

# New Developments in Buena Park



## The Source

Opening in March 2017, the 450,000 square foot urban center will feature retail, a 4-D luxury theater and diverse dining options including fresh Mexican food at La Huasteca, premier Korean cuisine at Gangnam House and delicious ramen from Yoshiharu. The space is designed by award-winning architectural firm NBBJ to reflect the digital energy of Times Square, the visual energy of Tokyo and the avant-garde of Seoul. Phase two of the project will be completed in 2018 and include a Hilton Hotel.

## Porto's Bakery

Named the No.1 Restaurant in the Country for 2016 by Yelp, the popular Cuban bakery will open its first Orange County location in January 2017. Perfectly situated between the city's two premier dinner shows, visitors will be able to enjoy their world-famous breads, pastries, cakes, Cuban sandwiches and coffees.



## Mrs. Knott's Chicken Dinner Restaurant

The world-famous restaurant recently completed its first major renovation since it opened in 1934. Visitors can now choose between indoor and outdoor seating, enjoy the modern décor that reflects the feeling of Cordelia Knott's original kitchen or grab a drink at the full bar serving up signature drinks like boysenberry beer and cocktails.

## Butterfly Palladium

Opening in 2018, visitors will be immersed in a lush rainforest environment complete with waterfalls, tropical plants and natural sunlight. The sanctuary will be home to thousands of butterflies from all over the world that fly freely landing on plants, flowers and even a friendly visitor's shoulder or finger. Beyond butterflies, the Pavilion will also be home to hummingbirds, the world's largest jellyfish aquarium, 3D theater, café and retail shop making it not only fun but educational.



## Knott's Soak City Waterpark Expansion

Construction is currently underway for eight new waterslides, shaded cabanas and an overhaul in food offerings. Slated to open in May 2017, visitors will be able to race down side by side tubes, step inside an Aqua-Launch chamber, take a 60-foot plummet or twist and turn down a six person inner tube.

## Sol Spin

Coming to Knott's in Spring of 2017, the thrilling new attraction will take brave visitors on a topsy-turvy ride over 6 stories high while rotating in every direction. Deriving its name from the Spanish word for sun, the ride is a burst of color and movement that will complement the already energetic Fiesta Village.



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## Aloft Hotel

Opening in 2018, the five story, 150-room hotel will be located just steps away from Knott' Berry Farm and the city's popular dinner shows. The ultra-modern property will feature a restaurant, bar, coffee house with outdoor patio and one of the area's largest hotel fitness centers. Visitors will also enjoy cutting edge features like mobile room keys, robotic butlers and text- to-order room service.

## Hampton Inn and Suites

The 102-room Hampton Inn & Suites hotel will be a four story hotel conveniently located off the 5 freeway. Opening in 2017, the property will include an outdoor pool, modern rooms, meeting space, state-of-the-art fitness center and breakfast area.

## Hotel Stanford

With locations in New York and Seoul Korea, Hotel Stanford will bring their popular boutique hotel concept to Buena Park in 2018. The ten story property will offer modern accommodations with luxurious amenities right in the heart of the Entertainment Zone. After a long day of fun, visitors will be able to relax at the hotel spa or dine at the hotel's restaurant and wine bar.



## Beach Boulevard Makeover

AECOM, the leading engineering design firm in its industry developed a streetscape plan between the 91 Freeway and La Palma Avenue. The beautification strategy includes expanding the sidewalks, installing covered benches, sustainable landscaping throughout, lighting enchantments, water features, monument signs, large LCD screens, way finding banners and pedestrian maps. Construction has already started and will be completed in early 2017.



## Ghostrider

The longest, fastest and tallest wooden roller coaster on the West Coast has returned with a updated track and sleek new seating making for a smoother, faster ride. Ranked as one of the top wooden roller coasters in the country, visitors will once again be able to speed along 4,500 feet of track, drop down over 118 feet and reach speeds of over 55 miles per hour.

## Teatro Martini

The cabaret style show recently opened inside the Pirate's Dinner Adventure venue. Visitors (ages 18+) will be entertained by vaudeville variety acts, world-class magic, musical performances and dazzling aerial acts. During the show, indulge in an upscale, 5-course meal and try one of their signature cocktails from the master mixologists.



# Fun Facts About Buena Park

## LOCATION

The charming town of Buena Park is only 5 miles from Disneyland®, 10 miles from Huntington Beach and 20 miles from Los Angeles. The city is located in Orange County, California at the intersection of two major highways – the 5 and 91 freeways.

## ENTERTAINMENT

Buena Park is home to world class entertainment including Knott's Berry Farm theme park, Knott's Soak City Waterpark, Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament, Pirate's Dinner Adventure, Teatro Martini Variety Show, Big Air Trampoline Park, John's Incredible Pizza and Ralph B. Clark Interpretive Center. Most attractions are within walking distance from each other along the one mile stretch of the Beach Boulevard Entertainment Corridor.

