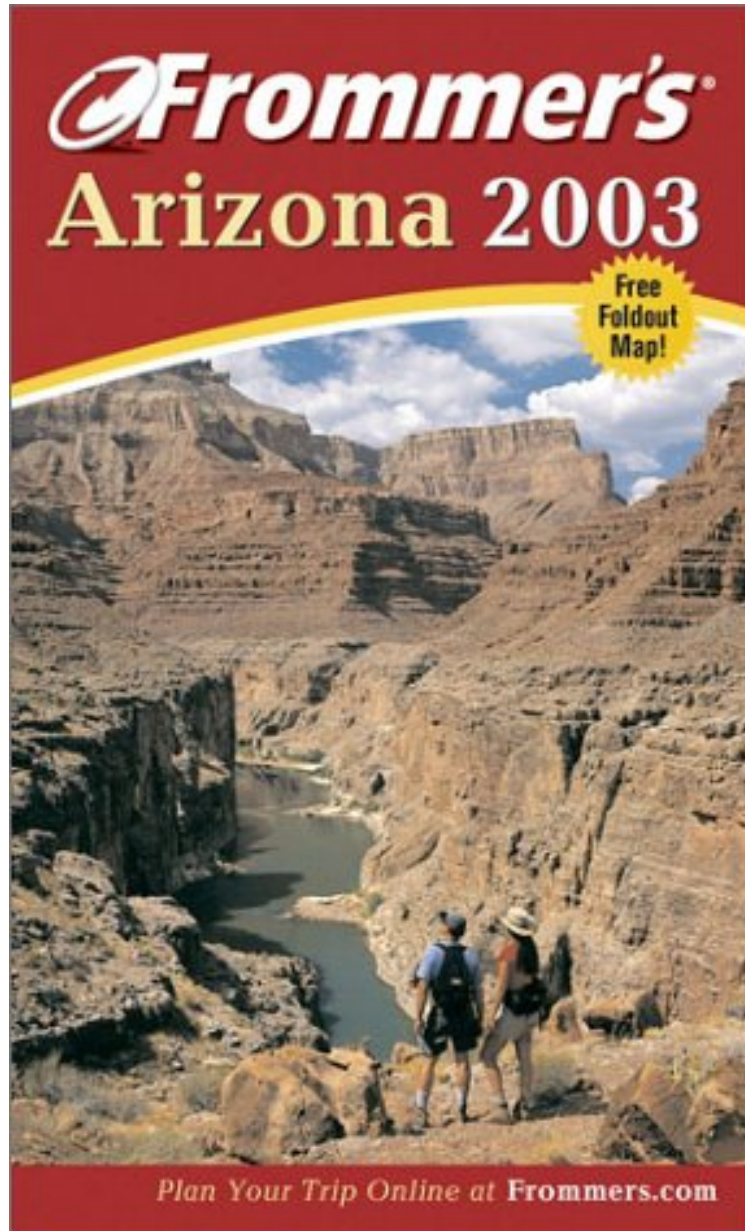


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Frommer's Arizona 2003

Karl Samson, Jane Aukshunas

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Karl Samson, Jane Aukshunas : Frommer's Arizona 2003 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Frommer's Arizona 2003:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Frommer's Arizona, 2004By Judy DavisI began to use Frommer's a few years ago. The first book I bought was for our trip to London, England. The second, for our trip to Puerto Rico. I

