

Meet Our Partners!

Since 2007, **Star Night Parties** and **Astronomy Events** at **Arizona State Parks** have been conducted by volunteer clubs who provide equipment and interpreters. Our programs introduce the public to star gazing and strives to educate people about the need for protecting Arizona's dark sky natural resource. Visit a club's website for membership info, upcoming events, or to learn how to support their work.



Astronomers of Verde Valley

AstroVerde.org

Founded in 1994, the club hosts star parties and educational events at locations across Arizona. The group has supported Arizona State Parks since the first "Night Under the Stars" event at Alamo Lake SP in 2007, and has also hosted events at other parks.

Dr. Sky *DrSky.com*

Radio and television personality Dr. Sky—aka Steve Kates—has been engaged in astronomy for over 30 years. He is often featured on programs promoting the night sky, aviation, and space science.

Huachuca Astronomy Club

of Southeast AZ HACAstronomy.com

Founded in 1982 in Sierra Vista, Arizona, the club promotes interest in astronomy and related sciences through education and fellowship through meetings, public star parties, and other events.

Lake Havasu Astronomy Club

LakeHavasuAstronomy.org

Founded in the 1990s, group meets monthly at Lake Hasavu public library. The group has recently joined the RECON network to measure the sizes of icy planetary bodies beyond the orbit of Neptune.

Oracle Dark Sky Committee

Weasner.com/ODSC

Founded in April 2014 to pursue "International Dark-Sky Park" designation for Oracle SP. Designation was awarded by the International Dark-Sky Association in October 2014. Members include local residents and members of the Friends of Oracle SP.

Sonora Astronomical Society

SonoraAstronomicalSociety.org

Founded in 1985 by Marvin Vann. The group exists to educate the public about amazing dark skies in Green Valley, Arizona. Monthly meetings often include guest speakers.

Superstition Mountain

Astronomical League *bit.ly/1swUwhZ*

Founded in 2009 (on March vernal equinox), the group is comprised of amateur astronomers residing in cities of Gold Canyon and Apache Junction, Arizona. The group uses astronomy to educate the community about science and nature.

Tucson Amateur Astronomy Assc.

TucsonAstronomy.org

Founded in 1954, the group enjoys exploring, observing, and sharing the wonders of our solar system and beyond. A monthly meeting is held at the University of Arizona, Tucson and is open to anyone with a desire to discover the marvels of the Universe.

Event Information

What Do I Bring? Water, snacks, a jacket, and enthusiasm to enjoy and conserve our beautiful night skies! Also, a red-light flashlight helps you see in the dark and protects everyone's night vision.



How Much? To participate you must pay the park's Day Use Entrance Fee or camp at the park.

What Time? Most programs start at sunset with a "Welcome & Introduction." Some events also feature afternoon solar viewing or a lecture before it gets dark. Verify event details and times at AZStateParks.com/StarParty

Bad Weather. Programs may be cancelled in inclement weather.

Respect the Rules! No flash photos are allowed after dark. Please **do not touch** the astronomers' telescopes — only lean in and look with your eye!

*** Day Use Park Event.** Evening events at day use parks require pre-registration. Call the park directly to pre-register.

2015 Star Parties

- JAN 24 Oracle SP
- FEB 13 Lost Dutchman SP
- FEB 21 Catalina SP
- FEB 27 Homolovi SP
- MAR 14 Cattail Cove SP
- MAR 14 Kartchner Caverns SP
- MAR 21 Oracle SP *IDA Celebration Event!*
- APR 11 Catalina SP
- APR 18 Lost Dutchman SP
- APR 18 Patagonia Lake SP
- MAY 09 Tonto Natural Bridge SP *
- MAY 15 Red Rock SP *
- JUN 06 Red Rock SP *
- SEP 26 Dead Horse Ranch SP
- OCT 17 Catalina SP
- OCT 17 Cattail Cove SP
- OCT 17 Kartchner Caverns SP
- NOV 07 Alamo Lake SP

Astronomy Events

These events have an astronomy component such as lunar viewing, an evening talk or a moonlight hike. Visit AZStateParks.com/StarParty for details.

- FEB 21 Lost Dutchman SP *program with Dr. Sky*
- MAR 14 Lost Dutchman SP *program with Dr. Sky*
- MAY 23 Lost Dutchman SP *program with Dr. Sky*
- JUL 01 Red Rock SP * *hike with lunar viewing*
- JUL 31 Red Rock SP * *hike with lunar viewing*
- OCT 10 Lost Dutchman SP *program with Dr. Sky*
- NOV 14 Lost Dutchman SP *program with Dr. Sky*
- DEC 05 Lost Dutchman SP *program with Dr. Sky*

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Arizona State Parks

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Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Reservations (520) 586-2283
Info & TTY (602) 542-4174
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Contact the ADA Coordinator
at (602) 542-4174. JAN 2015



