



## Saguaro National Park Trip Assistant

### How Much Time?

Each unit is relatively small, with short scenic drives. It's easy to drive them and stop at a few viewpoints in a day. It's definitely worth sticking around for sunrise/sunset. Saguaro make excellent silhouettes! If you like hiking and/or backpacking, stick around longer. Hiking up to Wasson Peak (multiple routes, I like Hugh Norris) in the West Unit and backpacking to Manning Camp in the East Unit are worthwhile endeavors. It gets cold (and occasionally snows) at Manning Camp, so be prepared for it.

### Need to Know

- Each unit is open roughly from sunrise to sunset.
- Saguaro don't bloom until June.
- Be prepared for the heat. It can be hot any day of the year.
- Backpackers headed to Manning Camp must be prepared for the cold. Things are a little different around 8,000 feet!

### Maps

Saguaro East Unit: [PDF](#) | [JPG](#)  
Saguaro West Unit: [PDF](#) | [JPG](#)  
Region: [PDF](#) | [JPG](#)

### [Google Map w/ Trails and Attractions](#)

All 63 National Parks Map: [PDF](#) | [JPG](#)  
Southern National Park Service Units Map: [PDF](#) | [JPG](#)

### Highlights

Cactus Forest Loop  
Bajada Scenic Loop  
Red Hills Visitor Center



## Favorite Trails

### Easy

[Mica View \(East\)](#)  
[Desert Ecology \(East\)](#)  
[Freeman Homestead \(East\)](#)  
[Cactus Wren \(West\)](#)  
[Signal Hill \(West\)](#)

### Moderate/Strenuous

[Tanque Verde \(East\)](#)  
[Rincon Peak \(East\)](#)  
[Douglas Spring \(East\)](#)  
[Hugh Norris \(West\)](#)  
[King Canyon \(West\)](#)  
[Valley View Overlook \(West\)](#)

## Activities

Hiking  
 Backpacking  
 Biking  
 Horseback Riding

See this [Google Map](#) for pins to favorite trails and attractions.

## Highlights

[Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks NM](#) (NM)  
[Chiricahua NM](#) (AZ)  
[Mt. Lemmon SkyCenter Observatory](#) (AZ)  
[\(Coronado National Forest\)](#)

[Sedona](#) (AZ)  
[Superstition Mountains](#) (AZ)  
[Lost Dutchman SP](#) (AZ)

[Imperial Sand Dunes](#) (CA)  
[Organ Pipe Cactus NM](#) (AZ)

[Coronado NM](#) (AZ)

Sedona (Coconino National Forest), the Superstition Mtns (Tonto NF), and Organ Pipe are particularly good.

## Road Trip

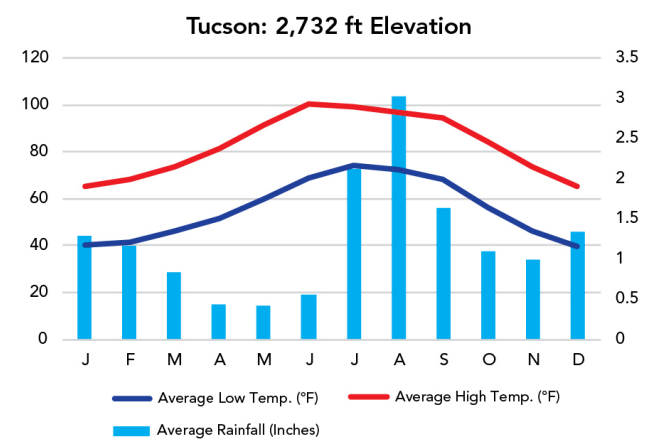
Here's a [Google Map](#) to help plan road trips from the east (White Sands), north (Grand Canyon), west (San Diego, CA), and south (Mexico border). It's a good start, but I'd highly recommend making your own.

There's much more to our country. Here's another [Google Map](#) with points of interest across all types of public land.

For campers, here's a [Google Map](#) with National Forest campgrounds. National Park campgrounds are difficult to reserve (there are about 200!). With nearly 5,000 national forest campgrounds, you can usually pull in and find a spot.

## When To Go

### Weather



### Visitation

