



TO HELP YOU PLAN FOR THE CONFERENCE

SUMMER IN SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA

The Conference takes place at a four-star Resort, but both southeastern Arizona and the Conference have a casual, relaxed atmosphere. The Conference has a casual and relaxed atmosphere with a little dressed up flare for the Banquet and Dance. At an elevation of 4,000 feet, the summer temperatures in Rio Rico are in the upper 90's. Many places are well air conditioned and often cold. A light sweater, sweatshirt and pants are helpful.

The Conference takes place during the region's monsoon season. In addition to lightning, torrential rains and flash floods, the sun is very intense. Bring sun protection and avoid being out during the heat of the day. We do provide drinking water for the field trips, but be forewarned and keep your body well hydrated even during the paper sessions. If your lips become dry, you have not been drinking enough water.

Chigger Alert!! Yes, they do live in Arizona. Spraying pants and socks with insect repellent can be a deterrent. Our best advice is to avoid tall grasses and take a warm shower immediately after returning from the field.

SOME ITEMS TO BRING:

- A dependable bright flashlight (with additional batteries)
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen (30spf recommended)
- Hat
- A water bottle or canteen
- Swimming suit
- Loose-fitting long sleeve shirt
- Rain gear

- Comfortable sturdy walking shoes
- Insect repellent
- Cell phone or long distance calling card
- Something for the silent auction

Please check out this great blog post from Dave Stone

<http://insects.answers.com/media/outfitting-yourself-for-a-week-in-the-field>

THE ESPLENDOR RESORT

If you have not made reservations at the Resort, DO IT NOW! Rooms are being held for the Conference. Space is not guaranteed. To book your room now, please note that currently the only option for reservations is to call the reservations line at 1-800-288-4746. When you call, please indicate that you are with the Invertebrates in Education and Conservation Conference, and the reservationist will be able to take your reservation and secure the conference rate. <http://www.esplendor-resort.com>

- Single or double rooms: \$75.00 (plus local and state taxes)
- Suites: \$95.00 (plus local and state taxes)

Check-in time at the Resort is 4:00pm. Guests arriving before 4:00pm will be accommodated as rooms become available. Check out time is noon. If you are leaving after noon, arrangements may be made with the Front Desk to hold luggage until after all activities of the day are completed.

The resort does not have elevators for most buildings. If you need assistance with stairs please ask the resort for a room on the same level as the lobby.

The rooms have refrigerators and coffee makers in the rooms.

The Resort has wireless internet connection in all rooms but there may be some blind areas as in the exhibit hall and paper room. There is a nature path to the main entrance so that walking to the nearby shopping center is safe and scenic. The Resort has a Business Center with computer access. To avoid any phone charges while at the Resort, we strongly recommend bringing a cell phone or a long distance calling card.

OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS

Nogales, Arizona, is a 15 minute drive from the Resort. There are many moderately priced national hotel chains. Camping may also be available nearby at Peña Blanca. For camping information, call the Nogales Ranger District, 520-281-2296.

GETTING TO THE RESORT

If you are planning on renting a car we get a 15% discount through Budget, [http:// www.Budget.com](http://www.Budget.com) type in R637700 as the BCD code. Fair warning, it is not valid with other discounts.

We have a ride share board! Please visit and fill out the ride share board if you are willing to pick up people from the airport and/or if you are looking for a ride.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1zgT-busw8wiL38n4G9RaFh6eJo07qdeJT7zcoeR_00/edit?usp=sharing

There is also a shuttle option for transport to the resort. Arizona Stagecoach 520-889-1000
<http://www.azstagecoach.com/>

DRIVING TO RIO RICO FROM THE TUCSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT:

- Take the road leaving the airport (Tucson Blvd.)
- turn left at the first light, Valencia Blvd. to I-19
- Take I-19 South towards Nogales.
- Esplendor Resort is Exit 17; turn right at the stop sign.
- Take your first left after the gas station.
- Turn right at the entrance to the Resort.

Driving time from Tucson Airport is about one hour.

DRIVING TO RIO RICO FROM THE PHOENIX AIRPORT:

- Take I-10 East to Tucson.
- Take I-19 South towards Nogales.
- Follow the last three directions above.

CONFERENCE EVENTS

SILENT AUCTION

TITAG will be coordinating a silent auction. Bring any invertebrate-related item to put on the Auction table. Bidding will start Thursday, July 23 and end Saturday, July 25 at 1:00pm with a final bidding war just before the Banquet on Saturday Evening. Proceeds will benefit TITAG Conservation Grants Program and the Steve Prchal Scholarship.

EVENING EVENT AT CALABASAS

On Friday night, lights and sheets will be set up in this beautiful location to enjoy the insect life as it flies in. Please note that unlike in prior years, this event is organized at no cost to conference participants. This means that while there will be no meal provided, participants should feel free to bring their own food and beverages to the event, there are picnic tables at the site. Car caravans will be organized via a sign-up sheet in the exhibit hall, and will depart from the resort at 7 pm.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are for preregistered participants only, and are intended to be intimate, low environmental impact experiences. Non-registered participants are not allowed to join or tag along.

COLLECTING

If you plan to collect while in Arizona, it is your responsibility to comply with state and federal regulations. If you choose to collect, please make responsible arrangements to transport your live animals. Please practice respectful collecting procedures and follow collecting restrictions in designated areas. Collecting is at the discretion of any trip leader based on prevailing conditions. No collecting equipment is provided by the Conference. All vertebrate species require specific permits for collecting; do not attempt to collect any snakes or other herps without one. The hotel staff has been notified that containers with live arthropods may be in participants' rooms.

TRAVELLING IN THE AREA

Since Rio Rico is near the Mexico-U.S. border, the U.S. Border Patrol operates a variety of checkpoints in the area. For international travelers, please carry your passport/visa on field trips and other excursions away from the Resort. For U.S. citizens, a State issued ID or driver's license will get you through these check points easily. U.S. and Canadian citizens ages 16 and over will need to present a government-issued photo ID, such as a driver's license, and proof of citizenship, such as a birth certificate, naturalization certificate or passport, to enter the U.S. by land or sea.

If you have had a medical exam that involved radioactive substances, bring a letter from your doctor. The checkpoint in Tubac is using a scanner for radioactivity and you will be detained if the Geiger counter goes off.

TRAVELING TO MEXICO

If you are planning to visit Mexico while on this trip please goto <http://CBP.gov>. Click on "Know Before You Go".

FREE ADMISSION TO THESE TUCSON INSTITUTIONS: Conference name badge required for admittance.

- Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, 2021 N Kinney Rd, Tucson, AZ 85743 (520) 883-2702.
- Butterfly Wonderland, 500 E Vía de Ventura, Scottsdale, AZ 85256 (480) 800-3000
- Phoenix Zoo 455 N Galvin Pkwy, Phoenix, AZ 85008 (602) 273-1341
- Reid Park Zoo 22nd Street, 3400 E Zoo Ct, Tucson, AZ 85716 (520) 791-4022.
- Tucson Botanical Gardens 2150 N. Alvernon Way, Tucson, AZ 85712 (520) 326-9686