

# Southern California weekend

**Inside** Explore an artsy neighborhood on two wheels » Beer and brats in L.A. » A splashy new ode to the pool in Palm Springs »



## 1. Your ticket to ride

Long Beach is quickly becoming one of the most bike-friendly cities in the States. Get in on the action at **Bikestation**. Just a stone's throw from the East Village (and a block from the Metro Blue Line stop Transit Mall), the new building wrapped in golden aluminum posts is hard to miss. With rentals, a shop, and bike parking, this is the perfect starting point for emissions-free exploration. *Rentals from \$8/hour, \$32/day; 223 E. First St.; bikestation.com*

## Long Beach day trip East Village

**Why go now:** Inspiration for the new year. As you cruise past galleries, theater companies, cafes, and scores of new indie shops, you might just decide to quit your day job and join the bohemians. **The crowd:** Artists, entrepreneurs, freethinkers, DIYers. **The look:** As eclectic as the people. Art deco buildings stand alongside live/work lofts and warehouse spaces within 50 square blocks on downtown's east side (*eastvillage longbeach.com for info and map*). **Main hub:** Linden Avenue at E. Broadway. **How to experience it:** On foot or, even better, by bike. SoCal's first separated bike lanes run down Broadway and Third Street; on weekly Bike Saturdays (*bikelongbeach.org*), two-wheeled travelers get discounts at participating shops and eateries. **Unwind:** At District Wine (\$\$; 144 Linden; 562/612-0411), with its living room atmosphere and small-production wines. **The main event:** 2nd Saturday Art Walk (Jan 14; free; *artwalklb.com*), with open doors and live music. >22

BY JENNIFER M. VOLLAND | PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVE LAURIDSEN

