



# DOWNTOWN LA

200 COOL THINGS TO DO

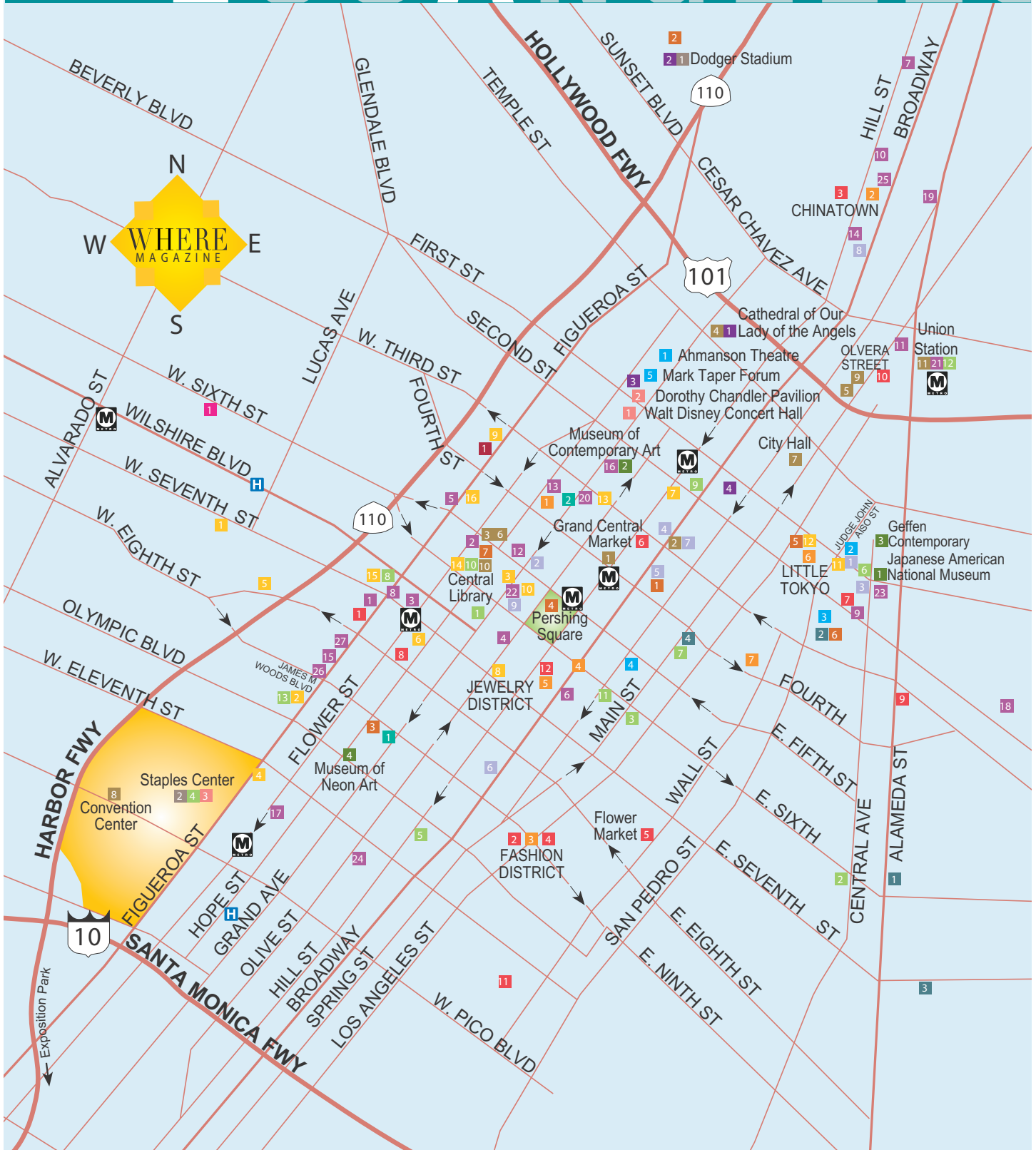
The heart of the most vibrant city in the Western Hemisphere.



