

Eat. See. Do.

Your Summer
Guide to Life
in Long Beach

MAY 2026



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LONG BEACH POST

Inside.

Food finds • Attractions • Museums and murals
Live music • Shopping • Summer events calendar



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Eat. See. Do. is the "It Guide" of Long Beach, featuring the arts, culture and lifestyle section from the Long Beach Post. Subscribe to our weekly newsletters at lbpost.com/newsletters.

ON THE COVER:

The Cowboy from Hell burger from Grill 'Em All. See page 8.

About Us

This guide was produced by the staff of the Long Beach Post, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and the city's most essential news source. Our newsroom is part of The LA Local, a nonprofit news organization built to strengthen Los Angeles County by serving and connecting local communities with trusted, community-centered journalism.

MANAGING DIRECTOR:

Melissa Evans

SALES & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR:

Frankie Morales

SENIOR EDITOR:

Jeremiah Dobruck

VISUALS EDITOR:

Thomas Cordova

REPORTERS:

John Donegan

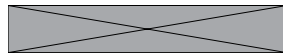
Jacob Sisneros

Kate Raphael

Ashley Bolter

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT:

Isamar Morin



LONG BEACH
BUSINESS JOURNAL

Please donate to support this important work, which helps locals and visitors alike find the food, fun and activities that make Long Beach a special place to live and work. Find out more:





Jongewaard's Bake n Broil

Fresh Start

One of the best parts about Long Beach: You really can't go wrong wherever you stop to get a bite to eat. That starts with the most important meal of the day, and this city has no shortage of options for breakfast.

BREAKFAST

Our top spot for breakfast this year is **Jongewaard's Bake n Broil** (3697 Atlantic Ave.), family-owned and operated since 1965. With sweet and savory offerings for everyone at your table, their homestyle cooking is worth the wait – and get ready to wait for a



The Potholder Cafe



DISCOVER THE BEST BRUNCH IN LONG BEACH!

Embark on a global culinary adventure featuring bottomless champagne, live music, and a tantalizing signature menu sure to please even the most discerning palates, the Royal Sunday Brunch buffet has become a Long Beach tradition not to be missed.


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Long Beach, CA 90803
(562) 434 6995

Claire's
of the Museum

Eat: Breakfast (cont.)



Schooner or Later

table. Be sure to order a fresh-baked muffin while they last.

Zuzu's Petals (801 E. Third St.) serves up bright twists on traditional eats, emphasizing seasonal flavors and locally sourced ingredients. Their drink menu alone is reason to stop in – try the Curious George, an iced espresso with maple-banana syrup and coconut foam.

And for a stick-to-your-ribs breakfast of eggs and spuds? **The Omelette Inn** (318 Pine Ave.) in downtown Long Beach has you covered, with dishes like the Hang Over, an omelet with Black Forest ham, cheddar cheese and Ortega chiles.

Of course, no Long Beach breakfast list is complete without **Schooner or Later** (241 N. Marina Dr.), for a hearty first meal on the waterfront.

BRUNCH

Park Pantry (2104 E. Broadway) near Bixby Park is a great spot to recharge after a morning walk at the beach. It's our top brunch pick this year for its classic American skillet, omelets and goods from the griddle. But it faced stiff competition alongside **The Attic** (3441 E. Broadway), which features reimagined Southern comfort food like Mac and Cheetos, or chicken and waffles with Tabasco honey.

Saint & Second (4828 Second St.) makes our list again this year, with its sophisticated twists on classic brunch fare – get the pecan pie French toast with whipped mascarpone or the smoked tri-tip hash on grilled sourdough.

And if you're looking for something simple and satisfying, try **The Potholder Cafe** (301 W. Broadway, 3700 E. Broadway, 2246 N. Lakewood Blvd). ●

Lunch Break

From grab-and-go to upscale dining, you can't skip lunch in Long Beach. Here are our 2026 picks for a midday meal.

SANDWICHES

A sandwich is a classic lunch, and it's hard to get more classic than **Modica's Deli** (455 E. Ocean Blvd.), a downtown restaurant that has been open on Ocean Boulevard for 40 years. **Olives Gourmet Grocer** (3510 E. Broadway) is another solid choice with a wide selection of sandwiches, salads and gourmet provisions.



Modica's

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Eat: Lunch (cont.)



Brunch choices from Ubuntu Cafe



An egg sandwich from Dilly's



A pepperoni pizza from Dirty Pepperoni

For quirky sandwich creations, try **Dilly's** (4144 N. Viking Way) – adventurous eaters should order the PB & Pickle with a side of Dilly slaw.

OUTDOOR

Ubuntu Cafe (335 Nieto Ave.) took top spot once again for its incredible ambience near the Colorado Lagoon and its seasonal farm-to-table fare. Another great place to soak in the sun is **Gaucha Beach** (780 E. Shoreline Dr.). With a rooftop bar, kids' playground, and empanada station, there's something for everyone at this breezy bistro.

