

Let's **Play** **Ball!**

Spend the lazy days of summer at the ballpark—there are three within a short drive

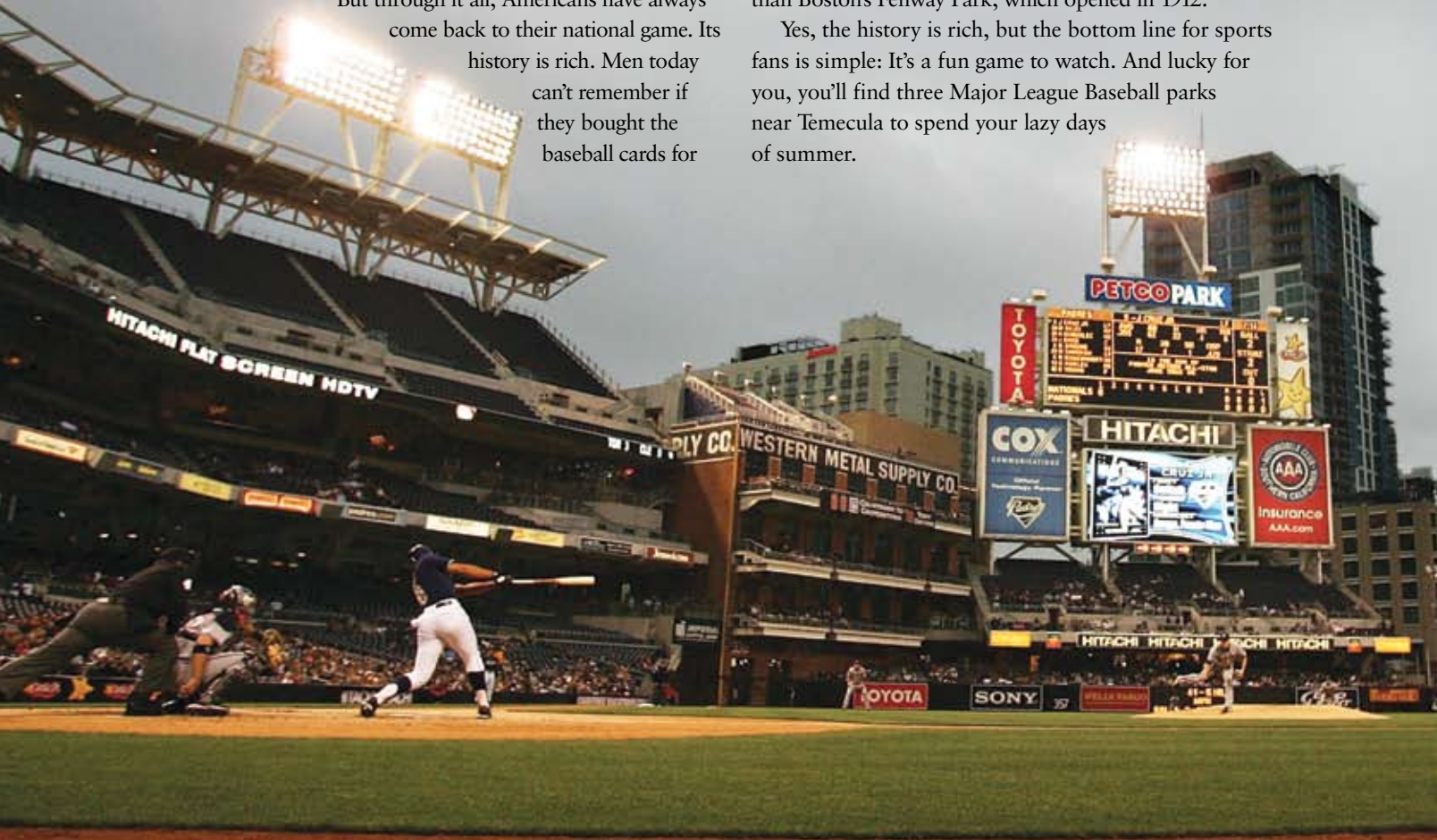
America's pastime has surely endured its share of setbacks — think the Chicago White Sox of the 1919 World Series and Pete Rose's gambling charges in the 1980s. Then, a 232-day strike in 1994 resulted in the cancelation of the World Series for the first time in 90 years and brought the game and its players' popularity to an all-time low.

But through it all, Americans have always come back to their national game. Its history is rich. Men today can't remember if they bought the baseball cards for

the gum, or the gum for the cards. New Yorkers can remember watching their Dodgers move from Brooklyn to Los Angeles, and the subsequent demolition of Ebbets Field.