INC.

The Convention and Visitors Bureau

# LOS ANGELES



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## 200 COOL THINGS TO DO DOWNTOWN

### DISTRICTS

#### 1 BUNKER HILL

Bordered by 1st, 5th, Flower and Olive streets.

Financial core and performing arts.

#### 2 CHINATOWN

Between North Broadway and North Hill Street, 213/808-1700.

Chinese and Vietnamese shopping, galleries and dining, tours 323/721-0774.

#### 3 FASHION DISTRICT

Between Broadway and Wall Street, 7th Street and Pico Boulevard, 213/488-1153. Designer duds at discount! Anchored by California Mart and Cooper Building at 9th and Los Angeles streets.

#### 4 HISTORIC BROADWAY THEATRE DISTRICT

Broadway between 3rd and 9th streets, 213/623-2489.

Architecturally stunning theaters (1911 - 1931) include Downtown Palace, Million Dollar, Orpheum, United Artists, Los Angeles.

#### 5 JEWELRY DISTRICT

Hill Street between 6th and 7th streets,

213/683-1946. Discount diamonds, gold and bangles galore.

#### 6 LITTLE TOKYO

Between Central Avenue, 1st, 4th and San Pedro streets, 213/613-1911.

Japanese area offers fine shops, restaurants.

#### 7 TOY DISTRICT

Bordered by 3rd, 5th, Los Angeles and San Pedro streets, 213/228-8484.

Wholesale toys and children's clothing.

### HOTELS & HOTEL DINING

#### 1 BEST WESTERN MAYFAIR HOTEL

1256 W. 7th St., 213/484-9789.

1928 building features frieze pillars in the skylit lobby atrium. Dining: Orchid Garden, Celebrity Café and Lounge.

#### 2 FIGUEROA HOTEL

939 S. Figueroa St., 213/627-8971.

Enormous swimming pool; near Convention Center. Dining: Lobby Café, Veranda Bar.

#### 3 HILTON CHECKERS

535 S. Grand Ave., 213/624-0000.

European-style boutique hotel overlooks historic Central Library. Spa. Dining: Checkers (213/891-0519).

#### 4 HOLIDAY INN CITY CENTER

1020 S. Figueroa St., 213/748-1291.

Newly renovated property opposite Staples Center and Convention Center.

Dining: Emerald Grill.

#### 5 HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN

750 Garland Ave., 213/628-5242.

Oversized guest rooms, city views. Dining: La Vista Bonita.

#### 6 HYATT REGENCY

711 S. Hope St., 213/683-1234.

Lots of glass makes for great city views. Adjacent to Macy's Plaza. Dining: The Brasserie, The Grill.

#### 7 KAWADA

200 S. Hill St., 213/621-4455.

European charm for business or leisure with playful earthquake motif. Dining: Epicentre (213/625-0000), Shockwave Café (213/626-2777), Sushi Kei.

#### 8 LOS ANGELES ATHLETIC CLUB

431 W. 7th St., 213/625-2211.

1880 structure includes 80,000 square feet of athletic facilities. Dining: Dining Room, Duke's Sports Bar, The Grill Room.

#### 9 LOS ANGELES MARRIOTT

333 S. Figueroa St., 213/617-1133.

Located near Bunker Hill; large guest rooms. Dining: 333, The Back Porch, Moody's Bar & Grill, Lobby Lounge.

#### 10 MILLENNIUM BILTMORE

506 S. Grand Ave., 213/624-1011.

Elegant Spanish Italian Renaissance design (1923), neo-classical guest rooms. Dining: Smeraldi's, Sai Sai, Gallery Bar, Grand Avenue Sports Bar.

#### 11 MIYAKO INN & SPA

328 E. 1st St., 213/617-2000.

American comfort, Japanese style in Little Tokyo. Spa. Dining: Hata (213/617-7839).