BURGERS

Any burger fan must stop by **The Win-Dow** (4600 E. Second St.) for their unbeatable prices and casual style. Splurge on a smash-burger, fries and handspun milkshake, or go green with a grain bowl or kale salad. For a beefy burger with innovative flavor combos, check out the heavy metal-themed **Grill 'Em All** (5411 E. Ocean Blvd.) at Bayshore Beach. The **GWAR** – a burger topped with kimchi, garlic aioli, asadero and salted cucumbers – absolutely shreds.

PIZZA

Newcomer **Dirty Pepperoni** (149 Linden Ave.) unseated **4th Horseman** (121 W. Fourth St.) this year to win first place in the pizza category. Housed in the historic Broadlind Building, Dirty Pepperoni serves up fresh flavors in an iconic setting. Try the Broadlind, a spicy pie topped with jalapeño, red and green chorizo, and bacon. ●



Matt Churnus from Grill 'Em All

Little Coyote (2114 E. Fourth St., 3500 N. Coyotes Diagonal) was also in the mix for its classic combo of pizza, calzones and stromboli. For unique twists on pizza, visit **Thai Curry Pizza** (929 Redondo Ave.) or **Domenico's** (5339 Second St.). For 70 years, Domenico's has made its pizza the same way: Cooks grind up the pepperoni or other meat of your choice to add more flavor to each bite.

SUSHI

Sushi Nikkei (3819 Atlantic Ave., 5020 Second St.) is our top pick again this year for its unique Peruvian sushi offerings and incredible selection of sashimi. **Sushi Mafia** (649 E. Broadway) is another spot where you can't go



Sushi Nikkei

Catch the Vibe!

ENDLESS ENTERTAINMENT

Downtown Long Beach

Photo by John "Jack" Williams

PaniQ Escape Room

327 Pine Ave.



Brushstrokes + Beverages

501 E Broadway
Unit C



Bad Axe Throwing

245 Pine Ave.
Ste. 290



ToursX Glass Bottom Boats

401 E Shoreline Dr.



Taste of Downtown with KCRW Summer Nights

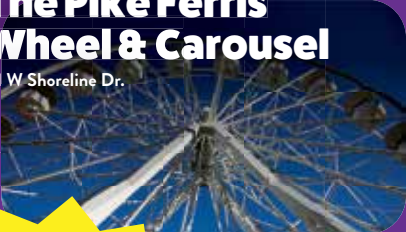
Pine Ave. between Broadway & 3rd St.

Aug. 22
2-10PM



The Pike Ferris Wheel & Carousel

21 W Shoreline Dr.



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LONG BEACH
ALLIANCE**

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SAVOR THE SUMMER

Photo by Michael Kennedy

L'Opera Italian Restaurant

101 Pine Ave.



Olé Tapas Bar & Kitchen

140 Pine Ave.



BO-beau Kitchen + Roof Tap

144 Pine Ave.



Olive & Rose

255 Atlantic Ave.



King's Fish House

100 W Broadway



La Traviata

301 N Cedar Ave.



Sky Room

210 Ocean Blvd.



Chez Bacchus

743 E 4th St.



The Ordinary

210 The Promenade N.



Queensview Steakhouse

435 Shoreline Village Dr.



555 East

555 E Ocean Blvd.



Ruth's Chris Steak House

180 E Ocean Blvd.
Ste. 160



DIVE INTO MORE DINING IN DTLB HERE



Eat: Lunch (cont.)



The Wild Chive

wrong with anything on the menu, including their bevy of baked rolls.

For a mix of sushi and Japanese barbecue, head to **Sosogu** (3860 Worsham Ave.) at the LBX. Fun fact: It was started by the bassist for The Wallflowers.

VEGAN

Bluff Park favorite **The Wild Chive** (2650 E. Broadway) offers plant-based comfort food in a lively cafe setting. The restaurant has made national lists for Best Brunch, yet its owners have struggled to stay afloat and have sought community assistance through GoFundMe to “keep the Wild Chive alive.” In nearby Belmont Heights, **The Grain Cafe** (4403 E. Fourth St.) serves up vegan meals from crepes to tacos

that have received praise from meat lovers.

GLUTEN-FREE

For a gluten-free meal that doesn't compromise on flavor or variety, **Bushfire Kitchen** (4610 Pacific Coast Highway) offers some of the best gluten-free variations of American comfort food. Sandwiches, bowls and plates can all be made gluten-free – and their chocolate chips? Made with tapioca flour and rice.

