

STONE CANYON CLUB

The Antithesis of Being Between a Rock and a Hard Place

*Look to the east and the Catalina Mountains
soar up to 9,000 feet. On clear nights, the
twinkling lights of downtown Tucson are visible.*



ORO VALLEY, ARIZONA: A saguaro cactus usually produces its first arms around 50 to 70 years old. In some areas of the desert, it may take a century for a saguaro to grow out an arm (necessary for it to bloom and reproduce).

There are 83 cactus species in Arizona, being most prolific in the southern part of the state. Saguaro National Park was established in 1933 to protect its famous saguaros at the base of the Rincon Mountains east of Tucson. It worked. Since 1990, the number of saguaros has nearly doubled, from an estimated 1.15 million to 2 million in 2020 (the last year data was available).

BOULDERS VERSUS CACTI

"It's a toss-up if we have more cacti or enormous rock outcroppings throughout Stone Canyon Club," explained Darin Pakkala, golf course superintendent. "Several of our on-course boulders are larger than my office, measuring 20 feet by 20 feet. I can only imagine the dynamite Jay Morrish needed during routing and construction [estimated at \$8.5 million]. All the crevices and crannies created among the rocks have created a haven for wildlife. Our members do not need to visit the local zoo!"

Stone Canyon, at an elevation of about 3,000 feet, is surrounded by mountains. "We certainly don't live in a concrete jungle," teased Pakkala. "A slightly higher elevation creates a cooler climate than Phoenix to our north.



Typically, we are 5–10 degrees cooler. Still, a lot of water is required to keep our pristine conditions. We are good neighbors, utilizing effluent water for our irrigation." ■

For membership information, visit [StoneCanyon.com](https://www.stonecanyon.com).

"It's hard to tell whether you are indoors or outdoors. The dining room and bar tend to bleed onto the patio."

— ERIK PETERSON, LEAD ARCHITECT OF THE CLUBHOUSE

"I was overwhelmed when I saw the site. Stone Canyon is by far the best desert golf course I have ever seen."

— JAY MORRISH

"When you combine our climate, golf amenities [which I consider our No. 1 asset], and top-notch athletic center, we leave 'no stone unturned' in providing you with all the comforts one could desire."

— LANCE SCHEELE, GENERAL MANAGER