

California Dreaming

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Back in 1938, the AAO was a new organization assembled from regional societies and the former American Society of Orthodontists. For the site of its first annual meeting, held in July of that year, the association chose Los Angeles. As reported in the official publication, then known as the *American Journal of Orthodontics and Oral Surgery*, "In this glamorous city, where graying hair and the springless step are rare enough to attract attention, the members entered into a fraternal spirit that formed many friendships and cemented old ones of years' standing." Eighty-one years later, the environment for this year's annual meeting, to be held May 3-7 at the Los Angeles Convention Center, might not be so different, except for the graying hair.



Chris Burden's *Urban Light* at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Photo © Coralimages2020, Dreamstime.com.

Although LA's climate is generally pleasant, the drier part of the year begins in May. The average high at convention time is 73°F, but nighttime temperatures will drop into the upper 50s. Be sure to pack a jacket, especially for evenings near the ocean.

Cab fare from Los Angeles International Airport to downtown is a flat \$46.50. The LAX Fly-Away bus runs to Union Station downtown for only

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\$9.75 (www.lawa.org/flyaway). Even less expensive, a free shuttle bus connects to the Metro Green Line airport light-rail station, from which you can reach downtown with two train changes; the base fare is \$1.75, and reusable TAP cards can be purchased at vending machines in the stations (www.metro.net). Shared-ride shuttles, Uber, and Lyft are also available.

You might save enough money on airfare to consider flying into a different airport—especially if you plan to rent a car. Taxis and ride-hailing services can be taken to downtown from the other regional airports, but will be more expensive. Hollywood Burbank (formerly Bob Hope) Airport does offer connections to the Amtrak and Metrolink rail lines. The convenient John Wayne (Orange County) Airport is served by seven major air carriers. Ontario International Airport is farther inland, and Long Beach Airport is small, with only domestic service.

Attractions

The Convention Center, Staples Center, and Microsoft Theater now anchor an entertainment district known as **L.A. Live**. You could go through the entire session without leaving this complex—full of shops, restaurants, nightclubs, and the **Grammy Museum** (featuring a Cheech & Chong exhibit)—but you wouldn't want to miss SoCal's other attractions.

Downtown Los Angeles (DTLA), once a place to avoid, is now alive with arts and dining. For an introduction, use **Downtown LA Walking Tours**, **A Day in LA Tours**, **LA Art Tours**, or the intriguing **Esotouric Bus Adventures**. For a bird's-eye view, take the elevator to the observation deck of the city's tallest building, the US Bank Tower, and experience **OUE Skyspace** and its Sky-

Boldface names in this article are listed in the Directory on pp. 104-106 with their telephone numbers and street addresses. The online version of this article (freely accessible) includes live website links; see the JCO Online Archive at www.jco-online.com.



OUE Skyspace in the US Bank Tower, Downtown Los Angeles. Photo © Bennymarty, Dreamstime.com.

slide from the 70th to the 69th floor.

Downtown highlights include a spectacular new contemporary art museum, **The Broad**, with Yayoi Kusama's LED Infinity Mirror Rooms (book in advance to avoid standby lines; closed Monday). Across the street is the **Museum of Contemporary Art**, celebrating its 40th anniversary with installations by Barbara Kruger and Elliott Hundley. While you're in the neighborhood, take a look at another modern architectural marvel, the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, which opened in 2002 after the Northridge earthquake destroyed the previous structure in 1994. Nearby in California Plaza is **Angels Flight Railway**, a 298-foot funicular known as the "world's smallest railway." The **Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising** museum (free), with more than 15,000 costumes and textiles, is also in the downtown area.

One of the largest museums in the West, the **Los Angeles County Museum of Art**, offers exhibits of art from Sri Lanka and works by Robert Rauschenberg and Charles White during the convention. Next door, you can visit the **La Brea Tar Pits'** Ice Age fossils (free). Also in the mid-Wilshire area: the **Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust** (free) and the **Petersen Automotive Museum**, with more than 3,000 vehicles. UCLA's **Hammer Museum** of contemporary art is a few miles to the west, near the university's Westwood campus.

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Inside The Last Bookstore, Downtown Los Angeles.
Photo © Louis Ko, Dreamstime.com.

