

press kit



VISIT
NEWPORT
BEACH
CALIFORNIA

beaches & beyond

A California paradise home to more water than land, Newport Beach has a stretch of shore for everyone. It's a waterfront playground, with epic swells that attract attention from surfers around the globe and 10 miles of pristine coastline perfect for sunbathing, posh picnics and leisurely strolls on the sand. What's more, water-centric experiences extend well beyond the award-winning beaches. From the West Coast's largest recreational harbor to the largest remaining estuary in Southern California, every corner of the sun-soaked destination offers a new way to luxuriate by the sea. Before your readers grab a board and paddle, help them navigate Newport Beach's coastal waters with a guide to the beaches, back bay and beyond.

BEACHES

Dreamy beach days begin and end in Newport Beach, where miles of surf and sand beckon up and down the coast. Idyllic conditions make the waves near 56th Street perfect for year-round surfing, before the wide open waters give way to Little Corona's rocky reefs and protected coves. No two stretches are exactly alike and, with the exception of private residential islands in the harbor and a few enclaves in Corona del Mar, all of the city's beaches are accessible to the public. While there are dozens of sandy spots to rejuvenate and relax, follow this guide from north to south for the local landmarks all travelers will want to know.



BALBOA PENINSULA

This 3-mile scenic stretch is uniquely positioned with the harbor to the east and some of the destination's most popular beaches to the west. Youthful and fun, the peninsula offers beachgoers to activities and amenities ranging from bike rentals to private surf lessons for the whole family. Two piers provide awe-inspiring views, as well as a place to skate, surf, bike and fish before catching a stunning sunset.

Don't miss: Newport Pier, Balboa Pier, waterfront restaurants, biking the boardwalk



THE WEDGE

Monstrous swells define this famous surf spot at the tip of Balboa Peninsula. Waves as high as 30 feet are as captivating to watch as they are to ride, drawing experienced surfers, bodyboarders and bodysurfers from around the world.

Don't miss: Come during the summer and fall to catch the highest surf.



CORONA DEL MAR

A family-friendly gem, Corona del Mar State Beach is located just south of the channel connecting Newport Harbor to the ocean. Known as Big Corona, the half-mile, crescent-shaped stretch between rugged cliffs and a rock jetty treats swimmers and sunbathers to sights of sailboats, yachts, sea lions and even dolphins. Nearby, Little Corona is a secluded corner of the coast down a steep, sweeping path. The crystal clear tide pools are a treat for families during the day, but couples will want to pack a picnic to enjoy views of the sun sinking below the horizon. .

Don't miss: Take the stairs down to Pirates Cove, a coastal hideaway where scenes from Gilligan's Island were filmed.



CRYSTAL COVE STATE BEACH

Rows of vintage cottages add nostalgic charm to this sliver of coastline where time stands still. Home to Moro, Reef Point, the Historic District and Pelican Point, this dynamic state beach offers a serene escape where visitors can delight in open space and 3.2 miles of coastline. Delight in an underwater world during a tide pool walk, take in breathtaking views of coastal bluffs, or step back to the 1940s with Crystal Cove's raising of the martini flag, a storied tradition that takes place every night as the clock strikes 5 p.m.

Don't miss: Tide pools, dining above the sand at the Beachcomber Cafe, and a 1,1140-acre underwater park for snorkelers and scuba divers just off-shore

NEWPORT HARBOR

Newport Beach has a rich nautical heritage, from the glamour of private yacht clubs and world-class sailboat races to a waterfront that was once home to shipbuilders, fishing fleets and canneries. Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall kept a boat berthed at a dock in Newport Harbor, sailing the bay that has since transformed into a luxury oasis with waterfront homes featuring private docks and chef-driven restaurants opened in converted warehouses. Formed in the early 1900s, Newport Harbor is now the largest recreational harbor on the West Coast, brimming with upscale boating experiences, artisanal cuisine and leisurely ways to luxuriate by the sea.



DOCK & DINE:

Soak in the splendor of the sea with a dining experience that honors Newport Beach's nautical founding. Visitors can set sail through the harbor and dock their vessel at one of the many waterfront restaurants serving fresh coastal cuisine. Meals can be savored onboard, or passengers can disembark to dine alfresco on a terrace overlooking the bay.



ON THE WATER:

From sunset cruises, gondola trips and Duffy electric boat rides to kayaks and stand-up paddleboards, there's no better way to experience the beauty and variety of this nautical wonder than on the water. For a uniquely Newport experience, sail into the past with a nostalgic ride on the Balboa Island Ferry, which has transported vehicles and pedestrians between Balboa Island and the peninsula for over 100 years.

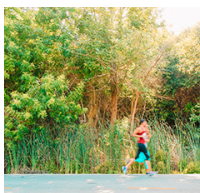


WATERFRONT ACCOMMODATIONS:

Balboa Bay Resort is a Forbes Four-Star resort with luxury amenities including a private marina, relaxing spa treatments and signature dining at A+O Restaurant | Bar.

UPPER NEWPORT BAY NATURE PRESERVE

Known as "the Back Bay" to locals, Upper Newport Bay is one of the largest, most pristine coastal wetlands in Southern California. Spanning 1,000 acres north of the harbor, this natural oasis is a precious natural resource that's home to more than 200 endangered species and 35,000 migratory birds.



