



CONCORD STORY IDEAS

CULINARY

Concord now features Global Cuisine representing over 30 countries. For those craving a savory Salvadoran Pupusa or the buzzed about Indian cuisine at Momo n' Curry, Concord is the place to satisfy your palate while still remaining affordable. Local restaurants are cooking up delicious American, Afghan, Peruvian and Korean cuisine as well as many others. And since everybody loves a good burger, Concord even has its own burger trail! Concord celebrates Comfort Food Restaurant Week each year. Locals and visitors enjoy indulging in modern and classic comfort cuisine.

There's nothing better than selecting vegetables and fruits from amazingly fresh produce at the Concord's Farmers Market. But it does get even better when you add live music to the mix. Located in the historic downtown Todos Santos Plaza, the Farmer's Market is appropriately named Music and Market and features a weekly live band series. A great outing for anyone living or visiting Concord, shopping here serves farmers and the community by building financial and cultural sustainability. Music and Market is open Tuesdays year-round, 10am to 2pm and Thursdays, May - September, 4pm to 8pm.

CRAFT BEER

Craft brews are flowing in Concord and locals are loving it. Now the entire Bay Area is taking notice with the introduction of Concord's Beer Passport, Concord's Beer Trail and the unique breweries that make up the trail. For example, Epidemic Ales was started by a couple of home brewmeisters that turned a hobby into a business! And The Hop Grenade is home to the national podcast The Brewing Network. They do this from a studio inside the brewery! Concord is host to host Spring Brews Fest and Oktoberfest highlighting beers, lagers and ales from Concord and around the Bay. Each event features live music, delicious pub fare and a festive experience for all.

CULTURE & HERITAGE

The origin of Concord starts with the arrival of Don Pacheco Salvio, its founder. Pacheco received a land grant for all of Concord's Ygnacio Valley and then gave parcels to the residents of Todos Santos (now Concord). Because of this, these new residents were able to establish businesses and lives in the area. During Concord's recent 150th Anniversary, a bronze statue of Don Salvio Pacheco was installed in Todos Santos Plaza. In his left hand, you can see that land grant he received and then so graciously gave to others. The Todos Santos historic downtown plaza was dedicated in 1869 by founders Pacheco and Galindo. In 2018, Todos Santos Plaza was named one of three Great Places in California by the American Planning Association. Other noteworthy Concord landmarks include:

- The Galindo Home - another of Concord's founders
- Dave Brubeck Park - named after the jazz great
- The Pacheco Adobe - the home of Don Salvio Pacheco
- Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial - dedicated to the 1944 tragedy

ART

You'll find a thriving arts community has taken hold in Concord. They include the aRt Cottage, near Downtown Concord. The cottage itself immediately engages artists and art enthusiasts with its inviting exterior and beautiful floral accents. Of equal interest is owner FROgard Schmidt, who was born in Germany and immigrated to the United States in the 1950's. After studying art in places like San Francisco State and Florence, Italy she now shares what she has learned with other artists. Other locations appealing to art lovers include the B8 Theater Company, the Raquel Amery Gallery and the Concord Art Association.

ENTERTAINMENT

Concord is home to the Concord Pavilion, the Frank Gehry designed premiere music amphitheater. From spring through fall, this is where music and comedy fans step out to see their favorite performers take center stage. Genres include Classic Rock, Comedy, R&B, Soul and Country.

Music and Market is the perfect way to unwind at the end of the day, Music and Market takes place every Thursday (May through September). 2019 is the series 31st year with a music line up that won't disappoint. Blues lovers can soak up blues, brews and BBQ at Tuesday Night Blues at Todos Santos Park throughout July.

Concord nightlife is eclectic and abundant with everything from comedy at Vinnie's Bar and Grill to dancing at Nica Lounge. Check out one of Concord's many Happy Hours including Hoppy Hour from 2pm to 6pm and 9pm to closing at Eureka! Or visit The Veranda where you can experience one of the most extensive and eclectic wine menus at Residual Sugar. Soon you can unwind at the Yard House known for great food, classic rock and 130 taps of imported, craft, specialty ales & lagers. On September and October evenings, take in the Veranda's Fall Music Series, Vibes at The Veranda. The holidays bring the opportunity to skate under the stars at Ice on The Veranda, November - February.

SHOPPING

Expert shoppers know that in Concord they'll find what they want and more. Concord is the home for iconic shopping centers such as Sunvalley Mall and the Willows Shopping Center. Adding to these is The Veranda, Concord's newest shopping experience. But dig deeper and you'll find one-of-a-kind treasures at Henley's Antiques, 2nd Chance Boutique and Flying Colors Comics & Other Cool Stuff.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY

Families are looking to Concord for day trips (and sometimes longer stays). After all, you can spend an entire day just at Six Flags Hurricane Harbor. Other Concord gems include Markham Nature Park and Arboretum full of lush flora and fauna. The tranquil setting is made even more peaceful by the sounds from the rippling Galindo Creek. Another family favorite is Pixieland Amusement Park designed especially for young children. The Dragon Roller Coaster, Frog Hopper, Red Baron Airplanes and other rides are customized for little riders giving them the experience they can't get in the bigger theme parks.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION

Being in the heart of the Bay Area allows visitors to stay in Concord and easily travel to fun nearby locations. Spend Saturday wine tasting in Napa, Livermore or Sonoma and Sunday at the Concord Pavilion. Or make it a family weekend with a day at Six Flags Hurricane Harbor and another at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom. Or check out an A's, Warriors or Giants game one day and the next take a hike up Mount Diablo. The possibilities are endless.

Where to stay? There are 9 hotel choices in Concord, something for every budget with plenty of parking and some that are pet friendly too!

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

For those who are looking to explore that work-life balance or simply want to get outdoors, Concord offers the ultimate escape in Mount Diablo. Towering 3,849 feet above California, Mount Diablo brings hikers, bikers and runners from all over to its 20,000-acre state park. Over 400 plant and animal species live amongst the park's terrain, drawing visitors to experience a natural habitat and incredible panoramic views. Nature and beauty are plentiful throughout Concord including numerous parks, open space & trails including:

- Lime Ridge Open Space, 1226 acres and 25 miles of premiere 25 hiking & biking trails.
- Iron Horse Trail begins in Concord and continues for 27 miles for biking, hiking and is wheelchair friendly.
- The Contra Costa Canal Trail runs along the canal and through central Costa County, connecting regional trails. It's enjoyed by bikers, runners, pedestrians, and equestrians.
- Markham Nature Park & Arboretum a place of quiet beauty less than 20 blocks from downtown Concord