#### 12 NEW OTANI HOTEL & GARDENS

120 S. Los Angeles St., 213/629-1200.

Serenity amid the bustle includes contemporary Asian appointments and half-acre Japanese terrace garden. Dining: A Thousand Cranes (Senbazuru), Azalea, Garden Grill, Gengji Bar, Rendezvous Lounge.

#### 13 OMNI LOS ANGELES

251 S. Olive St., 213/617-3300.

Cornerstone of California Plaza, adjacent to Museum of Contemporary Art, walking distance to the Music Center. Dining: Grand Café, Angels Flight Lounge.

#### 14 THE STANDARD

550 S. Flower St., 213/892-8080.

Tongue-in-chic retro riffs, see-through bathrooms, rooftop bar. Dining: The Restaurant.

#### 15 WILSHIRE GRAND

930 Wilshire Blvd., 213/688-7777.

Award-winning high-rise executive hotel, four blocks from Convention Center. Dining: Seoul Jung (213/688-7880); Cardini Ristorante (213/896-3822); Kyoto (213/896-3812); City Grill (213/627-4289); Point Moorea (213/833-5100).

#### 16 WESTIN BONAVENTURE

404 S. Figueroa St., 213/624-1000.

Five-cylinder glass architectural landmark. Spa. Dining: L.A. Prime (213/612-4743), Bonaventure Brewing Co. (213/236-0802). Bona Vista Lounge revolves (213/612-4550).

### RESTAURANTS

#### 1 ARNIE MORTON'S \$\$\$

735 S. Figueroa St., 213/553-4566.

Famed steak chain's clubby, subterranean venue; show-and-tell menu, huge portions.

#### 2 CAFE PINOT \$\$\$

700 W. 5th St., 213/239-6500.

Cal-French glass box of a restaurant and terrace; skyline views from the bottom up.

#### 3 CIAO TRATTORIA \$\$

815 W. 7th St., 213/624-2244.

Italian cuisine in historic, and magnificent, Fine Arts Building (1927).

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**4** **CICADA** \$\$\$

617 S. Olive St., 213/488-9488.  
Northern Italian cuisine in majestic art deco room in stunning Oviatt Building (1928).

**5** **CIUDAD** \$\$

445 S. Figueroa St., 213/486-5171.  
Mary Sue Milliken, Susan Feniger (Food Network's Too Hot Tamales) offer hip pan-Latin American cuisine and fab mojitos.

**6** **CLIFTON'S BROOKDALE CAFETERIA** \$

648 S. Broadway 213/627-1673.  
Jell-O salads amid mountain landscape, waterfall, bubbling brook and murals.

**7** **EMPRESS PAVILION** \$\$

988 N. Hill St., 213/617-9898.  
Massive Hong Kong-style eatery and menu, dim sum; considered the best in Chinatown.

**8** **ENGINE COMPANY NO. 28** \$\$

644 S. Figueroa St., 213/624-6996.  
Classic American comfort food in restored 1912 fire station.

**9** **HAMA SUSHI** \$\$\$

347 E. 2nd St., 213/680-3454.  
Excellent sushi in Little Tokyo.

**10** **HOP LOUIE** \$\$

950 Mei Ling Way, 213/628-4244.  
Focal point of Chinatown's Central Plaza.

**11** **LA GOLONDRINA** \$

17 Olvera St., 213/628-4349.  
Authentic Mexican on Olvera Street (1930).

**12** **MCCORMICK & SCHMICK'S** \$\$\$

633 W. 5th St., 213/629-1929.  
Huge selection of seafood prepared any way you like it amid dark wood, glass and brass. Popular happy hour.

**13** **NICK AND STEF'S** \$\$\$

330 S. Hope St., 213/680-0330.  
Slick haven for carnivores at Wells Fargo Building features dry-aged beef.

**14** **OCEAN SEAFOOD** \$\$\$

750 N. Hill St., 213/687-3088.  
One of Chinatown's best; dim sum.

**15** **ORIGINAL PANTRY CAFÉ** \$

877 S. Figueroa St., 213/972-9279.  
Breakfast and comfort food 24/7.

**16** **PATINETTE** \$\$

250 S. Grand Ave., 213/626-1178.  
Inside Museum of Contemporary Art.

**17** **THE PALM** \$\$\$

1100 S. Flower St., 213/763-4600.  
Manly dining (3-pound lobster, three double lamb chops), Italian veal near Staples Center.

