

GO Santa Monica

Like most 100-year-olds, this one has outlived many contemporaries, but California's Santa Monica Pier is hardly nearing retirement. The last of the West Coast pleasure piers still draws year-round crowds with its 1922 carousel, dizzying carnival rides, and iconic scenes of surfers and anglers. Ride a solar-powered Ferris wheel, learn trapeze, or sit back for a spectacle—through December 20, Cirque du Soleil performs *Kooza* under a big top in the pier's parking lot. Cyclists and skaters roll south toward Venice Beach and north to the stunningly remodeled Annenberg Community Beach House. And some find a grassy perch in Palisades Park for a cliff-top picnic assembled at the twice-weekly farmers' market. santamonicapier.org

