

SoCal Shorelines: Free Beach Guide

Discover the Best Beaches for Relaxation, Surf & Scenic Vibes

Coronado Beach

 Location: Coronado, San Diego

Why You'll Love It: Wide golden sand, gentle surf, and the iconic Hotel del Coronado as your backdrop.

 Pro Tip: Park at Centennial Park and stroll south for quieter beachfront stretches.

La Jolla Shores

 Location: La Jolla, San Diego

Why You'll Love It: Calm waves, kayak rentals, and a family-friendly vibe.

 Pro Tip: Arrive before 10 AM to find street parking near Avenida de la Playa.

Treasure Island Beach

 Location: Laguna Beach, Orange County


Why You'll Love It: A tucked-away cove with tide pools and cliffside beauty.

 Pro Tip: Access through the Montage public stairway—no resort stay required!


Thousand Steps Beach

 Location: Laguna Beach, Orange County


Why You'll Love It: Snorkeling-friendly waters and dramatic rock formations.

 Pro Tip: Bring sturdy shoes for the long staircase and enjoy fewer crowds.

El Matador State Beach

 Location: Malibu, Los Angeles County

Why You'll Love It: Stunning sea stacks, romantic alcoves, and photo ops galore.

 Pro Tip: Use the dirt lot off PCH, then hike down the cliffside path.

Crystal Cove State Park Beach

 Location: Newport Coast, Orange County


Why You'll Love It: Vintage beach cottages, scenic trails, and an oceanside café.

 Pro Tip: Reserve your parking online and eat at the Beachcomber Café.

Seal Beach

 Location: Seal Beach, Orange County

Why You'll Love It: Classic SoCal pier, mellow surf, and Main Street charm.

 Pro Tip: Visit on Tuesdays for the farmers market near the sand.

Quick Tips for a Laid-Back Beach Day

- Go early or mid-week to avoid crowds
- Pack a reusable water bottle and umbrella
- Bring reef-safe sunscreen & beach shoes