

WHAT'S NEW IN CALIFORNIA

SPRING 2022



visit
California



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Visit California is pleased to present this Spring 2022 update on What's New in California. The information in this publication is also available on our online Media Center at media.visitcalifornia.com. There you can dynamically search the most up-to-date information by category and region. For even more information and inspiration, please visit our consumer website at visitcalifornia.com.

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Above:
Yosemite National Park, CA
On the cover:
Shaver Lake, CA

What's New

What's New in California showcases new openings and developments happening across the Golden State. Find inspiration for stories revolving around accommodations, culinary, arts and entertainment, family, outdoors, and technology and tours. Dates listed are subject to change. Confirm with appropriate media contacts listed with each entry.

Accommodations



BEVERLY HILLS

Beverly Wilshire, A Four Seasons Hotel Undergoing a Robust Refurbishment

Beverly Wilshire, A Four Seasons Hotel is currently undergoing a robust refurbishment project, slated to be complete by summer 2022. Designed by the iconic David Collins Studio, the guest rooms and suites will offer hints of drama and old Hollywood glamour, with an inspired contemporary twist. Dressed in soft pastels, the rooms represent Rodeo Drive luxury and provide guests with a sanctuary of comfort.

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CHICO

Brand New Hampton Inn & Suites opening in Chico

A brand-new **Hampton Inn & Suites Chico** is scheduled to open in the Northstate City of Chico in early spring of 2022. Located centrally right off Hwy 99 in the University town of Chico, the 150-room hotel boasts an indoor pool, gym and a meeting space for up to 80 people. The hotel will be situated near shopping and dining, and be only 2 miles from Bidwell Park, one of the largest municipal parks in the country.

MEDIA CONTACT: CAROLYN DENERO, **EXPLORE BUTTE COUNTY**, 530-918-4596, CAROLYN@EXPLOREBUTTECOUNTY.COM

CRESCENT CITY

New Casino, RV Park & Upscale Dining Coming to Crescent City in Spring 2022

Elk Valley Casino is changing the game in Crescent City with a brand-new location for their new 36,000-square-foot ocean view casino, meeting and convention space, and upscale restaurant opening in spring 2022. In addition to 300+ slots and bingo, there will be expanded gaming tables and slots in addition to a new six-table poker room. The new casino will host major live music and entertainment, offer plenty of RV parking spots for overnight stays, and a first-of-its-kind wildlife viewing stand on-site. The elk viewing platform will give visitors an up close glimpse of the Roosevelt Elk herds roaming around the casino grounds. Additional amenities will include over 6,000 square feet of meeting space, EV charging stations, expanded ADA accessible parking and a gift shop. The Elk Valley Rancheria is a federally recognized Indian tribe that is comprised primarily of Tolowa Indians, but also includes members of other local tribes such as Wiyot, Yurok and Hupa.

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DEATH VALLEY

The Cottages at The Ranch at Death Valley Now Open

The Ranch at Death Valley's new **Cottages** officially debuted in February 2022 and are the newest addition to The Oasis at Death Valley's multi-million dollar restoration project. They offer a modern-western lodging option at the historic property featuring 80 new cottage-style accommodations that come in either two queen or one king options. The cottages are located within walking distance to The Ranch's Town Square - the heartbeat of the Oasis and home of the Last Kind Words Saloon.

MEDIA CONTACT: SAMANTHA CHAPMAN, PERCEPTURE, 352-219-4844, SCHAPMAN@PERCEPTURE.COM

LAGUNA BEACH

The Ranch at Laguna Beach Launches New Tree Planting Initiative

As the stewards of an incredible natural landscape, **The Ranch at Laguna Beach** continues to pioneer sustainability efforts by launching the OC Tree Collective, a tree planting initiative designed to reduce carbon emissions, capture water resources and cool local communities. In partnership with The Ecology Center, a 28-acre regenerative organic farm in San Juan Capistrano, the resort's new sustainability program invites guests to purchase and plant trees at these environmentally forward locations. A single tree is available for \$50 and can be purchased on www.basecamplaguna.com with 100% of donations directed toward buying, planting and caring for each planted tree. Those who donate will be entered into an annual drawing to be selected for a two-night stay at The Ranch at Laguna Beach. The complimentary stay includes dinner for two at the resort's signature restaurant, Harvest, along with a tour of the donated trees at The Ranch at Laguna Beach and The Ecology Center.

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MONTEREY COUNTY

New and Updated Hotels in Monterey County

Opening in spring 2022, the Marina Hampton Inn & Suites will feature 90 guest rooms. Conveniently located off of Highway 1, the hotel is set to welcome both leisure and corporate travelers with amenities including a pool, gym, meeting rooms, business center and expansive breakfast area. Cannery Row's **Spindrift Inn** will debut its reimagined guest rooms in spring 2022. The new design concept, brought to life by Signature Design Group of Salinas, will reflect the property's beachside location. The soothing color palette of rich coral, azure blue and sage green pays homage to the Inn's original design while elevating it to reflect the vibrant ocean and beach colors viewed from the Inn's large picture windows. Each guest room has a canopy bed and gas fireplace.

