

October 2018 Newsletter

The Apache Trail: Part III



You too can experience adventure as you explore the awe-inspiring, historic and scenic Apache Trail, also known as Highway 88. It takes visitors from Apache Junction to Roosevelt Lake through the Tonto National Forest. Originally used by the Apache Indians as a migration route and then as a stagecoach route, the Apache Trail is a 40-mile, mostly unpaved road that takes about six hours to drive. You can, however, make it a fun day with an approximately 90-minute drive of the loop from the Lost Dutchman State Park to Tortilla Flat, have lunch, explore the tiny town, and return.

Continuing on our way to Lake Roosevelt, we travel on a narrow, winding road that becomes unpaved just east of Tortilla Flat to Roosevelt Dam. There are steep drop offs and little in the way of safety barriers. Pulling trailers of any type over this road is strongly discouraged. Despite the breath-taking scenery, don't look while driving along the gravel and sometimes one-lane road, but use the vista points where there is safe parking. It takes from two to two-and-a-half hours to drive from Apache Junction to the dam.

Before you reach the dam and about four miles south of the reservoir, you can visit the Tonto National Monument in the fifth largest forest in the U.S. This monument preserves cave dwellings of the Singua Indians used over 700 years ago. The Lower Cliff Dwelling is open year-round and is a steep half mile walk on a paved path that takes about an hour to traverse. Visiting the Upper Cliff Dwelling is accessible by guided tour only, offered every weekend from November through April and takes from three to four hours. Visitors are permitted to walk around the inside of this two-story ruin that looks down on Lake Roosevelt.

Lake Theodore Roosevelt is a large reservoir formed by the Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River and is the largest lake within state borders. Built between 1905 and 1911, the dam is uniquely constructed of huge, irregular blocks now covered by concrete. Lake Roosevelt's 27 car and boat-in only campgrounds are open all year. You can stay in the RV park with water, electric, cable and sewage hook-ups or stay in one of the individual campsites, non-reservable, on a first come-first served basis.

Restaurants, hotels and stores provide comfort and convenience during your visit that can include water sports, hiking and biking trails and a wildlife enclosure. You can choose between jet ski, kayak and paddle boat rentals, in addition to ATV/UTVs and dirt bikes. Lake Roosevelt is home to a variety of game fish, including small-mouth and large-mouth bass. For the really adventurous, there are several Arizona Trail trailheads in the vicinity. And if you can't face that harrowing drive, Grapevine Airstrip is a small general aviation recreational airstrip located a quarter mile from the shore.

Whichever lake and recreational area along the Apache Trail you visit or how you get there, be safe and have fun. If you missed our previous articles, see the links below.

Previous Articles on the Apache Trail:

- <u>The Apache Trail Part 1</u>
- <u>The Apache Trail Part 2</u>

Be sure to read <u>Laura Trujillo's article on the advantages of a living will</u>. Next time we should have some photos from Michael Margrave's visit to Chile for the LawPact Conference

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Our Revised Website Went Live!



If you missed our news in the last issue, our new website has gone live. Making navigation as easy as possible for everyone was our main intent, as well as providing information of interest to you. Make a note to check us out at <u>MCLawFirm.com</u>. There you can also review us and let us know how we're doing. In addition, we now have the ability for clients to pay online with a tab on our website for your convenience.

Our updated site offers an easy way to <u>REVIEW US</u> and <u>PAY ONLINE</u>. If you have a moment please click the link below and leave us your feedback. It is very much appreciated.

- <u>REVIEW US</u>
- PAY ONLINE

October Article: By Laura M. Trujillo The Tax Laws Have Changed, Do I Still Need a Trust?



The most basic answer to this question is yes. Although the estate tax exclusion amount has increased to \$11.2 million for each tax payer, Trusts are still an important part of your estate plan. Reducing your potential estate tax exposure is just one of the many benefits of a trust. The most common type of trust is a "living trust." A living trust is a trust that remains amendable and revocable during the lifetime of the Settlor (creator of the trust). Below are just a few examples of why you may still need a trust.

CLICK HERE TO READ COMPLETE ARTICLE