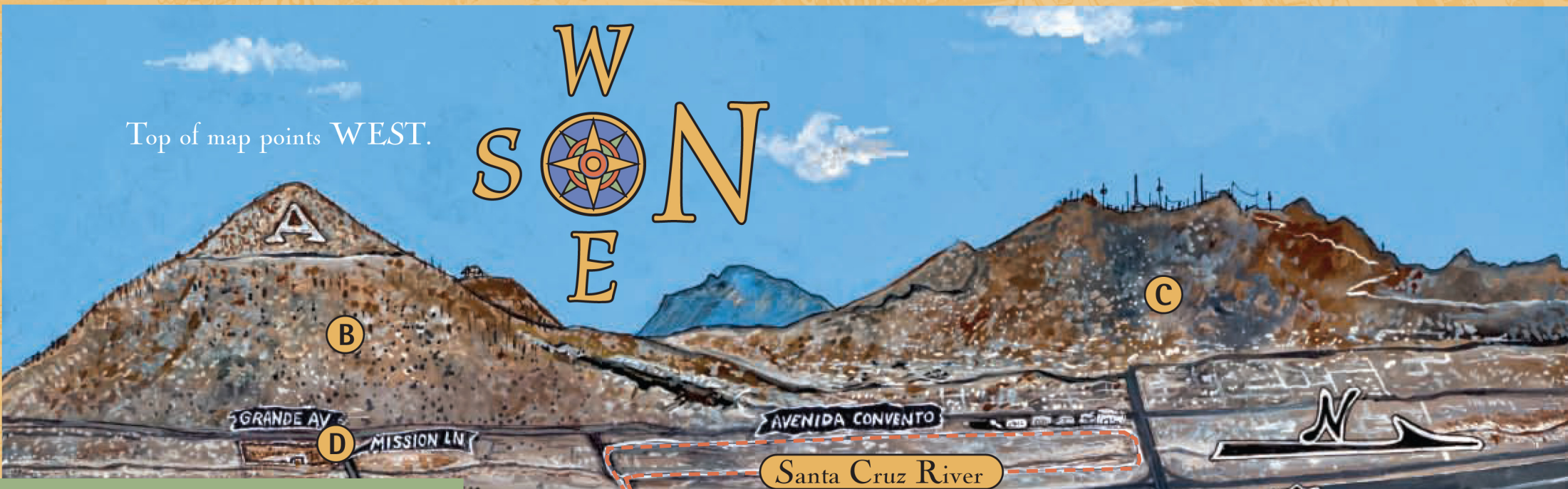


The Turquoise Trail

A Historical Walking Tour of Downtown Tucson

A PROJECT OF THE PRESIDIO SAN AGUSTIN DEL TUCSON



Just follow the turquoise striped path to visit each **NUMBERED** site. Sites designated with **LETTERS** are not directly on the tour, but are interesting locations that can be viewed from the tour route or are close by.

- ★ Presidio San Agustín del Tucson
- ② Pima County Courthouse
- ③ Mormon Battalion Sculpture
- ④ Soldado de Cuera (Leather Jacket Soldier) Sculpture
- ⑤ Allande Footbridge
- ⑥ Garcés Footbridge
- ⑦ Gazebo in Plaza de Mesilla (La Placita)
- A Francisco “Pancho” Villa Statue
- ⑧ Sosa-Carrillo-Frémont House
- ⑨ Jácome Art Panel at Tucson Convention Center
- B Sentinel Peak/“A” Mountain
- C Tumamoc (Horned Lizard) Hill
- D Mission Garden
- ⑩ El Tiradito (The Castaway), also known as The Wishing Shrine
- ⑪ La Pilita
- E Carrillo’s Gardens/Elysian Grove
- ⑫ Carrillo Elementary School
- ⑬ Teatro Carmen
- ⑭ Ferrin House (now Cushing Street Bar & Restaurant)
- F Jewish History Museum (564 S. Stone)
- ⑮ Barrio Viejo Streetscape
- ⑯ Temple of Music & Art
- G St. Augustine Cathedral
- H Former Carnegie Library, now the Tucson Children’s Museum
- I Scottish Rite Cathedral
- ⑰ Armory Park



- ⑱ Independent Order of Odd Fellows Hall
- ⑲ Hotel Congress
- ⑳ Historic Railroad Depot
- J Pioneer Hotel Building
- K Arizona Historical Society Downtown Museum
- ㉑ Fox Theatre
- ㉒ Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block
- ㉓ Telles Block (now Old Town Artisans)

The Turquoise Trail Trolley

P Parking W Water Fountain RW Restroom/Water Fountain

Tucson is generally warm and sunny even in winter, so it is advisable to take water and wear a shady hat.

