

Concord

CALIFORNIA



Concord Story Ideas

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CONCORD VISITOR CENTER - START HERE!

When visiting Concord, make your first stop at the Concord Visitor Center! Our knowledgeable team and new, interactive information kiosk can help you find your way to everything you want to see and do in Concord!

The Visitor Center is located in the heart of Concord's charming, historic downtown at 2151 Salvio Street, in beautiful Salvio Pacheco Square. There's plenty of free parking too! More details at VisitConcordCA.com.

CULINARY

Did you know that Concord restaurants feature Global Cuisine representing over 27 countries? For those craving a savory Salvadoran Pupusa or the tempting 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.

Each January, the city celebrates Concord Comfort Food Month, highlighting the hearty, delicious dishes served by our local restaurants! Everyone from all over the Bay Area and beyond is invited to visit Concord and indulge in the food that brings pure joy with its warmth, heartiness, nostalgia, and well...comfort!

40 plus taquerias and restaurants make up the Concord Taco Trail. Featured in local and nationwide media including Food & Wine, the Taco Trail has some of the tastiest and most authentic tacos including al pastor, birria, fish, steak and so many more. Visit Concord received Visit California's Poppy Award for their work on the Concord Taco Trail!

Each of the above Concord Culinary trails has its own custom companion mobile passport with complete restaurant info for visitors and locals. The passports are filled with special discounts, offers, and a chance to win prizes too!

There's so much good in selecting your own vegetables and fruits from the amazingly fresh produce at the weekly Concord Farmers Market. Located in the historic downtown Todos



Santos Plaza, the Concord Farmers Market is home to over 30 local, entrepreneurial and hard-working vendors. A great outing for anyone living or visiting Concord, shopping here serves farmers and the community by building financial and cultural sustainability. The Concord Farmers Market is open Tuesdays year-round, 10 am to 2 pm.

May through September, the Farmer's Market becomes Music and Market with weekly live concerts each Thursday, from 4 pm to 8 pm. This is where you'll see people from all over the Bay gather, dance, picnic, and celebrate community! Then stay after the show to drink, dine or grab dessert from one of Todos Santos many restaurants.

CRAFT BEER

The city is a favorite for beer fans with a variety of craft brew experiences including The Hop Grenade Taproom & Bottleshop, E.J. Phair Brewing Company and Alehouse, Concord Taphouse, Side Gate Brewery & Beer Garden, and Epidemic Ales - a Concord-based brewery producing some of the best local brews in the Bay Area.

Connecting these Concord breweries with other unique craft beer locations is the Contra Costa Beer Trail with stops all around the Bay. The trail has its own companion passport that can be downloaded to your smartphone for information about each spot.

Concord is also home to the Spring Brews Fest highlighting beers, lagers, and ales from Concord and around the Bay. The festival, produced by The Hop Grenade, offers live music, delicious pub fare, and a festive experience for those 21 and older. Book your room at one of Concord's nine hotel choices and make it a beer-cation!

CULTURE & HERITAGE

The origin of Concord starts with the arrival of Don Pacheco Salvio. 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 gave to others. The Todos Santos historic downtown plaza was dedicated in 1869 by founders Pacheco and Don Francisco Galindo.

Other noteworthy Concord landmarks include:

- Galindo Home Museum and Gardens. This is the home of Don Francisco Galindo, also a founder of Concord. Tours happen most Sundays, from 1 pm to 4 pm.
- Dave Brubeck Park. Named after the jazz great and Concord Native, the park was also the first Concord Jazz Festival!
- Don Salvio Pacheco Adobe. The adobe home of founder Don Salvio Pacheco was built in 1835.
- Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial. A memorial dedicated to the 1944 tragedy and WWII's worst homefront disaster.

In 2018, Todos Santos Plaza was named one of three Great Places in California by the American Planning Association.

ART

You will discover a thriving arts community in Concord.

Visit Concord, the City of Concord and the Concord Chamber partnered this year with Local Edition Creative to bring a collection of murals to Todos Santos Plaza and throughout Downtown Concord. Nine contemporary murals were painted over 3 weekends in June by some phenomenal artists. Another Creative Concord celebration of arts & culture is planned for the Summer of 2023.

A local gem in the Concord arts community is the aRt Cottage, near Downtown Concord. The cottage 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 1950s. After studying art at San Francisco State and Florence, Italy she now shares what she has learned with other artists.

Founded in 1963, The Concord Art Association is the oldest art association in Contra Costa County. Members are artists, art students, supporters of the arts, and residents of the greater Concord, California area. CAA general meetings are open to the public. In addition to socializing, networking, and sharing their creativity, they enjoy inspiring demonstrations from guest artists at each meeting.

ENTERTAINMENT

You probably know that Concord is home to the Concord Pavilion. But did you know the premiere concert venue was designed by Frank Gehry? Each spring through fall, this is where music and comedy fans can see their favorite performers take center stage under the stars. Genres include Pop, Rock, Comedy, R&B, and Country.

Music lovers can unwind with live music at beautiful Todos Santos Park located in the heart of Concord. Music and Market take place every Thursday (May through September) with concerts on the main stage next to the Concord Farmers Market. And Blues lovers will enjoy live blues each Tuesday in July during Tuesday Night Blues also at Todos Santos Park.

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* at Eureka! Or visit The Veranda to experience one of the most extensive and eclectic wine menus at Residual Sugar or great food and 130 taps of imported, craft, specialty ales & lagers at Yard House.

During the summer, The Veranda offers *Veranda Unplugged* (live music nights) and in the winter families love *Veranda On Ice*, the center's skating rink! More choices for entertainment at The Veranda include a luxury movie/IMAX theatre, Dave and Buster's, Red Door Escape Rooms, and SelfieWrld.



SHOPPING

Concord is the home of iconic shopping centers such as Sunvalley Mall, the Willows Shopping Center, and The Veranda, Concord's newest shopping experience. But dig deeper and you'll find one-of-a-kind treasures at Mom & Pop shops like Henley's Antiques and Flying Colors Comics & Other Cool Stuff.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY

Family getaways to Concord make for a perfect weekend stay (or longer). After all, you can spend an entire day just at Six Flags Hurricane Harbor. Another Concord gem is Markham Nature Park and Arboretum and its abundance of nature with 45 species of trees and the peaceful sounds of Galindo Creek running through. Pixieland Amusement Park is designed especially for young children. The Dragon Roller Coaster, Frog Hopper, Red Baron Airplane, and other rides are customized for little riders giving them the big theme park experience at just the right size.

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 see a show at the Concord Pavilion. Or make it a family weekend with a day at Six Flags Hurricane Harbor and another at nearby Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, in Vallejo. 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.

Whether it's business or pleasure that brings you to Concord, rest assured that the safety of guests and employees is the number one priority of the Concord hotel industry. Concord offers 9 hotels, something for every budget, from executive suites and allergy-friendly rooms to comfy, economical accommodations where pets are welcome. Concord Hotels & Motels are ADA accessible offering special rooms, facilities, ramps, parking, etc.



OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

For those looking to explore that work-life balance or simply want to get outdoors, Concord offers the ultimate escape in Mount Diablo. Towering 3,489 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 on 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 spaces, and 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, and hiking and is wheelchair friendly.
- The Contra Costa Canal Trail runs along the canal and central Costa County, connecting regional trails. It's enjoyed by bikers, runners, pedestrians, and equestrians.
- Markham Nature Park & Arboretum is a place of quiet beauty less than 29 blocks from downtown Concord.