

News



THE RITZ-CARLTON

BACARA, SANTA BARBARA

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THE RITZ-CARLTON BACARA, SANTA BARBARA UNVEILS NEW ENHANCEMENTS FOR A REFRESHED AND MODERNIZED GUEST EXPERIENCE

Inspired by Santa Barbara's rich heritage, the iconic oceanfront resort ushers in a new era of coastal luxury and elegance with reimagined main floor, spa, function spaces, and brand-new Ritz-Carlton Club Lounge

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. – May 28, 2019 – [The Ritz-Carlton Bacara, Santa Barbara](#) – the iconic oceanfront resort located in [The New York Times' #3 travel destination for 2019](#) – is pleased to announce the completion of a series of transformative enhancements throughout the scenic property. Drawing inspiration from its distinct American Riviera locale – including Santa Barbara's rich Chumash and Spanish heritage, the Pacific Ocean, and Central Coast wine country – Central California's premier coastal resort presents reimagined public spaces including the lobby, guest reception, Bacara Bar, Ocean Terrace, The Ritz-Carlton Spa, and function spaces, as well as a brand-new [Ritz-Carlton Club® Lounge](#). Designed by Hirsch Bedner Associates, these enhancements offer a modernized and refreshed version of the existing Bacara resort – which joined The Ritz-Carlton portfolio in September 2017 – while maintaining its iconic charm. Guests and locals alike are invited to discover a new level of luxury and glamour at The Ritz-Carlton Bacara, Santa Barbara.

“Today marks a momentous occasion for our resort as we unveil an enhanced Ritz-Carlton Bacara, Santa Barbara,” said Roberto Van Geenen, General Manager of The Ritz-Carlton Bacara, Santa Barbara. “We joined The Ritz-Carlton family less than two years ago, and already have accomplished so much. None of this would have been possible without the amazing Ladies and Gentlemen I have the pleasure to work with every day. We are proud to be a Ritz-Carlton and we are especially proud to be a part of the wonderful Santa Barbara community.”

Lobby and Guest Reception

The old-world elegance of the lobby is preserved with thoughtfully curated furnishings forged from natural materials featuring organic textures and soothing tones. Metallic accents and smooth surfaces complement bespoke wooden, leather, and stone detailing throughout, modernizing the space. Perfectly blending the old with the new is a custom-made glass chandelier sparkling in the atrium above. Upon checking in at the new guest reception desk – hand-carved from Italian marble on-site by stone masons, flown in from Italy – visitors will look up to discover specially commissioned artwork with undulating curves and a series of custom photographs and paintings depicting the rugged cliffs and picturesque shoreline of Santa Barbara. Handmade by Artist Niki Zarrabi, the installation captivates with its soothing palette of serene neutral tones and polished bronze accents glimmering in the dramatic lighting.

Bacara Bar and Ocean Terrace

Masterfully designed to offer guests an elevated experience, Bacara Bar flows seamlessly out onto Ocean Terrace which now boasts awe-inspiring unobstructed views of the shoreline below. A nod to the region's history of basket weaving, locals and guests alike can admire a woven sculpture situated directly above the circular bar. A new wall of pivoting doors leading to Ocean Terrace further emphasizes the indoor-outdoor experience where guests will find an array of plush seating, warm fire tables, and a large firepit to gather around on cool California evenings. Set against the backdrop of the enchanting Pacific Ocean, Bacara Bar and Ocean Terrace offer the ideal setting for friends and families to create lasting memories.

The Ritz-Carlton Spa and Fitness Center

Reinvented with a soft palette to exude wellness and tranquility throughout, the expansive 42,000 square-foot Ritz-Carlton Spa draws inspiration from the sandy beaches and majestic Pacific Ocean. Designed to immediately soothe visitors with the sound of gently bubbling water, the new entryway features a calming fountain which is met by a floor-to-ceiling pendant light, resembling a water drop, stretching down from above. Guided by a stone path, guests arrive at the reclaimed wooden reception desk to discover a one-of-a-kind work of modern art handmade by Emily Mann. The piece reflects hues of gray, blue, and silver, reminiscent of sea water gathering in a tide pool. Large billowing sheers soften the walls of the spa lobby and encourage relaxation in the serenity lounges, which have also been fully transformed. Cascading sheer pods are positioned along the radius of the lounge wall, allowing the guests the flexibility of privacy or group interaction. A cluster of plush seating is positioned in front of the cozy fireplace and flanked by soft sheers at the window perimeter. This wellness building also boasts a revitalized fitness space with open ceilings and crisp white walls complemented by warm wood tones and energizing murals. New hardwood floors, a luxurious refreshment area, and top-of-the-line strength equipment and weights are among the updates. The space has also been expanded to include an outdoor terrace featuring an outdoor multi-station gym and special flooring for al fresco movement and stretching.

