

## **HOLLYWOOD SIGHTSEEING**

**Take advantage of the attractions in a city that ranks tourism as its No. 2 industry.**

### **Attractions - Things to See and Do in Hollywood, California**

#### **Do, Re, Mi, Fa, So, La, Ti, Do at the Bowl**

At the epicenter of Hollywood's music scene stands the architecturally astounding Hollywood Bowl (2301 N. Highland Ave.; [hollywoodbowl.com](http://hollywoodbowl.com)). Showcasing a vast assortment of musical acts, there is something for every musical taste.

#### **Embrace Your Inner Thespian**

Hollywood is not only known for film, but also for stage performances. Smash hit musicals like "Rent" and "Wicked" have been performed at the Pantages Theatre (6233 Hollywood Blvd.; [hollywoodpantages.com](http://hollywoodpantages.com)).

Then, of course, there's the home of the Academy Awards, the Dolby Theatre (6801 Hollywood Blvd., [dolbytheatre.com](http://dolbytheatre.com)).

#### **Experience the Happening Nightclubs**

Hollywood is most definitely the nightclub capital. Party like celebrities do, grab a group of friends and visit A-list clubs like Drai's (6250 Hollywood Blvd.; [draishollywood.com](http://draishollywood.com)), Supperclub (6675 Hollywood Blvd; [supperclub.com](http://supperclub.com)), and Tru (1600 Argyle Ave; [truhollywood.com](http://truhollywood.com)). From dancing to Jeremih and Pitbull, to drinking those fancy martinis just like Carrie and the girls on "Sex and the City" do, to flirting with that cute bartender with the intriguingly dangerous tattoo, you're bound to have a fantastic and eventful evening out.

#### **Go to the Taping of a Show**

In the mood to test your knowledge? Go to a taping of "Jeopardy!" Love game shows? See "Wheel of Fortune" live. Fascinated by other people's problems? Watch Dr. Phil aid crazy mother-in-laws, adulterers, obese toddlers, pregnant teenagers, etc. There are plenty of Web sites offering tickets for free, like [tvix.com](http://tvix.com). It's way more entertaining to watch fifth graders outsmart adults live than on your small, dinky television.

#### **Have a Dance Party on the Walk of Fame**

How many people do you know that have had the pleasure of dancing with iconic characters such as Captain Jack Sparrow, Spider-Man or the Grinch? Most likely, not many have. I can tell you from firsthand experience that it is quite the event. It provides fabulous Facebook pictures, is a great topic of conversation to pull out when facing an awkward encounter and you'll have the good reputation of being the fun and outgoing one of the group. Just watch out for Elmo; he gets kind of touchy.



### **Hollywood Forever Cemetery**

The oldest Hollywood cemetery and one of the most visited final resting places, Rudolf Valentino, Douglas Fairbanks Sr., Cecil B. De Mille, Jayne Mansfield, Marion Davies, and Tyrone Power are all interred here. You may visit the unusual assortment of grave markers and beautiful stained glass windows by tour only. The cemetery (6000 Santa Monica Blvd.; [cinespia.org](http://cinespia.org)) shows screenings of classic films; call (323) 469-1181 or visit [hollywoodforever.com](http://hollywoodforever.com) for more information.

A detailed listing of cemeteries can be found at [seeing-stars.com/Buried2](http://seeing-stars.com/Buried2).

### **Laugh Until It Hurts**

In a city with so much drama, it's nice to escape every once and a while. As the saying goes, laughter is the best medicine. So make up for that bad day at work, roommate dilemmas or that heart-wrenching break-up by going to a comedy club like Upright Citizens Brigade (5919 Franklin Ave.; [ucbtheatre.com](http://ucbtheatre.com)), the Laugh Factory (8001 Sunset Blvd.; [laughfactory.com](http://laughfactory.com)), Second City (6560 Hollywood Blvd.; [secondcity.com](http://secondcity.com)) or the Groundlings (7307 Melrose Ave., [groundlings.com](http://groundlings.com)).

### **Lucky Strike Bowling**

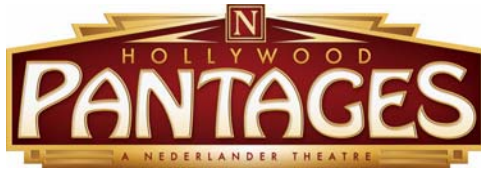
With a luxurious lounge and gourmet Super Bowl Sunday type menu, featuring mac 'n cheese and hot wings, you feel more like you're in a sophisticated bar. Gigantic TV screens play the hottest new music videos, lights are flashing and to please your artistic side, up-and-coming artists' work is featured at Lucky Strike (6801 Hollywood Blvd.; [bowluckystrike.com](http://bowluckystrike.com)). It provides the perfect ambiance for a bachelor party, girls' night out or first date. And of course, for terrible bowlers like myself, there is the option of bumpers. If I, the one who throws bowling balls into other lanes by mistake and never breaks into triple digits, enjoyed this bowling experience then you're bound to have a fabulous time.

### **People Watch on Hollywood Boulevard**

On any given day you will find a motley group of people strolling through Hollywood: tourists visiting from around the globe, the homeless pleading for spare change, striving actors and musicians, established actors and musicians, the list goes on. I often find myself sitting in Starbucks, wondering about these various walks of life.

