

San Diego

Dining Guide



THE ESTES PARK INSTITUTE

SUGGESTED RESTAURANTS IN THE SAN DIEGO AREA

By the Fellows of Estes Park Institute

This list of restaurants was developed from personal experience, internet research and press reviews of the area's dining establishments. It is by no means a complete list of all the fine restaurants in the San Diego area. The website sandiegorestaurants.com was used for internet research. Please verify information when making a reservation as it is subject to change. We hope you enjoy the Estes Park Institute and your visit to San Diego.

Dining at THE HOTEL DEL CORONADO

The following restaurants are located in the Hotel del Coronado.
For reservations, call 619-522-8490, visit www.hoteldel.com, or e-mail deldining@hoteldel.com.

Sheerwater

Sheerwater offers Coastal California cuisine: regional specialties that emphasize bold flavor, tantalizing spices and seasonally inspired menus. Refined, yet casual, it features an expansive outdoor dining terrace and giant fireplaces. Serving breakfast, lunch, cocktails, light fare and dinner daily.

Crown Room

The world-famous Crown Room rivals the imagination. Whimsical crown-shaped chandeliers, designed by Wizard of Oz author, L. Frank Baum, drop from glowing sugar-pine ceiling. Spacious windows circling the room offer some of California's most radiant views. The Crown Room serves an award-winning Sunday Brunch, a longtime local favorite.

1500 Ocean

1500 OCEAN restaurant and bar features glowing sunset colors, beautiful dark wood accents, warm lighting and the comfortable elegance found in a beachfront cabana setting. The terrace overlooking the Pacific offers a one-of-a-kind, intimate outdoor dining venue. The menu showcases the freshest Southland Coastal Cuisine, with selections from Santa Ynez to Cabo San Lucas. Featured wines from many of the local vineyards will complement the incredible culinary flavors. Open Tuesday through Saturday for dinner.

Babcock & Story

The best bar in San Diego, Babcock & Story is designed to take advantage of the spectacular seaside setting and features the original 46-foot handcrafted mahogany bar, which was brought by ship from Philadelphia around Cape Horn in 1888, as its centerpiece. It's the perfect spot to enjoy all the NFL action on seven high-definition, flat-screen TVs. Babcock & Story offers light fare from noon until 10:00 pm, daily.

To plan a private dining event in one of the hotel's banquet rooms, please contact the Catering Department at 619-522-8435.

Acqua Al 2

322 Fifth Avenue ♦ Gaslamp Quarter
San Diego, CA
619-230-0382
www.acquaal2.com

Acqua Al 2 stylishly recreates the original Acqua in Florence, Italy. The menu is a replica of the original, as well. The outdoor patio is lovely for al fresco dining.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

Lunch: 11:30 am - 2:00 pm, Monday thru Friday
Dinner: 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday
5:00 pm - 11:00 pm, Friday thru Sunday

Baci Ristorante

1955 West Morena Boulevard
San Diego, CA
619-275-2094
www.sandiegobaci.com

Baci has been a local favorite for Northern and Southern Italian cuisine for over 30 years. Sit in the comfortable booths in the main dining room or on the elegant patio while enjoying the classic pasta, veal or seafood preparations.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

Lunch: 11:30 am - 2:00 pm, Monday thru Friday
Dinner: 5:30 pm - 10:00 pm, Monday thru Saturday
Closed Sunday

Bertrand at Mister A's

2550 Fifth Avenue, 12th Floor ♦ Downtown
San Diego, CA
619-239-1377
www.bertrandatmisteras.com

Mister A's is a room with a view! Enjoy the view over the San Diego skyline or Point Loma and the Pacific while sampling the French/Mediterranean menu.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Limited online reservations available

HOURS

Lunch: 11:30 am - 2:30 pm, Monday thru Friday
Dinner: 5:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Monday thru Friday
5:00 pm - 9:30 pm, Saturday and Sunday

