

ANAHEIM 101

The Orange County Chapter of RWA® welcomes you to the 2012 RWA® Conference in Anaheim. Our weather is great and we're all looking forward to having a fantastic time.

When you're packing, keep in mind you're not coming to a big city like New York or San Francisco. You're coming to a destination resort – Disneyland®. Within the Disneyland® “Hot Zone,” as we like to call it, there is a transit system, the ART. There are also places for dining, entertainment and shopping that are within walking distance of the Marriott. If you want to take advantage of the plethora of things to do in the OC, you will require transportation. What you do and where you go will depend on the time you have available. Places are a bit spread out.

You'll find a list of websites to explore possibilities at the end of this post.

Let's get started.

DINING, ENTERTAINMENT AND SHOPPING IN THE HOT ZONE.

Downtown Disney® District and the Anaheim GardenWalk are both nearby. Downtown Disney® has a Disneyland® atmosphere with outdoor restaurants, shopping, movie theatres and live entertainment venues. The Anaheim GardenWalk offers the same venues, but in an outdoor

promenade setting. It's about a half mile walk to either location from the Marriott (or approximately 20-30 minutes.) The Marriott doesn't have its own shuttle service; however, the City of Anaheim has the ART (Anaheim Resort Transit). ART Route 5 leaves every 20 minutes from the hotel, stops at Disneyland® Park and the Downtown Disney® District and then goes to the Anaheim GardenWalk. Conference attendees can purchase an all-day unlimited ride ticket at the hotel for \$4. You can visit other areas outside the Hot Zone using your ART ticket, such as the Outlets of Orange, Westfield Main Place Mall, Knott's Berry Farm®, and Medieval Times®. For route numbers and schedules, pick up a brochure at the Concierge Desk.

You can check the Marriott website for dining, entertainment and shopping at the hotel.

TOURS, ADDITIONAL SITES and EVENTS

There are several different tour companies that have a shuttle that picks up guests at the hotel and takes them on various tours. The most popular are Los Angeles/Hollywood tours. There are also tours that go to Huntington Beach, Catalina Island, whale watching off the coast of Newport Beach, Laguna Beach and the Queen MarySM in Long Beach to name a few. If you are interested in booking these tours, visit the Concierge Desk at least one day in advance to find and book a tour.

Additional sites such as the Nixon Library or the Bowers Museum will require a rental car. You can travel south to the Mission at San Juan Capistrano or north to Olvera Street in Los Angeles by train. The Anaheim Amtrak station is located a short taxi ride from the hotel at Angel Stadium.

Anyone from Florida, or if you just love baseball, the Los Angeles Angels (even though they are here in Anaheim) have games Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (July 27-29) against the Tampa Bay Rays.

La Cage Aux Folles will be performed on stage at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts at The Orange County Performing Arts Center in Costa Mesa (approximately 30-40 minute drive from the hotel). We highly suggest that you purchase your tickets in advance.

The Bowers Museum in Santa Ana (approximately a 15 minute drive from hotel) is known for its permanent exhibits of local history and its Pacific Islands collection. The current exhibit is *Fabergé: Imperial Jeweler to the Tsars*.

There'll be a circus in town! Not just the usual craziness that surrounds a large conference, but the real circus. The Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus will be at the Honda Center.

SHOPPING

There are two shopping centers that have shuttles that come to pick up guests at the hotel. South Coast Plaza, with over 250 boutiques and 30 restaurants, has a shuttle that comes to

the hotel 3 times a day. The Citadel Outlet Mall in Los Angeles has a shuttle that picks up at the nearby Sheraton Anaheim Hotel 4 times a day. Roundtrip is \$14. You can pick up shuttle schedules at the Concierge Desk.

TAXIS, RENTAL CARS and TRAIN

The Yellow Cab Taxi Co has vehicles right out front of the hotel 24 hours a day. The Hertz rental car desk is located in the hotel, but there are also several other rental car companies in the area that will shuttle you over to their office from the hotel to pick up vehicles. The Anaheim Amtrak station is just a short ride away.

SOME STRAIGHT FACTS ABOUT THE MARRIOTT

The Marriott has no Super Shuttle desk, but the Concierge will help with booking airport shuttle services. Super Shuttle is \$10 to John Wayne and \$16 to LAX

There is a Hertz desk in the lobby, open Monday to Friday. When the desk is closed, the Concierge will help with booking rental cars.

There is a FedEx office in the lobby, open 7 AM – 10 PM, M-F and 9 AM – 5 PM Sat-Sun, where attendees can ship packages. The Bellman can also assist with shipping and receiving packages. Shipping can be expensive, so you may want to check with your local post office for more cost effective ways to mail items before you leave home. The FedEx office does

have computers for public access but charges for the high speed Internet usage.

There are two computers in the lobby for printing boarding passes. No charge for the boarding passes, but Internet access on the computers is charged at the rate of \$6/20 minutes. On the subject of Wi-Fi, check your hotel reservations to see if Wi-Fi is included in your room rate. If not, it's \$12.95 per day. The hotel lobby and the lobby Starbucks have free Wi-Fi.

LINKS TO CHECK OUT:

Anaheim What-To-Do
<http://anaheimoc.org/what-to-do>

The City of Anaheim site has several links to additional sites for things to do in the area.
<http://www.anaheim.net/playing.asp>

The Anaheim Orange County Visitor & Convention Bureau Map. This is a great overview of the "Hot Zone" area.
<http://www.anaheimconventioncenter.com/images/default/articles/50//Map3.pdf>

Anaheim Resort Transportation (ART)
www.RideART.org
<http://www.rideart.org/route-map/>

Orange County California
http://www.visitheoc.com/about_oc.html

The LA Tourist site has great information for Los Angeles and Orange County.

<http://www.latourist.com>

The Orange County Performing Arts Center

<http://www.scfta.org/home/default.aspx>

Bowers Museum

www.bowers.org

Honda Center

<http://www.hondacenter.com/Default.aspx>

Anaheim Marriott – Maps and Transportation info

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/maps/travel/laxah-anaheim-marriott/>

If you're arriving a couple of days early, plan to stay a couple of days after conference or have questions, we invite you to ask us. Past OCCRWA President, Jann Audiss, OCC PRO Liaison, Ottilia Scherschel, and PRO Mary Kozlowski are here to help.

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