MEDIA CONTACT: RACHEL DINBOKOWITZ, **MONTEREY COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU**, 831-657-6434, RACHEL@SEEMONTEREY.COM

NEWPORT BEACH

VEA Newport Beach Slated to Debut Spring 2022

VEA Newport Beach, a Marriott Resort & Spa, is set to debut this spring. Formerly the Newport Beach Marriott Hotel & Spa, the property is undergoing the most extensive resort reimagination in Newport Beach history. Guests can look forward to new coastal-inspired luxury guest rooms, the introduction of two new suite categories, three newly imagined restaurant and bar concepts, a 14,000-square-foot wellness-focused spa and high-performance fitness center, expansive new indoor and outdoor event spaces, and a luxury destination pool experience. VEA, which means "see" in Spanish, will celebrate the property's defining ocean and city views and offer experiences that embody the quintessential elements of Newport Beach. The vision for VEA is being brought to life by esteemed architecture and design firms HBA, Gensler, Burton Studio, and Houston Tyner Architects, featuring warm woods, muted neutrals, delicate marble and sculptural glass for a high design without excessive complexity.

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OAKLAND

Kissel Uptown Oakland Opened February 2022

In late February 2022, **Kissel Uptown Oakland** opened in the core of the city's vibrant Uptown district, at the center of an eclectic arts and entertainment scene. As part of the Unbound Collection By Hyatt, the newly renovated hotel embraces the neighborhood's history and spirit with grand Beaux Arts architecture, featuring towering columns, locally commissioned artworks, bold décor and plentiful natural light. Dining options include Otto's - an expansive lobby bar and cafe which offers craveable food and drinks all day long, and High Five - a lively rooftop bar and lounge with a panoramic terrace, drinks and snacks. Guests are just steps away from the diverse restaurants, bars, galleries and venues such as the Fox Theater and The Hive that make Uptown Oakland such a cultural hub.

MEDIA CONTACT: RENEE ROBERTS, [VISIT OAKLAND](#), 415-407-7424, RENEE@VISITOAKLAND.COM

PALM DESERT

JW Marriott Desert Springs Debuts JW Entertainment Zone and JW Family Passport

The recently-debuted **JW Entertainment Zone** is a fun, new offering for all ages. At 12,000 square feet, the state-of-the-art arcade is the largest in a California resort. Visitors can enjoy timeless classics like Pac-Man, Skee-Ball and air hockey, as well as new favorites like high-tech simulators, motocross racing games, four lanes of duckpin bowling and much more. Located at the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa, the JW Entertainment Zone is part of the iconic resort's comprehensive multi-million-dollar transformation. The hotel also recently unveiled the JW Family Passport, expanding the resort's offerings for younger guests. With an emphasis on creativity, culinary and active lifestyle, JW Marriott Desert Springs provides fun-filled creative adventures, including nature walks, family yoga, educational flamingo feedings, ice cream socials, scavenger hunts, trivia nights and more. Guests can have their passport stamped after participating in a wide array of activities and redeem prizes from the resort's treasure chest.

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SANTA BARBARA

Hotel Renovations - and a New Arrival - Refresh Santa Barbara's Lodging Options

Summer 2022 will see the arrival of **Drift Santa Barbara** from TCM Hospitality along Santa Barbara's downtown State Street. The tech-driven, affordable, contemporary hotel is aimed at the millennial market, with contactless check-in and perks. Other Drift openings are slated in San Jose del Cabo and Nashville. Upcoming renovations will refresh multiple Santa Barbara-area hotels, including Hotel Santa Barbara (recently purchased by Geronimo Hospitality Group) and the Kimpton Canary in downtown Santa Barbara, as well as The Waterman by Moxy in The Funk Zone. Riviera Beach Hotel is the new name for the former Hotel Indigo near the Funk Zone. Most renovations are expected to be completed between spring and summer 2022.

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SOUTH LAKE TAHOE

New Luxury Accommodations Opening this Summer in South Lake Tahoe

Desolation Hotel is a luxury, dog-friendly micro-resort due to open in summer 2022 with three buildings. The hotel will feature over 20 rooms, three-story townhouses, 11 suites, electric charging garages, a gym, a swimming pool and a Jacuzzi. Guests will also be able to enjoy Maggie's, an intimate fine dining restaurant, named after Maggie's Peak. Desolation Hotel will aim to inspire adventure and invite requiescence through the perfect fusion of modern conveniences and eco-luxury with Japanese tranquility and modern Scandinavian design.

