



FACT SHEET

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NEWPORT BEACH: HOLLYWOOD'S BACKLOT ON THE SAND

Lights! Camera! Surf!

Many popular television series, movies and classic films have utilized Newport Beach as a backdrop or locale. Following is just a sampling of Newport's many starring roles as a popular shooting location.

NEWPORT BEACH AND U.S. TELEVISION

- The popular TV series "The O.C." premiered in 2003 and with its success Newport Beach became a defining city along the California coast.
- On the show "Arrested Development" the characters are purported to have lived in Newport Beach, operating a frozen banana stand on Balboa Island. Many of the stories took place in Newport and in surrounding Orange County.
- In the final episode ("Live Together, Die Alone") of season two of the hit series "Lost," the boat "Elizabeth" had a Newport Beach hailing port, which was painted on her transom.
- The long-running TV series "The West Wing" used Newport Beach and the Orange County area a number of times, basing Sam Seaborn's bid for congress in the district and filming on location during five different season four episodes.
- In 2007 MTV replaced its hit teen-reality series "Laguna Beach: The Real Orange County" with a new show, "Newport Harbor: The Real Orange County." Only the cast and location changed in the new series based on the lives of wealthy high school students living in Newport Beach.

NEWPORT BEACH ON FILM (A SAMPLING)

Cleopatra (1917)

The Navigator (1924)

Captain Blood (1935)

Lassie Come Home (1943)

Around the World in Eighty Days (1956)

Beaches (1988)

Jerry Maguire (1996)

Shadows (2005)

Sherlock, Jr. (1924)

All Quiet on the Western Front (1930)

A Star is Born (1937)

Joan of Arc (1948)

Lord Love a Duck (1966)

A Few Good Men (1992)

Romy and Michele's High School Reunion (1997)

Black Star Canyon (2006)

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BACKGROUNDER

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NEWPORT BEACH: THE HAMPTONS OF HOLLYWOOD

From the Golden Age to the Digital Age of Hollywood, Newport Beach Has Been Where The Stars Retreat

Often called "The Hamptons of Hollywood" the affluent enclave of Newport Beach in Southern California's famed Orange County has attracted celebrities for years with its convenient access (50 miles south of Los Angeles) to the movie and entertainment capital of the world and the promise of relative obscurity. While many celebrities and notables visit the city for its reputation as a playground for the rich and famous – a phenomenon that has only increased with the popularity of "The O.C." TV series – others have chosen to make Newport Beach their home.

Newport Beach has also been a vacation retreat for Hollywood stars of the past and present – from the golden age to the digital age. Noted for its laidback sophistication, Newport is where film, TV, music and sports stars have lived and vacationed for over 75 years.

PAST & PRESENT NOTABLE RESIDENTS & FREQUENT VISITORS

- Jim Abbot – pitcher, MLB
- George Burns and Gracie Allen – radio and television comedians
- Lauren Bacall – actress, frequented Newport with husband Humphrey Bogart
- Candice Bergen – actress known for her starring role on "Murphy Brown"
- Joey Bishop – comedian, member of Frank Sinatra's memorable "Rat Pack"
- Humphrey Bogart – actor, noted for gangster roles
- Kobe Bryant – athlete, NBA player
- Nicolas Cage – actor, National Treasure, Moonstruck
- James Cagney – film star; won a small island in Newport Beach in a game of poker
- Sasha Cohen, figure skater
- Chris Cox, Chairman of Securities and Exchange Commission
- Dick Dale – "King of the Surf Guitar"
- Buddy Ebsen – actor, noted for his lead role on "The Beverly Hillbillies"
- Chuck Finley, Former baseball player
- Errol Flynn – actor noted for swashbuckling roles and love of yachting
- Greta Garbo – actress; was an exclusive member of The Balboa Bay Club
- Heather Locklear – actress from television shows "Melrose Place" and "Dynasty"
- William Holden – actor, Sunset Boulevard, Bridge on the River Kwai, Sabrina
- Jeremy Jackson – actor, Baywatch
- Reggie Jackson- Hall of Fame Baseball Player
- Ruby Keeler –actress noted for her film musicals, longtime resident of The Balboa Bay Club
- Dean Koontz – best-selling author
- John Lackey, Starting Pitcher of the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim
- Karl Malone – athlete, NBA player