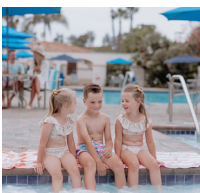
BACK BAY LOOP TRAIL:

A 10.5-mile hiking and biking path winds around the ecological reserve, where a world of wildlife awaits, from plants and birds to amphibians, reptiles and even bobcats. Among the scenic points of interest is the Muth Interpretive Center, an engaging stop for young children with interactive displays and self-guided activities.



ON THE WATER:

The calm surface of the Back Bay is a serene setting for luxuriating on the water. Guided kayak tours every weekend depart from Newport Aquatic Center, where visitors can also rent stand-up paddleboards to enjoy up-close views of birds and other wildlife. In the summer, take a moonlight ride with Pirate Coast Paddle to experience the bay under the stars, or soak up the sun while practicing yoga atop a floating board in the Newport Dunes swimming lagoon.



WATERFRONT ACCOMMODATIONS:

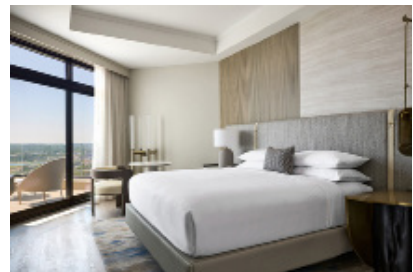
Newport Beach Marriott Bayview, Newport Dunes Waterfront Resort & Marina, Hyatt Regency Newport Beach

hotel & resort story starters

Come for the waves, sun-kissed sand and endless ocean breezes, stay for the luxe resorts, waterfront hotels and charming inns. A getaway in Newport Beach is an invitation to retreat and relax in a seaside sanctuary brimming with more than **3,345 guest rooms and suites**. The destination's myriad hotels present California coastal luxury at its finest, offering everything from handcrafted culinary concepts to impeccable design to serene views from private balconies overlooking the water. Whether they're seeking the suite life or a family-friendly beachfront cottage, this curated look at the destination's most talked-about hotels and resorts will help your readers find the perfect place to stay during their next Newport Beach escape. **For an up-to-date list of Newport Beach's stay-and-play offerings and all hotels and boutique inns, visit visitnewportbeach.com/plan.**



NEW AND NOTEWORTHY



Debuting in 2022, **VEA Newport Beach, A Marriott Hotel & Spa** is the destination's new social sanctuary. A chic indoor/outdoor retreat where revelry and relaxation meet, VEA features stunning coastal design elements, poolside dining, and a serene spa with private cabanas, a saltwater pool and yoga studio. For a girlfriend getaway, visitors can savor chef-driven cuisine and sip tableside martinis around a flickering fire pit. Families will love the location that places them at the center of everything, just steps from world-class dining and shopping at Fashion Island and across the street from the pristine shores of Corona del Mar beach. In summer 2023, Fashion Island will also welcome **Pendry Newport Beach**, a sophisticated hotel poised to redefine contemporary luxury across the region with signature dining destinations, spa offerings and an impeccable design perspective that maximizes sweeping ocean, harbor and bay views.

LUXURY ESCAPE



In addition to VEA Newport Beach and the highly anticipated opening of the newest Pendry resort, the destination is home to some of the most breathtaking luxury retreats along the coast. An Italian-inspired oasis, **The Resort at Pelican Hill** is renowned for its 504 acres of unrivaled coastal beauty and panoramic ocean views from its guest rooms and villas tucked into the Newport Coast hillside. The Forbes Five-Star resort features two Tom Fazio-designed championship golf courses, an award-winning spa, signature restaurants and cafes, and exclusive on-site activities. Receiving a prestigious Forbes Four-Star destination, **Balboa Bay Resort** is a dreamy getaway with A+O Restaurant | Bar, a state-of-the-art spa and luxury accommodations that include a 3,000-square-foot Presidential Suite offering serene waterfront views from three private balconies. For more luxury by the bay, Lido House is part of the curated **Autograph Collection**, hand-selected for its effortless style and design, thoughtful amenities and unique connection to the destination. Located on the site of the former City Hall, Lido House honors Newport Beach's heritage while maintaining modern appeal with upscale beach house architecture, seasonally inspired cuisine, a rooftop bar, organic spa treatments, and sophisticated guest rooms and suites.

ON THE WATERFRONT

No seaside stay is complete without soaking up views of the destination's sun-drenched shores. Home to more water than land, Newport Beach has an ocean of possibilities for luxuriating by the sea. With the bay as its backyard, the AAA Four Diamond **Balboa Bay Resort** offers waterfront experiences such as yoga on the lawn, Sunday seafood brunch and private Duffy cruises departing from the hotel's own marina. For a tranquil retreat, **Newport Beach Marriott Bayview** is just steps away from Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve. Visitors may gaze out on the calm water from their balconies, dine alfresco on the bayside patio or embark on the winding Back Bay Loop Trail. The southeast end of the loop is also the back door of **Hyatt Regency Newport Beach**, where guests can borrow beach cruisers to take a leisurely tour of the Back Bay. The resort also offers a nine-hole executive golf course, three pools and lushly landscaped grounds that host the acclaimed Newport Beach Jazz Festival and Summer Concert Series.

FOR THE VIP (VERY IMPORTANT POOCH)



Newport Beach rolls out the red carpet for four-legged friends, allowing the whole family to escape to the seaside destination. More than simply pet-friendly, one hotel stands out from the pack with luxury amenities fit for canine royalty. **Balboa Bay Resort's** pampered pet package gifts each pup with their own swag bag brimming with accessories and treats, in addition to offering a “paws and repeat” photo station, a VIP doggie menu at A+O Restaurant | Bar, and an opportunity to book a professional studio session with transportation to and from Dogma Pet Portraits.

