

Traveling seniors enjoy exploring museums in many world locations, including the Louvre in Paris, London's British Museum, St. Petersburg's Hermitage and Rome's Vatican. Many U.S. cities also offer interesting museums, especially Los Angeles. On your next trip to the West Coast, save a day or two to wander through one or more:

Los Angeles County Museum of Art 5905 Wilshire Bvd., Los Angeles CA 90036, www.lacma.org. With a million visitors annually, LACMA is one of America's most popular museums. In addition to permanent collections, there are frequent special exhibits, lectures and other events.

George C. Page Museum and La Brea Tar Pits, 5801 Wilshire Bvd., Los Angeles CA 90036, www.tarpits.org.

Adjacent to LACMA, it offers geology, a prehistoric site where natural asphalt from deep below boiled up to the surface. In the tar are skeletal remains of animals, birds and insects from 10,000 years ago. Many, including some now extinct, are now on display at the museum.

Paley Center For Media 465 N. Beverly Dr., Beverly Hills CA 90210, www.paleycenter.org. This isn't the usual museum with paintings and sculpture, but features entertainment industry art, history and fashions. The collection includes vintage clothing, scenery, props and sets from movies and TV.

J. Paul Getty Museum 1200 Getty Center Dr., Los Angeles CA 90049. It's the hilltop former estate of the late financier. To get there, visitors ride a private train from street level up 1,000 feet. Near the campus of UCLA, there are attractive combinations of indoor art with outdoor sculpture, gardens and fountains.

Norton Simon Museum 411 W. Colorado Bvd., Pasadena CA 91105, nortonsimon.org. It's permanent exhibits display a wide variety of art from the pre-Christian era to contemporary.