

# Harbor Island



©Island Prime Restaurant

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**F**or a spectacular bay view of San Diego's beautiful skyline, especially at night, majestic Harbor Island is the place. This picturesque pleasure isle is centrally located on San Diego Bay and is easily accessible. Plus, it's only three miles from downtown and directly across from the San Diego International Airport Lindbergh Field.

This picturesque island owes its existence to military necessity. In 1961 the Navy decided to dredge the channel to accommodate the deeper draughted super aircraft carriers, which moor at North Island Naval Air Station across the bay. The mud and sand from the

dredging project was given to the San Diego Port District and they used it to develop Harbor Island.

## WHERE TO DINE

On the western tip of Harbor Island is the impressive 22,000-sq. ft. **Tom Ham's Lighthouse Restaurant (1)** at 2150 Harbor Island Dr. (619-291-9110). This Spanish-style building boasts Coast Guard-approved beacon Number 9, making it the only documented restaurant in the continental United States that is also a working, navigational lighthouse. To commemorate this nautical distinction, they serve a signature flash-

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ing cocktail aptly named Beacon #9. It's a delicious refreshment. This restaurant is also a fabulous place to dine. For an incredible bay view, ask for table 109. Their **Sunday Champagne Brunch** (\$26) served 9:30 a.m.–2 p.m. is something to rave about. Their daily menu features traditional American cuisine with a California coastal flair. Entrées include fresh seafood, steaks and pastas. Plus, they have a breathtaking harbor view. See Restaurants.

On the eastern end of Harbor Island Drive is **Island Prime (3)** at 880 Harbor Island Dr. (619-298-6802). Island Prime is one of the best restaurants in all of San Diego. In fact, it's really two restaurants in one that are both overseen by Chef Deborah Scott. Island Prime serves steak and seafood for dinner only from 5:30 p.m. An excellent table for two to four is table 26 and for four to six people, ask for table 21. The more casual **C Level** features a bistro menu for lunch and dinner from 11:30 a.m. daily. Both restaurants offer spectacular city views especially at dusk and at night. For a breathtaking view of

the bay and the city lights, ask for table 212. See Restaurants.

### ISLAND ACTIVITIES

Hard to miss is the picturesque view of hundreds of expensive yachts docked at the many marinas, which line the eastern side of beautiful Harbor Island. Along with its spectacular bay views, Harbor Island offers a pleasant and perfect place to fish, sail or take a stroll.

If you'd like to sail on beautiful San Diego Bay but don't own a boat, the **Seaforth Boat Rentals (6)** at 955 Harbor Island Dr., which is in the Sun-road Marina, rents sailboats. See Sports & Recreation.

### WHERE TO STAY

You will definitely be pleased with the quality of the impressive hotels on Harbor Island. Each is resort-oriented.

Easy to recommend is the **Sheraton Harbor Island Hotel's Marina Tower (5)** at 1380 Harbor Island Dr. (619-291-2900), which offers the finest in luxury accommodations. You can stroll the

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marina, play tennis, go sailing on the bay and dine at fabulous restaurants.

At 1590 Harbor Island Dr. is the **Sheraton Harbor Island Hotel's Bay Tower (4)** (619-291-2900). It too is a stellar resort with balconies offering bay or marina views. For a great weekend getaway, this is the place. To the west along Harbor Drive is the **Hilton San Diego Airport/Harbor Island (2)** at 1960 Harbor Island Dr. (619-291-6700), where the view never stops.

### THE SAN DIEGO AIRPORT

One of the big attractions for staying at any one of the three major hotels on Harbor Island is its proximity to the **San Diego International Airport Lindbergh Field** (619-400-2400) (see map). More than 18.3 million passengers travel via the airport annually. Currently, there are an average of 600 flights each day via approximately 25 passenger and cargo airlines. See Welcome.

The airport offers on-site parking at each of the three terminals—Terminals 1 and 2, and the Commuter Terminal.

Free intra-terminal transportation is provided via the "Red Bus." Parking at the airport costs (\$1) for the first hour with the longer you stay the more you pay per hour. The maximum cost is (\$21) for the first 24 hours; (\$26) per 24-hour period, or part of, thereafter. Parking fees can be paid at the cashier booths as you exit the parking lot, or at one of the Express Parking Pay Stations located at Terminals 1 and 2. Parking is also available at parking lots near the airport.

An alternative to airport parking is to take a **Cloud 9 Shuttle** bus (800-974-8885) to the airport. They provide transportation to and from different areas throughout San Diego. A 24-hour notice is recommended, but they will take most same-day calls. You can also get a shuttle at the airport by using the airport's **Shuttles for Hire**, which contracts a shuttle for you. Shuttle prices vary according to the company and the distance traveled. Some hotel, car rental companies and off-site parking facilities offer complimentary shuttles to and from the airport.