UNIQUE RETREATS

Travelers who wish to escape reality may retreat to a unique rental that showcases the natural beauty of Newport Beach. One of the most coveted reservations among beachgoers is a stay at the restored cottages in the quaint **Crystal Cove Historic District**. The seaside colony is the last remaining example of California beach architecture from the early 20th century, transporting guests to a bygone era where time stands still. Along a scenic stretch of the Back Bay Nature Preserve, **Newport Dunes Waterfront Resort & Marina** has generous RV sites ideal for a glamping getaway, as well as bright and airy beach cottages with kitchen and dining areas that are great for families. All visitors have access to the on-site marketplace, as well as portable fire pits and watersports rental equipment (additional fee required) that can be used out on the resort's 110-acre aquatic park. Similarly, **The Cottages at Lido House** are private retreats with all the benefits of a luxury resort. Tucked in an enclave behind the main hotel, these three-story cottages are just a stone's throw from the restaurants, rooftop bar, pool and spa at Lido House, Autograph Collection.

culinary story starters

Dining in Newport Beach is a culinary journey — a choose-your-own adventure where artisanal concepts are elevated by masterful technique, locally sourced ingredients and freshly caught seafood befitting a coastal destination. Whether visitors follow the seasons for a chef-driven sensory escape or drift away with the ocean breezes while wining and dining harborside, the destination's California-fresh and global influences mean there is always something new to sip and savor by the sea. Help travelers navigate their way through an ever-evolving dining scene with this guide that identifies the tastiest themes, neighborhoods and luxurious experiences to discover among the destination's 450+ dining establishments.



DOCK & DINE

To dock and dine is to experience the best of Newport Beach: sun-soaked skies, the shimmering sea and elevated culinary concepts featuring ripe seasonal ingredients brimming and bursting with flavor. Boaters can set sail on a culinary adventure through the harbor to enjoy their meals on the water from restaurants including **The Winery Restaurant & Wine Bar, A+O Restaurant | Bar, Sol Mexican Cocina, Tavern House and Woody's Wharf**. More than 15 waterfront restaurants offer boatside menus or docks where visitors can leave their vessel and dine inside.

MICHELIN-RECOMMENDED

Making the Michelin Guide is no easy feat — most restaurants never grace the pages, let alone see a star. Stars aside, to even be highlighted in the elite dining book requires use of the highest quality ingredients, mastery of flavor and technique, value, consistency and personality. Five restaurants are putting Newport Beach on the global culinary map, with listings in the prestigious red book: **Fable & Spirit** (Bib Gourmand), **Lido Bottle Works, Sushi Ii, Marché Moderne and Bello by Sandro Nardone**.

WATERFRONT DINING WITH SEA-TO-SHORE CUISINE

The ocean views in Newport Beach are as varied as the coastal cuisine being served — from mega yachts and multi-million dollar mansions to Duffy boats and the bayside boardwalk home to the charming Balboa Fun Zone. Drop anchor at one of the destination's many waterfront restaurants to enjoy world-class scenery while savoring fresh-caught seafood. **Bluewater Grill and The Cannery** are Cannery Village gems, while nearby Lido Marina Village favorites include the laidback **Circle Hook** and highly acclaimed **Nobu**, where omakase sushi is served up with harbor views. More luxurious dining awaits along the stretch of Mariner's Mile down Coast Highway, including **Louie's by the Bay**, **Billy's by the Beach**, **Rusty Pelican**, **A+O**, **Tavern House**, and more.

UNIQUE POINTS OF VIEW

In a destination where waterfront tables abound, it may be difficult to narrow down the field when it comes to decadent dining options. To experience the city's culinary scene from a new perspective, visitors can look to the air, land and sea. **Topside at Lido House**, Newport Beach's only rooftop bar, is a standout spot to take in a coastal sunset with Champagne, cocktails and small bites. On Balboa Peninsula, **Lighthouse Café** not only pays homage to Newport's nautical founding, but also has an upper deck with unobstructed views of Newport Harbor and Marina Park where diners can enjoy classic American fare for brunch and dinner. To dine over the sand, the charming **Beachcomber Cafe** in the Crystal Cove Historic District offers Orange County's best on-the-beach experience, pairing vintage vibes with seasonally inspired coastal cuisine. For a tropical twist on Newport's classic dock and dine, try a **tiki cruise** where you can bring your own drinks and food to enjoy beneath a straw-thatched roof while leisurely floating on the bay. Finally, visitors can find a subterranean setting at **Under CdM**, a speakeasy beneath CdM Restaurant that crafts one of the most creative cocktail lists offered along the coast.

NEWPORT BEACH ICONS

Some restaurants are deeply woven into the destination's DNA, offering elevated cuisine in timeless settings that date back to the earliest days of Newport Beach. **A Restaurant** is a fixture on Coast Highway, one of the city's first restaurants that opened as The Arches in the 1920s and now serves a contemporary take on steak and seafood. Another landmark down the coast in Corona del Mar is **Five Crowns**, the neighborhood's oldest restaurant built in the 1930s that was a revolving door of concepts until 1965, when it adopted its current brand — and the renowned prime rib dinner that continues to delight modern diners. In 1921, the city's first commercial cannery sold its first lot of fish in a building that would become a waterfront restaurant in 1973. **The Cannery** preserves this iconic piece of Newport Beach history, serving seafood of the Pacific from its beautiful waterfront locale.

