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Best Family-Friendly Hotels and Resorts in San Diego



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Paradise Point Resort & Spa FAMILY-FRIENDLY HOTELS

Photo courtesy of Paradise Point Resort & Spa



By **Katie Dillon**
San Diego Local Expert

SAVE TO MY LISTS



With its world-class theme parks and gorgeous beaches, **San Diego** is one of the most family-friendly destinations in the world. The truth is that most of our hotels cater to families in one way or another, but there are stand-outs that step it up a notch.

If money is no object, everyone in the family will love **Fairmont Grand Del Mar**, San Diego's most luxurious resort. A state-of-the-art kids clubs allows mom and dad plenty of time to golf, spa and perhaps even share a date night at one of the resort's award-winning restaurants.

Families wanting to soak up as much beach time as possible should consider the **La Jolla Shores Hotel**, perched on one of San Diego's best beaches. Here, it's possible to learn how to surf (lessons are available for kids ages 5 and over), kayak the La Jolla Caves and soak up the sun. The Kellogg Park playground is next door, too.

And, of course, the **LEGOLAND Hotel** is all the rage. Between character appearances in the lobby, LEGO pits and color everywhere, the kids will surely bliss out.

To provide guidance for where to base your next family vacation in American's Finest City, here is our list of 10 best family-friendly San Diego hotels.

10 LEGOLAND Hotel

There's no doubt that kids love the LEGOLAND Hotel, which functions much like an extension of the park with LEGO pits, a play area, floating LEGOs in the pool and color everywhere. The themed rooms (choose Pirate, Kingdom or Adventure) have bunk bed enclaves for the kids, while adults sleep in a queen bed. Suites sleeping up to seven are also available. Dining options include breakfast and dinner buffet at the Bricks Restaurant as well as a small room service menu. Yes, there are adult cocktails at Skyline Bar and Mini's Lounge, conveniently located next to the entertainment and LEGO pit near the lobby. The atmosphere is a bit hectic, but your kids will remember the experience.

9 Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego

Located on the San Diego Bay, the Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego is close to the airport and the area's popular attractions. The hotel is a few minutes' walk away from the Gaslamp Quarter, Seaport Village and San Diego Convention Center. This is a big hotel at 1,625 guest rooms, many with floor-to-ceiling windows and views of San Diego and the bay. Kids ages 3-12 can participate in seasonal activities and adventures that focus on the culture, history and environment surrounding San Diego. There's a family pool, s'mores on the 4th floor, sports courts and a fabulous spa for mom and dad to enjoy.

8 Paradise Point Resort & Spa

Escape to a private 44-acre island tucked away on gentle Mission Bay yet only minutes from downtown San Diego. Paradise Point Resort and Spa, San Diego's ultimate family-friendly resort, features bungalow-style guest rooms that offer plenty of space for families. Find oodles of activities to choose from whether you're seeking fun and adventure, or rest and relaxation. Spend your day lounging by one of five pools, then roast s'mores with your toes in the sand at a beach bonfire at night. Tap into your adventurous side for some jet skiing, sailing or kayaking or unwind at The Spa while the kids explore the island via beach cruiser or learn to surf the Southern California waves.

7 La Jolla Shores Hotel

La Jolla Shores is right on the very family-friendly La Jolla Shores Beach, a popular launch point for kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding, and surf lessons. Sign up for beach activities via the front desk, which also has umbrellas and beach chairs to set up for you. The Shores Restaurant offers one of San Diego's best ocean view dining experiences as well as California cuisine room service. Newly remodeled beachfront and ocean view rooms round out the 128 available for short or extended stays. Amenities include WiFi, balconies, eco-friendly bath amenities, in-room recycling, and more. The entire property is non-smoking. Next door is Kellogg Park, home to a huge grassy area and playground for kids. Within walking distance are the shops and restaurants of La Jolla Shores. It's entirely possible to spend a week here without leaving the area.

6 Catamaran Resort Hotel San Diego

The Catamaran Resort Hotel San Diego is located on the Mission Bay beach--where a number of water-based activities are on offer ranging from waterskiing to kayaking--and steps from the ocean in Pacific Beach. The property features 313 rooms, a fully equipped health club and a highly-rated spa offering a variety of massages and other luxurious treatments. When mom and dad would like to sip craft beer or other delights while cruising the bay on board Bahia Belle (resort guests ride free), the little ones can play in the educational kids club. There's also an arcade onsite as well as plenty of entertainment within walking distance.

