

SoCal Sights | 2026

Summer /
Autumn

Ideas for Itineraries

Excursions, High-energy and
Low-energy Adventures

Locally Loved

Nightlife &
Luxurious Nights

Interviews & Reviews

Meet the producer of Zero to 100 Open Mics



SOCAL SIGHTS

YOUR LOCAL FRIEND

**BEFORE SUMMER ENDS,
HIT PCH WITH THE
WINDOWS DOWN AND THE
OCEAN IN SIGHT. PG.3**

**THE OPEN MIC SCENE IS A
NIGHTLIFE ALL ITS OWN.
CHECK OUT THE INTERVIEW
WITH ZERO TO 100 MICS
PRODUCER. PG.5**

**YOU'D BE SURPRISED HOW
DIFFICULT IT IS TO BE BORED IN
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA!**

Classic Top of SoCal

1. Start at SLO, Driving Through The Central Coast & Big Sur

This is arguably the most famous section of Highway 1, taking you past dramatic sea cliffs, ocean views, and charming coastal towns. The full stretch of Highway 1 through Big Sur provides continuous scenic driving from south to north.

Excursion - Guided Tour of : Stop near San Simeon to tour newspaper publisher William Randolph Hearst's hilltop estate, complete with historic art collections and gilded pools.

Excursion - State Parks & : Hike through redwood canyons at Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park to view McWay Falls spilling onto the sand, and pull over for classic photography at the iconic Bixby Bridge.

Excursion - Village Stroll & Marine Life: Explore the art galleries and fairy-tale architecture of , then continue north to Monterey for sea kayaking or whale watching on Monterey Bay.

American Riviera

1. Start in or South of Dana Point.

Excursion - Take a ferry to Catalina Island. There are a few that leave from the coast at locations like San Pedro, Dana Point or Long Beach.

2. Nicknamed "The American Riviera", Santa Barbara is a great and reasonable destination (in terms of distance).

Excursion - From Ventura / Oxnard, you can take a ferry to the Channel Islands. It's a lengthy trip but there's a high likelihood of seeing dolphins or other marine life.

PCH

ROAD TRIP

More PCH Stopovers

Main Beach | Laguna Beach

Located right at the intersection of Highway 1 and Broadway in Laguna Beach, this iconic park lets you step right out onto the boardwalk, view the historic lifeguard tower, and walk along the tide pools.

Crystal Cove State Park Historic District

Pull into the coastal parking lots directly off PCH to walk down into a restored 1930s seaside colony nestled right on the sand.

Balboa Island | Newport Beach

Described by locals as a "must see", this harbor community is accessible by ferry or bridge. It features restaurants, shops and activities. The view of the boats and ocean are excellent as well.

Ventura Pier | Ventura

For a low stress, long walk with an ocean background experience, Ventura is underrated. As a result, its beaches are less polluted and more peaceful.

While it's no secret that Los Angeles has a thriving scene in comedy, the rest of SoCal does as well

SOCAL'S COMEDY SCENE

THE
LAUGH
CELL

Local Favorites

Improv School
of Redlands

Ontario Improv

And a boatload of open mics run by comics:
Cool Kids Comedy, First Dibs Comedy, Just Jokes Comedy,
Blue Banter, CK Cafe Comedy, Justin Comedy Shows, ...

The Astronaut City

The Glendale Room

Continued:

The Buddy System, Jazzy Wishbone, Solaris Comedy Lab,
The Rock Gallery, Above The Iron, CanTiki Comedy, etc.

Interview with Joshua Autrey Serrano, Producer of Zero to 100 Open Mics

So, you're producing a documentary about open mics? Is it primarily based here in California?

Seen

Docu-series actually, so it'll be an ongoing episodic thing where I go in and capture each open mic, but not just in California. All of the US actually.

Seen

Sounds pretty ambitious! Why open mics though? And are you going to be the face of the show? I imagine you'll be doing the open mics too.

Seen

Open mics are the foundation of stand-up comedy in a lot of people's eyes. It's where you find the art form at its most raw form. And yes technically I will be the face and participating as well.

Seen

SoCal Sights



Diamond Membership



Ensures Info About You is Accurate
Gets You Seen Before Competing Businesses
Provides Professional Visuals & Sales Copy
Includes Trackable Local Potential Customers
Results in Social Proof & Community Trust



Profile Optimization

- Google Maps Profile
- Apple Maps Profile
- Siri & Alexa Profiles
- Bing Places Profile

Local SEO | Citations Building

Local Ads | Search / Social

- \$500 Ad Spend Included

Influencer Outreach & UGC

Professional Media Production

- Photography | 20 Graded Photos
- Videography | 4 Graded Reels

YOUR NEXT NIGHT OUT

LUXURY

NIGHTLIFE

UNIQUE BARS - LATE CAFES - PRIVATE EXPERIENCES

THE LIGHTHOUSE CAFÉ, THE DRESDEN, THE SHOUT! HOUSE, LOU LOU'S CLUB,
MELVYN'S, THE CELLAR COCKTAIL BAR, SEYMOUR'S, THE CLUB AT KONA KAI

SUMPTUOUS STAYS

ACCOMMODATIONS

FAIRMONT BREAKERS LONG BEACH, HOTEL INDIGO SAN DIEGO, PASÉA,
LIDO HOUSE, THE KIMPTON ROWAN, HOTEL CALIFORNIAN, ACE HOTEL

PURE FUN

KARAOKE - ARCADES - GAMING

HIVE KARAOKE, KUBO KARAOKE, VIP KARAOKE LOUNGE, EKO, PLUSH KARAOKE
DAVE & BUSTERS, ROUND1, 2ND LOOP, SANDBOX VR, MAIN EVENT MONTCLAIR
MORONGO, FANTASY SPRINGS, AGUA CALIENTE, PECHANGA, SOBOBA

A scenic view of a historic building in San Luis Obispo. The building is a multi-story structure with a red brick upper section and a white stucco lower section. It features a large, wrap-around wooden deck with railings and a staircase leading down to a garden. The garden is filled with various plants, including a large tree on the left and a stone staircase leading down to a stream. The text "Beautiful, Peaceful" is overlaid on the image.

