

# Things to do / Dining

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## Top 10 restaurants with great patios in metro Phoenix

by Howard Seftel - Sept. 26, 2012 10:18 AM  
Republic restaurant critic

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Eating al fresco just seems to make everything taste better. Whatever the reason -- cozy charm, spectacular views, the balmy air -- we instinctively realize that a good meal under the desert sky delivers life-is-good pleasure.

Next



### Talavera

Set in the shadow of craggy Pinnacle Peak, surrounded by majestic saguaros and purple mountains, the Western scenery at Talavera is simply magical. And the magic continues with dishes like foie gras with pecans and cherries, butter-poached lobster and elk chop with fried oysters.

Details: Four Seasons Resort, 10600 E. Crescent Moon Drive, Scottsdale. 480-515-

5700, fourseasons.com/scottsdale.



### Kai

Maybe you'll see wild horses galloping across the plain as you take in the breathtaking desert scenery. But the fare is also breathtaking, like the suckling pig torta on a saguaro seed popover, the pheasant machaca on a ribbon of saffron pasta and grilled buffalo tenderloin with saguaro blossom syrup.

Details: Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort & Spa, 5594 W. Wild Horse Pass Blvd., Gila River

Reservation. 602-225-0100, wildhorsepassresort.com.



### Quiescence

Rustically nestled amid pecan groves and gardens, Quiescence changes its menu daily. Whatever is on it will be fresh, seasonal and local, from the homemade charcuterie and pastas to cacciatore sausage with butternut squash sauce and roasted guinea hen breast with parsnip puree.

Details: The Farm at South Mountain, 6106 S. 32nd St., Phoenix. 602-276-0601,

quiescencerestaurant.com.



### The House at Secret Garden

Set on the grounds of the 1920s South Mountain mansion, this charmingly secluded spot, set next to a barn, provides a blazing fireplace and view of the desert sky. You'll also notice the smoked steelhead trout salad, shrimp and grits, homemade pappardelle and lemon rosemary chicken.

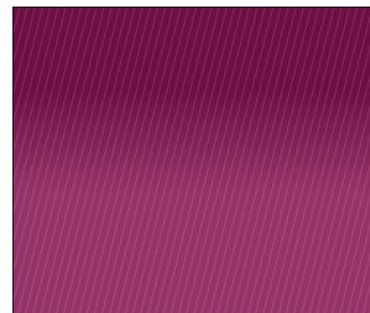
Details: 2501 E. Baseline Road, Phoenix, 602-243-8539, houseatsecretgarden.com

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