

Visit Burbank

Guidebook

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE TO THE ENTERTAINMENT CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

STUDIO TOURS
& TV TAPINGS

SHOP & DINE

ARTS & CULTURE

MEETINGS
& EVENTS

COME SEE THE STARS

ON THE WARNER BROS. VIP STUDIO TOUR
WITH EXCLUSIVE BEHIND THE SCENES ACCESS

BEST-KEPT SECRET

*Burbank offers SoCal glam
with top-notch hospitality.*

Surrounded by Los Angeles, Burbank is a haven from big city life, yet right at its doorstep. Filled with movie and television studios, backlots, and sound stages, every block tells a story. Stroll through star-filled neighborhoods, dine at legendary restaurants, discover unique shops, and create your own vacation hideaway. Burbank is your launch point to discover Southern California.





Tom Whelan
*Chair, Burbank
Hospitality Association*

Welcome to Burbank! Home to Warner Bros. Studios, The Walt Disney Company, and more than 1,000 creative companies that make the magic happen, Burbank is your behind-the-scenes destination. Here you can soak up the entertainment vibe, discover neighborhoods frequented by your favorite stars, and enjoy restaurants, shops, and coffeehouses made famous by celebrities.

For all its star power, Burbank is a town that pulses with urban vitality. As a community with excellent schools, parks, police, and fire, it also provides an enviable quality of life. Studios sit side-by-side with established neighborhoods, and global entertainment companies unite with community spirit to make Burbank a truly unique travel destination.

Burbank's neighborhoods reflect this eclectic combination. The Media District boasts a thriving scene with restaurants such as the original Bob's Big Boy and trendy Umami Burger. Magnolia Park bursts with vintage shops frequented by costume designers, as well as Porto's, America's number one bakery.

Downtown Burbank is the commercial heartbeat of the city with more than 100 restaurants, award-winning special events, Burbank Town Center, and the AMC-16, one of the highest grossing movie theaters in the nation. The Airport District, home to Yahoo and The World Famous West Coast Customs, is your go-to place for power shopping at the Empire Center.

With direct flights into Burbank Bob Hope Airport, you will discover stellar hotels, attractions, and unique conference and special event venues. Burbank puts you center stage for everything from the nightlife to the Warner Bros. VIP Studio Tour. Your Southern California adventure starts here!

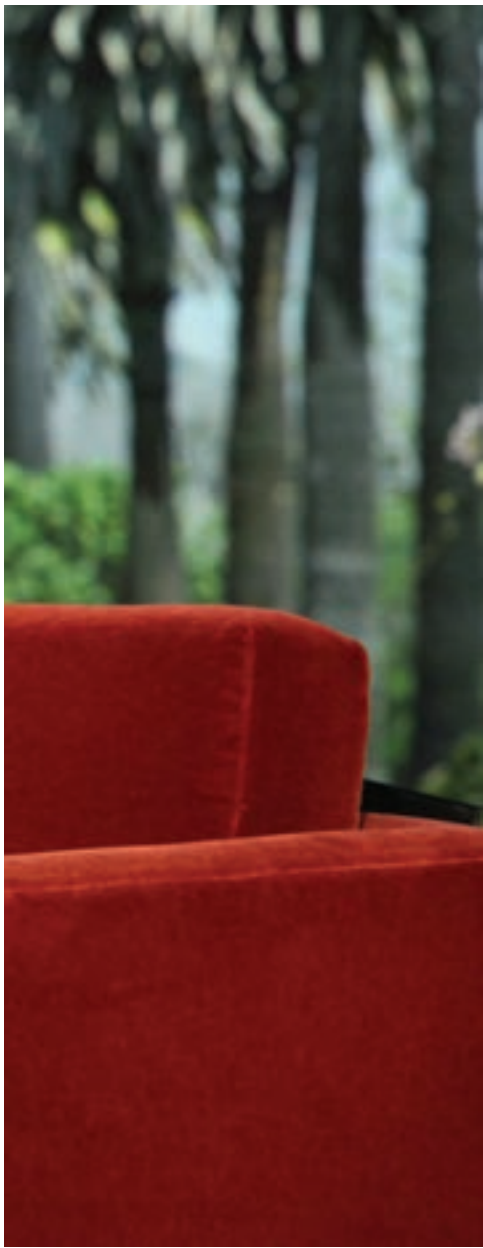


The Media Capital of the World

BURBANK

By Josh Jenisch

Surrounded by Los Angeles, tucked in the foothills of the Verdugo Mountains, you'll find the star of *The Big Bang Theory*, *2 Broke Girls*, and *Casablanca*. She's looking better than ever these days, with a sunny disposition and all-American charm that have persuaded generations of filmmakers to commit her contours to celluloid.



Clockwise from left: The Ellen DeGeneres Show, Starlight Bowl, and Pinup Girl Boutique in Magnolia Park

This is Burbank, whose broad thoroughfares and scenic landscapes have appeared in countless summer blockbusters. This is the beating heart of the entertainment industry, home to some of the world's biggest movie studios and the world's biggest stars. This is a city that manufactures magic as efficiently as other cities manufacture textiles. This is where Hollywood comes to work. This is the media capital of the world.

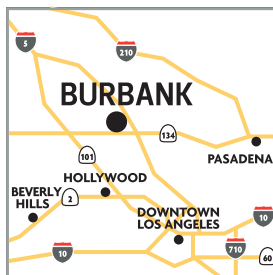
An Industry Town

When most people think of Hollywood, they think of swaying palm trees, studio backlots, and unreasonably good-looking men and women.

venture north a few exits on the 101 to Burbank, where palm trees do indeed sway in the breeze and beautiful people are disconcertingly numerous.

