

Eat, play, stay: Southern Arizona

Ron Dungan, The Republic | azcentral.com 8:03 a.m. MST April 3, 2014



(Photo: The Amerind Foundation)

Southern Arizona has a lot going for it — wineries, great scenery and off-the-beaten path places to explore. One such place, the Amerind Museum, is welcoming runners to a trail run.

Eat

Isabel's South of the Border Mexican Restaurant is a bright spot on a wide-open landscape. You're driving down Interstate 10, taking in the scenery, when you realize that it's lunch time. Pull over into Willcox. The shrimp tacos are cooked just right, with a slice of avocado, cheese, lettuce and tomato. The beans have a fresh, roasted flavor and the thin tortillas are handmade in Mexico. The green-chile pork burrito is spicy, tangy and melt-in-your-mouth tender.

Details: 135 E. Maley St., Willcox. 520-766-0859, [facebook.com/IsabelsMexicanFood](https://www.facebook.com/IsabelsMexicanFood).

Play

The Amerind Museum is a hidden treasure, with top-flight exhibits in an intimate space. One of the things that makes a trip to the museum worthwhile is that the surrounding country is gorgeous. At the Amerind's Texas Canyon 10K Trail Run, see areas normally closed to the public. Texas Canyon is known for its rock features, fields of yucca, ocotillo and prickly-pear cactus. Entry includes museum admission.

Details: 9 a.m. Saturday, April 5. Amerind Museum, at Exit 318 of Interstate 10 in Dragoon, between Benson and Willcox. \$30, \$15 for ages 7-17. 520-586-3666, bisbee1000.org/other-events.htm.

Stay

Anyone who stays at Down by the River Bed and Breakfast finds out how busy you can be even when not doing anything. With mountains on all sides, the state's last free-flowing river streaming past, wildlife prowling the 15-acre property, flocks of birds traveling the San Pedro River migratory corridor and a sky that erupts each night with stars, you experience an action-packed trip even if you never leave the porch. Rooms, \$115-\$165.

Details: 2255 Efken Place, St. David. 520-720-9441, downbytheriverbandb.com.