Looking for a gluten-free slice? You can't miss a trip to **Thunderbolt Pizza** (4085 Atlantic Ave.), a New York-style pizzeria in the storied Bixby Knolls neighborhood that works for date night and game time. Every pie, no matter how specific or special, can be made on a gluten-free crust. ●



Summer is here. Let's Transit.

The best summer memories aren't made in parking lots. They're made aboard Long Beach Transit. LBT is your ride to a season unlike any other, starting Memorial Day weekend with the return of the most relaxing ride on the SoCal coast - LBT Water Taxis.

All Aboard Water Taxis

Cruise from Downtown Long Beach to the shops and restaurants at Alamitos Bay aboard AquaLink (\$5 one way, drinks and snacks for purchase on board), or ride Aqua-Bus (\$1 one way) to hop the harbor between the Aquarium, Shoreline Village, and the Queen Mary. Both operate seven days a week through Labor Day, so you can skip the parking hassle at city hotspots and arrive in style all summer long.

Your Passport to Downtown

Speaking of city hotspots: eat, see, and do all that Downtown Long Beach has to offer with the FREE Passport. This LBT weekend

service runs along Long Beach Blvd. and Pine Ave., with additional stops at Shoreline Village and the Queen Mary.

Kick It With LBT

The world is coming to Long Beach for soccer's biggest events, and LBT gets you closer to the action for less. Long Beach Transit is providing Metro World Cup Enhanced Service, bringing fans from Downtown Long Beach to Los Angeles Stadium for all eight matches, June 12 through July 10. With stadium parking running over \$100, this \$1.75/ride option is as clear as a free kick.

Watching the matches in town with your crew? Ride LBT to all the LA Galaxy Soccer Celebration live events at venues throughout Long Beach, for only \$1.25/ride.

One city. One epic summer. Let's Transit, Long Beach.

Plan your trip at ridelbt.com



Dirty Elvis wings at Shlap Muan

Supper Club

Long Beach broke into the Michelin Star scene with **Heritage** (2032 E. Seventh St.), a five-star farm-to-table experience with a fixed menu that changes by the season. **Ammatoli** (285 E. Third St.), with its fine Mediterranean cuisine, gave Heritage a run for its money this year but came in as the runner-up.

Phnom Penh Noodle Shack (1644 Cherry Ave.) is a reflection of Long Beach's robust Cambodian community, the largest in the

United States. The house special is perfect for any occasion, but is especially good on a cold night. **Sophy's** (3240 E. Pacific Coast Highway) is another great option for a sit-down Cambodian dinner.

Shlap Muan (2150 E. South St.) in North Long Beach offers wings mixed with bold Cambodian flavors. Owner Hak Tea took over the family business a few years ago and made it his own — he recently served their wings at Coachella and Stagecoach.

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DIRECTED BY JACK O'BRIEN

JUNE 2–14



Photos by Jeremy Daniel



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Eat: Dinner (cont.)



Roe Seafood



A special seafood dish being prepared at Heritage

OTHER SOLID CHOICES

Head to **Chez Bacchus** (743 E. Fourth St.) for French cuisine, an extensive wine list and an upscale ambience.

Los Compadres (1144 Pine Ave., 3229 E. Anaheim St.) is a classic option for Mexican fare, along with **Lola's** (2030 E. Fourth St., 4140 Atlantic Ave.) for their signature Mexican moles.

Tarantella on 4th (2120 E. 4th St.) is a great spot for any date night. They have delicious pasta, wine and a backyard patio perfect for a romantic evening.

Thai District (149 Linden Ave.) kept the crown for the best Thai food in the city, beating out **Panvimarn Thai Cuisine** (4101 Bellflower Blvd.) and **Kin Long Beach** (740 E. Broadway).

Roe Seafood (5374 E. Second St.) is the best choice if you're looking for prime seafood dishes with an upscale-casual ambience. Check out their Happy Hour menu for small bites to share. ●

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Rudy Arco, *The Mad Woman of Suitor Springs*, (detail), 1982-1993
Stoneware

21 x 14 1/2 x 13 inches
Melba and Al Langman Collection,
gift of their family, 2008.135





Loose Leaf Boba

Cool Beans

When you need a pick-me-up, skip the chains and sip local at one of Long Beach's coffee, tea and juice cafes.

COFFEE

This category could warrant its own guide soon. Long Beach has no shortage of places to stop for a quick cup of joe, and each year, more caffeine options join the fray. This year, **CoffeeDrunk** (913 E. Wardlow Rd., 2701 E. Fourth St., 4374 Atlantic Ave.) held onto the top spot. Their Instagram-worthy lattes and matcha, with housemade syrups and subtle sweetness,

keep readers caffeinated year in, year out. Get the iced blueberry brown sugar latte while it's in season.