"Hollywood is home to one major studio: Paramount," says Jeff Worthe, whose company, Worthe Real Estate Group, controls about 70 percent of the creative office space in Burbank. "Burbank is home to the largest concentration of movie studios in the world."

Warner Bros. Studios, where shows like *The Big Bang Theory*, *Two and a Half Men*, and *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* are filmed, has called Burbank home since 1929. The Walt Disney Company has been here since 1938. iHeart-Radio Theater Los Angeles is here.





And Burbank Studios — the site of *Days of Our Lives*, among others — maintains a sizable presence here, as well.

“You can say Jack Warner and Walt Disney put Burbank on the map,” says Worthe. “Certainly Johnny Carson added to its prestige. Jay Leno was a part of that. Ellen

DeGeneres, George Lopez, and Conan O’Brien have all had a hand in it, too. But today’s Burbank is home to so much more.”

Brian Miller, Senior Vice President and General Manager of Cartoon Network’s Burbank studios, agrees.

“The city has attracted companies from throughout the industry that are at the heart of emerging technology — everything from CG animation to motion capture,” he says. “But if it weren’t for Johnny Carson giving his tongue-in-cheek nod to the city for so many years, many people would never know about it.”



Living the Life

Unlike most larger cities, many of Burbank’s media professionals also *live* in the city. It’s relatively small, with just 100,000 residents, but that’s part of its appeal.

“Burbank is a big ‘little’ town,” says Zita Lefebvre, Director of Operations and Community Relations for Cartoon Network Studios. “I love that the city will work with you to solve parking problems or that the Public Works Department will wait to

UNLIKE MOST LARGER CITIES,
MANY OF BURBANK’S MEDIA
PROFESSIONALS ALSO *LIVE*
IN THE CITY.

Flying High

Burbank has its roots in the Western land boom of the late 1800s, when thousands of folks headed to Southern California in search of the American Dream. But it wasn’t until the establishment of the city’s first airport in 1930 that industrial and civic growth really began to accelerate.

Burbank’s population doubled in the 1930s, thanks largely to the burgeoning aviation industry. By the time WWII was in full swing, Lockheed Corporation had two manufacturing plants in the city and employed nearly 100,000 people. So important was the company to the war effort that a fake town — complete with painted scenery and rubber cars — was built on top of Lockheed’s “Vega” factory to disguise it from enemy reconnaissance.

Clockwise from above: Backside Records, Burbank Farmers’ Market, Pinkberry, Burbank Town Center, and locals





drill in the street until your recording session is over.”

It’s clean and safe, with great schools, parks, and libraries. Real estate runs the gamut, from affordable condos to outrageously priced mega-mansions (if you’re in the market for the latter, find stunning multimillion-dollar estates gracing the prestigious Burbank Hills).

The city is also exceptionally friendly to travelers. Accommodations are abundant, as are restaurants. And getting to Burbank? Well, that’s perhaps the city’s best-kept secret.

“The Burbank Bob Hope Airport is one of the easiest airports to use in the entire country,” Worthe says. “There is convenient parking — including valet — and a very efficient security process.”

Plus, the airport is minutes from the studios and is dramatically less crowded than Los Angeles International, making it a preferred choice for Hollywood heavyweights.

If you’re looking to do a little stargazing of your own, Cartoon Network’s GM recommends checking out restaurants situated near the studios.

“I was having lunch at Market City the other day,” Miller says, “and the manager came running up to me yelling, ‘Heisenberg! I just served Heisenberg!’ He was so excited I didn’t know what to



say to him.”

Starstruck? You’re in luck. Plan your own prime-time getaway at VisitBurbank.com.

They say it's hard to break into the movie business. Not so in Burbank, where the red carpet is rolled out for everyone.

By Josh Jenisch

ACCESS HOLLYWOOD: STUDIO TOURS AND TELEVISION TAPINGS

Whether you want to go behind the scenes of Hollywood's latest blockbuster or see your favorite television stars in action, this is the place to be. Warner Bros., Nickelodeon, Cartoon Network and The Walt Disney Company all have production facilities here. In fact, Burbank has the world's largest concentration of entertainment studios.

Studio Tours

For \$54 per person, the Warner Bros. VIP Studio Tour provides unparalleled access to the busiest film and television studio on the planet. You'll visit iconic sets (Central Perk from *Friends* is always a popular stop) and tour working costume and prop departments. You might even catch a glimpse of a bona fide Hollywood A-lister.

Tours last 2 hours and 15 minutes and include a stop at the Warner Bros. Museum, home to a staggeringly large collection of Hollywood memorabilia. Tickets are available at VIPstudiotour.warnerbros.com or by calling 877-4-WB-TOUR.



Clockwise from left: live taping of *The Big Bang Theory*, the Warner Bros. water tower, and a statue at the Disney headquarters



Children ages 8 and up are welcome, and parking is available at Gate 6 for \$7.

Discover Disney

Contrary to popular belief, it *is* possible to take a tour of Disney's Burbank studios. The opportunity is made available several times a year to gold- and silver-level members of D23, the official Disney fan club. The 2.5-hour tour includes visits to the studio and the Disney Archives (tickets are \$60 per person and sell out extremely quickly). D23 silver-level membership costs \$40, while a gold-level membership will run you \$80. Visit

ABOVE: COURTESY OF MONTY BRINTON/CBS;
OTHER PHOTOS COURTESY OF VISIT BURBANK

CONTRARY TO POPULAR BELIEF, IT *IS* POSSIBLE TO TAKE A TOUR OF DISNEY'S BURBANK STUDIOS.