### **See the Major Players**

Visit the iconic Hollywood sign, hang out at Universal Studios (100 Universal City Plaza; [universalstudioshollywood.com](http://universalstudioshollywood.com)), go to the Hollywood Wax Museum (6767 Hollywood Blvd., [hollywoodwaxmuseum.com](http://hollywoodwaxmuseum.com)), check out haunted locations like the Roosevelt Hotel (7000 Hollywood Blvd.; [hollywoodroosevelt.com](http://hollywoodroosevelt.com)) or stop by Grauman's Chinese Theatre (6925 Hollywood Blvd., [tclchinesetheatres.com](http://tclchinesetheatres.com)) and compare your hands and feet to classic Hollywood royalty like Frank Sinatra, Shirley Temple, Judy Garland, John Wayne and Marilyn Monroe. Seriously, stop to smell the roses and enjoy the bountiful amount of entertainment Hollywood has to offer.



### **Autry National Center / Museum of the American West**

Only at the Autry Museum do the many colorful stories of the American West come to life.

Discover the legacy of the Lakota and the Osage people and the amazing explorations by Spanish conquistadors and experience the romantic portrayals of the West through art, film, and television. Unique exhibitions arrive every few weeks! Come to the Autry Museum, located just across from the Los Angeles Zoo, where the 5 and 134 Freeways meet. Call (323) 667-2000 or visit [theautry.org](http://theautry.org).

### **ArcLight Cinemas**

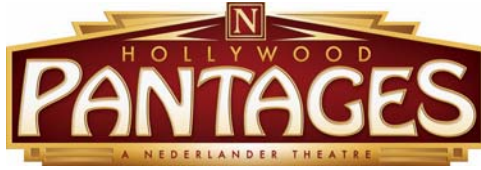
ArcLight is where movie lovers belong. Conceived by and for people who value the art and entertainment of the moving image, ArcLight's design, amenities, service level and programming create a celebration of movies, and a more refined and complete movie-going experience. ArcLight Hollywood's 14 auditoriums begin with a "black box" design aesthetic which favors undistracted viewing over opulence, and feature the best in sight and sound technology. Also at ArcLight is the Cinerama Dome. Built in 1963 in a giant, white 72 foot-high geodesic, the dome was to feature Cinerama - a wide-screen format of the early 60's, which used three separate 35mm projectors and a vast curved screen to present realistic travelogues. It recently has been showing popular movies utilizing the most up-to-date technology. It is also one of the most identifiable Hollywood landmarks. Each seat is individually reserved and the plush seating makes for a comfortable experience. Get more information at [arclightcinemas.com](http://arclightcinemas.com).

### **Capitol Records Building**

Located at 1750 North Vine Street, this landmark building is one of Hollywood's most recognized icons. The light on its rooftop spire flashes "Hollywood" in Morse code. In the lobby you will find displayed gold albums of its many artists. John Lennon, Garth Brooks, and other Capitol artists' stars are on the sidewalk in front of the building. For more information, check out their website at [capitolrecords.com](http://capitolrecords.com).

### **El Capitan Theatre & Entertainment Center**

Step into Hollywood's glittering past at the legendary El Capitan Theatre and adjacent 35,000 square foot, seven-room entertainment center. Conveniently located in the heart of Hollywood, the El Capitan was built in 1925 as a legitimate theater. This treasure was restored to its former glory thanks to Disney and Pacific Theatres and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Inside the theater, visitors will experience a restored Wurlitzer Pipe Organ. The theater offers 1,000 seats; a Dolby SR-D, SDDS, and DTS digital capable sound system; and a 22' x 45' motion picture screen. The adjoining Entertainment Center can accommodate 1,600 guests. There is also a Disney store on the property at street level. The El Capitan is located at 6838 Hollywood Blvd. For more information, call (818) 845-3110 or visit [elcapitan.go.com](http://elcapitan.go.com).



### **American Cinematheque “Forever Hollywood” Movie at the Egyptian Theatre**

If you are looking to discover or rediscover the unique story of Hollywood and its famous movie industry, this hour-long movie produced by the American Cinematheque and playing at Grauman’s Egyptian Theatre is a must see. Sit back and relax as you learn about the Hollywood community from the early silent pictures to the glittering nightlife to the great studio era. Twenty-three celebrated interviewees such as Steven Spielberg, Kevin Spacey, and Salma Hayek tell about breaking into “the business” and “making it” in the glamorous and competitive movie industry. With shots from more than 75 feature films and set to the theme music of *The Bad and the Beautiful*, this is an excellent glimpse into Hollywood’s past, right on Hollywood Boulevard.

Grauman’s Egyptian Theatre is located at 6712 Hollywood Blvd., between Las Palmas and McCadden Place. For show times, visit [www.egyptiantheatre.com](http://www.egyptiantheatre.com).

### **Original Farmers Market and The Grove**

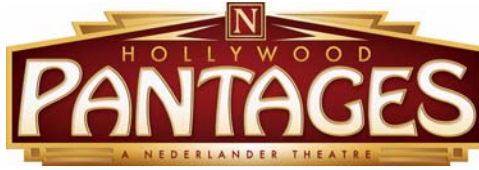
Located at Third and Fairfax Streets, the Original Farmers Market is a historic landmark. It has been a Los Angeles tradition and a world famous tourist attraction for more than 60 years. September through May hours are Monday through Friday, 9am to 9pm, Saturday from 9am to 8pm, and Sunday, 10am to 7pm. Alongside is The Grove – a relatively new 640,000 square foot development. The Grove features a Pacific Theatres cinema complex, Nordstrom, Gap, and Banana Republic along with the Apple Store, Barnes & Noble, as well as many others. For more information, call (323) 933-9211, or visit [www.farmersmarketla.com](http://www.farmersmarketla.com) or [www.thegrovela.com](http://www.thegrovela.com).

