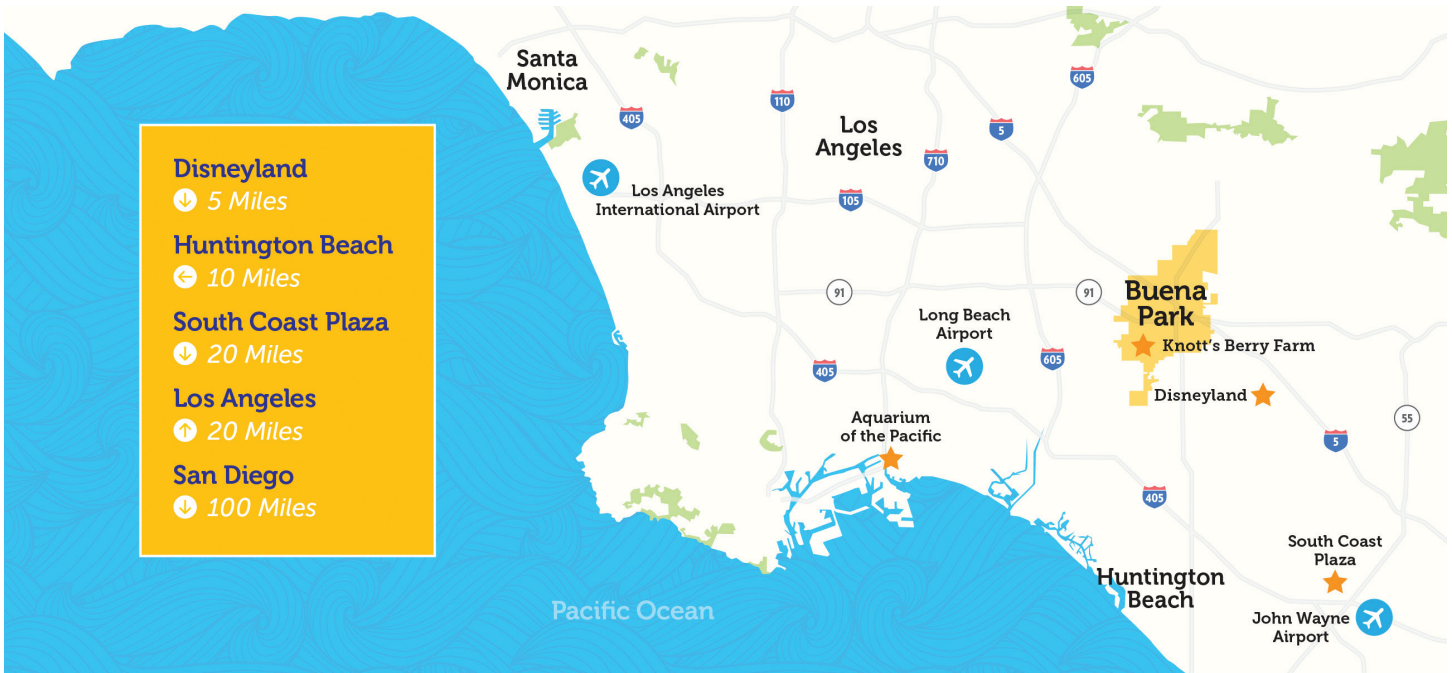




# BUENA PARK PRESS KIT

# WHERE IS BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA?

Nestled between Los Angeles and San Diego, the City of Buena Park is a beacon for fun-loving travelers and the perfect base camp for a Southern California vacation. Comprised of approximately 10 square miles, this small town packs a big punch — boasting some of the world's most well-known attractions.



