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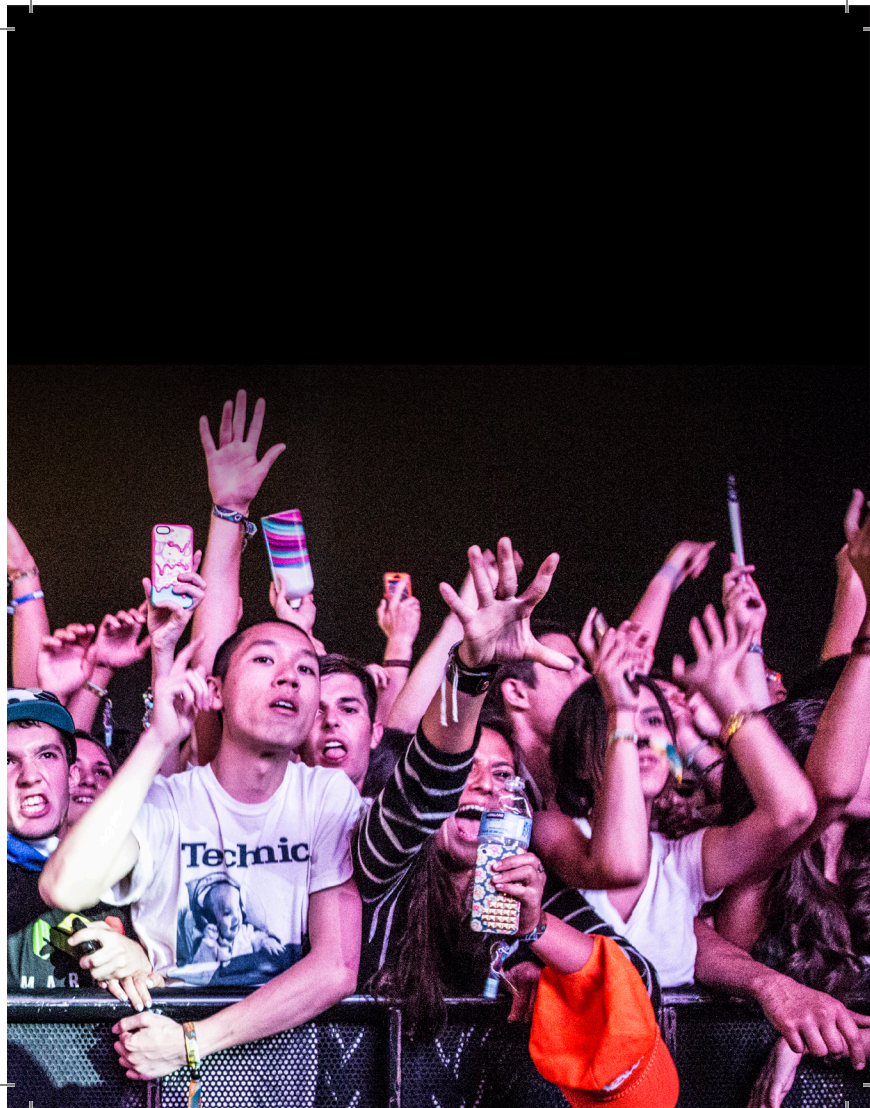
THE GUARDIAN'S
GUIDE TO
UC SAN DIEGO
AND BEYOND

THE STUDENT SURVIVAL GUIDE



UCSD. Last year, those four letters might have been completely meaningless to you. Maybe you saw it on a sweatshirt or on a flyer once. But now, those four letters are about to become your everything. You are a Triton now, and that can be a bit scary and confusing at first. So The Guardian, UCSD's campus newspaper, made a handy guide to answer your most frequent questions while acclimating to your new home. Tuck this bad boy in the front pocket of your Jansport and pull it out whenever you're feeling a little confused. Or read ahead and when one of your suite mates asks "What's PC?" or "Where can I get a good breakfast burrito?" You'll know the answer.





THE UCSD GUARDIAN

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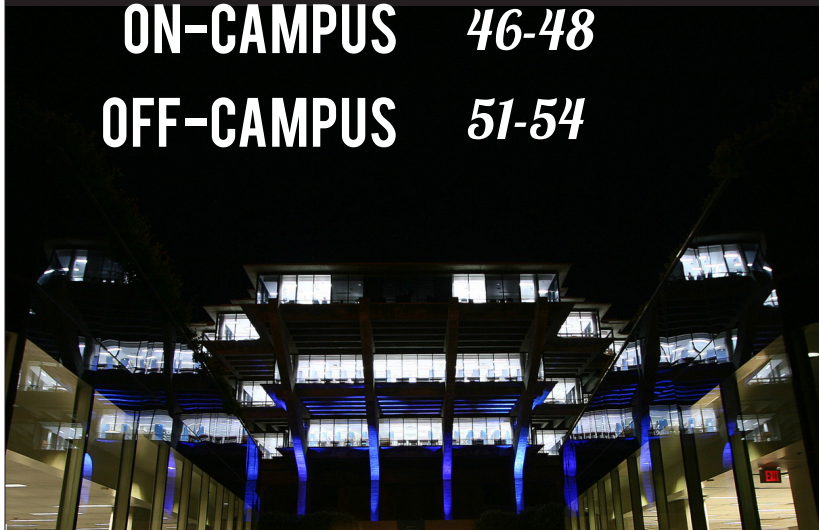
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THE GUIDE TO THE SIX-COLLEGE SYSTEM

If you haven't already figured it out, UCSD is a unique school. Our library looks like a spaceship, we spend one day each year worshipping a statue of a bird, and we have six colleges. You've probably already heard a bit about your particular college during orientation, but what about the other five colleges? We're here to tell you what matters and what you don't have to worry about.

