



# Sheraton Grand

AT WILD HORSE PASS

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## FACT SHEET

### LOCATION:

5594 W. Wild Horse Pass Blvd., Chandler, AZ 85226

Phone (602) 225-0100, Fax (602) 225-0300

Reservations (888)-218-8989

Information: [www.wildhorsepassresort.com](http://www.wildhorsepassresort.com)

Located just off the I-10 freeway on the 372,000-acre Gila River Indian Reservation, the resort is within minutes of the center of Phoenix and the East Valley and their many shopping, entertainment and recreational offerings. Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport is only 15 minutes (11 miles) from the resort.

### DESCRIPTION:

Designed to be an authentic representation of the Gila River Indian heritage and culture, the resort will offer its guests a recreational, educational and inspirational experience never before available in a resort setting. The architecture, design, art and legends of the Akimel O'otham and Pee Posh tribes are celebrated in every detail imaginable, indoors and out. The resort is located in the high Sonoran Desert on an expanse of rugged Arizona landscape where the ancient vistas, mountains and roaming wild horses remain untouched. A unique blend of two cultures, the resort offers the quiet serenity created by the ancient sages and native tribes who found haven here along with the high-tech hotel expertise of the Sheraton brand.

### OWNERSHIP:

Gila River Indian Community (GRIC)

### MANAGEMENT:

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.

Bunty Ahamed, General Manager, received a bachelor's degree in hotel/restaurant management from the California Polytechnic University and an MBA in strategic marketing from the University of California, Riverside. Over the past twenty years Ahamed has held executive positions in several high-profile Arizona and California properties.

### OPENED:

October 2002

**COST:** \$170 million for the resort complex, not including the land.

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**ACREAGE:** Resort, including 36 holes of golf, spa and Equestrian Center, sits on 2,400 acres of the 372,000- acre Gila River Indian Reservation.

**HISTORY:** The Pima Indians trace their roots to the HuHugam (Hohokam) who farmed the Gila River Valley from 300 B.C. to 1450 A.D. The HuHugam developed an extensive irrigation system of canals, still used today, which gave birth to farming in the desert. The Pima and Maricopa tribes were hospitable and friendly, welcoming settlers and transforming a hostile territory into a temporary sanctuary...just as they continue to do now with the Wild Horse Pass Resort.

**ARCHITECTURE:  
AND DESIGN:** In conjunction with the owners' Cultural Theming Committee

Architect: Wimberly, Allison, Tong & Goo, Newport Beach, CA  
Interior Design: Henriksen Design, Venice, CA

Landscape Architect: BRW, Phoenix, AZ

Spa Architect: David Bury and Company, Ojai, CA  
Spa Design: Aparia Design, Irvine, CA

Highlights include:

- Traditional native roundhouse (Olas'ki) design is represented in the domed lobbies of the main resort, the golf clubhouse and the spa. The native tribes lived in Olas'ki abodes in the Gila River Valley of what is now the greater Phoenix area.
- Pima basket patterns especially that of the whirlwind, provide a multitude of design elements throughout.
- All entrances to the resort, spa, and golf club face east. This is the tradition of the Pima and Maricopa people.
- The ceiling dome that is the focal point of the main lobby is surrounded by a mural of ten panels, each showing a different aspect of the culture: creation, elders, youth, games, Pima singers, hunting, Maricopa singers, basket weaving, pottery making, and gathering.

**UNIQUE FEATURES:**

- A 2-1/2 mile replica of the Gila River meanders through the resort grounds
- 3 Riverside pools and a 111-ft waterfall designed after the nearby Casa Grande Ruins National Monument
- Wild horses roam the surrounding desert land and are visible from the resort

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**

199 king rooms  
275 double/double rooms  
26 suites  
500 total accommodations

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All rooms and suites have views of the golf course, Estrella Mountains or the Gila River meandering through the grounds.

Guestrooms showcase earth-based colors and natural elements such as cornices made from saguaro ribs. All design elements, including furniture, were carefully selected to complement the natural desert ambiance.

The Pima and Maricopa tribes are famous for their baskets and pottery, respectively. Rooms in the resort are split into two wings, celebrating each tribe's art forms. Design motifs appearing on the comforter, headboards, tiles, etc. in the Pima rooms reflect their basket patterns while those in the Maricopa wing showcase pottery designs.

