



CUSTOM NEW YEAR GETAWAY

DEC 31, 2026 - JAN 3, 2027

SEDONA • NEW YEAR WINTER WONDERLAND

Snow-Dusted Red Rocks • Cave Hikes

Cathedral Rock • Holy Cross Chapel • Subway Cave / Devil's Bridge

4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS

FROM \$545 / PERSON • OTHER PRICES IN PROGRAM

Trip Overview

A four-day New Year getaway to Sedona's red rocks, caves and landmarks, with Cathedral Rock, the Chapel of the Holy Cross and Airport Mesa sunsets. Hiking choices depend on weather.

Highlights

- Sedona red rocks & cave hikes
- Cathedral Rock & Holy Cross Chapel
- Airport Mesa sunset panorama
- Devil's Bridge, conditions permitting

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES



PRIVATE ROAD TRIP

Orange County • Phoenix • Sedona

HIKING OPTIONS

Easy-Moderate • Strenuous Options

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Sedona New Year Weekend: Winter Wonderland, Caves & Red Rocks

Snow-Dusted Red Rocks • Cave Hikes • Fossil Creek Falls • Devil's Bridge

Orange County • Phoenix • Sedona • Oak Creek Canyon — 4-Day / 3-Night Trip

DEC 31, 2026 - JAN 3, 2027 · OPTIONAL STRENUOUS: WAVE CAVE, FOSSIL CREEK FALLS, DEVIL'S BRIDGE

Trip Overview

A 4-day, 3-night New Year weekend in Sedona's red-rock country, with two versions to match your hiking level: **Option 1 (strenuous)** starts with the **Wave Cave** near Phoenix, adds **Fossil Creek Falls** on New Year's Day (a long off-road drive), then Sedona's Soldier Pass, Subway Cave, and **Devil's Bridge** (conditions permitting); **Option 2 (easy-moderate)** drives straight to Sedona for sunset at Airport Mesa, then easy cave and town-landmark days. Offered as a **last-minute booking** (75% / 25% payment).

What to Expect Over New Year

Holiday weekend with winter conditions: Sedona lodging fills early and holiday dates run higher. Snow on the red rocks is possible but not guaranteed; Oak Creek Canyon and Flagstaff are the surest snow. Sunset about 5:25 PM (Arizona stays on the same time as California in winter).

Weather: Phoenix is mild (highs in the 60s°F); Sedona (4,350 ft) is cool, with highs in the 50s°F and nights near freezing. Trails can be icy and muddy; pack layers, hat, gloves, and traction cleats. Chains or closures are possible on Hwy 89A and I-17. Cave, canyon, and trailhead access can change, so we confirm details before the trip.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Option 1 — Strenuous Version (Wave Cave, Fossil Creek Falls & Devil's Bridge)

Day 1, Thursday Dec 31 — Orange County to Phoenix, Wave Cave

Driving: ~5.5-6 hrs (~350 mi via I-10), plus ~1 hr to the trailhead | Hiking/Trekking: ~4.8 mi RT, moderate-strenuous

- Depart about 6 AM via I-10 to the Phoenix area
- Wave Cave in the Superstition Mountains (~4.8 mi RT, steep final climb), timed for late-afternoon light inside the cave
- New Year's Eve in the Phoenix area
- Overnight: Phoenix area (Night 1 of 3)

Wave Cave is unmarked and the access road is dirt; we use a GPS track and start early, as daylight is short.

Meals: not included

Day 2, Friday Jan 1 — Fossil Creek Falls, then Sedona

Driving: ~2.5-3 hrs to the trailhead (incl. ~17 mi of rough dirt road), then ~1.5-2 hrs to Sedona | Hiking/Trekking: ~4-5 mi, moderate-strenuous

- Early start for Fossil Creek Falls from the trailhead at the end of a long off-road drive (~17 mi of dirt road, high clearance needed), a spring-fed creek with waterfalls and turquoise pools
- Drive to Sedona by Hwy 260 and I-17; if time allows, the Soldier Pass Cave, or otherwise sunset at Airport Mesa
- Overnight: Sedona (Night 2 of 3)

Parking permits are only required April 1 to October 1, so none is needed in winter; the dirt road can be rough or muddy, and we confirm its condition first.