Gallery lovers will want to tour the **Downtown Arts District**, a revitalized industrial area just south of **Little Tokyo**. The pedestrian **Olvera Street**, across from Union Station, features restored historic buildings, a Mexican Marketplace, the **LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes** museum, and the **Chinese American Museum**. Cinco de Mayo weekend will bring plenty of festivities. In the same vicinity, bibliophiles shouldn't miss **The Last Bookstore**, a converted two-story bank building.

Just south of the University of Southern California campus (southwest of the Convention Center) is the 160-acre Exposition Park, featuring not only the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum but also the **California African American Museum**; the **California Science Center**, with the Space Shuttle Endeavour (timed tickets required on weekends);

the **Exposition Park Rose Garden**; the **Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County**, with a new Dinosaur Hall; and the **USC Fisher Museum of Art**.

The short drive west is well worth it for one of the world's great museums, the **Getty Center**, overlooking the city from the Westwood neighborhood. Admission is free (closed Monday), but parking, which is a necessity unless you're being dropped off, is \$15. While the permanent collection is stunning, the grounds are even more so. Special exhibits during the convention include 18th-century pastel portraits and "The Wondrous Cosmos in Medieval Manuscripts." A few miles away in Pacific Palisades, the **Getty Villa** is a recreation of a first-century Roman country house that contains the museum's antiquities collection. Free timed tickets are required (closed Tuesday); parking is \$15.

Northeast of downtown, colorful Pasadena boasts two top museums: the **Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens** (featuring "Project Blue Boy," about the restoration of the library's famous Gainsborough painting) and the **Norton Simon Museum** (with tapestries from the 16th and 17th centuries and an intriguing exhibit called "Matisse/Odalisque").

The main attraction for that 1938 AAO convention is still one of LA's biggest draws: Hollywood. Among the monuments in the world capital of filmmaking are **Paramount Pictures**, **Sony Pictures**, and **Warner Bros. Studio** (all of which offer guided tours), as well as **Universal Studios Hollywood** (really a theme park). Don't forget to stroll the **Hollywood Walk of Fame** and check out the **TCL (Grauman's) Chinese Theatre**. Other popular attractions include the **Hollywood Museum** and **Madame Tussauds** wax museum. If you want to see celebrity homes, try **Access Hollywood Tours** or **Legends of Hollywood Tours**.

The famous Hollywood sign is actually in Griffith Park, a 4,500-acre historic landmark in the Santa Monica Mountains above the city. It would take at least a day to visit all the park's attractions, but the stars are the **Griffith Observatory** (closed Monday) and the **Los Angeles Zoo**. Other features include the **Autry Museum of the American West** and the **Travel Town Museum** of western rail-

roading. Or you can simply hike along the park's 70 miles of chaparral-bedecked trails.

It hardly needs mentioning if you have kids, but the original **Disneyland** in Anaheim is still the "Happiest Place on Earth." A relatively new addition, the Disney California Adventure, is a showcase for Disney-Pixar's animated stars. Be sure to plan your visit in advance online, using the Fast-Pass option and mobile app. The best time to arrive is early, before the park opens.

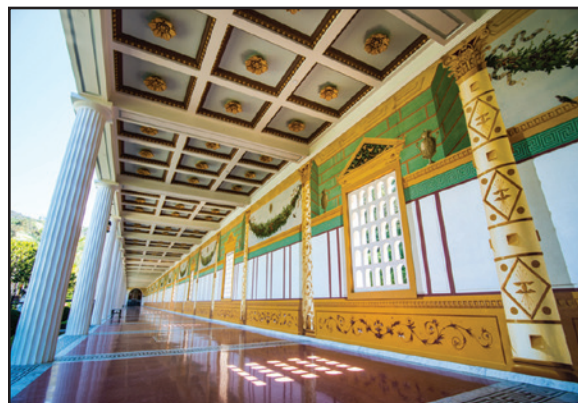
Events

The crown jewel of DTLA's **Music Center** is the Walt Disney Concert Hall, which opened in 2003. Frank Gehry's architecture is spectacular both outside and in, including the iconic Manuel Rosales "French fries" pipe organ. The resident Los Angeles Philharmonic, one of the world's finest orchestras, is celebrating its centennial this year. Pianist Emanuel Ax will be featured May 2-5 in his specialty, a Mozart concerto (No. 22). Also on the bill, conducted by former music director Esa-Pekka Salonen: Beethoven's Symphony No. 1 and the world premiere of *The only one* by Dutch composer Louis Andriessen. In a different Disney Hall program, the Los Angeles Master Chorale presents "Great Opera and Film Classics" May 4-5.

