

HOTELS *California*

WHERE TO STAY WHEN YOUR DESTINATION IS RIGHT IN YOUR BACKYARD



WRITTEN BY: **LAUREN VIKANDER, TAYLOR SIMMONS, DIONNE EVANS AND MICHELLE ANDREWS**



Getting lost in a new paradise without having to travel to faraway places sounds like the perfect vacation dream. To guide those vacationers who dream of some backyard R&R, we have seven hotels that offer all the excitement without all the fuss of trekking to distant destinations. These backyard utopias will leave you breathless, whisking you away to whimsical places with incredible views and leaving you with a vacation tailored to your perfect getaway. From high-end classy resorts to chic rooms, beachy vibes and central hubs that cater to those who have a bad case of the travel bug, find yourself melting into and soaking up your well-deserved lazy days in places that will guarantee you feel refreshed and brand new before stepping back into the regularity of the workweek life.

Just how tailored are these hideaways for all the different vacationing souls out there? For the romantics who dream of days floating around whimsically, The Resort at Pelican Hill will take you to what looks like a magic kingdom—lush hillsides lay far and wide overlooking the beauty of the ocean, paired with amazing architecture that offers a warm, golden glow with late-night lighted pathways. For the beach bums who love to envelop themselves in oceanic colors with clean, wide spaces and large windows that peer out over the ocean waters and offer poolside lounging, Surf and Sand Resort is calling your name. Not to mention the upscale beachfronts with luxurious poolside paradises and jaw-dropping fountains and architectures at Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach Resort and Spa and The St. Regis Monarch Beach Resort. Get ready to start packing the nearest bag and race off to one of these locations as soon as you're done reading.

◦ THAT'S AMORE



Adjacent to the main property, you can vacation in one of the 204 bungalows, guest rooms and suites. With luxurious amenities like deep-soaking marble tubs, Bose sound systems and private terraces with ocean views, these mini residences offer an intimate ambiance.



THE RESORT AT PELICAN HILL

22701 S Pelican Hill Rd, Newport Coast, CA 92657
855.467.6800 | www.pelicanhill.com

→ Situated on 504 acres overlooking the idyllic protected coastline, an enchanted piece of the Italian Renaissance has been reborn. Exemplifying the vision and values of one of Italy's most influential architects, Andrea Palladio, The Resort at Pelican Hill nestles into the hillside and is one with the landscape. Elegant corniced columns, striking multi-story rotundas, lavish courtyards with flowing fountains, and archways that frame the Pacific Ocean and Catalina Island in the distance set the stage for a timeless escape.

When you step through the striking entryway, you'll feel worlds away. A massive domed ceiling supported by pillars reminiscent of ancient Greece gracefully lead past a hand-carved Italian limestone fireplace and age-old tapestries to the centerpiece balcony highlighting expansive views of the immense property and infinite cobalt ocean. Established as one of the world's finest resorts with five-star and five-diamond ratings, Pelican Hill offers two styles of accommodations with unparalleled

service. Adjacent to the main property, you can vacation in one of the 204 bungalows or guest suites. With luxurious amenities like deep-soaking marble tubs, Bose sound systems and private terraces with ocean views, these mini residences offer an intimate ambiance. For the more discerning guest, Pelican Hill offers a "resort within the resort." With a higher level of privacy, service and indulgence, these 2-, 3- and 4-bedroom villas ranging up to 3,581 square feet provide your own ocean home experience complete with a personal butler. In addition to what the bungalows offer, the villas provide a gourmet kitchen, wine cabinets, wood beam alder ceilings, limestone fireplaces and a private garage. Villa guests have the exclusive privilege of using the Villa Clubhouse, complete with a private dining area, impressive pool and cabanas that boast beautiful views of the Pacific.

Are all these views making you hungry? Pelican Hill offers a number of dining experiences from Northern Italian to American fare to please every palate. If you're looking for a little romance, check

out their signature restaurant, Andrea, which rivals the nation's top Italian restaurants with its Tuscan culinary traditions led by masterful Head Chef Marco Criscuolo. Here, diners can indulge in handmade pasta from the temperature-controlled pasta room, balsamic vinegar aged 100 years and an impressive wine list.

At the Coliseum Pool & Grill guests can enjoy a more relaxed setting and fresh seasonal fare sourced from the local Irvine Ranch. This relaxed dining experience overlooks the property's infamous round pool, and features 1.1 million hand-cut glass mosaic tiles. With a large selection of seafood dishes, salads and smoothies, diners can enjoy an array of California-inspired cuisine in a fun, social atmosphere. Wear your casual resort attire and take a float with your honey after lunch. The sweeping views of a perfect California sunset, the Tuscan-inspired property and, of course, the Pacific Ocean provide the complete romantic experience for you and your partner.



NATIVE KNOWLEDGE:

When you take a dip in the Coliseum Pool you are swimming in one of the largest round pools in the world!

WRITTEN BY: LAUREN VIKANDER