Meals: not included

Day 3, Saturday Jan 2 — Subway Cave and/or Devil's Bridge

Driving: ~15-25 min between stops | Hiking/Trekking: ~4-6 mi, moderate-strenuous

- Subway Cave (short rocky approach, moderate), and/or Devil's Bridge (~4 mi RT, ~400 ft gain, moderate-strenuous; exposed final steps), if trail conditions and weather permit
- Town landmarks: Chapel of the Holy Cross and Tlaquepaque
- Overnight: Sedona (Night 3 of 3)

If Devil's Bridge is icy, we swap in Birthing Cave or Bell Rock.

Meals: not included

Day 4, Sunday Jan 3 — Sedona Landmarks, then Orange County

Driving: ~7-7.5 hrs (~410 mi) | Hiking/Trekking: ~1 mi, easy

- Scenic stops in town before leaving: Chapel of the Holy Cross, Tlaquepaque, and Uptown Sedona
- Optional stops: Montezuma Castle National Monument or Jerome
- Return to Orange County via I-17 and I-10

Meals: not included

Option 2 — Easy-Moderate Version (3 Nights in Sedona)

Day 1, Thursday Dec 31 — Orange County to Sedona, Sunset at Airport Mesa

Driving: ~7-7.5 hrs (~410 mi via I-10 and I-17, or I-40) | Hiking/Trekking: ~1 mi, easy

- Depart about 6 AM; lunch stop in Phoenix or Cordes Junction
- Sunset at the Airport Mesa overlook (short walk, easy); if time allows, an easy short cave stop such as Birthing Cave
- New Year’s Eve in Sedona
- Overnight: Sedona (Night 1 of 3)

Long holiday driving day; check I-10 and I-17 conditions before leaving.

Meals: not included

Day 2, Friday Jan 1 — Soldier Pass, Bell Rock & the Chapel

Driving: ~15-20 min between stops | Hiking/Trekking: ~3-5 mi, easy-moderate

- Soldier Pass Trail to the Devil’s Kitchen sinkhole and Seven Sacred Pools (~4 mi RT, easy-moderate); optional Soldier Pass Cave
- Bell Rock Pathway (~3.6 mi loop, easy) with views of Courthouse Butte
- Chapel of the Holy Cross, then lunch and shops at Tlaquepaque
- Overnight: Sedona (Night 2 of 3)

Soldier Pass parking is limited; we use the Sedona Shuttle or arrive early. Trails are slick when wet.

Meals: not included

Day 3, Saturday Jan 2 — Subway Cave or Birthing Cave, and Town Landmarks

Driving: ~15-25 min between stops | Hiking/Trekking: ~2-4 mi, easy

- Choose one: Subway Cave or Birthing Cave (short rocky scrambles, easy-moderate)
- Uptown Sedona, Tlaquepaque, and the Chapel of the Holy Cross at your own pace
- Optional winter-wonderland drive up Oak Creek Canyon toward Flagstaff for snow (~30 min)
- Overnight: Sedona (Night 3 of 3)

Meals: not included

Day 4, Sunday Jan 3 — Sedona Landmarks, then Orange County

Driving: ~7-7.5 hrs (~410 mi) | Hiking/Trekking: ~1 mi, easy

- Scenic stops in town before leaving: Chapel of the Holy Cross, Tlaquepaque, and Uptown Sedona
- Return to Orange County via I-17 and I-10

Meals: not included

Driving times and trail distances are approximate. No meals are included on any day of this trip.

Lodging Options

Tier	Phoenix (Option 1, Night 1)	Sedona (Nights 2-3 in Option 1; 1-3 in Option 2)
2-Star	Budget motels in Tempe or Apache Junction	Budget motels in West Sedona or Cottonwood (Days Inn-type)
3-Star	Hampton Inn / Holiday Inn Express-type	Hilton Garden Inn / Best Western Plus-type
4-Star	Upscale Scottsdale or Tempe hotels	Boutique inns and resorts (Wyndham-type, Orchards Inn-type)

Properties are examples; confirm availability when booking. Holiday dates run higher; lodging for New Year’s Eve is quoted at booking (expect roughly +15–25%).

