



San Gabriel

What's Special — Annual Events, Youth Programs & More

Annual Events

December — Holiday Tree Lighting

Sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department and the Women's Division of the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce, the Mission District lights up over the Holiday Season and the public is welcomed to Plaza Park for the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. Santa arrives by Fire Truck, holiday music fills the night, the 50' cedar tree in Plaza Park is strung with children's hand-made tree ornaments, cocoa is served, and the community gathers together to celebrate the holiday season.

February — Lunar New Year Parade

Sponsored by the San Gabriel and Alhambra Chambers of Commerce, this exciting cultural event has grown into one of the largest celebrations of its kind. The Lunar New Year Parade attracts over 100,000 attendants to the parade route and festival grounds. The parade features colorful floats, marching bands, food booths, arts and crafts, games and rides, entertainment and cultural exhibits.

April — Annual Street Festival

Sponsored by the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce, this three-day event held in conjunction with the City's birthday, festivities include a children's expo, car show, carnival rides, arts and crafts, food booths, entertainment, and much, much more. The celebration also includes the presentation of the "Outstanding Older American Award" to a San Gabriel resident.

July — 4th of July Parade and Kid's Day at Plaza Park

Sponsored by the City of San Gabriel City Council and made possible through the generous donations of community businesses and organizations. The annual Parade and Picnic is an opportunity for kids and their families to celebrate our nation's independence with their neighbors.

August — National Night Out

Sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and the San Gabriel Police Department, this city-wide event includes block parties hosted by San Gabriel's Neighborhood Watch Groups, cookouts and visits from police, fire and City officials.

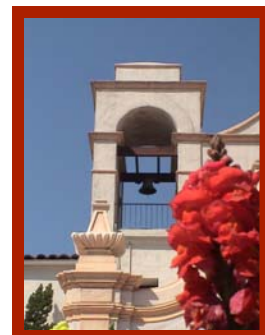
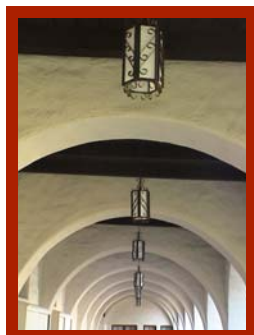
September (Labor Day Weekend) — "Fiesta de San Gabriel & "Walk to Los Angeles"

Sponsored by San Gabriel Mission, the annual three-day Fiesta celebrates the 1771 founding of the mission. The Walk to LA is sponsored by the cities of San Gabriel and Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, and Los Pobladores 200. Walkers gather at 6:00 a.m. to reenact the 1781 trek of L.A.'s original settlers of 44 persons in 11 families, plus four soldiers from San Gabriel Mission to the Plaza at El Pueblo Historical Monument,

October — Turkey Trot

Sponsored by the San Gabriel Parks and Recreation Department to support youth activities, the Turkey Trot includes a 5K/10K Race, a 1K Youth Run and a 5K Fun Walk. Race highlights include refreshments, door-prize raffle and awards ceremony. The event is held at Vincent Lugo Park at the corner of Wells and Ramona Streets.

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San Gabriel

Youth Programs for San Gabriel's Kids

San Gabriel Police Department: The San Gabriel Police Department is highly committed to the youth in the City of San Gabriel. In addition to our School Resource Officer who visits our local high school and intermediate school on a daily basis, a uniformed officer teaches the "Too Good for Drugs and Violence program to 5th, 6th and 7th graders and provides safety tips to over 3,500 kindergarten through fourth grade students.

Local Government Youth Education: The City of San Gabriel has two local government youth education programs for primary and secondary school children. Developed in cooperation with the San Gabriel Unified School District, the City's two programs, P.A.T.H. (Progress and Accomplishments Through History) for 3rd grade students, and Youth In Government for high school students, educate the future leaders of our communities on virtually every facet of local government.

Much Ado About Nothing – Mariachi Style: In cooperation with East L.A. Classic Theatre (ECT), the City of San Gabriel welcomes the unique musical adaptation of Shakespeare's "*Much Ado About Nothing*" – *Mariachi Style* to the San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, presented to 4th grade students from throughout the region.

The programs provided to San Gabriel's youth, educate and inform students that local government is accessible, friendly, dedicated and interested in making a difference in peoples' lives, and in the future of the community. Educating young people about their community and local government and providing opportunities for fun, educational and creative interaction with the City, is one of the keys to effective local government and to the future success of our City. By bringing the community together to celebrate community life, and reaching out to youth, the City reinforces a continued active interaction with the youth of the community that is carried into adulthood.

Celebrating Diversity

Two important areas reflecting and representing the community's rich, cultural and economic diversity are the *San Gabriel Mission District* located in the City's historic core to the north, and *Valley Boulevard* at the southern end of the City.

San Gabriel Mission District: The District encompasses Mission San Gabriel Archangel – the second oldest building south of Monterey, the legendary San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, the Civic Center, the San Gabriel Historical Museum, the Ramona Museum and many other historic and cultural sites. The District has been designated by the National Parks Service, as an interpretive center for the De Anza National Historic Trail that runs from the Mexican border to San Francisco. The Mission District serves as the point of origin for the annual "Los Pobladores Walk" commemorating the trek of 11 families and four soldiers who traveled from the San Gabriel Mission to found El Pueblo de la Reina de Los Angeles.

East Meets West On Valley Boulevard: Visit Valley Boulevard in San Gabriel for an only-in-America experience of Islamic Chinese, Italian, Mexican, Vietnamese, and Chinese restaurants and shops. The 12-acre San Gabriel Square mall, sometimes called "The Emerald City" or "Chinese Disneyland" includes Chinese shops and bold architecture in an area bigger than the Rose Bowl. The blend of restaurants and cafes, department stores, shops, markets and an expansive jewelry mart provides something for everyone — from buying a book or a diamond and shopping for Armani, to purchasing soy milk or a lodging and meal travel package to Las Vegas.

Communicating San Gabriel

The City communicates with the community through a variety of methods including, but not limited to: cable television, the news media, and various printed materials mailed to San Gabriel households. Two quarterly City publications mailed to San Gabriel households are the San Gabriel "*Grapevine*" and the "*City Newsletter and Recreation Guide*." The City communicates with employees through two internal documents: a department produced weekly newsletter, and a bi-monthly employee newsletter "*Heard It Through the Grapevine*" produced by the Administration Division.