5 Loews Coronado Bay Resort

Water, water, everywhere. Situated on a private 15-acre peninsula surrounded by the Pacific Ocean and Coronado Bay, Loews Coronado Bay Resort is located minutes from downtown Coronado, a charming resort village, and a short drive to San Diego's world-famous attractions. A destination within a destination, Loews features everything you'd expect from a luxury resort and so much more, including a private 80-slip marina, a soothing spa, enchanting gondola cruises, four restaurants and lounges, basketball and tennis courts, three swimming pools and direct access to the Silver Strand State Beach. Loews also welcomes pets and the kids' club was designed by Pottery Barn Kids.

4 Hotel Del Coronado

The iconic red roof has become one of San Diego's most recognizable symbols. The beachfront Hotel del Coronado is filled with over 120 years of history with guests including 11 Presidents, royalty and countless movie stars. Its location on one of San Diego's most family-friendly beaches makes it a great place to stay with kids in tow. In addition, the family will enjoy bike rentals, the pool, ice cream parlor and other onsite dining as well as a scavenger hunt received upon check-in. This luxurious National Historic Landmark has unveiled several major enhancements including more ocean view dining, a state-of-the-art fitness center with classes held on the beach, as well as a facility just for kids and teens. If you forget to pack something, the shops have a variety of amenities and are sure to fill any empty space in your suitcase.

3 Omni San Diego Hotel

The kid fun starts at check-in, when kids receive a backpack full of activities and entertainment. The Omni San Diego Hotel is situated within walking distance to the trolley, shops and restaurants in the Gaslamp Quarter. The rooms have flat screen televisions with DVD players, in room safes, high-speed Internet, contemporary decor and more. This 21-story hotel features guest amenities such as an onsite seafood restaurant that serves more than 30 types of seafood, pasta, and salads. Guests at the Omni San Diego Hotel will also find a gourmet coffee bar and gift shop, as well as 21 meeting rooms. The hotel also has a swimming pool and a gym. The hotel is connected to PETCO Park via a sky bridge.

2 Omni La Costa Resort & Spa

The Omni La Costa Resort and Spa is located just a few miles from the beach in Carlsbad, which is in North San Diego County. In addition to its world-renowned spa, the resort boasts a newly-renovated golf course that is the site of several national championships each year. Situated on 400 lushly landscaped acres, La Costa offers the ultimate in resort activity. Its expansive water park, Splash Landing, features serpentine water slides, a kids' splash area, several pools, hot tubs, and a poolside restaurant. Excellent dining options, such as locally sourced fare at BlueFire Grill, help make it a resort that you do not ever have to leave. However, kids will want to visit LEGOLAND, just a few minutes away.

1 The Grand Del Mar

As Southern California's only triple Forbes five-star resort, Fairmont Grand Del Mar oozes opulence. Nestled in a secluded canyon east of Del Mar, the sprawling property boasts an equestrian center, luxury spa, state-of-the-art fitness center, 5-star dining, golf, tennis and four heated pools. If the beach is calling, Fairmont Grand Del Mar can chauffeur you there and back with chairs, umbrellas and bottled water in tow. Kids can do crafts and play games in the Explorer's Club while parents take a pilates class or cherish a private dinner at the resort's award-winning French restaurant, Addison. The 249 hotel rooms are lavishly decorated with Pratesi linens and marble bathrooms to compliment tranquil canyon views.



About **Katie Dillon**

Katie Dillon originally moved to the seaside community of La Jolla to attend UC San Diego. When the opportunity presented itself, she and her husband set off for a 7 year stint overseas as expats in London and Hong Kong. After traveling the world, they returned to the La Jolla sunshine, with a young daughter in tow. Katie now writes a lifestyle site called La Jolla Mom and is the author of a book called, "Flying With Kids." Her work can be seen on NBC San Diego, Red Tricycle, Yahoo! Shine and Have Family Will Travel, a Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts blog.

Read more about Katie Dillon [here](#).

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