

# OC Keeps Opening Prominent Hotels, Boosting Meeting Space

## Industry Seeing Signs Of Returning Demand

By EMILY SANTIAGO-MOLINA

For the second straight year, Orange County was home to the largest new hotel to open in California, thanks to the debut of the 613-room **Westin Anaheim Resort**. Yet despite its opening—the Westin counts nearly 50,000 square feet of meeting space—and other recently built hotels that cater to large events and meetings in the area, OC’s base of hotel meeting room space only saw a modest 0.5% growth over the past six months.

The Business Journal’s annual hotel meeting rooms list counts 1.9 million square feet of area meeting space, with 739 meeting rooms in total.

Both numbers are similar to the Business Journal’s list published in August.

Chalk up the modest growth to a pair of high-profile departures from the list, rather than a retrenching in the industry due to the pandemic.

Irvine Co.’s **Hotel Irvine** and **Fashion Island Hotel Newport Beach** both dropped off the list after being shuttered for over a year. The duo in total counted about 72,000 square feet of meeting space (see story, page 22).

### Top Unchanged

Anaheim’s **Disneyland Hotel** continues as the county’s largest for meeting space, with 215,796 square feet, followed by No. 2 **Hilton Anaheim**, with 150,000 square feet, and the No. 3 **Anaheim Marriott**, with 129,529 square feet.

Altogether, these three hotels in the city’s resort area have nearly half a million square feet,



PHOTO CREDIT: KCS WEST

**Westin Anaheim Resort: top marks for largest hotel opening in the state last year**

about a quarter of all the meeting space in Orange County.

Thirty-two of the 35 hotels reported no change in square footage.

Orange County in 2021 opened seven hotels with 1,333 rooms, a 4.8% room count decrease from the 1,401 rooms in seven hotels in 2020, according to Irvine-based **Atlas Hospitality Group**. The Westin was the largest of the seven and tops for all hotels in the state last year, it said.

### Optimism in Industry

Execs tell the Business Journal that inquiries in booking meeting space has been picking up, despite omicron issues of late.

“Phones have been ringing nonstop,” according to **Nicholas Price**, general manager at the new Westin Anaheim Resort. The calls are signaling “a return to what we knew as hospitality a few years ago. [The hotel is] on the right tra-

jectory to get there.”

The four-diamond resort ranks No. 12 this year with 47,542 square feet of total space and 23 meeting rooms as of this month. It was one of four Anaheim hotel openings in 2021.

With its one-year anniversary coming up in June, the Westin has kept its doors open, with business slowly returning through social bookings and pushed back conventions.

“We stayed true to what the guest experience should be, having all our services open [and] all of our outlets,” GM Price said.

### Securing Solutions

With the omicron variant causing more havoc in the travel industry, the goal of stabilizing the hospitality industry has hotels trying to keep its events business from stalling.

Marketing organization **Visit Anaheim** has

revamped its company’s sales team to dedicate more time to the strategy of securing meetings and keeping the local community booked and busy.

“A lot of cancellations were pushed to future dates so now we’re trying to fill some of those holes that were left,” Chief Executive **Jay Burress** told the Business Journal.

Burress also noted the distinct change in booking windows, some going from five years out to 24 months.

The upcoming months are full of business from associations and corporations all over California, the city’s top market, he said.

And with recent higher end additions such as the Westin Anaheim and **JW Marriott Anaheim Resort**, the largest hotel to open in the state in 2020, Burress is thankful for “a classification of hotels we were lacking in. They help make the city shine as a destination and that’s been valuable for us moving forward.”

Summer promises visitors for the seasonal festivals at the **Disneyland Resort** and rescheduled meetings at the **Anaheim Convention Center**.

### Notables

■ A new entrant on the list is No. 30 **The Inn at the Mission San Juan Capistrano**, which has 24,840 square feet. Its largest meeting room sits at 3,000 square feet.

■ No. 4 **Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach Resort & Spa** transformed an unused bar and restaurant to a new 2,000-square-foot room called the Cove.

