



# SAN DIEGO COUNTY ATTRACTIONS

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# Parks

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## SAN DIEGO ZOO

SANDIEGOZOO.ORG

General Park Hours: 9:00am – 5:00pm (closure time varies throughout the year)

*Guided Bus Tour:* Enjoy a 35-minute tour on a double-decked bus covering about 70 percent of the San Diego Zoo. Your bus tour ticket also includes use of the Express Bus, double- or single-decked buses with green signs on the sides that allow guests to hop on and off at five different stops throughout the Zoo. This tour is included in the price of admissions.

*Skyfari Aerial Tram:* Take an airborne shortcut over the treetops to the other end of the Zoo and enjoy spectacular views of the Zoo, its animal and plant collection, and surrounding Balboa Park.

## SAFARI PARK

SANDIEGOZOO.ORG/PARK

General Park Hours: 9:00am – 5:00pm (closure time varies throughout the year)

*Africa Tram:* The Africa Tram is an exciting expedition with brightly colored tour vehicles and diverse animal collection creating a relaxing adventure. The ride path takes you around some of the field exhibits, giving you a chance to connect with the animals on a closer level.

*Cheetah Run:* Witness the fastest land mammal up close and personal doing what it does best: run! During Cheetah Run, watch as the sleek cat races on a straight 330-foot-long track that allows it to really stretch its legs and reach maximum speed of about 70 miles per hour.

## LEGOLAND

CALIFORNIA.LEGOLAND.COM

General Park Hours: 10:00am – 5:00pm, closed Tuesdays & Wednesdays (closure time varies throughout the year)

LEGOLAND California is home to more than 60 rides, shows and attractions. Just inside the entrance to the Park, you can't miss the bright red welcoming dinosaur, Bronte, standing nine feet tall and 34 feet long from his nose to the tip of his tail, made completely from LEGO® bricks!

Also located at Legoland: Water Park and Sea Life Aquarium

## SEAWORLD

SEAWORLD.COM/SAN-DIEGO

General Park Hours: 9:00am – 5:00pm (closure time varies throughout the year)

*Killer Whales Up-Close Tour:* Take part in a walking tour where you'll get a personal session with animal behaviorists as they share personal stories, unique facts and discuss the lives of orcas at SeaWorld.

*Dolphin Encounter:* Spend up-close time with bottlenose dolphins during this trainer-led, poolside encounter.

*Penguins Up-Close Tour:* Visit inside Penguin Encounter then take a behind-the-scenes tour to have an up-close interaction with a penguin.

## **BIRCH AQUARIUM**

[AQUARIUM.UCSD.EDU](http://AQUARIUM.UCSD.EDU)

General Hours: 9:00am – 5:00pm

*Coral Reefs:* Birch Aquarium at Scripps raises its own corals, a delicate and intensive process, but worth every effort. You'll agree when you peek into the brilliant underwater reef community. You'll see fishes and living corals with clever names like maze coral, great star coral, and red tree sponge. Relive your tropical vacation and see the aquarium's living coral displays.

*Tide-Pool Plaza Discovery Center:* Tide pools exist in the rocky basins at the ocean's edge and are home to many hearty animals who survive tremendous changes in moisture, temperature, and salinity. The outdoor tide-pool plaza is a great place to view these animals in their natural environment. The tide-pool Discovery Center offers opportunities to touch tide-pool animals. Aquarium naturalists are on-hand to answer questions and educate visitors about this unique habitat and the marine life that calls it home.

## **PALOMAR MOUNTAIN OBSERVATORY**

[ASTRO.CALTECH.EDU/PALOMAR](http://ASTRO.CALTECH.EDU/PALOMAR)

General Hours: Daily 9:00am – 3:00pm

Palomar Observatory, located atop Palomar Mountain in north San Diego County is a center of astronomical research owned and operated by the California Institute of Technology (Caltech). The Observatory is home to three active research telescopes: the 200-inch (5.1-meter) Hale Telescope, the 48-inch (1.2-meter) Samuel Oschin Telescope, and the 60-inch (1.5-meter) telescope. Research at Palomar Observatory is pursued by a broad community of astronomers from Caltech and other domestic and international partner institutions. The Observatory operates every clear night and is an iconic facility for scientific advancement, instrument development, and student training.

# *Local Areas*

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## **LA JOLLA**

[LAJOLLABYTHESEA.COM](http://LAJOLLABYTHESEA.COM)

Located approximately 25 minutes

The sunny beauty of La Jolla's beaches has been a haven for generations. Hollywood movie stars and the affluent love the eclectic blend of restaurants and shops along Prospect Street. You'll love strolling the sidewalks and sand, soaking up the sunshine, the history and a little bit of glamour.

## **CORONADO ISLAND**

[CORONADO.CA.US](http://CORONADO.CA.US)

Located approximately 40 minutes south

Coronado, "San Diego's Enchanted Island," is a slice of paradise located on the Pacific Ocean just across the sparkling bay waters from San Diego. The city's unique blend of preserved history and resort offerings lets visitors step back in time and still enjoy the modern luxuries of a world-class seaside destination.

