COMMUNITY ALIGNMENT & TOURISM



2024 ANNUAL MEETING











Visit Tucson Staff Marketing Lee McLaughlin

Felipe Garcia Graeme Hughes Lisa Owens Misty Mosley Kelly Reed Connor Voice

Administration

Destination Stewardship Vanessa Bechtol, CDME Meredith Lipscomb Carin Wiseman Socorro Carrizosa Ruth Allard Elva Carbajal Dan Jones Kim Smith Lee McLaughlin Rosanna Gaxiola Lindsay Prester Dave Levin Ed Farias Hope Smyth Salma Reyes

Multicultural Marketing Czarina Nafarrate

Communications & Tourism Mary Rittmann Cindy Aguilar Gail Godbey Mo Calderon Sol Carmona DeLisser

Sales, Services, Sports Mary Meade Joy Johnson Brooke Sauer Cathy Valencia Chris Sabala Pamela Traficanti Jane Roxbury Nick Pazzi Bree Lopez Maria Ramirez **Renee Rogers**

Film Tucson Peter Catalanotte Monica Lopez



Welcome New Board Members



Grant Dipman Loews Ventana Canyon Resort



Rhonda Fure, CPA

BeachFleischman



Wyatt Fee The Leo Kent Hotel



Ray Flores Flores Concepts



Pablo Toscano

Pima Community College Hospitality Leadership Program



David Kliman

The Kliman Group **TUCSON** 2024 ANNUAL MEETING

Re-Elected Board Members



Nate Ares Ares Collective Restaurants



Dr. Amanda Kraus Campus Life, University of Arizona







Outgoing Board Member

Moniqua Lane

The Downtown Clifton



CONGRATULATIONS



Warren Beneville

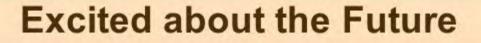
Tucson Airport Authority Warm Welcome Volunteer



Destination Stewardship











tignment Achieving Community Alignment





TODAY'S AGENDA

• THE PAST

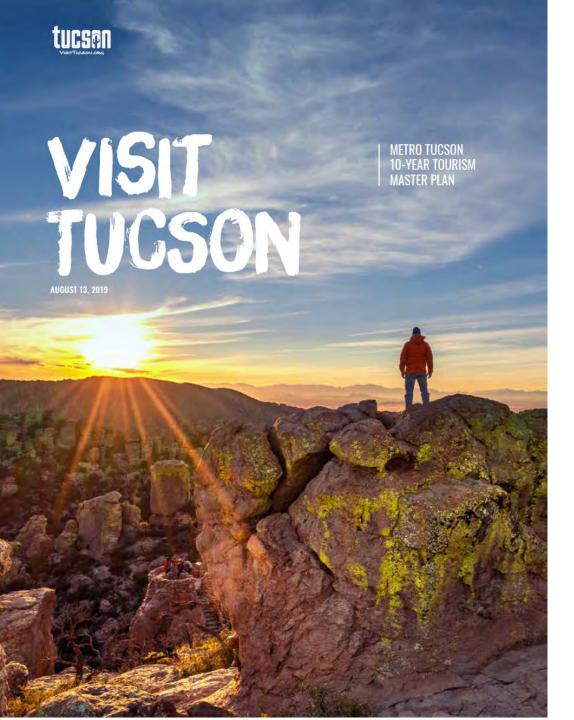
• 2019 Destination Master Plan

• THE PRESENT

Changes & updates

• THE FUTURE

• The revised direction



10-YEAR MASTER PLAN PURPOSE

To help Metro Tucson:

- Understand the destination's key competitive advantages and weaknesses, and
- Guide the planning, product development, programming, policy and promotion of Metro Tucson's tourism industry



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Well-Being
- Placemaking
- Connectivity
- Culture
- Development/Investment
- Advocacy

VISIT TUCSON	98
GOVERNMENT	57
TOURISM INDUSTRY	40
OTHER ENTITY	6+

ACTIONS

GOALS

Destinations (cities, counties, states and countries) have undergone a period of extreme change over the past 10 years. Travelers' motivations have shifted, leaving many destinations that were well positioned just a decade ago struggling to balance the needs and interests of their industry with those of their local community. At the same time, this market dislocation is creating opportunities for forward looking Travel & Tourism destinations to

1. VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Visit Tucson will create, enhance and deliver destination products and services, activities and events that create a compelling, must-visit destination experience that reflects the unique environment, culture and diversity of Metro Tucson.

2. QUALITY OF LIFE

Visit Tucson will create, enhance and deliver destination products and services, activities and events that preserve and create a high quality of life experience for residents that reflects the unique environment, culture and diversity of Metro Tucson.

3. INVESTMENT

Metro Tucson will foster expansion of private sector investment in tourism projects and services and the coordination of public infrastructure investment to achieve optimum benefits for the tourism industry and residents.

4. GROWTH

Metro Tucson's tourism industry will deliver competitive growth that is consistent with optimized carrying capacity, reduced seasonality, and high value products, activities, services and events.

5. SEASONALITY

Metro Tucson will focus creation, enhancement and delivery of tourism products and services, activities and events in low traffic months to help reduce and optimize the seasonality of visitation. create strategies and products that satisfy the needs and desires of both their residents and visitors.

As a starting point for the Tourism Master Plan, Resonance asked industry, government and resident stakeholders to guide the process by prioritizing the goals that they felt were important for the project. The goals in order of priority are:

6. EMPLOYMENT

Metro Tucson's tourism businesses will become employers of choice for residents seeking long-term careers, offering exceptional opportunities for growth in the competitive tourism industry.

7. EDUCATION

Metro Tucson's secondary and post-secondary institutions will offer world-renowned tourism education to attract and develop future tourism employees and leaders.

8. ENVIRONMENT

Metro Tucson's tourism industry will embrace the vision of sustainable tourism and sustainable development, and work with Visit Tucson to develop and promote the Metro Tucson region as a world-leading sustainable community and tourism destination.

9. DISTRIBUTION

Metro Tucson's tourism industry will create, enhance and deliver destination products and services, activities and events that distribute both the benefits and impacts of a growing tourism industry throughout the region.

Please note, these goals have been used throughout the Tourism Master Plan process to shape the research, visioning workshops, recommendations and strategies. The top goals have also been used to create the Priority Scoring at the end of this report to determine the priority implementation of recommendations.

