



nileGUIDE

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



maveric2003

Fabulous L.A. Sushi Restaurants

Santa Monica, Studio City, Los Angeles, 1 Day

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Guide Description

















AUTHOR NOTE: If there is one thing that I am confident that you can do in Los Angeles, it is finding great sushi spots. Dropping \$100 dollars on a meal of absolutely delicious raw fish is just part of the culture here. . . . so if this describes your idea of a dream meal, go for it!

Photo courtesy of [_Nezemnaya_](#)

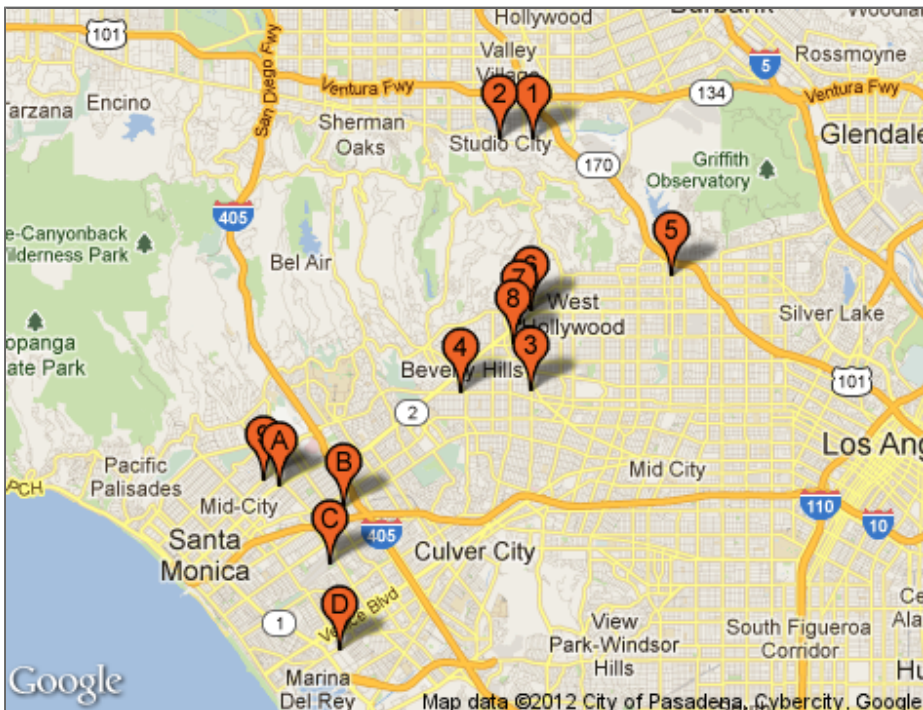
Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 1 - Los Angeles, Studio City, Santa Monica

	Sushi Nozawa Pricey But Popular
	Katsu-Ya
	Matsuhisa Rub elbows with the rich and famous
	Urasawa Sushi perfection
	Katsuya Hollywood
	Wa Sushi & Bistro Fishy creations!
	Jinpachi Succulent nigiri
	Nishimura Sushi in style
	Sushi Sasabune Watch the sushi chef in action
	Echigo
	Mori Sushi Sushi, anyone?
	Hump (The) For sushi aficionados
	Sashi
	Sakura House

Day 1 - Los Angeles, Studio City, Santa Monica



QUICK NOTE

contact:
tel: +1 818 508 7017
<http://www.sushinozawa.com/>

location:
11288 Ventura Boulevard
Los Angeles CA 91604

hours:
Mo to Fr from 12:00 PM to 02:00 PM, Mo to Fr from 05:30 PM to 10:00 PM

1 Sushi Nozawa

DESCRIPTION: You might learn to ignore the dictator-like chef, mad rush and unimpressive decor as soon as you take the first bite of the exquisite sushi available here. Follow the rules of chef and owner Kazunori Nozawa, and you won't regret a single bite. If you get a much-desired place at the bar, he will serve you his specialties! Sashimi, Crab Roll, Sweet Shrimp, Eel and Cucumber Roll and more; there's plenty to try at this popular sushi bar if you're adventurous and can afford it. © wcities.com



Photo Courtesy of Sushi Nozawa

contact:
http://losangeles.citysearch.com/profile/321759/studio_city_ca/katsu_ya.html

location:
11680 Ventura Blvd
Studio City CA 91604

2 Katsu-Ya

DESCRIPTION: The Scene
Katsu-ya is always packed with its loyal following, but it's unquestionably worth the wait. The good-looking Valley crowd doesn't even mind putting up with Hollywood types gossiping about scripts and head shots--as long as they still get to swoon over the amazing sushi.