RAISING THE BAR

For decades, two Balboa Island snack shops have battled it out for a coveted designation: the “original” frozen banana stand (as seen on *Arrested Development*!) and inventor of the Balboa Bar, a chocolate-dipped ice cream confection freshly rolled in toppings that range from classic nuts and rainbow sprinkles to toffee bits, Oreo crumbles, coconut shreds and more. Located just 100 feet apart on Marine Avenue, **Dad's Donuts** and **Sugar 'n Spice** are dueling classics that each offer their own take on these historically tempting treats, as well as a compelling origin story of how the Balboa Bar came to be. More than 75 years later, visitors are invited to be the judge of who's freezing out the competition when it comes to this iconic Newport Beach treat.

DOG-FRIENDLY DINING

Newport Beach is paradise for canine companions, from a world-class shopping center that welcomes pets to dog-friendly beaches and bayfront. The destination's numerous restaurants are no exception, with countless options for alfresco dining under the sun with four-legged friends in tow. Cozy up to a patio at **Fashion Island**, where restaurants like **Great Maple** even offer pet menus with complimentary bowls of water and bites like bacon and pup patties available to order. Around town, visitors can find breezy eateries in every neighborhood where dogs are welcome: the quaint **Wilma's Patio** on Balboa Island, the Parisian-style **Moulin** in the Airport District, Corona del Mar's sophisticated **Zinc Cafe**, the popular breakfast nook **Haute Cakes Caffe** in Westcliff, seafood staple **Bear Flag Fish Co.** in Lido Village, and so many more.

newport beach shopping

A world-class retail destination, Newport Beach has shops to suit every style, from charming boutiques exuding coastal sophistication to luxury storefronts from some of the hottest names in fashion. Whether fierce fashionistas are in search of on-trend looks or families seek sunshine staples like surf apparel and one-of-a-kind artisan gifts, there's always something new to discover at one of the destination's walkable waterfront promenades or sun-soaked centers. Shopping by the sea has never felt so dreamy.



FASHION ISLAND

The Pacific Ocean is a shimmering backdrop to Newport Beach's premier shopping destination. Fashion Island is the vibrant epicenter of the city's style scene, offering a sun-drenched, open-air setting for visiting the unique mix of more than 100 ultra-premium designer boutiques and specialty shops. Rare sneakers at Paired Up, delicate jewelry from Orange County-based Gorjana, and luxury goods from the region's only Neiman Marcus are among the haute finds at this unrivaled retail center by the coast. From finely crafted timepieces and tailored suits to tech, toys and even Teslas, there's something for every personality and passion. Visitors are also invited to create a bespoke shopping trip with a Fashion Island personal shopper. The complimentary one-on-one appointments include hand-picked, head-to-toe looks delivered to a personal shopping suite for the ultimate luxury experience. Great for fashionistas, pet parents, families, culinary connoisseurs.

BALBOA ISLAND & BALBOA VILLAGE

A relaxing retreat and a throwback to simpler times, Balboa Island is a locale where time stands still with candy-colored houses and pedestrian pathways at every turn. Visitors can escape to this slice of paradise just minutes away from central Newport Beach and shop unique treasures like home decor and art that serve as memorable gifts for loved ones back home. Art galleries abound on the island, as well as boutiques offering everything from old-fashioned barrel candy and gourmet olive oils to T-shirts, curated clothing and coastal wares. Take the iconic Balboa Island Ferry, serving Newport Beach for over a century, across the harbor to Balboa Village, where more mom-and-pop souvenir shops have everything from candles and jewelry to socks, hoodies and sunglasses. *Great for sunshine souvenirs, families, girlfriend getaway.*

MARINER'S MILE AND WESTCLIFF

With a nod to Newport Beach's nautical founding, Mariner's Mile is a supercharged stretch of city home to megayachts and luxury automobile dealers. Nestled along the coast are high-fashion finds from A'maree's, a family-owned boutique run by local tastemakers whose edited pieces have graced the pages of Vogue and Conde Nast Traveler. Vacationers can add some sparkle to their stay with a visit to one of the fine jewelry boutiques in the Mariner's Mile/Westcliff area, from vintage-style pieces and custom creations at Twila True to natural gemstones, diamonds and pre-owned luxury watches at Winston Crown Jewelers. *Great for romantic getaways, fashionistas.*

LIDO MARINA VILLAGE

Offering a shopping getaway by the bay, Lido Marina Village is where coastal craftsmanship meets global influence. Take a leisurely stroll beneath the whimsical string lights and bask in the ocean breezes while exploring shops known for their luxurious, well-crafted wares. The highly curated collection of boutiques includes West Coast exclusives like Stoney Clover Lane, known for its fun and fashionable customization of travel accessories, and loungewear brand Eberjey, as well as on-in-Newport shops like Lido Village Books and Minnow, a contemporary children's shop with sun-kissed color palettes and custom prints. From French-inspired Clare V. handbags to Australian skincare darling Aesop to designer mecca elysewalker, there's no shortage of stylish shops adding to the center's casual yet chic allure. With a bayfront address, visitors can arrive via boat to dock, dine and shop while experiencing the delightful village ambience that defines California coastal luxury. *Great for girlfriend getaways, family travel.*