■ New locations on tap include the **Element by Westin** in June. It’s one among Orange County’s 66 hotels with 12,098 rooms in planning, according to Atlas Hospitality.

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Hotel Meeting Rooms

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## THE LIST HOTEL MEETING ROOMS



**KAREN CHASTAIN**  
General Manager  
The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel



**MARINA DUTTON**  
General Manager  
Balboa Bay Resort



**PAULETTE FISCHER**  
General Manager  
The Waterfront Beach Resort, a Hilton Hotel



**NICHOLAS PRICE**  
General Manager  
The Westin Anaheim Resort



**RONALD SILAGYI**  
General Manager  
Disneyland Hotel



**GERARD WIDDER**  
Managing Director  
The Resort at Pelican Hill

# THE LIST HOTEL MEETING ROOMS

▶ NEXT WEEK'S LIST *Environmental Consultants*

RANKED BY SQUARE FOOTAGE OF TOTAL MEETING SPACE

Rank	Hotel •Address	Company logo	Square footage of: Total meeting space •Indoor •Outdoor	Number of meeting rooms	Square footage of largest meeting room	Restaurants	Seating capacity			•Guest rooms •Suites	Features and services offered						General manager •Director of sales •Phone/fax	Photo
							•Banquet	•Theater	•Classroom		Business center	Audio/visual center	Tech assistance	Video conferencing	Meeting facilitator	Internet in mtg. rooms		
1 (1)	<b>Disneyland Hotel</b> 1150 W. Magic Way Anaheim 92802-2297 Website: disneymeetings.com/disneyland Email: info@disneymeetings.com		215,796 162,047 53,749	48	29,115	4	2,110	2,600	1,713	973 72	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Ronald Silagyi Robert Donahue (714) 520-7025	
2 (2)	<b>Hilton Anaheim</b> 777 W. Convention Way Anaheim 92802-4397 Website: hiltonanaheimhotel.com Email: snaah-salesadm@hilton.com		150,000 112,000 38,000	73	28,542	3	2,200	2,800	1,400	1,574 95	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Shaun Robinson Peter Kane (714) 750-4321/(714) 740-4460	
3 (3)	<b>Anaheim Marriott</b> 700 W. Convention Way Anaheim 92802-3483 Website: marriott.com/laxah Email: andy.lakefish@marriott.com		129,529 109,529 20,000	44	25,636	3	2,030	3,231	1,744	1,030 33	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	John Kalinski Andrew Lakefish (714) 750-8000/(714) 750-9100	
4 (4)	<b>Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach Resort &amp; Spa</b> 21500 Pacific Coast Highway Huntington Beach 92648-5300 Website: huntingtonbeach.hyatt.com Email: saleshunrh@hyatt.com		119,000 58,200 60,800	26	20,000	5	1,440	2,222	1,334	517 57	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Peter Rice Kay Cochran (714) 698-1234/(714) 845-4990	
