

# UP HERE, EVERYTHING TASTES BETTER

AT CARLSBAD'S ROOFTOP RESTAURANTS, THE VIEWS  
ARE AS APPEALING AS THE FOOD (AND DRINK).



**W**elcome to rooftop dining in Carlsbad Village, where people go to take in Pacific breezes while they watch the sun melt behind the ocean or rooftops of State Street. Because Carlsbad enjoys nearly perfect weather year-round, the question isn't, "Should we sit outside?" but more like, "Where should we sit outside?"

Get as high as you can and take it all in. The scene up top has never been more worth the climb. At **The Deck at 264 Fresco**, the Italian restaurant on Carlsbad Village Drive has built one of the Village's most beloved perches above its downstairs dining room. And its sister restaurant, **Fresco Cocina**, also boasts an atmospheric rooftop space. A few blocks south on Carlsbad Boulevard, **Tower39 Rooftop Lounge** sits atop the SpringHill Suites by Marriott and takes its name from the next number in the sequence of lifeguard towers on the beach below. Then there's **Park 101**, Carlsbad's most boisterous rooftop by a wide margin. And newest to the lineup is Baba Coffee's rooftop lounge, **nido d'amore**—Italian for "nest of love."

Five rooftops. One remarkable town. Bring sunscreen and no agenda.



photos by Tsnya Perez

## NIDO D'AMORE

2727 STATE ST.  
760.994.0666 / BABACOFFEE.COM



Nido d'amore is the newest rooftop venue in Carlsbad. The sun-drenched indoor/outdoor space above Baba Coffee on State Street starts each morning as a mellow coffee lounge and by Friday night it shapeshifts into a live music venue with a natural wine bar, guest chefs, vinyl nights and an energy that makes you want to cancel your dinner reservation and just stay a while longer.

The rooftop was designed to feel like your living room with a black, white and turquoise palette, Mom's old tables and chairs, and moveable décor that accommodates wedding parties, baby showers, corporate events and more. On Friday nights, it transforms into a jazz lounge pouring organic, natural wines from around the world and fresh-squeezed spritzers. It's the only rooftop on the north end of the Village where the neighborhood goes, and on the right night, you might just catch members of Slightly Stoopid playing under the stars.

photo by Jared Weintraub



2

**PARK 101**  
3040 CARLSBAD BLVD.  
858.409.6948 / PARK101CARLSBAD.COM

Kick off your boots and pull up a chair—Park 101’s open-air rooftop is where Carlsbad’s coastal breeze meets a little bit of country soul. Perched above the Village with a sliver of horizon and a sunset that earns its reputation, this casual, adults-only rooftop bar fits up to 75 guests who come to chill, sip and soak up that North County sun. Happy hour hits the same as downstairs, the full menu is yours via the service window below and on select Fridays, the rooftop transforms into a line dancing hotspot with local country bands and DJs keeping the energy alive.



4

**FRESCO COCINA**  
2858 CARLSBAD BLVD.  
442.333.9321 / FRESCOCOCINA.COM

Elevated over the Pebble Patio, the Mar Vista Deck is a treetop oasis above the bustle of Carlsbad Boulevard. A lush ficus tree drapes its glossy canopy through the trellis, creating dappled shade and natural beauty while framing spectacular sunset views. Up to 40 guests savor vibrant contemporary Mexican cuisine—fresh seabass ceviche, flavorful carne asada, sugar-spiced salmon and creative tacos—paired with handcrafted cocktails like the spicy-sweet El Guapo (serrano-infused tequila, mango, lime) and the classic Casa Margarita. Experience golden-hour magic under the California sky.



**THE DECK AT FRESCO 264**  
264 CARLSBAD VILLAGE DR.  
760.720.3737 / 264FRESCO.COM

This breezy rooftop lounge floats above the Village with panoramic coastal views, ocean glimpses and sunsets that make you forget you ever had a to-do list. Pull up a chair (21+ only, first-come, first-served—so arrive early), order a citrus-forward cocktail and graze your way through wood-fired pizzas and fresh seafood while the golden hour does its thing. Daily happy hour runs 3-5 p.m., private cabanas are bookable and full buyouts of the space fit 100+ people. One guest called it “a mini vacation in our own backyard.” Hard to argue.



photo by Jared Weintraub

3



photo by Tsnya Perez



photo by Jared Weintraub

5

**TOWER39 ROOFTOP LOUNGE**  
3136 CARLSBAD BLVD.  
442.333.9892 / TOWER39ROOFTOPLOUNGE.COM

Perched atop the SpringHill Suites on Carlsbad Boulevard, Tower39 Rooftop Lounge offers a full view of the Pacific where the vibe is easy and the drinks are on point. The Tower39 Spritz, a Beachside Brew Espresso Martini and a State Street Spicy Marg are the crowd favorites, alongside a Tropical Fig and Prosciutto Flatbread that nobody seems to stop ordering. Happy hour runs Sunday through Thursday, spring cocktails riff on the Flower Fields and the whole place operates on the philosophy a guest once offered the owner after a long opening week: “Just ride the wave.”



photo by Tsnya Perez