



1. Bikestation 2. Berlin bistro and coffeehouse 3. Depot for Creative Reuse



Long Beach is about 20 miles south of L.A. Take the Metro Blue Line from downtown L.A. to Long Beach's Transit Mall station. metro.net

GETTING HERE

EAST VILLAGE

Explore an artsy neighborhood in one of the country's most bike-friendly cities.

DO A stone's throw from the East Village (and a block from Metro Blue Line's Transit Mall stop), Bikestation is the starting point if cycling is your mode of travel. It has rentals, a shop, and bike parking. Rentals from \$8/ hour, \$32/day; 223 E. First St.; bikestation.com. » SoCal's first separated bike lanes run down Broadway and Third Street; on Bike Saturdays, cyclists get discounts at some shops and eateries. bikelongbeach.org. >> The free 2nd Saturday Art Walk means open doors and live music. artwalklb.com. **EAT** Nab a sidewalk table under the bright yellow awning at Crème De La Crêpe for a savory buckwheat specialty like the cheesefilled Marocaine with spicy lamb sausage

and cognac mushroom sauce. \$\$; 400 E. First St., 562/437-2222.

>> Hit the patio at Steamed, whose vegetarian menu has a tasty pesto quesadilla and a wilted spinach salad. \$; 801 E. Third St.; 562/437-1122.

» Step into Americana-inspired Shortnin Bread for treats like rosemary lime shortbread cookies, chocolate salted caramel tarts, and bourbon vanilla bean ice cream by the pint. 401 E. Third St.; 562/624-4149.

\$1P At Berlin bistro and coffeehouse, not only does the long communal table encourage chatting with your neighbor, it also gives you a front-row view of the neighborhood. The high-ceilinged space is shared with

Fingerprints Records, a Long Beach institution for collectible vinyl and in-store performances. \$; 420 E. Fourth St.; 562/435-0600. >> Unwind at District Wine, with its living room atmosphere and small-production wines. 144 Linden Ave.; 562/612-0411. SNOP Long Beach Depot for Creative

Reuse sees value in things thrown away, like bottle caps, fabric scraps, and buttons. 320 Elm Ave.: 562/437-9999.

» In addition to fine-art and drafting materials, the family-owned Lyon Art Supply carries a large collection of specialty papers. There's no better place to brush up on your origami. 441 E. Fourth St.; 562/435-5383.

-JENNIFER M. VOLLAND