

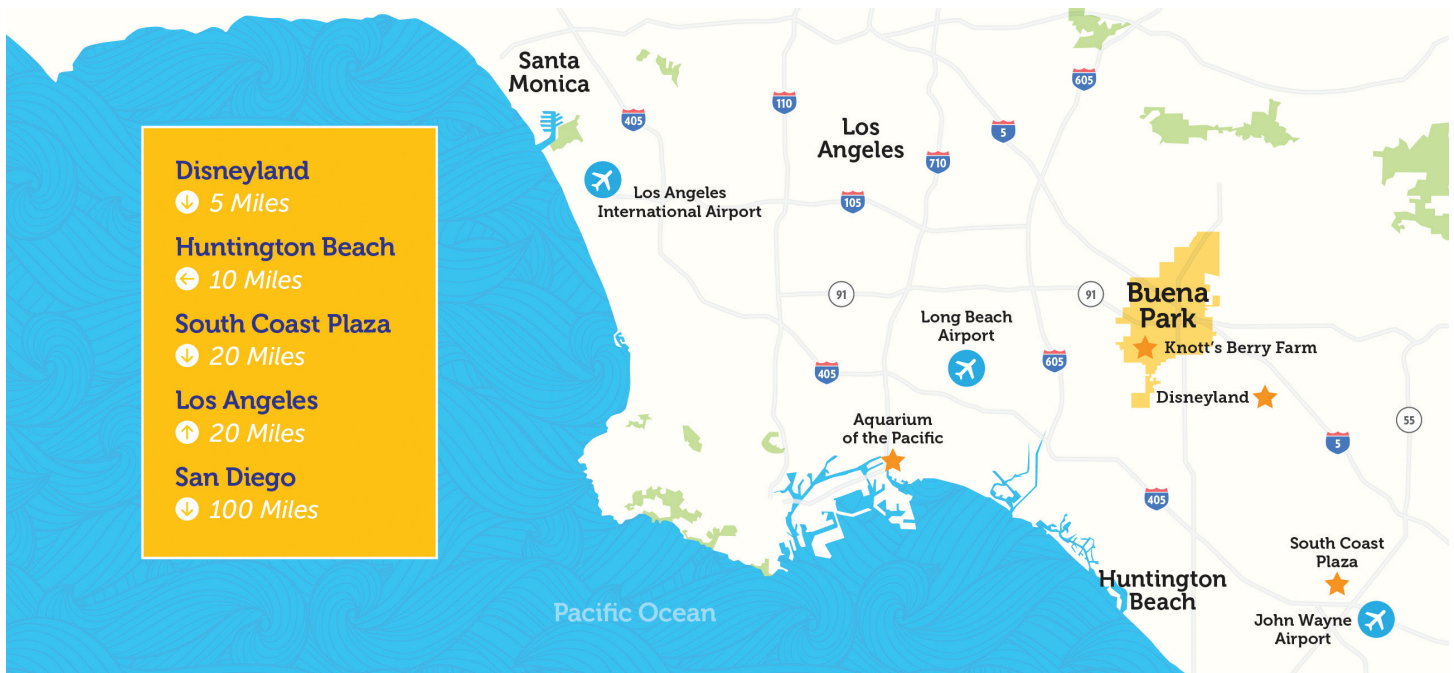


**BUENA PARK PRESS KIT**



# 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

- 22 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 Water Park
- Pirates Dinner Adventure
- Beach Boulevard Club
- Medieval Times
- John's Incredible Pizza
- Olympic Golf Zone
- Buena Park Koreatown

### 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

## 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, serving American classics and over 60 craft brews. Sample award-winning restaurants such as Miss Shabu, one of Yelp's Top 100 Places to Eat in America, The Cauldron Spirits and Brews or SUP Noodle Bar! For tonkotsu ramen and tsukemen noodles from a MICHELIN Guide Bib Gourmand, visit Ramen & Tsukemen TAO. Discover over 90 diverse and delicious restaurants, from trendy KBBQ to traditional gimbap, at Buena Park's Koreatown. The vibrant neighborhood is a foodie lover's paradise spanning over 2.5 miles.

## 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 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, Vampirates; bewitching brews at the witch-themed bar, The Cauldron Spirits & Brews; and trick-or-treating with your favorite Peanut's characters at Knott's Spooky Farm. During November and December, Buena Park honors military personnel with exclusive offers and discounted admission to Knott's.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

Buena Park hotels offer more than just comfortable accommodations, visitors can enjoy unique experiences at Knott's Hotel, luxurious and modern touches at the Hilton Hotel, large family suites at the Fairfield Inn & Suites and Hampton Inn, relax with a glass of wine by the outdoor fire pit at the Courtyard by Marriott and splash around in the massive outdoor pool at the beautifully renovated DoubleTree by Hilton. Guests can choose from dozens of affordable Buena Park hotels offering amenities like free breakfast, parking and shuttles to major attractions, including Disneyland® and 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.

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 at the Dreger Clock and various photos of the famous clock throughout history.





# HISTORY OF KNOTT'S BERRY FARM

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.