found the guide very useful for both trips. Overall, the Arizona guide did not let me down either. I found it very helpful when planning our trip to Arizona. We reviewed all our options for hotels, things to do, and tips for travel prior to our trip. I truly enjoyed the tips. This guide contained a lot of very useful information. By the time we arrived in Phoenix, I felt like I knew the place. I had no trouble getting around the city. I booked horse back riding (Pondersa Ranch in South Mountain.....a great time), hotels (Best Western in Tempe and Phoenix areas.....good deals with Grand Slam Breakfasts included), and got tickets to a St. Patrick's day event (Bare Naked Ladies through Ticket.com) in Phoenix from home by using the suggestions in this guide. For this trip however, I didn't use the suggested tours for the Grand Canyon. Instead, I went on instinct and booked a tour I found on the Internet: "Marvelous Marv's Grand Canyon Tours". We had a wonderful time. The tour was \$70 each and it was a full day. We spent approximately 5 hours at the Canyon and was given additional time to shop. We got more than we bargained for in the price of our ticket. A truly great deal for Frommer's to advertise! Marv and his partner Maggie were very informative. They described the geological factors, provided a lot of information about the local economy, jobs, and was very intent on making sure we walked away satisfied by our day. I do enjoy Frommer's. Please consider putting "Marvelous Marv's Grand Canyon Tours" in your 2005 edition. Your customers will appreciate it I'm sure. It's truly a great experience seeing the Grand Canyon from a local perspective. Marv is a local and has been doing this for over 25 years. He knows his stuff. This tour is a must for first time visitors to the Grand Canyon. 25 of 27 people found the following review helpful. Simply the best guide for getting to know AZ! By Manny Hernandez I live in Arizona. I moved here in March of 2000. Back before I moved in, I got a copy of the previous edition of this book, after having researched all the options in a bookstore. So far, it's proved to be a very valuable resource, whether I want to find a place to eat or enjoy myself with my wife in Phoenix Metro, or if I'm heading north to the Grand Canyon and want to find an affordable and decent place where we can rest.

You'll never fall into the tourist traps when you travel with Frommer's. It's like having a friend show you around, taking you to the places locals like best. Our expert authors have already gone everywhere you might go—they've done the legwork for you, and they're not afraid to tell it like it is, saving you time and money. No other series offers candid reviews of so many hotels and restaurants in all price ranges. Every Frommer's Travel Guide is up-to-date, with exact prices for everything, dozens of color maps, and exciting coverage of sports, shopping, and nightlife. You'd be lost without us! Completely updated every year (unlike most of the competition), Frommer's Arizona features gorgeous color photos of the state's spectacular scenery. Extremely detailed and personally researched, this is the most reliable and in-depth guide you can buy for an Arizona adventure. From world-class golf resorts to authentic dude ranches, from stunning Southwestern-style BBs to rustic lodges and secluded campgrounds, our authors have chosen the very best places to stay throughout the state, in all price ranges. They'll show you the most scenic drives, and take you outdoors for desert hikes, superb golf, thrilling white-water rafting, horseback riding, and more. Serious shoppers will appreciate our insider advice on finding the best of local art galleries and the most intriguing regional crafts, rugs, and pottery. And of course, you'll discover where to find the best Mexican and Southwestern dining, from elegant resort restaurants to roadside joints that offer great regional specialties and a mean margarita. With Frommer's in hand, you'll see all the highlights, from glorious vistas of the Grand Canyon to the fanciful red-rock formations of Sedona, from the eerie monoliths of Monument Valley to the silent splendors of the desert. You'll even get a color fold-out map and an online directory that makes trip-planning a snap!

From the Back Cover Experience a place the way the locals do. Enjoy the best it has to offer. And avoid tourist traps. At Frommer's, we use 150 outspoken travel experts around the world to help you make the right choices. Frommer's. Your guide to a world of travel experience. Choose the Only Guide That Gives You: Outspoken opinions on what's worth your time and what's not. Exact prices, so you can plan the perfect trip no matter what your budget. Off-the-beaten-path experiences and undiscovered gems, plus new takes on top attractions. The best hotels and restaurants in every price range, with candid reviews. About the Author Karl Samson and Jane Aukshunas, husband-and-wife travel-writing team, find that the sunny winter skies of the Arizona desert are the perfect antidote to the dreary winters of their Pacific Northwest home. Each winter, they flee the rain to explore Arizona's deserts, mountains, cities, and small towns. It is the state's unique regional style, Native American cultures, abundance of contemporary art, and, of course, boundless landscapes that keep the duo fascinated by Arizona. Summers find the team researching their other books, including Frommer's Washington, Frommer's Oregon, and Frommer's Seattle Portland. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. | The Best Scenic Drives Apache Trail (east of Phoenix): Much of this winding road, which passes just north of the Superstition Mountains, is unpaved and follows a rugged route once ridden by Apaches. This is some of the most remote country you'll find in the Phoenix area, with far-reaching desert vistas and lots to see and do along the way. See chapter 4. Oak Creek Canyon (Sedona): Slicing down from the pine country outside Flagstaff to the red rocks of Sedona, Oak Creek Canyon is a cool oasis. From the scenic overlook at the top of the canyon to the swimming holes and hiking trails at the bottom, this canyon road provides a rapid change in climate and landscape. See chapter 5. Canyon de Chelly National Monument (Chinle): This fascinating complex of canyons on the

