

Experience San Diego: Plan Your Summer Vacation

Written by Arizona Foothills Magazine

Experience San Diego - a sunny summer destination for many Phoenicians to escape the desert heat. Known for its great weather year round, beaches and popular attractions, San Diego makes a great place to escape. Check out this list of things to do and places to stay and eat and start planning your summer vacation!



LEGOLAND® California

If your family is seeking more fun than ever before, LEGOLAND California Resort in Carlsbad is the place to visit. Located just 30 minutes north of San Diego, the Resort features LEGOLAND California, and SEA LIFE Aquarium.



LEGOLAND® California is celebrating 10 years of fun and there's never been a better time to visit. Now you can experience the all-new show, Bob The Builder™ in 4D. Families will watch and laugh as Bob and his "Can-Do Crew" work to build something really special, all in 4D.

Over at Land of Adventure, our newest area and bigger than ever, discover Dune Raiders. Racing downhill, the slide will challenge every adventurer's speed and skill.

Every Saturday night this Summer we'll light the candles on our 10-foot tall LEGO birthday cake, then light up the sky above Pirate Shores with a magical fireworks show you won't want to miss.

Come see what all the excitement is about. With more than 50 rides, shows and attractions and 10 years of building fun, LEGOLAND is the place to be in 2009!

At SEA LIFE Aquarium next door to LEGOLAND, explore the 200,000-gallon ocean tank as you walk through a 35-foot long acrylic tunnel. And discover the mysterious Lost City of Atlantis, an underwater kingdom filled with sharks, stingrays and a dazzling rainbow of tropical fish.

Now through Labor Day get your discount tickets at all Fry's Food Stores in Arizona. See www.frysfood.com or Customer Service Desk for details.

For more information or park hours visit www.legoland.com.

San Diego Zoo's Wild Animal Park

A visit to the San Diego Zoo's Wild Animal Park is a safari into adventure.



Featuring expansive animal enclosures, this unique experience brings you thrillingly closer to African and Asian animals. One of the best ways to take it in is by boarding the Journey into Africa tour, an open-air vehicle that brings visitors to eye level with animals such as rhinoceroses, giraffes, buffalo, gazelles and crowned cranes. Another option is to tool around on a Segway® X2 Rolling Safari tour or soar over the Asian and African field enclosures on Flightline, a zip line adventure.

Whether you come face-to-face with lions, feed giraffes from a Photo Caravan Safari truck or watch a cheetah sprint at full speed, an exciting, up-close adventure awaits at the San Diego Zoo's Wild Animal Park.

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[Click here to print out your money saving coupon today!](#)

For more information or park hours visit www.sandiegozoo.org.

San Diego Zoo

The San Diego Zoo is a sanctuary for thousands of animals, a landscape of rare plants and a fun experience for the whole family.



The Zoo's new Harry and Grace Steele Elephant Odyssey, is a first of its kind experience, providing an entertaining and educational journey. The 7.5-acre habitat features living relatives, such as the elephant, jaguar and California condor, of animal species that roamed Southern California 12,000 years ago.

The San Diego Zoo is the only place in North America to see a scaly anteater and is home to the largest colony of koalas outside of Australia. The Children's Zoo ensures that the smallest guests see animals in action with exhibits designed for children and the young at heart. The Zoo offers a guided bus tour and the Skyfari aerial tram gives guests a bird's-eye view of the Zoo.

[Click here to print out your money saving coupon today!](#)

For more information or park hours visit www.sandiegozoo.org.

The Residence Club on Mission Beach

Southern California's first oceanfront residence club has just opened in San Diego. The Residence Club on Mission Beach offers a spectacular location and resort-style services at a fraction of the cost of comparable whole ownership properties.



The Club's ten meticulously furnished residences are only steps from the sand and offer sweeping views of the coastline. The world's first residence club was introduced two decades ago at top-rated Deer Valley Resort and subsequent clubs have been highly successful at a wide variety of internationally renowned destinations. The creators of the residence club concept are part of the Mission Beach development team.

Two residence types are offered – the Beach Tier residences are on the lower level and Top Tier residences above. Every residence reveals spectacular water vistas through floor to ceiling windows. All floor plans feature two bedrooms, three bathrooms, furnished patios, living rooms, and gourmet kitchens. The Club optimizes its location by offering daily beach cabana and lounge chair setup service to owners and their guests. The Club staff also provides concierge and grocery shopping service, security, and daily housekeeping, allowing families to enjoy every vacation from the moment they arrive. Secure underground parking, rare along the beach, is available on-site.

With only eight owners per residence, each owner has abundant and flexible use of this ideally located property. Additionally, owners have exchange privileges with other luxurious residence clubs through the Elite Alliance. Deeded ownership is currently available at \$265,000 for Beach Tier and \$325,000 for Top Tier.

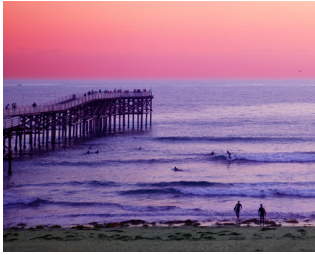
For more information call 877.720.2169 or visit www.residenceclubmissionbeach.com

TOWER23 Hotel

Life is better at the beach at TOWER23 Hotel, where South Beach sizzle meets California chic in Pacific Beach. TOWER23 is San Diego's only luxury lifestyle hotel on the ocean and one of California's most stylish and contemporary urban resorts for your personalized surf's up vacation!