Make sure to enter the Presidio San Agustín during your downtown walk to
RECEIVE 10% OFF GIFT SHOP ITEMS
(including bottled water) with this map.

restaurant and an excellent museum highlighting transportation. Historic steam locomotive #1673 is located at trackside. A life-size sculpture of Wyatt Earp and “Doc” Holiday marks the 1882 incident ending with the death of Frank Stilwell near the first depot.

J PIONEER HOTEL BUILDING

Opened in 1929 in the center of the downtown business district, this hotel catered to the social elite. In the mid-20th century Harold and Margaret Steinfeld, owners of a large downtown department store lived in the penthouse. A disastrous fire severely damaged the building in December 1970, and among the 29 victims were the Steinfelds. The fire hastened the decline of downtown Tucson, which is reviving today with the help of the ambitious Rio Nuevo redevelopment project.

K ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY DOWNTOWN MUSEUM

Located just across from the Tucson Main Library, this excellent, small museum tells the fascinating story of downtown Tucson.

㉑ FOX THEATRE

After being closed for 30 years, this grand Art Deco movie theater has just been restored to its former greatness. Originally designed for vaudeville and silent movies, this became Tucson’s preeminent movie theater. It was the site of the world premier in 1940 of the film *Arizona* starring William Holden and Jean Arthur. It now hosts both screen and stage events.

㉒ TUCSON MUSEUM OF ART AND HISTORIC BLOCK

Built in 1973, this museum features modern, western, and Pre-Columbian art. Five historic homes are on its grounds. The Fish-Stevens homes, the Romero house, and the Casa Córdova, all built in the 1860s, are classic Sonoran row houses. In the Casa Cordova an elaborate Nacimiento, a Mexican Nativity Scene, is displayed; it is generally open from November to April. The Mission Revival style Corbett house was built in 1907 by one of Tucson’s first lumber dealers.

㉓ TELLES BLOCK (now OLD TOWN ARTISANS)

Almost this entire block is defined by attached Sonoran row houses, with a large, shady courtyard on the interior. These structures have had a variety of incarnations, including homes during the late 1800s, a lumber yard, and a gas station. In addition, the blacksmith shop of the Spanish-era presidio was very likely located here. Now these old adobe buildings house 11 different artisans shops as well as a restaurant.

⑦ GAZEBO IN PLAZA DE MESILLA (La Placita)

This is a replica of the original 1880s bandstand in the plaza and is the site where the stagecoach would gallop into town from Mesilla, New Mexico, or San Diego along the old Camino Real (the Royal Road). Often, Apache arrows would be embedded in the stagecoach from encounters along the trail. La Placita is a collection of shops and offices built in the 1970s on the site of an old Tucson neighborhood as part of urban renewal.

A FRANCISCO “PANCHO” VILLA STATUE

Through the wrought iron fence a commanding statue of Pancho Villa is visible on a grassy area in the center of Broadway. The statue was given to Tucson by Mexico in 1981, with a wry sense of irony considering Pancho Villa made outlaw incursions into southern Arizona.

⑧ SOSA-CARRILLO-FRÉMONT HOUSE

This house museum was once owned by the Sosa-Carrillo families; the oldest part of the structure was built as early as the 1850s. It was briefly used as the residence of members of the family of General John C. Frémont, who was appointed the Territorial Governor in 1878. This Sonoran row house contains an excellent example of a *zaguán*, a central hall leading from the front to the rear yard. The mission fig in the courtyard was probably planted in the 1700s.

⑨ JACOME ART PANEL AT TUCSON CONVENTION CENTER

This panel, depicting the arrival of the Spanish, used to be displayed on the front of the Jácome Department Store in downtown Tucson. When that store was demolished in the 1970s, the Jácome family donated the art to the new convention center.

B SENTINEL PEAK/“A” MOUNTAIN

To the west you will see a basaltic peak adorned with the letter “A.” This was once a lookout for Spanish and Native American sentinels, who watched for raiders approaching the presidio and mission. The “A” was added in 1915, in a burst of University of Arizona student enthusiasm, as the result of a football victory over Pomona College. The O’odham name for the mountain, pronounced Chuk Shon, means “at the black base.” This is the source of the name Tucson.

