

- **For top-flight winter tennis, Arizona's Enchantment Resort offers a . . .**

# Desert Oasis



BY REBECCA WALLWORK

Enchantment Resort's tennis program offers daily clinics, private lessons, match play, tournaments and workshops.

**V**isions of beachfront courts in such tropical locations as Hawaii and South Florida may dominate winter get-away daydreams, but for a truly unique tennis resort experience, all signs point west—to the newly renovated Enchantment Resort in Sedona, Arizona.

There, set against a backdrop of dramatic red rock formations, you will find six outdoor plexi-pave hard courts in scenery that tennis pro A.J. Kalayeh says

can only be described as “magical.” He’s not just talking about aesthetics.

“There’s a peacefulness and also an energy about it,” Kalayeh says. “When people come here, they are calmer—more relaxed. This used to be a sacred native American site.”

Tennis fans may also remember this as the home of John Gardiner’s Tennis Ranch in the 1980s. Today, the commitment to the sport continues, despite a wealth of distractions that includes

hiking, gourmet cuisine and the award-winning destination spa, Mii amo.

Kalayeh and his fellow pros offer daily clinics for all levels, as well as private lessons, match play, tournaments and workshops held throughout the year. On Mondays and Saturdays, the daily drills are cardio tennis workouts; other days, the clinics focus on fundamentals, technique and competition skills.

Enchantment recently completed an \$11-million refurbishment of its 218 guest

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## GETTING THERE

Enchantment Resort is situated in Sedona’s Boynton Canyon and is surrounded by the Coconino National Forest and Red Rock Secret Mountain Wilderness. It’s a two-hour drive north from Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, and 50 minutes from the regional airport in Flagstaff.

## TENNIS AT ENCHANTMENT PACKAGE

Secure your court-time with your reservation when you book this two-night package that includes breakfast daily, one-hour tennis ball machine rental and one-hour private tennis lesson per person per day, as well as the resort’s daily morning tennis clinics. Rates start at \$1,280.



rooms and many of the private casitas scattered over the resort’s 70 acres have their own outdoor patios starring beehive-shaped fireplaces—all you need to fire up the grill is just a call to room service away. For the non-tennis hours of the day, Enchantment offers a dizzying number of activities from organic gardening and yoga to cooking demos and a Native American Medicine Walk. Mii amo spa features an extensive menu of facials, rituals inspired by Native American tradi-

tions, and massages—the best for tennis players being the deep tissue, neuromuscular or Traditional Thai massage.

The 24,000-square foot spa is also home to a crystal grotto where guests are encouraged to cleanse themselves of stress, indoor and outdoor pools, hot tubs, saunas, steam rooms and the Mii amo Café, serving healthy organic dishes to balance the more indulgent fare served at Enchantment’s Tii Gavo. Families staying at the resort can occupy

kids aged 4-12 with the Camp Coyote activities program, although the tennis team hopes you’ll bring them with you to the courts.

“Playing tennis here is a one-of-a-kind experience,” Kalayeh says. “You can’t find this magical feeling anywhere else.”

**Enchantment Resort, 525 Boynton Canyon Road, Sedona, AZ; (928) 282-2900; [www.enchantmentresort.com](http://www.enchantmentresort.com)**