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On the Coast of Newport Beaci

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A CONVERSATION WITH TEEMU SELANNE THE VILLA LIFE

KEEPING THE EDGE

The Irvine Company®—the who, what, where

Backyard Bash by Debbie Lavdas



The Backyard at Hotel Irvine has endless possibilities for your special events.

From the only indie-brand lifestyle hotel in Orange County, comes the brand-spanking new Backyard—an expansive venue of endless possibilities. "Wow is the first word out of most people's mouths," remarked JD Shafer, general manager of Hotel Irvine.

With almost 20,000 square feet of available venue space, The Backyard is an adult playground for hosting all kinds of extraordinary events. "It's the perfect blank canvas for any type of gathering—an indoor/outdoor space that's completely different. The space is beautiful as is, or breathtaking dressed up for a gala or wedding. The 8,000 square foot Lawn is flawlessly manicured with lush foliage and palm trees, while the new indoor Pavilion is 6,000 square feet of endless possibilities, equipped with ballroom amenities. Bordering the Lawn and Pavilion is the 3,000 square foot Patio, the ideal space for a pre-event cocktail reception, alfresco dance floor, entertainment stage and more. The venue is pretty spectacular—a planners dream!"

What kind of bashes best lend themselves to The Backyard? Every kind of occasion. Design a social soirée under the stars or host a casual corporate gathering with plenty of space for team building activities and interactive games for an insightful and entertaining program. Arrange to use the entire space and have events and activities flowing from one spot to the next, or you can book the parts you wish to use.

"We've found that The Backyard works really well for social business groups. From hosted receptions and indoor dinners in the Pavilion to lunches and outdoor games on the Lawn, the space gives groups a refreshing approach to events. Not to mention it gives our guests the opportunity to enjoy the nearly year-round sunny SoCal weather! Everyone just loves it," said Shafer.

Brides also are drawn to the allure of the Pavilion. "They love it because it has the best lighting available, the moon and the stars. We held a Bridal Brunch to entertain the idea of different themed weddings, including romantic rustic, shabby chic, eclectic and



glitter glam, and we booked a wedding right there on the spot. The Backyard is truly like nothing else around in the area, particularly with the expansive lawn included."

The new venue reflects the Hotel Irvine Experience of doing things differently. "Hotel Irvine is making a name for itself as the new hub for business and social events, setting itself apart from the sea of uninspiring and monotonous hotel chains that were previously available in Irvine," he said. "The Backyard is our next big thing. People are very excited about the transformation of the venue, and as more people find out about it, there's great growing interest."

Add to The Backyard's unique appeal, the talents of the highly experienced planners who are up for taking unusual requests—whether staging, displays, exhibits, movie projection or any totally off-the-wall idea-and a gournet catering team with options that any foodie would rave about, and you have all the makings of a monumental event.

Live the lifestyle at HotelIrvine.com.

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Guest Room Refresh at Island Hotel

It's a colorful new way to stay at Island Hotel Newport Beach.* A splash of vibrant Southern California coastal lifestyle debuts with effortless,



elegant style. "We wanted to redesign the rooms to reflect today's modern luxury business traveler," said Gerard Widder, general manager of Island Hotel Newport Beach. "The designers developed a unique, beautiful look that's current, as well as comfortable, warm and inviting."

Eye-catching color schemes for rooms include a trio of pairings from lavender and palm green to celery and goldenrod to pops of marigold and persimmon. Specialty Suites combine lime and teal, as well as shades of coral and aqua with cream.

The new palette of paradoxes complements Island Hotel's present-day personality of work-play, urban-coastal and land-sea.



"The rooms also incorporate graphic, customdesigned fabrics for the draperies and chairs, and the walls showcase inspired California artwork." Widder said.

The new look wraps the substantial refresh for the Hotel, which has been extensively redesigned over the past 18 months, including the additions of Oak + Aqua, Marketplace, Island Club and a contemporary lobby, ballroom, cabana room and pool area. "The vivid rooms bring everything together, as we debut a modern experience for our guests," noted Widder. "We invite everyone to visit us here at Island Hotel—the soul of Newport Beach."

For more information, visit IslandHotel.com.

