

Itinerary

LA GUIDES

POINTS OF INTEREST

FREE THINGS TO DO IN SOUTH LA



Overview

One of LA's most culturally rich and diverse regions, **South LA** includes Baldwin Hills/Crenshaw, Inglewood, Leimert Park, West Adams and more. Free activities include a guided tour outside the iconic Watts Towers, the Museum of African American Art at Macy's Baldwin Hills Crenshaw, and a visit to Leimert Park, dubbed "the Black Greenwich Village" by the late John Singleton.

Part 1

Watts

Founded as a ranching community in the late 19th century, **Watts** is best known for the iconic Watts Towers, handmade sculptures that were created by Sabato ("Simon") Rodia over a 33-year period from 1921 to 1954. Other cultural landmarks include the Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC), a seven-acre nonprofit arts facility dedicated to improving the quality of life for South LA residents; and the Watts Coffee House, a community hub known for its delicious soul food.



**Watts Towers**  
1765 E. 107th St., Los Angeles, CA 90002  
Free guided tours outside the fence during restoration.

Part 2

Leimert Park

Dubbed the “Black Greenwich Village” by the late filmmaker John Singleton, the historic neighborhood of **Leimert Park** is widely regarded as the cultural hub for African Americans in L.A. Leimert Park's cultural must-sees include Eso Won Books, the landmark Vision Theatre, Art + Practice, The World Stage, Project Blowed at KAOS Network, and the legendary drum circle.



**Leimert Plaza Park**  
4395 Leimert Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90008  
The famed drum circle is always a highlight during a visit.



**Art + Practice**  
3401 W. 43rd Pl, Los Angeles, CA 90008  
Exhibition space dedicated to celebrating artists of color.



**Leimert Park Art Walk**  
4395 Leimert Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90008  
Family friendly event on the last Sunday of every month.

Part 3

# West Adams

**West Adams** is one of LA's oldest neighborhoods - many of its notable buildings were built between 1880 and 1925. With its Victorian mansions and Craftsman bungalows, it was once known as the wealthiest district in the city, home to Downtown LA businessmen and USC professors. West Adams later became a favorite of African American stars like Ray Charles, Little Richard, Joe Louis, and Hattie McDaniel. West Adams is also home to two key buildings designed by renowned architect Paul Revere Williams: the First AME Church, LA's oldest African American congregation; and the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Building, now part of the South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC).



**First AME Church**  
2270 S. Harvard Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90018  
Established in 1872 under the sponsorship of Biddy Mason.



**South Central Los Angeles Regional Center**  
2500 S. Western Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90018  
Restored Paul Williams building with two landmark murals.

Part 4

# Baldwin Hills

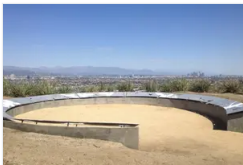
Situated west of Leimert Park, **Baldwin Hills** is renowned for Village Green (originally named Baldwin Hills Village), a National Historic Landmark built in 1942; Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, Kenneth Hahn State Regional Park, and one of LA's most unique museums, the Museum of African American Art - a hidden gem discreetly located on the 3rd floor of Macy's Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza.



**Museum of African American Art**  
4005 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90008  
Hidden gem located on the 3rd floor of Macy's.



**Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area**  
4100 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056  
Miles of trails, an MLK memorial, and beautiful sunsets.



**Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook**  
6300 Hetzler Rd, Culver City, CA 90232  
Enjoy 360-degree views of LA on a clear day.

100 FREE THINGS TO DO IN LA