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- McG – producer of “The OC,” based on his experiences growing up in Orange County
- Kelly McGillis – actress from “Top Gun”; attended Corona Del Mar High School
- Mark McGrath, singer (Sugar Ray), co-owner of A Restaurant in Newport Beach
- Johnny Mercer, songwriter, Grammy winner
- Chuck Norris – martial arts star, part owner at one time of “Woody’s Wharf” on Balboa Peninsula
- Aaron Peirsol - swimmer, Olympic Gold Medalist
- Michelle Pfeiffer – actress, grew-up in Orange County
- Ginger Reyes - musician, Smashing Pumpkins, Halo Friendlies
- Dennis Rodman – athlete, NBA player
- Roy Rogers and Dale Evans – actors; residents of Lido Island
- Gwen Stefani - singer, No Doubt
- Leigh Steinberg – noted sports agent, said to be the model for the title character of “Jerry Maguire”
- Shirley Temple – Academy Award winning child actor, former U.S. Ambassador
- John Wayne – Academy Award winning Hollywood legend
- Tiger Woods – legendary golfer, PGA Champion
- George Yardley - NBA Hall of Famer

FUN CELEBRITY FACTS

- Noted film director McG and Mark McGrath (leader singer for the group Sugar Ray), are co-owners of the new Newport Beach eatery A Restaurant. Both are Orange County natives.
- Actress Michelle Pfeiffer was a Newport Beach and grew up in nearby Santa Ana, where she attended Fountain Valley High School. Pfeiffer participated in local beauty pageants and was once crowned, “Ms. Orange County,” which helped launch her acting career.
- Los Angeles Lakers megastar, Kobe Bryant, resides in a \$4 million, Mediterranean-style home with stunning views of the Pacific Ocean. Kobe bought the house with his wife, Vanessa, who grew up in the area and wanted to “return to her roots.”
- Retired professional basketball player, Karl Malone, played for the Los Angeles Lakers during the 2003-2004 season (he previously played 15 years for the Utah Jazz), and now resides with his family in Newport Beach.
- At age 13, actress Shirley Temple was crowned the very first “Miss Newport”. She was known to be a regular upon Newport Bay until she moved and actor Buddy Ebsen (best remembered as Jed Clampet on “The Beverly Hillbillies”) took up residence in her home.
- Humphrey Bogart, actor in films such as “Sabrina” and “The African Queen,” was a frequent visitor at many Newport Beach restaurants and sailing events. The house he lived in was his wedding present to actress Lauren Bacall. Actor Errol Flynn was also a regular among Newport Beach yacht enthusiasts.

NEWPORT BEACH IS THE “DUKE’S” TOWN

Hollywood legend **John Wayne** aka the “Duke,” is perhaps the best-known of all Newport Beach celebrities, a fact that is reinforced daily at the county’s airport bearing his name. Some say Wayne owes his fame and fortune to Newport Beach, since a bodysurfing accident at the famed surf spot the “Wedge,” forced him to give up football and pursue an acting career. “Duke” called Newport home from 1965 - 1979, plus it was homeport to his incredible yacht *Wild Goose* (a converted U.S. Navy minesweeper) The Duke’s 136-foot yacht can still be seen sailing the waters off Balboa Island as it is now owned by Hornblower Cruises & Events and is available for private charter.

To this day, Newport Beach visitors can walk in Wayne’s boot-steps by visiting such John Wayne locales as the *Wild Goose* itself, The Balboa Bay Club & Resort, Balboa Pavilion, The Cannery, 21 Oceanfront, The Galley Café and The Arches.

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You can also pay tribute to the Duke by booking the “Duke” suite at the Fairmont Newport Beach Hotel. The room, formally referred to as the Presidential Suite, pays homage to John Wayne, long-time Newport Beach resident and cinematic legend. To best enjoy "**The Duke**" Suite, book the "**Rope'em, Ride'em, Cruise'em Package**" and enjoy overnight accommodations in the Duke suite, couple spa treatments, complimentary 2-hour Duffy boat cruise through Newport Harbor where you can spot John Wayne’s former home on the waterfront.