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Culinary



ELK GROVE

Elk Grove's Newest Tasting Room: South Slope Wines

Recently opened **South Slope Wines** is located in the historic Sheldon area of Elk Grove, in California's Gold Country. South Slope Wines is dedicated to the art of making and pouring premium artisan wines from grapes primarily sourced from the Sierra Foothills AVA. South Slope Wines focuses on single varietal wines in order to provide a true look at the unique characteristics of each varietal without blending out the distinctive attributes. Located in a beautifully remodeled old farmhouse, the winery hosts a variety of events including Wine and Dine weekend food trucks, live comedy nights, live band musical performances, and an annual chili cook-off.

Dust Bowl Brewing Co. Opens Old Town Tap House in Elk Grove

The newly opened **Old Town Tap House**, located in Old Town Elk Grove, treats guests to Dust Bowl Brewing Company's signature aesthetic – showcasing a mix of finishes and furnishings in a stunning, historic brick building. From inside booths to outdoor couches and shared tables, the diverse seating options enable visitors to enjoy beers in a lively, social setting. Guests are treated to two 30-tap bars, serving indoor and outdoor patrons, featuring Dust Bowl's large portfolio of year-round and rotating specialty beers and seltzers. Wedo's Kitchen, located inside the taproom, provides a vast food menu. Corn hole games, fire pits, overhead fans and market lights are an ideal complement to the outdoor space.

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ENCINITAS

Temaki Bar: Handroll, Sushi, Sake, Opening April 2022 in Encinitas

Clique Hospitality will open its next restaurant project, **Temaki Bar: Handroll, Sushi, Sake**, in April 2022 in Encinitas. Helmed by Chef JoJo Ruiz, local veteran chef and San Diego native, Temaki Bar: Handroll, Sushi, Sake celebrates the tradition that all perfect hand rolls should be eaten within seconds of when the chef passes it across the counter – while the rice is still warm and the fish, fresh and chilled. In keeping with tradition, Temaki Bar's hand rolls are prepared counter-side and made-to-order for guests, highlighting the freshest seafood such as blue crab, yellowtail, salmon and more. Upon opening, Temaki Bar will debut a signature Tuna Roll, featuring the restaurant's irresistible spicy sauce, alongside an eclectic sake program.

MEDIA CONTACT: CASSIE DOWN, J/PR / [TEMAKI BAR: HANDROLL, SUSHI, SAKE](#), 702-810-0201, CDOWN@JPUBLICRELATIONS.COM

HEALDSBURG

Healdsburg Welcomes New Restaurants and Bars

Laura Sanflippo and Tara Heffernon, former Duke Spirited Cocktails' founders, partnered with Chef Sean Raymond Kelley to bring **Lo & Behold** to downtown Healdsburg in January 2022. The vibrant bar and kitchen serves farm-to-glass cocktails and globally inspired comfort food in a lively and casual environment, utilizing produce from the expansive patio, as well as fruit grown in Heffernon's orchard. **SingleThread** owners Kyle and Katina Connaughton will introduce a plant-based full-service restaurant, quick-service cafe and wine shop at the former SHED in Healdsburg this March. The project, called **Little Saint**, is a collaboration with new property owners Jeff and Laurie Ubben, Jenny Hess and designer Ken Fulk. With an à la carte menu inspired by the seasonal bounty of the Sonoma Valley, the restaurant will be open for lunch and dinner with the cafe and retail open daily. Inspired by the idea of creating a local hub for enjoying the greatest wines of the world, former SingleThread directors, Evan and Jade Hufford, in partnership with sommelier and SingleThread alum, Ryan Knowles, will bring a new wine bar to downtown Healdsburg in March 2022 with the opening of **Maison Healdsburg**. The local wine bar will prominently feature Sonoma Coast wines poured alongside their analogues from Burgundy, as well as champagne, craft sake and beer. Maison Healdsburg will also host private tastings and weekly educational classes catering to both novice drinkers and industry experts.

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LA JOLLA

Marisi Opening in La Jolla Opening Spring 2022

Marisi La Jolla, an inspired new Italian restaurant, will be opening this spring. Led by Executive Chef Chad Huff (Felix Trattoria in Venice, and Broad Street Oyster Co. in Malibu); Culinary Director Erik Aronow (Bouchon Bistro, Red Medicine, Republique, Ink in Los Angeles); Bar & Spirits Creative Director Beau du Bois (Three Michelin-starred The Restaurant at Meadowood); and Dylan Shipsey, a veteran of Union Square Hospitality Group, Marisi focuses on Italian hearth cooking with an emphasis on handmade pastas and classic cocktails. Opening the doors to Italy by way of La Jolla and culling together experience in famed restaurants around the country, the team seeks to break the rules on what guests would expect the best to be. The menu celebrates the rich diversity of cuisine from across Italy, fashioned in a time-honored tradition of handmade pasta all day, every day. The international and highly intense cocktail program features an array of Italian aperitivos, homemade limoncello and more.