**GUEST ROOM AMENITIES:**

- private patio or balcony
- minibar
- wall safe
- oversized work desk and desk chair
- 37" Flat Screen Television
- two-speaker phone with voice mail and high-speed Internet access
- two robes
- bath suite with separate bath and shower
- hair dryer
- iron and full-size ironing board
- Sheraton Sweet Sleeper mattress
- granite countertop
- solid oak floor entrance

**CONFERENCE FACILITIES:**

- Total of 180,000 square feet, indoors and out, accommodating groups of 10 to 2,000
- Akimel O'otham Ballroom: 17,376 SF, divisible into four sections – seats 1,900 theater-style
- Komatke Ballroom: 14,858 SF, divisible into seven sections- seats 1,400 theater-style
- Junior Ballroom: 7,130 SF, divisible into three sections – seats 640 theater-style
- 17 meeting rooms
  - ✓ 7 meeting rooms offer outdoor patio and windows
- All rooms feature the names of desert animals in both the native language and in English
- Features
  - ✓ High-speed Internet access
  - ✓ Video conferencing capabilities
  - ✓ On-site audio/visual services and staff

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- Outdoor venues
  - ✓ Grand lawn with seven separate venues
  - ✓ Golf Clubhouse lawn
  - ✓ Equestrian center courtyard
  - ✓ Hemapik Event Lawn
  - ✓ Wedding Riverside Lawn
- Executive Meeting Specialist team positioned on the conference center floor to assist with your day-to-day event requirements.
- Full conference services plus a Cultural Ambassador to assist with authentic programming and activities

**DINING OPTIONS:**

- AAA Five Diamond/Forbes Five Star- Kai Restaurant-- Chef incorporates the essence of the Pima and Maricopa tribes into the menu and restaurant décor. Kai, the Pima word for 'seed', will treat you with a contemporary approach to Native American cuisine in a rich yet relaxing atmosphere
- Ko'Sin Restaurant -- the resort's main restaurant open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Ko'Sin features desert bistro cuisine.
- Hanyo poolside bar and grill

**DINING OPTIONS continued:**

- Sivlik Grill at the Whirlwind Golf Club -- features a chop-house style menu woven with accents from the traditional Maricopa and Pima cuisine. Features stunning panoramic views of the golf course and the South and Estrella Mountains.
- Two lobby lounges -- on lower level, adjacent to an indoor waterfall, with seating around a stone fireplace; on the upper level the Kai bread-bar adjacent to Kai restaurant with panoramic vistas of the pristine desert, mountains and the wild horses that roam there.
- 24-hour room service
- Coffee bar, Vasip

**AJI SPA:**

- Forbes Four-Star Aji Spa offers the only authentic Native American spa menu in existence. The Indigenous Collection features treatments and activities designed and practiced by Aji's Pima and Maricopa Cultural Caretakers.
- 17,500 square feet
- 17 treatment rooms, including rooms designed for hydro treatments and dual massages
- Fitness center

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- Full service salon for men and women

- Treatments and programs will incorporate authentic Native traditions
- Named after a safe haven during battles for women and children on the Gila River Indian Reservation; symbolizes “sanctuary.”

**RECREATION:**

- Enjoy fun in the sun on the Gila River with River Boat Adventures! Guests 12 years and older are invited to experience the fun of paddling, cycling and pedaling along our winding river. Our younger guests are welcome to explore the river on the pedal boats and double kayaks with adult supervision.
- Whirlwind Golf Club features two on-site 18-hole courses designed by Gary Panks and managed by Troon Golf; home of the PGA Buy.com Gila River Golf Classic in October
- 1,000-acre Koli Equestrian Center with riding lessons, trail rides and special events
- Maricopa Wells Stage stop- Western Theme Venue
- Two tennis courts
- 2.5 mile Desert Interpretive Trail
- 4 Riverside pools that include an adult pool, a sport pool and a kids pool with slide
- Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino near resort
- Rawhide Western Town & Steakhouse

**ONSITE & NEARBY ACTIVITIES:**

- The Concierge staff will arrange for hot air balloon rides, desert jeep rides and excursions to museums, sporting events and other area attractions.
- One of the Valley's newest and most extensive upscale shopping malls, Chandler Fashion Square, is within minutes of the resort.
- Huhugam Heritage Center Casa Grande Ruins National Monument – a four-story pueblo built by the Hohokam Indians in the 13<sup>th</sup> century
- Firebird International Raceway
- Bondurant School of Performance Driving

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