City of Indian Wells
Monthly Newsletter
May 2026



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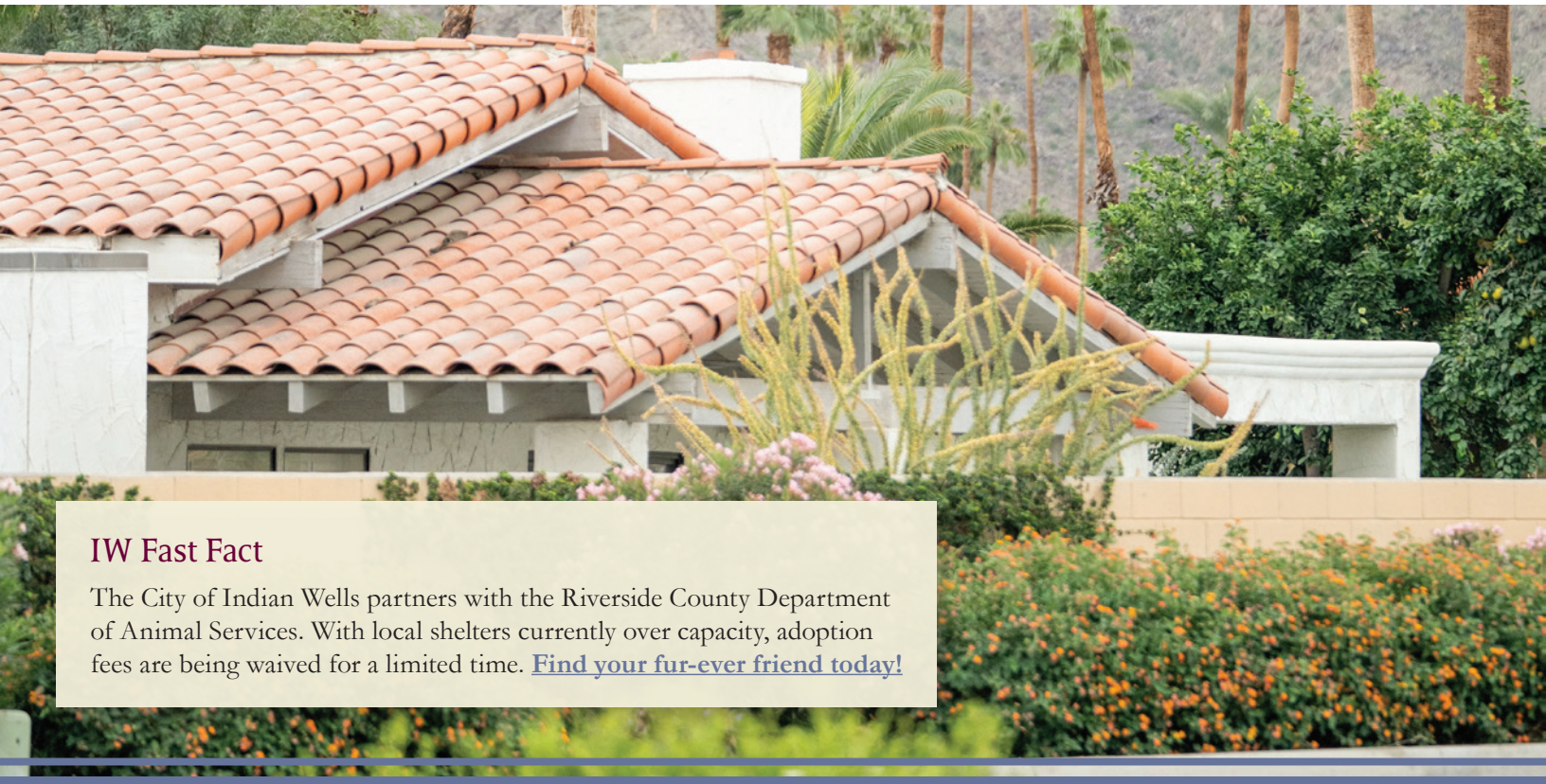
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IW Fast Fact

The City of Indian Wells partners with the Riverside County Department of Animal Services. With local shelters currently over capacity, adoption fees are being waived for a limited time. **Find your fur-ever friend today!**

Letter From the City Manager

Dear Indian Wells Residents,

As many of us prepare for summer vacations to escape the heat, the City of Indian Wells remains committed to supporting our desert community year-round.

This May, Indian Wells is celebrating National Small Business Month by showcasing our local restaurants **through our brand-new interactive restaurant map.** This digital tool showcases all the current restaurants open to the public within City limits, streamlining your search for your next bite to eat. Check it out today and support our Indian Wells community by dining locally!

Another way we support our local businesses is through our Residence Benefit Card (RBC) program. Indian Wells is now accepting inquiries from businesses within City limits to offer limited-time discounts to residents with a valid RBC. For more information, please contact City Hall at (760) 346-2489.

Later this month, Indian Wells will host a Memorial Day Ceremony to honor U.S. military personnel who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. We invite you to join us on Monday, May 25, at 9 a.m. at the Indian Wells Golf Resort to pay respects to those who served.

To honor our veterans throughout the year, Indian Wells is working to expand the Eisenhower Walk of Honor and Veterans' Memorial. The two seven-foot granite walls will provide the City more space to highlight additional veterans from our community. Characterized by meandering walkways, majestic palm trees and brilliant flowers, the 5,000-square-foot Eisenhower Walk of Honor memorial also features an eternal wellspring, a bronze bust of General Dwight D. Eisenhower and six flags representing each branch of the armed services. All U.S. veterans, living or deceased, who lived in Indian Wells for at least three years are eligible to have their names engraved on the memorial. **To apply, please visit the Eisenhower Walk of Honor and Veterans' Memorial webpage.**

If you have any questions, please visit us at City Hall or call (760) 346-2489.



Dr. Chris Freeland

Dr. Chris Freeland
City Manager

Council Meeting Highlights: April 2026



Dr. Toper Taylor
Mayor



Brian M. