









ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA





COSTA MESA'S BEST BREWS AND BARS

IF YOU CAN DREAM IT. YOU CAN BUY IT

DESIGNER BOUTIQUES AT SOUTH COAST PLAZA

ORANGE COUNTY **BEACHES**

6 HIDDEN SPOTS LOCALS LOVE

"TOP CHEF" AMAR SANTANA

FEATURED IN OUR **CHEF SPOTLIGHT**

COSTA MESA'S ART WALK

STROLL PUBLIC **SCULPTURES AND GARDENS**



EXPLORE THE City of the Arts

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WELCOME to ORANGE COUNTY

You've arrived at one of the most sought-after destinations in the world. Home to eternal sunshine, spectacular beaches and an ideal climate averaging 72 degrees Fahrenheit or 22 degrees Celsius, Orange County, in Southern California, is a perfect destination all year round. As one of the most populous counties in California, it is also unquestionably one of the most beautiful.

With attractions like the Disneyland, Resort, Knott's Berry Farm[®] and the beaches along its more than 40 miles (64 km) of jaw-dropping coastline, the experiences of Orange County are as diverse as can be. One day you're greeting Mickey and Minnie in their Anaheim home since 1955, and the next relaxing peacefully on the sand near crashing ocean waves and the picturesque cliffs of Laguna Beach. Enjoy the best of designer shopping at South Coast Plaza or experience awardwinning and Broadway musicals at Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa. Or get casual hiking or biking the trails of Irvine or Newport Beach. Horseback

riding at Irvine Regional Park is an adventurous way for the whole family to explore California's oldest regional park, which is also home to Orange County Zoo. Take a daytrip to San Juan Capistrano to see the swallows, or spend time visiting historical sights and museums like the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in the city of Yorba Linda, where you can see an exact replica of the White House's East Room. Known as "America's Grand Ballroom," it is the largest and most versatile room in the Executive Mansion.

No matter how you approach your adventures you've got to eat, and Southern California has some of the country's top restaurants. Costa Mesa is the culinary capital of Orange County, and for that reason we've created an Eatcation™ itinerary to help you navigate our diverse, mouthwatering culinary scene. (See more on page 18.)

There's endless opportunity for entertainment and relaxation in Orange County. We hope you enjoy your visit!

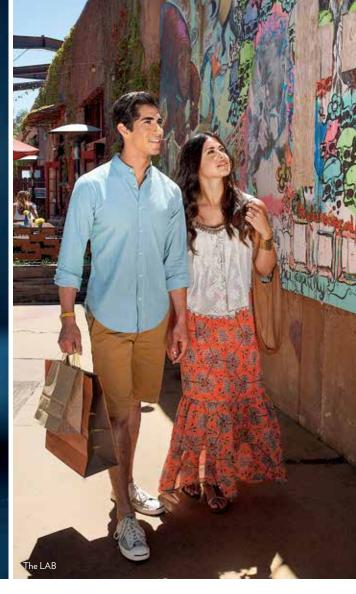
OC'S STAR POWER

further than South Coast Plaza, where clothing and beauty products. Just down

For decades, Orange County has been







DISCOVER COSTA MESA

The City of the Arts™

Conveniently located between Los Angeles and San Diego, Costa Mesa is home to one of the largest performing arts complexes in the U.S., award-winning and celebrity chefs and an unprecedented shopping experience.

As one of the most walkable cities in Orange County, many of these attractionscan be experienced

within a short walk from some of the area's top hotels.

Art, music and theater are some of Costa Mesa's signature activities taking place in and around the Segerstrom Center for the Arts complex, underscoring the city's reputation as the City of the Arts™. Costa Mesa is truly the cultural epicenter of Orange County, attracting

visitors from around the world to experience the Art of Fashion, the Art of Dining and the Art of the Stage.

Shopping is king in Costa Mesa.
Experience the Art of Fashion at
South Coast Plaza, one of the most
comprehensive luxury shopping
destinations in the world. Find couture
items straight off the runway from Chanel

and Prada to Gucci and Louis Vuitton. Also featuring today's top home, beauty and footwear purveyors, it makes up the highest concentration of designer brands under one roof in the U.S. And if you like quaint and eclectic local boutique shopping, there are plenty of one-of-akind items to be found at SOCO and The OC Mix. The LAB or The CAMP.

Costa Mesa's Mediterranean climate, with moderate summers and cool winters, along with its proximity to the best beaches and attractions in Southern California, makes the city an ideal year-round destination. For your stay, Costa Mesa offers a wide variety of hotels to accommodate every budget,

from well-branded names to stylish boutique offerings. Most hotels offer complimentary shuttle service to and from Orange County's John Wayne Airport (SNA).

Select hotels also offer daily round-trip shuttle service to the nearby *Disneyland*. Resort.

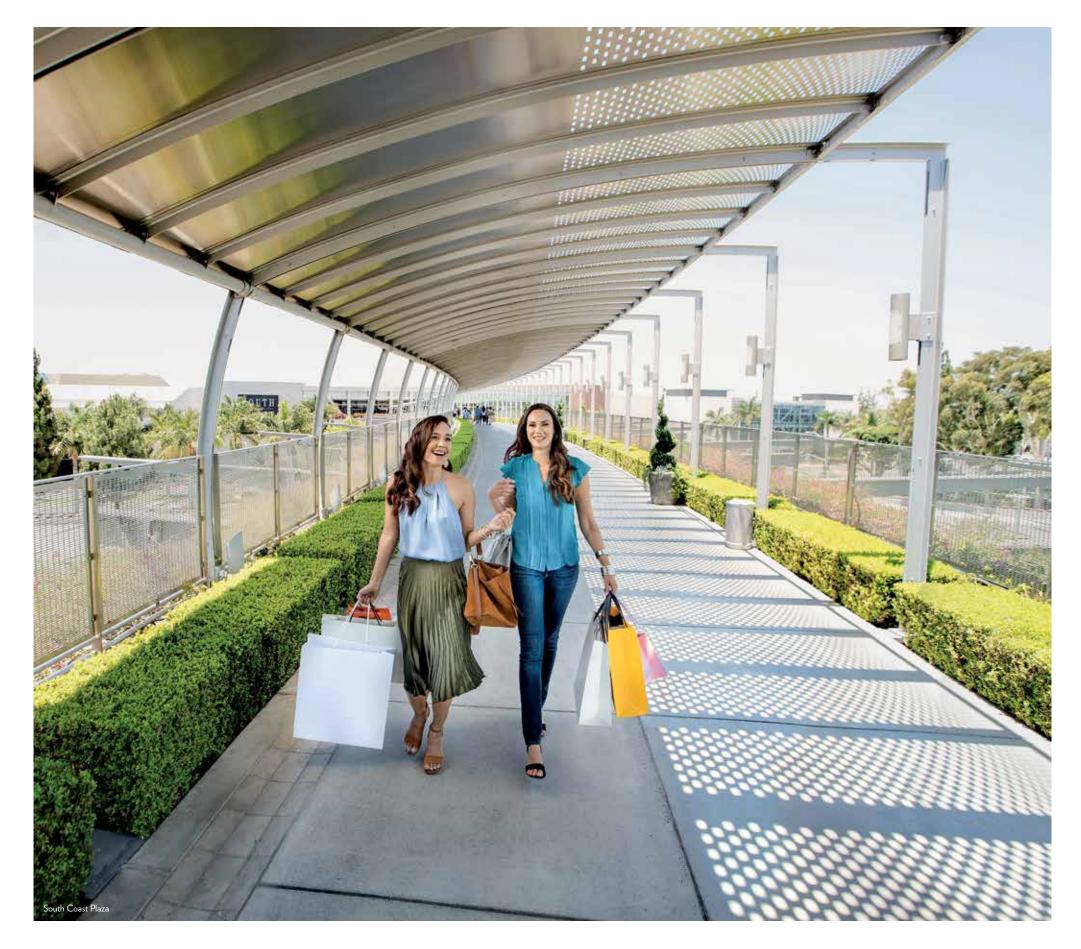
Looking for exceptional dining during your visit? Costa Mesa is the place to be. There's Vaca, a Spanish restaurant from Executive Chef Amar Santana, a star contestant on Bravo TV's "Top Chef." There are also other hotspots that rival some of the country's top dining establishments, making the city the culinary capital of Orange County.

Enjoy fine dining at Mastro's Steakhouse, the critically acclaimed Asian dumpling restaurant Din Tai Fung, or Taco María by two-time James Beard Award-nominated Chef Carlos Salgado.

Let this magazine be your guide to the City of the Arts[™]. Check out our calendar of events and recreational activities, plus suggested itineraries to help guide your stay in Costa Mesa.

VISIT
TRAVELCOSTAMESA.COM/CALENDAR
for more info

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FASHION

COSTA MESA offers shopping for every style. From world-renowned retailers that define luxury experiences to one-of-a-kind boutiques filled with designs by local emerging artists, visitors will find that fashion is an essential part of the Costa Mesa lifestyle. With the variety of shops and merchandise available, the city is truly a mecca for those looking for the latest trends, or timeless classics. Take a tour to browse Costa Mesa's wide range of shopping destinations and you could be a part of creating the next big trend in fashion.

SOUTH COAST PLAZA (3333 Bristol Street) is where the world comes to shop. Costa Mesa is home to a stellar cast of the world's top fashion brands – from Christian Dior, Fendi and Hermès to Burberry, Balenciaga and Salvatore Ferragamo – making it a popular stop among travelers seeking upscale, fashion-forward apparel. With something for every shopper, South Coast Plaza also features trending affordable fashion boutiques such as H&M, Banana Republic and Zara, plus four anchor department stores. Whether your visit brings you in for jewelry, shoes, handbags, clothing or beauty products, you'll find it at South Coast Plaza. With an extensive selection of boutiques, restaurants, a luxurious VIP suite and a spa,

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South Coast Plaza is recognized internationally for its unparalleled collection as the crown jewel of shopping on the West Coast. South Coast Plaza offers many services to create a more comfortable experience for shoppers, such as foreign language assistance in more than 40 languages, shuttle services and money exchange. It also plays host to a number of incredible events year-round.

Located just across the street from South Coast Plaza is **METRO POINTE AT SOUTH COAST** (901 South Coast Drive), an open-air shopping center where guests can stroll and shop the afternoon away. This outdoor shopping center offers guests a marketplace atmosphere with plenty of outdoor seating to grab a coffee or light lunch and shop for clothing, gifts or the latest electronics for members of the entire family. Familiar featured tenants include Nordstrom Rack, DSW Shoes, Best Buy and Old Navy.

While known as a haven for luxury shopping, Costa Mesa also offers a wide variety of fashion boutiques at great prices. Today's fashionistas know that boutique shopping is one of the best ways to find that one-of-a-kind new or vintage piece to take an outfit to the next level

Acclaimed shopping and dining venue **SOUTH COAST COLLECTION**

(3313 Hyland Avenue), also known as SOCO and The OC Mix, defines the ultimate design and culinary experience in Southern California. SOCO is home to more than 70 restaurants, showrooms and stores. For any decorator, designer, chef or creative mind in Orange County, SOCO is a shopping destination that is sure to inspire. Within SOCO you'll find a group of shops called The OC Mix, where an eclectic collection of pop-up boutique shops and specialty food spots create this open-concept shopping and dining experience. Designer offerings include high-end eyewear from Van Brunt Optical Haus and handmade jewelry from local favorite Bearfruit, plus contemporary clothing from Eva's Trunk, Denim Bar and Drifter.

THE LAB (2930 Bristol St.) invites you to explore the SoBeCa District, an acronym for "South on Bristol Entertainment, Culture and Arts," wherein lies a unique enclave of boutique shops, one-of-a-kind eateries and artistic happenings. Enjoy art shows, poetry readings, musical offerings and seasonal festivals.

This one-of-a-kind destination is known for reaching out to the Orange County community to bring together a diverse mix of cultures with shared interests in art, music, fashion and the outdoors.

The eco-friendly LAB was repurposed from remnants of what was once a goggle-making factory. The site has been creatively transformed and includes an indoor-outdoor courtyard that invites customers to lounge, relax and enjoy regular events. While you're at The LAB, don't miss out on trying some of the best food in town. The Gypsy Den Cafe is a popular choice among guests because of its organic coffees and teas. OpenTable® selected Habana as one of the top outdoor dining destinations in the U.S.





The LAB has distinguished itself from other shopping centers by staying true to its "anti-mall" atmosphere. The eclectic array of one-of-a-kind apparel shops featuring clothing, hats, sunglasses and shoes is what has trendsetting shoppers returning regularly to this distinctive shopping center.

The LAB inspires customers to create their own identity by experimenting with looks from unique stores – such as handmade jewelry from May Martin, Inc., eyewear from Eye Society, contemporary clothing from Lobby and footwear from Blends.