Steelhead Coffee (3350 E. Broadway, 1208 E. Wardlow Rd., 3768 Long Beach Blvd.) is another solid choice for all things espresso, along with **Rose Park Roasters** (455 E. Ocean Blvd., 800 Pine Ave., 3044 E. Fourth St.) — the caramel miso latte is a must.

Wood Coffee (2728 E. 10th St.) has been a fixture in central Long Beach for years, offering exclusively plant-based lattes, matcha and tea. You could try The Kermie,

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Eat: Coffee, Tea & Juice (cont.)



Afternoon Tea at the Village

a pistachio milk matcha latte with vanilla – but that’s none of my business.

Da Vien Coffee (715 E. Anaheim St.) is a newcomer to the area but has gained a dedicated following for their Vietnamese coffee and unique blended drinks.

TEA

Started by a mother-daughter duo from England, **Afternoon Tea at the Village** (4105 N. Bellflower Blvd.) offers an unbeatable experience with plenty of pink and floral arrangements to content anyone in need of a fancy cup of tea and fresh scones. Fascinators welcome, but not required.


For boba, milk teas and aloe vera tea, **Cha for Tea** (5720 E. Seventh St.) and **Loose**


Leaf Boba (315 The Promenade N.) are fan favorites from last year’s guide.

JUICE

Salud Juice is our winner once again. With three locations across the city in Belmont Shore (4918 E. Second St.), Bixby Knolls (3768 Long Beach Blvd.) and Alamitos Beach (1944 E. Fourth St.), the juice bar offers cold-pressed juices, tonics and cleansers that have attracted a devoted following. It’s become a local fan favorite for delivering healthy options and positive vibes. **Rise Juice and Coffee** (246 E. Third St.) offers a wide selection of raw juices in its inviting indoor-outdoor setting, the perfect respite from the hustle and bustle of downtown. ●



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Summer Starts at Hotel Maya

Things are heating up at Hotel Maya with newly refreshed guest rooms, beautifully updated spaces, and stunning waterfront views that make every stay unforgettable.