### **Frederick’s of Hollywood**

Located at 6751 Hollywood Blvd., Frederick’s of Hollywood is a world famous lingerie shop and museum. Check out their exhibition of “unmentionables” from some of Hollywood’s most (in) famous. The Celebrity Lingerie Hall of Fame salutes stars of stage, screen and TV who “glamorized” lingerie. The shop and museum are open daily and admission is free. For more information, visit [www.fredericks.com](http://www.fredericks.com).

### **Grauman's Chinese Theatre**

Formerly Grauman’s Chinese Theatre, this Hollywood icon stands at 6925 Hollywood Boulevard. It was built in 1927 by Sid Grauman and hosted many star-studded movie premieres and events in Hollywood’s early days. Today it still draws the stars with its famous footprint ceremonies, a tradition that started with Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks in 1927. Movie stars are still immortalizing themselves in the forecourt of the theater. Don’t forget to say hello to Marilyn Monroe, Elvis and Superman – impersonators greet tourists every day in front of the theatre! Movies still show daily at the Chinese Theatre, so visit [tclchinesetheatres.com](http://tclchinesetheatres.com) for more information.



### **Hollywood & Highland and the Dolby Theatre**

As a tourist destination and a local hot spot, the highly successful mix of shopping, dining and glamour comes alive at Hollywood & Highland. Hollywood & Highland has received worldwide attention and helped to drive the recent increase in the economic development in Hollywood. The Hollywood & Highland Entertainment complex houses numerous world class retail shops and restaurants, a 30,000 square foot ballroom (catered by the famous chef Wolfgang Puck), a multiplex cinema (an extension of Grauman's Chinese Theatre), a dramatic central plaza overlooking the Hollywood Sign, and of course the now world famous Dolby Theatre. The Dolby Theatre is the permanent home of the Academy Awards®. Visitors can take a tour of the Dolby Theatre to see exactly where their favorite stars have been seated during Oscar ceremonies! The Dolby Theatre also boasts dozens of live-theatre performances throughout the year. For more information on the complex, please visit [hollywoodandhighland.com](http://hollywoodandhighland.com) and [dolbytheatre.com](http://dolbytheatre.com).

### **Hollywood Bowl Museum**

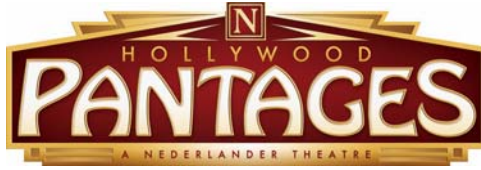
Located at the world-famous Hollywood Bowl, this museum features artifacts on the Hollywood Bowl, from photos to programs. Free admission and parking. For more information and summer and off-season hours, please call (323) 850-2058 or visit [www.hollywoodbowl.org](http://www.hollywoodbowl.org).

### **Hollywood Wax Museum**

See your favorite stars immortalized in wax in scenes from their films. The Wax Museum is located at 6767 Hollywood Blvd. For hours and admission prices, please call (323) 462-5991 or visit [hollywoodwaxmuseum.com](http://hollywoodwaxmuseum.com).

### **Hollywood Sign**

One of the most recognizable images in our country and around the world, this landmark sits high atop the Hollywood Hills. It was originally constructed to promote a housing development at the base of the hill called "Hollywoodland," and that's just what the sign read. It was declared a historical landmark in 1973, but since it was not built to last, it was in need of significant repair. The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce spearheaded an effort to raise the money to fix the sign. Groups and individuals made pledges to have a letter of the sign repaired. Among those who gave \$27,000 per letter of the Hollywood Sign were Hugh Hefner, Alice Cooper, and Gene Autry. Today you can see the famous sign from Hollywood and Highland, on a tour, or by driving up into the Hollywood Hills! For more information, please go to [hollywoodsign.org](http://hollywoodsign.org).



### **The Jimmy Kimmel Show**

Live from Hollywood Boulevard – it's Jimmy Kimmel Live! Hollywood's first late-night talk show to be aired live on the East Coast features Jimmy Kimmel of "The Man Show" fame. Celebrity guests, live musical performances and comedic irreverence make this show, airing at 11:35pm Pacific Time on ABC Channel 7, a local icon. Located at the El Capitan Entertainment Center, the show features a live shot each night of Jimmy walking down the boulevard and into the auditorium. The public is invited to reserve tickets by going to [www.1iota.com](http://www.1iota.com).

Guests must be at least 18 years old.

### **Off Vine Restaurant**

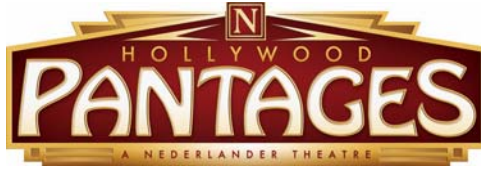
For those searching for a quaint, friendly restaurant located in the heart of Hollywood, the Off Vine restaurant provides American comfort-food in a simply elegant location. Located at 6263 Leland Way, the building was constructed in 1908. With the restaurant opening in 1989, Off Vine has become one of Hollywood's local favorites as well as tourist stop for those in search of good food and a cozy atmosphere. Lunch, dinner and weekend brunch are served; private parties are also accommodated. Please call (323) 962-1900 or reservations or go to [www.offvine.com](http://www.offvine.com).

### **Los Angeles Zoo**

The Los Angeles Zoo is located in the heart of the nation's second-largest city on a 113-acre sight located in Griffith Park. Each year 1.4 million visitors pass through the gates to view a collection of 1,200 animals from around the world. Although the Los Angeles Zoo is most well known for its collection of animals, the varied and unique plant collection is getting more and more notice. There are between 350 and 400 different species of plants currently exhibited at the Los Angeles Zoo, and plans are underway to increase and expand the botanical collection. The zoo is open daily from 10am to 5pm except December 25. For more detailed information on hours, pricing, and special events call (323) 644-4200 or visit the Los Angeles Zoo web site at [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org).