## 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 parks 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.







# DISHING OUT EXCELLENCE: BUENA PARK FOOD AWARD WINNERS

This esteemed list showcases the top ten restaurants that have captivated the taste buds of locals and visitors alike, solidifying Buena Park as a true foodie destination. The Food Awards are a celebration of a diverse culinary scene and recognizes hidden gems, beloved favorites, and innovative newcomers that make Buena Park a food lover's paradise.

## 1. PORTO'S BAKERY & CAFÉ

This local favorite brings the authentic flavors of Cuba to your plate. The award-winning recipes showcase savory empanadas, potato balls, cheese rolls, indulgent tres leches cakes, and croquetas.

## 2. RAMEN & TSUKEMEN TAO

This delectable noodle shop proudly holds the prestigious MICHELIN® Guide distinction of Bib Gourmand for its exceptional miso ramen and tsukemen dipping noodles.

## 3. PORTILLO'S

Renowned for its Chicago-style hot dogs and Italian beef sandwiches, with a standout reputation for their irresistible chocolate cake shake.

## 4. GAUCHO GRILL

An upscale Argentinian steakhouse, presents a menu featuring succulent entrana skirt steak, rich lamb and chorizo meatballs, and mollejas sweetbread with chimichurri sauce.

## 5. GANGNAM STATION

An upscale all-you-can-eat Korean BBQ spot tantalizes taste buds with a focus on premium meats, including luxurious Wagyu beef.

## 6. SUP NOODLE BAR

Vietnamese flavors shine through in their pho, a masterpiece featuring a 48-hour bone broth base that adds depth and richness to the dish. The aromatic broth, combined with tender rice noodles, forms a perfect pairing with their must-try shaken house fries.

## 7. THE CAULDRON

Transports you into a spellbinding haunted house, seamlessly weaving together tasty French-inspired fare like their bacon jam appetizer with a bewitching and eerie vibe.

## 8. MISS SHABU RESTAURANT & SAKE BAR

Prepare for a hands-on dining adventure full of premium meats, fresh vegetables, and noodles cooked to perfection right at your table.

## 9. JIN COOK

Discover the essence of Korean comfort food, where the menu is a treasure trove of favorites, ranging from bulgogi to cheesy pork katsu and spicy braised short ribs.

## 10. MISOOKKWAN OC

Get a nostalgic glimpse into 1980's Korean pub culture, with a focus on family-style dining. Foodies can indulge in dishes like spicy tteokbokki, succulent pork belly with kimchi, and the ever-popular corn cheese.





# NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN BUENA PARK

## FIESTA VILLAGE

Fiesta Village in Knott's Berry Farm received a major makeover, transforming it into a space that celebrates the Hispanic roots of Southern California. Dining options and a marketplace reminiscent of Olvera Street in Los Angeles highlight the themed area. The foodie paradise includes new quick-service taco and burrito options in the former Casa California space. Papas Mexicana sells tried and true carne asada fries, among other delicious eats. La Papa Loca has been turned into Cantina Del Sur, where guests can order various specialty drinks. Last but not least, a taco stand dubbed Taqueria Fiesta features quick bite eats as guests go from attraction to attraction.

## KNOTT'S BERRY FARM HOTEL

Knott's Hotel has completed a multi-million-dollar renovation that pays homage to Walter and Cordelia Knott's humble beginnings and their contributions to the City of Buena Park through an immersive storyline. Every inch of the hotel has been touched by the remodel, from a brand new lobby to a revamped outdoor event space.

## BUENA PARK KOREATOWN

Discover over 90 diverse and delicious restaurants, from trendy KBBQ to traditional gimhap, each offering a unique culinary journey through Korean cuisine. The vibrant neighborhood is a foodie lover's paradise spanning over 2.5 miles, starting from Rosecrans Avenue on Beach Boulevard, all the way up to Orangethorpe Avenue. The end of Koreatown perfectly places you at The Source OC, a 3-story mall filled with Korean and international boutique dining, entertainment and retail shops.

## BEACH BOULEVARD CLUB

Buena Park's newest hot spot presented by Pirates Dinner Adventure is Beach Boulevard Club featuring dueling pianos, elegant cocktails and delicious dining options. Step through the entrance of this classy cocktail lounge and get transported to the prohibition days of the 1920s. Beach Boulevard Club also offers a full-service cash bar that

includes a variety of wines, beers, liquors and specialty cocktails for your night on the town. Enjoy a variety of appetizers and meals at Buena Park's newest speakeasy.

## GAUCHO GRILL

At Gaucho Grill you'll be transported to the Argentinian mountains, where as the name suggests, Gaucho 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.

## HILTON AT THE SOURCE OC

Construction will be completed April 2024 for a Hilton hotel in Buena Park offering modern guest rooms, a rooftop pool, and an on-site restaurant. The stylish new hotel is connected to The Source OC, a shopping venue with innovative dining and entertainment experiences. Entertainment options include CGV Cinemas - featuring state-of-the-art 4DX and luxury cinema, and Olympic Golf Zone - with cutting edge screen golf.