

GILBERT'S HERITAGE DISTRICT ARIZONA

Stroll through the Heritage District in downtown Gilbert, located about 30 minutes southeast of Phoenix, and find a mix of historic sights, museums, galleries, independent boutiques and lively, locally inspired eateries.



SWEET TREATS

Rocket Fizz, in Heritage Marketplace, carries a vast array of nostalgic and quirky sweets, memorabilia and small-batch sodas. Candy fans can indulge in 100-plus flavours of salt water taffy and simple unusual taste combinations like peanut butter and jelly pop.

(rocketfizz.com)

CREATIVE CUISINE

Located in a beautifully refurbished historic grocery store, **Liberty Market** serves up creative fare made from regionally sourced ingredients. Hearty house favourites include Chef David's Breakfast Sandwich and hand-tossed thin crust pizzas, fire-cooked over Arizona pecan wood.

(libertymarket.com)



VISUAL ARTS

Art Intersection features photography from both established and emerging local and international artists. This month, visit the gallery's signature *Light Sensitive* exhibition (Mar. 6 to Apr. 2) to view images created using traditional darkroom and alternative photographic methods. (artintersection.com)



PARK PLAY

Water Tower Plaza, in the heart of the Heritage District, is a vibrant hub for community events like the Gilbert Art Walk (held monthly on the first and third Saturday). Visit the open plaza, with outdoor seating and children's splash pad, to relax, picnic and play.



VINTAGE FINDS

Collectible treasures await at **Flashback Antiques**. Peruse the unique display of vintage decor, furniture, jewelry and children's toys. The shop also stocks handmade candles, lotions and soaps. (facebook.com/flashbackantiques)



GETTING THERE

Rocket Fizz to Phoenix eight times a day from eight Canadian cities and to Mesa three times a week from Calgary and Edmonton.

HISTORIC TALES

Housed in the town's original elementary school, circa 1913, **HD South** showcases the area's railroad and agricultural heritage. Browse exhibits depicting early 20th century life for insight into Gilbert's first homesteaders. (hdsouth.org) —Mhairi Woodhall

