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Official 2016 Spring & Summer Visitor Guide

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# Welcome from Mayor Faulconer

**W**elcome to sunny San Diego! If you've heard anything about our weather, you already know it's always a fantastic time to visit. Soon you'll discover why so many people from around the world often stop by and later call it home.

During your stay, I invite you to indulge in San Diego's rich food culture, from fresh Mexican and delectable Vietnamese to authentic Italian and fresh-from-the-farm California cuisine. Make sure to visit our scenic landscapes, including the majestic architecture at Balboa Park and the sparkling ocean views at Mission Beach. Take in the beautiful sights and sounds on a hike through Sunset Cliffs or Torrey Pines State Reserve. At the end of the day, enjoy our vibrant craft beer scene in North Park, sunset views in La Jolla or a leisurely dinner in Little Italy.

San Diego is without a doubt an endless adventure. Thank you for visiting, and I hope you come back again soon.

Sincerely,



**Kevin L. Faulconer**  
Mayor







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# Welcome to San Diego



**T**here are many reasons San Diego is consistently rated one of the top vacation destinations in North America, but probably none are more significant than our optimistic spirit. The city's residents are devoted to both the preservation and the evolution of San Diego, as seen in National Geographic Channel's *World's Smart Cities: San Diego* documentary.

While San Diego has 70 miles of breathtaking beaches, friendly locals and a laid-back atmosphere that's both warm and inviting, it's certainly more than a beach town. San Diego offers a range of opportunities that appeal to all ages, interests and budgets. A host of major events include PGA tours, restaurant and craft beer weeks, Comic-Con, Broadway-bound hits, thoroughbred racing and more. Our vibrant neighborhoods, such as uptown's North Park and downtown's walkable Gaslamp Quarter, feature lively dining, music and night-life scenes.

California's fascinating history is brought to life in Old Town San Diego's shops, restaurants and historic sites, and at Cabrillo National Monument, where Europeans first landed in California in 1542. San Diego boasts a collection of world-class attractions, including SeaWorld, the San Diego Zoo and San Diego Zoo Safari Park, LEGOLAND California Resort and the USS Midway Museum, to name a few.

Balboa Park, the nation's largest urban cultural park, is home to 17 museums and The Old Globe theater. Mission Bay Aquatic Park, with 27 miles of sandy beach shorelines, beckons water sport enthusiasts for everything from kayaking and sailing to wakeboarding and windsurfing. You can also take a short drive to San Diego's East County to enjoy casino gaming and beautiful mountain and desert landscapes.

Whether you are looking for a place to relax, energize, be entertained or reconnect with family and friends, San Diego offers the perfect setting.

We hope you will visit us soon!

**Joe Terzi**  
President and CEO  
San Diego Tourism Authority



TOURISM AUTHORITY

## SAN DIEGO TOURISM AUTHORITY

750 B Street, Suite 1500  
San Diego, CA 92101  
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Petco Park welcomes the Major League Baseball All-Star Game this summer. Look for the world's top players. Cover photo by John Bahu.



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Visit [m.sandiego.org](http://m.sandiego.org) from your mobile device to find helpful San Diego information when you're on the go. You can also download smart-phone apps from major attractions like SeaWorld, LEGOLAND California, the San Diego Zoo and Balboa Park, or find out what's on tap at local bars. [m.sandiego.org](http://m.sandiego.org)

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**GET TO KNOW SOME OF SAN DIEGO'S COLORFUL AND UNIQUE NEIGHBORHOODS**

Explore downtown's trendy **East Village** and the exciting **Gaslamp Quarter**, or head to the luxury enclave of **La Jolla** for shopping, dining, theater and more. [sandiego.org/discover](http://sandiego.org/discover)



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# WHAT'S YOUR GASLAMP?

The Gaslamp Quarter is 16+ blocks of historic charm, combining some of the West Coast's finest shopping, dining, nightlife, and cultural events. Whether you are visiting with family, for culture, business, nightlife, romance, or shopping, this is where you will want to be.



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© Gaslamp Quarter Association | The Gaslamp Quarter Association is partially funded by the City of San Diego's Small Business Enhancement Program.



# Why Visit San Diego



Travelers come from all over the world to visit “America’s Finest City.” And you’ll understand why after perusing this insider’s guide.

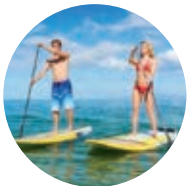


## NEW VISITOR CENTER

A brand-new Visitor Information Center has opened on Harbor Drive as part of the revitalization of the North Embarcadero. The visitor center is operated by Historic Tours of America as part of a \$31.1-million joint project with the Port of San Diego, the City of San Diego and Civic San Diego to beautify the waterfront from Navy Pier to B Street Pier. Be sure to stop by to gather information for your San Diego vacation.

996 N. Harbor Drive

## WE ARE A SPECTACULAR DESTINATION WITH DYNAMIC CULTURE, RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENT



Whether you’re seeking cultural entertainment and urban excitement or a natural paradise and aquatic playground, San Diego has it all.



Between the friendly residents, consistently pleasant weather and welcoming neighborhood vibe, this is one big city that still feels like a small town.



San Diego took the top spot in *Money* magazine’s Best in Travel Awards (2016) for city attractions and affordability.



San Diego County is fourth in the U.S. for number of museums, with 248, behind only Los Angeles, New York and Chicago.



San Diego has 18 beautiful state parks and one federal park, Cabrillo National Monument, for family fun and exploration.



*Fodor’s Travel* honored San Diego in its list of the world’s “10 Best Beach Getaways for 2016.”

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# Hilton

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The Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines is located on the 18<sup>th</sup> fairway of the prestigious Torrey Pines Golf Course with views of the Pacific Ocean. Enjoy the hiking trails at Torrey Pines State Reserve, snorkel in the nearby La Jolla Cove or discover miles of pristine beaches.

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[hiltonlajollatorreypines.com](http://hiltonlajollatorreypines.com)**





# Getting Around Town


## FROM THE AIRPORT

 The **San Diego International Airport** is a 10-minute ride from downtown. Take a cab for about \$18 or hop on the San Diego Municipal Transit System's "Airport Flyer" (Route 992) for \$2.25 (children ages 5 and under ride free).


## GETTING AROUND TOWN


 The **San Diego Trolley** light rail system stops at various points of interest around San Diego County, including Fashion Valley Mall, Qualcomm Stadium, downtown and the U.S.-Mexico border. It operates seven days a week from 5 a.m. to midnight and runs every 15 minutes.

 The 15-minute **ferry to Coronado** departs from two locations: Broadway Pier and behind the Convention Center. Tickets are \$4.25 each way. Children ages 3 and under are free.

 **MTS (San Diego Metropolitan Transit System) buses** are a quick way to navigate the metro area. The fare is \$2.25 per ride, but for \$5–\$7, you can buy a day pass and get unlimited bus and trolley rides.




 **Pedicabs** are available daily on most downtown streets, particularly in the Gaslamp Quarter and along the Embarcadero.

 A private car can deliver you to your destination anywhere in town with **Uber** or the more affordable **UberX**. Using their app, you can request a car and pay via your mobile phone.





 San Diego recently welcomed **DecoBike**, the bike-sharing program with approximately 180 stations around town. Riders can pick up or drop off a bike 24/7.

 **Car2Go** operates a fleet of blue-and-white Smart Cars that you can rent by the minute, the hour or the day. A one-time membership fee of \$35 is required; after that, the cost is just 41 cents plus tax per minute. (Plus, street parking is free, even at a city meter.)


 Ride back in time on a restored 1946 **San Diego Vintage Trolley Car** that loops downtown with stops at Santa Fe Depot, Seaport Village, the Gaslamp and more.


## TOURS

 **Old Town Trolley Tours** offers a guided tour with on-and-off privileges through Balboa Park, downtown and Coronado. The entertaining trolley drivers are brimming with historical facts and trivia. Group reservations are also available.

 Balboa Park has a **free tram** that provides access to the park's museums and attractions. Park in the Inspiration Point lot and wait at Tram Central.


 **Another Side of San Diego Tours** and **Wheel Fun Rentals** both offer Segway tours. You'll see major landmarks and points of interest while having way more fun than you ever would on foot.

 Head up to Solana Beach, Encinitas, Carlsbad or Oceanside on the **Coaster** from downtown, or travel east to west in North County on the **Sprinter**.

 **GoCar Tours**, San Diego's fleet of three-wheeled minicars, is based in Little Italy. Enjoy a GPS-guided audio tour highlighting 100 city sites.



## AMTRAK

 **Amtrak's Pacific Surfliner** makes it easy to arrange a two-destination vacation. The train runs down the California coast, serving key locations like Santa Barbara, Los Angeles and Anaheim, and makes two stops in San Diego.





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# What's New in San Diego



San Diego keeps evolving, expanding and getting even better. Little Italy has taken off as an exciting dining destination, with more new eateries from celebrated chefs. We've also got a new music festival, a world-class horse race on the horizon and a year-long celebration at our world-famous zoo to commemorate its 100th year.

## LITTLE ITALY

Progressive dining and high design characterize this bustling cultural hub at the edge of downtown. *Top Chef* alum Richard Blais recently opened the casual, all-day chicken-and-egg eatery The Crack Shack, next to his acclaimed Juniper and Ivy. Tijuana's star chef Javier Plascencia brings innovative Mexican across the border at Bracero Cocina de Raiz, while celeb chef Brian Malarkey helms his new and highly anticipated Herb & Wood, to name just a few.

## STAR-STUDED SPORTING EVENTS

San Diego welcomes the 87th MLB All-Star Game on July 12 and FanFest from July 8–11 at Petco Park, where fans can meet or watch their favorite Hall of Famers at events prior to the big game. Horse-racing fans take note: From November 3–4, 2017, the Del Mar race track will host the Breeders' Cup World Championships for the very first time.

📍 [dmtc.com/season/breeders-cup](http://dmtc.com/season/breeders-cup)

## HORTON PLAZA PARK

The new 53,000-square-foot park opens in spring 2016 with a modern amphitheater, restored historic fountain, and trellis-covered patio space for outdoor dining.

📍 324 Horton Plaza, downtown

## LIBERTY PUBLIC MARKET

Set in a 1920s warehouse, this sprawling food hall, inspired by the Ferry Building in San Francisco, hosts myriad vendors offering cheeses, butchered meats, baked goods, gourmet coffee, seasonal produce and locally caught seafood. Cafés, artisanal beers, wine, ice cream and taquerias, too.

📍 2820 Historic Decatur Rd, Liberty Station



## SAN DIEGO ZOO

Founded in 1916, the zoo turns 100 this year and a host of centennial celebrations will occur both on-site and in Balboa Park. Explore the exhibit *The Lore Behind the ROAR! 100 Years of the San Diego Zoo* at the San Diego History Center. At the zoo, look for a new film, costumed character and animal shows, a centennial-themed bus tour and nighttime summer celebrations. 📍 [sandiegozoo100.org](http://sandiegozoo100.org)



## WORLD'S LARGEST OUTDOOR PIPE ORGAN

After a fundraising campaign, the Spreckels Organ Society increased the number of pipes in Balboa Park's outdoor organ, making it the world's biggest. Enjoy free concerts on Sundays at 2 p.m. throughout the year.

📍 [spreckelsorgan.org](http://spreckelsorgan.org)

## KAABOO MUSIC FESTIVAL

This three-day music festival debuted in 2015 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds with more than 150 DJs and bands. This year's festival, an arts and entertainment "mix-perience," offers up world-class music, dancing, gourmet cuisine, craft libations and inspiring contemporary art. Headliners include Jack Johnson, the Goo Goo Dolls and Gavin Degraw. Sept 16–18.

📍 [kaaboodelmar.com](http://kaaboodelmar.com)





**BRAND NEW!**

**IN THE HEART**

**OF THE GASLAMP!**





# Spring into Summer Fun

From flowers in bloom to an abundance of food, San Diego springs from season to season, providing the warmest of welcomes at family-friendly festivals, beer and wine tastings, concerts, art shows and culinary adventures around every corner of the county.



Miramar Air Show

## APR

**22-24** Cowboys giddy up for an eight-second ride at the annual **Lakeside Rodeo**.

**23** Celebrate the founding of **Chicano Park** 46 years ago with a day of live music, food, dance and a classic lowrider car show.

**29-1** See famous works of art replicated with flowers at **Art Alive** at the San Diego Museum of Art.

**30-1** Local art takes over the streets of Little Italy during the **Mission Federal ArtWalk**, San Diego's largest art event.



**30-1** Music lovers rock out to the free jams of more than 100 musicians on 17 stages at the **Adams Avenue Unplugged** community music festival.

## MAY

**1** A shopper's delight and the largest single-day street fair in the nation, the **Carlsbad Village Faire** takes over the streets of coastal Carlsbad.

**5-8** Get your fill of Cajun fare (10,000 pounds of crawfish will be flown in!) and Louisiana-style festivities at the **Gator by the Bay** zydeco, blues and crawfish festival.



Fiesta Old Town Cinco de Mayo

**7-8** San Diego celebrates its Mexican roots at the **Fiesta Old Town Cinco de Mayo**, with traditional music, dance, food and festivities.

**14** The San Diego Zoo celebrates 100 years with a show at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion, food trucks, booths, street performers and more in Balboa Park.

**15** San Diego kicks off the **Amgen Tour of California**, a Tour de France-style cycling race.

**21** Try bacon in every possible iteration at the **Bacon & Barrels Festival** at Embarcadero Marina Park South, called "The Coachella of Bacon."

**21** San Diego's hippest 'hood shows its artsy side at the **North Park Festival of the Arts**, with live music and dance, crafts vendors and a craft beer block.

## JUN

**3-5** Runners move their feet and spectators line the street for the **San Diego Rock 'n' Roll Marathon**.

**11-12** Downtown's Waterfront Park hosts the **San Diego Festival of**

**the Arts**, an elaborate art fair with live music, a craft beer garden and bites from local restaurants.





**15** The flavors of Italy are fit to be savored on the **Taste of Little Italy** restaurant walk.

**19** It's the season of Shakespeare at The Old Globe theater, as the **81st Annual Summer Shakespeare Festival** returns with *Macbeth* and *Love's Labor's Lost*. (Ends Sept. 18).

**25** Eclectic Ocean Beach draws crowds for the annual **OB Street Fair and Chili Cook-Off**.

## JUL

**1-4** The San Diego Symphony treats music lovers to a season of outdoor performances at the **Summer Pops** bayside concert series at the scenic Embarcadero Marina Park South.

**9-10** It's not softball, it's not cricket, it's **Over the Line**, a San Diego sporting tradition and beach party, going strong for more than six decades (Also July 16-17).

**15-17** The mother of all California missions celebrates its 247th birthday with traditional dances, food, music and a ringing of all five bells at the **Festival of the Bells**.

**15** And they're off! Thoroughbred racing season at the Del Mar Fairgrounds kicks off with an **Opening Day** hat contest and pre- and post-race parties. Look for 4 O'Clock Fridays concerts, reggae shows, beer and wine festivals and more. (Through Sept. 5)

**16-17** Revelers show their **Pride** and support of the LGBT community with a full weekend of festivities, including a block party, parade and music festival in Balboa Park.

**30** Find out who is the most adorable four-legged surfer at the **Unleashed by Petco Surf Dog Competition** in Imperial Beach.



**JULY 8-12**  
San Diego hosts the **87th MLB All-Star Week** at Petco Park. Events leading up to the **All-Star Game** (July 12) include **FanFest** at the Convention Center (July 8-11), when attendees can meet Hall of Famers, **Gatorade All-Star Workout Day** (July 11), the **SiriusXM All-Star Futures Game** (July 10) and the **All-Star Legends & Celebrity Softball Game** (July 10).

Petco Park



## AUG

**13-14** **ArtWalk Liberty Station** celebrates creativity at the 10th annual event, showcasing the work of more than 175 artists.

**14** Hillcrest shows its fabulous side at the **CityFest** daytime street fair and nighttime dance party.

**19-21** Inland North County hosts **Summergrass San Diego**, a family-friendly outdoor bluegrass festival at the Antique & Steam Engine Museum in Vista.

**20** **Chula Vista Harbor Fest** puts the South Bay on display, with a seafood festival, spirits tasting, water sports and musical performances.

**27-28** It's a mecca of mixology at the Port Pavilion on Broadway Pier at the **San Diego Spirits Festival** cocktail extravaganza.

## SEP

**3-4** Seafarers tour tall ships from around the world at the Maritime Museum's **Festival of Sail** weekend.

**23** Craft brews abound at the **Festival of Beer** fundraiser, featuring more than 60 breweries presenting 120 varieties of beer.

**23-25** The world-famous U.S. Navy Blue Angels take flight at the annual **Miramar Air Show**.

**24** It's all about the animals at the **San Diego Zoo Food and Wine Celebration**, the city's "wildest" feast in support of conservation research.

**25** Budget-conscious foodies dine out on a discount as **San Diego Restaurant Week** returns with prix fixe menus to treat all tastes. (Ends Oct. 2).



**JULY 21-24**  
Costumed characters converge on downtown San Diego for the **Comic-Con International** convention of all things superhero and out of this world. The weekend is packed with movie screenings, celebrity panels, merchandise and themed parties.



# explore

## SAN DIEGO'S UNIQUE MUSEUMS

With over 40 museums throughout the county, San Diego has something for everyone!



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[sandiegomuseumcouncil.org](http://sandiegomuseumcouncil.org)

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# NEIGHBORHOODS

LITTLE ITALY // BEACHES // CORONADO // CENTRAL SAN DIEGO // NORTH COUNTY COASTAL & INLAND // EAST COUNTY

Downtown San Diego  
facing Petco Park



From the desert to the sea and everything in between, San Diego County is rich with diversity and spectacular settings. We've got beautiful beach towns and bay communities; farmlands, country villages and desert landscapes; cosmopolitan cultural centers and a bustling downtown. Come explore "America's Finest City."



# Little Italy

Once home to San Diego's tuna industry and Italian immigrant community, an influx of high design restaurants, nightlife spots and unique boutiques have made this the city's most happening neighborhood.



## DINING DESTINATIONS

Little Italy is where you'll find San Diego's hottest restaurants. Kettner Boulevard has become "**Top Chef Row**," since a cluster of eateries here are owned by celebrity chefs. *Top Chef All-Stars* winner Richard Blais brought serious culinary cred to San Diego with **Juniper and Ivy**, which presents some of the most creative fare in the city—think molecular gastronomy and sous-vide meats in a vibrant setting (2228 Kettner Blvd.). Blais recently opened **The Crack Shack** right next door, which serves fried chicken and breakfast sandwiches all day at a casual walk-up counter. Locals pack the all-outdoor dining space, complete with bocce ball and a bustling bar scene (2266 Kettner Blvd.).



The Crack Shack

Brian Malarkey, another *Top Chef* alum who launched several successful local restaurants (Searsucker, Herringbone), brings rustic wood-fired pizzas, fish and meats to the neighborhood with **Herb & Wood** (2210 Kettner Blvd.). Anchoring the south end of Kettner is **Bracero Cocina de Raíz**, where star chef Javier Plascencia brings his modern Mexican cuisine across

the border and into the heart of San Diego. The street tacos and wood-grilled octopus, shrimp and bone marrow sopas are some of his greatest hits (1490 Kettner Blvd.).

Over on India Street, two-star Michelin Chef Jason McLeod serves buttery Maine lobster rolls, whole fish and oysters on the half-shell at **Ironside Fish & Oyster Bar** (1654 India St.). No detail was spared decking out this 1920s-era warehouse, from the wall of glittering piranha skulls to live fish tanks. For creative healthy fare, check out **Café Gratitude** (1980 Kettner Blvd.), which has outposts in L.A., San Francisco and Orange County. The plant-based, eclectic menu consists of dishes named for affirmations like "I Am Whole," a macrobiotic bowl of adzuki beans and veggies over brown rice or quinoa.

*Continued on pg. 22*



Café Gratitude

## A DIGITAL TOUR

The new Little Italy San Diego app takes you on a journey through this historic neighborhood. Hold your phone up to a building and use the app's augmented reality feature to see archival photos of what stood there in years past. Download the app free on Android and iOS.



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Casa Artelexia



📍 Parking in Little Italy just got easier, with the new 10-story paid garage on Kettner Boulevard and Cedar Street. It's open evenings and weekends.

🏠 SHOP

The colorful Casa Artelexia transports you to Mexico with its textiles, folk art, Day of the Dead sugar skulls and paintings of Frida Kahlo (2400 Kettner Blvd.). Find handcrafted jewelry and clothing made in the U.S. and Italy at Bubbles Too (1501 India St.). A neighborhood landmark, Mona Lisa Italian Foods is stocked with fine wine, cheese, meats, and salads and sandwiches at the deli—everything you need for a picnic (2061 India St.). Architectural Salvage (2410 Kettner Blvd.) has eclectic treasures from vintage doorknobs and old keys to stained glass and garden art. On Fir Street, browse the chic boutiques in historic bungalows such as Rosamariposa (611 W. Fir St.) for tassel necklaces, cute clutches and Balinese jewels, or Vitreum (619 W. Fir St.) for botanical glass, Zen vases and fired Japanese tableware. At Love & Aesthetics (621 W. Fir St.) look for curated pieces by independents artists and a bounty of organic apothecary items, handmade pillows, candles and one-of-a-kind housewares. End your shopping spree at iDessert (1608 India St.) for custom sweet treats—think gelato, cake, sauces, fruit and crunch toppings in flavored meringue crusts.

MERCATO DELIZIOSO

FIVE COOL FINDS AT THE FARMERS' MARKET

The Little Italy Mercato, held every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., has everything from fresh produce and seafood to organic beauty products and local artwork.

Grab a griddled-to-order sandwich for breakfast at Seb's Panini or a large samosa stuffed with chicken tikka masala at Masala Cottage.

Head to Poppa's Fresh Fish Company to sample fresh, live sea urchin and oysters if you're feeling adventurous.

For souvenirs, visit Living Air Ware for charms, magnets and even earrings decorated with live air plants that can be shipped home. Urban Octopus has hand-printed graphic tees, limited-edition artwork and posters.



iDessert



# Visit HISTORIC OLD TOWN SAN DIEGO



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Old Town has 33 historic sites and museums, more than 20 fine restaurants and many unique shops and galleries. Located in the heart of San Diego, Old Town has eight quality hotels and is conveniently close to a major transit center with Amtrak, Coaster, Trolley, taxi and bus stops. Free Parking.



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# Beaches

With 70 miles of pristine coastline, San Diego's beaches are a must-visit. From secluded coves perfect for swimming to scenic shores prized for surfing, every beach (and surrounding seaside community) has a unique character. Check out these coastal communities and experience our local beach culture and SoCal lifestyle.