CORONA DEL MAR

Spanish for "Crown of the Sea," Corona del Mar lives up to its name with vintage cottages lining the charmingly named flower streets and stunning homes making an architectural statement on the cliffs overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Luxuriate in the chic neighborhood vibes that continue along Coast Highway, where a walkable shopping district awaits. The Village of Corona del Mar is home to OnQue Style, a veritable walk-in closet of luxury pre-owned fashion merchandise that's one of CdM's best-kept fashion secrets. Along this walkable stretch are more niche gems like B.Candy and The White Dress, a couture bridal salon, and more fashion-forward shops for clothing, home design, jewelry, consignment shopping, and gifts. Just up the coast, Corona del Mar Plaza offers breezy, beach chic brands like Tommy Bahama as well as only-in-Newport finds. The stylish, upscale center houses locally owned boutiques offering designer apparel including CDobbs, Sienna Brown and Mi Place, where visitors can shop an edited selection of high-fashion finds from brands including Alexander McQueen, Roberto Cavalli and Stella McCartney. *Great for beach breaks, families, shopping local.*

MORE STORY STARTERS

- **Girlfriend Getaway.** A complimentary personal shopping suite at Fashion Island promises the ultimate girls' weekend. Plus, rent a moke to take a leisurely cruise up and down the Newport Beach coast while searching for haute fashion finds at charming boutiques and only-in-Newport shops.
- **Luxury Renaissance.** Fashion Island celebrates 55 years in September 2022, opening in 1967 with a Champagne gala that Time magazine called the "largest cocktail party in the world." The area continues its luxury renaissance with the debut of VEA Newport Beach, A Marriott Resort & Spa, and the anticipated openings of Pendry Newport Beach and RH Newport Beach.

luxury & wellness story starters

A journey of self-care can start by the sea, where saltwater breezes and ocean spray along the 10 miles of Newport Beach coastline offer a reprieve from everyday life. The serene setting invites visitors to relax and revitalize while indulging in therapeutic spa treatments, luxury accommodations, fresh farm-to-table fare and an alfresco lifestyle perfectly suited for focusing on achieving the ultimate state of well-being. Guide your readers through California coastal luxury, finding inspiration from this wellness edit featuring the best ways to escape to our seaside sanctuary.



STATE-OF-THE-ART SPAS

From aromatherapy treatments and facials to immersive experiences stretching leisurely over the course of a day, Newport Beach's state-of-the-art spas, medspas and salons deliver a bespoke experience for every self-care need. Find a Forbes Five-Star-rated escape at **The Spa at Pelican Hill**, a Newport Coast haven perched above the Pacific offering personalized seasonal treatments that nourish skin, restore balance and promote deep feelings of relaxation and harmony. Herbal steam rooms, saunas and saltwater soaking tubs complete a transcendent day of indulgence. On the peninsula, **Boost Spa** at Lido House, Autograph Collection takes spa-goers on a journey of wellness rituals to unwind busy minds and escape the pace of everyday life. Along the waterfront, **The Spa at Balboa Bay Resort** is a 10,000-square-foot exclusive retreat accessible only to guests and private club members, offering a full range of treatments from diamond facials to lavender salt scrubs and couple's massages. Opened in 2022, **Spa VEA** at VEA Newport Beach, A Marriott Resort & Spa awakens the senses with relaxing treatments, healing waters, a dry sauna and sprawling spa lawn with cabanas and a roaring fireplace.

LUXURY RETREATS

In addition to reinvigorating spa experiences, the destination's upscale hotels and resorts provide a tranquil refuge for self-discovery and quiet reflection. Luxuriate poolside, stroll lush landscaped grounds and unwind with onsite activities such as Balboa Bay Resort's waterfront yoga sessions that nurture a healthy mind, body and soul. Sunset dinners under the stars at signature restaurants such as Mayor's Table at Lido House and VIEW Restaurant & Lounge at VEA use the freshest, in-season ingredients that please the palate while maintaining a healthful balance with every bite. Newport Beach's hotels are more than a place for travelers to pass the time — they are destinations within a destination, designed for engaging in the present and living your best life by the sea.

FARM-TO-TABLE CUISINE

Healthy eating is a cornerstone of any wellness journey, and in Newport Beach, seasonal, sustainable and locally sourced dishes can be found on the menus at waterfront restaurants lining the harbor. While fresh caught seafood is certainly a staple in the seaside destination, visitors are also encouraged to embrace the farm-to-fork movement at a restaurant where they will dine surrounded by lush greenery and striking blooms. **Farmhouse** at Roger's Gardens in Corona del Mar offers a rustic field-to-fork experience using ingredients from local artisanal and boutique producers, from farmers and fishermen to wine and spirits makers. Down the road, **603 Dahlia** is nestled inside the botanical oasis of Sherman Library & Gardens. With an ever-changing seasonal menu, every dish delights with clean, bright flavors and fresh herbs picked directly from the on-site garden.

ALFRESCO LIFESTYLE

In a coastal paradise, opportunities abound to bask on the sun-drenched shores. Beaches here are far from ordinary, with locales like Corona del Mar State Beach offering rocky coves and tidepools brimming with underwater life. Deep breaths during a SUP yoga session at Newport Dunes offer a centering experience, a prelude to a leisurely nature walk down the Back Bay Loop Trail surrounding Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve. Beyond the water, Newport Beach is a scenic oasis with luscious gardens, a sculpture exhibition surrounded by native plants and meandering trails that wind across oceanfront bluffs to afford stunning views of the destination's natural beauty.

holidays in newport beach

In Newport Beach, festive fresh air and ocean breezes mingle with holiday cheer to create unrivaled memories for visitors and locals alike. With coastal traditions that date back decades and waterfront locales for viewing colorful fireworks and light displays come nightfall, there's no better place for a holiday getaway.



HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Winter celebrations kick off in Newport Beach with the arrival of holiday trees that sparkle and twinkle all season long. At Fashion Island, visitors can marvel at a stunning 90-foot white fir tree adorned with thousands of lights and ornaments. Down on the beach, Crystal Cove transforms into a holiday bazaar on the sand, with jewelry and handcrafts, seaglass-wrapping and a visit from Santa before the tree-lighting ceremony commences after sunset. Newport Dunes' annual Lighting of the Bay creates its own holiday showcase right on the water, with the festive floating lights glowing from sundown to 11:30 p.m. through New Year's Day. The destination is the ultimate holiday headquarters, with high-energy performances, sips and sweets, and dazzling displays from Mariner's Mile down to Newport Coast.

NEWPORT BEACH CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE

Declared one of the top 10 holiday happenings in the nation by the New York Times, the annual Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade lights up the harbor for five nights every December. With fireworks in the sky and festive boats illuminating the calm waters, Newport Beach becomes a winter wonderland that has enchanted the community for more than a century. Departing from Bay Island after sunset, the blazing parade winds its way through the harbor past landmarks like Ring of Lights, an iconic cluster of multi-million dollar waterfront homes that spread holiday cheer with over-the-top decorations. Viewing options abound — set sail on a chartered boat, book a table at a waterfront restaurant or cozy up along the shore to see up to 100 boats, from kayaks to superyachts. Kicking off the festivities each night is a new grand marshal, with past guests including Orange County Olympians, local heroes and celebrities including Albert Pujols, Leslie Mann, Mark McGrath and more.

CORONA DEL MAR CHRISTMAS WALK

To celebrate by the sea is a magical experience, and Newport Beach's crown jewel amplifies the seasonal cheer in December with a day of music, merriment and fun for all ages. For more than four decades, the Corona del Mar Christmas Walk has taken over village streets to offer live entertainment, beer and wine gardens, visits with Santa and merchant booths featuring charming gift items, arts and crafts, jewelry and more from local businesses.

FOURTH OF JULY

Newport Beach shows its patriotic colors all year long with watercolor sunsets, sparkling blue waters and pristine white sand beaches. But on the Fourth of July, fireworks set coastal skies aglow during the annual Newport Dunes Independence Day on the Back Bay. Festivities run all day long, with games, watersports and live entertainment culminating in one of Southern California's largest firework spectacles. The flag also flies across the sun-soaked waters with the American Legion's Old Glory Boat Parade, a tradition more than 50 years in the making that sends patriotically decorated vessels filled with active duty servicemembers and veterans sailing through the harbor.

MORE STORY STARTERS

- **Traditions.** Coastal traditions, decades in the making, define the holiday landscape in Newport Beach. The Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade has lit up the harbor for more than a century, making it the longest-running holiday boat parade in the nation. Originating in the 1950s, the Old Glory Boat Parade is one of the oldest patriotic boat parades in the state. Explore the history and tradition of these on-the-water events, each steeped in Newport's nautical founding.
- **Celebrity Connection.** From sports all-stars and television celebrities to local heroes, the Grand Marshals of the Newport Beach Boat Parade represent the best of their fields. Dive into this historic and beloved tradition with a look at honorees past and present, including Mickey Mouse, Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim owner Arte Moreno, the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team, Corona del Mar High School alums Leslie Mann and Mark McGrath, contestants from Season 8 of The Voice and the Newport Beach police fire and lifeguard departments, hometown heroes who dedicate their lives to keeping the city safe.

fact sheet

Newport Beach invites visitors to experience the embodiment of California coastal luxury with 10 miles of scenic shoreline, pristine beaches and world-class shopping, dining and entertainment. Home to more water than land, the sun-soaked Southern California destination is an idyllic retreat nestled between Los Angeles and San Diego. A waterfront getaway for Hollywood A-listers, families and couples alike, Newport Beach has a year-round Mediterranean climate that provides ample opportunity to catch a wave, dock and dine, or take a leisurely stroll through one of 10 charming neighborhoods, each with a distinct personality and story to share. From sunrise to sunset, there's much to discover in the intimate seaside oasis — luxury accommodations, chef-driven culinary concepts, high-end shopping and coastal boutiques, seasonal events, and countless on-the-water activities at the city's award-winning beaches and beyond.



Landscape

Newport Beach is approximately 50 square miles, comprising 25 miles of water, 15 miles of land and 10 miles of coastline.

Location

Newport Beach is situated 45 miles south of Los Angeles (under one hour), 90 miles north of San Diego (under 90 minutes) and 26 miles from Catalina Island (approximately 75 minutes by boat). It is conveniently located at the center of the Orange County coastline, with easy access to the I-405, 55 freeway, 73 toll road, and iconic Pacific Coast Highway (Highway 1).

Getting Here

Newport Beach is directly adjacent to John Wayne Airport (SNA); Long Beach Airport (20 miles north); and Los Angeles International Airport (45 miles north).

Climate

Newport Beach has a warm, Mediterranean-type climate year-round, with temperatures averaging about 67 degrees Fahrenheit/ 19.35 degrees Celsius. Winter lows reach an average of 49 degrees Fahrenheit in December, with summer highs of 72 degrees Fahrenheit in August.

Population

One of only six coastal cities in Orange County, Newport Beach is home to 84,792 residents (2021).

