

# LAGUNA BEACH

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Magazine

## THE ULTIMATE RACE

TRIATHLETES FACE  
A TRUE TEST  
OF ENDURANCE

### MEN'S SPECIAL SECTION

**BEYOND THE BLUES**  
DENIM STYLES IN HUES  
FROM LIGHT TO DARK

**DOWN TO THE DETAILS**  
MEN'S ACCESSORIES FROM  
BELTS TO BRACELETS AND SHOES

**BORN TO RIDE**  
THREE LOCAL GUYS AND  
THEIR MOTORCYCLES



- 10 QUESTIONS WITH MARK CUBAN
- BITE INTO THESE JUICY BURGERS
- AN IDEAL GETAWAY IN CARLSBAD





CARLSBAD

Carlsbad Inn

SAN DIEGO

SPEED LIMIT 30

BACKGROUND: MARCEL FUJINISHI/ISTOCK.COM



48 HOURS IN

# Carlsbad

From an award-winning golf course to theme parks, scenic flower fields, stunning beaches and more, this San Diego city is perfect for a quick getaway.

BY MEGAN SHELHAMER



Inset: Park Hyatt Aviara Resort, Golf Club & Spa; background: Carlsbad is an ideal place for a weekend trip in northern San Diego County.

**K**nown by locals as “The Village by the Sea,” Carlsbad is a unique coastal destination in north San Diego County. Located just 40 minutes north of downtown, Carlsbad is close enough to experience all that San Diego has to offer while avoiding the noise and congestion of the city. With award-winning golf courses, local breweries,

premium outlets and nearby theme parks, Carlsbad is the perfect weekend destination to experience many of Southern California’s most popular attractions.

The ideal home away from home is Park Hyatt Aviara Resort, Golf Club & Spa. This Forbes Five-Star resort boasts five on-site restaurants, a top-rated golf course and a luxurious full-service spa. Providing an opportunity for a romantic getaway or to simply relax and indulge or create fun memories for the whole family, the resort appeals to solo travelers, couples and families alike.





Left: the 18-hole championship course designed by legendary golfer Arnold Palmer, at Park Hyatt Aviara Resort, Golf Club & Spa; right: the resort's family pool—one of two options for cooling off on the property

## DAY 1

### MORNING

Get your vacation started with a boozy breakfast at the new Toast Gastrobrunch. Toast offers a trendy menu featuring loaded toasts, classics with a twist (think red velvet pancakes) and a large selection of handcrafted cocktails like the Paradise Pear mimosa to get your morning off to the right start. Each meal is not only delicious, but worthy of its own photo shoot. Since opening this winter, Toast has become a popular spot among locals, so make sure to join the waitlist ahead of time.

### AFTERNOON

During your stay, be sure to take advantage of the countless resources available to you, including a variety of activities on and off the resort grounds. If you're a golfer, you can't miss the opportunity to play a round at the resort's on-site, 18-hole championship course. Designed by legendary golfer Arnold Palmer, the course is home to

the LPGA Kia Classic tournament hosted each March. Lush, rolling hills, large trees and scenic water features can be found at this intuitively crafted course consistently rated among the top ones in San Diego and all of California, complete with driving range and putting greens.

If golf isn't your thing, the resort also has six state-of-the-art tennis courts available to rent by the hour (rackets and balls included) and an instruction program lead by tennis pro Steve Halverson, who is able to coach in four different languages and makes the learning process fun and easy for any age.

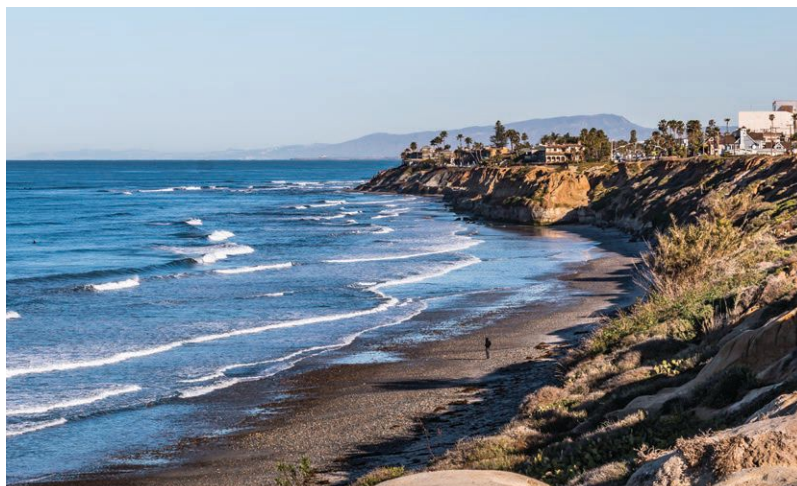
And, for those who aren't into sports, visit The Flower Fields, which are an incredible sight to behold—and only 10 minutes north of the resort. An endless expanse of vibrant ranunculus flowers carefully planted into distinct color-coordinated rows, it seems that no flower is out of place. Peak blooming season is typically mid-March to mid-April, but can vary depending on the season's



Toast Gastrobrunch offers classic dishes with a twist.

weather conditions. The fields open March 1 and remain open through May 12, providing the perfect Mother's Day activity. Take home fresh cut flowers, bulbs to plant at home, locally harvested strawberries and a souvenir from the unique gift shop at Armstrong Garden Center.