## □ PACIFIC BEACH

Live the California dream at this iconic beach town dotted with waterfront bars, taco stands, trendy restaurants, fashionable hotels and a lively nightlife scene. Line up early for breakfast burritos at **Kono's Café** (704 Garnet Ave.), then spend the afternoon cruising up and down the boardwalk, fishing at **Crystal Pier** (end of Garnet Ave.) and swimming in the calm waters of **North Pacific Beach** (between Crystal Pier and Tourmaline). Head to **Oscars Mexican Seafood** (746 Emerald St.) for fish tacos, followed by an ice cream cookie sandwich at **The Baked Bear** (4516 Mission Blvd.). Shop for souvenirs with local cred at **Pangaea Outpost**, featuring more than 70 merchants and artists, and beachy threads at **Closet Signature** (875 Garnet Ave.). Nab a seat on the beachfront patio at **JRDN** (723 Felspar St.) and enjoy upscale surf 'n' turf among sleek surroundings.



L'Auberge Del Mar

glow scrub and hydrating massage at **L'Auberge Del Mar Spa** (1540 Camino Del Mar), then head to the airy, bright lobby for craft cocktails and live music on the weekends. There's plenty of boutique shopping at the Del Mar Plaza, Del Mar Highlands or Flower Hill Mall, also home to **Swell Cafe** (2670 Via de la Valle) for acai bowls and breakfast burritos or healthy salads for lunch.

## □ DEL MAR

After playing volleyball or swimming with your pup at **Dog Beach**, head into quaint Del Mar Village for a stroll, shopping or good eats. Try the fresh Peruvian-style ceviche at **Café Secret** (1140 Camino Del Mar), the charcuterie board or mussels with fries at **Prepkitchen** (1201 Camino Del Mar) or the tequila shrimp and a spicy marg at **Agave Del Mar** (1555 Camino Del Mar). For oceanfront dining, nab a seat at **Poseidon** (1670 Coast Blvd.) on their pleasant patio, ideal for a leisurely wine-infused lunch. Next door, **Jake's** (1660 Coast Blvd.) has one of the best happy hours in town for front-row sunset seats, mai tais and ahi tartare tacos. Pamper your summer skin with a sea salt citrus



Wind and Sea Beach

BEACH: AARON CHANG

## AQUATIC ADVENTURES

Summer is blue whale season: The 100-foot leviathans can often be found feeding offshore. You've got a good chance to cavort with the giant blues and frolicking dolphins with **Xplore Offshore**, on a custom-designed, Navy SEAL-certified rigid-hulled inflatable boat that holds up to 10 people. Captain Russell Moore also offers snorkeling trips, gourmet picnics and craft cocktails to guests. 📍 [xploreoffshore.com](http://xploreoffshore.com)







## LA JOLLA

San Diego's coastal gem bustles with beachgoers, savvy shoppers and diners enjoying oceanfront views. To kick off the day, try the lemon ricotta pancakes on the charming umbrella-dotted patio of **The Cottage** (7702 Fay Ave.), and then head to **La Jolla Cove** to snorkel with the sea lions and bright orange Garibaldi fish in the protected bay. For a lofty lunch perch, **Ocean Terrace** (1250 Prospect St.), atop **George's at the Cove**, is the perfect spot for fresh fish tacos and dreamy views of the big blue. Art lovers should stroll the galleries along Prospect Street or head straight to the acclaimed **Museum of Contemporary Art** (700 Prospect St.). Burn some calories with an afternoon hike along the cliffs of **Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve** (12600 North Torrey Pines Road) and look for frolicking dolphins and spouting whales navigating the sea. Cap the day with sunset cocktails at newly opened **Duke's** (1216 Prospect St.) for more Pacific panoramas.



Dukes



## BIRD ROCK

Just south of La Jolla, this cozy little town has a vibe of its own—think sophisticated bohemian with a splash of surf culture. Load up on antioxidants at **Farm to Fork Juice** (5646 La Jolla Blvd.), which also serves up superfood salads and gluten-free healthy snacks. Shop for sea glass jewelry and unique gifts at local artist marketplace **Art Nest of La Jolla** (5648 La Jolla Blvd.). **Capricorn Boutique** (5628 La Jolla Blvd.) has cool jeans and stylish threads, while **Mimi & Red** (5680 La Jolla Blvd.) is a bustling boutique with Toms Eyewear, funky jewelry, candles, and the latest boho beach wear from RVCA, Billabong and more. Get caffeinated at the famed **Bird Rock Coffee Roasters** (5627 La Jolla Blvd.), which brews the finest coffees from around the globe, or saunter over to **LJ Crafted Wines** (5621 La Jolla Blvd.), a tasting room with vino straight from the barrel, top-notch cheese boards and delish tapas. The tasting is a good deal: six wines for 10 bucks. Load up on bikinis, beach hats or board shorts at **Bird Rock Surf Shop** (5509 La Jolla Blvd.) or rent a surfboard so you can paddle out to the local breaks. **Beaumont's** (5662 La Jolla Blvd.) is a lively spot for flatbreads, burgers, brunch and live bands Thursday through Sunday.

## UMBRELLA DRINK ALERT

## TIKI CULTURE

Retro tiki bars and exotic cocktails are popping up all over San Diego. Here are a few key spots for sippers infused with rum and island spirit.

### Bali Hai

This tiki temple on Shelter Island has been slingin' rum drinks since 1954. Arrive by boat at their private dock, then enjoy poke and potent Polynesian-inspired cocktails. Look for Mr. Bali Hai, the wooden tiki sculpture guarding the front door.

📍 2230 Shelter Island Drive

### Duke's La Jolla

Named for a famous Hawaiian surfer, Duke's has a sprawling, sunny patio overlooking La Jolla Cove—an idyllic spot for sipping a mai tai or indulging in their massive Hula Pie.

📍 1216 Prospect St.



### False Idol

This brand new tiki bar opens this summer at Craft & Commerce with a creative bar program by Martin Cate, the man responsible for America's largest rum selection at his bar, Smuggler's Cove in San Francisco. Look for legendary libations like the Tortuga, a rummy recipe from Trader Vic's, circa 1948.

📍 675 W. Beech St., Little Italy

### Cat Eye Club

This intimate, low-lit lounge serves up flirty, fun drinks in skull tiki mugs with skewers of fruit. Piña coladas, mai tais and more.

📍 370 Seventh Ave., downtown



# Coronado

Beautiful beaches, scenic bike paths and inspired dining make the Crown City a prime destination for exciting outdoor adventures, endless entertainment and memorable meals, all just a short drive from downtown.



## SUN DECK BAR & GRILL

Stop by the Hotel del Coronado's beachside dining venue for muddled-mint mojitos, sangria, spicy shrimp ceviche and pork belly tacos. Bring your pooch for "Yappy Hour" (Sundays from 4 to 5 p.m.), when dogs are treated to complimentary gourmet treats.

📍 1500 Orange Ave.

## BIKE & KAYAK TOURS

With flat terrain and miles of paths, it's easy to bike around the island. A two-hour "Tour de Coronado" with Bike & Kayak Tours traverses the iconic Hotel Del, Glorietta Bay, the Naval Amphibious Base and the Silver Strand. Or, opt to paddle under the Coronado Bridge during a kayak tour.

📍 1201 First St., Ste. 215

## GONDOLA RIDES

Your own private gondolier will serenade you as their traditional Venetian-style boat glides through the canals of the Coronado Cays, an affluent waterfront neighborhood near the Loews Coronado Bay Resort. Up to six

people can go at once, and feel free to bring your own bottle—they'll supply the ice bucket, glasses and good times. Tours run from 11 a.m. till midnight.

📍 503 Grand Caribe Causeway, Ste. C

## CORONADO FERRY

Take the scenic route to Coronado on a short ferry ride from Broadway Pier or the convention center. Sail past the downtown skyline and enjoy views of the Coronado Bridge before docking by the shops and restaurants at Coronado Ferry Landing. You can also bring a bike aboard the boat for free.

📍 990 N. Harbor Drive and 600 Convention Way

## STAKE CHOPHOUSE & BAR

This classy, modern steakhouse features chilled seafood, farm-fresh sides and shareable steaks that give every diner the opportunity to taste the succulent meats. Go all-out with the Stake Experience, a five-course, customized chef's tasting by Executive Chef Tim Kolanko with optional wine pairings.

📍 1309 Orange Ave.



🕒 The sand dunes on Coronado Beach actually spell out "Coronado," which can be seen from the air.

### INSIDER'S GUIDE

## EXPLORING THE SOUTH BAY

### EAT

Go to **Niederfrank's** old-fashioned ice cream shop for flavors like avocado and Champagne sorbet (726 A Ave., National City), **Tacos El Gordo** for authentic Tijuana-style tacos (689 H St., Chula Vista) and **Aqui es Texcoco** for lamb barbacoa that starred on the Food Network (1043 Broadway, Chula Vista).

### DRINK

**Machete Beer House** has 30 craft beers on tap from both sides of the border (2325 Highland Ave., National City). Visit **TJ Oyster Bar** for good micheladas and seafood (4246 Bonita Road, Chula Vista), or travel back to the 1940s at **Cafe La Maze** (1441 Highland Ave., National City) with live jazz and classic cocktails.

### PLAY

Book an excursion with **San Diego Beach Rides** to explore the beach bordering Tijuana on horseback (2180 Monument Road, Imperial Beach). Go on a free tour of the **U.S. Olympic Training Center**, which hosts soccer fields, volleyball courts, and BMX tracks (2800 Olympic Pkwy., Chula Vista).





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# Central San Diego

Just off the beaten path, central San Diego is home to an eclectic assortment of entertainment, shopping and dining. From late brunches to exploring public art, there is always something fun to do.



Kindred



Buona Forchetta

## THE SCENE

### SHOP & DINE IN NORTH PARK

#### □ Pigment

It's easy to spend an afternoon making your own terrarium or browsing the elegant housewares, organic beauty products and gifts at this chic boutique. ♡ 3801 30th St.

#### □ Red Fox Room and Piano Bar

The interior of this historic treasure, inside the Lafayette Hotel, came from a centuries-old inn in England, and the steakhouse menu and lounge recall 1950s Hollywood. ♡ 2223 El Cajon Blvd.

#### □ BLVD Market

Sample tasty food and drinks from the neighborhood's top restaurants at this monthly market, held every third Friday evening. ♡ 2800 El Cajon Blvd.

#### □ Good Eats

Enjoy Sunday brunch with a live bluegrass band at **Urban Solace** (3823 30th St.), nosh on high-quality late-night eats like house-made sausages and huge salads at **Encontro** (3001 University Ave.), and don't miss the craft beer selection and communal dining at **Tiger! Tiger!** tavern. (3025 El Cajon Blvd.).

#### □ TRACTOR ROOM AND HASH HOUSE A GO GO

These sister restaurants serve "twisted farm food," and draw lively brunch crowds. Portions are unapologetically large (think pancakes the size of a small tire), and the spicy Bloody Marys are some of the best in town. Try the sage fried chicken served atop a tower of smoked bacon waffles and speared with a whole rosemary sprig. ♡ 3687 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest; 3628 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest

#### □ THE "BEFORE I DIE..." WALL

This fill-in-the-blank art installation invites passersby to share their dreams and aspirations with the world. The chalkboard takes up an entire exterior wall of the Alibi bar and is wiped off every morning, so get there early to score a space. ♡ 1403 University Ave., Hillcrest

#### □ UNIVERSITY AVENUE

This promenade runs through the heart of the "gayborhood" in Hillcrest all the way to 30th Avenue, aka North Park's "Beer Street." You'll find vintage clothing stores, chic

boutiques, gastropubs, tacos, craft beer tasting rooms and more.

#### □ BUONA FORCHETTA

Grab a table on the tree-covered patio of this charming bistro and enjoy authentic pizzas baked in a gold-tiled, handmade clay oven. ♡ 3001 Beech St., South Park

#### □ KINDRED

Death metal meets vegan cuisine at this new hipster lounge in South Park. Craft cocktails, creative plant-based fare, kombucha on tap, striking design and a killer brunch makes this place popular, even with carnivores. ♡ 1503 30th St., South Park

#### □ WEST GROVE COLLECTIVE

Like-minded vendors fill this collective, where you'll find an exclusive inventory of clever kitchen gadgets, vintage music, jewelry, home accessories, art, retro Crosley turntables and toys for kids. ♡ 3010 Juniper St., South Park



Tiger! Tiger!

KINDRED: PAUL BODY; PIZZA: SAM WELLS





**EAT · SHOP**

**PLAY · STAY**

### BOMBAY RESTAURANT

Bombay opened in October 1988 and is located on restaurant row in Hillcrest. Since then, Multi award winning Chef Ashley Popat has been serving both quality interpretations of classic Indian dishes and daring new creations into the uncharted territories of food. Come see what all the buzz is about!

3960 5th Ave., San Diego, CA 92103  
619.297.7777 | [bombayrestaurant.com](http://bombayrestaurant.com)



### HILLCREST BREWING COMPANY

The World's First "Out and Proud LGBT Brewery" specializes in handcrafted beer and stone oven pizzas with growlers to-go! Hoppy Hour daily 3pm-6pm!

1458 University Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92103 | 619.269.HEAD  
[hillcrestbrewingcompany.com](http://hillcrestbrewingcompany.com)

Visit our "Family" of restaurants - Urban MO's, Baja Betty's, Gossip Grill & Hillcrest Brewing Company at [mosuniverse.com](http://mosuniverse.com)



### PARDON MY FRENCH BAR & KITCHEN

Hearty French-California cuisine and a meticulously crafted boutique wine list and cocktails, set in a vibrant and welcoming ambiance. Join us weekdays for Happy Hour from 4pm-7pm and dinner complete with live entertainment or enjoy our mouthwatering brunch menu on Saturday and Sunday with bottomless mimosa. Bon Appetit!

3797 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92104  
619.546.4328  
[pardonmyfrenchbarandkitchen.com](http://pardonmyfrenchbarandkitchen.com)



### BRAZEN BBQ

Meet and greet uptown's lively crowd and enjoy award-winning smokehouse cuisine, Pitmaster specials, and decadently early 3:30 to 6:30PM happy hour in our Lost & Found Saloon. Weekends are for delicious delights from our Giddy-Up Menu and bottomless Mimosas from 11am to 3pm, with all-day happy hour Sundays.

441 Washington Street  
San Diego, CA 92103  
619.816.1990 | [brazenbbq.com](http://brazenbbq.com)

### LOTUS THAI

Lotus Thai caters to a diverse crowd with indoor waterfalls, Buddha statues, and eclectic décor creating a peaceful, yet intriguing dining experience. We offer the freshest ingredients, spices and vegetarian friendly options. Lotus Thai has been repeatedly honored as best Thai by numerous SD outlets with 2 great locations in Hillcrest and East Village.

3761 6th Ave., San Diego, CA 92103  
619.299.8272  
906 Market St., San Diego, CA 92101  
619.595.0115  
[lotusthaisd.com](http://lotusthaisd.com)



### RAKITORI JAPANESE PUB & GRILL

A portmanteau combining "Ramen" and "Yakitori," Rakitori Japanese Pub & Grill serves up six types of hearty Ramen and endless combinations of Yakitori—Char-grilled skewers—nearly 40 varieties of meats, veggies, & seafood. These Japanese favorites are rounded out with a handful of Korean items like Kimchi dumplings, Bossam & Bulgogi Taco.

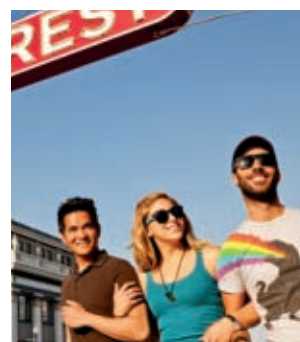
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### CREATIVE CROSSROADS

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800.685.2513 | [Creativexroads.com](http://Creativexroads.com)  
[creativexroad@gmail.com](mailto:creativexroad@gmail.com)



### SAN DIEGO LGBT VISITORS CENTER

Shantay, You Stay... Explore the San Diego LGBT scene and enhance your visitor experience by sashaying in for ideas and information on day trips, beaches, parties and tours. As the nation's 4th LGBT visitors center, we offer safe and welcoming destinations for visitors looking to shop, play, eat and stay.

502 University Ave., San Diego, CA 92103  
619.432.LGBT (5428) | [lgbtvisitorscenter.org](http://lgbtvisitorscenter.org)



# North County Coastal

From artsy Encinitas and eclectic Oceanside to family-friendly Carlsbad and design-centric Solana Beach, these seaside towns beckon with beautiful beaches, charming villages and laid-back lifestyles.

## □ MOTO DELI

Craft beers, artisan chef-driven sandwiches and a motorcycle-inspired design characterize this new fast-casual deli in the heart of Encinitas.

📍 810 N. Coast Hwy 101, Encinitas

## □ MUSEUM OF MAKING MUSIC

Spotlighting the heritage of music, this dynamic museum hosts compelling exhibits like *LOW: The Power & Beauty of Bass* (through July 31), and innovative concerts.

📍 5790 Armada Drive, Carlsbad

## □ FLOWER FIELDS

Fifty acres of giant Tecolote ranunculus flowers color the rolling hills of Carlsbad Ranch. Bring a picnic, take a tractor ride, enjoy a bluegrass concert, or simply bask in Mother Nature's vibrant flowers.

📍 5704 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad

## STROLL CEDROS AVENUE



## SOLANA BEACH'S DESIGN DISTRICT

### □ Shop

**Leaping Lotus** (240 S. Cedros Ave.) is a colorful bazaar tucked in a massive multi-merchant space for clothing, jewelry, housewares and pop culture kitsch. Design-forward **SoLo** (309 S. Cedros Ave.) specializes in oversized art books, letterpress stationery and antiques. **Aaron Chang Ocean Art** dazzles with stun-

ning surf and nature photography by the local artist who shot for *Surfing Magazine* for 25 years (415 S. Cedros Ave.).

### □ Sip

Tasty stouts, IPAs and lagers await at **Culture Brewing Co.** (111 S. Cedros Ave.), while **Car-ruth Cellars** calls for wine tasting a nice variety of reds and whites (320 S. Cedros Ave.).

### □ Sounds

Big names like Jimmy Buffet, Cheap Trick and Macy Gray play for small crowds at **Belly Up**. Live music fans love not only the tavern's intimate venue, but also kicking off summer at its two-day free concert event *Fiesta Del Sol* (May 21–22). 📍 143 S. Cedros Ave., Solana Beach



Oceanside Pier



Oceanside is the new hot spot in North County for its creative cuisine, craft beer culture and laid-back beach lifestyle. For more info go to [visitoceanside.org](http://visitoceanside.org).

## □ THE PRIVATEER MARKETPLACE & WINE BAR

Stop by for artisanal deli sandwiches, gourmet salads, handmade gelato, Stumptown Nitro cold brew and kombucha floats with homemade sorbet. Great wine bar for tastings and retail shop for boutique and local wines, too.

📍 5620 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad

## □ CAPE REY CARLSBAD

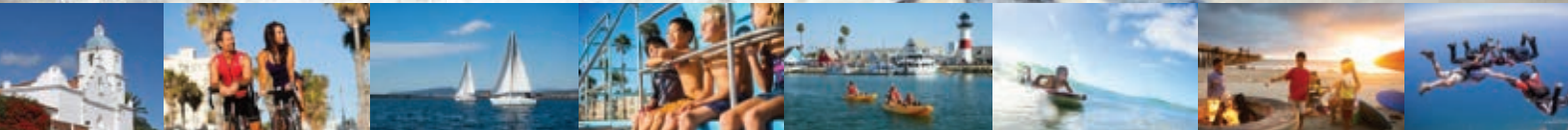
Head to this seaside resort for sunset craft cocktails or order up a gourmet picnic with cheese and charcuterie, Maine lobster rolls, lamp lollipops, chocolate-covered strawberries and truffles for a romantic rendezvous by the sea. Available to guests and non-guests.

📍 1 Ponto Road, Carlsbad





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**To Request a FREE Visitors Guide, call 844.269.6554 or go to [www.VisitOceanside.org](http://www.VisitOceanside.org)**



Holiday Inn Oceanside Marina

TEL: 760.231.7000  
[www.hioceanside.com](http://www.hioceanside.com)



Wyndham Oceanside Pier Resort

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LA JOLLA LOCATION: 2158 Avenida De La Playa, La Jolla, CA 92037 (Look for the Red Awning)

CORONADO LOCATION: 1201 1st Street



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# North County Inland

A scenic drive up Interstate 15 reveals diverse suburban communities and expansive outdoor spaces where you'll find eclectic eateries, craft breweries, casinos, arts and culture, parks and more.



## THE WOODEN SPOON

Five-star chef Jesse Paul converted this former taco shop into an organic restaurant with innovative comfort food like duck confit ramen, bacon-onion jam and apple grilled cheese, and kitchen sink fries, with s'mores and beer donuts for dessert.

9 805 E. Valley Pkwy., Escondido

## ORFILA WINERY

Quench your thirst after a day at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park at this scenic spot, which hosts live music, trivia and outdoor movie nights, as well as food trucks and an end-of-summer grape stomp celebration.

9 13455 San Pasqual Road, Escondido



## PETERSON'S DONUT CORNER

This local favorite serves up supersized apple fritters, cronuts and cravable maple bacon bars.

9 903 S. Escondido Blvd., Escondido

## CALIFORNIA CENTER FOR THE ARTS

This cultural center features a medley of performances, from jazz concerts, symphonies and mariachi festivals to ballet, modern dance and musicals.

9 340 N. Escondido Blvd. Escondido

## HARRAH'S RESORT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Harrah's pulses with concerts, comedy shows, casino play, golf, dining and nightlife. Summer means lounging at the Dive Day Club, a Vegas-style pool party with live DJs, a lazy river, cabanas and swim-up bar.

9 777 Valley Center Road, Valley Center



## RIP CURRENT BREWING

Head to this tasting room for a wide range of beers that go against the tide, from a burly Double Imperial IPA to the refreshing Orange Honey Cream Ale. Their malty Break Line Traditional Bock won gold at the 2015 Great American Beer Festival.

9 1325 Grand Ave., Suite 100, San Marcos

## SAN PASQUAL BATTLEFIELD

This state park honors the soldiers of the Mexican-American War with battle reenactments, living history programs and guided tours.

9 15808 San Pasqual Valley Road, Escondido

## NATURE'S CALLING

### EXPLORE THE GREAT OUTDOORS

#### Mount Woodson Trail

Hikers with cameras flock to the photogenic "potato chip rock" along this challenging trail en route to the Mount Woodson Summit in the Lake Poway Recreational Area.

9 14644 Lake Poway Road, Poway

#### The Ranch at Bandy Canyon

Saddle up and explore the scenic grounds on a morning or evening trail ride, followed by wine and cheese pairings.

9 16251 Bandy Canyon Road, Escondido

#### Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park

Dozens of peacocks patrol this beautifully landscaped 27-acre property, a former working ranch with adobe buildings, antique windmills, a reflecting pool and an abundance of exotic plants. Free admission.