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HOTEL
MAYA



FUEGO
AT THE MAYA



Hey Brother Baker



DoLy's Delectables

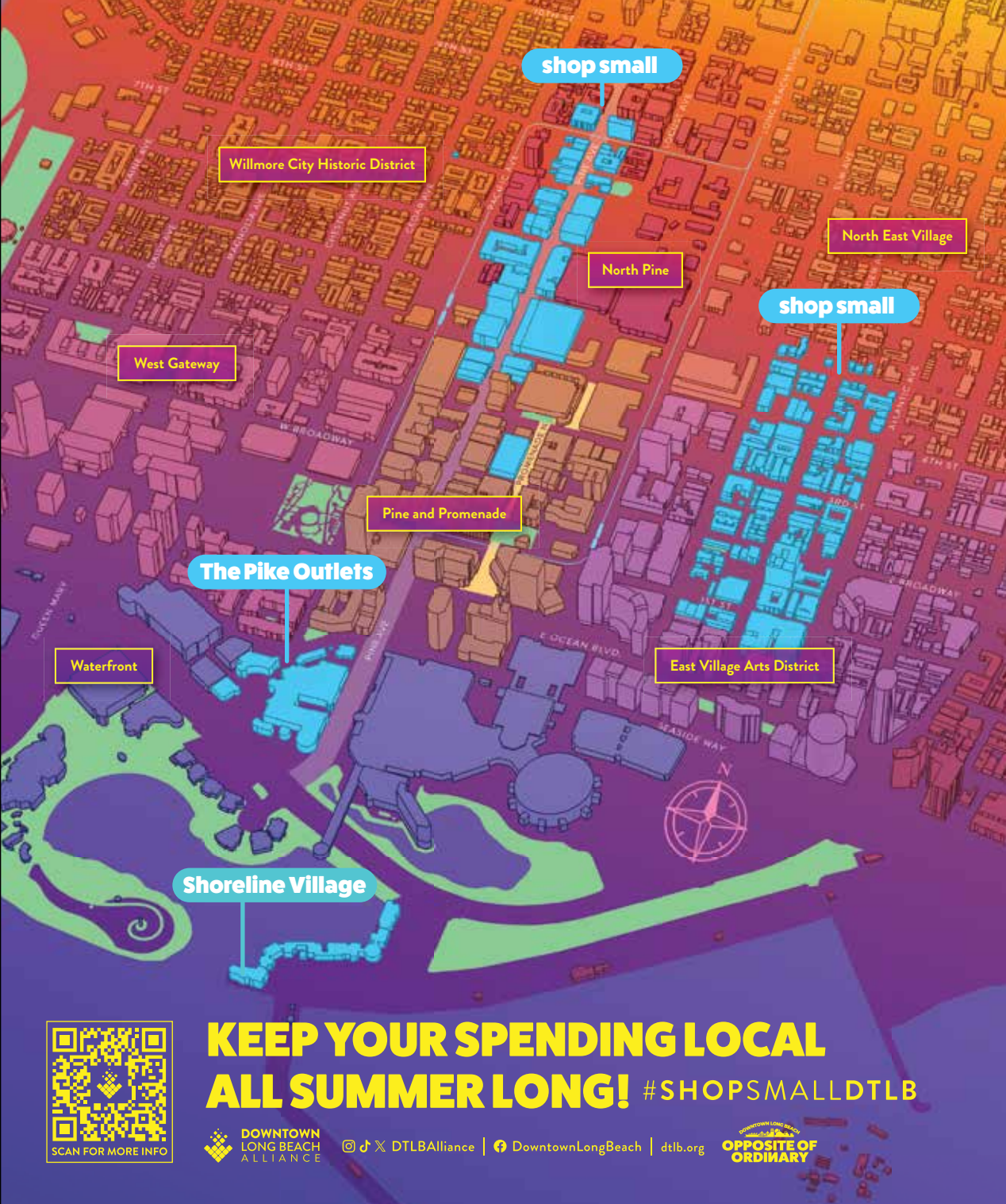
Sugar Fix

Any pastry recommendation in Long Beach starts with **Gusto Bread** (2710 E. Fourth St.), a perennial winner of the James Beard Award and reader favorite. Gusto uses stone-milled flours in their rustic breads and puts signature twists on panadería classics — like the Nixtamal Queen, a sweet, sticky bun made with layers of sourdough and housemade masa.

Runners-up include **Hey Brother Baker** (3929 E. Anaheim St.), a garage bakery startup that recently opened a brick-and-mortar location. It's tied with **Lazy Dough** (975 E. Fourth St.) and **DoLy's Delectables** (245 E. Broadway), a sleeper hit that churns out French pastries from an office-building storefront.

Looking to cool off with a sweet treat? We've picked **Long Beach Creamery** (222 E. Broadway, 4141 Long Beach Blvd.) and **Seaside Creamery** (1785 Palo Verde Ave.) for their rotations of handcrafted ice cream and custard. Both creameries collaborate with local hot spots for innovative flavors: Long Beach Creamery teamed with Hey Brother Baker for caramel corn cookie; Seaside Creamery and CoffeeDrunk brought us The Instigator.

Long Beach is also recently home to **Sorry, Not Sorry Creamery** (4612 Second St.), a Las Vegas-based franchise that brings fresh flavors like Thai tea butter crunch and vegan rocky road. ●



shop small

Willmore City Historic District

North East Village

North Pine

shop small

West Gateway

Pine and Promenade

The Pike Outlets

Waterfront

East Village Arts District

Shoreline Village



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BELMONT SHORE

SUMMER STROLL

& SAVOR

FOOD FEST ON 2ND STREET!

JUNE 17 & 18 – JULY 15 & 16 – AUGUST 19 & 20

5:30 PM – 9:00 PM

There is a specific kind of magic that settles over Long Beach as the afternoon's golden glow begins its slow lean toward twilight, eventually painting the sky in hues of amber and violet. Nowhere is this Southern California energy more palpable than in Belmont Shore. This summer, the Belmont Shore Business Association invites you to enjoy our historic corridor with the return of Summer Stroll & Savor. It is more than a food festival; it is **a residency of flavor, music, and community that transforms 2nd Street into the city's longest and most eclectic culinary promenade.**

Stretching 14 vibrant blocks from Livingston Drive to Bay Shore Avenue, Summer Stroll puts the culinary experience center stage. We often say the food is the star of the show, but the shore itself provides the world-class stage. **Visitors have the unique opportunity to explore over 35 diverse restaurants.** Whether you are craving artisanal bites, international fusion, or classic coastal comfort food, the shore offers a curated journey for every palate. As you navigate this fourteen-block stretch, the experience is bolstered by a curated soundtrack. Live music is stationed throughout the corridor, ensuring that every step taken is accompanied by the rhythmic pulse of a Long Beach evening. Beyond the dining, our unique boutiques and local retailers keep their doors open, offering a "stroll" that combines the best of shopping with open-air festivities.



It is an all-encompassing night designed for locals and visitors alike to gather, celebrate, and sample the very best of our community. Summer Stroll is free to attend, allowing everyone to enjoy the sunset vibes and live activations along 2nd Street. While the event is open to all, the culinary experience is ticket-based. To dive into the "Food Fest on 2nd Street," simply pick up a Taste Ticket booklet at our designated booths as your essential currency for sampling the best flavors of the shore. **Join us every third Wednesday and Thursday of June, July, and August from 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM.** From the first bite to the final sunset, Summer Stroll & Savor is the definitive way to experience summer this season. We invite you to walk the blocks, meet our merchants, and fall in love with Belmont Shore all over again.



