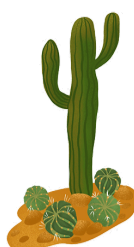


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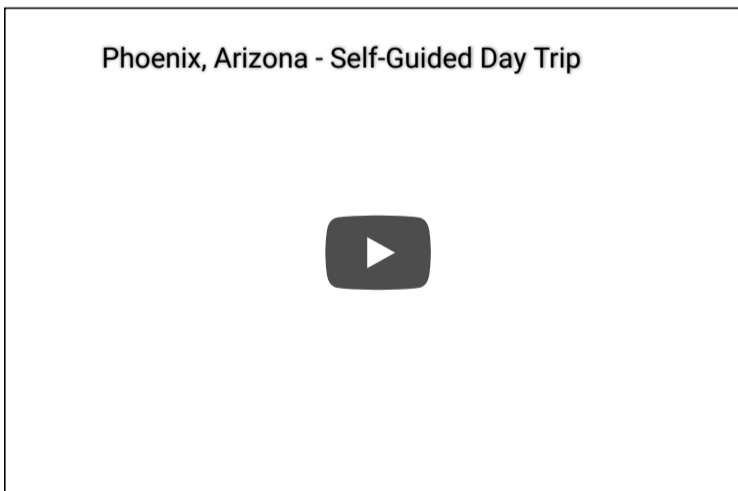


Outstanding Gardens of Phoenix, Arizona

Garden Design's self-guided day trip to 3 unique Arizona gardens.

Written and produced by Karen Chapman as recommended by local garden expert Noelle Johnson

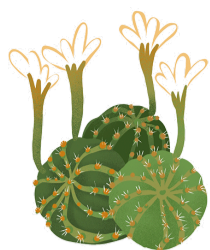
Think of the Arizona desert, and breathtaking gardens may not immediately come to mind; yet local horticulturalist Noelle Johnson has a passion to show visitors and locals alike the possibilities of what can be grown in this hot, dry climate. Be sure to pack water, as well as your sunglasses and camera, for this exciting day out touring some of the best public gardens that Phoenix has to offer.



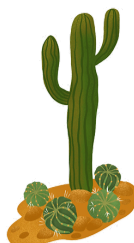
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1. XERISCAPE DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

This is not your typical public garden, not least of all because it is within the parking lot of the local library. Yet it is a wonderful showcase of over 400 species of desert-adapted plants where visitors can learn more about Arizona-friendly landscaping through interpretive signs, classes, and demonstrations. "It's so surprising to see what can survive and thrive in such a harsh environment," says Noelle. While the Cactus Garden is perhaps the most popular area, the Rain Garden adjacent to the library is one of Noelle's favorite areas within the four-acre demonstration garden. Other themed gardens include the Tree Trail and Habitat Garden.

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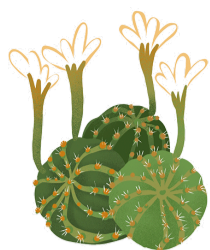
 Wheelchair Access

Tweet this: Not your typical public garden. Discover over 400 species of desert-adapted plants and learn more about Arizona-friendly landscaping at The Xeriscape Demonstration Garden in Glendale. See Garden Design's Self-Guided Day Trip for Phoenix, Arizona.

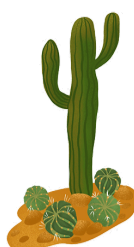


2. DESERT BOTANICAL GARDEN

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there is so much to see," comments Noelle.

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Tweet this: [There are several trails to explore within the 55-acre Desert Botanical Garden, extensive cactus collections, and landscaping ideas for homeowners. Visit Garden Design's Self-Guided Day Trip for Phoenix, Arizona.](#)




3. THE ROSE GARDEN AT MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

You may be surprised to learn that roses grow exceptionally well in Phoenix. "They are much more drought tolerant than you might think," comments Noelle. She also points out that their dry climate means fewer of the pests and fungal diseases that typically challenge more temperate rose gardens. And since there are two main bloom seasons; April-June and October-December, you have plenty of opportunity to appreciate their beauty.

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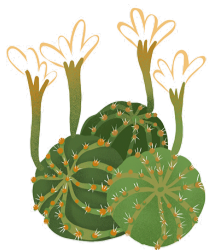
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Tweet this: [With almost 9000 roses and over 300 varieties, The Rose Garden at Mesa College is open every day of the year without charge. Visit Garden Design's Self-Guided Day Trip for Phoenix, Arizona.](#)



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I am a horticulturist, popularly known as 'AZ Plant Lady'. My passion is to inspire and teach people to create, grow, and maintain beautiful gardens that thrive in a hot, dry climate. I do this through my work as a landscape consultant, certified arborist, and speaking to garden groups. I am the author of the popular blog, 'Ramblings From a Desert Garden' where I have been imparting essential gardening advice for over 10 years. To further help desert-dwellers garden in a challenging climate, I offer a popular online course, 'Desert Gardening 101' that is now hosting its fifth class of students.



A frequent contributor to Water—Use It Wisely and a member of GardenComm, I have written for Birds & Blooms Magazine, Houzz, Phoenix Home & Garden Magazine, and The Home Depot. You can also find me teaching classes at the Desert Botanical Garden, local libraries, the AZ Federation of Garden Clubs Landscape Design School, and other garden groups.

www.azplantlady.com

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