Celebrating 30 YEARS of Nature, Art & Culture

Tohono Chul
GARDENS • GALLERIES • BISTRO

OPEN DAILY 8AM – 5PM | 7366 N. PASEO DEL NORTE
520.742.6455 | WWW.TOHONOCCHUL.ORG
Dear Visitor,

Welcome to Tohono Chul! It’s a delight to have you here. We hope your experience will be enriching, enlightening and just plain wonderful in every way.

It’s also a special pleasure to have you here to celebrate Tohono Chul’s 30th Anniversary. This incredible place began with a gift, the donation of this patch of desert by Dick and Jean Wilson. It was their home, a place they loved. And it was their vision to share the natural and cultural heritage of the Sonoran Desert with those in the community and beyond.

This year’s guide is dedicated to the memory of Allan Schneider through the generous support of Allan’s widow, Arlene Schneider. Arlene’s generous gifts of time and money help keep Tohono Chul vital and strong. Over her 17 years as a docent and supporter, Tohono Chul and its people have become central to her life. In her words, “Tohono Chul is my family and I just don’t know what I would do without this place!”

With Warm Regards,

Christine Conte, PhD | Executive Director
DAILY TOURS

Walk in the Park
October-April: Mondays — Saturdays | 9am & 1pm; May-September: 9am only

Birds of Tohono Chul
October-April: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays / 8:30am; May-September: 8am

Art in the Park
September-May: Tuesdays & Thursdays / 11am & Sundays at 2pm

Stories in the Garden for Children
Tuesdays / 10am

Wildflowers: What’s Bloomin’?
March and April: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays / 10am

Reptile Ramble
April-June and August-October: Fridays / 10am

Butterflies
September-November and March-May: Saturdays / 11am

Connecting Plants and People
Year-round
1st Saturday / 10am

The Great Xeriscape
Year-round
3rd Saturday / 10am

Hawk Happening
Periodically 2nd and 4th Wednesdays / 11am to 1pm
Check Tohono Chul’s website for the Hawk Happening schedule

ECO-STATIONS

October-April | 10am to 12pm
May - September | 9am to 11am

Winged Things — Mondays / bats, birds and butterflies: the winged things of the skies

Wild Woolies — Tuesdays / the warm, hairy beasties of our deserts

Rocks and Ruins — Wednesdays / Tucson Basin geology and archaeology

Who Eats Whom? — Thursdays / explore the predator-prey trail and weave a tangled food web

Creepy Crawlies — Fridays / scary, but cool: spiders, scorpions, snakes and lizards

Prickly Plants — Saturdays / spiny and downright hostile, desert plants are well adapted
GARDEN BISTRO
Open Daily 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
(last seating at 4:30 p.m.)
Breakfast: 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lunch: 11 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Sunday Brunch: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Reservations for parties of six or more call: 520.333.9209

JOIN US FOR
SPECIAL HOLIDAY BUFFETS
EASTER | MOTHER’S DAY | HOLIDAY NIGHTS
(Please check our website for pricing and menus)

Chiltepin Salsa
by the Garden Bistro’s Chefs
Organic Canned
Pear Tomatoes............ 14 oz.
Water .......................... 3 oz.
Mexican Oregano ....... 1 oz.
Chiltepines*............... 6-8 oz.
Garlic, granulated ...... 1 oz.
Cilantro, chopped....... 1 oz.
Sea Salt ...................... to taste

1. In a sauté pan lightly toast garlic and oregano for 2 minutes and set aside.
2. Crush chiltepines in a paper towel.
3. Puree all ingredients in a large container.
4. Season with sea salt to your liking.
Chiltepin Salsa is best served at room temperature.
*Chiltepin plants are available for purchase all year in Tohono Chul’s Greenhouse

Enjoy our Hummingbird Garden
or territorial hacienda and courtyard...

While Sipping on Wine or a
Prickly Pear Margarita
or another one of our specialty crafted cocktails...

and Feast on Sonoran
Inspired Cuisine
that is locally sourced and prepared with care.

ASK ABOUT
OUR MEMBERS’ SPECIALS!
ENJOY YOUR VISIT!

