This historical walk, designed as a loop, begins and ends at the Presidio San Agustín del Tucson Museum, a reconstruction of a portion of the Tucson Presidio (fort) that was originally built in 1775. The Museum is located on the northeast corner of the original Presidio site.

The complete walk of the Trail (approximately 2 1/2 miles in length) takes anywhere from 90 minutes to two hours, but it can also be done in segments, beginning and ending wherever you like. The Trail is fully wheelchair/scooter accessible.

More than 30 restaurants are within a few blocks of the walk, providing plenty of opportunities for lunch or a break. Many of the sites on the tour are marked with a historical plaque that provides additional information.

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

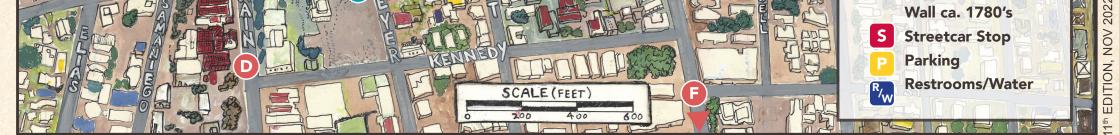


A Historical Walking Tour of Downtown Tucson A Project of the Presidio Museum

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

Pick up Turquoise Trail and Sunlink Streetcar maps at these locations: Presidio Museum, Southern Arizona Heritage and Visitor Center, Hotel Congress, Doubletree by Hilton Tucson Convention Center, El Charro Restaurant.





- Presidio San Agustín del Tucson Museum
- VIEW FROM THE TRAIL El Charro Café (Two blocks north of No. 1)
- Telles Block/Old Town Artisans/ LaCo Restaurant
- VIEW FROM THE TRAIL -Α Tucson Museum of Art & Historic Block/ Main Ave.
- Historic Pima County Courthouse & January 8th Memorial
- Presidio Park Sculptures
- Allande Footbridge 5

Pima County Administration Building 6

Garcés Footbridge and Historic Gazebo (7)

- Samaniego House and Flin Building Historic 8 Photos
- Sosa-Carrillo House 9
- VIEW FROM TRAIL Tumamoc Hill B
- C VIEW FROM TRAIL - Sentinel Peak/"A" Mountain
- (10) El Tiradito (The Castaway)
- (11) La Pilita Patio & Carrillo Gardens
- D VIEW FROM THE TRAIL - Carrillo Elementary School

12 Cuauhtémoc Statue – Public Art

Teatro Carmen

Ferrin House (14)

- 15 Barrio Viejo Streetscape
- Temple of Music and Art (16)
- VIEW FROM THE TRAIL St. Augustine Cathedral
- VIEW FROM THE TRAIL Jewish History Museum (564 S. Stone)
- (17) Armory Park
- VIEW FROM THE TRAIL Blenman House Inn G

- VIEW FROM THE TRAIL Former Carnegie B Library/Children's Museum Tucson
- **18** Independent Order of Odd Fellows
- Johnny Gibson's Downtown Market
- Hotel Congress 20
- 21 Historic Railroad Depot
- VIEW FROM THE TRAIL (on Stone Ave.): Pioneer Hotel Building
- Fox Theatre (last stop). Follow the painted 22 trail to return to your starting point.

PRESIDIO SAN AGUSTÍN DEL TUCSON MUSEUM On August 20th, 1775, Lt. Col. Hugo O'Conor, an Irishman serving in the Spanish Army, founded a fort in what is now downtown Tucson. With the exception of a small Spanish chapel across the Santa Cruz River at the foot of "A" Mountain, this was the first European structure in Tucson. By the 1780s, when the 11acre fort was completed, it consisted of 10-foot-high adobe walls and two corner towers, each 20 feet high. This fort marked the northwestern edge of the Spanish frontier in Arizona.

The northeast corner of the original Presidio has been reconstructed and is known as the Presidio Museum, which offers docent tours and many living history events and activities throughout the year.

VIEW FROM TRAIL - EL CHARRO CAFÉ

Established in 1922 by Monica Flin, El Charro Café is the nation's oldest Mexican restaurant in continuous operation by the same family. Featuring traditional Northern Mexico-Sonoran style and innovative Tucson-style Mexican food, El Charro Café is a local and visitor favorite, known for its carne seca, which is dried on the roof, and other family recipes. The home that the restaurant is located in was the Flin family home, built in 1896 by Monica's father, a well-known stone mason.

2 TELLES BLOCK/OLD TOWN ARTISANS/LACO RESTAURANT

This block is defined by attached Sonoran row-houses, with a large, shady courtyard in 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 Old Town Artisans (several different artisan shops) as well as LaCo Restaurant.

