

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

# Island living redefined



**I**t never rains in Southern California—or at least that's what the folks in Coronado Bay, San Diego would have us tell readers. After all, weather forecasts almost always promise pure, unadulterated sunshine. So here we are again in this happy holiday haven, this time learning more about the fascinating "island" of Coronado.

As the story goes, the city of

Coronado came about because of the promise of a cross-country railroad, a tent city and the development of a resort hotel called the Hotel del Coronado. If you're a history buff, you'll want to visit [www.coronado.ca.us](http://www.coronado.ca.us) to learn more.

Today, the historic city is a mere 13.5 square miles and home to some of the coast's most stunning beaches and plenty of exciting things to see

and do. The first stop on our guided walking tour is Glorietta Bay Inn that was built as a grand mansion by John D. Spreckels, a historically significant character in the development and growth of the San Diego. ([www.gloriettabayinn.com](http://www.gloriettabayinn.com)) Of course, the Hotel Del, as the locals fondly call it, is still an iconic landmark where the beachside Sunday brunch is a must-attend, all-afternoon event. ([www.hoteldel.com](http://www.hoteldel.com))

And, just a short way down the road, the newest kid on the block, the Loews Coronado Bay Resort, where we'll be staying, is pet friendly and all about family fun. The Signature Voya Voyage couples massage (with sunscreen, not oil!) that's enjoyed in an authentic gondola and pre-recorded bedtime stories for kids get top marks in our books. ([www.loewshotels.ca](http://www.loewshotels.ca)) **H**