**18** **R-23** \$\$\$

923 E. 3rd St., 213/687-7178.  
Hard-to-find gem offers extraordinary sushi.

**19** **PHILIPPE THE ORIGINAL** \$

1001 N. Alameda St., 213/628-3781.  
L.A.'s oldest restaurant (1908); purported inventor of French Dip sandwich; 9¢ coffee.

**20** **TESORO TRATTORIA** \$\$

300 S. Grand Ave., 213/680-0000.  
Superb Tuscan cuisine in stylish dining room near Museum of Contemporary Art.

**21** **TRAXX** \$\$\$

800 N. Alameda St., 213/625-1999.  
Deco-inspired spot offers quiet elegance, excellent New American fare amid bustle of Union Station.

**22** **WATER GRILL** \$\$\$

544 S. Grand Ave., 213/891-0900.  
Inspired/inspiring seafood, often cited as L.A.'s best; seven-course degustation.

**23** **WEILAND RESTAURANT & BREWERY** \$\$

400 E. 1st St., 213/680-2881.  
Beer made on premises in historic Brewery Building (1898) in Little Tokyo.

**24** **WINDOWS** \$\$\$

1150 S. Olive St., 213/746-1554.  
1960s-inspired Cal-Asian dining room, 32 stories up with 360-degree city views at Transamerica Center.

**25** **YANG CHOW** \$\$\$

819 N. Broadway, 213/625-0811.  
Szechwan cuisine; known for kung pao dishes and Slippery Shrimp.

**26** **ZITA TRATTORIA** \$\$

825 James M. Woods Blvd., 213/488-0400.  
Stylish new Italian near Staples Center.

**27** **ZUCCA** \$\$\$

801 S. Figueroa St., 213/614-7800.  
Joachim Splichal's Italian: massive church doors, Venetian carnival murals, 60 grappas.

### CONCERT VENUES

**1** **WALT DISNEY CONCERT HALL**

111 N. Grand Ave., 323/850-2000.  
L.A. Philharmonic's new Frank Gehry-designed home at the Music Center features exuberant sweeping curves of stainless steel.

**2** **DOROTHY CHANDLER PAVILION**

135 N. Grand Ave., 213/972-7211.  
Home to Los Angeles Opera, and to Los Angeles Philharmonic until October, at the Music Center.

**3** **STAPLES CENTER**

1111 S. Figueroa St., 213/742-7300.  
Top-name pop acts (Paul McCartney, Rolling Stones) book the sports venue.

### THEATER

**1** **AHMANSON THEATRE**

135 N. Grand Ave., 213/972-7211.  
Broadway musicals, wide-appeal dramas, comedies and revivals at the Music Center.

**2** **DAVID HENRY HWANG THEATER**

120 N. Judge Jon Aiso St., 213/625-7000.

Asian American troupe East West Players at Union Center for the Arts.

**3** **JAPAN AMERICA THEATER**

244 S. San Pedro St., 213/628-2725.  
Kabuki theater, contemporary plays and cultural events.

**4** **LOS ANGELES THEATER CENTER**

514 S. Spring St., 213/473-0660.  
Five-theater complex in former bank building.

**5** **MARK TAPER FORUM**

135 N. Grand Ave., 213/972-7211.  
One of the nation's top regional theaters since 1967; at the Music Center.

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## 200 COOL THINGS TO DO DOWNTOWN