### **Paramount Pictures**

For close to a century, Paramount Pictures has been a gathering place for movies, magic, and more. Located in the heart of the entertainment capital of the world, Paramount is the last major working studio in Hollywood. Tours last two hours, and guests will get behind-the-scenes look at the daily operations of a major motion picture and television facility. For more information, please call (323) 956-1777 or visit [paramountstudiotour.com](http://paramountstudiotour.com).



### **Hollywood and Vine Metro Center**

Combine Hollywood history, transportation and modern art to get the eclectic and beautiful Hollywood and Vine Metro Center! More than just a subway station that drops passengers into the heart of Hollywood, this metro center features the art of Magu, a local Chicano artist. Take a look at the dozens of paintings he's created in the walls of the underground center, each depicting a part of Hollywood and Los Angeles. Underground, architect Adolfo Miralles has constructed a monument that immortalizes the film history of Hollywood. With palm trees arches and movie reels lining the ceiling, the metro station is itself a piece of art. Make sure to take a closer look along the hand railing of the station: the song "Hooray for Hollywood" plays out along the rails that double as a bar of music! More information can be found at [www.mta.net](http://www.mta.net).

### **Universal Studios and Universal CityWalk**

Step into the world of movies and excitement at Universal Studios Hollywood, the world's biggest movie studio and amusement park! From rides to live shows and backstage tours, Universal Studios will captivate and entertain movie lovers of all ages! After a day at the park, visit Universal CityWalk – just steps away and with free admission. Featuring local hot spots such as the Hard Rock Café, Universal Citywalk is a great place to spend a night on the town. Also featuring dozens of restaurants, shops and attractions for adults and kids alike, CityWalk is a premier outdoor shopping center full of fun. For more information, go to [www.universalstudioshollywood.com](http://www.universalstudioshollywood.com) or [www.citywalkhollywood.com](http://www.citywalkhollywood.com).

### **Walk the Walk on Hollywood Boulevard**

Forty-six signs mark significant locations along a self-guided walking tour of the nationally registered Hollywood Boulevard Historic Commercial and Entertainment District. It is believed that the walking tour is the most elaborate of its kind in the western U.S. Erected at a cost of \$260,000, the durable signs include photographs of the buildings during Hollywood's glory years as well as interesting facts about each building.

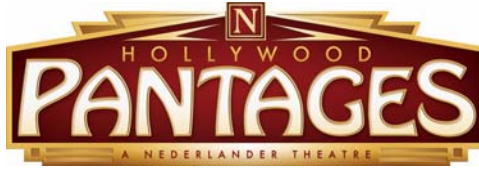
### **TVtickets.com**

You are invited to join the fun as part of a TV studio audience! This is your opportunity to spend some time in the studio with the stars and see what really goes on "behind the scenes" during the filming of a television show. The shows that they currently represent are filmed at various studios in the Los Angeles area. Tickets are FREE and are offered (for most shows) starting 30 days prior to show date. The schedule lists shows for the next 30 days.

They offer advance ticketing for groups of 10 or more.

### **Runyon Canyon Dog Park**

Huge park that is dog friendly overlooking LA -the one place in LA where people get to be real, might be too strenuous for older or out of shape people -or more importantly dogs. (2000 N Fuller Ave.)



**Aquarium of the Pacific**

100 Aquarium Way  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
Phone: (562) 590-3100

**Autry National Center**

4700 Western Heritage Way  
Los Angeles, CA 90027  
Phone: (323) 667-2000

**Hollywood Guinness World Record Museum**

6764 Hollywood Blvd.  
Hollywood, CA 90028  
Phone: (323) 463-6433

**The Hollywood Museum / Max Factor Building**

1660 N. Highland Ave.  
Hollywood, CA 90028  
Phone: (323) 464-7776

**Hollywood Wax Museum**

6767 Hollywood Blvd.  
Hollywood, CA 90028  
Phone: (323) 462-5991

**Huntington Library, Art Collection & Botanical Garden**

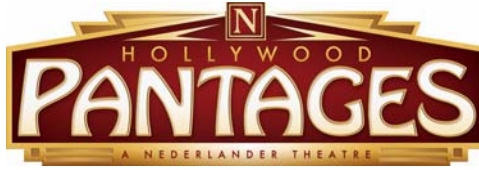
1151 Oxford Road  
San Marino, CA 91108  
Phone: (626) 405-2100

**Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA)**

5333 Zoo Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90027  
Phone: (323) 644-4200

**The Original Farmers Market**

6333 W. 3rd St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90036  
Phone: (323) 933-9211



### **Ripley's Believe It Or Not! Museum**

6780 Hollywood Blvd.  
Hollywood, CA 90028  
Phone: (323) 466-6335

### **Universal Studios Hollywood**

100 Universal City Plaza  
Universal City, CA 91608  
Phone: (818) 622-3801

## **NEIGHBORHOODS**

### **Downtown L.A. Neighborhoods**

*Downtown is one of the few areas where it's better to walk than to drive. Parking spaces are limited and expensive, DASH shuttle buses (50 cents/ride) serve the area along with the MTA metro rail and everything can be seen in one day. Downtown is largely a commercial area -- office buildings, stores and the like so it tends to "quiet down" in the evening,*

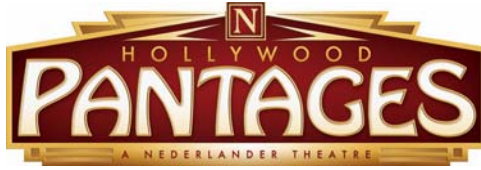
**Olvera Street** is the oldest area of Los Angeles, although there are no remains of the first settlement from 1781. The oldest house, Avila Adobe, which was built in 1818, is here, along with several other historic buildings. The Plaza is a popular place for street performances, vendors and also hosts the annual Cinco de Mayo celebrations. Olvera Street is one block long, with Mexican restaurants and shops selling Mexican handicrafts. On the other side of the Plaza are other historic buildings, including **Pico House**, the first building taller than two stories built in LA, and the **Merced Theater**, the first theater in the city. Across Main Street from the Plaza is the **Plaza Church**, oldest church in Los Angeles.