The college system is designed to give students the feeling of going to a smaller liberal-arts school while also attending a larger university. As far as dorms, general education classes, dining halls and a lot of the friends you'll make in your first year, your college is home base. You'll spend most of your time there,

and you're most likely going to make your first few friends in your suite and some of your college-centered activities (like the Unolympics). It seems far from now, but you'll also graduate with your college. But don't worry, the college system isn't as limiting as it may seem. Once you join some student organizations and meet people from the other depths of campus, you won't worry too much about who comes from where (even though that's usually how you'll identify yourself). Once you're done with GE's and move off campus, you'll hardly remember your college's name at all. That stuff just doesn't matter as much once you're a junior or senior. But for now, it matters a whole lot, so here's the rundown on UCSD's six colleges.

ROGER REVELLE

COLLEGES **6**

It's the college with the hardest G.E. requirements, possibly the least popular dining hall, and the oldest dorms on campus — it's Revelle College. Despite what some perceive as negatives, Revelle has a lot of nuances that students in other colleges overlook. The Humanities G.E., or Hum, requires intensive reading and writing, but the five full quarters will enhance students' analytical skills and provide balance for non-humanities majors.

Plaza Cafe is — or was — far away from everywhere else on campus, and its menu was often lackluster, but students grew to love its food, its convenience and its proximity to Roger's Place and Market. Plaza and Roger's will both be closed for renovations this year, so Revelle students will have to get cozy with their Muir College peers: Pines and John's Place and Market are a short walk away for a convenient — and perhaps superior — dining experience.

If you're housed in Argo Hall or

Blake Hall, congratulations — you're in the oldest dorms on campus. Although they might not be the cleanest, the tight layout of suites offers an easy way to socialize. If you're housed in one of the recently renovated Fleet halls, your suite's likely to have a homey feeling and very thick walls. Use the latter with great appreciation.

Revelle is at the bottom of campus, and non-Revelle students mainly visit for classes in York Hall, but that doesn't mean Revelle has nothing else to offer. The college is close to the (Old) Student Center (the less-corporate, chilled-out predecessor to Price Center), Main Gym (which saves you a trip to RIMAC), and Galbraith Hall, which provides study spaces in a non-library environment. Revelle is also home to the Theatre District, where you can watch student productions at any of the venues in the La Jolla Playhouse.





JOHN MUIR

UCSD's second college is John Muir College, named after an environmentalist of the same moniker and — interestingly — home to a concrete jungle with a certain overgrown prison-like quality.

However, if you're coming in as a Muir student, you're in luck on more than a few counts: Muir College conveniently squashed lecture halls, living quarters (the newly built Tamarack Apartment towers are gorgeous), and dining options within a centrally-located, walkable block, so you'll have ready access to Pines — one of the university's best dining halls — and Roots, UCSD's resident option for vegan cuisine. With over five lecture halls only five minutes away, though, you may have to hit the gym more often than

you expected. Thankfully, Muir's recreational Main Gym and Natatorium are also within walking distance.

Muir College is also lucky enough to boast some of the university's most flexible college general requirements, with only a two-course college writing program and requirements in science, social sciences and humanities that can be fulfilled in a variety of simple ways.

Students of Muir College are known as UCSD's social bunch. As the home of activities like Muirstock and John Muir Week and over 30 different student organizations (and as custodian of Sun God Lawn), Muir's unlikely to leave you bored. And did we mention the beach? Muir's a mere 10-minute walk away.

THURGOOD MARSHALL

COLLEGES **8**

As a college with the beach as its backyard and a hump (yes, a hump) in its middle, Thurgood Marshall College can be thought of as that kind, quiet, justice-driven friend who makes fairly good burritos.

The college sits near the top of Peterson Hill, making it close to major lecture halls, among them Solis Hall, Sequoyah Hall and — you guessed it — Peterson Hall, but a trek from central university spots like Price Center and some other colleges. Marshall is also quite close to UCSD's RIMAC gym, for those of you who are bored or tired of studying for Dimensions of Culture in your alphabetically arranged, gender-separated residential halls.

Speaking of DOC, Marshall is home to the surprisingly engaging three-quarter writing sequence required for freshmen. The series introduces students to issues including social justice, diversity and inequality — in true Associate Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall form.

And like all Supreme Court justices, Marshall residents have to eat. Students can choose between the not-particularly-tempting dining hall Oceanview Terrace and the aforementioned Goody's Place and Market burritos, which is by far the better choice.



EARL WARREN

Tucked between dueling canyons in the northeast corner of campus, Earl Warren College is as full of rabbits and raccoons as it is with engineering students. The college's motto, "Toward a life in balance," is reflected in the relatively moderate G.E. requirements, with each student needing to pick six classes (fewer for engineers) in Programs of Concentration, or PofC, in two areas other than their major. All Warren students must also take two quarters each of Warren Writing and Ethics and Society.

Though a bit removed from the other six residential areas, Warren's Earl's Place boasts perhaps HDH's best coffee service, and the living area's integrated volleyball and basketball amenities, as well as the nearby Warren Field and Canyonview Aquatic Center provide a haven for active residents.

Students in Warren (whose modern-esque residence halls and sizable apartments are all named for Supreme Court justices of the Earl Warren court) will enjoy short walks to Warren Lecture Hall (WLH), the Literature Building and the engineering buildings that line Warren Mall. Warren Advising, Warren College Student Council and Warren Writing all based out of the nearby Computer Science and Engineering Building, or EBU3B. Book-focused residents can find solace in one of two Warren study lounges in JK Wood Lounge and The Courtroom.





ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

There's a feeling you get walking around ERC that makes it feel like it might not be real. It could come from the pristine dorms (the newest and probably the nicest on campus), or the postcard-worthy ocean view, maybe it's that, perched on the northwest corner of campus, it's isolated from the main flow of student traffic. Or maybe it's just that its proximity to RIMAC gym and the Triton Track & Field Stadium gives it an unusually high proportion of unrealistically good-looking athletes.

