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GUEST EDITED BY

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**CALIFORNIA,
HERE WE COME!**

Lose yourself in the vibrant and sunny seaside city of Santa Monica. #girlsquad compulsory ➡



SUN'S OUT, BUNS OUT AT PIER BURGER BAR



Discover SANTA MONICA

Isabella Pennefather (@isabella_spell), co-designer of Spell and the Gypsy Collective, explores this colourful city



The Spell girls @spell_byronbay got on their bikes for the trip of a lifetime. Us, jealous? Totally.

A relatively painless 14-hour flight away from Sydney (and a short Uber drive from LAX airport) you'll find the relaxed seaside city of Santa Monica. Set along a beautiful stretch of coastline, just south of Malibu and north of Venice, it's the perfect mix of a laid-back Californian beach town with traces of old-school Hollywood glamour and Riviera-style elegance. It's exactly how it seems in the movies: relaxed, peaceful and naturally beautiful.

Take advantage of the jet lag and put those early morning wake-ups to good use with a stroll along the beachfront. Follow the smell of freshly brewed coffee beans to a little hipster café called Dogtown

Coffee. It's cosy, casual and has a wall painted with spectacular mural art. Try the caramel iced latte and açai bowl – they don't disappoint. While you're there, soak up the American skateboard and surfing culture, which the café celebrates wholeheartedly – no wonder it's such a popular spot among the locals.

Once the caffeine kicks in (au revoir, jet lag!), head over to the Santa Monica Bike Center and hire a bike to explore the compact beachside city. On your ride down the Marvin Braude Bike Trail, commonly known as 'The Strand,' which runs along the Pacific Ocean shoreline,

you'll be in good company with fellow tourists and local residents cycling, walking, jogging and even rollerblading. Go hard for a boost of energy or drop the pace and take in the fresh air while enjoying the sounds of the waves crashing nearby. Oh, and don't forget to

stop every 10 minutes to 'Gram the towering palm trees along the trail.

A short pedal away from the trail is the Santa Monica Farmers Market. The open-air space is positively bursting with colours

and delicious smells, delighting the senses with the massive variety of local produce. Navigating your way through

DID YOU KNOW?
Santa Monica gets around 340 days of sunshine a year, making it an ideal location for cycling, jogging... or tanning!



RIDE-OR-DIE GIRLS:
HANGING OUT AT
PACIFIC PARK

LADIES WHO
LUNCH (IN STYLE,
OF COURSE!)

Where to eat

THE FLOWER CHILD

A gorgeous café tucked away in a side street – the menu boasts fresh, healthy and organic dishes, catering to a range of dietary requirements. Oh, and their gluten-free mac and cheese is out-of-this-world delicious!

SHUTTERS ON THE BEACH

Situated by the water, Shutters is the perfect setting for breakfast with a view. One of their signature dishes is the lemon ricotta pancakes, which is a must-try. They're light, fluffy and have just the right amount of lemon zest. Yum!

JOE'S PIZZA

If you're after a New York experience without the hustle and bustle, this is the place for you! It's low-key and casual, but still boasts a great atmosphere. Don't leave Santa Monica without ordering a pepperoni slice from here!

the markets, picking out your favourite fruits and veg and doing a bit of celeb-spotting (A-listers and famous chefs alike) is a surreal experience.

Once you've worked up an appetite from all the cycling, the oceanfront is the place to go for a hearty meal, with endless options of world-class restaurants and bars to enjoy. Ivy at the Shore comes highly recommended for top-notch

Italian fare. With beachside views, stunning sunsets, perfectly set tables (think bright orange and yellow flower centrepieces) and complimentary champagne on arrival, you'd be forgiven for thinking you're on the Amalfi Coast! Order calamari and burrata to start, and the lobster tacos with a side of Aperol spritz for the main attraction. Enter epic food coma – totally worth it.

WHAT TO PACK?

No matter what time of the year you visit Santa Monica, you can expect consistently mild weather. The everyday style is casual and laid-back, just like the city itself. During summer, pack tank tops, shorts, dresses, activewear and of course, swimwear! As the ocean breeze washes over you in the evening, switch to jeans and a sweater or denim jacket. Add a pair of sneakers and heels to your travel bag so you can dress your outfit up or down depending on where you go. ➡



'GRAMMING IT UP AT THE ICONIC SANTA MONICA PIER



Where to play

FROM BEACHFRONT ROOFTOPS TO CELEBRITY CHEF RESTAURANTS AND DREAMY SPAS, THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN SANTA MONICA. YOU'RE WELCOME!

THE BUNGALOW

This super-relaxed space, filled with mismatched tables, chairs and couches, evokes a breezy beachside lifestyle, where you feel like you're at home rather than a bar. It's the perfect place to start the night, cuddling up on the couches under the gorgeous twinkling tree lanterns. Don't leave without trying the Alabama Slammer cocktail.

