

# Best of the Best: Palm Springs

A roundup of locals' favorite spots of where to stay, eat, play, shop, and explore.

[KELLEY HUSKEY \(HTTPS://WWW.PALMSPRINGSLIFE.COM/AUTHOR/KELLEY-HUSKEY/\)](https://www.palmspringslife.com/author/kelley-huskey/) / SEPTEMBER 27, 2018 /  
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## Indian Canyons is the Best Hiking Trail.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY @BEARLEADERCHRONICLE

### STAY

#### **BOUTIQUE**

#### **HOTEL / RESORT**

##### **Sparrows Lodge**

With no TVs or phones in its 20 rooms, this rustic adults-only retreat forces you to relax and unwind — and the rain shower and horse-trough bathtub will help.

*sparrowslodge.com*

#### **HOTEL / RESORT**

##### **Saguaro Palm Springs**

If you've ever wondered what a rainbow might look like if it exploded, look no further than the Saguaro. The energy here commands you to have fun, and if you want to take it easy after a night of too much fun, the hotel has a day spa and yoga classes.



*thesaguaro.com*

## **VACATION RENTALS**

### **Oranj Palm Vacation Homes**

In business since 1972, this company manages more than 350 properties in some of Greater Palm Springs' most covetable neighborhoods, from midcentury estates in the San Jacinto foothills to Tuscan-style villas with easy access to the fairway.

**TASTE**

**AMERICAN BREAKFAST CATERER**

**CRAFT COCKTAIL**

**Lulu California Bistro**

Known as much for its \$19.99 three-course meal as for its colorful cocktails, Lulu's is well-loved by locals and busy at all hours. [lulupalmsprings.com](http://lulupalmsprings.com)



**Lulu California Bistro is the place for Best Craft Cocktail, Best American Breakfast, and Best Caterer.**

## **ASIAN**

### **Thai Smile**

Thai Smile wins points for friendly service and a menu of tasty, traditional dishes — made as spicy or as tame as you like them.

*thaismilepalmsprings.com* (<http://thaismilepalmsprings.com>)

## **BARBECUE**

### **Smoke Tree BBQ**

The house-smoked meat is fall-off-the-bone delicious. But don't overlook the bourbon pecan pie.

*smoketreebbq.com* (<http://smoketreebbq.com>)

## **BURGER SPORTS BAR**

### **Smokin' Burgers & Lounge**

Sports, shareable bar bites, and plenty of loaded burgers, including one that promises to be the "hottest burger in the desert."

*fb.com/smokinburgersp* (<http://fb.com/smokinburgersp>)

## **COFFEEHOUSE**

### **Koffi**

With three trendy locations in Palm Springs to choose from, you don't need to go far for that locally roasted latte.

*kofficoffee.com* (<http://kofficoffee.com>)

## **FRENCH**

### **Pomme Frite**

This Belgian bistro welcomes guests with a warm ambiance and authentic European cuisine, including fresh mussels, escargot, and frog legs.

*pomme-frite.com*

## **GREEK**

### **Greek Islands**

For a taste of the Mediterranean, make this your next stop for lunch or dinner, and enjoy a variety of Greek beers and wines while listening to live music. Try one of the salads or paninis, and don't miss the signature hummus.

*fb.com/greekislandspalmsprings* (<http://fb.com/greekislandspalmsprings>)

## **ITALIAN**

## **Johnny Costa's**

Frank Sinatra enjoyed chef and owner Johnny Costa's dishes, and his favorites, the linguine with clams and the aptly named Steak Sinatra, are on the menu today. Save room for the homemade tiramisu and cannoli.

[johnnycostaspalmsprings.com](http://johnnycostaspalmsprings.com) (<http://johnnycostaspalmsprings.com>).

## **MEDITERRANEAN**

### **Evzin Mediterranean Cuisine**

The hip and modern vibe of Evzin's outpost at the Caliente Tropics hotel is only outdone by the eats. Order the Spanish fideo and finish with the Greek yogurt cheesecake.

[evzincuisine.com](http://evzincuisine.com) (<http://evzincuisine.com>).

## **MEXICAN**

### **Las Casuelas Terraza**

With 100-plus varieties of tequila, chill patio vibes with live music, and some of the best guacamole in the desert, Las Casuelas has become a downtown fixture.