Although somewhat of a trek from the rest of campus, ERC has — at least to a certain extent — some draws of its own. It's home to International House (on-campus housing for half domestic and half international students), which is known for having some of UCSD's best parties. For late night after-the-after-party snacks, you'll have multiple options: dorms are close to both Goody's or the Vil-

lage Place and Market. And in the morning, head to Cafe V, where the beautiful view will hopefully distract from the barely recognizable piles of sludge on your plate. If you're willing to shell out some non-dining dollar cash, Home Plate (a sports bar-slash-hamburger joint) and Peet's Coffee are nearby with slightly more edible options, not to mention — though in ERC, it's a given — great views.

ERC is known for its international focus and mission to make students "global citizens," notable mostly through its strenuous sequence of hybrid world history, philosophy and research essay-writing G.E.s, the five-course Making of the Modern World program. Students have a love-to-hate-it attitude when it comes to MMW, and they celebrate completion of the courses every year with an ERC-wide MMW Blowout party. Yes, ERC kids work long and hard, but they look good doing it.

SIXTH

Sixth College is UCSD's newest college, with the formidable slogan of "Culture, Art & Technology" to make up for its lack of a proper name. It occupies the southeastern part of campus, marked by a slew of cabin-style dorms that are affectionately nicknamed "Camp Snoopy" by returning students. If you're a Sixth College freshman, chances are a few of your first classes will be located in Pepper Canyon Hall, Sixth College's main administration building. Unfortunately, this probably means you'll have long walks to your classes across campus. Located next to Gilman Parking structure, PCH is where you'll meet your academic counselor as well. Sixth's tiny dining hall, Foodworx Place and Market, is limited in both food choices and seating. However, it's also usually far less crowded than Pines, with an outdoor dining area and music that ultimately makes for a quiet lunch break. Sixth's slogan lends its name to the college's writing program, CAT. Students take an initial sequence of three writing classes that is later capped with a course on public speaking and a practicum project. Sixth is known for having fairly lax GE requirements that are heavy on the humanities and easily filled by Advanced Placement classes. At Sixth, you'll be close to a number of athletic and recreational areas, like basketball courts and a soccer field located right by Foodworx. You'll also have a short walk to the Canyonview Aquatic Center, which houses two Olympic-sized pools and a spa.



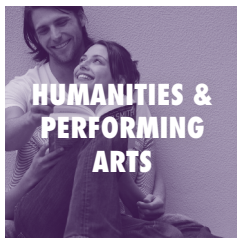
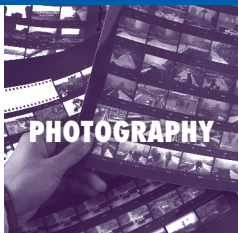
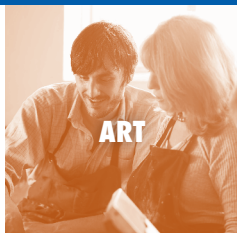
VILLAGE AT TORREY PINES

Strictly speaking, The Village isn't part of the six-college system. It's a relatively new housing community for transfer students (and some upperclassmen) located in breezy North Campus, just past ERC. Although apartments in the Village are a lot newer than most campus housing (some even have ocean views!), the cost is about the same. Sadly, there's no student parking nearby, and it's a long walk to most lecture halls (usually about a mile), so getting familiar with the shuttle system isn't a bad idea. Students often park nearby at Gliderport, but beware of getting an unwanted ticket — it's been known to happen.

Village East and West are separated by Scholar's Drive, and though both have their own laundry facilities and study areas, neither one is completely independent from the other. Residential Services are located in Village West Building 2, with The Bistro and the Village Market just across the way in Village East. The Bistro is the Village equivalent of a dining hall, only it's an actual sit-down restaurant and it's closed on weekends. It's a little pricey, but worth checking out if you've got a few Dining Dollars to spare and a hankering for sushi. The Market has a lot of great grab-n-go options, and a pretty good variety of products, but they tend to run low during finals week so shop accordingly!

COLLEGES **12**





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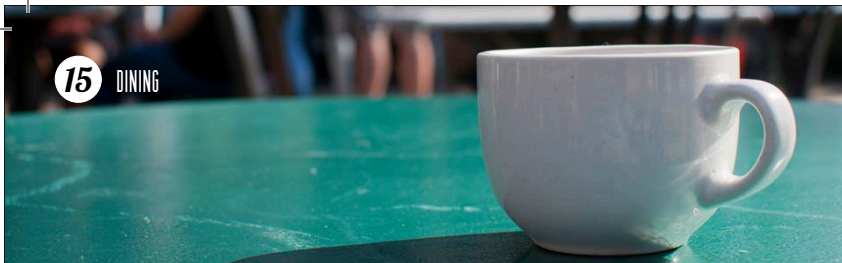
BEST DINING HALL PINES



While it might be uncommon to hear “dining hall” and “cool” in the same sentence, Pines comes closest — at least at UCSD — to reaching that standard. Redesigned to offer students an alternative to the traditional dining hall experience, Pines also focuses on sustainability and environmental friendliness, offering a number of vegetarian and vegan options at every meal. Though you’ll find

some dining hall staples (stay away from the over-salted soups), some of your choices are downright classy — sushi, stir fry, hand-carved sandwich stations and a well-stocked salad bar should satisfy most preferences. Pines’ central location, open atmosphere and ample seating and TVs make it a good choice for just about anyone, so beware of checkout lines, which can get long around noon and 6 p.m.