The Food

Besides doling out top-rate slivers of fish, Sushi Katsu-ya is also known for its inventive specials. The spicy tuna plate looks



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like royal pop art, with slices of ruby and slivers of jade. The albacore sashimi plate tastes like a dream, especially when you rudely awaken to find you've eaten it all. Non-sushi dishes are also top rate. Tempura is delicate and crisp, and Japanese ceviche is a taste bud-awakening medley of fish in a citrus marinade.

contact:

tel: 1 310 659 9639
fax: 1 310 659 0492
<http://www.nobumatsuhisa.com/>

location:

129 North LaCienega
Boulevard
Los Angeles CA 90211

hours:

Lunch: M-F 11:45a-2:15p,
Dinner: daily 5:30p-10:15p

3 Matsuhisa

DESCRIPTION: Don't even drive by without confirmed reservations—this is the most popular Japanese eatery in town. It is considered by many to be the best sushi place in the US, and the best restaurant in Los Angeles. Everything is fresh, delicious and very expensive. Rub elbows with the rich and famous—but leave your autograph book at home. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of Matsuhisa.

contact:

tel: 1 310 247 8939 / 1 877 304 1887
fax: +1 310 247 9689
www.upstairs2.com

location:

218 North Rodeo Drive
Los Angeles CA 90210

hours:

Daily 6p-9p

4 Urasawa

DESCRIPTION: This tiny but ultra-exclusive restaurant is surrounded by the shopping Mecca of Beverly Hills. Urasawa is also the one of the most expensive restaurants in L.A. Still, everyone who goes, from stars like Madonna to top Japanese business people, insists that it is worth every cent. The sushi is the freshest outside of Tokyo and is shipped in from there daily. Since there's no menu, it is hard to tell exactly what chef-owner Masa Takayama is serving. Regardless, this singular dining experience will be perfectly presented and remembered forever. Reservations are absolutely required, and must be made well in advance. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of Urasawa

contact:

tel: 3238718777
www.sbe.com/katsuya

location:

6300 Hollywood Blvd
Los Angeles CA 90028

hours:

Lunch: Monday - Friday:
11:30am - 2:30pm; Dinner:
Sunday: 4:00pm - 11:00pm,
Monday: 5:30pm - 11:00pm,
Tuesday - Thursday: 5:30pm
- 12:00am, Friday - Saturday:

5 Katsuya Hollywood

DESCRIPTION: Anchoring the corner of Hollywood and Vine, this uber-hip restaurant has all the L.A. foodies and snooties agog. The decor is an intriguing mix of gleaming white leather and chrome furniture, overblown images of a geisha's facial parts, and a sinister black banner bearing the kanji symbol for Katsuya. Katsuya's must-try signature dishes include the crispy rice with spicy tuna, the Kobe filet with foie gras and plum soy sauce, and the baked white fish with truffle in a shell of salt. Reservations may be difficult to get, particularly on a weekend night, so be sure to call as far in advance as possible, and then fight your way through the paparazzi staked outside on your way in. © Frommer's

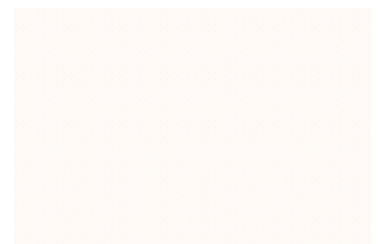


Photo courtesy of Katsuya Hollywood

5:30pm - 12:30am, Sunday
4:00pm - 11:30pm

contact:
tel: 1 310 854 7285

location:
1106 North La Cienega
Boulevard
Los Angeles CA 90069

hours:
Daily 6p-midnight

6 Wa Sushi & Bistro

DESCRIPTION: If you don't think eating raw fish is icky, then you will fall in love with this eatery. Serving sushi, sashimi, sake and other authentic Japanese delights, it is an elegant place with rustic interiors. Novices can rid themselves of all inhibitions, as the courteous staff is always willing to assist. Try such innovative dishes as cold Sunomono (cucumber salad with spices), Miso soup, seaweed-wrapped rolls, and Sweet Santa Barbara Prawns. Wash it all down with a glass of sake and you will go home blessing the chef! © wcities.com

contact:
tel: 1 310 358 9134
http://losangeles.citysearch.com/profile/45470565/west_hollywood_ca/jinpachi.html