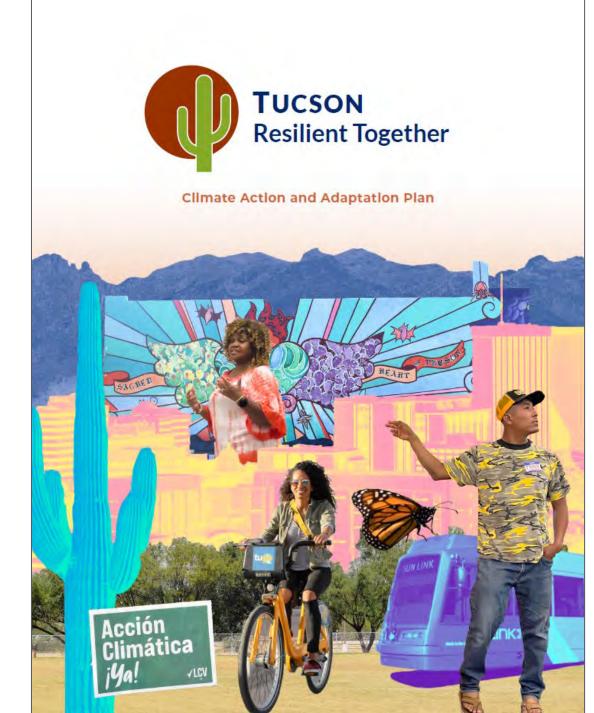
IMPLEMENTATION

- Presentation and communication of the Tourism Master Plan by Visit Tucson to County, City officials and industry stakeholders
- Engagement with specific stakeholders to discuss and share individual Action Items
- Agreement with specific stakeholders to work
 cooperatively to implement Action Items
- Articulation and agreement of cooperative stakeholder implementation initiatives
 - Inclusion of the Tourism Master Plan Action Items into Visit Tucson's annual planning process
 - Identification of organizational responsibilities and authorities
 - Identification of activities and work plans for implementation
 - Identification of resources necessary for implementation (financial, human resource, organizational)
 - Identification of time table for implementation
 - Identification of Key Performance Indices (KPIs) necessary to monitor and assess performance
 - Direction, management and monitoring of implementation initiatives

CHANGE IS CONSTANT









Sustainable Action Plan for County Operations 2018-2025

2022 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

.....





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

STRATEGY

2023-26

PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA APRIL 2023

	VISION: Elevate Tucson as the dynamic outdoor and cultural hub of the Sonoran Desert		MISSION: Welcoming the world to Tucson to build a better community			
	2023-2025 STRATEGIC GOALS					
	1) Sales & Marketing	2) Collaborative Destination Management	3) Community Alignment & Support	4) Sustainable Organization		
a. b. c.	Enhance brand and expand leisure marketing activities to increase national and international awareness Celebrate the diversity of our community through engaging storytelling Expand sales and marketing activities around meetings, conventions, and sports Establish sustainable funding model for film/production incentives	 a. Support recovery of local businesses b. Support Tucson Airport Authority initiatives to expand air access c. Develop new and grow existing events d. Increase sports venue access for tournament and out of town play to increase bookings e. Advocate for transportation/mobility infrastructure improvements for visitors f. Promote new and improve existing experiences 	 a. Sustain government support of industry b. Improve resident sentiment/support for tourism and DMO c. Expand outreach to industry stakeholders d. Support coalition efforts for additional ARPA/other recovery grant funding 	 a. Collect new data/research and implement new technology to better connect with visitors b. Pursue Tourism Marketing Authority (TMA) c. Diversify revenue sources d. Optimize staffing and expand capacity to achieve market potential e. Enhance culture of the organization to meet expectations of today's workforce 		
		2023-20	25 TARGETS			
••••	New brand strategy by June 2023 170,000 meetings room nights generated by June 2024 20 new storytelling videos produced by June 2025 10% Bed tax revenue growth by June 2025	 New partner training program by June 2023 Increase airline seat capacity by June 2024 Integrated Pueblos del Maiz, Mariachi Conference and Agave Heritage Festival by June 2023 Ten primary Fall Gem Shows by September 2024 	 Trailblazer status maintained in 2024 DNext assessment Improved resident sentiment score in 2024 	 \$12 million total budget by June 2025 Reorganization plan completed by June 2023 Third-party HR services in place by June 2023 Visitor analysis research completed by June 2025 		

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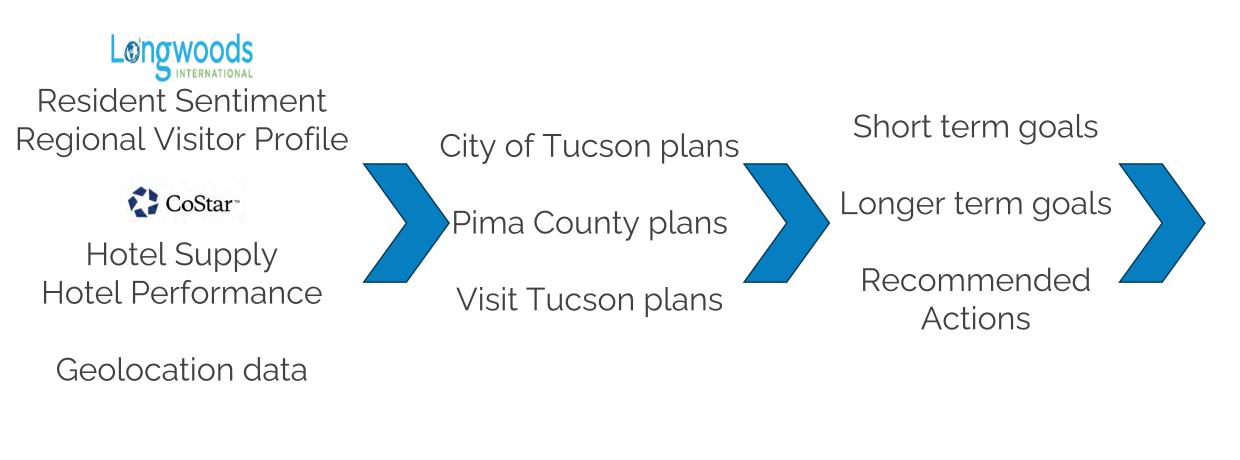
Actions:

• Collect new data & research





Approach



Data Compilation

Applied Analysis

Guided Direction





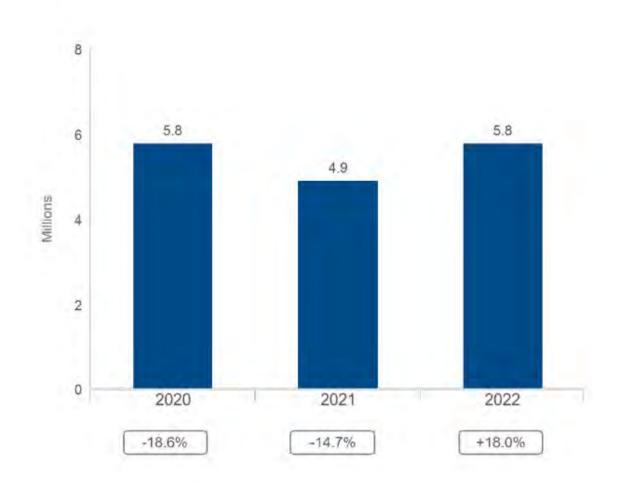
Travel USA Visitor Profile

Tucson & Southern Region

ARIZONA OFFICE OF TOURISM

2022

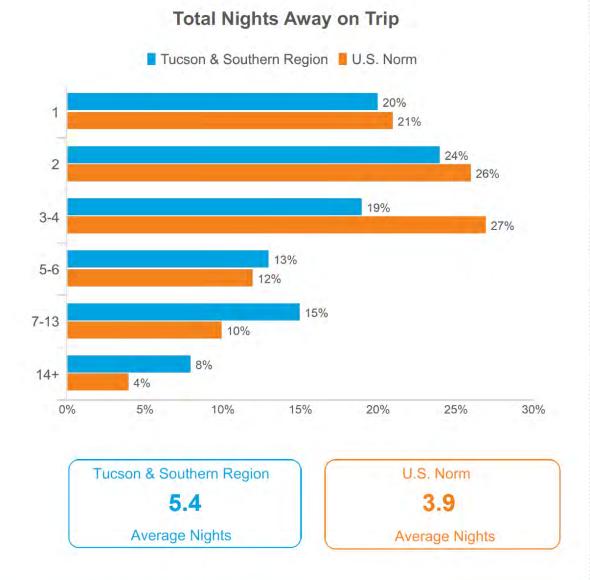
Overnight Trips to Tucson & Southern Region

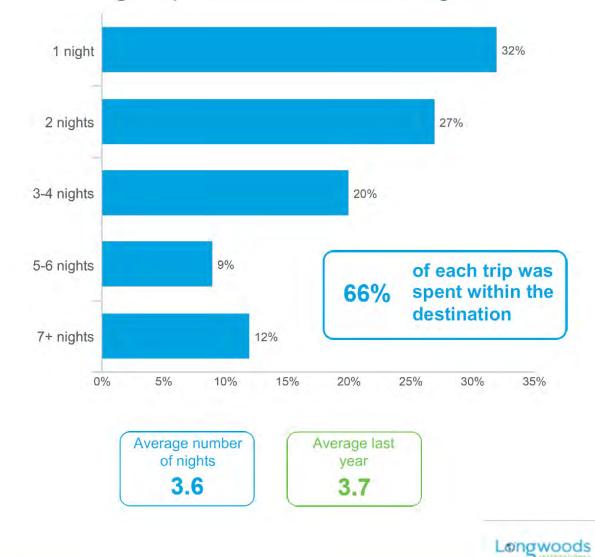




Tucson & Southern Region's Overnight Trip Characteristics

Base: 2022 Overnight Person-Trips





Nights Spent in Tucson & Southern Region

Tucson & Southern Region's Overnight Trip Characteristics

Accommodations

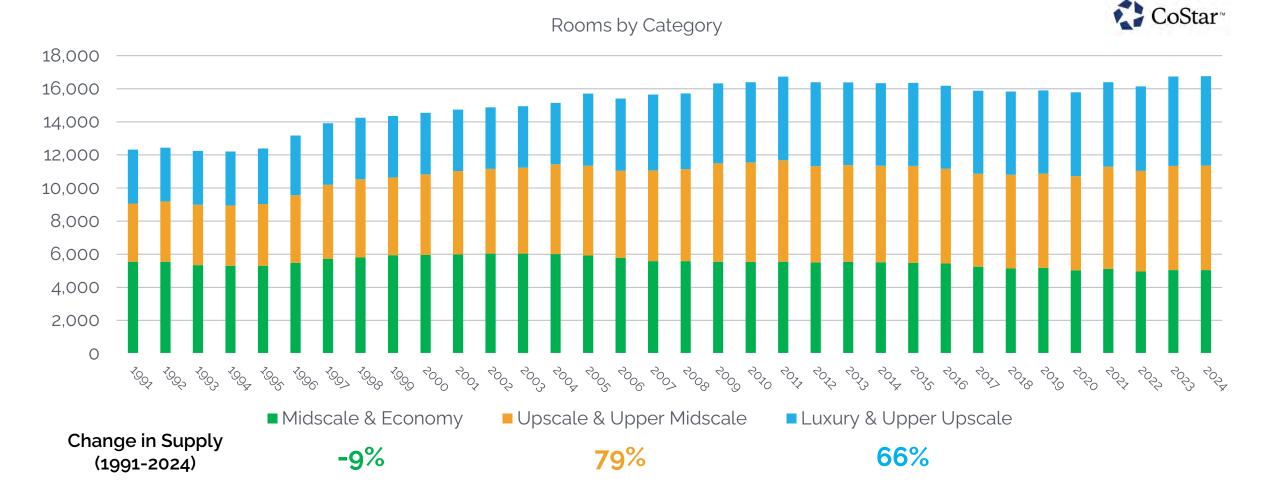
	2022	2021
Hotel	37%	33%
Home of friends / relatives	22%	22%
Motel	14%	16%
Resort hotel	12%	10%
Campground / RV park	8%	6%
Rented home / condo / apartment	6%	7%
Bed & breakfast	5%	7%
	Home of friends / relatives Motel Resort hotel Campground / RV park Rented home / condo / apartment	Hotel37%Home of friends / relatives22%Motel14%Resort hotel12%Campground / RV park8%Rented home / condo / apartment6%

Length of Trip Planning

	Tucson & Southern Region	U.S. Norm
1 month or less	31%	31%
2 months	16%	16%
3-5 months	17%	18%
6-12 months	10%	14%
More than 1 year in advance	4%	5%
Did not plan anything in advance	23%	16%



