

# Things To Do In And Around Arcadia

## Hiking/Wilderness

### **Big Santa Anita Canyon** (a.k.a. Chantry Flats)

<http://www.bigsantaanitacanyon.com/>

Follow Santa Anita Avenue up into the mountains, past the Santa Anita Dam, to the picnic grounds and parking lot. This section of the Angeles National Forest is open from 6am-8pm daily and fills up quickly on weekends. There are over 40 miles of trails that lead down into the canyon, and private cabins along the stream.

### **Wilderness Park**

<https://www.arcadiaca.gov/government/city-departments/recreation-and-community-services/parks-and-facilities/wilderness-park>

This 120-acre nature preserve is located below the Big Santa Anita Canyon in the San Gabriel Mountains, at the top of Highland Oaks Drive. A recreation center has been developed on 8.5 acres where you will find a nature center, field area, and a pond. It is open Monday through Friday.

## Parks

### **County Park**

[http://parks.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dpr/Parks/Arcadia\\_Community\\_Regional\\_Park](http://parks.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dpr/Parks/Arcadia_Community_Regional_Park)

County Park was developed in the 1930's where the "Balloon School" had been located during the First World War. The balloons were used for Army officers to observe the accuracy of artillery practice. The park has a golf course, tennis courts, swimming pools, baseball diamonds, and playground.

### **Bonita Skate Park**

<https://www.arcadiaca.gov/government/city-departments/recreation-and-community-services/parks-and-facilities/bonita-skate-park>

This advanced skatepark is located at Bonita and Second Avenue, next to the baseball diamond. It is intended for skateboarders and in-line skaters. Users are required to wear a helmet, kneepads, and elbow pads. Classes, competitions, and special events are held at the park during the summer.

### **Dog Park (Next to Eisenhower Park on Second Ave. & Colorado Blvd.)**

<https://www.arcadiaca.gov/government/city-departments/recreation-and-community-services/parks-and-facilities/dog-park>

The dog park is open from 7 a.m. to dusk daily. The ¾ acre park is divided to separate small and large dogs.

## Golf

### **Santa Anita Golf Course** (County Park)

<http://www.santaanitagc.com/>

This 18-hole golf course offers lessons for golfers of all ages.

### **Arcadia Par 3 Golf Course** (Live Oak)

<http://www.americangolf.com/arcadia-golf-course>

This 18-hole par 3 golf course offers lessons for golfers of all ages.

## Museums

### **The Gilb Museum of Arcadia Heritage**

<https://www.arcadiaca.gov/government/city-departments/museum>

The Arcadia Historical Museum was established in 1988. Its displays show how Arcadia has changed from ranch and farm life to a community of homes.

## Botanical Gardens

### **The Arboretum of Los Angeles County**

<http://www.arboretum.org/>

The Arboretum of Los Angeles County is a botanical garden and historical site. It is covered with historical sites, plants from all over the world, small lakes, streams, and ponds.

(See a full page of information at the end of the document.)

## Unique to Arcadia

### **Santa Anita Park**

<http://www.santaanita.com/>

This is the oldest racetrack in Southern California where you can watch thoroughbred race horses year round. (See a full page of information at the end of the document.)

## Summer Outdoor Concerts

**FREE Concerts at Arcadia's City Hall** on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:00pm.

<http://www.arcadiaca.gov/Home/Components/News/News/110/379?backlist=%2fgovernment%2fcity-departments%2frecreation-and-community-services%2frecreation-parks-commission>

**Free** Concerts in Monrovia are held in the Library Park Bandshell on Sundays from 7-8:30pm.

**Free** Concerts in Sierra Madre are held at the Memorial Park Bandshell on Sundays from 6-8pm.

**Free** Concerts in Temple City are held at the Performing Arts Pavilion at Temple City Park on Wednesdays from 7-9pm.

**Festival on the Green** (Cal Phil Orchestra) at the Santa Anita Racetrack

<http://www.calphil.com/concert-schedule>

New location this year! They have general admission seats that are quite reasonable for the Saturday evening concerts.

**Pasadena Pops Summer Series** at the Arboretum

<http://www.pasadenasympphony-pops.org/concerts/sierra-auto-pops-summer-series-2016/>

Saturday concerts begin at 7:30pm, but gates open at 5:30pm. The general admission seats on the grass are a perfect way to spend an evening with great music, warm blankets, beach chairs, and a picnic dinner.

## FREE Movies in the Park

<http://www.arcadiaca.gov/Home/Components/News/News/110/379?backlist=%2fgovernment%2fcity-departments%2frecreation-and-community-services%2frecreation-parks-commission>

**FREE** movies at **Arcadia's City Hall** on Friday evenings from 6:45pm from July 8-August 19.

(Movies begin at dusk.)

## Community Services

### **Community Center**

<https://www.arcadiaca.gov/government/city-departments/recreation-and-community-services/parks-and-facilities/community-center>

The Arcadia Community Center is located at 365 Campus Drive and is used for classes and community events.

### **Arcadia Public Library**

<https://www.arcadiaca.gov/government/city-departments/library>

Reading programs and other special events are offered at the library.

