

Southern California Staycation Guide

Los Angeles Museums Offer New and Future Cultural Opportunities

Los Angeles's arts and culture scene continues to add exciting new museums and exhibit programs – from the 2017 spring opening of the Marciano Art Foundation to the recent announcement of George Lucas' Museum of Narrative Art, set to open in Downtown's Exposition Park in 2021.

Here are some highlights of what's new and what's coming up for the LA museum scene:

The 14th Factory (Downtown) – In March, the 14th Factory transformed an empty industrial warehouse near Chinatown into a mythic universe through the creation of a monumental, multisensory and cinematographic installation environment — one of the biggest independent art projects in the world in 2017. The vision of The 14th Factory is to create a new, independent paradigm for socially-engaged art, a kind of guerilla action where art occupies and re-energizes underutilized or even derelict urban spaces and gifts them back to the in the form of a transformative experience. www.the14thfactory.com

Academy Museum (Mid-City) – The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is building the world's leading movie museum in the heart of Los Angeles. Designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Renzo Piano, the six story Academy Museum will contain state-of-the-art galleries, exhibition spaces, movie theaters, educational areas, and special event spaces. The museum is planned to open in 2018. www.oscars.org/museum

Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (Downtown) – The Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, or formerly known as the Santa Monica Museum of Art, will be getting a new home in Downtown's Arts District in fall of this year. The new site will be in a 12,700-square-foot former garment manufacturing facility. It will include 7,000 square feet of exhibition space; almost 2,000 square feet larger than the organization's previous home at Bergamot Station in Santa Monica. This is the only kunsthalle, non-collecting museum, in Southern California. The museum presents exhibitions and programs that reveal the vibrant, untold stories and pivotal moments in the history of contemporary art and culture. www.theicala.org

Japanese American National Museum (Downtown) – Pioneering actor and passionate civil rights activist George Takei has donated his personal collection, which represents the many facets of his life and career, to the Japanese American National Museum. The collection will serve as the foundation of a new exhibition that opened at the museum in March and will run through August 20, titled *New Frontiers: The Many Worlds of George Takei*. www.janm.org

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 10) 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' causa and co-founded the important artist collective Los Four. This exhibit will be on display from August 6 to December 3. www.lacma.org

The Lucas Museum of Narrative 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 targeted to open by 2021. www.lucasmuseum.org

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 situates 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 artists' residency program, a rooftop sculpture garden, amphitheater, a café and a restaurant. It opened in February 2017. www.themainmuseum.org

Marciano Art Foundation (Mid-City) – Newly opened last month, the contemporary art museum from Guess co-founders Paul and Maurice Marciano shows 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 Sher-

man, however younger artists will make appearances as well. www.marcianoartfoundation.org

Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA (Citywide) – Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA is a far-reaching and ambitious exploration of Latin American and Latino art in dialogue with Los Angeles and will happen September 2017 to January 2018. Led by the Getty, Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA is the latest collaborative effort from arts institutions across Southern California. Through a series of thematically linked exhibitions, Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA will present a wide variety of important works of art, much of them new to Southern California audiences. While the majority of exhibitions will have an emphasis on modern and contemporary art, there also will be crucial exhibitions about the ancient world and the pre-modern era. With topics such as luxury objects in the pre-Columbian Americas, 20th-century Afro-Brazilian art, alternative spaces in Mexico City, and boundary-crossing practices of Latino artists, exhibitions will range from monographic studies of individual artists to broad surveys that cut across numerous countries. www.pacificstandardtime.org

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum (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

Skirball Cultural Center (Westside) – Paul Simon: Words & Music opened in April and will run through September 10, making its only West Coast stop at the Skirball. This traveling exhibition curated by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, illustrates how the legendary artist's music has reflected social and cultural ideals. Developed based on exclusive interviews with the artist, the show walks visitors through Paul Simon's life and music and illuminates his creative process. On view will be instruments, records, sheet music, handwritten lyrics, photography, costumes, and stage maquettes, as well as listening stations and performance footage spanning Simon's six-decade career. Exclusively for the Los Angeles presentation, Paul Simon: Words & Music will include additional artifacts from Simon's private archive and a newly created music lab developed by the Skirball in cooperation with Roland Corporation. www.skirball.org

Information for this article was provided by the Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STAYCATION GUIDE

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 200,000 square feet of conference space and meeting rooms and more than 5,000 guest rooms in 60 hotels and inns, plus, 22 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 all stay 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 ocean-side proximity that makes it a chef's paradise.

Get the whole team together for beach activities in the style of a true Californian getaway. Surfers, kiteboarders 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 bursting with multicultural flavors and architectural treasures.

You'll quickly discover why a tasty array of authentic Mexican cuisine and new eateries 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 history-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

Whatever 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.

BOOK YOUR STAY AND RECEIVE A \$50 GIFT CARD

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