EXHALE SPA

If you're looking for a little bit of pampering and some me time, you won't regret settling into the Exhale Spa studio. Nestled within the luxurious Fairmont Miramar Hotel and Bungalows, this full-service spa boasts a complete menu of massages, facials, acupuncture, waxing and nail therapies. Need some zen? Opt for the signature Exhale Flow massage, which consists of a deep tissue massage incorporating more lymphatic drainage than a traditional deep tissue. You'll leave feeling relaxed and revived. Bliss!

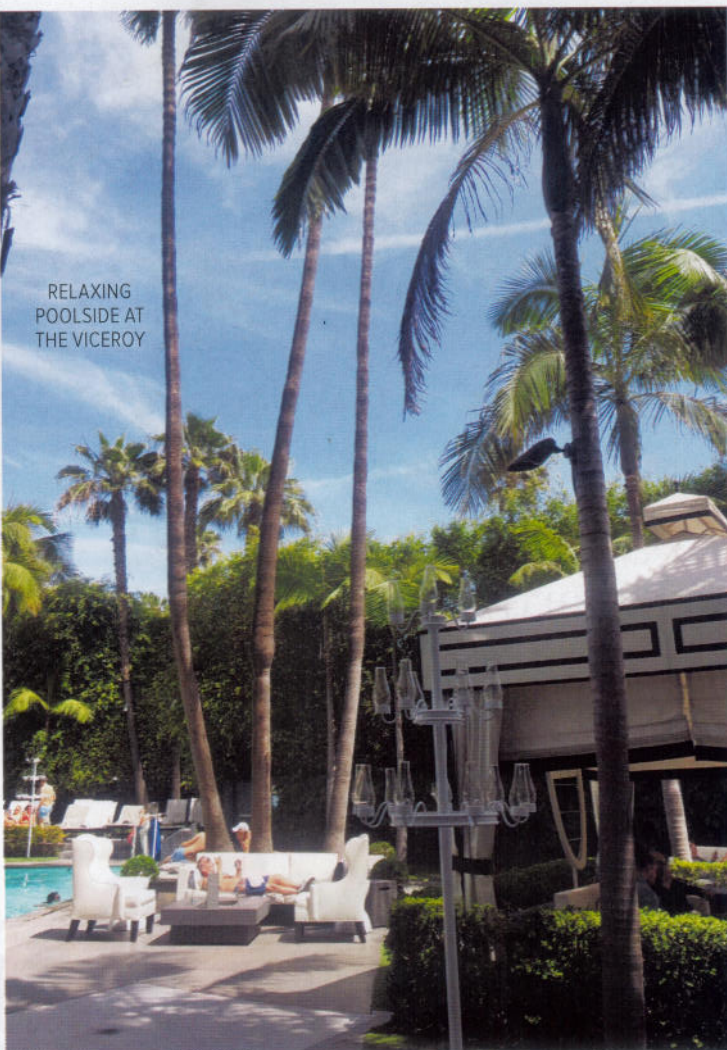
ONYX AT HOTEL SHANGRI-LA

If you're a fan of watching sunsets from atop trendy bars, then this gem is the place for you! The sleek indoor-outdoor lounge bar atop the Hotel Shangri-La has become one of the best rooftop bars to visit in Santa Monica. With banquettes set around gas heaters on a wrap-around deck, you can bask in the ocean breeze while soaking up incredible views over the Pacific Ocean.



Where to stay

LOOKING FOR A SECRET HAVEN IN THE HEART OF THE CITY?
THE SPELLY GIRLS HAVE JUST THE PLACE FOR YOU...



RELAXING
POOLSIDE AT
THE VICEROY

THE VICEROY SANTA MONICA

Offering the perfect blend of edgy, cool and contemporary, the Viceroy Hotel is just a short walk to the main beach and close to Santa Monica's finest shopping, dining and beach activities. Upon arrival, sip on a prosecco while browsing the retro mirrors and fittings as you fall into holiday mode. The rooms are spacious and modern, with extra-large beds to relax in after a long day of exploring. Don't leave without spending at least one afternoon in their canvas-draped poolside cabanas, and make sure you take full advantage of their happy hour specials. Start a night out by heading to the pool terrace for their famous Santa Monica Poolside cocktail under the fairy lights. **COSMO**

SPELLY'S SECRET SPOTS



TAOS INDIAN TRADING CO

Located in downtown Santa Monica, this store offers unique jewellery, pottery and paintings.



BLUESTONE LANE

This Australian-inspired coffee house offers all of the Aussie classics, such as an avo smash and cold-pressed juices.



BEACH YOGA AT SANTA MONICA STATE BEACH

Watch the waves crash during a session of beach yoga with instructor Brad Keimach.

ULTIMATE INSTA SNAP SHOTS

BECAUSE IF YOU SEE SOMETHING COOL AND DON'T 'GRAM IT, DID YOU EVEN SEE IT AT ALL?



THE SANTA
MONICA
PIER



THE LOVE
WALL



THE
BUNGALOW