VIEW FROM TRAIL – TUCSON MUSEUM OF ART A **& HISTORIC BLOCK/MAIN AVENUE**

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 1860's, are classic Sonoran row-houses. In the Casa Córdova 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. To the north, along Main Avenue are more examples of Territorial period homes. A pocket park, Centennial Park, celebrating the history of this part of Tucson, is located at the southwest corner of Main Ave. and Washington St.

PIMA COUNTY COURTHOUSE 3 & JANUARY 8TH MEMORIAL

For over 150 years, Tucson's Pima County Courthouse was located on this site. This iconic building is the third Pima County Courthouse, built in 1929 and designed by Tucson architect Roy Place. In 2015, it ceased to be a courthouse and is today home to the Southern Arizona Heritage and Visitor's Center as well as the University of Arizona's Gem and Mineral Museum. Immediately to the west of the old courthouse is The January 8th Memorial, which commemorates the victims of the 2011 shooting in which 6 people were killed and 13 others wounded, including U.S. Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords. The memorial contains significant symbolism celebrating the interests and lives of the victims as well as the strength and resilience of our community.

PRESIDIO PARK SCULPTURES: 4 **Mormon Battalion**

This bronze statue commemorates the day in 1846 when Mormon soldiers entered Tucson on their way to California to fight in the Mexican War. The Spanish-speaking citizenry, in spite of being nervous about these armed outsiders, treated the soldiers to a fiesta. One of the Mormon soldiers joined in the fun by playing his fiddle (note fiddle case on north side of statue).

Soldado de Cuera/Leather Jacket Soldier

This Spanish soldier, assigned to the Presidio San Agustín del Tucsón, is dressed for battle. The leather armor (cuera) made of 7 layers of deerskin, rawhide shield (adarga), and 9-foot-long lance (lanza) made him a formidable adversary. His shield helped to deflect arrows while his long lance was the premier weapon of the day.

5 ALLANDE FOOTBRIDGE

This bridge, crossing Pennington St., is dedicated to Don Pedro de Allande y Saabedra who was appointed one of the first commanders of the Presidio in 1777. Allande personally financed the early construction efforts at the Presidio, which was the largest in the Southwest. Allande was also ruthless in his attacks on the Apache. Allande wrote in a letter to Carlos III, king of Spain that 'all of the Apache attacks on this Presidio have been repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. Lines of countless Apache heads have crowned the palisade" (Desert Documentary, by Kieran McCarty, 1976). As is well known, the Spanish, Mexicans and Americans all attacked the Apache until, in 1886, the surrender of Geronimo ended the "Apache war."

9 SOSA-CARRILLO HOUSE

This historic house was once owned by the Sosa-Carrillo families; the oldest part of the structure was built in the 1850s. The 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 1870s. This cultural center is home to the Mexican American Heritage and History Museum, which is run by Los Descendientes (a local cultural heritage and history organization).

While this site is open to the public, it is scheduled to undergo a major renovation in 2022/2023 so hours may vary. For current hours, go to their Facebook Page: "Mexican American Heritage and History Museum."

B VIEW FROM TRAIL - TUMAMOC HILL

^B Tumamoc 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 l'itoi to help them. I'itoi heard them and turned the lizard into a rocky hill. The hill was used by indigenous people for farming and other purposes for several thousand years and is an important archaeological site. Today, Tumamoc Hill is the home of the U of A's Desert Laboratory founded in 1903. It is the site of the longest continuous botanical monitoring plots in the Sonoran Desert. Tumamoc is also a very popular walking route for seekers of aerobic exercise. The Tumamoc Tour app is available on smartphones for those interested in learning more about the desert plants and animals around them as well as the area's 4,000+ years of human history.

C VIEW FROM TRAIL -SENTINEL PEAK/"A" MOUNTAIN

To the west you can 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 as well as the mission that was located at the base of the mountain. The Tohono O'Odham called their settlement at the base of the mountain "Chuk Shon," which means "at the black base." This is the source of the name Tucson. 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. A member of the team and a civil engineering student suggested to their professor that the class should survey the mountain for a good location for an "A" for Arizona. Students worked weekends to clear the site, dig the outline of the letter and haul the mortar/water mixture up the mountain

10 EL TIRADITO (THE CASTAWAY)

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 PATIO & CARRILLO GARDENS

Enter the walled-in courtyard to read about Carrillo Gardens and Elysian Grove; both were located just west of this site.

D VIEW FROM TRAIL -CARRILLO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

To the south across Simpson St. stands this red-tile-roofed elementary school. Built in 1930 in the Mission Revival style, it was named for Mexican businessman Leopoldo Carrillo, the developer of Carrillo Gardens, which were located near La Pilita Patio and El Tiradito Shrine. The school is well known for its traditional Christmas presentation, Las Posadas, a parade of students reenacting the time Mary and Joseph were searching for a place for Mary to give birth to Jesus.