9 6200 Flying Leo Carrillo Lane, Carlsbad



BURGER: PAUL BODY



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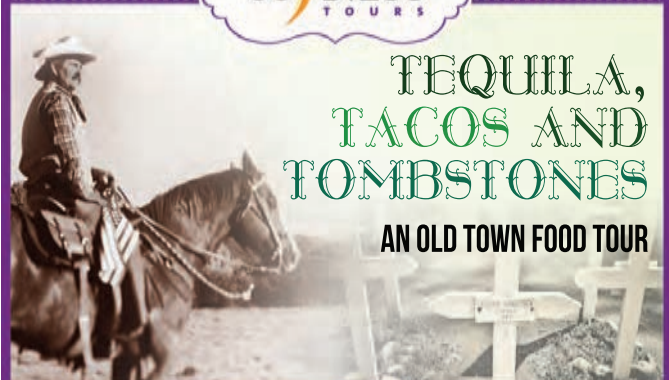
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**Winery and Craft Beer Experiences**

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You can indulge in the best of both worlds in Escondido! Our area wineries offer diverse tasting adventures from urban winery/tasting rooms to hilltop terraces with spectacular views! Enjoy the casual opportunity to meet the vintners and learn about their award-winning wines and wonderful stories.

San Diego is the "Capital of Craft" and one of the largest and certainly most popular, Stone Brewing Co. is based right here in Escondido. Cheers!



Plan ahead for our many fun and scrumptious events with live music, special pairings, food trucks, growler fills, trivia nights, and street festivals... and consider these amazing venues for your private event!

**VisitEscondido.com**

Escondido may mean "hidden" but it's no secret there's a lot going on here!

Connect with us online for more wine and beer info, a full events calendar, dining, arts and things to do!

**Visitors Center**  
235 East Grand Avenue  
Tue-Fri • 10am-4pm  
760.839.4777







Downtown Julian

# East County

In San Diego's East County, you'll discover close-knit communities with slower-paced lifestyles, farmlands, desert landscapes and open space.

## □ HISTORIC JULIAN

This charming town is the apple capital of San Diego County. Walk back in time to the 1870s along Main Street. Get a slice at **Mom's Pie House** (2119 Main St.), a caramel apple at **Candied Apple Pastry Company** (2128 Fourth St.), fresh-pressed cider at **Julian Cider Mill** (2103 Main St.) and spiked cider at **Julian Hard Cider** (4470 Julian Road).

## □ BORREGO SPRINGS

This quirky desert town sits next to the **Anza-Borrego Desert State Park**, a desert oasis with stunning wilderness areas, endless hiking, hot springs, petroglyphs and 500 miles of dirt roads. Cactus flowers bloom in April and May, giant steel outdoor sculptures of prehistoric beasts and dragons dot the town's **Galleta Meadows Sky Art collection**, and Tom Fazio-designed golf awaits at **Rams Hill Golf Course**. Stargazing and camping, too.  
 ♡ [borregospringschamber.com](http://borregospringschamber.com)

## □ MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK

Hike Cowles Mountain Trail, a popular climb that ascends nearly 1,600 feet above sea level, then drink in the panoramic view.  
 ♡ *1 Father Junipero Serra Trail, San Diego*



## □ CALIFORNIA WOLF CENTER

Learn all about Alaskan gray and Mexican wolves at the conservation center, where visitors get an up-close and personal look at these majestic creatures. Reservations are required.  
 ♡ *K Q Ranch Road, Julian*

### HIT THE ROAD

## SCENIC DRIVES

### □ Old Highway 80

Charming towns, casinos, hot springs and historical points of interest are sprinkled along this 175-mile drive stretching from Yuma, Arizona to the ocean. Changing environments include lush valleys and sand dunes, mountain ranges and prehistoric ocean beds.

### □ Palomar Mountain Loop

This drive through Cleveland National Forest to the Palomar Mountain Observatory serves up stunning panoramas. Take Highway 76 east to County Route S7, stopping at lookouts along the way. Return via County Route S6, a twisty road that climbs down the mountain back to the highway.

### □ Fonts Point

After exploring Borrego Springs, follow the Salton Seaway (S22) out of town, and look for the signs to Fonts Point at milepost 29.3. A four-mile sandy road leads to a jaw-dropping view of badlands, mountain ranges, Baja and a mini Grand Canyon. Four-wheel-drive vehicle required.



## EAST COUNTY BREWS

Discover some of San Diego's best IPAs, like Pure Hoppiness, at **Alpine Beer Company** (2351 Alpine Blvd.), then head to their pub (1347 Tavern Road) for delish barbecue, just a half mile down the road. Play lawn darts or Jenga while arm curling a Bavarian weizen at La Mesa newcomer **Helix Brewing Co.** (8101 Commercial St.), or grab a seat on the outdoor patio of **Bolt Brewery** (8179 Center St.) for a vanilla porter or nut brown ale, also in La Mesa.



# WORK CAN WAIT

this week's agenda: wine, food & fun



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# Ocean Beach

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**DOG WASH**

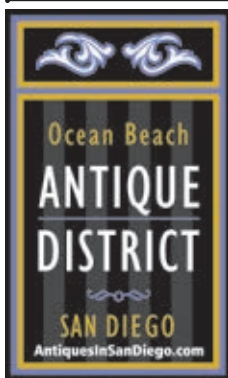
4933 Voltaire St., San Diego, CA 92107  
619.523.1700 | dogwash.com

**Dog Beach Dog Wash** is Southern California's premier do-it-yourself dog wash with outstanding service and accessories. It is located two blocks from Dog Beach, 40 acres of sand where the San Diego River meets the Pacific Ocean. The Dog Wash is open daily from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.



**Nati's Mexican Restaurant Celebrating 56 years!**  
1852 Bacon St., San Diego, CA 92107  
619.224.3369 | natis.sandiegan.com

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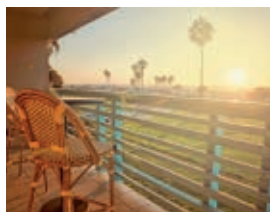


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Open Daily 6am-7pm | 619.399.9031



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**Ocean Villa Inn**

5142 W Point Loma Blvd., San Diego, CA 92107  
619.224.3481 | oceanvillainn.com

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5080 Newport Ave., San Diego, CA 92107  
619.223.7191 | obhotel.com

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5083 Santa Monica Ave., San Diego, CA 92107  
619.222.0501 | shadesob.com

**Shades Oceanfront Bistro** has something for everyone including FIDO! Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner & happy hour 6:30am to 9:00pm daily for more than 13 years! We're proud to say we've been voted best Breakfast, Patio Dining and Family Dining. Experience San Diego as a 'local' for at least a little while.



Ocean Beach MainStreet Association | OceanBeachSanDiego.com  
1868 Bacon Street, Suite A | San Diego, CA 92107 | 619.224.4906







# BAJA BOUND

TIJUANA // ROSARITO // ENSENADA // GUADALUPE VALLEY

Grupo del Rey



An easy crossing into Mexico leads to arts, culture and adventure. Check out our guides to Tijuana, Rosarito, Ensenada and Baja's Guadalupe Valley wine country. Visit the vineyards on horseback, sample street tacos, ride ATVs across sand dunes or hook a big one off the coast. Meet our friendly neighbors.





# Tijuana

From historic markets and unique art galleries to cool dining and drinking destinations, Tijuana's cultural scene is chock-full of worthy diversions. There's no better time to head south of the border.

## ❑ MISIÓN 19

Famed Tijuana chef Javier Plascencia wows diners with sustainable organic modern Mexican cuisine, such as caramelized beet salad, twice-cooked pork jowls and otherworldly grilled bone marrow in a sleek dining room overlooking Tijuana's Zona Rio.

📍 *Calle Misión de San Javier 10643*

## ❑ LA QUERENCIA

Chef Miguel Angel Guerrero elevates traditional Mexican food to new heights at this sophisticated spot, celebrating 15 years of his renowned Baja Med cuisine. The duck tacos are a must.

📍 *Ave. Escuadrón 201, 3310*

## ❑ MERCADO HIDALGO

Mexican sweets, giant bags of chicharrones, colorful piñatas and handmade crafts are just some of the treasures that can be found among 80-plus stalls at this busy marketplace built in 1910.

📍 *Sánchez Taboada and Independencia*

## ❑ CENTRO CULTURAL TIJUANA

There's a lot to see and do inside this major cultural center. Visit the Museo de las Californias to view 350 objects on display that reflect the history of the region, catch an Imax screening or explore the rotating exhibitions.

📍 *Paseo de los Heroes 9350, Zona Urbana Rio*

## ❑ BORDER PSYCHO BREWERY

Experience excellent Mexican craft brews like

their Imperial Psycho Ale (PA) or Brutal Imperial Stout at this colorful tasting room in the Zona Rio neighborhood.

📍 *Calle Libertad 1751, Col. Azcona*

## ❑ CASEAR'S

In 2010, the Plascencia family rescued this historic restaurant (and birthplace of the Caesar salad) from closure and added a tapas bar. The namesake salad—prepared table-side—is a must.

📍 *Ave. Revolución 1927, Zona Centro*

## STREET FOOD

Head to **Tacos Fitos** (*Francisco Javier Mina 1513*) for incredible birria tacos; the *taco campechano*



*dorado con todo* is arguably the best bite of umami flavor in street food. At **Tacos Aaron** (*Paseo Pedregal*), order up the chicharrón with spicy green salsa on a corn tortilla with a thin layer of bean paste. For the best fish taco, go to **Mariscos el Mazateño** (*Calz del Tecnológico 473*) and be sure to try the shrimp tempura taco or La Mazateña Combi-nado (by request), spicy shrimp and crunchy octopus in a grilled corn quesadilla.

## EASY ACCESS

# TIJUANA TRAVEL TIPS

## ❑ Getting There

Several parking lots sit near the San Ysidro pedestrian border crossing area, or you can take the blue trolley line, operated by San Diego MTS. If you're traveling to Mexico by car, be sure to purchase Mexican automobile insurance. And please remember: All visitors must bring a valid passport.



## ❑ Cross Border Xpress

The new bridge that straddles California and Mexico is officially open and delivers easy access to Tijuana International Airport. Travelers can park in Otay Mesa right by the bridge and stroll over the border to catch a flight, avoiding lengthy waits upon return as well.

## ❑ Helpful App

Download the app **Best Time to Cross the Border** for wait times into the United States.





# Rosarito

Located just 20 minutes from the U.S.-Mexico border, this seaside town is bursting with dining, shopping and entertainment options. Whether you're looking for a relaxing day at the beach or a heart-pounding adventure, you'll find it here.



## BAJA FUN ADVENTURES

Rev up your visit with an exciting ATV tour through the canyons of Rosarito, including stops to sample fresh cheese, eat lunch and meet a friendly monkey named Pepe. Single-rider and multi-person vehicles are available. Book your excursion at the Rosarito Beach Hotel.

📍 *Km 38 Ave. Benito Juárez*

## ALL THE PRETTY HORSES RESCUE AND RIDES

Ex-pats Krystal and Randy Redmon offer lessons and trail rides through the canyons, hills and riverbeds of Rosarito on gentle, well-behaved horses. Be sure to arrive at the ranch early to meet all the horses and other rescue animals, including friendly dogs and goats.

📍 *Km 46 Libre Rosarito Ensenada*



## ROSARITO BEACH HOTEL

One of Baja's landmarks, this classic beachfront hotel has welcomed guests for more than 90 years. Enjoy a traditional Mexican buffet with a folkloric ballet show in the Salon Mexicano, or formal dining in old-world ambiance at Azteca. Sing your heart out at Rosa & Rita, the on-site karaoke bar open Friday and Saturday evenings, or take in the ocean views from the 17th-floor rooftop lounge.

📍 *Blvd. Benito Juárez 31*

## MERCADO DEL MAR

Don't be fooled by the unassuming

storefront; inside lies a treasure trove of mezcal, tequila, wine and other assorted libations. Prices are reasonable, and knowledgeable staff members transform stocking up on booze into an educational experience.

📍 *Blvd. Popotla #3135*

## ROSARITO OCEAN SPORTS

Rent kayaks, sea scooters, stand-up paddleboards, scuba equipment and more at this one-stop aquatic adventure shop. Or head out to explore the Coronado Islands on a guided three-hour Jet Ski tour.

📍 *Blvd. Benito Juárez 890-7*

### WORTH THE TRIP

## GOOD EATS IN ROSARITO

### El Nido Restaurant

At El Nido you can count on hearty breakfasts, delish grilled meats and a charming rustic ambiance, especially on the greenery-filled back patio with its turtle pond.

📍 *Blvd. Benito Juárez 6*

### Ollie's Pizza

Handcrafted wood-fired pizzas, delicious salads and from-scratch desserts round out the menu at this warm and cozy pizzeria. Save room for something sweet; the Nutella-filled dessert pizza is a winner.

📍 *Km 40.5 Libre Rosarito Ensenada*

### Tacos El Yaqui

For the best carne asada tacos in town, head to this friendly taqueria and grab a seat on the patio. Mesquite wood-grilled meat is tucked into handmade tortillas, served with grilled jalapeño chili peppers on the side.

📍 *Mar del Norte #115 12*

### Splash Cantina

Ocean views, sunset margaritas, fresh seafood selections and live music Tuesday–Sunday evenings draw tourists to this seaside restaurant. Try the loaded nachos and fried oysters.

📍 *Km 52 Libre Rosarito Ensenada*





# Ensenada

This charming port city is an easy coastal drive from San Diego, just 80 miles south. In Ensenada, you'll find everything from oceanfront dining, sumptuous seafood and craft breweries to shopping, sportfishing, museums and more.



Riviera de Ensenada



## □ MUELES TRES

For sunset dining by the harbor, try the local favorite for ceviche mixto de la casa or their fresh yellowtail sashimi—both divine, as is the tasting menu.

📍 *Teniente Azueta 187 at the Malecon*

## □ EL REY SOL

Established in 1947 by Doña Virginia Geffroy, who studied at Le Cordon Bleu, this award-winning restaurant pays homage to French culture and cuisine. Enjoy classics like chateaubriand for two prepared tableside by seasoned formal waiters or chicken cordon bleu. Don't miss the flaky, melt-in-your-mouth Parisian-style pastries at their sidewalk café, accompanied by an espresso or latte.

📍 *Ave. López Mateos 1000*

## □ RYERSON 51

Nightlife fans flock here for craft beers, cocktails, gourmet tapas and live music. The multilevel bar and restaurant has an edgy, innovative ambience with birdcage light fixtures, chandeliers, antiques, sculptures and outdoor lounge areas.

📍 *Ave. Ryerson 51*

## □ SEAFOOD CARTS

Don't miss Anthony Bourdain's favorite seafood cart, **La Guerrerense** (*Alvarado and López Mateos*) for ceviche tostadas with homemade salsa. Or try **Mariscos el Güero** (*Alvarado, Zona Centro*) for their fresh shrimp ceviche topped with marinated seafood.

## □ RUPESTRE GASTROTRUCK & BAR

This progressive food truck gets creative with a game-forward menu featuring pheasant, venison, and delish duck tacos, along with memorable smoked tuna tostadas and barbecue pulled pork on Rupestre fries—all served on their colorful patio bedecked with cool art.

📍 *Ave. Obregón 480*

## □ MERCADO NEGRO FISH MARKET AND SPORTFISHING

Explore this harborside market to view the day's fresh catch, or hire a local charter out back in the marina to hook your own yellowtail.

📍 *Blvd. Lázaro Cárdenas*

## □ RIVIERA DE ENSENADA

This historic 1930s icon was once a glamorous hotel and casino frequented by movie stars and dignitaries. Today, it's a social, civic and cultural center with blooming gardens, stunning mosaics and the Museo de Historia de Ensenada. Order up a margarita at the Bar Andaluz, the birthplace of Mexico's signature drink.

📍 *Blvd. Lázaro Cárdenas 1421*

## □ CERVECERIA WENDLANDT

This brewery recently won best craft brewery in Mexico for their delicious hops-forward beers. Take a tour and then enjoy the ocean view from their rooftop.

📍 *Calle 10 385, El Sauzal*

### REST YOUR HEAD

## WHERE TO STAY IN ENSENADA

### □ Estero Beach Hotel

This family-friendly hotel has a safe swimming beach, water sports such as jetpacking and kayaking, and even camel riding along the seashore.

📍 *hotelesterobeach.com*

### □ El Cid Hotel

This Mediterranean-style hotel features clean, affordable rooms, suites with Jacuzzi tubs, balconies with bay or pool views, and complimentary continental breakfast.

📍 *hotelescid.com.mx*

### □ Hotel Coral

Arrive by boat to this contemporary oceanfront hotel with its own private marina, vibrant bar scene and eateries, upscale spa and spacious, modern chic suites.

📍 *hotelcoral.com*







# Guadalupe Valley

Take a trip along La Ruta del Vino (Highway 3), just east of Ensenada, where you'll discover hidden haciendas, alfresco eateries, passionate winemakers and 100 vineyards.

## ❑ CUATRO CUATROS

Like a scene from an African safari camp, this striking retreat has luxury platform tents, cozy fireplaces and open-air showers out back. Guests enjoy horseback riding, hiking and wine tasting on mountaintop decks overlooking the sea.

📍 [cuatrocuatros.mx/en](http://cuatrocuatros.mx/en)

## ❑ ADOBE GUADALUPE

This six-room bed-and-breakfast enchants with its Persian architecture, meditative gardens, fine cuisine and Azteca horses, so you can ride through the vineyards or go wine tasting on horseback.

📍 [adobeguadalupe.com](http://adobeguadalupe.com)

## ❑ LA VILLA DEL VALLE

This lovely Tuscan-style villa has six suites, lavender fields, organic gardens, a yoga studio, a fabulous pool and an artistic winery. Don't miss an unforgettable meal at their restaurant, Corazón de Tierra, paired with the estate's award-winning Vena Cava wines.

📍 [lavilladelvalle.com](http://lavilladelvalle.com)

## ❑ BRUMA

This gorgeous five-bedroom bed and breakfast stands out for its thoughtful design and tranquility. Guests enjoy luxe rock-wall bedrooms with floor-to-ceiling views of the vineyards, delicious breakfasts and free use of mountain bikes to pedal to the nearby hot springs.

📍 [bruma.mx](http://bruma.mx)

## ❑ LA ESPERANZA

Acclaimed chef Miguel Angel Guerrero, founder of Baja-Med cuisine, is behind this gorgeous modern restaurant with an exhibition kitchen. His team serves up wood-fired meats, medleys of garden-fresh vegetables and treasures from the sea.

📍 [facebook.com/laesperanzabajamed](https://facebook.com/laesperanzabajamed)

## ❑ FINCA ALTOZANO

Enjoy chef Javier Plascencia's progressive cuisine, like mesquite-grilled octopus and beef cheek tacos, at this rustic alfresco restaurant. You can sip the family's wines on banquettes atop a giant wine barrel surrounded by vineyards and mountain views.

📍 [fincaltozano.com](http://fincaltozano.com)

## ❑ THE ARCHITECTURAL ROUTE

Anyone interested in compelling, cutting-edge design should check out these wineries: **Vena Cava**, **Clos de Tres Cantos**, **Paralelo**, **La Escuelita**, **Encuentro Guadalupe**, **Decantos** and **Bruma**.



Clos de Tres Cantos

## FROM THE EXPERT

### GUADALUPE VALLEY WINERIES

Wine expert and importer Fernando Gaxiola, whose company, **Baja Wine + Food** ([bajawinefood.com](http://bajawinefood.com)), curates incredible lifestyle experiences in Guadalupe Valley, shares some of his favorite wines.

#### ❑ Hacienda La Lomita

This chic winery represents the new generation and offers great wines like Sacro and Pagano.

#### ❑ Finca La Carrodilla

This biodynamic and organic winery has great single-varietal wines. Highlights include their tempranillo, shiraz and cabernet sauvignon.

#### ❑ Torres Alegre y Familia

This family-owned, artistic cult winery produces limited amounts of ultra-high-quality wines.

#### ❑ Villa Montefiori

Don't miss the nebbiolo, sangiovese, aglianico and montepulciano at this lovely winery, which focuses on Italian varietals.



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# RECREATION

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La Jolla Shores

# Best Beaches

Along San Diego’s coastline, you’ll find a sweet sandy spot for every desire, whether it’s adventure, family fun or a slice of SoCal culture.

## IMPERIAL BEACH

This laid-back beach located at the southernmost point on the West Coast is a popular spot for surfing, bodyboarding and swimming. Near the Imperial Beach Pier, you’ll find grassy parks, shopping and dining. In July, award-winning teams showcase one-of-a-kind sandcastles at the Sun & Sea Festival.

## MOONLIGHT STATE BEACH

Located where Encinitas Boulevard ends by the sea, this wide, golden-sand beach is ideal for swimming, surfing, sunbathing, fishing and seaside recreation. Beachgoers have access to volleyball and tennis courts, equipment rentals, restrooms, a snack bar, a playground, fire pits and barbecues.

## LA JOLLA SHORES

A local favorite, this beach is easily accessible (there’s a large lot with free parking) and flanked by grassy Kellogg Park and a boardwalk. Have a picnic, swim, or learn to surf in the gentle waves. In the summer and early fall, you can snorkel with the harmless leopard sharks that come in close to shore.



## CHILDREN’S POOL BEACH

Seals and sea lions love to hang out in this protected cove in La Jolla. Watch them swim and sunbathe on Seal Rock from the shoreline or the walkway that circles the cove, but keep your distance—it’s a federal offense to disturb them.



Cardiff-by-the-Sea



## CORONADO CENTRAL BEACH

The stretch of sand in front of the iconic Hotel del Coronado is San Diego’s most famous beach. Marilyn Monroe filmed *Some Like It Hot* here, and it’s perfect for families, long walks and seashell collecting. At low tide, explore the tide pools in front of the hotel, and don’t miss the mind-blowing sculptures created by the “Sandcastle Man.”





# Top Surf Spots

Whether you are a seasoned pro or just learning to pop up, San Diego is blessed with world-famous breaks for every level. Check out these beautiful beaches and their waves.

## MISSION BEACH

This busy shoreline, better known for its boardwalk and people watching, is also a good place for beginners to learn how to surf. At the northern part of Mission Beach, you'll find novices paddling out on foam boards, with equipment rentals or lessons available nearby. After surfing, stroll over to the lively restaurants and bars in Belmont Park or along Mission Boulevard.

## BLACK'S BEACH

A mecca for advanced surfers seeking the best waves off San Diego's coast, this iconic spot is also known as San Diego's unofficial "clothing optional" beach, so brace yourself for some birthday suit sightings. The most popular route to the beach is down the bluffs at Torrey Pines Gliderport. It's a steep climb and trails can be unsteady, so be cautious.

## DEL MAR

Reliable waves and good exposure to all swell directions make this sandy stretch popular with surfers of all skill levels. Multiple surf breaks stretching down the coast encourage the crowd to spread out, so you'll have space to call your own. For some of the best breaks, walk straight out to the ocean from the end of 19th, 23rd or 25th Street.

## CARDIFF REEF

Home to San Diego's most famous surfer, Rob Machado, Cardiff boasts longboarders, stand-up paddlers and surfers riding every kind of board made from the '60s to the present day. Check out the infamous "Cardiff Kook" statue, often dressed in costume or decorated for an occasion.

### SURF'S UP

## WANNA LEARN TO HANG TEN?

### San Diego Surf School

Whether you want a private, group or family lesson, or full immersion in a surf camp, this friendly school will deliver a true SoCal surf experience in the waters of Pacific Beach.

📍 4850 Cass St., Pacific Beach



### Surf Diva

Started by twin sisters Izzy and Coco Tihanyi, Surf Diva is the first all-girls surf school in the nation, offering lessons, camps and good times in the waves off La Jolla Shores.

