

Welcome to Sun & Surf Country.



This trip takes visitors to one of the most sought after vacation destinations in North America. Beautiful sun-soaked sandy beaches tucked under the shadows of the Laguna Mountains provide the backdrop for inspirational moments, as well as incredible memories for your family. This region is known for its' year-round "shirts and shorts" weather -- remember to pack the sunscreen!



I love this Country.™

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Welcome to Sun & Surf Country! Here you will find a surplus of sun, be serenaded by the sounds of the surf and enjoy laid-back living at its finest. If wild animals are your thing, the San Diego Zoo is perennially recognized as one of the world's best; while Balboa Park, adjacent to the zoo, offers endless blooming gardens and more than a dozen museums and attractions. When the sun sets, stroll back to the Country Inn & Suites By Carlson, grab a fresh baked chocolate chip cookie and enjoy a book from the Read & Return It Lending LibrarySM by the fireplace.

San Diego-area Country Inns & Suites By Carlson locations:

[Country Inn & Suites By Carlson, San Diego North](#) - 7 miles from downtown

Old Town Trolley Tours	Family Choice** Sit back and let the conductor show you San Diego's most famous sights. Leisurely cruise around Balboa Park, Seaport Village Coronado and other attractions. Tours run 2 hours; tickets are \$32 for adults and \$16 for children under 12.	trolleytours.com/san-diego
El Indio	Family Choice** You can't visit San Diego with experiencing the flavors of the Southwest. Family owned and operated since the 1940s, El Indio serves signature 'Taquitos' to customers from all walks of life (including former US Presidents). Build your own meal or pick from one of the 29 combo plates. All combo's are under \$11.	el-indio.com
Reuben H. Fleet Science Center	Mom's Choice** One of 15 museums located within Balboa Park, the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center offers hands-on experimenting for kids of all ages (including mom & dad!) Interactive exhibits allow families to learn while having fun. Museum is open every day of the year; admission is \$10 for adults, \$8.75 for kids 3-12. (Get there before 10:00 am and only pay \$8.50, all ages)	rhfleet.org
Coronado Island	Mom's Choice** Coronado Island is a fun ten-minute drive from downtown San Diego. Kids will love the bridge to the island and there are plenty of activities once you're over it. To save gas, take the Coronado Ferry and rent bikes on the island. Adults pay just \$3.50 each way and bike rentals start at \$20 for 4 hours of play!	coronadovisitorcenter.com
USS Midway Museum	With over 60 exhibits on this "city at sea", guests who step onto the USS Midway will experience life aboard the longest-serving Naval aircraft carrier. More than 25 restored aircraft and flight simulators will have the imaginations of your little aviators soaring. Admission is \$14 for adults, \$8-12 for children. \$11 for seniors.	midway.org

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Balboa Park	Sprawling more than 1,200 acres in San Diego's vibrant downtown district, Balboa Park is a visual smorgasbord of gardens, 15 museums, serene picnic areas and walking paths. Visit the Japanese Friendship Garden and let your kids feed the award-winning koi. Admission into Balboa Park is free. Fees vary by institution.	balboapark.org
Torrey Pines State Park	One of the most picturesque parks in all of California, Torrey Pines boasts more than eight miles of trails for walking, hiking and biking. With tremendous ocean views cast along sun-washed cliffs, be sure to bring along binoculars to catch a glimpse of whales splashing off the coast. Parking fees are \$10.	torreypine.org
Hike Bike Kayak Sports	Paul Revere would have loved the options Hike Bike Kayak offers customers! Not only can you go by land or sea, you can cruise in style around Mission Bay on a mountain bike, too. If water is more your style, take a day trip up to La Jolla and paddle the Sea Cave Tour. Prices vary by activity.	hikebikekayak.com
Cabrillo National Monument	Who says your kids' studies have to take a break while on vacation? Learn the history of Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, visit the Old Point Loma Lighthouse - a building that's more than 150 years old, then dig your toes in the sand while the kids chase crabs and search for starfish. Admission into the park is \$5 per vehicle.	nps.gov/cabr
Old Town San Diego State Historic Park	The Old Town San Diego State Park offers a glimpse into the past that allows visitors to envision what life was like in the 1800s. Your kids will appreciate their spacious classrooms more after touring the Mason Street School - California's first public schoolhouse.	oldtownsandiego.org
Palomar Observatory	Exploration knows no bounds as astronomers at the Palomar Observatory aim to find answers to questions about the universe. Visitors can view the five telescopes researchers use while gazing into the sky, as well as photography exhibits of galaxies far, far away. Admission is free.	astro.caltech.edu/palomar
The Fishery	In the words of one reviewer: "The Fishery is one of the class acts of Pacific Beach." A wide variety of sea-faring fare, The Fishery offers something for all palates. Try Mr. Brown's Swordfish Taco's! Lunch prices range from \$9 to \$20 per entree.	thefishery.com

San Diego Art Institute	Experience the works of arts' future at the San Diego Art Institute. The galleries feature pieces submitted by students, as well as area youth. Admission is free, but donations are suggested.	sandiego-art.org
Little Italy Mercato	Che Bello! Experience the romance of Italy without a passport. Little Italy Mercato features tasty Italian treats, unique spices and great gifts available for purchase. Saturday mornings on Dale Street, you'll find more than 80 vendors selling Italian goods - now THAT's amore!	littleitalysd.com

** Family Choice and Mom's Choice designation based on fun for all ages, cost and Mom's approval.