## BUENA PARK AND ORANGE COUNTY AT-A-GLANCE

### CLIMATE

- Average Temperature - 70°F

### ACCOMMODATIONS

- 23 hotels, 2575 rooms

### CLAIMS TO FAME

- California's First Theme Park
- Largest Waterpark in the OC
- Birthplace of the Boysenberry
- Named one of the 'Most Fun' Small Towns in America

### BUENA PARK ATTRACTIONS

- Knott's Berry Farm
- Knott's Soak City Waterpark
- Pirates Dinner Adventure
- Beach Boulevard Club
- Medieval Times
- Big Air Trampoline
- John's Incredible Pizza
- Olympic Golf Zone

### ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER

- 8 Miles Away

### NEARBY SPORTS TEAMS

- Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim
- Anaheim Ducks

### OC ENTERTAINMENT VENUES

- House of Blues
- Honda Center
- Segerstrom Center for the Arts
- The Grove of Anaheim
- OC Fair & Event Center

### BUENA PARK & OC MUSEUMS

- Knott's Independence Hall
- Nutrilite Experience Center
- Richard Nixon Library & Museum
- Discovery Cube Science Center
- Mission San Juan Capistrano
- Bowers Museum

### BUENA PARK HAS BEEN FEATURED ON...

- Jay Leno's Garage
- CONAN
- Hell's Kitchen
- Master Chef
- Entertainment Tonight
- America's Next Top Model
- Bay Area Life
- The Morning Blend Las Vegas
- Good Day Marketplace Chicago
- Colorado & Company
- Good Morning Arizona
- Yolo TX
- The Bold and the Beautiful
- The Cable Guy
- Bert the Conqueror
- Criminal Minds
- Storage Wars
- Seattle Refined
- The Bachelor



# FACTS ABOUT BUENA PARK

## LOCATION

What was once an agricultural area overflowing with dairy farms, orange groves and berry fields has grown to become the entertainment capital of Southern California. Located in Orange County, Buena Park is just 5 miles from Disneyland®, 10 miles from Huntington Beach and 20 miles from Los Angeles.

## DINING

Foodies flock to Buena Park to check out Yelp's #1 rated restaurant, Porto's Bakery and Café. Grab a Chicago-style dog at Portillo's or some finger-licking comfort food at Mrs. Knott's Chicken Dinner. Rock out at Rock & Brews, the brainchild of Gene Simmons and Paul Stanley of KISS that offers American classics and over 100 craft brews. Sample award-winning restaurants such as Miss Shabu, one of Yelp's Top 100 places to eat in America, The Cauldron Bar Spirits and Brews or SUP Noodle Bar!

## ENTERTAINMENT

Home to 5 of the 7 major attractions in Orange County, Buena Park's world-class entertainment includes Knott's Berry Farm Theme Park, Knott's Soak City Water Park, Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament, Pirates Dinner Adventure, Beach Boulevard Club, Big Air Trampoline Park, John's Incredible Pizza and Ralph B. Clark Regional Park. Most attractions are within walking distance from each other along the one mile stretch of the Beach Boulevard Entertainment Corridor.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

Buena Park hotels offer more than just comfortable accommodations, visitors can enjoy unique experiences such as Snoopy tuck-in service in the 16 Snoopy-themed rooms at the Knott's Berry Farm Hotel, large family suites at the Fairfield Inn & Suites and the Hampton Inn, relax with a glass of wine by the outdoor fire pit at the Courtyard by Marriott and splash around in the heated outdoor pool at the beautifully renovated Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center. Guests can choose from dozens of affordable Buena Park hotels offering amenities like free breakfast, free parking and free shuttles to major attractions, including Disneyland® and Knott's.





# FACTS ABOUT BUENA PARK

## ENTERTAINMENT

Home to 5 of the 7 major attractions in Orange County, Buena Park's world-class entertainment includes Knott's Berry Farm Theme Park, Knott's Soak City Water Park, Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament, Pirates Dinner Adventure, Beach Boulevard Club, Big Air Trampoline Park, John's Incredible Pizza and Ralph B. Clark Regional Park. Most attractions are within walking distance from each other along the one mile stretch of the Beach Boulevard Entertainment Corridor.

## EVENTS

Every visit is a new experience with seasonal celebrations all year long. Indulge in over 100 delicious treats during Knott's Boysenberry Festival, catch Snoopy and the Peanuts Gang in a Christmas ice skating show during Knott's Merry Farm, dig for real fossils on Family Fossil Days or catch a free outdoor performance during the Summer Concert Series. During October, Buena Park is transformed into the Halloween Capital of the World with over 1,000 menacing monsters at the largest Halloween event in the country, Knott's Scary Farm; family-fun at the interactive dinner show, Vampire's; haunted tours at the Olde Tyme Fall Festival; and trick-or-treating with your favorite Peanut's characters at Knott's Spooky Farm. During December and January, Buena Park honors Military Personnel with exclusive offers and discounted admission to Knott's.





