

# Things to Do During the NMRA 2025 National Championships in Tucson, Arizona

By Ed Messing, Tucson Native and NMRA Hall of Famer Paul Banales' Son in Law

## ***Activities and Attractions***

When visiting Tucson in March, the question isn't "What is there to do?"; the question is "What should we do next?" Blessed with fantastic weather in an unparalleled setting, Tucson has something for everyone. Nestled between four beautiful mountain ranges, Arizona's oldest city (the "Old Pueblo") offers a rich history and a great variety of activities for every interest.

## ***Outdoor Activities***

Bring your clubs--dozens of great golf courses will test your skill. Within easy walking distance of the host hotel is the Randolph Golf Complex, which offers 36 holes of championship golf at one of America's "Top 50 Municipal Courses."

Bring your cameras and binoculars--hiking and superb birding opportunities abound within a very short drive. Ranging from leisurely to challenging, desert to alpine, over 100 miles of hiking / biking / horseback-riding trails radiate from the Tucson valley.

## ***Nature and Science***

Visiting the internationally-acclaimed Saguaro National Park, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Kitt Peak National Observatory and Kartchner Caverns State Park will instill a sense of wonder and curiosity about the desert and universe in which we live. The world-famous Biosphere 2 is just north, too. All are an hour or less drive from town.

## ***History and Culture***

Mission San Xavier del Bac and the Pima Air and Space Museum are don't-miss attractions that frame Tucson's history. On the University of Arizona campus, you will find the Arizona State Museum and Arizona Historical Society, which complete a 10,000-year journey.

## ***Entertainment and Dining***

From a Symphony Concert and five-star dining to a Gaslight Theatre melodrama with a sundae, or great Mexican food with mariachi music, the combinations are endless. Maybe stand-up comedy is your jam—Laff's Comedy Caffe is worth a try.

## ***Trip Advisor Suggestions***

[https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction\\_Products-g60950-a\\_contentId.1181975167383321+268262981-Tucson\\_Arizona.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Products-g60950-a_contentId.1181975167383321+268262981-Tucson_Arizona.html)

Of course, you can just hang out by the pool and enjoy the desert sunshine. Whatever sounds the most fun is for you to decide.