D23.com/events for information on the next available tour.

You can also take a tour of the Disney Studios and Archives as part of an action-packed Adventures by Disney 6-day/5-night Southern California package. The guided group travel package, which starts at \$2,709 for adults and \$2,579 for children, also includes behind-the-scenes access at Walt Disney Imagineering and Jim Henson Studios.

Visit AdventuresByDisney.com for more details.

TV Tapings

A decidedly cheaper way to see your favorite TV stars up close is to attend a free live taping. Lots of popular sitcoms are filmed in Burbank, and studios are always in need of an enthusiastic audience. If you've got a laugh that you think could cut it in prime time, this is your chance to let it shine.

Three companies — Audience Associates, Audiences Unlimited, and On Camera Audiences — do almost all of the audience booking in Los Angeles, and each offers tickets free of charge. No show films year-round, so be sure to visit the websites listed to find out what tickets are currently available.

Remember that tickets for many of the hottest



Lisa Rawlins of Warner Bros. Entertainment

Tell us about your role at Warner Bros.

I am the Senior Vice President of Public Affairs at the studio, which is comprised of government affairs, corporate responsibility, philanthropy, community affairs, and environmental sustainability. I came to Warner Bros. in 1990 to oversee film and television production-related issues, and my responsibilities have grown since then.

What's the best thing about working at the studio?

Warner Bros. has been an institution within the entertainment industry for more than 90 years. Our company has grown and evolved dramatically

into a global content producer, but the Burbank lot also serves as a reminder of our rich history. So on any given day, I may see one of our contemporary shows filming a scene on New York Street, which was originally built in the 1930s for our James Cagney-era gangster films. I take great pride in witnessing firsthand our enduring commitment to preserving the studio's history as we move into the future.

What's your favorite part of the Warner Bros. VIP Studio Tour?

Our tour is a really extensive behind-the-scenes experience, so it's hard to choose just one favorite part ... but I am partial to the backlot stops. We have a jungle, a Midwestern neighborhood, a four-story property house, and a costume department. Never a dull moment around our offices!

Burbank is home to more than 1,000 media companies. Just what is it about the town behind the tinsel that makes it so appealing to the entertainment industry?

Burbank has a long history with the entertainment industry — several major networks and studios have called it home for decades — and it's a great testament to the surrounding community. The mutual respect and collaborative efforts between local businesses and residents has created a strong, enduring relationship that continues to evolve. Burbank holds a unique position as a really small town within the larger urban landscape.

shows sell out well in advance of taping, so be sure to book early (it's almost always easiest to score tickets to shows that shoot more than once a week, like *Ellen*).

Remember, too, that even though a show like *Mike & Molly* is technically only 22 minutes long, *filming* that 22 minutes generally takes several hours — and you'll be expected to stay the whole time. It's worth it, though, when you factor in how fun it will be to listen for your own laughter when the show airs on TV.

Here's a sampling of live-audience shows filmed in Burbank: *The Big Bang Theory*, *The Pete Holmes Show*, *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*, *Conan*, *Two And a Half Men*, *Mike & Molly*, *2 Broke Girls*, *Sullivan & Son*.

Find more at VisitBurbank.com/what-to-do.



Clockwise from top: live audience tapings of *2 Broke Girls* and *Mike & Molly*; the Warner Bros. VIP Studio Tour

PHOTOS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT) BY DAREN MICHAELS/WARNER BROS., JUSTIN LUBIN/WARNER BROS., AND COURTESY OF VISIT BURBANK AND WARNER BROS. ENTERTAINMENT

DIVIDE & CONQUER

*Four distinct commercial districts
guide your Burbank getaway*

The beauty of Burbank is its diversity, and the city's major shopping and dining neighborhoods are unique destinations in themselves. From Downtown's vibrant street scene and Magnolia Park's hip boutiques to the Airport District's high-tech/big-retail convergence and the Media District's eclectic dining — the town behind the tinsel appeals to every style of traveler.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF VISIT BURBANK



Clockwise:
downtown's
San Fernando
Blvd., Burbank
Farmers'
Market, and
Wokcano

THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT

Including a bustling mall and world-class events, Downtown Burbank's 34 blocks are tops in entertainment. **By Lauren Eberle**

In the shade of the Verdugo Mountains, Downtown Burbank is aglow with action. In addition to great restaurants, diverse shopping, and plenty of night-life, perks like free Wi-Fi, abundant and free parking, and top-notch star-spotting make a day in downtown one to remember.

Celebrating more than 25 years, the Burbank Farmers' Market is a Saturday tradition. Local, high-quality produce, organic meats, and a rainbow of brilliant blooms fill vendor tables for a good cause: Proceeds go to the Providence St. Joseph Hospital Foundation.

Freshness is the focus of area restaurants, too. Organic ingredients make up the menu at Wild Carvery, and outside patios create a comfortable atmosphere. Orchard Flats Cold Pressed Juicery packs in nutrients with its line of daily-pressed delicacies. And at Granville Cafe, scratch-made gourmet fare is served by a smiling staff called Villagers.

Craving comfort? Market City Caffe, a Burbank mainstay, has specialized in affordable, authentic Italian cuisine since 1992. Or, try new food concepts at PizzaRev, a craft-your-own pizza place, or Asian Box, a healthy alternative to Asian





MOORE'S DELICATESSEN'S WALLS ARE GRAFFITIED WITH DRAWINGS FROM ANIMATORS FROM CARTOON NETWORK, DISNEY, AND MORE.