Navajo Indian Reservation has only limited public access because it is still home to numerous Navajo families. However, there are two roads that parallel the north and south rims of the canyon providing lots of scenic overlooks. See chapter 7. Through Monument Valley (north of Kayenta): This valley of sandstone buttes and mesas is one of the most photographed spots in America and is familiar to people all over the world from the countless movies, TV shows, and commercials that have been shot here. A 17-mile dirt road winds through the park, giving visitors close-ups of such landmarks as Elephant Butte, the Mittens, and Totem Pole. See chapter 7. Up Mount Lemmon (Tucson): Sure, the views of Tucson from the city's northern foothills are great, but the views from Mount Lemmon are even better. With a ski area at its summit, Mount Lemmon rises up from the desert like an island rising from the sea. Along the way the road climbs from cactus country to cool pine forests. See chapter 9. 2The Best Day Hikes Nature Walks Camelback Mountain (Phoenix): For many Phoenixians the trail to the top of Camelback Mountain is a ritual, a Phoenix institution. Sure, there are those who make this a casual but strenuous hike, but many more turn it into a serious workout by jogging to the top and back. We prefer a more leisurely approach to enjoy the views. See chapter 4. Picacho Peak State Park (south of Casa Grande): The hike up this central Arizona landmark is short but strenuous, and from the top there are superb views out over the desert. The best time of year to make the hike is in spring, when the peak comes alive with wildflowers. Picacho Peak is between Casa Grande and Tucson just off I-10. See chapter 4. The West Fork of Oak Creek Trail (outside Sedona): The West Fork of Oak Creek is a tiny stream that meanders for miles in a narrow steep-walled canyon. This is classic canyon country, and the hardest part of a hike here is having to turn around without seeing what's around the next bend up ahead. See chapter 5. South Kaibab Trail (Grand Canyon South Rim): Forget the popular Bright Angel Trail, which is a human highway near the top. This trail offers better views to day hikers and is the preferred downhill route for anyone heading down to Phantom Ranch for the night. This is a strenuous hike even if you go only a mile or so down the trail. Remember, the trip back is all uphill. See chapter 6. Antelope Canyon (Page): More a slow walk of reverence than a hike, this trail lets you see the amazing beauty that can be created when water and rock battle one another in the Southwest. The trail leads through a picture-perfect sandstone slot canyon, which in places is only a few feet wide. See chapter 7. The Keet Seel Trail (Navajo National Monument): There is something magical and mystical about arriving at an ancient cliff dwelling after hiking 8 miles through a desert canyon. At the end of your hike, after resting for a while, you can explore the ruins. There's a campsite nearby, so you can sleep with the ghosts of the Anasazi for a night. See chapter 7. The White House Ruins Trail (Canyon de Chelly): There's only one Canyon de Chelly hike that the general public can do without a Navajo guide, and that's the 2 1/2-mile trail to White House Ruins, a small Anasazi pueblo site. The trail leads from the canyon rim across bare sandstone, through a tunnel, and down to the floor of the canyon. See chapter 7. Seven Falls (Tucson): There is something irresistible about waterfalls in the desert, and on this trail you get more than enough falls to satisfy any craving to cool off on a hot desert day. This trail is in Sabino Canyon Recreation Area in northeast Tucson. See chapter 9. Heart of Rocks Trail (Cochise County): While the big national parks and monuments in northern Arizona get all the publicity, Chiricahua National Monument, down in the southeast corner of the state, quietly lays claim to some of the most spectacular scenery in Arizona. On this trail you'll hike through a wonderland of rocks. See chapter 10.