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Your special "Surf PB" getaway will feature a fabulous three night stay in a full ocean view surf pad with TOWER23's signature "serenity" bed, step-in rain shower, flat screen HGTV, and "wi-fi everywhere" - even on the beach! Upon arrival you are accorded complimentary valet parking, plus a thirst quenching beer amenity welcome. You may then choose your hour and a half surf lesson for two for your day of choice.

Each morning a complimentary "good morning sunshine" breakfast awaits you, then surf's up! Whether you're a beginner, who wants to try surfing for the first time, or an experienced wave shredder, who wants to advance to the next level, your San Diego surf school instructor will work individually with you on surfing techniques. Surf lessons are held in the gentle waves of North Pacific Beach and include wetsuits and foam surf boards.

Hungry after a fun filled day of riding the waves? You won't want to miss San Diego's newest hotspot for indoor/outdoor ocean view dining at TOWER23's own JRDN Surf~Sky~Spirit restaurant and Tower Bar. JRDN features award winning all natural California modern cuisine with mouthwatering steak and seafood to tempt every palate and an international wine cellar of fine boutique wines.

Reserve your "Surf PB" getaway now! Just \$1284 through Sept. 3.

For more information call 1.866.tower23 or visit www.t23hotel.com.

Moondoggies Restaurant

One of Pacific Beach's favorite watering holes, Moondoggies keeps the locals happy with dozens of sports-tuned HDTVs and a huge sunny patio for relaxing, catching some rays and peoplewatching—a popular PB pastime.



Moondoggies is now known as the ultimate sports restaurant in San Diego, and has been voted Best Sports Bar four years running. Moondoggies sports bar and grill has a large sunny patio that's the perfect place to enjoy the San Diego breeze.

The menu features gourmet pizzas, sandwiches and other light fare, alongside icy cold drinks. Cool tones, an inviting lounge space and roll-up doors create a chill atmosphere on the most sun-soaked of SoCal afternoons.

For more information visit www.moondoggies.com.

Gringo's Cantina

Gringo's Cantina, located on Mission Blvd. is another great restaurant to check out in San Diego. This classic Mexican eatery is like three restaurants in one: a rustic cantina, a lively dining room and an open-air patio, each with its own distinct vibe.



Gringo's is famous for its queso blanco dip and frosty margaritas, both of which taste even better while cozying up to the outdoor fire pit. Locals also dig the Sunday brunch—nothing says weekend like bottomless mimosas! Lunch and dinner is served daily, brunch is served only on Sundays.

For more information visit www.gringoscantina.com.

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Sè San Diego Hotel

Sè San Diego, part of the Preferred Hotel Group, is a 184-room premier luxury hotel located in downtown San Diego's financial district.



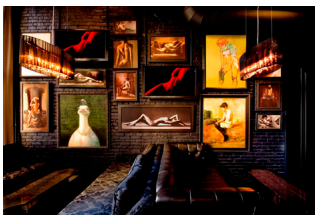
Sè offers ultra-chic, world-class amenities, cutting-edge design and a luxurious destination for the most discerning traveler. Designed to be artful in every way, Sè is a unique extra-sensory experience in art and function. Luxury hotel amenities include rooms with 180-degree views of the city, ocean and bay, Luxe suites with full Italian kitchens and balconies, a sleep concierge, and in-room captain service. The hotel also offers a 5,500 square-foot spa, 7,000 square foot pool deck, 20,000 square feet of event and meeting space, the largest penthouse on the West Coast, a screening room and a state-of-the-art recording studio.

The "Silk Road" inspired Sè Spa is an urban oasis with nine personal treatments rooms featuring private steam showers. Sè Spa features design and treatment offerings based on the cultural and aesthetic influences of Southeast Asia, India, Northern Africa and Japan. Located on the 4th floor, Siren Pool Bar & UberLounge features a zero-edge custom pool with underwater surround sound, a large central teak bar, eight private cabanas, a poolside menu and weekend entertainment. Suite & Tender Bar, Lounge and Restaurant at Sè San Diego features the cuisine of James Beard Award-winning Chef Christopher Lee and interior designed by Dodd Mitchell. Suite & Tender is a softer, more sophisticated take on the typical steakhouse with emphasis on the best seasonal ingredients and the freshest seafood.

For more information visit www.sesandiego.com.

Side Bar

Side Bar has recently completed an extensive multi-million dollar expansion and renovation. As San Diego nightlife has evolved, so have the needs of the customers. Side Bar's warm, sexy, and intimate yet spacious atmosphere will stimulate even the most desensitized of senses. A courteous and professional staff provides excellent service and support to casual bar goers and super trend-setter bottle service guests.



A custom designed ambient lightening package provides just the right mood on any given event and the unique collection of paintings and décor provide subtle distractions from the main focal point of the venue; a custom built LED lit bird cage which houses the DJ. Along side the DJ you'll see a circular stage created to showcase extraordinary entertainment.

Side Bar is also open for dinner Tuesday through Sunday, featuring a tasty variety of American Cuisine and happy hour specials every night.

Come see who's in... again! You won't want to leave.

For more information visit www.sidebarsd.com.