

# ***NEEDLES AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE***

## **WHILE YOU ARE HERE . . .**

THE COLORADO RIVER, in the Needles area, provides some of the finest boating and water skiing anywhere. With a current of 4 to 8 miles an hour, wakes disappearing rapidly, leaving the “smooth as glass” effect that all water skiers are looking for. Fishermen will love our hefty rainbow trout, catfish, crappie, largemouth bass and stripers that are found in the spring. For canoe trips or rentals, contact JERKWATER CANOE @ 800/421-7803. For fishing charters and river excursions call Capt. Doyle’s FunFishing Guide Service @ 866/284-3262.

Play golf at Needles’ golf course, the RIVER’S EDGE GOLF COURSE, a professional 18-hole course which nears the beautiful Colorado River. Some of the features included a driving range, rental carts, pro shop, snack bar and professional golf lessons. 760/326-3931.

The MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE is located west of Needles. You can hike through and around the “Hole in the Wall” area, traverse the old Mojave Road as the Indians, soldiers and homesteaders did. Camping is available at Mid Hills and Hole in the Wall campgrounds. Geologic features such as Cima Dome, the Cinder Cones, and the Kelso Dunes add to the visual sites. Animals such as bighorn sheep and desert tortoises can be seen in this scenic area. For further information contact the Mojave National Preserve at 760/928-2572 or the Bureau of Land Management, Needles @ 760/326-7000.

MITCHELL CAVERNS are located in the Providence Mountain State Park, within the Mojave National Preserve area, approximately 60 miles west of Needles. These caverns are limestone caves that feature stalactites, stalagmites, flow-stone and other formations of interest. Cavern tours, lasting a little more than an hour and requiring a 1.5 mile hike, are available daily, or weekends only during summer time. For information on camping/tours contact 760/928-2586.

By boat or canoe, TOPOCK GORGE AND HAVASU NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE can provide many hours of enjoyment for visitors from all parts. TOPOCK GORGE is located just 17 miles south of Needles on the Colorado River. Gaze at rock formations in the ravines, lava rock pinnacles, “totem” and arches are everywhere. There are ancient Indian hieroglyphics on the gorge’s beautiful wall – if you know where to find them. For a great way to see the gorge contact Capt. Doyle’s FunFishing Guide Service and River Excursions @ 866/284-3262 or by canoe, contact JERKWATER CANOE @ 800/421-7803. HAVASU NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE is located between Needles and Lake Havasu City along the river. Bird watching is a favorite past-time, as many species pass through or spend the winter here. Cattail, mesquite and arrowhead beautify the marsh and provide habitat for dove, quail, beaver, geese and other wildlife. Contact 760/326-3853.

OATMAN is located just a beautiful scenic 40 minute drive northeast of Needles. Oatman merchants have endeavored to keep this famous gold mining center as authentic as possible. Step back in time, enjoy the burros that walk freely throughout the town and the mock old west gunfights, while browsing and watching for the perfect antique you cannot go home without!

GRAPEVINE CANYON consists of Indian petroglyphs on sheer cliff walls in a canyon with year round streams. Just a short drive up Hwy 163 from Laughlin (30 miles from Needles), turn at Christmas Tree Pass, then at the Grapevine Canyon sign to the parking area. A short hike is required.

Other day trips include: OLD WEST SILVER MINING TOWN OF CHLORIDE, QUARTZSITE, HUALAPI MOUNTAIN PARK AND ON ROUTE 66 WEST OF NEEDLES, TOWNS INCLUDE GOFFS, ESSEX, AMBOY AND LUDLOW.

Other points of interest include: COLORADO RIVER MUSEUM, LAKE HAVASU CITY AND THE LONDON BRIDGE, and the historic Route 66 through Arizona.

THE NEEDLES REGIONAL MUSEUM is located at 929 Front Street and contains memorabilia from throughout our colorful history. The all volunteer staff is happy to answer your questions. Hours are 10am-2pm, Tuesday thru Friday; with a break in July and August for vacations. Contact 760/326-5678.

THE NEEDLES AQUATICS CENTER attracts many participants in the spring and summer months with its waterslide, main pool and kiddie play area. Swim team, swim lessons for all ages, and water exercise classes are available, as well as private pool parties. Contact 760/326-3866 for more information.

An indoor pool is available at the Best Western Colorado River Inn at 2371 Needles Highway (West Broadway) or call 760/326-4552.

For further information visit or call the NEEDLES AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE at 760/326-2050 or visit our website at [www.needleschamber.com](http://www.needleschamber.com).

**STAY AND PLAY AT THE BEST KEPT SECRET ON THE COLORADO RIVER!**