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## PRESS RELEASE

### The International Dark-Sky Association Announces 100th International Dark Sky Place Designation

Tucson, AZ -- The International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) announced today that its 100th designated International Dark Sky Place is [Tumacácori National Historical Park \(NHP\)](#). This milestone marks the preservation of more than 73,800 square miles of protected night sky around the globe.

“It’s especially appropriate that the 100th designation made in the seventeen-year history of International Dark Sky Places comes so close to home for IDA, as well as in the thirtieth year since our founding,” said IDA Executive Director, J. Scott Feierabend. “Southern Arizona saw the origin of our movement in the 1980s, and its parks and municipalities remain in the vanguard of dark-skies conservation throughout the world.”

The International Dark-Sky Association designates Dark Sky Places by working closely with public and private lands managers who are committed to protecting the nighttime wildernesses. These Places offer visitors an opportunity to experience first-hand the beauty and inspiration found in the natural nightscape. The commitment made by designated International Dark Sky Places goes far beyond the aesthetics of starry night skies. One of the most important purposes behind the International Dark Sky Places Program is the development of active participants in dark sky advocacy, which is necessary and vital to IDA’s mission, “to preserve and protect the nighttime environment and our heritage of dark skies through environmentally responsible outdoor lighting.” International Dark Sky Places and the people managing these Places serve as beacons in their communities, demonstrating the economic, social, and cultural benefits of stewardship and passionate advocacy for the night sky.

Tumacácori National Historical Park has been a part of these advocacy efforts even before its designation. Since 2016, the Park has conducted a number of evening programs intended to draw visitors’ attention to the night sky over Tumacácori in the context of natural darkness as a cultural resource. This is similar to the interpretive strategy at [Chaco Culture National Historical Park](#), which became an IDA-Designated International Dark Sky Park in 2013. In addition to expanding the palette of visitor offerings at a Park whose focus is not on natural resources, the staff at Tumacácori use night skies as a means of conveying a sense of what the Southwest was like in the time when the first Spanish missionaries arrived in the seventeenth century.

Despite its location, almost midway between two growing urban centers in southern Arizona, Tumacácori retains a remarkably dark sky that helps visitors imagine what night skies of the past looked like.

Other examples of nighttime advocacy at International Dark Sky Places include star parties, night walks, [firefly conservation](#), [candlelit storytelling](#), and more.

Take and share a “virtual tour” of all 100 IDA-Designated International Dark Sky Places and experience the beauty of the night sky with IDA’s 3-minute video release at:

<https://youtu.be/Z29yHDHozQM>

The following are IDA-designated International Dark Sky Places, by year of designation:

<a href="#">Flagstaff</a>	IDSC	2001	AZ	USA
Natural Bridges NM	IDSP	2006	UT	USA
Cherry Springs SP	IDSP	2008	PA	USA
Death Valley NP	IDSP	2008	CA	USA
Mont-Mégantic	IDSR	2008	Quebec	Canada
<a href="#">Borrego Springs</a>	IDSC	2009	CA	USA
Galloway Forest Park	IDSP	2009	Scotland	UK
Zselic NLPA	IDSP	2009	--	Hungary
Harmony	DSFDoD	2009	FL	USA
Sierra la Rana	DSFDoD	2009	TX	USA
Clayton Lake SP	IDSP	2010	NM	USA
Homer Glen	IDSC	2011	IL	USA
Sark	IDSC	2011	Channel Islands	UK
Geauga Observatory Park	IDSP	2011	OH	USA
Headlands, The	IDSP	2011	MI	USA
Hortobágy NP	IDSP	2011	--	Hungary
Exmoor NP	IDSR	2011	England	UK
Big Bend NP	IDSP	2012	TX	USA
Aoraki Mackenzie	IDSR	2012	S. Island	New Zealand
NamibRand Nature Reserve	IDSR	2012	--	Namibia
Coll	IDSC	2013	Scotland	UK
Chaco Culture NHP	IDSP	2013	NM	USA
Northumberland	IDSP	2013	England	UK
Brecon Beacons NP	IDSR	2013	Wales	UK
Pic du Midi	IDSR	2013	Hautes-Pyrénées	France
Beverly Shores	IDSC	2014	IN	USA
Dripping Springs	IDSC	2014	AZ	USA