C TUMAMOC (HORNED LIZARD) HILL

This hill, located just north of “A” Mountain, means “horned lizard” in the Tohono O’odham language. In an O’odham legend a giant horned lizard suddenly began eating people. The O’odham prayed to their god I’itoi to help them. I’itoi

heard them and turned the lizard into a rocky hill. Now Tumamoc is the home of the University of Arizona’s Desert Laboratory, founded in 1903. This hill is the site of the longest continuous botanical monitoring plots in the Sonoran Desert. In addition, the hill was used by indigenous people for farming and other purposes for several thousand years and is an important archaeological site.

D MISSION GARDEN

Originally constructed in the late 1700’s, Mission Garden is at the corner of Grande Ave. and Mission Lane, west of the Santa Cruz River. Its authentic reconstruction contains a Kino heritage orchard, cultural crops gardens, an experimental vineyard, and native Sonoran Desert plants demonstration garden.

⑩ EL TIRADITO (THE CASTAWAY) also known as THE WISHING SHRINE

This shrine is typical of small shrines in many communities in Mexico, where people come to burn candles and pray, asking for help with their problems. One legend associated with this shrine involves a tragic love triangle in the 1870s, with a husband killing his wife’s lover. A priest would not let the man be buried in the consecrated cemetery so local people lit candles at this location to pray for his soul.

⑪ LA PILITA

This adobe structure is a small museum dedicated to preserving the history of the site that is now part of Barrio Viejo. A permanent historic photo exhibit tells the story of Carrillo’s Gardens, Elysian Grove, El Tiradito and El Ojito. Seasonal exhibits celebrate Día de los Muertos and Las Posadas. A small gift shop features regional and seasonal items.

E CARRILLO’S GARDENS/ ELYSIAN GROVE

To the west along Simpson St. were artesian springs that were the source of drinking water for the community in the 1800s. An enterprising local citizen, Leopoldo Carrillo, built a dam to form a lake and planted gardens with shade trees and roses. The place became an amusement park, a very popular site for a picnic or a Sunday stroll. As a consequence of increased water pumping and possibly as a result of a massive earthquake in 1887, the water table dropped and the springs that supplied the water for Carrillo’s Gardens dried up. When the water disappeared, it left behind a small fertile hollow. Trees eventually grew in the area and homes were built in a neighborhood called Elysian Grove. One of the adobe buildings became the popular Elysian Grove Market; today it is a private home with a beautiful garden in the rear.

This historical walk, designed as a loop, begins and ends at the intersection of Church and Washington Streets, the north-east corner of Tucson’s historic presidio. The complete walk (about 2 ½ miles in length) takes 1 ½ to 2 hours, but it can be done in segments, beginning and ending wherever you like.

More than 20 restaurants are within a few blocks of the walk, providing plenty of opportunities for lunch or a break. Most of the sites on the tour are marked with historical plaques that provide additional information.

Enjoy this walk through the heart of our city, which has expanded out from the adobe fort that was its beginning.

The Turquoise Trail

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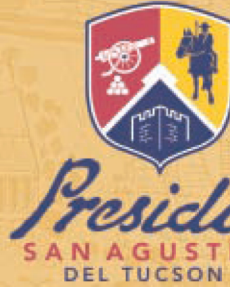
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GENERAL HOURS
October–May, 10 am–4 pm Wednesday–Sunday
June–September, 10 am–3 pm Thursday–Sunday

LIVING HISTORY DAYS
Second Saturday of the Month • October–May
Details at www.tucsonpresidio.org

The Tucson Presidio Trust is a non-profit organization that works with the City of Tucson Parks and Recreation Department to support the Presidio San Agustín del Tucson. The Trust provides the financial and volunteer resources for the majority of the educational programs presented at the Presidio.

The mission of the Trust is to guide and aid in the interpretation of the history of the Old Pueblo at the re-created Spanish Fort through research, education and living history with special emphasis on the Spanish Colonial period from 1775 through the Territorial period ending in 1912.



