



Photo: Luke Franke

Facility Rentals 2025 - 2026

Located along the banks of the Salt River, the Nina Mason Pulliam Rio Salado Audubon Center is a hidden gem nestled in the heart of Phoenix. An affordable and unique venue for your next meeting, workshop or wedding, with rentals directly supporting our Community Use Program, wildlife conservation and community engagement.



Photo: Danny Roper-Jones / Audubon Southwest

Host Your Next Event With Audubon

workshops • retreats • staff training • meetings
weddings • receptions • memorials • ceremonies
festivals • art shows • performances & public events

Choose between our large **Event Hall** or smaller **Classroom**.

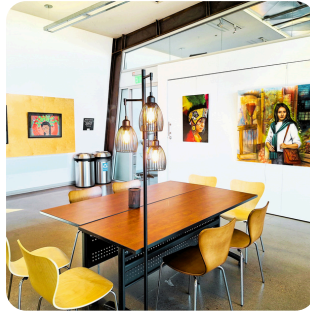
Then, select customizable add-ons. Discounts are available for qualifying groups.



Nina Mason Pulliam
Rio Salado Audubon Center
3131 South Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ, 85040

Free Community-Use Space

Before considering renting our facility, note that we now offer free access to our community-use space in the Event Hall. These amenities are available on a first-come, first-serve basis, and are open only during our regular, public hours of operation. Please call ahead to confirm availability.



Our free community-use spaces includes a small library, two workstation desks for small meetings or remote work, a small lounge, and several coffee tables. While working or relaxing at the center, enjoy local artwork curated by our partners at The Sagrado.

Facility Rentals

Rentals at Rio Salado Audubon Center are available to partner organizations, businesses, community groups, or private parties. We host weddings, retreats, ceremonies, meetings, workshops, and more. Renters can enjoy general use of indoor and outdoor spaces, most facility amenities, and stunning water, nature and sunset views. What makes our rentals unique is that your fees support our programs, our community-use discounts, and habitat conservation work.



Photos: Danny Roper-Jones

Facility Amenities

The center is located at 3131 S. Central Ave, on the south banks of the Salt River just off Central Avenue. General access and use of grounds, trails, terrace, ramada, public restrooms, and other general building amenities are included with all rentals. The facility has 64 parking spaces, water fountains, and more. You can add customizable add-ons during your booking process to tailor the space to your needs, and you may book additional spaces as needed for larger events.

All renters should begin by exploring our two available rental spaces:



While all renters may access and use public spaces and amenities at the center, your event setup or special installations, are limited only to the spaces you book. Add-ons allow you to expand your available event setup space. Renters should expect the Nature Discovery Hall, outdoor grounds, and other public spaces to remain open and accessible to the public during our normal hours.

For events requiring public closure during normal hours, this add-on may also be available.



Nina Mason Pulliam
Rio Salado Audubon Center
3131 South Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ, 85040

2025-2026 Facility Rental Rates

1. Classroom



2. Event Hall



Weekdays (Tuesday - Friday)

HALF-DAY (4 Regular Workday Hours)	\$900	\$2,400
WORKDAY (8 a.m. - 4 p.m.)	\$1,500	\$4,000
EVENING (4 p.m. - 10 p.m.)	\$2,250	\$6,000
FULL DAY (8 a.m. - 10 p.m.)	\$3,000	\$8,000

Saturday

HALF-DAY (4 Regular Workday Hours)	\$1,125	\$3,000
WORKDAY (8 a.m. - 4 p.m.)	\$1,875	\$5,000
EVENING (4 p.m. - 10 p.m.)	\$2,800	\$6,250
FULL DAY (8 a.m. - 10 p.m.)	\$3,750	\$8,750

Closed Sunday, Monday and holidays. Hours are firm and include all setup & cleanup.

1. Classroom

Offering beautiful pond, cattail and nature views out towards Rio Salado, the Classroom is the perfect workspace for small classes or meetings, or as overflow space for large event workshops.



The Classroom is outfitted with rolling tables, black wooden chairs, optional rolling office chairs, and a large smart TV. This room is perfect for more intimate events, training sessions, meetings or hybrid workshops for groups up to 30. Explore this more affordable option and details here:

Room Details:

room dimensions: 23'x19'

max table seating: 24

max capacity: 35



Room Inclusions:

- 8 rolling tables
- 32 wooden chairs (black)
- 75" Smart TV with standard cables, hookups and dongles
- 15 Optional black rolling office chairs

Classroom Layouts & Options



Classroom Style



Co-working Space

2. Event Hall

Our most commonly-rented space, this Event Hall can be adapted to suit most event types, and includes plenty of furnishings and equipment options for medium to large events.



