

WHAT'S NEW IN CALIFORNIA

FALL 2021



visit
California



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Visit California is pleased to present this Fall 2021 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:
Joshua Tree, CA
On the cover:
Lakehead, 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, outdoors, family, and tours and transportation. Dates listed are subject to change. Confirm with appropriate media contacts listed with each entry.

Accommodations



ANAHEIM

Disneyland Resort Opened New Tenaya Stone Spa at Disney's Grand Californian Hotel & Spa

Tenaya Stone Spa, an all-new boutique retreat designed by Disney Imagineers, opened Sept. 16 at Disney's Grand Californian Hotel & Spa. Reservations are currently available for Disneyland Resort hotel guests, but the spa will be open for non-hotel guests at a later date. Inspired by the spirit of nature and California heritage, this full-service 6,000-square-foot spa offers an array of body treatments, massage and salon services. The spa features eight treatment rooms, two for couples massage, four manicure/pedicure chairs, a relaxation lounge, men's and women's changing rooms, and a retail boutique. The decor includes special touches such as wood flooring cut in rounds, a chandelier designed from a tree root, stained-glass doors and windows, rocks and minerals, and art pieces crafted by regional artisans. The spa also features an actual Tenaya Stone, a focal point and a place to pause and set intentions, gifted by a Miwok Elder and her family who are descendants of Chief Tenaya in Yosemite Valley.

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CULVER CITY

The Shay Opening in Culver City Early November

The Shay, a boutique hotel which is part of the 500,000-square-foot Ivy Station mixed-use project in Culver City, is slated to open in early November. The 148-room hotel, which will be operated by Hyatt as part of its Destination Hotels group, provides an inviting, social and inspiring vibe with a promise of creative camaraderie for guests and locals alike. The Shay offers innovative, surprising experiences like no other Culver City hotel, including the only hotel rooftop in the area. Standout features include rooftop pool deck with Mexican-inspired bar and restaurant open to the public, 8,000-square feet of event space with multiple outdoor areas, and the LA debut of the restaurant etta from famed Chicago Chef Danny Grant.

MEDIA CONTACT: JAMIE SIMPSON, LOS ANGELES TOURISM & CONVENTION BOARD, (213) 236-2397, JSIMPSON@LATOURISM.ORG

DOWNTOWN NAPA

Recently Redesigned Milliken Creek Inn Offers Serene Escape

Milliken Creek Inn recently finished a comprehensive update that includes completely new décor, from custom-made furnishings, modern lighting and curated art to paint, rich hardwood flooring and fixtures. The property's 11 recently redesigned guest rooms feature a sophisticated new look, and many offer soothing river views, private decks or patios, in-room fireplaces, soaking tubs, and private patio fire pits. Indoor and outdoor spaces have been reimagined to take advantage of the inn's exceptional riverfront setting on three verdant acres at the base of the Silverado Trail. The spacious common areas are designed to encourage mingling, while also providing secluded spots for quiet conversation. The inn's expansive, manicured grounds are the ideal setting for afternoon croquet and other lawn games. A cooked-to-order breakfast is included with every stay, delivered directly to each guest room. Guests also receive an afternoon mini-picnic, including wine, cheeses and freshly baked cookies. Complimentary cordials and s'mores kits are offered to guests each evening.

MEDIA CONTACT: KATI MILLER JOYCE, WAGSTAFF MEDIA & MARKETING, (909) 800-9578, KATI@WAGSTAFFMKTG.COM

GUERNEVILLE

The Stavrand Boutique Hotel Debuts in Russian River

The Stavrand, a brand-new luxury boutique hotel in the Russian River Valley, features 21 thoughtfully redesigned guest rooms, exceptional personalized service and lush orchards. Nestled in the redwoods of the Russian River in Guerneville, this intimate Spanish revival retreat offers carefree days of adventure and relaxation with a poolside bar cart, outdoor yoga and signature spa treatments, fireside evening aperitifs in the historic Belden House, board games and outdoor lawn games, tasty local treats from minibars and the on-site shop, and more. A nightly private chef experience for guests includes a four-course tasting menu that showcases the best seasonal, local ingredients. The name "Stav-rand" is Norwegian and represents a historic hillside estate that encourages contemplation.

MEDIA CONTACT: ANNA YAN, [SONOMA COUNTY TOURISM](https://www.sonomacountytourism.com), (707) 919-5893, AYAN@SONOMACOUNTY.COM

LOS ANGELES

Thompson Hollywood Opened in August

Thompson Hollywood made its debut in the cultural and entertainment heart of Los Angeles in August, set amidst a stunning backdrop of the twinkling Hollywood Hills and above the vibrant Vinyl District. The luxury hotel boasts 190 guest rooms with 16 suites and features two immersive restaurants, in addition to 15,000 square feet of event space and a modern, high-tech fitness center. Additional highlights include a rooftop pool, lounge and garden that boast stunning 360 degree views while offering a mixology program to compliment any sunset viewing, post-work cocktail or intimate meet-up.

