

Laguna Beach Moving Checklist

A Local's Step-by-Step Timeline | movingtolagunabeach.com



Moving To
LAGUNA BEACH

This isn't a generic checklist. It's built around the stuff that actually trips people up when they relocate to Laguna — parking permits, street sweeping, canyon roads, and utility providers that don't match what you're used to.

1 8+ Weeks Before

- Confirm housing details in writing — rent/purchase price, parking, pet policies, HOA rules
- Research your parking situation — permit-only streets, assigned spots, or street parking
- Get quotes from movers experienced with Laguna's narrow, hilly streets
- Check HOA/landlord move-in rules — many require advance notice, specific days, and deposits
- Research Resident Parking Permits at lagunabeach.thepermitportal.com (Shopper, Residential, etc.)
- Start school enrollment if you have kids — LBUSD has specific windows and document requirements
- Budget for fire insurance — Laguna is a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Expect higher premiums
- Start CA DMV checklist if from out of state — 20 days to get license + register vehicle

2 4–6 Weeks Before

- Book movers — confirm truck parking plan, need for temp meter bag permits (~\$25/day), and timing
- Set up electricity: Southern California Edison (SCE) — 1-800-655-4555 / sce.com
- Set up gas: SoCalGas — 1-800-427-2200 / socalgas.com
- Set up water: Laguna Beach County Water District — 949-494-1041 / lbcwd.org
- Set up trash: CR&R Environmental Services — 949-662-3819 (Laguna Beach dedicated line)
- Check internet at your address — Cox (~99% coverage) or AT&T Fiber (limited areas)
- Forward mail via USPS — Laguna Beach zip is 92651 (some canyon areas use 92637)
- Line up renter's or homeowner's insurance — fire zone delays are common, don't wait

3 2 Weeks Before

- Confirm all utility start dates — if gas was shut off, SoCalGas may need a technician visit
- Submit parking permit application — need lease or proof of ownership, allow a few business days
- Coordinate move-day parking with movers — confirm truck location and temp permits
- Look up your street sweeping day at lagunabeachcity.net — set a recurring phone reminder
- Pack a "first night" box — also a flashlight (canyon neighborhoods get very dark)
- Tell current utility providers your disconnect date to avoid double billing

4 Moving Day

- Brief movers on Laguna roads — canyon/hillside areas have tight turns and steep grades
- Photograph electric, gas, and water meters on arrival (protects against billing disputes)
- Confirm electricity is on and test gas appliances (stove, water heater, furnace)
- Test internet — set up modem/router if self-install, or confirm tech appointment
- Check that trash/recycling carts are at the property — call CR&R at 949-662-3819 if missing
- Meet a neighbor — they'll tell you where to park on weekends and what that noise was (peacocks)

5 First Week

- Walk/drive daily routes at different times — traffic on PCH shifts dramatically by hour
- Find your everyday spots — grocery, coffee, takeout, beach access for your specific routine
- Handle DMV: license within 20 days, vehicle registration within 20 days (smog check first)
- Apply for Resident Parking Permit at lagunabeach.thepermitportal.com or City Hall (505 Forest Ave)
- Register to vote at ocvote.gov or registertovote.ca.gov
- Set up online accounts + autopay for SCE, SoCalGas, LBCWD, and CR&R

6 First 30 Days

- Observe how your home behaves — sun, drafts, humidity, noise. Adjust early
- Learn the summer vs. off-season rhythm — parking, traffic, and crowds shift dramatically June–Sept
- Explore beyond your neighborhood — beaches, trails, Crystal Cove, first Thursday art walk
- Discover the free Laguna Beach Trolley (seasonal) and Laguna Beach Local on-demand van service
- Schedule bulky item pickup through CR&R — HHW collections happen 4x/year for residents
- Get involved — volunteer, attend a Council meeting, join a sports league, visit the Susi Q Center

Things Nobody Tells You

- ◆ **Parking is a lifestyle choice here.**
If your housing doesn't come with guaranteed parking, you need a strategy — not just a hope. Resident permits help but don't guarantee a spot.
- ◆ **Street sweeping tickets are consistent.**
Set a phone alarm. Move your car. The City posts a full street-by-street schedule at lagunabeachcity.net.
- ◆ **Fire insurance is a real issue.**
Expect this to be longer and more expensive than other parts of OC. Ask about the Safer from Wildfires program for potential discounts.
- ◆ **Internet isn't uniform.**
Some canyon and hillside addresses have limited options. Check Cox and AT&T availability before you sign a lease.
- ◆ **Large trucks can't always reach you.**
Steep or narrow streets may be inaccessible. Confirm with moving companies, furniture delivery, etc.
- ◆ **The marine layer is real.**
Coastal mornings can be gray and cool well into summer. Your house may feel damp. A dehumidifier helps.
- ◆ **Summer changes everything.**
Parking, traffic, beach access, restaurant waits — all shift June through September. Off-season ease is not the norm.

Quick-Reference Contacts

SERVICE	PROVIDER	CONTACT
Electricity	Southern California Edison (SCE)	1-800-655-4555 / sce.com
Gas	SoCalGas	1-800-427-2200 / socialgas.com
Water / Sewer	Laguna Beach County Water District	949-494-1041 / lbcwd.org
Trash / Recycling	CR&R Environmental Services	949-662-3819
Internet	Cox Communications (primary)	cox.com
Internet (Fiber)	AT&T Fiber (limited areas)	att.com/local/fiber
Parking Permits	City of Laguna Beach	lagunabeach.thepermitportal.com
Street Sweeping	City of Laguna Beach	lagunabeachcity.net
DMV (Nearest)	San Clemente or Laguna Hills	dmv.ca.gov
Schools	Laguna Beach USD	lbusd.org
Voter Registration	Orange County Registrar	ocvote.gov
City Hall	505 Forest Avenue	949-497-3311
Police (Non-Emergency)	Laguna Beach PD	949-497-0701
Fire Insurance Help	CA Dept. of Insurance	1-800-927-4357

Get the Full Guide at movingtolagunabeach.com

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