PRESCOTT

Central Arizona's Prescott (locals pronounce it press-kit) beckons with ponderosa pines, a lively and historic downtown square, and a famed Whiskey Row bar hub. At an elevation of 5,400 feet in the Bradshaw Mountains, Prescott is a perfect coolweather destination during the sweltering summer months. 100 miles from Phoenix, visit-prescott.com

By Teresa K. Traverse

DO Downtown's Courthouse Square—the heart of Prescott—is bustling with shops and restaurants, and is a great place

to start your Prescott journey. Established in 1927, the grand historic red brick Hassayampa Inn (hassayampainn.com) welcomes with a lobby complete with painted ceilings and etched glass, and is worth checking out. Actors Clark Gable and Greta Garbo were both guests of the hotel. The open-air Sharlot Hall Museum (sharlothallmuseum.org) features exhibitions dedicated to showcasing the region's history. Surrounded by granite rocks and hiking trails, Watson Lake is Prescott's outdoor recreational playground where visitors can spend a day on the manmade lake's bright blue waters.

EAT Downtown Prescott's Whiskey Row is packed with a number of bars. One of its residents? The oldest frontier saloon in Phoenix, The Palace (whiskeyrowpalace.com). Enjoy hearty fare like burgers and steaks in an Old West setting complete with a gleaming wood bar. For a modern

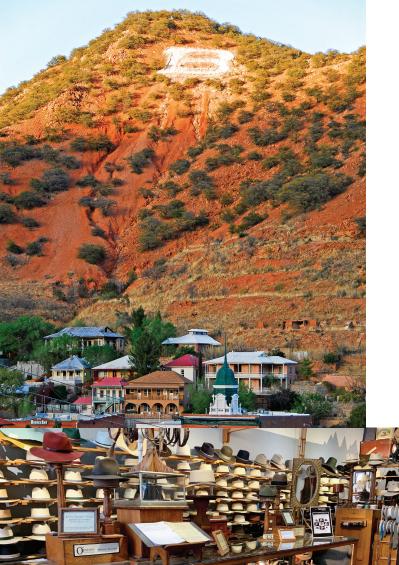
haunt, consider visiting speakeasy-style cocktail bar The Point Bar and Lounge (thepointbarandlounge.com). This spot boasts more than 150 whiskeys. About 45 minutes north of Prescott, Arizona chef James Porter's true farm-to-table Terra Farm + Manor (terrafarmandmanor.com) is one of Arizona's newest culinary destinations. Guests take culinary classes from top chefs, and enjoy spectacular multicourse meals for what amounts to a gourmand's ultimate adventure.

SHOP Since 1992, Lamerson's Jewelry (lamersonsjewelry.com) has supplied downtown Prescott shoppers with one-of-a-kind rings, necklaces and fine baubles. Many pieces are historic finds. Old Firehouse Plaza (oldfirehouseplaza.com) is one of the city's retail meccas. Find handcrafted edible treats at Black Butterfly Artisan Chocolates and peruse the racks to find designer duds from the likes of True Religion at Classy N Sassy Boutique (facebook.com/newclassynsassyboutique).



From top: Prescott is home to the gorgeous Watson Lake; steaks at Terra Farm + Manor; assorted bonbons at Black Butterfly Artisan Chocolates.

FROM TOP, PHOTOS: COURTESY OF VISIT PRESCOTT; COURTESY OF TERRA FARM + MANOR; BY SHANA OH PHOTOGRAPHY



From top: Chihuahua Hill (aka B Mountain) in Bisbee; the interior of Óptimo Custom Hatworks; the Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum.



BISBEE

Located about two hours from Tucson in Southeast Arizona, Bisbee is a former mining town turned artistic enclave nestled in the Mule Mountains. Find hip boutiques, a happening downtown, museums, steep staircases to climb and a plethora of fascinating historical sites throughout this mountain town. 207 miles from Phoenix, discoverbisbee.com

DO Former miners lead tours of the now-shuttered Copper Queen Mine (queenminetour.com). Don a headlamp before

you board a mine railway car and head 1,500 feet inside. Learn about this town's colorful history at the Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum (bisbeemuseum.org). Climb Bisbee's steep stairs to check out gorgeous town views and spot colorful murals. Slightly farther down state Route 80, the former open copper pit mine Lavender Pit is worth a quick stop for photos, as is the ghost town, Lowell. Anticipate endless Instagramworthy photo opportunities all along Erie Street, including abandoned storefronts like a Harley Davidson repair shop.

shops in Arizona, Screaming Banshee Pizza (screamingbansheepizza.net) slings noteworthy wood-fired pies in an old gas station. Founded in 1902, St. Elmo Bar (st-elmo-bar.business.site) is thought to be the oldest continuously operating bar in the Grand Canyon State. Ladle a steaming hot bowl of Vietnamese pho at Thuy's Noodle Shop (facebook.com/thuysnoodleshop). Enjoy locally sourced, New American cuisine Cafe Roka (caferoka.com).