THE CAMP (2937 Bristol Street), located across from The LAB in Costa Mesa's SoBeCa District, offers customers a nontraditional retail community in a casual and lively atmosphere. All of the stores here are health conscious or fitness related, with a strong emphasis on an active lifestyle. "Green" is everywhere, from The Studio's locally handcrafted jewelry

to Active Ride Shop's organic, modern athletic gear. The native vegetation, along with progressive and select retailers offering their organic wares, make the first-known environmentally sensitive retail campus

in the U.S. a great stop on your trip.

Throughout the year, The CAMP hosts educational events, art shows and exhibits to bring the community together and provide information on how to enjoy a healthy lifestyle. At The CAMP, you'll find a variety of culinary delights for you to enjoy as an alternative to the typical restaurant experience. Native Foods offers gourmet vegetarian cuisine that gives old favorites a new taste with a health-conscious twist. Old Vine Café offers fresh, locally sourced organic cuisine in the style of southern Italy, with dinner wine pairings and an incredible daily brunch served until 3 p.m. You can also find delicious Vietnamese cuisine at East Borough, or enjoy organic wine tasting and small plates at The Wine Lab.



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for more on shopping

TRAVELCOSTAMESA VISITOR GUIDE | FASHION 11



THE ART OF DINING

COSTA MESA is a culinary destination that delights even the most sophisticated of diners. *The Orange County Register* named Costa Mesa one of best mid-sized cities for food in the U.S. – it's also home to five of the *Register's* top 10 ramen noodle houses in Orange County.

It's nearly impossible to choose among the city's top-rated offerings, ranging from Asian delicacies to Spanish tapas to traditional American cuisine. Established fine-dining favorites include critically acclaimed seafood and steakhouses. And for those seeking a casual experience, there are plenty of contemporary options specializing in authentic California-style cuisine. With more than 150 restaurants, there's a plate for every palate.

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CHEF SPOTLIGHTS



AMAR SANTANA

Chef Amar Santana was runner-up for Bravo TV's "Top Chef" in Season 13 and is passionate about the gastronomical experience. Amar's ebullient personality is reflected in his dishes – colorful and fun, with lots of big flavors. He progressed from the Careers Through Culinary Arts Program for disadvantaged youth in Queens to earning a scholarship

to study at Le Cordon Bleu in London. In 2011, he opened his first OC restaurant, Broadway By Amar Santana, in Laguna Beach, and in 2015 opened Vaca in Costa Mesa, well known as one of the hottest restaurants in Orange County. Chef Amar utilizes his Dominican roots and New York upbringing to create unique combinations of flavors and textures using seasonal ingredients, international flavors and French techniques.

Vaca brings the flavors of Barcelona, Madrid, Andalusia, Seville and the Basque regions to Orange County. Enjoy grass-fed Argentinian beef and Spanish favorites such as paella, octopus and grilled calamari. 695 Town Center Dr. Suite 170, 714.463.6060

NOAH VON BLÖM

In 2013, Chef Noah von Blöm and his wife Marin began opening restaurants at SOCO and The OC Mix, developing the center as a true OC culinary hotspot. After opening ARC in Costa Mesa, where every dish is cooked over an open flame, Chef Noah was heralded for creating "one of the most important restaurants to open this decade" by food critic Brad A. Johnson of *The Orange County Register*. Following the success of ARC, Restaurant Marin opened right next door. With a bright, coastal feel, the menu features all-day breakfast, along with the comfort of traditional dinner items and handcrafted cocktails. A graduate of the California Culinary Academy, Chef Noah also worked in New York at Restaurant Daniel and The Ritz in Newport Beach.



ARC Food & Libations is an American eatery using freshly farmed ingredients. Every single dish is prepared over an open fire with a focus on simplicity. 3321 Hyland Ave. Suite F, 949.500.5561



CARLOS SALGADO

The two-time James Beard Awardnominated executive chef and owner of Taco María is drawing accolades for his Alta California menu items, a fusion of Mexican and American cuisine. Prior to opening Taco María, Chef Carlos Salgado spent a decade in San Francisco and Oakland, learning in kitchens including Vernon Morales' Winterland, Daniel Patterson's Coi and James Syhabout's Commis.

He was named a *Food & Wine* Best New Chef in 2015, as well as Chef of the Year in *The Orange County Register*.

Taco María is creating homestyle Mexican cuisine with a contemporary flair. Offering California-Mexican dishes, Chef Carlos uses recipes straight from his mom, the restaurant's namesake. *The Los Angeles Times* ranked Taco María one of the best restaurants in Southern California. 3313 Hyland Ave. Suite C21, 714.538.8444

MARK MCDONALD

The executive chef and proprietor of Old Vine Café, Mark McDonald has a passion for Italian cuisine and techniques an homage to his culinary training under Master Chef John Nocita at the Italian Culinary Institute (ICI) in Calabria, Italy. To this day, Chef Mark curates an annual tour of Southern Italy and a stop at the ICI for cooking lessons. Chef Mark is committed to regionalism and the use

of local seasonal ingredients, along with perfect wine pairings. Old Vine Café has been recognized as one of the best restaurants in OC since 2007, due to Chef Mark's passion for introducing unique and exciting foods and wines to customers and clients.



Old Vine Café is a cozy casual bistro serving locals' favorite brunch plus lunch and wine-paired dinners. The innovative menu promotes the use of local seasonal ingredients as a result of Chef Mark's culinary training in Southern Italy. 2937 Bristol St.

Suite A-102, 714.545.1411

COSTA MESA VISITOR GUIDE | DINING 15

NIKI STARR

While Mesa is known for its specialty craft cocktails, it's also a hit because of its innovative small-plate menu and gourmet late-night bites courtesy of the creative Chef Niki Starr. Chef Niki graduated from San Diego Culinary Institute where she received her Commis de Cuisine certificate, and then worked at notable restaurants like French 75 in Laguna Beach and Charlie Palmer in Costa Mesa under Amar Santana (see Amar's profile on page 14). Chef Niki calls her food modern California cuisine and is known for her monthly themed dinners where she artfully combines music and food, featuring artists such as Prince and David Bowie.



Mesa attracts a chic crowd with its adventurous small-plate cuisine and creative cocktails in a modern lounge atmosphere complete with an openair retractable roof. 725 Baker St., 714.557.6700

With highly reputable chefs and their sought-after culinary dishes, Costa Mesa has been a finalist in Rand McNally's National Best in Food Competition for small towns. In 2017, Visit California's Dream Eater, Chase Ramsey, filmed episodes in Costa Mesa and designated it a #DreamEats destination in California.







Found something delicious to eat in Costa Mesa? Share it with us! TAG @TRAVELCOSTAMESA ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER OR INSTAGRAM AND HASHTAG #EATCATION AND #DREAMEATS







MORE COSTA MESA FAVORITES:

ANQI GOURMET BISTRO

& NOODLE BAR The An family of Crustacean in Beverly Hills brings their fashion-forward dining concept to Orange County, serving unique Asian fusion cuisine in a stunning contemporary space that's Vietnamese in tone. 3333 Bristol St., 714.557.5679

BISTRO PAPILLOTE Full-service breakfast and lunch, including acclaimed Chef Laurent Brazier's interpretations of quiches, crepes and the Croque Monsieur. 3313 Hyland Ave., 714.641.2005

DIN TAI FUNG Steamed Shanghaistyle soup dumplings are this restaurant's signature dish. The Michelin-rated empire has won accolades all over the world, including being named one of the best restaurants on the planet by *The New York Times*.

3333 Bristol St., 714,549,3388

EAT CHOW Eat Chow is a casual café with a modern décor. Famous for its Parmesan truffle fries, Eat Chow offers both American and Mexican cuisine, ranging from white bean hummus to fried green tomatoes.

1802 Newport Blvd., 949.650.2469

MI CASA MEXICAN RESTAURANT

& BAR Homestyle Mexican food and famous gold tequila margaritas. 296 E. 17th St., 949.645.7626

HANA RE SUSHI The intimate sushi bar boasts 10 seats and offers menu items creatively prepared by Atsushi Yokoyama, who was named Chef of the Year by *The Orange County Register*.

2930 Bristol St., 714,545,2800

ECCO PIZZERIA & BAR Incredible pizza, pasta and other Italian entrees plus fine wine pairings. 2937 Bristol St., 714,444,3226

EAST BOROUGH Casual eatery offering classic French-Vietnamese food. 2937 Bristol St., 714.641.5010

HABANA Reminiscent of 1950s Cuba, expect classics like ropa vieja, empanadas and sangria in a romantic setting. 2930 Bristol St., 714.556.0176

HAMAMORI RESTAURANT

Multicourse sushi creations and refreshing cocktails. 3333 Bear St., 714.850.0880

HOKKAIDO SANTOUKA RAMEN

A locals' favorite near Mitsuwa Marketplace, offering some of the best ramen in Orange County. 665 Paularino Ave., 714.434.1101

KITAKATA RAMEN BAN NAI One of more than half a dozen ramen noodle houses in Costa Mesa, Kitakata prepares its broth from scratch each day, using select pork bones and ingredients.

891 Baker St., 714.557.2947

MASTRO'S STEAKHOUSE Adored by diners and named "masterful" by the Los Angeles Daily News, Mastro's serves the finest dry-aged, hand-cut prime steaks and fresh seafood with nightly live music. Enjoy an expansive wine cellar and the signature butter cake for dessert.

MEMPHIS CAFÉ Suburban bar turned hip roadhouse offering a mix of regional American and traditional soul food. 2920 Bristol St., 714,432,7685

NATIVE FOODS A fusion of ethnic and vegan fare regularly exceeding expectations of vegetarian cuisine. 2937 Bristol St., 714.751.2151

PIZZERIA ORTICA Seasonally inspired regional Italian fare and an extensive list of wines from California and Italy. 650 Anton Blvd., 714.445.4900

PLUMS CAFE AND CATERING A

locals' favorite for brunch and lunch, featuring a Pacific Northwest-inspired menu. 369 E. 17th St., 949.722.7586

PUEBLO Inspired by the scores of tapas in Barcelona, Pueblo serves fresh and vibrant Spanish small bites. Expect everything from grilled Spanish cheeses with charred fig and black truffle oil bocadillos to fresh shrimp ceviche with seasonal citrus and cilantro tapas. 3321 Hyland Ave. Suite D, 714.340.5775

SEABIRDS KITCHEN Freshly crafted and creative vegan food locally sourced

from organic farmers. 2930 Bristol St., 714.549.2584

SEASONS 52 Using healthy rustic cooking techniques like brick-oven roasting and grilling to bring out natural flavors of the season, with menus changing four times per year to offer the freshest ingredients.

3333 Bristol St., 714.437.5252

SHUCK OYSTER BAR Orange County's premier fresh oyster bar with fresh deliveries daily from over 60 different oyster farms. 3313 Hyland Ave., 949.420.0478

social An unexpected gem anchoring a strip mall on the bustling 19th Street, where the service is great, the cocktails are works of art and the menu is expansive with all the great comfort foods. SOCIAL is also highly recommended for their nightly happy hour menus and Sunday brunch. 512 W. 19th Street, 949.642.2425

TACO MESA Top Zagat-rated restaurant offering healthy, innovative Mexican fare from time-honored recipes. 647 W. 19th St., 949.642.0629

THE CAPITAL GRILLE Hand-carved steaks, fresh seafood and an award-winning wine list of over 350 selections. *3333 Bristol St.*, 714.432.1140

WATER GRILL Fresh iced shellfish platters and a daily changing menu are served up in this rustic, yet upscale restaurant across from South Coast Plaza. 3300 Bristol St., 949.208.7060

VISIT
TRAVELCOSTAMESA.COM/EAT

COSTA MESA VISITOR GUIDE | DINING 17

TAKE AN EATCATION*

You've heard of a vacation, and even a staycation...but what about an Eatcation™? At least 60 percent of today's travelers say that food is the top reason they love to vacation. So if you like to take a getaway just to try new cuisine, you're in great company. Costa Mesa offers some of the most decadent and unique restaurants in Southern California.

DAY 1

Afternoon: It's Friday afternoon. Check into your hotel and get ready to do some serious eating!

Visit South Coast Collection (SOCO), where The OC Mix is located. The OC Mix is one of Orange County's most exciting and unique food halls. Try the award-winning desserts at ST Pâtisserie Chocolat, such as eclairs, bonbons and macarons. This pastry shop brings out the highest fashion in Parisian desserts, using only the finest ingredients. It was founded by Stéphane Tréand, one of four people in the U.S. with the prestigious title of Un des Meilleurs Ouvriers de France, which is given to artists and chefs by the French labor ministry in Paris celebrating outstanding artistry.