Room Details:

dimensions: 56'x40'

max seating: 100 (auditorium-style)

Room Inclusions:

- 28 folding tables (mix of gray and white - 2.5'x6')
- 4 brown rolling folding tables
- 100 white folding chairs
- 30 wooden chairs (brown and natural)
- 2 yellow armchairs & 1 sofa
- 5 black cocktail tables
- 12 black leather barstools
- 3 floor lamps
- 2 floor rugs
- 25 folding easels
- 1 speaker podium
- 12 LED candles
- Assorted vases & decorations



Event Hall Layouts & Options

The Event Hall is highly adaptable for different installations and event setups. Whether you use our included furniture or bring your own, the space can be modified to suit most events like:



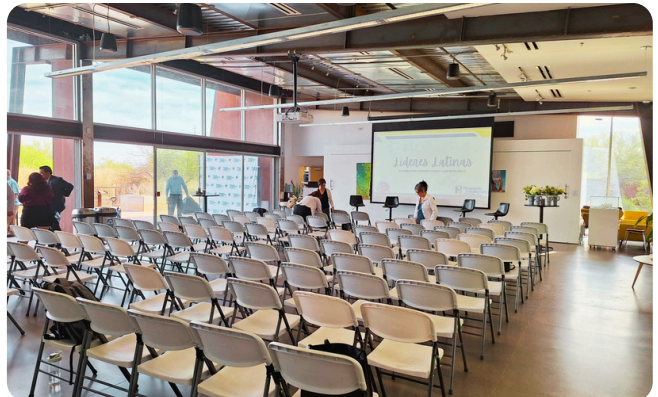
Workshops • Presentations



Art Show • Performances • Music



Galas • Mixers • Parties



Auditorium • Theater Style



Receptions • Dinners • Ceremonies



Meetings • Training Sessions

Add - O n s

We try our best to make sure your event runs great! As such, all rentals include free access and general use of our guest wifi, smart TVs, nature trails, terrace, ramada, picnic area, two parking lots, and both indoor and outdoor restrooms. You may also choose from the following add-ons:



Kitchen Fee (\$250)

Required for all events with food or drink. Access our catering kitchen.



Theater & AV Rental (\$200)

Full theater, AV, mics in the Event Hall, bluetooth speaker, and other accessories.



Food Truck Parking (\$200/truck)

Rent space in our parking lot for food trucks. Kitchen fee is required.



Overnight Storage (\$300/night)

Store items overnight, before or after your event. Storage space limited.



Outdoor Setup (\$600)

Rent our terrace and ramada for more complex outdoor setups.



Private Event/Facility Closure (\$2,000)

Close the entire facility for your event if needed outside normal business hours.



Tablecloth Rental (\$200)

Rent our black tablecloths for your event for any tables you use.



Biodegradable Tableware (for sale)

We recommend you bring your own. Available for sale on site as needed.



Late-Night (\$200/hour)

For some special events, we offer extended, late-night hours for a fee.



Early-Bird Setup (\$1,000)

If available, book up to four work hours the day before for early-bird setup.

Learn more about these add-ons over the next few pages, or skip straight to page 15 for the Terms & Conditions before starting your Reservation Request Form.



Kitchen Fee (\$250)



If you will be serving food, snacks, beverages, hosting food sellers, vendors or food trucks, or serving catered meals at our center, your event will require our kitchen fee. This gives you access to our catering kitchen, along with all the supplies and consumables there. This includes coffee, tea, serving trays and beverage dispensers, our fridge, freezer, and more.

Alcohol must be served by a state-licensed bartender. Leftover alcohol may not be removed from the building, even if unopened. Donate to center or dispose if needed.



Coffee & Tea

You may use our coffee and tea, coffee makers, kettle, four dispensers, two brew stations, and milk servers. We also have 30 white and 30 brown ceramic mugs.



Freezer & Fridge

The catering kitchen is equipped with a drinks fridge, as well as a normal fridge/freezer that you may use as needed.



Drink Dispensers & Pitchers

We have two, 10-gallon water dispensers, juice dispensers, and four coffee dispensers, as well as three small and two large milk and creamer pitchers.



