

805 LIVING

JAN/FEB 2011

Plus
Dreamy Vacation
Destinations
and 805 Weddings



FOLLOW US INTO
THE NEW YEAR

TO DISCOVER THE WONDERFUL PEOPLE, FLAVORS, AND
EVENTS OF CALIFORNIA'S CENTRAL COAST

By Mallory McCreary



LEFT: Originally opened in 1959, the recently renovated Palm Springs Riviera brings the era of glamour and high-style back to the desert. **BELOW:** Four Seasons Denver's third-floor rooftop terrace is landscaped with trees indigenous to Colorado; guest rooms sport sleek sophistication, and each is made unique with paintings by local artists.

DOWNTOWN DENVER

The 45-story **Four Seasons** that opened last fall in Denver (fourseasons.com/denver) is still offering a few specials to celebrate:

- The “Introductory Offer” has low weekend rates starting at \$180 through January 31.
- The “Experience More” package includes one night in a superior room plus a \$25 credit for EDGE Restaurant & Bar or the Spa; from \$335 through January 31.
- The “Second Night and Companion on Us” package includes a complimentary second night and all companion charges (dining or spa) when made with the primary guest; from \$198 through February 28.

The hotel has 239 rooms; interiors are inspired by local natural beauty, using warm earth tones, richly grained woods, and stone. Nearly 1,200 paintings and sculptures created mostly by contemporary Colorado artists fill common spaces; a 10-treatment-room spa with signature high-altitude treatments, a rooftop pool, and EDGE steak house are also available on-site.

Going Mod in Palm Springs

The sixth annual Modernism Week (modernismweek.com) takes place in Palm Springs February 17 through 27, with a new lineup of midcentury modern design events. As in past years, the celebration will include celebrity home tours, architect panel discussions, a double-decker bus tour, and an exhibit of vintage Airstream trailers. New this year: an interior design tour of local homes and a show of vintage Braniff Airlines uniforms designed by Pucci and Halston. Catch *The Architecture of Donald Wexler* exhibit at the delightful Palm Springs Art Museum (psmuseum.org), and visit the Palm Springs Uptown Design District to shop for furnishing finds. Shops like Trina Turk Residential (trinaturk.com), Christopher Anthony Ltd. (christopheranthonyltd.com), Asylum (asylumhomestore.com), and House 849 (house849.com) carry unique new and vintage decor, everything from Herman Miller pieces to steel fabrications to religious relics. All will ship large purchases, and all offer great pricing compared to LA's inflated finds.

In keeping with the spirit of Modernism Week, book a room at the recently refurbished **Riviera Palm Springs** (from \$360, promo code “MODERN”; psriviera.com). Its über-design aesthetic is a nod to Hollywood Regency, Rat-Pack glam (it was a favorite haunt of Frank Sinatra), and midcentury modern design. The renovation kept the original buildings and layout from architect Irwin Schuman, who initially designed the Riviera (opened in 1959) to mimic Las Vegas hotels like The Flamingo and The Stardust. It still feels like Vegas, but better—with two pools, tennis courts, a gorgeous spa, and a swank dining and bar scene.





LEFT: Stroll through San Miguel de Allende to experience the history and culture of Mexico's oldest town; the colonial-style guest rooms at The Rosewood San Miguel de Allende are spacious yet charming.

Nuevo in Mexico

San Miguel de Allende attracts visitors interested in arts and culture: It's been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site by the United Nations and was named the number-one city in Latin America and the number-four city in the world by *Travel + Leisure* in its "World's Best" awards for 2010. Two new hotels offer unique boutique accommodations:

- The **Rosewood San Miguel de Allende** (rosewoodsanmiguel.com) is set to open on January 20 and begins accepting reservations on February 1. The downtown property has 67 rooms and suites with wood-beam ceilings and Mexican furnishings; all rooms have living areas and terraces or balconies; most have fireplaces. Pools and gardens, a spa and fitness room, indoor and outdoor dining options, and a rooftop lounge are also on-site. The "Opening Offer" package (from \$295 through April 20) includes breakfast for two at 1826 Restaurant, a 25-percent discount on all spa treatments, and complimentary valet parking.
- The 32-room **Hotel Matilda** (from \$319; hotelmotilda.com) opened last fall with a design aesthetic that's different from other Old World-style hotels in the area. The space was designed to feel like an art gallery, with both rotating and permanent collections of mostly Mexican contemporary art. In fact, the name of the hotel comes from the subject of a famous 1940s portrait of Matilda Stream by Mexican artist Diego Rivera (a copy of which hangs in the hotel). Indigenous landscaping and green initiatives (solar and photovoltaic panels, composting, and recycling) complement the restaurant, bar, infinity pool, and spa. Guest rooms and suites feature artwork by Mexico City photographer Eduardo Zaylan, and most have a balcony or terrace.



ABOVE: Hotel Matilda's very private pool and lounge area exudes a contemporary ambience.
LEFT: Private patios offer dramatic views on warm Mexican nights.



DOWNHILL DEAL

Schussers can take advantage of the "Skier's Escape Package" (from \$1,395) at **Capella Telluride** (capellatelluride.com; see "Taken by Telluride" on page 54 for more information), which includes a free fourth night, daily breakfast for two, a pair of two-day lift tickets, and a \$100 spa credit at the slope-side resort. Standard king rooms start at \$295 per night throughout ski season.

Hot Tip:

Yosemite's Ahwahnee hotel is offering its Chefs' Holidays (yosemitepark.com/chefs), where famous chefs from around the country cook for and interact with guests. Two- and three-night packages (from \$695; through February 4) are available at the Ahwahnee and Yosemite Lodge at the Falls and include a "Meet the Chefs" reception, cooking demonstrations and tastings, a behind-the-scenes kitchen tour, and a five-course Chefs' Holidays Gala Dinner.

DON'T MISS:

San Luis Obispo County Restaurant Month, January 2 through 31, restaurants throughout San Luis Obispo County offer three courses for \$30; sanluisobisopocounty.com/restaurantmonth.

San Diego Restaurant Week, January 16 through 21, prix-fixe, three-course dinners for \$20, \$30, or \$40 per person; sandiegorestaurantweek.com.

San Diego Mardi Gras in the Gaslamp Quarter, March 8, two parades, an outdoor block party, live music. Tickets required; gaslamp.org/mardi-gras.

Napa River Inn's "Dinner's On Us!" package, through March 31, book a room and receive a \$100 gift certificate per night to nearby restaurants Morimoto Napa, Tyler Florence's Rotisserie and Wine, Angele, or Fish Story; napariverinn.com. ■