



## Story Ideas

### CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

Oxnard proudly touts its uncrowded beaches and authentic atmosphere, but just offshore lies an untouched paradise. Discover Channel Islands National Park, a biologically diverse wonderland full of preserved natural and cultural resources. Nicknamed “the Galapagos of North America,” this national park is home to over 2,000 plant and animal species, of which 145 are found nowhere else in the world. The Channel Islands National Park and Marine Sanctuary also boasts the largest pinniped rookery in the world, along with one-third of California’s kelp forests. Encompassing 5 of the 8 California Channel Islands (Anacapa, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, San Miguel and Santa Barbara) and their ocean environment, escape to this chain of islands that can only be accessed by plane or boat. Come for a day trip or camp overnight to explore the bountiful plant, animal and marine life along the archipelago, and immerse yourself in the great outdoors on a hike, ocean kayaking adventure or whale watching excursion. Get up close with kelp forests and rare marine life on a scuba diving adventure with Doug’s Channel Islands Tours. Several unique sights await, like the Painted Cave, California’s largest sea cave and the fourth largest sea cave in the world. Plus, the starry night skies have received international acclaim. Sotheby’s International Realty named the Channel Islands National Park one of the “World’s Best Stargazing Spots.” Whether you want an action-packed trip or one filled with sightseeing and naturally gorgeous scenery, this destination has it all.



### ARTS & CULTURE SCENE

This fun beachfront city offers much more than seaside relaxation. Oxnard is teeming with urban experiences: from a popular automotive scene to musical events to cool street art to museums that take you on a journey through the past.



### Cars/Auto

Since the 1970s, Oxnard has been a hub for automobile enthusiasts. Back in the day, locals formed lowrider clubs—many of which still exist today—as a place for car connoisseurs to talk and cruise around in their custom rides. For example, although no longer active, the Stylistics Car Club Oxnard was the first organized automotive group in Ventura County, and many of the current 25+ lowrider clubs in the county can trace their existence back to Stylistics. Others on the list include City Life Oxnard, Latin Bombas Car Club and more. With an impressive lineup of car shows and events, from the monthly Muscles & Mojo Morning Car Show to the Annual Vintage Trailer Show, Oxnard’s gearhead scene is second to none.



## Rock/Music

Some of the biggest names in the industry have emanated from Oxnard including Brooke Candy, Mad Lib and Grammy-award winner Anderson .Paak. Artists that span musical genres, from hip hop to rock 'n roll, have left their mark at Oxnard's Teatro, a cinema-turned-recording studio that has been frequented by legends such as Bob Dylan, Neil Young and many more. Willie Nelson recorded an entire album in Teatro, titled for its namesake, using the theater's facade for its cover. This cool piece of history on Oxnard Boulevard is currently available for studio rental.

## Street Art

The murals found around Oxnard span across a range of artistic styles and talents. Although each painting is unique, many convey colorful messages of acceptance, diversity, culture, community, growth, history and pride. Take, for example, the "Latinx Empowerment" mural by Ana M. Carillo, which depicts Latinx leaders in the arts and sciences. The Class of 2020 mural at Oxnard High School, painted by Love Yo Dreams, features multi-colored hands to represent all nationalities, a brilliant blue sky that signifies the futures of our youth and strawberries, a nod to Oxnard's agricultural history. Murals can be found all around, from City Hall to Downtown Oxnard to Silver Strand Beach. Amazing street art is scattered on street corners up and down Oxnard Boulevard and C Street. The Collection at RiverPark is home to intricate stainless steel sculptures and mosaic designs. Enjoy the beautiful and eclectic art around, all of which welcomes you to our noteworthy city.

## Museums

Take a peek into the past and learn more about Oxnard culture. The city's museums are great for history buffs, nautical enthusiasts and automotive fans. Plan a visit to the Channel Islands Maritime Museum, or check out two of Southern California's premiere automotive museums.

