

OLD TOWN CHAMBER NEWS

oldtownsandiego.org

September 2023

@VisitOldTownSD

Savor the Ultimate Culinary Experience on 9/21

Get ready to embark on a gastronomic journey like no other at the highly anticipated Taste of Old Town event, scheduled to take place on Thursday, September 21, 2023, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

This year, food enthusiasts are in for a treat with the unveiling of an all-new, exclusive VIP ticket option, offering an extraordinary opportunity to indulge in a delightful array of food and cocktails from a stellar lineup of participating restaurants.

Tickets for the Taste of Old Town are available for purchase online at www.tasteofoldtown.org. While general admission tickets offer a delightful exploration of participating eateries, the limited availability of VIP tickets is expected to generate high demand.

Don't miss out on the chance to immerse yourself in the finest culinary treats that Old Town has to offer. Elevate your senses, savor the moments, and experience the essence of Old Town's dining excellence.



Volunteer with California State Parks Foundation

The California Parks Foundation is planning a community service event on Saturday, September 9, 2023 and is looking for volunteers.

Help with ongoing maintenance of popular areas of Old Town San Diego State Historic Park by removing non-native plants, picking up trash, and creating fire buffer zones!

Volunteers will focus on a few different areas of the park and will split into groups to complete these projects. The Land of



the First People's exhibit and the Native Plant Garden have vegetation that has grown exponentially with the rainy winter season.

By thinning vegetation and removing weeds, volunteers are not only enhancing the look of this area of the park but also assisting with reducing the potential for fire in the area.

Ages 14 and older welcome.

Viva México! Celebrate Fiestas Patrias in Old Town

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park is thrilled to announce the upcoming Fiestas Patrias celebration, set to ignite the heart of the city with a vibrant showcase of Mexican culture and heritage.

Join them on Saturday, September 16, from 11am to 3pm, for a day filled with music, crafts, and captivating history.

The enchanting La Casa de Estudillo will come alive with the soulful melodies of live music. This historic venue will be a stage for unforgettable moments of cultural connection.

Unleash your artistic spirit at the hands-on crafting stations. Create intricate paper flowers that mirror the vibrant hues of Mexican culture. Delight in the process of making cascarones—eggshells filled with confetti—for a playful addition to the festivities.

Delve into the past with engaging history talks. Learn about the origins, evolution, and significance of Fiestas Patrias.

Don't miss this free opportunity to be a part of a vibrant tradition that brings people together and celebrates the essence of Mexican heritage.

Join the Celebration: Become a Vendor at the Día de Los Muertos Mercado

Old Town San Diego is gearing up for a vibrant and culturally rich event that promises to bring the essence of Día de Los Muertos to life.

The Día de Los Muertos Mercado, scheduled for Saturday, October 28, and Sunday, October 29, 2023, is calling all vendors to be a part of this enchanting celebration. As the heart of San Diego's historical heritage, Old Town presents an unparalleled opportunity to showcase your unique products and be part of a cherished cultural tradition.

Participating as a vendor is a straightforward process. Share details about your products, your brand, and how you intend to contribute to the cultural atmosphere of the event. Our team will review your application and contact you with further details.

[Learn More & Apply to be a Vendor →](#)



Time to Explore: In- Person School Trips Return to Old Town San Diego!

Get ready to ignite the spark of curiosity and adventure in your students, because the much-awaited moment is finally here! We are thrilled to announce the triumphant return of in-person school field trips and educational tours at Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, starting Fall 2023.

The excitement is palpable as Park staff gears up to offer your students an immersive and unforgettable experience that transcends textbooks and classroom walls.

For any queries or clarifications regarding school programs, feel free to send an email to oldtown.sandiegoshp@parks.ca.gov. They're here to support you in every step of your educational journey.

Discover the Wisdom of St. Francis: September Lecture Series

The Church of the Immaculate Conception has long been a beacon of faith in this charming part of the city. This September, it will shine even brighter as it hosts a series of presentations that promise to ignite the soul and nourish the mind.

The faithful and inquisitive alike are invited to embark on a journey of enlightenment as renowned Franciscan friars from the esteemed Franciscan School of Theology share their wisdom in a captivating series of lectures in Old Town San Diego.

What sets this lecture series apart is its accessibility and versatility. Each session is designed to stand on its own, making it the perfect opportunity for attendees to select topics that resonate with their interests or to immerse themselves fully in the entire series. Whether you are a long-standing member of the parish or a newcomer to the faith, there is something here for everyone.

The lectures are scheduled from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., allowing attendees to unwind after a long day and delve into the rich tapestry of spiritual insight.

Create Your Holiday Marketing Plan at SBDC

Sometimes it hits you that the holiday season is coming up and you realized we're running out of time for planning. Is that you?

Join the Small Business Development Center for a fun and free interactive workshop where we will plan our upcoming campaigns we want to promote during the holiday season.

Come in with questions, leave

with a plan of action. This class is ideal for retailers and e-commerce businesses.

Plan upcoming campaigns we want to promote during the holiday season.

