OMA GATHERING - SAN DIEGO

NOV 8 – NOV 10, 2024

Everything You Need to Know to Enhance Your Trip Yes, there's more to San Diego than just beaches, Sea World and the Zoo!

Hotel Venue, Local Transportation, Sites, Activities, Restaurants & Bars, and Walking Maps:

Pages 2 – 6: Old Town, Hotel Venue, Friday night Dinner at Casa Guadalajara

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* For any additional information or questions, contact Renée Kilmer, worldtraveller 1954@gmail.com, (831) 818-6684

ACCOMMODATIONS: HACIENDA HOTEL OLD TOWN BEST WESTERN

4041 Harney St, (619) 298-4707

OMA group rate valid Nov 5 – Nov 13

\$199/nt - must use OMA Group link for registration

Full buffet breakfast daily: \$12.95; Parking: \$15/day; complimentary wi-fi





HACIENDA HOTEL





OLD TOWN

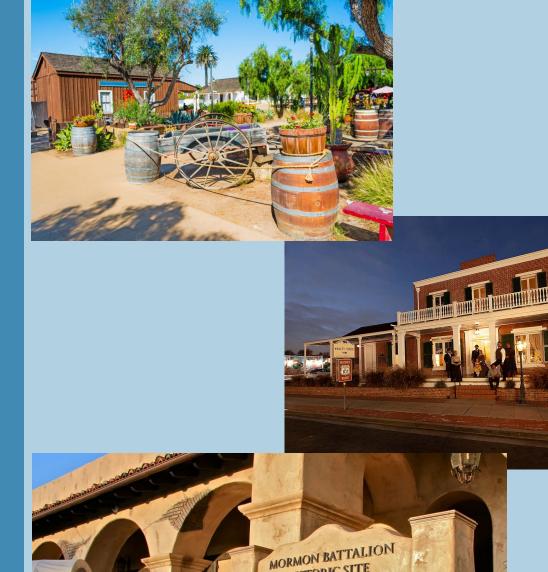
Old Town was the first official European settlement in California, with first mission established by Father Junipero Serra next to the village and near the Presidio in 1769. The Spanish first arrived in San Diego Bay in 1542. Throughout the 18th and first half of the 19th century, Old Town was the center of the city/town, but began to decline as the city grew. Throughout the 20th century Old Town became a major tourist attraction with the old 19th century buildings intact and renovated.





OLD TOWN

Old Town Historic Park Whaley House Mormon Battalion Historic Site Heritage Victorian Park Seeley Stable Museum Cygnet Theater Presidio



HISTORIC SITE

FRIDAY OPENING NIGHT DINNER CASA GUADALAJARA, GARDEN ROOM

4105 Taylor St, (619) 295-5111 Bazaar Del Mundo, Old Town Nov 8, 6:00 – 9:00 pm Especialidades Buffet



SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER ROMA MIA RISTORANTE ITALIANO

Gaslamp District, Downtown 825 Fourth St. (619) 844-0220 Nov 9, 5:30 – 8:00pm



SATURDAY AFTERNOON NOV 9

San Diego Maritime Museum: \$18

The Star of India: world's oldest active ship, built in 1863

The San Salvador: replica of the galleon under the command of Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, which arrived along the coast of California in 1542

The Californian: a replica of the 1847 Revenue Cutter C.W. Lawrence, patrolled the coast of California enforcing federal law during the gold rush.



SAN DIEGO MARITIME MUSEUM CON'T

The Berkeley, a steam ferry:

built in 1898

The Steam Yacht Medea: built in 1904

HMS Surprise: replica of the 18th century Royal Navy frigate Rose 555 USS Dolphin: the deepest diving submarine in the world

1914 Pilot boat: 45 min narrated historic bay cruise available, \$28

PCF-816 Swift Boat: 75 min naval

history cruise, \$42



SAN DIEGO MARITIME MUSEUM MEDEA AND USS DOLPHIN



MEDEA THE MEDEA HAS A PAST ALMOST AS COLORFUL AS HER



USS DOLPHIN THE DEEPEST DIVING SUBMARINE IN THE WORLD,

USS MIDWAY

Decommissioned aircraft carrier, built in 1945, was longest serving aircraft carrier of the 20th century

Purchase tickets online for discounts: \$22 for veterans (\$24 at door), \$32 for adults (\$34 at door) Multiple exhibits on all decks, interactive activities, etc.

—IT'S AMAZING!



SEAPORT VILLAGE

A large green area with shops, restaurants, activities and great views of the Bay, adjacent to the Gaslamp District downtown and the Convention Center, near the USS Midway





BALBOA PARK

CONSTRUCTED FOR THE PANAMA-CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION OF 1915-16, AND RENOVATED AND EXPANDED FOR THE CALIFORNIA PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION OF 1935-36.