location:
8711 Santa Monica Boulevard
Los Angeles CA 90069

hours:
Lunch: Tu-Sa 11:45a-2:30p,
Dinner: M-Sa 5:45p-10:30p

7 Jinpachi

DESCRIPTION: Jinpachi isn't romantic or comfortable as far as the ambience goes. But when the food arrives, you will be comforted. Artistic plates of unagi and nigiri do the rounds as patrons dig in gleefully. Fresh seafood is the specialty here. Wrap it all up with fruit soups and chocolate soufflés. And yes, the prices are high, but it's all worth it. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of abbyladybug

contact:
tel: 1 310 659 4770
fax: +1 310 659 4963

location:
8684 Melrose Avenue
Los Angeles CA 90069

hours:
M-F Noon-2:30p, 6p-10:30p;
Sa 6p-10:30p

8 Nishimura

DESCRIPTION: Patrons enter this high-end restaurant through a simple Japanese garden and the austere vibe continues throughout the establishment. Candlelight complements the black and white sushi bar and the linen-draped tables. Their sushi and sashimi are the belles of the ball- be sure to try their blue fin crusted with pepper. Other specialties include jumbo clams, Kumamoto oysters, scallops, thin-sliced octopus, and grilled freshwater eel. © wcities.com

contact:
tel: (310) 820-3596
http://losangeles.citysearch.com/profile/47150/los_angeles_ca/sushi_sasabune.html

location:
12400 Wilshire Blvd Ste 150
Los Angeles CA 90025

hours:

9 Sushi Sasabune

DESCRIPTION: Sushi Sasabune is a Japanese sushi restaurant located in the upscale Brentwood neighborhood of Los Angeles. Previously housed in "Little Tokyo West" on Sawtelle Boulevard, this authentic sushi gem now has a more spacious home. Choose between table seating and a seat at the busy sushi bar where you can see Sushi Sasabune's chefs at work. High-quality menu items include sushi, crab rolls, salmon, and much more. For an adventurous experience, try the omakase (chef's menu). The restaurant is open for lunch and dinner. © wcities.com



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Mon-Fri 12pm-2pm,
5:30pm-9:30pm

contact:

tel: (310) 820-9787
http://losangeles.citysearch.com/profile/47243/los_angeles_ca/echigo.html

location:

12217 Santa Monica Blvd
Los Angeles CA 90025

hours:

Mon-Fri 12pm-2pm,
5:30pm-9:30pm Sat
5:30pm-9:30pm

A Echigo

DESCRIPTION: The Scene

Located on the second floor of a shabby Westside mini-mall, Echigo's solicitous servers smile but barely speak to the intrepid few who have found this latest star on the sushi horizon. As the simplicity of white walls, black tables and one artful fish painting make clear, the focus is on sushi not ambience.

The Food

Chef Toshi apprenticed with Sushi Sasabune's Chef Nobu, and the student may have bested his master. Sit at the counter for chef's choice or order his mini-masterpieces a la carte at the tables. Each piece is served on warm, well-seasoned rice that enhances the delicate flavors of the fish. Highlights include albacore belly, a cut that whispers the flavors of the sea. A sliver of translucent kelp poached in sweet sake gives contrast to the buttery salmon. The strong flavor of ono dances with a lime, sake and garlic sauce. For the adventurous, monkfish liver tastes like oceanic foie gras.

contact:

tel: 1 310 479 3939
<http://www.morisushi.org/>

location:

11500 West Pico Boulevard
Los Angeles CA 90064

hours:

Lunch: M-F 11:45a-2:15p,
Dinner: M-F 6p-10p, Sa
6:30p-10:30p

B Mori Sushi

DESCRIPTION: Nigiri, Maki, Temaki and all things succulent and juicy are tossed up at Mori's. Besides the popular sushi served up, the talent of chefs Morihiro Onodera and Hiroyuki Taniguchi extends to hand-crafting some of the very plates you are served in! They are very particular about the plates, which are decided upon in accordance with the season, although LA is not exactly known for its extreme weather conditions! © wcities.com

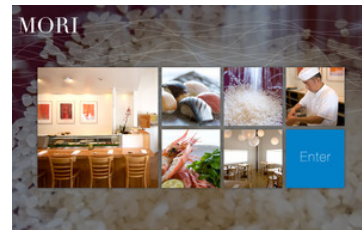


Photo courtesy of Mori Sushi

contact:

tel: 1 310 313 0977
www.thehump.biz

location:

3221 Donald Douglas Loop
South
Santa Monica CA 90405

hours:

Mo from 06:00 PM to 10:00 PM, Tu to Th from 12:00 PM to 02:00 PM, Tu to Th from 06:00 PM to 10:00 PM, Fr from 12:00 PM to 02:00 PM, Su from 06:00 PM to 10:00 PM

C Hump (The)

DESCRIPTION: Enjoy fresh top-grade tuna or hamachi from sushi master Hiro Nishimura. With a bamboo-and-cane motif, the Hump (the WWII pilots' name for the Himalayas) has an exotic look and feel. Platters of raw fish are arranged beautifully on handcrafted platters. Ask for the daily specials, which feature the day's freshest fish. Specialties like Abalone with fat Shiitake Mushrooms or a Bahamian-style Conch Shell filled with conch meat in a savory broth are always excellent. The dining room is quite small, so if you plan on coming on a weekend, make sure to make your reservations at least a week in advance. If you come during the week, calling earlier in the day for that same night should be sufficient. © wcities.com



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contact:
tel: 3105450400
<http://www.sashimb.com>

location:
451 Manhattan Beach Blvd
#D126
Manhattan Beach CA 90266

Sashi

DESCRIPTION: Led by Executive Chef Cirilo Rodriguez and Sushi Chef Yoya Takahashi, Sashi brings traditional Japanese cuisine with a creative flair together with an alluring atmosphere, providing a superior dining experience for even the most refined of guests. Imaginative food and careful attention to detail is what Sashi promises to deliver. Along with extraordinary hand-picked ingredients, first-class service and signature dishes, the Manhattan Beach dining experience will never be the same. Set apart from other restaurants Sashi brings its upscale, sexy decor, top quality food, great service and original menu items. Sashi is the perfect place for an intimate weeknight dinner or to celebrate a special event. Its expansive outdoor seating creates an alluring beach side vibe, making it one of the South Bay's hot spots.

contact:
tel: (310) 306-7010

location:
13362 W. Washington Blvd.
Los Angeles CA 90066

hours:
Dinner: Sunday &
Monday: 5:30PM - 9:30PM
Wednesday, Thursday:
5:30PM - 10:00PM Friday &
Saturday: 5:30PM - 10:30PM



Sakura House

DESCRIPTION: Sakura House blends traditional style Japanese skewer techniques with innovative cuisine arrangements resulting in a magnificently unconventional combination that cannot be found, or matched anywhere. We specialize in mouthwatering appetizers and specialty sauces that are as pleasing to look at as they are to taste. Walk into this cozy, old style Japanese restaurant and let the robust aroma of sizzling maki wrapped delights cooked perfectly on our coal-fired grill prepare your palate for a savory taste like no other. Our warm friendly staff welcomes you to Sakura House, and hopes to share the wonders of kushi-yaki with you and your family.

Los Angeles Snapshot

Local Info

People either love it, or they hate it--but no matter what, Los Angeles makes no excuses and changes itself for no one. And you've got to admire that. Made up of dozens of communities, there is no one single experience that can sum up the life and the heartbeat of this city. But what can be noticed about Los Angeles by both tourists and locals alike is the hustle-and-bustle lifestyle, the vibrant and unique neighborhoods, and the extreme diversity that sets it apart from any other city. From the eternal sunshine and Hollywood glitz to all the small communities with their own distinct cultural personalities, this City of Angels will forever be many things to many people.

Downtown

While not exactly in the center of town geographically due to the sprawling nature of the city, Downtown Los Angeles is still teeming with activity. There are cultural hotbeds like Olvera Street and Chinatown that are just minutes away from Los Angeles landmarks such as the Bank of America Building and the Walt Disney Concert Hall. And if you have a hankering for more art and culture while Downtown, the Museum of Contemporary Art(MOCA) is a definite must-see.

Hollywood

The big sign just about says it all--Hollywood is glitz, glamour, and unavoidable. While many people are critical of Hollywood, they still can't help but satiate their curiosity by visiting this busy area. The center of things is, without a doubt, Hollywood Boulevard, location of world-famous tourist spots including Mann's Chinese Theater, the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and the Kodak Theatre where the Oscars are now held annually.