MEDIA CONTACT: JAMIE SIMPSON, [LOS ANGELES TOURISM & CONVENTION BOARD](https://www.latourism.org), (213) 236-2397, JSIMPSON@LATOURISM.ORG

PALO ALTO

Newly Renovated Luxury Hotel, el PRADO, Opens in Palo Alto this October

On Oct. 1, **el PRADO Hotel** in Palo Alto will open to guests following an extensive rebrand and renovation. The 62-room boutique property set in the heart of downtown Palo Alto and formerly known as the Garden Court Hotel was inspired by Spanish open-air living and the enchanting residential feel of the surrounding community. This refresh focused on transforming the hotel's interior layout, creating an authentic, vibrant luxury destination designed for the discerning business and leisure traveler. el PRADO will also debut a two-floor glass solarium outfitted with cozy seating adjacent to the breakfast eatery; a second-floor bar offering light Spanish-inspired bites; 6,000 square feet of indoor/outdoor meeting and event space designed for corporate groups, weddings, and specialty celebrations; and The Library, el PRADO's latest addition that features a boardroom table, separate lounge area with plush couches, and full technology capabilities for video conferencing.

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SACRAMENTO

Hyatt Centric City Center Opening September 2021

The new **Hyatt Centric Downtown Sacramento** is an 11-story, 172-room, loft-inspired design that integrates and celebrates the century-old brick facade of the Marshall Hotel through a meticulous preservation and restoration effort. Amenities will include the Clayton Club rooftop lounge, signature restaurant 7th Street Standard, a lobby bar, a multipurpose fitness center, a business center and more than 5,000 square feet of event space. Located adjacent to the Golden 1 Center, the Hyatt Centric will embody the perfect blend of a historic Sacramento aesthetic updated with modern amenities for meetings and events.

The Exchange Sacramento Hotel Slated to Open Fall 2021

The Exchange Sacramento, Curio Collection by Hilton is now accepting reservations starting Oct. 3, 2021. The 10-story, 100-room hotel is an adaptive reuse and renovation of Downtown's iconic California Fruit Building. Located in the heart of downtown Sacramento, this Hilton Curio Collection hotel will have a third-floor rooftop bar and 520 square feet of event space. To keep its historic elegance, no changes are being made to the exterior of the building, which was constructed in 1914 as downtown Sacramento's first high-rise building.

MEDIA CONTACT: KARI MISKIT, **VISIT SACRAMENTO**, (916) 802-6716, KMISKIT@VISITSACRAMENTO.COM

SAN FRANCISCO

The citizenM Hotel Coming to Union Square in October 2021

The 11-story, 195-room **citizenM** is a boutique property scheduled to open in October 2021. This is the first hotel owned and operated by citizenM in San Francisco. The brand is known for its tech-first approach to the guest experience, with self-service check-in, iPads instead of wall switches in rooms, and a full-service app that can accomplish anything from bike rentals to restaurant reservations. The development includes 1,300 feet of public open space on the roof.

SOMA Mission Bay Hotel to Debut in November 2021

This independent hotel property at Third and Channel streets will bring much-needed supply to a neighborhood anchored by two major sporting venues, Oracle Park and Chase Center, as well as UCSF's Mission Bay hospital campus. Scheduled to open in November, **SOMA Mission Bay Hotel** will include public art displays visible from the street, a bar-lounge with breathtaking views of the bay, 299 contemporary and exquisitely designed guest rooms and suites, and technology-driven meeting and board rooms. There will be nearly 10,000 square feet of event space, including the rooftop terrace.

Park Central San Francisco Opening December 2021

Hyatt Hotels is renovating and rebranding the **Park Central San Francisco**, located at 50 Third Street. This extensive, nearly \$100 million dollar redevelopment and rebranding will emerge as the Hyatt Regency San Francisco Downtown SOMA. The expansion will include re-imagining of the hotel's 681 guest rooms, increasing the room count to 686; an upgraded fitness center offering 3,200 square feet of world-class exercise technology; redesigned 30,000 square feet of meeting and event spaces; redeveloped 9,040-square-foot Metropolitan Ballroom, ideal for up to 1,000 attendees; the addition of a full-service lobby bar, marketplace, and award-winning restaurant; and the addition of the Regency Club.