* Over 1400 acres of park, museums, shops, walkways, a botanical garden, the rose gardens, a plaza, the Japanese Friendship Garden, the Old Globe Theater (actually includes three theaters), and the Int'l Cottages representing 31 countries

* Adjacent to the San Diego Zoo



El Prado

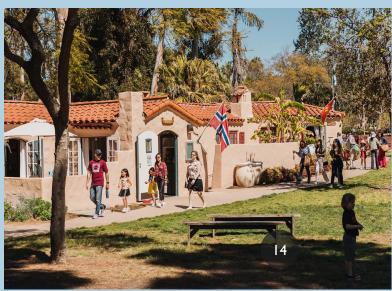
Japanese Friendship Garden

BALBOA PARK MUSEUMS

- Fleet Science Center
- Natural History Museum
- Museum of Art
- Timkin Museum of Art
- Museum of Us
- Museum of Air and Space
- Mingei Int'l Museum
- Automotive Museum
- Veteran's Museum and Memorial Center
- Centro Cultural de la Raza
- Model Railroad Museum



- San Diego History Museum
- Museum of Comic-Con
- Institute of Contemporary Arts
- Museum of Photographic Arts
- Marston House (built 1905)
- World Beat Center.



FLEET WEEK NOV 7 - 11

- * Free Exhibits
- * Innovation Zone at the Port Pavilion Bldg. at Broadway Pier, showcasing the latest High-Tech equipment.
- * Veteran's Parade of militarythemed private boats: Sun, Nov 10, beautiful views from all along the waterfront.



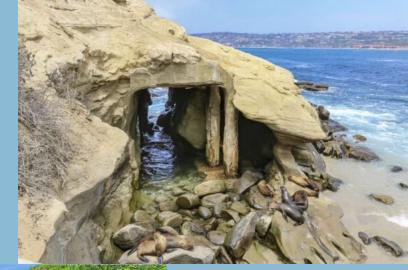




OTHER SAN DIEGO SITES

- * Mission Bay Park & Belmont Park (the boardwalk and beaches)
- * La Jolla Village and the Cove: accessible by trolley to UCSD or UTC, then Uber/Lyft
- * San Diego Wild Animal Park, Escondido: need car, about a 30 min drive from Old Town
- * Julian: an old town about an hour drive east of San Diego. Famous for its old-fashioned charm, Julian pies, and lots of areas for walking in nature
- * Tijuana: 20 miles south of San Diego, I hour by trolley to border







Julian





TRANSPORTATION

Airport to Old Town:

Fee-based: Hacienda Hotel offers transportation for \$8 one way for guests.

Free: MTS (Metro Transportation System) offers a free shuttle to/from the airport to Old Town Station every 30 min.

*Avoid Uber or Lyft from the airport. They tend to be unusually high.

Getting around town: The trolley (\$1.25 per one-way ticket senior rate) from Old Town will take you to the most common areas for visitors: Little Italy, Downtown/Gaslamp, Waterfront, Convention Center & Rady's Shell, close to Balboa Park and the San Diego Zoo, Fashion Valley, San Diego State University, UCSD in La Jolla. Otherwise, use taxis or Uber/Lyft.

<u>Ferry to/from Coronado</u>: Departs from Broadway Pier and Convention Center ferry landings every hour on the hour, 15 min ride, \$8 one-way, arrives at Coronado Ferry Landing

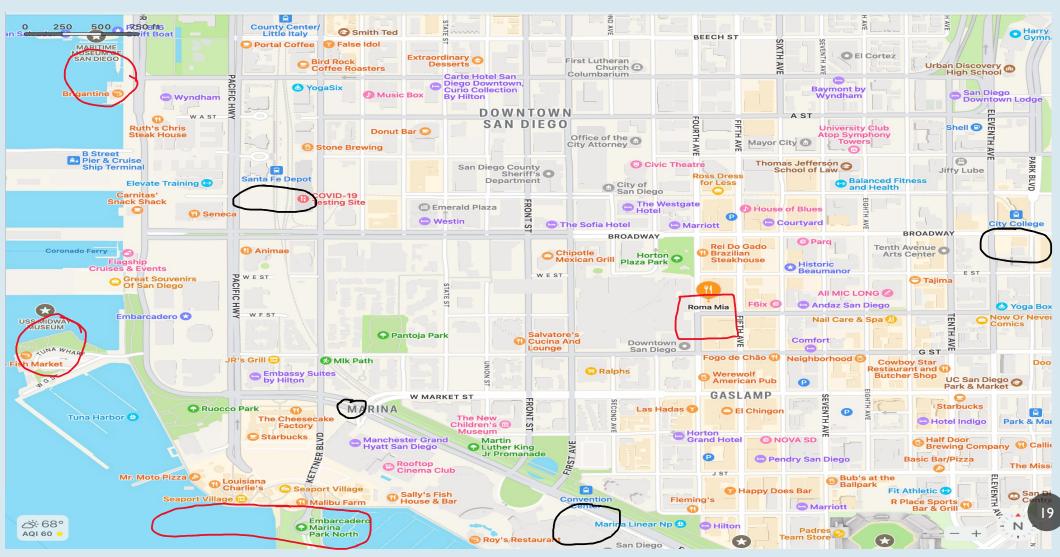
MAP OF OLD TOWN

Red Squares = Hacienda Hotel and Casa Guadalajara. Black Circle = Old Town Trolley