The Miracle Mile/Hancock Park area is another of L.A.'s historical neighborhoods. Here you will find Wilshire Boulevard's Museum Row. The museums are contained within Hancock Park, a small but peaceful oasis in the center of hectic urban activity. To venture into the far distant past, stop by the Brea Tar Pits, La, and to immerse yourself in a famous museum, the LACMA: Los Angeles County Museum of Art is a popular attraction on Miracle Mile.

Ritz West Hollywood is home to one of the city's most famous(or infamous) attractions: the Sunset Strip. Here you'll find most of the city's hippest clubs frequented by up-and-coming actors and socialites, as well as some of the city's finest hotels and shopping, including the upscale Melrose Avenue Shopping District. West Hollywood is also the center of the city's gay and lesbian community, and it puts on one of the flashiest and most exhilarating annual Halloween parades in the state.

Beverly Hills and the Westside

This world-famous city with its world-famous zip code is synonymous with wealth, status, and celebrity. The understated elegance and grace of the residential neighborhoods are balanced out by Rodeo Drive, which offers some of the finest(and most expensive) shopping in the world.

Santa Monica and Beach Cities

Back in the heyday of Route 66, Santa Monica was the end of the line. Today, this beachfront community offers the best in entertainment for all ages on its famous Santa Monica Pier. You can enjoy some carnival-style food and games or take a ride on the ferris wheel for a breathtaking view of the city and shoreline. When you're ready for some shopping, the active Third Street Promenade has a diverse directory of stores and eateries.

The motto of the coastal community of Malibu is "27 miles of scenic beauty," and that about describes it best. The main attraction here is the drive along the Pacific Coast Highway, which takes you past beach after beach on one side of the road and million-dollar hilltop estates on the other. Make sure you have plenty of film and sunscreen. Even at night, the stars just seem brighter.

Venice, just south of Santa Monica, is the city's home to all things eclectic and many things downright bizarre. This small, artsy beach town offers one of the greatest collections of cafes, bars, galleries, antiques and one-of-a-kind shops around. Weekend afternoons on the boardwalk are definitely a memorable experience for any visitor to the city.

San Fernando Valley

On the other side of the Hollywood Hills sits "The Valley," as known by locals. It features a seemingly endless sea of suburban cul-de-sacs, strip malls, funky shops and restaurants. Hollywood makes its presence known in the cities of Burbank and Universal City, which are home to Warner Bros. Studio and Universal Studios. There are two things you can always count on in the Valley: the earthquakes always feel stronger, and the temperature is always 10 degrees hotter.

South Central and Compton

Although the South Central neighborhood of Crenshaw gained worldwide publicity as the center of the infamous 1992 riots, this area is rich in history and culture. South Central also is home to famous Los Angeles landmarks such as the Watts Towers, the historic Shrine Auditorium, and Exposition Park. Within the famed Exposition Park is the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, the California Science Center, and the IMAX California Science Center. It has also long been a place of culture and diversity, as evidenced by the African American Cultural Center.

Long Beach and the South Bay

Long Beach is a fairly large city in its own right and is a neighbor to the well known district of Orange County. Aside from a plethora of shopping and dining options, this beach community is perhaps best known for the Queen Mary, a Titanic-esque ocean liner now permanently docked here and open for tours. They also have many outdoor activities for tourists to take advantage of, as well as museums and beaches that all can enjoy.

The South Bay is made up of smaller beach towns and quiet neighborhoods such as Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach and Palos Verdes Estates.

Pasadena and Points East

Pasadena is one of the most prominent communities in the entire state of California. Old Town Pasadena provides one of the greatest clusters of bars, shops, cafes and restaurants in the entire L.A. area. The city is also known for the Norton Simon Museum, which is the largest collection

Los Angeles Snapshot continued

of art owned by one man, and the Rose Bowl. And every New Years' Day, this not-so-sleepy town becomes the focus of the entire world for the annual Tournament of Roses Parade.

East L.A., as evidenced by its name, forms the eastern edge of the city and is a great example of a neighborhood rich in cultural expression.

LAX and Inglewood

LAX is one of the largest airports in the United States, when it comes to the sheer number of people passing through its hallways. The airport is the main feature of the otherwise-sleepy, suburban neighborhood of Westchester. This pocket of quiet, tree-lined streets and neighborhood schools and churches is a refreshing oasis in an often-frenetic city.

Inglewood features a wide variety of restaurants, music and sports venues. Here you will find Hollywood Park Racetrack and the The Forum arena, an entertainment hotspot. Inglewood also hosts the annual Hollywood Black Film Festival, which pays homage to African-American filmmakers of past, present and future.

©