Date: 9/19/2023
Time: 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (PDT)
Registration Deadline: 9/19/2023 3:00 PM (PDT)
Fee: No Fee



[Register →](#)



[View
Schedule →](#)





Heritage County Park to Get Spectacular Makeover

In an exciting development that promises to bring a touch of history back to life, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors has given the go-ahead for the Department of Parks and Recreation to kick off the Heritage County Park Improvement Project. This project, approved on December 14, 2022, is all set to breathe new life into the Victorian-era homes that have long been a part of the county's cultural heritage.

The focus of this project? A much-needed facelift for the historic Victorian homes, inside and out. These charming structures will undergo interior renovations to transform them into unique overnight accommodations. Picture yourself stepping into the past while enjoying modern comforts – it's an enticing blend that's bound to draw history buffs and adventurers alike.

But that's not all – the improvements won't stop at the doorstep. The park's landscape itself is due for a makeover. Expect to see an increase in lush greenery and charming Victorian-style gardens, adding a dash of color to the surroundings. Accessible pathways will wind their way through the

park, making exploration a breeze for visitors of all ages.

For those eager to learn, the outdoor classroom will be a delightful addition. With interpretive panels scattered throughout the park, it's a chance to dive into the stories of the past, discover local history, and get a deeper understanding of the area's rich cultural heritage.

So when can you expect to experience all these exciting changes firsthand? Circle your calendars for spring 2024, when the Heritage County Park Improvement Project is slated for completion. As the seasons change, the park's transformation will be a testament to how a community's dedication can revive history and create a space that's bound to capture the hearts of locals and visitors alike.

In the end, the Heritage County Park Improvement Project is a journey back in time with a modern twist. With the finishing line in sight, anticipation is building for the day when the park's doors will open once again, inviting all to explore, learn, and make lasting memories.

Embracing All Voices: Hidden History Talks at State Historic Park

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park is a time capsule preserving the rich tapestry of California's past. Amidst the bustling streets and quaint architecture, a remarkable initiative known as Hidden History Talks brings to light the lesser-known stories and voices that have woven the diverse fabric of the region's history.

Led by passionate State Park Interpreters, these succinct yet impactful talks serve as a window into the lives and experiences of underrepresented communities, including African-American, indigenous, women, and LGBTQIA+ individuals.

For visitors seeking more than just the surface-level historical experience, Hidden History Talks offer an unparalleled opportunity. Over 15 minutes these talks transport participants through time, immersing them in stories that have often remained obscured by mainstream narratives.

the talks create an ambiance that invites exploration and introspection. As attendees listen to the interpreters' narratives, they find themselves stepping into the shoes of those who have been marginalized by history's selective memory.

California's history is as diverse as its landscapes, and Hidden History Talks reflect this rich diversity. Each week, the talks shine a spotlight on a different facet of underrepresented history, bringing forth the stories of individuals and communities who have played pivotal roles in shaping the region. From the struggles and triumphs of African-Americans who defied the odds to contribute to the state's development, to the resilience of indigenous communities in the face of colonialism, every talk is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit.

[Learn More →](#)



Set against the backdrop of the Colorado House's steps,



Sign Up for Community Newsletters

Attention Chamber members! We have an exciting opportunity for you to stay informed. By signing up for newsletters from our local political representatives, you can gain valuable insights into the decisions and policies that directly impact our business community. These newsletters provide a convenient and timely way to receive updates on upcoming legislation, economic development initiatives, and community events.



Jen Campbell, City
Council District 2 →



Toni Atkins, State
Senate District 39 →



Chris Ward, State
Assembly District 78 →



Upcoming Meetings

- **Board of Directors** - Wednesday, September 20 - 8:30am - Mormon Battalion Historic Site
- **Design Committee** - TBD - 2383 San Diego Ave
- **Promotions Committee** - Tuesday, September 12 - 10am - Café Coyote
- **Organization Committee** - Wednesday, September 13 - 11:30am - 2383 San Diego Ave

View Meeting Agendas & Minutes →



Advertise with the Chamber

Advertising with the Chamber can provide businesses with access to a targeted audience, enhanced credibility, networking opportunities, community support, and cost-effective advertising. All of these benefits can help businesses to attract new customers and grow their businesses.

There are several advertising opportunities available:

- Flyers, Posters, Guides, and Videos in Visitors Center
- www.oldtownsandiego.org
- Special event sponsorships

For more information, contact alex@oldtownsandiego.org.

Download the Get It Done App & Get Results

Get It Done San Diego is the official app for reporting non-emergency problems to the City of San Diego. App users can report problems like potholes or graffiti and connect directly to the City's work tracking system.

Get It Done can be used to report problems related to City assets, making appointments for Passport services or to schedule time at the City's Household Hazardous Waste Materials drop-off facility. Do not use Get It Done for reporting emergencies or other time-sensitive issues. It can take up to 48 hours to review your report or request for appointment.

Get It Done is available on Apple and Android devices.

Scan to Visit the Official City Website →



Get In Touch

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