

THE WESTIN
KIERLAND RESORT & SPA
Phoenix / Scottsdale

THE WESTIN KIERLAND RESORT & SPA
Self-Guided Walking Tour

You are invited to tour The Westin Kierland Resort & Spa.

Plaques are provided throughout the tour to explain our themed naming program, which is called “Treasuring the Essence of Arizona.” If you need ADA accessibility, please ask a hotel representative to guide you.

The hotel’s decor pays tribute to the people, landscape and events that shaped Arizona’s cultural heritage through a display of historical photography acquired through such organizations as The Arizona Historical Foundation, The Arizona Historical Society, The Arizona State Library, Northern Arizona University Cline Library and various other private collectors. An art gallery just off the hotel’s lobby offers resort guests a chance to purchase Arizona art as well.

EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY ROUTE

This path leads you through public spaces inside, beginning with the lobby. Migrate through our meeting halls where you’ll find a collection of historic Arizona photography and maps. Make sure you see our commissioned artwork by Arizona artists displayed throughout the hotel.

You’ll pass the two large prickly pear cactus sculptures by Michael D’Ambrosi of Cave Creek. The sculptures are set atop rock baskets to symbolize the cultural antiquity of basket weaving in Arizona. Enter through the porte cochere and front doors to the sounds of soft “water walls” that flank the entryway. Catch a glimpse of the grand, three-tiered lobby, then turn left.

Behind the registration area is a sculptured rock panel by Buck McCain that he describes as an overview of Arizona and its traditions. Buck McCain is an award-winning painter and sculpture from Oracle, Ariz.

Continue down Migrations Hall West and turn right at Expedition Hall, which takes you through Arizona history between the 1500s and 1863, the year Arizona became a separate territory.

Backtrack to the hallway and go right again. Take your first right again and proceed toward two glass doors leading to Deseo, our specialty dining restaurant inspired by Nuevo Latino creator Douglas Rodriguez. You may take the elevator down or proceed down the grand staircase to the restaurant. Make sure to get a good look at the Grand Canyon paintings by Gregory Hull above the Deseo entry. Gregory Hull, of Sedona, Ariz., won the commission after competing against other local artists to create the prominent piece. This 16-foot by 4-foot panoramic painting creates the feeling of descending into a rocky mountain canyon. The impressionistic painting consists of four separate panels to build a ubiquitous sensation.

Head back up the stairs and continue down the hallway, and take a few minutes to enjoy the landscape paintings by Arturo Chavez and Robert Marshall. Arturo Chavez has been painting Arizona landscapes for decades. His featured piece is located in the Arizona Pathways corridor, which features a variety of Arizona landscapes, including the Chavez oil painting of the Catalina Mountains in Southeastern Arizona.

Go right again and continue heading west down this corridor until you reach Peacekeepers Garden. Take a moment to enjoy the artistry of John Fredericks of Hopi, who created this 8-foot, carved Kachina for The Westin Kierland. The Kachina is a crow mother, one of the main Kachina mothers who appear each winter during the bean dance ceremony. This Kachina holds cornmeal, a sacred Hopi symbol of the staple of life used to anoint young men and women in the initiation ceremony.

Backtrack to the lobby and take the steps down into The Rim, our lobby bar, which features a large “Rims of the Canyon” painting by prominent Phoenix artist Ed Mell. His masterful use of color and light are evident in a canyon scene oil painting which measures 9 feet by 3 feet.

Continue down the steps or ramp into the middle of the lobby for a close-up view of the petrified wood tables created for the resort by Ralph Thompson of Holbrook, Arizona.

Directly across the lobby from The Rim is the Ali-Shonak Library where you can peruse our extensive collection of Arizona and Southwest books, as well as Navajo artist Shonto Begay’s painting called “Blessings Beyond the Fourth World,” representing the Native American vision of Arizona history.

Turn back up the steps to the upper lobby level. Behind the concierge desk is another Buck McCain piece, which the artist describes as depicting Arizona’s “first library.”

Follow your nose to Coffee Flats & Snowbowls, where you can stop for a coffee and ice cream while pondering the extreme contrast of Arizona geology and terrain.

Next door is Toonerville 66 Trading Post where you can get a feel for the kitschy side of Arizona and reminisce about the “Mother Road” while shopping for your favorite Arizona trinket. Across from the trading post, read about Arizona’s territorial days and the days of the Apache Wars, then travel down Discovery Hall to find out why scientists flocked to the area in the late 1800s.

As you exit Discovery Hall, take the stairs or elevator down one level to our “Mining District.” Continue down Visionaries Hall, which features the entrepreneurial side of Arizona and its 5 C’s of enterprise (cattle, citrus, climate, copper, cotton).

Exit this hall through the glass doors that lead into Dreamweavers Canyon. Here you will pass a large seasonal flowerbed patterned after a Navajo blanket. You’ll also discover Native American petroglyphs carved into large basalt rocks. The special technique used by Desert Little Bear of Tempe involves hand-pecking the designs into the rocks and then coating them with a natural desert varnish.

Re-enter the lower lobby level via glass doors to the right of the outdoor staircase. To get a flavor of Arizona mining days, belly up to the bar in The Waltz & Weiser Saloon, where you’ll find hints of lost mines and buried treasure. You might even find old Jacob Waltz and Jacob Weiser of Lost Dutchman Mine fame.