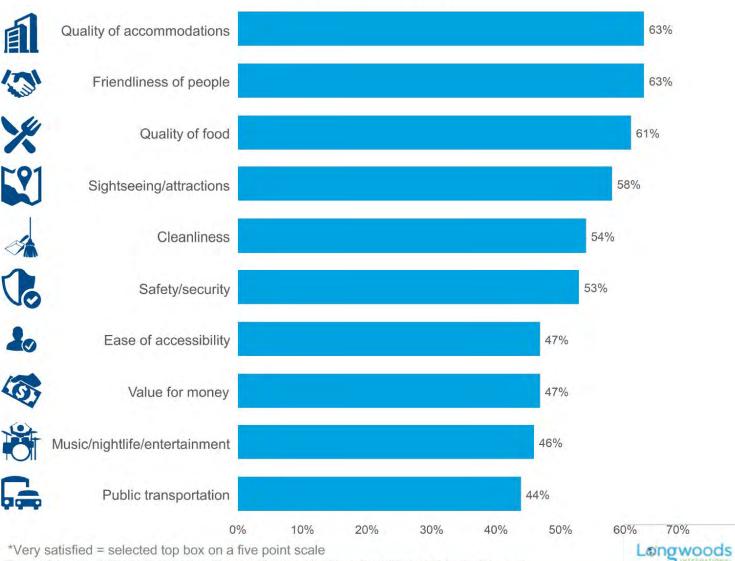
Growth of Lodging Supply



% Very Satisfied with Trip*

72%

of overnight travelers were very satisfied with their overall trip experience



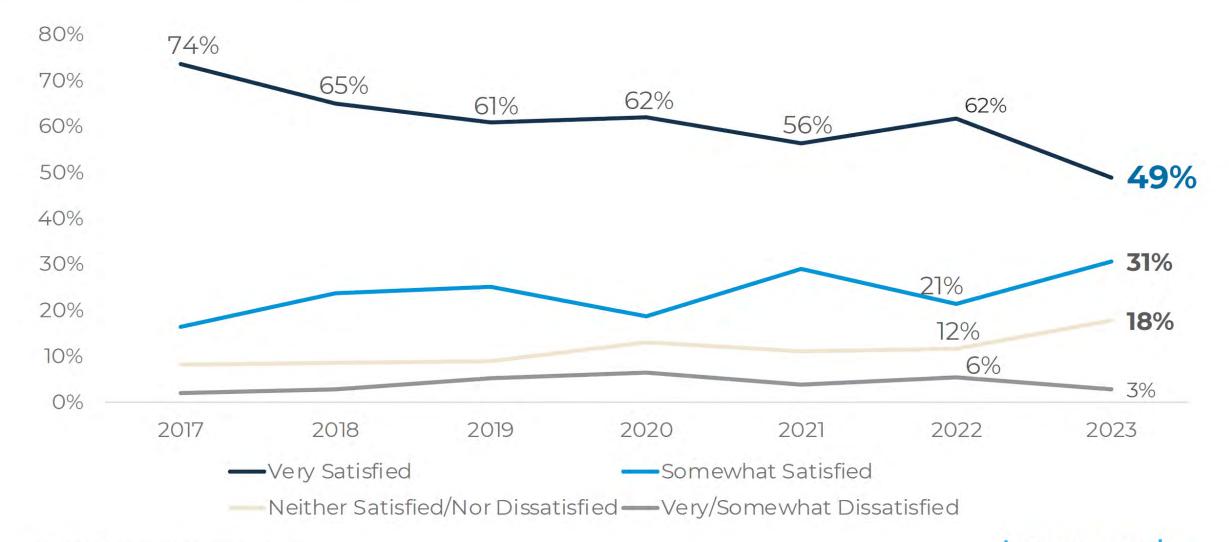
*Very satisfied = selected top box on a five point scale

Ease of Accessibility only asked to those with travel limiting disabilities within travel party

Satisfaction with Tucson Overnight Trip Friendliness of People



©nowoo





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Actions:

- Collect new data & research
- Improve resident sentiment





Tucson Resident Sentiment

ANNA BLOUNT **MARCH 2024**

2024 Tucson Resident Sentiment Study

- This study analyzed the public perceptions of Tucson residents from all sides, including the positives and negatives of economic development, overtourism, and quality of life
- Self-completion survey taken by 679 adults residing in Pima County, including the City of Tucson and Town of Oro Valley.
- In-field January 2024
- U.S. Norms from annual study conducted with Destinations International in July 2023.



Tucson Residents – Engagement with Tourism



91%

I look forward to showing off this area when friends and family visit 90%

I recommend local tourist sites to people who are visiting my area

West norm: 57% U.S. norm: 53% West norm: 52% U.S. norm: 49%



2024 Tucson Resident Sentiment Study

Tucson Residents – Tourism Support



83%

Overall, I think tourism is good for my local area



I care about the success of the tourism industry in my local area

West norm: 62% U.S. norm: 61%

West norm: 57% U.S. norm: 55%



2024 Tucson Resident Sentiment Study

Tucson Residents – Economy



83%

Tourism is important to my local economy

U.S. norm: 54%

76%

Tourism encourages investment in our local economy

U.S. norm: 53%

71%

Tourism attracts new businesses to our local area

U.S. norm: 52%









Without the tax revenues we get from tourists, we would have to pay higher state and local taxes for government programs and services

> West norm: 46% U.S. norm: 44%

> > 2024 Tucson Resident Sentiment Study



Longwoods

Pima County 2022 Travel Impacts

Direct Travel Spending = \$2.75 billion (+15.7%) Travel Industry Earnings = \$812 million (+14.4%) Travel-Related Jobs = 21,710 (+7.7%) Local Tax Receipts = \$81 million (+16.3%) State Tax Receipts = \$141 million (+13.2%)

\$525 tax savings per household

Tucson Residents – Sustainability



62%

Tourism can help the environment as local governments and people seek to protect sensitive and scenic areas

West & U.S. norms: 41%

61%

Tourism is a good alternative to more environmentallydamaging development

> West norm: 43% U.S. norm: 42%









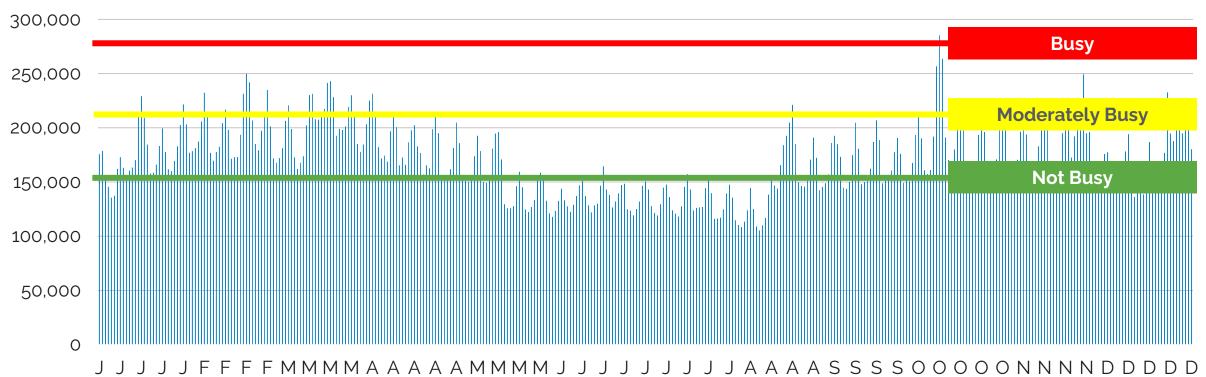
Opportunities for Visit Tucson

- Residents are your brand ambassadors and partners for continued tourism success and growth - inform/engage/seek input from them more regularly
- Expand ambassador program to connect with broader community
- Events are universally appealing support new events that are of interest to visitors and residents alike
- Sustainability is essential to for the future strength of tourism in Tucson – launch program and share with community at large, not just partner businesses