📍 2160 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla



Cardiff Kook



Rob Machado is an SDTA Ambassador, and your Guide to the Good Stuff.

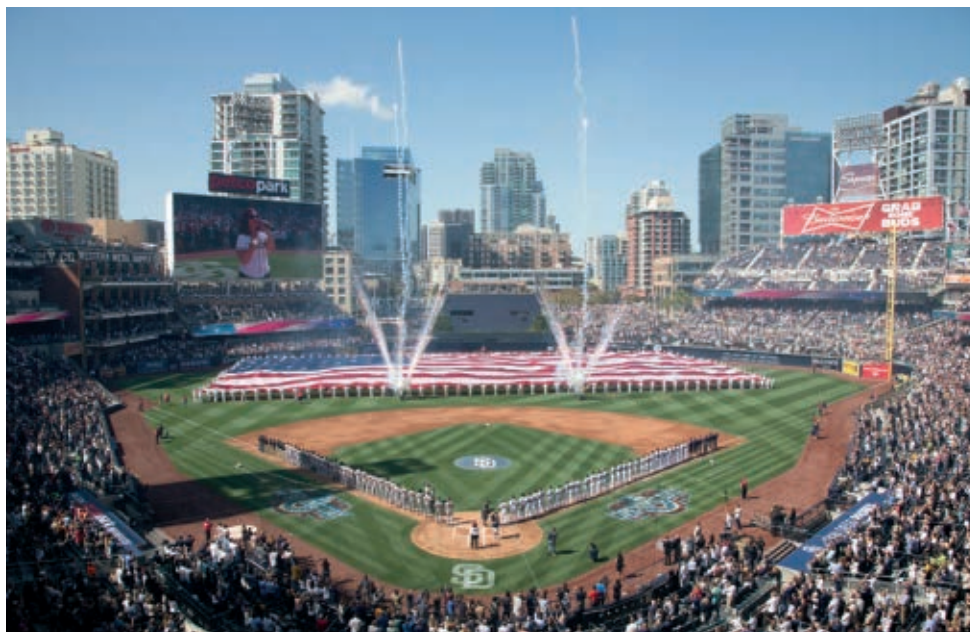


Rob Machado surfing Black's Beach



# MLB All-Star Game

Get ready, baseball fans—the best “Boys of Summer” are descending upon America’s Finest City. For only the third time in 87 years, San Diego is hosting the Midsummer Classic, which brings together the top players in the American and National leagues. A week’s worth of fun-filled activities are happening around Petco Park, leading up to the big game on July 12.



## BEST EATS

### PETCO PARK



Former Padres pitcher and all-time saves leader **Trevor Hoffman** shares his favorite foods served at Petco Park.

#### □ Pizza Port

This local craft beer company brews beer and bakes up fresh pizzas on-site. Try the Swami’s IPA, and the artichoke and garlic pizza, exclusive to Petco Park.

#### □ Phil’s BBQ

The Broham pulled pork sandwich is a ballpark must-have.

#### □ Seaside Market

This deli has a cult following for its marinated tri-tip, affectionately called “Cardiff Crack.”

#### □ Hodad’s

These burgers topped with a bacon patty are legendary. Try the Guido Burger with pastrami and grilled onions, which was dedicated to its biggest fan, Guy Fieri.

#### □ Rimel’s

You can’t visit San Diego without having fish tacos; it’s the essence of Baja California. Rimel’s grills mahimahi over oak and serves it with green salsa and cabbage.

#### □ ALL-STAR FANFEST

Meet the legends and hall-of-famers at the Convention Center (July 8 to 11) for the world’s largest interactive baseball experience: 40 attractions, 100 players in attendance, free autographs, baseball clinics, Q&A sessions and more.

📍 111 W. Harbor Drive, Marina District

#### □ SOUL POSE MLB ALL-STAR YOGA

Stretch before “the stretch” at this 60-minute outdoor yoga party at Waterfront Park on July 9 that incorporates music, body paint and bubbles.

📍 1600 Pacific Hwy., Little Italy

#### □ SIRIUSXM ALL-STAR FUTURES GAME

See the top Minor League prospects along with players from around the world at this exhibition game on July 10.

#### □ THE COLOR RUN MLB ALL-STAR 5K

During the “Happiest 5K on the Planet,” runners and walkers are doused with four different colored powders

on July 10 along an All-Star-themed course that traverses downtown. Meet MLB players, mascots and special guests along the way.

#### □ ALL-STAR LEGENDS & CELEBRITY SOFTBALL GAME

Hollywood celebrities hit the field in a friendly competition with some of the game’s greatest players on July 10. Snoop Dogg and Jimmy Kimmel participated in past years, so stay tuned to see who’s up at bat this year.

#### □ GATORADE ALL-STAR WORKOUT DAY

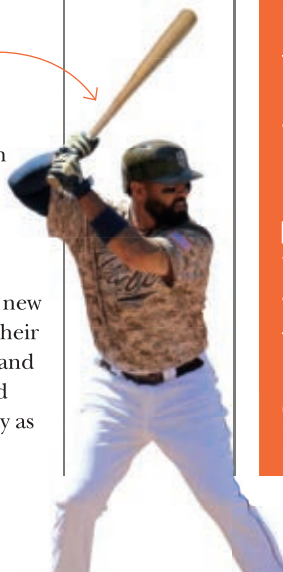
Watch a batting practice and the Home Run Derby on July 11, when players compete in an all-out home run hitting contest.

#### □ TONY GWYNN MUSEUM

AleSmith Brewing Company has a new free Tony Gwynn Museum inside their brewery, commemorating the life and career of San Diego’s most beloved Major League player, known locally as “Mr. Padre.”



For more information about the MLB All-Star events and games, check out [sandiego.padres.mlb.com](http://sandiego.padres.mlb.com)







**PADRES SUPERFAN**

# MATT SCHULTE

Matt is a San Diego Padres superfan and expert on the Petco Park experience. He's also an SDTA Ambassador and your Guide to the Good Stuff.

**Excited for the MLB All-Star Game?**

I can't wait to see the best players in the world and watch the long balls of the Home Run Derby flying on top of the Western Metal Supply Building.

**Any tips on navigating Petco Park?**

Get to the Gaslamp Quarter early, as there is so much to explore. Head to the top of the Western Metal Supply Building in left field (especially during batting practice), visit the Tony Gwynn statue, and try the local food and craft beer.

**Favorite neighborhood to explore?**

Little Italy. Pappalecco feels like a café right out of Florence. There's bocce ball at Amici Park, the Saturday morning farmers' market, incredible live music at The Music Box and great food at Bracero Cocina.

**Best thing about San Diego living?**

Drive 20 to 30 minutes in any direction and you'll find diverse neighborhoods, beautiful beaches, mountains, valleys and even another country!

**Must-dos for visitors?** Sunday brunch at Tom Ham's Lighthouse on Harbor Island, or lunch on George's at the Cove's Ocean Terrace in La Jolla.

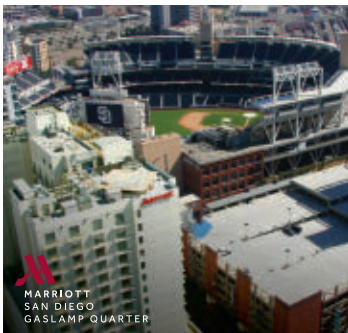
**Secret spot in San Diego?** I love hopping on a bike and cruising down Adams Avenue through three very different neighborhoods: University Heights, Normal Heights, and Kensington. You can pop into different shops and bars. The key to this "secret" is to arrive at the Bleu Bohème in Kensington at 5:00 p.m.—my favorite happy hour in town.

*Check out Matt Schulte's Petco Park adventure with legendary Padres pitcher Trevor Hoffman at [sandiego.org/campaigns/good-stuff](http://sandiego.org/campaigns/good-stuff).*



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[sandiegogaslamphotel.com](http://sandiegogaslamphotel.com)



# Run and Ride

With networks of paved trails, myriad green spaces and great weather year-round, San Diego is one of the best cities to explore on foot or by bike.



The Navy's Bay Bridge Run Walk



Amgen Tour of California

## □ RUNNING

For a breezy bay run, start at **Waterfront Park** in Little Italy and head south past the Maritime Museum, the USS *Midway* and Ruocco Park. A great way to experience **Balboa Park** is an easy run along Trail No. 1, which takes you through the western lawn and right to Cabrillo Bridge. One of the most popular trails is the path to the beach at **Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve**. The moderate 3-mile trek rewards hikers and runners with views of sandstone canyons, groves of the rare Torrey pine and wild flowers before ending at a picturesque beach.

The city hosts several marathons and half marathons in the summer months. The landmark Coronado Bridge opens up for pedestrian access on just one day every year during **The Navy's Bay Bridge Run Walk** ([navylifesw.com/bridgerun](http://navylifesw.com/bridgerun)) on May 15. **The Rock 'n' Roll Marathon** ([runrocknroll.com/san-diego](http://runrocknroll.com/san-diego)) returns for its 19th year on June 5, with live music along the route.

Now in its 39th year, **America's Finest City Half Marathon and 5K** ([afchalf.org](http://afchalf.org)) on August 21 starts at the tip of Point Loma at Cabrillo National Monument and ends in beautiful Balboa Park.

## □ BICYCLING

Don't feel like packing up your bike and bringing it with you? You can easily rent one on demand after you arrive in San Diego at one of 180 **DecoBike** kiosks throughout the city ([decobike.com](http://decobike.com)). At the self-serve stations, you can get a bike for an hour or the whole day and return it to any DecoStation around town.

Pedal along the **Pacific Beach Boardwalk** from the Crystal Pier Hotel down to Belmont Park for a leisurely cruise that's filled with great people watching. Head over to **Mission Bay** for a five-mile, flat-paved road that circles Fiesta Island. Or venture to a scenic 11-mile strip of the **Bayshore Bikeway** from Coronado to Imperial Beach, where a separate bike path surrounds you in natural beauty.

Want to stay closer to the city? Just south of Seaport Village is **Embarcadero Marina Park North**, where you can enjoy views of both the bay and the downtown skyline. Cycle past yacht-filled marinas and old tiki resorts on **Shelter Island** in Point Loma, and then take a water break at the Yokohama Friendship Bell, a two-ton bronze bell that was a gift from the city of Yokohama, Japan.

## GREAT HIKES

### THREE TRAILS TO TRY

#### □ Palomar Mountain

This easy, shaded trail ends at Palomar Observatory, home to the Hale Telescope. [astro.caltech.edu/palomar](http://astro.caltech.edu/palomar)

#### □ La Jolla Cove Loop

Head north on Coast Boulevard to the Children's Pool to watch the sea lions frolic.

#### □ Sunset Cliffs Trail

Walking along this rugged coastline overlooking the crashing waves is spectacular at any time of day.



Fans of cycling can watch the **Amgen Tour of California**, an 800-mile Tour de France-style cycling road race, which starts in San Diego on May 15. Top racers from around the globe will depart from Mission Bay and travel through Balboa Park, downtown and the harbor. [amgentourofcalifornia.com](http://amgentourofcalifornia.com)





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Giant Panda at the San Diego Zoo

# Fun Attractions

San Diego is a recreational paradise, with its adventure parks, water worlds and animal experiences that speak to the child in everyone at any age. Don't miss out on the fun.

## SEAWORLD

Enjoy spectacular shows, heart-thumping rides like the Manta roller coaster, or private interactions with dolphins, whales and penguins at this awe-inspiring park. Enjoy craft beer and gourmet eats during SeaWorld's Seven Seas Food Festival throughout May, and singers and dancers during Summer Vibes, June 25–Aug. 14.

📍 500 Sea World Drive, Mission Bay

## AQUATICA

SeaWorld's splashy water park has wet-and-wild rides and slides, sandy sunny shores and personal cabanas for lounging by the wave pool with 5-foot swells. Don't miss Aquatica's newest thrill, Taumata Racer, a high-speed racing water slide that zooms riders down 375 feet, with swooping turns and tunnels.

📍 2052 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista

## SAN DIEGO ZOO

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the world-famous zoo. The centennial celebration includes a kickoff party at Spreckels Organ Pavilion with food, music and entertainment; exhibits in Balboa Park; a new animal show and film

presented at the zoo; and Nighttime Zoo birthday parties for creatures like koalas, Komodo dragons, Sumatran tigers, pandas and more.

📍 2920 Zoo Drive, Balboa Park

## SAN DIEGO ZOO SAFARI PARK

Ride the Africa Tram, hop on a Caravan Safari, zip over animals on a Flightline Safari or play like a monkey on the Jungle Ropes Safari. Discover more than 300 animal species at this sprawling park that's devoted to conservation.

📍 15500 San Pasqual Valley Road, Escondido

## DEL MAR FAIRGROUNDS

Each summer, Del Mar's beachfront fairgrounds hosts the county fair and world-class horse races. This year's "Mad About the Fair" theme blends the magic of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* with the artistic movement known as steampunk. Concerts, livestock, wild rides and more (June 3–July 4). Family-friendly horse racing runs July 15–September 7 at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club. Don't miss the free concerts on Fridays with big-name bands.

📍 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar



## LEGOLAND

This colorful playground sports more than 60 rides, shows and attractions, a water park and dizzying displays of LEGO creations. Try their new 4D Ninjago The Ride, an interactive ninja experience.  
📍 1 Legoland Drive, Carlsbad

### PINT-SIZED THRILLS

## ADVENTURES FOR KIDS

### Belmont Park

For adrenaline-pumping fun, ride the historic 91-year-old Giant Dipper roller coaster, then duck, dive and roll through the Laser Maze Challenge or hang ten on a wave machine, all at this beachfront playground.

📍 3146 Mission Blvd., Mission Beach

### Flightline Safari

Kids ages eight and up can soar over the San Diego Zoo Safari Park on a zip line and see wildlife from as high as 130 feet in the air.

📍 15500 San Pasqual Valley Road, Escondido

### Coronado Skate Park

This picturesque, 16,000-square-foot park underneath the Coronado Bridge is packed with concrete ramps, grinds, bowls and jumps.

📍 2000 Mullinix Drive, Coronado

### Sky Zone

Catch some air at this indoor trampoline park with a foam pit, basketball hoops and a dodgeball court.

📍 851 Showroom Pl., Suite 100, Chula Vista

### K1 Speed

Let the little ones blow off steam at an indoor go-kart track.

📍 6212 Corte del Abeto, Barrio Logan and 1709 Main St., Carlsbad



DREAM JOB ALERT

# TIM SAMS



Tim Sams, a senior model builder at LEGOLAND, will be the first to tell you that he's found his dream job. And while Tim has a background in graphic design and music, he's pretty sure he landed The Gig, because he's been playing with LEGO bricks nonstop for 28 years.

**What is the best thing about your job?** I get to be creative and work with LEGO bricks every day.

**What's new at LEGOLAND?** Our Ninjago World and the 4D Ninjago The Ride. Guests train to be ninjas, testing their balance, agility and speed inside the temple, and then try out their skills on the ride using hand gestures to battle evil characters by throwing fire, ice, lightning and shock waves. We built 22 new LEGO models for the temple, and it's a great 4D immersive experience with heat, wind, smoke and surround sound.

**What is your favorite place at LEGOLAND?** San Francisco in Miniland USA. I put together the Golden Gate Bridge, which is 10 feet long and 20 feet high. I am really proud of that.

**Any insider tips for navigating the park?** Just walk into the park, hang a left and follow the adventure. It's a giant loop

that progresses from younger to older kid experiences and ends up in the Imagination Zone.

**What do most people not know about LEGOLAND?** There are more than 30,000 LEGO models throughout the park, so as you can imagine, there's a lot of maintenance and care going on. We arrive at 6:00 a.m. to check the park's models before it opens at 10:00 a.m.

**Any special activities or rides that people overlook?** Keep an eye out above and below you for hidden models throughout the park. It's like a scavenger hunt.

**How many LEGO bricks are at the park?** More than 60 million and growing every year.

**Any exciting future plans at LEGOLAND?** There's going to be a new 250-room LEGOLAND Hotel on the property—a giant castle—that will open in 2018.

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Rancho Valencia

# Spa Escapes

Spa sanctuaries can be found all over San Diego if you are in the mood to take some time to unwind. A couples treatment can add a little spice to your spa experience. Check out these creative therapies designed for romantic rendezvous.

## THE SPA AT RANCHO VALENCIA

Midday Rendezvous means 3.5 hours of bliss in a private casita at this stunning hacienda-style spa. Couples are welcomed with Champagne and then lavished with a signature C+C body scrub with Natura Bissé products. After a couples massage, it's time for a soothing soak for two and nibbles like crudités and caviar and more bubbly.

📍 5921 Valencia Cir., Rancho Santa Fe

## THE SPA AT RANCHO BERNARDO INN

Gorgeous casitas line the resort's garden, where couples can tuck into their own private sanctuary for the Balinese Warm Stone Massage. Gently heated aromatherapy oils from ESPA are poured onto the center of the body and massaged into the skin, while warm stones are used to tailor the pressure, release tension and melt the muscles.

📍 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive, Rancho Bernardo



The Spa at Fairmont Grand Del Mar

## SPATERRE AT KONA KAI RESORT

Couples can bathe in milk and honey after a sweet-smelling sugar scrub during the Cleopatra's Milk Ritual, which also includes a 60-minute customized massage, or enjoy a Balinese massage, herbal exfoliation and soak in a tub filled with rose petals during the Javanese Royal Treatment.

📍 1551 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island

## ROCK SPA AT HARD ROCK HOTEL SAN DIEGO

The Your Body Is a Wonderland experience begins with Champagne and chocolate in the lavish couples suite, followed by a mud painting session with bodies serving as canvas, a warm cascading shower and side-by-side massages. Head up to Nobu for post-spa sushi.

📍 207 Fifth Ave., downtown

## THE SPA AT FAIRMONT GRAND DEL MAR

This European-style spa is home to a classy couples room replete with marble, a sunken tub and a cozy fireplace. The sensuous Couple's Classic Package includes a mineral-rich bath, followed by an aromatic hydrating wrap with a head-and-foot massage and a customized 60-minute full-body massage. Afterward, head to the adults-only relaxation pool or coed spa lounge.

📍 5300 Grand Del Mar Ct., Carmel Valley

### WELLNESS WONDERLANDS

## DESTINATION SPAS

Check in so you can check out from daily stress at these luxurious spas, which offer transformative, life-enriching, multi-day experiences.

### Cal-a-Vie Health Spa

This stunning destination spa offers 20 different mind-body-spirit classes like tai chi, qigong, yoga, labyrinth walking, and meditation in a 400-year-old chapel. Fitness and nutrition classes, detoxifying spa treatments, energy work, massage and acupuncture, too.

📍 [cal-a-vie.com](http://cal-a-vie.com)

### Golden Door

Named "World's Best Destination Spa" in *Travel + Leisure* magazine's 2015 Reader's Poll, this Japanese-style intimate retreat hosts a maximum of 40 guests. Set on 600 acres with Japanese gardens, a bamboo forest, orchards, and mountain biking and hiking trails, the spa also offers garden-to-table meals, gorgeous rooms and unique treatments like watsu and craniosacral therapy.

📍 [goldendoor.com](http://goldendoor.com)

### Rancho La Puerta

Set in the splendor of nature just across the U.S. border in Tecate, this seminal spa and legendary treatment center has offered fitness, nutrition and wellness classes, spa services and transformative lectures since 1940.

📍 [rancholapuerta.com](http://rancholapuerta.com)





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Sycuan Golf Resort

# Great Golf

San Diego is a golfer's paradise, with a treasure trove of award-winning courses throughout the county. Golfers will discover everything from canyon terrain and mountain meadow golf to ocean-view greens and dramatic cliff-side tees.

## ▣ MADERAS GOLF CLUB

This beautiful course, which meanders through the mountains with creeks, forests and rock outcroppings along the way, is meticulously maintained. *Golf Digest* repeatedly recognizes it as one of the nation's top 100 public courses and, in 2015, *Golf Advisor* rated it the 20th best course in the U.S. Maderas also stands out as the first course in San Diego to offer Golf-Boards, so players can "surf the earth," a fun alternative to walking or cart riding that also increases pace of play.

📍 [maderasgolf.com](http://maderasgolf.com)

## ▣ SYCUAN GOLF RESORT

A golfer's haven, Sycuan has been listed in the Best Places to Play by *Golf Digest* and touted as Best Golf Course by *Sign On San Diego* for seven consecutive years. The sprawling property has two championship courses and an 18-hole par 3, adding up to 54 magnificent holes. Golfers enjoy emerald fairways, picturesque lakes and mountain views.

📍 [sycuanresort.com](http://sycuanresort.com)

## ▣ AVIARA GOLF CLUB

Named by *Golf Digest* and *Golf Magazine* as one of the best resort golf courses in America, the Aviara Golf Course overlooks the beautiful Batiqitos Lagoon and is known for its lush landscaping and lovely water features. The

only Arnold Palmer course in the area, Aviara also hosts the LPGA's Kia Classic each spring. 📍 [golfaviara.com](http://golfaviara.com)

## ▣ OMNI LA COSTA RESORT & SPA

This Carlsbad resort was named #1 Family Golf Destination by *Golf Digest* in 2015 and a Gold Medal Resort by *Golf Magazine* from 2012–2015.

*Golfweek* also listed Omni La Costa in its Best 100 Resort Courses. The historic yet beautifully remodeled fairways and greens have hosted legends like Nicklaus, Woods and Casper, along with 37 PGA Tours. 📍 [omnihotels.com](http://omnihotels.com)



## ▣ JC GOLF

JC Golf is Southern California's premier provider of upscale golf experiences, with 10 courses on its roster. The recently renovated 18-hole San Diego Championship Golf Course at Rancho Bernardo Inn has hosted PGA and LPGA events, and was rated in the "Ultimate San Diego 18" by the *Union-Tribune*. 📍 [jcgolf.com](http://jcgolf.com)

### BACK IN THE SWING OF THE THINGS

## WARNER SPRINGS RANCH RESORT GOLF CLUB REOPENS

After a two-year renovation, Warner Springs Ranch Resort Golf Club is welcoming golfers back to its upgraded historic course. Look for a new practice facility, renovated bunkers, new cart paths, improved landscaping and irrigation and a remodeled clubhouse. After enjoying the legendary 6,775-yard, 18-hole championship course's rustic charm, giant oaks and mountain views, head to the clubhouse to sip local wines from nearby vineyards while dining on farm-to-table cuisine at the grill. Future plans include an onsite vineyard and tasting room, a new spa, a renovation of the main lodge and casitas, and the reopening of their famous hot springs. In the meantime, for those wanting to play golf and spend the night, the historic town of Julian is a mere 15 miles away.

