

# “Gardens Thriving in the Desert”

March 22-26, 2015



**Day 1:** Arrive Phoenix and transfer to the Hyatt Place Hotel in Scottsdale’s Old Town. Dinner on own.



## **Day 2: Desert Botanical Garden**

This world-renowned garden contains the finest collection of cacti and arid-land plants on the planet, including many rare species. The Garden has more than 50,000 desert plants on display throughout five thematic trails that illustrate conservation, desert living, wildflowers and people of the Sonoran Desert. Following an included lunch at the Garden, the remainder of the day is free to explore Old Town Scottsdale. Dinner on own. (B,L)

**Day 3:** Our day trip to Tucson takes us to **Tohono Chul Park** where gardens demonstrate the connections between plants and people. The garden design reflects the wide range of habitats in the desert attracting butterflies and humming birds.



Following lunch at their Tea Room, we continue to the **Sonoran Desert Museum**. This famous Museum is a fusion experience: zoo, botanical garden, art gallery, natural history museum, and aquarium. Most of the exhibits are living exhibits, demonstrating the interrelationship of animals in their natural habitat. (B,L)

#### **Day 4: Boyce-Thompson Arboretum**

This garden was the first purely botanical institution in Arizona, founded in 1920s. Encompassing 323 acres, the Arboretum features plants collected from around the globe. An added bonus is that the protected grounds are a magnet for birds and animals, so over 300 species of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians call the Arboretum home. We will see interpretive exhibits, explore the park trails and visit greenhouses with collections of rare succulents.



Enjoy the afternoon browsing the galleries and boutiques in Old Town Scottsdale. Dinner on own. (B,L)

Day 5: Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

This tour is being arranged through Affinity Group Tours of Phoenix.

**TOUR PROGRAM:** Affinity Group Tours agrees to provide the following

\$1,419 per person, double occupancy

\$2,099 per person, single supplement

\$ 875 per person for participation without lodging and breakfast

Four nights' lodging with breakfast daily

Ground transportation in a luxury motor coach with a professional driver

Admission to all gardens

Three lunches at the gardens

Professional tour guide to accompany the group, provide commentary and manage

Includes \$200 tax-deductible donation to Polly Hill Arboretum

Price based on minimum of 12 participants. \$200 deposit due by December 15, balance due by January 1.

*Contact Karin at PHA for more information 508-693-9426/ Karin@pollyhillarboretum.org*