Blue Point

565 Fifth Avenue ♦ Gaslamp Quarter
San Diego, CA
619-233-6623
www.bluepointsd.com

After many award-winning years in the historic Gaslamp district, Blue Point remains one of the best dining options in San Diego. The freshest seafood and relaxed atmosphere combine for a special evening.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

5:00 pm - Close, nightly

Brigantine Seafood

1333 Orange Avenue
Coronado, CA
619-435-4166
www.brigantine.com

Located across the street from the Hotel del Coronado, it's an easy walk to a very casual dinner. The fish taco gets rave reviews. The restaurant also features a raw bar and outdoor cocktail deck.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

Lunch: 11:30 am - 3:00 pm, Monday thru Saturday
Dinner: 4:30 pm - 9:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday
4:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Friday and Saturday

Chez Loma

1132 Loma Avenue
Coronado, CA
619-435-0661
www.chezloma.com

Chez Loma is the standard bearer of Traditional French cuisine in San Diego. Unfortunately, its menu is a bit tired. It is a short walk from the hotel.

RESERVATIONS

Strongly recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

5:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Tuesday thru Sunday
Closed Monday

Cowboy Star Restaurant

640 Tenth Avenue ♦ East Village
San Diego, CA
619-450-5880
www.thecowboystar.com

Hearken back to the Old West in this unique restaurant that is a must for meat lovers. The rustic decor creates an atmosphere that is perfect for indulging in huge portions of beef or bison. They also cater to special dietary needs (vegan, gluten-free, etc.).

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

Lunch: 11:30 am - 2:30 pm, Tuesday thru Friday
Dinner: 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Tuesday thru Thursday
5:00 pm - 10:30 pm, Friday and Saturday
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Sunday
Closed Monday

Croce's Restaurant

Corner of Fifth & F Street ♦ Gaslamp Quarter
San Diego, CA
619-233-4355
www.croces.com

Croce's Restaurant is the hub of several food operations owned by Ingrid Croce. It serves Contemporary American cuisine and has an award-winning wine list. Enjoy an evening of good food and jazz at this vibrant Gaslamp establishment.

RESERVATIONS

Strongly recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

Dinner: 5:00 pm - Midnight, nightly
Brunch: 10:00 am - 2:30 pm, Saturday and Sunday

De Medici Ristorante Italiano

815 Fifth Avenue ♦ Gaslamp Quarter
San Diego, CA
619-702-7228
www.demedicisandiego.com

De Medici offers a menu of Northern and Southern Italian dishes. The impeccable service, the quiet dining room and the classical music filling the air bring the dining experience to a new level.

RESERVATIONS

Strongly recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday
5:00 pm - 11:00 pm, Friday and Saturday

Dobson's Bar & Restaurant

956 Broadway Circle ♦ Downtown
San Diego, CA
619-231-6771
www.dobsonsrestaurant.com

This Downtown restaurant was established in 1984 and still serves its original signature dishes - a pastry covered mussel soup and honey-glazed salmon - along with a menu of contemporary California creations. It is regularly voted one of the best restaurants in San Diego.

RESERVATIONS

Strongly recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

Lunch: 11:30 am - 3:00 pm, Monday thru Friday
Dinner: 3:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Monday thru Saturday
Closed Sunday



Donovan's Prime Seafood

333 5th Avenue
San Diego, CA
619-906-4850
www.donovansprimeseafood.com

Donovan's Prime Seafood is part of the Donovan's Restaurant Group that is known throughout the San Diego area for excellent service and quality food. Prime Seafood is its first attempt at a specialty seafood restaurant. Enjoy fresh seafood in a comfortable, sophisticated dining room.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday
5:00 pm - 11:00 pm, Friday and Saturday
Closed Sunday



Donovan's Steak & Chop House

570 K Street ♦ Gaslamp Quarter
San Diego, CA
619-237-9700
www.donovanssteakhouse.com

An off-shoot of the successful Donovan's restaurant in La Jolla. Expect the same attentive service and quality ingredients at the downtown location. USDA prime beef, Australian rack of lamb and wild North Atlantic Salmon are the menu headliners.

