

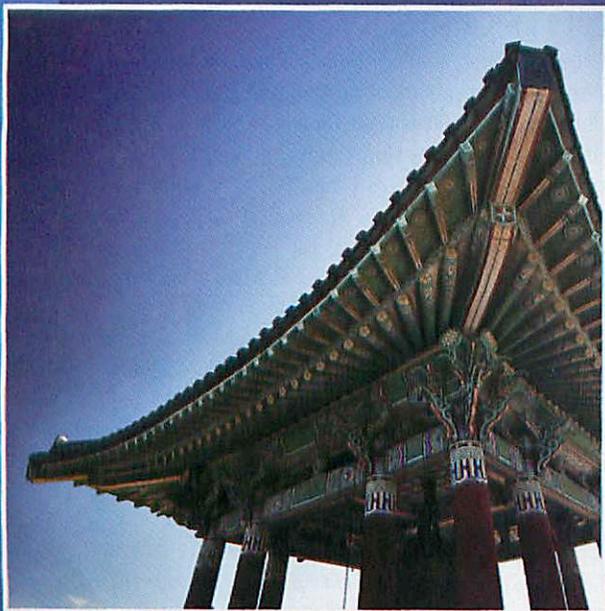
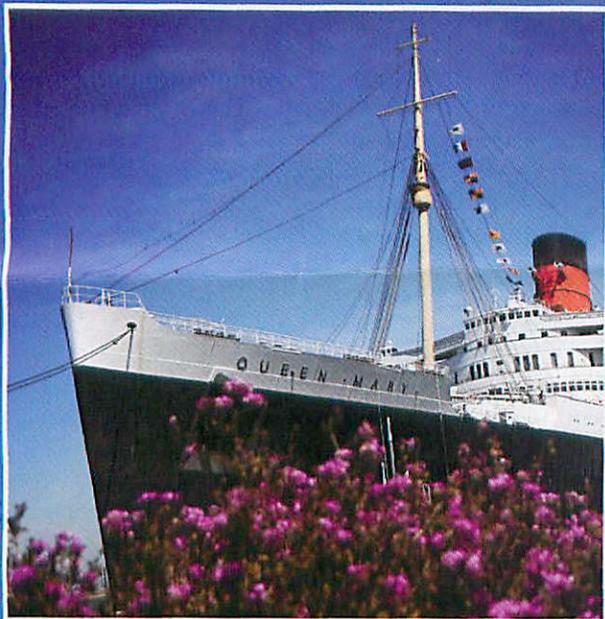
(Top to bottom)  
Shop in Redondo Beach;  
Queen Mary in Long  
Beach; Korean Bell of  
Friendship in San Pedro

(Opposite)  
Manhattan Beach Pier

Santa Monica, CA  
(Los Angeles Co.)  
Where  
(Cir. M. 80, 000)

NOV - - 2009

*Allen's* P. C. B. Est. 1888



EXPLORING

# South Bay & Harbor Cities

Beaches and harbors offer lots  
of action in the South Bay and  
Long Beach.

ment epicenter; west of Hermosa Avenue, Pier Avenue becomes Pier Plaza, a pedestrian promenade.

Pier Plaza is essentially one big block party. Locals hang out on the patios of Hennessey's Tavern and Sangria. Scantly clad fitness buffs on the Strand weave in and out on bicycles, on inline skates and on foot. If you need wheels, rentals are available in the vicinity.

The Comedy & Magic Club (1018 Hermosa Ave., 310.372.1193) offers top-notch entertainment; Jay Leno often makes Sunday night appearances.

## REDONDO BEACH

In the early 20th century, visitors went to Redondo Beach for its offshore gambling aboard ships reached by water taxis and for dancing in big-band ballrooms. The ambience has changed, yet the city—at the southern end of Santa Monica Bay, right below the breathtaking cliffs of the Palos Verdes Peninsula—is just as visitor-friendly.

As Sepulveda Boulevard enters Redondo Beach, it changes its name to Pacific Coast Highway. Near the intersection of PCH and Palos Verdes Boulevard is a collection of shops, galleries and restaurants including **Chez Melange** and **Gina Lee's Bistro**, two of the South Bay's finest restaurants.

Redondo's most famous landmark is the Redondo Beach Pier, where Torrance Boulevard meets the ocean. An attraction for more than a century, the horseshoe pier has souvenir shops and eateries selling everything from T-shirts and fishing bait to boiled shrimp and seashells. **Old Tony's** is a fantastical ship-shaped restaurant that has sweeping ocean views.