### ART MUSEUMS

- 1 JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM**  
369 E. 1st St., 213/625-0414.  
*Housed in contemporary pavilion and former Buddhist temple in Little Tokyo.*
- 2 MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART (MOCA)**  
250 S. Grand Ave., 213/626-6222.  
*L.A.'s only museum dedicated solely to contemporary art is a work of contemporary art itself; at California Plaza.*
- 3 MOCA'S GEFFEN CONTEMPORARY**  
152 N. Central Ave., 213/621-1727.  
*Second exhibition space for MOCA in stylish warehouse near Little Tokyo.*
- 4 MUSEUM OF NEON ART (MONA)**  
501 W. Olympic Blvd., 213/489-9918.  
*Contemporary fine art in electric media, historic signs.*

### SPECIALTY MUSEUMS

- 1 FASHION INSTITUTE OF DESIGN AND MERCHANDISING**  
1919 S. Grand Ave., 213/624-1200.  
*Fashion-related exhibits in FIDM's Museum Galleries.*
- 2 WELLS FARGO HISTORY MUSEUM**  
333 S. Grand Ave., 213/253-7166.  
*Stagecoaches and the American West.*

### GALLERIES

- 1 CIRRUS GALLERY**  
542 S. Alameda St., 213/680-3473.  
*Fine arts press and gallery.*
- 2 DOIZAKI GALLERY**  
244 S. San Pedro St., 213/628-2728.  
*Art, calligraphy at Japanese American center.*
- 3 POST**  
1904 E. 7th Place, 213/622-8580.  
*Cutting-edge art.*
- 4 BANK**  
400 S. Main St., 213/621-2354.  
*Innovative art in San Fernando Building.*

### SHOPPING DESTINATIONS

- 1 7TH & FIG**  
735 S. Figueroa St., 213/955-7150.  
*Three levels of specialty stores and dining anchored by Robinson's-May.*
- 2 CALIFORNIA MART**  
110 E. 9th St., 213/630-3600.  
*Fashion District's largest retailer.*
- 3 CHUNG KING ROAD**  
900 Block Chung King Road  
*Newly trendy street at Chinatown.*
- 4 COOPER BUILDING**  
860 S. Los Angeles St., 213/622-1139.  
*Designer merchandise at bargain prices.*
- 5 FLOWER MARKET**  
754 Wall St., 213/622-1966.  
*Wholesale stalls, mornings only.*
- 6 GRAND CENTRAL MARKET (1893)**  
317 S. Broadway, 213/624-2378.  
*Ethnic and exotic food products.*
- 7 JAPANESE VILLAGE PLAZA**  
335 E. 2nd St., 213/620-8861.  
*Outdoor mall in Little Tokyo offers silk kimonos, sushi and more.*
- 8 MACY'S PLAZA**  
700 S. Flower St., 213/624-2891.  
*Atrium adjacent to Hyatt Regency.*
- 9 MITSUWA PLAZA**  
333 S. Alameda St., 213/687-6699.  
*Japanese department store, restaurants.*
- 10 OLVERA STREET**  
Alameda Street between Sunset Boulevard, Main and Los Angeles streets, 213/628-1274.  
*Festive open-air Mexican marketplace.*
- 11 SANTEE ALLEY**  
Between Olympic Boulevard and 12th Street, Santee Street and Maple Avenue, 213/488-1153.  
*Run the gauntlet of clothing bargains.*
- 12 ST. VINCENT JEWELRY CENTER**  
640-650 S. Hill St., 213/629-2124.  
*Historical landmark is the world's largest and most complete jewelry complex.*

### LA-CENTRIC SHOPPING

- 1 BUN-KA DO**  
340 E. 1st St., 213/625-1122.  
*Little Tokyo gift shop features anime CDs.*
- 2 CARAVAN BOOK STORE**  
550 S. Grand Ave., 213/626-9944.  
*Antiquarian focuses on California history.*
- 3 ENBUN**  
124 Japanese Village Plaza, 213/680-3280.  
*Japanese food market in Little Tokyo.*
- 4 FARMACIA MILLION DOLLAR**  
301 S. Broadway, 213/687-3688.  
*Botanica inside historic Million Dollar Theater.*
- 5 INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF MUSIC**  
344 S. Broadway, 213/628-9161.  
*Lavish accordions plus.*
- 6 PREET CREATIONS**  
801 S. Broadway, No. 46, 213/623-1187.  
*Asian beaded gifts in May Co. Building.*
- 7 ROSS CUTLERY**  
310 S. Broadway, 213/626-1897.  
*Knives and harmonicas! In landmark Bradbury Building.*
- 8 SUPERIOR POULTRY**  
750 N. Broadway, 213/628-7645.  
*Last place in L.A. that sells live poultry.*
- 9 THOMAS BROTHERS MAPS & BOOKSTORE**  
521 W. 6th St., 213/627-4018.  
*Authoritative maps and guidebooks.*