📍 [warnerspringsranchresort.com](http://warnerspringsranchresort.com)

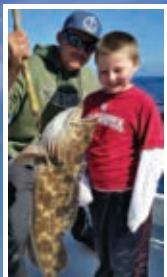
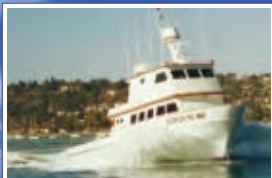




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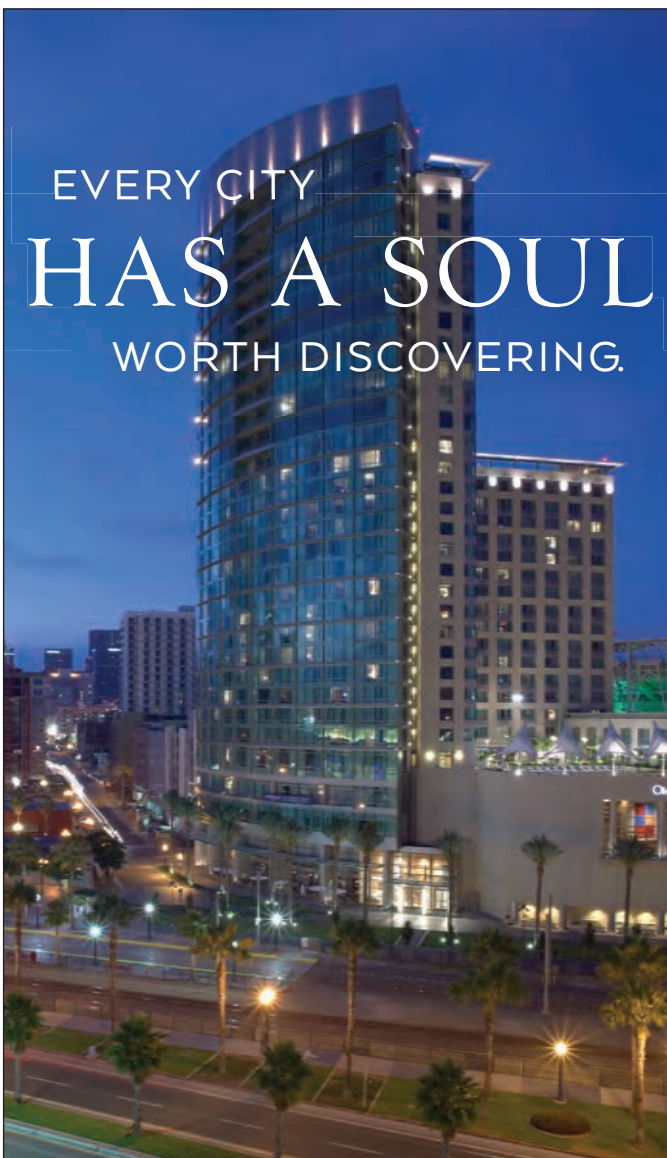
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# CULINARY SCENE

TOP RESTAURANTS // CALI-BAJA CUISINE // EAT AROUND THE WORLD



From farm-fresh produce, seasonal fare and coastal catch to international cuisine and exotic eats, San Diego's vibrant restaurant scene has taken off with plenty of options for every kind of diner and budget. Visit our farmers' markets, explore our eateries and discover what's cookin'.



# Top Restaurants

Explore San Diego's best restaurants, from fine dining to fast-casual.



Oceana Coastal Kitchen



Pork chop with double cream macaroni from The Red Door



Goat cheese ravioli from Water Grill

## □ CALIFORNIA SEASONAL

Taste the bounty of Southern California at restaurants that take pride in using local produce, meats and cheeses. Chef Trey Foshee of **George's California Modern** (1250 Prospect St., La Jolla) serves exceptional seasonal California fare alongside stellar views of La Jolla Cove. The menu at **The Red Door** highlights produce grown at the owner's farm atop Mount Helix (741 W. Washington St., Mission Hills). Indulge in the six-course "Mercy of the Chef" tasting menu at **Nine-Ten** in the Grande Colonial Hotel (910 Prospect St., La Jolla), which creatively incorporates locally sourced ingredients and, at \$89 per person (\$134 with wine pairings), is one of the city's best fine dining values. Chef Carl Schroeder has received national acclaim for his ever-changing seasonal menus at **Market Restaurant + Bar** (3702 Via de la Valle, Del Mar) and **Bankers Hill Bar + Restaurant** (2202 Fourth Ave., Bankers Hill).

## □ SEAFOOD

Top seafood restaurants in San Diego range from high-end to laid-back, but always feature the freshest fish and shellfish. The posh **Water Grill** impresses with its decor, iced seafood towers and raw bar selections (615 J St., Gaslamp Quarter). For alfresco dining, **Oceana Coastal Kitchen** at the Catamaran Resort Hotel sits right on Mission Bay, an ideal spot for king crab legs, sea bass ceviche or a seafood tower. Diners love the 800-gallon vertical jellyfish tank in the center of the dining room (3999 Mission Blvd., Mission Beach). **Herringbone** is a design gem with 100-year-old olive trees and twinkling lights; don't miss Top Chef Brian Malarkey's shrimp 'n' grits or whole-fish ceviche (7837 Herschel Ave., La Jolla). **Point Loma Seafoods**, a harborside fish market and café, bustles with happy diners because the clam chowder and breaded seafood served with house-made tartar sauce are delicious (2805 Emerson St., Point Loma).

## □ WHITE TABLECLOTH ELEGANCE

For more formal dining and service, artisanal French contemporary cuisine is complemented by an award-winning wine list at **Addison**, the signature restaurant at Fairmont Grand Del Mar, headed by James Beard-nominated chef William Bradley. (5200 Grand Del Mar Way, Carmel Valley). Book a high-tide breakfast at **The Marine Room** (2000 Spindrift Drive, La Jolla) and watch waves crash against the picture windows while sipping mimosas and enjoying Grand Marnier chocolate brioche French toast. At **A.R. Valentien**, chef Jeff Jackson prepares the seasonal dishes for a weekly family-style dinner on the restaurant's lovely terrace overlooking Torrey Pines Golf Course (11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla). **1500 Ocean** is The Del's signature oceanfront restaurant, spotlighting California coastal cuisine. The hotel's fresh herb and vegetable gardens supply the chefs with flavorful ingredients, as do the local single-line anglers (1500 Orange Ave., Coronado).

Continued on pg. 64





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(760) 453-2940

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SUNDAY 4:30P-9:00P  
BAR OPEN AT 4:30P DAILY  
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❑ **HOT SPOTS**

Tables at these restaurants are in high demand. **Coasterra**'s sprawling bayfront locale gives diners one of the best views of the city skyline (880 Harbor Island Drive, Harbor Island). Top Chef All-Stars season eight winner Richard Blais made his mark in San Diego with **Juniper and Ivy** (2228 Kettner Blvd., Little Italy), and its inventive cuisine has elevated the city's dining. **Kettner Exchange** (2001 Kettner Blvd., Little Italy) is a sleek two-story restaurant and rooftop lounge with DJs, cabanas, fire pits, craft cocktails and delish gourmet bites. Locals love the funky decor and farm-chic spin on Italian cuisine at **Cucina Urbana** (505 Laurel St., Bankers Hill) and the gorgeous design of **The Patio on Goldfinch**, with its fireplaces and huge plant wall (4020 Goldfinch St., Mission Hills). For upscale gourmet tacos and vibrant scenes, visit **Galaxy Taco** (2259 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla) and **Bracero Cocina de Raíz** (1490 Kettner Blvd., Little Italy).



Coasterra

❑ **WALK-UP/COUNTER SERVICE**

Some of the city's best eats are found at casual spots with counter service. **Wow Wow Waffle** is hidden behind a laundromat, but the sweet and savory Belgian street waffles and lemonade in mason jars are worth seeking out. (3519 30th St., North Park). Food hall **Pan Bon** has plenty of options for breakfast on the go: a pastry station stocked with croissants, delectable Italian desserts and even breakfast pizza (1450 Kettner Blvd., Little Italy). For a quick but satisfying lunch, get shawarma, falafel and house-made flatbread baked in a traditional saj oven at **Mama's Bakery & Deli** (4237 Alabama

St., University Heights) or choose a slice from 20 different New York-style pies at **Pizzeria Luigi** (2121 El Cajon Blvd., North Park; 1137 25th Street, Golden Hill). Multiple incarnations of **Tender Greens** can be found around town, as locals love their healthier fare served fast: big salads, sandwiches, soups and hot entrees like salt-and-pepper chicken.

❑ **FEELING ADVENTUROUS?**

Try the exotic meat dishes at **S&M Sausage and Meat**, such as elk meatloaf and house-made alligator andouille (4130 Park Blvd., University Heights). **Carnitas' Snack Shack** is a "pork palace" that's garnered a cult following, and locals are happy to stand in line for the "triple threat" sandwich with pork loin schnitzel, pulled pork and bacon (2632 University Ave., North Park; 12873 El Camino Real, Carmel Valley). Make the trip to **Flying Pig Pub & Kitchen** in Vista for farm-fresh cuisine, steak butchered in-house and craft beer (230 S. Santa Fe Ave.).



Galaxy Taco

**SUCCULENT SEAFOOD**

**BEST SUSHI**



❑ **Sushi Ota**  
Arguably the most authentic Japanese food south of Los Angeles can be found here.  
📍 4529 Mission Bay Drive, Pacific Beach

❑ **Nobu**  
Find chef Nobu Matsuhisa's signature Japanese fusion dishes, like yellowtail sashimi with jalapeño and black cod with miso, in a fine dining setting.  
📍 207 Fifth Ave., Gaslamp Quarter

❑ **Kaito**  
Surrender to the chef and opt to dine omakase at the sushi bar at this casual North County restaurant.  
📍 130 N. El Camino Real, Encinitas

❑ **Sushi Tadokoro**  
This sushi spot is all about fresh fish and authentic presentation: There is no fake crab or overly stuffed rolls.  
📍 2244 San Diego Ave., Old Town

❑ **Zen 5 Sushi**  
Zen 5 stands out for its extensive roll menu with more than 40 creative combinations.  
📍 1130 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach





CALI-BAJA CHEF

# TREY FOSHEE

One of San Diego's finest chefs and the force behind George's at the Cove, Trey opened Galaxy Taco in 2015, exploring his passion for Cali-Baja cuisine. Trey is also an SDTA Ambassador and your Guide to the Good Stuff.

**Why Galaxy Taco?** I have a passion for Mexican culture, both food and otherwise. And the whole range of agave products fascinates me.

**What's exciting about Cali-Baja cuisine?** That it helps to break down the border. It shows that our "region" is not defined by a wall. It allows us to showcase the incredible products our region produces and it fits with the lifestyle.

**What can visitors find on Galaxy's menu?** Hamachi sashimi with charred jalapeño, queso fundido with chorizo, braised pork shoulder and beans, Baja fish tacos, churros with Mexican chocolate and more.

**Tell us about your epic, non-GMO, hand-made heirloom corn tortillas:** They're the

foundation of everything we do. They're a big financial and space commitment, but I didn't want to do a Mexican place without taking the foundation of the cuisine seriously.

**Best thing about San Diego living?** The healthy lifestyle, beach, mountains and the fact that it's close to Mexico.

**Favorite family activity?** Going to the beach and exploring Tijuana.

**Most inspiring neighborhood to explore?** Barrio Logan.

**Best spot to take out-of-town guests?** La Jolla.

**When you're not cooking, you're...** traveling or thinking about traveling, surfing and trying to stay in shape.

Hear more from Trey Foshee about Cali-Baja cuisine at [sandiego.org/campaigns/good-stuff](http://sandiego.org/campaigns/good-stuff).

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Top 15 New Restaurants in  
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Galaxy Taco



Tacos Perla

**EAT THIS**

**TOP TACOS**

**□ Tacos Perla**

North Park's hipster spot whips up a nice mahimahi taco with mango salsa or grilled octopus with chile de árbol sauce. And yes, you can get crispy crickets as a topping here.

📍 3000 Upas St., North Park

**□ Mariscos Nine Seas Seafood**

This South Park food truck has a steady line, as devotees love receiving free fish soup while waiting for their smoked marlin tacos or shrimp ceviche loaded with avocado.

📍 3030 Grape St. South Park

**□ El Pueblo**

This gas station taco shop offers up 99-cent fish tacos daily.

📍 820 Birmingham Drive, Cardiff-by-the-Sea

**□ Tacos El Panson**

This no-frills place is about smoky meats cooked to perfection. Try the wood-fire grilled carne asada cradled in made-to-order warm tortillas, or the adobada carved off the spit.

📍 4433 El Cajon Blvd. City Heights



GALAXY TACO: LUIS GARCIA; TACOS PERLA: SAM WELLS

# Cali-Baja Cuisine

Combine San Diego's abundance of fresh seafood, pulled-from-the-ground produce from more than 5,000 farms and the influence of nearby Mexico, and you've got a compelling new cuisine. At the intersection of two cultures, Cali-Baja is a delicious mix of California seasonal and coastal food with Baja Mediterranean fare, ideally paired with San Diego and Baja's exquisite craft beers or boutique wines.

**□ BRACERO COCINA DE RAÍZ**

Chef Plascencia champions this cuisine at his beautiful bilevel eatery in Little Italy, where beef cheek street tacos, wood-fire grilled octopus and shrimp ceviche tostadas with avocado color the menu. Explore the bounty of Baja wines from Guadalupe Valley on Bracero's top-rate wine list.

📍 1490 Kettner Blvd., Little Italy

**□ COASTERRA**

This bayfront beauty delivers spectacular skyline views and creative modern Mexican cuisine. Post up on the patio and savor chef-owner Deborah Scott's mussels with chorizo, carne asada nachos or spicy calamari with cilantro-jicama salad.

📍 880 Harbor Island Drive, Harbor Island

**□ GALAXY TACO**

Chef Trey Foshee from George's at the Cove takes on tacos at this colorful coastal eatery in La Jolla Shores. Try his mahi ceviche tostada, the michelada-steamed mussels in tomato broth with wood-grilled bread or the grilled avocado and creamy corn salad taco on handmade blue corn tortillas, all perfect with a margarita after a day at the beach.

📍 2259 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla

**□ PUESTO**

Bold, colorful graffiti, eye-catching design, crafty cocktails and award-winning tacos set the scene at both outposts of Puesto. Try the grilled swordfish tacos, or the Mexican Street Bowl with seasonal fruits and veggies dressed up with chili, sea salt and lime juice.

📍 1026 Wall St., La Jolla;  
789 West Harbor Drive, downtown

**□ THE BLIND BURRO**

This lively bar scene and eatery impresses with its twists on traditional Mexican cuisine and its outstanding tequila list. Order up the sweet potato chorizo taquitos or Baja seafood cocktail with shrimp, scallops and octopus.

📍 639 J St., downtown

**□ ¡SALUD!**

Set in Barrio Logan, near the colorful street murals of Chicano Park, this lively taco spot serves up gourmet tacos like tender carnitas with avocado cream on handmade tortillas. The Taco de Barrio is stewed beef with nopal cactus and beans. Fun lowrider and skate culture decor, murals, communal tables, salsa bar and more.

📍 2196 Logan Ave., Barrio Logan





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# Eat Around the World

Enjoy cuisine from across the globe at these tasty eateries.

## ITALIAN: BIGA

Fast-casual Italian at affordable prices defines this all-day eatery, where Neapolitan-style pizzas start at seven bucks and sandwiches made from freshly baked bread are less than \$10.

📍 950 Sixth Ave., Gaslamp Quarter

**Tip:** The sandwiches are large enough for two meals. And don't forget to order one of the dipping sauces.

## RUSSIAN: KAFE SOBAKA RESTORAN POMEGRANATE

Familiar favorites like borscht and beef stroganoff can be found here, but venturing into unexplored culinary territory with exciting dishes like khachapuri (cheese pie topped with a sunny-side-up egg), shashlik (fire-roasted kebabs basted with pomegranate molasses) or chanakhi (lamb stew) is more rewarding.

📍 2469 Broadway, Golden Hill

**Tip:** Servers here are experts in helping first-time diners navigate the menu, so don't be afraid to ask for suggestions.

## INDIAN: ASHOKA THE GREAT

Regulars at this Miramar mainstay make the drive out for award-winning curries, specialty dishes cooked in a tandoor (a cylindrical clay oven) and innovative desserts like homemade cheese medallions in honey rose water. An affordable lunch and dinner buffet offers variety for diners who don't care to be limited by menu selections.

📍 9474 Black Mountain Road, Suite G, Miramar

**Tip:** All dishes can be ordered mild, medium or hot. Err on the side of caution.



Don't miss the creative pasta dishes at Biga.

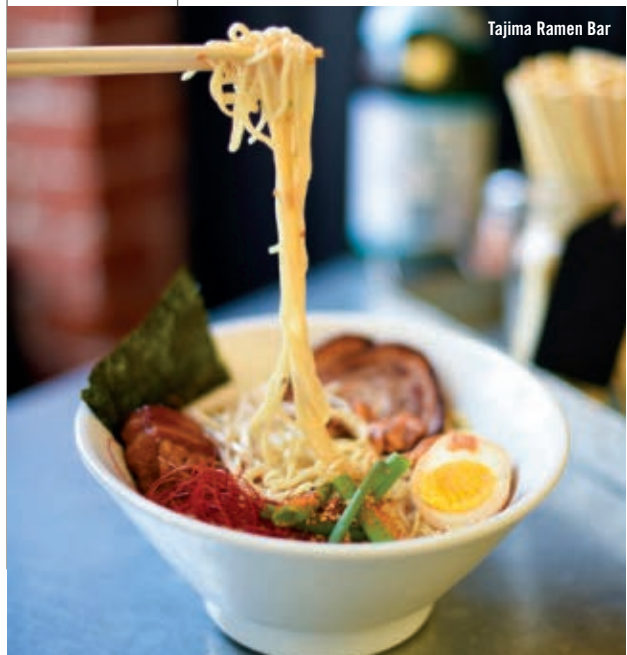
## JAPANESE: TAJIMA RAMEN BAR

Tajima is a local noodle empire, and their approachable menu lets you build your ramen bowl from the toppings down to the broth, with gluten-free noodles and vegan options as well. Don't miss the popular spicy sesame ramen, topped with ground pork and fried garlic.

📍 901 E St., East Village

**Tip:** Several izakaya-style appetizers, like gyoza (pan-fried pork dumplings) and rice bowls are standouts on the menu.

*Continued on page 70*



Tajima Ramen Bar



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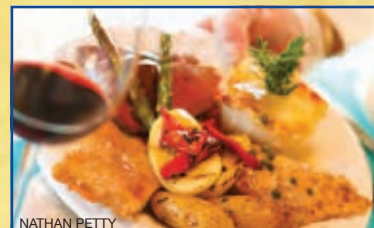
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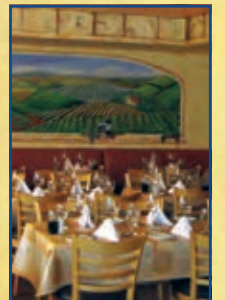
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Sovereign

**FILIPINO: OCEAN PACIFIC GRILL**

This sleek eatery delivers a modern spin on Filipino cuisine. The chef, a veteran of Roy's, puts pork sisig in tacos and flavors baby back ribs with adobo sauce. There's also more traditional dishes like green papaya salad, lumpia and seabass with crispy skin.

📍 531 F St., Gaslamp Quarter

**Tip:** Try the *tocino* (sweet, cured slabs of pork belly) on toast with burrata, roasted tomatoes and balsamic reduction.

**VIETNAMESE: SOVEREIGN**

Two-time Michelin Bib Award-winning chef Michael "Bao" Huynh presides over this modern Vietnamese restaurant in the Gaslamp Quarter, with an exciting menu stocked with items like fish sauce chicken wings, sizzling cuttlefish and banana spring roll sundaes for dessert.

📍 467 Fifth Ave., Gaslamp Quarter

**Tip:** Food Shop, the restaurant's grab-and-go kitchen, serves a tasty selection of pho, banh mi sandwiches and wok dishes at affordable prices.

**ERITREAN/ETHIOPIAN: MUZITA ABYSSINIAN BISTRO**

Multiple vegetarian and vegan specialties pair nicely with a traditional honey wine called tej, favored in East Africa.

📍 4651 Park Blvd., University Heights

**Tip:** Make sure to wash up before dining, as you'll be eating with your hands.

**BRAZILIAN: REI DO GADO BRAZILIAN STEAKHOUSE**

This churrascaria offers an all-you-can-eat carnivore's dream. Choose from 20 different cuts of mesquite-grilled beef, lamb and chicken presented on a swordlike skewer and cut at the table. Make a trip to the salad bar for hot and cold sides and wash it all down with a caipirinha.

📍 939 Fourth Ave., Gaslamp Quarter

**Tip:** Use the indicator on your table to signal to the server: Flip it to green when you want more meat, and to red when you're full.



Rei Do Gado Brazilian Steakhouse

**EXPLORE**

**TASTE OF THAILAND**

**Sab-E-Lee**

This beloved destination for authentic Issan-style Thai food is worth the drive from anywhere in the county. Must-order dishes include thick and fragrant panang curry, chili-spiked drunken noodles, and larb salads with citrus and mint.

📍 6925 Linda Vista Road, Suite B, Linda Vista



**Saffron**

Owner Su-Mei Yu has received national press for her creative recipes and healthy approach to Thai cooking. Be sure to try the Thai-style rotisserie chicken with jasmine rice and refreshing Cambodian salad, tom yum soups, stir fry dishes and curries.

📍 3731 India St., Mission Hills

**Supanee House of Thai**

The food here is big on presentation as well as flavor: Seafood curry comes in a coconut, tropical fried rice fills in a hollowed pineapple and fried fish is brought to the table whole. Start the meal with the Instagrammable ladyfingers appetizer—garlic shrimp wrapped in fried wontons.

📍 2907 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma

SOVEREIGN: PAUL BODY





# FEATURED in

### Zagat

"The 10 Hottest New Restaurants in San Diego"

### Eater San Diego

"The Hottest Restaurants in San Diego Right Now"

### San Diego Magazine

"Best Things I Ate This Month"  
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**2016**

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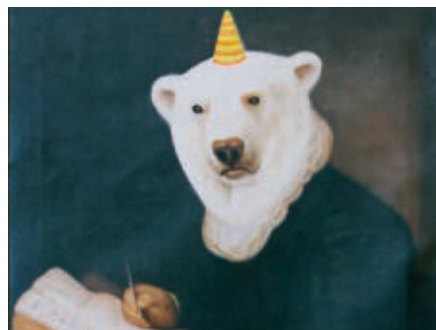
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619.810.2929 • TRUEFOODKITCHEN.COM



### PUESTO

Puesto is a popular San Diego restaurant that successfully mixes a casual attitude with an original twist on tacos and margaritas. La Jolla: 858.454.1260 | San Diego: 619.233.8880

EATPUESTO.COM



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# LIBATIONS

CRAFT BEER // DRINKS WITH A VIEW // WINES

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San Diego proudly stands as one of the nation's craft beer capitals, home to hoppy IPAs, Belgian-style sippers and more than 120 exciting breweries. We've also got our fair share of distilleries producing small-batch handcrafted spirits, countryside vineyards and urban wineries with open doors for wine tastings and tours.





Modern Times

# Craft Beer

With more than 120 small craft breweries, including dozens of national and international award winners, San Diego is abuzz over its thriving and rapidly expanding craft brew scene. Here's a guide to some of the best breweries and beer pubs in town.

