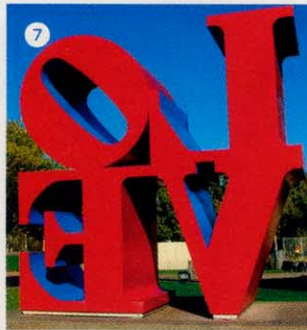


30 THINGS WE LOVE

ABOUT THE VALLEY OF THE SUN



1 The chance of spotting songwriter Robin Wilson (p. 21) of **the Gin Blossoms** at Four Peaks Brewery

2 Vodka lemonades with a desert twist: using **prickly pear vodka** from Flagstaff (arizonahighspirits.com)

3 Golf supplier **PING's twice-weekly Phoenix plant tours** (2201 W. Desert Cove Ave., 602-687-5385)

4 Preparing for baseball season by dining among **copious memorabilia** at Don & Charlie's (p. 64)

5 First pitch of MLB's **Cactus League** schedule: Feb. 27! (cactusleague.com)

6 Hitting in the **batting cages** at Crackerjax (p. 30)

7 The aw-shucks symbolism of **Robert Indiana's "LOVE" sculpture** ... when viewed backward (Scottsdale Civic Center, 2nd St. & Drinkwater Blvd.)

8 Seeing **the desert from above**, by balloon (Hot Air Expeditions, p. 74)

9 Envisioning **Phoenix in prehistoric times** at Pueblo Grande (p. 31)

10 **The reflection of city lights** and bridge lanterns on Tempe Town Lake at night

11 The view of **city lights while driving** between the buttes of Papago Park (p. 74) on McDowell Road

12 **Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition** at Arizona Science Center (p. 31)

13 **Funny and weird Japanese toys** at Red Hot Robot (p. 46)

14 Funny photo ops with Mesa's **Sculptures in the Streets** (Main St. downtown)

15 Collectible **celebrity figurines** by cult hero/Phoenix resident Todd McFarlane (p. 46)

16 **The horns and hides** that make a Western house a home at Valerie's (p. 47)

17 A **sleek, linear chandelier** (*tres chic* over a breakfast bar) available at Z Gallerie (p. 47)

18 **Funky, fashion-forward womenswear** by designer Joy Li (The Mix at SouthBridge, 480-947-7676)

19 **Adorable childrenswear** at Childhood (The Borgata, 480-991-9204)

20 **The walk-in kaleidoscope** on the southwest corner of Scottsdale & Camelback

21 **Teeny-tiny versions of classic lamps** at the SMOCA Museum Store (p. 48)

22 **Facials and realistic follow-up advice** from day spa Fuchsia (p. 50)

23 **"Vinotherapy"** pedicures and massages at Aji Spa (p. 50)

24 **Primping every inch** of the Valley of the Sun for its Super Bowl closeup

25 Finding many cardstock-and-Lucite **excuses to throw a theme party** at Swoozie's (p. 48)

26 The arrival of **Michael Mina's Bourbon Steak** (p. 54)

27 The **"piadini"** — sandwich fixins on folded pizza-crust bread — at NYPD Pizza (locations include Scottsdale & Shea, 480-609-8666)

28 Sweet potato **fries with three winning sauces** at the cool new Fine's Cellar (7051 E. 5th Ave., Scottsdale, 480-994-3463)

29 Labeling a **custom vintage** at D'Vine Wine (p. 66)

30 **Taking the Scottsdale Trolley wherever it leads**; hot stops include arty Main Street and souvenir-centric Old Town (map at scottsdaleaz.gov)

What do you love about the Valley of the Sun? Tell us via e-mail and we'll consider it for a future issue: 30Things@wheremagazine.com