Be Desert Savvy
Comfortable, sturdy footwear is recommended as are hats and sunscreen even on cloudy days. Drink plenty of water during your visit; drinking fountains are noted on the map.

Be Aware & Alert
You may meet some of our resident wildlife on the trails, so please remember that even innocent-looking animals may bite if threatened. Never try to feed or touch wildlife. Rattlesnakes, scorpions and other venomous creatures make their homes here, too. Always stay on the paths and never put your hands or feet anywhere you haven’t looked first.

Be Smart
When thunder roars, go indoors.

For Your Health & Safety
Children must be supervised at all times. Pets are not permitted on grounds or in vehicles, but please be sure to inform the Admissions staff if you are accompanied by a service animal. There is no smoking at Tohono Chul and firearms are prohibited.

MUSEUM SHOPS

TAX-FREE SHOPPING!
MEMBERS ENJOY 10% OFF PURCHASES!

La Fuente
Adjacent to the Garden Bistro in the charming 1963 hacienda-style “West House,” La Fuente features the work of contemporary local artists along with regional cookbooks and spicy Southwest food items.

La Galeria
Located in the Exhibit House (the original 1937 Santa Fe style home), this Shop occupies the renovated garage with its brick floors and carriage windows. It specializes in traditional Native American crafts, unique folk art of the region and books on the Southwest.

La Entrada & Greenhouse
Next to Admissions, La Entrada has something for every plant enthusiast, from casual weekend gardeners to dedicated do-it-yourself landscapers. Along with our selection of hardy native and arid-adapted plants, you will find yard art, decorative planters and an assortment of books on gardening and plant identification.
SEASONALITIES

WINTER December | January | Early February
From cool, sunny days to freezing nights, Winter can bring much needed rain and even snow in the valley. Mesquites drop their leaves, Anna’s Hummingbirds are breeding and if the rains are kind, wildflowers begin to appear.

SPRING Late February | March | April
Days are warmer, but nights remain cool. It’s wildflower season and if we’re lucky Mexican gold poppies, bluebells, and penstemons carpet the desert. Desert tortoises emerge from their burrows and the Turkey Vultures return.

DRY SUMMER May | June
Temperatures are reaching the century mark and all trace of moisture is gone. The saguaros bloom in May and fruit ripens in June to the delight of bats, birds and the O’odham people. The strident sounds of cicadas fill the air and rattlesnakes are active.

MONSOON SUMMER July | August | Early September
Humidity rises as temperatures stay high, but storm clouds are building. Our second season of rain usually arrives in early July and with it wildflowers, butterflies, and spadefoot toads. Nectar-feeding bats are moving south, while prickly pear fruits are ripening.

FALL Late September | October | November
Early fall can still be warm, even hot, but nights are cooling off. Desert broom is in flower, barrel cactus is setting fruit, and fall color appears here and there. Snakes are heading underground for the winter and the White-winged Doves have fled until warm weather returns.
TRAILS

ALWAYS TAKE WATER

Hallowell DESERT VIEW TRAIL (½ mile)
A favorite of birders and those looking for the Sonoran Desert in its more undisturbed state. Bobcats, coyotes and javelina traverse the dry washes and if you’re lucky, you just might see one!

SOUTH LOOP TRAIL (⅛ mile)
A pleasant walk through washes, up a slight incline, past indigenous vegetation—the gateway to our largest stand of saguaros, growing here because of the ideal soil conditions, climate and rainfall. Be sure to take in the Saguaro Discovery Trail and don’t miss the crested saguaro at the highest point of the trail. Crested saguaros are a rare mutation.

Pochter SAGUARO DISCOVERY TRAIL (¼ mile)
No finer example exists of the interconnectedness of the plants and the people of the Sonoran Desert than the relationship between the saguaro cactus (häsän) and the Tohono O’odham. This gently sloping trail winds past saguaro nurseries nestled under protective palo verdes, and juvenile and mature saguaros marching up a graded hillside. Interpretive signage tells the story of the saguaro from both a botanical and a cultural perspective.

*Please note that although all of our trails are easy to walk, they do not meet ADA standards.