Try Taco María by Chef Carlos Salgado at SOCO, which serves a critically acclaimed take on contemporary California-Mexican cuisine and offers a menu full of delicious options. Chef Carlos has worked at several innovative, Michelinstarred restaurants and was named Food & Wine Magazine's Best New Chef; he's also received back-to-back James Beard Award nominations. End your night's visit to The OC Mix at LCA Wines, which is known for the finest wine tastings and retail selection of wines from all over the world.

Up for a little music and maybe a late-night bite? Try Mesa at The CAMP, which often has live DJs and music. With an edgy look, eclectic crowd and freshly prepared food, this modern lounge atmosphere features everything from roasted beet salad to grilled Angus steak to mushroom and leek pizza, as well as creative cocktails. There are also savory appetizers like tempura green beans and flash-fried calamari that you can try up until the late evening.

DAY 2

Morning: Wake up to a decadent breakfast experience at Old Vine Café, located in The CAMP. The restaurant uses fresh seasonal ingredients for breakfast, a hallmark of Italian-trained



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Chef Mark McDonald. Breakfast offerings include fresh crepes, homemade granola and rich, comforting brunch options like caramel apple French toast and chili verde guiche. Work off breakfast at South Coast Plaza, a world-renowned shopping destination. South Coast Plaza has some of the best luxury stores in the world including Louis Vuitton, Chanel, Gucci and more — all packed in one easy-toaccess location. While you're at South Coast Plaza, take a stop for lunch at AnQi Gourmet Bistro & Noodle Bar. Created by the An family, AnQi is a stunning restaurant that can convert in the evening to host its own fashion shows with a catwalk! It's fun to see the beautiful design of this Asian fusion restaurant during the day too, especially if you get to try Mama An's famous garlic noodles. Enjoy a variety of Asian dishes, including sushi, traditional Vietnamese pho, pork bao, potstickers and much more.

Afternoon: Immerse yourself in some world-renowned public art in the City of the Arts™. Explore the campus at Segerstrom Center for the Arts, famous for its collection of artwork from such luminaries like Richard Serra, whose 360-ton sculpture Connector consists of five twisted winding steel plates; Charles O. Perry, with his bright yellow-painted steel sculpture The Ram; or Jean Dubuffet, who sculpted a color-blocked creation Tour Aux Jambes likened to a three-dimensional jigsaw puzzle. (See full art walk on page 28.)

Evening: Dine at one of the restaurants within walking distance of Segerstrom Center for the Arts.

Vaca is a true Spanish eatery whose chef, Amar Santana, has competed on Bravo's award-winning "Top Chef" series.

Vaca blends the cuisines of Barcelona, Madrid, Andalusia, Seville and the Basque country. From the best grass-fed Argentinian beef to genuine Kobe beef flown in daily, Vaca offers an incredible



meat and cheese selection, rich paellas and a Spanish-only curated wine list.

But Costa Mesa doesn't just have great food! Afterward, you're just a stroll away from the many spectacular shows playing at Segerstrom Center for the Arts, including those seen on Broadway stages, like *Wicked*, *Phantom of the Opera* and *Hamilton*.

Looking for a special dessert? Head over to Confetti Italian Ice and Custard and find a delightful selection of Italian ices and rich, creamy custards in flavors like passion fruit, lychee and banana split.

DAY 3

Morning: Try breakfast at Bistro Papillote by La Cuisine at SOCO, including Chef Laurent Brazier's interpretation of quiches and crepes. Mouthwatering quiches include those with ham, bacon and onion. Enjoy a crepe stuffed with Black Forest ham and eggs, or fresh raspberries and lemon. Looking for something a little lighter? Try Sidecar Doughnuts on 17th Street, which serves specialty handmade doughnuts like salty caramel, made with Jacobsen sea salt and topped with house-made caramel glaze. Enjoy a unique freshly

made doughnut with a blazing cup of the famous Stumptown Roasters coffee.

Afternoon: Stroll the unique lifestyle shops of The LAB, a one-of-a-kind "antimall" created from a former goggle factory. When your stomach's ready, indulge at Habana, reminiscent of an outdoor patio in 1950s Cuba. The Nuevo Latino restaurant offers dishes from succulent mango pulled pork to plantain-crusted chicken sandwiches. You can sip on a fruity sangria or a minty mojito in a garden patio, surrounded by California plants. OpenTable® named Habana one of the best outdoor dining experiences in the U.S. It's worth a stop for an iced tea or hand-crafted beverage if you're not ready for a full meal. Between the afternoon and evening, you may be able to fit in a cruise down to the coast where you can watch the sunset from Newport Beach Pier, just a short drive from Costa Mesa. Once the sun goes down, head back to The Triangle entertainment center.

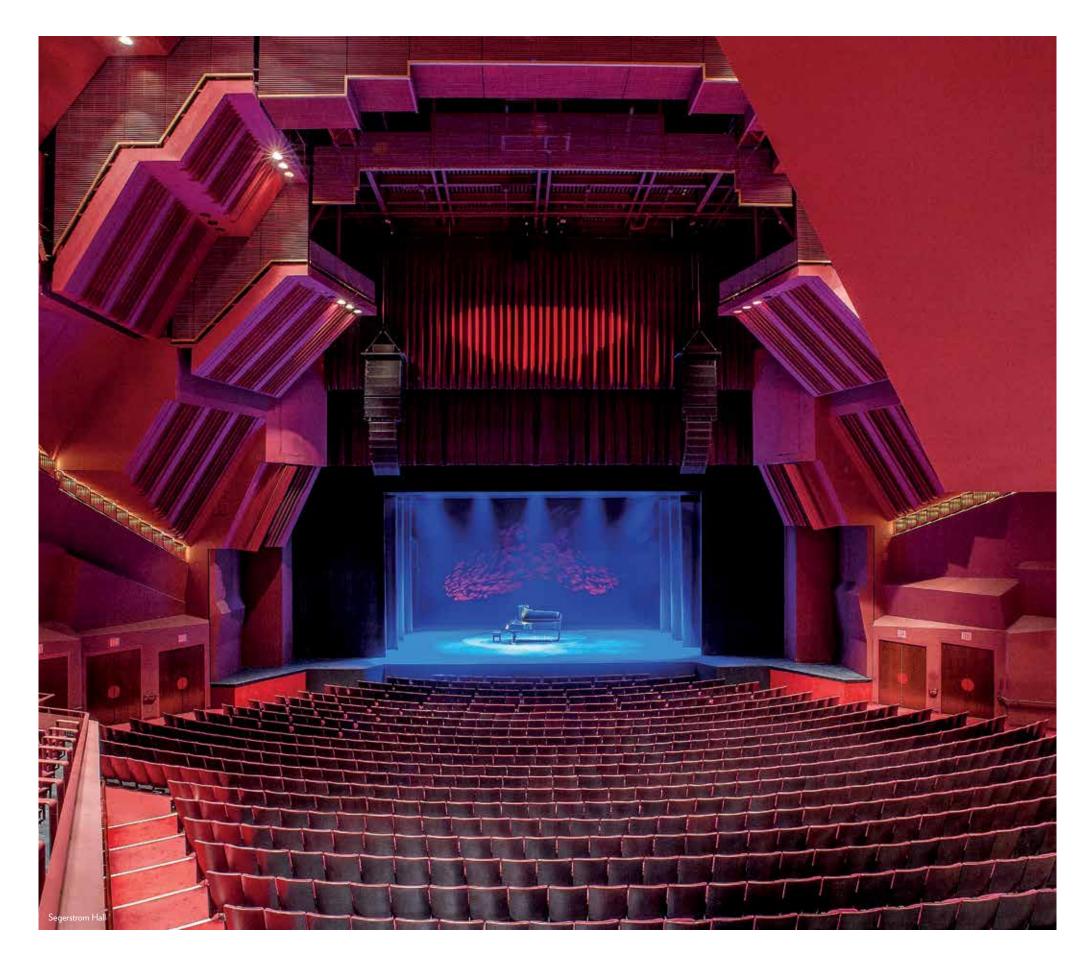
Evening: The Triangle is at the border of Costa Mesa and Newport Beach. Spend the evening enjoying the latest movie on the silver screen or try your hand at bowling at Tavern+Bowl where you can also relax and view the latest game on

TV. Stroll around the center and you'll find some delicious options for dinner. If you're looking for a good steak or barbecue, try Saddle Ranch Chop House. If you're looking for a great photo op, ride the mechanical bull for a fun and memorable visit to The Triangle. La Vida Cantina offers fresh Mexican food with a large outdoor patio and great ambience. H20 Sushi & Izakaya has some of the best sushi in Costa Mesa, so if fresh Japanese is what you're craving, The Triangle has that too. Oftentimes there is live music in the courtyard, but either way, you'll enjoy the mild Southern California temperatures while strolling around this center.



VISIT
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EATCATION
for more on dining in the city

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STAGE

THE FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS are well represented in Costa Mesa. Taking center stage in Orange County is Costa Mesa's internationally acclaimed arts district, which includes some of the finest visual installations and performance venues in the country. From year-round, award-winning Broadway performances such as Lion King, Phantom of the Opera, Book of Mormon and Hamilton (in 2018) at Segerstrom Center for the Arts, to inspiring productions from up-and-coming playwrights at the Costa Mesa Playhouse, it's easy to see why Costa Mesa is known as the City of the Arts™ and recognized as Orange County's cultural epicenter.



The original Segerstrom Hall at Segerstrom Center for the Arts has been providing Orange County with one of the finest performance venues in the nation for more than 30 years. The world's greatest dance companies, a national tour of Broadway's top shows, and acclaimed artists and attractions appear at the Center each year.

DIRECTLY ACROSS the Center's Arts Plaza is Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall, which opened in 2006. Designed by renowned architect Cesar Pelli, the venue is noted for its architecturally distinctive sweeping curved glass facade. It also features a dramatic multitiered foyer and circular staircase. The lobby ceiling is an art installation called Constellation. It is finished in silver leaf with Swarovski crystal LED lights and 300 individually suspended pendants of polished stainless steel tipped with faceted

Center's own presentations and guest resident companies Pacific Symphony, the Philharmonic Society of Orange County and Pacific Chorale, and has hosted names such as Tony Bennett, Lang Lang, Beverly Sills, YoYo Ma and the New York City Opera. Jazz, pop, opera and classical music are featured in concert series events.



Baccarat crystal globes. In addition to the artists, this magnificent concert hall hosts

Concert Hall is the intimate Samueli Theater, which accommodates multiple seating configurations, from traditional theater and intimate, candlelit club-style to standing room only for rock concerts. Most of Segerstrom Center's jazz, concert and spotlight series performances are enjoyed in the Samueli Theater. Elegantly greeting visitors at the entrance to Samueli Theater is Aiko Miyawaki's Utsurohi 91, a beautiful sculpture of chromium columns put in motion by the wind.

Behind the Renée and Henry Segerstrom

THE CONCERT HALL and

Segerstrom Hall face the 56,100-squarefoot Julianne and George Argyros Plaza, whose centerpiece is a towering sculpture by Richard Serra entitled Connector. Many events are presented on the plaza by the Center, including free events, dance performances, festivals, parties



and its popular movie mondays series in the summer. Other organizations use the plaza for community events, such as Strides for Life and Walk for the Cure. The arts plaza was renamed the Julianne and George Argyros Plaza in 2017, rebuilt as an open, expanded public gathering place. The plaza offers exceptional year-round programs and performances as well as quest amenities that include a lively, full-service café, public stage, shaded seating areas, Wi-Fi and enhanced lighting and sound. A visually striking grand staircase connects Segerstrom Hall to the Argyros Plaza below.

Segerstrom Center for the Arts offers free docent-led tours, allowing visitors a behind-the-scenes look at one of the most celebrated facilities in Orange County by visiting areas of the center that are rarely seen by the general public

Tours are between 60 minutes for one building and up to 90 minutes for both buildings; reservations can be made directly with the center and are required. Call 714.556.2122 ext. 4365 or email tours@scfta.org.

