

Six Places to Stay in Northern Arizona

Written by Written by Cassandra Weinman

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As the days of summer dwindle to a close, now is the best time to get in a last-minute vacation. These Northern Arizona destinations provide an ideal escape from the Valley's heat and hubbub.

El Tovar Hotel at the Grand Canyon



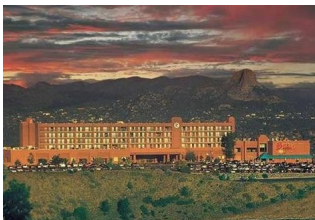
As one of nature's greatest wonders, the Grand Canyon attracts visitors from all corners of the globe. Since one day is not enough to enjoy all the delightful activities the Grand Canyon National Park has to offer, a hotel is a definite must. As the only in park lodge, El Tovar Hotel is situated right on the canyon rim so guests can enjoy some of the most captivating views in the world. Opened in 1905 and renovated in 2005, the charmingly refined hotel invites guests to curl up in front of roaring fireplaces or lounge in a lavishly furnished room. 888.297.2757, www.grandcanyonlodgers.com.

L'Auberge de Sedona



Nestled in the heart of Sedona's red rocks, sits one of Northern Arizona's greatest gems. L'Auberge de Sedona offers guests the chance to enjoy the magical powers of the red rocks in a luxury resort setting. With three different accommodations available, L'Auberge's array of choices allows travelers to choose from the cozy lodge, intimate cottages or the Creek House. The winner of multiple awards including the AAA Four Diamond award, this hotel also boasts both a private spa and fine dining in their L'Auberge Restaurant on Oak Creek. 800.905.5745, www.lauberge.com.

Prescott Resort & Conference Center



As the only full-service resort in Prescott, the Prescott Resort & Conference Center continues to thrive as one of the top hotel choices in Northern Arizona. With views of historic Prescott and unrivaled scenery, the hotel leaves guests feeling relaxed and invigorated. Each room utilizes different aspects of the Yavapi Prescott Indian tribe, lending a feel of authenticity and culture to the space. Bonus: For those wishing to indulge in a little gambling, Bucky's Casino is located on-site. www.prescottresort.com.

Hotel Monte Vista in Flagstaff



Built in the 1920's to attract upscale business to Flagstaff, the Hotel Monte Vista remains a city staple. Located within walking distance of some of downtown's best restaurants and shopping, the hotel is a prime location for in- and out-of-towners alike. With an unparalleled history, the Hotel Monte Vista is also home to some of the nation's greatest ghost sightings. So whether you come for solace or spook hunting, this Flagstaff favorite has it all. 800.545.3068, www.hotelmontevista.com.

Heritage Inn Bed and Breakfast in Snowflake

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Near to both the Petrified Forest and Painted Desert, Heritage Inn B&B offers a rustic refuge from life's everyday worries. The restored Victorian pioneer home dates back to the late 1800's and is rife with period antiques to enhance the friendly feel of the bed and breakfast. A multitude of activities are available for enjoyment and include a Snowflake historical home walking tour, biking and fishing. Heritage's spacious courtyard is as ideal for catching some rays as it is for a dusk dinner. 928.536.3322, www.heritage-inn.net.

Hidden Meadow Ranch



Surrounded by tall pines and picturesque mountain views, this eastern Arizona hideaway makes for the perfect weekend getaway. Located in the historic town of Greer, families can expect to sleep soundly in one of 12 well-appointed cabins. Complete with a personal living room, mini bar, downstairs master bedroom and covered porch, guests will feel as if they were at home. Once settled, families are invited to explore the ranch and experience activities like horseback riding (during the winter, those horseback rides turn into sleigh rides), fly fishing, canoeing, roping and hiking. Overnight backpacking trips are also available upon request for an additional charge. After working up an appetite, the lodge's main dining room serves up gourmet western mountain cuisine fireside. (Think tequila shrimp, grilled filet mignon and campfire vidalia onions.) For dessert, relax in the hot tub, wine in hand, overlooking the night stars. 866.333.4080, www.hiddenmeadow.com. -Christine Whitton