



Soar

Above it All

Take a Breathtaking
Hot Air Balloon Ride

Looking for an experience that combines the adventure of flight with the beauty of desert landscapes? A local hot air balloon ride may be just for you! Imagine floating peacefully above the earth, surrounded by soft breezes and breathtaking views—rugged mountains, far-reaching plains, and the local wildlife that inhabits them. There are many opportunities nearby to schedule one of these sky-high journeys, year-round.

The Thrill of Flight

You may begin in the early hours of morning, or just before sunset—those times when the air is clearer and the wind is calmer. Enjoy a sense of anticipation as the burners heat up and the balloon slowly fills, preparing to carry you up and away. Taking off is a feeling like no other—a sense of weightlessness as you glide up into the sky. Soaring above city life's busyness, you get a sense of unmatched



tranquility and oneness with the nature that surrounds you.

Flights generally last from 45 minutes to an hour, and balloons reach anywhere from 500 and 2,000 feet above the ground. While you'll be travelling at speeds of five or six miles per hour, there's little feeling of motion because you're flying with the wind. Once you touch down, you'll likely be invited to enjoy a traditional celebration—a special toast to commemorate the trip along with a keepsake certificate to take home.

How, When and Where?

We recommend booking a ride in one of the cooler months—between October and April—when winds are most favorable and temperatures are mild. Pricing may vary, depending on time of day and whether you book a private or shared flight. Here are a few nearby ballooning companies to consider:

Hot Air Expeditions – hotairexpeditions.com – 1-800-831-7610

Rainbow Ryders – rainbowryders.com – 1-800-725-2477

Apex Balloons – phoenixballoonrides.com – 1-877-946-8247

Tour packages generally include a pre-flight lesson, the balloon ride, and post-ride celebration to commemorate the trip. Children under 18 may require a parent to fly with them; expectant mothers and people in poor health may not be able to take the trip. Baskets can accommodate anywhere from two to fourteen people. Comfortable, casual, seasonal clothing is recommended as the temperature will be similar to that on the ground. Plan to allow 3-4 hours for the whole experience. If flights are cancelled due to weather, they can usually be rescheduled or a refund provided.

Whether you're seeking a new adventure, honoring a special occasion, or looking for a unique way to explore the Sonoran desert, a hot air balloon ride is an experience you won't soon forget!