For an Emerald Green, Ocean Blue Coronado

# BEACH BONFIRES

## **CORONADO STILL ALLOWS FIRES OUTSIDE OF DESIGNATED CITY RINGS**

oronado's beaches beckon visitors all day and into the night. After the sun goes down, you can find dozens of beach bonfires burning on the beach. Bonfires are allowed anywhere along Coronado beaches.

#### **FIRE LOCATIONS**

North Beach offers eight cement fire pits on a first-come, first-served basis. People often wait for hours to claim the use of these popular fire pits for large group gatherings.

But personal fire rings and grills can also be set up anywhere on Coronado beaches.

#### **BANNED**

In December 2022, the City of San Diego (which includes Ocean Beach, Mission Beach, Mission Bay, Pacific Beach and La Jolla) banned all wood bonfires on the beach except those in designated city rings.

The ban was introduced to reduce burn injuries from smoldering embers in the sand and to improve air quality in beach neighborhoods.

Under the ban, only propane fires, which leave no dangerous embers and produce less smoke, are allowed outside of designated city rings. Fines for illegal beach fires range from \$250 to \$1,000.

Del Mar and Imperial Beach also banned beach bonfires and do not offer city fire rings.

The City of Imperial Beaches states: "Bonfires are not permitted on our beach. Nearby beaches that allow bonfires and have fire pits include Silver Strand State Beach and Coronado City Beach."

### **CORONADO BONFIRES**

Coronado allows beach fires burning clean wood, charcoal, or paper products. Pallets, landscaping debris and trash are prohibited as a bonfire fuel source. Fires are restricted to a height of 12 inches above the upper edge of the fire ring or container

and must be contained within the inside edge of the fire ring, fire pit or small grill.

#### **EXCEPTIONS?**

The San Diego bonfire ban exempts hotels and other private businesses that lease city land. The Hotel Del currently sells beach bonfire packages with portable fire rings at a cost of \$210 for one hour.

While bonfires are a popular way to enjoy the beach at night, the aftermath includes trash, ash, hot coals and embers left on or under the sand, and pollution that negatively impacts Coronado's beaches and air quality.



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