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LOS ANGELES

Camphor Now Open in Downtown Los Angeles

Camphor, a modern French bistro, opened in the Arts District in late February 2022. Co-Executive Chefs Max Boonthanakit and Lijo George aim to re-imagine the modern bistro experience by creating a unique flavor identity within the robust Los Angeles dining scene through a cleverly simple yet unassumingly complex menu, with recognizable nods to the duo's South Asian background and classical French training. Camphor's menu includes a shareable feast of small plates, beautifully presented heartier mains, classic cocktails with a twist, and a selection of French and European wines to pair. The 65-seat restaurant has an industrial-meets-clean modern aesthetic, featuring white brick walls, marble tabletops, blue velvet booths, ornate plateware, and an open kitchen with plenty of gold hues and brass accents.

MEDIA CONTACT: JORDAN ROBINSON, MODERN CURRENCY PR, 949-309-8781, **JORDAN@MODERNCURRENCYPR.COM**

Gusto Green Now Open

Gusto Green opened to the public in January 2022 in Los Angeles. Helmed by culinary powerhouses Janet Zuccarini (the mastermind behind the “Best Restaurant in America” Felix Trattoria) and Chef Michael Magliano (previously The French Laundry, Quince and Jon & Vinny’s Animal) Gusto Green offers plant-forward, omnivore-friendly cuisine with a dedication to sourcing from sustainable, best-in-class purveyors, including an exclusive partnership with Ziese Farms – the only federally approved purveyor of hemp leaf for food. Through this exclusive relationship, Chef Michael Magliano integrates the nutrient-dense leaf in a variety of ways, like Gusto Green’s signature amuse-bouche: a crispy, chickpea-battered whole hemp leaf. Highly regenerative and rich in potassium, Omega-3s and more, hemp leaf fits well into Gusto Green’s culinary program, which emphasizes high-quality, in-season (and mostly California-sourced) ingredients from progressive local purveyors; shareable plates presented in innovative ways; sustainability; and, as Chef Magliano puts it, “eclectic, healthy dishes that can also be indulgent, crafted with bold, bright, fresh flavors.” Guests can also enjoy biodynamic and natural wines, modern cocktails, zero-proof cocktails, housemade kombucha, adaptogenic teas and coffees. A retail component featuring Chef Magliano’s housemade hemp goods and picks from the team’s favorite local artisans will soon be available as well.

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The Art Room Coming to Downtown Los Angeles in March 2022

Opening at the corner of 9th and Olive, The Art Room is an exciting new restaurant coming to downtown Los Angeles in March 2022. From Chef D. Brandon Walker, the co-founder of The Mar Vista and The MV Grab and Go, this day-to-night café aims to engage its community with art and culture, operating alongside the **AUX Architecture**’s studio and **Seasons LA** art gallery. The Art Room will offer quick and easy options for breakfast and lunch inspired by Chef D.’s old school approach of putting his favorites on the menu regardless of “fit.” This means the menu will

include anything from his signature tacos to fried okra, mac and cheese, lasagna, fish cakes and spinach fritters. The Art Room will also serve select breakfast items all day, a wide variety of salads, and plenty of plant-based vegetarian and vegan options. With each of his concepts, Chef D. looks to provide a realistic solution to the current labor shortage by creating an employment experience that champions a positive restaurant culture by providing fair pay and work-life balance for its employees. The majority of the culinary team has been working with Chef D. since graduating from his famed culinary training program at the St. Joseph Center – a free program focused on providing training to those who have experienced homelessness, addiction rehabilitation and more.

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MERCED

Chef Quentin Garcia of Rainbird Brings Fine Dining to Merced

Rainbird recently opened in February 2022, bringing an entirely new dining experience to downtown Merced in the El Capitan hotel – a charming JdV by Hyatt historic property – with a thought-provoking five-course tasting menu from Executive Chef Quentin Garcia. The restaurant’s name represents the regional bird’s unique migration patterns that signal the coming of rain and a forthcoming, bountiful harvest. Serving prix-fixe dinner on Friday and Saturday nights (expanding to host Thursday dinner and an a-la-carte Sunday brunch to follow in the spring), Rainbird’s intricate menu is sourced from local and regional farms, epitomizing the vegetable-centric culinary movement within fine dining while encapsulating Chef Garcia’s impressive, international culinary training and experimental style. Delicately designed by NICOLEHOLLIS to mimic the earth’s natural elements, Rainbird’s interiors feature rich natural textures and soft pastoral tones like pale greens, creams and light blues.

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MONTEREY COUNTY

New Dining and Drinking Spots in Monterey County

Alvarado Street Brewery is expanding its offering with a new restaurant in downtown Salinas, Alvarado on Main, set to open in spring 2022. The new brewery restaurant will add to the recent revitalization of downtown Salinas and the surrounding area. In nearby Carmel-by-the-Sea, Nicolás Cocina de Herencia is the newest creation from the owners of the beloved Villa Azteca in Salinas. The restaurant's name honors the Alvarez family patriarch and will open in Carmel Plaza in spring 2022. The 5,000-square-foot spot will have indoor dining, bar seating and a small outdoor space, serving specialty Michoacán dishes as well as other Mexican favorites, incorporating three generations of family recipes. Also set to open in spring 2022, **Saucy Otter Brewing Company** is coming to Pacific Grove. This informal spot with a locals' vibe will serve small-batch craft beer in California's last "dry" town, which legalized alcohol in 1969, 30 years after the federal repeal of Prohibition.

