



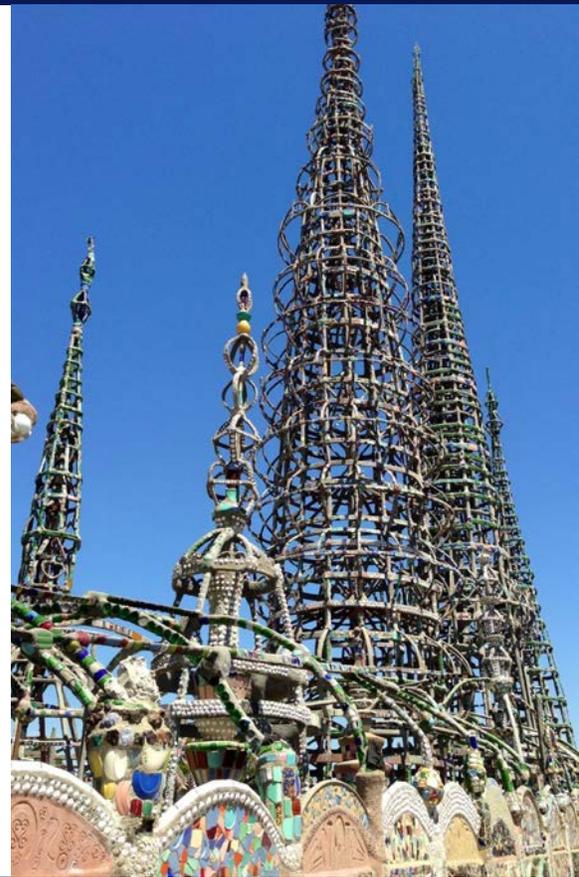
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MOSAICS, MURALS & MORE!

EXPLORE THE MOSAICS AND MURALS OF L.A. WITH CURT TUCKER

Inspired by the mosaics in *Stories in Stone*: We bring you Mosaic, Murals & More. A day-long tour of historic public mosaics, murals, and sculptures in Los Angeles. The tour explores the beauty and artistry of our city's public art and highlights the continued vibrancy of the ancient tradition of architectural mosaics. Venice Beach is known for its boardwalk filled with colorful, eccentric people. The houses, buildings, and structures that dot this area also reflect this "rainbow coalition" of people. From simple beach bungalows to ultramodern homes, Venice is truly a unique place to live. But none of these places quite capture the effervescent essence of Venice like the Mosaic Tile House. This free-flowing work-in-progress is not just a giant piece of mosaic art, it's also the residence of artists Cheri Pann and Gonzalo Duran. Pann and Duran's "visual feast" began as a weekend project to install bathroom tiles and it later developed into a lifetime love affair that's lasted more than two decades. Though it's not well known to the public, the moment you enter this large-scale artwork-in-progress structure, it's like walking inside a coral reef. Almost every square inch of the home (including the outside) is covered in mosaic tiles. Next stop is a place that started out as a few random art projects and soon became a vast and semi-abstract architectural masterpiece known as the Watts Towers, complete with a gazebo, fountain, bird baths and other assorted structures reaching up to 100 feet in height. Italian immigrant Simon Rodia built the three Watts Towers by hand over three decades, from the 1920s through the 1950s. They are made of shells, scrap metal, pottery shards, rocks, glass and pretty much any other random material he could find. For the main structural elements, he employed steel, cement, mortar and wire mesh and assembled all of his creations without the assistance of scaffolding. Up next is lunch at Fixins Soul Kitchen where you'll be treated to hearty homestyle soul food. Building on family recipes like Grandma Gladys's peach cobbler, the menu features fried chicken and waffles, shrimp and grits, and smothered pork chops. More highlights of our Mosaics, Murals and More tour include an L.A. icon and folk mosaic built by one man over 30 years using everyday objects, a Byzantine-inspired ecclesiastical mosaic designed by the artisans of the historic Judson Studios, murals in downtown Los Angeles, one of the extraordinary mosaic facades by Millard Sheets on a former Home Savings and Loan building and The Birth of Liberty mosaic at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, the largest historical mosaic in the United States.



**THIS TOUR IS AVAILABLE
TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY**

Activity Level



LEVEL 2: AVERAGE
Able to walk a few blocks
and climb some stairs

**CALL FOR PRICES
(800) 300-6246**

COMP POLICY:

- 1 free with 29-37 paying passengers
- 2 free with 38 or more paying passengers

INCLUSIONS:

- ~ Spend the day with our expert guide, Curt Tucker
- ~ Tour the Mosaic Tile House in Venice Beach
- ~ Visit the Towers of Simon Rodia
- ~ Soul food lunch at Fixins
- ~ See the Birth of Liberty mosaic
- ~ Tour the murals of downtown L.A.

**THIS TOUR IS GUIDED BY
OUR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
EXPERT, CURT TUCKER!**