SHOP Downtown Bisbee is chock-full of colorful shops. Find custom old-world-style hats at Óptimo Custom Hatworks (optimohatworks.com). Inhale and smell

the handcrafted bath products like the desert-specific Creosote at Bisbee Soap & Sundry (bisbeesoapandsundry.com). Purchase unique jewelry showcasing Bisbee's signature blue and green turquoise at Gloria's Jewelry (gloriasbisbeejewelry.com). –*TKT*

DAY

VERDE VALLEY

Northern Arizona wine has really taken off. So much so that the wineries in the area—called the Verde Valley—established an official Verde Valley Wine Trail in 2009. Here's how to explore Northern Arizona's gorgeous wine country. 103 miles to Cottonwood from Phoenix, provine trail com

DO The first course of action, of course, is to visit some wineries. Some top tasting rooms include Cornville's Page Springs Cellars (pagespringscellars.com), which offers a tasting room beside stunning Oak Creek. Page Springs founder Eric Glomski is arguably considered one of the biggest champions of Arizona wine. For a luxe experience, consider booking a creekside massage or take a yoga class in the vineyard. Descend down a steep road—a high clearance vehicle would be preferable—to reach Cottonwood's Alcantara Vineyards (alcantaravineyard.com). Once you're there, enjoy a stunning setting featuring more than 13,000 vines and 12 varietals. Located in Clarkdale, Chateau Tumbleweed (chateautumbleweed.com) is a project from

four friends who teamed up to make reds, whites and roses. If you'd prefer not to drive, Wine Tours of Sedona (winetoursofsedona.com) will transport you all throughout wine destinations in the Verde Valley.

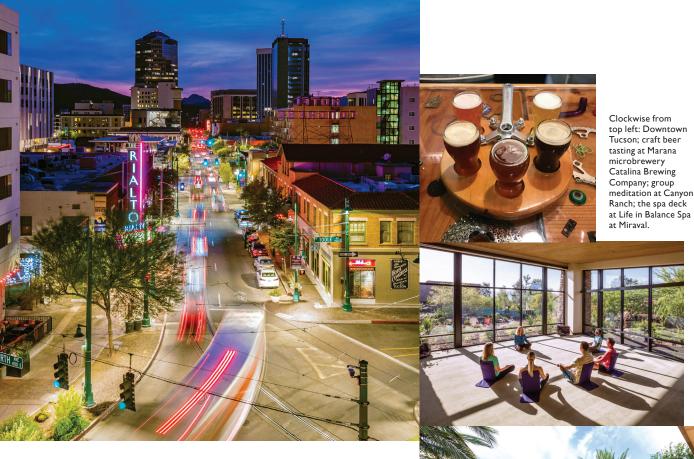
EAT Many of the wineries also operate restaurants. Chef Michael Collier of Javelina Leap Vineyard, Winery & Bistro (javelinaleapwinery.com) in Cornville serves up wine-friendly fare, including caprese pizza and chipotle deviled eggs. All of the food on the menu at Cottonwood's Merkin Vineyards

Tasting Room & Osteria (merkinvineyardsosteria.com) is locally sourced. The handmade pastas—like the signature pink prickly pear-infused mac and cheese—are noteworthy.

SHOP If you don't have time to visit a bunch of wineries, you can visit Vino Zona (vinozona.love), which has locations in both Jerome and Sedona, to find all things Arizona wine. Besides wine, you also can sample an Arizona cider and mead. The Made in Arizona gift shop (facebook.com/madeinarizonawineandgift) in Sedona also carries a large selection of Arizona wines. –*TKT*



Clockwise from top: The grounds at Page Springs Cellars; The State Bar in Old Town Cottonwood; hot air balloons at Alcantara Vineyard; shops and tasting rooms in Old Town Cottonwood.



TUCSON

A quick trip south on Interstate 10 brings you to Tucson, also known as Old Pueblo, or, as locals prefer, The Sunshine Factory. The city offers natural beauty and some of the top destination spas in the country. It also was the first UNESCO City of Gastronomy in the United States, so good eats are easy to find. 113 miles from Phoenix, visittucson.org

DO Downtown's Hotel Congress (hotelcongress.com) is mostly known as the place where bank robber John Dillinger was captured in 1934. Today, you can enjoy brunch at Cup Cafe or take in a show at the Club Congress venue. Experience the area's natural beauty when you take an openair shuttle tour or hike at the spectacular Sabino Canyon (sabinocanyon.org). Or consider visiting Saguaro National Park (nps.gov/sagu), home to the desert's largest cacti, the titular Saguaro. Indulge in spa treatments at the Life in Balance Spa at Miraval (miravalarizona.com), nestled high in the tranquil setting of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Meanwhile, The Ritz-Carlton Spa, Dove Mountain (ritzcarlton.com) features treatments drawing from the area's natural resources—like desert flora extracts used to rehydrate skin—and Canyon Ranch (canyonranch.com/tucson) has served as a wellness destination since 1979.

EAT Tucson is known for its rich agricultural heritage, thriving food traditions and culinary distinctiveness. Book a Marana

Gastronomy Tour (discovermarana.org/gastronomy-tour) to learn more about Tucson's culinary history and literally taste that heritage in an exclusive multicourse tasting menu at The Ritz-Carlton, Dove Mountain. Dive into upscale French fare like duck confit at the romantic Le Rendez-Vous (rendezvoustucson.com). Housed in a former Studebaker car dealership, find seafood delights including an impressive raw bar at Charro del Rey (charrodelrey.com).

SHOP Outdoor retail paradise La Encantada (laencantadashoppingcenter.com) offers luxury shopping from designers like Brooks Brothers, Michael Kors and Tiffany & Co. Tucson also is home to a plethora of boutiques. Discover indie fashion designers and one-of-a-kind home goods at Avenue (avenuetucson.com). Stock up on chic resortwear with a modern twist at Clique (cliquetucson.com). For a decade, the Loop Jean Company (loopjeancompany.com) has been custom-fitting shoppers with jeans from top denim brands. –*TKT*