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OAKLAND

Chef Paul Canales Opens New French-Inspired Occitania Restaurant in Oakland

Highly acclaimed chef Paul Canales, the chef/owner of Duende and the former long time executive chef of Oliveto, is behind the new French-inspired Occitania, opening in the heart of Oakland's Uptown Arts District in spring 2022. Inspired by the Occitan linguistic region of Southern France which spans from the alpine region of Italy's Piemonte all the way to Spanish Catalonia, the menu blends traditional technique with a modern approach, adapting ancient recipes to showcase local, sustainable ingredients. Rafe Gabel, Italian Wine Specialist and California Appellation Wine Specialist, will oversee operations and the beverage program.

Additional New Restaurant Openings in Oakland

Calabash is a project by Nigel Jones that brings together his Jamaican cuisine with food from Malaysia and northern Iran that he refers to as "a gourmet Whole Foods with a full bar, outdoor dining and lots of grab-and-go items." The restaurant is opening April 2022 on 2302 Valdez Street.

Joodooboo is a modern Korean deli from co-chef Steve Joo of pop-up Nokni. The restaurant will focus on house made specialties like tofu, seasonal banchan made with farm fresh ingredients, and simple daily meals to accompany the banchan. Joodooboo opened in January 2022 at 4201 Market Street. Matt Horn of Horn Barbecue recently opened **Kowbird**, a soul-infused chicken joint with a killer buttermilk fried chicken sandwich – both traditional and sweet and spicy. Kowbird is located at 1733 Peralta Street, and features inventive sauces, Southern-inspired sides and desserts.

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PASO ROBLES

Cane Tiki Room Debuting Summer 2022

The creators of Fish Gaucho, Pappy McGregor's and Eleven Twenty Two Speakeasy are bringing fun, vibrant, tiki vibes to downtown Paso Robles in summer 2022. Inspired by the transition to outdoor dining, Cane Tiki Room will offer a unique food and drink experience where guests can indulge in exotic tiki cocktails paired with chef inspired Polynesian-Fusion small bites, like Kalua pork sliders, ahi poke and spam musubi.

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SAN DIEGO

Coco Maya Slated to Open in March 2022

Coco Maya, by **Miss B's Coconut Club**, is set to open on Little Italy's buzzing India Street in March 2022, offering an open-air aesthetic designed to reflect the boho chic vibes of Tulum, Mexico. Coco Maya's main cocktail bar will sit under a massive skylight and the roof will be removed to create a 900 square foot deck. The restaurant's Caribbean-inspired menus will feature tequila drinks and modern takes on Jamaican coal pot cooking from a Josper Charcoal oven-powered kitchen.

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SANTA BARBARA

Santa Barbara Urban Wine Trail Reinvents itself in 2022

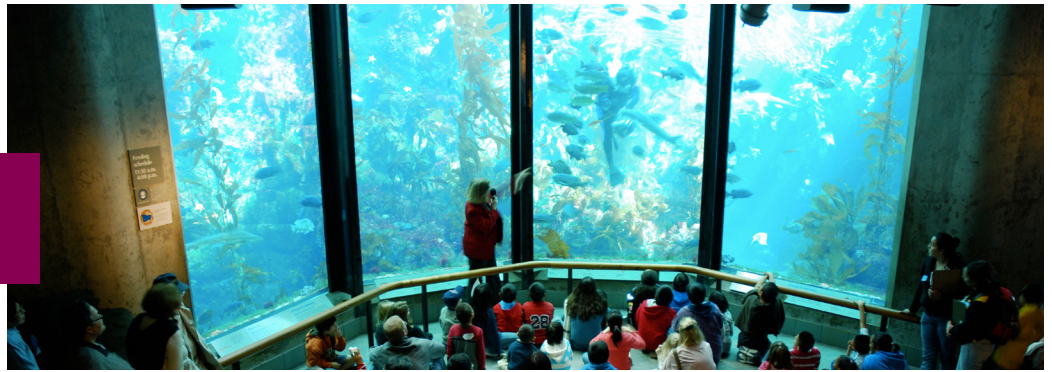
The **Santa Barbara Urban Wine Trail** is reinventing itself in spring 2022. Made up of nearly 30 member wineries, many within walking distance of each other and downtown beaches, the trail was founded in 2012 and is California's original urban wine trail. At least four new tasting rooms will open in Santa Barbara and Goleta. **Kunin Wines** is welcoming a new outdoor Funk Zone tasting room, specializing in natural, unfiltered wines and featuring art nights with neighboring art gallery Silo118. **Frequency** is moving to a historic courtyard encircled by exquisite Spanish Colonial Revival architecture and lush foliage in the Presidio Neighborhood. **La Lieff Wines** is opening its first Funk Zone tasting room, featuring the handiwork of highly respected women winemakers Kris Curran and Angela Osborne. Several popular wineries are on the move to new locations in the Funk Zone, including Foley Food & Wine Society, Santa Barbara Winery and Pali Wine Co.