RESERVATIONS

Strongly recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

5:00 pm - 9:45 pm, Sunday thru Thursday
5:00 pm - 10:45 pm, Friday and Saturday

Fish Market (Casual) Top of the Market (Fine Dining)

750 North Harbor Drive ♦ Downtown
San Diego, CA
619-232-3474
www.thefishmarket.com

This downtown seafood restaurant has stunning views from the second floor dining room. The menu changes daily to feature the freshest of fish and shellfish. And for those who like their seafood fresh and raw, a sushi bar and a shellfish bar are located within the restaurant.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

Lunch: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm, daily
Dinner: 4:00 pm - 10:00 pm, nightly

George's California Modern

George's at the Cove
1250 Prospect Street
La Jolla, CA
858-454-4244
www.georgesatthecove.com

George's California Modern is the happy result of a total renovation in 2007 of the fine dining room at George's at the Cove. The sophisticated yet relaxed dining room has stunning views of the Pacific Ocean. The seasonal menu changes daily and offers dishes using fresh, local produce and meats and sustainable seafood. The rooftop, Ocean Terrace, has a bistro menu for lunch and dinner.

RESERVATIONS

Strongly recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

Lunch: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm, daily (Ocean Terrace only)
Dinner: 5:30 pm - 10:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Friday thru Sunday

Greystone the Steakhouse

658 Fifth Avenue ♦ Gaslamp Quarter
San Diego, CA
619-232-0225
www.greystonesteakhouse.com

Greystone is not your ordinary chophouse. If the beef doesn't appeal to you, try the elk, buffalo, ostrich or seafood. The exhibition kitchen turns out generous portions of some of the best food in town.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday
5:00 pm - 11:00 pm, Friday and Saturday



Il Fornaio Cucina Italiana

1333 First Street
 Coronado, CA
 619-437-4911
www.ilfornaio.com

Il Fornaio has been voted “Best Venue and Best View” restaurant in San Diego. Experience a different Italian regional special each month at Il Fornaio. The restaurant’s bakery turns out yummy breads and pastries, and the wood-fired baked pizzas are real treats. Sit on the patio and delight in the view of downtown and San Diego Bay.

RESERVATIONS

Strongly recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

11:30 am - 10:00 pm, Monday thru Friday
 10:30 am - 10:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday
 Brunch: 10:30 am - 2:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday

Indigo Grill

1536 India Street
 San Diego, CA
 619-234-6802
www.indigogrill.com

Indigo Grill is located in the Little Italy section of downtown San Diego. It was voted one of the best restaurants in 2009 by the readers of San Diego Magazine.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

Dinner: 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday
 5:00 pm – 10:00 pm, Friday and Saturday
 Brunch: 9:30 am - 1:30 pm, Saturday and Sunday

Island Prime

880 Harbor Island Drive
 San Diego, CA
 619-298-6802
www.islandprime.com

With beautiful views of the San Diego Bay and downtown skyline, Island Prime has quickly gained a loyal following. The food and service are rated five-star.

RESERVATIONS

Strongly recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

5:30 pm - 9:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday
 5:30 pm - 10:00 pm, Friday and Saturday

Leroy’s Kitchen + Lounge

1015 Orange Avenue
 Coronado, CA
 619-437-6087
www.leroyluckyloounge.com

Leroy’s is new to the Coronado dining scene. The restaurant is dedicated to the farm-to-table concept of bringing the freshest local agricultural products to its customers. The reviews have been very good.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

Lunch: 11:00 am - 3:30 pm, daily
 Dinner: 5:00 pm – 10:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday
 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm, Friday and Saturday

Osetra

904 Fifth Avenue ♦ Gaslamp Quarter
 San Diego, CA
 619-239-1800
www.osetrafishhouse.com

Osetra specializes in caviar, fish and shellfish. That said, one may choose from an extensive collection of vodkas to accompany the caviar or from the extensive wine list to accompany the fish and shellfish. The service is outstanding.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday
 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm, Friday and Saturday

