

YOUR ADVENTURE IN

Pasadena

WANT MORE?

Browse the **Inflight Entertainment Portal** for the best spots to eat, drink, stay, and play in your final destination. It's free!



STELLAR SOUNDTRACK
NASA's Orbit Pavilion renders satellite sounds at The Huntington.

BY TOMMIE ETHINGTON
Set against California's beautiful San Gabriel Mountains, Pasadena serves as a real-world reminder to stop and smell the roses. The SoCal city blends laid-back vibes with a quiet sophistication, creating an epicenter for exotic landscapes, educational fun, and a dynamic culinary scene that changes with the seasons. So, what are you waiting for? Tell us how you'd like to take on the City of Roses.

ARE YOU A

FAMILY TRAVELER
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SHOPAHOLIC
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EPICUREAN
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GAME TIME

Activities
abound at
these playful
places



KIDSPACE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Partake in hands-on fun with outdoor exhibits and interactive stations focused on physics and art.



NEON RETRO ARCADE

Battle more than 50 classic pinball machines and arcade games, from Tron to Pac-Man.



REESE'S RETREAT

Pint-sized pirates will love this buccaneer-themed, wheelchair-accessible playground featuring a mock sailboat and friendly sea serpent.

Seek out a sweet treat

Bengees Ice Cream Crafters

This small shop serves cronut ice cream sandwiches —warm croissant-doughnut hybrids stuffed with flavored scoops.

Stick Station

Customize fruit- or milk-based popsicles at this trendy emporium. Try adding pretzel crumbs, sour cherries, or honeycomb.

Amara Chocolate & Coffee

This South American bistro serves truffles, churros, and an award-winning sipping chocolate.



ROVING AROUND

The JPL's small museum houses scale models of rovers, robots, and satellites.

Discover Outer Space

At the forefront of cosmic exploration since 1944, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory developed America's first Earth-orbiting science satellite and the first successful interplanetary spacecraft. Today, the JPL continues its celestial work for NASA with the help of pioneering robots managed by the California Institute of Technology. Earthlings can reserve a spot on one of the free weekly tours—recommended for ages 8 and up—which include a multimedia presentation on the research center's history and current projects, as well as access to the flight operations and spacecraft assembly facilities.

Recoup at one of these trendy digs

The Langham Huntington Exuding old Hollywood glamour, amenities include tours of the historic estate and doggie spa services. **dusitD2 Hotel Constance** At this avant-garde oasis, rooms boast in-suite Netflix streaming and an iPad for ordering room service. **The Bissell House** This airy Victorian-style B&B once belonged to the daughter of Melville Bissell, the inventor of the vacuum cleaner.

TRADE SECRETS

Stumble upon a special event at a local store



DISTANT LANDS

A traveler's dream stocked with guides and hard-to-find gear, this shop features films and lectures given by expert globetrotters.



LULA MAE

Pop into this quirky stationery boutique for one of their weekly workshops, which cover everything from loom weaving to calligraphy.



VROMAN'S BOOKSTORE

This famous 122-year-old main-stay hosts more than 400 free happenings and book signings annually.



THE THRILL OF THE THRIFT
Annette Vartanian pairs vintage designer pieces with modern staples.

Hunt for Vintage Finds

While the Rose Bowl Flea Market is known for its extensive eclectic offerings, Pasadena-based blogger Annette Vartanian prefers a personalized approach to bargain hunting. Through her site, A Vintage Splendor, fashionistas can book styling services or a shopping party. Stops along her tour often include High Low Vintage, which carries clothing from the '60s and '70s, and the Pasadena Antique Center and Annex, featuring nearly 130 vendors—including some that supplied midcentury modern furniture to the set of the TV show "Mad Men."

PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF KYLE ELLIS PHOTOGRAPHY(A VINTAGE SPLENDOR), REPLUGLE GLOBES(DISTANT LANDS), DIANE SANTAMARIA(SCAPBOOKS.COM(LULA MAE), AND VROMAN'S BOOKSTORE

Take part in traditions

Doo Dah Parade

Locals ham it up on wacky floats at the “twisted sister” of the conventional Rose Parade. See the 39th rendition on Nov. 20.

Pasadena Playhouse

Book a free behind-the-scenes tour of the official state theatre of California, which jump-started the careers of actors like Gene Hackman and Dustin Hoffman.

Santa Anita Park

Cheer on your pick at this thoroughbred race track or take a tram ride through the stables.



EVOLVING IDEAS
The library’s permanent exhibition highlights scientific discoveries.

Marvel at Masterworks

It’s hard to know where to begin at The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. The archives contain roughly six million items, including a Gutenberg Bible, a first folio edition of William Shakespeare’s plays, and letters from Abraham Lincoln and Susan B. Anthony. Four galleries feature British, French, and American art, including Thomas Gainsborough’s renowned life-size painting “The Blue Boy.” The surrounding gardens cover more than 120 acres with 15,000 plant varieties. Don’t miss the Desert Garden, one of the world’s largest outdoor collections of cactuses and succulents.

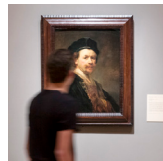
MILLIONAIRE ROW

Home to city elite, this boulevard is a cultural cornerstone



GAMBLE HOUSE

Built for David and Mary Gamble (of Proctor & Gamble), this Craftsman-style abode was deeded to the city for use as a museum of American arts and crafts.



NORTON SIMON MUSEUM

Works by Cézanne, Degas, and Van Gogh dot the impressive private art collection of industrialist tycoon Norton Simon.



WRIGLEY GARDENS

Wander 4.5 acres that once belonged to the Wrigley chewing gum family, featuring more than 1,500 varieties of roses, camellias, and annuals.

A PERFECT MATCH

Beltran recommends wines to compliment the ever-changing entrees scrawled on a chalkboard above the open kitchen.



BREWS & POURS

Drink in the city at beloved bars



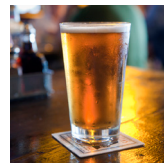
BAR 1886

Choose from more than 600 cocktails, including the acclaimed Honey-Nut Old Fashioned and 13 different Pimm's Cups.



LAVENDER & HONEY

Try the French lavender breve or honey bee latte at this charming espresso bar and coffee house.



CONGREGATION ALE HOUSE

Imbibing is a religious experience under high rafters and stained-glass windows. Sip the in-house Hop Communion, a red ale.

Feast on Innovation

For some restaurateurs, starting from scratch each month would be panic-inducing. For chef Claud Beltran, it's a welcome challenge that's made The Eatery—his unpretentious, creative test kitchen—so successful. Themed menus evoke flavors from specific regions, focus on a single ingredient, or pay homage to pop culture. (Think house-made Scandinavian squid ink pasta, a garlic-centric feast, or dishes inspired by a 1960s steakhouse.) Make reservations now to taste the November menu, a tribute to the late American chef Charlie Trotter.

Savor these fun foodie experiences

Saute Culinary Academy Ten miles east of Pasadena, former Le Cordon Bleu instructor Alexander Reyes teaches small group cooking classes. **Melting Pot Food Tours** Stroll the streets of Old Pasadena, sampling the area's rich ethnic cuisine, from Oaxacan to Middle Eastern. **Rose Tree Cottage & English Village Shop** Peruse wares from the U.K., followed by afternoon tea overlooking the garden.

PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF MARYANNE MUELLER-CURSON FOR SAUCE LA (THE EATERY), ACUNA-HANSEN (BAR 1886), JOANNE FIO PHOTOGRAPHY (LAVENDER & HONEY), AND TIMPORTER/ISTOCK