



THE GENERATION ORANGE GUIDE

— to —

# Los Angeles

*Insider Advice on Adulting in Your New City*

GENERATION  
ORANGE

Syracuse University

**Alumni**  
ASSOCIATION

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## **Welcome**

Dear 2017 grad and new member of Generation Orange,

WELCOME TO SUNNY LOS ANGELES!

What is Generation Orange, you ask? Gen O grads are Syracuse University alumni who have graduated in the past 10 years—and are now establishing their roots as young leaders and professionals. There are more than 2,000 members of Gen O right here in LA.

We're sure you're excited—and also a little nervous—as you embark on this next chapter of your life. Have no fear! We've put together this guide for you featuring tips, tricks, and advice to help you as you transition to life in LA.

No clue how to start the apartment hunt? *We've got you covered!*

Feel like going on an adventure? *No problem!*

Need new Instagram foodie photos? *We have plenty of suggestions on where to eat!*

So take a moment and skim through the pages that follow. We're sure you'll find something worth your while. :)

Best of luck on your endeavors and as always, GO ORANGE!

- The Generation Orange Leadership Council

## **Los Angeles Alumni Organizations + Resources**

- SoCal Orange - The official Syracuse University Alumni Club of Los Angeles. The club hosts various events throughout the year. Check out what's coming up and sign up for their mailing list [here](#).
- SU in LA - SU's home base in Los Angeles that hosts SU's Semester in LA program and often hosts various events for alumni such as workshops and networking. See what events are coming up [here](#).
- Keep up with the latest and greatest news and happenings of SU in LA on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter!](#)



## **Apartment Hunting Tools**

### **Resources to Find Apartments**

- Craigslist - Great for subleases or to move into an existing lease.
- Roomi - You can find great apartments if you already have a roommate, but there are also listings for folks looking for roommates to join a lease. They also host events where you can meet potential roommates in addition to viewing apartments.
- Streeteasy - Great to find apartments if you are looking solo or have roommates already locked in.
- Zillow - Great to find apartments if you are looking solo or have roommates already locked in.
- Compass - Great to find apartments if you are looking solo or have roommates already locked in.
- Padmapper - Great to find apartments if you are looking solo or have roommates already locked in.

### **Things You'll Need Before You Go Apartment Hunting**

- Letter of Employment or Proof of Income Letter that states the length of work and annual salary. Ask for this on your first day/orientation session at your job.
- Your two most recent pay stubs. If you don't have pay stubs yet, explain that to your leasing office and the Letter of Employment should suffice.
- Latest bank statements.
- Copy of your photo ID or passport.
- First two pages of your latest tax return. You may not need it, but it's good to have on hand.
- Reference letters from previous landlords are great if you have them, but they're not mandatory.
- Bring a blank check or your checkbook. You'll be surprised at how quickly apartments come off the market, so if you find something you fall in love with, you'll be ready to make it yours.



### **Common Things To Know When Looking For An Apartment**

- Start your search by narrowing down what part of LA you want to be in. The next section shows a breakdown of popular neighborhoods such as Santa Monica, Hollywood, Los Feliz and Silverlake
- Schedule viewings quickly. Apartments are taken off the market quickly, so reach out as soon as you find a place you're interested in. It would also be wise to spend a day viewing multiple apartments so that you can compare and contrast. Try to bundle viewings by neighborhood.

- Keep an eye out for places with “No broker fees.” Brokers are individuals who will help you look for an apartment based on the criteria you provide them with, but for a steep cost. Usually 8.5%-17% of your annual rent. You can avoid this fee by joining an existing lease or looking at properties where a leasing company will pay the broker fee on your behalf.
- You (and your roommates, if applicable) should budget roughly 30% of your income for rent. This is to ensure you have enough cash flow to comfortably pay your rent.
- In addition to signing the physical lease, you will need to provide a security deposit, first month’s rent, and sometimes the last month’s rent to fully secure your apartment.

### **Major Neighborhoods in LA**

- Santa Monica
- Venice
- Marina / Playa Del Rey
- South Bay
- Hermosa Beach
- Manhattan Beach
- Culver City
- Ladera Heights
- Brentwood / Westwood
- Beverly Hills
- Mid-City / Century City
- WeHo (West Hollywood)
- Hollywood
- Griffith Park / Los Feliz
- Silverlake
- Downtown
- Koreatown
- Burbank
- Glendale
- Pasadena
- Studio City
- Sherman Oaks
- NoHo (North Hollywood)
- Van Nuys



### **Must Eat/Drink Places**

#### **Brunch**

- Manuela (Arts District)
- A.O.C. (Beverly Grove)
- Tres (Beverly Hills)
- Baltaire (Brentwood)
- Clementine (Century City)
- The Wallace (Culver City)

- Badmaash (Downtown)
- Republique (Miracle Mile)
- Salt's Cure (Hollywood)
- Alcove Café & Bakery (Los Feliz)
- Milo & Olive (Santa Monica)
- Blue Jam Café (Sherman Oaks)

### **Lunch/Dinner**

- The HMS Bounty (Koreatown)
- Il Ristorante di Giorgio Baldi (Santa Monica)
- Peppone Ristorante (Brentwood)
- Lanza Brothers Market (Lincoln Heights)
- Philippe the Original (Chinatown)
- Cole's (Downtown)
- Dan Tana's (Beverly Hills)
- The Original Pantry (Downtown)
- Pacific Dining Car (Koreatown)
- Polo Lounge (Beverly Hills)
- The Galley Restaurant (Santa Monica)
- Tom Bergins (Miracle Mile)
- The Apple Pan (Century City)
- Langer's Delicatessen (Koreatown)
- The Fountain Coffee Room (Beverly Hills)