# HISTORY OF BUENA PARK

The story of Buena Park dates back to 1783 when California belonged to Spain, and Pedro Fages was the Governor of this part of the country. He was given permission from the King of Spain to make land grants in California, and gave one such piece of land to Manuel Nieto, ex-corporal of the “Leather Jacket” guards of the Portola Expedition. This piece of land extended from the San Gabriel River to the Santa Ana River, and from the ocean to the road, from San Gabriel Mission. In 1834 Manuel Nieto’s land was divided into five ranchos. One of the five ranchos was named Rancho Los Coyotes and totaled 48,806 acres. Buena Park is located near the center of this rancho.

Rancho Los Coyotes is a center of California and American history, for it was here in January 1847, that Commodore Robert S. Stockton and his band of Americans rested in preparation for the battle of the San Gabriel River. The battle was won and the outcome of the Mexican War (1846-48) was settled in this area. The exact location of Stockton’s encampment is historically marked near the Los Coyotes Country Club in the Bellehurst area of Buena Park.

In 1885, James A. Whitaker, a wholesale grocer from Chicago, bought 690 acres of the Stearns Rancho, part of what was once the sprawling Rancho Los Coyotes. Whitaker intended to create a cattle ranch, but Santa Fe Railway officials convinced him to use the land for a new town. Whitaker filed his township papers in 1887 in Los Angeles County – Orange County had not been formed – to create the town of Buena Park. The City was not incorporated until 1953. Buena Park first became known as a dairy center and both the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific railroads built depots. The Lily Creamery started operations in Buena Park in 1889. With the exception of a few wineries, the creamery was the first industry in the city.





# HISTORY OF BUENA PARK

In 1920 Walter and Cordelia Knott moved to their 20 acre property located near Highway 39 in Buena Park, California. The young family along with their four kids were determined to be successful farmers and soon enough their crop of rhubarb, asparagus and berries were delicious enough to sell at a roadside stand. Business was booming and Cordelia soon opened a tea room where folks came from miles around to buy her fresh jams and jelly. Their good luck continued when a family friend, Rudolph Boysen and Walter Knott created the boysenberry—a cross between a raspberry, loganberry and blackberry. Highlighting their signature new berry, Cordelia expanded her tea room and began making homemade biscuits, fried chicken dinners and boysenberry pies. As the restaurant grew in popularity so did the long wait times, which led to the creation of Knott's Berry Farm's first attraction – Ghost Town. Since 1934, over 20,000,000 guests have eaten at Mrs. Knott's Chicken Dinner Restaurant and it continues to serve the same famous menu – chicken, biscuits, and boysenberry pie. Over the years, the Knott family continued to develop Knott's Berry Farm into the one of the most popular amusement parks in America. In December of 1997, after 78 years of ownership by the Knott family, Knott's Berry Farm was acquired by Cedar Fair, L.P., owners and operators of family-oriented entertainment park brands coast to coast.

Over the years Buena Park has made great strides in creating a diverse entertainment area which offers a wide selection of hotels, restaurants, and themed attractions. The City of Buena Park has its own local history park located on Beach Boulevard. Travel back in time by touring the city's Historic District featuring several preserved buildings: The Whitaker-Jaynes House serves

as the city's local history museum; the Bacon House is one the oldest surviving structures in the area; the Tice House, a charming cottage and the Stage Stop Hotel, is currently home to the Tourism Bureau for the City of Buena Park. At the Whitaker-Jaynes House, visitors can tour an extensive museum displays including items from the Lynx Women's Softball Team from the 1940's, a wedding dress display, a pictorial history of Buena Park's entertainment venues as well as the Dreger Clock and various photos of the famous clock throughout history.





## AND THE AWARD GOES TO... BUENA PARK

The awards season isn't just for the Grammys or the Oscars. Here in Buena Park, we've got our own award winning experiences, and you don't even have to wear a tux or gown to attend!