## **The Arboretum of Los Angeles County**

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Hugo Reid was the first owner of Rancho Santa Anita, which was originally part of the San Gabriel Mission lands. In 1857, after several owners, Rancho Santa Anita was purchased by Elias Jackson "Lucky" Baldwin. He made many changes to the land. In 1947, the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum was established on 127 acres of Rancho Santa Anita around Baldwin's home site. (Baldwin became the first mayor of Arcadia. It became a city in 1903 with only 360 residents and 65 buildings, including barns and stables!)

#### 1. Hugo Reid Adobe

This was the first permanent structure built on Rancho Santa Anita in 1840. Hugo Reid's oldest son, Felipe, lived in the abode and managed the rancho. The house was made of adobe bricks (mud, straw, and water) and the roof was covered with brea (tar) from the tar pits of the Pueblo of Los Angeles. Years later, in 1870, Baldwin lived in the adobe and expanded it to eight rooms. (The one you see today has been restored to its original three-room appearance.) Notice that cooking was done outdoors in an adobe stove and beehive oven.

#### 2. Wickiup

A Wickiup is the traditional home of the Gabrielino tribe who lived on this land. The bowl-shaped houses were made of willow branches tied together with rawhide and covered with tule reeds. They were built easily and were warm. They had hard dirt floors and a smoke hole for air and light at the top near the center. They were large enough to hold one family, up to 30 people.

#### 3. Baldwin Lake

Baldwin Lake is a natural lake fed by springs. It has been used in many movies and television shows over the years.

#### 4. Queen Anne Cottage

The Queen Anne Cottage was built in 1885-1886 and used as a guest house. It even had indoor plumbing, so was very elegant and modern at the time! It is named after the style of architecture, and is a memorial to Baldwin's third wife and Anita's mother, Jennie Dexter. There is a portrait of Jennie made out of stained glass in the front door and an almost life-sized oil painting of her in the cottage parlor (living room). A large portrait of Elias Jackson "Lucky" Baldwin is in the Music Room.

#### 5. Coach Barn

The Coach Barn and dog house were built by the same architect as the Queen Anne Cottage. The Coach Barn was built in 1879 as a garage for carriages with stalls for the carriage horses. Hay and grain chutes were fed from the loft above. The stable boy lived in the upper tower, reached by a ladder from the hay loft, and his room has been recreated in the tack room downstairs (room used for storing saddles, harnesses and other tack). Vehicles and blacksmith tools are on display inside the barn.

#### 6. Santa Anita Depot

The Santa Anita Depot was built by the Santa Fe Railroad in 1890. It was on land which became the 210 freeway, so was moved to the Arboretum in 1968. Half the space was used for passengers and the other half for freight, with a living area upstairs for the agent and his family.

## Santa Anita Park

<http://www.santaanita.com/>

E.J. Baldwin, the first mayor of Arcadia, opened the Santa Anita Racetrack for thoroughbred horses in December 1907. It is the oldest racetrack in Southern California. The first racetrack was built where the County Park is found today. It burned in 1912, and was rebuilt in its current location in 1934. It covers 320 acres of land with a one-mile dirt track, 61 barns to hold 2,000 horses, stables, paddocks, a hospital for sick and injured horses, and a grandstand to seat 26,000 guests. The infield, with the picnic tables and trees, can hold 50,000 more guests. Make sure you look for the statue of Seabiscuit, the horse that won the Santa Anita Handicap in 1940.

### More Fun Facts:

- It was used as a Japanese Internment Camp from 1942-1944. 17,000 Japanese Americans lived in the stables until they were moved to one of the permanent camps.
- They used Santa Anita for the horse jumping (equestrian) events in the 1984 Olympics.
- Many movies have been filmed at Santa Anita.
- 3,000 people take care of the horses that live at Santa Anita.
- There is a big recycling center that recycles the used straw from the stables.
- 45,000 people attended Opening Day on December 26, 2011, the highest since 1989!
- The downhill turf course has the only right hand turn in U.S. racing.

### Things To Do:

1. Watch the horses while you eat breakfast at Clockers' Corner

Eat breakfast while you watch the horses running around the track for their morning workouts. Clockers' Corner is open year-round for breakfast every day until 10 am, and serves an all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet on live racing weekends and holidays. Parking and admission is free.

2. Seabiscuit Tram Tour

The tram tour takes you through the stable area, receiving barn, and Paddock Gardens. You will see Seabiscuit's original stall and barn, areas used during the filming of the movie *Seabiscuit*, the jockeys' room, silks room, saddling paddock and walking ring. You will meet the equine star of *Seabiscuit*, Fighting Furrari, who played the primary role in the film. You will also meet the carriage horses in their home under the grandstand.

Tours are free and depart from Clockers' Corner at 8:30 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. every Saturday and Sunday during the Santa Anita Spring/Winter Season. It is suggested that you call in advance for reservations. For more information call 626-574-6677

3. Infield (Go through the tunnel)

Enjoy the children's playground and picnic table area in the infield and watch horses, jockeys, and trainers prepare for an upcoming race. Look for Special Event days for extra activities and fun. Children 17 and under are admitted free when accompanied by a parent.