The mission of Tohono Chul is to enrich people’s lives by connecting them with the wonders of nature, art and culture in the Sonoran Desert region and inspiring wise stewardship of the natural world.

DOWNLOAD OUR IPHONE APP TODAY!
IT’S FREE!
• Interactive GPS map so you'll never be lost
• Tons of information about Tohono Chul
• Take pictures and apply custom frames to share your experiences with your friends
• Brought to you by Global Identities
• Droid Users — we are working on making an app
GARDENS

Hummingbird Garden
Planted with salvia, desert honeysuckle, desert willow and many other plants with flowers attractive to nectar-loving hummingbirds

Desert Palm Oasis
Our newest garden brings to light the Sonoran Desert’s tropical connection in a biome interpretation not found anywhere else

Sonoran Seasons Garden
Reflects the seasonal variations of the Arizona Upland, the Sonoran Desert subdivision that boasts five seasons with two summers - dry foresummer and monsoon summer

Alice Y. Holsclaw
Performance Garden
Beneath a canopy of mature sweet acacia trees, this open-air venue hosts concerts, special events, weddings

Bank of America
Garden for Children
Built for children, capturing imaginations and providing opportunities for creative learning and discovery

Ethnobotanical Garden
Displays plants used today and in the past by the native peoples of the Southwest for food, medicines, dyes, materials and ceremonially

Sin Agua Garden
Meaning “without water” in Spanish, the Sin Agua Garden is a repurposed parking lot that delivers rainwater runoff to demonstrate water harvesting in a landscape of native and adapted plants

Barbara Kennard Presents
DEMONSTRATION GARDENS

IDEAS FOR CREATING A GARDEN OASIS USING NATIVE PLANTS AND LOCAL MATERIALS

Geology Wall
Unique to Tucson, if not the world, the 55-foot long, semi-circular Wall consists of several hundred rock specimens representing more than two dozen geologic formations that comprise the nearby 9,000-foot high Santa Catalina Mountains

Riparian Habitat
A re-creation of an Arizona riparian community, a diverse association of plants and animals that live on the banks of the state’s rivers and streams

Cargill and Bradley Families
Desert Living Courtyard
Divided into ten distinct garden vignettes featuring a variety of landscape themes, each is designed to demonstrate new and creative ideas for using water-conserving plants in livable landscapes combining color, texture and function
BRIEF HISTORY OF TOHONO CHUL

In the 1920s, the entire northwest section of Tucson—called the “thermal belt” because of the foothills’ milder winter climate—was considered ideal for growing frost-sensitive citrus and date palms. Both were planted on the property that would become Tohono Chul.

In 1937 John T. de Blois Wack of Santa Barbara bought 80 acres and built what is today’s Exhibit House. Adobe bricks for the 18” thick walls were made on site and Ponderosa pine beams were brought down from Mt. Lemmon. In the days before central air conditioning, adobe kept interiors cool in summer and warm in winter. The house design also took advantage of cooling breezes with French doors installed throughout and a large concrete swimming pool, one of the first private pools in Tucson, was built in what is now the Garden for Children. Shortly before completion of the house, power lines were strung and Oracle, a two-lane country road, was paved.

UofA Geologist Richard Wilson and his wife Jean began purchasing property in the area in the late 1960s. Their home at the time was the hacienda-style “West House,” built by John Sullivan when his family owned the acreage; today it is the Tohono Chul Garden Bistro. After opening the Haunted Bookshop in 1979, the Wilsons began planning their next project—a park. “At first, we just went out and put down some lime to make a path and marked the names of some of the plants and bushes, but then it started to snowball.” Tohono Chul Park was formally dedicated on April 19, 1985.
**MAJOR EVENTS**

**TOHONO CHUL’S MAJOR EVENTS**

*Please check website for specific dates & times (subject to change).*

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**Plant Sales**

Twice a year, during our Spring & Fall Plant Sales the Propagation area is open to provide visitors with local, arid-adapted and cold-hardy plants. *(Members’ Preview is held the Wednesday before.)*

The last weekend in July hosts our Monsoon Madness Plant Sale at the Overlook.