- **CHANNEL ISLANDS MARITIME MUSEUM:** Dive into nautical history on a tour of numerous elaborately-designed ship models, paintings dating back to the 17th century and the maritime research library.
- **THE MURPHY AUTO MUSEUM:** At The Murphy Auto Museum on Eastman Avenue, car fanatics will delight in the collection of vintage automobiles on display. The cars are on rotation, so there's always something new and exciting to see. Committed to preserving and sharing the history of American cars, the museum is also home to the Fireball Art Gallery, which is filled with pieces of art, design and pop culture related to the automotive industry.
- **THE MULLIN AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM:** See this world-class collection paying homage to art deco and the machine age that produced exquisite artwork and automobiles. Many of the cars displayed have won prestigious awards at Concours d'Elegance throughout the world. Also on view are famous French race cars, many of them past winners of historic races such as the Grand Prix de Pau and Le Mans. The museum also houses the "Mona Lisa of cars," a 1936 Bugatti Type 57SC, which was purchased for \$30 million USD.



## THEATRE & CINEMA

### Oxnard Film Society

Explore new worlds and delve into the rich, thought-provoking stories of foreign and independent films. The Oxnard Film Society, a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, hosts the bi-monthly Monday Night Foreign Film series.

### Sight + Sound Film Festival

Cinema, experimental films, live performances and tastefully curated food and drink intersect at this sensational festival. Hosted by the Oxnard Performing Arts & Convention Center, this event brings all five senses to life throughout a cinematic experience unlike any other.

### Elite Theatre Company

Since 1994, the Elite Theatre Company has been a staple in the Oxnard community and a hub for amateurs and professionals with a passion for performing and playwriting. With a plethora of events, from Open Mic Nights to new performances on the Etcetera Stage to the annual Youth Production, the company provides a range of entertainment for all to enjoy.

## CUISINE FROM AROUND THE WORLD/BREWERIES/WINERIES

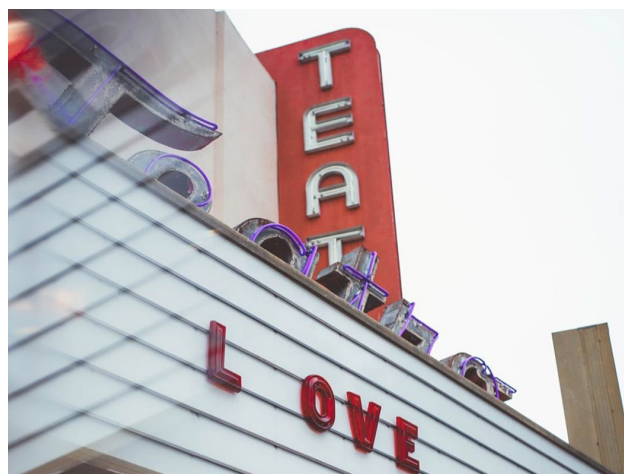
No visit to Oxnard is complete without experiencing the travel-worthy food scene, full of vibrant flavors from local and international eateries. This foodie paradise is home to restaurants, breweries, food trucks and more that are sure to satisfy all appetites.

### Eat globally, stay locally.

Treat your taste buds to flavors from around the world, all while staying within Oxnard's city limits. From top-rated Brazilian cuisine to award-winning southern BBQ fare, experience the bold, sought-after taste from every corner of the globe.

### Let's Taco 'Bout It:

We're staking our claim. Oxnard has the most tacos per capita in the United States. Not ready to believe that? Hit the Oxnard Taco Trail, a local-approved guide to the best Mexican food (plus margaritas!) found around town. With dozens of food trucks, restaurants and casual spots, we have full confidence that you'll find the perfect taco along the way.



### Raise a Glass

Four wineries, two breweries, a tap room and two distilleries give you plenty of options when it comes to grabbing a drink in Oxnard. Whether you prefer red, white or rosé, sip on fine wines at Magnavino Cellars, Strey Cellars or Rancho Ventavo Cellars or the family-owned Herzog Wine Cellars, which is the United States' largest producer of kosher wine. Enjoy refreshing craft beer at Casa Agria Specialty Ales, Red Tandem Brewery or Bottle & Pint, or get a taste of award-winning bourbon from Sespe Creek Distillery and competition-crushing tequila from Tequila Alquima.

