

HOTEL BUZZ

## Inn DEVELOPMENT

From boutique properties that stand as tributes to O.C.'s history to a seasonal celebration at a resort that's king of the hill, there's plenty going on in the local hospitality scene. –TB

## Autumn Celebration

Menu a Quattro Mani-a wine dinner (\$225 per person) prepared by The Resort at Pelican Hill (pelicanhill.com) Executive Sous Chef Marco Criscuolo and guest chef Filippo Gozzoli of Armani Hotel Milano-is just one highlight of Festa dell'Autunno. The Oct. 7 event kicks off at 6рм, ushering in a weekend of fun, including a second dinner the following night to cap a day of Italian street-fair festivities (2 to 8pm, tickets \$150)-bocce ball, wine and food aplenty, and Italian autos. The Carnevale dei Bambini (2 to 8pm, \$100 per person) keeps youngsters busy with Venetian mask-painting and flag-waving lessons. Oct. 9 brings the Under the California Sun Jazz Brunch (9:30AM to 1:30PM, \$125 per adult, \$50 per child), with a sumptuous spread served amid ocean views. Book a bungalow package (from \$975) and get two adult tickets to the daytime fest and Sunday brunch. Buongiorno!

## Back at the Ranch

It's nice to see a hotel pay its respects to the land's past, and **The Ranch at Laguna Beach** (from \$350, theranchlb.com)—situated on the site of the area's first homestead—does just that. Signposts throughout the property walk guests through its evolution from a one-room

shack built in 1871 to its latest incarnation, a charming 97-room boutique hotel and nine-hole golf course nestled within a lush canyon. Visitors can learn about organic farming in the garden, and groups can hold gatherings at the Scout Camp, a 2 ½-acre creekside venue that served as a Girl Scout Camp from the 1920s to the early 1950s. There's a 3,000-square-foot spa, four eateries and programs that immerse guests in the local culture.

## Island-Inspired

With this year being the 100th anniversary of the Balboa Pavilion-arguably Newport's most beloved—it seems fitting that construction would begin on a new boutique hotel that harkens the venue's grand history. The four-story, 130-room Lido House (lidohousehotel.com) will stand along Newport Boulevard at the former site of City Hall, the gateway to the peninsula and the islands surrounding it (including Lido's revamped marina village). Boasting what the development team at R.D. Olson calls a "Newport Nautical" design, the hotel will house a restaurant and rooftop lounge, a spa and fitness center, luxury suites and event space—a perfect balance of vintage charm and modern appeal.