Another classical-music star, tenor Plácido Domingo, appears across the street at the venerable Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Manuel Penella's Spanish lyric opera, *El Gato Montés (The Wildcat)*, May 4-5, 8, 11, 16, and 19. The LA Opera offers its regular children's program "Saturday Mornings @ the Opera," focusing this month on German opera tales, at 10 a.m. on May 4. Also in the Music Center, the Broadway musical *Falsettos* plays at the Ahmanson Theater May 3-5 and 7.

Elsewhere, the **Latino Theater Company** presents Elaine Romero's *Revoluciones* at the Los Angeles Theatre Center through May 12. *Les Misérables* opens May 7 at **Pantages Theater Hollywood**. Bill and Hillary Clinton's arena tour comes to **The Forum** in Inglewood on May 4.

On the pop-music front, the inaugural Beach-Life Festival is scheduled May 3-5 at the Seaside Lagoon in Redondo Beach; headliners include



Colonnade and walkway around the garden at the Getty Villa, Pacific Palisades. Photo © Guobeihua, Dreamstime.com.

Willie Nelson, Brian Wilson, and Ziggy Marley. Ariana Grande appears at the **Staples Center** May 6-7. Kevin Morby will be in concert at the **Theatre at Ace Hotel** May 8. If you can hang around until May 11, the ageless Rolling Stones will be rocking the **Rose Bowl** in Pasadena.

Everyone should take in a game at Dodger Stadium at least once in a lifetime. Here's an opportunity: the **Los Angeles Dodgers** play the Atlanta Braves May 5-7. Soccer fans might want to see the new Banc of California Stadium near the Coliseum, where **Los Angeles FC** hosts the Chicago Fire on May 4. In addition, the **Los Angeles Clippers** or **Los Angeles Lakers** (or both) may be involved in NBA playoff action at the Staples Center during the convention.

Restaurants and Nightlife

LA's dining scene has gone from stodgy to cutting-edge over the past quarter-century. One of the trendiest restaurants, Ray Garcia's **Broken Spanish**, is right next to L.A. Live. Another good bet in the neighborhood is the Italian **Cosa Nostra Ristorante**.

NoMad Los Angeles, the West Coast outpost of the celebrated New York City hotel, caused quite a stir when it opened in the historic Giannini Building about a year ago. Chef Daniel Humm and restaurateur Will Guidara have taken their

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restaurant concept far off-Broadway to rave reviews. For a different building-driven experience, try **71Above** atop the US Bank Tower—billed as the highest restaurant above street level west of the Mississippi.

Arts District hot spots include **Bäco Mercat**, the best of Josef Centeno's quartet of Mediterranean eateries; **Bavel**, for modern Middle Eastern dishes; **Bestia**, specializing in fresh Neapolitan fare; and Jessica Largey's farm-to-table **Simone**.

Other DTLA dining recommendations from our sources are **Faith & Flower** (new American), **Miro** (California-Italian), **Patina** (in Disney Hall), **Perch** (a 15th-floor bistro), **Redbird** (new American), **Sushi Zo** (chef-driven Japanese), **Takami Sushi & Robata** (trendy Japanese on a 21st-floor rooftop, adjacent to the Elevate Lounge), and **Water Grill** (seafood). Two locations offer a taste of LA history along with their cuisine: the downtown branch of **El Cholo** serves the same classic Mexican food as its Western Avenue flagship has supplied since 1927, and **Engine Co. No. 28** dishes up American fare in a restored 1912 firehouse.

Farther afield, the lively California-Italian **Skylight Gardens** is in Westwood near UCLA. Hollywood is a dining hub, comprising destinations such as **Barbette** (bistro), **Gwen** (American), **Kismet** (Middle Eastern), **Lucques** (Californian), **Rosaliné** (Peruvian), and **Tesse** (French, with a corresponding wine program and retail store). If you're going to shop Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills, you'll also find tony restaurants like Wolfgang Puck's



The Forum Club recreated as a Rose Parade float, Pasadena. Photo © Chon Kit Leong, Dreamstime.com.

original **Spago** and Curtis Stone's **Maude**, which features a different wine region every quarter.