The lively city of Buena Park is a popular tourist destination that offers year-round mild climate and premier proximity to Disneyland, shopping and beaches. In fact, Buena Park's award-winning attractions, restaurants and hotels have earned it the distinction as one of the **'Most Fun Small Towns'** in America by Rand McNally.

One of the city's largest attractions Knott's Berry Farm, was honored with the prestigious **Linsberg Applause Award**. The accolade is bestowed to the best amusement park's in the world and it's easy to see why Knott's won with its first-class entertainment, storied past and thrilling rides - including one of the world's longest and tallest wooden roller coasters, Ghost Rider which won the Golden Ticket Award for the Best Wooden Roller Coaster. Seasonally, you can experience the THEA Award-Winning 'Ghost Town Alive'. Step back in time where gunslingers and outlaws ruled the west! Join in on the fun of unlocking bank robberies, jail breaks or dance at the good 'ol fashioned hoedown, all with period placed characters of the wild west!

Six time winner of **Tripadvisor's Certificate of Excellence Award** and ranking amongst the most popular dinner shows in the country is Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament. Their popular venue offers jousting, sword fighting and a four course meal fit for a king. If looting and pillaging is more your style, Pirates Dinner Adventure welcomes landlubbers to partake in the World's Most Interactive Dinner Show. Voted **OC Weekly's "Best Tourist Attraction in Orange County,"** visitors are dazzled by the swashbuckling swordplay, aerial artistry and special effects.





## AND THE AWARD GOES TO... BUENA PARK

Buena Park offers several esteemed restaurants including **Yelp's #1 Restaurant in the Country**, Porto's Bakery & Cafe. The world-renowned Cuban restaurant serves delectable desserts, savory sandwiches and their authentic Cuban beverages. For some caffeine, head to Coffee Code, named **"Best Coffeehouse in Orange County"** by OC Weekly. Chicago based company, Portillo's and winner of five **Silver Platter Awards** for the best restaurant in the country serves up the tastiest sausages, Italian beef sandwiches and hamburgers around.

For authentic Asian cuisine, indulge in a bowl of **Orange County's Best Ramen at Yoshiharu** or grill high-quality meat on a tabletop grill at **Grub Street's Absolute Best Korean BBQ**, Kang Ho Dong Baekjeong. The Bakery serves their Michelin rated pastries, breads and cakes at their unassuming shop at The Source OC. Miss Shabu, one of Buena Park's top Japanese restaurants is in **Yelp's Top 100 places to eat in the United States**, and hands down the best Kimchi Broth you've ever had. Doubling down with the Asian fare, SUP Noodle Bar's Vietnamese Pho is voted as the **OC's Best Pho** by OC Weekly! Try the Pho Dak Biet (Chef's Choice), we highly recommend it.

In the mood for quality street tacos? You're in luck, because Tacos La Calle was voted in the **Top 10 Best New Restaurants** in the OC by OC Weekly! The tacos are great, but so are the mulitas, street corn on the cob and the entire menu, but you can be the judge of that.

If you're wanting to spend the evening with a spirited spirit, then the award-winning **'Best Neighborhood Bar in North Orange County'** by OC Weekly means you'll have to head over to The Cauldron Spirits and Brews. Their signature boysenberry cotton candy drink, 'The Knotty Kid' is a must have.

After a full day of excitement, rest well in one of Buena Park's award-

winning hotels like the Fairfield Inn and Suites. The properties updated rooms, complimentary breakfast and free Wi-Fi earned it **Tripadvisor's Certificate of Excellence Award**. Voted Business of the Year by the Buena Park Chamber of Commerce, the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center has undergone a multi-million dollar renovation featuring modern rooms, large renovated pool area and full service restaurant and bar. Winner of the **Spectrum Award for Excellence in Customer Service**, the Knott's Berry Farm Hotel is conveniently located just steps from Knott's Berry Farm and offers an outdoor water feature and pool, tennis courts, in-house restaurant and in select rooms, Snoopy himself will come and tuck kids into bed.





# LIGHTS, CAMERA, BUENA PARK



Buena Park is home to exciting tourist attractions like Knott's Berry Farm, Soak City Waterpark, Pirates Dinner Adventure, Medieval Times and much more. But what you may not realize is that numerous Buena Park entertainment venues have been featured in many of your favorite movie and television shows.

