

DANA POINT

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



Family Memories Abound in Dana Point

Located halfway between Los Angeles and San Diego in Orange County, Dana Point is a favorite family beach destination. Known for its world-class surfing conditions, pristine ocean views and abundant sea life, Dana Point is a welcoming community for one and all. If you are traveling to Dana Point with your family, we have you covered when it comes to kid-friendly activities and family-friendly accommodations. Below we have compiled a list of activities, beaches and restaurants in the area to make your visit an unforgettable family vacation!

Family-Friendly Activities

Dana Point offers a multitude of activities suitable for your family vacation. From whale watching to swimming in the ocean, Dana Point offers families a relaxing ocean vacation. Find out what Dana Point has to offer with some activities below!



1. Journey to sea with **Ocean Institute** scientists as they introduce you to the local marine wildlife including an astounding variety of fish, microscopic plankton and the animals that live in sediment retrieved from the ocean floor.

2. The **Dana Point Harbor** has been attracting mariners and visitors alike since the 1800s. The harbor features 25 unique shops and 15 restaurants that cater to every taste along with ocean-front views.

3. Dana Point is considered the “Whale Capital of the West” thanks to year-round whale watching. Experience the world’s only eye-to-eye underwater viewing pods on **Captain Dave’s Dolphin and Whale Safari** where you can see and hear whales and dolphins up close in their own underwater environment. Get up close and personal with whales and dolphins with **Dana Wharf Whale Watching**.

4. Located on a bluff overlooking Capistrano Beach Park, **Pines Park** features rubberized mats and climbing play structures for kids to enjoy and exert their energy. Complete with an ocean view, the park also includes a sandbox, drinking fountains, picnic tables and grills.

5. **Aliso & Wood Canyons Regional Park** offers approximately 4,000 acres of wilderness and natural open space with hiking, mountain biking and equestrian trails.

6. **Lantern Bay Park** is a large, relatively flat grassy park with beautiful views of Dana Point and the Harbor, with plenty of pine trees for shade as well as public restrooms, a playground and a bocce ball court.

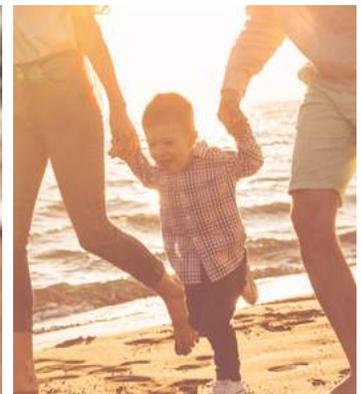




Dana Point Beaches

Home to seven miles of sprawling beautiful California shoreline, Dana Point has something to offer every beach goer and sun worshiper. Dana Point has many rental shops to enhance your beach activity with stand-up paddleboards, kayaks, jet skis and more. Below is a listing of beaches within Dana Point that are perfect for kids of all ages.

1. The 62-acre **Doheny State Beach** offers outstanding swimming and surfing on a one-mile stretch of pristine coastline. Tide pools are ideal for exploring at low tide, while a campground and picnic area are perfect for family gatherings and weekend beach parties.
2. Volleyball, basketball, cycling and other sand and court activities can be enjoyed at **Capistrano Beach**, along scenic south Dana Point. During the summer months, a concession building offers fishing gear rental and sales, food and beverages, and beach supplies.
3. **Salt Creek Beach** is another top surfing location that's also popular for its swimming, sunbathing and tide pools. Connected to the south is **Dana Strands Beach**, another beautiful stretch of sand that invites advanced surfers and joggers who just want to run.
4. **Aliso Beach** offers an area for swimming, surfing and stand-up paddleboarding. You can also enjoy fishing or exploring the tide pools. This family-friendly beach features a kids play area, restrooms and fire rings for late-night beach goers.
5. **Main Beach**, the largest stretch of beach in Laguna, is known for its iconic white lifeguard tower located in the middle of the beach making it a popular spot for swimming and body boarding. The beach features a boardwalk spanning the length of the beach and offers basketball, volleyball and a variety of sand activities.
6. **Thousand Steps Beach** is located between 9th and 10th streets in South Laguna. The beach features sand volleyball courts and is a great location for body surfing.
7. Dana Point Harbor Beach, better-known as "**Baby Beach**," is a small family-friendly beach with a roped off swimming area for kids and a lifeguard on hand. Behind the beach is a grass park for picnicking with high bluffs towering overhead.





Family-Friendly Restaurants

We know you don't want to cook while you're on vacation! We've gone ahead and picked out some of Dana Point's family-friendly restaurants. You are sure to find a restaurant from the list below to accommodate even the pickiest of eaters.



180blu

33° North

A's Burgers

AVEO Table + Bar

Beach Harbor Pizza

Bonjour Café & Bistro

Bubba Kahuna's Pizza & BBQ Co.

Cannons Seafood Grill

Carlos Mexican Restaurant

Chart House Restaurant

Club 19

Coastal Kitchen

Craft House

Doheny Surf

El Torito Restaurant

enoSTEAK

Harbor Delicatessen

Harbor House Café

Kokomo's Pizza

Longboard Rooftop Lounge

Luna Grill

Monarch Bay Club

OverVue Lounge

Part & Parcel Market

Raya

RJ's Café

Salt Creek Grille

Sombra

Stacks Pancake House

Stonehill Tavern

The Brig Restaurant

The Dana Pool Café

The Market Place

Vue Restaurant

Expand Your Dana Point of View with An Extra Day to Play! Plus a \$100 Resort Credit

Experience all that Dana Point has to offer by booking a three-night stay at one of our four premium resort locations and get the fourth night free along with a \$100 resort credit. Dana Point's Extra Day to Play offer is valid for new reservations taking place from June 19 through September 4.*

[BROWSE LODGING OPTIONS](#)



THE RITZ-CARLTON

LAGUNA NIGUEL



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