[lascasuelas.com](http://lascasuelas.com) (<http://lascasuelas.com>).

## **PIZZA**

### **Bill's Pizza**

Order one of Bill's 29 specialty pies or build your own with ingredients like caramelized onions, capers, vegan cheese, or chorizo. The pizza flour is imported from Italy. [billspizzapalmsprings.com](http://billspizzapalmsprings.com) (<http://billspizzapalmsprings.com>).

## **SEAFOOD**

### **Fisherman's Market & Grill**

This casual restaurant and seafood market offers well-priced early bird specials. Locals often tout the Baja Fish Tacos as some of the best.

[fishermans.com](http://fishermans.com) (<http://fishermans.com>).

## **STEAKHOUSE**

### **LG's Prime Steakhouse**

With the longest list of red wines in the valley, you won't have a difficult time pairing the right glass with your 24-ounce porterhouse. Bonus: The Caesar salad is made tableside, from scratch.

[lgprimesteakhouse.com](http://lgprimesteakhouse.com) (<http://lgprimesteakhouse.com>).

## **VEGETARIAN / VEGAN**

### **Native Foods Café**

Native Foods serves a 100 percent plant-based menu with innovative dishes, including a take on Southern fried “chicken” and waffles. Try the lavender lemonade or watermelon fresca.

[nativefoods.com](http://nativefoods.com) (<http://nativefoods.com>).

## **NIGHTLIFE**

### **KARAOKE**

#### **Street Bar**

Find your favorite songs among Street Bar’s 18,000 available options, and belt them out four nights a week. Oh, and the bartenders pour a strong drink.

[psstreetbar.com](http://psstreetbar.com) (<http://psstreetbar.com>).

### **LIVE MUSIC**

#### **Michael Holmes’ Purple Room**

This swanky old-school supper club delivers classic cocktails and fine dining alongside live entertainment, from Broadway tunes to drag. purpleroom

[palmsprings.com](http://palmsprings.com) (<http://palmsprings.com>).

## **SHOP RESALE**

### **Revivals**

This largely volunteer-run resale store sells new and gently used home goods and vintage and designer clothing, along with its own Mode line of new, modern furnishings.

[revivalsstores.com](http://revivalsstores.com) (<http://revivalsstores.com>).

## **FLORIST**

### **Palm Springs Florist**

Get an arrangement for any occasion that is artfully crafted with fresh, silk, or dried flowers.

[palmspringsflorist.net](http://palmspringsflorist.net) (<http://palmspringsflorist.net>).

## **GALLERY**

## **Michael Weems Collection**

Michael Weems serves up audacious artwork in a range of media — glass, crystal, porcelain, melamine, and reclaimed metal.

[michaelweems.com](http://michaelweems.com) (<http://michaelweems.com>).

## **VINTAGE CLOTHING**

### **Iconic Atomic**

If you're on the hunt for quality vintage, look no further.

[iconicatomic.com](http://iconicatomic.com) (<http://iconicatomic.com>).

## **EXPLORE**

### **ATTRACTION**

#### **Palm Springs Aerial Tramway**

More than 20 million people have traveled to an elevation of 8,516 feet via the world's largest rotating tram cars.

[pstramway.com](http://pstramway.com) (<http://pstramway.com>).

### **BIKE RENTAL**

#### **Bike Palm Springs**

The company offers electric bikes, kids' rides, and, for the adventurous (or romantically inclined), bicycles built for two.

[bikepsrentals.com](http://bikepsrentals.com) (<http://bikepsrentals.com>).

## **CASINO**

### ***Spa Resort Casino***

Test your luck with 24-hour slots and table games, or venture into the high-limit room. [sparesortcasino.com](http://sparesortcasino.com)

(<http://sparesortcasino.com>).

## **FESTIVAL**

### **Modernism Week**

This 11-day festival in February fêtes midcentury modern architecture and design in the desert. Get a taste of the events including the Modernism Shiw & Sale during Mod Week's Fall Preview.

[modernismweek.com](http://modernismweek.com) (<http://modernismweek.com>).

## **FUNDRAISING EVENT**

### **Dining Out for Life**

One day each year, participating restaurants donate 33 to 110 percent of sales to local nonprofit Desert AIDS Project.

[diningoutforlife.com/palmsprings](http://diningoutforlife.com/palmsprings) (<http://diningoutforlife.com/palmsprings>).

