

15 Cool Things to do



Laguna Beach

TAAN '08
SUMMER

15 Cool Things to do in Laguna Beach

There's lots of great stuff to do in Laguna Beach and the surrounding areas. Here's the Maricich top "15" list:

No. 1

Pageant of the Masters

This is one of the most famous festivals in Southern California where renowned artwork is recreated with real people—staged live to identically depict the originals. The festival takes place outdoors at the Festival of the Arts Amphitheater in Laguna Beach. This is a hot ticket that you do not want to miss out on, and it's only 10-15 minutes walking distance from the hotel. Friday night, August 8th is the planned "on your own" night and seats are still available directly from the box office by calling (800) 487-3378 or at www.foapom.com/site/events.asp. This event regularly sells out, but last minute tix might be available from some ticket brokers like TicketsNow (800) 927-2770.



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No. 2 People Watch at the World Famous Main Beach

Laguna Beach is famous for its eclectic mix of people, and Laguna's Main Beach, a stone's throw from Hotel Laguna, is the best place to go to immerse yourself in the diverse crowd. Join in a pick-up game of basketball at the popular oceanfront courts, take a walk down the scenic boardwalk or enjoy some of the art displayed by the local artists.

No. 3 Hit the Links at Pelican Hill

There is only one disadvantage to this amazing golf course—the incredible ocean views might derail your game. The resort includes two courses, the Ocean North Course and Ocean South Course, about 10 minutes via taxi from the hotel. Both 18-hole courses have extraordinary ocean views from nearly every hole. Tom Fazio, a world-renowned golf course architect, designed both courses. For tee times, call (877) 735-4226. For more information, log on to www.pelicanhill.com.



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No. 4

Take a Dip in the Ocean

Laguna is known for its clear water and beautiful shorebreak. It's a haven for bodysurfers, skim boarders, boogie boarders and surfers. If you go for a dip, make sure to check the conditions with a lifeguard first. During the summer months, strong hurricane and southern hemisphere storms can generate swells that are for the experienced only. The Laguna shore pound is notorious for breaking a neck or two, so if you go, please be careful and don't go headfirst! For a little one-on-one surf instruction, call the Soul Surfing School at (877) SOUL-SRF. If you prefer to stay on the beach, Salt Creek Beach Park (a 10-minute drive south) is a great place to watch some of the best surfers in So. Cal.

No. 5

Go Shopping

For you shopaholics out there, you have come to the right place. Laguna Beach is filled with fabulous boutiques and world famous surf shops all walking distance from the hotel where you can stock up on cool, California-esque gear. For some more variety, three of California's top recognized shopping destinations are less than a twenty minute drive, including Fashion Island, the Irvine Spectrum, & South Coast Plaza.



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No. 6

Have a Shake at Crystal Cove

Crystal Cove State Park, about a 10-minute drive from the hotel, has been the site of numerous famous films, including "Beaches" and "Treasure Island." The park is known for its rustic beach cottages and its famous "Date Shake Shack" at the top of the bluff. There are three miles of shoreline and 2,400 acres of woodland, which makes this natural landmark the perfect place to take in the sights on a morning hike, jog, or bike ride. Tori Maricich (Dave's wife) is planning to host a walk/hike at Crystal Cove for interested spouses/families.

No. 7

Angels vs. Yankees

There's no better way to bring members of TAAN together than some friendly East/West coast competition. The Angels and Yankees will play each other at Angel Stadium in Anaheim during the weekend of the TAAN conference. So grab a hot dog and a beer, and enjoy the game! Maricich will put together ticket options and transportation for Friday evening, August 8th depending on how many people want to go.



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No. 8

Check out a Hidden Beach

Laguna's shoreline has many coves and beaches tucked away from the beaten path. Treasure

Island Beach is a local favorite. It is located in front of the Montage Hotel and Resort, and has tide pools that are a popular attraction. Another great beach option is Victoria Beach which is known for its white sand and blue-green water. There are also volleyball courts located at both the north and south end of this beach. Picnic Beach is also a great place a your family to post up for the day. Ask the concierge or Dave and Mark for more specific directions. You can also check out www.beachcalifornia.com/laguna-beach-beaches-map.html for additional suggestions.

No. 9 Disneyland

No trip to California is complete without a stop at "The Happiest Place on Earth." Disneyland is a just 30 to 60 minutes (depending on traffic) from Laguna Beach. Double your fun with a walk across the park to California Adventure or finish your day with a monorail ride to Downtown Disney. And if you have a stomach of steel, take a ride on one of the Sun Wheel's swinging gondolas.



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No. 10

The Wedge

Located 20 minutes up the coast in Newport Beach, the Wedge is the most powerful wave in So. Cal. where wave heights can reach higher than 20 feet. This is not a place to get in the

water, but if the swell is right, thousands will line the beach to watch the best surfers and body surfers go absolutely nuts in some serious surf. Ten minutes north of the Wedge, you'll find the Balboa Fun Zone (well kept carnival rides, booths, etc.). The Huntington Beach pier (Surf City) is a 20-minute drive further north of the Wedge and is also quite a scene. Check with Dave Maricich for the latest surf report and directions.

No. 11

Laguna Beach Art Galleries

Whether you are an art connoisseur or just a looky-loo, you have come to the right place!

Laguna Beach is full of art boutiques and galleries where you can take in the creative work of many local artists. If you want to take advantage of the California sunshine, art vendors are usually displaying their work on Main Beach as well. It's the best of both worlds! For a list of galleries, go to www.art-collecting.com, scroll down to "Art Galleries" and click on the "Laguna Beach" link.



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No. 12

Do a Self-Guided Tour of "The Real OC"

Are you dying to see where the stars of MTV's "The Real OC" went to High School? Can't go home until you see the home where Lauren and Steven grew up? Download a podcast at www.wheresd.com/coolpicks/coolpicks.html and give yourself a self-guided tour of all the hotspots with the help of your iPod. We're not sure if you'll find every Real OC hotspot, but you'll have fun trying.

No. 13

Get a Massage at a Spa

Take advantage of your time on the coast and enjoy a spa session at one of the many that are located in Laguna Beach, most walking distance from the hotel. The tranquility of being next to the beach coupled with a relaxing spa session is a perfect way to wind down from a busy week. We recommend the Rejuvenation Oasis (949-494-7637), Spa Montage at the Montage Hotel (949-715-6000) & Marciena Day Spa (949-497-5414).



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No. 14

Sawdust Festival

Walking distance from the hotel (15-20 minutes), the Sawdust Festival is an annual art appreciation

celebration where artists come together to exhibit and sell their original work including ceramics, paintings, jewelry & more. There are a variety of exhibitions to see such as glass blowing. The festival itself takes place in a beautiful grove in the Laguna Canyon. Prices for adults are \$7.00 and \$3.00 for children. Check at www.sawdustartfestival.org for a full schedule of events and live entertainment.

No. 15

Just Relax

Walk about 10 paces due West from the hotel and you'll be on the sand. The Pacific will beckon with the relaxing sounds of the shorebreak and beautiful sunsets. Grab a beverage and lounge chair... and you're there! 😊

