

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STEM

Hollywood isn't California's only source of magic! Admire views of the Pacific Ocean at the Griffith Observatory, discover ancient fossils at the La Brea Tar Pits, and explore botany, engineering, and zoology at Balboa Park.

### *Why Brightspark?*

#### **Safety And Security**

We regularly conduct strict audits of our vendors, ensuring they act in accordance with safety, security, and quality standards.

#### **Our Tour Directors**

You deserve the best, so we only use experienced and enthusiastic Tour Directors who are experts on their destinations.

#### **Quality, Custom Tours**

Our programs are designed for you, by you. From STEM-based DC tours to performance trips to some of our country's top music cities, we have a destination for every budget and every passion.

#### **Industry Experience**

With over 50 years of experience providing custom tours, Brightspark is a leader in student travel.

#### **Travel Protection & Incident Coverage**

With our 24/7 emergency hotline, comprehensive general insurance, and an industry-leading refund guarantee program, we've got you covered.



[brightsparktravel.com](http://brightsparktravel.com)



## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: STEM TOUR

### Day 1:

- Arrive in Los Angeles. Meet your Tour Director and board your private motor coach.
- Go behind the scenes on a tour of Hollywood's major sights, including the **Walk of Fame**, **El Capitan Theatre**, **Grauman's Egyptian Theatre**, famous film locations, and the Oscars **Red Carpet Awards Walk**. You'll also learn the history of how Hollywood became the capital of the film industry.
- Explore the **California Science Center**, the largest hands-on science museum on the West Coast. Permanent exhibits include the Space Shuttle Endeavour and a motion simulator. The museum also features a number of rotating exhibits each year. [Physics](#), [Engineering](#), [Natural History](#), [Biology](#)
- Discover the **La Brea Tar Pits** in Hancock Park. These natural asphalt pools have been seeping through the surface for tens of thousands of years, trapping and preserving prehistoric and modern animals. The **Page Museum** on site is dedicated to studying the tar pits and displaying its fossils. [Paleontology](#)
- Head up **Mount Hollywood** and admire the sights from the vantage point of the **Griffith Observatory**. The famous astronomy center features a planetarium, hands-on exhibits, evening star-gazing parties, and stunning views of downtown LA, the Pacific Ocean, and the iconic Hollywood sign. [Astronomy & Physics](#)

### Day 2:

- Venture to the final frontier at the **Columbia Memorial Space Center**, featuring a hands-on robotics lab that lets young scientists land on Mars. [Astronomy](#), [Engineering & Physics](#)
- Go under the sea at the **Aquarium of the Pacific** in Long Beach's Rainbow Harbor. Dedicated to exploring the largest ocean in the world, from the chilly North Pacific to the sunny shores of Baja California, the aquarium puts you face to face with over 11,000 animals across 500 species. [Marine Biology](#)
- Take in a multimedia experience at the **Museum of Tolerance**. Learn about the Holocaust in historic and contemporary contexts and examine human rights and prejudice today. [Social Sciences](#)
- Enjoy dinner at the **Farmers Market**, dating back to July 1934. The historic LA landmark features produce vendors, food stalls, and restaurants.

### Day 3:

- Discover "the Happiest Place on Earth!" Enjoy free time inside **Disneyland<sup>®</sup> Resort**, featuring iconic rides like the Haunted Mansion and Pirates of the Caribbean at **Disneyland<sup>®</sup> Park**, Walt Disney's original theme park.
- Participate in a **Disney Youth Education Series Workshop**. Specially-trained Disney Resort facilitators use a captivating mixture of thought-provoking information, hands-on experiences, and fun to engage students. [Physics](#), [Technology](#), [Applied Sciences](#)
- At nearby **Disney California Adventure<sup>®</sup> Park**, explore seven exciting lands that bring to life iconic Disney and Pixar movies and characters.

### Day 4:

- Travel to **San Diego**.
- Sail the high seas at the **Maritime Museum of San Diego**, established in 1948. Housing one of the largest collections of historic sea vessels in the U.S., the museum's main attraction is the Star of India, the world's oldest active ship. [Technology & Engineering](#)
- Explore **Balboa Park**. The 1,200 acre park was established in the 1870s, making it one of the oldest public recreation sites in the U.S. The complex houses over 50 museums, gardens, and attractions. Top destinations include the **Botanical Building**, the **Reuben H. Fleet Science Center**, and the **San Diego Air and Space Museum**. [Botany](#), [Engineering](#), [Astronomy](#)
- Head into the wild at the **San Diego Zoo!** In the middle of Balboa Park, the site includes a zoo, safari park, and social conservation center that houses over 3,700 animals. [Zoology](#)

### Day 5:

- Go below deck at the **USS Midway Museum**, a maritime attraction at San Diego's Navy Pier. The Navy ship barely missed seeing action in World War II but was active in the Vietnam War. The floating museum features 60 immersive exhibits, from the flight deck to the engine room. [Technology](#), [Physics & Mathematics](#)
- Experience underwater adventure at **SeaWorld** in San Diego's **Mission Bay Park**. This oceanarium, outdoor aquarium, and marine mammal park offers interactive ways to learn through rides, shows, and tours. [Marine Biology](#)
- Depart for home.

Ask a Tour Consultant about interactive workshops and other experiential and project-based learning opportunities.

