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Over the past few years, organic and local fruits and veggies have become a staple for good health, along with an eco-friendly lifestyle. Now that the cooler temps have finally set in for the desert winter we all adore, outdoor farmers markets are a great way to stock up on local and organic produce, as well as baked goods, fresh flowers, homemade salsa and tamales, arts and crafts, and tons of other delicious and interesting neighborhood goods.



Follow our guide to the best farmers markets in town, and start shopping local!

## **Oro Valley Farmers Market**

Open year-round, the Oro Valley Farmers Market was launched in 2004 and hosts about 25 vendors and 500 customers each week. Featuring an assortment of varied items like pastries, organic fruits and vegetables, aromatherapy and flowers, this farmers market is open on Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through the end of April, and 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. from April to mid-October. Location: Oro Valley Town Hall, 11000 N. La Canada Drive.

# St. Philip's Plaza Farmers Market

Located at one of Tucson's best outdoor shopping and dining complexes, the St. Philip's Plaza farmers market has been in business for over 10 years. The popular Sunday farmers market boasts about 60 vendors and more than 3,000 weekly shoppers. As one of the largest farmers markets in Southwestern Arizona, stop by from 8 a.m. until noon to stock up on baked goods, organic produce, meats and tamales. Location: 4380 N. Campbell Ave.

### Plaza Palomino Saturday Market

Not only does this shopping center's Saturday farmers market feature everyday staples like coffee, tea, fresh produce, breads and salsa (in addition to a few less traditional items like emu products), but they also provide live music for a pleasant shopping experience. Location: 2970 N. Swan Rd.



#### Horse Country Farmers Market

This local farmers market is chock-full of fun Arizonan finds like Western antiques, furnishings, country crafts and more. A great place to take out-of-town visitors! The market is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Location: The Bunkhouse, 9340 E. Stellarole Rd.

### **Downtown Farmers Market & Arts and Crafts Mercado**

Taking place every Wednesday, this farmers market offers more than just edible items—look for a selection of fruits and vegetables as well as arts and crafts from local artists. The market is open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Location: 101 N. Stone Ave.

#### **Rincon Valley Farmers Market**

Just east of Saguaro National Park, this Saturday farmers market offers shoppers baked goods, local produce, fresh flowers, arts and crafts, furniture, holistic pet products, jewelry, salsa and much more. In addition, the market hosts numerous family-friendly activities. Location: 12500 Old Spanish Trail, <u>www.rinconinstitute.org</u>.