

Strange RV Encounters: Lake Havasu, London Bridge, and Lighthouses in the Arizona Desert



The Weird, the Wacky, and the Wonderful



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After visiting [the Giant Golf-Ball House](#), I made the 45-minute drive south to Lake Havasu, Arizona. The sunsets in Lake Havasu are stunning and some of the most beautiful I've ever seen. The shades of orange, fuchsia, and magenta fill the expansive skyline and reflect onto the lake below.

London Bridge

The [Lake Havasu Convention and Visitor's Bureau](#) refers to London Bridge as "The World's Largest Antique." This isn't a replica -- it is the actual London Bridge, brought over brick by brick in the late '60s and early '70s. However, it was built in London long before then.

Back in the early 1960s, just as the song says, London Bridge was falling down, unable to hold the increase in London traffic over the previous century. In 1968, the City of London put the 130-year-old crumbling bridge up for auction.

Robert P. McCulloch, the founder of [Lake Havasu City, Arizona](#), won the bid with a hefty \$2.46 million. It cost another \$7 million to bring the bridge to Lake Havasu in pieces that needed reassembling. It took three years to reassemble the bridge over Lake Havasu.

Perhaps to lend an air of authenticity to the scenery, or so it wouldn't feel homesick, they built a little English village next to the bridge. Installed in the lobby of the nearby hotel is a replica, built in 1762, of the ornately carved and gilded [Royal Gold State Coach](#).

Lighthouses in the Desert

The 20-plus lighthouses around Lake Havasu only add to the picturesque views around the lake. I love lighthouses and have always wanted to live in one. However, as scaled-down models of lighthouses from around the U.S., these are too small to enter.

Although the lighthouses are on a lake in the middle of the desert, they do serve a purpose similar to their full-sized counterparts. Years of accidents on the lake prompted residents of the city to improve safety. Creativity led to the creation of the [Lake Havasu Lighthouse Club](#) and the small-scale lighthouses. More lighthouses are added as budgeting allows. For a few dollars, you can take the ferry across the lake to the California [casinos](#) and see some of the lighthouses on the way.

Join me on my next adventure, when I go to Quartzsite, Arizona, to visit the pyramid and the naked bookstore owner.

To see more photos, [follow more of my weird, wacky, and wonderful RV adventures on Flickr](#).

My next stop: Strange RV Encounters: There's a Naked Man in Quartzsite, AZ -- Also, a Pyramid.

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Read how it all began: *Strange RV Encounters: An Introduction.*

Published by [Juliana Mathews](#)

In the summer of 2011, Juliana bought an RV, gave up most of her possessions and began traveling around the country with her cat, seeing all the weird, wacky and wonderful roadside attractions. She writes... [View profile](#)



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