

Meet Me at the Midway

OVERALL THEME | Off-site events on the USS Midway Aircraft Carrier & Museum, catered by Marriott

The West Coast's premier meeting destination, the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina brings events outside of the meeting room for a unique opportunity aboard the iconic USS Midway Aircraft Carrier and Museum and a catering experience provided by Marriott. The USS Midway was the United States' longest-serving aircraft carrier of the 20th century, a commission between 1945 - 1992. "The Midway," located on San Diego Bay at the edge of the downtown skyline, opened as a museum in 2004 and provides a truly unique experience to groups and individuals. The event venue includes the "flight deck" - with an unmatched 360-degree view of San Diego's sensational skyline, Coronado Island, Coronado Bay Bridge and, of course spectacular sunsets. Enjoy the ambiance of "mission critical" aircraft, including the F-14 Tomcat (aka Top Gun) to World War II era planes, and other aviation wonders sitting atop the original flight deck. Additional options include the carrier's "hangar", an enclosed space offer more museum quality aircraft, as well as flight simulators for team building activities.

By hosting an event aboard the USS Midway Aircraft Carrier and Museum with catering services by Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina, planners can choose their own adventure with a themed catering package that gives new meaning to fun in the San Diego sun.

PACKAGE 1: The Flight Deck

Let the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina be the ultimate wingman for your next event. For an event fueled by fun and creativity, guests can jet from the Marriott Marquis over to the USS Midway for an off-site experience inspired by the U.S. Navy's TOP GUN Program. As guests arrive to this "city at sea", they will feel wonder and awe as they step aboard the Midway. An expansive collection of meticulously restored aircraft on the mid-level hanger deck offers guests an unforgettable photo-op from World War II and Operation Desert Storm eras. As guests are led upstairs for the "Grand Reveal" moment atop the flight deck, eyes immediately take in the stunning backdrop of the downtown skyline. The Midway's famous "41" control tower is a thrilling focal point and staging backdrop as the center of the flight deck comes alive with energy, music and excitement.

The package includes a pair of aviator sunglasses for all attendees and catering menus featuring a selection of BBQ favorites. Groups can also add on tours of the Midway with plenty of photo opportunities! Catering highlights include:

- **The Pilot** - The hero of the menu, the main course featuring BBQ favorites
- **The Wingman** - Side dishes to complement the main dish
- **Off-Duty**: San Diego Craft Beer Station
- **Ahoy** - Chilled local seafood station
- **Loving Feeling** - The sweetest part of every menu, dessert

PACKAGE 2: Mystery on the Midway

Who dun it? For an interactive team building experience, the USS Midway plays host to the ultimate mystery event, where every attendee is a suspect. An interactive game of CLUE comes-to-life, with a 1940's aircraft carrier as the backdrop for mayhem, murder, and intrigue, the flight deck will be transformed into an exclusive, members-only dinner club with leather lounge areas, a mixture of seating from cocktail tables to luxurious booths, to classic dine-arounds, allowing plenty of opportunity for mixing, mingling and gathering clues. Entertainment begins with a cool jazz trio. At dinner hour, a sultry torch singer joins and by the end of the night the band grows to a hopping Big Band experience. Guests sip and savor hand-crafted cocktails like old-school Manhattans and Gin Fizzes as they dance their way to clues. As the mystery game is underway, all clues point to creative catering stations dripping in locally inspired foodie favorites. From pastas to charcuterie and beyond...every delicious bite takes guests one "pizza" closer to solving the ultimate interactive mystery.

PACKAGE 3: Something to Swing About

The year 2020 marks 75 years since the USS Midway was commissioned in 1945. In fact, the Midway is named for The Battle of Midway, a decisive naval battle during World War II. Take guests back to the era of big bands and USO Shows to commemorate this special anniversary! From classic craft cocktails to performances featuring the Andrews Sisters, the catering and entertainment options are endless.

Consider parking a classic 1940's era car at the entrance to set the tone of the event and provide a perfect photo opportunity. The Midway's flight deck is adorned with décor reminiscent of classic Naval uniforms and the iconic "Bomber Jacket", vintage artillery boxes and more. USS Midway docents lead guests on exclusive tours of the ship and share stories of service. Classic WWII era postcards prompt guests to write a thank you note to our servicemen overseas. Movies from the 1940s are projected on the control tower or a giant blow-up movie screen. Our Rosie the Riveter aerialist can suspend in mid-air for an unexpected wow and swing dancers can liven up the evening with performances, maybe even encouraging a few out onto the dance floor. End the evening with a fireworks show for the perfect final salute to a classic era.

Menus featuring locally sourced ingredients, inspired by San Diego's progressive culinary scene will complement the overall event experience.

Custom catering is provided by the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina and the experience logistics handled by Access DMC. Menus and components of the event can be tailored to your group's individual needs. Choose one of the packages above or let us create a unique, fun filled experience for your group. Minimum of 300 people.