One of the most recognized landmarks in town, Knott's Berry Farm has been the backdrop of many feature films and television programs including *Knocked Up*, *America's Next Top Model*, *The Next Food Network Star*, *Parenthood*, *Criminal Minds*, *A&E's Storage Wars*, *Hell's Kitchen*, *Jay Leno's Garage* and *Bert the Conqueror*.

In Season 15 of the CW television show, *America's Next Top Model*, the prospective contestants are taken to Knott's Berry Farm to test their modeling ability under a stressful situation. The ladies made their best attempt to be graceful for the built in camera system while riding the 55MPH roller coaster, *Silver Bullet*.

The 2007 film *Knocked Up*, a romantic comedy starring Seth Rogen, opens up with his character Ben Stone and his thrill seeking friends riding Knott's Berry Farm roller coasters – *Supreme Scream*, *Xcelerator* and *Silver Bullet*.

Live demos are a staple of every *Food Network Star's* repertoire. Season 10 finalists take the stage to perform a food demo for hundreds of amusement park visitors at Knott's Berry Farm.

Across the street from the theme park resides Knott's Independence Hall, a brick by brick replica of the original landmark in Philadelphia. This is the location of several scenes from the 2004 featured film *National Treasure* starring Nicolas Cage.

Another fan favorite is the 1996 film *The Cable Guy*, this comedy starring Jim Carrey features a scene at Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament. In one of the memorable scenes from the movie, Ernie

and his friend Steven find themselves a part of the performance as they face one another in a humorous battle scene.

The most recent episode of ABC's *The Bachelor* was at the Pirate's Dinner Adventure.

## CELEBRITY SIGHTINGS

Not only has Buena Park been a city captured on the big screen and television but it's also a hot spot for celebrities and their families. Celebrity sightings around town include professional athletes: Shaquille O'Neal, David Beckham, and Tony Hawk. Recording artists: Vanilla Ice, Katy Perry, John Mayer, Demi Lovato and Gwen Stefani. Television and Movie Actors: Chef Gordon Ramsey, Seth MacFarlane, Neil Patrick Harris, David Caruso, Abigail Breslin, Corbin Bleu, Kurt Russell, Kate Hudson, Molly Ringwald, Kevin Hart and Dylan McDermott.





# NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN BUENA PARK

## HANGTIME

Now open, Knott's welcomes the only dive coaster on the West Coast to the theme park. The ride towers 150 feet over the Boardwalk area with gravity-defying inversions, mid-air suspensions and twisting dive tracks. The attraction sends rides up a vertical lift hill into a 96-degree drop, the steepest in California.

## GAUCHO GRILL

At Gaucho Grill you'll be transported to the Argentinian mountains, where as the name suggests, Gaucho's grills up the best Argentinian steaks. They celebrate the tradition of Argentine cuisine through the values and culture of the gaucho lifestyle. With great pride taken in providing guests with an authentic experience in a warm and inviting atmosphere, Gaucho Grill is perfect for any occasion. Their steaks are cooked over an open fire, and the empanadas are homemade to perfection which makes for quite a spectacular end to a great day in Buena Park.

## PORTO'S BAKERY & CAFE

Named the #1 Restaurant in the Country by Yelp, the popular Cuban bakery serves up delectable pastries and cakes, savory sandwiches, specialty beverages and their famous potato balls. The family-owned business still uses many of the original recipes that they brought with them from Cuba in 1963. The Buena Park location is one of just four locations and the only one in Orange County.

## BEACH BOULEVARD CLUB

Buena Park's newest hot spot presented by Pirates Dinner Adventure is the Beach Boulevard Club featuring dueling pianos, elegant cocktails and delicious bites. Step through the entrance of this classy cocktail lounge and get transported to the prohibition days of the 1920s. As you mix and mingle with your friends, enjoy the smooth sound track of the club's talented pianists. The Beach Boulevard Club offers a full-service cash bar that includes a variety of wines, beers, liquors and specialty cocktails. No rendezvous would be complete without a delicious bite. The club will also serve a variety of appetizers and meals such as pork loin topped in a mushroom and alfredo sauce, roasted chicken and butternut squash ravioli.