

*The map is dedicated to Royce Ballinger, a former board member supporter and great friend to the monument. This map project was his idea. Royce, along with Young Cage (another former board member), are the authors of Natural History of the Ironwood Forest National Monument: A Sonoran Desert Primer which is the definitive book on the Ironwood.*

*Thank you, Royce  
for all you do and have done!*

We recognize  
Ironwood Forest National Monument  
is on the ancestral lands of

the *Tohono*  
*O'odham*

## SAFETY

- ◆ Cell service is not available in many areas.
- ◆ No facilities available.
- ◆ Bring plenty of WATER.
- ◆ Many roads are NOT indicated on this map.
- ◆ Most roads are primitive. High clearance vehicles advised.

## GENERAL GUIDANCE & REGULATIONS

- ✚ Camping allowed, permit not required for up to 14 days.
- ✚ State Trust Lands require permit to enter.
- ✚ No target shooting allowed.
- ✚ No driving off maintained roads.
- ✚ Do not disturb flora or fauna.
- ✚ Do not pick up or deface any cultural artifacts.

**EMERGENCY- CALL 911**

**NON-EMERGENCY: (800) 309-7081**

[24/7 Federal Law Enforcement Dispatch]

**FRIENDS OF IRONWOOD FOREST**  
ironwoodforest.org

# Discover

## IRONWOOD FOREST

## NATIONAL MONUMENT



**FRIENDS OF  
IRONWOOD  
FOREST**



## The Lure of the Monument

On June 9, 2000, President Clinton proclaimed 129,000 acres of lands in Pima and Pinal counties as the Ironwood Forest National Monument. This land protects some of the best examples of Sonoran Desert habitat in the United States.

- ❖ Stands of saguaro cactus as far as the eye can see.
- ❖ Multiple mountain ranges with peaks as high as 4,200 feet.
- ❖ Thousands of the namesake ironwood trees.
- ❖ Amazing wildlife including desert bighorn sheep, golden eagles, desert tortoises, and gila monsters.
- ❖ Managed to maintain its primitive state.
  - Camping is dispersed.
  - Most roads require high clearance or 4wd vehicles.
  - There are no organized trails, no facilities and no visitor center.

The Friends of Ironwood Forest is a local nonprofit that supports the ongoing protection and management of the monument. We work to help people appreciate, enjoy, and preserve the biological and cultural heritage in the monument. We invite you to explore one of the best kept secrets of southern Arizona.



## The Ironwood Tree

The monument is home to the largest remaining stand of ironwood trees in the Sonoran Desert, the only place it grows.

- ❖ The ironwood provides shade and protection for other plants, roosting and nesting sites for birds and mammals and its flowers provide nectar for bees.
- ❖ Temperatures under the ironwood can be 15 degrees cooler than the surrounding desert.
- ❖ This drought tolerant tree can live to 800+ years and its wood is so heavy it will not float.
- ❖ Deep roots keep soil in place and the leaf litter provides organic matter that enriches the soil.

## Desert Bighorn Sheep

Instrumental to the growth of the sheep population are numerous water sources placed by Arizona Game and Fish and the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society.

- ❖ There are over 200 desert bighorn sheep on the monument.
- ❖ The majority are in the Silver Bell, Waterman, Pan Quemado and Ragged Top mountains.



## Conservation Lands System

Ironwood Forest is a part of the National Conservation Lands system. America's newest designation of publicly-owned lands are some of the most spectacular natural, historical, cultural and archaeological sites managed by the

### Learn more

Titan II Missile Interpretive Site

[ironwoodforest.org/titan](http://ironwoodforest.org/titan)

Waterman Interpretive Site

[ironwoodforest.org/waterman-restoration-site](http://ironwoodforest.org/waterman-restoration-site)

80 Armed Saguaro

[ironwoodforest.org/visit/80-armed-saguaro](http://ironwoodforest.org/visit/80-armed-saguaro)

Silverbell Road Group Site

[ironwoodforest.org/silverbell-group-camp-site](http://ironwoodforest.org/silverbell-group-camp-site)

Silver Bell Cemetery

[ironwoodforest.org/visit/silver-bell-cemetery](http://ironwoodforest.org/visit/silver-bell-cemetery)