BEST COFFEE

MANDEVILLE COFFEE CART { *Art of Espresso* }

Often, students' complaints about lackluster food options on campus are legitimate — but this coffee cart, situated just outside the Mandeville Auditorium, makes an exception. Serving all the fair-trade (and fairly priced) coffee-snob-quality espresso with none of the pretentiousness, it's no surprise that the cart -- which (rightfully) calls itself "The Art of Espresso" — is often ranked near the top on lists of "the best coffee in San Diego." Open from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and

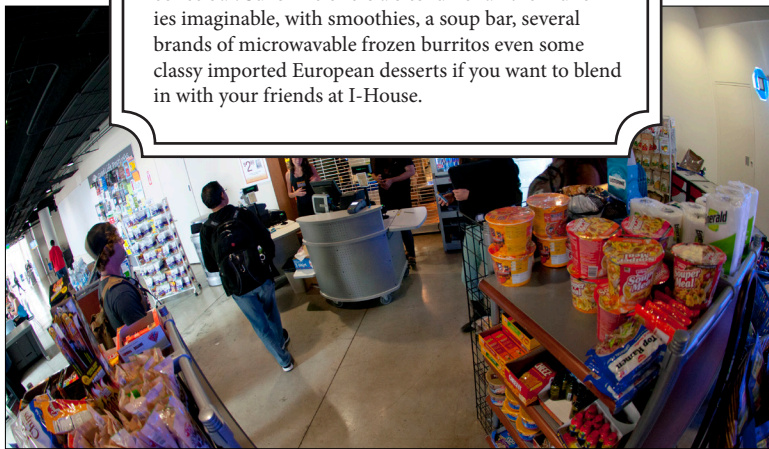
until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, this is the place to spend your non-dining dollar money. The line can get long between classes, but service is fast and friendly — just make sure to bring cash if you want to avoid the 25-cent pay-by-card fee. For your friends who haven't yet realized their caffeine dependency, the cart sells solid scones, sandwiches and salads from Price Center's Zanzibar at the Loft, and enough creative sugary hot and cold drinks to keep anyone happy. (Case in point: blended chai + whole banana + ice = spiced monkey.)

BEST MUNCHIES

DINING **16**

SUNSHINE MARKET

Although it doesn't accept Dining Dollars, the independently-owned Sunshine Market provides an impressive selection of snacks, healthy and sugar-filled alike, should you wish to escape the UCSD markets' high prices and limited offerings. Sunshine Market is a one-stop grocery store nestled next to Chase Bank in Price Center East and sells a surprising variety of between-class snacks: soda, candy, milk, produce, sandwiches, locally baked bread and pastries and even chocolate truffles are always in good supply. There's even a fairly extensive self-serve coffee bar. Sunshine offers aisles full of all the munchies imaginable, with smoothies, a soup bar, several brands of microwavable frozen burritos even some classy imported European desserts if you want to blend in with your friends at I-House.



BEST LUNCH CLUB MED





A lot of students confine themselves to their local dining hall, opting not to branch out because everything else is just, well, too far. But every once in a while, you might want to try something new, and Club Med, tucked away in the middle of the UCSD School of Medicine campus — is just the place to do that. What puts Club Med a notch above the rest is its selection of hot sandwiches, and especially its more casual eating environment, which provides an escape from the fluorescent, sometimes prison-like dining hall experience. There are far fewer undergrads running around, so you can really sit back and eat your lunch with peace and quiet you won't find on the rest of campus. And you're in luck — Club Med does take Dining Dollars, so you don't have to spend hard-earned to enjoy a good meal.

DINING **18**

BEST GRAB-AND-GO HARE KRISHNA



The Hare Krishna buffet is by far the best grab-and-go deal you can find. The Hare Krishnas are a non profit missionary organization that looks to distribute the science of self realization. Although the long line extending from the Co-op to Porter's Pub may make for a slow-paced grab, you'll walk away with enough food for the rest of the week — as long as you come prepared. That is because one

can buy a plate of food for \$5, or \$6 for all-you-can-eat, which means bringing your giant Tupperware container and filling it up is fair game. The food is Indian inspired vegetarian dishes, which certainly isn't for everyone, but don't be deterred by the mushy aesthetic of the entrées before giving it a chance. It is located in the quad of the Old Student Center and serves every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BEST MARKET

THE VILLAGE PLACE AND MARKET

Taking the cake as UCSD's best marketplace, the Village Place and Market is located by transfer housing all the way on the north side of campus next to The Village and ERC. Accepting Dining Dollars and Triton Cash (as well as normal currency), the market is by far the largest in size, has beautiful, open, modern design and offers the greatest variety by combining some of the best aspects of its contenders. An efficient one-stop location for food, you can order custom pizzas, purchase full Costco-style rotisserie chickens, pasta salads and fruit salads and at the same time pick up dorm-room groceries and order coffee and pastries. Open until 1 a.m. every night, you're guaranteed to see — and may one day join — full armies of students returning from parties or beginning all-nighters trekking to the Village Place and Market in search of premium late-night munchies.



BEST DELIVERY

THE SECRET COOKIE SERVICE

Operating out of a top-secret, undisclosed location, The Secret Cookie Service is hands down the most exciting way to eat a cookie. The SCS has become a hit at UCSD with a crew of dapper secret agents dressed in suits and sunglasses who deliver platters of cookies around campus and the San Diego area as late as 2 a.m. Your order is placed through a text, using a special code to indicate how many and what kind of cookies you'd like. The cookies come in flavors like M&M's, orange creamsicle and good old chocolate chip. The SCS delivers to campus every day, and their late-night hours make them especially tempting during finals week. Be sure to like them on Facebook for their daily deals and a rundown of their secret cookie code.