Tucson & Southern Region's Overnight Trip Characteristics

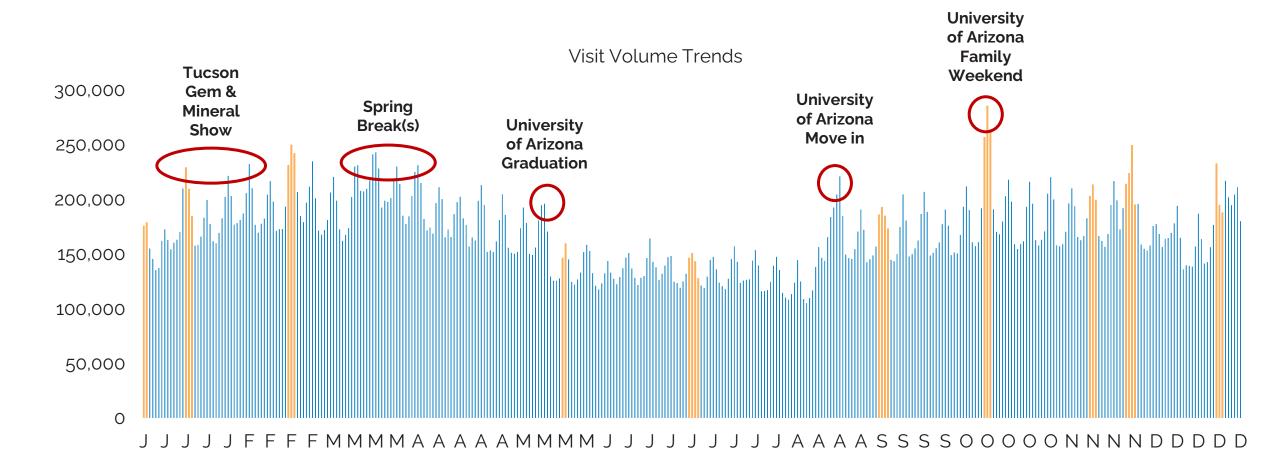


Visit Volume & Seasonal Disparity



Visit Volume Trends

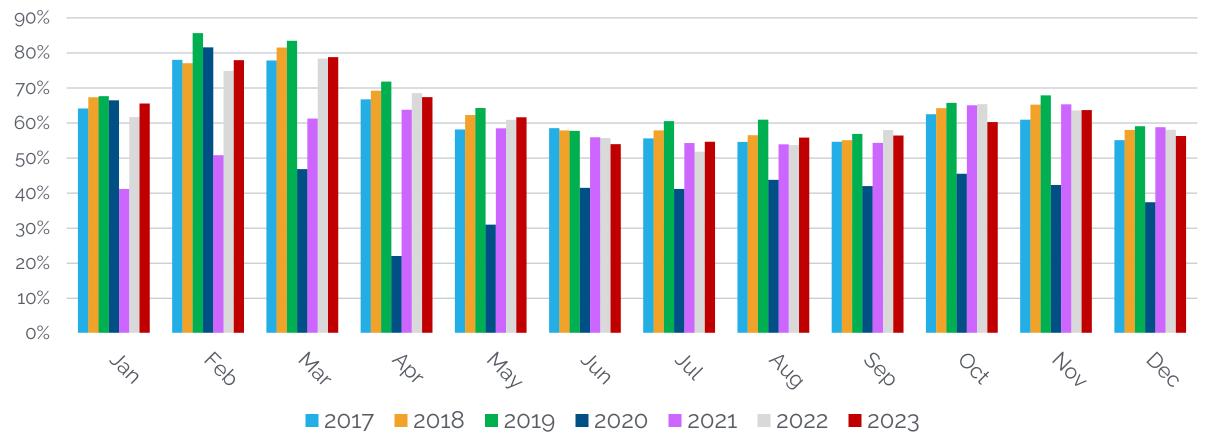
Visit Volume & Importance of Events



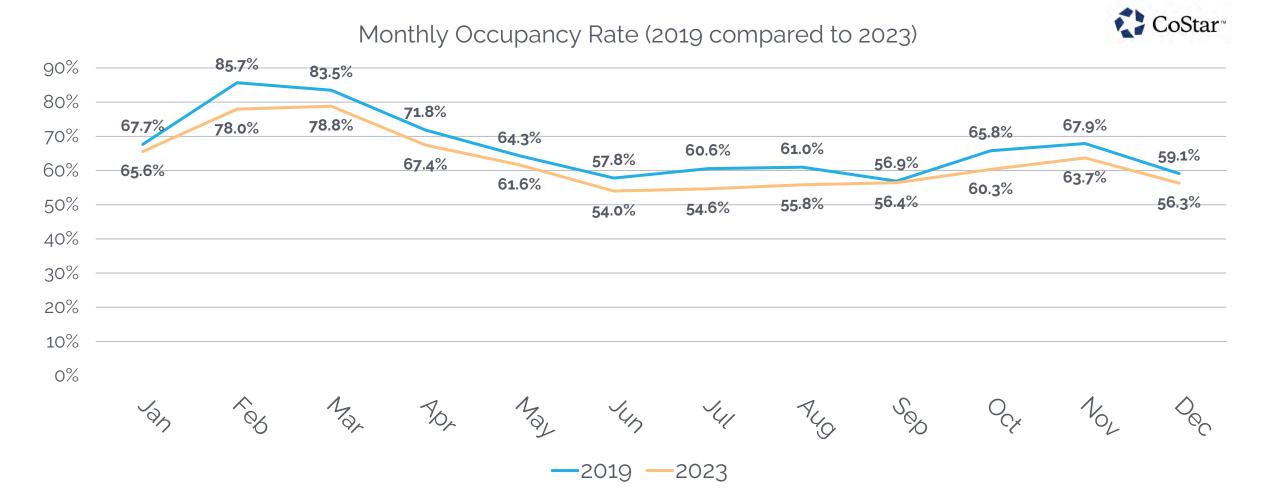
Monthly Lodging Market Performance

Monthly Occupancy Rate (2017-2023)