5 (5)	<b>Waldorf Astoria Monarch Beach Resort &amp; Club</b> 1 Monarch Beach Resort Dana Point 92629-4085 Website: waldorfastoriamonarchbeach.com Email: snamo.reservation@waldorfastoria.com		110,000 30,000 80,000	16	12,000	7	750	1,565	600	400 75	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	George Munz Michelle Caporicci (949) 234-3900/(949) 234-3900	
6 (6)	<b>The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel</b> 1 Ritz Carlton Drive Dana Point 92629-4205 Website: ritzcarlton.com/lagunaniguel Email: snarz.leads@ritzcarlton.com		82,520 26,224 56,296	18	9,207	5	700	800	500	396 29	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Karen Chastain Rocco Mastrangelo (949) 240-2000/(949) 240-0829	
7 (8)	<b>Vea Newport Beach, a Marriott Resort &amp; Spa<sup>(3)</sup></b> 900 Newport Center Drive Newport Beach 92660-6206 Website: veanewportbeach.com Email: ben.stinnett@marriott.com		68,000 31,000 37,000	29	7,920	2	550	800	515	400 33	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Debbie Snavely Ben Stinnett (949) 640-4000/(949) 640-5055	
8 (7)	<b>Hyatt Regency Orange County</b> 11999 Harbor Blvd. Garden Grove 92840-2732 Website: orangecounty.regency.hyatt.com Email: salesalica@hyatt.com		67,000 52,000 15,000	40	17,115	3	1,500	2,000	1,250	655 241	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Greg Nomura Stacy Filla (714) 750-1234/(714) 740-0465	
9 (9)	<b>The Resort at Pelican Hill</b> 22701 Pelican Hill Road S. Newport Coast 92657-2008 Website: pelicanhill.com Email: reservations@pelicanhill.com		55,000 20,000 35,000	13	4,560	4	400	600	300	332 162	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gerard Widder <sup>(2)</sup> James Keaveny (855) 467-6800/(949) 467-6888	
10 (10)	<b>Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa</b> 3050 Bristol St. Costa Mesa 92626-3036 Website: hilton.com Email: snacm-ds@hilton.com		50,000 46,000 4,000	25	12,160	2	900	1,200	640	486 13	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Benito Benitez Lynne DiFrancesco (714) 540-7000/(714) 540-9176	
10 (10)	<b>Laguna Cliffs Marriott Resort &amp; Spa</b> 25135 Park Lantern Dana Point 92629-2878 Website: lagunacliffs.com Email: sales@lagunacliffs.com		50,000 20,000 30,000	18	10,060	2	700	1,000	700	378 16	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Jim Samuels <sup>(2)</sup> Sandy Chiu (949) 661-5000/(949) 661-5358	
12 (13)	<b>The Westin Anaheim Resort</b> 1030 W. Katella Ave. Anaheim 92802-3419 Website: westinanaheim.com Email: cynthia.ordyke@westinanaheim.com		47,542 41,342 6,200	23	16,120	6	1,200	1,775	650	618 42	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Nicholas Price Cynthia Ordyke (657)373-3642/(657) 373-3698	

