







In central Arizona, near the town of Gila Bend

Few places echo with as much historical resonance as the Painted Rock Petroglyph Site. For me, that beckoning amplifies with each visit. Although this low outcrop is a bit off the beaten path, it hosts one of North America's densest concentrations of petroglyphs. Most of these were authored by ancestors of today's Piipaash, O'odham, and Yavapai communities. Thousands of people come here each year to experience the past in ways that defy description—and you should come, too.

Currently administered by the Bureau of Land Management, the Painted Rock Petroglyph Site is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is an important place in the future Great Bend of the Gila National Monument."

—Aaron Wright

What will I see?

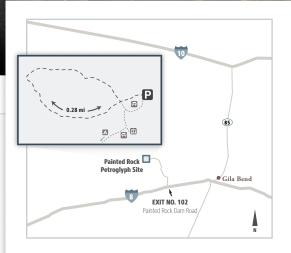
The Painted Rock Petroglyph Site and Campground is located approximately 90 miles southwest of Phoenix, Arizona. Visitors can see thousands of petroglyphs covering nearly 600 boulders. (Please do not climb on the boulders!) Overnight camping is allowed at the adjacent campground.

What else is nearby?

- Sears Point
- The Gatlin site (by appointment with the City of Gila Bend)
- Gila Bend Museum

How can I learn more?

Explore reports, past issues of *Archaeology Southwest Magazine*, and a downloadable brochure at:



Type of Place: Petroglyph site

Ownership: Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Telephone: (602) 580-5500

Hours: All day/night, annually

Guided tours: No

Entrance Fee: Yes (seasonal)



Sun dagger. PHOTO: WES HOLDEN