Function Spaces

Refreshed with rich earth tones, warm wood elements, large cascading sheers, and contemporary lighting throughout, the resort offers seven modernized indoor meeting and event spaces. From small groups of 20 guests in the salon rooms to grand affairs for up to 1,050 guests in Bacara Ballroom, The Ritz-Carlton Bacara, Santa Barbara provides the ideal venue for conferences, board meetings, galas, film screenings, weddings and more. For guests who wish to enjoy the fresh ocean air, the coastal resort boasts three spacious outdoor venues.

The Ritz-Carlton Club® Lounge

A signature Ritz-Carlton amenity, the brand-new Ritz-Carlton Club® Lounge has arrived at The Ritz-Carlton Bacara, Santa Barbara. Offering guests a higher caliber of luxury, the villa-style Club Lounge with an expansive outdoor terrace features a bright and fresh design aesthetic with natural elements of the coast coming to life via soft neutrals and hues of blue. A combination of natural textures, clean surfaces, and traditional design touches permeate throughout, offering an inviting yet modern environment that mirrors the rest of the resort. One of the only stand-alone Club Lounges in The Ritz-Carlton portfolio, the luxurious space offers amenities such as a WMF Coffee Machine, two WineStation® machines, executive kitchen, and more. Guests of The Club Lounge can also enjoy a unique and rare opportunity to experience an exhibit featuring the works of John Nava, Hank Pitcher, Phoebe Brunner and Nicole Strasburg. On loan from [Sullivan Goss – An American Gallery](#), the exclusive collection features oil paintings that highlight the beautiful California Coast. All four artists have resided in Santa Barbara and draw inspiration from the beautiful surroundings of the region.

In addition to these refreshed spaces, guests of The Ritz-Carlton Bacara, Santa Barbara may enjoy an enhanced coastal experience via [Jean-Michel Cousteau’s Ambassadors of the Environment Program](#), which invites guests to explore the diverse ecosystems and cultural traditions native to Santa Barbara. The program was created in partnership with Jean-Michel Cousteau’s [Ocean Futures Society](#) and The Ritz-Carlton Bacara, Santa Barbara is just the fourth Ritz-Carlton property in the world to offer this exclusive, award-winning program. Guests and locals alike can discover the natural wonders of the resort’s prime location on the Gaviota Coast – the largest stretch of undeveloped coastline in Southern California – via immersive and educational programming. Designed to inspire children, young adults, and families, Cousteau-trained naturalists guide participants as they learn about and experience kelp forests, a diversity of birds, the intertidal, and the Chumash culture – Native American people who historically inhabited Central and Southern California – through memorable adventures and hands-on activities.

For more information, please visit ritzcarlton.com/en/hotels/california/santa-barbara or call the resort at (805) 968-0100.

High-resolution imagery of the enhancements can be found [HERE](#) and broader resort imagery can be found [HERE](#) (photo credit: “The Ritz-Carlton Bacara, Santa Barbara”).

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About The Ritz-Carlton Bacara, Santa Barbara

Set against a backdrop of golden beaches and lush mountains, The Ritz-Carlton Bacara, Santa Barbara embodies the charm, beauty, and energy of the Mediterranean in the heart of Santa Barbara. The iconic Central California resort spans 78 acres and features 358 guests rooms and suites, two natural beaches, lush gardens, and a collection of amenities including: a 42,000 square-foot spa and wellness center; three salt-water infinity pools; six culinary venues including the signature Angel Oak, housing the resort’s 12,000-bottle wine collection; robust activities program for guests of all ages; and 70,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting and event space. The property is distinctly nestled between the Pacific Ocean and the Santa Ynez Mountains, offering

easy access to the region's best vineyards, and is just minutes from the center of charming and historic Santa Barbara.

About The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, LLC

The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, L.L.C., of Chevy Chase, MD., part of Marriott International, Inc., currently operates more than 100 hotels and over 45 residential properties in 30 countries and territories. For more information or reservations, visit the company web site at www.ritzcarlton.com, for the latest company updates, visit news.ritzcarlton.com and to join the live conversation, use #RCMemories and follow along on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, L.L.C. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Marriott International, Inc. (NASDAQ:MAR). The Ritz-Carlton is proud to participate in Marriott Bonvoy, the new name of Marriott's travel program replacing Marriott Rewards®, The Ritz-Carlton Rewards®, and Starwood Preferred Guest® (SPG). The program offers members an extraordinary portfolio of global brands, experiences on Marriott Bonvoy Moments and unparalleled benefits including earning points toward free hotel stays and nights toward Elite status recognition. To enroll for free or for more information about the program, visit MarriottBonvoy.marriott.com.