



Saguaro National Park (East) Naturalist Program Schedule

Programs meet at the Rincon Mountain Visitor Center, 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail. Program schedules are subject to change. Call the visitor center at (520) 733-5153 for updates or to make *RESERVATIONS*.
*Programs marked with an * are wheelchair accessible.*

December 7 – December 13, 2009

Monday, December 7

10:00 a.m. Sonoran Lifestyles

Join a park naturalist on this two-hour, 1-mile walk to discover how plants and animals adapt to life in the desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring some water. .

11:00 a.m. Desert Adaptations*

Join a park naturalist on this 30-minute garden walk to learn how plants have unique ways of adapting to their desert environment

Tuesday, December 8

10:00 a.m. Sonoran Lifestyles

Join a park naturalist on this two-hour, 1-mile walk to discover how plants and animals adapt to life in the desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring some water. .

11:00 a.m. Natural History Table*

Join a park naturalist on the visitor center patio to have your questions answered about the natural history of the Sonoran Desert. This is an on-going, 30-minute program.

Wednesday, December 9

9:00 a.m. Desert Morning Hike

Join a park naturalist for this 3-hour, 4-mile exploration of Saguaro National Park. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring water and a trail snack.

Thursday, December 10

10:00 a.m. Desert Discovery

Join park naturalists on this two-hour, 2-mile walk to discover the secrets of the Sonoran Desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

7:00 p.m. Star Party*

Join park naturalists for an introduction to astronomy and a look at the desert night sky. Telescopes and binoculars will be available.

Friday, December 11

8:00 a.m. Desert Bird Walk

Join volunteer naturalists Vicki Powers and Ralph Terry for an easy two-hour walk in search of desert birds. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

11:00 a.m. Desert Adaptations*

Join a park naturalist on this 30-minute garden walk to learn how plants have unique ways of adapting to their desert environment

Saturday, December 12

11:00 a.m. Cactus Caravan*

Begin your exploration of the Cactus Forest Drive with a park ranger and become familiar with some of the common cacti. A great introduction to the park!

2:00 p.m. Gathering the Desert*

Join a park ranger in the Cactus Garden for an easy 30-minute stroll to learn how desert plants have been used for food, shelter, and clothing.

3:00 p.m. All in the Plant Family*

Everyone knows a cactus when they see one, right? Maybe not! Come along on this 30-minute garden walk to find out what makes our 2 families of spiny, succulent plants (agaves and cacti) very different from each other.

Sunday, December 13

11:00 a.m. 1933 to Today

Join park ranger Arlo Ogden on a historic hike down the Shantz Trail. Learn who Homer Shantz was, as well as how he helped make Saguaro National Park the great attraction it is today. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable hiking shoes and bring water. The group will meet at the visitor center, then carpool to a nearby trailhead.

2:00 p.m. Yesterday, Today... and Saguaro?*

Change is coming to the Cactus Forest and we can't do anything about it! But don't worry – change has been happening here for thousands of years. Come explore the life cycles of the saguaro cactus and the changing face of its Sonoran Desert home on this ¼ mile, 90-minute walk.

3:00 p.m. Desert Adaptations*

Join a park naturalist on this 30-minute garden walk to learn how plants have unique ways of adapting to their desert environment