

Claremont, CA: College town vibe and Thai food

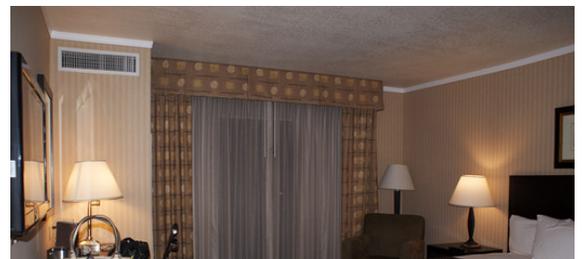
January 1, 2015

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Claremont has humble beginning with the building of the Santa Fe Railroad in 1887. Pomona College was founded in 1888 with a “New England Style” and this style flowed into the community with residents from the east coast. On October 3, 1907, the City of Claremont was officially incorporated. Along with this college town growth, the local citrus industry was also booming. With the railroad already in place, Claremont growers began one of the first citrus cooperatives for marketing and shipping citrus fruit. This model led to the organization of the Sunkist cooperative. The Claremont citrus industry supported four citrus packing houses, an ice house, and a precooling plant along the tracks. You can still see reminders of this industry around town; very similar to Anaheim. The college town vibe is still intact and lively on 1st Street in Claremont Village with boutique hotels and lively new [restaurants](#) like [Eureka!](#)

As you exit the San Bernardino Freeway (Interstate 10) on Garey Avenue, the street is lined with beautiful oak trees, almost like driving in a college town on the east coast. With dusk at hand, the rays of sunlight shimmer through the oak tree leaves and branches like glitter. As you turn right onto Foothill Boulevard, the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains come into view.

[DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Claremont](#) is a great place to stay during a weekend getaway in Claremont. The hotel has a casita feel to it. The lobby has a very classic look and during check in, you will receive their famous Chocolate Chip Cookies, fresh and warm with melty chocolate chips and homemade taste.



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1 King Bed with Balcony Room
OC Food Diva

- Travel tip: Hilton Hhonor Gold and above members also receive bottled water upon check in and complimentary breakfast buffet in The Orchard Restaurant.

The 1 King Bed with Balcony Room on the top floor includes complimentary WiFi, 37-inch LCD Flat Panel HDTV, air conditioning, bath slippers/bathrobe, clock radio with MP3 connection, hairdryer, iron/ironing board, and mini refrigerator. For business travelers, a large desk with ergonomic chair, complimentary remote printing, and high speed internet will keep you connected. The room is comfortable for two. The bathroom is a little small but works for a weekend getaway or solo business traveler.

Bua [Thai Cuisine](#) is an option for dinner. It is located in Claremont Village on 1st Street. There is street parking and a parking garage right behind Bua. The restaurant exterior is inviting with a tropical vibe to it. The tropical theme continues on into the restaurant. Service is simple and less attentive, very typical for most Asian cultures.

Here's a sampling of what you might try for dinner:

- Stuffed Chicken Wings are butterflied and stuffed with ground chicken and glass noodle. The chicken wing flavor works great with peanut broth sauce. There is a lot of meat and filling. These could be a meal in itself. The outside is very crispy and contrasts nicely with the interior which resembles chicken meatloaf. Rating: 4/5
- Seafood Drunken Fried Rice is a generous portion. It has a lot of seafood, but the sauce used in the stir-fry is too sweet. It needs more shoyu (soy sauce) to balance out the sweetness. Medium spice level is perfect. Rating: 3.5/5
- Garlic Short Ribs has a nice flavor, just sweet enough. The meat needs to braise longer before flash frying as it is tough and dry. The garlic flavor needs to be pumped up as it is not apparent. Rating: 3.3/5
- Crispy Duck is too sweet. It would be better to serve the sauce on the side so duck stays crispy and customer can add the sauce to their liking. The vegetables helped to cut the sweetness down. It is also hard to tell what is bone versus meat with so much sauce in the dish. Rating: 3/5
- Coconut Creme Brûlée has nice coconut flavor. They use coconut milk versus cream so it is not as creamy as a traditional creme brulee. It tastes more like a

sweet Asian omelet with big bubbles inside. Rating: 4.3/5

As Claremont Village starts to roll up the sidewalks, driving back to the DoubleTree is quick and easy. A new day in Claremont is just a sleep away.

For more information:

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Bua Thai Cuisine

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Trip was sponsored in part by [Discover Claremont](#).

SUGGESTED LINKS

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- **Big Sky, MT: Western Yellowstone and Game Cuisine, Day 2**
- **Big Sky, MT: Big skies and culinary mountain adventure, Day 1**
- **Road Trip to San Francisco, CA: Vineyards and local inspiration - Day 3**
- **Road Trip to San Francisco, CA: Bay watch and clam chowder - Day 2**



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