

D·O·W·D·L·E

SAN DIEGO'S BALBOA PARK™

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In 1868, Alonzo Horton convinced the city to use 1,200 acres of public land for a park, and officials named it "City Park." Luckily, commissioners thought the land deserved a more creative name and eventually changed it to Balboa Park, after Vasco Núñez de Balboa who, in 1513, was the first European explorer to set eyes on the Pacific. No one thought about the powerful impact this park would have on San Diego, with many working for free and the community putting money into it to make it a success. It worked! Today, Balboa Park is twice as big as Central Park in New York City and proudly presents the theme "The Story of Man Through the Ages" through its architecture and landscape. Thus San Diego was changed forever.

1. The Museum of Art is the region's oldest and largest art museum providing a wide and diverse cultural experience through art ranging from Spanish and Italian old masters.
2. San Diego's Museum of Man has been called the best example of Spanish baroque architecture in the world, with the dome covered in Moorish tiles in beautiful detail.
3. The California Tower is an icon of San Diego built in 1915 by Bertram Goodhue, who was inspired by the Spanish-Colonial churches in Mexico. The nearly 200-foot-tall Tower and Dome of the California Building are covered with intricate carvings, colorful tile, and glass beads.
4. Thanks to its gorgeous patterns and designs, the famous Alcazar Garden proudly represents the gardens of Alcazar Castle in Seville, Spain. It's known for its ornate fountains, exquisite turquoise blue, yellow, and green Moorish tiles and shady pergola.
5. Celebrating to 'art of the people' (*mingei*) from all eras and cultures of the world, the Mingei International Museum presents the "every-day-ness" of art through dynamic exhibitions of historical and contemporary folk art, craft and design. It's the museum's belief that art can happen anywhere, in any culture, in any place, created by any person. Art of the World. Art of the People.
6. The El Cid sculpture represents Rodrigo Díaz de Vivar, who still to this day remains a Spanish popular folk-hero and national icon remembered as 'The one who stands out in the battlefield.'
7. The National Historic Landmark House of Hospitality is a magnificent example of Spanish-Renaissance architecture and was built to be the centerpiece of the 1915-16 Panama-California Exposition.