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THE OLD STUDENT CENTER



While not nearly as flashy as Price Center, the Old Student Center — officially called the Student Center — is home to a number of core student groups and activities. Groundwork Books, the General Store and the Food Co-op make up the center's co-ops, a group of student-run and student-owned nonprofits that market reduced prices on food, books and a variety of other student necessities. (The Food Co-op sells the cheapest coffee and bagels, at \$1 each, on the entire campus.) The Old Student Center has a relaxed vibe and is perfect for low-key solo study sessions or just hanging around, listening to KSDT radio's live broadcast or filling up a plate full of Hare Krishna food every Wednesday. Plenty of shade, seating and Wi-Fi makes it an attractive alternative to the corporate, hustle-and-bustle feel of PC. Several other shops and student organizations also call the Old Student Center home. (Like the Guardian! Come say hi to us any Wednesday or Sunday.)

THE TALKING, SINGING, AND SILENT TREES

UCS D has an especially notable and widespread feature about its campus: trees. In celebration of the campus' eucalyptus tree takeover, the Stuart Art Collection includes three trees sprinkled near Library Walk that are called the Talking Tree, the Singing Tree, and the Silent Tree. The Singing Tree can be heard spouting out an eclectic mix of



sounds, from opera, to jazz, to Navajo chants, while the Talking Tree intermittently recites poetry and stories. The Silent Tree stands in front of Geisel Library and is the central location for many of UCSD's protests and rallies. The Silent Tree is molded around a tree that was cut down in order to construct the Jacobs School of Engineering. This tree is, remarkably, silent.

OUTBACK ADVENTURES



Staffed by the students who help run Wilderness Orientation, Outback Adventures offers a wide variety of outdoor trips during the school year that range from kayaking in Mission Bay to climbing the boulders of Joshua Tree National Park. While somewhat pricey, the cost is well worth a weekend getaway once free transportation and professional instruction are factored in.

For those who seek adventure on their own, Outback's rental

shop behind Pepper Canyon Hall in Sixth College offers a variety of gear, from surfboards and snowboards to tents and sleeping bags (always a popular option for students heading to Coachella).

On campus, Outback runs the UCSD Outback Adventures Surf Shop (where you can make use of a student discount) in Price Center West, as well as UCSD's small — but social — rock climbing wall in Canyon-view Aquatic Center.

WESTFIELD UTC MALL



Lest you worry about missing the conveniences of home while you're stuck at UCSD, savvy developers have placed a veritable — and newly remodeled — mini-suburbia of retail, restaurants, and diversions, all a five-minute bus ride from campus (from the Gilman/Myers stop, the Route 201/202 SuperLoop will take you straight there). At UTC, clothing stores, in particular, abound — chains like Abercrombie and Fitch, Vans, Nordstrom, and J. Crew are all within eyeshot of one another. And if retail makes you hungry, grab fresh bread at Boudin Bakery, a sandwich from Which Wich and a free chocolate of the month at Godiva Chocolatier. For an evening out with a special someone, head to the UTC ice skating rink (though beware the \$15 skate rental fee). Later on, a movie at the glitzy ArcLight theater (which has a built-in bar inside) will give any night a happy ending.

EXPLORE **26**





PORTER'S PUB

Boisterous and energetic on many nights, Porter's Pub is probably the best out of five places on campus to socialize with a beer in hand — and not just because ID checks happen infrequently.

The pub has a wide and rotating selection of local craft beers and cheap dining (check out the \$3 menu every day until 7 p.m.), and the chill barroom atmosphere — rare on a college campus — makes up for the sometimes-slow service. The pub's frequent musical events are usually more expensive than those at The Loft, but they periodically boast real musical heavyweights, with performances this past year ranging from Foals to Tyler the Creator.



BLACK'S BEACH

EXPLORE **28**

Yes, it is a nudist beach.

No, it isn't Europe, where you'll find hot, young collegiates baring it all. What you will find are a handful of middle-aged men, naked, and then a handful of UCSD students, clothed. Not everyone who visits Black's Beach is there to go naked-man-gazing — most come for the relaxing beach environment, the nice trek down the hill to the beach (and the not-as-nice trek back up) and the paragliders overhead. Avoid the crowds at La Jolla Shores and bring your friends to Black's as an in-between-classes stress reliever (yes, it really is that close), and maybe, if you're feeling it, you can embrace the nudist lifestyle, too.





LA JOLLA COVE

It's fun, it's free and there's wildlife everywhere. Literally, everywhere. As a definite favorite for students, tourists and families alike, La Jolla Cove really is the perfect place for swimming, snorkeling, kayaking and even having a picnic. As a result of its near-universal appeal, the ecologically protected site does tend to get crowded, and the parking

nightmare may persuade you to jump into the nearby ocean (instead, take the Route 30 bus from the La Jolla Playhouse by Revelle College — it'll get you there in around 25 minutes). But hey — the more the merrier. The cove is also a convenient, walkable distance from Downtown La Jolla, with great food and shopping that'll really make it worth the trip.

DOWNTOWN LA JOLLA

EXPLORE **30**



As a beach town that's been coasting on its prime locale for over a century, Downtown La Jolla can feel unsettlingly precious: its buildings are so colorful that they look like they belong on Disneyland's Main Street, U.S.A., and there seem to be 10 expensive cafes for every one parking space. You'll see more white slacks and gold jewelry than anywhere else in San Diego — but it's worth visiting just for the spectacle. Take the

Route 30 from Gilman/Myers with a friend and split Crab Cake Eggs Benedict at The Cottage, where free crumb cake and coffee are served to customers who brave the long wait. (For a cheaper meal, chill vibes and a pretty solid study space, try Pannikin Coffee and Tea.) And to experience old-school La Jolla, pay \$4 to walk through an underground tunnel to the Sunny Jim Cave, which has offered tourists a view of the La Jolla Cove from within since 1903.

