

Griffith  
Park  
EST. 1896



## SITE

## SITE INFORMATION

## PASSPORT STAMP

### SITE 1

Travel Town Museum

5200 Zoo Dr.



Travel Town Museum has been a transportation museum and recreation center in Griffith Park since 1952. With its impressive collection and interactive exhibits, it's a favorite spot for families and train-lovers alike. Come learn about the history of trains and transportation in Los Angeles and Griffith Park from Travel Town volunteers—and ring a locomotive's bell, while you're at it!

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



### SITE 2

Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum

5202 Zoo Dr.



Founded in 1956 by a group of train enthusiasts, Los Angeles Live Steamers Museum educates the public in railroad history and shows live steam, gas-mechanical and electric railroad technology in actual operation. It's one of the oldest and largest live steam clubs in the United States. Visit the Steamers to see trains up close and in action, and to learn about their presence in Griffith Park.

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



### SITE 3

Walt Disney's Carolwood Barn

5202 Zoo Dr.



Walt Disney was a huge train enthusiast who spent hours building miniatures and model trains in a red barn he had built at his residence in Holmby Hills. In 1999, Walt Disney's family moved the barn to Griffith Park for others to enjoy. Visit the Carolwood Barn today to see trains of all scale, many of which were donated by animators and friends who shared Disney's hobby.

Hours: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



### SITE 4

Bette Davis Picnic Area

1600 Rancho Ave.



Meet members of the Los Angeles Parks Foundation and Hancock Park Garden Club in the Bette Davis Picnic Area—a slice of Griffith Park named for its famous former nearby resident, Bette Davis. Check out the recent micro-forest installation and learn how ecological restoration supports L.A.'s biodiversity goals within public green spaces.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### SITE 5

Los Angeles Zoo

5333 Zoo Dr.



The Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens opened in Griffith Park on November 28, 1966. The Zoo has played an important role in Griffith Park's history for decades. Visit the station outside the Zoo's entrance to learn more about the Zoo's connection to Griffith Park and its strategic conservation plan.

\*Entry to the Zoo is not included with this event.

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



### SITE 6

Autry Museum of the American West

4700 Western Heritage Way



Opened in 1988 in Griffith Park, the Autry Museum—including the exhibition *Investigating Griffith Park* and special programs—is free to all visitors on November 13th in honor of Griffith Park's 125th anniversary. Visit docents stationed outside in the museum's plaza to hear stories of the multi-layered history tied to the land where the Autry now sits, such as the history of the Feliz Rancho, the Griffith and National Guard airfields, and Rodger Young Village.

\*All visitors entering the museum are required to provide proof of vaccination and wear masks when indoors.

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



### SITE 7

June Aochi Berk in the Autry Museum plaza

4700 Western Heritage Way



During 1941, the former Civilian Conservation Corps camp located in Griffith Park was transformed into a detention center used by the U.S. Army to intern "enemy aliens." The citizens of Japanese descent who were brought to the detention center (near where the Travel Town Museum now stands) were later transferred to larger camps across the United States. Learn more about this little-known period in Griffith Park's history from June Aochi Berk, Board Director for the Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition and special guest Sigrid Toye.

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### SITE 8

Griffith Park Golf Club House

5500 Griffith Park Dr.



Visit the historic 1937 Spanish Revival style Griffith Park Club House, located at the Wilson and Harding Golf Courses, to see design features such as vaulted beam ceilings, red-tiled roofs and arched panoramic windows. Speak with passionate golf players about the history of golf in Griffith Park, which has been present for over 100 years!

\*Masks are required inside the club house.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



### SITE 9

Amir's Garden



It's a steep hike up the North Trail that leads from Mineral Wells Picnic Area (or an even steeper flight of stairs off the Mineral Wells Trail) to Amir's Garden—but it's worth it! The historic garden was established in 1971 by Amir Dialameh after a brush fire ravaged the area. Meet Carol Henning, a Sierra Club volunteer, to learn about Amir and his remarkable legacy.

\*Amir's Garden is about a 25-minute hike up a fairly steep service road, depending on where you begin. Wear good footwear, bring water, and prepare for exposure to the sun.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



Great spots for children!



