

AJI SPA

On the Gila River Indian Reservation, Phoenix

- LOCATION:** Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort & Spa
5594 West Wild Horse Pass Blvd.
P.O. Box 94000
Phoenix, Arizona 85070-4000
602-225-0100 Tel 602-225-0300 Fax
- Located on the 372,000-acre Gila River Indian Reservation near Phoenix (just 11 miles from the Phoenix airport)
- OWNERSHIP:** Gila River Indian Community – Akimel O’otham (Pima) and Pee Posh (Maricopa) tribes
- MANAGEMENT:** Sheraton brand of Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide
- SPA DIRECTOR:** Cristin Korbakes
- ARCHITECTURE:** David Bury and Company, Architects, Ojai, CA 805-646-4817
- The building silhouette is reminiscent of the nearby mountains echoing the natural surroundings of the Sonoran Desert. The spa features expansive vistas and an exterior courtyard with free-form pool adjacent to the river flowing throughout the resort. In traditional Pima fashion, the entry to the spa faces east to “welcome the sun.” The dome shape throughout represents the historic dwellings, or Olas Ki, that provided protection from the desert elements.
- DESIGN:** Aparia Design, Interior Architects, Irvine, CA 949-559-0591
- A rich tableau of images and designs, based on traditional motifs, reflects the beauty and mystery of the desert and its people. The circular patterns visible throughout depict the cycles of life and the connection of all living things to each other and to the land. Intricate tile mosaics on the floor under each of the four domes tell stories about the traditional ways of life such as, creation, the four directions, twin boys and the clouds, masked dancer, butterfly, and corn and tobacco ... stories that entertain, educate and inspire.

CULTURALCONCEPT:

The spa was inspired by the dual meaning of “Aji” in the culture of the Pima and Maricopa tribes on whose land it resides. In times of battle, women and children were sent to Aji, a safe haven in the mountains of the Gila River Valley of Phoenix. Aji also refers to a sanctuary high in the world from which you can see great distances with clarity.

The simplicity, tranquility and lifestyle of the Pima and Maricopa culture and traditions are embodied through the spa in its design, story-telling art, gardens, and treatments and programs.

The Gila River, meandering through the resort, along with the spa pool, five whirlpools, Watsu pool, and indoor and outdoor waterfalls, are visible reminders at Aji that water has been the source of nourishment, renewal and life itself for the people of the land for hundreds of years.

The 372,000 untouched desert acres surrounding the resort and spa has also been a sanctuary for the wild horses that continue to roam the land today, providing them freedom of spirit and reminding all who visit that freedom from boundaries is a choice.

FACILITY:

17,500 square feet with 17 treatment rooms, including rooms designed for hydrotherapy, Vichy treatments and companion massages

Watsu pool

Private relaxation lounges and a coed lounge with fireplace

Men and ladies' locker rooms. Each with steam, sauna and private indoor and outdoor whirlpools

Fitness center with separate cardiovascular/strength and motion studios

Full service salon for men and women

SERVICES:

Massage –Gila River Hot Rock, Watsu, Aromatherapy, Companion, Reflexology, Mother-To-Be, Scalp and Body, and the Aji Massage (a combination of Swedish and Therapeutic)

Water Based Treatments – Calming Serenity, Energizing Ruby Grapefruit, Detoxifying Juniper & Cypress, and Mineral Salt baths.

Body Wraps – Blue Coyote, White Clay, Native Sun, Desert Heat, and After Sun

Body Exfoliations – River Salt Glow, Honey-Jojoba Body Scrub, Revitalizing Body Polish

Facials – Purifying Clay, Bluebird, Aloe Repair, Aji Rain, Aromatherapy, Gentlemen's, Firming

Facial Enhancers – Décolleté & Neck, Eye, and Lip treatments

Fitness – Full assessment and personalized program design, private fitness, private Pilates, personal training and a variety of rotating classes

Other – Burden Basket Meditation

Hair Care – everything from a simple hair cut to perms, color and wedding day styling

Make Up – private lessons and bridal make-ups available

Nail Care – Blue Sky Foot Therapy, Rosemary Citron Hand Treatment, On-The-Go Nail Refresher, and Sculptured Nails

DAY PROGRAMS:

Full and half-day programs, incorporating a variety of services are available.

Blue Coyote (full day) – Scrub or wrap, massage, facial, foot therapy, hand treatment, and lunch.

Dragonfly – Hydrotherapy bath, scrub or wrap, massage.

Little Yellow Bird – Any two treatments.

Roadrunner – personal training, personalized hydrotherapy bath, Aji massage.

Lizard – Post-golf body care with a hydrotherapy bath and massage.

Butterfly – Foot therapy, hand treatment, make-up application, shampoo and blow dry.

HOURS & FEES: Daily 6:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Spa Fee: \$15 per day or \$35 per stay for resort guests. Includes any and all fitness classes and use of all spa facilities – fitness and motion studios, locker rooms and lounges, indoor and outdoor whirlpools, spa pool, steam rooms and saunas. Robe and sandals provided. Spa fee is waived with the purchase of any treatment.

Fee is \$35 per day for non-resort guests.

**INFORMATION
and SPA RESERVATIONS: 602-225-0100**

**RESORT
RESERVATIONS:** 800-325-3535
www.sheraton.com/wildhorsepass

#

CONTACT: Sally Cooper
Sally Cooper and Company
480-946-9446; fax: 946-9008
E-mail: Sally@sallycooperandcompany.com
www.sallycooperandcompany.com