Clockwise from above: Moore's Delicatessen, AMC Burbank 16, and Downtown Burbank Car Classic

street food. For a surprising brush with fame, don't miss Moore's Delicatessen, where quality soups, salads, and sandwiches are served with a side of art: The back room's white walls are graffitied with original drawings from professional animators with credits like Cartoon Network, Disney, and more.

Afterwards, grab your shopping shoes. Anchoring the Downtown District is the three-story Burbank Town Center, with more than 170 well-known retailers and restaurants, including popular IKEA.

Beyond the mall, stores like Urban Outfitters at-

tract fashion-conscious shoppers, while hip Active Ride Shop carries skateboard and snowboard apparel and gear. At Backside Records, an impressive selection of new and recycled vinyl records, as well as California streetwear and accessories, appeals to all genres of music fans.

In the mood for a movie in the media capital of the world? Catch a flick at one of the top-grossing theaters in the country, the AMC Burbank 16, which features 3D, IMAX, and ETX experiences. For an exciting evening out, try hot spots like Story Tavern and Flappers Comedy Club, where late-night crowds keep the merriment flowing.

With 300 shops and 100 restaurants downtown, it's hard to see it all. But thanks to a lineup of festivals happening all year-round, visitors have even more reason to return time and again.

Map out your day at downtown-burbank.org or search VisitBurbank.com.



Downtown's legendary don't-miss events:

DOWNTOWN BURBANK ARTS FESTIVAL (April) San Fernando Boulevard fills with art and art lovers. Plus, an entire block pays homage to the animation capital of the world, with more than 40 animation artists.

DOWNTOWN BURBANK CAR CLASSIC (July) The city's defining automotive event features spectacular vehicles for a free showcase of entertainment-

industry autos, including a Red Carpet Expo with Warner Bros.' celebrity cars.

DOWNTOWN BURBANK OKTOBURFEST (October) Craft beer enthusiasts rejoice at this annual ode to good brews and good times.

THE RINK IN DOWNTOWN BURBANK (Nov.-Jan.) Ring in the season with a festive outing complete with skating, twinkle lights, and joyful music.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF VISIT BURBANK

MEDIA DISTRICT

Find fresh, new restaurants and tried-and-true treasures just steps away from the studios.

By Miles Clements

Burbank may be where Hollywood's screenwriters, boom operators, budding directors, and A-listers go to get things done, but it's not *all* work in the town behind the tinsel. The city's Media District has become an epicenter of eclectic and inventive dining. Here, you can take a short stroll from the studios and sip single-origin coffee, sample gourmet burgers, and even prep for a picnic.

Caffeine connoisseurs start at either Priscilla's Coffee — a homey coffee shop that has fueled Burbank since the 1970s — or Coffee Commisary, where scratch-made goods like salted caramel Rice Krispie treats are paired with coffee sourced from the country's top roasters.

Bob's Big Boy is a trip through time. The Burbank landmark is the oldest remaining Bob's Big



Boy in the country, a masterpiece of mid-century modernism that still plays host to its oversize, overall-wearing mascot. Order a classic Big Boy burger and an orange cream milkshake while you peruse the parade of classic cars that cruise through every Friday night. Umami Burger, on the other hand, is a look into the future. The locally grown chain is all about experimentation, topping burgers with ingredients designed to amplify the rich, savory qualities of umami.

Those with a lighter appetite should head to Olive & Thyme. The cafe and gourmet market is the neighborhood's go-to destination for casual California cooking. Or, delight in Lemonade's cafeteria-style comfort food. With an emphasis on grab-and-go (in a hip, SoCal way), this new eatery is sure to be a quick district hit. You may even spy some diners stopping in at nearby Cinema Secrets, a professional cosmetics shop that helps Hollywood get ready for a night on the town.

Discover more stops at VisitBurbank.com.

**From top:
lunch at
Umami
Burger;
Bob's Big Boy**

MAGNOLIA PARK

Relaxed, residential, and decidedly retro, this Burbank district thrives on its small-town feel.

By Lauren Eberle

Barely five minutes separates Downtown Burbank and Magnolia Park, and yet the vibe feels distinctly different. Area merchants bill this as “L.A.’s coolest up-market vintage and retro neighborhood,” and it’s hard to argue. You won’t find big-box shops on these scenic streets. Rather, this hip district grew around Magnolia Boulevard, famous for antiques, boutiques, and truly delicious eats.

Start your morning with a signature cup of joe from welcoming Simply Coffee or elegant Romancing the Bean. Sip while you queue up at Porto’s Bakery & Cafe, named Yelp’s number one bakery in the United States. (The cheese rolls are worth the wait.)

For old-world charm and authentic Italian flavor, check out Monte Carlo Deli and Pinocchio Italian Restaurant, where cases overflow with cheese, bread, pasta, and more. If it’s Saturday, follow your nose up the street to Handy Market’s famous BBQ, served open air all day.

For something sweet after lunch, visit the original Yummy Cupcakes and sample a Cupcake in a Jar, a Cupcake on a Stick, or even a Cupcake Push Pop. If frozen treats are more your taste, check Quenelle’s chalkboard



THIS HIP DISTRICT GREW AROUND MAGNOLIA BOULEVARD, FAMOUS FOR ANTIQUES, BOUTIQUES, AND TRULY DELICIOUS EATS.

for the day’s creative cones. Surprising flavors like hibiscus lemonade and blueberry pie make us all scream (for ice cream, of course). Then, stock up on soda pop, sugary treats, and even gag gifts at nostalgic Rocket Fizz.

