meant to be punitive. The charges made reflect the expenses Adventures in Good Company has incurred in administering your reservation and planning for your participation. We recognize that the majority of those who cancel their reservations do so out of necessity. Please note that we do not make any refunds for any unused portion of your trip, not arriving, arriving late, or leaving the trip early.

[Click here for our Cancellation & Payment Policies and Booking Terms & Conditions](#).