## SHOPPING

The Buena Park Mall offers 1.2 million square feet of affordable shopping options, enticing restaurants and family friendly entertainment. Located outside of the theme park, Knott's California MarketPlace features one-of-a-kind boutiques like the Berry Market, Virginia's Gift Shop and Snoopy Headquarters.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

With over 2,300 hotel rooms to choose from, you're sure to find accommodations that fit your needs and budget. Guests will enjoy numerous amenities at affordable rates and benefit from lower hotel tax compared to nearby cities. Most major Buena Park hotels offer no resort or parking fees and complimentary shuttle service to local attractions including Disneyland®.

## MEETING & EVENT SPACE

Buena Park offers over 50,000 square feet of meeting space citywide with facilities at Knott's Berry Farm Resort Hotel, Holiday Inn Conference Center, Radisson Suites, Courtyard by Marriott and Fairfield Inn & Suites. And for groups, the city offers over 1000,000 square feet of venue space ranging from indoor and outdoor venues to performance stages and event space.

## EVENTS

Throughout the year, Buena Park offers seasonal celebrations including Knott's Merry Farm, the Boysenberry Festival, Knott's Scary Farm, Family Fossil Days, Silverado Days, Kid's Takeover January and February, Fire & Police Recognition Days, Military Days and the Summer Concert Series.

## CALIFORNIA WELCOME CENTER

Open 7 days a week, the center's friendly staff can assist travelers with driving directions, dining options and local landmark recommendations. Visitors can also pick up **FREE** city maps, destination travel guides, attraction brochures, computer and internet access, purchase California merchandise, attraction tickets and book last minute hotel rooms.

# History of Buena Park



The story of Buena Park dates back to 1783 when California belonged to Spain, and Pedro Fages was the Governor of this part of the country. He was given permission from the King of Spain to make land grants in California, and gave one such piece of land to Manuel Nieto, ex-corporal of the "Leather Jacket" guards of the Portola Expedition. This piece of land extended from the San Gabriel River to the Santa Ana River, and from the ocean to the road, from San Gabriel Mission. In 1834 Manuel Nieto's land was divided into five ranchos. One of the five ranchos was named Rancho Los Coyotes and totaled 48,806 acres. Buena Park is located near the center of this rancho.

Rancho Los Coyotes is a center of California and American history, for it was here in January 1847, that Commodore Robert S. Stockton and his band of Americans rested in preparation for the battle of the San Gabriel River. The battle was won and the outcome of the Mexican War (1846-48) was settled in this area. The exact location of Stockton's encampment is historically marked near the Los Coyotes Country Club in the Bellehurst area of Buena Park.

In 1885, James A. Whitaker, a wholesale grocer from Chicago, bought 690 acres of the Stearns Rancho, part of what was once the sprawling Rancho Los Coyotes. Whitaker intended to create a cattle ranch, but Santa Fe Railway officials convinced him to use the land for a new town. Whitaker filed his township papers in 1887 in Los Angeles County - Orange County had not been formed - to create the town of Buena Park. The City was not incorporated until 1953. Buena Park first became known as a dairy center and both the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific railroads built depots. The Lily Creamery started operations in Buena Park in 1889. With the exception of a few wineries, the creamery was the first industry in the city.

In 1920 Walter and Cordelia Knott moved to their 20 acre property located near Highway 39 in Buena Park, California. The young family along with their four kids were determined to be successful farmers and soon enough their crop of rhubarb, asparagus and berries were delicious enough to sell at a roadside stand. Business was booming and Cordelia soon opened a tea room where folks came from miles around to buy her fresh jams and jelly. Their good luck continued when a family friend, Rudolph Boysen and Walter Knott created the boysenberry—a cross between a raspberry, loganberry and blackberry. Highlighting their signature new berry, Cordelia expanded her tea room and began making homemade biscuits, fried chicken dinners and boysenberry pies. As the restaurant grew in popularity so did the long wait times, which led to the creation of Knott's Berry Farm's first attraction - Ghost Town. Since 1934, over 20,000,000 guests have eaten at Mrs. Knott's Chicken Dinner Restaurant and it continues to serve the same famous menu - chicken, biscuits, and boysenberry pie. Over the years, the Knott family continued to develop Knott's Berry Farm into the one of the most popular amusement parks in America. In December of 1997, after 78 years of ownership by the Knott family, Knott's Berry Farm was acquired by Cedar Fair, L.P., owners and operators of family-oriented entertainment park brands coast to coast.

Over the years Buena Park has made great strides in creating a diverse entertainment area which offers a wide selection of hotels, restaurants, and themed attractions. The City of Buena Park has its own local history park located on Beach Boulevard. Travel back in time by touring the city's Historic District featuring several preserved buildings: The Whitaker-Jaynes House serves as the city's local history museum; the Bacon House is one the oldest surviving structures in the area; the Tice House, a charming cage and the Stage Stop Hotel, is currently home to the only California Welcome Center in Orange County. At the Whitaker-Jaynes House, visitors can tour an extensive museum displays including items from the Lynx Women's Softball Team from the 1940's, a wedding dress display, a pictorial history of Buena Park's entertainment venues as well as the Dreger Clock and various photos of the famous clock throughout history. To tour the Whitaker-Jaynes House or Bacon House call (714) 562-3570.