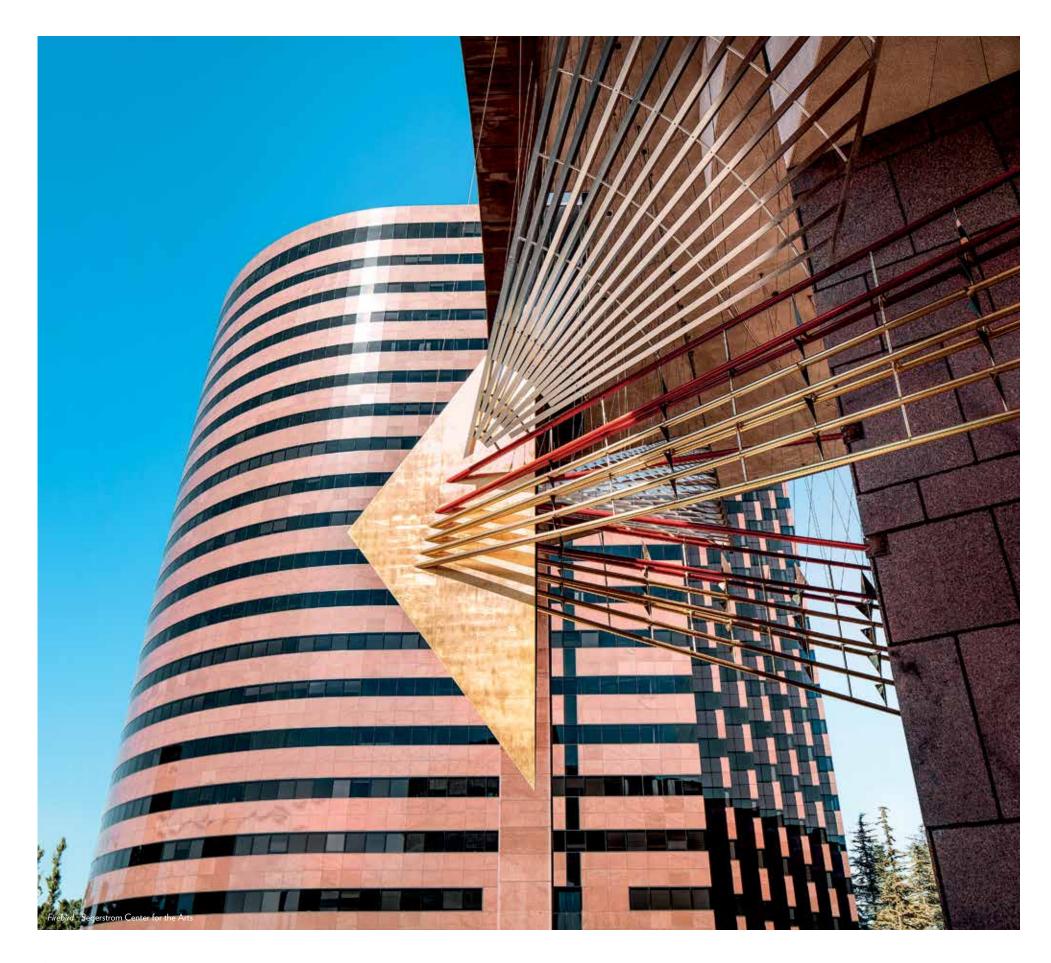
Also on the Segerstrom Center for the Arts campus is **South Coast Repertory** (SCR), a professional resident theater. The Tony® Award-winning theater is widely regarded as one of America's foremost producers of new plays. SCR's extensive new play development program consists of commissions, residencies, readings and workshops, from which up to five world premieres are produced each season. The theater season (September to June) includes works drawn from classic and modern theater repertoires. SCR offers a variety of outreach and education programs and is renowned for its new play development program of works

by emerging and established writers, presented each season in public reading and during the Pacific Playwrights Festival.

COSTA MESA'S collection of premier performing arts venues includes the Costa Mesa Playhouse. Dedicated to serving the Orange County community for more than 50 seasons, the nonprofit, 73-seat community theater brings talented performers and stage craftspeople together in an intimate setting to perfect their craft. With a season running from September through June and five productions per season, the Playhouse offers a diverse array of plays and musicals to Costa Mesa's theatergoers.

VISIT TRAVELCOSTAMESA.COM/CALENDAR

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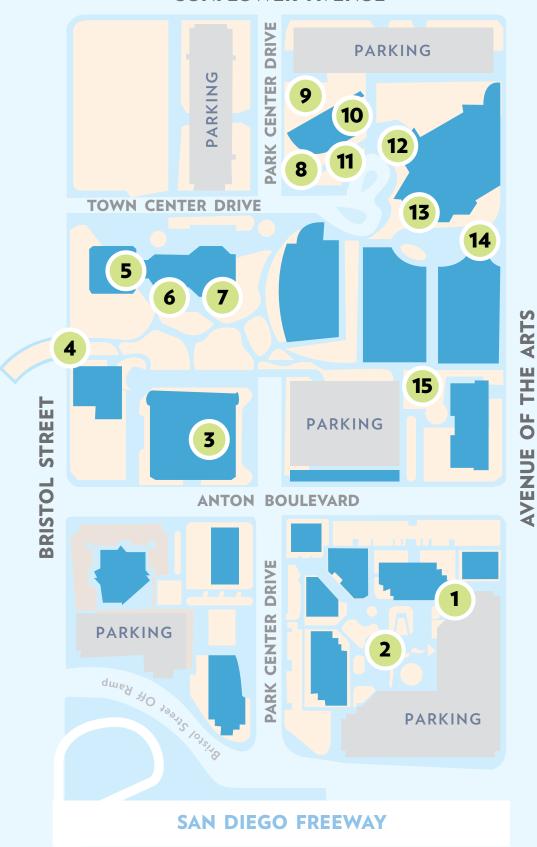


CULTURE

INCORPORATED IN 1953, Costa Mesa was mostly farmland with a population of 16,840 people. Since then, the dynamic community has grown to a population of 112,840 (2016) and has developed into a vibrant, world-class city, featuring some of the best restaurants and retail centers in the nation, along with incredible works of public art including the country's preeminent outdoor sculpture garden, *California Scenario*. Costa Mesa is also considered to be the capital of the action sports industry, having given birth to surf- and skate-wear titans like Volcom, Hurley and RVCA. In 2017, Vans relocated their headquarters to Costa Mesa to add more space for their growing footwear company. The development of these industries can be seen in the thriving neighborhoods around Costa Mesa.

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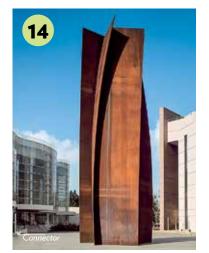
SUNFLOWER AVENUE



COSTA MESA ART WALK

TOUR COSTA MESA'S rich arts scene with numerous notable sculptures.









- Sun Ribbon Stripes of gold, orange, red, violet and clear-textured glass radiate warmth and form a transparent windscreen. Follow pedestrian walkway from 601 Anton Blvd. to Noguchi Garden.
- California Scenario 1.6-acre park created by sculptor Isamu Noguchi representing California's diverse landscape. Located in Noguchi Garden off pedestrian walkway at 601 Anton Blvd.
- Neptune Water Spouts A fountain made up of seven identical ceramic Neptune heads providing tranquil acoustics in The Westin South Coast Plaza.
- Unity Bridge A pedestrian bridge connecting Segerstrom Center for the Arts and South Coast Plaza.
- Tour Aux Jambes A structure of entwined elements, loosely translated as "Encirclement of Limbs" or "Tower of Legs." 695 Town Center Drive, inside Park Tower.
- **The Ram** A 20-foot-tall, 7-ton, bright yellow steel abstraction inspired by the animal's horns. Located outside Park Tower across from The Westin South Coast Plaza.
- Night Shift A rugged granite boulder intersected by stainless steel. Located in Town Center Park outside South Coast Repertory.
- **Jonah and the Whale** A fountain sculpture reenactment of the story of the same name. Located in the lobby of Center Tower, 650 Town Center Dr.
- Four Lines Oblique Gyratory-Square IV A strong ever-changing structure that is flexible enough to move with just the slightest breeze. Located on the lower level, outside Center Tower, 650 Town Center Drive.
- Sun Glitter Bronze sculpture depicting a mermaid riding a dolphin. Located in the lobby of Center Tower, 650 Town Center Dr.
- **Oiseau** Cast bronze sculpture with rounded sides and sharp projections. Located in the lobby of Center Tower, 650 Town Center Dr.
- Reclining Figure Based on the human figure with universal shapes. Located on the Orchestra Level terrace at Segerstrom Hall. 600 Town Center Drive.
- **Firebird** Named after Igor Stravinsky's famous ballet, the gold, red and silver structure is architecturally integrated into Segerstrom Hall.
- **Connector** A 65-foot-tall, 360-ton sculpture set on a pentagonal ground plan on the arts plaza.
- **Utsurohi 91** A series of 12 ten-foot columns set in an elliptical configuration with relief images of Chinese zodiac animals. Located in a grassy area adjacent to the entrance to the Samueli Theater.

COSTA MESA VISITOR GUIDE | CULTURE 29

MUSEUMS AND CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS

COSTA MESA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM A source for

local history, photographs, maps and periodicals. 1870 Anaheim Ave., Costa Mesa, 949.631.5918, costamesahistory.org

THE ARTERY An intimate gallery created with three steel shipping containers providing a co-op space for local and emerging artists at The LAB. 2930 Bristol St., Costa Mesa, facebook.com/arteryatthelab

DIEGO SEPULVEDA ADOBE An early Native American settlement and colorful segment of Southern California history. 1900 Adams Ave., Costa Mesa, 949.631.5918, costamesahistory.org/adobe.htm

HEROES HALL A year-round tribute to Orange County veterans and others who have served our nation. The museum includes both rotating and permanent exhibits, as well as unique educational experiences. 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, 714.708.1500, ocfair.com/heroeshall

GRAY MATTER MUSEUM OF ART A boutique museum dedicated to displaying works from local artists, everything from sculptures and photography to drawings and paintings. 485 E. 17th St. Suite 101, Costa Mesa, 949.870.5910, gmmaca.org

MARTIN LAWRENCE GALLERIES (MLG) Founded in 1975,

MLG specializes in original paintings, sculpture and limited edition graphics. In the last 15 years, they have lent nearly 250 different artworks to 32 different museums around the world. The location in South Coast Plaza is one of 10 worldwide. 3333 Bear St., Costa Mesa, 949.759.0134, martinlawrence.com/art-gallery-costa-mesa



LYON AIR MUSEUM Displays historic military aircraft, vehicles and other World War II memorabilia. 19300 lke Jones Rd., Santa Ana, 714.210.4585, lyonairmuseum.org



BOWERS MUSEUM Displays Egyptian relics, Chinese sculptures, priceless gems and is home to the Bowers Kidseum. 2002 North Main St., Santa Ana, 714.567.3600, bowers.org

DISCOVERY CUBE An interactive science museum with more than 100 exhibits. 2500 North Main St., Santa Ana, 714.542.2823, discoverycube.org

HERITAGE MUSEUM OF ORANGE COUNTY A Victorian

gem featuring several buildings from the 1890s set among extensive gardens. 3101 W. Harvard St., Santa Ana, 714.540.0404, heritagemuseumoc.org

INTERNATIONAL SURFING MUSEUM Reinforces Huntington Beach's reputation as "Surf City USA" with a display of surf memorabilia. 411 Olive Ave., Huntington Beach, 714.960.3483, surfingmuseum.org

THE IRVINE MUSEUM Embracing a principal role in furthering the education of American Impressionism that has come to be associated with California and its remarkable landscape. Dedicated to the preservation and display of California art of the Impressionist Period (1890–1930). 18881 Von Karman Ave. Ste. 100, Irvine, 949.476.0294, irvinemuseumcollection.uci.edu

LAGUNA ART MUSEUM Focuses on regional art history and building upon Laguna's unique artists' colony. 307 Cliff Dr., Laguna Beach, 949.494.8971, lagunaartmuseum.org

MARCONI AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM Holds an impressive collection of historic and exotic classic cars and bikes. 1302 Industrial Dr., Tustin, 714.258.3001, marconimuseum.org

MISSION SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO One of the original 21 California missions. 26801 Ortega Hwy., San Juan Capistrano, 949.234.1300, missionsjc.com

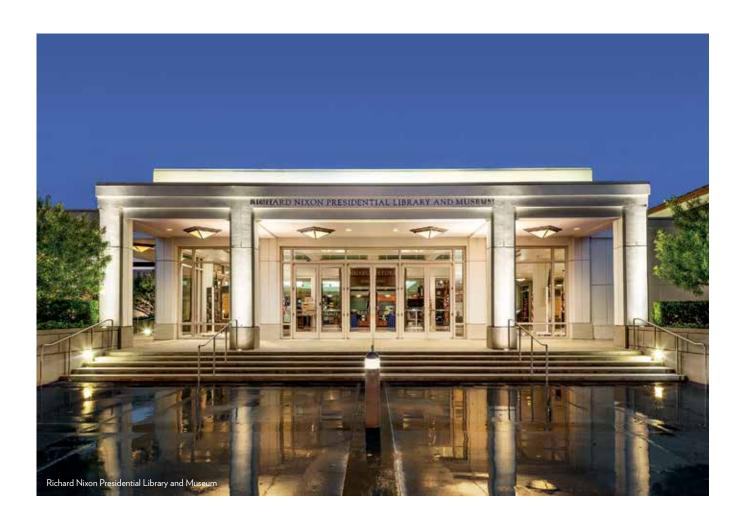
MUZEO A cultural arts center home to Anaheim's original library and ongoing changing exhibitions. 241 South Anaheim Blvd., Anaheim, 714.956.8936, muzeo.org

ORANGE COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART Dedicated to

preserving and interpreting the art of our time. 850 San Clemente Dr., Newport Beach, 949.759.1122, ocma.net

RICHARD NIXON PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

A look inside the life of the 37th president. 18001 Yorba Linda Blvd., Yorba Linda, 714.993.3393, nixonlibrary.gov



TRAVELCOSTAMESA VISITOR GUIDE | CULTURE 31



PLAY

costa Mesa is located minutes from some of Southern California's best attractions, many of which are world famous, affording visitors with countless activities that are fun for the whole family. Cheer on a local sports team or enjoy a fun-filled day at one of the nearby world-renowned theme parks. Costa Mesa is also home to 30 public parks, providing a peaceful retreat from a region filled with excitement. With all of the entertainment options combined with the city's perpetual sunshine, you may never want to leave.