BELMONTSHORE.ORG/STROLLANDSAVOR

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1126 Queens Highway, Long Beach, CA 90802 | QUEENMARY.COM/WHATSONDECK



Bar manager Kevin Lee carves an ice sphere at Tokyo Noir.

Happy Hour

With award-winning ales and masterfully crafted cocktails, Long Beach's bar and brewery scene is second to none. Here are our 2026 picks.

COCKTAILS

Head down the alley between the muraled walls and look for the red paper lantern: That's **Tokyo Noir** (1731 E. Fourth St.), a speakeasy that specializes in Japanese cocktails. Incredible care is taken with every detail, from the watercolor menu illustrations to hand-carved ice spheres. Watch as the Hibiki Old Fash-

ioned is artfully prepared, or get the Kaiju for a fun, fruity take on the giant monster.

Feeling indecisive? **Midnight Oil** (255 Long Beach Blvd.) houses three separate bars under one roof — the Apothecary, the Lagoon, and Hao Peng You Hand Laundry — each offering a distinctly unique cocktail and dining experience.

It's hard to get much classier than the **Sky Room** (210 E. Ocean Blvd.) in the reopened Fairmont Breakers Hotel. If you're looking for a rooftop view of the city, head a few floors above the Sky Room to visit **Halo** (210 E. Ocean Blvd.).



SUMMER KICKOFF CONCERT

5/22 Conductor Larry Curtis Concert Park at Marine Stadium
(5255 E. Paoli Way)
6-8 p.m. **Featuring Radio Royalty**

END OF SUMMER CONCERT

9/4 El Dorado Park West
(2800 N. Studebaker Rd.)
6-8 p.m. **Featuring Remix**

ENJOY AN EVENING OF MUSIC, COMMUNITY AND FUN!
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Long Beach, CA 90807
562-423-0491

Lakewood Family YMCA
5835 E. Carson St.
Lakewood, CA 90713
562-425-7431

Los Altos Family YMCA
1720 Bellflower Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90815
562-596-3394

Los Cerritos YMCA
15530 Woodruff Ave.
Bellflower, CA 90706
562-925-1292

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Eat: Cocktails & More (cont.)



Trademark Brewing

For tiki-themed cocktails, **The Bamboo Club** (3522 E. Anaheim St.) is hard to beat. **Baby Gee** (1227 E. Fourth St.) is another favorite for expertly crafted drinks and casually eclectic ambiance. If you're downtown, **The Ordinarie** (210 The Promenade N.) is yet another great choice for anyone seeking a stiff drink in a great atmosphere.

BEER AND WINE

Marina Wine Bar (194 N. Marina Dr.) is a popular destination to enjoy a glass of vino because of its cozy vibe, fireplace and live music. **Vine** (2142 E. Fourth St.) and **District Wine** (144 Linden Ave.) were runners-up in the category, but are very deserving of recognition.

This city has a robust brewing scene, and **Ambitious Ales** (4019 Atlantic Ave.) is this

year's top choice to enjoy a pint. **Long Beach Beer Lab** (518 W. Willow St., 4000 E. Anaheim St.) was last year's winner and still puts out award-winning beers, including their Sublime Mexican lager.

Trademark Brewing (233 E. Anaheim St.) is another award-winning brewery, along with **ISM Brewing** (210 E. Third St.).

DISPENSARIES

Haven (1248 Long Beach Blvd., 404 Redondo Ave., 5440 Del Amo Blvd.) has been dubbed the best cannabis dispensary in Long Beach for back-to-back years. But if you're in a pinch, **Catalyst Cannabis** has various locations (3170 Cherry Ave., 433 Pine Ave., 5227 Second St., 2800 E. Fourth St.), and Snoop Dogg's newest dispensary, **S.W.E.D.** (2115 E. 10th St.) just opened. ●

New to Long Beach?





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JborhoodLBC is an outreach initiative sponsored by Jewish Long Beach that cultivates a sense of belonging through micro-communities. Join one of our existing JborhoodLBC groups based on your interests, or create your own! JBORHOODLBC.ORG

Current JborhoodLBC Meet Ups

-  Nights out at the theater
-  Community service projects
-  Try out local restaurants
-  Family hangouts and playdates

Scan to learn more and find YOUR Jborhood.



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Discounts for seniors, students, LBUSD/CSULB/LBCC staff!
FREE for active police and fire!



Queen Mary



Aquarium of the Pacific

Out and About

No visit to Long Beach is complete without at least a glimpse of the iconic **Queen Mary** (1126 Queens Highway). “The Gray Ghost” ferried troops during World War II and has been permanently moored in Long Beach since 1967. You can stay in one of the ship’s hotel rooms or opt for a guided tour of the ship to learn its paranormal history.