# And The Award Goes To...

## Buena Park

The lively city of Buena Park is a popular tourist destination that offers year-round mild climate and premier proximity to Disneyland, shopping and beaches. In fact, Buena Park's award-winning attractions, restaurants and hotels have earned it the distinction as one of the **'Most Fun Small Towns'** in America by Rand McNally.



One of the city's largest attractions Knott's Berry Farm, was honored with the prestigious **Linsberg Applause Award**. The accolade is bestowed to the best amusement park's in the world and it's easy to see why Knott's won with its first-class entertainment, storied past and thrilling rides -- including one of the world's longest and tallest wooden roller coasters, Ghost Rider.

Four time winner of **Tripadvisor's Certificate of Excellence Award** and ranking amongst the most popular dinner shows in the country is Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament. Their popular venue offers jousting, sword fighting and a four course meal fit for a king. If looting and pillaging is more your style, Pirate's Dinner Adventure welcomes landlubbers to partake in the World's Most Interactive Dinner Show. Voted **OC Weekly's "Best Tourist Attraction in Orange County,"** visitors are dazzled by the swashbuckling swordplay, aerial artistry and special effects.

Buena Park offers several esteemed restaurants including Coffee Code, named **"Best Coffeehouse in Orange County"** by OC Weekly. Chicago based company, Portillo's and winner of five **Silver Platter Awards** for the best restaurant in the country serves up the tastiest sausages, Italian beef sandwiches and hamburgers around. For an affordable yet sophisticated menu visit Spencer's Bistro, prepared by **"Orange County's 2014 Best Chef,"** Spencer Kim. Of course no meal is complete without dessert and Farrell's Ice Cream Parlor's oversized treats have earned them the honor of **Best Restaurant, Best Ice Cream and Nickelodeon's Best Family Friendly Restaurant**. Award-winning Chef's Henry Cheng, Chili Yin and Li Che Chen offer the freshest pastries and desserts in town at 85°C Bakery Cafe. For the fourth year in a row, the café is recognized as one of the **Best Taiwan Global Brands**.

After a full day of excitement, rest well in one of Buena Park's award -winning hotels like the Fairfield Inn and Suites. The properties updated rooms, complimentary breakfast, free Wi-Fi and friendly staff earned it **Tripadvisor's 2015 Certificate of Excellence Award**. Voted **Business of the Year** by the Buena Park Chamber of Commerce, the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center has undergone a multi-million dollar renovation featuring modern rooms, large renovated pool area and full service restaurant and bar.



# Lights, Camera, Buena Park

## *Explore film spots from your favorite movie and television shows*

Buena Park is home to exciting tourist attractions like Knott's Berry Farm, Soak City Waterpark, Pirates Dinner Adventure, Medieval Times and much more. But what you may not realize is that numerous Buena Park entertainment venues have been featured in many of your favorite movie and television shows.

One of the most recognized landmarks in town, Knott's Berry Farm theme park, has been the backdrop of many feature films and television programs including *Knocked Up*, *America's Next Top Model*, *The Next Food Network Star*, *Parenthood*, *Criminal Minds*, *A&E's Storage Wars*, *Hell's Kitchen*, and *Bert the Conqueror*.

In Season 15 of the CW television show, *America's Next Top Model*, the prospective contestants are taken to Knott's Berry Farm to test their modeling ability under a stressful situation. The ladies made their best attempt to be graceful for the built in camera system while riding the 55MPH roller coaster, Silver Bullet.

The 2007 film *Knocked Up*, a romantic comedy starring Seth Rogen, opens up with his character Ben Stone and his thrill seeking friends riding Knott's Berry Farm roller coasters - Supreme Scream, Xcelerator and Silver Bullet.

Live demos are a staple of every *Food Network Star's* repertoire. Season 10 finalists take the stage at Knott's Berry Farm — an amusement park built on a deep culinary tradition — to perform a food demo for hundreds of park visitors.



Across the street from the theme park resides Knott's Independence Hall, a brick by brick replica of the original landmark in Philadelphia. This is the location of several scenes from the featured film *National Treasure* starring Nicolas Cage.

Another fan favorite is the 1996 film *The Cable Guy*, this comedy starring Jim Carrey features a scene at Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament. In one of the memorable scenes from the movie, Ernie and his friend Steven find themselves a part of the performance as they face one another in a humorous battle scene.

Most recently, an episode of the soap opera television show *The Bold and the Beautiful* aired showing the cast dining at Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament.

### **Celebrity Sightings**



Not only has Buena Park been a city captured on the big screen and television but it's also a hot spot for celebrities and their families. Celebrity sightings around town include professional athletes: Kobe Bryant, Shaquille O'Neal, David Beckham, and Tony Hawk. Recording artists: Vanilla Ice, Katy Perry, John Mayer, Demi Lovato and Gwen Stefani. Television and Movie Actors: Chef Gordon Ramsey, Seth MacFarlane, Neil Patrick Harris, David Caruso, Abigail Breslin, Corbin Bleu, Kurt Russell, Kate Hudson, Molly Ringwald, and Dylan McDermott.