CoStar"



Data to Decisions – Lodging Market Performance



Data to Decisions – Overall Seasonality

2023 Lodging & Visitor Volume Trends 300,000 78.8% 250,000 78.0% 67.4% 200,000 65.6% 61.6% 55.8 **50.**8% 54.6% **54.0**% 150,000 100,000 50,000 0 Mar Ma, Sol $\mathcal{V}_{O_{i}}$ \sim Jan 70, JUN AUQ O^Q

CoStar"



Repeat Visitation

77%

of Tucson's 2023 overnight domestic visitors have previously visited the city

Visited at least twice in the past 12 months: 55%

Longwoods

TIME THE WORLD'S GREATEST PLACES OF 2023

50 extraordinary destinations to explore



TIME solicited nominations of places from our international network of correspondents and contributors, with an eye toward those offering new and exciting experiences.

TIME THE WORLD'S GREATEST PLACES OF 2023

11 North American



Bozeman, Mont. A warm Western welcome



Tampa, Florida Waterfront fun



Washington, D.C. A new artistic identity



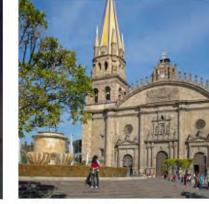
Willamette Valley, Oregon The next Napa



Yosemite National Park, California Nature, restored



Churchill, Manitoba Northern wonders



Guadalajara, Mexico Preserving the past and future



Mexico City South-of-the-border sports



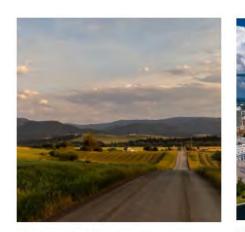
Roatán, Honduras A quieter barrier reef



Vancouver Eclectic cuisine

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Churchill, Manitoba Northern wonders



Guadalajar Preserving t The soul of the Sonoran Desert



Yosemite National Park, California Nature, restored



Vancouver Eclectic cuisine

John Burcham for The New York Times

The New York Times

52 Places to Go in 2023

Travel's rebound has revealed the depth of our drive to explore the world. Why do we travel? For food, culture, adventure, natural beauty? This year's list has all those elements, and more. Barrio Viejo, an area of more than 150 blocksx in Tucson, is the largest barrio in the United States and exemplifies Tucson's connection to Mexico, with centuries-old Sonoran adobe architecture.

This year, the neighborhood, which has one of the most diverse racial, cultural, religious and ethnic populations in the country, will receive <u>National Historic Landmark designation</u>. Revival projects include the restoration of the 300-seat <u>Teatro Carmen</u>, built in 1915 and later converted into the <u>Black Elks Club</u>, and female-owned boutique hotels, like <u>the Citizen</u> in the former home of the Tucson Citizen newspaper and <u>the Downtown Clifton</u> in a once-faded motel.

Take the <u>Tucson Origins Tour</u> by <u>Borderlandia</u>, which specializes in tours of the U.S.-Mexico border area, for a deep dive into history. Then explore the famed <u>Etherton</u> <u>Gallery</u> and <u>Andrew Smith Gallery</u>, both in new spaces. Don't forget Barrio restaurants like the local coffee drinkers' favorite <u>EXO</u> <u>Roast</u>, housed in an 1885 adobe home, and <u>the Coronet</u>, which moved to the neighborhood in 2019.

- Daniel Scheffler



Arizona

A rebounding center of art and adobe

with centuries-old ties to Mexico

READ MORE



The Best Places to Go in North America & the Caribbean in 2024

Barrio Viejo, Tucson, Arizona

Go for: a historic melting pot galvanized by delicious dining and cultural programming



Outside

Sign In

Tasha Zemke

Tasha Zemke is Outside magazine's associate managing editor and a

member of the Outside Online travel

team. She's also an avid world traveler.

The 23 Best Places to Travel in 2024

Published Mar 18, 2024

Our expert travel writers circled the globe to find the next-best destinations to explore — and why to go now.



Greater Tucson, Arizona

Why Now: Saguaro National Park was recently certified as one of nine Urban Night Sky Places around the world, and Kitt Peak National Observatory recently reopened with a revamped overnight observation program. The region's already awesome trail system has expanded, letting hikers into a previously private, geologically rich slice of the Chihuahuan Desert.

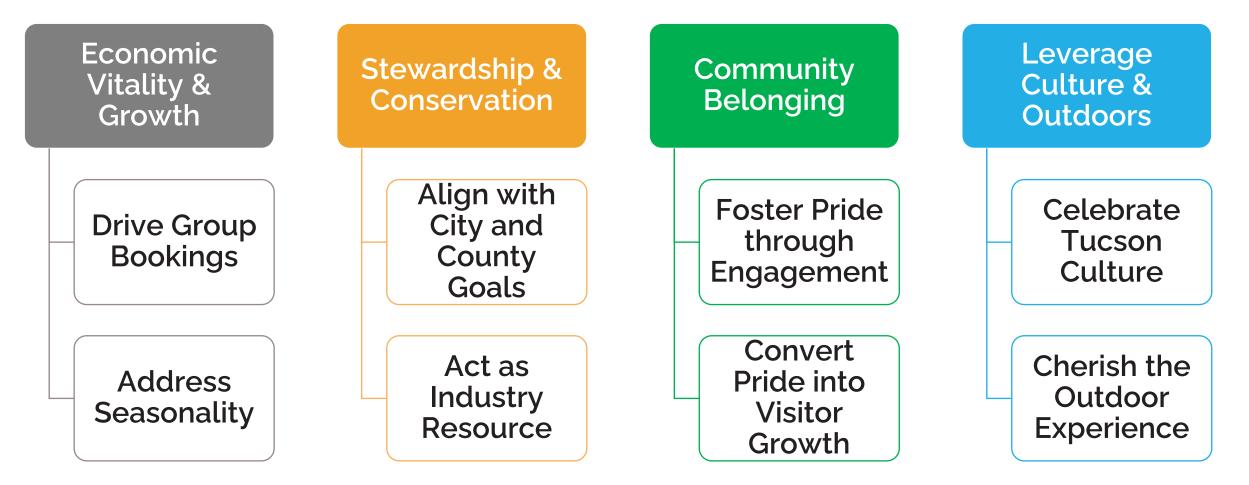
Adventure Intel: The first time I visited Tucson, my rental car sat unused. The city's 137-mile Chuck Huckelberry Loop makes it possible to bike the entire metro area, and satellite lanes extend to more than 40 parks. There are also hundreds of miles of singletrack. Rent wheels from Transit Cycles and saddle up at the JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort to explore the Starr Pass Trail System's mix of smooth and technical terrain. Hiking options are equally endless and now include an eight-mile network in a boulder-strewn section of Texas Canyon Nature Preserve, an hour's drive east of the city. The Colossal Vail 50/50 ultra race, held on the Arizona Trail between Saguaro National Park and the Santa Rita Mountains, was put on runners' radars by the Native-produced documentary *Run to Be Visible*; in 2023, the race hosted a record number of Indigenous participants, and it will celebrate its tenth anniversary this year.