**Broadway:** This area most closely resembles a contemporary Mexican shopping street but most people visit for the vivid atmosphere. It is one of the busiest Downtown areas.

**Jewelry District** is technically a part of Broadway and starts right below 5th Street on Broadway.

**Civic Center:** This area hosts most of Los Angeles' administrative buildings and is the largest concentration of government buildings outside Washington DC. City Hall is the most distinctive of the buildings, familiar to anyone who watched the old Dragnet series. Nearby is the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, the home of the Los Angeles Archdiocese ([olacathedral.org](http://olacathedral.org)), and the L.A. Music Center, featuring Walt Disney Concert Hall, Ahmanson Theatre, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and Mark Taper Forum ([musiccenter.org](http://musiccenter.org)).

**Chinatown:** Located at the northern end of Downtown, Chinatown is home to about 35,000 people and the place to watch the Chinese New Year's parade, and purchase Asian products.



**Little Tokyo:** Past Temple Street on Alameda, home of one branch of MOCA and the Japanese American National Museum.

**Financial District:** This neighborhood, also known as Bunker Hill, was the city's first "high class" neighborhood. All of the homes from that era have been torn down and replaced with skyscrapers. At its foot is Grand Central Market where the residents of Bunker Hill used to do their shopping, and where you can still find all kinds of vendors selling all kinds of foodstuffs, some prepared food, and other things ([grandcentralmarket.com](http://grandcentralmarket.com)).

Other sites worth visiting near here are the Richard Riordan Central Library, an architectural attraction (and home to one of the largest library collections in the world), Union Station, and the Bradbury Building (an extraordinary design of inner atrium and wrought iron -- as seen in the film "Blade Runner").

**University Park & The Coliseum Complex:** Due south of downtown and less than 4 miles away are the University of Southern California and Exposition Park, the museum complex that is neighbor to the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. The Coliseum, which hosted its 2nd Olympics in 1984, is currently home of the University of Southern California Trojans football team. The museums include the California Science Center and the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History. ([californiasciencecenter.org](http://californiasciencecenter.org); [nhm.org](http://nhm.org)) There is also an IMAX theater. The USC campus (across Exposition Blvd from the Museums) has its own architectural gems - and it's not widely known that in *The Graduate*, Dustin Hoffman—who sought out his fair lady allegedly in Berkeley—was actually trolling the USC campus.

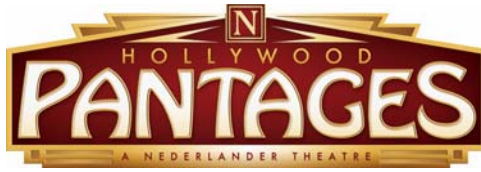
### Central Los Angeles Neighborhoods

*Central Los Angeles is bounded by Beverly Blvd to the north and by Olympic Blvd to the south.*

*Neighborhoods are listed based upon their proximity to downtown. In the case where two neighborhoods are the same distance from downtown, the one that is northernmost is listed first.*

**Koreatown:** Koreatown is bordered by Melrose Avenue (north), Pico Boulevard (south), Arlington Avenue/Wilton Place (west), and Hoover Street (east). Wilshire Boulevard runs through the center of the neighborhood and features high-rise office buildings. Local shopping is on 8th Street (running parallel to Wilshire to the south) and on Western Avenue. Be sure to try some Korean barbecue at one of the local restaurants -- uncooked meat is brought to your table and you cook it over a built-in grill. For the brave, sample some kimchee (Korean Pickled Cabbage).

**Hancock Park and adjacent Windsor Square (sometimes called Larchmont):** A well-to-do neighborhood in west central LA developed in the 1920s. The area is bounded by Highland Ave, (west), Wilton Place (east), Beverly Blvd. (north) and Wilshire Blvd. (south). Homes in this area are unique in Los Angeles as they are on large lots (by Los Angeles standards) and power and telephone lines are underground. Ninety percent of Windsor Square homes have not been altered on their exteriors (or if they been, the original architectural integrity has been preserved) -- an interesting phenomenon for an area where the homes are approaching 90 years of age in a city where last week's fashions are now out of style. Visit the quaint Larchmont Village shopping street between Beverly Blvd and 1st Street, a few blocks east of Rossmore Avenue (which becomes Vine Street just north of this neighborhood).



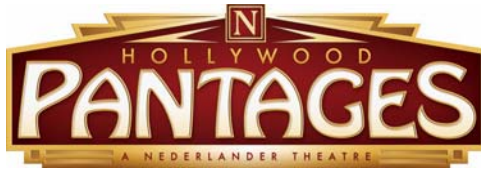
**Miracle Mile:** About a one-mile stretch of Wilshire Boulevard between Fairfax and La Brea Avenues. It received the name 'Miracle Mile' for its unlikely rise to prominence. The Miracle Mile features the Los Angeles County Museum of Art ([lacma.org](http://lacma.org)), Petersen Automotive Museum, Museums of Arts and Crafts, and the unique La Brea Tar Pits ([tarpits.org](http://tarpits.org)).