MEDIA CONTACT: HOWARD PICKETT, [SAN FRANCISCO TRAVEL](mailto:HOWARD@SFTRAVEL.COM), (415) 227-2680, HOWARD@SFTRAVEL.COM

SANTA CLARITA

Four New Hotels Open in Santa Clarita Near Six Flags Magic Mountain

SpringHill Suites & Residence Inn is a dual branded property with 182 rooms, offering a variety of amenities including complimentary hot breakfast, an outdoor pool, and a large patio with a fire pit and grill. Guests can enjoy locally crafted beer and premium wines at the full bar or grab a cocktail and take it outside to relax on the hotel's outdoor terrace.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites offers 125 brand-new rooms along with a spacious outdoor pool, fitness center and complimentary breakfast. Less than two miles from these three hotels are several Fortune 500 Corporations, such as Boston Scientific, Princess Cruises, Sunkist and multiple Aerospace companies. In the summer season, a trolley offers free transportation to and from Six Flags Magic Mountain & Hurricane Harbor which are located adjacent to the hotels. **Hotel Lexen** is the fourth new hotel opening in Santa Clarita. This new 44-room boutique hotel is located in the heart of the Arts & Entertainment District, steps away from historic sites, nightly entertainment and the Metrolink Train station.

MEDIA CONTACT: EVAN THOMASON, [CITY OF SANTA CLARITA](mailto:ETHOMASON@SANTA-CLARITA.COM), (661) 286-4167, ETHOMASON@SANTA-CLARITA.COM

SANTA ROSA

Santa Rosa Welcomes New Boutique Art House Hotel

Retreat to Santa Rosa's newest boutique hotel set in the urban heart of wine country and surrounded by downtown shops and dining, a bustling craft brewery scene, and vineyard encased wineries.

Art House is designed as a city sanctuary near the historic Railroad Courthouse Square, centrally located to be a convenient home base while exploring the spectacular wine country, redwoods, coastlines and valleys that Sonoma County has to offer. With spacious rooms, studios, and one- or two-bedroom apartments, the lofty rooms provide the ultimate home-away-from-home traveler experience. Art House blends livability with classic Sonoma County hospitality.

MEDIA CONTACT: ANNA YAN, [SONOMA COUNTY TOURISM](mailto:AYAN@SONOMACOUNTY.COM), (707) 919-8593, AYAN@SONOMACOUNTY.COM

TEMECULA VALLEY

Hilton Garden Inn Temecula Opening October

Hilton Garden Inn Temecula is slated to open this October, featuring 104 guest rooms and suites and 1,368 square feet of event space. Other amenities include free WiFi, an outdoor pool, and a Garden Grille & Bar featuring cooked-to-order breakfast and a seasonal menu of flatbreads and favorites like the mouthwatering Moblely burger. Located off I-15, the hotel is one mile from Old Town Temecula and walking distance from restaurants and breweries. Hilton Garden Inn is also within a 20-minute drive of over 40 wineries, including Wilson Creek Winery and Vindemia Vineyard and Winery. Pechanga Resort Casino, the largest casino in the state, is five miles from the hotel's door. Enjoy free WiFi and our outdoor pool.

MEDIA CONTACT: ANNETTE BROWN, [VISIT TEMECULA VALLEY](mailto:ANNETTE@VISITTEMECULAVALLEY.COM), (951) 491-6085, ANNETTE@VISITTEMECULAVALLEY.COM

Culinary



AUBURN

New Restaurant Josephine Shines in Auburn

One of the newest restaurants to hit the Auburn scene, **Restaurant Josephine** evokes a 1920s Paris bistro mixed with gold-rush era Auburn. Tucked into the historic Odd Fellows No. 7 Lodge, a stately brick building that dates back to 1894, Restaurant Josephine embraces the rich history of the Sierra Foothills. Once inside, guests will be swept away by the décor and even more importantly, the food. A blend of French bistro and Eastern European flavors, everything is inspired by what's in season and available at local farms, including the owners' own Four Tines Farm in Auburn. It doesn't get more local or farm-to-fork than this. Specialty cocktails are thoughtful and creative while elegant desserts round out the dining experience. The restaurant was finally able to open for dine-in service this summer, after previously offering a taste of what was to come with pre-order to-go weekend meals.

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CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA

Carmel-by-the-Sea Gears up to Welcome Dutch Door Donuts

Carmel-by-the-Sea will soon welcome **Dutch Door Donuts**, a sweet new addition to Carmel Plaza. Guests will enjoy delicious house-made donuts, made fresh daily, with wildly delicious flavors including blueberry Meyer lemon glazed, vanilla bean glazed, pistachio cardamom, chocolate sea salt, and sesame cinnamon, plus seasonal specials. Paired with an option of either drip or nitro coffee, customers will be able to see their donuts taking shape through a glass partition, and pick up their order through Dutch doors.

MEDIA CONTACT: DANI HANNAH, THE ABBI AGENCY/[VISIT CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA](https://www.visitcarmel-by-the-sea.com), (559) 801-5805, DANI@THEABBIAGENCY.COM

CULVER CITY

Wise Sons Jewish Deli Now Open in Culver City

Bay Area-based Jewish deli **Wise Sons** opened its first Southern California restaurant in Culver City in August. Founder Evan Bloom grew up eating in LA's iconic delis, and returns home with this latest opening, paying homage to these institutions through both food and design. Over the past decade, Wise Sons has earned its reputation for honoring the classics by using the highest quality ingredients, including hardwood-smoked pastrami (made with beef that has never been given hormones or antibiotics) and house-baked goods like bagels, bialy and buttery babka filled with Guittard chocolate. Favorites of the menu include The OG Reuben, Matzo Ball Soup (made with organic chicken broth), Potato Latkes, Naturally Fermented Sour Pickles, Classic Smoked Salmon Bagel, and Bodega Egg & Cheese Sandwich served on bagel or bialy. Wise Sons completes the old school deli vibe with bottomless cups of coffee from Bay Area-based roaster Proyecto Diaz.

