

The Science of Spirits

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Explore
the fascinating
worlds inside
our everyday
drinks.
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—
Selena Ahmed
is using her
botany Ph.D.
for good:
making tastier
cocktails.
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YOUR ADVENTURE IN “The OC”

WANT MORE?

Browse the **Inflight Entertainment Portal** for the best spots to eat, drink, stay, and play in your final destination. It's free!





BY LAURA BURKEHART

Head to Orange County, California and let the Golden State's sunshine wash over you. Known around the world as "The OC," this stunning Southern California locale beckons with 42 miles of pristine beaches, mouth-watering cuisine, family fun, outdoor recreation, abundant nature, and outstanding entertainment, arts, and culture.

Conveniently located in central Orange County, John Wayne Airport makes air travel to The OC easy. By car, it's a breeze to navigate from scenic coastal Highway 1 to inland theme parks, cultural attractions, and shopping.

The OC offers endless possibilities for athletes and aesthetes alike. Learn to paddleboard alongside dolphins, hit the waves in Huntington Beach (A.K.A. Surf City USA™), or admire the plein air masterpieces on display in Laguna Beach's fine art galleries. Get your heart pounding exploring miles of nature trails in Irvine, or being swept up in Costa Mesa's stunning performing arts scene. Entertain the kids—or your inner child—at Buena Park's famed Medieval Times or Knott's Berry Farm theme park.

Taste the good life and let the area's culinary craftsman tempt your palate with their modern and globally inspired versions of California cuisine. From fish shacks to fine dining, The OC is a must-see destination for foodies.

For travelers seeking a touch of luxury, coastal Orange County offers an outstanding collection of oceanfront resorts. For relaxation, award-winning spas offer skilled wellness professionals to help you find your bliss. At world-famous South Coast Plaza and other unique shopping venues, you can likewise find your bliss browsing designer boutiques or consulting a personal shopper to perfect your personal style.

No matter what you're looking for in a Southern California vacation, you'll discover it in The OC. visittheOC.com



Stay in Style

Whether you're in Irvine for business or pleasure, make the most of your trip to the OC. In fact, the newly renovated Irvine Marriott is perfectly appointed for work and play.

If you need a place to focus while you're traveling for work, upgrade to the M Club Lounge, where you can gather your thoughts and wind down in modern, elegant surroundings. Preparing for your morning? Step in for light breakfast fare and Starbucks drinks. Coming by after a long day? Relax with a hand-crafted cocktail, glass of wine, hors d'oeuvres and gourmet desserts. Accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week for Marriott elite members, the WiFi-connected space is available whenever you need it.

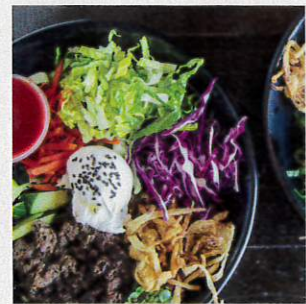
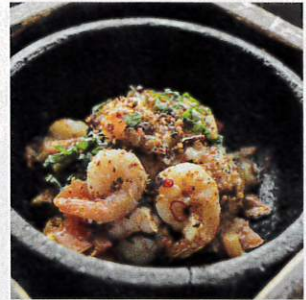
If you're looking for a little nightlife, step into a lobby bar unlike any other: YNK. This innovative cocktail experience changes frequently and carries you around the globe through your glass. Inspired by destinations all over the world and crafted by expert journeymen, these libations are an experience unto themselves.

Cap off your evening by sleeping in the beautifully appointed top-floor penthouse. Perched on the 17th floor, you'll have expansive views of Orange County, turndown service, and exclusive access to the M Club lounge. Irvinehitsrefresh.com

Fall in Love with Irvine

Irvine may be known as a tech center, but it's also a haven for nature lovers. This carefully planned community boasts more than 12,000 acres of preserved habitats. The Irvine Open Space Preserve's protected natural landscapes include wetlands, oak woodlands, grasslands, and coastal sage scrub. Its parks, greenbelts, trails, and wildlands offer abundant opportunities for outdoor recreation. You can walk, hike, bike, and more in this designated National Landmark area. From scenic Bommer and Shady canyons to the San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary, Irvine is an oasis for those who are rejuvenated by the outdoors.

After you've worked up an appetite in the fresh air, partake in Irvine's outstanding food scene. Nearly 40% of the area's population is Asian, so the Pacific Rim options are out of this world. Head to Diamond Jamboree, a retail destination with a wide variety of international flavors, for Chinese, Vietnamese, Japanese, and fusion dishes. Visit 85°C Bakery, a Taiwanese coffee shop chain native to Irvine, for sweets and legendary coffee concoctions.