**Melrose Avenue:** It actually has nothing to do with the popular TV show "Melrose Place" from the 1990s (although there is a Melrose Place just off Melrose Ave that features high-end designer shops). Melrose Avenue features funky shops and restaurants.

**Fairfax District:** This district is bordered by West Hollywood on the north, Wilshire Boulevard on the south, La Brea Avenue on the east, and Beverly Hills and West Hollywood on the west. It is a center of the city's Jewish community and the area around Fairfax Avenue is lined with kosher restaurants, bakeries, delis, and little shops, creating a village feeling in the middle of the city. Canter's Deli is one of the oldest and most famous.

**Beverly Grove:** This is a newly-named neighborhood -- more in people's minds than on any street sign -- but it describes the two extremes of the area: the **Beverly** Center shopping center on the western end (at La Cienega Blvd between Beverly Blvd and 3rd Street) -- a large indoor shopping mall with shops, restaurants and movies; and, on the eastern end of the area is the Grove, a relatively new outdoor shopping area made to look like a little town with a central square, a clock tower, a little pond (whose fountain perform water shows to the sounds of music), and an "old-fashioned" movie house with a rotating vertical column of neon light (don't let the facade fool you, this is a modern multi-screen multiplex theatre). Just west of the Grove is **Farmers Market**. Started in the 30's to help local farmers find buyers for their produce, it has grown into one of the original tourist attractions of Los Angeles. A wide variety of things are available here, from produce to fresh meats, souvenirs, groceries, and housewares.

**Hollywood** covers a vast area starting at its eastern edge at Western Ave (the original western boundary of the city of Los Angeles) and spans to the west to about Fairfax Ave. On the south, it is bordered by Melrose Avenue and on the north, Hollywood climbs up into the hills and ends at the ridge line at Mulholland Blvd. The neighborhood has a rich history in early movie making where the streets were dotted with movie studios and supporting industries. "Bungalow Court" apartments -- horseshoe-shaped complexes of tiny houses -- were built to house the up and coming stars. Today, most of the movie companies have moved to either Culver City to the south or Burbank to the north but some of the old theatres are still here such as Grauman's Chinese. Adjacent to Grauman's is the Hollywood Walk of Fame, a series of brass plates imbedded in the sidewalk radiating from the intersection of Hollywood Blvd and Highland Ave commemorating all manner of entertainers in movies, theatre, TV, and the music industry.



**West Hollywood:** Located between La Brea Ave on the east and Doheny Blvd on the west, Melrose Ave on the south and Sunset Blvd on the north. West Hollywood, unlike Hollywood to its east, is an incorporated city of its own -- not part of the city of Los Angeles. Studios where classic television shows, such as the "Danny Thomas Show" were filmed, are located on side streets near Santa Monica and Fairfax. This is where the three camera system was perfected after being created for "I Love Lucy" at Desilu Studios in Hollywood. Before the area was incorporated, it was under the aegis of Los Angeles County. Two cultures flourished under L.A. County's relative "hands off" attitude:

1. The L.A. gay community with nightlife running along Santa Monica Blvd between Doheny Blvd and Fairfax Ave
2. The Sunset Strip -- a stretch of Sunset Blvd running parallel to Santa Monica Blvd between Doheny Blvd and Crescent Hts Blvd. For those old enough to remember the 60s TV series "77 Sunset Strip", the club featured on the show was, in fact, on the Strip but never had the "77 Sunset Strip" address (since all of the local addresses simply run between "8000 Sunset Blvd" to "9000 Sunset Blvd". No doubt: "77 Sunset Strip" sounded sexier than the building's actual address.

### **East of Hollywood**

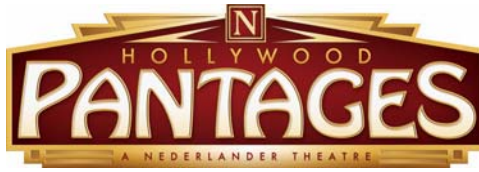
**Echo Park:** An older Los Angeles neighborhood often overlooked by tourists. The center of the neighborhood is Echo Park Lake where you can rent a boat or water bicycle or walk onto the island in the center of the lake and commune with the waterfowl. The lake is also home to the largest bed of lotus plants outside China. Every July the Lotus Festival is held here, celebrating the many Asian cultures that call Los Angeles their second home.

**Silver Lake:** This is one of the oldest sections of the city with an energetic mix of gay and Latino cultures reflected in the eclectic shops along Sunset Blvd just east of where Santa Monica Blvd terminates at Sunset.

**Los Feliz:** Just west and north of Silverlake, Los Feliz is a varied neighborhood from Sunset on the south and climbing into the hills on the north. There is a vital retail area that runs through the area with interesting shops, restaurants and clubs along Vermont Ave and Hillhurst Ave north of Hollywood Blvd. North of Los Feliz is Griffith Park, with access to the Greek Theater and Griffith Observatory via the extension of Vermont Avenue.

**Griffith Park:** The largest urban park entirely within an urban area in America. Griffith Park has hiking trails, horseback riding, golf courses, the L.A. Zoo, the Autry National Center, the Griffith Observatory and, on the northside (toward Burbank) TravelTown and the Los Angeles Live Steamers, where hobbyists will take you for a ride on their scale model trains.

**Beverly Hills:** What is there to say about Beverly Hills that's not already known? This is where the wealthy shop. Rodeo Drive is internationally renowned, as are the jewelry stores, clothing shops and restaurants that appear on that street and in the adjacent areas. Don't forget the "big boys" on Wilshire Blvd -- Barney's, Saks and Neiman Marcus. Beverly Hills is also an exclusive residential neighborhood but the homes aren't their largest and most expensive until you travel north of Sunset Blvd. Beverly Hills High School has an oil well on the school grounds.