## **GYM / HEALTH CLUB**

### **World Gym**

You'll be buff in no time with World Gym's 100-plus cardio machines, indoor walking and running track, and group classes. There's also a smoothie bar.

[worldgypalmsprings.com](http://worldgypalmsprings.com) (<http://worldgypalmsprings.com>).

## **HAIR SALON / SPA**

### **Salon 119 Beauty & Spa**

Treat yourself to a little R & R with a cut, color, and blowout. They also offer nail, makeup, and lash-extension services, massage, and permanent makeup. [salon119.com](http://salon119.com) (<http://salon119.com>).

## **HIKING TRAIL**

### **Indian Canyons**

Choose from three hiking trails amid spectacular surroundings of waterfalls and running streams. Or come for a picnic. If you're lucky, you might spot a Peninsular bighorn sheep.

[indian-canyons.com](http://indian-canyons.com) (<http://indian-canyons.com>)

## **LIVE THEATER**

**Desert Ensemble**  **Theatre Company**

Desert Ensemble has mastered the art of the live theater experience, evident by its 12 Broadway World Awards and 28 Desert Theatre League Awards. [detctheatre.org](http://detctheatre.org) (<http://detctheatre.org>).

## MUSEUM

### Palm Springs Art Museum

Opening this month, Unsettled (p. 16) shows the work of more than 75 artists influenced by the Greater West. [psmuseum.org](http://psmuseum.org) (<http://psmuseum.org>).

## PUBLIC GOLF COURSE

### Indian Canyons Golf Resort

With panoramic views of the mountains, this golf resort offers 36 holes of play, plus a driving range, golf shop, and restaurant. [indiancanyonsgolf.com](http://indiancanyonsgolf.com) (<http://indiancanyonsgolf.com>).

## VETERINARIAN

### Dr. Peter Henein, Palm Springs Animal Hospital

The pet parents' reviews speak for themselves: "Dr. Henein is the absolute best. His knowledge is up to date, and his compassion and care of animals and owner would be hard to match." [palmsspringsanimalhospital.com](http://palmsspringsanimalhospital.com) (<http://palmsspringsanimalhospital.com>)

(<http://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?u=https://www.palmspringslife.com/best-of-the-best-palm-springs/&t=Best+of+the+Best%3A+Palm+Springs>)

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#### Palm Springs Weather



## Currently

73°

Tomorrow is forecast to be **Warmer** than today.



## Monday 10/15

High 78° Low 60°

Clear. Lows overnight in the low 60s.



## Tuesday 10/16

High 83° Low 61°

Sunny skies. High 83F.  
Winds N at 10 to 20 mph.



(<http://www.wunderground.com/q/zmw:92262.1.99999>)

## CALENDAR

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[Day Trips \(/day-trips/\)](/day-trips/).

## OUTDOORS

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[Golf \(/golf/\)](/golf/).

[Hiking \(/hiking/\)](/hiking/).

[Tennis \(/tennis/\)](/tennis/).

## FASHION & STYLE

[Fashion \(/fashion-style/\)](/fashion-style/).

[Valley Shopping \(/shopping/\)](/shopping/).

[Shop El Paseo \(/shop-el-paseo/\)](/shop-el-paseo/).

[El Paseo Store Directory \(https://www.elpaseocatalogue.com/el-paseo-stores-shops/\)](https://www.elpaseocatalogue.com/el-paseo-stores-shops/).

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

[Health & Spas \(/health-wellness/\)](/health-wellness/).

[Top Doctors \(/top-doctors/\)](/top-doctors/).

[Top Dentists \(/top-dentists/\)](/top-dentists/).

## BEST OF

[Best of the Best Voting \(http://bestof.palmspringslife.com/l/2018-Best-of-the-Best-City-by-City-Contest\)](http://bestof.palmspringslife.com/l/2018-Best-of-the-Best-City-by-City-Contest)

[40 Under Forty \(/40-under-40/\)](/40-under-40/).

[Top Lawyers \(/top-lawyers/\)](/top-lawyers/).

## **FOOD & DRINK**

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## **EVENTS**

[Fashion Week El Paseo \(https://www.fashionweekelpaseo.com/\)](https://www.fashionweekelpaseo.com/)

[Palm Desert Food & Wine](https://www.palmdesertfoodandwine.com/)

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