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# BURBANK

You've got an extra day to check out the Media Capital of the World. Here's what you do. **BY KIMBERLEY LOVATO**

**NEIGHBORING HOLLYWOOD HOGS** the spotlight, but just over the hill from that famous white sign lies Burbank—a city of 108,000 where a lot of the movie magic happens. There are countless ways to get behind the scenes. Tours at major studios show off costumes, sets and cinema secrets from film and TV shows, while Burbank's retro shops and restaurants glitter with their own stardust—especially America's oldest Bob's Big Boy, which turns 70 this year. Visit during the Downtown Burbank Arts Festival (May 18-19), when animators from studios such as Walt Disney Animation and Nickelodeon show off their original work, and you just might snag a souvenir from the *real* Tinseltown.



## LIGHTS, CAMERA ...

Get into the action at **Warner Bros. Studios**, where familiar façades and sets from favorite TV shows and films, such as *Batman*, *The Big Bang Theory* and *Gilmore Girls*, are part of the tour. Participants also can sip coffee at Central Perk Café, made famous on *Friends*, and step into the realm of Atlantis in the new *Aquaman* exhibit, which runs through the end of the year. Fans of **Ellen DeGeneres** can book on her website to see a live taping of her hit talk show.

## SCENE STEALERS

Browse through Magnolia Boulevard's offbeat shops, including **Playclothes**, whose claim to fame is that its vintage merchandise has starred on the silver screen. Two blocks away, **It's a Wrap** is where clothing and props from studio wardrobe departments land after the final scene. At the **LA Connection Comedy Theater**, you can take in a show or even throw yourself into an improv class.

## SOUND BITES

Sip a milkshake in the Beatles booth at historical landmark **Bob's Big Boy**, where the band dined in 1965. The parking lot also is the setting for a classic car show every Friday night. For decades, movie stars have loved **The Smoke House** for steak house fare and do-not-miss garlic bread. It's also appeared in *La La Land*, *Scandal* and other film and TV hits.

## UNDER THE STARS

Summertime means alfresco concerts and Fourth of July fireworks at the **Starlight Bowl** amphitheater. Nearby, the newly renovated **Castaway** restaurant remains a Burbank classic—and an ideal spot for sunset views and cocktails on the terrace.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: A view of Burbank; It's a Wrap; A lobster pot pie at Castaway; The Starlight Bowl amphitheater; Playclothes; America's oldest Bob's Big Boy.

CHRIS PUTNAM/ALAMY STOCK PHOTO (BURBANK); JUAN TALLO/VISIT BURBANK (SMOKE HOUSE); VISIT BURBANK (THE STARLIGHT BOWL AND BOB'S BIG BOY)