## "The Westside" Neighborhoods

*Want to start a fight in Los Angeles? Ask someone where "the Westside" begins. This area is the most extreme western section of the city reaching to the ocean. Everyone knows that the Pacific Ocean is the western boundary of the Westside but it's never been clear where the eastern boundary is. For the purpose of this guide, let's call it Beverly Glen Blvd. What you'll notice when you cross over Beverly Glen boundary is that the air is a little cooler and the pace a little more relaxed (except for the traffic which is everywhere). Below are the major neighborhoods and cities of the Westside. Two additional Westside-area communities are Santa Monica and Marina del Rey.*

**Bel Air:** More of the Rich and Famous live here. Bel Air is a hillside community between Brentwood and Beverly Hills: posh and sleepy with not much to see as most houses are hidden from the street. Contrary to what you might think, most of the really expensive homes are at the **BOTTOM** of the community -- not the **TOP**.

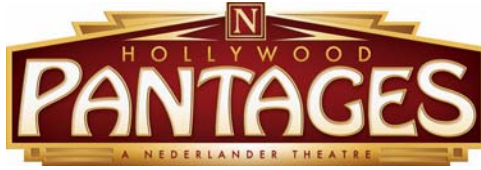
**Century City:** Just west of Beverly Hills, this is a business district created in the city by converting the backlot of the 20th Century Fox Studios into a grid of high-rise office buildings and hotels plus an outdoor shopping mall. The area is popular with people coming to L.A. on business. After dark, the office buildings shut down and there's not much open except the shopping mall and a couple of restaurants.

**Westwood Village:** Westwood Village is home to the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). The area is mostly populated by students and is always buzzing. This is a "village atmosphere" with shops and restaurants and movie theatres to serve the students. All are welcome.

**Brentwood:** Brentwood is an exclusive residential neighborhood and has a small town feeling to it. Marilyn Monroe's last residence was in Brentwood and it was here that O.J. Simpson's wife was murdered. Her house, as well as the one of O.J. himself, has been bulldozed in the meantime. Although the shopping district has some nice restaurants and shops, the traffic here can be brutal especially during rush hours and finding a place to park can be an exercise in frustration. Hello, valet parking. For more information on local shopping, dining and events, check out [sanvicente-brentwood.com](http://sanvicente-brentwood.com).

**Culver City:** Located in the southwestern corner of the L.A. metro area on the way to LAX, the city used to be home to three major movie studios (MGM, Hal Roach and Selznick). Culver City is now dominated by Sony Pictures.

**Westchester/ LAX:** The community of Westchester is in the very southwest corner of the city of Los Angeles and is best known for Los Angeles International Airport (LAX).



## Beach Neighborhoods

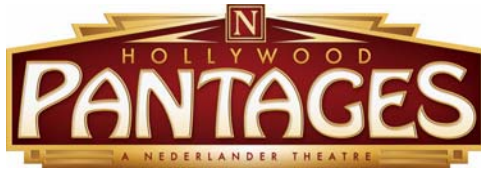
*These are the Westside neighborhoods between Malibu and LAX which are located on the Pacific Ocean.*

**Malibu:** Malibu occupies 27 miles of coast along the Pacific Coast Highway (PCH). The main attraction is the beach. Contrary to popular belief, the TV Show "Baywatch" was mainly shot in Santa Monica and Pacific Palisades. Much of the city has private beaches and the public beaches are, as a rule, nothing to write home about. However, a visit to the Malibu Lagoon and Adamson House are well worth while. Other popular beaches in the area are Paradise Cove and Zuma Beach. In the hills above Malibu, where Malibu Canyon Road crosses famous Mulholland Highway, is Malibu Creek State Park. Most famous for being the site where the movie and the TV show M\*A\*S\*H were filmed, the park has a long and interesting history. Park docents conduct introductory tours of the park once a month.

**Pacific Palisades:** Wealthy, residential community to the north of Santa Monica with a small neighborhood shopping district.

**Santa Monica:** Santa Monica is located on the Pacific Ocean, where Wilshire Boulevard meets the sea. Known for its sunshine and beaches, and plenty of celebrity sightings, Santa Monica prides itself as a national model for progressive issues, including social services, quality of life for local residents, and environmental leadership. This urban village has spectacular views of its vast white sand beaches from Palisades Park, unparalleled shopping on **Third Street Promenade, Main Street** and **Montana Avenue**, and the region's most renowned restaurant scene. Santa Monica stretches for about two miles along the coast before joining up with Venice Beach.

**Venice Beach:** The somewhat bohemian community still hangs on to many vestiges of the 1960s when 'flower power' ruled, and the little community is jam-packed between Santa Monica and Marina del Rey, reachable by foot from both communities. **Ocean Front Walk** is a mile long strip along the beach chock full of artists, performers, skaters, fashionable dogs, souvenirs of every kind and plenty of opportunity for pictures. Sidewalk cafes there are perfect for people watching, and the muscular bodybuilders working out at Muscle Beach's "Pit" have to be seen to be believed. A block off the beach on some of the side streets you'll find worthy restaurants and respected art galleries. Eclectic shops, art galleries, and fascinating restaurants and wine bars populate the interesting Abbot Kinney Boulevard neighborhood, particularly between Venice Boulevard and Main Street, including surfing collectibles, etched glass, women's art collaboratives and wall murals. No visit to Venice Beach is complete without a stop at the famous **Venice Canals**, located north of Washington Boulevard at Dell Avenue. These early 20th century canals were created by Abbot Kinney in his quest to replicate the canals of Venice, Italy. Today they criss cross a delightful intimate neighborhood of exquisite bungalows, scenic walkways, miniature wood raised bridges, and gardens lacing the sidewalks and unusual homes. If you continue 1/2 mile further west on Washington Boulevard, you can enjoy a stop at this **"End of Washington"** district, which spills directly in the old Venice Pier. Metered or parking lots will give you an opportunity to explore the view from the pier, and the plethora of shops, cafes, bars and fine restaurants located here.



