

A True Desert Retreat

An Interview with Jerome Arribas, General Manager, Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale

EDITORS' NOTE Jerome Arribas is a seasoned luxury hospitality executive whose distinguished career spans some of Four Seasons' most celebrated hotels and resorts around the world. Originally from the Loire Valley of France, Arribas' early exposure to culinary excellence, craftsmanship, and cultural heritage deeply shaped his professional philosophy. After extensive international travel, he began his Four Seasons journey in a nontraditional role as Assistant Director of Purchasing at



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Four Seasons in the Bahamas. Arribas has held task force and leadership roles across multiple properties, including Four Seasons Hotel George V, Paris and Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat, both Michelin Three Key properties recognized among the world's most exceptional luxury hotels. Arribas served as Hotel Manager at Four Seasons Hotel and Residences One Dalton Street, Boston where he helped establish the property within a highly competitive market. Under his leadership, the hotel achieved Forbes Five-Star recognition for both the Hotel and the Spa just two years after opening. He later advanced to General Manager of Four Seasons Resort and Residences Vail. Arribas' global portfolio also includes leadership roles at Four Seasons Hotel Casablanca; Four Seasons Resort and Residences Seychelles; Four Seasons Hotel London at Park Lane; and Four Seasons Resort Exuma at Emerald Bay.

PROPERTY BRIEF Set in the desert foothills north of Scottsdale, Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale (fourseasons.com/scottsdale) is surrounded by the natural richness of the Sonoran Desert. Low-rise, adobe-inspired casitas and suites are arranged gently across the landscape, connected by shaded paths and calm courtyards. Across 210 guest rooms, including 22 suites, the design invites the outdoors in. Private terraces frame soft mornings and long evenings, while select suites feature plunge pools, kiva fireplaces, outdoor garden showers, and telescopes for stargazing, keeping the desert close at every hour. Golf at Troon North sits close by, while the spa and fitness facilities support a pace that restores rather than demands. Families are welcomed through the complimentary Kids for All Seasons program, offering engaging activities for younger guests. Dining unfolds across four distinctive restaurants from bright mornings to evenings shaped by firelight.

Will you discuss your career journey?

My journey with Four Seasons has been both dynamic and deeply rewarding. I began in purchasing within food and beverage in the Bahamas, later transitioned into roles as Director of Finance and Human Resources in Cap Ferrat, served as opening Hotel Manager in Boston and then became General Manager in Vail and now Scottsdale. Over the past 22 years, I've also had the privilege of participating in memorable task force assignments in places like Russia and

Tanzania, experiences that have shaped both my perspective and leadership style.

Will you provide an overview of Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale, and how the property is positioned in the market?

Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale is a true desert retreat, immersed in a lush and serene Sonoran landscape. It's a place that invites guests to slow down, to take in the expansive

skies, the quiet rhythm of nature, and some of the most remarkable stargazing in the region. Our positioning is rooted in offering understated luxury paired with a deep sense of place.

How valuable is it to have such a strong suite product, and do you see this as a differentiator for Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale?

Our suites are incredibly important to the overall experience. They appeal to both couples and families seeking a true "home away from home," a space where they can connect, relax, and create lasting memories together. This sense of comfort and intimacy is absolutely a key differentiator and central to the resort's success.

How has Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale approached its restaurant/food and beverage offering, and what are the keys to being successful in this part of the business?

Our philosophy is grounded in simplicity. We focus on highlighting natural flavors rather than creating overly complex dishes. Less is truly more. The same approach applies to



Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale (above and opposite page)



presentation – elegant, refined, and inspired by the surrounding desert landscape. This extends to our beverage program as well. Every ingredient must have a purpose; if it doesn't enhance the guest experience, it doesn't belong. This disciplined approach allows quality and authenticity to shine through.



Will you highlight Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale's meetings and events capabilities?

We offer some of the most versatile event spaces you will find. Whether hosting large-scale gatherings or intimate meetings, our spaces can accommodate a wide range of needs, from indoor venues filled with natural light to outdoor settings that embrace the beauty of the desert. From open and expansive to private and confidential, we truly have something for every occasion.

What does "luxury" mean to you in today's hospitality landscape?

Luxury today is defined by genuine, thoughtful connection. It's about warm, personalized engagement, anticipating guests' needs and ensuring they feel truly cared for and recognized. It's understated rather than extravagant. Nothing is overly flashy, yet every detail is intentional and meaningful.

What has made the hospitality industry so special for you?

Hospitality has opened the world to me. It has introduced me to diverse cultures, extraordinary places, and fascinating people. Growing up in a small village in France, I never imagined the opportunities this industry would provide. It has been incredibly enriching on both a personal and professional level.

What advice do you offer to young people interested in building a career in the industry?

You must have a genuine passion for serving others. This industry can be demanding and fast-paced, but it is equally rewarding. In return, you'll gain opportunities to meet incredible people and experience the world in ways you never thought possible. ●