Local Tip: Moniqua Lane, owner of the Downtown Clifton Hotel, prefers to forgo hikes in the crowded western section of Saguaro in favor of adjacent Tucson Mountain Park. Her favorite route is the three-mile out-and-back Hidden Canyon Trail. —*Jen Murphy*

Resetting the Big Picture...

Business	Drive economic vitality and quality of life from tourism	Enhance destination stewardship and conservation efforts	Community
Results	Foster community engagement and sense of belonging	Leverage Tucson's bountiful culture & outdoors	Alignment

...and Connecting Tourism Outcomes





Opportunities

2024 - 2026

Short Range Opportunities:

- Continue Targeted Convention & Sports Sales
- Targeted Air Service Support
- Targeted Drive Market Campaign



Continue Targeted Convention & Sports Sales

- Revisit target industry sectors
- Develop convention toolkits for targeted sectors
- Coordinate on approach and incentives
- Sales calls and promotions



Vital Partners: Economic Development - Convention Center - Sports venues - Hotels & Resorts - Others...

Targeted Air Service Support

- Revisit Airport Authority priorities
- Understand Tucson market motivators
- Collaborative pursuit of new flights to key markets
- Place marketing and media relations for air service expansion markets



Vital Partners: Airport Authority – University of Arizona - Events - Attractions – Restaurants - Hotels & Resorts - Others...

Targeted Drive Market Campaign

- Revisit drive markets with possible coop partners
- Understand Tucson market motivators
- Place coop marketing and media relations program in prioritized drive markets

	2022	2021	
Arizona	38%	42%	
California	11%	11%	
Colorado	4%	2%	
Illinois	4%	3%	
Texas	3%	6%	
	DMA Origin Of	Trip	
	DMA Origin Of	Trip	
	DMA Origin Of	2022	2021
T Phoenix, AZ	DMA Origin Of		2021 27%
		2022	
Phoenix, AZ	es), AZ	2022 22%	27%
Phoenix, AZ Tucson (Nogal	es), AZ	2022 22% 15%	27% 14%
Phoenix, AZ Tucson (Nogale Los Angeles, C	es), AZ	2022 22% 15% 6%	27% 14% 6%

Vital Partners: Hotels & Resorts – Events - Attractions – Restaurants - Others...

Aspirations

Long Range Aspirations:

- Expand & renovate the Tucson Convention Center & its hospitality support system
- Targeted recruitment of more seats and flights
- Seasonal visitor volume & business monitoring system
- Event development for need dates



Opportunities

2024 - 2026

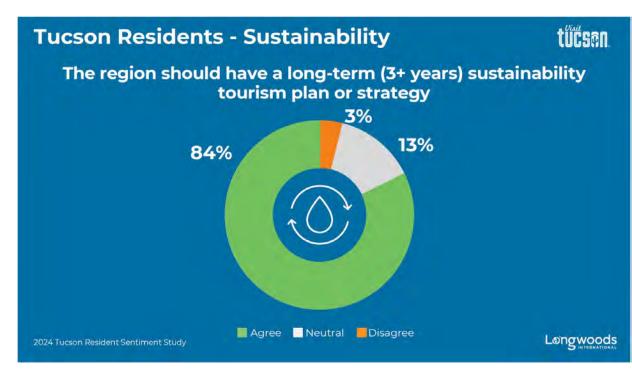
Short Range Opportunities:

- Comprehensive Destination
 Stewardship Program
- Community Alignment
 Communications
- Crisis/Climate Disaster Preparedness



Comprehensive Destination Stewardship Program

- Craft Destination Stewardship Plan
- Create water use, conservation, and climate preparedness content for visitor education
- Develop destination stewardship toolkits for tourism businesses & organizations



Community Alignment Communications

- Revisit City and County climate and sustainability strategies
- Develop communications content showcasing Visit Tucson approaches towards those strategies
- Update communications and add content every four months





Longwoods

Water conservation should be a priority for tourism businesses

Disagree: 4%

2024 Tucson Resident Sentiment Study

Vital Partners: City of Tucson – Pima County – Tourism Industry Partners – Others…

Crisis/Climate Disaster Preparedness

- Review crisis communications plan and policies for extreme climate applicability
- Coordination involvement with Tucson public safety and healthcare officials
- Organize annual drill to ensure efficient execution



Vital Partners: City of Tucson – Pima County – Public Safety & healthcare providers - Tourism Industry Partners – Others...

Aspirations

2026 - 2030

Long Range Aspirations:

- Climate action strategies as part of the expansion & renovation of the Tucson Convention Center
- Targeted recruitment of key climate, water, conservation, and natural resource management conventions
- Achieve international distinction for Visit Tucson sustainability
 programs