Food and drink for sale at this site

# SITE 10

Mike Eberts at the 1933 Firefighters Memorial  
About a quarter-mile from Amir's Garden



A quarter-mile hike up the North Trail beyond Amir's Garden, is the Firefighter's Memorial, commemorating fallen heroes from one of California's deadliest fires. In 1933, a brush fire in Mineral Wells Canyon turned deadly when winds shifted. Dozens were killed and hundreds more injured. Historian and author Mike Eberts will recount this fateful story near the place where it occurred.  
\*The Firefighter's Memorial is about a 35-minute hike up a fairly steep fire road. Wear good footwear, bring water, and prepare for exposure to the sun.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



# SITE 11

Independent Shakespeare Co. at the future site of the Griffith Park Performing Arts Stage  
The Old Zoo



Independent Shakespeare Co. (ISC) has been performing free works by William Shakespeare in Griffith Park since 2010. In 2019, the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks announced it was building a Griffith Park Performing Arts Stage, which will create a permanent stage at the site ISC currently performs. Meet the company of ISC to hear more, as well as for impromptu performances and entertainment!  
\*Accessing this site requires a short walk up a dirt road or hill from the Old Zoo or Merry-Go-Round parking lots.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.,  
with a break for a performance near  
the Merry-Go-Round at 12:00 p.m.

# SITE 12

The Old Zoo



The Old Los Angeles Zoo opened in 1912 and closed only fifty-four years later when the new Los Angeles Zoo emerged. The abandoned site still contains the ruins of animal enclosures, as well as plenty of early Los Angeles and Griffith Park history. Rangers stationed at the Old Zoo will share tales of its history, as you roam at will. A walk through the Old Zoo is about .5 miles, and requires a short walk uphill to get to.  
\*Accessing this site requires a short walk up a dirt road or hill from the Old Zoo or Merry-Go-Round parking lots.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



# SITE 13

LA Compost: Griffith Park Site



In September 2021, Griffith Park became home to LA Compost's newest Regional Compost Hub, contributing to the Park's fluctuating history as a center for sustainable environmental practices. Visit the site to learn about LA Compost's mission and their work connecting the people of Los Angeles to the soil and one another.

\*Walk west from the Merry-Go-Round Lot 2 towards a white metal gate, which marks the site entrance.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

# SITE 14

Shane's Inspiration  
Griffith Park  
4800 Crystal Springs Rd.



The Shane's Inspiration inclusive playground, which opened in Griffith Park in 2000, was the first inclusive playground in the City of Los Angeles serving children of ALL abilities. Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration, a non-profit organization, has since partnered with the City of Los Angeles to establish 35 inclusive playgrounds throughout the City, and inspire a global inclusive play movement that has created 75 inclusive playgrounds throughout the world. Meet representatives from Inclusion Matters to hear about the inspiration behind this remarkable playground.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



# SITE 15

Griffith Park Merry-Go-Round: main entrance patio  
4730 Crystal Springs Dr.



The 95-year-old Griffith Park Merry-Go-Round isn't just any old carousel. Its 68 hand-made horses and custom-built Stinson 165 Military Band Organ inspired what would become "The Happiest Place On Earth." Meet L.A. Conservancy docents and Merry-Go-Round staff to learn more, and to see the mechanicals and organ up close!  
\*The organ will be available to view between 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m., 2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m., and 3:00 – 3:15 p.m.  
\*Tickets to ride the Merry-Go-Round can be purchased on site.

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



# SITE 16

Griffith Park Merry-Go-Round: opposite main entrance  
4730 Crystal Springs Dr.



Griffith Park's Merry-Go-Round was an important site within the gay liberation movement. The first Gay-In was held there on Memorial Day 1968, one year before the Stonewall riots, in a bold move toward living life in the open. Members from ONE Archive at the USC Libraries will share historic materials and tell the story of how this site helped spark a movement.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

# SITE 17

Griffith Park's 125th Event Hub at the field adjacent to the Merry-Go-Round



The headquarters for the Griffith Park 125th Anniversary can be found here, in the field near the Merry-Go-Round. Be sure to stop by for food trucks, event information, and all kinds of family-friendly activities.

