

halloween haunts

Written by KATIE KRETSCHMER



Hair-raising happenings for the whole family



At Legoland's Brick or Treat celebration in Carlsbad, California, kids 12 and under can collect candy along a street of treat stations, then take a picture with the giant Lego jack-o'-lantern.

Brick or Treat!

Carlsbad, California
Weekends in October

Build up some Halloween excitement at Legoland's Brick or Treat celebration. Kids 12 and under can make their way along the Brick or Treat trail, a kid-size street of treat stations, and gather candy and other goodies in a souvenir bag, then take a picture with the giant Lego jack-o'-lantern. On Saturdays, the park stays open late for family-friendly Brick or Treat Party Nights. Catch live entertainment with the Boo Crew—DJ Hubble Bubble, Zany Zelda, Count Brickula and Jester Funny Bones; explore Haunted Hideaways; test your skills at a Lego brick pumpkin build; and gather glow-in-the-dark treats. Enter the nightly costume contest, where kids under 12 can win cool prizes. Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.;

Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Park admission includes Brick or Treat and Party Nights: adults, \$63; kids and seniors, \$53. Party Nights—only tickets can be purchased after 5 p.m., \$35. 760-918-5346; legoland.com.

GlendOberfest

Glendale, Arizona
October 31

Rustle up some Halloween spirit at Sahuaro Ranch Park's annual GlendOberfest celebration. Listed on the National Register of Historical Places, the 17-acre ranch and park features 13 original buildings, a rose garden, barnyard and historic orchards dating back to the late 1800s—perfect for an evening of carnival games, rides and door-to-door trick-or-treating at the various buildings. There's also a haunted corn maze, flashlight egg hunts (look for candy-filled eggs in the

dark), and the popular Sinister Sinema, a haunted house that offers extra thrills to those who dare to enter. 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Admission is free; \$5 unlimited-ride bracelets available. 623-930-2820; glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation.

Balboa Park Puppet Theater

San Diego
Wednesdays—Sundays, October 7–11 and October 21–November 1

Something funny's brewing at the Balboa Park Puppet Theater. A pair of bewitching puppet shows for kids is sure to get everyone in the spirit of the season. Playing October 7 to 11, *Witches Brew* is a 35-minute hand-puppet show about a witch who wants to change her ways. From October 21 to November 1, catch life-size puppets in *The Polka Dot Ghost*, the story of Tommy, the

very un-scary ghost who's trying to get ready for Halloween. Kids in costume attending weekend performances of either show get a chance to take part in an on-stage costume parade. Showtimes: Wednesday to Friday, 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Children 2 and older, \$3; adults, \$5; seniors, \$4. 619-544-9203; balboaparkpuppets.com.

Pumpkin Hollow

Piggot, Arkansas
Fridays—Sundays,
September 26–October 31

Just 60 miles from Jonesboro, Arkansas, and 35 miles from Poplar Bluff, Missouri, Pumpkin Hollow offers tricks and treats for the whole family. Kids will love the friendly fairytale forest, featuring interactive scenes from favorite stories. Climb up Jack's beanstalk and glide down the twisting slide, visit the Li'l Kids Spookhouse, or catch a ride on the Pumpkin Hollow Express—sized just for younger kids. There are also pony and hay rides, a petting area and a corn maze. Pig Scrambles let kids race to get the ribbon off a piglet's tail. For older teens and adults looking for more frightening

fun, Pumpkin Hollow offers several seriously scary haunted attractions—located safely away from children's events. Family activities: Fridays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sundays, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. General admission, \$6; additional attractions, \$2 (haunted attractions higher). 870-598-3568; pumpkinhollow.com.

HallZOOween

Cincinnati
October 10–11, 17–18, 24–25

The zoo is always a great place to check out your favorite spooky species—bats, rats, snakes and spiders. Check out the creepy-crawlies, and watch as animals enjoy their own version of Halloween treats, Pumpkin Pandemonium, at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens during HallZOOween. Kids 12 and under can dress up and trick-or-treat, stop by the Pumpkin Patch for giant pumpkin-carving demonstrations, or take a ride on the Spooktacular Train and the Scareousel. To help the zoo go green, visitors are encouraged to bring their own treat bags. 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Free with zoo admission: adults, \$13; children 2 and older, \$9. 513-281-4700; cincinnati.zoo.org.



Watch as all the animals enjoy their own version of Halloween treats at the Cincinnati Zoo during HallZOOween.

Spirit Ships and Haunted Harbors

Chicago
Weekends in October

Set sail on a thrill-filled evening voyage on Lake Michigan aboard the Tall Ship Windy. Storyteller and historian Orion Couling performs tales of ghost ships, shady characters and the mysterious legends of the Lake. Stories date back as far as the early 1600s, when French traders and Native Americans navigated the shores. 6:30 p.m.; other nights may be added. Adults, \$24; seniors and students, \$20; children, \$10; children 3 and under, free. 312-595-5555; tallshipwindy.com. ■

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