12 CUAUHTÉMOC STATUE

Regarded as the first resistance fighter in the Americas and the last Aztec Emperor, Cuauhtémoc is revered in Mexican culture. Created by artist Luis Mena, the statue captures the perseverance and spirit of the people who established and once lived in what is now known as Barrio Viejo.

13 TEATRO CARMEN

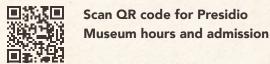
Carmen Soto Vasquez was the wife of the builder of Teatro Carmen, and the building is named for her. Opened in 1915, it started as a theater devoted to staging dramatic works in Spanish. It then became a movie theater, boxing arena, garage, and Elks Lodge. Today, the building is undergoing renovations and will soon be a theater again.

14 FERRIN HOUSE

This old adobe home was built in the 1860s by tailor Joseph Ferrin and his wife Therese. Therese and Ferrin's daughter Clara were instrumental in building the first synagogue in Arizona a few blocks to the south on Stone Ave. A store was added to the residence in the 1880s. For many years it was owned by the Rollings family who ran it as the Cushing Street Bar and Restaurant.



196 N. Court Ave., Tucson, AZ 85701 520-622-0594 www.TucsonPresidio.org



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Donations to the Tucson Presidio Trust (dba Presidio Museum) are always appreciated.

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Dog-

friendly

We thank the founders and stewards of the Turquoise Trail: Gayle Hartmann and Marjorie Cunningham.

We thank the City of Tucson Transportation/Paint Department for their work to paint and maintain the turquoise line.

VIEW FROM TRAIL – THE JEWISH HISTORY E **MUSEUM/HOLOCAUST HISTORY CENTER**

The first Jewish synagogue building in Arizona, built in 1910, has been 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.

During and immediately after the Civil War this area was the camp where soldiers were temporarily housed. In 1873, the camp was moved out of town to its ultimate location on Craycroft Road because the civilian neighbors considered the soldiers' behavior excessively rowdy. The camp was then renamed Fort Lowell. Four monuments are located in Armory Park honoring those who fought in the Spanish-American War, WWI, WWII, and with the Mormon Battalion in 1846. There are also two plaques, one showing soldiers and their families at Camp Lowell, and one showing the armory building for which the park was named.

VIEW FROM THE TRAIL – G THE BLENMAN HOUSE INN

One block north on the west side of Scott St. is The Blenman House Inn. Built in 1878 as a private residence by Charles Rivers Drake, a former US Army officer, the Blenman House is thought to be the only example of a Victorian-style building made of mud-adobe. It was purchased in 1891 by Judge Charles Blenman and stayed in the family for over 100 years. The flagpole in the



A Historical Walking Tour of Downtown Tucson A Project of the Presidio Museum



Download the Presidio Museum Tours App to Follow the Trail on your phone.

The app includes a tour of the Turquoise Trail (for a fee) as well as a free tour of the Presidio Museum (admission fees required). (Available December 2022)

Presidio MUSEUM TOURS

20 HOTEL CONGRESS Built in 1919 across from the railroad depot, this hotel was popular with train travelers. It became famous in 1934 when members of John Dillinger's gang rented rooms. While they were there, the building caught fire and the gang paid some firemen to carry their bags outside. The firemen didn't open the bags but wondered why they were so heavy; the bags contained submachine guns and bulletproof vests. The gang was recognized from a True Detective Mysteries magazine and soon arrested. In addition to its infamous history, the hotel has a beautiful lobby and is home to The Cup, a popular downtown restaurant. It also hosts an active night spot called Club Congress.

EXAMPLE 1 HISTORIC RAILROAD DEPOT Built in 1907, the depot was restored in 2004 to its 1942 appearance. In addition to a functioning passenger train lobby, it houses an Amtrak office, Maynard's deli and restaurant and an excellent museum highlighting the history of transportation in the region. Historic steam locomotive #1673 is located at trackside. A life-size sculpture of Wyatt Earp and "Doc" Holliday marks the 1882 incident ending with the death of Frank Stilwell near the first depot (now near the locomotive)

6 PIMA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING Enter the lobby via the door with the glass mosaic artwork above it. Inside is an exhibit on the Pimería Alta, detailing the history of our region from prehistoric times to statehood in 1912. This is a great way to get a sense of our own place and time.

7 GARCÉS FOOTBRIDGE AND HISTORIC GAZEBO This bridge commemorates Father Francisco Garcés, the Franciscan priest who rode with Lt. Col. Hugo O'Conor in 1775 to found the Presidio in Tucson. He explored throughout the region and died in 1781.