Visit Friends of the Los Angeles River to explore their interactive Watershed Table, then swing by Narrated Objects for Griffith Park-related games and coloring pages. Learn about native species with the L.A. Zoo, or take a short hike with BioCitizen Inc., Los Angeles. Rangers will be on hand to lead short, family-friendly walks to the Old Zoo, and even Smokey Bear will make an appearance!

Speeches and a cake-cutting will occur from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., followed by a performance from Griffith Park's own Independent Shakespeare Co. Food trucks will be on-site throughout the day. This is a great place to pick up a free Griffith Park map/passport booklet, or to purchase Griffith Park merchandise.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



# SITE 18

Griffith Park Visitor Center  
4730 Crystal Springs Dr.



The Griffith Park Visitor's Center is full of information and exhibits about the history of Griffith Park and the people that shaped it. Visit with Rangers and members of the Griffith J. Griffith Charitable Trust to learn about the Park's namesake—Colonel Griffith J. Griffith—and the legacy he left to Los Angeles.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



# SITE 19

Courtyard near the GP Visitor Center Auditorium  
4730 Crystal Springs Dr.



Long before Griffith Park was Griffith Park, members of the Tongva-Gabriellino tribe lived in several different villages on the land. The plants and animals that lived there too were not considered resources but relatives; people, plants, and animals all helped and respected each other. Tongva Cultural Educator and Artist Craig Torres will talk about the reciprocal relationship between the Tongva and the land, as well as the present-day Tongva-Gabriellino people.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.,  
excluding 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



Great spots for children!



Food and drink for sale at this site

# SITE 20

Feliz Adobe  
4730 Crystal Springs Dr.



The 6,647-acre Rancho Los Feliz was granted to Corporal José Vicente Feliz as early as 1795. It was one of the first land grants in California, and would eventually become the property of Griffith J. Griffith. The Los Feliz adobe remains an important relic from Griffith Park's Rancho days. L.A. Conservancy volunteers will share more about this Historic-Cultural Monument and its connection to Griffith Park's past and present.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



# SITE 21

Griffith Park & Southern Railroad  
4400 Crystal Springs Dr.



The Griffith Park & Southern Railroad first opened for business in Griffith Park in 1948. Its miniature railroads have provided rides to passengers young and old ever since. Visit Griffith Park & Southern Railroad to learn more and to play a fun, interactive, kid-friendly game!

\*Tickets for train rides can be purchased on site.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
(train rides begin at 10:00 a.m.)



# SITE 22

Griffith Park Pony Rides  
4400 Crystal Springs Dr.



For over 73 years, Griffith Park Pony Rides has been saddling up children to take a pony ride on their 4-acre facility off Crystal Springs Drive. Stop by to see this legendary attraction in Griffith Park and to meet its staff and ponies!

\*Tickets for pony rides can be purchased on site.

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



# SITE 23

The Greek Theatre  
2700 N. Vermont Ave.



In 1919, Griffith J. Griffith's will established a trust fund for the construction of a world-class observatory and Greek Theatre, to be built in Griffith Park. Eleven years later the Greek Theatre was completed, quickly becoming one of Los Angeles's—and the nation's—most beloved outdoor entertainment venues. Now managed by the City of Los Angeles directly, the Greek has undergone extensive historic restoration, uncovering architectural details not visible for decades. Los Angeles Conservancy docents will be on site to take you on a brief tour behind the scenes of this renowned theatre.

\*Tours of the Greek Theatre are approximately 25 minutes.

Some stairs and steps will be included. Masks are required to be worn when indoors.

\*Food can be purchased at the nearby Franklin's Café & Market

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



# SITE 24

Griffith Observatory  
2800 E. Observatory Rd.



Since the doors opened in 1935, Griffith Observatory has become the most-visited public observatory in the world. Built with funds set aside expressly for its construction by Griffith J. Griffith, the Art Deco style Griffith Observatory (which was renovated and restored in the early 2000s) has become a symbol of Griffith Park and Los Angeles itself. Meet Observatory Staff and Museum Guides outside the Observatory for talks about this L.A. icon every half hour beginning at 10:00 am.

\*If you plan to enter the Observatory following the talk, a mask is required.

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

(talks begin every half hour, excluding 11:30 a.m.)