## MODERN TIMES

Quirky decor, including a wall of comic books and a mural constructed with Post-it notes, is the backdrop for inventive brews on 16 taps such as Fortune Islands, a wheat beer infused with tropical aromatics, and Black House, an oatmeal coffee stout made with house-roasted beans.

📍 3725 Greenwood St., Point Loma; additional tasting room at 3000 Upas St. in North Park

## STONE BREWING WORLD BISTRO & GARDENS

Stone's immense facilities boast farm-to-table dining, brewery tours, movie nights and a merchandise outlet, but in the end, it's all about the beer. The menu is loaded with draft and bottled craft brews, including Stone's signature Arrogant Bastard Ale and top-notch suds from other local breweries.

📍 1999 Citracado Pkwy, Escondido and 2816 Historic Decatur Road, Point Loma



## BILLION-DOLLAR BREW

Ballast Point's sale to Constellation Brands for \$1 billion blew the minds of local suds connoisseurs and dominated headlines and gossip in San Diego last fall. Ballast Point started as Home Brew Mart in 1992 and grew to be one of the region's top-producing breweries. Known for its tasty Sculpin IPA, it also has a distillery and makes flavored vodkas, whiskey and rum. Talk about putting San Diego on the global craft beer map!

📍 [ballastpoint.com](http://ballastpoint.com)

## MISSION BREWERY

Housed in the historic Wonder Bread building (built in 1894) near Petco Park, this brewery sports an open layout affording views of brewmasters working their magic while patrons sample flights of ale. Try the Shipwrecked Double IPA or their Hard Root Beer, a handcrafted adult twist on a classic soda. This dog- and kid-friendly brewery also has a 1930s competition-length shuffleboard and food trucks out back.

📍 1441 L St., East Village



## ALESMITH BREWING COMPANY

This local favorite recently marked its 20th anniversary by moving to a larger facility and unveiling a 25,000-square-foot tasting room (the largest in San Diego County) with 60 taps, an outdoor beer garden and food trucks. Don't miss the award-winning Speedway Stout or Pale Ale .394, and visit their new Tony Gwynn Museum honoring the Hall of Famer.

📍 9990 AleSmith Ct., Miramar



## THE LOST ABBEY

Beer fans trek here to taste some of the most thoughtfully blended, esoteric and hard-to-come-by barrel-aged creations on Earth, like Duck Duck Gooze, a blend of young and old ales aged in French oak wine barrels, and Red Barn Ale, an intoxicating spiced saison ale brewed with orange peel and ginger.

📍 155 Mata Way, San Marcos

## GREEN FLASH BREWING COMPANY

This award-winning brewery is known for its robust, take-no-prisoners brews like the Palate Wrecker, an explosive, hoppy double IPA. The tasting room is stocked with 30-plus taps, and rotating food trucks serve up good eats. Stop by on Sunday morning for Hoppy Yoga, followed by a pint.

📍 6550 Mira Mesa Blvd., Mira Mesa

## BAGBY BEER COMPANY

This craft beer hub offers multilevel dining, a barrel-side tasting room, four bars, a giant outdoor patio and decks with ocean views. With 18 house-brewed beers on tap and a solid selection of upscale pub grub—everything is made in-house except the bread and tortillas—it's a must-visit.

📍 601 S. Coast Hwy., Oceanside



Green Flash Brewing Company

## HELIX BREWING CO.

La Mesa's latest suds post is a tastefully designed, happening spot in the commercial warehouse district. Though the brainchild of young brewmaster and engineer Cameron Ball, this project became a community effort as many locals pitched in to see Helix Brewing succeed. Weekends are packed with families, dogs and beer connoisseurs enjoying Ball's 1492 hoppy IPA, gourmet eats from pop-ups and live music. A giant potted tree anchors the patio with counter seating, where patrons play board games, talk beer and socialize. Helix Brewing Co. gets it right.

📍 8101 Commercial St, La Mesa

## 5 TO TRY: UNUSUAL SAN DIEGO BREWS



**Ballast Point Habanero Sculpin**  
Heaps of habanero chilies crank up the heat in this hoppy IPA. For those who can handle the fire, it's a favorite.



**Aztec Brewery Hibiscus Wheat**  
Hibiscus petals, ginger and allspice bring spicy, floral and citrus undertones to this refreshing hefeweizen.



**Coronado Brewing Company Blue Bridge Coffee Stout**  
Beer drinkers and coffee drinkers alike will love this dry stout brewed with dark roasted coffee beans from San Diego-based roaster Café Moto.



**Modern Times Fruitlands Sour Fruit Gose**  
Fruit-forward, salty and tart, these are great for summer and come in flavors like apricot, passion fruit and guava, and sour cherry.



**Belching Beaver Peanut Butter Milk Stout**  
This stout is dessert in a glass. Full-bodied and sweet, it's aromatic of and tastes like dark chocolate Reese's.

## SUDS CITY

### FOUR GREAT PUB STOPS

#### The Brew Project

Don't have time to book a brewery tour? This new bar lets you sample the region's best beers without leaving the city, since it pours only locally made suds from two dozen taps. Enjoy a cold one with carne asada fries on the sidewalk patio.

📍 3683 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest

#### Barrel Republic

Customize your own tasting adventure at this self-serve bar with more than 40 digitally controlled taps. Pay by the ounce to sample ales, ciders and specialty beers, or pour a whole pint of your favorite.

📍 1261 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach; 215 N. Coast Hwy., Oceanside

#### Monkey Paw Pub & Brewery

Owned by the same craft beer enthusiast behind the award-winning Hamiltons Tavern, this pub brews its own line of hop-forward beers and serves indulgent snacks like "stoner fries" and fried pretzels.

📍 805 16th St., East Village

#### Toronado

A landmark on San Diego's 30th Street (aka Beer Street), this watering hole has been regularly named one of the country's best beer bars. Here you'll find 60 rotating taps, burgers, sausage sandwiches and a late-night menu.

📍 4026 30th St., North Park



# Drinks with a View

Make happy hour even happier by sipping surfside or gazing at the city lights from an airy perch with a craft cocktail in hand.

## THE NOLEN

The city's newest rooftop lounge serves throwback cocktails in a chic, open-air bar. Try the Dirty Girl (an old-fashioned with spicy chai) or any of the "hoptails" (beer cocktails) and soak in the skyline. Daily drink specials 5–7 p.m.

📍 453 Sixth Ave., Gaslamp Quarter

## TOP OF THE HYATT

The penthouse bar, 40 stories up, was recently remodeled to give every seat an unobstructed view of the bay and beyond. Order the refreshing Enlightened Pearfection with the option to keep the martini glass and shaker. Weekday special offers rotate quarterly.

📍 1 Market Pl., Marina District

## CANNONBALL

Watching the sunset from this sprawling oceanfront restaurant overlooking Mission Beach should be high on your San Diego summertime to-do list. Sushi and sake, fire pits, beachy craft cocktails and epic views set the scene. Food and drink specials 4–6 p.m. Tuesday–Friday, and from 4 p.m. to close on Mondays.

📍 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach

## GEORGE'S GASTROBAR

The watering hole on the second level of iconic George's at the Cove has a new menu and decor. Take in the view of the cove while enjoying house-infused vodkas, clever cocktails and tasty tacos.

📍 1250 Prospect St., La Jolla



Don't miss the vintage cocktails at The Nolen.

## PACIFIC COAST GRILL

The shaded patio at this two-story restaurant is right on the beach—the perfect spot to watch surfers and dolphins while unwinding with a margarita. Pair your cocktail with the blackened sashimi-grade ahi appetizer: yellowfin tuna wrapped around lump crab with a wasabi-citrus sauce.

📍 2526 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Cardiff-by-the-Sea



## ALTITUDE SKY LOUNGE

Dress to impress and watch a Padres game from 22 stories up. Grab a seat along the railing for clear views of home plate at Petco Park and the Coronado Bridge, or relax by the fire pit. Happy hour 5–7 p.m., Monday–Friday.

📍 600 K St., Gaslamp Quarter

## MASTER MIXOLOGIST

### MEET FRANKIE THAHELD

**His Libation Locations:** Tidal, Bottega Americano, Wellington Room, Americana Restaurant, Pony Room and George's California Modern, to name a few.

**What Makes a Great Cocktail:** Consistency, integrity, creativity, and just a bit of levity.

**Favorite Local Distillery:** Old Harbor  
**San Diego's Craft Cocktail Culture:** I see it as a seesaw between precision pre-prohibition and more creative culinary

styles. The best bars utilize both elements with balance.

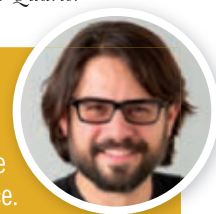
**Trends for 2016:** Cold-brewed coffee cocktails, tea-based cocktails and health-oriented juices laced with spirits.

**Dive Bar:** Turf Supper Club

**Best Craft Cocktails:** The Lion's Share

**Secret Ingredient:** Dr. Adam Elmegirab's Dandelion & Burdock Bitters

📍 [snakeoilcocktail.com](http://snakeoilcocktail.com)





CRAFT BEER KING

# MIKE HINKLEY

Mike is the co-founder and CEO of Green Flash Brewing Company, an innovative trailblazer in San Diego's craft brew industry. He oversees the 45,000-square-foot, 100,000-barrel capacity brewery; the tasting room and packaging facility at Cellar 3; and 120 employees. He's also an SDTA Ambassador and your Guide to the Good Stuff.

**What's most exciting to you about the San Diego craft beer scene?** The wild array of different takes on beer.

**What should beer lovers not miss in San Diego?** The tasting rooms in the actual breweries. By taking in the sights, sounds and smells, you can really get an idea of what the brewery is truly all about.

**What's new at Green Flash?** We recently launched a brewery shuttle that loops between the Sorrento Mesa Coaster stop, the Green Flash Mira Mesa brewery and Cellar 3 in Poway. Now craft beer enthusiasts can visit two awesome tasting rooms in one day and leave the car at home.

**Favorite brewpubs?** It's a three-way tie between Hamiltons, O'Brien's and Pizza Port. They are the OGs. They were doing this before everyone jumped on the bandwagon. And they still do it better than anyone.

**Best food pairing with your Soul Style IPA?** A Hodad's burger. No doubt. I'm going there today. Thanks for reminding me.

**Any new breweries to keep an eye out for?** Societe is the best of the new generation—hands down. Best beer, best people.

**Greatest thing about San Diego living?** It's the best combination of beach and beer anywhere in the world!



Hear more from Mike Hinkley about craft brew culture at [sandiego.org/campaigns/good-stuff](http://sandiego.org/campaigns/good-stuff).

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Altipiano Vineyard & Winery



# Exquisite Wines

Escondido is sprinkled with more than twenty wineries, comprising everything from urban tasting rooms to sprawling estates and hilltop terraces with mesmerizing views. San Diego is blossoming as a wine country paradise. Here are a few compelling spots to sip, sit back and relax.

## ALTIPIANO VINEYARD & WINERY

Vintner Denise Clarke and husband Peter Clarke own this pretty winery, home to sangiovese grosso, barbera, cabernet sauvignon and petite sirah vines. The patio of their Mediterranean-style home is peppered with happy people sipping Denise's award-winning, robust wines. Don't miss the 2013 Estate Brunello Sangioveses Reserve—a velvety and fruit-forward beauty with notes of spice and caramel. Tastings: Fri.–Sun. 12–6 p.m. [📍 20365 Camino Del Aguila, Escondido](#)

## DOMAINE ARTEFACT WINERY

Winemaker Mark Robinson, who spent time elevating his craft in Paso Robles, makes nine Rhône-style wines at this lovely, bucolic estate. The flirty Grenache Rose and crisp Les Beaux Blanc white blend are both perfect summertime sippers, while impressive reds include a full-bodied syrah, earthy mourvèdre and two notable GSM blends.



Rolling hills, roaming dogs, horse-filled pastures and an umbrella-dotted alfresco tasting patio set the scene. Tasting: Sat.–Sun. 12–6 p.m. [📍 15404 Highland Valley Road](#)

## HUNGRY HAWK VINEYARDS AND WINERY

Take a vineyard tour of the property's 15 varietals or drink in amazing views of San Pasqual Valley and soaring hawks from the patio. Winemaker Mike Embly and his father, Ed, are producing well-crafted reds, and their estate-grown tempranillo is a knockout, one of the best in San Diego. Another surprise can be found in their non-syrupy blueberry wine—refreshing, light and original. Tastings: Fri.–Sun. 12–6 p.m. [📍 3255 Summit Drive](#)

## CORDIANO WINERY

This family-owned winery and pizzeria sits high on a hill overlooking San Pasqual Valley. Originally from Calabria, Italy, Gerardo and Rosa Cordiano created a pizzeria empire in the southern U.S., and then brought their talents to Escondido and fulfilled their dream of winemaking. Cordiano Winery serves up beautiful thin-crust pizzas and stellar views of the valley, orchards, and horse farms from their high-perch decks. Try their full-bodied cab Franc, herbaceous and ripe with cherries and plums. Tasting: Wed.–Sun. 11 a.m.–8 p.m. [📍 15732 Highland Valley Road, Escondido](#)

### A FAMILY AFFAIR

## ESCONDIDO'S URBAN WINERY CO-OP

Vesper Vineyards and Stehleon Vineyards share an urban tasting room in an industrial park, where local winemaking couple Chris Broomell and Alysha Stehly are producing sophisticated wines from local San Diego County grapes. Broomell, who makes Vesper's wines, is known for single-vineyard varieties like his McCormick Ranch Carignan or Rancho Guejito Vineyard Rosé. Alysha, a UC Davis grad and the force behind Stehleon, is the winemaker for her father, Al Stehly, and uses her dad's own locally grown grapes. Try her 2013 Rancho Guejito Rockwood Vineyard Rose, a complex and compelling sipper made from 100 percent grenache, and take home a refillable 1-liter growler of your favorite Vesper wine. Tasting Room: Fri.–Sat. noon–6 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. [📍 298 Enterprise St. Ste. D, Escondido](#)

For more info on Escondido wineries, check out [visitescondido.com](http://visitescondido.com).





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# ARTS & CULTURE

BALBOA PARK // HISTORY // ART IN THE CITY // THEATER & MUSIC

Balboa Park



With a vast array of theaters, thought-provoking museums and compelling historical sites, San Diego's arts and culture scene is booming both with established destinations and new creativity. Summer calls for performances under the stars, picnics in the parks and strolls through the city's past. Art is everywhere; immerse yourself.





Botanical Building and Lily Pond

# Balboa Park

Referred to as the “Smithsonian of the West,” Balboa Park is a 1200-acre urban oasis with gorgeous gardens, striking architecture, a world-famous zoo and 17 museums. Here is a sampling of not-to-miss exhibits at the park.

## □ MINGEI INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM

The Mingei returns to its origins with a show exploring Japanese arts of daily life, featuring 19th-century Shinto *ema* paintings, indigo-dyed bedclothes, doorway hangings, baskets, tea kettles and pots, pottery, kimonos, toys and dolls. *April–Oct.*

📍 1439 El Prado, Balboa Park

## □ MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS (MOPA)

Set in the lovely Casa de Balboa building, MOPA has an outstanding permanent collection, from 19th-century daguerreotypes to modern-day photography, film and video. Look for the *Beauty and the Beast* exhibition, which examines animals in photography in celebration of the San Diego Zoo Centennial. *May 28–Oct. 9*

📍 1649 El Prado, Balboa Park

## A HAVEN OF CULTURE

### EXPLORING BALBOA PARK

Stroll the beautiful **Japanese Friendship Garden** with its koi pond, bonsai trees, tea garden and cherry tree grove. Get inspired at the **Spanish Village Art Center**, home to 37 studios and 200 San Diego County artists. Enjoy a free concert at **Spreckels Organ Pavilion**, with (as of this April) the world’s largest outdoor pipe organ (Sundays 2 to 3 p.m. and Mondays 7:30 p.m. during summer). Catch **The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory** musicians rehearsing on Saturdays and Sundays in Casa del Prado for free classical music (Feb.–early June). **The San Diego Civic Youth Ballet** transforms the park into an enchanted forest during the eighth annual Fairy Tales in the Park, an interactive ballet experience with dancing storybook characters, perfect for families (Aug. 20–21). [balboapark.org](http://balboapark.org)



🕒 Built in the early 1900s, the Botanical Building houses more than 2,100 plants, like orchids, ferns and palms.

## □ SAN DIEGO AIR & SPACE MUSEUM

The story of aviation unfolds at this museum, which celebrates flight, space exploration and technology. A special exhibit, *Da Vinci: The Ultimate Innovator*, vividly brings to life the renowned genius’s inventions, artworks, machines and robotics, revealing how his conceptual designs for many technological wonders we take for granted today were centuries ahead of their time. *Through 2016*

📍 2001 Pan American Plaza, Balboa Park

## □ SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM (theNAT)

A portal into the natural world, this museum explores evolution, biodiversity and the planet’s incredible species. Get eye to eye with the leviathans of the sea at the *Whales: Giants of the Deep* exhibit, an amazing collection of rare whale specimens from New Zealand. *March 19–Sept. 6*

📍 1788 El Prado, Balboa Park

## □ THE SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART

Feast your eyes on some of the finest still life and landscape paintings from leading Dutch, Flemish, Italian, Spanish and German artists of the 17th and 18th centuries in the exhibition *Brueghel to Canaletto: European Masterpieces from the Grasset Collection* (April 2–Aug. 2).

*Quilts and Color: The Boston Museum of Fine Arts* (May 28–Sept. 4) celebrates the vibrant color palette and inventive designs from the Pilgrim/Roy quilt collection (May 28–Sept. 4). 📍 1450 El Prado, Balboa Park



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USS Midway Museum

# History

San Diego is rich with blasts from the past, ranging from scenic parks full of architectural wonders and historic buildings to museums, missions and monuments, each with an enticing story to tell.



California Tower

## □ CALIFORNIA TOWER

Climb the 125 stairs of this iconic tower at the Museum of Man and drink in the views of Balboa Park, Coronado, Point Loma and more. The 150-year-old structure has been retrofitted and reopened after being closed for 80 years.  
📍 1350 El Prado, Balboa Park

## □ USS MIDWAY MUSEUM

Relive nearly 50 years of world history on the longest-serving U.S. Navy aircraft carrier of the 20th century. Admission includes a self-guided

audio tour through 60 exhibits, ranging from the massive engine room to the bunks and the brig. Kids love the climb-aboard cockpits and flight simulators.  
📍 910 N. Harbor Drive, downtown

## □ HOTELS WITH HISTORY

Architecture fans should tour the city's historic hotels. Top picks include downtown favorites **The US Grant** (326 Broadway) and **The Horton Grand Hotel** (311 Island Ave.), along with **La Jolla's Grande Colonial Hotel** (910 Prospect St.) and Coronado's **Hotel del Coronado** (1500 Orange Ave.).

## □ MARITIME MUSEUM OF SAN DIEGO

Climb aboard historic ships, ranging from an American research submarine and the HMS *Surprise* (star of *Master and Commander* and *Pirates of the Caribbean 4*) to the iconic *Star of India*, an iron sailing ship built in 1863.  
📍 1492 N. Harbor Drive, Embarcadero

## □ OLD TOWN SAN DIEGO STATE PARK

This 12-acre 1800s landmark, the first Spanish settlement on the U.S. West Coast, features colorful bazaars, Mexican eateries, and early architecture like Casa de Estudillo, a 13-room adobe hacienda.  
📍 San Diego Ave. and Twiggs St., Old Town



More than 1.4 million visitors boarded the USS Midway in 2015 alone.



The US Grant Hotel

### STEP INTO HISTORY

## CABRILLO NATIONAL MONUMENT



Visiting this expansive national park—and location of Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo's historic 16th-century landing—is a history lesson and nature expedition rolled into one.

📍 1800 Cabrillo Memorial Drive, Point Loma

### □ Visitor Center

Start your trip here and see the *Age of Exploration* exhibit, view the schedule of events, get your National Parks Passport stamped and look through the bulls-eye of a lighthouse lens.

### □ Hiking

Take in views of San Diego Bay and the downtown skyline on Bayside Trail or amazing coastal views on the Coastal Tidepool Trail.

### □ Tide Pools

Come here at low tide to see flowery anemones, octopi, spongy deadman's fingers and other elusive sea creatures.

### □ Old Point Loma Lighthouse

Travel back in time to the 1800s via this fully restored lighthouse, and take an interactive history lesson in the adjacent Assistant Keeper's Quarters.

### □ Military History

Learn about Fort Rosecrans at the "They Stood the Watch" exhibit inside a historical radio station building.



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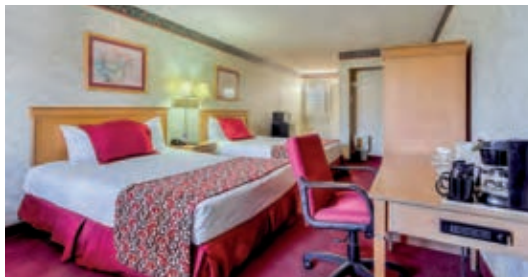
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To see all our events visit [wieghorstmuseum.org](http://wieghorstmuseum.org)  
Friend the Museum on Facebook



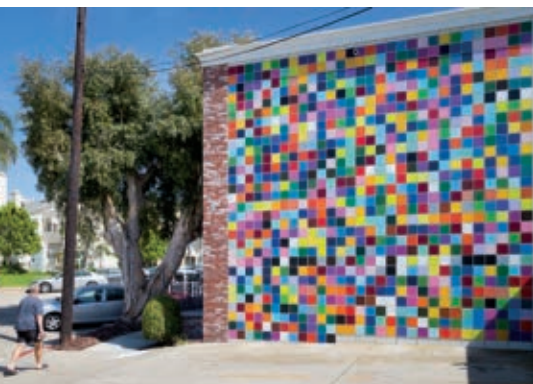
# Art in the City

Fans of the arts will find that San Diego has a wealth of public art on display, from sculptures in parks to collections of colorful murals. Discover beauty and thought-provoking pieces on an art-inspired treasure hunt throughout the city.

## CHICANO PARK MURALS

See the county's largest collection of public murals, located in Chicano Park, under the freeway overpass en route to the Coronado Bridge. The colorful artwork celebrates the history of the local Mexican American community. Murals honoring labor leader and civil rights activist Cesar E. Chavez were recently installed on the façade of the new San Diego Continuing Education parking structure.

📍 1960 National Ave., Barrio Logan, [chicano-park.org](http://chicano-park.org).



## MURALS OF LA JOLLA

Spot all 14 of the dazzling murals splashed around downtown La Jolla. Three new additions were added to the outdoor collection in 2015, including a striking abstract piece by Mark Bradford at 7540 Fay Avenue.

📍 [muralsoflajolla.com](http://muralsoflajolla.com)

## STUART COLLECTION

The University of California, San Diego campus is home to 18 public art pieces,



The artist Invader, known for ceramic-tile mosaics of characters from classic video games like *Space Invaders* and *Pac-Man*, has placed 21 pieces of artwork throughout San Diego. The biggest one is on a wall at G Street and Park Boulevard, whereas the rest are harder to find. See if you can spot them all.

including a 180-ton bear constructed from giant boulders, eucalyptus trees that recite poetry and a tiny house that appears to be teetering on the edge of Jacobs Hall.

