

We are looking forward to seeing you at our wedding in Los Angeles.

Our wedding and hotel blocks are located on the west side of L.A., closer to the beach cities of Santa Monica, Venice, and Marina del Rey. Taxis are definitely an option for getting around. If you're interested in venturing out past the 405, car rentals are definitely recommended:

www.kayak.com
<http://www.hertz.com/>
<http://www.avis.com/>
<http://www.enterprise.com>

Just watch out for never-ending traffic and plan accordingly, especially during the weekends. Rule of thumb is traffic usually takes about twice as long to get anywhere. For example, 24 miles of traffic will take at least 48 minutes travel time by car in heavy traffic. Please be advised, the temperature in Los Angeles during September is usually very warm and tourist season at a high.

Attractions in the beach cities are reachable by taxi, bike, or the Santa Monica Blue Bus:

<http://www.bigbluebus.com/home/index.asp>

So whether it's shopping, the beach, or just checking out the sights, we have a rundown for you on What to Do

SANTA MONICA

Santa Monica Pier

Great for kids!

<http://www.santamonicipier.org/>

- **Hours:** Open 365 days a year
- **Reservations:** Not required
- **Cost:** No admission fee
- **Location:** At the intersection of Colorado Avenue and Pacific Coast Highway
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The **Santa Monica boardwalk** is fun if you like to go biking, rollerblading, or jogging:

<http://www.labikepaths.com/bike-paths/santa-monica-venice/>

Main Street in Santa Monica

<http://www.mainstreetsm.com/>

Better for adults. If you love trendy boutiques, bars, and restaurants, this is the place to go! Main Street is also in walking distance of the beach, near the intersection of Main and Marine Street. Favorite stops are Paris 1900, Varga, One Life Market, Novel Cafe, Omelette Parlor, Library Alehouse, and Finn McCool's.

Santa Monica Place and 3rd Street Promenade

<http://downtownsm.com/visitors/index.html>

<http://www.santamoniacaplace.com/>

Since we're talking shopping, this is The Shopping Mecca on the west side. The Santa Monica Place mall is newly renovated and adjacent to the Promenade. The Promenade is an outdoor shopping area also in walking distance of a great view of the beach.

Will Rogers State Beach

http://scc.ca.gov/webmaster/project_sites/wheel/lapage/2_smb/will.html

Santa Monica and Venice beaches tend to get very crowded on the weekends and are often littered--the boardwalk is similar to a city street. Think "urban beaches". The Will Rogers State Beach is just down the Pacific Coast Highway from our wedding venue.

For hiking, visit the Will Rogers State Park and some great views.

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=626

VENICE

Venice Beach and Boardwalk. It's really more of a sidewalk than a "board" walk, but a walk down it is the best way to explore the waterfront scene. You'll pass street performers, skaters, artists, gawkers and vendors selling all kinds of items from incense to sarongs.

Muscle Beach: This is the place where Arnold Schwarzenegger and hosts of other body-builders have "bulked up" in the outdoor weight room. If you'd like to have your day in the sun, you can buy a day pass at the office.

http://www.venicebeach.com/article_boardwalk.php

Abbott Kinney Boulevard

Another hip and trendy area great for shopping, grabbing a bite to eat, or a glass of wine. Great stops are the Other Room, Lemonade LA, Gjelina, and of course our amazing wedding florist, Fiore Designs--the owner has a wonderful retail shop.

<http://www.abbotkinneyonline.com/>

Or take a surfing lesson!

<http://learntosurfla.com/html/index.htm>

<http://www.oceanasurf.com/>

MARINA DEL REY

Marina del Rey is not as action-packed as Santa Monica or Venice, with more on-the-water activities:

<http://www.visitmarinadelrey.com/>

Rent a boat,

http://boats4rent.com/marinadelrey_boatrental.html

Take a fishing trip,

<http://www.marinadelreysportfishing.com/>

A laid-back bicycle ride compared to the boardwalk on the South Bay Bicycle Trail,

<http://www.labikepaths.com/bike-paths/south-bay-along-the-beach/>

Or if more ambitious, sailing lessons:

<http://www.marinachannel.com/activities/sailing-lessons.htm>

Additional Things to Do in L.A.

Want more options? Are you sure? If you're up for a drive and going into the city of Los Angeles, again, watch out for the traffic and leave plenty of leeway on travel time:

The Getty Villa Malibu

17985 Pacific Coast Highway
Pacific Palisades, California 90272

Opening Hours

The Getty Villa site and galleries are open: 10am–5pm Thursday through Mondays

Admission

Admission to the Getty Villa is FREE. An advance, timed ticket is required. Each Villa ticket allows you to bring up to three children ages 15 and under with you in one car. Parking is \$8. Groups of nine or more must make reservations by calling (310) 440-7300.

J. Paul Getty Museum

1200 Getty Center Drive
Los Angeles, CA
(310) 440-7330

- **Hours:** Closed Mondays and January 1, July 4, Thanksgiving and December 25, open late Friday and Saturday
- **Reservations:** Not required
- **Cost:** No entry fee but there is a parking charge
- **Location:** West Los Angeles off I-405, directions below
- **How Long:** Allow two hours to half a day or more

Los Angeles Museum of Art

A Tim Burton exhibit is now on view at the LACMA.

Los Angeles County Museum of Art
12-8 M/T/Th • Closed Wednesday • 12-9 F • 11-8 S/S
5905 Wilshire Blvd • Los Angeles California 90036
323-857-6000

<http://www.lacma.org/>

Rodeo Drive

<http://www.rodeodrive-bh.com/index4.html>

Designer Boutiques & Fabulous Dining

Hollywood Blvd

Walk of Fame, Mann's Chinese Theatre, Hollywood & Highland Shops

Sunset Strip

World Renowned Hot Spots for shopping, dining, and clubs.

Walt Disney Concert Hall

111 South Grand Avenue
Los Angeles, CA
(323) 850-2000

[Walt Disney Concert Hall website](#)

- **Hours:** Tours offered daily, hours vary
- **Reservations:** Reservations needed for concerts or the guided tour, but you can take the self-guided audio tour without them
- **Cost:** No admission fee to walk in and look around, fee charged for tours
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Griffith Observatory

2800 E Observatory Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90027
(213) 473-0800

Admission is Free

Griffith Observatory is an icon of Los Angeles, a national leader in public astronomy, a beloved civic gathering place and one of Southern California's most popular attractions.

Hours~ Tuesday- Friday: Open Noon-10:00pm

Universal Studios Hollywood & City Walk

100 Universal City Plaza
Universal City, CA 91608
(800) 864-8377

- **Hours:** Open daily except Thanksgiving and December 25
- **Reservations:** Not required, but buy tickets in advance to save time in line
- **Cost:** Admission fee & Extra parking fee /City Walk has no admission fee
- **Location:** North of Hollywood off US 101

Disneyland

1313 S Harbor Blvd
Anaheim, CA 92802
(714) 781-4000

Weekends- Saturday & Sunday: Open 10:00am-10:00pm

Mondays Closed

Have a great time!
Erin & Dylan