MEDIA CONTACT: JASMINE DE JESUS, WAGSTAFF MEDIA & MARKETING, (858) 243-3221, WISESONS@WAGSTAFFMKTG.COM

HEALDSBURG

The Matheson Now Open in Healdsburg

The Matheson is a new tri-level, expansive modern restaurant in Healdsburg, where each experience honors Sonoma County's world-renowned growers and makers. On the main floor, the menu features modern Sonoma County cuisine highlighting local growers, ranchers, fisherman and artisans, a sushi bar curated by sushi master Ken Tominaga, and a wine list that boasts over 400 bottles. The main floor also features a state-of-the-art Wine Wall, highlighting 88 wines on tap. The Mezzanine floats above the bustling open kitchen, creating a space for special occasions and gatherings. The rooftop bar and lounge opens to the plaza below and offers local wines, craft cocktails, small plates and seasonal flatbreads from the custom, 3,800-pound wood-fired Mugnaini oven. The reimagined building on the historic Healdsburg Plaza is where Valette's great-grandfather Honoré Valette once owned and operated his first Sonoma County bakery.

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LODI

Newly Renovated Waterfront Grille is Open in Lodi

The newly renovated **Waterfront Grille** reopened its doors on July 1 as the Delta's newest dining destination. The original building's history was considered when selecting colors, finishes and art, including vintage photos illustrating how the space was originally used when it housed vegetables from nearby farms. The art was carefully chosen, featuring a likeness to the mountain that's in view from the Grille's deck. Award-winning chef, Richard Potts, elevates the guest experience with a new menu. The farm-to-fork American style restaurant serves everything from California-grown avocado guacamole to patron favorite: double thick pork chop served with bacon blue cheese grits. The eatery boasts waterfront views of the Delta and is located at Jellystone Park™, where guests can enjoy camping, a Water Zone, miniature golf and many themed activities.

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MARIPOSA

New Businesses Bloom in Mariposa

California has lifted most COVID restrictions and the historic town of Mariposa, the gateway to Yosemite National Park, is not just seeing existing businesses reopen but also many new businesses that started up during the pandemic. Inside the historic Gold Coin building, the **Little Shop of Ramen** and **The Local Grape** bring new energy to Main Street. The Little Shop of Ramen serves noodles made from scratch, while The Local Grape features wines from the Sierra Foothills AVA in its cozy bar and through its wine club. **Sticks Coffee** has been roasting coffee for years and is now serving locals and visitors at its new downtown café.

MEDIA CONTACT: JENNIFER SWEENEY, 360VIEWPR/[YOSEMITE MARIPOSA COUNTY TOURISM BUREAU](mailto:Yosemite_Mariposa_County_Tourism_Bureau), (916) 215-1769, JSWEENEY@360VIEWPR.COM

NAPA

New Dining Experiences in Downtown Napa

Feast It Forward, an experiential showroom with multi-winery tasting room, is anticipated to introduce its expansion “The Yard” in late summer 2021. “The Yard” will offer a year-round, festival-like activation in the Oxbow District, featuring instagrammable moments, a concert venue, pop-up activations, a beer garden and more. **The Grove at the CIA at Copia** has introduced a new à la carte menu of individual and shareable plates for a special occasion or casual night out. The Mediterranean-inspired menu is headed by executive chef, Istanbul native and CIA graduate Sayat Ozyilmaz, and is based on the day’s bounty from the Copia gardens. **Buena Vista Winery** will open Chateau Buena Vista, a tasting room with caviar pairings and Earth & Sky Chocolates experience in the historic Gordon Building in Downtown Napa in November. The store will feature chocolate displays in addition to a tasting area and wine bar. A new eclectic market, café and event space called **NapaRio** recently opened right on the Napa River in the Oxbow District. NapaRio currently features an extensive garden store and sells home furnishings and ready to-wear clothes and couture, but will soon also include a wine bar and coffee shop.

MEDIA CONTACT: OLGA VERKHOTINA, **DOWNTOWN NAPA**, (916) 774-9600, OVERKHOTINA@AUGUSTINEAGENCY.COM

NEVADA CITY

Historic Cultural Center Survives Pandemic and Opens with Newly Renovated Bar

The historic **Miners Foundry Cultural Center**, built in 1859, is a California State Registered Historic Landmark located in the National Historic District of downtown Nevada City. A new full service bar was completed in April 2020, but the cultural center was only recently able to re-open with it’s newest renovation. The Miners Foundry Cultural Center has hosted many musicians from California and beyond, including Cake, the Red Hot Chili Peppers, The Polish Ambassador, Richie Havens, Dark Star Orchestra, Infamous Stringdusters, Johnny Winter, Michael Franti and more. The Miners Foundry hosted outdoor music every Friday, Saturday and Sunday this past spring and is looking forward to safely opening this fall with music, theatre, community events, weddings and more.

