

# DESIGN HOTELS™

## PRESS RELEASE

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The Tuxon welcomes with local heart  
*A new desert destination to inspire*



Berlin, September 10, 2020 - Set against Tucson's backdrop of mountain vistas and whirling tumbleweeds sits The Tuxon Hotel. Opening its doors in summer 2020, this adventure-forward hotel lies at the foot of Sentinel Peak and on the bank of the Santa Cruz River—a place known as the birthplace of Tucson itself. Here, a newly-minted property boasts 112 rooms, an expansive boomerang pool, a private desert garden, and the community-centric Welcome Building, which serves as a platform for an array of cultural programming. All this is rounded out by a deep respect for local tradition through a vibrant art focus and an American Southwest-inspired menu of cocktails and cuisine befitting the country's first UNESCO City of Gastronomy. [www.designhotels.com/the-tuxon-hotel](http://www.designhotels.com/the-tuxon-hotel)

Adventure and poolside chill time are in equal measure at The Tuxon. The hotel's signature element is the butterfly-shaped Welcome Building, which serves as its central social hub, attracting and entertaining guests with an indoor/outdoor bar and multifaceted programming, including live music, local art, outdoor movie screenings, tastings, and craft workshops. At the heart of the property a boomerang-shaped pool invites sun worshipers and loungers with paired daybeds and private cabanas. Bursts of greenery and a private desert garden bring the regional landscape in while also providing for cooling and quiet contemplation. Handcrafted cocktails and slushes are served up at The Pool Bar, and a distinctive culinary program by Jess Keene and Drew Record, a native Tucsonan who is no stranger to a Michelin star, means outstanding

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Southwestern offerings are enjoyed with views of the iconic “A” Mountain. By night, the hotel's pool scene serves as a relaxed social setting for cocktails and conversation—with all of the appropriate health and wellbeing guidelines in place for a safe on-property experience. For days less idle, The Tuxon bicycles are one of the best ways to explore Tucson and the natural beauty of the surrounding desert and mountains. “The Loop”, a 131-mile hiking and biking trail around Tucson, is just two blocks from the hotel.

Flanking the interior pool—in a nod to the heyday of the great American roadside stay—are 112 guest rooms. All feature custom designed furnishings inspired by the region's American, Mexican, and Native American roots, including rustic grey wood, saddled leather, patterned textiles and potted succulents. Rooms are outfitted with a playful collection of cheeky and contemporary artwork and photos inspired by the desertscape and regional Southwestern culture, while curated local favorites in the minibar allow guests to take the tastes of Tucson home with them or along on their adventure. In addition to 1GB fiber internet and streaming TV capabilities, The Tuxon's technology-forward check-in process allows guests to curate the experience they desire, whether it's checking in through their mobile phones only, or through a socially-distanced in-person interaction.

"We continue to take all of the proactive steps needed to ensure a safe and clean environment. Prioritizing the health and safety of our employees and guests remains of the utmost importance," said Vishal Patel, Tucson native and co-creator of The Tuxon. “We are excited to share our vision with our community and the world.” Part of sharing the local vision included commissioning the talents of Ishi Glinsky, a Tucson-born sculptor, painter and installation artist, for a new piece, ‘Back to Bear Grass’, which sits at the entry of the Welcome Building. Glinsky uses the traditional techniques of his tribe, the Tohono O’odham Nation, as well as other Nations, to create contemporary homages to sacred events and practices.

The Tuxon is the first property in Arizona to join Marriott International’s coveted Design Hotels portfolio, an exclusive collection of hotels celebrated for their individuality, thoughtful design, and unique, discoverable pleasures. “Through design, service and our programming, we are delivering a truly authentic experience that celebrates the spirit of our community," says Sunny Patel, co-creator of The Tuxon. "The Tuxon stays true to its surroundings by paying tribute to the retro vibe and road trip feel of the past while building upon Tucson's modern legacy."

### **Location**

Situated near Sentinel Peak—in an area known as the "birthplace of Tucson"—The Tuxon provides an ideal balance between the vibrancy of the city's thriving downtown and the natural beauty of its surrounding desertscape. The area is an ideal jumping off point to explore the UNESCO City of Gastronomy, with some of the nation’s most lauded Mexican restaurant such as El Charro and Mi Nidito, within biking distance. A bustling farmers market and a selection of independent shops and eateries await at Mercado San Agustin, while a number of cycling trails, mountain walks, and climbing routes promise adrenaline, adventure, and endless vistas of natural beauty nearby.

### **Nearest Airport**

Tucson International Airport

7.4 miles (12 km) | By car: 13 min | By public transport: 40 min

Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport

110 miles (177 km) | By car: 1h 39min

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### About Design Hotels™

Design Hotels™ represents and markets a curated selection of over 330 independent hotels in more than 60 countries across the globe. More than a collection of hotels, the company is a collection of stories. Each property reflects the ideas of a visionary hotelier, an "Original", someone with a passion for genuine hospitality, cultural authenticity, thought-provoking design and architecture. Each "Original" stands for the individual, aesthetic and service-driven experience that his or her hotel provides.

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In 2017, Design Hotels™ launched Further, a traveling laboratory for experiential hospitality that transforms hotels across the globe into temporal hubs of thematic exploration. The mission behind Further aligns with the values of the future-facing *Promad*, a new generation of traveler embracing progressive travel and global nomadism. First identified by Design Hotels™ in collaboration with leading futures consultancy The Future Laboratory, the purpose-driven, self-actualizing *Promadic* movement is set to shape the future of hospitality.

Founded by Claus Sendlinger in 1993, Design Hotels™ offers its members insightful travel industry knowledge, from market trend consultancy to international sales representation. The company has its headquarters in Berlin and branches in London, Los Angeles, New York and Singapore. Executive Board members are: Peter Cole (CEO), and Sascha Wolff (CFO). In 2019, Design Hotels™ joined forces with Marriott Bonvoy, enabling its member hotels to have both a greater and more selective reach while offering its Community the benefit of the industry's leading loyalty program.

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