### NIGHTLIFE

- 1 CASEY'S BAR & GRILL**  
613 S Grand Ave., 213/629-2353.  
*Subterranean Irish.*
- 2 CENTRAL CITY CAFÉ**  
601 S. Central Ave., 213/627-4482.  
*Raging dance party, Soundlessons, fourth Saturday of the month.*
- 3 COLE'S**  
118 E. 6th St., 213/622-4090.  
*Oldest bar in L.A. (1908).*

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## 200 COOL THINGS TO DO DOWNTOWN

### 4 FOX SPORTS SKY BOX

1111 S. Figueroa St., 213/742-7345.  
Sports bar and grill inside Staples Center.

### 5 MAYAN THEATER

1038 S. Hill St., 213/746-4287.  
Flashy Latin dance inside stunningly ornate pre-Columbian revivalist building, Fri.-Sat.

### 6 OIWAKE

122 Japanese Village Plaza, 213/628-2678.  
Karaoke in Little Tokyo.

### 7 PETE'S CAFÉ & BAR

400 S. Main St., 213/617-1000.  
Local hang, great burger.

### 8 POINT MOOREA

Wilshire Grand Hotel, 930 Wilshire Blvd., 213/833-5100.  
Contemporary take on '50s tiki lounges.

### 9 REDWOOD SECOND STREET SALOON

316 W. 2nd St., 213/617-2867.  
A k a The Red Dog; L.A. Times staff hang.

### 10 THE STANDARD

550 S. Flower St., 213/892-8080.  
Roof bar with vibrating waterbeds, astonishing cityscape views.

### 11 STOCK EXCHANGE

618 S. Spring St., 213/489-3877.  
Dance club: DJ, Latin and salsa; Sat. only.

### 12 TRAXX BAR

800 N. Alameda St., 213/625-1999.  
Sophistication at gorgeous Union Station.

### 13 THE VERANDA BAR

939 S. Figueroa St., 213/627-8971.  
Oasis at Figueroa Hotel (1926).

### LANDMARKS

#### 1 ANGELS FLIGHT (1901)

4th and Hill Streets, 213/626-1901.  
World's shortest railway; not currently running.

#### 2 BRADBURY BUILDING (1893)

304 S. Broadway, 213/626-1893.  
Elegant cast-iron and glass lobby and five-story atrium seen in *Blade Runner*.

#### 3 BUNKER HILL STEPS

5th Street between Grand Avenue and Flower Street.  
103 steps rise five stories along watercourse topping out at Library Tower.

#### 4 CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS

555 W. Temple St., 213/680-5200.  
First L.A. architectural icon of 21st century offers angularity, alabaster and art; café and gift shop, too.

#### 5 EL PUEBLO DE LOS ANGELES

130 Paseo de la Plaza, 213/628-1274.  
Birthplace of L.A.; 27 19th-century buildings on Olvera and Main streets include Avila Adobe (1818, L.A.'s oldest), Sepulveda House, Old Plaza Firehouse, Old Masonic Hall, Merced Theater. 11 are open to public; four museums. Free tours.

#### 6 LIBRARY TOWER

Grand Avenue and 5th Street.  
West Coast's tallest building: 73 stories. First building zapped by alien missiles in *Independence Day*.

#### 7 LOS ANGELES CITY HALL (1928)

200 N. Main St., 213/485-2121.  
Blown up in *War of the Worlds*; location of *Daily Planet* for TV's *Superman* and *Friday's* offices in *Dragnet*.

