

Great Views and Deluxe Accommodations: Crowne Plaza, Redondo Beach

The Pacific ocean shimmers on a sunny autumn afternoon. Catalina Island can be seen off to the distance. Some bikers are seen pedaling their way along the beach bike path. This scene is just part of the grand view from many rooms at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Redondo Beach.

This property, with 346 spacious rooms, is popular with out-of-towners and people who need a comfortable place to stay in a fashionable area. Each room has a balcony, and 85% of them have either an ocean or marina view. The comfy bed is an exclusive of Crowne Plazas, The Sleep Advantage. There are seven layers of bedding comfort. Cable/Satellite TV is available in each space. There is a coffee maker, a mini refrigerator, and two-line phone with speaker phone capabilities. The work desk with lamp is large enough for spreading out all of those important papers. Wireless and high speed internet access is offered, and the CD/clock radio can wake you up gently. A better bath experience awaits all visitors. Upgrades include Speakman massage showerheads, curved rods for a roomier shower, and the new Lightview white waffle weave shower curtain that allows more light in. Thicker, more

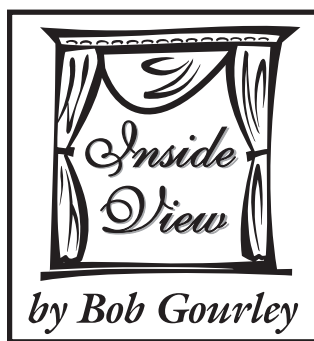
absorbent towels and Re-Neu Botanical bath products are great for the skin.

Recreation is a key part of the experience at the Crowne Plaza. The pool area, located on top of the parking garage, is huge. A remodeling project, taking place now, will completely re-theme the deck with a new color scheme, new gazebos, and lounging chairs. Right next door is the fully-equipped Gold's Gym. All guests can use their facilities at no charge 24 hours a day. It is one of the most popular workout places in the area. The hotel also has bike rentals available for a nice ride on the nearby beach bike path.

Guests wanting to really relax can take advantage of Body, Etc., a European Spa and salon located at two locations within the property. They have a wide range of services from massages to designer hair designs. There is a sauna, and they host spa parties, which have become very popular in the past few years. Special discount rates are available daily.

Guest laundry facilities are located in the hotel and for those needing a souvenir or a sundry item, there is a fully stocked store called The Reef. They also offer gourmet coffee from their bar located inside.

The signature restaurant is Splash



Mediterranean Bistro. Three gourmet meals are served everyday. It all begins with a breakfast buffet with two choices, Continental or the Full American version. Either one will get the day off to a great start. The Continental features pastries, muffins, cereals, and more. Those wishing more hearty fare can choose the full American choice with all of the continental offerings plus hot dishes prepared in the restaurant's demonstration kitchen.

Lunch items include sandwiches and the dinner menu has a wide range of favorites from pizza to lamb chops. For those wanting a very customized experience, reserve the Chef's Table. 4 to 12 people can experience Splash up close and personal, from the kitchen itself. A 5 course dinner is \$60.00 with 6 courses priced at \$70.00.

Happy Hour is in effect 7 days a week from 4PM to 7PM. Discounted drink and appetizer prices are offered. There is also an intimate dining room that is great for those smaller gatherings.



The Pacific ocean shimmers on a sunny autumn afternoon. Catalina Island can be seen off to the distance. Some bikers are seen pedaling their way along the beach bike path. This scene is just part of the grand view from many rooms at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Redondo Beach.

This is a popular place for weddings and corporate meetings. There are two ballrooms with a pre-function area accented by a 1500 gallon saltwater aquarium. The Coral ballroom can accommodate 600 seated banquet guests and can be configured into five separate conference rooms. All attendees are spoiled with Herman Caper chairs, ergonomically designed with comfort in mind. With all of the variety of space, any size event can be designed.

Personal service is one of the hallmarks at the Crowne Plaza. A large percentage of the staff has been working there for at least 10 years. They know their customers and that is one of the reasons why locals consider the



This is a popular place for weddings and corporate meetings. With all of the variety of space, any size event can be designed.

hotel a place for their 'spare bedroom'. From 9PM to 10AM on weeknights the Quiet Zones program is in effect. No work will be done during those hours so guests can get maximum peace.

The location is ideal. Right across the street are restaurants in all price ranges, and the pier with all of its attractions is a short walk away. Special rates are available. Check out their website for more details. Come and experience the great Redondo Beach area from an attractive spot, the Crowne Plaza, Redondo Beach. Crowne Plaza Redondo Beach and

Marina Hotel, 300 N. Harbor Dr., Redondo Beach. (310) 318-8888. www.crowneplaza.com/redondobeach.

• Bob Gourley has been doing travel reviews for the past 25 years. He is currently heard nationally on Issues Today Radio and locally on KTYM 1460AM.

Hotel owners, if you are interested in a Hotel Review, please contact **Carmen Freeland** or **Carlos Sidney** at **(310) 543-6133**.

View our Hotel Reviews at www.dailybreeze.com