New Eateries and Bars Coming to Santa Barbara

A bumper crop of innovative new eateries and bars are opening in Santa Barbara in early 2022. Known for mouthwatering lobster rolls, Santa Barbara sea urchin and oysters on the shell featured in past pop-ups, **Broad Street Oyster Company** is opening a permanent location downtown. **Bedda Mia** will focus on Sicilian cuisine, featuring seafood and fresh produce-forward dishes, plus Sicilian wines. Elaine and Alberto Morello, who own the Olio e Limone eateries, are overseeing the new State Street restaurant. **Rare Society**, a "retro-swanky" steakhouse, will open a new location in the Funk Zone, owned by San Diego's Trust Restaurant Group. Chef Brad Wise first fell in love with Santa Maria-style barbecue when he met his wife-to-be on a Central Coast road trip. In addition, **High Seas Meadery**, **Wylde Works** (maker of jun kombucha and mead) and **Augie's Tequila Bar** all have plans to open downtown.

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Arts & Entertainment



FRESNO

Fresno Art Museum Launches Andy Warhol Exhibition

The **Fresno Art Museum** debuted “Andy Warhol Portfolios: A Life in Pop” in early February 2022. This exhibition includes portfolios and individual prints by Warhol, starting with iconic works from the mid-1960s to the series of monoprints Vesuvius, created in 1985. These prints demonstrate many aspects of Warhol’s art, including his brilliance as a colorist, which can be seen in the early Flowers and Sunset series. In later series, Warhol experimented with the silkscreen printing process to create complex surface layers. The exhibit will be on display through June 26, 2022.

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MONTEREY COUNTY

Monterey Bay Aquarium Launches Into the Deep Exhibit in April 2022

Monterey Bay Aquarium’s new exhibit, **“Into the Deep: Exploring Our Undiscovered Oceans,”** will illuminate the wonders of Earth’s largest living space and most mysterious habitats. The exhibit is a collaborative exhibition developed with the Aquarium’s research and technology partner MBARI (Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute), offering an unparalleled descent from the ocean’s surface through the dark abyss of the midwater to the seafloor. Along the journey, the deep-sea exhibition — a fully bilingual experience in English and Spanish — offers a rare look at the animals that thrive in the least explored area of the planet, including species being displayed for the first time anywhere and some that are so new to science they have yet to be named. The exhibit is opening April 9, 2022.

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OAKLAND

Edith Heath: A Life in Clay, comes to Oakland Museum of California (OMCA)

“Edith Heath: A Life in Clay” opened at OMCA on Jan. 29 and will be on view through Oct. 30, 2022. Through the exhibit, viewers can discover the story of Edith Heath, founder and designer of Heath Ceramics, who transformed the ceramics industry, creating dinnerware from California clay for “Sunday best” and everyday use. Driven by the power of good design, and a commitment to her craft, Heath’s vision continues to live on through her stoneware and tile over 70 years later.

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SAN DIEGO

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego Reopening April 2022

The **Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego** (MCASD) is pleased to announce the reopening of its La Jolla flagship location in April 2022, which over the past four years has undergone a \$105 million renovation and expansion by world-renowned Selldorf Architects. The expanded museum will offer four times the current gallery space, two levels of light-filled galleries, a public park, and new seaside terraces offering dramatic views of the Pacific Coast. The new design includes the renovation of 28,000 square feet of existing spaces as well as the addition of 46,400 square feet of new spaces to MCASD, effectively doubling the Museum’s existing square footage.

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SAN FRANCISCO

The Contemporary Jewish Museum Celebrates Jim Henson's Legacy with New Exhibit

"The Jim Henson Exhibition: Imagination Unlimited" will be on view at **The Contemporary Jewish Museum** from March 31-Aug. 14, 2022. Celebrating the legacy of Jim Henson, trailblazing puppeteer, animator, cartoonist, actor, inventor and filmmaker, the exhibition features more than 150 objects from the beloved worlds of "Sesame Street," "The Muppets," "Fraggle Rock," "The Dark Crystal," "Labyrinth," and more. Don't miss your chance to see Kermit the Frog, Beaker, Scooter, Bert, Ernie, Grover, Count von Count, and more of Henson's beloved characters at The CJM – and discover how Henson and his team of builders, performers and writers created an unparalleled body of work that continue to delight audiences and inspire people of all ages to look beyond differences and cultivate a more compassionate, inclusive world.