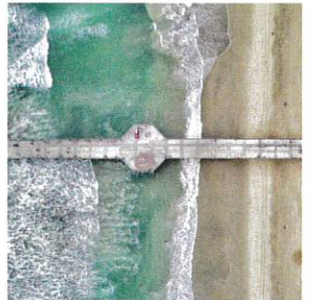


Forever Summer

Whether you're looking to pack a ton of activities into your vacation or just relax by the sea, Huntington Beach, California is ideal. More than 300 days of sunshine per year and 10 miles of sandy beaches mean you can surf, walk, beachcomb, kayak, bicycle, or relax on the sand year-round.

Surf culture is huge here. Enjoy the bohemian vibe downtown, where you can find the latest beachwear and surfing accoutrements at local shops and big-name stores like Vans Off the Wall, Quiksilver, and Hurley. Then grab a board and hit the waves, or sink your toes in the sand and watch the action. There may be four-legged surfers out there, too—spring and fall bring the Surf City Surf Dog competition and Corgi Beach Day.

When you've worked up an appetite, head into town for a delicious meal at Pacific City's Lot 579 Food Hall, SeaLegs at the Beach, Duke's, or dozens of local farm-to-table eateries. End your perfect California day with s'mores at one of the first-come, first-serve bonfire pits on the beaches. surfcityusa.com





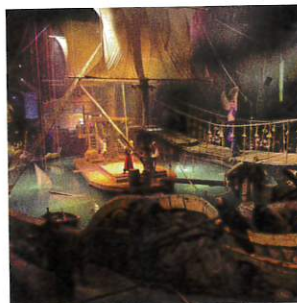
Explore Laguna Beach

Located halfway between Los Angeles and San Diego, you'll find the perfect vacation destination in Laguna Beach. There's more oceanfront lodging here than in any other city in the state. Mild weather, stunning views, abundant wildlife, and a healthy arts scene make it no surprise that Laguna Beach was among the top five in Condé Nast Traveler's Best Small Cities in the U.S. in 2017.

Explore seven miles of hidden coves with more than thirty beaches. Each one is a protected marine refuge, so you'll marvel at the scores of creatures that call this area home. You'll also find 20,000 acres of breathtaking wilderness ideal for hiking and mountain biking.

Take advantage of the vibrant arts scene at The Laguna Playhouse, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna College of Art and Design, and the many art-focused festivals held here year-round. You can also find working artists' studios, colorful public art, and charming bungalows from the 1800s-1900s while walking around town. visitlagunabeach.com





Bustling Buena Park

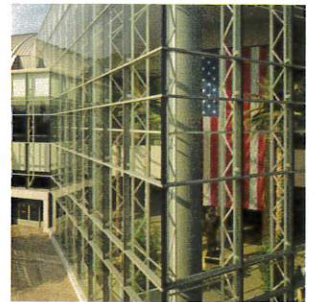
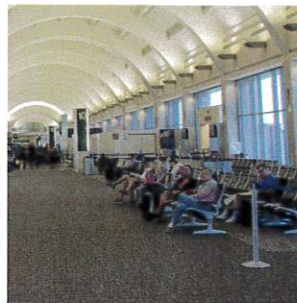
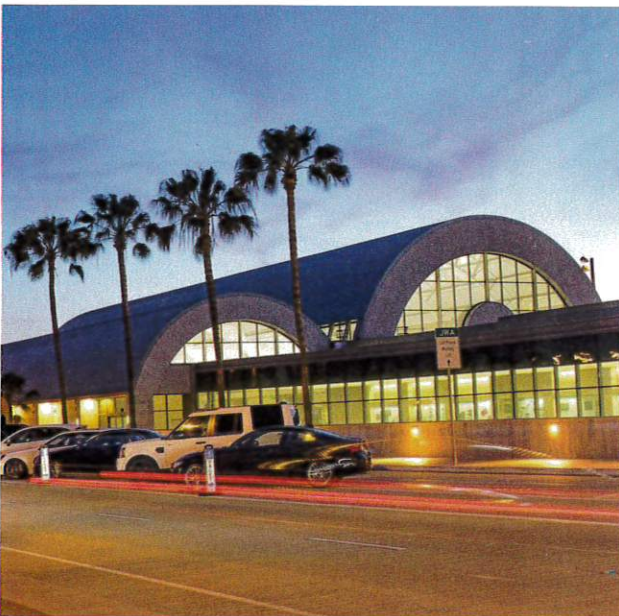
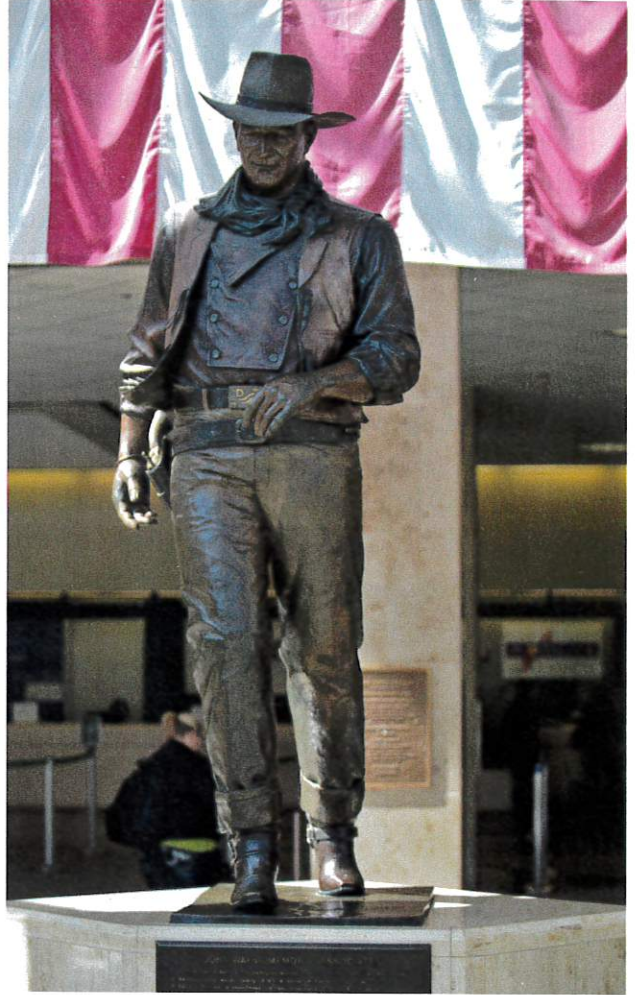
Buena Park may have humble beginnings, but you'd never know it today. Premier location, world-class entertainment, dining, and great rates on hotels make this small city stand out from the crowd.

