



ELITE RECOMMENDS

TOP SUITES OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COAST

Just steps from the sand and the blue Pacific, these suites cater to guests who appreciate luxury, design and service—with a casual California flare. Stretching down the coastline from Santa Barbara to San Diego, these exceptional suites are popular hideaways for discerning presidents, movie stars, moguls and world travelers.

BY SHERRIE STRAUSFOGEL

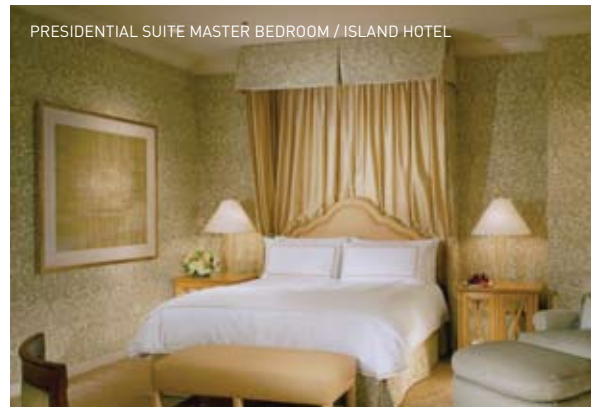
TOP SUITES



MIZNER SUITE LIVING AREA / THE GRAND DEL MAR



GAMBLE SUITE LIVING AREA / THE LODGE AT TORREY PINES



PRESIDENTIAL SUITE MASTER BEDROOM / ISLAND HOTEL

JUST OFF THE COAST

WHILE THESE STELLAR PROPERTIES SIT BACK FROM THE BEACH, THEY ALL EXUDE THE SAME COASTAL LUXURY ELITE TRAVELERS ARE IN SEARCH OF.

THE GRAND DEL MAR

MIZNER SUITE

Key selling points | The sumptuous décor includes four 40-inch flat-screen TVs—one hidden behind a vanishing painting—indoor and outdoor fireplaces, handsome study, expansive terrace with view of The Grand Golf Club's Hole #3, wet bar, espresso machine and butler's pantry.

Standout services | Daily "Chef's Choice" amenity and personal guided hikes

Style | Mediterranean, by Robert Altevers, 2007

Special amenities | Pratesi linens, Acca Kappa bath products, Bose stereo system

Square footage | 2,840

Number of rooms in suite | Five

Number of bathrooms | Two and one half-bath

Number of rooms and suites in hotel | 249, including 31 suites

Who's slept here? | Tom Hicks, owner of the Dallas Cowboys and the Texas Rangers

Nightly rate | \$5,500

Location | 5300 Grand Del Mar Court, San Diego

Contact | President Tom Voss, (858) 314-2002; tvoss@thegranddelmar.com; www.thegranddelmar.com

THE LODGE AT TORREY PINES

GAMBLE SUITE

Key selling points | This luxurious two-bedroom suite overlooks the 18th green of the world-famous Torrey Pines Golf Course and offers sweeping views of the Pacific Ocean.

Standout service | Preferred tee times at the Torrey Pines Golf Course (site of the 2008 U.S. Open)

Style | California craftsman, by Randell L. Makinson of Pasadena's Gamble House Trust, 2002

Special amenities | Rivolta Carmignani linens, 32-inch LG flat-screen TV

Square footage | 2,500

Number of rooms in suite | Four

Number of bathrooms | Three and three quarter-baths

Number of rooms and suites in hotel | 170, including eight suites

Who's slept here? | Reportedly Tiger Woods

Nightly rate | \$4,450

Location | 11480 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla

Contact | General Manager Dan Fullen, (858) 777-6600; dfullen@lodgetorrey.com; www.lodgetorrey.com

ISLAND HOTEL NEWPORT BEACH

PRESIDENTIAL SUITE

Key selling points | A one-of-a-kind signature suite, it has five balconies offering panoramic coastal views, and features a 12-foot raised ceiling and baby grand piano.

Standout service | Upon check-in, a guest requested the concierge serve as an officiant for his wedding, just two hours later.

Style | California casual, by Wimberly, Allison, Tong and Goo, 2009

Special amenities | Rivolta linens, 42-inch plasma HDTVs, Bose audio systems, L'Occitane toiletries

Square footage | 1,965

Number of rooms in suite | Five

Number of bathrooms | One and one half-bath

Number of rooms and suites in hotel | 295, including 83 suites

Who's slept here? | Celebrities, sports figures, musicians and dignitaries

Nightly rate | \$5,000

Location | 690 Newport Center Drive, Newport Beach

Contact | Managing Director Richard Evanich, (949) 760-4950; revanich@theislandhotel.com; www.theislandhotel.com