Osteria Panevino

722 Fifth Avenue ♦ Gaslamp Quarter
 San Diego, CA
 619-595-7959
www.osteriapanevino.com

Osteria Panevino is a casual Italian restaurant with sidewalk tables and consistently good food. Wood-fired pizzas and pastas as well as more formal dishes are available.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

11:30 am - 11:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday
 11:30 am - Midnight, Friday and Saturday

Peohe's

1201 First Street
Coronado, CA
619-437-4474
www.peohes.com

Head to Peohe's for a romantic Polynesian evening. The Pacific Rim food is complemented by the view of San Diego Bay, the private booths, and overall ambiance.

RESERVATIONS

Strongly recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

Lunch: 11:30 am - 2:30 pm, Monday thru Saturday
Dinner: 5:00 pm - Close, Monday thru Saturday
4:30 pm - Close, Sunday
Sunday Brunch: 11:00 am - 2:30 pm

Primavera Ristorante

932 Orange Avenue
Coronado, CA
619-435-0454
www.primavera1st.com

This cozy, quiet restaurant is located in the heart of Coronado. The Italian menu ranges from pasta to fish to meat. Primavera has a private dining room for groups. The restaurant is know for its impeccable service.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended

HOURS

5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, nightly

Red Pearl Kitchen

440 J Street ♦ Gaslamp Quarter
San Diego, CA
619-231-1100
www.redpearlkitchen.com

Located in the heart of the Gaslamp District, Red Pearl Kitchen serves upscale Pan-Asian cuisine in family style dishes that are meant to be shared. The Scottish Salmon Red Curry and the Shaking Kobe Beef get top reviews. The dining room is rather elegantly decorated in red, black, gold and orange. The restaurant has two private rooms for groups.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

Lunch: 11:30 am - 2:30 pm, Saturday and Sunday
Dinner: 4:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday
5:00 pm - 11:00 pm, Friday and Saturday

Rhinoceros Cafe & Grill

1166 Orange Avenue
Coronado, CA
619-435-2121
www.rhinocafe.com

Starched white linens adorn the tables at this casual bistro. After starting with a refreshing, crispy salad, make a meal of their exceptional pasta or enjoy fresh seafood or steak. It has a good selection of wines and micro-brews.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended

HOURS

Lunch: 11:00 am - 2:30 pm, daily
Dinner: 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm, daily

The Oceanaire Seafood Room

400 J Street ♦ Gaslamp Quarter
San Diego, CA
619-858-2277
www.theoceanaire.com

The door of the 1930's art deco styled dining room is your entry to a world of fantastic seafood. The oyster bar offers varieties from New Zealand to Nova Scotia, and they are half price at happy hour. More than twenty varieties of fish are flown in daily to be grilled or cooked in more creative (but not better) ways.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday
5:00 pm - 11:00 pm, Friday and Saturday

The Prado at Balboa Park

1549 El Prado
San Diego, CA
619-557-9441
www.dinecrg.com

Prado is located in the House of Hospitality, a beautiful Spanish Colonial style building. The restaurant offers Latin dishes as well as nouvelle creations. Private rooms are available for groups.

RESERVATIONS

Strongly recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

Lunch: 11:30 am - 3:00 pm, Monday thru Friday
11:00 am - 3:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday
Dinner: 5:00 pm - Close, Tuesday thru Sunday
Closed Monday evening

Trattoria La Strada

702 Fifth Avenue ♦ Gaslamp Quarter
San Diego, CA
619-239-3400
www.trattorialastradasd.com

Tough decisions await you at Trattoria La Strada – pasta, meat or seafood. The Tuscan menu offers a variety of pastas with a large selection of outstanding sauces. Meat and seafood preparations range from simply grilled to stuffed and sauced. The desserts are made in-house – the tiramisu is excellent.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