📍 [stuartcollection.ucsd.edu](http://stuartcollection.ucsd.edu)

## WATERFRONT PARK

This new county park on San Diego Bay has open green spaces, playgrounds, an interactive fountain and three tiled sculptures by the late French artist Niki de Saint Phalle. Don't miss the "Serpent Tree;" you'll definitely want a photo of it.

📍 1600 Pacific Hwy., Little Italy

## RUOCCO PARK

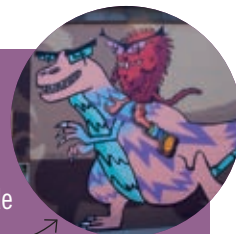
Check out *The Riparium*, an intricate sculpture made of eucalyptus branches that spans 70 feet, at the entrance to this urban park that's right on the water.

📍 585 Harbor Lane, Marina District

## STREET ART

### 3 NOT-TO-MISS MURALS

A few world-famous street artists have made their mark on San Diego. See *Weenosaurus Rex*, an impressive mural by Madsteez of a monster riding a dinosaur (3029 University Ave., North Park), how Shepard Fairey brought a brick wall to life with a colorful image of a monk (30th and Ivy, South Park) and Ewok's ode to singer Amy Winehouse (30th and Redwood, South Park).







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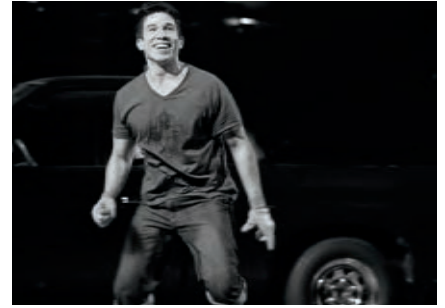


KEN JACQUES

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Anthony's Fish Grotto



# Bravura Theater

Warm summer nights in San Diego are the perfect time to take in some culture. From Shakespeare to the musicals under the stars, the season's full slate of entertainment offers something for everyone.

## THEATER

Big musicals take the stage at **Moonlight Amphitheatre** in Vista this summer season, including *Sister Act* (June 15–July 2), *Peter Pan* (July 20–August 6), *Fiddler on the Roof* (July 29–August 7) and *Titanic: The Musical* (August 17–September 3). **Cygnnet Theatre** in Old Town presents cult favorite *The Rocky Horror Show* (March 10–May 1) and **La Jolla Playhouse** showcases the premiere of *The Last Tiger in Haiti* (June–July).

## SUMMER SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

This year's festival at **The Old Globe** features romantic comedy *Love's Labor's Lost* (August 14–September 18), and the tragedy *Macbeth* (June 19–July 24) at the outdoor Lowell Davis Festival Theatre, plus the musical *Sense and Sensibility* (July 6–August 14).

## BROADWAY SAN DIEGO

Some of the summer's hottest tickets are for touring Broadway productions at the **San Diego Civic Theatre**, including Disney's *Newsies* (May 31–June 5), *Cabaret* (August 23–28) and *The Lion King* (Sept. 7–Oct. 2).



More than 20 shows produced at The Old Globe have gone on to play on Broadway and off-Broadway!



## ALFRESCO FLICKS

### STARRY NIGHT CINEMA

#### Films in the Garden

Catch a classic film screening inside the May S. Marcy Sculpture Garden at this San Diego Museum of Art event on select evenings during the summer. Panama 66, the on-site restaurant, will offer drink and food specials.  
 ♣ 1450 El Prado, Balboa Park

#### Stone Late Night Movies

Enjoy a late-night flick and a brew (or two) at this free event, held on Tuesday evenings throughout the summer at Stone Brewing World Bistro & Gardens, Liberty Station.  
 ♣ 2816 Historic Decatur Road, Suite 116, Point Loma

#### Dive-In Theatre

On Wednesday evenings, head to The Pearl Hotel for dinner in the lounge and a movie projected on a large screen poolside. Scheduled films range from blockbusters to indie features.  
 ♣ 1410 Rosecrans St., Point Loma

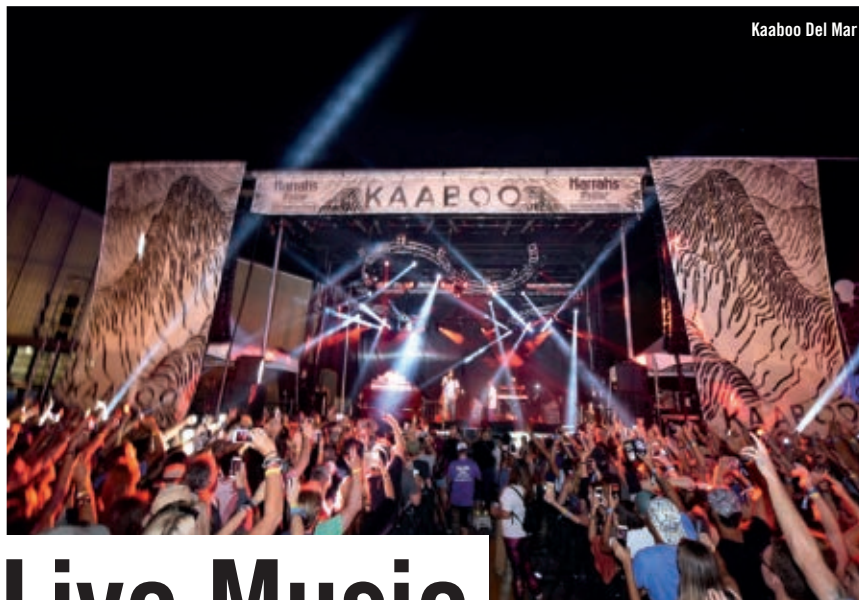
#### Cinema Under the Stars

Kick back in a zero-gravity recliner and take in a classic cult film or current favorite at this outdoor theater.  
 ♣ 4040 Goldfinch St., Mission Hills





Moonlight Amphitheatre



Kaaboo Del Mar

# Live Music

There's no end to great live music in San Diego, from intimate shows at cozy bars to A-listers at arenas, as the city offers something for every musical taste.

## MUSIC FESTIVALS

World-class musicians provide the soundtrack to the summer at the **San Diego Symphony's Summer Pops**, which takes over downtown's Embarcadero Marina Park South for 10 weeks of entertainment (*July 1–September 4*). The **Vans Warped Tour** stops at San Diego's Qualcomm Stadium with more than 20 bands (*Aug. 5*). **Kaaboo Del Mar** is a festival at the Del Mar Fairgrounds that will bring more than 100 musical and comedy acts to seven stages: this year's performances include **Jack Johnson, The Avett Brothers, The Goo Goo Dolls** and **Jeanine Garofalo**. (*September 16–18*.)

### □ THE SODA BAR

This quirky dive bar hosts music seven nights a week—mostly local bands—and has arcade games, a pool table, 20 taps and affordable covers.

📍 3615 El Cajon Blvd., Normal Heights

### □ THE HIDEOUT

This neighborhood bar and music joint is a good place to discover a new or cutting-edge band in a novel ambience with striped wallpaper and black booths, a perfect spot to sip a local craft beer.

📍 3519 El Cajon Blvd., Normal Heights

### □ THE CASBAH

San Diego's iconic hub for rock 'n' roll, this dive bar meets concert venue at the edge of downtown holds around 200 people and showcases everything from name bands to up-and-comers. Good alternative and punk acts, too.

📍 2501 Kettner Blvd., Little Italy

### □ BELLY UP

Solana Beach's outstanding venue, sister to Aspen's Belly Up, hosts big names in a small space (600 max). Look for The Wailers, Bonobo, The English Beat, Rufus Wainwright, Macy Gray, Jimmy Buffet and more.

📍 143 S. Cedros Ave., Solana Beach

### □ MUSIC BOX

This three-story jewel can entertain more than 700 people and serves up a mix of

music from electronica, indie rock and tribute bands to Latin rhythms, '80s nights and name bands.

📍 1337 India St., Little Italy

### □ HUMPHREYS CONCERTS BY THE BAY

You can't beat the waterfront views and open-air setting, featuring A-listers and legends like David Byrne, Steely Dan, The Beach Boys, Ben Harper, Jackson Browne, Bob Dylan and Ringo Starr. Dinner and hotel packages available as well.

📍 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island

### □ THE OBSERVATORY NORTH PARK

This restored 1939 theater is a happening venue attracting talent the likes of Third Eye Blind, Dilated Peoples, Silversun Pickups, and rapper DMX. Lots of indie rock, metal and hip-hop.

📍 2891 University Ave., North Park

### □ SLEEP TRAIN AMPHITHEATRE

This massive outdoor concert space in Chula Vista holds more than 20,000 people and has diverse upcoming acts like The Cure, Slightly Stoopid, Phish, Duran Duran and Brad Paisley.

📍 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista

### □ PETCO PARK

The Padres share their ballpark with big names like Taylor Swift, Paul McCartney, Jewel, Billy Joel, deadmau5 and more.

📍 100 Park Blvd., downtown









Afterglow  
from a colorful  
sunset makes  
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Windansea in  
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*“Windansea”  
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The Museum has the largest collection of aircraft flown by Marine Corps aviators in the world. 27 aircraft on display including the iconic World War II "Wildcat" and the present day F/A-18 "Hornet." Check website for Open Cockpit Days. Sentry-free Museum entrance is on Miramar Road, 3.9 miles east of I-805. Look for the planes and the flags! Parking and admission are always free. Store and Museum open Tues-Sun, 9am – 3:30pm, closed holidays.

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Samsung watches, Shun, Stuart Weitzman, The North Face, Theory, Tumi, Vitamix, Wacoal, Wüsthof, All-Clad, Bridge Designer  
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# ITINERARIES

KIDS & FAMILY // GIRLS' & GUYS' GETAWAYS // BUDGET // PETS // ADVENTURE // LUXURY & ROMANCE // LGBT



Hillcrest Brewing Company



Whether you're looking for an affordable vacation, family fun or an adrenaline-packed adventure, we've got your perfect trip planned out. Here, you'll find expert hotel recommendations, insider restaurant tips and exciting activities in every corner of the city. Plan your trip now.



LEGOLAND  
California

# Kids & Family

With its world-class attractions, miles of beautiful beaches and endless options for tours and excursions, San Diego is heaven for kids, teens and parents who want to join in on the fun.



Wheel Fun Rentals

## STAY

Book a beachfront suite at **Pier South Resort** (800 Seacoast Drive) in Imperial Beach for fun in the sun, or check in to the **Grand Pacific Palisades Resort and Hotel** (5805 Armada Drive), set just steps from LEGOLAND California, with luxury amenities like an Olympic-size pool, three hydro-spas and a children's water park. **Old Town Western Inn** (3889 Arista St.) lures

families to the state historic park with great rates and a complimentary continental breakfast. Close to SeaWorld, **Bahia Resort Hotel** (998 W. Mission Bay Drive) is another small-fry favorite, and the whole family will love cruising the bay on the resort's *Bahia Belle*, a Mississippi-style sternwheeler. **Paradise Point Resort & Spa** (1404 Vacation Road) just might be kid heaven with its pools, ponds, surf lessons, sailboats, dive-in movies and beach fire pits for s'mores.

## EAT

Who doesn't love to start the day with donuts, especially with flavors like salted caramel or s'mores on fire at the fabulous **Donut Bar** (631 B St.). When headed to the beach, hit the drive-thru at **Pirate's Cove Tiki Port** (2201 Cable St.) in Ocean Beach for a quick smoothie, acai bowl or latte. For lunch, order up pizza, pasta or panini at **Landini's Pizzeria** (1827 India St.), a casual walk-up in Little Italy with a dog- and kid-friendly patio, or enjoy Mexican fare and a festive atmosphere at **Café Coyote** (2461 San Diego Ave.) in Old Town. Kids love the game room, burgers, shakes and 1950s servers in poodle skirts who sing and dance at **Corvette Diner** (2965 Historic Decatur Road). **Sammy's Woodfired Pizza & Grill** ([sammypizza.com](http://sammypizza.com)) appeals for its tapas, barbecue chicken pizzas and messy sundaes, with multiple locations including Del Mar, La Jolla and Carlsbad.

Donut  
Bar

## PLAY

An outdoor adventurer's paradise, **Santee Lakes Recreation Park** (9310 Fanita Pkwy) boasts seven lakes, with boating, biking, fishing, camping, picnicking and more. Take a bike tour of Balboa Park or cycle Coronado on a tandem or surrey as **Wheel Fun Rentals** ([wheelfunrentals.com](http://wheelfunrentals.com)) has all types of bikes, coupes, fringed surreys and Segways with rental locations across town. Young aspiring aviators can explore more than 30 aircraft honoring the U.S. Marines from 1918 to the present day at the **Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum** (T-4203 Anderson Ave.) At **The Reuben H. Fleet Science Center's** *Taping Shape* exhibit (through June 12), hundreds of rolls of conventional packing tape are unfurled, webbed and layered to create a maze of translucent tunnels for all ages to explore. Cat-in-the-Hat fans should swing by **Legends Gallery** (1205 Prospect St.) to see the enchanting works by Dr. Seuss, aka genius Theodor Geisel.



**GO San Diego Card**  
Purchase a GO San Diego Card and save up to 55 percent off admission to 46 of San Diego's top attractions, like SeaWorld, LEGOLAND California, the zoo and more!

## DISNEYLAND

For families wanting to spend time at the Magic Kingdom, it's an easy hour's drive to the Anaheim park from North County San Diego. Look for the new musical *Frozen* at the Hyperion Theater, *Zootopia* characters and Star Wars adventures, along with old favorites like Space Mountain, Pirates of the Caribbean and Great Moments with Mr. Lincoln. [disneyland.com](http://disneyland.com)





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[wheelfunrentals.com](http://wheelfunrentals.com) (619) 342-7244



# Girls' Getaway

Grab your girlfriends and head to San Diego for some serious beach time, spa pampering, shopping, wine tasting and more.

## STAY

Ladies love the stylish Pool Club lounge for waterfront views and skinny strawberry margaritas, not to mention the heavenly spa at the **Hilton San Diego Bayfront** (1 Park Blvd.). Coronado's boutique **Glorietta Bay Inn** (1630 Glorietta Blvd.) charms as a 100-year-old stately mansion overlooking the bay. Water sports galore await at the pleasant **Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina** (1380 Harbor Island Drive), ideal for adventurous types wanting to sail, stand-up paddleboard, Jet Ski and more. Set in the heart of downtown, the **San Diego Marriot Gaslamp Quarter** (660 K St.) is a portal to shopping, dining and great nightlife, especially at their stylish Altitude Sky Lounge on the 22nd floor. **Embassy Suites San Diego Bay Downtown** (601 Pacific Hwy) is an easy walk to the excitement of the Gaslamp and The Headquarters at Seaport Village.

## EAT

**Oceana Coastal Kitchen** (3999 Mission Blvd.) delights with its waterfront alfresco dining, surf-and-turf menu, Champagne brunch, raw bar, and hypnotic jellyfish aquarium that anchors the main dining room. **Cafe Chloe** (721 Ninth

Ave.), a cozy French bistro, calls for moules frites or duck confit. **Cafe Sevilla** (353 Fifth Ave.) celebrates the rhythms and flavors of Spain with tapas and flamenco dinner shows. La Jolla's **Whisknadle** (1044 Wall St.) remains a local favorite for its seasonal scratch cuisine, chill vibe and inviting design. Savor San Diego's best pizza at **Buona Forchetta** (3001 Beech St.), and discover why locals pack the South Park neighborhood gem. When in the mood for seafood and sea views, head to the **Edgewater Grill** (861 W. Harbor Drive) or **Harbor House** (831 W. Harbor Drive) in Seaport Village. For late-night noshing, **Brian's 24** (828 Sixth Ave.) is the only 24/7 eatery in the Gaslamp, serving up hearty portions of comfort food.

## PLAY

Catch a flick while enjoying Mediterranean-style fare, boutique wines, tap brews and craft cocktails at **The Lot** (7611 Fay Ave.) in La Jolla. Soar over Mission Bay with **San Diego Parasailing Adventures** (1548 Quivira Way) or swim with adorable Asian otters at **Nurtured by Nature** (15630 Rim of the Valley), a nonprofit animal retreat also offering intimate encounters with armadillos, sloths, porcupines and kangaroos. Shop till you drop at **Seaport Village** (849 W. Harbor Drive), home to more than 50 stores, 17 eateries and live music. Catch a cabaret or dramatic work at the **Lamb's Players Theatre** (1142 Orange Ave.), set in the historic Spreckels Building in Coronado Village.



Cafe Chloe



## TASTE THE TERROIR

### WINE TASTING IN TEMECULA

Nearby Temecula Valley is home to more than 30 wineries, charming inns and farm-to-table eateries.

#### Foot Path Winery

This quaint, family-owned vineyard and organic farm makes only red wine and offers tastings in their metal barn.  
 ☞ 36650 Glen Oaks Road

flowering gardens and a charming boutique hotel.  
 ☞ 35053 Rancho California Road

#### Monte de Oro Winery

This stylish winery specializes in red wine aged in French oak and offers a nice bistro menu. Sit and sip on the patio while enjoying live music and panoramic views.  
 ☞ 35820 Rancho California Road



#### Wilson Creek Winery

This massive estate does tours and tastings, Champagne brunch at the Creekside Grille, picnics in the rose garden and live music on the weekends.  
 ☞ 35960 Rancho California Road

#### Ponte Family Estate

This country retreat crushes it with 300 acres of grapes, a snazzy tasting room and marketplace for gourmet gifts, alfresco dining in

For more information, go to [visitemeculavalley.com](http://visitemeculavalley.com)





Carlsbad Premium Outlets



Del Mar Highlands Town Center

# Shopping

Open-air malls, designer outlets, vintage shops, bazaars, haute couture and artsy boutiques—when it comes to retail therapy, San Diego has it all.

## □ THE FORUM

This dog-friendly, open-air mall has plenty of clothing stores, including **H&M**, **Lululemon Athletica**, **Nicole Miller** and **Free People**. Take a retail break at The Wine Loft for charcuterie, cheese and boutique fine wines, or sit on the patio at Casa de Bandini for margaritas and a live mariachi band.

📍 1923 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad

## □ OUTLETS

The largest outlet in San Diego County, **Las Americas Premium Outlets** (4211 Camino de la Plaza, San Ysidro) offers immense savings at Coach, Michael Kors, Nike and more than 120 other stores.

**Carlsbad Premium Outlets** (5620 Paseo del Norte) boasts 90 stores that offer 25 to 65 percent savings daily. The **Outlets at**

**the Border** (4463 Camino de la Plaza, San Ysidro) is the region's newest outlet mall, and has San Diego's only Armani Exchange outlet and the largest H&M store. The **Viejas Outlet Center** (5005 Willows Road, Alpine) is a beautiful 37-acre, open-air shopping center with a Native American village theme and

50 brand-name stores to help you spice up your closet.

## □ OLD TOWN

The **Bazaar del Mundo Shops** (4133 Taylor St.) feature Latin American folk art and crafts, jewelry and colorful home accessories. **Fiesta de Reyes** (2754 Calhoun St.) is a bustling complex of shops and authentic Mexican restaurants set in Old Town State Historic Park, the birthplace of San Diego.

## □ FLOWER HILL PROMENADE

Enjoy open-air shopping in Del Mar for stylish kid threads at **Sweetpea Children's Shop**, designer dresses at **TRE**, creative home decor and gifts at **The Printed Palette**, fine wine, fancy cigars, gourmet cheese and more.

📍 2720 Via de la Valle, Del Mar

## □ OCEAN BEACH

The beachy neighborhood prides itself on its independent boutiques and lack of chain stores. **Often Wander at Noon** (4993 Niagara Ave.) has a popular line of hand-poured scented candles. Browse the fun kitchen items and kids' toys at **Teeter** (5032 Niagara Ave.) and find women's clothing for all sizes and budgets at **Miss Match** (4932 Newport Ave.). The largest concentration of antiques in San Diego can be found along Newport Avenue: There's a trove of furniture, jewelry and collectors' items at **Vignettes** (4828 Newport Ave.), **Newport Avenue Antique Center** (4864 Newport Ave.) and **Ocean Beach Antique Mall** (4926 Newport Ave.).

## DEL MAR HIGHLANDS TOWN CENTER

This open-air mall has a good mix of dining, specialty shops and boutiques. **Urban Plates** and **Carnitas' Snack Shack** serve up affordable casual fare while stylish **Sear-sucker** offers a lively bar and dining scene. Indulge your love of France at charming **Mistral** for soaps, candles, fragrances and kitchen and gift items. **Let's Go Home** showcases beautiful jewelry, clothing, home items and both local and international art and designers. Find the perfect swimsuit at **Diane's Beachwear**, with top brands like Vix, Vitamin A, L\*Space, Seafolly and Robin Piccone, or flirty fashions and amazing accessories at **Daisy Blue**.

📍 12925 El Camino Real, Del Mar





# Guys' Getaway

Hearty meals, cool hotels, lively nightlife and the country's best craft beer make San Diego the ideal spot for an action-packed getaway with the boys.

## STAY

The slick **Andaz San Diego** (600 F St.), an urban retreat right between the Gaslamp Quarter and East Village, gives guests access to the hotel's rooftop lounge and hoppin' nightclub scene. Venture to the ballgame with great ease by booking a stay at **The Omni Hotel** (675 L St.), which has a pedestrian skybridge leading right into Petco Park. For a room with a view, the **Manchester Grand Hyatt** (1 Market Place) towers 40 stories over San Diego Bay and has two pools—be sure to have a cocktail at the Top of the Hyatt Sky Lounge. **Hilton La Jolla**

**Torrey Pines** (10950 N. Torrey Pines Road) overlooks the greens of the world-famous golf course.

## EAT

After a round of golf, head to newly renovated **The Grill** inside The Lodge at Torrey Pines for meats and farm-fresh veggies slow-cooked on an outdoor wood-fired grill. (11480 N. Torrey Pines Road). **Flying Pig Pub & Kitchen** in Vista has elevated the gastropub game with steaks butchered in-house and more than 30 craft beers on tap (230 S. Santa Fe Ave.), while **Bully's Del Mar** transports guests back to the *Mad Men* era with its surf-and-turf menu and classic cocktails (1404 Camino Del Mar). Bacon lovers won't want to miss the burgers at **Slater's 50/50** (2750 Dewey Road), made from half ground beef and half ground bacon patties. Bacon jam, a bacon pretzel bun, or bacon ketchup, too.



Flying Pig Pub & Kitchen

## PLAY

Sip your way through San Diego's famous craft beer scene with knowledgeable guides and let **Brewery Tours of San Diego** do the driving in a sleek beer bus ([brewerytoursofsandiego.com](http://brewerytoursofsandiego.com)). For a different spin on bar hopping, try a "pedal pub" with **Social Cycle**, a bar on wheels powered by a 16-person bicycle that lets you ride around Little Italy, downtown or North Park on a pub crawl ([socialcyclesd.com](http://socialcyclesd.com)). Book the "rum runner" excursion with **Sailing San Diego** and visit three waterfront restaurants and pubs during a cruise along the bay ([sailsandiego.com](http://sailsandiego.com)). Stop by the **San Diego Spirits Festival** (Aug. 27–28) for a weekend of cocktail tastings from small-batch and big-name distilleries ([sandiegospiritsfestival.com](http://sandiegospiritsfestival.com)). There's always a party happening at **Coyote Ugly Saloon** (820 Fifth Ave.), complete with dancing bartenders who will do a shot with you.