Distinctions

- The “Duffy” electric boat was invented in Newport Beach in 1970.
- The city has the longest-operating and only auto ferry in Southern California.
- Newport Beach has the largest recreational harbor on the West Coast.
- It's home to the largest circular pool in the world, located at The Resort at Pelican Hill.
- Newport Beach proudly hosts the longest-running and largest Christmas Boat Parade in the U.S.

NEWPORT BEACH HISTORY

Newport Beach has evolved dramatically over the years, with each new wave of change shaping the city's modern-day identity. Its rich and colorful history includes a nautical foundation as a vibrant port town in the 1800s, when the harbor became a booming commercial and shipping hub. In 1905, Newport Beach welcomed some of its earliest tourists with the arrival of the Pacific Electric Railroad, which introduced its sun-drenched shores to visitors from the city of Los Angeles. One year later, the city incorporated on September 1, 1906, marking the beginning of flourishing development projects. The harbor was dedicated by city officials in May 1936, initiated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt when he pressed a telegraph key on his White House desk that transmitted a radio signal to the Coast Guard in Newport Bay.

HOLLYWOOD CONNECTIONS

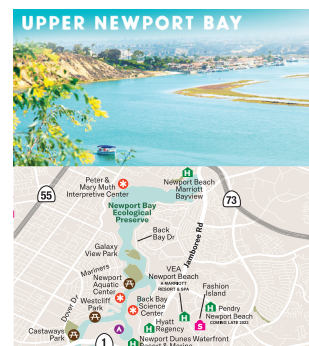
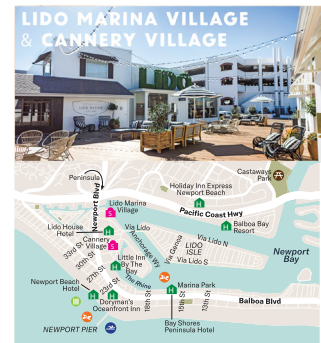
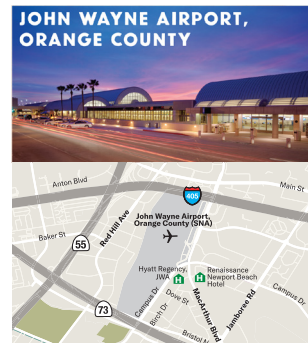
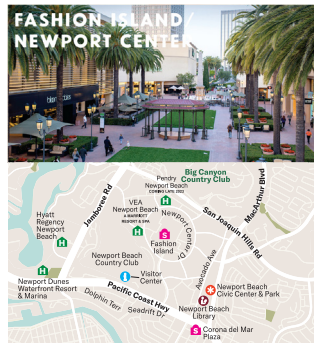
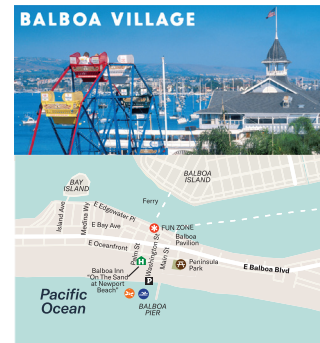
Newport Beach has established a tradition of cinematic excellence dating back to the Golden Age of filmmaking. The destination has inspired stories on screen for over 100 years and rolled out the red carpet for A-list actors, actresses and industry legends who made Newport Beach their personal hideaways. From Bogart and Bacall's romance at sea to the destination's big break in 1917 in the original "Cleopatra," Newport Beach has a storied Hollywood history that continues with modern-day TV shows like "Arrested Development" and the annual Newport Beach Film Festival, considered to be the largest luxury film festival in the United States.

NEWPORT BEACH ON SCREEN

Cleopatra, All Quiet on the Western Front, Captain Blood, The Sea Wolf, Shadows, College, To Have and Have Not, The Breaking Point, Romy and Michele's High School Reunion, Jerry Maguire, Dating Games People Play, The O.C., Arrested Development, Real Housewives of Orange County, Million Dollar Listings Selling Sunset, and more

NEWPORT BEACH NEIGHBORHOODS

Ten distinct neighborhoods and villages make up the Newport Beach landscape, each delivering its own seaside experience, coastal charm and natural beauty. Neighborhoods include: Airport District, Back Bay, Balboa Island, Balboa Peninsula, Balboa Village, Cannery Village, Corona del Mar, Fashion Island, Mariner's Mile/Westcliff and Newport Coast/Crystal Cove.



HOTELS & RESORTS

A stay in Newport Beach offers a reprieve from everyday life and an opportunity to experience laidback luxury by the coast. With more than 3,345 hotel rooms, there's something for every type of traveler, from charming seaside inns and vacation rentals for families to waterfront getaways for the glamorous, global jetsetter. The destination is home to renowned hospitality brands and luxury resorts where visitors can rejuvenate, relax and escape, including VEA Newport Beach, A Marriott Resort & Spa; Lido House, Autograph Collection; and the Forbes Five Star-rated Resort at Pelican Hill. An additional 295 sophisticated guest rooms and suites will arrive in summer 2023 with the opening of Pendry Newport Beach, located just steps from Fashion Island.

BEACHES

Visitors can bask by the sea and feel a world away at award-winning beaches, including Crystal Cove State Park, Corona del Mar State Beach and Newport Municipal Beach. From swimming, surfing and stand-up paddleboarding to tide pools, sunbathing and two iconic piers, there are countless ways to experience the city's sandy shores and many on-the-water activities. Monstrous swells also draw crowds at The Wedge, where waves up to 30 feet create some of the most powerful beach breaks found across Southern California.

