Pelican Hill: The Pinnacle of Luxury Written by: Elyse Ford

Newport Beach's relaxing atmosphere and immaculate beaches provide the perfect setting for those looking to relish in all things sumptuous. Whether perusing the prestigious Fashion Island with a personal shopper, or driving an exotic rental down PCH, Newport Beach offers grandness in the details that transform your vacation into a one-of-a-kind experience. Take a cruise around our harbor for cocktails, dinner, or even yoga on a yacht. Care to venture beyond the coast? Depart from Balboa's Fun Zone and be whisked away on a getaway to Catalina Island.

If you desire the crème de la crème of luxury escapes, however, there's only one place to stay: Pelican Hill. The sprawling property sits atop a coastal perch with a breathtaking panorama of the city's ocean splendor. It's no wonder the Resort at Pelican Hill has been ranked "#1 Resort in the United States." It's showy without being ostentatious, elegant and yet anything but snobbish. The $16^{\rm th}$ century Italian-inspired architecture takes full advantage of its natural surroundings and situates itself at a curve that hugs the Pacific, cradling a world-renowned golf course and boasting breathtaking ocean views from every spot on the resort.

Serenity meets you the moment you arrive and drive under magnificent archways, the moment you gingerly step on brick paths and open lobby doors to aromatherapy in the air. At Pelican Hill, you're transported to a seaside Mediterranean retreat—your palace away from home. Balmy breezes caress your skin and lush foliage makes the perfect perch for singing birds, native butterflies, and frolicking bunnies. With scenery like this, you'll find sometimes it's best to simply sit and marvel at the natural beauty that surrounds you (500 acres of coastal land to be exact).

You're not short of options of where to lounge: Charming nooks abound. Sit on shaded benches beneath olive trees and gaze across the grounds, or stroll through courtyards to a grand gazebo where chirping birds and a faint golf swing are the only tranquil sounds. Between the tall gazebo's striking columns, you'll see the same stunning view of their immaculate greens and the shimmering Pacific. It's no surprise that weddings are held under the impressive monument. The gazebo's columns add a regal touch to the perfect perspective of paradise.

Although Pelican Hill is a popular resort for all generations and global citizens, the resort's courtyards, fountains, and wide, winding paths make each spot feel intimate and serene. The stonewall that elevates the resort wears colored ivy on its walls, while guests sport designer RTW in private pool-side cabanas. Attention to detail creates a whimsical, enchanted space—from marble floors and massive succulent arrangements to attentive staff who are happy to accommodate your wishes. With such personalized attention, sophisticated guests and daytime visitors feel as if they're walking the grounds of their very own magnificent estate.

The resort's beauty alone can satisfy hours of R & R, but it's also home to a wealth of diverting activities. The five-star nirvana becomes your playground. With eateries that overlook a circular infinity pool with a million plus tiles laid by hand,

golf courses, and the ocean, your dining experiences on their grounds will be exactly that—an experience. Offering world samplers, Italian cuisine of Northern Italy, a market with homemade gelato, and around-the-clock room service, the Resort at Pelican Hill offers a wide range of dining styles, each designed for a different taste, time, and view.

The two golf courses at the resort are also put on proud display like the expansive Pacific—and for good reason. Its Ocean North Course boasts panoramic ocean views from every tee-off point, while its Ocean South Course holds impressive 270-degree views and lies closest to the ocean (three holes are directly on the coast). Head out for a solo game, or with buddies at twilight. There's no better place to see the sun dip below the ocean and admire the crisp outline of Catalina on a horizon afire in gold.

After a long day of activity, the resort's secluded spa feels like an oasis. Cultivate your inner goddess in the relaxation room, a soothing space to lounge in a robe and sip spa water and tea before your specialist picks you up. Soak in a saltwater Jacuzzi resembling the Roman baths in a soft glow while enjoying fresh smoothies and stuffed zucchini. Simply put, subject yourself to the healing powers of touch. Make a day of it and spend time in the sauna, head to their fully stocked showers, and dress in their private changing room before heading out to face the evening completely refreshed.

The ocean is your backyard in Newport Beach, and no one knows this better than those at Pelican Hill. There, five-star amenities envelop you in comfort and make each moment relaxing, dazzling, and completely unforgettable. The next time you set sights on Newport Beach, plan a visit to Pelican Hill, the luxury locality where one lives like royalty and experiences a trip well-beyond dreaming about.