## **DEL MAR**

[DELMAR.CA.US](http://DELMAR.CA.US)

Located approximately 30 minutes

Del Mar with its imported stone, sunset views, exquisite estates, sandy beaches, fine upscale shops and expensive ice cream, has brought a touch of the Italian Riviera to quiet Del Mar. But as quiet as Del Mar is, it certainly doesn't lack shopping.

# Local Areas *(cont'd)*

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## **OLD TOWN**

[OLDTOWNSANDIEGOGUIDE.COM](http://OLDTOWNSANDIEGOGUIDE.COM)

Located approximately 30 minutes south

The heart of Old Town is actually a state historic park. Its 20 reconstructed or restored buildings are set on 13 dusty acres centered on a town square. They will remind you of a combination Mexican, Spanish and Old Western-style Williamsburg. Around this historic core are more restaurants, galleries, and shops, including the color-splashed labyrinth of Bazaar del Mundo. It is free just to look around!

## **GASLAMP QUARTER**

[GASLAMP.ORG](http://GASLAMP.ORG)

Located approximately 35 minutes south

San Diego's historic Gaslamp Quarter, refers to the gas-lamp style streetlights. It is known for its fine selection of dining and entertainment and has more than 60 bars, nightclubs, restaurants, theaters, fashionable boutiques, and galleries.

## **SEAPORT VILLAGE**

[SEAPORTVILLAGE.COM](http://SEAPORTVILLAGE.COM)

Located approximately 35 minutes south

Seaport Village is a waterfront shopping, dining, and entertainment complex, recreating a California harbor setting of a century ago. Conveniently located downtown on San Diego Bay, Seaport Village features 75 specialty shops, four bay-front restaurants, 13 international eateries, and a 1890s Loeff carousel.

## **BALBOA PARK**

[BALBOAPARK.ORG](http://BALBOAPARK.ORG)

Located approximately 30 minutes south

This 1,200-acre urban park has 14 museums, four theaters, a sports complex, playing fields, a rose garden, open-air pipe organ, sparkling fountain, restaurants and even an antique carousel -- you need more than a day to see it all. Most of the Museums open at 10:00 am and close at 4:30 pm.

## **ANZA BORREGO DESERT**

[PARKS.CA.GOV/ANZABORREGO](http://PARKS.CA.GOV/ANZABORREGO)

Located approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes

There are many paradoxical aspects to California's Anza-Borrego State Park. It is the largest State Park in California. Attractions at this vast park include the underground visitor's center and museum on Palm Canyon Drive. Visitor's center is open daily 9:00am- 5:00pm.

## **JULIAN**

[JULIANCA.COM](http://JULIANCA.COM)

Located approximately 45 minutes

Hundreds of people make an annual pilgrimage to this cozy mountain town when summer ends. They are yearning for a taste of autumn, or for a taste of that famous Julian apple pie. Julian was founded during a very brief gold rush in 1869.



# Wineries

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## **BERNARDO WINERY**

[BERNARDOWINERY.COM](http://BERNARDOWINERY.COM)

Open Monday – Friday 9am to 5pm; Saturday & Sunday 9am to 6pm

The Bernardo Winery, family owned for three generations and over 125 years old, is still fully functional and producing wine in San Diego, with San Diego grapes. After your wine tasting, explore the centuries-old buildings and wine making equipment, new and old, beautiful gardens, unique studios, galleries and shopping. Farmers market on Fridays.

## **ORFILA WINERY**

[ORFILA.COM](http://ORFILA.COM)

Open daily 11am to 7pm

Orfila Vineyards & Winery is an award-winning boutique winery nestled in the pristine San Pasqual Valley agricultural preserve. Executive Winemaker Justin Mund and his team produce premium Rhône-style wines from grapes grown on the hillside estate.

## **CORDIANO WINERY**

[CORDIANOWINERY.COM](http://CORDIANOWINERY.COM)

Open Wednesday – Sunday 11am to 7pm

Nestled in the hills of the San Pasqual Valley in Escondido, you'll find Cordiano Winery, a family-owned and operated vineyard that takes pride in the craftsmanship of good wine and of the labor practiced for ages in the old country. The winery is a lifelong dream realized; a reflection of the love and passion of its proprietors, Gerardo and Rosa Cordian.

## **ALTIPIANO VINEYARD AND WINERY**

[ALTIPIANOVINEYARD.COM](http://ALTIPIANOVINEYARD.COM)

Open Saturday - Sunday 11am to 5pm

Located above the San Diego Zoo Safari Park with beautiful views of the San Pasqual Valley, Altipiano is a relatively newcomer to San Diego's winery scene. A simple private estate, the owners are involved in every aspect of the process.

