



What's New in Oceanside Spring 2026

NEWS RELEASE

Oceanside, Calif. (March 2026) – As spring unfolds along Southern California's Coast, Oceanside welcomes visitors with a fresh wave of cultural creativity, culinary collaborations, community celebrations, and highly anticipated new attractions. From immersive art experiences and sustainable culinary partnerships to historic celebrations and family-friendly festivities, Oceanside is buzzing with O'iginal energy as we welcome the new season.

Tower 9: New Family Friendly Boutique Beach Lodging

Just steps from the sand, [Tower 9](#) offers a stylish new lodging option for travelers who want to stay close to the beach while enjoying the comforts of home. This boutique collection of vacation rentals—located between South Oceanside and downtown—features thoughtfully renovated one- to four-bedroom units with full kitchens, modern coastal design, and amenities like beach gear and outdoor gathering spaces. With flexible layouts for couples, families, and small groups, Tower 9 makes it easy to enjoy beach days, sunset walks, and Oceanside's restaurants and shops just a short stroll away. The property's four-bedroom signature suite elevates the experience with sweeping ocean views from nearly every room, bespoke finishes, a gourmet kitchen, spa-like bathrooms, a private courtyard with hot tub, and a spacious ocean-view rooftop deck with a fire pit—perfect for gathering with family and friends to watch unforgettable Pacific sunsets.

Oceanside's Artistic Community Celebrates New Exhibits, Expansions, and Anniversaries

The [Oceanside Museum of Art](#) recently unveiled design plans for a major expansion that will increase its downtown footprint by 50 percent, transforming OMA into a block-long campus. Designed by San Diego-based Safdie Rabines Architects, the project will add two new galleries, a dedicated education center, expanded outdoor space, a sculpture garden, and a café. The expansion includes the adaptive reuse of the neighboring 1929-era, Irving-Gill designed Fire Station No. 1 and is expected to break ground in 2027, signaling a significant investment in

Oceanside's growing cultural landscape.

This Spring, the Oceanside Museum of Art features exhibitions designed to engage and inspire. Highlights include [Matrix Multiplied: Hybrid Approaches to Printmaking](#) (Feb. 21–Aug. 2), [Aaron Kramer: Sense of Wonder](#) (Mar. 7–Aug. 23), [Brothers in Arts: James Hubbell and Bert Hubbell](#) (Apr. 11–Sept. 6), and [David Adey: Sacrificial Bodies](#) (Apr. 25–Nov. 1), plus [Kate Tova: A Place to Rest \(My Tired Mind\)](#) (May 2–Sept. 27). New exhibitions are complemented by robust museum programming, including hands-on ['Studio Art' workshops and 'Taste of Art' events](#) that pair creative activities with curated food experiences.

Oceanside's [California Surf Museum](#) marks its 40th anniversary this year with exhibits that explore surfing's global legacy, including [Surfriding: Hawaiian Royalty's Gift to the World](#), which traces how members of Hawaiian royalty helped introduce stand-up surfing to Europe, Australia, and the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The exhibit features exact replicas of historic surfboards recreated by master shaper Bob Pearson, offering a rare, tangible connection to surfing's origins.

Oceanside in Bloom, Agritourism and Plant-Based Dining

Oceanside's farms and gardens are bursting into bloom. While crowds gather at the nearby Carlsbad Flower Fields, travelers looking for a more relaxed, authentic experience can visit [Mellano Farms](#), a 100 year-old family-owned farm offering vibrant seasonal flowers, fresh-cut bouquets, locally grown produce, artisan goods, and family-friendly activities year-round.

This connection to the land extends into Oceanside's dining culture, supported by San Diego County's more than 5,000 farms, the highest concentration of farms in the U.S. That agricultural richness comes to life through [The Plot Garden Project](#), an expansion of the beloved plant-forward restaurant, The Plot. The nonprofit initiative supports healthy, resilient communities through urban food production, education, and innovation, cultivating fresh ingredients while offering hands-on learning opportunities that deepen the connection between the community, local farms, and the food on the plate.

New Dining and Culinary Partnerships

[Matsu](#) continues its culinary series by welcoming internationally recognized talent this spring, bringing world-class flavors and innovative dining experiences to Oceanside. Highlighting the season is Danny Lledó, chef of Xiquet (1 Michelin star, AAA Five Diamond). Celebrated for his refined Spanish cuisine inspired by the coastal region of Valencia, Lledó will collaborate on a specially curated tasting menu that emphasizes seasonal, locally sourced ingredients, precise technique, and bold, artful presentation. Diners can expect a multi-course experience that

reflects both tradition and modern culinary innovation, showcasing why Lledó is considered one of the most exciting voices in contemporary Spanish cuisine.