## HOLLYWOOD BY THE SEA

Since the 1920s, Oxnard has caught the eye of cinematographers and major film studios. The warm sands and ample coastline of Oxnard's beaches took center stage in major Hollywood motion picture *The Sheik* starring Rudolph Valentino. Film studios and stars alike began to recognize the allure of Oxnard, with numerous actors vacationing in the coastal California town. Clark Gable and Charlie Chaplin were known to escape to Oxnard for a break in their busy schedules, and John Wayne spent his days off fishing along the shores.

## Boxnard

Known colloquially as “Boxnard,” the city has become a training hub for numerous professional boxers. World-class pros, including two-time Olympic gold medalist Vasyl Lomachenko, have traveled to Oxnard to train for championship belts. Other well-known boxers have grown up, practiced and trained in Oxnard include Hugo Centeno, Jr., Victor Ortiz, Fernando Vargas and Robert Garcia. The boxing roots and pride run deep throughout the city, which is home to a number of training academies and gyms.

## Beaches/surfing/water activities

It's no secret that Oxnard is home to a few of the most gorgeous beaches in California. With warm weather, crystal clear waters and seasonal surf breaks, enjoy tons of fun ways to spend your beach days.

- **SURFING:** Hang loose and hit the surf. Oxnard's beaches are perfect for intermediate to advanced surfers. Check out the advanced swells at Silver Strand Beach, where world-class surfers have ridden the waves. Many famous professionals have resided in the Silver Strand neighborhood, including Tim Curran, who was raised here. The waves really get kicking in the wintertime, which is the prime season to hit this local spot.
- **PARASAILING:** Journey up to 1,000 feet in the air and catch a bird's-eye view of Oxnard on an excursion with Channel Islands Parasail.
- **FISHING:** Go deep-sea fishing right off the Oxnard coast with Channel Islands Sportfishing or Hook's Landing, which offer half-, full- and multi-day trips.
- **YOGA:** Challenge your mental and physical strength with a stand up paddleboard yoga class with Sea Dog Yoga, located in the Channel Islands Harbor.
- **KAYAKING:** Kayak solo or join a tour with Channel Islands Kayak Center, where you'll learn about the rich history and marine life of the area.



- **OCEAN KAYAKING:** Board the Sunfish and set out for adventure to the waters of Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary with Wild Blue Adventures.” And link to Wild Blue Adventures
- **CRUISE:** Enjoy a scenic cruise around the harbor with Gondola Paradiso, offering private tours that make for the perfect family activity or romantic date night.
- **WHALE WATCHING:** Sail away on a whale watching excursion with Island Packers around the Santa Cruz and Anacapa Islands.
- **JET-SKIING:** Make waves on a fast-paced ride with SoCal Jet Skis. Speed along the Santa Barbara Channel on a watercraft rental from this company, located at Channel Islands Harbor.
- **CYCLING:** Put the pedal to the metal on a bike ride along the Pacific Coast Bike Route, which runs through Oxnard along its beaches. Rent a beach cruiser, tandem or four-wheel surrey bike from Wheel Fun Rentals, which operates three Oxnard locations.
- **BOATING:** Kayak, paddleboard or ride a pedal or electric boat around the Channel Islands Harbor with Hopper Boat Rentals.
- **SAILING:** Experience the open ocean and learn to sail with Marina Sailing, which offers lessons for all levels.

