CELEBRATING IN THE CONEJO VALLEY

Westlake Village, Thousand Oaks & Agoura Hills

BY DENISE SCHRIEDEL • WINE, TRAVEL, RESORT & SPA WRITER

e all have magical places that evoke memories of growing up, having children & raising a family with countless celebrations. Conejo Valley is that place for me where I love to visit, seeing family & friends and enjoying the best that life has to offer. This is "my home away from home" for romantic getaways, concerts, baby showers, spa weekends, rock star parties, graduations, charity events and other occasions worth celebrating!

Conejo means "rabbit" in Spanish & refers to the rabbits common to the region. Originally, the native Chumash Indians were the first residents, then in 1803, the Spanish land grant in the area was given the name Rancho El Conejo. Now, the Conejo Valley hosts numerous recreational activities for hikers, music fans, wine & dine aficionados, history buffs and families all seeking to celebrate the fullness that life has to offer.



There is no shortage of wine tasting in this community. You can find tasting rooms galore throughout Thousand Oaks & Westlake Village. One of my favorites is West Tasting Room with a friendly crew, extensive food menu, outdoor seating and wines by the glass from many locally sourced wineries. All wines for purchase in their wine shop. For those of you who would like to "Sip your way through Conejo", then visit www.conejo.com for a complete list of exceptional wineries and breweries to delight your tastebuds.

One of the most notable attractions is the Reagan Presidential Library & Museum hosting many on-line & in-person events. The permanent exhibits include Air Force One, where you can step aboard the jet that once flew President Reagan.

40 Presidential Dr., Simi Valley www.reaganfoundation.org



The Hyatt Regency is Conejo Valley's convenient, fullamenity hotel conveniently located in Westlake Village. Our recent stay in the Promenade Suite was relaxing with friends & family in this luxurious 670 square foot suite offering stunning views of the Santa Monica Mountains, large Spanish-Mediterranean style patio and a large King Bed separate suite. The best dining experience at the hotel is Harvest Kitchen & Bar, with it's "warm and casual ambiance, lovely patio with fire pits, and relaxing lounge areas where you can enjoy farm-to-fork California cuisine."

Hyatt Regency 880 S. Westlake Blvd., Westlake Village www.hyattregencywestlake.com



If you prefer to spend the day relaxing to enhance your mind, body & soul, then The Spa & Salon At Four Seasons Hotel Westlake is the perfect place to be. My daughters and I had the pleasure of lounging in the Spa Suite with a private outdoor jacuzzi and patio, massage tables, spa cuisine delivered and the tranquility of quality time together. Afterwards, you can relax in the private outdoor heated pool & cabanas, with full pool service for food & beverages!

www.fourseasons.com/westlakevillage

Another family-friendly hotel is the Palm Garden Resort which hosts the Hollywood Suite, to entertain your guests, with a one-of-a kind pool table designed for and owned by the famous George Burns. This suite features a bar, two bathrooms, private bedroom and all the amenities including outdoor pool & jacuzzi in this newly-remodeled hotel.

www.palmgardenhotel.com



Reconstructed chumas (house), stagecoach inn



Celebrating in the Conejo Valley is easy. Music lovers enjoy the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, a world-class concert venue and The Canyon Club in Agoura Hills "Where Music Meets the Soul". While you're there, visit the Whizin Market Square for shopping & dining:

- Agoura Antique Market
- Tifa Chocolate and Gelato
- RELM Lifestyle Boutique
- · Blue Table (wine bar)
- · La Plata (Mexican restaurant)
- · Carrara Pastries



For more outdoor adventure, you can discovery the Conejo Valley Hiking Trails amidst the spectacular Santa Monica Mountain landscapes and luxurious coastlines that surround the area, for hiking, biking and horseback riding.

So this season, immerse yourself with all the goodness you can receive and being grateful for celebrating with those you love & cherish!



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