#### 8 LOS ANGELES CONVENTION CENTER

1201 S. Figueroa St., 213/741-1151.  
High-tech convention/exhibition facility's glass and steel pavilions used for TV's *West Wing*, *Chicago Hope*; movies *Heat*, *Face/Off* and...*Escape From L.A.*!

#### 9 PLAZA CHURCH (1822)

115 Paseo de la Plaza, 213/628-5773.  
Oldest church in L.A.

#### 10 RICHARD J. RIORDAN CENTRAL LIBRARY

(1926) 630 W. 5th St., 213/228-7000.  
Art, architecture and gardens, guided and self-guided tours.

#### 11 UNION STATION (1939)

800 N. Alameda St., 800/872-7245.  
"The Last Great American Train Station." Mission-style home to Amtrak, MetroLink. Set for *Bugsy*, *The Way We Were*, *The Hustler*.

### SPORTS

#### 1 DODGER STADIUM

1000 Elysian Park Ave., 213/224-1500.  
L.A. Dodgers baseball in Chavez Ravine.

#### 2 STAPLES CENTER

1111 S. Figueroa St., 213/742-7300.  
L.A. Lakers and L.A. Clippers basketball; L.A. Kings ice hockey.

### PARKS/SQUARES/GARDENS

#### 1 BIDDY MASON PARK

333 S. Spring St.  
Peaceful park celebrates slave who won her freedom, founded local church.

#### 2 ELYSIAN PARK

1880 Academy Drive, 213/485-5054.  
600-acre park offers hiking, picnicking and Chavez Ravine Arboretum.

#### 3 GRAND HOPE PARK

9th and Hope streets.  
Two-acre park; fountains, clock tower.

#### 4 PERSHING SQUARE

Between Olive, Hill, 5th and 6th streets, 213/847-4970.  
Downtown's oldest park (1886); purple tower, terra-cotta spheres, monuments.

#### 5 GARDEN IN THE SKY

120 S. Los Angeles St., 213/629-1200.  
Japanese garden on 3rd floor terrace of New Otani Hotel.

#### 6 JAMES IRVINE GARDEN

244 S. San Pedro St., 213/628-2725.  
Gem hidden one floor down from Japanese American Cultural & Community Center.

#### 7 MAGUIRE GARDENS

Fifth and Flower streets, 213/228-7168.  
Park with pools and public art outside Richard J. Riordan Central Library.

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### AREA TOURS

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#### ANGELS WALK

Throughout the heart of downtown. Self-guided tour of landmarks follows informative bronze tableaux, connects city's treasures and transit system.

#### L.A. CONSERVANCY TOURS

523 W. 6th St., No. 1216, 213/623-CITY.

Variety of guided walking tours take place Saturdays at 10 a.m.

#### RED LINE WALKING TOURS

304 S. Broadway, 323/402-1074. Daily hour-and-a-quarter tour includes historic and contemporary landmarks.

#### RINA SCOTT ARTISTI ART TOURS

310/247-9649. Museums, artists' studios, private collections and sites not open to public.

### SITE TOURS

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#### 1 CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS

555 W. Temple St., 213/680-5200. New edifice offers self-guided and group tours of art, artifacts, landscaping.

#### 2 DODGER STADIUM

1000 Elysian Park Way, 213/224-1448. Tours offered April-September.

#### 3 THE MUSIC CENTER

135 N. Grand Ave., 213/972-7483. Free tours of performing arts complex includes Disney Hall, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and Ahmanson Theatre.

#### 4 TIMES MIRROR COMPLEX

202 W. 1st St., 213/237-5757. Production facility for L.A. Times, mini-museum and video.

### PHARMACY

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#### 1 RITE-AID

1744 W. 6th St., 213/413-2458. Prescription central.

### CINEMA

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#### 1 LAEMMLE GRANDE

345 S. Figueroa St., 213/748-6321. Current mainstream flicks.