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8 Things to See, Do, and Eat in Palm Springs



By *Connie K. Ho* | Photos by *Rob Andrew and Connie K. Ho*

With the tagline “Like no place else,” Palm Springs is a hub for nature, design, and food aficionados. Depending on the decade, the city has served as either a quiet locale or a hip (and quick) getaway, and these days, entrepreneurs are dotting the landscape with innovative dining establishments and swanky hotels. Temps start to climb in the early summer months, attracting millennials who live to lounge poolside. Cool nights allow for exploration of the city’s nightlife, including local karaoke venues where you can belt out your favorite Journey song. Desert scenery, fun culinary and entertainment options, laid-back vibe—all are in place at this inland oasis.

1. **Ernest Coffee**

Independent coffee shop Ernest Coffee serves Stumptown Coffee Roasters cold brew, “flat white” lattes, flaky pastries such as toasted-almond croissants, and gooey peanut-butter–chocolate-chip cookies.



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2. Indian Canyons

Walk the paths that the ancestors of the Agua Caliente Cahuilla Indians used for thousands of years. Sixty miles of trails wind through Andreas, Murray, and Palm canyons. Look for lizards and birds among the wildlife, and chat with a ranger about hikes from the simple to the arduous. 38520 S. Palm Canyon Drive. 1-760-323-6018.

3. Just Fabulous

This upscale boutique has a curated selection of books, home decor, and accessories. Call the store for information about scheduled book signings by celebrity authors. 515 N. Palm Canyon Drive. 1-760-864-1300.

4. Backstreet Art District

Visit galleries and studios of renowned artists working in various media, including photography, painting, jewelry, sculpture, and ceramics. 2600 S. Cherokee Way.

5. Déjà Vu Vintage Finery

Offering vintage clothing for men and women, this consignment shop has fashions from the 1950s through '80s. 664 N. Palm Canyon Drive. 1-760-699-5365.

6. Las Casuelas Terraza

Authentic Mexican cooking and live music make this restaurant a hot spot. Try the fresh guacamole with pomegranate seeds. 222 S. Palm Canyon Drive. 1-760-325-2794.

7. King's Highway

Located at Ace Hotel & Swim Club, this diner has organic fare and friendly service. Nosh on the buttermilk fried Jidori chicken served with habanero honey or the chocolate cake topped with salted caramel and coconut pudding. 701 E. Palm Canyon Drive. 1-760-866-6180.

8. Birba

Sample handmade pastas such as the ricotta-and-mint ravioli with eggplant or the doughy gnocchi with peas and sausage. 622 N. Palm Canyon Drive. 1-760-327-5678.

Call to confirm hours and availability of businesses, attractions, and events before you visit. Be sure to designate a driver if you plan to drink where alcohol is served.

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