

# International Student Newsletter



## Budget Friendly Road Trips



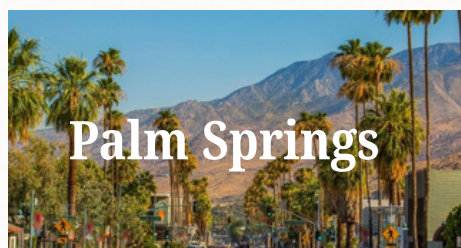
### Joshua Tree

Joshua Tree National Park is located 130 miles from LA, a 2-hour and 30-minute drive. The National Park offers many hiking trails, stunning views, camping options, and a beautiful stargazing experience at night. There is multiple admission fee option, with the most popular choice being \$30 per vehicle, covering all passengers. Additionally, the Park offers free entrance on certain days, with the next free admission day scheduled for Sunday, August 4th.



### Temecula

Temecula is located about 2 hours southeast of Los Angeles and is known for its great weather, award-winning wineries, and famous balloon rides. It's the perfect city for a day road trip or a one-night stay. Some budget-friendly tips for students include visiting Old Town Temecula, watching the balloons at sunrise, enjoying the Wilson Creek Winery Courtyard with cheaper wine-by-the-glass options, and visiting the Promenade Temecula.



### Palm Springs

Palm Springs is a desert city known for its arts, outdoor activities, and relaxation. While Palm Springs hotels and food can be costly, the city is only 2 hours from LA and offers many free and budget-friendly one-day activities like visiting the Sunnyland Center, the Palm Canyon Drive in Downtown, riding the Aerial Tramway, drop by the Palm Springs Art Museum, and exploring the hiking spots in the area: Andreas Canyon, Murray Canyon Trail, and the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway hike.



### Solvang

Solvang is a city located in Santa Barbara, about a 2-hour drive from LA. It is famous for its Danish architecture and authentic Danish treats. If you're into historical vibes, Solvang is the place to be, as it will make you feel like you've traveled back in time! Some budget-friendly ideas include visiting the Old Mission Santa Ines, sampling authentic Danish pastries in the Village of Solvang, admiring the beautiful architecture of Downtown, checking out the Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, and exploring Nojoqui Falls.

## Fourth of July



Fourth of July, also known as Independence Day, is a federal holiday in the United States that celebrates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. On that day, 13 American colonies officially declared their independence from Great Britain after adopting the Declaration of Independence document drafted by Thomas Jefferson on July 2nd, 1776. In The U.S. this date is celebrated with parades, fireworks, barbecues, and family and friends' gatherings.

The best locations to watch the fireworks are Marina Del Rey, at Burton Chace Park or Fisherman's Village, and Long Beach at Queensway Bay or Queen Mary. The fireworks usually start at 9 pm and last for about 20 minutes.

Not a big fan of fireworks? Downtown LA will celebrate July Fourth with a free admission drone show at Gloria Molina Grand Park. Check more info about the Drone Show by visiting their website: <https://grandparkla.org>

# Not in the mood for traveling? We got you!

We understand that sometimes all we want is to enjoy the comfort of our house. With that in mind, there are free and budget-friendly options for your summer activities close to home!

## Music Events

If you enjoy live music, you can't miss the free live music events at The Grove, every Friday and Saturday from 5 pm to 8 pm. At Manhattan Village, you can enjoy their Summer Concerts every Thursday from 6 pm to 8 pm. 2nd and PCH at Long Beach is also holding a Beachside Beats fest, with the next performances scheduled for July 11th and July 25th, from 6 pm to 8 pm.



## Irvine Spectrum Center

is also known as the center of the summer, and we know why! Their free activities include silent disco nights, movies under the stars, fresh-air workouts, open-air yoga, and dancing. Check all their events' dates and information using the link: [Irvine Spectrum Center - The Center of Summer - Calendar of Events 2024 \(irvinecompanyretail.com\)](https://www.irvinecompanyretail.com/calendar-of-events-2024).

## Tanaka Farms

Want to try something different? Tanaka Farms offers many farm-like activities during the summer. One of the most popular is the u-pick wagon rides, where you can pick your own berries. Ticket prices range from \$20 to \$24, and you can take as much as it fits in your bags!



## Amusement Parks

In the mood for some double fun? **Universal Studios Hollywood** is currently offering a "buy a day, get a 2nd day for free" summer promotion. Tickets range from \$129 to \$154. Offer expires 10/09/24. **Knott's Soak City** is another option to enjoy summer close to home. The water park is open exclusively during the summer and is a wonderful way to cool down from the hot Anaheim weather. Ticket prices range from \$49.99 to \$54.99.

## Movies

How about a movie under the stars experience? 2nd and PCH, Manhattan Village, and Irvine Spectrum Center are showing many fun movies to enjoy in the open air. Make sure to visit their websites to check their schedules.

Are you an ASO member? Associated Student Organization (ASO) offers multiple discounts on many activities, including amusement parks. For a list of discounts offered, check the link: [Employee Savings Tickets \(est.us.com\)](https://www.est.us.com) and use the code ECC21ASO.

## Important Dates

- Independence Holiday (Campus Closed): **Thursday, July 4.**
- Last Day to Drop with a W (First 6-Week and 8-Week Summer Classes): **Tuesday, July 16.**
- First Six Week Summer Session Ends: **Thursday, July 25.**
- Last Day to Drop with a W (Second 6-Week Summer Classes): **Tuesday, July 30.**

## Registration Reminder !

International Students are required to register for a **minimum of 12 units**, following the enrollment requirement of **9 units on campus or hybrid**, and up to 3 units might be online. Make sure to register for classes before the semester starts.  
**Fall Semester classes start on August 26.**

## Summer Office Hours

(June 17 – Aug 8)

Monday to Thursday  
8am - 5pm



## Congratulations



The ISP is celebrating all International Students who completed their academic studies at El Camino College. We are excited to see the wonderful accomplishments you will be celebrating next.

## International Student Program

Student Service Building 164  
Monday - Friday: 8:00am-5:00pm

☎ 310-660-3431

✉ [ispfrontdesk@elcamino.edu](mailto:ispfrontdesk@elcamino.edu)