Bring the kids to Knott's Berry Farm to meet Snoopy and the rest of the Peanuts gang. The whole family will have a blast—dozens of rides mean there is something for everyone. Adventure lovers will find thrills on multiple roller coasters, including GhostRider, the tallest and fastest wooden coaster on the West Coast.

Rent a private cabana at Knott's Soak City Water Park, purchase a Fast Lane pass to get priority boarding around the park, or get the royal treatment at Medieval Times. And definitely don't miss Big Air Trampoline Park, the Pirate's Dinner Adventure, and the incredible dinosaur fossils at the Interpretive Center. visitbuenapark.com

Soar into The OC

Serving more than 10 million passengers annually, award-winning John Wayne Airport offers service to more than 20 non-stop destinations in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. Conveniently located in the heart of Orange County, John Wayne Airport is just minutes from beaches, attractions, and world-class shopping. Fly into this local gem and find yourself close to the action. Commemorate your visit in a photo with "The Duke," the iconic bronze statue on the Arrival (lower) level of the Thomas F. Riley Terminal. OCair.com



Southern California Style

Celebrate 50 years of luxury at South Coast Plaza, a renowned international destination for shopping and dining. Since 1967, people have flocked to South Coast Plaza, located in Costa Mesa, to experience more than 250 specialty boutiques, critically acclaimed restaurants, and exclusive events.

Top brands and legendary fashion houses make up the collection of diverse retailers established here. Find some sparkle at Harry Winston, Cartier, and Van Cleef & Arpels. Dress to impress with clothing and accessories from brands like Hermès, Gucci, Versace, and Roger Vivier, to Coach, Kate Spade, and Tory Burch.

Expect nothing less than the best—South Coast Plaza offers both fine dining establishments and personalized concierge services. Enjoy valet parking and personal shoppers. You can also make reservations at any of the restaurants or experience at show at the adjacent Segerstrom Center for the Arts.

In 2017, South Coast Plaza marks its 50th anniversary through exclusive collaborations with global luxury brands, arts partnerships, special events, exhibitions, fashion shows, and more. southcoastplaza.com





Tour the City of the Arts

Costa Mesa is a Southern California jewel known as the City of the Arts. Centrally located in the heart of The OC and minutes from John Wayne Airport, find yourself in the midst of the best shopping, musicals, and theater in Southern California.

With 250 stores and the world's top designers, South Coast Plaza features runway-ready fashion and outstanding restaurants, just across the street from Segerstrom Center for the Arts. You'll be impressed by the elaborate art installations of the area, like *Connector* by Richard Serra, a 65-foot-tall iron sculpture in the community arts plaza. Just across the street, you can stroll through Isamu Noguchi's *California Scenario*, one of the country's preeminent outdoor sculpture gardens.

Looking to shop local? Stop by The OC Mix, where local designers have pop-up boutiques and curated shops. Then enjoy a meal prepared by James Beard Award-nominated chef Carlos Salgado at Taco María. Wrap up your SoCal vacation with cocktails and live music at Mesa. travelcostamesa.com