Time happy hour just right with a stroll into LunaVine Wine Bar, where farm-fresh fare complements global wines in a stylish, unpretentious setting. Or, duck inside Tony’s Darts Away, where craft beer, wine, and sodas are served on draft.

Relaxed? Browse the retail and resale racks at Encore Nouveau, an award-winning boutique that



GRAB YOUR GIRLFRIENDS!

Never is Magnolia Park’s buzz more apparent than on **LADIES’ NIGHT OUT**, the last Friday of each month.

Begun by the owners of Encore Nouveau in January 2010, the customer appreciation celebration has grown to more than 30 stores with live music, delicious food trucks, plenty of wine, and enough deals and discounts to guarantee this monthly gathering will remain a local tradition for years to come. ladiesnightoutburbank.com

PHOTOS COURTESY OF VISIT BURBANK



seeks to revamp the shopping experience. Or, ogle the art, jewelry, and accessories at Mindfulness, where 70 percent of wares are local to California, and all are American-made.

To own a piece of entertainment history, drop in It's a Wrap and peruse the wardrobe and props from top movie and television sets. Playclothes, a vintage clothing and furnishings store, attracts costume designers from shows like *Mad Men*. Complete the look at Pinup Girl Boutique, where a

feminine fashions and eclectic finds are rivaled only by the friendliness of the shop's owner. "Go and be fabulous!" cries Audrey K. Robles when customers leave her store. If they're spending the day in Magnolia Park, it's quite easy to oblige.

Check out visitmagnoliapark.com for more.

dolled-up staff armed with mascara and combs turn Everyday Janes into perfect pinups.

Just a few doors over, Audrey K Boutique's

Clockwise from top left: Pinup Girl Boutique, Romancing the Bean, Audrey K Boutique, Rocket Fizz, and Porto's

AIRPORT DISTRICT

Call it convenient: Big business and big retail surround SoCal's easiest airport.

By Miles Clements



Savvy travelers know all about the benefits of Burbank Bob Hope Airport: the ease of its central location, the charm of its historic past, the pleasure of its hassle-free experience. But even some seasoned Angelenos don't know enough about Burbank's Airport District, where the city's travel hub converges with convenient shopping, high-tech businesses, and state-of-the-art meeting centers.

A short drive from the airport is the Empire Center, L.A.'s highest-grossing shopping center and home to giants like Target and Costco. With

companies like Yahoo! calling it home, the area has also quickly become a major tech and media hub. And soon West Coast Customs (of reality TV fame) is set to move in, meaning the district will even be able to pimp your ride.

Still, the heart of the district is Burbank Bob Hope Airport (BUR). Built in 1930, the airport has 67 flights per day and 3.9 million passengers per year. That's why a coalition of local leaders is embarking on an airport modernization project, including the addition of new transit connectors and a brand-new terminal.

"We've often called the Airport District the 'Center of Everything L.A.,' and it's really true," explains Victor Gill, Director of Public Affairs and Communications for the airport. "What most of us think of as Hollywood is really right here. Visitors can base here with great accommodations and restaurants, and branch out to the Rose Bowl and Pasadena, Dodger Stadium and Staples Center, or the Getty Center in 20 minutes or less. And that's only scratching the surface."

Explore the ease of BUR at burbankairport.com.

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AIRPORT DISTRICT THE
"CENTER OF EVERYTHING
L.A.," AND IT'S REALLY TRUE.

—Victor Gill, Director of Public Affairs and
Communications for the airport



DeBell Golf Club

Tee times come complete with stunning canyon views at municipal DeBell Golf Club, which features regulation 18-hole and par-3 courses ideal for a whole family. Worked up an appetite? On-site Canyon Grille serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. 818.845.0022, debellgolf.com



Los Angeles Equestrian Center

Southern California's largest equestrian center hosts horse shows, events, boarding facilities, Griffith Park Horse Rentals, and more on its 75 lush acres. Equestrians can explore Griffith Park's trails or take in a show at the 3,500-seat arena. The neighboring Rancho Equestrian District's zoning allows residents to keep horses, and it's common to see riders along Riverside Drive's horse lanes. 818.840.9063, la-equestriancenter.com

Verdugo Mountains

The extensive hiking trail network of the Verdugo Mountains puts the megalopolis, population ten million, at your feet. Boasting spectacular views of Burbank, the Hollywood Hills, and Downtown Los Angeles, the rugged Verdugo range is also the site of the Stough Canyon Nature Center, an educational and recreational destination. 818.238.5440, lamountains.com

From top:
Rancho equestrians on a trail with a Disney animation building in the background; DeBell Golf Club

BEYOND BURBANK

Seven attractions just a short drive from your Burbank hotel

- 1. LOS ANGELES ZOO AND BOTANICAL GARDENS** (3 miles) – Home to more than 250 animal species and 800 plant species
- 2. UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOLLYWOOD** (5 miles) – An action-packed theme park with shows and a working studio
- 3. HOLLYWOOD BOWL** (6 miles) – Lauded as the “best major outdoor concert venue”
- 4. HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD** (7 miles) – The iconic Hollywood street boasts the Hollywood Walk of Fame
- 5. DODGER STADIUM** (11 miles) – Catch a game or take a tour of the Los Angeles Dodgers' innovative stadium, third-oldest in Major League Baseball
- 6. GRIFFITH OBSERVATORY** (8 miles) – A leader in public astronomy, featuring space and science displays and laser shows
- 7. WALT DISNEY CONCERT HALL** (12 miles) – One of the most acoustically sophisticated concert halls in the world

Discover more at VisitBurbank.com/what-to-do.

