

THE HOME & DESIGN ISSUE

# NEWPORT

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NEWPORT'S OWN  
SCOTT BORAS  
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## SHOP

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NEWPORT BEACH

WHERE  
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### ANTONIO'S BELLA CASA

322 Old Newport Blvd.;  
949-631-3416;  
antoniosbellacasa.com

### CANNERY EXCHANGE

2640 Avon St.; 949-631-2740;  
canneryexchange.com

### LIDO CONSIGNMENT GALLERY

2700 W. Coast Hwy., Ste. 115;  
949-650-7793;  
lidoconsignment.com

### OLD NEWPORT ANTIQUES

477 Old Newport Blvd.;  
949-548-8713

### NAUTICAL DECOR-NEWPORT TRADING CO.

2810 Newport Blvd.;  
949-723-9696

### SWELLEAGANT

3409 Newport Blvd.;  
949-673-3604;  
swelleagantvintage.com

### THE FIND CONSIGNMENTS

400 W. Pacific Coast Hwy.;  
949-650-3463;  
thefindconsignments.com

### THE HEARTHSTONE

2711 E. Coast Hwy., #A;  
949-673-7065

### THE NEXT NOTCH FINE ANTIQUES

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### TOM STANSBURY ANTIQUES

466 Old Newport Blvd.;  
949-642-1272

### TREASURES OF IMPERIAL RUSSIA

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949-305-6132



ANTONIO'S BELLA CASA

# Timeless Treasures

NEWPORT BEACH IS THE PERFECT PLACE TO PRACTICE THE ART OF ANTIQUE SHOPPING.

BY CYNTHIA RUPE | PHOTOS BY JODY TIONGCO

**M**any opt for the fresh and new when choosing home décor. However, antiques offer a timeless and unique option for lovers of the vintage look. In Newport Beach, shoppers can enjoy a variety of antique shops and consignment stores featuring rare antique and vintage home furnishings, décor and fashions.

Aged yet ageless, antiques offer a superb level of hand-made artisanship not commonly found in modern-made items. You won't find cheap pressboard, and there's never any assembly required.

"I love the history of them," says Tom Stansbury, owner of the eponymous shop, Tom Stansbury Antiques, as well as The Next Notch Fine Antiques. "I love the craftsmanship, the beauty of them. There is a romance to them."

Other local shop owners agree. "Furniture, to me, has a soul to it. How it looks, how it feels, and the love that went into making it," says Tony Buccola, owner of Antonio's Bella Casa, a shop that sells 18th and 19th century Italian and French antiques.

## One of a Kind

Opting for antiques also means finding a timeless piece you simply won't see in any other home in the neighborhood.

"I have wall space and I want to fill it with something interesting," says Gaylian Hein, a Newport Beach-based massage therapist shopping Tom Stansbury Antiques. Gaylian, 38, chose a small botanical print, dated 1793, to hang in her office. "I wonder if I'm going to get addicted to this," she says.

With local shops housing treasures such as a walnut and brass tea caddy, circa 1860, crystal decanters, circa 1820, a 5-foot tall sitting Buddha from Southeast Asia, and vintage cuff bracelets, circa 1950, it's easy to see why antiquing becomes a shopping hobby for many.

"It's about finding something unique and different that you can't find at Pottery Barn," says Arlene Spielman, owner of Cannery Exchange. Her store offers a variety of antique to modern goods on consignment, like Marlboro lamps, collectors' items that were made from the '50s to



the early '90s, and reproduction Kimball furniture.

Buyers get their antiques from local estate sales, auctions, collectors and from other countries. Tony recently unloaded an entire shipping container of antique goods from Italy. Consignment shops mostly get their goods from those looking to sell their items—here you'll find a mix of antiques, vintage and current furniture and décor.

### Tips for Great Finds

Purchasing a good piece of antique furniture may be an investment, but prices are currently not as high as they are typically, says Courtney Landon, granddaughter of Susan Landon, owner of Lido Consignment Gallery. The shop, which has been open for 10 years on Pacific Coast Highway, is run by three generations of family. "It's definitely the time to buy," she says. "It's a buyer's market."

When it comes to buying antiques, decorative items are popular, Tom says.

Still, for others, the trend is hard to put a finger on. "If I knew what the trend was, I'd go bet on horses," Arlene says. "The reason people come back to my store is they look for a treasure. They look for something out of the ordinary, and that's what I look for."

Vintage furniture and décor is also popular, referring to items made in the 20th century. Modern décor is in high demand, especially the '60s and '70s, as well as Hollywood Regency glamour. "Mirrored furniture is very popular," says Kitty Canada, owner of The Find Consignments, which opened in October on Pacific Coast Highway.

Vintage fashion is also hot, especially the '80s, says Nicole Bernstein, owner of Swellegant vintage clothing. Think Molly Ringwald in "Pretty in Pink." And the



SWELLEGGANT

tight, spandex dresses worn by Kelly Bundy from '80s/'90s sitcom, "Married with Children." "She's been a good style influence," Nicole says. "I'm not so sure how that happened." Her shop, which has been open on the Peninsula for 14 years, offers vintage fashions from the 1920s - 1980s, as well as knick-knacks and collectables, such as unique kitchenware, cocktail shakers and ashtrays.

When you're ready to shop, approach antique and vintage shopping like a treasure hunt.

"Have measurements with you and be ready to buy. [Items] go quickly," says Kitty.

She also suggests tearing out pages in a magazine to show shop owners. "They may have been offered items [like what you're looking for], or know where to get them." And, if you need more time, request a 24-hour courtesy hold on the item, she says. "We currently have one piece that has a hold, a back-up hold and a third-hold, and we've sold items to the third hold."

Also remember to think practically. "When you find a piece of furniture, make sure it's comfortable," says Arlene.

And always keep an open mind. "Make a list of what you want and crumple it up and throw it away," Tony says. "The last thing you're looking for is the first thing you'll find."

And what you may just find is a rare treasure you will cherish for years to come. A centuries-old story that continues to be written—one which you're now a part of. \*



CANNERY EXCHANGE