King Harbor has four marinas. The Redondo Beach Marina, north of the pier, offers boat rentals, sport fishing, harbor cruises, parasailing, whale-watching charters January through March and a Venetian gondola ride around the harbor.

Dining options offering marina views on the adjacent restaurant row include **Chart House** and The Cheesecake Factory. One of artist Wyland's famous Whaling Walls graces the Edison

International building at the harbor's entrance. The length of two football fields, the mural depicts the California gray whale.

To the south, Trump National Golf Club, the only Trump golf course open to the public, is in Rancho Palos Verdes.

Inland, off the 405 Freeway at Avalon Boulevard in Carson, pro soccer teams the L.A. Galaxy and Chivas USA call the **Home Depot Center** home, as does L.A. Riptide, one of the inaugural teams of the newly organized Major League Lacrosse.

## SAN PEDRO

San Pedro, with its funky-meets-blue-collar vibe and seafaring history, is the antidote to Big City Syndrome. Few chain stores taint downtown, which boasts the Warner Grand Theater, an art deco movie palace and a mom-and-pop coffeehouse, bookstore and antique shop.

The Cruise Ship Promenade is a boardwalk by the ocean liners at the Port of Los Angeles. Attractions include the Los Angeles Maritime Museum and **Ports O' Call Village**, a New England-style waterfront village of shops and restaurants connected by cobblestone streets. Get out on the water: Sport-fishing tours, romantic dining cruises and narrated harbor tours of the World-Port L.A.—the largest working port in the nation and a massive feat of engineering—depart frequently. **Catalina Express** offers daily ferries to Catalina Island, 26 miles away.

A trolley runs to **Cabrillo Beach**, great for swimming, scuba diving and windsurfing, and to the educational Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

The ornate, pagoda-styled Korean Bell of Friendship, given to the United States by South Korea in 1976, is on a bluff-top park at the southernmost point of Gaffey Street, above Point Fermin park. The setting has been used in films including *The Usual Suspects*.

## LONG BEACH

The harborside city of Long Beach, 25 miles south of downtown Los Angeles, is a gem for both cultural and business travelers. Downtown Long Beach (at the end of the 710 Freeway) and Long Beach Airport offer free public WiFi zones.

The Long Beach Performing Arts Center, adjacent to the convention center downtown, hosts Broadway musicals, theater and rock concerts. Shop and dine at the Pike at Rainbow Harbor. Pet live sharks at the outstanding **Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific** nearby. Exhibits at the renovated Long Beach Museum of Art focus on California-based art movements and craft and folk arts; the **Museum of Latin American Art** is inland.

Long Beach may be best known as the permanent home of the **Queen Mary**, which made its maiden voyage in 1936; on board are shops, an art deco lounge and the elegant **Sir Winston's** restaurant. You can tour the mighty ship—it's bigger than the Titanic was—or the historic Russian Foxtrot Submarine, adjacent.

East of downtown, pedestrians stroll along East 2nd Street in the upscale Belmont Shore neighborhood, browsing through eclectic boutiques and taking a meal at any of the numerous restaurants, such as hip Bono's. A stretch of East 4th Street, east of St. Louis Avenue, is known as Retro Row for its wealth of cool vintage clothing and furniture shops such as Replay and Xcape. ♾

For **bold** items, see listings in the **where** guide.

For a detailed map of these neighborhoods, see page 109.

### AVIA Kitchen + Wine Bar

Cal-Med small plates and adjoining wine bar in boutique hotel. AVIA Long Beach, 285 Bay St., Long Beach, 562.436.1047

### Elleni Couture

Designer shoe and handbag salon also peddles organic chocolates and desserts. 1100 Manhattan Ave., Manhattan Beach, 310.376.3553

### Gum Tree

Breezy, beachy shop and cafe with vintage-modern home décor, accessories and toys. 238 Pier Ave., Hermosa Beach, 310.376.8744

### Happy Six

Boutique with Japanese fashion and accessories from brands such as Tokidoki and Harajuku Lovers. Plaza El Segundo, 2008-I E. Park Place, El Segundo, 310.416.1252

### Susiecakes

Retro bake shop offers homey sweets including cupcakes, layer cakes, puddings and classic whoopie pies. 3500 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Manhattan Beach, 310.303.3780