



November 21, 2011

The top 3 San Diego holiday escapes

Category: [Accommodation](#), [California](#), [Hotels](#), [North America](#), [Regions](#), [USA](#) — Kelly Stacey @ 11:47 pm

It's true; San Diego, California, gets sunshine year round. The perfect weather, relaxed attitudes and having the Pacific Ocean at your doorstep will cure any case of the winter blues. Whether you are planning your destination holiday in hopes for a quiet haven or for party proximity, consider "America's Finest City" for a taste of what Southern California has to offer — and don't forget your bikini! Here are three of the most talked about San Diego hotels:



The Lodge at Torrey Pines

A stately resort set overlooking the California coastline, The Lodge at Torrey Pines boasts AAA 5 Diamond rating for ten consecutive years. Torrey Pines Golf Course, site of the 2008 U.S. Open is just a stone's throw away. Modeled after the Craftsman style architecture of the early 1900s, The Lodge combines the appeal of indoor and outdoor living. Guests are met with expansive spaces, meticulous woodwork and grand craftsmanship evoking another era. Spend mornings hiking through Torrey Pines State Reserve and the afternoon playing croquet. Nearby Downtown La Jolla offers boutiques and art galleries for the visitor's perusal and by nightfall, finish the evening with both a sunset view of the 18th hole and a fine dining experience at the Lodge's A.R. Valentin signature restaurant. With an ever-present touch of nature, even The Spa at Torrey Pines offers restorative treatments based around natural marine and botanical based ingredients. Truly a sanctuary for those in search of a quiet and soothing holiday, The Lodge is rustic luxury at its best.

Hotel Del Coronado

The legendary and iconic Hotel Del Coronado on Coronado Island is a quintessential San Diego landmark, blending rich Victorian history into a modern day beachfront resort. Built in 1888, the hotel's recognizable red turrets, its island setting and white sandy beaches will make for a memorable holiday vacation. Known affectionately to locals as "The Del", visitors will get to experience the relaxing beach culture San Diegans are privy to. The Del is also ideal for couples and families as it offers plenty of activities such as S'mores on the Beach, bike rentals and a holiday season event, "Skating by the Sea", where guests can ice skate with views of the Pacific Ocean and Coronado Beach. Wine and dine at 1500 OCEAN, The Del's award winning restaurant featuring fresh coastal cuisine, or take a stroll into the quaint neighborhood of Coronado, where specialty shops and bistros abound. For a more secluded experience, the hotel offers Beach Village at The Del, luxury private villas and cottages with oceanfront views. Guestroom, suite or villa, The Del has a variety of accommodations and a lively resort atmosphere that is sure to impress even the most discerning traveller this holiday season.

Andaz San Diego

The historic Gaslamp Quarter is home to San Diego's urban nightlife. Set in the heart of the city, Andaz San Diego is an alluring boutique hotel sure to make nights out on the town even more posh. Guests are met not with check-in counters but a personalized welcome and complimentary beverages while you lounge in the lobby — a sleek architectural design featuring dark wood and plush furniture, elements that are featured throughout the contemporary hotel. Browse through downtown shops during the day or meander into Seaport Village or Balboa Park. At night, the city comes alive with bustling restaurants and bars. The Andaz offers Ivy Wine Bar, which houses 88 vintages ready for a customized tasting experience. At night, lounge with views of the urban skyline at the Ivy Rooftop or dance the night away at the Ivy Nightclub, both are premiere social spots of the San Diego city scene. Keeping holiday festivities at a maximum will be a breeze with an urban escape to the Gaslamp Quarter of San Diego.

Celebrate the holidays in SoCal style — with sunshine, the Pacific coastline and friendly people. San Diego is a diverse city with a small town feel; and visitors can experience peace and relaxation, beach culture and city life all in one great escape.

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