

Arizona Spring Training Visitor's Guide

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There's a reason why Major League Baseball teams and their fans flock to Arizona around this time of year to watch Spring Training. Not only are the games good, but the weather couldn't be more perfect. Whether you're from out of state or a native Arizonan, be sure not to miss out on this season's excitement.



Spring Training games are held across the Valley, from Surprise to Goodyear to Tempe, Mesa, and Scottsdale. Regardless of where you choose to root on your favorite teams, here are a few tips to ensure you get the most out of your MLB experience.

Jerry Hall, stadium manager at Tempe Diablo Stadium, noted that their venue is a great place to have an interactive game day with the players. Before the games, many people decide to come early to watch practice and engage with the players before they get dressed out for the actual game. Another advantage is that many players sign autographs and meet with fans.

Hall also said that getting to the game about half an hour before the game starts should give you enough time to get a decent parking spot and coming early to get good spots makes for an easier time leaving after the game.

Ballpark food like pizza, nachos, barbecue, hamburgers and hot dogs are among the options at the stadium, though guests may bring food from home in a backpack and one sealed water bottle if they so choose.

Make sure to go online for game day and traveling information for the stadium you choose to visit because each location offers different amenities.

The Scottsdale Stadium offers a free trolley service at a variety of locations in Downtown Scottsdale.

The Salt River Fields at Talking Stick have an online A-Z Guide on Spring Training and stadium information including everything from bicycle parking to locations where you can get autographs.

Hohokam Stadium in Mesa even has information online about whether or not certain seating locations are in sun or shade.

For information on how to purchase tickets and other tips, call or go online to team or stadium Web sites. <http://www.tempe.gov/diablo/>; <http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/stadium>; <http://www.saltriverfields.com/>; <http://hohokamstadium.com/>.