

A break
near
Malibu



THE SURF AND TURF

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

POPULATION: 4 MILLION

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$60,197

PARK ACREAGE: 37,021

Stereotypical Resident: The tan, Tesla-driving publicist with a spinning addiction.

What's Happening: L.A. is speeding up major transit projects to reduce the city's infamous traffic in advance of the 2028 Summer Olympics.

The Neighborhood: Venice is home to laid-back surfers and trendy eateries, but a tiny beach bungalow there will cost you \$2 million. Instead,

head 20 miles inland to up-and-coming Highland Park, where you'll find taquerias, walkable streets, easy access to 282-acre Ernest E. Debs Regional Park, and ranch homes for around \$500,000.

The Workout: "The Santa Monica stairs are so popular for exercising that they have their own Yelp page," says Janel Holcomb, a former professional cyclist who works with Liv Cycling. "Anyone and everyone is sprinting up them."

The Adventure: Griffith Park—4,210 acres of greenery inside the city limits—is famous for its hiking and biking trails. The star parties at Griffith Observatory are awesome.

The Escape: "The Santa Monica Mountains are just an hour from L.A. but feel far away," says Holcomb. "You can camp in Sycamore Canyon, hike a section of the 67-mile Backbone Trail, go gravel or mountain biking, and surf or hang out on the beach, all in the same day." —MEGAN MICHELSON



Climbing
at Whitney
Peak Hotel in
downtown
Reno

THE MOUNTAIN-ADJACENT TOWN

RENO, NEVADA

POPULATION: 248,860

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$57,125

PARK ACREAGE: 3,446

Stereotypical Resident: The tattooed thirty-something with a fixed-gear bike and a bartending job, or the cowboy-hat-wearing rancher with a truck and a gun rack.

What's Happening: A new Amazon fulfillment center and the Tesla Gigafactory have brought tech jobs and higher home prices, but the Biggest Little City is still inexpensive, with two-bedrooms renting for just over a grand a month.

The Neighborhood: Once known for its strip clubs and seedy bars, Midtown Reno has been reinvented with maker spaces, coffee shops, apartment buildings, and great food. "I love the Eddy, a beer garden and community space with bocce ball and live music," says Zoe Richards, a ski patroller at nearby Mount Rose. "Like everywhere in Reno, you can bring your dog."

The Event: Burning Man takes place in August three hours from Reno, and the festival influences Reno's culture year-round, from post-festival civilization-reentry parties to the *Space Whale*, a stained-glass-and-steel sculpture that's currently on display downtown.

The Trails: Just north of town, the Peavine trail network has over 40 miles of mountain-biking and running routes in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. Send it on the black-diamond downhill, or ride the eight miles of all-mountain and cross-country tracks.

The Workshop: At the nonprofit Reno Bike Project, you can buy new or upcycled rides, get a tune-up, or take a repair class.

The Adventure: "There's a whitewater park on the Truckee River in the middle of downtown that brings a big crowd every May for the Reno River Festival," says Eddie Davis, a wholesale planner at Patagonia's Reno office. "The river is also great for tubing and cooling off when it gets hot."

The Escape: Skiing in Tahoe, climbing in Yosemite, and mountain biking in Downieville are all within a couple of hours. Locals head south on U.S. 395 to climb, ski, or hike in the eastern Sierra Nevada, then soak at Travertine Hot Springs just across the state line in Bridgeport, California. —M.M.