



The NEW Catalina Island

Springtime for Catalina Island usually means green hills, blooming wild flowers and a renewed energy that signify the beginnings of a brand new year. But there is something different and exciting resonating on the Island for 2010. It is this spring that some new, much anticipated activities and eateries will be unveiled. Be the first to experience the NEW Catalina Island.

Numerous land and water activities are already available to Catalina visitors. However, this year, Catalina Island reveals new attractions and amenities that will spoil visitors. Watch for updates on the premier dates for these great activities.

For adventures high in the sky, the new Zip Line Eco Tour starts at 600 feet above Avalon. 5 separate zips take you across Descanso Canyon at speeds reaching 45 miles per hour and ends by the seashore at Descanso Beach. Each zip ends at a specially designed platform with spectacular views of the surrounding Island interior and ocean. Finally, a zip line in your own back yard... just an hour boat ride from Long Beach.

Afraid of heights? Stay low, really low, on the sea floor. The new Sea Trek Undersea Adventure, planned for summer 2010, will provide participants a glimpse of life under sea by enabling guests to walk along the ocean floor using diving helmets. An underwater trail will lead participants through Catalina's famous kelp forests and through a world full of unique, beautiful marine life. And the kicker, no prior diving experience is necessary! An activity that is normally out of reach for many non-divers is now open for all to enjoy.

Another new attraction is the GPS Ranger Walking Tour. Guests will be handed GPS-enabled multimedia units that utilizes audio, video and photos to point out and provide interesting facts about Catalina's significant historical sites and landmarks.





Catalina's collection of attractions is growing every year. Who knew that the little island town of Avalon, approx 3 sq miles, can hold this much excitement.

With all the zipping, trekking and high energy walking, it's easy to work up an appetite. Catalina's story for 2010 continues with some more NEW treats. Two new restaurants with upscale appeal and mouth watering menus is sure to make the quaint seaside town of Avalon a must dine at destination for foodies.

Catalina Island begins the year by welcoming the M restaurant, which just opened its doors in February 2010 and is quickly captivating diners with its "farm to table" concept. The M specializes in Modern American Cuisine that is 100% fresh, never processed or frozen, organic foods. The restaurant boasts that on occasion, diners can even see staff members harvesting fresh lemons from the trees in the restaurant patio. That brings a whole new meaning to "locally grown." Executive Chef Michael Stewart sets forth a sophisticated menu consisting of local seafood, organic poultry, grass-fed meats, fresh fruit and vegetables sourced locally. The M is located on Crescent Ave., right in the heart of Avalon. Sit in the patio and enjoy views of the bay or dine indoors surrounded by elegant decor complimented by a stunning mahogany full bar. Guests can make reservations now at 310-510-8404.

The Avalon Grille, set to open in May 2010, will be a new American pub-style restaurant with central bar, on the waterfront in the center of town. Open architecture and indoor/outdoor patio seating will seamlessly blend to create an *al fresco* atmosphere no matter where seated. The menu will include appetizers and entrées paired with a world-class selection of microbrews, wines and cocktails. The Avalon Grille is definitely a delicious experience local residents and guests are looking to flock to.

With all these activities followed by a night at the bar, a place to stay would be nice. Catalina Express partners with over 20 hotels on Catalina Island to offer visitors special deals for a complete island getaway. Packages may include round trip boat transportation,





accommodations, tours, taxi transfers and more. To learn more about “Paradise Packages” please visit www.CatalinaPackage.com.

Soon, Catalina will welcome, or re-welcome, a well known establishment that is currently getting a make-over, the Pavilion Hotel. A complete renovation of the 71-room hotel is currently underway and will offer upscale designs throughout the hotel and will offer some luxury suites with ocean views, a wine and cheese bar and many more amenities. For more information, please visit www.VisitCatalinaIsland.com.

The Descanso Beach Club, Avalon’s only seaside bar and restaurant, will also see a complete transformation with new high-end amenities such as private cabana and chaise lounge rentals. The open-air restaurant will offer daytime and evening dining with fire rings on the beach, and two outdoor bars. Weekly music on the lawn and an expanded beach area will provide for ample enjoyment of the beachfront location. Lookout for a May 2010 opening!

Whether you’re looking for an adventurous day trip, a fun filled overnight vacation, or a relaxing nap on an island that feels worlds away, Santa Catalina Island has always been the spot for Southern Californians and visitors from around the globe. And Catalina will remain a favorite among visitors because it keeps revitalizing and adding to its already long and rich list of things to do and see.

Getting to Catalina Island is easy. Catalina Express provides up to 30 daily departures, and trips of only one hour to and from Catalina Island. Check schedules and make reservations online at www.CatalinaExpress.com. Catalina Express’ luxurious high-speed vessels depart this spring from San Pedro, Downtown Long Beach and Dana Point. The airline-style seats and friendly cabin attendants make the trip extra comfortable and enjoyable. Sit back and relax, gaze out the seat-to-ceiling level windows and catch glimpses of our white-sided dolphin friends swimming alongside the boat. Take in the beauty of the sea.





Upgrade to the Commodore Lounge and enjoy exclusivity, increased privacy and a complimentary cocktail and snack. Or for a small room charge, another option to sail in luxury is the Captain's Lounge, which is available on four vessels. This private cabin accommodates up to eight passengers, includes a complimentary beverage of choice, plush seating and amenities. Please call ahead for menu selections available in the Captain's Lounge. For more information, call (310) 519-7971 ext 4.