*A ticket to renowned
theaters, celebrity-
headlined comedy
clubs, modern art
galleries – even
a martial arts
museum*

By Josh Jenisch

A LIVING CITY: ARTS & CULTURE



Home to an extraordinary number of entertainment companies, Burbank plays an important role in shaping the nation's cultural conversation. So it's no surprise that the city has a thriving arts and culture scene of its own.

Burbank's creative spirit is probably best expressed in its flourishing theater scene. Local favorites include the Colony Theatre, one of the most celebrated theatrical organizations in the country. Also popular is the Falcon Theatre, which is owned and operated by Garry Marshall and his daughter.

The Victory Theatre is a great venue to catch works from new and emerging artists, while the Grove Theater Center, nestled in the midst of George Izay Park, is an intimate, cozy affair. For outstanding contemporary performances, check out Theatre Banshee, a nonprofit company that specializes in Irish plays and playwrights.

If you're looking for big-time summer entertainment, nothing beats the Starlight Bowl, an extraordinary outdoor venue (picture the Hollywood Bowl, but with less traffic) that's a hit with families. Then there's Flappers Comedy Club, which attracts some of the biggest names in stand-up, including celebrities in town filming TV shows or movies.

For entertainment of a more elevated variety, the Pacific Ballet Dance Theatre, one of the leading ballet companies in Los Angeles, stages several exquisite productions each year. It's associated with Media City Dance, a Burbank-based professional dance school that trains in classical technique.

The Creative Arts Center is home to a wonderfully curated gallery that hosts group and solo exhibitions on a rotating monthly basis. And if your visit leaves you feeling inspired, art classes are available for both children and adults.

The Gordon R. Howard Museum, meanwhile, focuses on the history of Burbank. It traces the city's development from a farming community to an aviation hub to the media capital of the world. The Portal of the Folded Wings, an elaborately crafted structure adorned with marble, mosaic, and sculpture, is another grand monument to Burbank's past. Built in 1924, the 75-foot arch is the burial site for aviation pioneers.

The Martial Arts History Museum, a uniquely Burbank affair, explores the impact of Asian forms of martial arts on Western society. Those looking for a "Chuck Norris" experience, take note: The museum is far less about physical violence than it is about artistry and shared humanity.

Find more at VisitBurbank.com/what-to-do.

Clockwise from below: Pacific Ballet Dance Theatre, the Colony Theatre, and Flappers Comedy Club



The Center Stage Gallery isn't your typical art gallery. In fact, its focus isn't as much on art as it is on the artist and his or her unique creative process. Founded by the Creative Talent Network, CSG is "dedicated to the talent and inspirational spirit behind the creation of animation and visual effects in feature films, video games, and television."

A natural fixture in Burbank,

the epicenter of creativity, this salon-style space features Art in Residence series, webinars, drawing sessions, book signings, workshops, and more.

A particularly notable permanent installation is inventory from Stuart Ng Books, the go-to supplier of imported and rare art books and artist sketchbooks, as well as the country's largest source of French comics. centerstagegallery.com

PHOTOS COURTESY OF VISIT BURBANK



By Lauren Eberle

WHERE CREATIVITY GROWS

At the nexus of art, education, and the entertainment industry, the next generation of creative economy thrives.

W

hen a restored 1979 VW Beetle Convertible took to the streets for a Burbank parade last year, it symbolized more than the completion of a seven-month Luther Burbank Middle School project. The “Luther Mobile” — a collaboration between the middle school, the Warner Bros. Transportation department, Burbank High School, area design companies, and the Burbank Arts for All Foundation — is indicative of community camaraderie.

“The experience of designing and building a car from the ground up and then seeing your teacher ride it in a parade — that sticks with a student forever,” says Trena Pitchford, Director of Development for Burbank Arts for All, an alliance of Burbank business leaders, municipal partners, educators, par-

ents, and supporters. The group provides funding to ensure Burbank public school students receive a quality arts education as part of a core curriculum.

This exposure prepares the next generation of creative talent for the future. One in seven jobs in the Los Angeles region is in the entertainment industry, Pitchford explains, and because the arts are a tool for learning, even if a student doesn’t become a producer, an actor, or a grip, the transferable skills of project management and critical thinking do wonders for career preparedness.

Burbank is a hub for training centers as well, such as **Video Symphony**, a digital media professional school; **Woodbury University**, a leading private college; **NY Film Academy**, an intensive acting and film school; the **Animation Academy**, an adult and teen program; and the **International Academy of Film and Television**, a boutique school with learning-by-doing training.

Not only are the arts promoted in Burbank’s classrooms, they’re also prevalent throughout town. The Art in Public Places program installs sculpture, murals, mosaics, and more throughout the city, while the Cultural Arts Commission ensures that the arts are a unifying force in urban planning.

Combine this with 43 city parks, multiple recreation facilities, and diverse housing options, and it’s easy to see why 96 percent of Burbank residents say they’re highly satisfied with their quality of life.

“We’re proud of this city and we’ve made a commitment to it,” Pitchford says. “Not only are we working for today’s students, we’re working for tomorrow’s leaders.”

Learn more at burbankartsforall.org.

**Luther
Burbank
Middle School
students with
the “Luther
Mobile”**

PHOTOS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT): COURTESY OF BURBANK ARTS FOR ALL FOUNDATION AND VISIT BURBANK (3)

STAYING POWER

Whether you're in town for work or for play, Burbank's many lodging options are especially welcoming.

