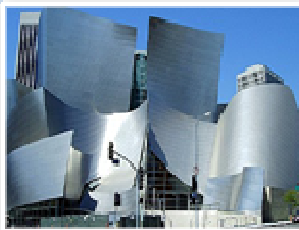


LOS ANGELES

The city of Los Angeles — also known as the "City of Angels" or simply **L.A.** — is the largest city in **California**. Located on a broad basin in Southern California, it's surrounded by vast mountain ranges, deep valleys, forests, desert and miles of coastline on the **Pacific Ocean**. The metropolitan area is the second largest in the United States in terms of population. The metropolitan area is centered in Los Angeles County, but stretches into Orange County, Ventura County, San Bernardino County, and Riverside County. Los Angeles is an important center of culture, business, media, and international trade, but is most famous for being the center of the world's entertainment industry, which forms the base of its global status.



The Walt Disney Concert Hall at 111 South Grand Avenue in Downtown **Los Angeles** is the fourth hall of the Los Angeles Music Center. Bounded by Hope Street, Grand Avenue, 1st and 2nd Streets, it seats 2,265 people and serves (among other purposes) as the home of the **Los Angeles Philharmonic orchestra** and the Los Angeles Master Chorale. Lillian Disney made an initial gift in 1987 to build a world-class performance venue as a gift to the people of Los Angeles and a tribute to Walt Disney's devotion to the arts. The Frank Gehry-designed building opened on October 23 2003. While the architecture (as with other Gehry works) evoked polarized opinions, the acoustics of the concert hall (designed by Yasuhisa Toyota) were widely praised in contrast to its predecessor, the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion.



Hollywood is a district in Los Angeles, situated west-northwest of Downtown **Los Angeles**. Due to its fame and cultural identity as the historical center of movie studios and movie stars, the word "Hollywood" is often used as a metonym of cinema of the **United States**. The nickname Tinseltown refers to the glittering, superficial nature of Hollywood and the movie industry. Today, much of the movie industry has dispersed into surrounding cities such as Burbank and the Los Angeles Westside, but significant auxiliary industries, such as editing, effects, props, post-production and lighting companies, remain in Hollywood, as does the backlot of Paramount Pictures. Many historic Hollywood theaters are used as venues and concert stages to premiere major theatrical releases and host the Academy Awards. It is a popular destination for nightlife and tourism and home to the Hollywood Walk of Fame.



Hollywood Boulevard is a boulevard beginning at **Sunset Boulevard** in the east and running northwest to **Vermont Avenue**, where it straightens out and runs due west to Laurel Canyon Boulevard. West of Laurel Canyon it continues as a small residential street in the hills, finally ending at Sunset Plaza Drive. On the east side of Hollywood Boulevard it passes through the neighborhoods of Little Armenia and Thai Town. In 1958, the Hollywood Walk of Fame, which runs from Gower Street to La Brea Avenue, was created. The first star was placed in 1960 as a tribute to artists working in the entertainment industry. The walk of Fame recognizes celebrities and icons such as Walt Disney, Paula Abdul, Hugh Hefner, and many more.

Sunset Boulevard, also known as the Boulevard of Broken Dreams is a street in the western part of **Los Angeles County**, that stretches from Figueroa Street in downtown Los Angeles to the Pacific Coast Highway at the Pacific Ocean in the **Pacific Palisades**. The street is an icon of **Hollywood** celebrity culture and the phrase "Sunset Boulevard" is an enduring shorthand for the glamor associated with Tinseltown. Approximately 22 miles (35 km) in length, the famous boulevard passes through or near Echo Park, Silver Lake, Los Feliz, Hollywood, West Hollywood, **Beverly Hills**, Holmby Hills, Bel-Air, Brentwood, and Pacific Palisades.

Venice is a district in western Los Angeles. It is known for its canals, beaches and circus-like Ocean Front Walk, which features performers, fortune-tellers and vendors. Throughout the summer months, the boardwalk is actively entertaining, and this tradition continues on weekends in the winter. It is an important tourist attraction in **Southern California**, and has retained its popularity in part because it is an attractive location for walking and bicycling. It was home to early Beat poets and artists in **Los Angeles**.

Grauman's Chinese Theatre is a movie theater located at 6925 **Hollywood Boulevard** in Hollywood. It is located along the historic **Hollywood Walk of Fame**. The Chinese Theatre was commissioned following the success of the nearby Grauman's Egyptian Theatre which opened in 1922. Built over 18 months, beginning in January 1926 by a partnership headed by Sid Grauman, the theater opened May 18, 1927 with the premiere of Cecil B. DeMille's film The King of Kings. It has since been home to many premieres, birthday parties, corporate junkets and three Academy Awards ceremonies. Among the theater's most distinctive features are the concrete blocks set in the forecourt, which bear the signatures, footprints, and handprints of popular motion picture personalities from the 1920s to the present day.

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