Experience Tucson's History

Located downtown at the corner of Court and Washington

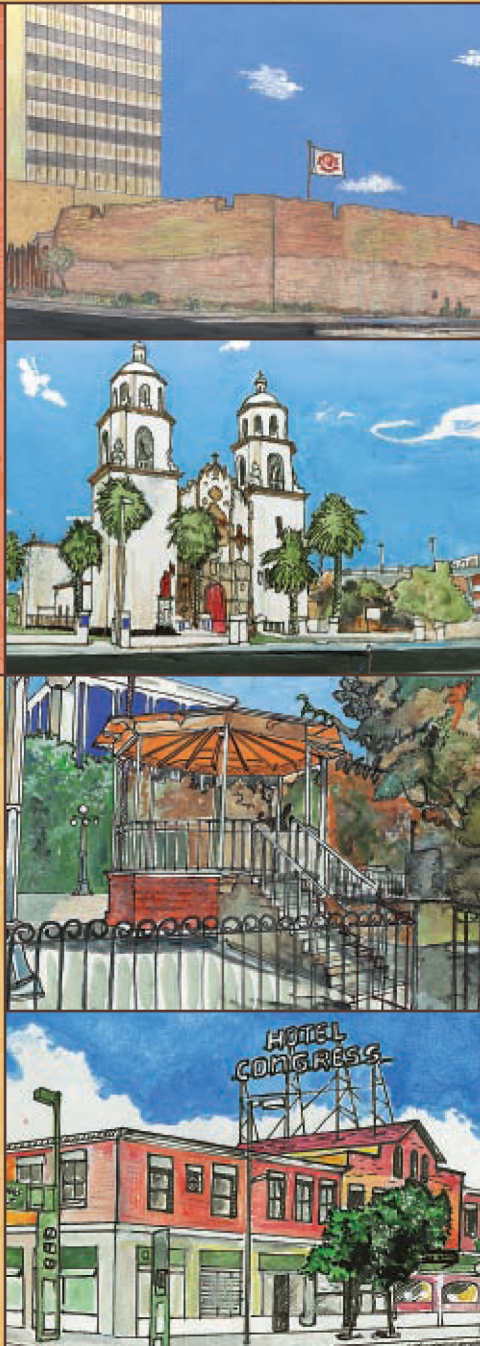
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Donations are always appreciated.
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Old Town Artisans & La Cocina Restaurant & Cantina
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⑫ CARRILLO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

This red-tile roofed elementary school, built in 1930 in the Mission Revival style, was named for Mexican businessman Leopoldo Carrillo, the developer of Carrillo’s gardens. It is well known for its traditional Christmas presentation, Las Posadas.

⑬ TEATRO CARMEN

This adobe building named for the wife of its builder, Carmen Soto Vázquez, has an interesting and checkered history. Opened in 1915, it began as a theater devoted to staging dramatic works in Spanish, then it became a movie theater, boxing arena, garage, and Elks Lodge.

⑭ FERRIN HOUSE (now CUSHING STREET BAR & RESTAURANT)

This old adobe home was built in the 1860s by tailor Joseph Ferrin and his wife Therese. Therese and the Ferrin’s daughter Clara were instrumental in building the first synagogue in Arizona on south Stone Ave. A store was added to the residence in the 1880s; the structure now operates as a family-owned restaurant and bar.

F JEWISH HISTORY MUSEUM

The first Jewish synagogue building in Arizona, built in 1910, has been historically restored and is the home of the Jewish History Museum. It houses displays that tell the stories of the American Jewish experience in Southern Arizona and the West.

⑮ BARRIO VIEJO STREETSCAPE

These adobe buildings along Cushing Street, built in the Sonoran row-house style in the late 1800s, are part of Barrio Viejo, Tucson’s oldest neighborhood. On the front of No. 124, note the decorated canals, long metal spouts that direct rainwater away from the adobe walls.

⑯ TEMPLE OF MUSIC & ART

This 1927 theater, constructed on behalf of The Saturday Morning Music Club, brought a flourishing musical scene to Tucson including world famous artists such as Jascha Heifetz. Built in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, this building features an inviting courtyard with a fountain. The building was restored in 1990 and is a popular theater venue, renowned for its excellent acoustics.

G ST. AUGUSTINE CATHEDRAL

Begun in 1896, this Spanish Colonial Revival style church has a magnificent sandstone facade. In an unusual tribute to local flora and fauna the facade features a saguaro, yucca, horned lizard and various cacti. Housed within the vestibule is one of the bells from the Spanish-era presidio.