

Around Anaheim

Conventioneers and **families** are in for some **sun** and **fun**

When you ask most Americans what they know about Anaheim, California, you're most likely to hear one thing—Disneyland. But the many letter carrier-delegates to this summer's 67th Biennial National Convention who look beyond the Anaheim Convention Center door will find within a short drive plenty of attractions that offer a chance to discover the nature, history and culture of Southern California. Here are some of the more popular destinations for delegates to explore while in the area for the 67th Biennial Convention.



Opposite page: The sun sets over the Pacific at Laguna Beach.

Photo by James Brandon

Temecula

South and east of Anaheim lies the Temecula Valley, boasting more than two dozen wineries and more than 3,500 acres of vineyards. Visitors will find tasting rooms to suit all interests, from lavish resorts to quaint chateaus.

If some excitement is more to your liking, head to the Pechanga Resort and Casino to try your luck. Built by the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians, the \$262 million resort complex includes seven restaurants, a cabaret lounge, a nightclub with five bars, a bingo hall and, of course, an 85,000-foot casino.

Temecula Valley Winegrowers Association: 800-801-9463, temeculawines.org

Pechanga Resort & Casino: 888-PECHANGA, pechanga.com

Malibu and Santa Monica

Heading north, after passing through Los Angeles, visitors will find the world-famous Malibu and Santa Monica beaches. Long a location for Hollywood stars' ocean-front houses, the beaches draw millions of visitors each year. Zuma Beach, the most popular of the local beaches, can draw more than 800,000 sun-bathers over a Labor Day weekend. Surfrider Beach, with its long waves, is another favorite location.

Other Malibu highlights include horseback riding, hiking and mountain biking through California state parks. For the motorcycle crowd, the Pacific Coast Highway offers some amazing vistas.

Santa Monica is one of the most foot-friendly areas around L.A., featuring a three-block pedestrian shopping promenade. Not far off is the Santa Monica Pier, a funland for kids and adults. The pier was built in 1916 by Charles I.D. Loeff and son as an amusement park. The historic

carousel, built in 1922, is still operational, along with more modern rides and games. Nearby, Palisades Park, with its crumbling cliff bluffs, makes for a great stroll and offers a priceless view as the sun sets over the Pacific.

City of Malibu: 310-456-2489, ci.malibu.ca.us

Santa Monica Convention & Visitors Bureau: 800-544-5319, santamonica.com

San Clemente

California has always been known as a surf spot, and San Clemente is ground zero for the surfing community in the state. After heading southeast from Anaheim, visitors will find world-renowned surfboard shapers and manufacturers, along with the home base for three surfing magazines. For those looking to get on board, head out to the beach where beginners can attend a surf school or where experienced waveriders can catch swells all year round.

San Clemente Chamber of Commerce: 949-492-1131, scchamber.com

Laguna Beach

For those looking to get under the water, rather than ride on top of it, make your way over to Laguna Beach, just a short drive northwest from San Clemente. Originally named by the Spaniards as Canada de las Lagunas (Canyon of Lakes), visitors have long traveled to see the close cluster of welcoming beaches. The calm waters also make for a perfect scuba diving and snorkeling spot to check out the schools of colorful fish and wonderful underwater environment. While anyone can snorkel, certification is required for scuba diving. If you are already certified, you can rent equipment in town. Fortunately, for those who aren't certified but would still like to give it a try,



One of the many wineries in the Temecula Valley.

Photo by J. Nocca

Surf's up at San Clemente.

Photo by Patrick Powers





Hiking above Avalon on Catalina Island.

Photo by Sarah Noce

the certification requirement can be fulfilled by diving with a licensed instructor as part of a course, which can also be found here. But be warned: classes can fill up quickly on weekends during the summer.

Laguna Beach Visitors Center: 800-877-1115, lagunabeachinfo.com

Catalina Island

While it might seem like most of California has been paved over for freeways, there's one area that offers up a slice of what an unspoiled California was like. Take one of the many ferries from Newport Beach or Dana Point to beautiful Catalina Island off the coast of Orange County. About a million tourists visit the island every year, and for good reason. Most of the island is controlled by the Catalina Island Conservancy, balancing conservation, education and recreation.