After exhausting your activity options, head back to the resort to relax and refresh at one of two sparkling pools; lounge in a private cabana at the peaceful adults-only pool or bring the kids



Left: A vibrant view at The Flower Fields; right: South Carlsbad State Beach

FOOD PHOTO: WALTER WILSON; BOTTOM LEFT: COURTESY OF THE FLOWER FIELDS; BOTTOM RIGHT: SHERRY V. SMITH/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM





## KIDS CAMP

If you're traveling with children, Park Hyatt Aviara Resort offers a Camp Hyatt Aviara Kids Academy that is sure to entertain your little ones so you can enjoy some rest and relaxation or a date night. The resort's young guests will enjoy hiking the Batiquitos Lagoon Trail, doing arts and crafts as well as other seasonal activities. Babysitting services are also available.

limited-time Lego Movie 2 Experience where guests can tour a set constructed to look like part of the Lego movie.

Other options for the family are a slightly farther drive: the famous San Diego Zoo or SeaWorld San Diego, each about 40 minutes away.

While adults may also enjoy touring Legoland's exhibits, the zoo or SeaWorld, they might instead opt for a brewery tour of some of Carlsbad's local breweries or a shopping spree at the Carlsbad Premium Outlets nearby.

## AFTERNOON

Spend the rest of the day resetting at the luxurious Aviara Spa. Make a point to self-indulge and choose from a full selection of lavish spa services. Set aside some time following your treatment to soak in the whirlpool, refresh in the sauna or steam room and lounge with an herbal tea in the tranquil solarium. If attending with your significant other, inquire about the intimate couple's suite with private showers and a semiprivate pool.

## EVENING

For dinner, head to the resort's elegant Italian restaurant, Vivace. Fresh pasta is handmade daily and the tasting menu offers a bespoke approach: Choose your number of courses—portion sizes decrease as you select additional courses, sampling many different menu options without filling up on just one. And a sunset meal on the outdoor terrace offers a backdrop of the beautiful Pacific Ocean in the distance. Conclude the evening with live music and a nightcap at Park Lounge before retiring to your cozy room.

If you're looking for something more casual, Carlsbad Village is a lively downtown area along the coastline with many restaurants, quaint shops and charming cafes. Check out Oak & Elixir, a wine bar and eatery, for shareable small plates, flatbreads and wine flights. The friendly staff is happy to guide you through a list of about 30 wines by the glass to find your perfect pairing. **LBM**



Clockwise from top: Legoland California Resort's 20th anniversary; San Diego Zoo; SeaWorld San Diego

along to the family-friendly pool, complete with water playground and underwater lighting. Grab lunch or light bites at the resort's poolside Ocean Pool Bar & Grill and indulge in some refreshing cocktails before you prepare for the evening.

## EVENING

To bring your day full circle, take the complimentary shuttle back down to the golf course for a

satisfying and savory meal at the clubhouse restaurant, Argyle Steakhouse. Indulge in fine cuts of California prime beef, Japanese Wagyu or fresh seafood with a scenic view overlooking the 18th green. Select pairings from an impressive wine list, a variety of comfort food side dishes such as potato tots, lobster mac and cheese and twice-baked potatoes, plus tempting desserts.

## DAY 2

### MORNING

If you have kids, Legoland California Resort is the ultimate fun-filled activity for the whole family and just 15 minutes away. The park includes awe-inspiring miniature replicas of cities made entirely of legos (such as the Las Vegas Strip), more than 50 rides and interactive attractions—up from 12 rides when the park opened in 1999—plus live shows and a water park. As Legoland celebrates its 20th anniversary this year, 2019 is set to be filled with exciting perks passed down to attendees. Kids turning 12 this year (and younger kids) get free admission on their birthdays through the end of December, and the park recently debuted its



Many breweries serving a wide variety of beer can be visited in the Carlsbad area.

TOP: COURTESY OF LEGOLAND CALIFORNIA RESORT; MIDDLE: FROM LEFT: TINSELTOWN/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM; LIMPENCER/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM; BOTTOM: COURTESY OF KARL STRAUSS BREWING CO.