SOLANA BEACH



You're probably familiar with Solana Beach because you tried to book a train up to L.A. and realized that, in fact, the Solana Beach Amtrak station is far closer to UCSD than the Downtown San Diego location. (And if you didn't, sorry you're only reading this now.) The Route 101 bus line goes straight there from UCSD's Gilman/Myers, VA Medical Center and Theater District bus stops in under an hour. Places worth checking out are Pizza Port (which, once you're 21, has solid deals on craft beers) and Cedros Avenue, a touristy but cute shopping and dining street. The 21+ Belly Up Tavern is also known to be one of the best concert venues in the entire region. As the town's name might suggest, the beaches are nice, too — take a walk around Fletcher Cove for a more peaceful alternative to the often-crowded San Diego coastline.

BALBOA PARK

EXPLORE **32**



A San Diego icon, Balboa Park is a veritable haven for stressed-out students just north of the Gaslamp Quarter. Its acres of open space and walking paths surround can't-miss cultural spots in museums, theaters, restaurants and the San Diego Zoo. The park's 17 museums cover every area of interest, from fine art to classic cars. Your

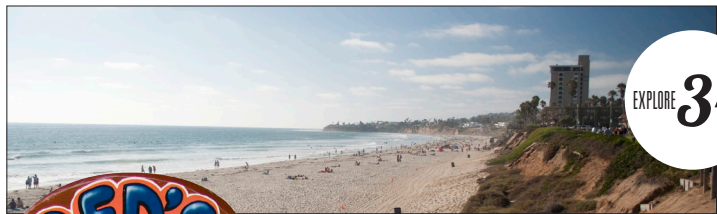
student ID will get you a discount ticket to all of the museums, as well as free admission to a rotating handful of museums on Tuesdays. Balboa Park also houses the lauded Old Globe Theatre, where you'll find world-class Shakespeare — and world premiere musicals (think *Into the Woods*) — at a discounted student price (so bring your ID!).

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO



If La Jolla is too calm for to suit your taste, the nightlife in Downtown San Diego — accessible if you can stomach the trafficky bus ride from UCSD's Gilman/Myers stop (take Route 30 or 150) — offers a nice change of pace. The Gaslamp Quarter is known for its plentiful (if pricey) assortment of clubs and bars, and if you're not old enough to drink, you can always eat! Grab a mar-

garita and some enchiladas at the festive Cafe Coyote. If you want to explore the San Diego theater circuit or music scene, this is the place. There's also shopping in Horton Plaza or Seaport Village, or you could watch some baseball at Petco Park (Unless any decent team is in town, go, Padres!). There's plenty to do harborside as well: visit Little Italy, or hop across the bay and explore Coronado!



PACIFIC BEACH

PB is often dismissed as being reserved for the 21+, bar-hopping crowd, but it's got plenty to keep underclassmen busy. First off, PB is home to the closest In-N-Out to campus, right off I-5's Garnet/Balboa exit. PB is the place to go for tattoos and piercing parlors (Enigma is a favorite), and further down Garnet Avenue are hordes of clothing stores, thrift shops, restaurants and even a few casual bars (for one, Ciro's Pizzeria and Beerhouse) that don't require valid IDs — as long as you're not planning to drink. The boardwalk and beach itself are a quick walk from the Garnet strip. The beach may not be as picturesque as La Jolla Shores, but it's a much friendlier, relaxed environment with people, dogs and stoned hobos alike (there are plenty of dispensaries in PB as well). PB's Garnet Avenue does have a bumpin' bar scene for those over 21, with bars that vary from the south-of-the-border-themed Cabo Cantina to sports bars, like Miller's Field. Bar-hoppers should expect cover charges on weekends and pretty limited parking. (Have cash on hand!)

HILLCREST

If you're fed up with what can feel like a bland selection at Price Center and the Westfield UTC Mall, take the Hillcrest/Campus (H) shuttle south to Hillcrest for one-of-a-kind shopping and dining. Anchored by a branch of the UCSD Medical Center, Hillcrest is a fun, LGBT-friendly neighborhood that hosted the Pride Festival and Parade this summer. It's home to the best in thrift shopping, with Buffalo Exchange and the retro-inspired Flashbacks just across the street from each other. If you're heading out on a weekend, stop by Snooze, an A.M. Eatery for a mouthwatering brunch. You might look into moving to Hillcrest as well. Relatively low-priced rent and a convenient shuttle to UCSD make it a popular neighborhood for both undergraduates and graduate students.



FASHION
VALLEY



If the Westfield UTC mall is a UCSD student's retail refuge, Fashion Valley is a retail paradise. Fashion Valley is located in Mission Valley, just north of the I-8 and just west of Route 163 — a mere 15-minute drive (take I-805) or a 45-minute bus ride (take the Route 41 from the Gilman/Myers stop on campus). In typical Southern California fashion, the mall is beautifully renovated and is outdoors. Fashion Valley is home to over 200 stores and restaurants and is often ranked as the best and largest shopping loca-

tion in the San Diego area. With an abundance of department stores and high-end designer locations (ideal for window-shopping), a variety of upscale but wallet-friendly restaurants (P.F. Chang's, The Cheesecake Factory and CPK), tech stores like Microsoft, Sony and Apple, as well as popular college student havens like Forever 21, H&M, Urban Outfitters and American Apparel, you'll find retailers that cater to shoppers of all kinds. Good thing it's a trip away, because its only flaw is the risk that you'll spend way too much money.

RIMAC

Upperclassmen can attest that the “Freshman 15” is not a myth, so familiarize yourself with RIMAC before mid-term lethargy strikes. RIMAC, located in Eleanor Roosevelt College (consider the walk there a part of your workout) is equipped with extensive gym basics, like treadmills, elliptical and stair machines and a weight room that measures 12,000 square feet. If you’re intimidated by the traditional gym room grind — or if the bros lifting weights won’t let you have a turn — RIMAC also has activity rooms (think yoga,

dance and martial arts) and gymnasiums for volleyball, badminton, racquetball, dodgeball, basketball and even soccer. Plus, it’s open until 10 p.m. on school nights.