Cleaning Supplies

Also in the catering kitchen you will find broom, mop, a stash of cleaning supplies for any unexpected spills,



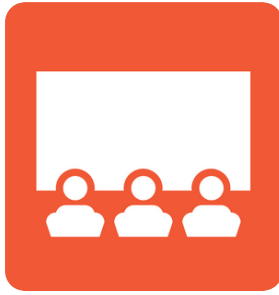
Tools & Stationary

In the catering kitchen, we keep a drawer of household tools, stationary, tape, pens, and frequently requested supplies you may use.



Serving Trays

We have two low drink chests, two deep drink chests, various wood and metal serving trays and organizers for condiments, napkins, etc.



Theater & AV Rental (\$300)



Photo: Danny Roper-Jones / Audubon Southwest

Our Theater & AV Rental includes use of theater and AV setup in the Event Hall, which is outfitted with a high-definition projector, sound system and wireless microphones. We also provided all the necessary cables, dongles, pointers and connectors you might need.

The theater setup is only available for Event Hall renters, however our portable sound system can be setup anywhere as needed.



Event Hall Theater

Our theater includes a high-resolution projector, screen and 12-speaker sound system, along with all the normal input connectors.



Portable Speaker & Mic

This 160W wireless JBL speaker and mic combo can play music via bluetooth or a USB stick for 6-8 hours per battery. We have two, so you can jam all day long!



Remote Clicker + Dongles

Use our remote/clicker and pointer to advance your slides. We also have all the cables, connectors and dongles you might need.



Two Wireless Mics

In our presenter podium, you will find two wireless mics. You have the option of handheld or lavalier.



Smart TV Stand

Use our TV Stand for video calls, presentations, or group viewings.



Outdoor Setup (\$600)



Photo: Danny Roper-Jones / Audubon Southwest

This add-on is only required for events with more complex outdoor setup needs. General access to our exterior, nature trails, grounds, terrace, ramada, and picnic areas are included free with all rentals. Events with outdoor vendor stalls, DJ booths, stages, seating, dining or special installations will need to include the outdoor setup add-on.

Cooking on site is only permitted in fire-safe areas outdoors on our terrace, and only with gas or electric cookers. The outdoor setup add-on is required for these cases.



DJ Booth or Soundstages

This add-on allows you to install DJ booths, sound stages, speakers, and other AV setups at our terrace or ramada areas outdoors.



Ramada Seating

Normally set up with rustic picnic tables, the ramada can be altered for seating, ceremonies, performances, or outdoor dining areas.



Vendor Booths

If your event needs outdoor vendor stalls, tents, cooking or buffet tables, use this add-on to setup stations along our terrace.



Outdoor Cooking

Cooking is only permitted outdoors in certain fire-safe areas of our terrace. Only gas or electric cooking stations are permitted.



Outdoor Art Installations

Artwork and exhibits may be temporarily installed or setup along our building facade, gardens, nature trails, terrace or ramada.



Heat Lamps & Coolers

Install your own heat lamps or coolers on our terrace or ramada. Please confirm power outlet access and wiring options during your site visit.



Biodegradable Tableware (for sale)

No Styrafoam or single-use plastic, including commercially compostable bio-plastics, are permitted on site. This rule applies to all food vendors, food trucks and caterers. If you are using disposable tableware, please purchase wood or paper utensils, cups and plates. You can buy these from our front desk. However, it will be cheaper to bring your own. Here are some recommended products we use:



[Purpleclay Bamboo Utensils](#)



[Chic Leaf Bamboo Plates](#)



[Eco Vita Paper Plates](#)



[EcoLipak Paper Cups](#)

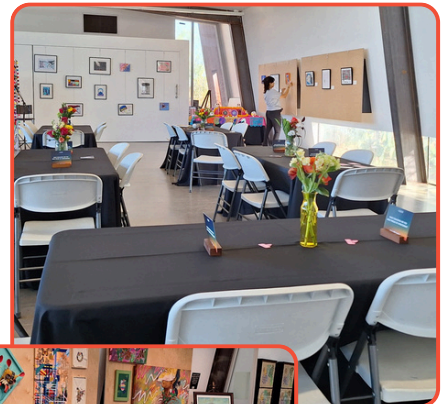


Click the links here to explore examples of approved, biodegradable products.



Tablecloth Rental (\$200)

We encourage all renters to bring their own tablecloths. Our folding tables come in a mix of white and gray. Tablecloths help create a more unified look for your event. If you don't want to bring your own, you can rent black tablecloths from us that fit our rectangular tables only. Please note that we do not have round tablecloths that fit our cocktail tables. Our black tablecloths are cut to fit our 2 x 6 foot folding tables.