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THE OC FAIR & EVENT CENTER

(OCFEC) is at the heart of Costa Mesa's vibrant year-round events calendar, hosting more than 150 events and attracting nearly 2 million visitors annually; it also hosts one of the top 10 county fairs in the U.S. The campus is home to Centennial Farm, Pacific Amphitheatre and the OC Fair running every July and August. OCFEC's 150 acres has been the home of the OC Fair since 1949; the fair has expanded to an annual 23-day summer event.

The OCFEC's mission is "the celebration of Orange County's communities, interests, agriculture and heritage." **CENTENNIAL FARM** opened in 1988 and is a working farm for educating youth about agriculture and farming – the complex has fruit and vegetable gardens as well as livestock barns. The farm welcomes more than 25,000 students annually for free educational tours. Much of the yield of the wide variety of fruits and vegetables grown on the farm goes to area food banks and other charitable groups through the efforts of local volunteer

organizations. Tours can be arranged directly with OCFEC.

PACIFIC AMPHITHEATRE

is an outdoor concert venue seating approximately 8,000, located at the OC Fair & Event Center campus and annually presenting one of the top concert lineups in California. The Amphitheatre has hosted world-famous acts including Bob Dylan, Roger Daltrey and The Offspring, along with pop-culture stars like Selena Gomez, One Direction and LeAnn Rimes. The Toyota Summer Concert Series draws concertgoers from all over Southern California, and each concert ticket includes free admission to the OC Fair. General information, including booking entertainment and renting OCFEC facilities, can be found via ocfair.com or by calling 714.708.1501.

COSTA MESA PARKS

Costa Mesa offers a relaxing, diverse array of city parks. A locals' favorite,

Charles TeWinkle, who moved to Costa Mesa in 1920 and was elected the first mayor of the newly incorporated City of Costa Mesa in 1953. The 49-acre park has an amphitheater and an idyllic lake with a waterfall and is home to Volcom Skate Park. The park also offers barbecues, picnic areas, a playground, baseball fields and tennis courts. Wild ducks can often be seen swimming in the

TEWINKLE PARK was named after

The 210 acres of public land in **FAIRVIEW PARK** contain open fields, trails, hills and a forested sanctuary. It's a wonderful park for hiking, walking, running and biking enthusiasts. An official model airplane airstrip is located at the center of the park where

lake at 970 Arlington Drive.



organized flying events are often held The Orange County Model Engineers operate the Goathill Junction Railroad at the eastern end of the park and provide free model train rides on the third weekend of each month. A series of short trails on the plateau leads through a maze of tall wildflowers that bloom in the spring. Another trail leads to a riverbed with a beautifully preserved California landscape containing huge oak trees, large grass and fields of native California plants. Bike trails and running trails lead all the way down to the beach. 2501 Placentia Ave.

Open year-round, the TALBERT **NATURE PRESERVE** has nearly 200 acres of scenic landscape, perfect for Costa Mesa locals and visitors that want to get outside. A joint project of the local parks department and the California Coastal Conservancy. it's a great spot for hiking, biking or jogging. The preserve acts as a botanical garden, wildlife refuge and exceptional recreational facility all at once. The Preserve is divided into six separate plant groups (also known as zones), based upon what would exist there naturally - the progression of plant groups and changing climate conditions found along the Santa Ana River. The cultivation of native vegetation in the Talbert Nature Preserve is an attempt to recreate plant communities similar to those that existed in the Costa Mesa area before much of the land was put to use for agriculture, housing or industry. Talbert Nature Preserve is located at 1299 Victoria Ave. in Costa Mesa between Pacific Avenue and the Santa Ana River.

GOLF COURSES

Tee off at Costa Mesa Country Club (1701 Golf Course Dr.) or at one of the nearby beautifully kept greens: Monarch



Beach Golf Links (50 Monarch Beach Resort N, Dana Point), Pelican Hill Golf Club (22800 S. Pelican Hill Rd., Newport Beach), Strawberry Farms Golf Course (11 Strawberry Farm Rd., Irvine) and Tustin Ranch Golf Course (12442 Tustin Ranch Rd., Tustin).

Southern California is one of the best places in the world to play golf. With our year-round sunshine and dry climate, you can get out onto the green almost any day of the year. Here are a few of the scenic courses to choose from during your visit.

COSTA MESA COUNTRY CLUB

consists of two municipal golf courses. The 18-hole Mesa Linda municipal golf course features 5,486 yards (5.02 km) of golf from the longest tees for a par of 70 and a course rating of 66.0. The 18-hole Los Lagos municipal golf course features 6,547 yards (5.99 km) of golf from the longest tees for a par of 72 and a course rating of 70.7. Local golf enthusiasts frequent these full-service municipal courses at very affordable prices. The clubhouse can also be rented out for weddings and special events.

STRAWBERRY FARMS GOLF

COURSE is another locals' favorite course in Orange County. Strawberry Farms is situated about 7 miles (11.27 km) from Costa Mesa in the canyons of Irvine, at the end of a white picket fence-lined road. The public 18-hole golf course features 6,700 yards (6.13 km) of golf from the longest tees for a par of 71 and a course rating of 72.7. Located between canyons and wetlands, the course offers picturesque vistas across a 35-acre reservoir to large rolling greens surrounded by wildlife and natural vegetation, and scenic hills studded with granite boulders and natural waterfalls.

PELICAN HILL GOLF CLUB

has certainly one of the most stunning and picturesque courses in Southern California. With panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean, Pelican Hill offers two courses, with several holes right by the ocean's edge. Every shot and hole is designed to complement the natural landscape at sea level. As Pelican Hill tells it, the incredible views have a way of making up for even the most errant shot.

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SPECTACULAR ORANGE COUNTY BEACHES

Luckily, Costa Mesa is near some of the best beaches in Orange County. Rent an electric boat for a relaxing cruise in neighboring Newport Beach's famous harbor. Catch a wave at Huntington Beach, also known as "Surf City USA" – the best place to enjoy water sports just 6 miles (9.6 km) from Costa Mesa. And the 17-mile (27.3 km) drive to Laguna Beach's azure coastline is a perfect retreat for relaxing at the beach and browsing local art galleries.

Orange County is the ideal area of Southern California to hit the sandy shores of the Pacific Coast. There are favorite beaches for surfing, walking on the pier, places to see the sunset, but mostly, it's just 42 miles of continuous coastline beginning as far north as Seal Beach, through "Surf City USA" in Huntington Beach, to the southernmost part of the county, San Clemente. Here you'll find some of the best waves in the world, tucked-away spots to seek out sea glass and explore tide pools, and serene spaces to bask in the sunshine with endless views of sparkling waters. Locals have their top picks, and so do we, so we put together a list of the lesser-known places to dig your feet in the sand and play, or just relax and enjoy a beautiful Orange County sunset.

Little Corona in **NEWPORT BEACH** is a hidden gem that is great for families. Without some insight and direction, this beach can be a challenge to locate, but that's what makes it so special. If traveling down Pacific Coast Highway, park on nearby streets like Poppy or Ocean and navigate down the paved walkway to the beach. The jetty near this shore helps keep the waves at bay, making it a fun place for smaller children to frolic. According to

blogger Josh of "California Through My Lens," this is the best place for exploring tide pools and sea life. Side note: This location also has bathrooms that are both clean and close by!

BOLSA CHICA STATE BEACH, just

north of Huntington Beach, is a great place to catch some waves during the day and roast marshmallows on a bonfire at night. Overnight visitors often choose this location for camping and RV parking and the ease of riding bikes along the boardwalk and exploring the ecological reserve just across Pacific Coast Highway. In 2016, SeaLegs at the Beach opened and had transformed the landscape of this boardwalk snack bar located just north of Huntington Beach. While seasonal, it's still a lesser-known hangout on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, opening at 10 a.m. Think beach club vibe with live music playing during the day and into the night. The best part is, quests who purchase beverages or food can stay

as long as they like and kick back on the Adirondack chairs or in a cabana, at no extra cost.

The glistening sand and blue waters of

NEWPORT BEACH beckon millions of travelers each year. Balboa Pier offers plenty of parking adjacent to the boardwalk, with easy access to shops and restaurants as well as bike and beach rentals. A full day can easily be spent exploring this hip beach town. Venture across the parking lot to the Balboa Fun Zone and experience a historic area with arcades and boardwalk activities right on the water of the Newport Harbor. A ride on the Ferris wheel is a great way to get an aerial view of the surroundings. While in this area, take the ferry across the harbor to the Balboa Island neighborhood and experience a hundred years of rich history, where many Hollywood celebrities spent their weekends away from "Tinsel Town."

TREASURE ISLAND has the most beautiful vibrant turquoise waters,

which are hard to come by on a West Coast beach. Located at the base of The Montage Resort in Laguna Beach, adventurous beachgoers will love exploring the hidden coves and tide pools in this area. There are plenty of rocks to climb, and this is even a great place for snorkeling! Access to this beach is a paved pathway alongside the resort.

crystal cove is located just south of Newport Beach adjacent to a state park. A visit here is truly a step back in time where dozens of restored beach cottages line the cliffs facing the ocean. Bring lunch and set up at one of the many picnic tables on the sand, and join other visitors and locals for a waterfront hike along the beach and cliffs. Be sure to stop by the visitor center and store for maps of the area. This is also a great beach for exploring tide pools. On occasional weekends, local naturalists are on hand offering educational chats about the ocean, sea life and biology. A local hotspot

is The Beachcomber. Walk-up visitors may be lucky enough to get a table for brunch, or dinner, but reservations are usually a good idea. This restaurant has a patio and bar overlooking the cottages and ocean and is a great way to enjoy the views. Parking is across Pacific Coast Highway, where a shuttle then takes visitors over to the beachside.

SAN CLEMENTE is known as the "Spanish village on the sea," illustrated by the many beautiful homes and buildings that incorporate Spanish colonial architecture. While this community has its own pier, it also has 10 other spots to set up for a day at the beach. San Clemente is also known for its ocean views from the hills and mountaintops. For an extra treat, take the train from one of many stations throughout Orange County and enjoy the picturesque Orange County coastline along the way. You'll arrive at the San Clemente Station right on the beach. A weekend pass on Amtrak is just \$10.

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NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

DISNEYLAND RESORT The most famous theme park in the world, the Disneyland_® Resort, is only a 13-mile (21 km) drive from Costa Mesa. Disneyland. Resort welcomes visitors from all over the world and has one of the highest theme park attendances anywhere. The Disneyland_® Resort brings fantasy, fun and delight to children and adults alike year-round. The park's eight separately themed areas include New Orleans Square, Mickey's Toontown and the Main Street USA promenade. Select Costa Mesa hotels offer shuttle transportation to and from Disneyland, Resort for adults and children. Advanced shuttle reservations are required, and tickets can be purchased at participating hotels and South Coast Plaza. 1313 Disneyland Drive, Anaheim.

KNOTT'S BERRY FARM® AND KNOTT'S SOAK CITY offer 160 acres

of world-class rides and entertainment just 22 miles (35 km) north of Costa Mesa. Knott's Berry Farm consists of five themed areas: Ghost Town, Fiesta Village, The Boardwalk, Camp Snoopy and Indian Trails. The park is known for entertaining events throughout the year, and Knott's Soak City is the largest water park in Orange County with seven new rides to experience and keep cool. Knott's world-famous jams can be found at The Berry Market. 8039 Beach Blvd., Buena Park.

