

Conference Corner



Take a side trip to Naples during your stay in Long Beach

By Chili Cilch

You won't see Mount Vesuvius, but you can enjoy a gondola ride and a tasty pizza pie in Long Beach. Located approximately five and one half miles, about a 15-minute drive from the Queen Mary is Gondola Getaways Inc.



tionately referred to by locals as "the Shore". The neighborhood features beautiful Spanish style homes from the 1920s and 30s as well as charming beach bungalows.

One of the great features of Belmont Shore

is its proximity to the ocean. As its name implies, the Shore is hugged by water with the Pacific Ocean to the south, Alamitos Bay to the east, and to the north by Marine Stadium. Kite surfers love the great ocean breezes found here. The calm water of the bay makes for great swimming, kayaking,

and boating. The bay is also a great beach for families, where every visitor is just steps to the water on the long, curved stretch of sand.

If a scenic glide on a gondola makes you think: "That's amore!" then you should book your reservations early and invite some colleagues to join the fun (the more the merrier and it's more affordable). *Prego!*

For more information or to book your reservations, the following websites are provided:

- <http://www.domenicos1954.com>
- <http://www.belmontshore.org>
- <http://www.gondolagetawayinc.com>

Authentic Venetian gondolas gently cruise the enchanting canals and waterways of Naples Island near the resort area of Belmont Shores. The Gondola Getaway offers one-hour cruises around the canals of Naples from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., seven days a week.

The community of Naples is built on a series of islands located in Alamitos Bay. Naples consists of three separate islands, divided by canals which open into the bay. The streets on the islands have Italian names. The center of Naples features a large fountain which serves as a popular meeting spot.

The Naples region is famous for its invention of pizza. Traditional pies and Italian cuisine can be found at Domenico's in the neighboring community of Belmont Shores. Domenico's is just one of many restaurants on Second Street.

Second Street's 15 intersecting side streets make up the business district of Belmont Shore. This business corridor lies in the heart of the exclusive seaside community, affec-

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Stay a few extra days! Long Beach is a "giant playground located in the heart of southern California." Area entertainments and attractions will make your visit unforgettable. Go to www.visitlongbeach.com for more information.

- * *Aquarium of the Pacific:* Discover the wonders of the the world's largest ocean in a single day.
- * *Catalina Island:* Enjoy a Mediterranean experience just off the coast of southern California.
- * *Disneyland Park and Resort:* It's the "Happiest Place on Earth."
- * *The Getty Center Los Angeles:* See treasures in Western art from the Middle Ages to contemporary times.
- * *Knott's Berry Farm:* Family-oriented theme park offers thrills for all ages.
- * *The Laugh Factory:* Learn what "ROTFL" really means!
- * *Pierpoint Landing:* Experience the challenge and thrill of deep sea fishing.
- * *Rubber Duck Tours:* Get a "duck's eye view" of downtown Long Beach and Rainbow Harbor.
- * *Sunset Gondola:* Taste the romance of Venice in gondola rides through the canals of nearby Huntington Harbor.