

If you are tired of going to the neighborhood park for a picnic then check out these beautiful spots around the Valley.



**Papago Park**

Home of the distinctive beautiful red sandstone geological formations, Hole in the Rock, and Hunt's Tomb—a white pyramid at the top of a hill that is a listed place on the National Register of Historic Places, Papago Park is an amazing park to have a picnic. Not only are the red sandstone formations a wonder, but also you can easily climb up one and view the city skyline of Tempe and Downtown Phoenix. A great spot to watch the sunset. The best area to picnic is near the north side of the zoo.

<http://phoenix.gov/parks/trails/locations/papago/index.html>

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**Dreamy Draw Recreation Area**

If you are looking for that desert landscape, then Dreamy Draw Recreation Area in Phoenix is the spot to go. Full of fantastic views and secluded valleys, the dozen miles of trails and an assortment of picnic areas nestled in hills give a good opportunity for a picnic in solitude. It is located off Northern Avenue and the 101.

<http://phoenix.gov/parks/trails/locations/piestewapeak/index.html>

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**White Tank Mountain Regional Park**

Offering 240 picnic tables with grills, 80 of which have a small cover, White Tank Mountain Regional Park encompasses more than 29,000 acres of desert and mountain landscape, making it the largest regional park in the county. Another great spot to picnic while enjoying the serenity of the Arizona desert. Some areas of picnicking have running water, playgrounds for children, electrical outlets, and clean bathrooms.

[http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/white\\_tank/picnicking.aspx](http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/white_tank/picnicking.aspx)

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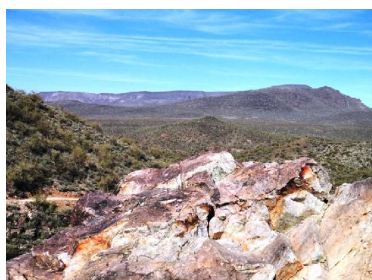


### **Tempe Beach Park**

Being one of Phoenix's oldest man-made parks and located on the south shore of Tempe Town Lake, Tempe Beach Park has about everything a family, or couple, could need for a picnic: bathrooms, playgrounds, grills, splashes and eye-popping views. The park has many biking trails, so a couple can enjoy a nice picnic and go for a bike ride around Tempe Town Lake.

<http://www.tempe.gov/>

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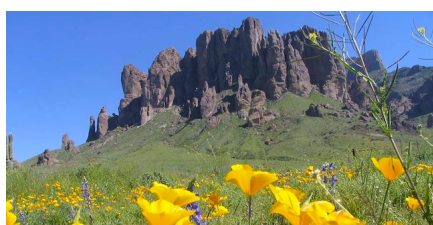


### **Cave Creek Regional Park**

This 2,922-acre park sits in the upper Sonoran Desert and provides a desert oasis full of beautiful wildflowers and wonderful views. Some trails lead to an illusion of being secluded from civilization, making it yet another hot spot for desert picnics. This retreat is located 1.5 miles north of Carefree Highway and 32<sup>nd</sup> Street.

[http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/cave\\_creek/](http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/cave_creek/)

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### **Lost Dutchman State Park**

Lying at the base of the Superstition Mountains near Apache Junction, this park offers various locations to picnic that all gaze upon the ancient and might volcanic caldera. There are 13 single-shaded ramadas with plenty of tables and grills, along with restrooms and drinking fountains located nearby.

<http://azstateparks.com/Parks/LODU/index.html>

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