MAP OF DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

Red circles = waterfront sites. Black circles = trolly stops. Red square = Roma Mia restaurant



WHAT TO WEAR

- San Diego has a mild climate all year. In autumn, the weather is usually very pleasant during the day, hovering around 70. It cools off in the evening when the sun sets. Lows are usually in the low-to-mid 50s.
- You will need a sweater and light jacket, possibly a scarf, for evenings.
- It rarely rains, but the weather has been changing over the past few years, so bring a small umbrella.
- We plan to spend Saturday afternoon and evening downtown and at the waterfront, with quite a bit of walking, so good walking shoes are advisable.

RESTAURANT AND BAR RECOMMENDATIONS OLD TOWN

Old Town has a lot of restaurants, so you'll easily find good food and drinks. Below are a few suggestions for the restaurants with the best reputations (most on San Diego Ave.):

- Living Room Cafe and Bistro: breakfast, sandwiches, salads, shakes
- Old Town Mexican Cafe: famous for its handmade tortillas, good Mexican food
- Miguel's Cantina: good Mexican food, a cheese dip to die for, served with chips gratis
- Cafe Coyote: famous tourist spot, decent food, fun ambience, pricey for the quality
- Casa de Reyes/Fiesta de Reyes: on Juan St., good food, great ambience
- Jack and Giulios: excellent Italian, pricey
- Don Pietros: excellent Italian/continental, pricey
- Bhojan Griha: excellent Northern Indian, large menu
- Casa Guadalajara: on Juan St, excellent food, we will hold Friday opening dinner here
- Takadoro Sushi: excellent Japanese food, on San Diego Ave, a little outside Old Town ~ 10 min walk
- Rose's Tasting Room: Old Town Center, inside Fiesta de Reyes, good tastings of local wines (San Diego County) and beers from local breweries
- Nibbles Chocolate: next to Rose's Tasting Room, locally made chocolate to die for.

RESTAURANT AND BAR RECOMMENDATIONS: LITTLE ITALY

From Old Town, take trolley, 3 stops

Like Old Town, there are a lot of restaurants, all are good, most owned by the same two families, but some special suggestions (most on India Ave)

- Buon Appetito: (my favorite), superb Italian cuisine
- Mimmo's: superb Italian cuisine
- Nonna's restaurant and Zucchero's Italian desserts, side-by-side, same owners
- **Filippi's Pizza Grotto**, longtime restaurant, good food, reasonable prices compared to the other restaurants in Little Italy.
- Little Italy Food Hall: different vendors, relatively inexpensive, outdoor seating on the plaza
- Princess Bar and Grill, one of the best British pubs in San Diego
- Café Itália, small cafe and bakery, excellent
- The Waterfront Bar, on Kettner Blvd., an old bar, popular with locals for decades

RESTAURANT AND BAR RECOMMENDATIONS: HARBOR ISLAND & GASLAMP

Harbor Island, on the waterfront near the airport; you would need to take an Uber/Lyft

All excellent. Great ambience right on the water, all pricey, you pay for the view

- Coasterra: Mexican fusion, beautiful, large covered outdoor patio dining
- C-Level (daytime—excellent lunches) & Island Prime (at night—steakhouse and seafood)
- Tom Ham's Lighthouse: longtime favorite, famous, beautiful views

Gaslamp District/Downtown

A lot of restaurants, too many to comment on.

My favorite is is Roma Mia, where we are having our Sat evening dinner.

MUSIC & THEATER NOVEMBER 8 - 10

Symphony

Nov 9 @7:30 pm and Nov 10 @ 2:00 pm at The Rady's Shell at Jacob's Park (at Embarcadero)

Jonathan Biss, piano

MOZART: Overture to Die Zauberflöte (The Magic Flute), K. 620 BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. I in C Major, Op. 15 MOZART: Overture to La clemenza di Tito, K. 621 HAYDN: Symphony No. 103 in E-flat Major, Paukenwirbel (Drum Roll)

Theater:

Hades Town at the San Diego Civic Center Nov 8 @ 8:00, Nov 9 @2:00 & 8:00, Nov 10@ 1:00 & 6:30

*The Old Globe's fall calendar has not come out yet. The Old Globe has three theaters in Balboa Park, two indoor, one outdoor

BALLET BALBOA THEATER NOVEMBER 9 & 10

Dracula, Emeralds, and Ecliptic

Dracula: World Premier

Choreography: Geoffrey Gonzalez (2024)

Music: Various pieces by Franz Liszt

Emeralds

Choreography: George Balanchine (1967)
Music: Pelléas et Mélisande (1898) and Shylock (1889) by Gabriel Fauré

Ecliptic: City Ballet of San Diego Premiere

Choreography: Annabelle Lopez Ochoa (2019)

Music: Ludovico Einaudi