SPORTS FANS UNITE

It's official. Costa Mesa is a sports fan's paradise. The Los Angeles Chargers have relocated from San Diego, making Costa Mesa home for their front office and training camp. Visitors to Costa Mesa during the summer months can get up close and personal with the LA Chargers NFL team at their practice facilities during Fanfest, which is held in late July and early August each year. Fans can even catch a scrimmage between some of the best in the NFL during this time. Baseball season is

a favorite pastime at "The Big A," just a few miles from Costa Mesa where some of the sport's best stars are on deck with the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. In the fall, the Anaheim Ducks National Hockey League team hits the ice at the Honda Center for action-packed competition and another chance to vie for the coveted Stanley Cup.

LOS ANGELES AND SAN DIEGO

Travelers looking to explore Southern California will find that Costa Mesa is a perfect home base. Located just 35 miles south of Los Angeles and 90 miles north of San Diego, it's an easy day trip to experience Legoland and SeaWorld in San Diego or Universal Studios and Hollywood in Los Angeles. For official hikes, shuttle information and viewpoints that will make your visit to Hollywood picture perfect, visit HollywoodSign.org.

VISIT

for the latest events and more about OC attractions

LIVE MUSIC AND NIGHTLIFE



THE TRIANGLE offers 191,000 square feet of outdoor entertainment, dining and shopping in downtown Costa Mesa.

1870 Harbor Blvd. 949.650.0732

THE WAYFARER A hip space with rustic Americana decor offering live entertainment, pub fare and drinks. 843 W. 19th St., 949.764.0039

BOATHOUSE COLLECTIVE highlights a blend of elevated cuisine with locally sourced ingredients while the venue also showcases emerging musical and artistic talent on its stage and its walls.

1640 Pomona Ave., 949.646.3176

CASA A neighborhood bar built in 2013, it's a sleek, hip speakeasy with a modern vibe. 820 W. 19th St., 949.877.0075

HARP INN One of Orange County's oldest and most authentic Irish pubs serving up traditional bites and brews with live music. 130 E. 17th St., 949.646.8855

KITSCH BAR The bar's plush round chairs, dim lighting and nightly live music make it an ideal hangout spot.

891 Baker St., 714,546,8580

TIME NIGHTCLUB at The Triangle was creatively designed with the nightclub experience in mind. Boasting a state-of-theart Funktion-One sound system and fully

immersive lighting experience, Time is an electronic dance music club, playing music by DJs, and can be rented for private space. 1875 Newport Blvd., 714.722.7103

commissary Lounge Enter through a semi-hidden black door at the back of The LAB. The venue attracts a local crowd with good music, live performances and serves mainly beer with a few soju-based cocktails. 2968 Randolph Ave., 714.557.1861

MASTRO'S STEAKHOUSE Not only recognized for its steaks and seafood, but also for its nightly live entertainment in an elegant yet energetic atmosphere.
633 Anton Blvd., 714,546,7405

BEST BREWS AND BARS

BARLEY FORGE brews Belgian, West Coast and German-style beers. Barley Forge is Costa Mesa's first-ever production brewery open seven days a week for visits, tours and tastings. 2957 Randolph Ave., 714.641.2084

GOATHILL TAVERN Consistently rotating more than 141 beers on tap, this mainstay has been on Tap by *The LA Times*, time and again.

1830 Newport Blvd. 949.548.8428

GUNWHALE ALES A wooden foudre, and temperature-controlled barrel room making beers that reflect the cultural and culinary heritage of the West Coast.

2960 Randolph Ave. 949.239.9074

RUIN BAR A small, kitschy neighborhood bar located in the heart of The LAB shopping center is decked out with items collected from all over the world. Ruin offers soju cocktails along with a wide selection of craft beers and wine.

2930 Bristol St., 714.884.3189

SKOSH MONAHAN'S A hangout spot offering Irish spirits, a wide draft beer selection, pub grub and steaks. 2000 Newport Blvd., 949.548.0099

TIN LIZZIE SALOON Orange County's premier gay bar attracts a wide variety of guests in a cozy and welcoming atmosphere. 752 St. Clair St., 714.966.2029

WILD GOOSE TAVERN This retrothemed hunting lodge bar serves a menu of gourmet sausages, burgers and interesting sides, with eight craft beers on tap and 16 different bottled beers. 436 E. 17th St., 949,722,9453

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STAY

whether you're celebrating a special event, staying overnight for business or simply enjoying Southern California at your leisure, Costa Mesa offers an exceptional selection of hotel accommodations for every guest. A stay in Costa Mesa makes it easy to enjoy the full Orange County experience. From well-known luxury properties to unique boutique hotels, Costa Mesa provides unparalleled comfort within proximity to world-class shopping and award-winning entertainment. As an added convenience, many Costa Mesa hotels offer complimentary round-trip transportation to John Wayne Airport, Orange County (SNA) and easy shuttle service to the nearby *Disneyland*. Resort.

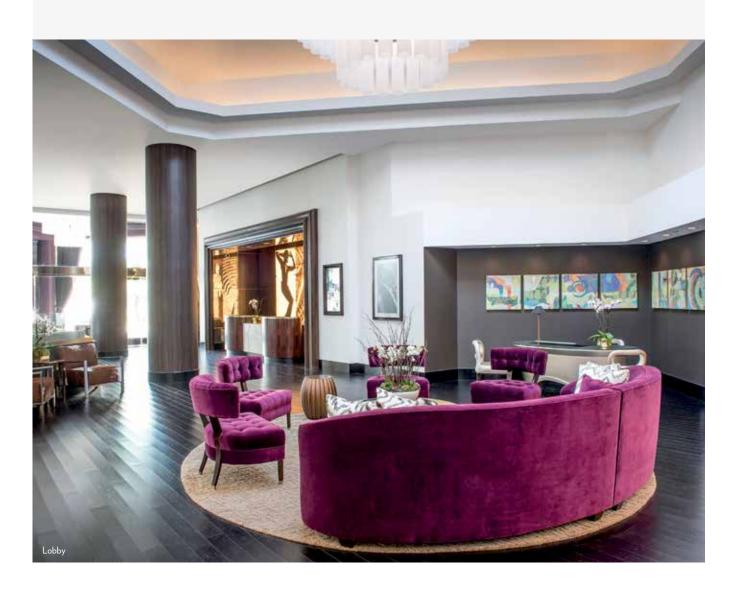


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AVENUE OF THE ARTS COSTA MESA

A TRIBUTE
PORTFOLIO HOTEL

3350 Avenue of the Arts, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 www.avenueoftheartshotel.com (714) 751-5100









OVERVIEW

Infused with modern elegance and classic chic style, the AAA Four Diamond-Awarded **Avenue of the Arts Costa Mesa, A Tribute Portfolio Hotel** is the perfect urban gathering place. Poised in the hub of Orange County's corporate and cultural center and Costa Mesa's performing arts district, the tranquil lakeside atmosphere provides an eclectic blend of artistic elements, luxury and unmatched personal service. It's just steps away from the acclaimed Segerstrom Center for the Arts and a short walk from world-renowned shopping at South Coast Plaza.

The Avenue of the Arts Costa Mesa offers a unique selection of exceptional accommodations, dining experiences, recreational activities and business facilities. Its state-of-the-art meeting and conference facilities encompass over 15,000 square feet of flexible indoor and outdoor meeting space.

AMENITIES

- 238 Rooms
- 15,000 Sq. Ft. Meeting/Event Space
- AAA Discount
- Bus Parking
- Business Center
- Cocktail Lounge
- Complimentary Airport Shuttle Service to and from John Wayne Airport, Orange County
- Complimentary Fitness Center
- Disneyland, Resort Transportation Service
- Dry Cleaning
- In-Room Safe
- In-Room Spa Service
- Meeting Facilities
- Outdoor Heated Pool & Jacuzzi
- Pet friendly
- Restaurant On Site
- Room Service
- Self-Parking

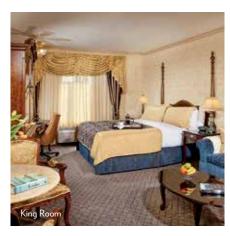
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325 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 www.ayrescostamesa.com (714) 549-0300









OVERVIEW

The Ayres Hotel & Suites Costa Mesa-Newport Beach exudes an air of casual elegance boasting distinctive décor and the Ayres signature service. Reminiscent of a French-village square, its cobblestone courtyard, beautiful gardens and cascading water fountain offer an authentic experience that will elevate your stay beyond the ordinary.

The centrally located property offers 284 deluxe guest rooms and spacious suites that serve guests with the perfect combination of old-world European charm and modern amenities. Suites are boldly appointed featuring jetted tubs and their own custom-made Ayres Celestial Sleeper beds to create a sense of restful refinement. Revitalize in the fitness studio, stay connected in the business center or relax by one of two outdoor heated pools or Jacuzzis.

Offering fine cuisine with an international flair, Le Chateau Garden Bistro is a hidden gem of Costa Mesa serving a delectable selection of breakfast, lunch and dinner options as well as one of the area's best happy hours.

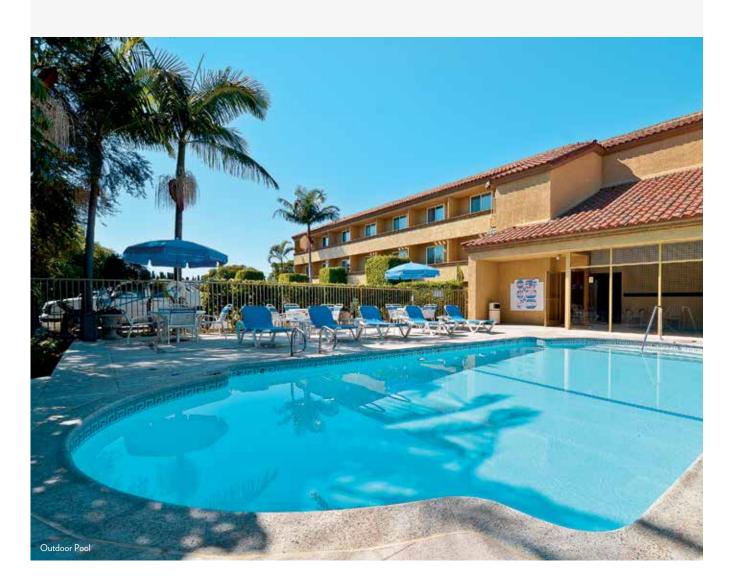
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- Bus Parking
- Business Center
- Cocktail Lounge
- Complimentary Airport Shuttle Service to and from John Wayne Airport, Orange County
- Complimentary Internet Access
- Complimentary Fitness Center
- Complimentary Parking
- Disneyland, Resort Transportation Service
- Dry Cleaning
- Meeting Facilities for up to 180 people
- Restaurant On Site
- Room Service
- Safe Deposit at Front Desk
- Two Outdoor Heated Pools & Jacuzzis

44 TRAVELCOSTAMESA VISITOR GUIDE | STAY 45

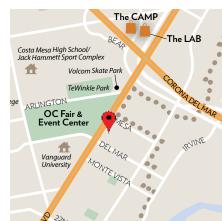


2642 Newport Boulevard, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 www.bwnewport.com (800) 554-2378









OVERVIEW

Best Western Plus is a perfect choice for your stay in Costa Mesa. The hotel is walking distance from the OC Fair & Event Center, Pacific Amphitheatre and Vanguard University. Other nearby attractions include Segerstrom Center for the Arts and South Coast Plaza shopping center. The hotel offers convenient access to Newport Beach, Laguna Beach, Huntington Beach and is less than 4 miles (6 km) from John Wayne Airport, Orange County.

Families can enjoy a day of fun at the *Disneyland*_® Resort and Knott's Berry Farm® theme parks, which are just 15 miles (24 km) away. Situated near many Southern California attractions, the Best Western Plus boasts 97 well-appointed guest rooms and suites.

The hotel offers daily breakfast and dinner in its on-site café, Urban Greens.