For a delightfully scenic afternoon and evening, take the Metro Expo Line to Santa Monica, where you can stroll and shop along the waterfront pier. Top restaurants range from the hotel-based **The Georgian** (California-Mexican) to the 18-seat **Dialogue** (market-driven tasting menus), the venerable **Michael's** (Californian), and the up-and-coming **Tar & Roses** (new American).

Nightspots with live music include **Club Bahia**, the **Conga Room**, the **Elevate Lounge**, **La Cita**, **The Mayan**, and **Redwood Bar and Grill**. If you want a more traditional cocktail atmosphere, try **Broadway Bar**, **The Reserve**, **Seven Grand**, or **The Varnish**. □

DIRECTORY

Events and Attractions	Address*	Phone
Access Hollywood Tours	6541 Hollywood Blvd.	(323) 472-7938
Angels Flight Railway	350 S. Grand Ave.	(213) 626-1901
Autry Museum of the American West	4700 Western Heritage Way	(323) 667-2000
The Broad	221 S. Grand Ave.	(213) 232-6200
California African American Museum	600 State Drive	(213) 744-7432
California Science Center	700 Exposition Park Drive	(323) 724-3623
Chinese American Museum	425 N. Los Angeles St.	(213) 485-8567
A Day in LA Tours	410 Broadway, Santa Monica	(818) 538-6287
Disneyland	1313 S. Disneyland Drive, Anaheim	(714) 781-4636