If you’re looking for family-friendly fun, head to **Aquarium of the Pacific** (100 Aquarium Way). Feel the velvety skin of rays in the touch tank, watch the mesmerizing movements of jellyfish and enjoy the playful antics of otter pups. You can even hop on a whale watching tour led by a marine biologist.

Another nearby tourist spot is **Shoreline Village**, with plenty of quaint gift shops within

view of the ocean. If you get hungry, you can stop by **Parkers’ Lighthouse** (435 Shoreline Village Dr.) or **Yard House** (401 Shoreline Village Dr.) to refuel.

Reflect on Long Beach’s roots at **Rancho Los Cerritos** (4600 Virginia Rd.) and **Rancho Los Alamitos** (6400 Bixby Hill Rd.), two museums housed in historic adobe residences with lush gardens. Both sites offer cultural exhibitions and seasonal events for visitors of all ages.

One of the most relaxing and beautiful spots in the city is the **Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden** (1250 Bellflower Blvd.). This serene spot away from the sounds of the city has free admission, but reservations are recommended. ●

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SUMMER 2026

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ON THE CALENDAR THIS SUMMER

Music

Indoor and outdoor

Festivals

Music, food, culture

Markets

Makers, farmers, vintage

Food + drink

Pop-ups, brews, tastings

Outdoors

Beach, harbor, bike

After dark

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See: Museums & Murals



Long Beach Museum of Art

Art is Everywhere

Long Beach is teeming with art, from the geometric architecture of art deco buildings to sky-high murals to colorful crosswalks. You can spot formal installations and guerrilla masterpieces scattered throughout the city, but if you're looking for a specific place to spend an afternoon soaking up art, here are some suggestions.

The Museum of Latin American Art (628 Alamitos Ave.) is a favorite among readers for its unique exhibits highlighting all aspects of Latino art. The museum, founded in 1996, is the only museum in the United States dedicated to modern and contemporary Latin American and Latino art.

Long Beach Museum of Art (2300 E. Ocean Blvd.) was a close second because of its stunning location near the ocean, rotating installations and affordable price of admission at just \$15. This summer will feature two installations: "The American Home – The Broken Promise" (through Aug. 9) and "Positive Fragmentation" (through Sept. 27).

A 12-story **mural** of a child blowing bubbles won this year's favorite mural. It covers the side of the Marriott (111 E. Ocean Blvd.) in downtown Long Beach. For a full list of murals throughout Long Beach, head to artslb.org/public-art-map. ●



A rendering of the Long Beach Amphitheater

Sounds of the City



Vans Warped Tour

Long Beach has a rich music history that spans the works of Jenni Rivera, Snoop Dogg, Sublime and War – to name just a few. The city is leaning into that history and trying to write a new chapter with the **Long Beach Amphitheater** (1051 Queens Highway), a temporary outdoor music venue that was built right next to the Queen Mary.

Long Beach Amphitheater already has a full schedule of shows booked, including Lil Wayne, Toto, Luke Bryan and Mötley Crüe. You can find a full list of shows in our calendar section a few pages away.



Live music at Vine

The city also hosts multiple music festivals, including **Cali Vibes**, **Day Trip** and the **Vans Warped Tour** (see calendar for more details).

You can find even more live music any night of the week at **Alex's Bar** (2913 Anaheim St.) in the Zaferia neighborhood. This iconic bar has hosted live music for 25 years and featured a wide swath of local acts and now-famous bands like The Offspring.

Vine (2142 E. Fourth St.) is another spot to catch live bands most nights of the week. The vibe can vary depending on the night, so expect the unexpected.

The Bamboo Club (3522 E. Anaheim St.) and **The Stache Bar** (941 E. Fourth St.) also have rotating DJs on weekends, while **The Gaslamp** (6251 E. Pacific Coast Highway) hosts cover bands from nearly every genre.



The Bamboo Club

Executive Suite (3428 Pacific Coast Highway) also made the list as a three-level gay bar with karaoke, pool tables, dancing, video games and a wide selection of drinks. ●

Shopping List

To be in Long Beach is to be outside, and that spirit carries over to our shopping options. The city does not have any indoor malls, but it does have numerous stretches to walk around and explore various types of fashion, jewelry, trinkets and souvenirs.

Retro Row (Fourth Street, between Cherry and Junipero avenues) is a great place to start — the district is studded with vintage and contemporary clothing boutiques, antique shops, bookstores and more. Between browsing, catch a movie at the 1920s-era **Art Theatre** (2025 E. Fourth St.), stop for an alcoholic beverage at **Dolores** (2105 E. Fourth St.) or pause for coffee and an outdoor bite at **Alder & Sage** (366 Cherry Ave.).

Fair Trade Retail Collective Long Beach (4105 N. Bellflower Blvd.) is a collaboration of artists, businesses and activists who emphasize ethical, fair-trade products and business practices. In addition to offering numerous vendors — selling everything from clothing to skincare to potted plants — the collective hosts craft workshops and book signings, among other events.

