

What to do in San Diego

We've compiled the best things to see, do, and eat during your time at AASA (when you need a break from all that learning).

To Eat & Drink

While San Diego is home to amazing restaurants of all cuisines, you're definitely going to want to get some Mexican food and seafood - or maybe a fish taco to combine the two.



- [Lolita's](#): Mexican food at its best, 5 minutes away and fast-casual. Order the **carne asada fries**. Trust us!
- [Hodad's](#): The iconic burger shop is a 20-minute walk away - so you'll earn the double bacon cheeseburger if you visit for lunch! (And it will be so worth it...)
- [Lani Coffee](#): Need a working spot this week? Just down the street, Lani will meet your caffeine needs - with outlets too. We recommend the acai bowl, like you'd get in Hawaii.

Places to Take Your Valentine

We haven't forgotten the loved ones you brought along to AASA - and you better not either! The Convention Center is perfectly located for a date night to remember (and what's more romantic than a walk on the beach during sunset?).



- [Fleming's Steakhouse](#) (7-minute walk): Filet mignon? Lobster tail? A bottle of red? You can't go wrong with Fleming's for classy, sophisticated, and delicious meal sure to impress.
- [Oceanaire](#) (8-minute walk): With chef-inspired seafood specials flown in daily and a seasonal Valentine's Day cocktail, the Rose D'Amour, you'll both love your experience here.
- [Roy's](#) (9-minute walk): Pretend you're just across the Pacific in this Hawaiian-themed restaurant from a James Beard winner. There's a 4-course prix menu available, from steak to sea bass.
- [Salvatore's Cucina Italiana](#) (10-minute walk): With everything from the bread to the drinks' syrups to the pasta being made in-house, the most difficult part of the meal is deciding what to order.

To Visit (within walking distance)

San Diego is pretty big, but with the Convention Center's amazing location, there's tons to do just a short walk away



- [Balboa Park](#): 1,200 acre cultural park, with sprawling gardens and walking paths, as well as museums, theatres, and more. Since 1835, this has been San Diegans' favorite spot to wander, view some art, and relax.
- [San Diego Zoo](#): Within Balboa Park, the zoo houses more than 3,500 animals. Famously one of a few places to see pandas, don't miss the Australian Outback and Africa Rocks exhibits, built within the last decade. There are many reasons it's the most visited zoo in the world!
- [Embarcadero](#): The walkable harbor front (with the Convention Center on one end) is more than just a beautiful place to stroll. You can also see Coronado Island, grab a tour boat or whale watching expedition (now's the season!), or visit Seaport Village's quaint storefronts.
- [Gaslamp Quarter](#): SD's historic district, home of boutique restaurants and historic buildings (most Victorian style). This is the best area for nightlife - just a block from Petco Park.
- [USS Midway Museum](#): America's longest-serving aircraft carrier was turned into a ship museum in 2004. This is a "must visit" for history buffs, and don't miss the new virtual reality flight simulator ride.

To Visit (w/ transportation)

No car? We want to help get you where you're going. Click here for a \$10 LYFT code - our treat!

If you drove to the convention - or rented a car - a quick drive will get you to some of America's favorite tourist destinations.



- [Old Town San Diego](#) (13-minute drive): Dubbed "The Birthplace of California," this is Old Town is home to art galleries, Mission San Diego de Alcalá, adobe house, and some amazing little cafes and restaurants.
- [San Diego Zoo Safari Park](#) (39-minute drive): The zoo's cousin, the "Wild Animal Park" houses over 300 species. The tram ride is an absolute must to see the creatures on wide open lands (not a cage in sight!).
- [La Jolla](#) (27-minute drive): This is **the** place for fine dining, great golfing, and everything coastal. La Jolla is home to beautiful art galleries and European-style cafes, but you might also spot seals or sea lions in the caves and coves along the beach.
- [Coronado](#) (14-minute drive): This beautiful island will beckon you to visit its adorable cafes, the famous Hotel del Coronado, and its beaches (recently ranked #1 in the United States). There might be a little traffic going across the bridge, but the views alone will make up for it.