About Newport Beach

Newport Beach, an opulent seaside community located on southern California’s Orange County coastline between Los Angeles and San Diego, epitomizes the quintessential southern California lifestyle. Known for its picturesque views of the Pacific and one of the world’s largest small yacht harbors, the city is acclaimed for its beaches, outdoor recreation, sophisticated atmosphere, international film festival, three annual epicurean festivals and the oldest holiday boat parade in the nation. For additional travel information, please call (800) 94-COAST or visit us online at www.visitnewportbeach.com.

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NEWS RELEASE

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NEWPORT BEACH FILM FESTIVAL

Popular Springtime Event Attracts Stars, Filmmakers and Fans from Around the World



The Newport Beach Film Festival will be celebrating its 10th anniversary with an impressive line up of independent and studio films from around the globe, April 23-30, 2009. From premieres of contemporary cinema, to live fashion shows, and tastes of Newport Beach's finest culinary creations, the festival offers filmmakers and fans alike the ultimate movie-lover experience.

The festival features nightly special events including: red carpet galas, filmmaker receptions, compelling filmmaker Q & A sessions, international spotlights, industry seminars and retrospectives. In addition, the Festival hosts numerous opportunities to connect with enthusiastic new audiences, fellow filmmakers, film industry professionals and the media in a beautiful seaside locale.

The setting for the Newport Beach Film Festival has often been compared to that of the Cannes International Film Festival with its lavish yacht parties, the beach, affluent community and the warm Mediterranean-like weather. Celebrities, filmmakers and fans alike party under the stars at posh parties held at Fashion Island, The Orange County Museum of Art, Land Rover, Martin & Osa, Blue Coral Seafood and Spirits, Via Lido Plaza, Muldoon's Irish Pub & Celtic Bar and the Palm Garden at The Island Hotel Newport Beach among others.

Launched in 1999, the Newport Beach Film Festival is one of the leading lifestyle film festivals in the United States. Annually presenting over 350 films from over 35 countries, the festival has featured many acclaimed motion pictures, including the U.S. premiere of the 2006 Academy Award® Best Picture winner "Crash," and the west coast premieres of "The Illusionist," "Son of Rambow," "Mad Hot Ballroom," "Layer Cake," "Dust to Glory," "Riding Giants," "Sexy Beast," "Spellbound," "Dogtown" and "Z Boys."

In 2008 Newport Beach Film Festival attracted 42,000 patrons over the weeklong event, setting an attendance record. The festival featured over 350 feature films, shorts, documentaries and animation from 37 countries in the span of eight days.

Hollywood legends and celebrities who made the short trek down to Newport Beach to attend festival events included film producer Frank Marshall ("Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull"), talk radio host and writer/director Doug McIntyre ("Trying To Get Good - The Jazz Odyssey Of Jack Sheldon"), famed Daily Variety columnist Army Archerd, film producer and director emeritus for the board of directors of The Walt Disney Company Roy E. Disney, film producer Don Hahn ("The Lion King," "Beauty and Beast," etc.), Academy Award® winning songwriter Richard M. Sherman ("Mary Poppins," "The Jungle Book," "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang," etc.), actor John Ratzenberger

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(“Cheers,” “Made in America,” “Toy Story,” etc.), actor Shane West (“ER”), actress Brooke Burns (“The Art of Travel,” “Baywatch”), Heidi Montag and Spencer Pratt (“The Hills”), Holly Madison and Bridgette Marquardt (“The Girls Next Door”) and the stars and director of the opening night film (“Sherman’s Way”) Brooke Nevin, Michael Shulman and Craig Saavedra.

In 2009 the Festival will again present an eclectic roster of feature-length narrative, documentary, short, animated and student films. Films will screen at the historic Regency Lido Theater, the Big Newport and Edwards Island Cinemas in Fashion Island.

With its pristine coastal location and warm weather, strong network of corporate sponsors, nightly events, music performances and industry seminars, the Newport Beach Film Festival has quickly gained a stellar reputation among filmmakers and audiences alike. For ticket information please visit: www.newportbeachfilmfest.com.

About Newport Beach

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Photos (top to bottom): MTV “The Hills” stars Spencer Pratt and Heidi Montag; Chad Lowe; Adam Sandler.