MEDIA CONTACT: GRETCHEN BOND, **MINERS FOUNDRY CULTURAL CENTER**, (530) 265-5040, GRETCHEN@MINERSFOUNDRY.ORG

OCEANSIDE

The Plot Re-Launches and Aims to Feed Eco-revolution

Award-winning eco-warriors Jessica and Davin Waite’s groundbreaking, plant-based **The Plot** emerged as the first of its kind in the county. After having to shut down six weeks into launch last year, the duo recently reopened doors to full capacity and welcomed Ryan Orlando (Campfire) as Chef de Cuisine. The duo also own the award-winning Wrench & Rodent Seabasstropub just one block south. With total and cross utilization, The Plot is using all but less than 1% of the produce and dry goods coming into the restaurant as compared to the industry average where 4-10% of food coming in is thrown away before it even hits the plate. In fact, the only waste passed through the restaurant are romaine stems, and those are effectively tossed to the couple’s pet giant tortoise, Winston Churchill. Every facet of The Plot — from the design of the space, to the sourcing, menu development and waste elements — is designed to be sustainable and zero-waste generating.

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OROVILLE

Coyote Cantina & Cocina Opens in Downtown Oroville

Restaurateur Chaz Gaddie has opened **Coyote Cantina & Cocina** in Downtown Oroville, featuring a blend of craft tequila cocktails, traditional Mexican dishes and Southwest specialties. Menu items include street tacos and fusion dishes like BBQ chicken quesadilla, Sonora egg rolls with cilantro pesto and potstickers with jalapeno ponzu dipping sauce. The Coyote is located in the Historic Washington Building which was built pre-Civil War in 1856. The extensive remodel included exposing original brick, twelve-foot metal and glass arches as well as adding an outdoor courtyard with stamped concrete and a succulent and plant wall. The interior design includes a 14-foot-high ceiling, wood floors, and the highly collectible whimsical Coyote art of Markus Pierson. Coyote Cantina & Cocina is one of a handful of restaurants opening or reopening in Downtown Oroville and is drawing crowds to the riverfront district for dining, shopping and recreation.

MEDIA CONTACT: CHAZ GEDDIE, **COYOTE CANTINA**, (310) 293-0233, CONTACT@COYOTEOROVILLE.COM

PASO ROBLES

New Restaurants Open in Paso

Savor Paso's newest flavors at Finca, Della's and Negranti Creamery, which excel in their specialty departments. Located in the new Paso Market Walk, **Finca** offers the best of both worlds, featuring an upscale Mexican menu in an unbeatable laid-back setting. Owned by the same family that runs the Michelin-starred La Taquiza in Napa, guests can expect explosive flavor and star-worthy customer service. **Della's**, sister restaurant of the popular Hatch Rotisserie & Bar, features wood-fired pizzas and craft cocktails. **Negranti Creamery**, a family owned and operated creamery crafting sheep's milk ice cream, has become such a success, it will soon be available nation-wide.

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SACRAMENTO

Visit Sacramento Launches Fried Chicken Trail

The Sacramento region, America's Farm-to-Fork Capital, continues to make culinary headlines with Visit Sacramento's newly launched **Fried Chicken Trail**. Fried chicken has become more popular than ever over the past few years, and some of the region's best culinary talent has taken up the challenge to make the best fried chicken in town. The mobile-exclusive passport is instantly delivered to a participant's phone or email after they sign up, and features a collection of curated restaurants along with deals and discounts. By visiting multiple locations on the trail, diners can win various prizes.

MEDIA CONTACT: KARI MISKIT, **VISIT SACRAMENTO**, (916) 802-6716, KMISKIT@VISITSACRAMENTO.COM

SAN DIEGO

New Revolving Carousel Bar a First on the West Coast

Wolfie's Carousel Bar, a French bistro and bar, just opened in the northern corridor of San Diego's Little Italy. Design duo and hospitality veterans Mauricio + Gillian Couturier were inspired to create this moveable feast after a trip to New Orleans, home to the original Carousel Bar in Hotel Monteleone. Working with well-known muralist (EXIST1981) and hospitality investor Abe Aguilar and his brother Ricky Aguilar's TMRW Group, the four partners tapped a network of craftsmen to create the 24-seat structure. Layers of texture and patina were added to give the carousel an aged, vintage feel, and 18th-century paintings are referenced throughout the space and combined with fragments of pop culture to create an attention-grabbing time warp.