# SITE 25

View of the Hollywood Sign at the Griffith Observatory  
2800 E. Observatory Rd.



Many people know that the Hollywood Sign originated as part of an ad campaign to sell lots in the Hollywoodland suburban housing development in 1923. But how did it transform from billboard to icon, representing not just real estate, but an entire industry, culture, and dream unique to Los Angeles? The Hollywood Sign Trust will be near the Griffith Observatory to share the details about Griffith Park's—and the world's—most recognizable sign.

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



# SITE 26

Ellen Reid SOUNDWALK at the Griffith Observatory  
2800 E. Observatory Rd.



Ellen Reid SOUNDWALK presented in Los Angeles by UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA), is a free, GPS-enabled work of public art that uses music to illuminate the natural environment of L.A.'s Griffith Park. Created by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer and sound artist Ellen Reid, the experience is guided by the listener: the path you choose dictates the music you hear, and no two visits will be exactly the same. After downloading the free app and putting on your headphones, you can explore Griffith Park in an entirely new way. CAP UCLA staff will be present near the Griffith Observatory to share insights about this artwork and how best to access it.

\*Headphones will enhance the experience, so bring them along!

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



# SITE 27

Dante's View



Dante's View in Griffith Park is a popular destination for many hikers—but how this mountain-top garden came to be and how it's got its name is a mystery for many. Clare Darden of the Griffith J. Griffith Charitable Trust will be waiting at Dante's View for those interested in a hike and a great story—not to mention a fantastic view.

\*Reaching Dante's View requires hiking up a service road for several miles depending on where you begin. Wear good footwear, bring water, and prepare for exposure to the sun.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



# SITE 28 SITE 29

Fern Dell—the waterfall and the bridge  
2333 Fern Dell Dr.



For nearly a century, Griffith Park's Fern Dell has been an urban oasis. In 1914, the Parks Department began adding ferns to the ravine and by the 1920s the first of Fern Dell's terraced pools and bridges were in place. Now a major restoration project is in progress to improve and sustain the habitat in Fern Dell for future generations to come. Meet members of Friends of Griffith Park in two different locations within Fern Dell—at the waterfall and the bridge—to learn more about its history and the exciting work taking place there.

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



# SITE 30

The Trails Cafe and Historic-Cultural Monument No. 112



Tucked in Fern Dell is the outdoor Trails Cafe, a local hotspot specializing in baked goods, sandwiches, espresso, and tea. (The pie, in particular, is a must!) Chat with the owner and staff, who have been known to serve Griffith Park hikers with directions and hiking tips as well as coffee. While there, meet L.A. Conservancy docents to learn more about Fern Dell's historic elements, such as Historic-Cultural Monument No. 112, the only archeological landmark in Los Angeles. It designates a site where a Tongva-Gabrieliño village once stood.

\*Trails Cafe closes at 2:00 p.m. but the L.A. Conservancy staff will be on site until 4:00 p.m.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



Great spots for children!



Food and drink for sale at this site

# SPECIAL EVENTS

Along with 30 different sites to visit, some special events are happening in Griffith Park in honor of its 125th anniversary, as well.

## 9:00 am: Hike Historic Griffith Park with Author Casey Schriener

To celebrate Griffith Park's milestone anniversary, join Casey Schreiner, founder of Modern Hiker and author of "Discovering Griffith Park" — the first in-depth guidebook for the park — on a guided hike from Fern Dell to the summit of Mount Hollywood. Learn why Griffith Park is the greatest city park in the country and meet other experts along the way! Registration for this event can be [found here](#).

## 9:30 a.m.: Hike to Hidden Amir's Garden with the Sierra Club

Join the Sierra Club and hike to some historic and conservation-related sites to learn more about them and the history of Griffith Park's interior. Hikers will stop at Amir's Garden, the memorial to the 1933 firefighters, and Royce's Canyon to hear the stories of these significant places.

The hike is 4 miles long with 800 feet of elevation gain. Hikers will be primarily on fire roads with some hills. Bring hiking boots or shoes with good traction, water, suitable clothing layers, sunscreen, and a hat.

