The Kitt Peak Experience
Like no other…

programs at Kitt Peak National Observatory

Discovering the Universe
We recommend making reservations as far in advance as possible. Night programs utilize the Visitor Center’s telescopes. In order to preserve the dark environment required for scientific and educational viewing, we need all visitors to adhere to light reduction procedures explained at check-in and detailed on our website. By registering for a night program, you consent to follow all procedures.

The summit is at 6,875 feet above sea level. Mountaintop conditions can change rapidly. Dress in layers; temperatures will be colder than in Tucson. Telescope domes are not heated.

You may cancel a reservation without penalty up to 24 hours prior to program start. Penalties apply to short notice cancellations. Refunds are not provided if weather conditions force a change in the content of the program.

YOUTH GROUP OVERNIGHT PROGRAM
A special opportunity for groups

Your youth group can spend an unforgettable night on Kitt Peak. You will experience stargazing like few places on Earth and become acquainted with the night sky, star charts, binoculars, and the telescope. You will enjoy amazing views of deep-sky wonders. Ideal for groups of up to 25 people. Work with us to personalize the program according for your group. Free for Tohono O’odham groups. Details are available at: https://visitkittpeak.org/prog/nighttime.php

ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS
Capture the beauty of the night sky for yourself

Learn how to capture the beauty of the heavens at the world-renowned Kitt Peak National Observatory! Offered periodically throughout the year, we have introductory and intermediate level workshops to meet your needs. The Introduction to Astrophotography workshop is for those who are ready to take their first steps into the world of astrophotography. You will learn planetary and solar imaging, landscape astrophotos, and deep space astrophotography. The Intermediate Astrophotography workshop is for amateur astrophotographers who are familiar with basic imaging techniques and want to expand their knowledge by focusing on deep space astrophotography. Each workshop lasts three days and includes two nights lodging on Kitt Peak. See our website for dates, details, and fees.

The FUTURE
Follow us on the web, Facebook, or Instagram as we develop the Windows on the Universe Center for Astronomy Outreach within the McMath-Pierce solar observatory.

RESERVATIONS
For information and reservations at any time, go to www.VisitKittPeak.org or call 520-318-8720 from 9:30 to 3:30 MST daily, except holidays

Online reservations are $5 less than those made by phone

www.VisitKittPeak.org

Directions
Kitt Peak is located 56 miles west of downtown Tucson in the Schuk Toak District of the Tohono O’odham Reservation. Follow Arizona Route 86 (Ajo Way) west to intersection of Arizona Route 386 south. Take 386 to the top of Kitt Peak.

Only visitors preregistered for a nighttime program may be on Kitt Peak after 4pm. All other visitors must depart by 4pm.

Follow us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/kittpeak/
or on Instagram at: www.Instagram.com/kittpeakobservatory
NIGHTLY OBSERVING PROGRAM
Your introductory stargazing program

Enjoy an evening of astronomical wonder under the celebrated skies of the desert southwest. This program is an introduction and sampler for stargazers ages 8 and older.

The evening begins with a light supper, followed by a dramatic sunset viewing. Our guides then show you how to use star charts to navigate the sky and lead you on a binocular tour of the heavens. Then, you take turns viewing through one of our telescopes at several objects.

Cost is $55 if reserved online, $60 by phone. Seniors, students, and active military $47 online, $53 by phone. Tohono O’odham free.

https://visitkittpeak.org/prog/nighttime.php

DARK SKY DISCOVERY PROGRAM
Your small group stargazing program for those who have already begun their astronomy adventure

For guests already familiar with the night sky and who have some knowledge of astronomy, this observing program features a smaller audience size and is offered on nights with little moonlight. It features intensive telescope viewing of deep sky objects. The smaller group size (ten or fewer) enables you to have extensive interaction with your guide and receive more views through the telescope. A group orientation, light supper, and sunset viewing begins the evening.

For ages 14 and older, the cost is $80 per person online, and $85 by phone. Tohono O’odham free.

Registration and info at: https://visitkittpeak.org/prog/nighttime.php

Program is subject to cancellation due to clouds. This telescope dome is not accessible to wheelchairs.

OVERNIGHT TELESCOPE OBSERVING PROGRAM
Your exclusive, customized private observing program

This is a private, overnight telescope observing program. You and your guide begin exclusive use of one of the Visitor Center’s research-grade telescopes starting mid-evening running until sunrise. You are welcome to bring guests! This personalized program is driven by your interests and goals. You may choose to view celestial objects through the eyepiece the entire night, acquire images from a digital camera, or both! Guests for this premium program have included couples, night sky novices, families, as well as advanced amateur astronomers from around the world. The only requirement is your interest!

Please contact us at least six weeks in advance of your preferred date. For details visit: https://visitkittpeak.org/prog/nighttime.php

NIGHT OF THE MARVELOUS MOON
A small group exploration of the Moon and other objects on bright nights

This program is featured on nights when the Moon is exceptionally bright. Multiple up-close views of Earth’s nearest neighbor through a telescope allow you to explore the lunar surface. Other selected bright stellar and deep space objects are also viewed. A brightly lit sky is still full of telescopic treasures and is a good opportunity to learn prominent constellations visible from urban area backyards. The evening begins with a light dinner and sunset viewing followed by extensive telescope viewing. For ages 14 and up, the group size is capped at 10 to facilitate more opportunity to interact with our staff. $80 per person if reserved online, $85 if reserved by phone. Tohono O’odham free. For registration information visit: https://visitkittpeak.org/prog/nighttime.php