

March 24, 2006
Contact
Kim Upton/Marc Littman
Metro Media Relations
213.922.2703/922.2700
metro.net/pressroom
mediarelations@metro.net
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro's Spring Break Guide Offers a Cure for the Common Vacation

Spring break is nearing and with it, maybe a little time for some fun. No car? Not much money? Need inspiration? Metro can take you there for a mere \$3 a day (for a day pass) and encourage creative exploration with its newest publication, the Spring Break Entertainment Guide.

Skip the clogged freeways. There's no relaxation in that. Sit back and be chauffeured around Los Angeles, the destination of choice for millions of visitors from around the world.

Metro's Gold Line is lined with opportunities. Starting downtown, it opens up to LA's famed Chinatown (Chinatown Station), home to dozens of Asian restaurants of excellent quality and modest price. Continue north to Del Mar Station in Pasadena and see the Gamble House -- an outstanding example of American Arts and Crafts style architecture. Built in 1908, the house is a National Historic Landmark. Next stop north could be Memorial Park Station near Old Town Pasadena's shops and restaurants, as well as the famed Norton Simon Museum -- recognized by visitors from around the world as the beautiful backdrop of the televised Rose Parade. From the Lake Avenue Station, take a walk (or the Number 180 bus south to Colorado Boulevard) to the Pasadena Playhouse, for excellent live theater performed by famous actors. Or just walk a few blocks to the South Lake Avenue Shopping District and window shop the chic boutiques.

Along Metro's Red Line, check out a movie at one of the 18-screen theaters at Universal Studios CityWalk (Universal Studios Station). Dine at the Daily Grill, Buca Di Beppo or B.B. King's Blue's Club. Or hop off the subway at Hollywood/Highland or Hollywood/Vine and take in a movie at one of LA's famed old theaters on Hollywood Boulevard, including the Arlight Cinerama Dome, the Egyptian Theatre, the El Capitan Theatre and Grauman's Chinese Theatre. (Don't forget to track the stars on the street below your feet.) The Metro Red Line also cruises through Thai Town, home to delicious and well-priced restaurants (Hollywood/Western Station) and on into downtown Los Angeles (Civic Center Station), which is packed with museums (the Museum of Contemporary Art and the Japanese American National Museum), entertainment (music, theater and ballet at Disney Hall, the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and the Mark Taper Forum) and even a cathedral (the new and graceful Our Lady of the Angels). Oh, and there are plenty of terrific and inexpensive restaurants in Little Tokyo, just a few blocks east.

Also from the Red Line, the North Hollywood Station is point of origin for the Orange Line dedicated busway, which is an experience in itself, as it makes its way from North Hollywood to Woodland Hills on a tree- and art-lined street built only for buses. Take a picnic and a bike and hop off for a ride around lovely Balboa Park (Balboa Station) or simply stroll on foot through the serene Japanese Garden (Woodley Station).

Is Metro's Blue Line more convenient? It leaves 7th Street/Metro Center and heads south to Staples Center (Pico/Chick Hern Station) for basketball by the Clippers or Lakers, arena football by the LA Avengers and hockey by the Kings. Its final destination, Long Beach (Transit Mall Station) is jumping off point for the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific, the former ocean liner RMS Queen Mary and, of course, the Pacific Ocean.

Leaving town? Take the Metro Red, Blue or Gold lines to Union Station and link to Southern California and the rest of the United States via Amtrak. Or hop on the brand new FlyAway Shuttle Service from Patsaouras Transit Plaza, just behind Union Station, for a trip to LAX and the world beyond.

The Spring Break Entertainment Guide is available on board Metro buses and trains and at www.metro.net.

Metro-043