For an upscale shopping experience, head to **2nd & PCH** (6400 Pacific Coast Highway). The outdoor mall features stores like Lululemon and Vuoria alongside a Whole Foods and plenty of restaurants for dining with an ocean view.

If you're looking to support small businesses, head to **East Village Arts District** (Ocean Boulevard to 10th Street, Long Beach Boulevard to Alamitos Avenue). There, you'll find a



selection of quaint local vendors ranging from boutiques to art studios and plenty more.

This year's top apparel stores include **Long Beach Clothing Co.** (4218 Atlantic Ave.) for casualwear boasting city pride, and **Stay Anchored** (4150 McGowen St.), an edgy home-grown brand with a love of Long Beach.

Songbird (2240 E. Fourth St.) in Retro Row also got a shoutout for its eccentric gifts and whimsical curio fit for any celebration. For vintage furniture and home goods — especially if you have an affinity for mid-century modern — check out **Urban Americana** (1345 Coronado Ave.).

Long Beach has no shortage of farmers' markets operating throughout the week, but **Marina Market** is a reader favorite on Wednesday afternoons at Marine Stadium (5255 Paoli Way), along with **2nd & PCH Market** on Saturday mornings. ●

CALENDAR

2026 Summer Events

Live music, food, culture – Long Beach has it all. The summer is packed with events for kids and adults, singles and families, and everyone in between.

JUNE

June 2: Long Beach Coast, the city's professional baseball team, hosts its inaugural game starting at 6:35 p.m. at Blaire Field.

June 6: The Long Beach Symphony will host a classical concert exploring the works of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Gustav Mahler: longbeachsymphony.org.

June 6-7: Cali Vibes is back at the Queen Mary event space, with Kid Cudi, Rebelution, Ludacris and more: calivibesfest.com.

June 7: The Long Beach Symphony hosts "Peter and the Wolf," a family-friendly concert that's free for anyone 17 years old and under: longbeachsymphony.org.

June 8-13: Long Beach Walls will welcome various muralists to paint walls around Long Beach: longbeachwalls.com.

June 11-27: The LA Galaxy will host various events in Long Beach during the group stage of the FIFA World Cup: longbeach.gov/soccerintheLBC.

June 21: Make Music Long Beach will host a city-wide music festival, with a special performance at The Shell at Recreation Park, as part of a global celebration of music that was first launched in France in 1982.

June 26-27: Shakespeare by the Sea will host its opening performances at the bandshell in Recreation Park beginning at 7 p.m. each night: shakespearebythesea.org/locations.

June 27-28: The Day Trip Festival takes place at The Queen Mary Waterfront with Ben Hemsley, Discip, Weska and many more artists: daytripfest.com.

JULY

July 3: Claypool Gold will perform at the Long Beach Amphitheater. For tickets: longbeachamp.com.

July 4: Happy Fourth of July! Long Beach will be shooting off fireworks near the Queen Mary for America's 250th birthday. Starting at 10 a.m., Justin Rudd will host his 2nd Annual Kids Bike Parade and Costume Contest on the Beach Bike Path (5000 E. Ocean Blvd.): justinrudd.com/bikeparade.html.



July 11: Live at the Shell will host the Third Annual LB Bluegrass Festival from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Recreation Park: liveattheshell.org/cal.

July 25: The Long Beach Dragon Boat Festival, a yearly tradition, will take place at Marine Stadium: lbdragonboat.com.

July 25-26: The Vans Warped Tour will return to Long Beach for a second straight year along the Queen Mary Waterfront. For tickets: vanswarpedtourlongbeach.com.

AUGUST

Aug. 1: The 77th Catalina Ski Race will bring participants and viewers to the waterfront. For information: catalinaskirace.net.

Aug. 1: Rapper Lil Wayne will take the stage at the Long Beach Amphitheater along with The Game and 2 Chainz for a Saturday show. For tickets: longbeachamp.com.

Aug. 7-9: Midsummer Scream, the annual horror convention, comes to downtown Long Beach: midsummerscream.org.

Aug. 14: Rock band Toto will play a Friday concert at the Long Beach Amphitheater alongside Christopher Cross and The Romantics. For tickets: longbeachamp.com.

Aug. 15: Country star Luke Bryan comes to the Long Beach Amphitheater for this Saturday concert. For tickets: longbeachamp.com.

Aug. 28: Nas & The Roots will perform a Friday concert at the Long Beach Amphitheater. For tickets: longbeachamp.com.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 5: Los Angeles Azules will play a Saturday concert at the Long Beach Amphitheater as part of their Cumbia Sin Fronteras Tour. For tickets: longbeachamp.com. ●



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