

LAGUNA BEACH FAST FACTS

INCORPORATED: On June 29, 1927

POPULATION: The City of Laguna Beach, based on 2005 figures, has a population size of 24,969. Land is 8.8 square miles.

LOCATION: Laguna Beach is in the heart of Orange County (the “OC”) adjacent to the Pacific Ocean with 7.1 miles of oceanfront vistas. Located 50 miles south of Los Angeles and 70 miles north of San Diego, Laguna Beach is accessible through Laguna Canyon and the South Coast Wilderness Parks area or via Pacific Coast Highway.

ON A MAP: The latitude of Laguna Beach is 33.542N. The longitude is -117.782W. Laguna Beach is on the Pacific Ocean and the name is derived from a Spanish word for "lake."

FESTIVALS: Laguna Beach, the crown jewel of Orange County, has been known as an artist’s colony for more than 100 years. Some of the annual arts festivals include:

- ◆ **FESTIVAL OF ARTS** – *Daily, early July through early September.*
- ◆ **PAGEANT OF THE MASTERS** – *Nightly, early July through early Sept.*
- ◆ **SAWDUST ART FESTIVAL** – *Daily, early July through early September*
- ◆ **ART-A-FAIR** - *Daily, early July through early September*
- ◆ **LAGUNA DANCE FESTIVAL** – *Week-long event in October*
- ◆ **SAWDUST ART FESTIVAL WINTER FANTASY** – *Weekends late November, early December*

ARTISTS AND GALLERIES: In 1918, artist Edgar Payne opened an art gallery that later became the Laguna Art Museum, one of the first art museums in the state. Today, there are more than 50 galleries and hundreds of artists that call Laguna Beach home.

BEACHES:

- ◆ **MAIN BEACH**
- ◆ **CRESENT BAY**
- ◆ **OAK STREET BEACH**
- ◆ **SHAWS & DIVERS COVE**
- ◆ **SLEEPY HOLLOW**
- ◆ **WOODS COVE**
- ◆ **VICTORIA BEACH**
- ◆ **ALISO CREEK COUNTY BEACH**
- ◆ **THOUSAND STEPS BEACH**

HOTELS: Hotel Laguna was the first hotel in Laguna Beach and the first substantial business building. The structure as it now stands was built in 1928. Today there are 29 hotels, motels and bed & breakfasts located throughout Laguna Beach.

LAGUNA BEACH FAST FACTS CONTINUED.....

THREE AREAS: The city of Laguna Beach has three distinct areas: North Laguna Beach, South Laguna Beach and the heart of the city, the village of downtown Laguna.

CONNECTIONS TO HOLLYWOOD: While many people around the world have recently been exposed to Laguna Beach from MTV's popular cable show, the resort has been home to many famous Hollywood stars over the years. Some of the past and present celebrities seen in Laguna Beach include:

- **Edgar Payne, artist**
- **Charlie Chaplin, comic actor**
- **Bette Davis, actress**
- **Judy Garland, singer and actress**
- **Mary Pickford, actress**
- **Mickey Rooney, actor**
- **Rudolph Valentino, actor**
- **Victor Mature, actor**
- **Heather Locklear, actress**
- **Richie Sambora, musician**
- **Bette Midler, actress**
- **Wyland, artist**

WHAT YOU MIGHT KNOW: While Laguna Beach is home to a diverse population, the city has become known around the world from the recent MTV hit cable television show: Laguna Beach, The Real Orange County. The show averaged more than 3.1 million viewers in its second season.

WHAT YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW:

- The Pacific Marine and Mammal Center is free to the public, open daily and is located on Laguna Canyon Road. This rescue center, run by dedicated volunteers, rehabilitates marine mammals that are stranded due to injury or illness and releases healthy animals back to their natural habitat.
- Laguna Beach is a bird sanctuary and a marine life refuge. Part of Laguna's marine refuge system is a fully protected marine reserve-nothing can be fished for or removed from this area.
- Thousand Steps Beach only has 100 steps!
- Laguna Beach is known throughout Southern California for its tidepools and the variety of marine life they support.
- Many bungalows and cottages from the late 1800's to the early 1900's are still in existence and part of a self-guided tour.
- Laguna Beach features a large percentage of one-of-a-kind specialty shops.
- First Thursday's Art Walk attracts more than 1,000 people the first Thursday of every month and features the art galleries of Laguna Beach with trolley service throughout Laguna Beach from 6 to 9 p.m.