Beautiful, Peaceful

San Luis Obispo

"Vibrant, Historic, Active"

Pismo Beach

Voted Best Small Coastal City



"A Must Visit"

Known for its drivable dunes, clams and coastal charm, Pismo Beach is an important part of California's ecosystem.



Oceano Dunes

What About Kern & Imperial County?

Well, to be honest with you, there may very well be some great "hidden gems", or whatever you'd like to call them, in Kern County and Imperial County, and usually those get discovered first-hand after one of more locals suggest them, but the designated SoCal Sights scout has yet to make the trek in-person.

Here are some local recommendations in the meantime:

Kern County Fair



Sept. 23 – Oct. 4, 2026

Sagavi Sushi
Calexico, CA

Imperial Valley Mall



El Centro, CA



Route 66 in 2026

Here is a classic 2-day itinerary traveling the California stretch of Route 66, taking you from the stark beauty of the Mojave Desert down through the Foothills and the San Gabriel Valley to the Pacific Ocean.

Day 1: Mojave Desert & High Desert to the Inland Empire

Roy's Motel & Cafe

4.5 stars rating

Start your desert journey in the near-ghost town of Amboy, where this mid-century landmark stands against the open desert horizon. Its classic Googie-style neon sign and vintage architecture make it one of the most photographed stops along the Mother Road.

Key Features: Famous mid-century neon sign, retro gas station aesthetic, and gift shop snacks.

Good to Know: Bring cash or card for road souvenirs, and ensure you have plenty of fuel and water for the desert drive.

Amboy Crater

4.8 stars rating

Just west of Roy's, explore a remarkably symmetrical volcanic cinder cone rising out of extensive basalt lava fields within the Mojave Trails National Monument.

Key Features: Scenic desert overlook, distinct basalt fields, and a 3- to 4-mile round-trip trail to the crater rim.

Good to Know: Best visited early in the morning before midday heat; carry ample hydration.





Elmer's Bottle Tree Ranch

4.6 stars rating

Elmer's Bottle Tree Ranch

Located along the National Trails Highway in Oro Grande, this whimsical folk-art installation features hundreds of pipe "trees" adorned with vintage colored glass bottles, scrap metal, and antique signs.

Key Features: Intricate glass bottle art, soothing chime sounds in the breeze, and classic Americana charm.

Good to Know: Free to walk through, though donations are appreciated to preserve the site.

Emma Jean's Holland Burger Cafe

4.7 stars rating

Emma Jean's Holland Burger Cafe

Head into Victorville for lunch at this historic cinder-block diner, which has been serving comfort food to highway travelers and locals since 1947.

Key Features: Home-style griddled burgers, Brian Burgers with Ortega chiles, and classic diner counter seating.

Good to Know: Open for breakfast and lunch only; plan to arrive early to beat the midday rush.

California Route 66 Museum

4.6 stars rating

Also in Victorville's Old Town, this dedicated museum preserves the legacy of the Mother Road with interactive setups and extensive memorabilia.

Key Features: Vintage 1950s diner booths, historic photo opportunities, and antique road artifacts.

Good to Know: Check opening hours ahead of time, as operating days can vary.

Wigwam Motel

4.4 stars rating

Conclude the day by descending the Cajon Pass into the Inland Empire and checking into this historic 1949 motel—one of only three surviving Wigwam Villages in the country.

Key Features: Individual concrete tepee guest rooms, restored neon lighting, and vintage cars parked on the grounds.

Good to Know: Book in advance if you plan to stay overnight for the full retro experience.



The Donut Man

4.6 stars rating

Take a sweet pit stop along Route 66 in Glendora at this celebrated 24-hour roadside bakery.

Key Features: World-famous glazed donuts overflowing with fresh seasonal fruit (especially fresh strawberry and peach), plus tiger tails.

Good to Know: Lines can form quickly, but the ordering window moves fast.

Fair Oaks Pharmacy

4.2 stars rating

Roll through the San Gabriel Valley into South Pasadena for a nostalgic lunch or afternoon treat at this turn-of-the-century corner soda fountain.

Key Features: Authentic soda counter, vintage ice cream sundaes, malts, and specialty novelty goods.

Good to Know: Closed on weekends; plan an alternative snack stop if traveling on Saturday or Sunday.

Colorado Street Bridge

Drive across this magnificent 1913 Beaux-Arts concrete arch bridge spanning the Arroyo Seco canyon, carrying travelers straight toward Los Angeles.

Key Features: Ornate streetlamps, grand architectural arches, and panoramic valley views.

Good to Know: Offers great pedestrian sidewalks if you want to pull over nearby in Old Pasadena and take photos.

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