

Fodor's Travel

# SAN DIEGO



EASY PLANNING  
LOCAL WRITERS  
ITINERARIES  
FULLOUT MAP

## East Village

The most ambitious of the Downtown projects is **East Village**, not far from the Gaslamp Quarter, and encompassing 130 blocks between the railroad tracks up to J Street, and from 6th Avenue east to around 10th Street. Sparking the rebirth of this former warehouse district was the 2004 construction of the San Diego Padres' stunning 42,000-seat baseball stadium, **Petco Park**, where games are rarely rained out.

### **Tajima East Village**

**\$ | JAPANESE** | With four other locations in the city—Hillcrest, North Park, and two outposts in Kearny Mesa—Tajima has become a favorite source for ramen-hungry San Diegans. Climb into a cozy booth and order a Japanese craft beer or sake before diving into one of the five types of ramen—all of which come in hefty portions with affordable price tags—including an excellent vegan version with spinach noodles. **Known for:** spicy sesame ramen with spicy ground pork and fried garlic; affordable and hefty portions; karaage fried chicken. 📍 *Average main:* \$10 📍 901 E St., East Village 📞 619/431-5820 🌐 [www.tajimasandiego.com](http://www.tajimasandiego.com).

# Northern San Diego: Clairemont, Kearny Mesa, and Miramar

- Sights**
- 1 AleSmith Brewing Co. .... D1
  - 2 Cutwater Spirits ..... C1
  - 3 Saint Archer Brewing Co. .... C1
  - 4 Societe Brewing Company ... D5
- Restaurants**
- 1 Dumping Inn ..... D6
  - 2 Original Sab-E-Lee .. C9
  - 3 Phuong Trang ..... C6
  - 4 RakiRaki .... C6
  - 5 Spicy City Chinese .... C6
  - 6 Sushi Diner ..... C8
  - 7 Tajima ..... C6

**KEY**

- 1 Sights
- 1 Restaurants



**CLAIREMONT**

**KEARNY MESA**

**SERRA MESA**

**MISSION VALLEY**

United States Marine Corps Air Station Miramar

Jacolote Canyon Natural Park

Montgomery Field

## Fodor's Recommendations

Everything in this guide is worth doing—we don't cover what isn't—but our favorite places are designated **Fodor's Choice** ★ to indicate our highest recommendation.

### Restaurants

Kearny Mesa, considered the city's "Asian Restaurant Row," is definitely off the tourist radar but offers a host of small family-owned eateries serving superb authentic Chinese, Vietnamese, Thai, Japanese, Korean, and Filipino food—all within a stone's throw of one another.

#### ★ **Tajima**

**\$ | JAPANESE** | Opened in 2001, this Japanese restaurant helped pioneer San Diego's ramen movement as the first noodle house on Convoy to set down roots without compromising the purity of Japanese cuisine. All ramens are made from scratch, and you can taste

it with every slurp of the flavorful broth. **Known for:** Japanese craft beer; home-made fresh and springy ramen noodles; authentic Japanese cuisine. **Average main: \$12** 📍 4681 Convoy St., Suite I, Kearny Mesa 📞 858/576-7244 🌐 [www.tajimasandiego.com](http://www.tajimasandiego.com).

Fodor's Travel features Tajima

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