**Overnight Storage (\$300/night)**

Storage space at Rio Salado Audubon Center is limited. This add-on gives renters access to a single closet to store items before or after your event. This does not allow early setup or late teardown of your layout, only storage within designated closets. Because we are closed Sundays and Mondays, only one night of storage is charged for Saturday evening events that plan to remove stored items on Tuesday.

**Late-Night (\$200/hour)**

For some special events, we offer extended late-night hours for a fee. This allows your event to run beyond 10 p.m. without steeper late fees, giving you additional event, cleanup or teardown time. This exception must be approved during your booking process to avoid late fees. This add-on is available at Audubon's discretion.

**Private Facility Closure (\$2,000)**

Rio Salado Audubon Center remains open during our normal hours of operation. During this time, public spaces remain open and accessible to other visitors and guests. This add-on closes the facility to the public for your event. It is not required for events already occurring outside our normal hours.

This add-on is discouraged to minimize impact on the center schedule and is only available at Audubon's discretion.

**Early-Bird Setup/Teardown (\$1,000)**

In some instances, we allow renters to book up to four work hours the day before for event setup. Please note, we do not open before 8 a.m. If you need more time to complete setup, you will need the Early-Bird add-on. This add-on is discouraged to minimize impact on the center schedule and is only available at Audubon's discretion.



Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Photo: David Lei/ Audubon Photography Awards

Your Support

Healthy birds mean healthy communities. At Rio Salado Audubon Center, we work every day with our community partners to preserve wildlife, habitats and the natural environments we all depend on. Audubon hosts community festivals, habitat conservation days and educational programs throughout the year, and we offer discounted or free use of our space for qualifying organizations. Your fees directly support our mission and help reconnect people with nature here at the center.

Community-Use Program & Discounts

Audubon offers automatic discounted rates for qualifying groups and organizations. Discounts are applied to your total fee, including all add-ons.



30% OFF

Publicly funded entities such as local, state or federal departments and agencies or public k-12 schools.



50% OFF

501(c)3 non-profit or charity organizations. Organization's EIN and IRS status may be required.



100% OFF

Free community events for Title 1 schools or groups operating under \$200k/year. Proof of budget may be requested.

All events and discounts are subject to staff schedule and availability.

Discounts are only available during normal weekday hours (no evenings or weekends). We try our best to accommodate smaller budgets, so please contact us to explore discount options.



Nina Mason Pulliam

Rio Salado Audubon Center

3131 South Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ, 85040

Important Terms & Conditions

Hosting rental events at a small, non-profit nature center does come with some considerations that renters should factor in. You will have an opportunity to review and agree to these conditions on your Reservation Request Form and site visit, but a general summary of the most important terms and conditions are outlined here.

1. INSURANCE

All rental programs and events at Rio Salado Audubon center require event insurance with 1 million dollars in liability coverage, and must list National Audubon Society as an "Additional Insured."

2. Leave No Trace + DIY

We ask renters to leave the facility as you found it. Please plan and come prepared to move and replace furniture, take out your trash, and sweep your space. Renters must complete all setup and cleanup themselves.

3. Plastic Free

No Styrofoam or single-use plastic, including commercially compostable bio-plastics, are permitted. If you need disposable tableware, please purchase compostable wood or paper products only.

4. Fire, Smoke, Cooking

Candles, open flames and incense are not permitted, and no cooking is allowed indoors. Electric and gas cookers and food warmers are permitted outdoors only at designated fire-safe areas of the terrace.

5. Event Timeframes

Times are firm. We cannot open before 8 a.m. Renters must factor in all setup and cleanup, including moving and returning our furniture to its original layout. Plan at least 30-60 minutes before and after.

6. Food & Alcohol

Caterers and food sellers must follow all rules around cooking, fire and single-use plastic. Alcohol is permitted only if served by state-licensed bartenders. No alcohol may leave the site, even if unopened.

7. Event Setup & DIY Conditions

Your rental includes general facility access, but event setup is limited only to the spaces you booked. Our staff will be on site for support and questions, but they are not permitted to assist with setup or cleanup.

8. Installations, Artwork & Access

Tape, tacks or alterations that can damage property are not permitted. Art may be displayed using easels or our wire hanging system. Access to closets, exhibits or exits may not be blocked or impeded in any way.



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FAQ & Important Info

GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Site Visit

- We require a site visit prior to most events. Please attend this with as many staff, volunteers, caterers or crew as you can. During this visit our staff will host a walkthrough of the site, review our terms and conditions, answer any questions you have and confirm your setup plans.