AMENITIES

- 97 Rooms (connecting rooms available)
- 3,000 Sq. Ft. Meeting/Event Space
- AAA Discount
- Bus Parking
- Complimentary Airport Shuttle Service to and from John Wayne Airport, Orange County
- Complimentary Fitness Center
- Complimentary Hot Breakfast
- Complimentary Internet Access
- Complimentary Parking
- *Disneyland*_® Resort Transportation Service
- Grab & Go Marketplace
- In-Room Safe
- Outdoor Heated Pool & Indoor Jacuzzi
- Restaurant On Site
- Self-Service Laundry

46 TRAVELCOSTAMESA VISITOR GUIDE | STAY 47

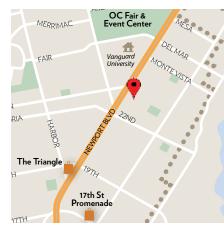


2430 Newport Blvd., Costa Mesa, CA 92627 www.blvdcostamesa.com (949) 631-7840









AMENITIES

- 58 Guest Rooms
- Coast Lounge
- BLVD Grab & Go Café
- Outdoor Pool & Jacuzzi
- Business Center
- Complimentary Continental Breakfast
- Complimentary Parking
- Complimentary Internet Access
- Disneyland, Resort Transportation Service

OVERVIEW

Take some time to unwind and experience the best of Orange County at the **BLVD Hotel** in Costa Mesa. Located just minutes from the relaxing beaches of the Pacific Ocean, popular shopping destinations like South Coast Plaza and just blocks away from the OC Fair & Event Center, The BLVD Hotel exudes a warm Southern California vibe.

Each room features a mini-fridge, coffee maker and microwave, as well as a separate sitting area and work desk with an ergonomic chair. Enjoy rain shower heads and eco-friendly products. During your stay please join us at our Coast Lounge to savor a complimentary glass of wine or a local selection of craft beer.

Whether traveling for work or play, the BLVD Hotel is the perfect accommodation for productivity and relaxation.

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3131 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 www.cpcostamesa.com (714) 557-3000









OVERVIEW

Crowne Plaza is an ideal upscale hotel experience for leisure visitors and business travelers. With contemporary style and a modern vibe that's warm and relaxed, Crowne Plaza offers a unique stay within walking distance to South Coast Plaza and Segerstrom Center for the Arts. The hotel allows convenient access and proximity to popular Southern California attractions like *Disneyland*, Resort, Balboa Peninsula and the Irvine Business District.

Guests can also enjoy Crowne Plaza's newly renovated, full-service American restaurant and lounge, Fireside Tavern, which is open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Plus, with 9,000 square feet of meeting space, a professional team will ensure your meeting or special event is uniquely tailored to your needs.

AMENITIES

- 224 Rooms
- 9,000 Sq. Ft. Meeting/Event Space
- AAA Discount
- Bus Parking
- Business Center
- Cocktail Lounge
- Complimentary Airport Shuttle Service to and from John Wayne Airport, Orange County
- Complimentary Fitness Center
- Complimentary Internet Access
- *Disneyland*_® Resort Transportation Service
- Dry Cleaning
- In-Room Safe
- Meeting Facilities
- Outdoor Heated Pool & Jacuzzi
- Dog-Friendly (fee applies)
- Restaurant On Site
- Room Service
- Self-Parking



3050 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 www.hiltonoc.com (714) 540-7000









OVERVIEW

The **Hilton** is located in the heart of Costa Mesa just minutes from the world-renowned South Coast Plaza and critically acclaimed Segerstrom Center for the Arts, as well as scores of mouthwatering dining options in unique eateries.

Guests will enjoy spacious rooms with either a king or two queen beds featuring the Hilton Serenity Collection®, along with a usable workspace creating a room designed for both business and pleasure.

Nestled in a sunlit seven-story atrium beneath towering palm trees, the hotel's highly regarded Bristol Palms California Bistro and Bar proudly features its signature "California Rim" cuisine, depicting the flavors of the Golden State's many vibrant cultures and epicurean influences.

AMENITIES

- 486 Rooms
- 48,000 Sq. Ft. Meeting/Event Space
- AAA Discount
- Bus Parking
- Cocktail Lounge
- Complimentary Airport Shuttle Service to and from John Wayne Airport, Orange County
- Complimentary Fitness Center
- Corner Pantry 24-hour Grab & Go Marketplace
- Disneyland, Resort Transportation Service
- Dry Cleaning
- In-Room Safe
- Meeting Facilities
- Outdoor Heated Pool & Jacuzzi
- Pet-Friendly (fee applies)
- Restaurant On Site
- Room Service
- Self-Parking
- Technology Lounge



2070 Newport Boulevard, Costa Mesa, CA 92627 www.hiexpress.com/costamesa-bch (949) 631-6000









OVERVIEW

Chic style and comfort meets convenience and affordability at the newly renovated **Holiday Inn Express & Suites**. Located less than 2 miles from John Wayne Airport, Orange County, the centrally located hotel is a short drive from nearby beaches and fine dining, and it is within walking distance of the OC Fair & Event Center and The Triangle shopping and entertainment center.

All guest rooms feature suite-type amenities including a kitchenette, wet bar, microwave and refrigerator. The 24-hour business center offers complimentary access to computers with high-speed internet, plus laser printer, fax and mail services.

Whether you're working in the Orange County Business District or exploring the endless shops, restaurants and beaches, this Costa Mesa hotel is a perfect base for your Southern California travel.

AMENITIES

- 62 Rooms
- 400 Sq. Ft. Meeting/Event Space
- AAA Discount
- Business Center
- Complimentary Breakfast
- Complimentary Fitness Center
- Complimentary Parking (1 vehicle per room)
- *Disneyland*, Resort Transportation Service
- Group discounts for 7 rooms or more (based on availability)
- In-Room Safe
- Outdoor, Heated Pool
- Self-Serve Laundry



500 Anton Boulevard, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 www.costamesamarriott.com (714) 957-1100









OVERVIEW

The **Marriott** is located minutes from renowned attractions, incredible shopping and pristine beaches, and is a perfect complement to the beauty, culture and uniqueness of Costa Mesa. With 253 guest suites featuring beautiful décor, world-famous Marriott plush bedding and premium bath amenities, it doesn't get better! Business travelers can spread out in 3,200 square feet of space with the flexibility to accommodate small meetings and events. Your perfect coastal experience continues with THE Kitchen & Bar, which offers delectable American cuisine three times a day. Active travelers will revel in the hotel's outdoor pool with private cabanas, and a 24-hour, state-of-the-art fitness center with weights and cardio equipment. Free Wi-Fi is available in all public areas.

AMENITIES

- 253 Rooms
- AAA Discount
- Business Center
- Cocktail Lounge
- Complimentary Fitness Center
- Disneyland, Resort Transportation Service
- Dry Cleaning
- Grab & Go Marketplace
- Internet Access
- Meeting Facilities
- Outdoor Heated Pool & Jacuzzi
- Pet-Friendly (fee applies)
- Safe Deposit Box at Front Desk
- Self-Serve Laundry
- Restaurant On Site
- Room Service
- Self-Parking

TRAVELCOSTAMESA.COM



1680 Superior Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627 www.ramadanewport.com (949) 645-2221









OVERVIEW

The **Ramada Inn and Suites** is perfectly located just off the lively bustle of Newport Boulevard, located about one mile from the shores of Newport Beach. The property features comfortable guest rooms and suites for business and leisure travelers alike. Along with a variety of restaurants, boutique shops and bars, the OC Fair & Event Center is also a nearby attraction where guests can experience events year round. The Ramada is also a frequent destination for weddings and often caters to wedding groups from around the world who come to marry in the beautiful Newport Beach harbor.

The hotel's welcoming guest rooms provide a fresh in-room coffee brewer, a refrigerator and an in-room safe. All suites also have microwaves and a sofa sleeper bed. Start your day off right with our fresh, made-to-order hot breakfast, or wind down at the end of the day with a relaxing dinner and drink at the on-site restaurant and bar, Sunset Grille. The business center, also located in the lobby, features high-speed internet access and complimentary laser printer.

AMENITIES

- 137 Rooms
- 836 Sq. Ft. Meeting/Event Space
- AAA Discount
- Full-Service Bar and Cocktail lounge
- Complimentary Airport Shuttle
- Complimentary shuttle service to/ from Hoag Hospital
- Complimentary Fitness Center
- Complimentary Internet Access
- Complimentary Parking
- Disneyland_® Resort Transportation Service
- Dry-Cleaning
- In-Room Safe
- Meeting Facilities
- Outdoor Heated Pools & Jacuzzi
- Restaurant On Site
- Self-Serve Laundry

Residence Inn® Marriott.

881 West Baker Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/ csmnb-residence-inn-costa-mesa-newport-beach/ (714) 241-8800









OVERVIEW

The **Residence Inn by Marriott** is located in the heart of Costa Mesa, minutes from John Wayne Airport, Orange County (SNA), South Coast Plaza and down the street from The LAB and The CAMP shopping centers.

Whether in town for business or leisure, each oversized suite is designed to fully accommodate any guest's lifestyle. All suites have been equipped with the comforts of home, including spacious living and sleeping areas with a comfortable work desk. The kitchen is fully equipped with a refrigerator, stove, microwave, oven, cooking utensils and a coffeemaker. Guests also have access to a 24-hour fitness center and an outdoor heated pool and Jacuzzi. This extended-stay hotel offers a warm, engaging staff ready to make your visit as comfortable and enjoyable as can be.

AMENITIES

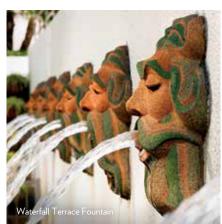
- 144 Suites
- 624 Sq. Ft. Meeting/Event Space
- AAA Discount
- Business Center
- Complimentary Airport Shuttle Service to and from John Wayne Airport, Orange County
- Complimentary Breakfast Daily
- Complimentary Fitness Center
- Complimentary Internet Access
- Complimentary Parking
- Complimentary Social Hour (Monday-Wednesday only)
- Disneyland, Resort Transportation Service
- Dry Cleaning
- Fully Equipped Kitchen
- Meeting Facilities
- Outdoor Heated Pool & Jacuzzi
- Safe Deposit Box at Front Desk
- Self-Serve Laundry

WESTIN® HOTELS & RESORTS

686 Anton Boulevard, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 www.westinsouthcoastplaza.com (714) 540-2500









OVERVIEW

The newly renovated **Westin South Coast Plaza** enjoys a prime location in the heart of Orange County, near world-renowned shopping, exciting attractions and spectacular beaches. A short pedestrian bridge connects guests to South Coast Plaza, an international shopping destination featuring 250 of the finest retail boutiques and 30 signature restaurants.

Guests can rejuvenate in 394 spacious, beautifully appointed guest rooms. The famous Westin Heavenly® Bed promises a sublime slumber, while the spa-like Westin Heavenly® Shower invigorates the senses.

The hotel features the iconic Waterfall Terrace facing the popular Lobby Lounge, with its signature cocktails and superfood-packed menus. The outdoor, heated terrace pool and the tennis courts are popular with both kids and adults.

AMENITIES

- 394 Rooms
- AAA Discount
- Business Center
- Complimentary Airport Shuttle Service to and from John Wayne Airport, Orange County
- Complimentary WestinWorkout® and gear lending program
- *Disneyland*, Resort Transportation Service
- Dry Cleaning
- Grab & Go Marketplace
- Lobby Lounge & Bar
- Outdoor Heated Terrace Pool
- Over 35,000 Sq. Ft. of indoor and outdoor Meeting/Event Space
- Pet-Friendly (fee applies)
- Room Service
- Self or Valet Parking
- Tennis Courts

A Beautiful Wedding

When preparing for the event of a lifetime, every detail simply must be perfect.

Costa Mesa hotels and venues offer widely varied and unique backdrops combined with exceptional service for your special event.







MATCH and now it's time to select the perfect wedding venue — and Costa Mesa is an ideal place to tie the knot. Our hotel and community partners have a venue to fit any need — from small, intimate affairs to large receptions with hundreds of people — to make the wedding of your dreams come true.

Our hotels understand that the most important part of your wedding planning is exceptional service, from start to finish, ensuring your day is seamlessly perfect.

THE WESTIN SOUTH COAST

PLAZA wedding receptions include white-jacket, white-glove service,

and every couple receives their first wedding gift from the Westin staff.

AVENUE OF THE ARTS, A TRIBUTE PORTFOLIO HOTEL

has been awarded the "Best of Weddings" rating from TheKnot.com for three years. Only one wedding is allowed per day at the hotel, ensuring your wedding party and guests receive VIP service — including a separate entrance.

to give you personalized service, creating a complimentary web page for your wedding guests, and an event mobile app. And both Avenue of the Arts, A Tribute Portfolio Hotel and Marriott can plan an idyllic, romantic

ceremony for you alongside a lake located between the two properties.

AYRES HOTEL & SUITES, with the old-world charm of a European village, is a top-rated wedding venue

village, is a top-rated wedding venue on WeddingWire.com. The focal point is the cobblestone fountain courtyard, lush with blooming flowers year-round.

HILTON offers ballroom space for up to 1,200 guests for a larger celebration as well as a dedicated kosher kitchen.

Endless choices for photography backdrops and landscapes in Costa Mesa will make you feel like you're in several cities at once.

