

Touring Season Starts Early – Cruise to San Diego and see the *USS Midway*



The USS Midway, shown against the backdrop of downtown San Diego. Photo is courtesy of the San Diego Tourism Bureau.

AROSC's touring season starts early in this year with a jaunt to San Diego, February 8th-10th. Save the date and make your hotel reservations early; this will be a sellout. Here are the preliminary details.

Friday February 8 / Group A

For those who wish to commence the weekend on Friday, it is recommended that one of the hotels in Oceanside be booked for this night as I have booked my Time Share room at the World Mark, 1301 Carmelo Drive, Oceanside, and wish to host all of you for a barbecue on the balcony. Bring a steak and I will help you cook it, also a bottle of wine or beer to drink. Barbecue commences at 5PM.

Saturday February 9 / Group A & B

At 8:30AM Group A, who will already be in Oceanside, will meet up with group B who are to join us at the parking lot in front of the World Mark (see address above), where we can have a photo shoot, and enjoy a coffee; I will have a box of Starbucks ready for all.

At 9:30AM we will depart Oceanside on the I-5 to downtown San Diego and our headquarters, The Hampton Inn, 1531 Pacific Highway. We will park in the Hampton Inn's underground lot on arrival, make a convenience stop and regroup in the lobby before leaving to have some brunch in one of the many restaurants in the vicinity.

After brunch we stroll down to the aircraft carrier *USS Midway* Museum, 910 N. Harbor Drive. Our tour includes over 60 exhibits, plus the flight deck, galley, engine room, so we should be on board for about two hours.

After the tour, we can check in at the hotel, freshen up, and meet for a cocktail party. This will be a Wine Tour-style gathering (bring a bottle and some snacks).

Dinner has not yet been decided, but the thoughts are to walk a very short distance to one of the many wonderful restaurants of Little Italy.

Sunday, February 10

The Hampton Inn provides a full American breakfast for us to enjoy, so we'll meet at 9AM in the restaurant to enjoy breakfast then a leisurely walk back to the wharf area to see the other ships on display, or do some shopping in town, before the next leg of the cruise, to Coronado Island.

At 11AM we'll depart the Hampton Inn for Coronado Island, where lunch is booked at Il Fornaio. We can take in the city views and get snapshots of our Alfas with the San Diego skyline in the background (think: *Alfa Owner* magazine center-fold). We'll disperse after lunch for a lovely drive back up the I-5 to our homes, after a memorable trip to wonderful San Diego.

RSVP to me at info@arosc.org, and book your lodgings soon. The block of rooms will be held until January 26th.

– *John Britton*