Sedona	IDSC	2014	AZ	USA
Blue Ridge Star Park	IDSP	2014	NC	USA
Copper Breaks SP	IDSP	2014	TX	USA
Eifel National Park	IDSP	2014	--	Germany
Enchanted Rock SNA	IDSP	2014	TX	USA
Grand Canyon-Parashant NM	IDSP	2014	AZ	USA
Hovenweep NM	IDSP	2014	UT/CO	USA
Oracle State Park	IDSP	2014	AZ	USA
Kerry	IDSR	2014	Kerry	Ireland
Rhön	IDSR	2014	--	Germany
Westhavelland Nature Park	IDSR	2014	Brandenburg	Germany
Bon Accord	IDSC	2015	AB	Canada
Horseshoe Bay	IDSC	2015	TX	USA
Kaibab Paiute Indian Reservation	IDSC	2015	AZ	USA
Westcliffe & Silver Cliff	IDSC	2015	CO	USA
Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP	IDSP	2015	CO	USA
Canyonlands NP	IDSP	2015	UT	USA
Capitol Reef NP	IDSP	2015	UT	USA
De Boschplaat	IDSP	2015	--	Netherlands
Elan Valley Estate	IDSP	2015	Wales	UK
North Fork Park	IDSP	2015	UT	USA
Pickett-Pogue	IDSP	2015	TN	USA
Staunton River SP	IDSP	2015	VA	USA
UBarU Camp and Retreat Center	IDSP	2015	TX	USA
Yeongyang Firefly Eco Park	IDSP	2015	Yeongyang	South Korea
Snowdonia National Park	IDSR	2015	Wales	UK
Gabriela Mistral / AURA	IDSS	2015	Elqui	Chile
Lost Creek	DSFDoD	2015	TX	USA
Big Park / Village of Oak Creek	IDSC	2016	AZ	USA
Moffat	ISDC	2016	Scotland	UK
Antelope Island SP	IDSP	2016	UT	USA
Big Cypress National Preserve	IDSP	2016	FL	USA
Capulin Volcano NM	IDSP	2016	NM	USA
Dead Horse Point State Park	IDSP	2016	UT	USA
Flagstaff Area National Monuments	IDSP	2016	AZ	USA
Goblin Valley SP	IDSP	2016	UT	USA
Grand Canyon National Park	IDSP	2016	AZ	USA
Great Basin National Park	IDSP	2016	NV	USA

Kissimmee Prairie Preserve SP	IDSP	2016	FL	USA
Lauwersmeer National Park	IDSP	2016	Friesland	Netherlands
Mayo	IDSP	2016	--	Ireland
Salinas Pueblo Missions NM	IDSP	2016	NM	USA
Stephen C. Foster SP	IDSP	2016	GA	USA
Warrumbungle National Park	IDSP	2016	NSW	Australia
South Downs National Park	IDSR	2016	England	UK
Cosmic Campground	IDSS	2016	New Mexico	USA
Ketchum	IDSC	2017	ID	USA
Møn and Nyord	IDSC	2017	Vordingborg	Denmark
Albanyà	IDSP	2017	Catalonia	Spain
Big Bend Ranch SP	IDSP	2017	TX	USA
Bodmin Moor	IDSP	2017	England	UK
Bükk National Park	IDSP	2017	--	Hungary
Cedar Breaks NM	IDSP	2017	UT	USA
Craters Of The Moon NM	IDSP	2017	ID	USA
Glacier NP	IDSP	2017	MT	USA
Joshua Tree NP	IDSP	2017	CA	USA
Kartchner Caverns SP	IDSP	2017	AZ	USA
Møn and Nyord	IDSP	2017	Vordingborg	Denmark
Newport SP	IDSP	2017	WI	USA
Obed Wild & Scenic River	IDSP	2017	TN	USA
Ramon Crater	IDSP	2017	Negev	Israel
South Llano River SP	IDSP	2017	TX	USA
Waterton Lakes NP	IDSP	2017	Alberta	Canada
Central Idaho	IDSR	2017	ID	USA
Aotea / Great Barrier Island	IDSS	2017	North Island	New Zealand
River Hills	DSFDoD	2017	TX	USA
Fountain Hills	IDSC	2018	AZ	USA
Torrey	IDSC	2018	UT	USA
Anza-Borrego Desert SP	IDSP	2018	CA	USA
Steinaker State Park	IDSP	2018	UT	USA
Rainbow Bridge National Monument	IDSS	2018	UT	USA
Iriomote-Ishigaki National Park	IDSP	2018	--	Japan
Winklmoosalm	IDSP	2018	--	Germany
Tumacácori National Historic Park	IDSP	2018	AZ	USA

*(IDSC - International Dark Sky Community, IDSP - International Dark Sky Park, IDSR - International Dark Sky Reserve, IDSS - International Dark Sky Sanctuary, DSFDoD -*

*International Dark Sky Designation of Distinction; To learn more about the designations, visit <http://darksky.org/idsp/>.)*

For photos or contact information for the above International Dark Sky Places, contact IDA Communications Director, Amanda Gormley.

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**Links:**

100 International Dark Sky Places Video (download)  
<https://darksky.box.com/s/vgbjfs5d88nxqzoeofsir4cl35p3zcof>

Tumacácori National Historical Park Becomes 100<sup>th</sup> Designated International Dark Sky Place (English)  
<http://darksky.org/tumacacori-national-historical-park-becomes-100th-designated-international-dark-sky-place/>

Parque Nacional Histórico de Tumacácori es Designado Como Sitio Internacional de Cielos Oscuros (Español)  
<http://darksky.org/parque-nacional-historico-de-tumacacori-es-designado-como-sitio-internacional-de-cielos-oscuros/>

Open source night sky images for publication:  
<https://darksky.box.com/s/ykxqyls3dul1gc7wk9qw4rl6radnc4d5>

Light pollution map:  
<https://www.lightpollutionmap.info/>

The International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) is the recognized authority on light pollution. We work to protect and restore the natural nighttime environment through outreach and public policy, by certifying and promoting environmentally responsible outdoor lighting, and offering public and private lands a prestigious designation through our International Dark Sky Places Program.

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