

Fannish Inquisition Survey: Los Angeles in 2014 Smofcon Bid

Smofcon Bid: Los Angeles in 2014

What are the proposed dates for which you are bidding? Friday, Dec 5, 2014 - Sunday, Dec 7, 2014.

What is your proposed convention host city? Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb? If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city center? How far is the site from the city center?

Los Angeles metropolitan area, focusing on beach cities from Manhattan Beach to Pacific Palisades. It is <20 miles from Marina del Rey to downtown LA (although Ghu knows why anyone would want to leave the beach to go downtown...). Options are car or bus.

What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as London, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Melbourne?

- Chicago - \$190 to \$240
- Los Angeles – N/A
- Melbourne - \$1,178 to \$1,414

All examples taken from Kayak.com

Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport? Which airlines? If not, where is the closest international airport? Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport?

LAX is a major international airport hosting flights from just about everywhere in the world. Yes, there are direct flights from both Chicago and Melbourne.

How far is your convention site from the nearest airport/train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport and taxi from that airport/train station?

Some of the hotels we are investigating offer shuttle service to/from the airport and some do not. Our primary target area (Marina del Rey) is <7 miles from LAX. A cab ride is ~\$25 and a shared-ride van is ~\$12. Public transport? Hey, this is L.A.

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention? How many rooms, what type, accessibility issues, etc.?

TBD. Hope to have a facility in place by June, 2013.

What are your hotel room rates? Do these rates include breakfast? Do they include internet in the room? How firm are these rates?

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Please describe your convention site facilities. For example, the quantity and sizes of rooms, tech options, accessibility issues, etc.

TBD. Hope to have a facility in place by June, 2013.

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.

Abundant & diverse.

Please describe the policies / laws regarding smoking in your hotel(s), convention center, and city.

Smoking is banned inside buildings and within 20' (I think) of the entrance to public buildings (my best recollection).

What type of weather can we expect at the time of year your convention is to be held?

Southern California is a sub-tropical desert and December is deep winter – temps average 65f (hi) 47f (low) and rain is fervently hoped for.

What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?

Marina del Rey itself is a destination city and is within easy walking distance of So Cal's most visited tourist attraction – the Venice beach boardwalk. Muscle Beach, anyone? Further afield, tourist attractions are numerous and legendary.

Who is on your committee? Who is your bid chair? What experience do they have in general? In running this convention in particular?

The bid committee consists of Kim Marks-Brown, Bobbi Armbruster, Joyce Hooper, Elizabeth Klein-Lubnick, and James Daugherty. The committee is co-chaired by Kim & Bobbi. The committee members represent more than 100 years of SF convention running experience.

If known, who will be the chair of the convention? What experience do they have?

Should our bid be successful, the convention will be co-chaired by Kim Marks-Brown and Bobbi Armbruster.

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What arrangements will be made for evening socializing and party space? Do you have a corkage waiver?

We plan a kick-ass Con Suite not in function space– details TBA hopefully in June, 2013.

Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain groups, such as young adults, military, or seniors?

Haven't given this serious thought as yet, so we are still open to bribes persuasion.