Southern California Staycation Guide

Los Angeles Museums Offer New and Future Cultural Opportunities

Los Angeles County Museum of Art (Mid-City) – Among the enticing new exhibits at LACMA is “Los Angeles to New York: The Dwan Gallery 1959–1971” (which opened in March and will run through September 3) presenting the storied history of the Dwan Gallery, one of the most important galleries of the postwar period in the U.S., and the dealer and patron Virginia Dwan. Founded by Dwan in a storefront in Westwood in 1959, the Dwan Gallery was a leading avant-garde space during the 1960s, presenting groundbreaking exhibitions by Franz Kline, Philip Guston, Ad Reinhardt and more. Another exciting exhibit is “Playing with Fire: Paintings by Carlos Almaraz,” which is the first major retrospective of one of the most influential Los Angeles artists of the 1970s and 1980s. Arguably the first of the many Chicano artists whose cultural and political motivations catalyzed the Chicano art movement in the 1970s, Almaraz began his career with political works for the farm workers’ caucuses and co-founded the important artist collective Los Four. This exhibit will be on display from August 6 to December 3. www.lacma.org

Los Angeles County Museum of Art (Downtown) – Los Angeles will welcome an exciting new museum from George Lucas’ personal collection of art, which consists of about 10,000 paintings and illustrations including works by Rockwell, N.C. Wyeth and R. Crumb, along with Hollywood memorabilia from films such as “Star Wars” and “The Ten Commandments.” The planned 275,000-square-foot, $1-billion museum will be located in Downtown’s Exposition Park and is expected to open by 2021. www.lacma.org

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The Main Museum (Downtown) – The Main Museum of Los Angeles Art is a new institution focused on L.A. art and artists. With a residency program at its center rather than a collection, The Main features artists prominently and supports their continued engagement within the city’s evolving landscape. Once complete, The Main will unfold across three historic buildings in Downtown Los Angeles — the Farmers & Merchants Bank, the Hellman Building, and the Bankhouse Garage. It will include a variety of exhibition galleries, studio spaces for an artist’s residency program, a rooftop sculpture garden, amphitheater, a café and a restaurant. It opened in February 2017. www.themainmuseum.org

Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA (Ventura County) – Titanic at the Reagan Library is a fascinating look at Titanic, combining real artifacts with the real stories of the people onboard the ill-fated ship. This new exhibit (which opened last month and will run through January 17, 2018) tells the story of the unsinkable ship in a way no museum has done before. Artifacts from passengers, dispersed over time, will be reunited in this exhibit for the first time in over 100 years. www.reaganfoundation.org

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Marciano Art Foundation (Mid-City) – Newly opened last month, the contemporary art museum from Guess co-founders Paul and Maurice Marciano hosts painting, sculpture and photography as well as installation, performance and multimedia works in a renovated former Scottish Rite Masonic Temple on Wilshire Boulevard. Many of the pieces in the more than 1,500 item archive are from artists such as, Andy Warhol, Willem de Kooning and Cindy Sherman, however younger artists will make appearances as well. www.marcianoartfoundation.org
Bring Your Team to a Place of Inspiration

Inspiration needs a chance to break through. Book your next meeting or conference in Ventura County Coast and you’ll quickly discover the region’s secret: there’s endless inspiration to be found in the combination of productive and peaceful.

Located off Highway 101 between Los Angeles and Santa Barbara, Ventura County Coast is a string of communities offering 280,000 square feet of conference space and meeting rooms and more than 5,000 guest rooms in 60 hotels and inns, plus, 32 miles of beaches, historic downtowns, a range of outdoor activities, award-winning wineries and farm-to-table restaurants.

Here, off-site meetings are a unique combination of professional development and unforgettable team building. The region’s meeting rooms accommodate groups from 10 to 1,000. Whether you’re looking for a beachfront brainstorm location or a full-service hotel conference center, you’ll find accommodations that match your team’s needs.

Lodging is affordable and welcoming to large groups, so you can stay on in one place and be inspired every minute.

To keep inspiration sustained, Ventura County Coast has all the right ingredients for an exquisite culinary experience. Artisan chefs, locally grown produce, abundance of fresh seafood and rich farming heritage create a unique blend of fresh and local fare that makes the Ventura County Coast dining scene uniquely delicious.

And when your day’s work is done, Ventura County Coast has got your off-work hours covered with a myriad of offerings from each of its four cities.

CAMARILLO
In Camarillo, you’ll find the latest fashions at one of the nation’s best Premium Outlets, with brands like Banana Republic, Coach, Michael Kors, Polo Ralph Lauren, Tory Burch, Tommy Hilfiger and much more. Minutes down the road, visitors can savor the sights and smells of a delicious agricultural tradition and rediscover how sweet and inspiring fresh-picked fruits can taste.

For golf enthusiasts, Camarillo is a dream destination with incredible year-round weather and two pristine public golf courses. And those who simply want to relax and rejuvenate can enjoy indulgent spas, captivating art galleries and an enchanting old-town brimming with history.

VENTURA
Ventura synthesizes surf culture, historic buildings and a bustling downtown scene in a way that makes visitors feel at home and on an adventure at the same time. Visitors to Ventura enjoy outdoor adventures, a lively arts scene and an oceanside proximity that makes it a chef’s paradise.

Get the whole team together for beachside activities in the style of a true Californian getaway. Surfers, kitesurfers and water enthusiasts will enjoy winter swells and summer whitecaps at Ventura’s beaches. And for those who prefer to enjoy the surf culture from a distance, the oceanfront Ventura Promenade is a festive place to watch the action, take a stroll or ride bikes.

OXNARD
In the casual seaside city of Oxnard, you’ll find an active boating harbor, the nation’s largest kosher winery, the world-class Mullin Automotive Museum and a historic downtown bustling with multicultural flavors and architectural treasures.

You’ll quickly discover why a tasty array of authentic Mexican cuisine and new entries are putting Oxnard on the culinary map. Also in downtown Oxnard, Heritage Square is an amazing collection of magnificently restored homes and lushly landscaped gardens.

Oxnard’s serene harbor provides access to Channel Islands National Park. The natural and cultural resources of its five different islands have been steadfastly preserved here. This national park is known as “America’s Galapagos,” and is just a short boat trip away for a one-of-a-kind team-building excursion.

PORT HUENEME
Stroll wide sandy beaches alongside a historic rich Naval Construction Battalion Center in Port Hueneme, a seaside community located between Oxnard and Ventura. Its original Chumash Indian name, Wenemu, means “resting place.” And it doesn’t take much time at the fifty-acre Hueneme Beach Park to discover that this city is definitely a place for refreshing the mind and soul.

Port Hueneme Beach Park’s expansive sandy beaches, south-facing surfing waves, volleyball courts, and walkable beachside promenade promise satisfaction for every kind of beachgoer – sunbathers and surfers alike.

INVITE INSPIRATION IN
Wherever your needs are, Ventura County Coast is big enough to meet them and it’s closer than you think. Bring inspiration to your team and your workplace – plan your most memorable meeting at Ventura County Coast.

For more information about Ventura County Coast, visit venturacountycoast.com.

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