## **TEMECULA VALLEY WINERIES**

Come visit Southern California's Premier Wine Country in Temecula. With over 30+ award winning wineries, great restaurants and beautiful gift shops. Temecula is just 35 minutes north on the 1-15. Temecula Valley offers great places to dine, stay and play. Take a hot air balloon ride over the wineries or a guided tour through wine country.

# Breweries

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## **STONE BREWERY**

[STONEBREWING.COM](http://STONEBREWING.COM)

Open daily 11:00am to 11:00pm

Microbrewery known and celebrated for brewing "big character" beers, and based in San Diego. Tours are offered daily and give you an insight into the beer making process. Don't forget to grab a bite to eat in their Bistro, which focuses on locally grown, small farm ingredients.

# *Breweries* (cont'd)

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## **BALLAST POINT BREWERY**

**BALLASTPOINT.COM**

Open daily from 11:00am to 11:00pm

What started as a small group of home brewers, who simply wanted to make a better beer, evolved into the adventurers known today as Ballast Point. Ballast Point prides itself on creating award-winning brews while holding true to the craft's history. For the love of beer, go visit one of Ballast Point's three breweries!

## **ST. ARCHER BREWERY**

**SAINTARCHERBREWERY.COM**

Open daily. Hours vary

Saint Archer Brewing Company was founded on a unique strain of creative talent. World-class brewers. Artists and musicians. Surfers, skateboarders, and snowboarders... All coming together with passion and commitment to express their collective true love — handcrafted beer. Located in the brewery warehouse, the new tasting room is open to the public 7 days a week with Food Trucks stopping by Thursday - Sunday.

## **GREEN FLASH BREWERY**

**GREENFLASHBREW.COM**

Open daily. Hours vary

Best known for their unique, award-winning assortment of specialty craft ales. After releasing the game changing West Coast IPA, their beers developed a loyal following of craft beer lovers. Green Flash remains steadfast in their commitment to a beer first philosophy. Take a private tour, book an event or check out one of their food trucks!

# *Shopping*

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## **WESTFIELD SHOPPING TOWN NORTH COUNTY**

Open Monday — Saturday 10am to 9pm; Sunday 11am to 7pm

Located approximately 10 minutes

Westfield offers over 200 specialty shops to explore including Nordstrom and Macy's.

## **CARLSBAD OUTLETS**

Open Monday — Saturday 10am to 9pm; Sunday 11am to 7pm

Located approximately 30 minutes west

With over 90 outlet stores, Carlsbad Outlets have a little bit of everything for everyone. Stores ranging from designer fashion, athletic wear, housewares and children's clothing.

## **CEDROS AVENUE**

Hours vary

Located approximately 30 minutes west

Located in Solana Beach, enjoy one of the Avenue's many day spas & salons, then settle in for a glass of wine and people watching. Return for an evening and dining, then live music at the world famous Belly Up Tavern. Cedros Avenue offers a wide range of shopping from apparel, art, home furnishings and gift shops.

# Outdoor Activities

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## **FISHING AT LAKE HODGES**

Located approximately 20 minutes west

Hodges is known nationally for its largemouth bass population. The lake is open for fishing February through October. Rental rowboats and motorboats are available for fishing and recreational boating. The lake concession sells tackle, bait, snacks and refreshments. Permits are sold at the concession with cash only.

## **MOUNT WOODSON HIKE**

Estimated hike duration: 4.5 hours/6.4 miles

Mount Woodson in Poway is not for the faint of heart. Beginning at the shores of Lake Poway, the trail greets hikers with a gently sloping, unpaved path, but it soon steepens and rarely shows mercy for the rest of the trek. However, from the top the views have been known to allow hikers to look over downtown, the Pacific Ocean and Mexico.

## **PALOMAR MOUNTAIN - OBSERVATORY TRAIL**

Estimated hike duration: 2.5 hours/4 miles.

Known for its well-maintained look, spectacular beauty and awesome views. At the end of the hike, the Palomar Observatory is easily reached and visitors are welcome from 9:00am – 3:00pm (or 4:00pm under Daylight Savings Time) year-round except Christmas Eve and Christmas.

## **OCEANSIDE HARBOR KAYAK TOUR**

Tour duration: 2 hours

The Oceanside harbor offers the best and easiest access to ocean kayaking. After a brief dry land orientation, it's a short paddle through the quaint harbor to the open water. This tour heads North, offering a unique perspective of the rugged natural environment of Camp Pendleton.

## **STAND UP PADDLE BOARDING IN MISSION BAY**

[MISSIONBAYSTANDUPPADDLE.COM](http://MISSIONBAYSTANDUPPADDLE.COM)

SUP in Mission Bay offers stand up paddle boarding & surfing lessons, as well as paddle board & surf board rentals. There are several safe launching points in the bay, and you will surely see plenty of others out on the water kayaking, skiing, sailing, swimming, and kite boarding. Starting at just \$40 you can rent your paddle board and explore the bay. All experience levels welcome!