Free Tour of the Vista del Rio Archaeological Site

Guided by Allen Dart, Registered Professional Archaeologist

Sponsored by Old Pueblo Archaeology Center and Vista del Rio Residents' Association

Saturday March 7, 2020, from 9 to 10 a.m.

Reservations required by 5 p.m. Thursday March 5th*

To celebrate Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month, the Vista del Rio Residents' Association teams up with Old Pueblo Archaeology Center to offer this visit to Vista del Rio, an ancient village of the Hohokam Indian culture that was inhabited approximately 1,000-1,200 years ago (circa AD 1000 to 1200).

Archaeological test excavations at Vista del Rio showed that the Hohokam once thrived and farmed at this location along the south side of the Tanque Verde Creek. The excavations revealed traces of numerous Hohokam pithouses, a possible above-ground house, outdoor ovens and pits, and possibly an ancient irrigation canal. These features are buried and not visible today, but a visit to the park with professional archaeologist Allen Dart (Old Pueblo Archaeology Center’s executive director) will reveal subtle clues to the archaeological site’s existence.

The City of Tucson’s Vista del Rio Cultural Resource Park conserves a large portion of this archaeological site. To keep the buried archaeological features still present from being damaged, the City of Tucson has limited park development to a ramada, a walking trail, and some interpretive plaques.

Tour starts at the Vista del Rio Cultural Resource Park ramada shown in the photo above: 7575 E. Desert Arbors St.

To get to the park take Tanque Verde Road to Dos Hombres Road (about midway between Sabino Canyon Road and the Pantano/Wrightstown grade-separated interchange) then drive north on Dos Hombres to its end at Desert Arbors. See map on next page.

* For reservations or more information contact Old Pueblo Archaeology Center at 520-798-1201 or info@oldpueblo.org.
Vista del Río Cultural Resource Park
7575 E. Desert Arbors St., Tucson

Sketches of some of the Hohokam pottery sherds found in archaeological excavations at the Vista del Río archaeological site