## EVENTS

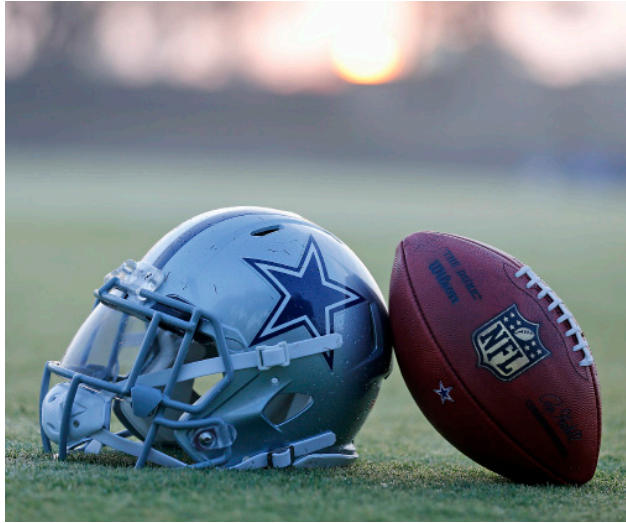
Oxnard is known for its fun annual events that happen all year long and celebrate all the city has to offer, from delicious food to foot-stomping music. Below are just a few of the popular happenings each month:

### Annual Events

- **MARCH:** Celebration of the Whales Festival
- **MAY:** California Strawberry Festival
- **JUNE-SEPTEMBER:** Summer Concert series
- **JULY:** Oxnard Salsa Festival
- **JULY-AUGUST:** Dallas Cowboys Training Camp
- **AUGUST:** Chowder Festival
- **OCTOBER:** Oxnard Multicultural Festival
- **OCTOBER:** Oxnard Steampunk Fest
- **DECEMBER:** Oxnard Tamale Festival

## Dallas Cowboys Training Camp

In July and August 2021, watch the Dallas Cowboys practice and prepare for the upcoming football season at River Ridge Playing Fields in Oxnard. This annual event provides viewers with the chance to meet players and coaches, buy team merchandise and enjoy food and drinks. Families and football fans alike will get a behind-the-scenes look at this NFL franchise before the team heads back to AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas.



## AROUND TOWN

### The Collection at RiverPark

Dine, shop and sip at the premiere shopping and entertainment center in Oxnard. Test out global cuisine at eateries like Texas de Brazil, Kabuki Japanese Restaurant and The Annex Food Hall, or grab drinks and enjoy live music at Copper Blues Rock Pub & Kitchen. In the mood for a good laugh? Watch A-list comedians and celebrities perform at Levity Live, your go-to place for a night of hilarious fun.

### Henry T. Oxnard Historic District

Back when Oxnard was first founded, this district was the hub of the city. Today, it has proudly been placed on the National Register of Historic Places and continues to serve the community as a festive holiday destination and site for tours of over 140 historic bungalow-style houses.

### Heritage Square

Beautiful Victorian homes dating back to the 1800s line Heritage Square, where Oxnard's past comes alive on docent-led tours that share the stories of the local families who once lived here. Traipse through the colorful gardens and babbling fountains surrounding the local restaurant/speakeasy, coffee shop and businesses within the district.

## Visitor Information

Contact Visit Oxnard for information and a free visitors magazine.

**VisitOxnard.com**



3600 Harbor Blvd. #469

Oxnard, CA 93035

805.385.7545 | 800.269.6273

info@visitoxnard.com



Visit Oxnard is a public non-profit 501(c)(4) destination marketing organization working hand-in-hand with the City of Oxnard and its hotels, transportation entities, restaurants, retailers, attractions, historic districts and more to promote Oxnard as a premier leisure and business travel destination. Offering value to those seeking experiences in family, cultural, outdoor adventure and group travel, Oxnard is home to miles of pristine white sand beaches, electric nightlife, some of the best taquerias in the state, historic Victorian era architecture, the California Strawberry Festival and an expansively picturesque harbor that serves as the closest access point to the Channel Islands National Park. Just sixty miles northwest of LAX and in close proximity to Santa Barbara and other major destinations, Oxnard is one of Southern California's best kept secrets. Stay up-to-date on Oxnard news with our [Media Center](#) and [press releases](#). Planning a research visit? Submit a press trip request to get the process started. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) for daily updates. Sign up for our e-newsletter, and request a free [visitors guide](#). For more information, call 1-800-2-OXNARD or go to [VisitOxnard.com](#).