MEDIA CONTACT: PEYTON ROBERTSON, BAY BIRD INC., (858) 382-4922, PEYTON@BAYBIRDINC.COM

TEMECULA VALLEY

New Wineries and Culinary Offerings in Temecula Valley

Temecula Valley will welcome **Altisima Winery** and **Julie's Dream** in late summer or early fall. Altisima is a passion project of eight Temecula families coming together to embrace and honor the Spanish roots of the region, and Julie's Dream is both a winery and distillery located on 25 acres in the heart of Temecula Valley. Other new culinary offerings in Temecula Valley include **1882 Cantina**, which opened at Pechanga Resort in May, and **Be Good Restaurant and Experience** in July. Be Good serves culinary classics from across the globe with a SoCal twist, enhancing the unique flavors of coastal Southern California cuisine while creating a one-of-a-kind dining experience with interactive activities such as a dueling piano show.

MEDIA CONTACT: ANNETTE BROWN, [VISIT TEMECULA VALLEY](#), (951) 491-6085, ANNETTE@VISITTEMECULAVALLEY.COM

TORRANCE

Discover Torrance Launches Ramen Trail

Torrance is a ramen-lover's paradise, specializing in bringing an authentic taste of Asia to California. The restaurants are consistent in quality and service and Torrance is a collective paradise known for its huge flavors. Nicknamed as "The Ramen Capital of Southern California," Discover Torrance put together a ramen trail to help visitors navigate an abundance of tasty options. The ramen trail map, along with suggested places to stay, is available online at discovertorrance.com.

MEDIA CONTACT: OLGA VERKHOTINA, [DISCOVER TORRANCE/AUGUSTINE AGENCY](#), (916) 774-9600, OVERKHOTINA@AUGUSTINEAGENCY.COM

Arts & Entertainment



LOS ANGELES

Academy Museum of Motion Pictures Opens September 2021

The **Academy Museum of Motion Pictures**, designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Renzo Piano, will open Sept. 30. The new museum will be the largest institution in the United States devoted to the arts, sciences and artists of moviemaking, featuring 50,000 square feet of gallery space filled with highly immersive exhibitions. The new Academy Museum of Motion Pictures will include Stories of Cinema, the museum's highly immersive core exhibition encompassing three floors of galleries; three inaugural temporary exhibitions; a free Spielberg Family Gallery located in the Academy Museum Grand Lobby; and The Oscars® Experience, which will create an immersive environment that simulates the experience of accepting an Oscar® on the stage at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood. The museum is also home to the 1,000-seat David Geffen Theater featuring daily screenings and major film events; the 288-seat Ted Mann Theater, offering screenings ranging from Saturday morning matinees for children of all ages to a global cinema series; Fanny's, the museum's 10,000-square-foot, 250-seat restaurant and café; a 2,600-square-foot retail space featuring merchandise designed and produced exclusively for the store, Oscars memorabilia, and other film-related items; and the rooftop Dolby Family Terrace with sweeping views of the Hollywood Hills.

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MARIPOSA

The Yosemite Climbing Museum and Gallery Open in Mariposa

The **Yosemite Climbing Museum and Gallery**, a passion project of climbing pioneer Ken Yager, opened in June just weeks before the sport made its Olympic debut in Tokyo. The museum showcases the stories of boldness and bravery on Yosemite's famous cliffs. Exhibits include climbing gear from the first ascents of El Capitan, classic climbing images from iconic photographers, historical artifacts and memorabilia showing the evolution of climbing over time. Yager started climbing in 1971 and has since worked as a climbing guide in Yosemite, started the non-profit Yosemite Climbing Association and launched the largest National Park cleanup event – Yosemite Facelift – held annually in September. The permanent climbing exhibit is in the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, located just off Highway 140 in Mariposa.

MEDIA CONTACT: JENNIFER SWEENEY, [360VIEWPR/YOSEMITE MARIPOSA COUNTY TOURISM BUREAU](mailto:360VIEWPR@YOSEMITE.MARIPOSA.COUNTY.TOURISM.BUREAU), (916) 215-1769, JSWEENEY@360VIEWPR.COM

NAPA

New Napa Art Walk Exhibit Now on Display

A biennial rotating exhibition of public installation art, **Napa Art Walk** launched its new 2021-2023 exhibit on Aug. 16. The new exhibit features 10 sculptures by seven artists from four western states, all united by the theme “Play!” Using kinetic art, movement and/or light to define dimensions and interaction in space, each of the pieces contain symbolic movement or requires motion for its effects. All of the sculptures in this exhibition are for sale and 10% of all sales made during the exhibition support future installations of Napa Art Walk.