2. Event Insurance

- All events require event insurance. Policies must include \$1 million in liability, be held by the same entity detailed in the rental contract, and list National Audubon Society as “Additional Insured.”

3. Will Audubon staff be on site to help during my event?

- At least two Audubon staff will be onsite to answer questions and maintain security during your event. However, please note that our staff are not permitted to assist with event setup or cleanup in any way. Please plan accordingly and factor in extra time and support if necessary.

4. What happens if my event runs overtime?

- When you submit your rental request form, please factor in all setup and cleanup time. We adjust staff schedules and center programming around your event. A late fee will be specified in our rental contract. While we try to be understanding, all events that run overtime are subject to late fees.

5. No Access Sundays & Mondays

- Please note, Rio Salado Audubon Center is closed on Sundays and Mondays with no exceptions. For Saturday evening events, unfinished teardown must wait until Tuesday. In these cases, late or storage fees may apply unless previously approved.

6. Plastic Waste

- Audubon does not permit any single-use plastic or Styrofoam on site. Please ensure all vendors, catering or food sellers are able to offer paper or wood plates, cups and utensils. We encourage you to secure these products yourself before your event, but you can also purchase them from us.

7. Where can I set up for my event?

- Your rental includes the space you have booked. You may book multiple rooms, or take advantage of the outdoor setup add-on for additional setup requirements. Audubon staff may permit you to setup a check-in table in certain parts of our main lobby, entrance paths or parking areas. No setup is permitted that blocks Audubon exhibits, signage or educational installations in any way.

8. Accessibility, Fire Code & Safety

- No setup is permitted that restricts movement, blocks access or violates fire codes. You may not alter or obstruct Audubon exhibits, signage or educational installations. Wires, cables, exhibits, installations or obstructions shall not be permitted to block or impede movement along egress routes, pathways, emergency exits, doorways or closets. Please discuss these restrictions during your site visit to ensure compliance.

9. Leave No Trace Policy

- We ask all our renters to support our Leave No Trace policy. This means renters must leave the facility exactly as they found it. Renters must cleanup any spills promptly and report any damage. Garbage and recycling bins must be emptied into exterior dumpsters, while food waste can go into our Mill composter. No trash or leftover materials may remain in the building after your event. Our furniture arrangements must be restored to their original layout by the renter.

10. Food Waste

- Please be conscious of excessive food waste at your event, pack out what you can, or donate leftovers to an [organization that helps prevent food waste.](#)



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FIRE, FOOD, CATERING & ALCOHOL

1. Can we light candles?

- Our building has a hardwired fire mitigation system we cannot turn off. As such, candles are not permitted anywhere on site to reduce risk. LED candles are a safe and cheap alternative.

2. Can I burn incense?

- Burning incense or sage is only permitted outdoors on our terrace in designated areas only, and only for certain ceremonial purposes, and never without approval by Audubon.

3. Cooking, Grills, Campfires, Heating & Cooling Solutions

- Events with food or beverages require our \$250 kitchen fee add-on. This opens our catering kitchen for your event, which is equipped with sink, coffee mugs, wine glasses, coffee, tea, coffee makers, kettle, thermoses and two refrigerators. Electric or gas grills, as well as propane heaters are permitted outdoors only, and require the \$500 outdoor setup add-on. You must provide your own appropriately gauged extension cords for your appliances. Cooking stations may be setup in designated fire-safe areas only. Charcoal, wood grills or campfires are not permitted.

4. Serving alcohol

- If alcohol is provided at your event, it must be served by an AZ State Licensed Bartender. No alcohol may be removed from the premises during or after your event, including leftovers or unopened drinks. These must be donated to center or discarded. We encourage you to limit consumption and offer non-alcoholic options.

5. Smoking & Drug Use

- Smoking, vaping or drug use of any kind is not permitted anywhere within our premises.

OTHER GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Outdoor Setup Notes

- General use and access of our terrace, trails, picnic tables and outdoor spaces are included free with all rentals, and no add-on fees shall be required. If your event includes more complicated outdoor setups like vendor booths, cooking or catering stations, installations or seating arrangements, stages, DJ booths or other similar installations, our Outdoor Setup add-on is required.

2. Can I hang or display art?

- Renters are not permitted to use hooks, tacks or tape anywhere in the facility, or make alterations that could damage our facilities or furnishings. Our Event Hall includes new, mounting solutions where you can mount your art, and we have 25 small easels you may use. You may bring stands or plinths to display art. Only residue-free tacky putty or Command Strips can be used to mount paper or information cards.

