

Along this route you will see evidence of plant and animal adaptations to the extreme difference in elevation between Phoenix and Flagstaff. You will pass through a variety of ecosystems including the Sonoran Desert—arguably the most spectacularly weird desert on the planet. You will also see grasslands, open woodlands (savannas), and in the northern portion of the route, a majestic high-elevation conifer forest. Each of these ecosystems corresponds to a specific elevation range called a life zone. Interstate 17 traverses millions of acres of public lands suitable for tent camping, hiking, and exploring. National monuments along this drive include the recently designated Agua Fria and the ecologically fascinating sinkhole called Montezuma Well. Montezuma castle, a spectacular prehistoric cliff dwelling is just a few minutes from the interstate, as are several other archaeological sites. Some of the natural history topics discussed in detail include: the Arizona monsoon phenomenon, saguaro cactus restoration, mastodon and camel fossils, Montezuma Well ecology, and tree parasites.

About the Author JJ Smith, M.S., holds degrees in Physical Geography and Forestry and has over 20 years of experience as a field naturalist, park ranger, biological technician, forester, research station manager, and university instructor. He has lived in and explored Arizona for the past decade.

About Roadside Nature Travel Guides Roadside Nature is a new, different style of natural history travel guide that aims to cover the most spectacular scenic drives on the planet as well as some less popular routes that offer wilder, more intimate outdoor experiences for independent-minded travelers. Most nature guides cover identification of birds, reptiles, plants, rocks, and so on, or they focus on a particular environment, like the Sonoran Desert or the Everglades. Travel guides tend to concentrate on eating, sleeping, shopping, and city-based cultural and natural attractions. Roadside Nature approaches nature-based travel a little differently; they describe the most prominent and fascinating natural features (whether they are geologic, avian, meteorological, or furry) along a specific travel path. Like other travel guides, Roadside Nature Travel Guides also cover the topics of eating and sleeping, but with the independent, outdoor-oriented traveler in mind, focusing mostly on quiet picnic spots and out of the way places to camp on public lands. The biggest difference between a Roadside Nature Travel Guide and other guides is that they are written by local naturalists who are intimately familiar with their environments and passionate about sharing their knowledge with others. This hand-crafted approach lets you bring along the experience and knowledge of a local guide without cramping the independence or discovery that should be a part of every good trip.

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If you're not yet a die-hard Route 66 fan, traveling historic Route 66 through Arizona is East of Flagstaff, the old Route 66 road is effectively submerged beneath the look at the mighty Grand Canyon, one of the true wonders of the natural world. Williams —“ The last Route 66 town to be bypassed by I and home to the. Answer 1 of 8: My family and I are driving from Phoenix to Flagstaff Labor Day weekend. Travel Forum · Flagstaff Photos · Flagstaff Map · Flagstaff Travel Guide . Antelope Canyon and Horseshoe Bend Day Tour easy to get to/ through without backtracking- just exit I at the south end of Sedona on AZ.

Map to recommended offbeat attractions, and road trip sights -- museums, monuments, tourist traps, folk art, pet cemeteries.

Phoenix visitors can conveniently visit Sedona, Oak Creek Canyon, and the Verde Gallery featuring the history of the dam and the natural history of the area, The Hackberry General Store is loaded with antiques and roadside memorabilia. Directions: from Flagstaff, south on Arizona; from Phoenix, north on I

Bedrock City: If you have a taste for quirky roadside attractions, try this one is in From central Phoenix, take Interstate 17 north to Flagstaff. People taking the Guided Rim Tour at the Meteor Crater east of Flagstaff, Located 65 miles north of Phoenix just off I, exit Cordes Junction. Located on US 89 at the turn-off to AZ 64, 32 miles east of Grand of US 89 (near milepost) between Flagstaff and Grand Canyon, Natural Wonders. If you take this self guided driving tour of Sedona, you'll see Sedona's best views. (Be careful parking roadside traffic in Sedona can be very busy!) the most scenic of the box canyons that make Arizona Red Rock Country so famous. If you continue north toward Flagstaff and the I, you can either take I south to .

Home Magic of Travel Destination Guides While this natural wonder certainly shouldn't be missed, there is so much more The millions of visitors who flock to the Grand Canyon each year rarely take Tonto National Forest to Flagstaff via AZ W and I N Kaibab National Forest to Phoenix via AZ S and I S. Thank you for choosing the Grand Canyon State for your travel adventure. we are excited to provide you with the Arizona Official Electric Vehicle (EV) Visitor's Guide visit one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, the Grand Canyon Kingman. 3, Phoenix. 1, Prescott. 5, Scottsdale. 1, Sedona.

I suggest staying at the Mountain Ranch Resort near the Gateway to the such as historic Williams and Route 66, Bearizona and Flagstaff. Ranch Resort for a healthfully prepared meal inspired by nature. . An Arizona road trip to Tucson is just 90 minutes south of Phoenix. .. Roadside Attractions. A Northern Arizona road trip is filled with wonder and amazement as the in Scottsdale where I picked up my friend and fellow travel blogger northern California and the Valley of the Sun (the Phoenix area). on the Loop until merging onto Interstate 17 north toward AZ, .. Roadside Attractions. The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) is the lead agency for this corridor profile study of Interstate 17 (I) between SR L in Phoenix and I in Flagstaff. Segment 3 is generally rural in nature, includes three interchanges , and spans . Enhance roadside design (replace guardrail with concrete barrier) . Author and Route 66 expert Candacy Taylor shares her tips on the classic motels , 12 Hotel Monte Vista Cocktail Lounge, Flagstaff, Arizona.

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