MEDIA CONTACT: OLGA VERKHOTINA, **DOWNTOWN NAPA**, (916) 774-9600, **OVERKHOTINA@AUGUSTINEAGENCY.COM**

SAN DIEGO

Mingei International Museum Reopened September 2021

Mingei International Museum reopened to the public on Sept. 3, 2021, exactly three years after closing for a transformative construction project in the heart of Balboa Park. The grand reopening revealed a new and dynamic Museum with enhancements and improvements to the 1915 Spanish Colonial style House of Charm including the addition of 10,000 square feet of space for exhibitions and programming, a theater, education center and amenities including a bistro, store and coffee bar. The total finished square footage is over 50,000. In partnership with Mingei, the nationally recognized firm LUCE et studio envisioned the Museum’s physical transformation focusing on artist collaborations, accessibility, functionality and well-crafted and inspiring design.

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WINDSOR

Windsor Welcomes Ralph Beyer Art Studio

Sonoma County scenic and landscape artist **Ralph P. Beyer** has opened his art gallery in Windsor’s downtown shopping district, where locally owned shops, tasting rooms and neighborhood eateries surround a spacious Victorian-style town green. Beyer’s gallery exhibits his oil paintings on canvas, portraying the region’s bucolic vineyards, scenic wineries and stunning natural beauty. Inspired by the awe-inducing beauty of Sonoma County’s vast coastlines, Ralph P. Beyer has been creating serene landscapes with his palette knife style of oil painting on large canvases in his Sebastopol studio since 1985. The gallery is open Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by appointment.

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Outdoors



LAKE TAHOE

Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care Opens Outdoor Learning Center

Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care (LTWC) recently celebrated the opening of its Outdoor Learning Center, the first public component of a new \$6 million campus. Thanks to a \$30,000 contribution from Tahoe Fund donors including the Mathman Family and a \$15,000 match from Tahoe Blue Vodka, the public will now have the opportunity to see and learn about some of the animals in LTWC's care. A porcupine, an eagle, Kestrels and owls are a few of the animals the center will use for educational purposes. Since 1978, Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care (LTWC) has rescued, rehabilitated and released over 17,000 orphaned and injured wild birds and animals back into the wild. After outgrowing its original property in the founder's backyard, through donations and fundraising efforts LTWC purchased its current 27-acre property in South Lake Tahoe in 2015. Seven buildings have been built since, quadrupling the space to care for wild animals.

Tahoe Welcomes New Lily Lake Trail

Tahoe's newest trail, sure to become one of the region's most iconic, opened on June 30 thanks to nearly 4,000 volunteer trail building hours and generous contributions from Tahoe Fund donors including the Mathman family and a triple match from Vail Resorts' EpicPromise guest donation program at Northstar, Heavenly and Kirkwood. The new 2.1-mile multi-use **Lily Lake Trail** has been completed by the US Forest Service (USFS) and the Tahoe Area Mountain Biking Association (TAMBA) and offers new access to Fallen Leaf Lake and Desolation Wilderness for non-motorized users including hikers and experienced mountain bikers. Designed to connect to the newly built trail system on Angora Ridge, the Lily Lake Trail offers stunning, unmatched views of Desolation Wilderness, Fallen Leaf Lake and Lake Tahoe. The trail was created to reduce traffic on narrow roads and offer new access to hikers and mountain bikers who want a car-free way to enjoy the area's natural beauty. The Lily Lake trail has an elevation change of 800 feet and features mosaic-like rock work, including aspects unique to the Tahoe trail repertoire — slickrock, boulder traverses, and an expansive view of Fallen Leaf Lake on the edge of a 75-foot cliff.

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REDDING

Great New Trail Mix in Redding

Years in the making, a critical new section of Redding's Downtown Connector Loop opened this summer to bicyclists, walkers and scooters. The new "Diestelhorst to Downtown" Trail links downtown Redding to the iconic Diestelhorst Bridge that spans the Sacramento River and was the first concrete bridge to do so in Northern California. Completed in 1915, today the bridge acts as a pedestrian bridge and is a part of the Sacramento River National Recreation Trail. Guided e-bike tours are now available through Shasta Living Streets along the loop trail to the Sundial Bridge (the world's largest sundial designed by famed Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava) and beyond. With more than 225 miles of paved, dirt and single-track trails for every skill level and a new multimillion-dollar Shasta Bike Depot under construction downtown, Redding is fast becoming trail town USA.

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Family



SAN DIEGO

New Art + Play Space Satellite Location of New Children's Museum

The New Children's Museum debuted its first stand-alone satellite location in San Diego County in August. The 2,000-square-foot **Art + Play Space** is a smaller version of the Museum's 50,000-square-foot downtown location, featuring a commissioned art installation, a hands-on makerspace and museum store. Located on the upper level of the Del Mar Plaza shopping center along the coast in North County, the new space continues the Museum's focus on contemporary art, which is what sets it apart from other children's museums. The Art + Play Space features a smaller version of the popular installation Wobbleland by San Diego artist Marisol Rendón, introducing young children to art in an immersive and playful manner. The Art + Play Space also provides children the opportunity to create their own art, with "drop in" hands-on art making as well as fee-based classes and workshops (starting later this fall). The Museum also plans to host artist talks, birthday parties, camps and other events in the space. The Art + Play Space at Del Mar Plaza is open from Thursday to Monday (consistent with the Museum's downtown location) with open hours from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., mirroring the other shops in the Plaza. It will also feature a smaller version of the downtown Museum store, offering creative, educational and arts-based products. Admission is \$10 to enter and play in the space, with free admission for Museum members.