3. Tape, tacks, hooks or adhesives:

- The use of any kind of tape on walls, surfaces, floors, windows, walls, pavement or furniture is strictly prohibited at Rio Salado Audubon Center. Any nails, tacks, hooks or other mounting hardware that could cause damage to our furniture or facilities are also not permitted.

4. Balloons? Fireworks? Confetti?

- Balloons of any kind, confetti, fireworks etc. are not permitted at any event or rentals with us. These create pollution, wildlife hazards, and wildfire risks in a unique habitat restoration area.

5. Noise Levels

- Because Rio Salado Audubon Center is located in a Habitat Restoration Area, Audubon reserves the right to ask you to reduce the volume of any music or noise so as to reduce disturbance to local wildlife.

6. Security Requirements

- For evening, private or public events, or events with minors, you may be required to provide private security or parking security. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis by Audubon.

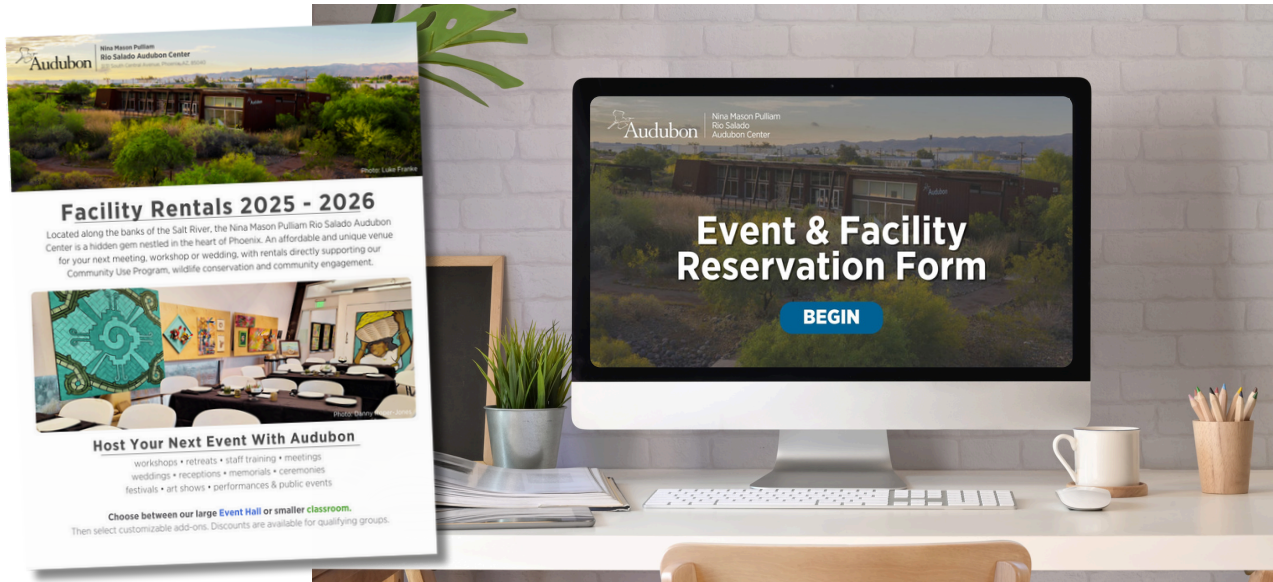
7. I can't afford your rates. What can I do?

- Contact us. We may have other discounts available. While we remain one of the most affordable and unique venues in Phoenix, we also offer community-use program discounts ranging from 30% to 100% off. Check to see if your organization qualifies. Discounts may only be applied to events on regular weekday hours.



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Next Steps: Online Booking Process



Reservation Request Form

After you have thoroughly reviewed the terms and FAQ, begin your booking by submitting a reservation request form on our website. Visit riosalado.audubon.org/rentals, or click the button below to request a reservation.

[click here to submit your](#)
EVENT RESERVATION FORM



No payment information will be collected during your reservation request.

You will receive an email notification after submitting your request, however this is not a booking confirmation. Please allow up to two weeks for us to get back to you with a rental contract draft. Bookings are not confirmed until your contract is signed and 50% deposit made.

Please hold off on promoting or marketing your event until you have a signed contract.

Questions? Email us at riosalado@audubon.org

Thank You!

Thank you so much for hosting your event with us.

Please book as soon as possible. Popular dates often get booked out six months in advance.