At the Hotel Amarano, an Oscar winner can walk through the door and nobody will ask for an autograph, promises Tom Whelan, General Manager of the four-diamond property. And they do walk through — and often. Celebrities and savvy travelers alike opt to indulge in the Amarano's luxurious Italian linens, refreshing poolside cabanas, and delicious contemporary cuisine. "Travelers have many lodging options in the greater Los Angeles area," Whelan notes. "But for those seeking something extra special, our boutique-style accommodations are incomparable."

If nostalgia is more your beat, try the retro-cool



Safari Inn, a 1950s motel that's graced both album covers and blockbusters. Hip and colorful, the Tangerine Hotel's muraled guest rooms have modern-chic design, while complimentary lattes and Porto's pastries sweeten the deal.

A number of familiar hoteliers have a home in the town behind the tinsel as well, many of which excel at exceptional events. Take for instance the Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport, where 46,000 square feet of event space is highlighted by a spacious convention center, 22 breakout rooms, and four VIP boardrooms.

Boasting sky-high city views, the Holiday Inn Burbank Media Center has more than 16,000 square feet for conventions, 20 meeting rooms, and a ballroom, while the Residence Inn Burbank Downtown has three high-tech meeting rooms and complimentary wine-and-food social hours.

Just steps away from the Burbank Empire Center, the Courtyard by Marriott Los Angeles Burbank Airport offers five boardrooms and restaurant media pods. And thanks to shuttles to Burbank Bob Hope Airport, the Ramada Inn Burbank Airport and Coast Anabelle Hotel mean business as well.

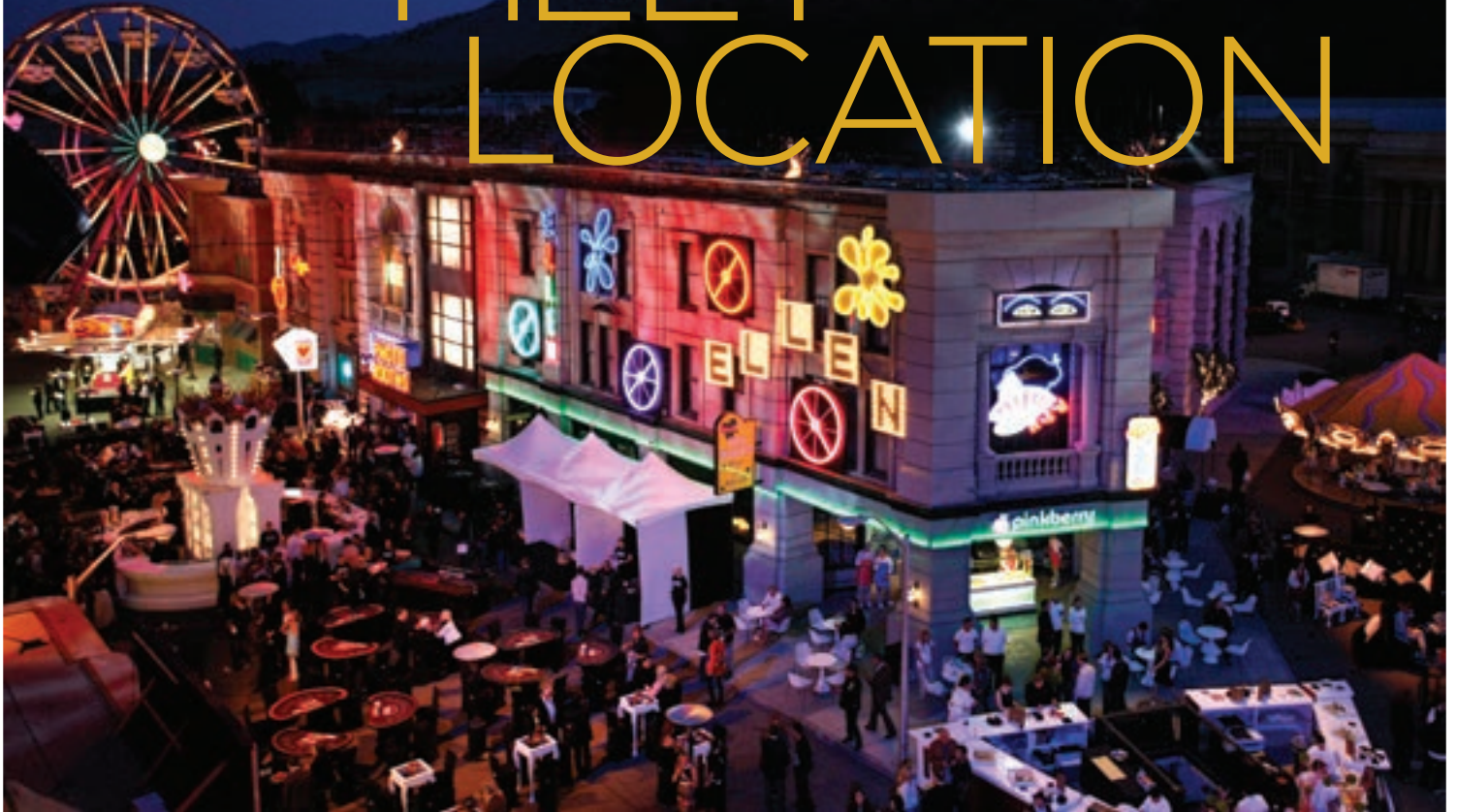
With top-notch places to meet and greet, Hollywood isn't the only one getting work done around town. From stylish boutique inns to convenient convention hotels, Burbank is quite accommodating.