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San Diego Zoo Features New Exhibits

In June 2021, the **San Diego Zoo** unveiled two brand-new opportunities for guests to experience the wonders of wildlife. The Kenneth C. Griffin Komodo Kingdom offers visitors the chance to see giant lizards up close and learn more about the species, the challenges they face, and the work San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance is doing to save their species and the delicate ecosystems they call home. The immersive, infinity-loop-shaped William E. Cole Family Hummingbird Habitat offers endless flight opportunities to several species of hummingbirds, as well as other rare birds from their native regions in North and South America, featuring streams, cascading water, orchids and other plants reflecting the diversity and beauty of the birds' native regions.

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SANTA BARBARA

Santa Barbara Zoo Debuting Australian Walkabout in October

In October 2021, the Santa Barbara Zoo plans will open the **Australian Walkabout**, a 15,000 square-foot habitat designed to transport guests "Down Under," where they can walk among the wallabies, kangaroos, emus and native birds. The nearly \$3 million Australian Walkabout Capital Campaign is located in the former elephant exhibit, and is intended to help remind visitors about the importance of conservation both locally and around the world.

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Tours & Transportation



MONTEREY COUNTY

Monterey County E-Bike Vineyard Tours

VineCycle Tours, a new venture by lifelong cyclists Jeff and Melissa Lindenthal, offers exclusive guided tours that take guests spinning through Monterey County vineyards almost effortlessly thanks to state-of-the-art electric assist mountain bikes. During the 2-hour tour, riders venture across 6-12 miles of vineyard terrain with a guide who will share information about the grape varietals, stages of seasonal vine growth, soil characteristics and microclimates within the vineyard. Guests learn how everything that contributes to the craft of winemaking works together to produce the region's award-winning wines including its most renowned varietals, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.

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LOS ANGELES

West Gates at Tom Bradley International Terminal

The West Gates at Tom Bradley International Terminal opened in May 2021, a \$1.73 billion investment by **Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)**. The West Gates deliver a modern guest experience with cutting-edge technology, stunning architecture, a checked-bag storage system, biometric boarding gates and the latest amenities for travelers to experience. The five-level, 15-gate, 750,000-square-foot facility serves both international and domestic flights, and marks the latest step in the airport's \$14.5 billion modernization. At nearly 1,700 feet in length, the West Gates at Tom Bradley International Terminal is located just west of the world-famous international terminal.

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PALM SPRINGS

Palm Springs International Airport Renovation Complete

Serving Greater Palm Springs, **Palm Springs International Airport** (PSP) recently completed a \$36 million renovation including the ticket lobby renovation and expansion and a new in-line baggage system. This nearly doubled the passenger circulation areas and added ten more ticket counter positions to help accommodate our growth. New food options beyond the security checkpoint at PSP include: PSP Coffee House, serving coffee, pastries and sandwiches; The Wine Bar, adjacent to PSP Coffee House; Santa Rosa Kitchen & Spirits, offering breakfast, lunch and dinner menus of hot and made to order items for dining in or take-out; and Buzzed at Bar Fly restaurant, opening October 2021. PSP has also begun replacing all jet bridges, and is slated to complete the project by the end of 2021.

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SAN SIMEON

Hearst Castle Debuts New Virtual Tours

While the iconic **Hearst Castle** remains closed to the public due to COVID-19 restrictions, individuals now have the opportunity to explore the famous landmark from home. Thanks to a collaboration between the Hearst Castle Foundation and Airbnb's Online Experiences, individuals may now enjoy the completely virtual "Hearst & Hollywood" tour. This unique 75-minute live tour takes viewers back in time to discover the castle, the estate property and the life of the Hearst family in the 1900s. Participants will tour the historical monument with an expert guide, focusing on Mr. Hearst and all things Hollywood. The virtual tour includes the iconic Neptune Pool, the main house known as Casa Grande, plus the esplanade and lush gardens. Along the way, users may encounter folks dressed in period attire, as the tour is designed to recreate the guest experience from Mr. Hearst's time.

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SAN FRANCISCO

Next Phase of Harvey Milk Terminal 1 Open at SFO

The San Francisco International Airport (SFO) has **opened the next phase** of the \$2.4 billion Harvey Milk Terminal 1. This new section includes seven new departure gates, a new post-security connector to the International Terminal, a new museum gallery, and a new display of exhibit content honoring the life and legacy of Harvey Milk. The final phase of Harvey Milk Terminal 1, which will create a new North check-in lobby, was postponed by the COVID-19 pandemic, but has now resumed. Originally scheduled for completion in spring 2023, this final phase will now be completed as early as spring 2024.

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