



Shopping with angels

Those in the business know how to luxury shop the streets and malls of L.A. — from the high lights of Rodeo Drive and Melrose Avenue, to the unofficial headquarters of the Kardashian-Jenner clan, The Commons at Calabasas

In Los Angeles, shopping is more than just retail therapy. It's a cultural ritual, a fashion statement, and for the observant, a potential front-row seat to celebrity life. From iconic streets lined with luxury boutiques to laid-back coastal promenades, the city offers a curated blend of trendsetting and star-spotting. For those who enjoy their retail experience with a touch of fame, here are the destinations that

define L.A.'s signature mix of glamour, style, and stardom.

Nowhere encapsulates luxury shopping quite like Rodeo Drive. Located in the heart of Beverly Hills, this three-block stretch features flagship stores from some of the world's most prestigious fashion houses including Gucci, Chanel, Louis Vuitton, and Prada — venues popular with stars like Jennifer Lopez, James Corden, and

Mariah Carey. The wide sidewalks are kept pristine, the shopfronts immaculate, and the clientele often dressed like they've just stepped off a red carpet. Crowned the 'most expensive' menswear

Above: Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills is home to Vera Wang, Tumi and House of Bijan among a row of luxury brand outlets — attracting celebrities, McLaren drivers and other supercars

shop in the world, House of Bijan often hosts some of the world's most elite, including Michael Jordan, Muhammad Ali, and a handful of American Presidents. However, Rodeo Drive isn't just about shopping, it's about being seen. Arrive late morning during the week, and you might spot celebrities slipping into a private fitting or posing briefly for paparazzi. rodeodrive-bh.com ►



Top left: Adam Sandler and wife Jackie Above: Hollywood Boulevard Top right: Jennifer Garner Below: Kim Kardashian West and Kris Jenner

Further east, Melrose Avenue offers a very different flavour of fashion. Known for its edgier, more eclectic feel, Melrose is a destination for those who mix vintage with designer labels. Around Melrose Heights and Fairfax Avenue, you'll find cult-favourite boutiques, pop-up concept stores, and an array of independent labels, many with devoted celebrity followings.

The area is a regular favourite for stylists and influencers, and the odds of encountering a musician or actor shopping incognito are surprisingly high. Vintage shops, sneaker stores, and trend-focused cafes give the area a youthful, creative energy that contrasts sharply with polished Beverly Hills. melroseavefashion.com.au

For a more family-friendly and casual setting, without sacrificing the chance to rub shoulders with stars, The Grove and The Americana at Brand are top picks. These open-air retail and dining complexes were designed to

feel like mini neighborhoods, complete with trolley rides, water features, and a mix of high-end and mainstream shops. It's not unusual to see well-known actors or musicians shopping with their families, grabbing a coffee, or browsing in one of the curated boutiques. These spaces offer a comfortable setting where celebrities can blend in just enough, while still enjoying the odd glance from a knowing fan. thegrovela.com americanaatbrand.com

On the Westside, Palisades Village in Pacific Palisades has become a discreet luxury haven. Tucked into a quiet coastal neighborhood, this modern outdoor shopping plaza features a careful selection of boutiques, wellness stores, and upscale cafés. The experience is designed to feel intimate and walkable, more village square than mega-mall. Spotted stars include Jennifer Garner and Adam Sandler who, like the general public, may appreciate its chic but unpretentious atmosphere. Visitors may not even realise they're sharing space with a celebrity until they spot them casually browsing skincare or picking up coffee. palisadesvillageca.com

If you're after a relaxed, beachy shopping vibe, head to Santa Monica's Third Street Promenade. With no cars and plenty of fresh air, this stretch is perfect for a sunny afternoon stroll. The Promenade is home to brands like Lululemon, Anthropologie, and Apple, but it's also surrounded by local designers and street performers, creating that classic Californian feel.

A short walk away, Main Street offers even more boutique shopping, particularly popular with creatives and wellness-focused locals. Don't be surprised to see a familiar face in activewear, just out of a yoga class or surf session. santamonica.com

Finally, there's The Commons at Calabasas. With its upscale-

yet-suburban charm, this Mediterranean-inspired shopping center is best known as the unofficial headquarters of the Kardashian-Jenner clan. Regular sightings of the family and their entourage have made it a hotspot for fans and photographers alike. Though less central than other L.A. destinations, The Commons combines polished retail with a small-town feel, ideal for those wanting luxury without the chaos of the city. shopcommons.com

Whether you're drawn to fashion, fame, or simply a great place to shop, Los Angeles offers a range of retail experiences. And if you're lucky, your next shopping trip might come with a celebrity sighting to match your new purchase. ■