What's Included

- 3 nights of accommodation at the selected hotel tier and option
- Rental vehicle with fuel and parking / park fees: SUV for 2–4 guests, minivan for 5–6, full-size van / minibus for 7–8
- Trip organizer drives throughout, with participants helping out (fuel stops, navigation, etc.)
- Trip planning and coordination

Not included: all meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner), Sedona shuttle fares, hotel taxes and resort fees, alcohol, gratuities, and travel insurance.

Price — Option 1: Strenuous (1 Night Phoenix + 2 Nights Sedona)

Last-minute booking, per person, double occupancy.

Group size	Vehicle	2-Star	3-Star	4-Star
2	SUV	\$910–\$1,065	\$975–\$1,170	\$1,090–\$1,375
3	SUV	\$720–\$855	\$785–\$960	\$900–\$1,165
4	SUV	\$610–\$725	\$675–\$830	\$790–\$1,035
5	Minivan	\$600–\$720	\$665–\$825	\$780–\$1,030
6	Minivan	\$565–\$680	\$630–\$785	\$745–\$990
7	Full-Size Van/Minibus	\$570–\$705	\$635–\$810	\$750–\$1,015
8	Full-Size Van/Minibus	\$545–\$675	\$610–\$780	\$725–\$985

Price — Option 2: Easy-Moderate (3 Nights in Sedona)

Last-minute booking, per person, double occupancy.

Group size	Vehicle	2-Star	3-Star	4-Star
2	SUV	\$910–\$1,065	\$985–\$1,185	\$1,120–\$1,410
3	SUV	\$730–\$865	\$805–\$985	\$940–\$1,210
4	SUV	\$620–\$740	\$695–\$860	\$830–\$1,085
5	Minivan	\$610–\$735	\$685–\$855	\$820–\$1,080
6	Minivan	\$575–\$695	\$650–\$815	\$785–\$1,040
7	Full-Size Van/Minibus	\$580–\$720	\$655–\$840	\$790–\$1,065
8	Full-Size Van/Minibus	\$560–\$690	\$635–\$810	\$770–\$1,035

Prices include a late-booking surcharge on vehicle and lodging.

Occupancy Adjustments (per person)

Option 1

Occupancy	2-Star	3-Star	4-Star
Double (2/room) — standard	Included	Included	Included
Single (1/room)	+\$190	+\$270	+\$430
Triple (3/room)	-\$60	-\$90	-\$145
Quad (4/room)	-\$95	-\$135	-\$215

Option 2

Occupancy	2-Star	3-Star	4-Star
Double (2/room) — standard	Included	Included	Included
Single (1/room)	+\$210	+\$310	+\$490
Triple (3/room)	-\$70	-\$100	-\$160
Quad (4/room)	-\$105	-\$155	-\$245

Organizer tip: a tip of 5–10% of trip cost is highly suggested for whoever plans, books, and coordinates the trip.

Driver / group helper discount: travelers who drive or otherwise help run the trip get 50% off their share of the gas cost.

Payment Schedule (Last-Minute Booking)

Payment	Amount	Due date
Deposit	75% of trip cost	Now, non-refundable
Final Payment	25% of trip cost	Thursday, December 17, 2026 (2 weeks before departure), non-refundable

Optional Extras & Points of Interest

- **Strenuous extras:** Cathedral Rock (~1.2 mi RT, ~740 ft gain, steep scramble); Devil’s Bridge for Option 2 travelers (~4 mi RT, moderate), if conditions permit
- **Moderate extras:** Subway Cave, Soldier Pass Cave, and Birthing Cave (rocky scrambles); Fay Canyon Arch; Doe Mountain; Brins Mesa
- Sedona: Chapel of the Holy Cross, Tlaquepaque, Airport Mesa and Red Rock Crossing sunsets
- Winter wonderland: Oak Creek Canyon and Flagstaff snow, Arizona Snowbowl, Walnut Canyon
- Along the way: Montezuma Castle, Jerome, Papago Park

Rate Notes

- **Holidays:** Peak holiday dates carry higher hotel rates and fill early, so lodging for Christmas week and New Year's is quoted at booking (expect roughly +15-25% on lodging).
- **Caves & trails:** cave access, trailhead parking, permits, and snow conditions change; the core itinerary stands without the optional extras.
- Hotel rates are market estimates; book early, as weekends and holidays fill quickly.
- Rates are per person, in USD, before hotel taxes and resort fees; final pricing is confirmed once group size is set.



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