New restaurant openings continue to build momentum in Oceanside. Highlights include PopUp Bagels arriving at The Freeman Collective in South Oceanside, the popular Oceanside Fish Shop expanding to Coast Highway with its fresh, sustainably sourced seafood, and Biergarten Oceanside bringing lively German-inspired beer hall energy to downtown. Also new to the Mission Avenue district is Guahan Grill, a family-owned spot serving barbecue, traditional Chamorro dishes, and draft beers in a relaxed setting.

America's 250th Celebration in Oceanside

Oceanside will proudly join the nationwide commemorations of America's 250th with a major community celebration on Saturday, June 27, 2026, immediately following the Oceanside Annual Independence Parade. [The festival](#) will take place at the Junior Seau Pier Amphitheatre (301 The Strand N, Oceanside, CA 92054) from 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM, offering an afternoon and evening full of family-friendly fun, patriotic displays, and community spirit along the Oceanside waterfront. Country music star Craig Campbell will headline the evening festivities alongside a thrilling jet flyover, military vehicle displays, hands-on interactive craft stations, Pinewood Derby races, and a community chili cookoff.

Kicking off the holiday weekend, [Frontwave Arena](#) will host *Party in the Plaza* on July 3 (5:30–10:30 PM), an inaugural adults-only Independence Day celebration offering one of the best fireworks viewing experiences in Oceanside. Set in the arena's outdoor plaza, the ticketed event features DJ-led music, premium drink offerings, lounge-style seating, and a high-energy atmosphere designed for a stylish night out.

Oceanside fireworks show takes place each year on July 3 — to coincide with the city's birthday. The fireworks and accompanying drone show take place in the El Corazon area of Oceanside adjacent to Frontwave Arena.

Sports, Wellness & Live Entertainment

This spring, yoga in Oceanside goes well beyond the studio, with classes set in scenic outdoor spaces and creative settings across the city. At SpringHill Suites Oceanside, special weekend [puppy and kitten yoga](#) sessions combine gentle, all-levels yoga with a playful cuddle-fest featuring adoptable rescue animals, with a portion of proceeds benefiting [Furballs Forever Rescue](#). For elevated views, yogis can flow during rooftop classes at [The Rooftop Bar at Mission Pacific Beach Resort](#) and at [Cococabana](#) at the Brick Hotel, both offering sweeping coastal backdrops. Weekly [Pier View Yoga](#) meets at Tyson Street Beach Park, where participants move

through poses to the sound of rolling waves and seagulls. Groups looking for a truly unique experience can even book yoga on a yacht through [private charters](#) from Oceanside Harbor.

[Frontwave Arena](#) is quickly becoming Oceanside's go-to destination for high-energy sports and live entertainment. The venue continues to build momentum with premier events like [SD Fight Night](#) on April 18, featuring San Diego natives JuJu Ballo and Jonny Mansour in headline bouts. The 2026 lineup also includes major touring acts, with 10x-Platinum band MercyMe bringing their [Wonder + Awe Tour](#) on April 16 alongside Big Daddy Weave, Tim Timmons, and Sam Wesley.

Outdoor exploration opportunities are expanding at El Corazon Park with a [new trail](#) expected to open by the end of March. The project converts an existing service road into a public trail featuring scenic switchbacks and improved connections to the Garrison Creek Trail, opening access to areas that were previously inaccessible.

About Visit Oceanside

Visit Oceanside is the official destination marketing organization and trusted travel authority for Oceanside, California. The organization leads leisure and group travel promotion while supporting a visitor economy that generates more than \$625 million in annual spending and nearly 4,000 local jobs. Guided by its Sustainable Tourism Master Plan, Visit Oceanside is committed to responsible destination stewardship—balancing visitor growth with community well-being, environmental care, and long-term economic vitality. In addition to destination marketing, Visit Oceanside operates an official California Welcome Center, providing trusted trip-planning resources for travelers exploring the Southern California coast.

www.visitoceanside.org

About Oceanside

Oceanside is Southern California's classic and creative beach town — where surf culture, a lively harbor, and a vibrant food and arts scene come together along a laid-back stretch of coast. With wide sandy beaches, a historic wooden pier, charming bungalow neighborhoods, and a walkable downtown just steps from the train, Oceanside invites visitors to slow down and explore. From learning to surf and spotting whales offshore to savoring chef-driven dining, local craft beer, and creative culture, Oceanside is a place of discovery with a welcoming, genuine vibe that is Always O'iginal.

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