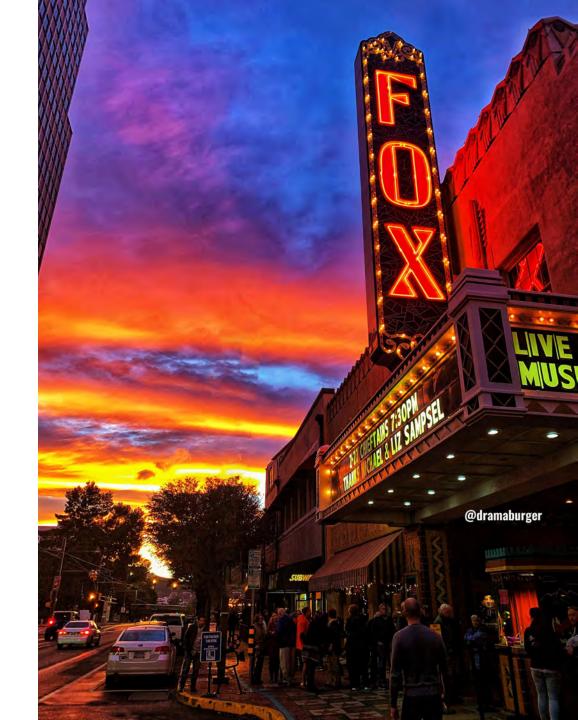


Opportunities

2024 - 2026

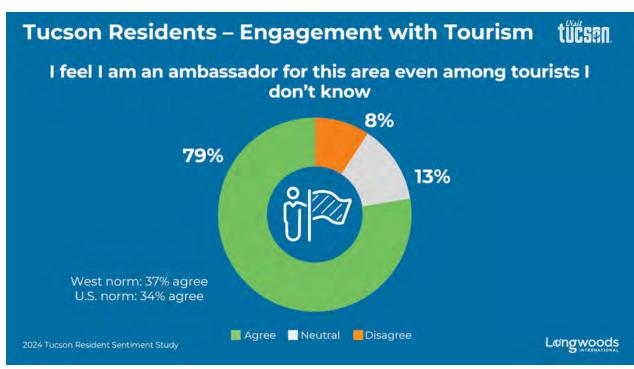
Short Range Opportunities:

- Local promotions celebrating all aspects of Tucson
- Cultural alignment communications
- Expanded local convention and sports ambassador program



Local Promotions Celebrating Tucson

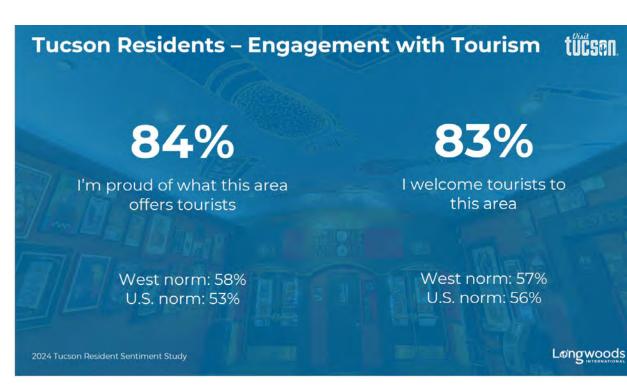
- Expand relationships with community organizations
- Convene collaborative engagement with various groups prioritized around participation
- Deliver content and outreach to continue to inspire ambassadorship



Vital Partners: Community leaders – Neighborhood leaders – Cultural leaders – Tribal leaders – Not-for-profits – Tucson City of Gastronomy - Others...

Culture Alignment Toolkits

- Expand content for cultural celebrations
- Develop cultural toolkits to help tourism businesses better serve Tucson's distinctive cultural range
- Update communications and add content every four months



Vital Partners: Community leaders – Neighborhood leaders – Cultural leaders – Tribal leaders – Not-for-profits – Tucson City of Gastronomy - Others...

Local Convention & Sports Ambassadors

- Develop research tool for proactively learning about local convention & sports influencers
- Coordinate with community organizations on outreach approach
- Pursue influencers through sales calls and promotions



Longwoods

79%

I support hosting college and professional sporting events in my community

> West norm: 58% U.S. norm: 59%

> > 2024 Tucson Resident Sentiment Study

Vital Partners: Community leaders – Neighborhood leaders – Cultural leaders – Tribal leaders – Not-for-profits – Tucson City of Gastronomy - Others...

Aspirations

2026 - 2030

Long Range Aspirations:

• Position branding direction as core promise of community pride & ambassador development



Opportunities

2024 - 2026

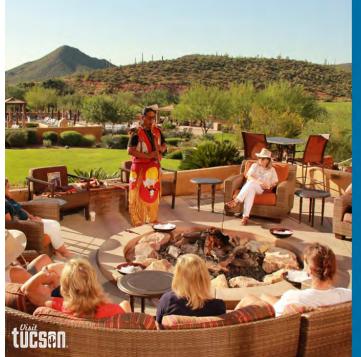
Short Range Opportunities:

• Out-of-area promotions celebrating all aspects of Tucson culture & outdoors



Out-of-Area Promotions Celebrating Tucson

- Develop collaborative marketing plan for reaching key cultural & outdoor target markets
- Adapt and refine content and messaging with branding outcomes
- Apply research and data to hone marketing



Longwoods

69%

Tourism supports the preservation of local culture and protects the community's authenticity

> West norm: 50% U.S. norm: 51%

> > 2024 Tucson Resident Sentiment Study

Vital Partners:

University of Arizona – Cultural leaders – Tribal leaders – Not-for-profits – Tucson City of Gastronomy – Tourism Industry Partners – Others...

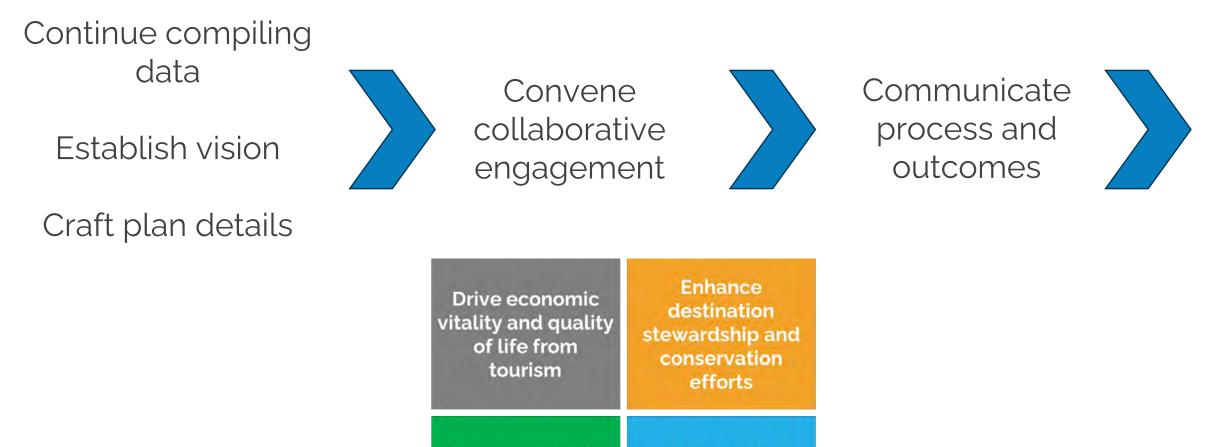
Aspirations

2026 - 2030

Long Range Aspirations:

• Develop immersive experiences encouraging responsible visitation to cultural and outdoor offerings in Tucson

Direction



Leverage

culture &

outdoors

Foster community **Tucson's bountiful** engagement and sense of belonging



Assessments conducted by

CLARITY OF PLACE

www.clarityofplace.com

David@ClarityofPlace.com

THANK YOU!