Go to VisitBurbank.com to reserve your room.



Clockwise from above:
Safari Inn,
Courtyard by Marriott Los Angeles Burbank Airport, and the Hotel Amarano penthouse

MEET *on* LOCATION



Burbank boasts superior meeting facilities with more than 50,000 square feet of first-rate hotel convention space. Add to that an abundance of non-traditional venues that meeting planners dream about, and you have a perfect combination of options: Movie studio backlots, museums, golf clubhouses, indoor and outdoor parks, and recreation facilities, each one organized to welcome conferences, seminars and assemblies seeking fresh approaches to team building and consumer partnerships.





Convention Hotels and Event Sites

Examples include the Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport and Convention Center with 46,000 square feet of exhibition space, including a self-contained 27,000 square foot convention



center, 22 breakout rooms, four VIP boardrooms and 488 guest rooms.

The Holiday Inn Burbank Media Center, in the heart of Downtown Burbank, offers stunning views from the Crystal View Lounge, twin 20-story towers, 16,000-plus square feet of meeting space, 4,000 square feet for exhibitions, and is your home away from home.

The glamorous Hotel Amarano, a Hollywood favorite, is infused with star power and high design. Meetings are more intimate at this 132 room boutique hotel, bathed in lush ambiance with HD TVs, DVD players, and Wi-Fi. Supervised by in-house event planners, meetings are easy, efficient and a guaranteed box office hit.

For convenience and ease, Burbank Airport Courtyard Marriott and Residence Inn Downtown Burbank deliver cozy familiarity. The Burbank Airport Courtyard Marriott, with a redesigned hi-tech lobby, offers four meeting rooms in 1,622 square feet of space. Residence Inn Downtown Burbank, which features extended stay suites,

Clockwise from top left:
an event on the Warner Bros. studio backlot, the Batmobile as seen on a Warner Bros. VIP Studio Tour, strolling Downtown Burbank, wedding at The Castaway, the Residence Inn by Marriott, the Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport Hotel, and DeBell Golf Club





Hotel Amarano Burbank

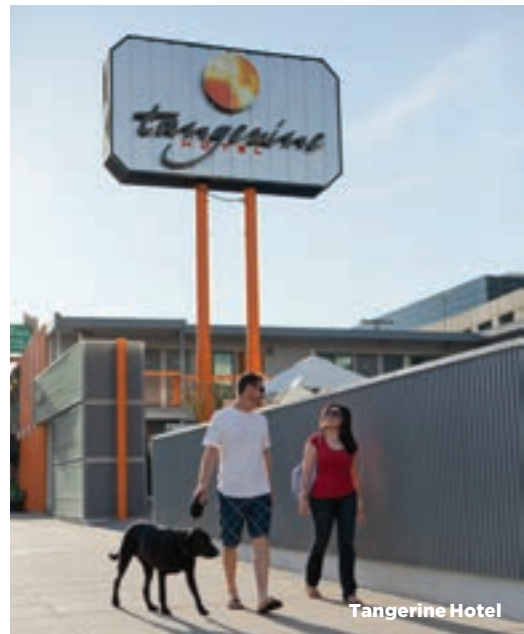
boasts three meeting rooms in 1,352 square feet. The hotel also provides free beer and wine three nights a week at Social Hour events with light dinner offerings.

Insiders flock to the Coast Anabelle Hotel, graced with two elegantly appointed meeting rooms in 1,200 square feet, and a covered patio for an additional 975 square feet of outdoor enjoyment. When you're ready to wind down after meetings, head for Olive's Bistro & Lounge to sample their famous martinis.

For seekers of a behind-the-scenes experience, Warner Bros. Special Events makes dreams come true. With a full on-site production department specializing in industry, charitable, and corporate affairs, the studio lot produces more than 275 events each year. Warner Bros. offers numerous extraordinary locations within one of the largest



**Los Angeles Marriott
Burbank Airport Hotel**



Tangerine Hotel



Coast Anabelle Hotel



Pickwick Gardens Conference Center

working studios in the world.

With more than 25,000 square feet of meeting space, Pickwick Gardens Conference Center is the perfect Southern California wedding and event location. The facility features six meeting rooms, four overlooking fabulous gardens. Other non-traditional Burbank meeting sites include the 18-hole DeBell Golf Club and Canyon Grille, the Starlight Bowl, and The Castaway Restaurant.

Uniquely situated on the hills of Burbank with views of the city below, The Castaway is the ideal location for corporate events, weddings, social, and private parties. With three outdoor event areas and five covered halls with floor-to-ceiling windows and crystal chandeliers, The Castaway hosts social and corporate events for breakfast, luncheon and dinners seven days a week, accommodating from 30 to 450 people. ✈



**Courtyard by Marriott
Burbank Airport**

WHERE TO STAY

From chic boutique to business class, the unique personalities of over 15 stylish hotels pander to every moment of your stay, surrounded by the movie spirit.

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bestwesterncalifornia.com

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COAST ANABELLE HOTEL
coastanabelle.com

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT BURBANK AIRPORT
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EXTENDED STAY AMERICA
extendedstayamerica.com

HOLIDAY INN BURBANK MEDIA CENTER
ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels

HOTEL AMARANO BURBANK
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TANGERINE HOTEL
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For more information, please go to
VisitBurbank.com



Residence Inn by Marriott



Burbank

the town behind the tinsel

Burbank Hospitality Association

150 North Third Street Burbank, CA 91502

818.238.5180 | info@visitburbank.com

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