Utilize stunning architectural backdrops with the dramatic glass



concert hall and outdoor sculptures at

SEGERSTROM CENTER FOR THE

ARTS, and then move to the tranquil California Scenario, with landscape elements that celebrate California's native vegetation, or take a romantic shot alongside the lake just behind the Marriott. And the best part is, they're all within walking distance of each other. With a variety of theaters, a breathtaking concert hall and manicured grounds at your disposal, take center stage of your once-in-a-lifetime event with this unique venue.

CENTER CLUB ORANGE

COUNTY is another WeddingWire. com top choice for elegant

weddings with newly renovated event space, a pristine ballroom and a private club atmosphere.

California Scenario can host more intimate affairs on its 1.6-acre modern outdoor grounds, including catering by the world-class Mastro's Steakhouse.

THE OC MIX offers an intimate venue at The Chuck Jones Gallery, set in an organically rich and diverse California-style campus.

THE OC FAIR & EVENT

CENTER offers the rustic romance of the farm in its Millennium Barn.

Costa Mesa is an incredibly unique selection for your wedding, with a variety of properties and venues to accommodate any budget. When preparing for the event of a lifetime, every detail simply must be perfect. Costa Mesa hotels offer special group package rates combined with exceptional service for your special event.



COSTA MESA VISITOR GUIDE | WEDDINGS 65

YOUR EVENTS

COSTA MESA

Choose **COSTA MESA** for your special event, and allow seasoned event planners to handle your experience seamlessly from start to finish.

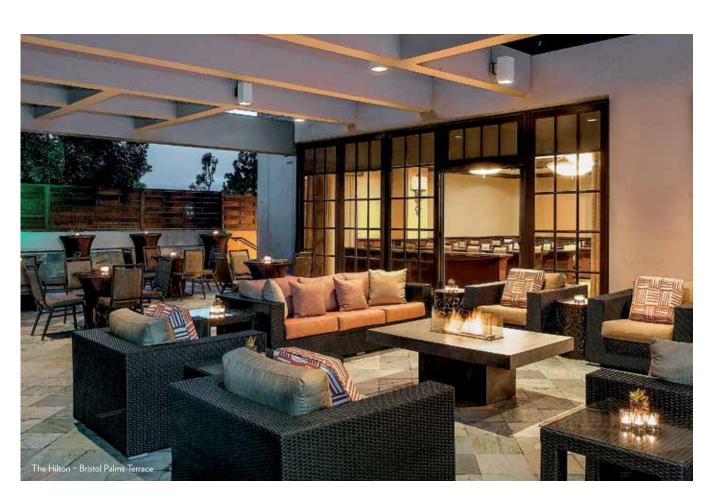
Whether hosting a business meeting, birthday party, family reunion or company retreat, Costa Mesa offers unique and beautiful event experiences.

Treat your guests to the city's year-round Mediterranean climate with plenty of sunshine. Whether your event is about work or play, your guests will have plenty to keep them occupied in their spare time, including world-class VIP services and an unparalleled shopping experience at South Coast Plaza or incredible performances at Segerstrom Center for the Arts.

THE HILTON is the city's largest hotel, offering 50,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting space, from boardrooms to banquet rooms, and two private outdoor courtyards with water features. Find special touches like a dedicated kosher kitchen.

THE AYRES HOTEL & SUITES offers intimate, elegant events in timeless European style.

CROWNE PLAZA offers intimate boardroom style spaces, as well as poolside and ballrooms for events.





THE MARRIOTT and AVENUE OF THE ARTS, A TRIBUTE PORTFOLIO HOTEL can host special events, parties and weddings alongside an idyllic lake between the hotels.

THE WESTIN SOUTH COAST PLAZA specializes in green events, including a digital collaboration meeting room. Experience urban excitement on an intimate scale, with most hotels within walking distance to South Coast Plaza, Segerstrom Center for the Arts and exceptional dining and nightlife.

Costa Mesa also offers destination event space. Plan your meeting or party in the unique outdoor sculpture garden **CALIFORNIA SCENARIO**, created by world-famous artist Isamu Noguchi. The Japanese-influenced garden features landscape and design elements celebrating California. This truly unique 70,000-square-foot space containing desert streams, forests and a rock fountain can be reserved through Mastro's Steakhouse.

Turn your event into an artistic spectacle at the renowned **SEGERSTROM CENTER FOR THE ARTS**, in the heart of Costa Mesa's arts district. Choose from four architecturally dazzling venues plus a beautifully manicured 56,100-square-foot outdoor plaza, with indoor event space of nearly 10,000 square feet.

Across the plaza, the exclusive **CENTER CLUB** is ideal for executives, networking and private events.

For an event on a grander scale, Costa Mesa also offers the **OC FAIR & EVENT CENTER**, with seven different spaces including a rustic barn and an aircraft hangar, from from 13,400 to 36,000 square feet of event space, plus various outdoor possibilities, including the Pacific Amphitheatre, with seating for 8,500.





COSTA MESA VISITOR GUIDE | EVENT VENUES 67

TRANSPORTATION AND GETTING AROUND

Traveling to Costa Mesa is guick, easy and convenient whether you're driving or flying.

JOHN WAYNE AIRPORT. **ORANGE COUNTY**

John Wayne Airport, Orange County (SNA) is the closest airport to Costa Mesa, located just 4 miles away with FREE shuttle service offered by most Costa Mesa hotels. Service is offered by most major airlines with hundreds of daily domestic routes, as well as international flights to and from Canada and Mexico. 949.252.5200. ocair.com

LONG BEACH AIRPORT

The Long Beach Airport (LGB), conveniently located between Los Angeles and Orange County business and entertainment centers, offers commercial flight services on several airlines. Jet Blue is the leading flight service provider with nationwide destinations including Boston, New York and San Francisco, offering connecting flights to hundreds of domestic destinations. In addition, Delta, Southwest and American Airlines provide nonstop service to other domestic locations. 562.570.2600, lgb.org

LOS ANGELES

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) is ranked No. 5 in the world for number of passengers handled, and its popularity shows no sign of decreasing. A commerce leader, its ever-expanding air-cargo system handled more than 2 million tons of goods. Convenient location, modern facilities and superior sea/air/ land connections have led to LAX's designation as a world-class airport. 855.463.5252, lawa.org

ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Ontario International Airport (ONT) is a medium-hub, full-service airport with commercial jet service to major U.S. cities and many international destinations. ONT is located in the Inland Empire approximately 35 miles east of downtown Los Angeles and about 35 miles north of Orange County. The airport is the centerpiece of one of the fastest-growing transportation regions in the U.S. 909.937.2700, flyontario.com

BY CAR

Take the 405 Freeway north from San Diego or south from Los Angeles.

Advantage 800.777.5500
Alamo800.462.5266
Avis 800.331.1212
Budget800.527.0700
Dollar800.800.366
Enterprise800.736.8222
Hertz800.654.3131
National800.227.7368
SNA Auto Rental877.342.4477
Thrifty 800.367.2277
Yellow Cab Company 714 999 9999

BY BUS

Orange County Transportation Authority is Orange County's public transit system. An online app also allows real-time bus schedules.

714.636.7433 octa.net

BY TRAIN

The nearest train station is the Santa Ana Station.

From San Diego north or Santa Barbara south, take the Amtrak Pacific Surfliner® train to Costa Mesa and you will travel on one of the most scenic routes in the West. It's a welcome departure from crowded

roads and highways. On board, you can sit back and relax, admire the view and enjoy a bite to eat. You'll arrive at the Amtrak station in Santa Ana and take a guick cab ride or ride-share service to your destination in Costa Mesa. Amtrak.com. 1-800-USA-RAIL.

The Metrolink is Southern California's commuter rail system. It operates in Los Angeles, San Diego, Orange County, Riverside. San Bernardino and Ventura counties. The closest station to Costa Mesa is the Santa Ana station, at 1000 E. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, CA 92701.

Amtrak	800.872.7245
Metrolink	800.371.5465

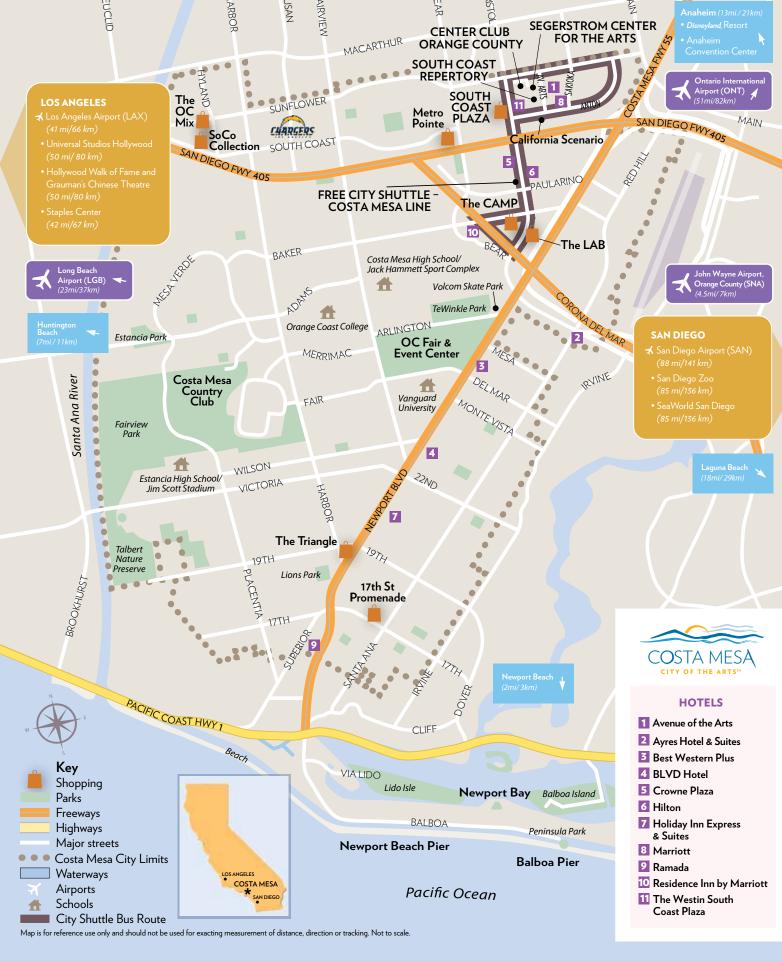
FREE CITY TRANSPORTATION

Once in Costa Mesa, visitors can take advantage of free transportation within the city. Anaheim Resort Transportation (ART), in partnership with the City of Costa Mesa, Travel Costa Mesa and South Coast Plaza, make it possible for visitors to take advantage of free transportation within the city. The free ART service provides visitors and locals with quick and easy transportation around the heart of the city with stops at hotels, local businesses, restaurants and shopping. With service running seven days a week, riders can hop on and off and conveniently get around town. For more information on ART service, visit travelcostamesa.com/cityshuttle.

TRANSPORTATION HUB

ARTIC

Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center offers connections via OCTA, Metrolink, Amtrak, ART. Greyhound and taxi. 714.385.5100 articinfo.com



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COSTA MESA

CALENDAR OF ANNUAL EVENTS

YEAR-ROUND (WEEKENDS)

Farmers' Market at SOCO and The OC Mix

Orange County Marketplace at the OC Fair & Event Center

Sunday Sounds at The Camp

JANUARY-FEBRUARY

Chinese New Year Celebration at South Coast Plaza

FEBRUARY

Pacific Coast Sport Fishing Festival and Boat Show

MARCH

Orange County Restaurant Week

Sugar Plum Arts & Crafts Festival at OC Fair & Event Center

APRIL

Costa Mesa Community Run

Pacific Playwrights Festival at South Coast Repertory

Spring Garden Show at South Coast Plaza

BLOOM Market at The LAB

Spring Fling at SOCO and The OC Mix

MAY

U.S. Bank OC Marathon, 1/2 Marathon and 5K

Scottish Fair & Festival at OC Fair & Events Center

JULY-AUGUST

Pacific Symphony 4th of July Celebration

City of Costa Mesa 4th of July

Concerts in the Park at Fairview Park

Orange County Fair at the OC Fair & Event Center

Free Movie Mondays at Segerstrom Center for the Arts

Toyota Concert Series at the Pacific Amphitheatre

Los Angeles Chargers Training Camp

SEPTEMBER

Cruisin' For A Cure at the OC Fair & Event Center

Festival of Children at South Coast Plaza

Great Labor Day Cruise at OC Fair & Event Center

OCTOBER

Pumpkins and Pancakes at South Coast Plaza

NOVEMBER

Artventure at SOCO and The OC Mix

Santa at South Coast Plaza

Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony at Town Center Park

DECEMBER

Costa Mesa Home Tour

The Nutcracker at Segerstrom Center for the Arts

Snoopy Holiday Display at City Hall



