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<sup>(3)</sup> Previously listed as Newport Beach Marriott Hotel & Spa; meeting space is under renovation and will be available in March  
<sup>(2)</sup> managing director

# THE LIST HOTEL MEETING ROOMS

▶ NEXT WEEK'S LIST *Environmental Consultants*

RANKED BY SQUARE FOOTAGE OF TOTAL MEETING SPACE

Rank	Hotel Prev. Rank	Address	Company logo	Square footage of: Total meeting space •Indoor •Outdoor	Number of meeting rooms	Square footage of largest meeting room	Restaurants	Seating capacity			•Guest rooms •Suites	Features and services offered						General manager •Director of sales •Phone/fax	Photo
								•Banquet	•Theater	•Classroom		Business center	Audio/visual center	Tech assistance	Video conferencing	Meeting facilitator	Internet in mtg. rooms		
13	Renaissance Newport Beach (14)	4500 MacArthur Blvd. Newport Beach 92660-2010 Website: marriott.com/npbr		45,593 18,593 27,000	23	7,140	1	540	750	410	444 56	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gregg Herning Natalie Trujillo (949) 476-2001/(949) 250-7191	
14	Disney's Grand Californian Hotel & Spa (15)	1600 S. Disneyland Drive Anaheim 92802-2317 Website: disneymeetings.com/disneyland Email: info@disneymeetings.com		44,913 27,287 17,626	18	11,863	4	720	1,200	720	948 44	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Dan Coleman Robert Donahue (714) 520-7025	
15	JW Marriott Anaheim Resort (17)	1775 S. Clementine St. Anaheim 92802-2902 Website: jwmarriottanaheimresort.com Email: maribel.denner@marriott.com		44,676 29,021 15,655	11	13,440	3	910	1,456	900	466 16	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Nusrat Mirza Maribel Denner (714) 294-7800/(657) 657-8079	
16	The Waterfront Beach Resort, a Hilton Hotel (16)	21100 Pacific Coast Highway Huntington Beach 92648-5307 Website: waterfrontresort.com Email: questions@waterfrontresort.com		44,000 40,000 4,000	26	8,581	4	630	782	530	437 156	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Paulette Fischer Kamran Enayat/Christy Page (714) 845-8400/(714) 845-8425	
17	DoubleTree by Hilton Anaheim-Orange County (18)	100 The City Drive Orange 92868-3204 Website: doubletreeanaheimhotel.com Email: snacc_ds@hilton.com		40,000 30,000 10,000	27	8,085	3	500	900	450	461 15	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Denise Pflum Vieira Valones (714) 634-4500/(714) 978-3839	
18	Irvine Marriott (20)	18000 Von Karman Ave. Irvine 92612-1096 Website: irvinemarriott.com Email: loulouvo.takahashi@marriott.com		38,635 28,495 10,140	30	12,960	1	1,280	1,790	990	496 9	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Kandee Anderson Lou Lou V. Takahashi (949) 553-0100/(949) 724-3648	
19	Balboa Bay Resort (21)	1221 W. Coast Highway Newport Beach 92663-5026 Website: balboabayresort.com Email: sales@balboabayresort.com		36,314 21,064 15,250	12	6,867	1	500	650	360	159 10	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Marina Dutton Kamia Kinchlow (949) 645-5000/(949) 630-4215	
20	Delta Hotels by Marriott- Anaheim Garden Grove (19)	12021 Harbor Blvd. Garden Grove 92840-4001 Website: marriott.com/snade		36,182 33,000 3,182	18	10,000	2	820	1,000	600	382 2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NA Connie Esquivel (714) 867-5155/(714) 867-5100	
21	Paséa Hotel & Spa (22)	21080 Pacific Coast Highway Huntington Beach 92648-5305 Website: paseahotel.com Email: sales@paseahotel.com		35,730 18,430 17,300	10	8,400	3	720	955	450	250 19	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Paul Maddison Joe Martino (714) 698-6100/(714) 698-6101	
22	The Westin South Coast Plaza (23)	686 Anton Blvd. Costa Mesa 92626-1920 Website: westinsouthcoastplaza.com Email: sara.worthington@westin.com		34,718 25,362 9,356	26	7,508	2	650	900	450	394 17	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Mike Hall Dario Gomez (714) 540-2500/(714) 662-6695	
23	Hyatt Regency Newport Beach (24)	1107 Jamboree Road Newport Beach 92660-6296 Website: hyattregencynewportbeach.com Email: salesnewpo@hyatt.com		34,000 22,000 12,000	20	6,720	1	500	800	475	410 14	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Erin Henry Shelley Callahan (949) 729-1234/(949) 644-1552	
24	Montage Laguna Beach (25)	30801 S. Coast Highway Laguna Beach 92651-4221 Website: montagehotels.com/lagunabeach Email: mlbsales@montage.com		33,500 14,500 19,000	11	7,500	2	500	600	300	259 58	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Mary Rogers Anne Marie Doyle (949) 715-6000/(949) 715-6130	

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Researched by Meghan Kliever



















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▶ NEXT WEEK'S LIST *Environmental Consultants*