Next to the saloon is Nellie Cashman’s Monday Club Café, which features the pioneering women of 1800s Arizona. Meet the women who decided that spitting on the sidewalks left something to be desired. Take a few minutes to study the specially commissioned quilt called “The Spirit of ‘Sister’ Bourne” by Darcy Falk of Flagstaff. Like the restaurant, the tapestry pays tribute to the hundreds of female pioneers who helped define and, in some cases, “refine” the state. Don’t miss the portrait of Nellie Cashman by artist Fred Calleri of Flagstaff, and the historic photos of the real Monday Club of Prescott.

GREAT OUTDOORS and HEAVENLY SPA ROUTE

This path takes you outdoors first and includes a stop at Agave, The Arizona Spa.

From the motor court, take the south sidewalk west toward Agave, The Arizona Spa. Even before you enter, check out Bill Worrell's shaman that greets spa visitors with a special healing wave of welcome near the spa motor court. And, at the north end of the spa, you can refresh, rejuvenate and meditate next to our agave fountain, created by John Benedict. This "Renewal Fountain" displays the re-emergence of life from death with noble Agave plants set amongst azurite-malachite boulders. Other featured artists/photographers in the spa include Debbie Leavitt, Craig Primas and David Keasler.

After your tour of the spa, walk from the spa entry through the Aguamiel Plaza (adult pool court), exiting the plaza through one of two gates. Turn left on the pathway to visit Pumpkinville, our kids' playground named after one of the proposed names for early day Phoenix.

At the tennis courts, named in honor of prominent Arizona tennis families, turn right and take the sidewalk through the gate and into the water park. You'll pass by J. Swilling's Poolside Grill, named after Phoenix's founding father.

Stroll through the pool area to view our variety of water features, including the 900-foot flowing river pool, which we hope you will help us name. Around the pool are plaques that tell how Arizona's rivers got their names. In fact almost all of them had several names throughout history, depending on who discovered and/or rediscovered them.

As you head toward the main building, exit the pool area through the north gate, and turn left. Proceed past Marshall's Outpost Lawn and Pavilion, named for Arizona's State Historian Marshall Trimble (as well as the marshals and outlaws he loves to talk about). Marshall was consulting historian for the theming of this resort and is the author of our descriptive plaques scattered throughout the property. Beyond that, he's a really fun character who has published 19 books about Arizona.

From Marshall's Outpost, you can also see the Kierland Golf Club, which includes Edie's Range House (named after Edith Kierland, sister of Kax Kierland Herberger) and Brittlebush Bar & Grill.

The tour continues on the north side of the hotel, which takes you past Sandpainters Courtyard, complete with our own rendition of one of Arizona's greatest mysteries, a gigantic geoglyph.

Next stop is Windsingers Valley, our tribute to the culturally diverse musical heritage of the state. The west wall features a large pictograph painted by Ethan Deuell of Scottsdale. In the center of the "valley" is an intimate amphitheater perfectly designed for a storyteller or "windsinger," or perhaps a wedding.

Continue on the walking path north of the hotel to view the dramatic lake sculpture created by Robert Miley and dedicated to Kax Kierland Herberger, matriarch of the Herberger family of Phoenix/Scottsdale. Robert Miley, who has been producing art in Phoenix for more than 20 years, created a 22-foot-tall sculpture called "Imagine." The piece, a featured exterior art piece visible from the lobby, incorporates water and light to produce images of figures dancing on water after dark. "Imagine" represents the symbiotic relationship between water and life.

From here, you can follow Dreamweavers Canyon walkways past the seasonal flowerbed into the lobby and up to the entry level. Follow the signs to Kierland Grand Ballroom and Culturekeepers Hall, or begin your journey on the Exploration and Discovery Route from the front door.

In Culturekeepers Hall, don't miss Mesa, Arizona's William Barnhart's art: a bronze sculpture called the "Family Tree," and a painting of cultural arts images dear to him (his interpretation of the cultural aspects of Arizona). Also, make sure you see the exhibit prepared by Arizona State University's Herberger College of Fine Arts.

Please take a moment to learn more about our Arizona Culturekeeper program, which will honor 100 Arizonans during the next 10 years. Also, visit our Hall of State at the north end of the state-of-the art, 25,000-square-foot Kierland Grand Ballroom to learn about some of Arizona's most colorful political figures.

From the Hall of State, you can step out of any of the wide doors to Trailblazers Terrace, a beautiful 15,000-square-foot outdoor event space that features a map of territorial Arizona. At the far end of the terrace, take the stairs down and re-enter the resort to view the Herberger Ballroom, our newest addition that honors the Herberger family and particularly Kax Kierland Herberger. At the entrance to this area, take a moment to look at the rose mosaic on the floor featuring Kax's favorite flower and paying tribute to the various art forms she sponsored.

We hope you've enjoyed this tour of our new resort, and we hope you'll find many reasons to come back and visit us in the near future. You might want to book a special stay in one of our suites, which pay tribute to Arizona artists, entertainers, filmmakers and historical aviators, as well as our presidential suites named for longtime Arizona businessman and philanthropist Bob Herberger, former Arizona Senator and presidential candidate Barry Goldwater and former Arizona Governor Carl Hayden.

In addition to the commissioned artists, the resort honors Arizona artists in the naming of 8 suites after:

- Cowboy Artists of America founder Joe Beeler;
- Bil Keane, creator of Family Circus cartoons;
- Bob Boze Bell, illustrator, humorist, cartoonist, author, radio personality and editor of *True West Magazine*;
- Ettore "Ted" DeGrazia, impressionist artist known for his paintings of angels and children of the Southwest;
- Ed Mell, painter known for his Southwestern landscapes, western images and contemporary flowers, as well as bronze sculptures;
- Lon Megargee, Arizona's original cowboy artist;
- Robert McCall, renowned for his depictions of space exploration; and
- Fritz Scholder, known for modernizing Native American art.