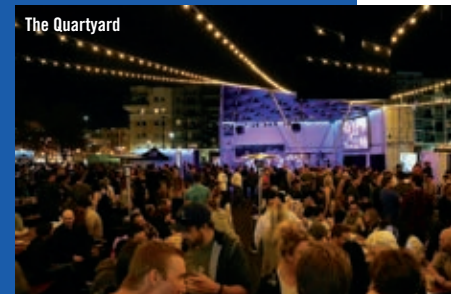
## NIGHT OWL ALERT

### SAN DIEGO AFTER DARK



Two local talents and SDTA Guides to the Good Stuff, **DJ Schoeny** and **DJ Ayla**, share their top picks for the perfect night out in San Diego

When it's time for clubbing, **Omnia** (454 Sixth Ave.) is the San Diego version of the club at Caesar's Palace that hosts big-name artists; **Parq** (615 Broadway) is filled with intricate lighting, and features dancing robots and acrobats; and **Fluxx** hosts monthly themed parties (500 4th Ave.). DJ Schoeny's favorite spot is **Cake Nightclub** (755 Fifth Ave.), for its good mix of music and swanky interior that evokes Marie Antoinette.



For a more laid-back night, DJ Ayla Simone favors **Vin de Syrah** (901 Fifth Ave.), for its hidden entrance, quirky decor and excellent charcuterie and wine. Or check out the East Village's "container park," **The Quartyard** (1102 Market St.) an industrial open space with games like Jenga, food trucks, craft beer and, of course, music.



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# Budget

You can still live it up while visiting San Diego even without deep pockets—all it takes is a little ingenuity and research, as affordable restaurants and reasonably priced hotels abound.

## STAY

For a good deal downtown, check out **Comfort Inn Gaslamp** (660 G St.), which is just a few blocks away from Horton Plaza and offers complimentary breakfast and access to a local health club. The **DoubleTree by Hilton** is within walking distance of Little Italy’s farmers’ market and the neighborhood’s popular eateries (1646 Front St.). Want to be near SeaWorld? **Western Inn Old Town** (3889 Arista St.) is a five-minute drive away, and surrounded by cantinas,



San Diego Whale Watch



Mission Trails Regional Park

restaurants, and the Whaley House Museum. **Villa Capri by the Sea** has comfy accommodations in the heart of Coronado that won’t break the bank (1417 Orange Ave.).

## EAT

Stop by **Newbreak Coffee & Cafe** for healthy wraps, panini, and acai bowls before spending the day at the beach (1830 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. and 1959 Abbott St., Ocean Beach). Get your barbecue fix at **Brazen BBQ Smokehouse** in Hillcrest, which has nightly food and drink specials and a \$2 “ambulance shot” that’s offered whenever a siren passes by (441 Washington St.). **Casa Guadalajara** is a landmark Old Town restaurant where you can watch tortillas being made by hand while sipping on margaritas (4105 Taylor St.), and **Nati’s Mexican Restaurant** has been serving tacos and enchiladas in Ocean Beach for more than 50 years (1852 Bacon St.). Order a “döner



## CityPASS

Get discounted admission to top attractions like LEGOLAND California, the San Diego Zoo and the San Diego Zoo Safari Park (and skip the lines) with CityPASS. [citypass.com](http://citypass.com)

box” at **The Kebab Shop** and fill up on saffron rice, fresh veggies, and chicken, lamb or falafel for less than \$10 (six locations, [thekebabshop.com](http://thekebabshop.com)).

## PLAY

Elevate your art IQ at the always-free **Timken Museum of Art** (1500 El Prado), then enjoy thousands of tropical flowers and plants at the **Botanical Building** in Balboa Park. Get the twilight rate of \$24 for a round of golf at **Balboa Park Golf Club** (2600 Golf Course Drive), or book a whale watching tour with **San Diego Whale Watch** on Tuesday or Thursday for half off the normal price (1717 Quivira Road). Wander through **Seaport Village** (849 W. Harbor Drive) and then enjoy a \$3 ride on the hand-carved, 121-year-old carousel. Stroll **Liberty Station** (2640 Historic Decatur Road), where art, shopping, culture and exciting eateries intersect.

## EASY ON THE WALLET

# FREE FUN THINGS TO DO

### Mount Soledad

Drive to the veterans’ memorial and lookout point atop the 822-foot summit for panoramic views of the coastline, mountains and city.  
 ♡ 6905 La Jolla Scenic Drive South, La Jolla

### Mission Trails Regional Park

Visit the oldest mission in California (built in 1769) and enjoy 60 miles of hiking trails, just 20 minutes from downtown.  
 ♡ 1 Father Junipero Serra Trail, East County

### Spanish Village Art Center

Follow the colorful cobblestone sidewalk through San Diego’s largest working artist community and see paintings, blown glass, ceramics and sculpture.  
 ♡ 1770 Village Pl., Balboa Park

### Ocean Beach Pier

Stroll along one of the longest piers in Southern California, where you don’t need a license to go fishing.  
 ♡ 5091 Niagara Ave., Ocean Beach





# Pets

From pup-friendly patios and pooch-pampering hotels to dog beaches and plenty of green-grass parks to play in, San Diego is downright dog friendly.

## STAY

In Ocean Beach, **Ocean Villa Inn** (5142 W. Point Loma Blvd.) gets two paws up for being a Frisbee toss from Dog Beach, while **Kona Kai Resort & Spa** (1551 Shelter Island Drive) on family-friendly Shelter Island welcomes four-leggers under 25 pounds. In La Jolla, **La Valencia Hotel** (1132 Prospect St.) provides dog owners with a complete list of pet-friendly restaurants and activities at check-in, and pups are welcome at on-site restaurants. **Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa** (9700 N. Torrey Pines Road), a sprawling former ranch, has plenty of green space for Fido to explore. Downtown, both the newly remodeled **Hotel Solamar** (435 Sixth Ave.) and **Hotel Palomar** (1047 Fifth Ave.) welcome all pets, regardless of weight, breed, or size, and can assist with pet-sitting and dog-walking for a fee.



Del Mar Dog Beach

## BRING FIDO

### PET-FRIENDLY PATIOS

#### Liberty Public Market

Pooches are welcome on the gourmet market's 3,000-square-foot patio. Grab a Bottlecraft beer, a Wicked Maine Lobster Roll and healthy treats for your pup at Howlistic.

📍 2820 Historic Decatur Road, Point Loma

#### Fireside at the Patio

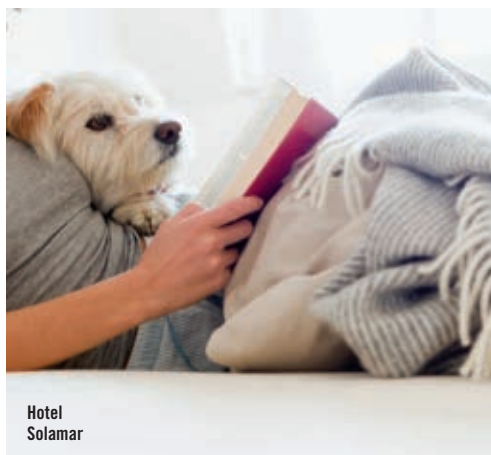
Look for yakitori, Santa Maria-style grilled meats and two pup-friendly patios at this vibrant eatery in Liberty Station.

📍 2855 Perry Road, Point Loma

#### La Puerta


Post up on the sidewalk patio for frozen cocktails and a plate of chips and guac with your best friend.

📍 560 Fourth Ave., Gaslamp Quarter



Hotel Solamar



 Canines can run with the pack at Morley Field Dog Park and Nate's Point, which are both open 24/7.

## PLAY

Dogs will have a ball at San Diego's many dog parks and outdoor recreational spaces, like the **Encinitas Community Park** (425 Santa Fe Drive), which boasts two acres of fenced-in grass for romping, and dog runs in Balboa Park such as **Morley Field Dog Park**, where dogs can roam off-leash. Several local beaches also cater to four-legged friends, like **North Dog Beach Run** in Coronado, **Fiesta Island** in Mission Bay, **Del Mar Dog Beach** and **Dog Beach** in Ocean Beach. Or, bring the pups along on a stand-up paddleboard (SUP) tour, offered by **The SUP Connection** in Liberty Station behind the Courtyard Marriott hotel (2592 Laning Road).



# Adventure

San Diego's coastal playground offers endless adrenaline-filled activities, hearty fare and comfy beds after all that adventure.



H&M Landing



Field & Stream ranks San Diego no. 2 on its list of America's best fishing cities.

## SLEEP

The **Catamaran Resort Hotel and Spa** (3999 Mission Blvd.) goes full throttle as water sport haven with SUP yoga, sailing, and paddling out front on the bay, and surfing and boogie boarding across the street in the waves of Pacific Beach. **Hyatt Regency Mission Bay Spa and Marina** (1441 Quivira Road) sports tropical lagoons, waterslides, a waterfront health club and a full-service marina with Jet Skis, sailboats and sportfishing. Cyclists will enjoy the ocean-view bike paths along the Silver Strand while staying at **Loews Coronado** (4000 Coronado Bay Road). **The Hard Rock Hotel** (207 Fifth Ave.) offers access to urban nightlife adventures in the Gaslamp.

## EAT

After a day surfing the breaks off Carlsbad, charge over to **Chandler's** (1 Ponto Road) at Cape Rey Resort, whose newly revamped coastal menu is a winner with ahi poke, lobster nachos, ceviche and delish fresh breads. Beer-o-philes and pub grubbers should experience **Hamiltons Tavern** (1521 30th St.) for



Catamaran Resort Hotel and Spa

house-made hop sausage, one of the country's best beer lineups and their "Deer Hunter" Russian roulette-style hot wings. **En Fuego Cantina & Grill** (1342 Camino Del Mar) hosts a festive happy hour for tasty tacos and margaritas. After sailing adventures on the bay, head to **Anthony's Fish Grotto** (1360 North Harbor Drive) for fresh catch, succulent seafood and their famous fish and chips. Or check out their lovely location in La Mesa. There's always a party going on at **Dick's Last Resort** (345 Fourth Ave.), a rowdy roadhouse with gruff servers, big steaks, potent drinks and live music.

## PLAY

Go to battle with marines on their own turf at **The Paintball Park at Camp Pendleton** (1700 Vandegrift Blvd.) or hit the water like a Navy SEAL on a rigid-hulled inflatable boat with **Adventure R.I.B. Rides** (1380 Harbor Island Drive) to spot dolphins and blue whales. Soar on a 30-minute **Seaplane Safari** for a coastal aerial adventure over the bay or zip around in a **GoCar** for a GPS-guided tour of the city, both by **San Diego Tours** (sandiegotours.us). Angle offshore in search of bluefin, yellowtail, marlin and mako on a sportfishing expedition with **H&M Landing** (hmlanding.com). Then taste the famous flavors of San Diego with **Brew Hop** (2330 First Ave.), which creates custom tours and offers an insider's guide to San Diego's craft beer culture.



## Rev it Up

### ACTION-PACKED FUN

#### Flagship Patriot Jetboat

This wet-and-wild ride is a thrilling adventure. The sleek, fast boat, propelled by two 1,400-horsepower engines, does 360-degree spins on the bay. [flagshipsd.com](http://flagshipsd.com)

#### Torrey Pines Gliderport

Hang glide or paraglide over the coastal cliffs for a bird's-eye view of the famed golf course and jagged coastline. [flytorrey.com](http://flytorrey.com)

#### Jetpack America

Strap on a water-propelled jet pack and live out your superhero fantasies as you hover up to 30 feet above Mission Bay. [jetpackamerica.com](http://jetpackamerica.com)

#### Sky Combat Ace

Be the pilot or a passenger in a high performance stunt plane and experience the thrill of aerial dogfighting or an acrobatic plane ride. [skycombatace.com](http://skycombatace.com)



Hotel del  
Coronado

# Luxury & Romance

Lavish hotels, fine cuisine and indulgent adventures make San Diego a prime spot for a haute holiday or romantic rendezvous.

## STAY

Check in to an oceanfront paradise at swank **Beach Village** at Hotel del Coronado (1500 Orange Ave.), where a private beach club, seaside cottage dining, fire pits, private chefs and top-rate service fuel the luxury quotient. Craftsman elegance defines **The Lodge at Torrey Pines** (11480

N. Torrey Pines Road), a dreamy resort surrounded by golf course greens and ocean blues. Romantic charm abounds at the **Bed and Breakfast Inn at La Jolla** (7753 Draper Ave.), which offers a three-course candlelit breakfast, daily sunset wine and cheese and ocean views from the antique-filled guest rooms and suites. La Jolla's "Pink Lady," **La Valencia** (1132 Prospect St.) is a seaside gem with Pacific-view villas, hand-painted murals, sensational seafood and a divine pool setting.

## PLAY

After exploring the cheese cave and barrel-aged spirits at **The Patio on Goldfinch** (4020 Goldfinch St.), head to their chic boutique **Luxury Farms** (928 Fort Stockton Drive) and stock up on artisanal olive oils, salts, soaps, wines and kitchen decor. For a dose of culture, head to the **Wiegorst Western Heritage Center** (131 Rea Ave.) in

El Cajon to view classic American Western art; enjoy some top-notch theater at the **La Jolla Playhouse** (2910 La Jolla Village Drive) or explore the museum and historic church at the **Old Mission San Luis Rey de Francia** (4050 Mission Ave.) in Ocean-side, founded in 1789. End the day with romance on a gondola cruise through the canals of Coronado with strawberries, Champagne and a serenade by the talented team at **The Gondola Company** (503 Grand Caribe Causeway).

## EAT

Fall under the culinary spell of Executive Chef William Bradley by experiencing his tasting menu and wine pairings at the highly acclaimed **Addison** at the Fairmont Grand Del Mar (5200 Grand Del Mar Way). Savor wood-fired oysters Rockefeller, molten lobster dip with cheese curd, waygu, rib eye steaks and fine wines



at **Stake Chophouse & Bar** (1309 Orange Ave.) in Coronado. Views of the bay and downtown skyline are served up with modern American cuisine at **Bertrand at Mr. A's** (2550 Fifth Ave.) Don't miss sunset cocktails while watching the planes land from Mr. A's rooftop terrace. For a little European elegance, dine at **The French Gourmet** (960 Turquoise Street) in Pacific Beach, where you'll find gourmet eats like escargot, pâté, mussels Provençal and heavenly desserts.

Old Mission San Luis  
Rey de Francia

## HORNBLOWER CRUISES

Glide along the bay and take in the sights of stunning San Diego. Whether you prefer a delicious lobster dinner, full moon adventure with dinner and dancing or Champagne Sunday brunch, there's a cruise for every mood and whim on Hornblower. ♡ [hornblower.com](http://hornblower.com)







Cygnet Theatre

# LGBT

Hillcrest is San Diego's official "gayborhood," with eclectic shopping, myriad LGBT bars, clubs and lounges and a dynamic international restaurant scene. And while Hillcrest celebrates diversity year-round, there's fun to be found all over town.

## STAY

The new **Courtyard by Marriott** (453 Sixth Ave.) offers a chic stay downtown along with its swank rooftop bar, The Nolen, on the 14th floor. Housed in the historic Hotel St. James, **Ramada Gaslamp** (830 Sixth Ave.) blends modern amenities with Victorian charm. Modern **Hotel Z** (521 Sixth Ave.) welcomes guests with cupcakes and coffee and a fleet of bright yellow bicycles. The quiet, tucked-away location and sophisticated decor of **Hotel Marisol Coronado** (1017 Park Pl.) make it an ideal locale for a romantic weekend or, for a lively pool scene, book a room at the budget-friendly **Lafayette Hotel** (2223 El Cajon Blvd.) in North Park.

## EAT

Hillcrest is home to a plethora of dining options for every taste and budget. Get up early and head to **Snooze** (3940 Fifth Ave.) for pineapple upside-down pancakes and inventive egg dishes. At lunchtime, visit **Oscars Mexican Seafood** (646 University Ave.) for its famous fried and smoked fish tacos, or get a Roman-



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
San Diego LGBT Pride: July 15–17  
Every July, the streets of Hillcrest shut down to host one of the largest pride parades in the country, with hundreds of floats. More than 350,000 people will visit the neighborhood to celebrate diversity. The weekend is filled with colorful events, from a rally to a 5K race, culminating in a huge music festival at Balboa Park.



**Tours** ([tajollawinetours.com](http://tajollawinetours.com)). Stop by **Sparks Gallery** (530 Sixth Ave., Gaslamp Quarter) to see which local or international artists are displaying their work. Start the night with a local craft beer at neighborhood spot **Small Bar** (4628 Park Blvd.), or **Hillcrest Brewing Company** (1458 University Ave.), the country's first "out and proud LGBT brewery." Dance the night away at **The Brass Rail** (3796 Fifth Ave.) or **Rich's** (1051 University Ave.), and end the night at **Fiesta Cantina** (142 University Ave.), a thatched-roof bar with a beach party vibe that has a daily late-night happy hour. The friendly spot **#1 Fifth Avenue** (3845 Fifth Ave.) offers colorful lineups such as standup comedy shows, '90s nights, "Sunday Funnies," drag shows and Havana Night (the third Saturday of the month) for live Latin music.



## NIGHTLIFE

### ON STAGE

▣ **San Diego Repertory Theatre**  
See one-of-a-kind musicals and provocative, contemporary plays.  
📍 79 Horton Plaza, Gaslamp Quarter

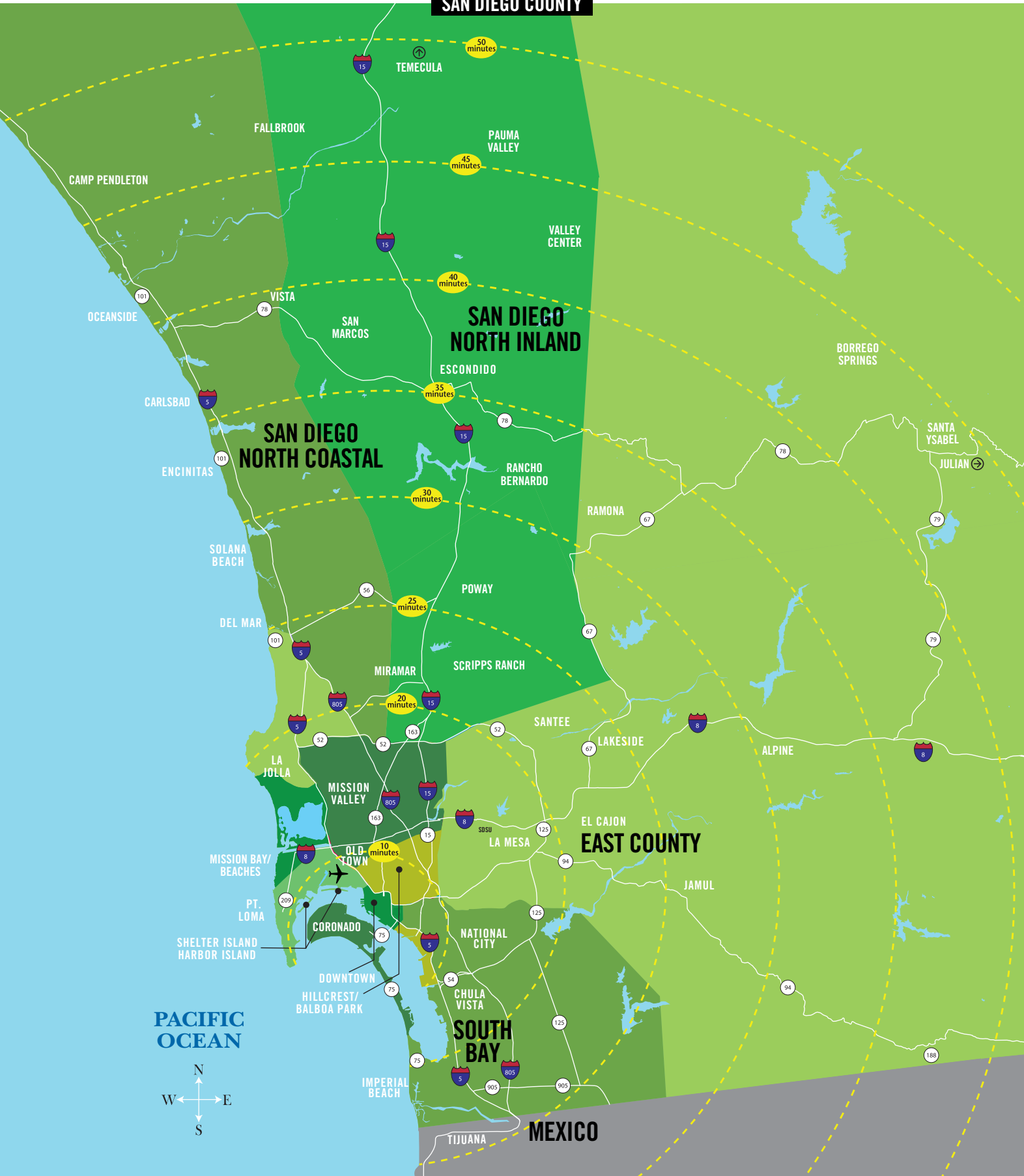
▣ **Cygnet Theatre**  
This small theater in Old Town hosts big shows. The musical *Gypsy* and August Wilson's award-winning plays *Seven Guitars* and *King Hedley II* are slated for the 2016 season.  
📍 4040 Twiggs St., Old Town

▣ **Lips Restaurant**  
This supper club and glamorous drag queen show is a local institution and loads of fun.  
📍 3036 El Cajon Blvd., University Heights



# SAN DIEGO MAPS

## SAN DIEGO COUNTY





## MISSION BAY TO LA JOLLA



## NORTH COUNTY COASTAL











**DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO**



**OCEAN BEACH, POINT LOMA AND CORONADO**



For more information about each region in San Diego, visit [sandiego.org](http://sandiego.org).



EMBASSY SUITES®

San Diego Bay - Downtown



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We have leapt into the warmer weather at Embassy Suites San Diego Bay Downtown with a fresh look and feel. While all of our public areas have been completely transformed, we still have our same amazing attributes—daily complimentary cooked to order breakfast, refreshed oversized two room suites, complimentary evening receptions and an ideal San Diego location. We look forward to welcoming you this spring and summer to enjoy all San Diego has to offer—start your day with a full cooked to order breakfast and head across the street to the Headquarters, Seaport Village or the San Diego Bay. Just steps down the road, entertain yourself in the Historic Gaslamp Quarter or catch a game at Petco Park. A short ride gets you to attractions such as SeaWorld or San Diego Zoo. Unwind after your busy days at our complimentary evening reception and enjoy your oversized room with beautiful views of the San Diego Bay.





MOMENTS THAT  
*inspire*



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SAN DIEGO

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