NEWPORT BEACH GEMS

Cleopatra, All Quiet on the Western Front, Captain Blood, The Sea Wolf, Shadows, College, To Have and Have Not, The Breaking Point, Romy and Michele's High School Reunion, Jerry Maguire, Dating Games People Play, The O.C., Arrested Development, Real Housewives of Orange County, Million Dollar Listings Selling Sunset, and more

NEWPORT BEACH NEIGHBORHOODS

Steeped in history and rooted in Newport's nautical founding, these standout experiences are not to be missed.

- **Newport Harbor:** As the largest recreational harbor on the West Coast, this leisurely locale comprises seven islands between Balboa Peninsula and the mainland ideal for navigating via sunset cruise or stand-up paddleboard. Soak up scenic views of waterfront estates and nearly 9,000 luxury yachts and sailboats, shop sunshine staples, or savor elevated seasonal cuisine alfresco in this unrivaled harbor in the heart of the city.
- **Dock & Dine:** A delicious day awaits at Newport Beach's waterfront restaurants, which invite electric boaters to pull up to the dock to savor the destination's signature culinary experience. Visitors can dine inside or enjoy locally sourced, seasonal ingredients and chef-driven concepts right on the water via Dock & Dine meal delivery service.
- **Balboa Island:** Classic and sophisticated with a touch of whimsy, this neighborhood embodies nautical coastal living with an emphasis on home and garden, locally-owned shops, restaurants and merchants frequented by the destination's toniest locals. Visitors can sweeten their stay with a frozen banana or Balboa bar at one of the iconic shops serving up the dreamy treats since the 1940s.
- **Crystal Cove Beach Cottages:** Built between 1920 and 1940, the seaside colony nestled along Newport Coast transports visitors back in time with 24 beautifully restored cottages and a charming Historic District. An enchanting retreat, Crystal Cove State Park offers the opportunity to experience California's natural and architectural beauty, untouched by time.
- **Historic Fun Zone at Balboa Village:** One of the state's last surviving examples of great waterfront recreational pavilions, the Fun Zone has endured since 1936 as a family-friendly entertainment haven with penny arcade games, a bayside Broadway and Ferris Wheel offering birds-eye views of Newport Harbor and the ocean.
- **Newport Beach Boat Parade:** America's longest-running boat parade sets sail every December, with nearly 100 yachts and boats illuminating Newport Harbor for five consecutive nights. The 14-mile course includes a stretch of multi-million dollar homes known as the Ring of Lights, which are opulently decorated to serve as a twinkling backdrop for this beloved Newport Beach tradition.

ACCOLADES

Destination & Beaches

- One of Seven “Hugely Charming Coastal Towns” in the United States (Trip Advisor, 2019)
- Top 25 Beaches in the United States (Trip Advisor, 2019)
- Best California Beach - Newport Municipal and Crystal Cove State beaches (USA Today, 2018)
- Top 10 Most Romantic Beaches (USA Today, 2015)
- The Wedge ranked as one of seven local landmarks to see in 2013 (OC Register, 2013)
- World’s Most Beautiful Canal Cities (Travel + Leisure, 2012)

Water Quality & Cleanliness

- A+ Rating for “Excellent Water Quality” - Balboa Peninsula beaches, Newport Harbor, Corona del Mar State Beach and Crystal Cove State Park + The Wedge on the Honor Roll (Heal the Bay, 2013)
- Top 13 “Superstar” Beaches, Five Stars for Clean Water Quality (National Resource Defense Council, 2013)
- One of the Cleanest Beaches in the U.S. (USA Today, 2012)
- Five Stars for Cleanest Beaches in the U.S. (CNN, 2012)

Accessibility

- Best in Travel 2018 Rates John Wayne Airport Best in the U.S. (Money, 2018)
- John Wayne Airport ranked highest among large airports (J.D. Power’s 13th annual airport survey, 2018)

Holidays

- Top 10 Best Readers’ Poll for Best Holiday Parade (USA Today, 2018)
- America’s Best Places for Holiday Lights (Yahoo! Travel, 2012)

Meetings

- Top 50 Meeting Destinations in the United States (Cvent Inc., 2013 and 2014)
- Top 50 Safest CA Cities’ List Report (SafeWise, 2018)

Local Lifestyle

- Top 125 Best Places to Live in the USA (U.S. News & World Report, 2018)
- Top 100 Best Places to Live (Livability, 2018)
- Top Three Best Cities to Live In (Orange County Register, 2013)

Business

- Best CVB/DMO (Successful Meetings Pinnacle Awards, 2016)
- Platinum Award for Website Overall/Nonprofit, Two Gold Awards for Mobile Website and Website Element/Homepage (Hermes Creative Awards, 2014)
- Four Silver Communicator Awards for Visit Newport Beach, Websites (Travel/Tourism, Visit Newport Beach, Websites – Structure and Navigation, Visit Newport Beach, Websites – Visual Appeal and Mobile sites – Academy of Interactive & Visual Arts, 2014)
- Two Platinum AVA Digital Award Website and omepage/Web Element (Association of Marketing and Communications Professionals, 2014)
- HSMAI Adrian Gold Award for Mobile Website and Silver Award for Desktop Website (Hospitality Sales & Marketing Association International, 2013)
- Mobile Web Award for Outstanding Mobile Website (Web Marketing Association, 2013)
- Four Gold Awards for Magazine Placement, Website Home Page, Website Redesign, Website for Nonprofit (MarCom Awards, 2013)
- No. 2 on the Best Places to Work in Orange County List (Orange County Business Journal, 2013)