

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - SANTA MONICA PIER

How old is the Pier?

The Pier opened September 9, 1909
The Carousel building opened in 1916
The Billiards Building (where Rusty's and the new Al Mare are – and was originally for was billiards and bowling) opened in 1917

How long is the Pier?

The Pier is about 1,600 ft long or just over a ¼ mile long (the Pier Bridge is another 580' or a 1/10th of a mile long)

Who Owns the Pier?

The City of Santa Monica

Who Operates the Pier?

THE CITY maintains the Pier, handles all leasing and licensing, capital improvements, planning and uses, security, filming and event permitting.

Coordination of all City responsibilities for the Pier is through the Office of Pier Management.

Phone: 310.458.8216

THE PIER CORPORATION is responsible for events (i.e. Twilight Concert Series, Front Porch Cinema, Carousel party rentals, etc.), marketing, sponsorships, and assisting the City with guidelines and public outreach for the planning process.

Phone: 310.458.8901

www.santamonicipier.org

How much does it cost to enter the Pier?

There is no admission to enter the Santa Monica Pier. The Santa Monica Pier is open year-round, as well as the rides in Pacific Park (weather permitting). There is no fee for entrance for Pacific Park. You pay per use for the rides.

How much is parking?

The parking fee for a car ranges from \$6 - \$12 (there is also an hourly rate), depending on the day of the week and the season. There is also a parking lot located at 1550 Pacific Coast Highway (on the north side of the pier), and a metered parking lot located on the south side of the pier by Hot Dog on a Stick.

What are the Pier's hours of operation?

There are no actual hours for the pier as a whole. The Pier is open 24 hours a day since we offer overnight fishing (and there is 24/7 coverage of the Pier by the Harbor Guards).

The following, is a breakdown of the hours of the largest operations on the Pier:

CAROUSEL

Hours: M-Th 11AM-5PM, F-Su 11AM-7PM, Tu closed (except Summer when open 1-5PM)

Phone: 310.394.8042

PACIFIC PARK

Hours: Hours of operation vary by season

Phone: 310.260.8744

PLAYLAND ARCADE

Hours: Su-Th 10AM-Midnight, F-Sa 10AM-2AM

Phone: 310.451.5133

THE SANTA MONICA PIER AQUARIUM

Hours: M closed for school programs, Tu-Fr 2PM-6PM, Sa-Su 12:20PM-6PM

Phone: 310.393.6149

Are dogs allowed on the pier?

Dogs are allowed on the pier as long as they are on a leash but they are not allowed into businesses or Pacific Park.

Dogs are also allowed on the surrounding boardwalks, but not on the beach, as long as they are leashed.

When is the Twilight Concert Series? And what is the line-up?

The Twilight Concert Series takes place on 10 Thursday nights over the Summer. The best feature about the concerts is that they are FREE! The line-up for 2013 will be announced in the Spring.

Are there fireworks for the 4th of July?

Unfortunately, the Santa Monica Pier has not hosted fireworks since 1991. However, the firework show from the Marina Del Rey and Malibu are visible from the pier.

How do I book a reservation for parties in the Carousel? What are the rates?

Jim Harris, Community Venue Liaison, is responsible for booking parties for the carousel. You can reach him at jim@santamonicipier.org or call **310.458.4939**. The bookings at the Carousel can include: birthdays, reunions, weddings, dances, bat/bar mitzvahs, and corporate parties.

Do I need a fishing license to fish from the Santa Monica Pier?

A fishing license is not necessary to fish from the Santa Monica Pier. There are rentals available at the Santa Monica Bait & Tackle shop located at the end of the pier and their phone number is **310.576.2014**

What is the most common fish caught off of the pier?

The following are the most common fish that are caught: Perch, Mackerel, White Sea Bass, Leopard Shark, Tiger Shark and Sting rays. However, the Black Sea Bass is an endangered species. You are more than welcomed to donate your catch to the Heal the Bay Aquarium located on the east side of the pier. For more information, you may call Heal the Bay Santa Monica Pier Aquarium at **310.393.6149**

Can I ride my bike on the pier?