MEDIA CONTACT: LUCY SIMS, **THE CONTEMPORARY JEWISH MUSEUM**, 510-295-5689, LSIMS@THECJM.ORG

SANTA BARBARA

New Van Gogh Exhibit on Display in Santa Barbara

From February through May 2022, "**Through Vincent's Eyes: Van Gogh and His Sources**," is on display at the newly renovated Santa Barbara Museum of Art. This groundbreaking exhibit celebrates 20 works from the painter, as well as his visual and literary inspirations, exemplified by his 19th century artist and writer peers. A city-wide celebration will take place in March, with Van Gogh-themed programming presented across the community, including Santa Barbara's opera, symphony, ballet, theater company and other cultural institutions.

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SANTA ROSA

Charles M. Schulz Museum Celebrating 20th Anniversary

The **Charles M. Schulz Museum** is celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2022, and Charles M. Schulz's 100th birthday in November. The exhibition "**From Spark Plug to Snoopy: 100 Years of Schulz**" will kick off the centennial celebration, and be on display from March 20 through Sept. 18, 2022. Additional special events and galleries can be discovered on the museum's website.

MEDIA CONTACT: STEPHANIE KING, **CHARLES M. SCHULZ MUSEUM**, 707-284-1268, STEPHANIE@SCHULZMUSEUM.ORG

Family



CARLSBAD

LEGO® Ferrari Build & Race Opening Spring 2022

The new **LEGO Ferrari Build and Race** is coming to LEGOLAND® California Resort in spring 2022. Featuring a life-size LEGO Ferrari F40 developed by the LEGO® Group, Build and Race puts guests in the driver's seat as they make their way through the "garage" to the "racetrack" using their creativity and imagination to build, test and race their own LEGO Ferrari. Build and Race features three zones designed to be interactive and inspiring. Guests get to build their own LEGO Ferrari car to race at one of three racetracks and feature obstacles, challenges and a chance to clock in the fastest time. Guests can also digitally scan their vehicle, further customize their Ferrari and compete against other drivers for the fastest lap time as they race on a LEGO racetrack based on the Pista di Fiorano.

MEDIA CONTACT: JAKE GONZALES, [LEGOLAND® CALIFORNIA RESORT](#), 760-429-3288, JAKE.GONZALES@LEGOLAND.COM

LOS ANGELES

New CAMP Location Coming to Century City in Spring 2022

Families in Los Angeles County and surrounding area can check out **CAMP**, a new family play experience opening on April 23 in Century City. CAMP is the retro summer camp of any child's dreams, only better, since there are no bugs. Kids of all ages can come zoom down the slides, explore areas full of toys and ways to play, dance in a disco cabin, make a craft, and more. There are so many fun things to do at BaseCAMP. The new CAMP location will also feature ice cream and shopping opportunities.

MEDIA CONTACT: TIFFANY MARKOFKY, [CAMP](#), TIFFANY@CAMP.COM

OAKLAND

Oakland Zoo Celebrates 100 Year Anniversary

Founded on June 6, 1922, the **Oakland Zoo** is celebrating its centennial in 2022 with great pride and thoughtful reflection of years past. The Oakland Zoo is proud of the achievements and strides they've made in animal welfare, wildlife conservation and education, and is more excited than ever to remain steadfast in its ongoing, evolving and ever-expanding commitment to a purpose-driven future where nature and wildlife not just survive but thrive. Oakland Zoo will celebrate this momentous occasion all year long with Community Clean Up Days, Cocktails & Conservation Programs, Earth Day Events, Brunch for the Wild Bunch and one great party at Lake Merritt on June 5, 2022. For more information go to www.oaklandzoo.org/centennial.

MEDIA CONTACT: RENEE ROBERTS, [VISIT OAKLAND](#), 415-407-7424, RENEE@VISITOAKLAND.COM

SAN DIEGO

Denny Sanford Wildlife Explorers Basecamp

The 3.2-acre Denny Sanford Wildlife Explorers Basecamp at the **San Diego Zoo** is opening in March 2022 on the former Children's Zoo site, blending innovation with opportunities to explore a variety of species, ranging from leafcutter ants and orb weaver spiders to prairie dogs and sloths. Wildlife Explorers Basecamp is designed to bring guests and their families up-close to nature, and offer interactive play opportunities on oversized, species-themed sculptures. This new area of the San Diego Zoo offers visitors special sensory elements for a multifaceted engagement approach, with microscopes and touch screens, plus animation and dynamic lighting installation in the new buildings.

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Sesame Place San Diego Opening March 2022

Sesame Place, opening March 26, 2022, will feature seven Sesame Street-themed rides, an interactive musical play area, and 11 water attractions including a 500,000 gallon wave pool – one of the largest in Southern California. The park will also have an interactive Sesame Street Neighborhood complete with the iconic 123 Stoop, live character shows, an award-winning daily parade, unique photo opportunities, and everyone's favorite furry friends. Sesame Place San Diego will open as a Certified Autism Center (CAC), featuring a park-specific sensory guide, designated quiet spaces, and staff-wide autism sensitivity and awareness training.

