



Credit: Visit Mesa

Address (Visitor's Center): 6109 N. Apache Trail, Apache Junction

Notes: Gift shop, restrooms, picnic areas with electricity and shaded ramadas on site. (Can be booked in advance.)

Entry fee: \$6 per vehicle, per day

The **Superstition Mountains** are the most incredible natural attraction in Mesa. We'd describe them as picture perfect. Covering a sprawling swatch of this wilderness is the alluring **Lost Dutchman State Park**. Named for a German prospector, or *Deutschman*, legend has it he struck it rich in a gold mine somewhere in the park. The exact location? A secret he took with him to the grave. To this day eager treasure hunters search the hills... but most just come to enjoy the park's hiking trails.

Official park website: [Click here](#)

Bloggers who have lived the experience:

[The Scenic Route](#)

18. Stop and Smell the Roses



Credit: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/eileenmkane/>

Address: 1833 W Southern Ave, Mesa 85202

Website: rosegarden.mesacc.edu

No need to go out searching for that special desert rose, the **Mesa Community College** contains 9,000 beautiful rose bushes within their fragrant rose garden. As a centerpiece for the community, this beautiful garden is a visual feast.

19. Go Birding

Address: 2757 E. Guadalupe Road, Gilbert 85234

Hours: Habitat is open dawn to dusk

Website: [Click here](#)

The **Riparian Preserve** at Water Ranch just outside of Mesa is a wildlife and landscape preservation area created from reused grey water. Riparian serves to promote awareness and appreciation of Arizona's unique ecology, but with over 50 different species of birds making their home in the area, it is also a hotspot for birders. Plus, the preserve often hosts bird walks and family-friendly events. [Check the event schedule here](#)

Bloggers who have lived the experience:

[I Heart Mesa](#)