Yes you can. In fact, there is a bike rental shop on the pier called Blazing Saddles and their phone number is **310.393.9778**. There is a ramp located on the far east side of the pier that connects the pier to the boardwalk.

Does the Pier have WiFi?

Yes, there is City WiFi.

What about smoking on the Pier?

There is no smoking anytime, anywhere on the Pier –it's a wooden Pier...

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - SANTA MONICA PIER

What is on the Pier?

AMUSEMENTS

The Carousel

(built in 1922, on the Pier since 1947)

The Pier Aquarium

(under the Pier at the east end)

Pacific Park

(worlds first solar Ferris wheel, roller coaster, other rides and games)

Playland Arcade

(mix of classic to modern games)

Trapeze School of New York

Starline Tours

RESTAURANTS

(from east to west on the Pier)

Soda Jerks *(soda fountain)*

Al Mare *(under construction)*

Rusty's Surf Ranch

(live music in the evening)

Santa Monica Seafood

Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.

Pier Burger

Pacific Park Food Plaza

Harbor Grill

Pizza Hut Express

Taco Bell

Scoops

Funnel Cake Factory

Dippin'Dots

Mariasol

SHOPS

Carousel Gift Shop

Route 66

Blazing Saddles Bike Rental

Oatman Rock Shop

Arcade Shop

Pear Gear-Pacific Park

Santa Monica Bait and Tackle

CARTS AND STREET PERFORMERS

There are carts on the Pier selling merchandise such as t-shirts, hats, kites, etc or food such as popcorn and fruit.

There are up to 23 street performer locations on the Pier. Street performer spaces are open to any performer licensed by the City and locations are obtained on a lottery basis. The City does not hire or employ the performers.

FISHING

Fishing can take place on the Pier. No fishing license is required on the Pier. There are three specific lower fishing decks – two on either side of the narrow "neck of the Pier and one on the west end.

STROLLING AND PEOPLE WATCHING

VIEWING

There are benches around the Pier as well as the step benches at the west end. Additionally, there are eight telescopes around the Pier and an upper level public viewing room at the west end (which has a mural photo showing what you would see if you looked back at Santa Monica in the Summer of 1941).

SERVICES

Restrooms

Middle of the Pier

behind Starline tours, opposite PierBurger

West End

below the Harbor Guard station

Elevators

Inside Bubba Gump Restaurant

accessed from 1550 lot and at the west end of the Pier deck (below the Harbor Guard Office)

Harbor Guards

upstairs at the west end of the Pier

(first aid, etc)

Convention and Visitors Bureau Info booth

mid Pier, next to Starline Tours

Office of Pier Management

second story of the Carousel Building

Pier Corporation

second story of the Carousel Building

EVENTS AND EVENT SPACES

Twilight Concert Series, Front Porch Cinema, Paddle Board Races, etc
Private and Non-profit events

Event Spaces

The Pier Event Deck

Carousel Building

(especially children's birthday parties)

Central Corridor

(between Starlines tours and PierBurger)

West End

(has tiered seating)

West End Viewing Room

More Information

OPM WEBSITE

www.smgov.net/departments/opm

PIER CORPORATION WEBSITE

www.santamonicapier.org

What is the Pier Visioning and Planning Process?

A Pier visioning and planning is currently under way with a final report due to CityCouncil in February of 2014. The Pier is a much beloved part of the City and of the region. The intent of the process is not to change any of the Pier fundamentals but to look at how to improve its access, its array of offerings and facilities and to ensure its ongoing appeal to local residents as well as to the larger visitor community for the second hundred years. In addition to the plan the Council has asked the Pier Corporation to assist with the public engagement process for planning and to make recommendations on guidelines or marketing, sponsorships, event and leasing as well on governance.