If you’re bored with your own gym routine, you can also sign up at RIMAC’s reception desk for UCSD-provided recreation classes like ballroom dancing or jiu-jitsu. For a post-workout reward (or if you decide exercise just isn’t your thing) head to the nearby Peet’s Coffee for a latte or Home Plate for a hamburger and, if you’re 21 or older, a beer.



RUNNING CAMPUS LOOP

ATHLETICS **38**

Instead of loitering until a treadmill to free up at RIMAC, run the four-mile path that makes up Campus Loop — and in the process, get a free tour of UCSD's six colleges and the medical school and enjoy views of the ocean, canyon and I-5 alike, all in perfect sunny but breezy La Jolla weather. For the easiest path, start in Warren and run counter-clockwise. The first hill coming out of Warren Canyon is the biggest challenge in the course, so once you make it past that (and up to Ridgewalk), the rest of the way should be a cinch. And if you decide you're not in good enough shape to complete the four miles, hop on a Campus Loop shuttle to get straight back to your dorm in no time.



INTRAMURAL SPORTS



If you're still disappointed that your Division-I flag football scholarship didn't pull through, intramural sports, or IM sports, may be your saving grace. With all (or most) of the athleticism and none of the pressure, IM sports provide a great way to stay in shape, make friends and develop — or acquire — athletic ability. A service of UCSD Recreation, IM sports are offered year-round, with most games taking place in UCSD Rec facilities.

Sports offerings range from the obvious (basketball, soccer, softball) to more unique options like dodgeball, bowling and “inner-tube water polo.” You can form a team with friends, or join an existing team by signing up with the league at a meeting at the beginning of the season. Sport offerings and signup times can be found in the quarterly UCSD Recreation catalog, which is circulated around campus before the start of each quarter.

MAIN GYM

ATHLETICS

40



Although smaller than RIMAC, Main Gym, conveniently located between Revelle and Muir Colleges, is a great workout spot for folks who want the machine availability of a larger weight room without the crowds. The North Balcony holds a fully equipped weight room while the south boasts an impressive gymnastics training facility. Both balconies overlook the gym floor with six-hoop basketball, volleyball and badminton capability. The gym is sometimes used for fencing practices and competitions so make sure to look up open court times and the building borders the Natatorium aquatic center complete with 25-yard long pool.




CANYONVIEW AQUATIC CENTER

Aside from visiting the two gyms on campus for your daily dose of cardio or swole, a quick walk over to Warren College leads you to the Olympic-sized pool where all students are allowed to swim freely from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. The abundance of lanes mean you won't have to wait your turn to swim a few laps, but if it is crowded, the pool is lined with beach chairs to lounge. And if there's ever a shortage of swim gear, the Canyonview Aqua-Mart can attend to most of your needs, though if you've forgotten your bathing suit, you're out of luck (and probably should think before you swim in the first place).

WATCHING SPORTS AT ROUND TABLE

ATHLETICS

42



If you're a tormented sports fan with no TV in your cramped triple, there is really only one place on campus you should go to: Round Table Pizza. For one, they have food and, more importantly, beer. If you're under 21, grab a friend who isn't, make 'em buy a cheap pitcher of Bud and ask for a water cup so you can mooch. (Just don't get caught — you'll look like a chump.) Round Table has huge TVs, so you won't have to squint to see your favorite team in action. Located in the corner of Price Center Plaza next to Jamba Juice, the pizza chain is usually empty enough come game time that you won't have a problem finding a seat. But you better hope that your team wins, or else the combination of beer, anger and a public place could get embarrassing. Need to wallow on your loss? Round Table delivers to your dorms so you can sustain your own private pity party.

UC San Diego Athletics



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BEST BATHROOMS

ON-CAMPUS **46**

All good bathrooms have one thing in common: No one goes to them. UCSD's best pisspots aren't the centrally located, high-traffic rooms in PC, but the out-of-the-way toilets in Warren and the Old Student Center. Girls can do no better than the restroom on the second floor of Warren's Computer Science and Engineering Building, or EBU3B.. It's spotless, well-stocked and usually empty (a fact that speaks volumes about the number of female engineers on

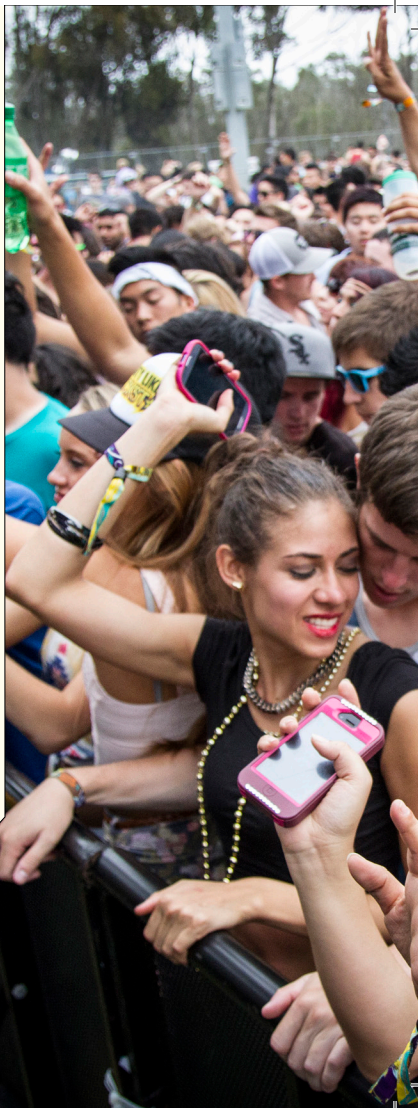
campus). It even sports an environmentally friendly dryer you put your hands into (instead of under). For boys, the bathroom on the first floor of the Student Center (next to the bike shop) is always open, always available and always clean. Its motion-activated light sensors might make the pitch-dark interior daunting on first glance, but wait a split second and marvel at all the excess space. It's almost like peeing in the comfort and privacy of your own home. But bigger and cleaner.

