

# DISCOVER CLAREMONT

## ***VISITOR ATTRACTIONS***

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### **Claremont Hills Wilderness Park**

Located at the base of the San Gabriel Mountains and Angeles National Forest, the Claremont Hills Wilderness Park offers nature lovers a five-mile walking loop, along with smaller trails. The loop is one of the most popular in the Inland Empire, offering moderate elevation and dramatic views stretching to Downtown L.A., Catalina Island, and the Inland Empire basin. The 2.8-mile Thompson Creek Trail that abuts the park's southern point is also popular with walkers, runners, bicyclists and leashed dogs.

### **Claremont Lewis Museum of Art**

Located in the historic Claremont Depot, the Claremont Lewis Museum of Art celebrates the community's rich artistic legacy and promotes the cultural vitality of the region by showcasing paintings, sculptures, and other works by local artists. Since the 1930s, Claremont has been both magnet and haven for artists as Millard Sheets, Jean Ames, Phil Dike, and their contemporaries cultivated a tight-knit community, centered around the Claremont Colleges, that promoted collaboration, innovation, and experimentation.

### **Claremont Packing House**

Built in 1922, the Claremont Packing House is the last standing of four packing houses built along the Santa Fe rail corridor during the height of the citrus industry. Today a century of architecture comes alive with fine dining, live music, hip boutiques, wine tastings, art classes, art walks and festivals. In addition to being home to Packing House Wines, Gus's BBQ, The Whisper House and other great eateries, it features Studio Claremont and Claremont Chef's Academy classes, and Thoreau's Bookshop, a nationally renowned bookstore that provides donated books to prisoners.

### **Claremont Village**

Claremont Village is a historic downtown area in the heart of Claremont. This European-style village has over 150 shops, restaurants, bakeries, art galleries, day spas, boutiques, entertainment venues, hotels, lounges, and more. Notable stops include shopping at Rio de Ojas, Amelie, Nectar and DeeLux; snacking at Cheese Cave, I Like Pie, Some Crust Bakery and Bert and Rocky's; and dining at Bardot, Espiau's, Tutti Mangia, Viva Madrid and Walter's. Walking these picturesque streets will make you swear you're no longer in Southern California.

### **Folk Music Center and Museum**

The Folk Music Center and Museum has been in Grammy-winner Ben Harper's family since 1958, and features hundreds of instruments from around the world that visitors can actually touch and play. It's become a destination for music lovers from as far away as Australia, Japan, and Europe. Many days you can meet Ellen Harper herself, working behind the counter.

### **Historic Route 66**

Along Foothill Blvd. find original buildings from "the mother road's" heyday, including Wolfe's Market (now shared with The Meat Cellar), the Old School House (home to shops and Elvira's Finest Foods of Mexico), the former Griswold's Stone Cellar and Inn (now Buca di Beppo and DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton Claremont), and the former Tugboat Annie's boat-shaped restaurant.

### **California Botanic Garden**

Established in 1927 as Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, CalBG is the largest botanic garden dedicated exclusively to California native plants, displaying about 2,000 taxa across 86 acres, including plants native to the California Floristic Province as a whole – from southern Oregon to Baja California. Its miles of walkable pathways feature all-new wayfinding signage to guide visitors through habitats from chaparral to Mojave Desert, oak woodland and yellow pine forest. Visitors can walk among butterflies at the Butterfly Pavilion, May through August (most summers), discover featured art installations, and enjoy music and brews on select summer evenings.

### **Raymond Alf Museum of Paleontology**

Dinosaur lovers can discover artifacts of the ancient giants at the Raymond M. Alf Museum of Paleontology, the only nationally accredited museum located on a high school campus in the United States. The museum has two circular exhibit areas totaling 4,000 square feet: the Hall of Footprints and the Hall of Life. The fossil track and trackway collection is one of the largest of its kind in the nation.

### **The Claremont Colleges**

The Claremont Colleges are a consortium of seven, highly selective institutions of higher education, all within walking distance of each other. Claremont McKenna, Harvey Mudd, Pomona, Pitzer and Scripps Colleges are among the nation’s top-ranked liberal arts schools. The campuses boast beautiful historical architecture, lavish lawns and numerous examples of public art. Check the colleges’ calendars for stimulating presentations, musical productions, art exhibits and other events.

### **James Turrell Skyspace (“Dividing the Light”)**

Called “one of the best works of public art in recent memory” by the *Los Angeles Times*, "Dividing the Light" gathers visitors on benches beneath a canopy that frames a window to the sky. At dusk and dawn a lighting program bathes the canopy in changing colors, from goldenrod to turquoise, altering the viewer’s perception of the sky. A shallow pool centered beneath the opening to the sky mirrors the daytime sky and reflects a dark echo of the night sky. Visit 100 minutes before sunrise or 25 minutes before sunset for the complete light show.

### **Margaret Fowler Garden**

Featured in *Westways*, this “secret garden” was originally designed as a European medieval-style cloister garden and is a favorite destination on the Scripps campus. There are olive and orange trees and interior arcades, one of which is covered by an enormous wisteria vine. On one wall, you’ll find a fresco painted in 1946 by Mexican muralist Alfredo Ramos Martinez.

### **The Benton Museum of Art at Pomona College**

The new Benton Museum of Art at Pomona College (“The Benton”), opened in 2021, is a 33,000-square-foot facility to showcase some of Southern California’s most compelling and experimental exhibitions. For decades, Pomona College has played a key part in shaping innovative artists, including Helen Pashgian, James Turrell, Peter Shelton, the late Marcia Hafif and the late Chris Burden. The Benton’s collection includes pieces from these alumni, and future exhibitions will place emphasis on cutting-edge art in the Los Angeles region. The new building of cast-in-place concrete walls is accented with wood, glass and a distinctive sloping roofline, and is built to LEED gold standards of sustainability.

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May 2022  
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