

Project: Huntington Beach Visitors Guide Article

Assignment: Write an article for the 2002 Huntington Beach, California, Destination Guide produced by Axis Marketing.

Huntington Beach invites you to

Come and Relax

*Peace of Mind is included in your vacation package
to one of our nation's safest cities.*

Jog through Central Park at dawn. Go shopping on Main Street at mid-day. Stroll along our beaches at dusk. Take in the downtown scene until the wee hours of the night. Relaxation takes on a whole new dimension in Huntington Beach.

Listed among the nation's safest cities for decades, Huntington Beach offers visitors the peace of mind that other vacation destinations cannot. As a matter of fact, Huntington Beach has often been ranked among the Top Ten Safest Cities by Morgan Quitno Press, publisher of "City Crime Rankings." Thanks to our fine Police and Fire Departments – and a very active Neighborhood Watch group – Huntington Beach provides an exceptionally well-protected environment within which to live, work, meet and vacation.

No wonder our city attracts more than 11 million visitors each year!

Of course, "Surf City" – as Huntington Beach is affectionately called – draws some of the largest crowds in the world to such professional sporting events as the U.S. Open of Surfing, Van's World Championship of Skateboarding, and more. Amateur surfers, skateboarders and inline skaters flock to Huntington Beach to practice their craft under the watchful eyes of the highly trained lifeguards who line the coast.

Unlike many other beach resort towns, professional lifeguards monitor the entire 8.5-mile stretch of Huntington Beach's sandy coast. This feature has made our city a preferred vacation spot for families with children of all ages. From Bolsa Chica State Beach, to Huntington City Beach on down to Huntington State Beach, parents are able to relax on our beaches, knowing there is an extra measure of safety protecting their young ones.

With temperatures varying from 65 to 80 degrees, visitors to our beaches can enjoy such year-round activities as swimming, surfing, sunbathing, beach volleyball, kite flying, digging for sand crabs, biking or inline skating along the boardwalk. Even after the sun sets, our shoreline provides a safe haven for beach parties – a favorite activity of locals and visitors alike. Numerous barbeque/bonfire pits are available up and down our three beaches for enjoying picnic fare – and each other's company – in the soft glow of waning daylight.

For those interested in non-beach activities, Huntington Beach has something for everyone. From Downtown on Main Street to Loehmann's Five Points Plaza, visitors can shop for beach gear, souvenirs, clothing, antiques and just about everything in between. Our city's park system – including 58 public parks and the largest city-owned and operated regional park in Orange County – offers activities for every age group. Within the city's boundaries are three miles of equestrian trails, playgrounds, a city gym, a seniors' recreation center, two golf

courses, 72 tennis courts, a marina and a protected wildlife preserve, each offering a safe and relaxing place to recreate.

Your dining choices are endless as well. From steaks and seafood to burgers and fries, and the most sumptuous desserts imaginable, Huntington Beach has restaurants for all ages, tastes and budgets. We also have a number of museums, points of interest, annual festivals and celebrations – most within a short walking distance from the major hotels – that keep visitors busy year round.

Because Huntington Beach is centrally located, and just a few miles from Southern California's largest convention centers, local attractions and theme parks, it's easy to see why more and more visitors are opting to stay here at the "largest beach playground." After all, with so much to see and do, and so many reasons to feel safe, Huntington Beach is one place where you can relax and truly enjoy your visit.

//SIDE BOX ITEMS//

Courageous Hearts of Huntington Beach

In response to the September 11 terrorist attacks, firefighters from across the country stepped up to help their brothers in blue. Five Huntington Beach residents, all members of the Los Angeles Fire Department, were among the first to arrive in New York. The City of Huntington Beach salutes these brave men who used their personal vacation time, took time away from their loved ones and paid their own way to travel across the country.
[NAMES LISTED]

Huntington Beach RANKS...

#1 "Safest City" in America among the 100 largest cities

Source: Morgan Quitno Press

#1 in Personal Income among the 100 largest cities

Source: Governing Magazine

#1 Place to Raise Children