If you're on your third triple-shot mocha, still have two more lectures and can't resist the urge to doze off, fear not: UCSD's campus is full of designated "nap areas" where you can get some of your well-needed ZZZs. The best location for a snooze is on the second floor of Geisel Library. Turn left after you enter the library, and when you reach the help desk, look to your left again. You'll see a row of cushioned couches facing the window. The window provides a relaxing sunbath, and the footrests accompanying them are comfy enough to make your nap a restful one. Just make sure to set an alarm, because "I'm just gonna rest my eyes" can easily become "I just slept through an o-chem midterm."

BEST NAP SPOTS

BEST CAMPUS EVENTS SUN GOD

Every UCSD student waits almost all year for the Friday in mid-May when the campus' midterms-induced stupor gives way to a vibrant flurry of music, dance, and everything awesome. The Associated Students-sponsored Sun God Festival, named for the colorful statue that graces Muir College, transforms RIMAC field into a blitz of bright lights, pounding subwoofers, and pure, unadulterated joy. The acts Sun God draws are impressive — last year's festival brought in several up-and-coming artists, such as headliners Kendrick Lamar and Porter Robinson. Past acts have included Drake, B.o.B and Macklemore. You can even cheer on fellow UCSD student performers on a smaller stage. Just make sure you're conscious enough to appreciate the festivities — the music doesn't sound good from the detox tent. And by the way: If you're a UCSD student, it's free.





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Other schools may have us beat in the tailgate department, but there's one thing we have that they don't: cliffs. Just five minutes away is a dizzying drop and breathtaking view that makes for a perfect picnic spot for those landlocked amigos from home. Stop by one of the dining halls and grab a sandwich, and then head down to the cliffs (cross North Torrey Pines Road from Muir College, walk down the path next to the LDS church and turn left on La Jolla Farms Road) and spend the afternoon listening to your friends ooh and ahh as the paragliders pass you by.

**BEST
PLACE TO
BRING VISITORS
THE CLIFFS**

BEST MARKET RALPHS

OFF-CAMPUS

52

It may seem convenient to shop for your fruits and veggies at the Village Place and Market, but keep in mind that your Dining Dollars barely pay for your sustenance. Take an hour or two out of your day to hop on the Route 201/202 SuperLoop bus and head to Ralphs (only a five-minute ride) in the La Jolla Village Square shopping center (it's also next door

to Trader Joe's). If you find a friend with a car (or if you're the friend with a car), be warned that the Ralphs/Trader Joe's parking lot is known to be one of the worst in the area. While going off campus may seem like a hassle, you'll soon find that the price differences and wider selection — not to mention the free samples in the bakery section — are worth your while.



BEST HANGOVER CURE WHEN PARENTS ARE AROUND THE COFFEE CUP



In college, there will inevitably come a time when you have to eat breakfast with your parents while you're recovering from an ill-fated night of raging. When this time comes, the Coffee Cup in Downtown La Jolla has your back. The Coffee Cup serves an absurdly large variety of American, European and Mexican breakfast dishes that are probably too expensive for you to eat when mom and

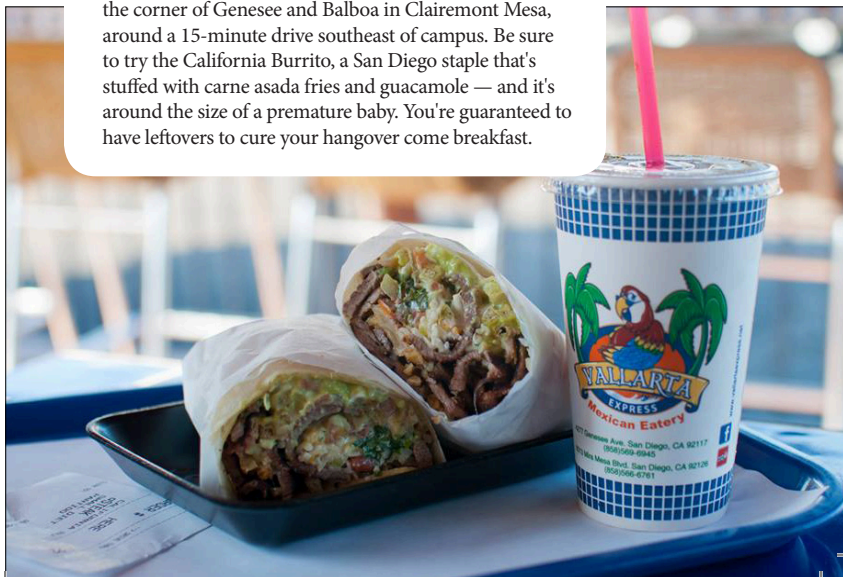
dad aren't breaking out their wallets. The coffee is fantastic, the atmosphere is serene and the bathrooms are never too far away. Plus, it's only a couple of blocks away from La Jolla Cove, so you can take your parents for a walk once you've recovered. Be sure to try the French toast (complete with powdered sugar and blueberry purée) — it's probably the best you'll ever have, regardless of how badly your head is hurting.

BEST 24-HOUR FOOD SERVICE

OFF-CAMPUS **54**

VALLARTA EXPRESS

When you and your friends are on the way home from a party, even your DD will likely be down to swing by the Vallarta's drive-through for late-night burritos. Vallarta's is a drive-through chain, with its most frequented location on the corner of Genesee and Balboa in Clairemont Mesa, around a 15-minute drive southeast of campus. Be sure to try the California Burrito, a San Diego staple that's stuffed with carne asada fries and guacamole — and it's around the size of a premature baby. You're guaranteed to have leftovers to cure your hangover come breakfast.



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