

Bars, Dives & Easy Beer

Dive bars & taprooms first, with a few fancy cocktails for the occasional treat

Built the way you drink: **dive bars and easy beer up top**, fancy cocktails at the bottom for when the mood strikes. Ventura (concert town) is the anchor for a real dive night. Heads-up on home base: Agoura Hills lost its bars (Ladyface + the Agoura Twisted Oak both closed) — for dives it's Ventura, ~25–30 min. Dogs: dive bars generally can't do dogs (health rules); brewery patios can — noted below.

Dive bars — VENTURA (concert night)

Sans Souci ("The Sewer")

LEGENDARY

21 S Chestnut St, Ventura, CA 93001

Ventura's legendary punk-rock dive — dark, cheap, great character. The dive move on show night.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

Star Lounge

343 E Main St, Ventura, CA 93001

Small downtown Main St dive, walkable to the venue and everything else.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

GiGi's Cocktail Lounge

2493 Grand Ave, Ventura, CA 93003

Two Diamond pool tables, old-school lounge feel. Classic.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

Dive bars — down the 101

Bull's Tavern

SLO

1040 Chorro St, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

The classic downtown SLO dive — jukebox, Big Buck Hunter, cheap shots, rowdy.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

Frog & Peach Pub

SLO

728 Higuera St, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

British-pub dive with a creekside patio and a vintage London phone booth. Loose and unpretentious.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

Elsie's Tavern

SANTA BARBARA

117 W De La Guerra St, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Beloved cash-only, beer-and-wine-only artsy dive with rotating art on the walls.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

The Sportsman

SANTA BARBARA

1226 State St, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Pool table, iconic vintage neon, full bar — a downtown institution.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

Pine Street Saloon

PASO

1234 Pine St, Paso Robles, CA 93446

1850s-era, reportedly haunted, classic porch dive off the square.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

Easy beer — breweries & taprooms (dog patios)

Topa Topa Brewing — Downtown VENTURA

104 E Thompson Blvd, Ventura, CA 93001

Central Ventura taproom, tons of taps, dog-friendly patio — walkable to the show.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

MadeWest Brewing — Ventura Pier VENTURA

668 E Harbor Blvd, Ventura, CA 93001

Beers with an ocean view; dog-friendly deck at the pier.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

Poseidon Brewing Co. VENTURA

5777 Olivas Park Dr, Ventura, CA 93003

Laid-back industrial taproom, dog-friendly patio, food trucks.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

Firestone Walker Brewing PASO

1400 Ramada Dr, Paso Robles, CA 93446

The flagship — huge beer garden, dog-friendly patio, full food menu, easy off-101.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

Figueroa Mountain Brewing SANTA BARBARA

137 Anacapa St, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Funk Zone taproom, lots of taps, big dog-friendly patio.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

Twisted Oak Tavern NEAREST BASE

2433 Ventura Blvd, Camarillo, CA 93010

Since the Agoura location closed, this Camarillo brewpub (~25 min) is your closest solid beer to the cottage.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

A few fancy cocktails (occasional treat)

Bank of Italy Cocktail Trust VENTURA

394 E Main St, Ventura, CA 93001

Speakeasy in a historic bank building — the standout special-occasion spot downtown.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

Rock & Drums VENTURA

14 S California St, Ventura, CA 93001

Old-Hollywood room, serious whiskey + craft cocktails.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

The Good Lion SANTA BARBARA

1212 State St, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

SB's benchmark craft-cocktail bar — seasonal, fresh-juice menu next to the Granada.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

Test Pilot SANTA BARBARA

211 Helena Ave, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Award-caliber rum-forward tiki den in the Funk Zone. Lively, not stuffy.

➤ [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

Sources: [California 101 Guide — SB dives](#) · [California 101 Guide — Ventura dives](#) · [Topa Topa](#) · [The Good Lion](#)

Each stop links to [Apple Maps](#) (preferred) and [Google Maps](#) — both search the same verified address, so they land on the same pin. [skincheese.com/toro](#) · v3 · verified Jul 2026. Dog rules & hours can change — a quick check on arrival is smart.