11:30 am - 11:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday
11:30 am - 12:30 am, Friday and Saturday



Truluck's

8990 University Center Lane
La Jolla, CA
858-453-2583
www.trulucks.com

Truluck's is so determined to serve fresh crab that it owns its own fisheries in Naples, Florida, to provide fresh Florida Stone Crab to its various restaurants. Other fresh seafood items are updated weekly on its menu. It was a winner in several categories of the San Diego Magazine Readers Choice 2011 survey.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS

5:00 pm – 10:00 pm, Monday thru Saturday
5:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Sunday

Vigilucci's Ristorante

1300 Orange Avenue
Coronado, CA
619-522-0946
www.vigiluccis.com

Vigilucci's menu is filled with Italian favorites, fresh seafood and steaks. Their "Oceano" dining room overlooks the Pacific Ocean, and their "Murano" room and patio overlook Orange Avenue. Both rooms are pleasantly decorated and comfortable. The piano bar has live music every evening starting at six o'clock.

RESERVATIONS

Recommended

HOURS

11:00 am – 10:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday
11:00 am – 10:30 pm, Friday and Saturday
10:30 am – 10:00 pm, Sunday
(Sunday Brunch: 10:30 am - 3:00 pm)

Weather

Average Temperatures in October/November
Highs in the lower 70's; lows in the mid 50's

Golf

Coronado Municipal Golf Course
619-435-3121
www.golfcoronado.com

Tee times can also be arranged at one of the many world-class golf courses in the San Diego area by calling the Hotel del Coronado Golf Department at 1-866-574-7557. Visit www.sandiegogolf.com for a complete listing, including the following favorites:

La Costa Golf Resort
Maderas Golf Club
Aviara Golf Club
Riverwalk Golf Club
Steele Canyon Golf Club
Torrey Pines Golf Course

Tennis

Coronado Tennis Center
1501 Glorietta Boulevard
619-522-2650

Shopping

Shops at The Del

Shops at The Del, a unique San Diego shopping destination located at the Hotel del Coronado, offers a wide variety of shops and boutiques including upscale apparel, fine jewelry, home accents, shoes, purses and more.

Fashion Valley Mall
7007 Friars Road, San Diego
619-688-9113
www.simon.com/mall/default.aspx?ID=765

One of San Diego's finest collection of stores including Neiman Marcus, Louis Vuitton, Saks Fifth Avenue, Gucci and Tiffany & Co.

ENTERTAINMENT

Downtown La Jolla
858-454-5718
www.lajollabythesea.com

Everything from high-end art galleries and antiques to charming boutiques,
La Jolla has something for everyone.

Balboa Park Activities & Attractions

The nation's largest urban cultural park, Balboa Park is home to 14 major museums, renowned performing arts venues, beautiful gardens and the San Diego Zoo. The following is a listing of just a few of Balboa Park's many attractions. For information on all attractions, call 619-239-0512 or visit www.balboapark.org.

San Diego Zoo
619-231-1515
www.sandiegozoo.org

San Diego History Center
619-232-6203
www.sandiegohistory.org

San Diego Air & Space Museum
619-234-8291
www.sandiegoairandspace.org

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
(including IMAX theater)
619-238-1233
www.rhfleet.org

Other Activities & Attractions

SeaWorld San Diego
800-25-SHAMU
www.seaworldparks.com

San Diego Zoo's Safari Park
619-231-1515
www.sandiegozoo.org

Birch Aquarium at Scripps Institution of Oceanography
858-534-FISH
www.aquarium.ucsd.edu

ENTERTAINMENT

Legoland
760-918-5346
www.legoland.com

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park
619-220-5422
www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=663

Old Town Trolley Tours
619-298-8687 or 1-888-910-8687
www.trolleytours.com/san-diego

Flagship Cruises and Events
800-442-7847
www.flagshipsd.com

For a complete listing of Activities and Recreation
at the Hotel del Coronado,
visit www.hoteldel.com/things-to-do.



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