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**Trunk Shows**

Zuni fetishes and jewelry, Mata Ortiz Pottery, Mexican Folk Art, Zapotec Rugs, Guatemalan Crafts and other unique cultures are featured in our specialty trunk shows. Please check the website for further information.

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**Bloom Night**

Once a year the Queen of the Night, *Peniocereus greggi*, blooms en-masse filling the summer evening with an intoxicating scent. We are home to the world’s largest collection of these famous flowers and stay open until midnight for guests to enjoy this unique natural event. Sometime between mid-June & mid-July. *Sign up for alerts at bloomwatch.org.*

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**Chiles & Chocolate Festival**

Celebrate the cult of the fiery chile—and decadent chocolate—two ingredients that define life in the Southwest. Last weekend in October.

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**Holiday Nights**

The garden’s largest event, with a million twinkle lights, five entertainment venues, free hot chocolate & cookies. The Garden Bistro is open for their sumptuous Holiday Buffet (reservations separate). *First three Fridays and Saturdays in December.*

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**Tohono Chul’s 30th Anniversary Gala**

The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords is the Honorary Chair of Tohono Chul’s 30th Anniversary Gala, featuring live music, an array of delicious food, and complimentary beer & wine. The event also hosts a silent auction. The Gala takes place Sunday, March 29th, 2015. *(Details for the 2016 Gala TBA.)*

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For additional information on these and other special events, [sign up for our e-newsletter at tohonochul.org](mailto:tohonochul.org)
CLASSES, WORKSHOPS & TRAVEL

At Tohono Chul we celebrate lifelong learning with a wide variety of mission-related programs to enhance members’ and visitors’ understanding of our desert home. From gardening classes to craft workshops using native materials, and from lectures on the colonial history of the region to birding expeditions in distant places, we’re all about engagement and discovery.

For the current schedule, visit our website.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Who? Volunteers play an essential role in the daily life of Tohono Chul

What? Volunteer opportunities are as diverse as our active volunteer community — retail sales, office/clerical, special events, plant propagation and grounds maintenance. Or you can train to be a Docent interpreter.

When? Daily schedules are flexible; commit to a regular weekly shift or be available as a substitute

Why? To celebrate the desert, find fulfillment in public service and provide visitors with a welcoming and enriching experience

How? Contact Volunteer Services Coordinator, Lauren Malanga at 742.6455 x 235 or lmalanga@tohonochul.org

PROPAGATION GREENHOUSE

On a Mission to Grow!

Only open to the public during our twice yearly plant sales (March and October), the Propagation Greenhouse does the important work of growing little-known or underutilized native and arid-adapted landscape plants, and introducing them to both local landscape designers and backyard gardeners.

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TOHONO CHUL & THE ARTS

The Exhibits Program at Tohono Chul presents visual stories linking the nature, art and cultures of the Southwest.

Tohono Chul houses a permanent collection with over 350 items relating to the Southwest.

EXHIBIT HOUSE*

Welcome Gallery – The “Featured Artist” exhibit, changing quarterly, puts the spotlight on work offered for sale by select local artists. A second quarterly showcase highlights a piece from our Permanent Collection.

Entry Gallery – An intimate exhibit space, the Entry Gallery displays small group shows, frequently in collaboration with other arts organizations and with the focus on a single medium or subject matter.

*If you see a blue dot next to an artwork in one of the galleries, this indicates the artwork has been purchased.

Main Gallery – This space accommodates larger group shows with a cohesive theme linked to nature, culture or the arts.

DESSERT DISCOVERY EDUCATION CENTER

Wells Fargo Foyer Gallery – For our 30th anniversary in 2015, a semi-permanent exhibit will tell the story of Tohono Chul in words, pictures, and cherished artifacts.

*Each gallery hosts four exhibitions per year.

A natural choice. Surround yourself and your family with everything the beautiful Town of Oro Valley has to offer. Outdoor recreation and the natural beauty of Southern Arizona. We offer world-class cycling, swimming, hiking, spas, golf and some of the most stunning desert sunsets on Earth. Take a look at Oro Valley.

Outdoor recreation, it’s in our nature  www.orovalleyaz.gov