

Local Attractions

(Recommendations are from Hyatt Grand Champions Resort Concierge. *)

Palm Springs Aerial Tramway ★ Tramway Rd. off Hwy. 111 Tel: 888/515-TRAM

To gain a bird's-eye perspective on the Coachella Valley, take this 14-minute ascent up nearly 5,900 feet to the upper slopes of Mount San Jacinto. While the Albert Frey-designed boarding stations retain their 1960s ski-lodge feel, newly installed Swiss funicular cars are sleekly modern and rotate during the trip to allow each passenger a panoramic view.

Hours: Mon-Fri 10am-8pm; Sat-Sun 8am-8pm. Tram runs every 30 min., last tram down at 9:45pm

Price: Tickets \$22 adults, \$20 seniors, \$15 children 3-12, free for kids under 3

Palm Springs Desert Museum ★ 101 Museum Dr Tel: 760/325-7186

Unlikely though it may sound, this museum is well endowed and worth a look. Exhibits include world-class Western and Native American art collections, the natural history of the desert, and an outstanding anthropology department, primarily representing the local Cahuilla tribe. Tools, baskets, and other relics illustrate traditional Indian life, as it was lived for centuries. Check local schedules to find out about visiting exhibits (which are usually excellent). Plays, lectures, and other events are presented in the museum's **Annenberg Theater**.

Hours: Tues-Wed and Fri-Sun 10am-5pm; Thurs noon-8pm

Price: \$13 adults, \$11 seniors 62 and over, \$5 military and children 6-17, free for children under 6. Free for all each Thurs after 4pm

The Living Desert Zoo & Gardens ★ 47-900 Portola Ave Tel: 760/346-5694

This 1,200-acre desert reserve, museum, zoo, and educational center is designed to acquaint visitors with the Southern California desert's unique habitats. You can walk or take a tram tour through sectors that re-create life in several distinctive desert zones. See and learn about a dizzying variety of plants, insects, and wildlife, including bighorn sheep, mountain lions, rattlesnakes, lizards, owls, golden eagles, and the ubiquitous roadrunner. It's a nonstuffy learning experience for kids and grown-ups alike.

Hours: Daily 9am-5pm (last entrance 4pm); summer (mid-June to Aug) 8am-1:30pm

Price: \$12 adults, \$11 seniors/military, \$7.50 children 3-12, free for kids under 3. Private Safari \$26.50

***Check with Concierge for pricing before leaving for the above attractions.**

Tours and Shopping

World-Class Shopping and Lunch

Stroll down El Paseo (the Rodeo Drive of the Desert) for specialty shopping, art gallery browsing and delicious culinary delights at the many restaurants.

Palm Springs Tours & More

Welcome to our Desert! A customized private tour to discover Palm Springs Desert Style—from the movie star homes, to the Cahuilla Indians, the San Andreas Fault line, desert modern architecture, famous personalities, great golfers and tennis players, native plants and animals...Cost: \$69 per person minimum applies for this discounted rate.

Big Wheel Tours

Join our expert naturalist guides on a Palm Springs jeep adventure to visit some of the area's most scenic backcountry wonders. We use new top of the line Wrangler Rubicon Jeeps and the area's most experienced guides. Visit the high desert on a Joshua Tree National Park jeep tour via a rugged backcountry trail through the San Andreas or head straight to the incredible canyons twisted and distorted by the mighty Fault. **Our tours include hotel pickup and drop-off**, and expert guide, water, snacks, and any entry fees. All jeep tours include some light hiking that can be tailored to clients' requests. Our Palm Springs jeep tours run daily with morning and afternoon departure times.