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(Azure Palm Springs)

TRAVEL &amp; EXPERIENCES

## 10 seriously sublime Palm Springs-area spas with day passes

**By Emily Hochberg**

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# Azure Palm Hot Springs Resort & Day Spa Oasis

Desert Hot Springs • Spa



One of five standalone mineral soaking tubs at Azure Palm Hot Springs Resort & Day Spa Oasis. (Azure Palm Hot Springs)

By Emily Hochberg

Just north of Palm Springs is the town of Desert Hot Springs, a place considered to be “California’s Spa City” for its position perched atop healing hot springs. This water, which comes from deep fissures in the Earth, is loaded with minerals lauded for health benefits. The hotter the water, the higher the concentration of minerals found within it, according to area spas.

The epicenter where the hottest water emerges is called Miracle Hill, and Azure Palm Hot Springs Resort & Day Spa Oasis is located on top of it for direct access to some of the most mineral-rich water in the area.

The spa is a bit no-frills from the outside, but inside, furnishings are airy and light, with bohemian and Scandinavian touches alongside an outdoor lounge with stunning views over the entire valley and the San Jacinto Mountains.

A level below in the locker room you’ll find waffle robes and slide slippers (you’ll be assigned a specific code to track that you’ve returned these items, so don’t toss them into the hamper like you might at other spas), walk-in showers and toiletries such as hair ties, body lotion and hair dryers. Outside, an oversized mineral pool is heated between 85 and 90 degrees Fahrenheit and lined with loungers, half of which are sun-soaked while the rest receive partial shade under a pergola gently draped with tapestries billowing in the breeze. A basket of pool noodles are ready for the taking, and off to the side are two shaded hot tubs, plus two additional indoor hot tubs and an electric sauna.

A spa pass provides access to all of the above, though the real draw is the outdoor “oasis” scattered with standalone mineral tubs. These are filled to the brim with crystal-clear water heated between 100 and 104 degrees that’s rich with silica to moisturize skin, as well as calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium and lithium to relax muscles. While a solo soak is lovely, each tub fits up to four so sharing may be required at peak times, and usage is limited to 30 minutes.

The tubs are an incredible respite from everyday life, especially when coupled with a walk around the lush desert landscaping — dubbed a reflexology walk. There’s also an additional outdoor sauna scented with invigorating eucalyptus, plentiful seating areas and food is available for purchase in an on-site cafe, though it’s not served poolside. Additional amenities include free parking and video yoga classes, however, the Himalayan salt room is reserved solely for overnight guests.