

25/25 Los Angeles USA

There's a kernel of truth to the reputation of Los Angeles as a one-industry town fuelled by plastic surgery, smarmy agents and intellectual vacuity. But look past that and you'll see an increasingly sophisticated centre of art, design, cuisine and commerce loaded with opportunities for the traveller passing through, whether or not you're in "the business".

Essentials

- 01 Traffic is a fact of life. Try and plan your days to avoid rush hour on the freeways.
- 02 Angelenos are serious foodies. Ask nearly anyone for a fervent opinion about the city's best sashimi, gelato or tacos.
- 03 Contrary to popular belief, it is not sunny and warm all year round. Temperatures drop in the winter, so pack accordingly.
- 04 It's a sprawling city, so make sure your car rental comes with GPS.
- 05 Valet parking is ubiquitous, and many garages offer car washes while you're in meetings. Use them.

Guide/Info

Hotels

Independent and easy

Maison 140
140 Lasky Drive,
Beverly Hills
+ I 310 281 4000
*maison140
beverlyhills.com*

Dependable chain

Andaz West Hollywood
8401 Sunset Boulevard
555 Beverly Boulevard
+ I 323 656 1234
andaz.com

Premium

Hotel Bel-Air
701 Stone Canyon Road
+ I 310 472 1211
hotelbelair.com

Dining

Fast breakfast

Jack n' Jill's
342 North Beverly Drive,
Beverly Hills
+ I 310 247 4500

Business breakfast

Barney Greengrass
9570 Wilshire Boulevard,
Beverly Hills
+ I 310 777 5877
barneygreengrass.com

Mid-morning coffee

Susina Bakery & Café
7122 Beverly Boulevard
+ I 323 934 7900
susinabakery.com

Working lunch with colleagues

Bar-Hayama
1803 Sawtelle Boulevard
+ I 310 235 2000
bar-hayama.com

Need-to-impress-clients lunch

Mr Chow
344 North Camden Drive,
Beverly Hills
+ I 310 278 9911
mrchow.com

Lunch on your own

M Café de Chaya
7199 Melrose Avenue,
Hollywood
+ I 323 525 0588
mcafedechaya.com

Afternoon tea/drink

Nineteen12
Beverly Hills Hotel,
9641 Sunset Boulevard,
Beverly Hills
+ I 310 273 1912
barineteen12.com

Dinner on your own

The Hump
Santa Monica Airport
3221 Donald Douglas
Loop South, 3rd Floor
+ I 310 313 0977

Dinner with colleagues

Father's Office
3229 Helms Avenue
+ I 310 736 2224
fathersoffice.com

Big dinner with partner/clients

All'Angelo Ristorante
7166 Melrose Avenue
+ I 323 933 9542
allangelo.com

Drink after dinner

Palihouse Holloway
8465 Holloway Drive,
West Hollywood
+ I 323 656 4100
palihouse.com

Late bite

Magnolia
6266 ½ Sunset Boulevard,
Hollywood
+ I 323 467 0660
magnoliahollywood.com

On the tiles

My House
7080 Hollywood Boulevard
+ I 323 960 3300
myhousehollywood.com

Reading

Bookshop

Book Soup
8818 Sunset Boulevard
+ I 310 659 3110
booksoup.com

Thank you

Flower delivery

Empty Vase
9033 Santa Monica
Boulevard,
West Hollywood
+ I 310 278 1988
emptyvase.com

Shopping

Something you can't get anywhere else

Fish tacos from Best Fish
Taco in Ensenada
1650 Hillhurst Avenue
bestfishtacoinensenada.com

Lost luggage – where to buy shirts, socks and underwear

Fred Segal
420 Broadway,
Santa Monica
fredsegal.com

Something for the kids

Toys from Acorn Store
1220 5th Street,
Santa Monica
+ I 310 451 5841

Something for someone you love

MONOCLE Shop
225 26th Street,
19B Santa Monica
+ I 310 395 4180
monocle.com

Something for yourself

James Perse
8914 Melrose Avenue
+ I 310 276 7277
jamesperse.com

Two-hour tour

- 01 Los Angeles County Museum of Art has important paintings and sculptures by Picasso, Matisse and Magritte. 5905 Wilshire Boulevard + I 323 857 6000 *lacma.org*
- 02 The J Paul Getty Museum is worth a visit if only to stare at the iconic building itself. 1200 Getty Center Drive + I 310 440 7300 *getty.edu/museum*

Limousine

Arrow Limousine Service
+ I 888 738 0779
arrowlimos.com

Transport

Midway Car Rental
+ I 800 824 5260
midwaycarrental.com

Fitness

Good gym

TRAIN West Hollywood
624 North La Cienega
Boulevard
+ I 310 657 4140
trainwesthollywood.com

Good running route

Jog right along the seafront on Ocean Front Walk from Santa Monica to Venice Beach.

Alternative diversion

Try hiking or trail running in Runyon Canyon.