▶ From page 27

RANKED BY SQUARE FOOTAGE OF TOTAL MEETING SPACE

Rank	Hotel	•Address	Company logo	Square footage of Total meeting space	Number of meeting rooms	Square footage of largest meeting room	Restaurants	Seating capacity			•Guest rooms	•Suites	Features and services offered							General manager
								•Banquet	•Theater	•Classroom			Business center	Audio/visual center	Tech assistance	Video conferencing	Meeting facilitator	Internet in mtg. rooms	•Director of sales	
25 (26)	<b>Sheraton Park Hotel at the Anaheim Resort</b> 1855 S. Harbor Blvd. Anaheim 92802-3509 Website: marriott.com/snaps Email: sales@sheratonparkanaheim.com		31,649 21,991 9,658	17	11,035	3	720	1,100	624	490	10	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Ian Gee Katie Wright (714) 750-1811/(714) 971-3626		
26 (28)	<b>Hyatt Regency John Wayne Airport Newport Beach</b> 4545 MacArthur Blvd. Newport Beach 92660-2022 Website: johnwaynearportnewportbeach.hyatt.com Email: snarj.info@hyatt.com		30,603 17,603 13,000	17	7,260	3	600	800	500	343	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Wasim Kazi Jan Hollis (949) 975-1234/(949) 833-3927		
27 (27)	<b>Hilton Irvine/Orange County Airport</b> 18800 MacArthur Blvd. Irvine 92612-1479 Website: irvineorangecountyairport.hilton.com Email: snaoc-salesadm@hilton.com		29,325 17,825 11,500	19	7,020	2	680	800	500	360	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Rob Koscelnik Kelli Littrell (949) 833-9999/(949) 833-3317		
28 (29)	<b>Disney's Paradise Pier Hotel</b> 1717 S. Disneyland Drive Anaheim 92802-3441 Website: disneymeetings.com/disneyland Email: info@disneymeetings.com		26,343 19,238 7,105	12	7,322	0	550	754	432	481	22	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Nicholas Hockman Robert Donahue (714) 956-6425		
29 (30)	<b>Anaheim Majestic Garden Hotel</b> 900 S. Disneyland Drive Anaheim 92802-1844 Website: majesticgardenhotel.com Email: info@majesticgardenhotel.com		26,000 20,000 6,000	14	8,280	3	650	1,000	500	489	30	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Kim Painter Cindy Smith (714) 778-1700/(714) 535-3889		
30 (NR)	<b>Inn at the Mission San Juan Capistrano</b> 31692 El Camino Real San Juan Capistrano 92675-2657 Website: innatthemissionsjc.com Email: pam.ryan@marriott.com		24,840 6,540 18,300	7	3,000	2	230	300	200	125	7	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Pam Ryan Chad Ceretto (949) 503-5700		
31 (31)	<b>Great Wolf Lodge Southern California</b> 12681 Harbor Blvd. Garden Grove 92840-5857 Website: greatwolf.com/southern-california Email: gwlsocal@jpublicrelations.com		23,666 21,226 2,440	12	9,877	7	822	1,096	411	603	603	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Diana Harrison Christine Consunji (714) 530-9653/(714) 530-3843		
32 (33)	<b>Knott's Berry Farm Hotel</b> 7675 Crescent Ave. Buena Park 90620-3947 Website: knotts.com/stay Email: hotelinformation@knotts.com		20,000 20,000 0	11	8,400	1	600	750	500	320	2	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Don Prescott Catherine Rad (714) 995-1111/(714) 828-8590		
32 (34)	<b>Surf &amp; Sand Resort</b> 1555 S. Coast Highway Laguna Beach 92651-3299 Website: surfandsandresort.com Email: surfsales@jcreorts.com		20,000 10,000 10,000	10	2,500	1	180	280	150	167	13	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Joanna Bear Amy McLimore (949) 497-4477/(949) 494-2897		
34 (35)	<b>Marriott Irvine Spectrum</b> 7905 Irvine Center Drive Irvine 92618-3207 Website: marriott.com/snamc Email: kelsey.richards@marriott.com		17,967 9,986 7,981	7	5,016	2	400	550	220	271	50	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Dianne Markis Kelsey Richards (949) 759-0200/(949) 759-0201		
35 (36)	<b>Avenue of the Arts Costa Mesa, a Tribute Portfolio Hotel</b> 3350 Ave. of the Arts Costa Mesa 92626-1913 Website: avenueoftheartshotel.com Email: info@avenueoftheartshotel.com		17,500 8,000 9,500	8	3,456	1	250	380	225	238	35	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Richard Ferber Phillip Patterson (714) 751-5100/(714) 751-2704		

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