SeaWorld San Diego Emperor Debuting March 2022

Beginning March 12, 2022, thrillseekers can dangle and drop more than 143 feet into a dive plunge when riding **Emperor**, SeaWorld San Diego's all-new coaster. Soaring more than 60 mph, Emperor is the tallest, fastest, and longest dive coaster in California and the only floorless dive coaster in the state. On the hair-raising ride, guests will be suspended on a 45-degree angle before plunging down a 143-foot facedown vertical drop into exhilarating loops, a tribute to emperor penguins' amazing underwater diving abilities.

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Outdoor



JOSHUA TREE

AutoCamp Joshua Tree Now Open

AutoCamp, the premier outdoor lodging brand, opened its **Joshua Tree location** in January 2022, offering the unique outdoor hospitality experience amongst the famed Joshua Trees and subtle rock formations in Southern California's epochal desert haven. AutoCamp Joshua Tree is a 25-acre property featuring 47 Airstreams, four Accessible Suites and four X Suites — all equipped with updated HVAC systems for all-season weather, as well as unique outdoor showers available in some premium units.

MEDIA CONTACT: HANNA BAUMANN, CINCH PR, 650-745-5365, HANNAB@CINCHPR.COM

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

New Western Monarch Trail Launches on California's Central Coast

To warm their wings, a portion of the Western Monarch butterfly population winters at the Monarch butterfly groves along the Highway 1 Discovery Route in SLO CAL each year between October and February. The recently launched **Western Monarch Trail** shares the best sites to see the Monarchs as they migrate across the West. The trail is a partnership between the Central Coast State Parks Association (CCSPA) and multiple organizations working to preserve and steward natural resources. By following the Western Monarch Trail, visitors can become interested, educated and invested in the health of the Monarch's threatened population. Each site along the trail includes interpretive signage featuring information key to citizen science and preservation. Though not all of them are open to the public, 10 of these sites are located in San Luis Obispo County alone.

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VISALIA

Valley Oaks Golf Course Becomes First Certified Autism Center Course in California

Valley Oaks Golf Course has become the first golf course in California to be designated a Certified Autism Center™ (CAC). The CAC designation is awarded by IBCCES to organizations that complete position-specific training to help staff better communicate and serve visitors with autism and sensory sensitivities. In the coming months, Valley Oaks Golf Course will have designated "quiet space" available for those in need and sensory backpacks available upon request that include noise-canceling headsets, fidget toys, and playdough. Valley Oaks Golf Course will host seasonal ASD golf clinics where those on the spectrum can begin to learn and experience the game of golf in a welcoming and supportive group setting. Valley Oaks Golf Course is a participating partner of Visit Visalia's "Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program" that allows guests to discreetly let golf course staff know they have a disability that might require extra help.

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Technology & Tours



DANA POINT

Wyland's Whale and Dolphin Adventure Art Lessons are Back at Dana Wharf Whale Watching

Marine life artist Wyland and Dana Wharf Whale Watching present **Art Lessons in the Wild** from Jan. 22-April 23, 2022. The renowned marine life artist found inspiration for his artwork of the beloved gray whale during their migration to warmer waters in the winter. It was from the Gray Whale experience that inspired Wyland to develop the program "Art Lessons in the Wild" with Wyland's Whale and Dolphin Adventures in partnership with Dana Wharf Whale Watching. This exclusive package for kids ages 12 and under includes an art lesson via video feed by environmental artist Wyland and a free 2-hour whale watching adventure. Each child that participates in the Art Lesson will be entered in a contest to win prizes as well as a gift from Wyland and Dana Wharf just for entering.

MEDIA CONTACT: NICOLE LINDSTROM, LINDSTROM MEDIA / **DANA WHARF SPORTFISHING AND WHALE WATCHING**, 562-233-9824, NLINDSTROM7@GMAIL.COM

HUMBOLDT AND DEL NORTE COUNTIES

Humboldt-Del Norte Film Commission Debuts Map of the Movies Mobile App

The **Map of the Movies** app is the first of its kind focusing on North Coast points of interest, coupled with the ability to search, find and navigate to hotels and food options within the app. Since 2014, the film commission has distributed approximately 70,000 paper maps to local hotels, museums, and parks. The immense popularity of their printed map led the film commission to creating the app to make it even easier from locals and tourists alike to access the map and more importantly make it easier to navigate utilizing mobile maps technology. Dozens of locations used for films like Return of the Jedi, E.T., and Bird Box are featured within the app. In the future, the film commission plans on updating the app with images of the filming locations, movie stills featuring the locations, an audio tour and more. Additional markers will also be added to expand the map as more movies are filmed in the region.

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