## 10:00 a.m.: Visit the *Investigating Griffith Park* exhibit at the Autry

The Autry Museum—including the exhibition *Investigating Griffith Park* and special programs—will be free to all visitors as part of the anniversary celebrations.

All visitors to the museum are required to provide proof of vaccination and to wear masks when indoors.

## 11:30 a.m.: Birthday Celebration and Independent Shakespeare Co. Performance

Visit the 125th Event's Hub to commemorate Griffith Park's 125th Anniversary! Craig Torres, Tongva Cultural Educator and Artist will welcome the crowd, followed by remarks from the L.A. Conservancy, Assemblymember Friedman's office and Councilmember Raman. Join us for cake and a lively and festive performance from Griffith Park's own Independent Shakespeare Co.

## 1:00 p.m.: Book Reading at the Autry: *The Feral Boy Who Lives in Griffith Park*

Visit the Autry at 1:00 p.m. to hear live reading of stories from the extended Second Edition of this short story collection. The largest urban park in the nation is the fertile ground where new myths and legends grow. New stories by Annette Zilinskas, Matt Oswalt, Hadley Meares, Tim Kirk, and others will be read by the authors and actors, with live musical accompaniment by Tom Moese.

Following the readings, the authors will sign copies of the newly released extended second edition, available in the museum store.

## 2:00 p.m.: Play Reading and Discussion at the Griffith Park Visitor Center Outdoor Amphitheatre

Antaeus Theatre Company presents a free reading of "90027: Griffith Park - The Fire In-Between" as part of Griffith Park's 125th Anniversary celebration. The live reading will be followed by a panel discussion featuring Playwright, Peppur Chambers; Director, Rondrell McCormick; Artistic Director, Bill Brochtrup; and Griffith Park Historian, Michael Eberts.

"90027: Griffith Park - The Fire In-Between" is part of Antaeus Theatre Company's original audio series, *The Zip Code Plays: Los Angeles* ([learn more here](#)).

## 2:30 p.m.: Book Reading at the Autry: *Griffith Park A to Z*

Join Casey Schreiner, author of *Discovering Griffith Park*, for a lively slideshow presentation through the alphabet of what makes Griffith Park one of the finest city parks in the entire country. Learn about groundbreaking aviators, ham-and-egg eating secret societies, famous animals, movie stars, citizen gardens, hiking routes, mysterious artists, and more!

Following the presentation Schreiner will sign copies of his L.A. Times bestselling book—the first and only in-depth guide for the park.

## 3:00 p.m.: Meditative Performance with floating at the Old Zoo

End your day of exploring Griffith Park on a special note. Join floating among the echoes of the Old Zoo for a patient practice in deep listening. Led by Taleen Kali, a Los Angeles native and multi-hyphenate arts practitioner, this meditative performance for singing bowls and bass guitar is an offering for grounding oneself in closer relationship to our local environment.

### Notice of Filming

Photography and filming will be taken at the event for documentary and publicity purposes. By entering the event premises, you consent to such recording and its release, publication, exhibition or reproduction. Please inform the videographer or photographer if you do not wish to be filmed or photographed.

PRESENTED BY:



LOS ANGELES  
CONSERVANCY



PARK PROUD LA

**NITHYA  
RAMAN**

Los Angeles  
City Councilmember  
4th District

WITH LEADERSHIP FROM:



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

**ANTAEOUS**  
Theatre Company



Griffith J. Griffith  
Charitable Trust



ONE Archives at  
the USC Libraries



Photos Courtesy of Friends of Griffith Park, Inclusion Matters, Independent Shakespeare Co., Japanese American National Museum and ONE Archives at the USC Libraries. All other photos from Los Angeles Conservancy Archives.

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The Los Angeles Conservancy is a nonprofit membership organization that works through education and advocacy to recognize, preserve, and revitalize the historic architectural and cultural resources of Los Angeles County. Learn more about our work at [laconservancy.org](http://laconservancy.org).

-  Fire Road Trail
-  Parking Lots
-  Restrooms

GETTING AROUND

It's easy to see Griffith Park using public transportation! Click [here](#) for more info

For a customized bike route specially made by Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition, click [here](#)

**Griffith Park**  
EST. 1896



CELEBRATING  
**125**  
YEARS

SITES

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