

Jamaica Bay Inn

- By Laurel Belgreen

You can luxuriate in an island-type resort without leaving southern California. The Jamaica Bay Inn in Marina del Rey has everything you need for a relaxation paradise in technological times.



Designed to pamper every type of traveler, the 111-room "green" hotel presents a beachfront pool and hot tub; balconies with views of the marina; a trendy restaurant; easy access to a golden-sand beach; an executive-style conference room with flat-panel audio/visual capabilities perfect for presentations; a 24-hour business center for copying, faxing and printing – all with the kind of attention and

service you receive at the finest resorts. The active vacationer can enjoy bike-riding, kayaking, and paddle-boarding; the clean sand and soft breezes also invite champion-level kite-flying. The beach-side views of shining sand and docked boats are tranquil marina watercolors with occasional smile-inducing sightings of joyful families with romping dogs.

The best-of-both-worlds, just-this-side-of-extravagance décor presents a feeling of lavish islandness with sumptuous comfort and subtle tones of natural elements; instead of sandy tile and giant red and yellow hibiscuses that shout "You are on an island!" the Jamaica Bay Inn's tony wood floors and carefully placed orchids whisper, "You are where you should be, and you are at peace with the world."

The beautiful garden selections were chosen specifically to welcome hummingbirds. The patio dining area features circular fire pits with plate-wide granite ledges and low flames that dance across centers comprised of sparkling stones. Jamaica Bay Inn amenities also include a beach-view, 24-hour fitness center with five cardio and strength-training machines.

The large rooms are appointed with great attention to detail. The bathrooms have silent-glide doors, tub-size showers with gentle-rain showerheads, toilets with self-closing lids, and granite countertops. Every room has a patio or balcony, a refrigerator, high-speed wireless internet connection, computer-ready desk, in-room movies, safe boxes and a flat-screen TV as well as cloud-like beds and linens. Some of the rooms also feature a tub and fireplace. Luxurious spa robes, and, keeping with Jamaica Bay Inn's commitment to staying



green, a bio-degradable shower cap and organic sundries are supplied for extra convenience.

The 55-guest private party room spills out onto the patio of Vú, the unique-cuisine waterfront dining experience captained by Chef Kyle Schutte and a happy-to-please-you bartender who cheerfully creates custom concoctions for discerning drinkers. Artistically presented and designed to surprise the taste buds of adventurous eaters, the sustainable culinary choices include creations such as balsamic-injected cherry tomatoes wrapped in mozzarella, pork served on top of fried grits and topped with root-beer gelatin, and sweet tea poached lamb "lollipops" with roasted grape relish. Leave room for the addictive nitrogen-infused mint ice cream.



While staying at Jamaica Bay Inn, visit Marina del Rey's natural treasure, the Ballona Wetlands, a natural habitat of giant blue herons, egrets, butterflies and other wildlife. Preservation and restoration continue as the willows and celery bogs evolve every season, a self-sustaining eco-system contrasting the modern structures that form the city skyline in the background. To help visitors imagine the time when the Tongva tribe lived and thrived

on the marshes, a local Girl Scout troop has constructed a simulation of one of their huts and basin-sized baskets. If you can, coordinate the timing of your trip to coincide with the dates the Wetlands are open to the public.

A delightful evening activity is a dinner cruise on the bay. Enjoy the changing view of twinkling-lit boats as the yacht's personable staff serves you high-quality food and the DJ's music beckons you to the dance floor.

There's no need to spend a day at each end of your vacation in a crowded, stuffy airplane; spend the time and money in your own "backyard." The Jamaica Bay Inn offers everything you want in an elegant island vacation – and more.

Book online at jamaicabayinn.com or call 888-823-5333 for reservations and information.



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