

The Los Angeles Region

A mixed media map with icons pinpointing ethnic enclaves, gated communities, barrios, gang-territories, cop-cities, military bases, theme parks, slum areas, multicultural zones, lifestyle communities, celebrity cities, sects and subcultures in the Los Angeles region.

Zooming in on a particular icon, a related short text, a video clip, a photo or a sound pops up. Together the many pop-ups create a MTV-like tale of a globally emerging new society, characterized by disorder and dissimilarity.

While hundreds of homeless people live in cardboard homes on the sidewalks of Skid Row, others pay hundreds of dollars for a new shirt from one of the exclusive fashion shops along Rodeo Drive. With its composition of 3rd world slum areas and the most extravagant luxury of the western world, Jewish business districts and Muslim mosques, black ghettos and Hispanic barrios, hippie cultures and fanatical sects, LA is not only one of the world's most heterogeneous regions, it is as such one of the most radical democratic experiments yet to be seen.

Disneyland is being promoted as "The Happiest Place on Earth". The theme park's three hotels ensure that visitors can participate in the fairytale 24 hours a day.

The Bloods are one of the most infamous street gangs in North America. The gang was founded in Southern California, in defense against the Crips. Bloods members wear red bandanas and cross out the letter "C" in words as disrespect for the Crips.