In 1909, Shibe Park opened in Philadelphia. It was the world's first all-concrete-and-steel baseball park. Today, there are 30 ballparks throughout the U.S. and Canada, none older than Boston's Fenway Park, which opened in 1912.

Yes, the history is rich, but the bottom line for sports fans is simple: It's a fun game to watch. And lucky for you, you'll find three Major League Baseball parks near Temecula to spend your lazy days of summer.





Angel Stadium of Anaheim
Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim

Location: 2000 Gene Autry Way, Anaheim
Distance/Travel Time: 61 miles, about an hour
Fun fact: The Outfield Extravaganza area, just beyond Center Field, was designed to look like the California coastline. During a game, you might see a 90-foot geyser or fireworks to celebrate significant plays.

Capacity: 45,050
Food: In addition to typical ballpark fare, you'll find Carl's Jr., Chili Peppers, Domino's, Icee, An Udder Yogurt, Kettle Korn, Sausage Haus, Mainstreet Deli, Hooters and Panda Express.

The Diamond Club Restaurant—which is limited to those who have Diamond Club tickets or suite owners—is a full-service restaurant and bar. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling (714) 940-2470. Two other restaurants, The KnotHole Club and the Homeplate Club, are also available.

Parking info: There are three entrances into the Angel Stadium parking lot. Parking costs \$8. Vehicles longer than 20 feet will be charged \$16 for parking.

Ticket prices: \$9 to \$125
Ticket info: (714) 663-9000, losangeles.angels.mlb.com/ticketing/ or ticketmaster.com

Dodger Stadium
Los Angeles Dodgers

Location: 1000 Elysian Park Avenue, L.A.
Distance/Travel Time: About 85 miles, 90 minutes

Fun fact: In a 2003 *Sports Illustrated* poll, Major League players named Dodger Stadium's field the best in baseball. Perhaps it's because of the turf, which uses the latest technology to manage moisture, controlling drainage and irrigation on the field of Bermuda grass.

Capacity: 56,000
Food: In addition to the Dodger Dog stands, you can find California Pizza Kitchen, Saag's Sausage, Gordon Biersch, Wetzel's Pretzels, Camachos and Panda Express.

Parking info: There are four parking entrances for the stadium. Automobiles and motorcycles can park for \$15, while buses, motor homes, limousines and other oversized vehicles cost \$35 to park. You must enter through the stadium gate that corresponds to that side of the parking lot. If you want to park by the stadium gate you'd like to enter, you can plan ahead by viewing the maps online at dodgers.com/parking.

Ticket prices (in advance): \$8 to \$200

Ticket info: 866-DODGERS, losangeles.dodgers.mlb.com/ticketing or ticketmaster.com

PETCO Park
San Diego Padres

Location: 100 Park Boulevard, San Diego
Distance/Travel Time: About 60 miles, 1 hour
Capacity: 42,445

Fun fact: The 98-year-old Western Metal Supply Company building was renovated and then incorporated into the park. It currently houses the Padres Team Store on the first floor.

Food: In addition to traditional ballpark fare, you'll have your pick of Rubio's Fresh Mexican Grill, Oggi's Pizza, Randy Jones BBQ and Anthony's Seafood Grotto. For a sit-down restaurant, try the Pacific Coast League Club.

Parking info: Parking costs \$5, \$8, \$10 and \$15, depending on proximity to the ballpark. Closer to PETCO Park, parking is available for \$20. You may also pre-purchase parking for specific garages and lots when you buy your game tickets. PETCO Park suggests taking advantage of public transportation when possible.

Ticket prices (in advance): \$8 to \$60

Ticket info: 877-FRIAR TIX (877-374-2784) or sandiego.padres.mlb.com/sd/ticketing/



Park Pointers

- Before you head out to the ballpark, keep these tips in mind.
- * **Shun the sun.** Wear sunscreen and a hat to ensure you don't get burned.
 - * **Drink up.** Sure, nothing washes down a hot dog quite like a cold beer, but when summer temps soar, consider water instead to help you stay hydrated.
 - * **Go small.** Get through the gate faster by having as small a purse or bag as possible. Or, if you can, just fit the essentials in your pockets.
 - * **Phone tag.** A cell phone is handy if you're meeting friends, but for the sake of your fellow fans, turn off the ringer when the game starts.
 - * **Beware of flying objects.** Some seats are more likely than others to be magnets for flying broken bats, foul balls and home run balls. If you aren't comfortable sitting in such a zone, tell an usher before the first pitch so he or she can try to reseat you.