

stays

A Z F O O T H I L L S

THIS IS YOU HOW EXPERIENCE NEWPORT BEACH

LESLIE HUGHES, MARCH 28, 2017

For some of us, knowledge of Newport Beach may not extend far beyond what we've seen on *The O.C.* However, it is truly a crying shame to limit your knowledge of this oceanside paradise to what Seth Cohen and Marissa Cooper have shown you. Though through the eyes of our favorite TV show of the 2000s we were provided *some* accurate insight into the famed Newport Beach, there is so much more to know — so much more depth, character (and less drama) that will surely bring this destination to the top of your travel list.

With a trip to Newport Beach, there is an endless sea of activities from which to choose. From shopping, to dining, to spa-ing, and everything in between, this oceanside town will leave you begging for more. And just a five and a half hour drive or a quick one hour flight from Phoenix, Newport Beach looks nicer and nicer with each degree our temperatures in the Valley rise.

Where to Stay

As one of the top resort towns in the United States, you can guess that the hotels and resorts in Newport Beach have mastered the art of providing guests with the perfect stay. Ranging from small hotels, to massive resorts, this coastal town has every style and preference covered.

Here are our two favorites:

Island Hotel



If your trip to Newport Beach requires some work time, [Island Hotel](#) is *the* place to do it. An upgrade to gain entry into the hotel's Island Club is well worth it. While the unlimited candy may be enough to get you in the door, the lounge will keep you there with its complimentary beer and wine, fast wi-fi, and work tables with views of the ocean. Not a bad office, huh?

While you may have business to attend to during your stay at Island Hotel, be sure to partake in some of the hotel's other fabulous offerings, starting with the food at [Oak Grill](#). The restaurant's patio is the perfect place to watch the sunset over the ocean while sipping on some smooth wine and munching on incredibly fresh and delicious seafood. The live acoustic music is a great touch that adds the perfect ambiance to your dining experience.

And don't forget to unwind at the [Island Hotel Spa](#). With massage therapists that outshine the most luxurious resorts, as well as a facial that will leave you glowing from the inside out, and much more, the hotel's small, yet stellar, spa is not to be missed.

Where to Eat

In a town of just under 87,000, Newport Beach is home to over 400 restaurants. Obviously, food is a big deal here. And obviously, seafood is the primary choice. However, we also suggest exploring beyond the seafood because Newport Beach's eateries have a great deal to offer.

These dining spots are our favorites:

Oak Grill

As mentioned above, [Island Hotel's Oak Grill](#) is the perfect place to relax in the warmth of a fire and a gorgeous sunset while sipping on some local beer and grazing your way through some delectable appetizers.