### **Sweet Tooth**

- The MILK Shop (West Hollywood)
- Chocolate Chair
- Sweet Lady Jane
- The Pie Hole
- Porto's Bakery
- Bottega Louie
- Ridges Churro Bar
- Donut Friend
- Demitasse
- McConnell's
- Rocco's Cheesecake
- Papillon International Bakery
- Valerie Confections

### **For A Drink or Two**

- Seven Grand (Downtown)

- Clifton's (Downtown)
- The Short Stop (Echo Park)
- Lock & Key (Koreatown)
- Black (Hollywood)
- Dirty Laundry (Hollywood)
- Good Time at Davey Wayne's (Hollywood)
- Harvard & Stone (Hollywood)
- No Vacancy (Hollywood)
- Sassafras (Hollywood)
- The Well (Hollywood)
- The Woods (Hollywood)
- The Powder Room (Hollywood)
- Tropicana @ the Roosevelt (Hollywood)
- The Bungalow (Santa Monica)
- The Bird Cage
- Tenants of the Trees (Silver Lake)
- The Virgil (Silver Lake)
- The Venice Whaler (Venice)
- Laurel Hardware (West Hollywood)
- Bar Lubitsch (West Hollywood)
- The Hudson (West Hollywood)

### **Where Syracuse Grads Typically Gather**

- The Parlor

### **Fitness + Outdoor Activities**

#### **Gyms**

- Crunch Gym
- Equinox
- LA Fitness
- Gold's Gym
- 24 Hour Fitness

#### **Yoga Studios**

- YogaWorks
- CorePower Yoga

#### **Beaches / The Coast**

- Malibu
- Santa Monica
- Venice Beach
- Marina Del Rey
- Playa Del Rey

- Manhattan Beach
- Hermosa Beach
- Seal Beach
- Huntington Beach
- Newport Beach
- Laguna

### **The Great Outdoors**

- Big Bear
- Lake Havasu
- Joshua Tree
- Lake Elsinore
- Hollywood Hills Hikes

### **Things to Do in LA**

#### **Big Events**

Rooftop Cinema Club  
 Movie viewing on a rooftop screening well known films  
 (Until June 30)

#### Smorgasburg LA

LA's version of the Brooklyn food staple. It's a food market in the Arts District and hotbed for fantastic food and unique vendors.  
 (All summer)

#### Cinespia Cemetery Screenings

Famous movie watching experience in LA. Bring a lawn chair, picnic blanket, snacks and a bottle of wine. Catch a cult-classic movie at a famous LA cemetery.  
 (Until June 24)

#### Odd Nights at the Atrium

The IT flea market of the summer. Search for antiques and anything artisanal under the LA night sky.  
 (Once a month)

#### Eat|See|Hear

Catch a movie outdoors. Bring snacks, a lawn chair, and a few friends. Enjoy the food trucks and great company.  
 (All summer)





## **Cultural Institutions**

- Los Angeles Museum of Art (LACMA)
- Huntington Library, Art Collection & Botanical Gardens
- Natural History Museum
- The Broad
- The Getty Center
- Griffith Observatory
- California Science Center
- Petersen Automotive Museum
- Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA)

## **Helpful Apps**

### **Entertainment & Activity Apps**

- Yelp - If you're looking to try new food and even venture into a new neighborhood, Yelp will give you reliable suggestions.
- Pulsd - Trying to have fun on a budget is hard, but Pulsd makes it a bit easier. The app always has great deals on great places to eat and things to do around the city.
- Groupon - An app that is filled with discounts.
- Hopper - Looking to get out of town? Hopper does an analysis of various airlines and provides you with best deals. You can even track them so if you prices drop, you will be the first to know!
- Cool Cousin - Always wish you could live the lives of cool "influencers" in LA? Well Cool Cousin is the app for you. Cool Cousins in each city will provide you with places to hit up when you're looking to try something new

### **Food**

- Seamless - Feeling lazy but hungry? Seamless has your back with literally hundreds of restaurants that deliver to your doorstep.
- Eat 24 - Same as Seamless, but Yelp's version.
- Ritual - Get points for ordering lunch and skip the line!
- Uber Eats - Hundreds of LA restaurants that deliver to you at "Uber" speed.

### **Transit/Navigation**

- WAZE - Ditch google maps and apple maps, WAZE uses updated live traffic (base on people currently on the road) to give the best alternate route. Good way to explore the LA area because it takes you through the most interesting side streets.
- Check out LA metro and the new Expo line that runs from Downtown to Santa Monica

## **General Tips & Tricks**

- Keep your student ID with you. You never know when you can pull it out for a sweet discount. Particularly at museums and other cultural institutions

- Always check for a “first time user” discount code. This particularly applies to things like new apps that you download (ride sharing, food ordering, etc).
- If you’re looking for slightly used and inexpensive furniture, use Craigslist. You’ll find some gems on there that won’t cost you an arm and a leg. Or, keep an eye out in your neighborhood because people are always moving and often times leave some great items on the sidewalk.
- If you ever find yourself bored, there’s always something to do in LA. Google events happening on that particular day, because there will almost always be a farmers market, flea market, comedy show, street festival, movie screening, or concert going on.