Cars are limited on the island (there's a 10-year-long wait list to bring a car there), but if you're willing to hoof it, you'll find nearly 50 miles of rugged coastline along with plenty of hiking and mountain biking paths. Visitors must obtain a permit for hiking (free) and mountain biking (fee), and declare where they intend to explore. Or if you're looking to stay in town, rent one of the ubiquitous golf carts.

Catalina Island Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau: 310-510-1520, catalinachamber.com

Dana Point

Besides being a launching point for Catalina, Dana Point is also a hub for deep sea fishing and whale-watching cruises. Fishing boat excursions are available from a number of local operators, who will sell you a fishing license and rent tackle. Half-day and longer charters are available and will allow

you a good run at sea bass, halibut, bonita, yellowtail and barracuda.

If you just want to look, catch a whale-watch tour. Though the migrating season for California gray whales will have passed by the start of the Anaheim convention, you'll still have an opportunity to catch a glimpse of blue, finback and humpback whales, along with several species of dolphin and all types of other marine life. Be sure to bring your binoculars.

Dana Point Harbor Information Office: 949-923-2255, danapointharbor.com

Costa Mesa

No day trip would be complete without a chance to go shopping, and Orange County has just the place for you—South Coast Plaza. Referenced in TV shows and movies, including “The OC,” “Laguna Beach: The Real Orange County,” “Clueless” and “Beverly Hills 90210,” the mall is the third largest in the country and only a short trip due south from Anaheim. Twenty-four million visitors annually make the trip to the mall's 280 stores, which include many luxury shops, such as Harry Winston, Tiffany's, Cartier, Montblanc, Louis Vuitton, Prada Gucci and more. As the mall's owners like to say, it's “the ultimate shopping resort.”

South Coast Plaza: 800-782-8888, southcoastplaza.com

Yorba Linda

Anyone who fondly remembers Richard Nixon for helping to create the United States Postal Service and establishing a living wage for letter carriers should head to Yorba Linda, home of the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum. The 37th president was born in Yorba Linda in 1913, the son of a rancher. After his death, Nixon was buried on the grounds of the library.

Recreate your own presidential moment at the Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in Yorba Linda.

Photo by J. Otis





The museum offers a narrative of Nixon's life and career, an exact replica of the East Room of the White House, and the government helicopter used during his presidency through to his final trip from the White House after his resignation. There is also an extensive collection of memorabilia, formal clothing and photographs of Nixon and his family.

Nixon Presidential Library and Museum: 714-983-9120,
nixonlibrary.gov

Buena Park

If roller coasters and cartoon characters are more your speed, then Orange County has just the place for you—no, not Disneyland (information on Disneyland will be featured in an upcoming

issue of *The Postal Record*). Knott's Berry Farm theme park, with Snoopy as its mascot, has been entertaining families since the 1940s. Grown up from a roadside berry farm and pie stand, Walter Knott built a ghost town to entertain travelers as they stopped for a bite.

Over the years, the park was more visited by locals than tourists, coming to see the "summer-long county fair." In fact, for a long time, the park was not seen as competition with Disneyland, as the "two Walts" kept up a friendship and partnered on community causes. Since then, the park has added a number of roller coasters and thrill rides while still keeping the charm of its former days.

Knott's Berry Farm: 714-220-5200,
knotts.com ✉

One of the many twists and turns visitors will find at Knott's Berry Farm.

Photo by Brent Schmidt

Convention Breakfast for Retirees

As part of the 2010 NALC National Convention, the Retirement Department will host a breakfast on Wednesday, August 11 at 7:30 a.m.

Tickets to this event may be purchased now for \$25 each. Delegates are urged to order tickets by completing the form below and returning it along with a check (payable to the NALC Secretary-Treasurer) to:

NALC Retirement Department
Attention: Convention Breakfast
100 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001-2144

You will receive confirmation by return mail and can pick up your tickets prior to the breakfast at the Retirement Booth in the Convention Center in Anaheim. ✉

Yes, I will be attending the Convention Retirement Breakfast on Wednesday, August 11.

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for _____ tickets at \$25 each.

Name _____

Branch _____ Title (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____