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Events and Attractions	Address*	Phone
Downtown Arts District	S. Alameda St. and E. Fourth Place	
Downtown LA Walking Tours	600 W. Ninth St.	(213) 399-3820
Esotouric Bus Adventures	Montecito Heights	(213) 373-1947
Exposition Park Rose Garden	701 State Drive	(213) 763-0114
Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising	919 S. Grand Ave., Suite 250	(213) 623-5821
The Forum	3900 W. Manchester Blvd., Inglewood	(310) 330-7300
Getty Center	1200 Getty Center Drive	(310) 440-7300
Getty Villa	17985 Pacific Coast Highway, Pacific Palisades	(310) 440-7300
Grammy Museum	800 W. Olympic Blvd.	(213) 765-6800
Griffith Observatory	2800 E. Observatory Road	(213) 473-0800
Hammer Museum	10899 Wilshire Blvd.	(310) 443-7000
Hollywood Museum	1600 N. Highland Ave., Hollywood	(323) 464-7776
Hollywood Walk of Fame	6925 Hollywood Blvd.	(323) 461-3331
Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens	1151 Oxford Road, San Marino	(626) 405-2100
LA Art Tours	670 Moulton Ave.	(310) 503-2365
La Brea Tar Pits	5801 Wilshire Blvd.	(213) 763-3499
L.A. Live	800 W. Olympic Blvd.	(866) 548-3452
LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes	501 N. Main St.	(213) 542-6200
The Last Bookstore	453 S. Spring St.	(213) 488-0599
Latino Theater Company	514 S. Spring St.	(213) 489-0994
Legends of Hollywood Tours	6333 W. Third St.	(323) 928-2024
Little Tokyo	307 E. First St.	(213) 613-1911
Los Angeles Clippers	1111 S. Figueroa St.	(213) 742-7340
Los Angeles County Museum of Art	5905 Wilshire Blvd.	(323) 857-6000
Los Angeles Dodgers	1000 Vin Scully Ave.	(866) 363-4377
Los Angeles FC	3939 S. Figueroa St.	(323) 648-6060
Los Angeles Lakers	1111 S. Figueroa St.	(310) 426-6000
Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust	100 The Grove Drive	(323) 651-3704
Los Angeles Zoo	5333 Zoo Drive	(323) 644-4200
Madame Tussauds	6933 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood	(323) 798-1670
Museum of Contemporary Art	250 S. Grand Ave.	(213) 626-6222
Music Center	135 N. Grand Ave.	(213) 972-7211
Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County	900 Exposition Blvd.	(213) 763-3466
Norton Simon Museum	411 W. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena	(626) 449-6840
Olvera Street	845 N. Alameda St.	(213) 628-1274
Pantages Theater Hollywood	6233 Hollywood Blvd.	(800) 982-2787
Paramount Pictures	5555 Melrose Ave.	(323) 956-1777
Petersen Automotive Museum	6060 Wilshire Blvd.	(323) 964-6331
Rose Bowl	1001 Rosebowl Drive, Pasadena	(626) 577-3100
QUE Skyspace	633 W. Fifth St.	(213) 894-9000
Sony Pictures	10202 W. Washington Blvd., Culver City	(310) 244-8687
Staples Center	1111 S. Figueroa St.	(213) 742-7100
TCL Chinese Theatre	6925 Hollywood Blvd.	(323) 461-3331
*Los Angeles, unless otherwise specified.		
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Events and Attractions	Address*	Phone
Theatre at Ace Hotel	929 S. Broadway	(213) 235-9614
Travel Town Museum	5200 Zoo Drive	(323) 662-5874
Universal Studios Hollywood	100 Universal City Place	(818) 622-3801
USC Fisher Museum of Art	823 Exposition Blvd.	(213) 740-4561
Warner Bros. Studio	3400 W. Riverside Drive, Burbank	(877) 492-8687
Restaurants and Bars	Address*	Phone
Bäco Mercat	408 S. Main St.	(213) 687-8808
Barbette	7511 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood	(323) 850-8888
Bavel	500 Mateo St.	(213) 232-4966
Bestia	2121 E. Seventh Place	(213) 514-5724
Broadway Bar	830 S. Broadway	(213) 614-9909
Broken Spanish	1050 S. Flower St.	(213) 749-1460
Casa Nostra Ristorante	825 W. Ninth St.	(213) 362-3311
Club Bahia	1130 W. Sunset Blvd.	(213) 250-4313
Conga Room	800 W. Olympic Blvd.	(213) 745-0162
Dialogue	1315 Third St. Promenade, Santa Monica	
El Cholo	1037 S. Flower St.	(213) 746-7750
Engine Co. No. 28	644 S. Figueroa St.	(213) 624-6996
Faith & Flower	705 W. Ninth St.	(213) 239-0642
The Georgian	1415 Ocean Ave., Santa Monica	(800) 538-8147
Gwen	6600 Sunset Blvd.	(323) 946-7513
Kismet	4648 Hollywood Blvd.	(323) 409-0404
La Cita	336 Hill St.	(213) 687-7111
Lucques	8474 Melrose Ave., West Hollywood	(323) 655-6277
Maude	212 S. Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills	(310) 859-3418
Michael's	1147 Third St., Santa Monica	(310) 451-0843
Miro	888 Wilshire Blvd.	(213) 988-8880
NoMad Los Angeles	649 S. Olive St.	(213) 358-0000
Patina	141 S. Grand Ave.	(312) 972-3331
Perch	448 S. Hill St.	(213) 802-1770
Redbird	114 E. Second St.	(213) 788-1191
Redwood Bar and Grill	316 W. Second St.	(213) 680-2600
The Reserve	650 S. Spring St.	(323) 296-9265
Rosaliné	8479 Melrose Ave., West Hollywood	(323) 297-9500
Seven Grand	515 W. Seventh St.	(213) 614-0736
71Above	633 W. Fifth St., 71st Floor	(213) 712-2683
Simone	449 S. Hewitt St.	(424) 433-3000
Skylight Gardens	1139 Glendon Ave., Westwood	(310) 824-1818
Spago	176 N. Canon Drive, Beverly Hills	(310) 385-0880
Sushi Zo	334 S. Main St.	(424) 201-5576
Takami Sushi & Robata and Elevate Lounge	811 Wilshire Blvd., 21st Floor	(213) 236-9600
Tar & Roses	602 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica	(310) 587-0700
Tesse	8500 W. Sunset Blvd., Suite B, West Hollywood	(310) 360-3866
The Varnish	118 E. Sixth St.	(213) 265-7089
Water Grill	544 S. Grand Ave.	(213) 891-0900
*Los Angeles, unless otherwise specified.		