Across the bridge to your left you can see a replica of the original 1880's gazebo (bandstand). This is the where the stagecoach would gallop into town from Mesilla, New Mexico, along the old Camino Real. For a time, this area became the town square and was a home to the famous El Charro restaurant. Since then many buildings in the area have been constructed and demolished, and a new apartment complex has recently opened.

3 SAMANIEGO HOUSE AND THE FLIN BUILDING HISTORIC PHOTOS PUBLIC ART

Along the walls of the Flin building is a collection of historic photos of Tucson dating back to the 1800s. QR coded information is available on each photo.

Just east of the historic photos (near Church Street) stands the historic Samaniego House. Built in 1876 and one of very few buildings saved from destruction during Urban Renewal in the 1960s, this was the home of Mariano Samaniego, a prominent early Tucsonan. Mariano Samaniego served as a Tucson city councilman, Pima County assessor, chairman of the Pima County Board of Supervisors and representative in the Arizona Territorial Assembly.

now houses The Coronet Restaurant

15 BARRIO VIEJO STREETSCAPE

On the front of No. 124, note the decorated canales, long metal spouts that direct rainwater away from the adobe walls. This area of Tucson grew in population in the late 1800s and early 1900s and became very ethnically diverse. It included residents of Mexican, Chinese, Jewish, African-American and a variety of European backgrounds. Most of the Chinese immigrants came to work on the railroad in 1880 and then ventured into farming and running small grocery stores.

16 TEMPLE OF MUSIC AND 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.

UIEW FROM THE TRAIL -ST. AUGUSTINE CATHEDRAL

From the corner of McCormick and 13th St., you can catch a glimpse of St. Augustine Cathedral. Begun in 1896, this Spanish Colonial Revival architecture features a magnificent sandstone facade that has an unusual tribute to local flora and fauna featuring a saguaro, yucca, horned lizard and various cacti. Housed inside, near the north wall, is one of the original bells from the Spanish-era Presidio San Agustín del Tucson (Stop #1 on the Trail.) Note that this "St. Augustine" is spelled with an additional "u" and an "e" at the end unlike the original St. Agustín for which the Presidio was named. "Augustine" is the English spelling of "Agustín."

front yard is the original and was erected by Blenman. Today, the home is a popular bed and breakfast offering an enchanting ambience in the heart of downtown Tucson.

VIEW FROM TRAIL – FORMER CARNEGIE œ LIBRARY/CHILDREN'S MUSEUM TUCSON

Built in 1900 as the Carnegie Library, this building has survived fire and the loss of much of its ornamentation. The massive bench at the front was designed by California architect Bernard Maybeck and sculpted by world-famous sculptor Benjamin Bufano in honor of Arizona's pioneer settlers. Today, the building is home to the Children's Museum Tucson, which offers many opportunities for educational play for children.

18 INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

The Odd Fellows have been an active social club since 1891 in Tucson as well as a charitable group whose goals include helping fellow community members in times of need. This early 20th century commercial building once housed the local group of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, as well as their spacious dance hall on the second floor. You can still see the letters "IOOF" just below the roof. The building now houses The Delta Bar & Grill on the first floor.

19 JOHNNY GIBSON'S DOWNTOWN MARKET

This market opened in 2015, the first market in the downtown in many years. Starting at least as early as 1882, a wide variety of businesses have been located here including a car company, a furniture store, the City Market in 1932 that became the Market Center in 1937, an auto supply store, the Rose Tree Snack Bar and, in 1987, Johnny Gibson's Gym Equipment. Gibson was a nationally known bodybuilder who won the title of Mr. Arizona in 1950. For over 50 years, he was also a much-loved local barber.

Opened in 1929 in the center of downtown Tucson, the Pioneer Hotel (on Stone Avenue) catered to the social elite like Harold and Margaret Steinfeld. Owners of a large downtown department store called Steinfeld's, they lived in a penthouse in the hotel. A disastrous fire severely damaged the building in December 1970, and the Steinfelds were among the 29 victims. The fire, in combination with new Tucson suburbs, hastened the decline of downtown Tucson. Today Tucson's downtown is enjoying a revival with the help of the Rio Nuevo Multipurpose District and the Business Improvement District, which funds the Downtown Tucson Partnership.

22 FOX THEATRE (Last Stop)

VIEW FROM TRAIL -

PIONEER HOTEL BUILDING

After being closed for 30 years, this grand Art Deco movie theater has been restored to its former greatness reopening in 2006. Originally designed for vaudeville and silent movies, it became Tucson's pre-eminent movie theater. It was the site of the world premiere in 1940 of the film "Arizona" starring William Holden and Jean Arthur. It now hosts both screen and stage events.

To return to your starting point follow the painted trail back to the beginning.

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