AZStateParks.com

Arizona State Parks

Star Party Astronomy Events

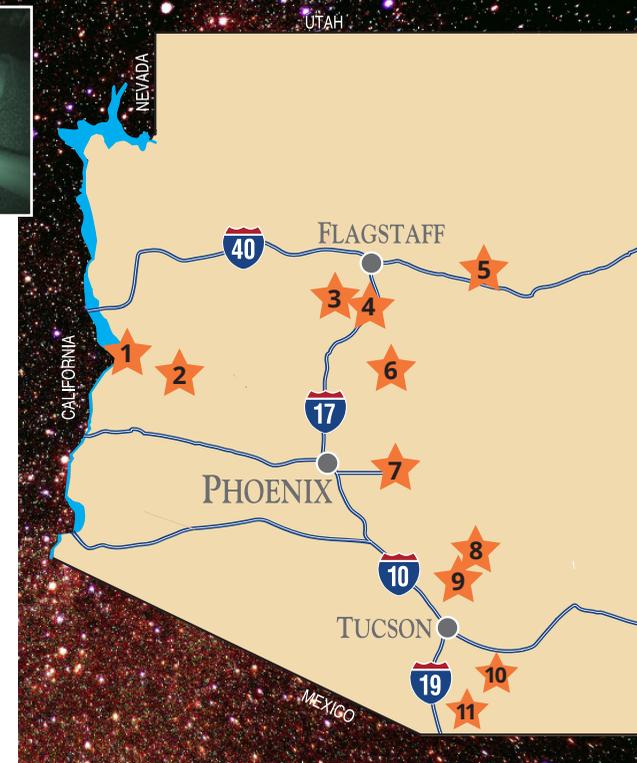


Observe the wonders of the
night sky through telescopes
at an Arizona State Park!



AZStateParks.com/StarParty

Star Party Astronomy Events



Even when there's no Star Party scheduled, you can camp and enjoy these state parks!

Cattail Cove SP ★

Lake Havasu, AZ (928) 855-1223

The beach, boat ramp, and 61 campsites offer a spectrum of activities to enjoy, including swimming, fishing or just lounging and relaxing.

Alamo Lake SP ★

Wenden, AZ (928) 669-2088

Park offers 250 camping units with restrooms and showers. You can also swim, boat and fish for bluegill, largemouth bass, channel catfish and black crappie.



Alamo Lake SP is a member of the **Global Star Park Network** which aims to protect night environments and educate the public. This park and Kartchner Caverns SP were the first state parks in U.S. to be granted "One Star at a Time" designation.

Dead Horse Ranch SP ★

Cottonwood, AZ (928) 634-5283

Camp, mountain bike, fish, or hike. Explore the Verde River and canoe, picnic, or rent a horse from Trail Horse Adventures. Extensive trail system links to other area attractions.

Red Rock SP ★

Sedona, AZ (928) 282-6907

Environmental education park in Sedona offers hiking trails and interpretive walks. Arizona's famous Oak Creek meanders through this park, creating a diverse riparian habitat abundant with wildlife and bird watching opportunities. **Day use only, except for evening Star Parties or Events.**



Homolovi SP ★

Winslow, AZ (928) 289-4106

Park is center of research for the late migration period of the Hopi from the 1200s to the late 1300s. While archaeologists study the sites and confer with the Hopi to unravel the history of Homolovi, the park provides visitors the opportunity to visit native sites, camp, hike, and explore petroglyphs.

Tonto Natural Bridge SP ★

Payson, AZ (928) 476-4202

Tucked away in a tiny valley surrounded by a forest of pine trees, Tonto Natural Bridge has been in the making for thousands of years. Water and rock have combined to create the largest natural travertine bridge in the world. Park has historic lodge, hiking trails, viewpoints, picnic tables, and gift shop. Pets are not allowed on the trails. **Day use only, except for evening Star Parties.**



Lost Dutchman SP ★

Apache Junction, AZ (480) 982-4485

Named after the fabled lost gold mine, the park is located in the Sonoran Desert, 40 miles east of Phoenix. Several trails lead from the park into the Superstition Wilderness and surrounding Tonto National Forest. Take a stroll along the Native Plant Trail or hike the challenging Siphon Draw Trail to the top of the Flatiron.

Oracle SP ★

Oracle, AZ (520) 896-2425

Oracle State Park is a 4,000 acre wildlife refuge in the northern foothills of the Catalina Mountains. The park offers day-use picnic areas and over 15 miles of trails for use by hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians. In addition, a section of the National Scenic Arizona Trail crosses through the park. **Day use only, except for evening Star Parties or Events.**

International Dark-Sky Park status awarded by the International Dark Sky Association (IDA). Founded in 1988, IDA calls attention to the hazards of light pollution and works to protect and preserve the night sky for future generations.

Catalina SP ★

Tucson, AZ (520) 628-5798

Nestled at the base of the Santa Catalina Mountains, the park is a haven for desert plants and wildlife and nearly 5,000 saguaros. The 5,500 acres of foothills, canyons and streams invites camping, picnicking and bird watching. The park also provides miles of equestrian, hiking, and biking trails that wind into the Coronado National Forest.

Kartchner Caverns SP ★

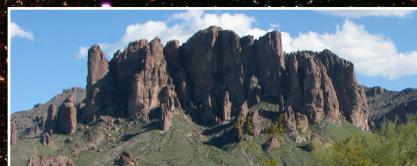
Benson, AZ (520) 586-2283

Experience a stunning limestone cave in Southeastern Arizona that boasts world-class features. This "live" cave, discovered in 1974, is host to a wide variety of unique minerals and formations. Water percolates from the surface and calcite formations continue to grow, including stalactites and stalagmites. Tour guides will unveil this fascinating underground landscape during a memorable tour. Aboveground, enjoy camping, hiking, the Bat Cave Café, and the Discovery Center. Member of the **Global Star Park Network**. Star Parties at this park usually feature a **Guest Lecture**.

Patagonia Lake SP ★

Patagonia, AZ (520) 287-6965

Park surrounds a 265-acre man-made lake where anglers catch crappie, bass, bluegill, and catfish. Hikers can stroll along the creek trail and see a variety of birds. In winter, the park offers boat tours and in spring, an annual Mariachi Festival. Patagonia Lake SP has boat-in campsites, a beach and picnic area, boat ramps, and a marina.



Online Reservations 24/7 at
AZStateParks.com
Or Call Reservation Center at
(520) 586-2283
7 days a week,
from 8 am to 5 pm MST