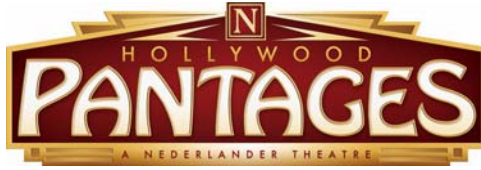
**Marina del Rey:** Hugging the south border of Venice Beach is Marina del Rey, which is the center of recreational boating in the L.A. area. Over 5,000 boats are anchored here, and it's a popular, casual, relaxed oasis in the middle of bustling L.A. This is one of the few places in the area where visitors can actually get out onto the water. Activity options include daily public **fishing trips**, hourly kayak, sailboat and power **boat rentals**, Wednesday cocktail, Friday blues, Saturday dinner dance and **Sunday brunch cruises**. Many visitors choose to make Marina del Rey a base for their LA area visit, as most of the hotels in the community have water views overlooking the harbor, are walking distance from Venice Beach, offer more value for the dollar than other beach towns, and the community is only four miles north of LAX. For more info about this area, check out [visitmarinadelrey.com](http://visitmarinadelrey.com). "The Marina" is famous for its waterfront restaurants, and **weekend brunches**. Most are located along the marina's **Waterfront Walk** and offer outside, covered and terraced dining. This is a great spot for sunsets too. Marina del Rey really bustles during the summer, when the weekend Beach Shuttle operates, the Summer weekend Water Bus is zooming through the harbor, and the free summer pop and classical concert series in Burton Chace Park is in full gear. And if you enjoy biking, the paved **South Bay Bicycle Trail** extends for 22 miles along the coast from Malibu in the north, through Santa Monica, Venice, Marina del Rey, Playa del Rey, and Dockweiler Beach, ending at Torrance Beach in the south. This is an interesting ride since the beach communities are so varied. Bike and skate rental concessions are easily available along the route, including bikes for pets and children, tandems and low riders (great for seniors).

The Marina del Rey portion passes by the beautiful marinas as well as some interior areas and is a good place to stop for lunch or to pick up some provisions for a picnic along the way. For directions, free bike and visitor maps, restaurant listings and more, stop at the Marina del Rey Visitors Information Center, located along the bike path at 4701 Admiralty Way (at Mindanao). Open daily.

**Playa del Rey:** Immediately south of Marina del Rey is the isolated little beach village of Playa del Rey. Quiet, serene, with wide, white sand beaches, the little residential community is reminiscent of mid-century beach towns. A scattering of local dives, some pretty good restaurants, and a quiet beach front gives the area its slow paced flavor. It is surrounded by the newly restored Ballona Wetlands, which are a treasure of coastal wildlife on the westside.

**South Bay:** The South Bay is generally recognized as beginning at Los Angeles International Airport, and moving south from there, including the towns of Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach, Palos Verdes and Long Beach. Right out of a postcard of Southern California, they offer sand that stretches out of sight, clean water, beach volleyball, and beachfront paths for rollerblading, cycling and walking.

**San Pedro/Wilmington:** The official Port of Los Angeles where the commercial freight arrives for this region of the country. It is also the port for all pleasure cruises, except Carnival Cruise Lines, and whale-watching cruises. Cabrillo Marine Museum is here. There is a water-side shopping center of shops and restaurants.



**Long Beach:** Long Beach is an independent city -- not part of the city of Los Angeles. It features the Queen Mary, the Carnival Cruise Lines docks, an aquarium, a city beach and an airport (where discount flights like Jet Blue arrive).

### **Northern Areas (San Fernando Valley and vicinity)**

**Burbank:** One of Burbank's institutions is Bob's Big Boy on Riverside Drive; every single Friday night, muscle car enthusiasts show their restored old-timers. Jay Leno has been spotted there frequently, sporting a 'new' vehicle on every occasion. Burbank is also home to Warner Bros., NBC and Walt Disney Studios. Disney's animation studio features a 2-story high wizard's hat.

A couple of minutes away, on the north side of Griffith Park, is Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Hollywood Hills. This cemetery is the final resting place of Stan Laurel, Humphrey Bogart, Errol Flynn, Clark Gable and Walt Disney, but the grounds are extensive and management doesn't appreciate 'star seekers' too much; staff members will not assist in locating individual sites and some, like that of Humphrey Bogart, are roped off and patrolled.

**Universal City:** Its main attractions are Universal Studios and the City Walk. Universal City Walk features restaurants, a movie complex and dozens of specialty shops.

**North Hollywood:** North Hollywood is the birthplace of California statehood. In January of 1847 Lt. John C. Fremont of the United States and General Andres Pico of Mexico met at the Campo de Cahuenga, now a historical monument on Lankershim Blvd., and signed the treaty to end the war between their two countries.

**Studio City:** Once the home of the Motion Picture industry, it is now an up and coming area for hipsters looking to escape the crowds of Hollywood. You can find nice restaurants, bars, and excellent shopping.

**Glendale:** Tucked away between the Los Angeles neighborhood of Eagle Rock on the east and Griffith Park on the west, Glendale's northwestern border is shared with Burbank. Glendale was the first land grant in California. Its major attraction is Forest Lawn Memorial Park which contains one of the world's largest oil paintings, The Glendale Galleria is a huge shopping center mall in the center of the city.. Dreamworks Animation SKG, the creator of Shrek, is located here.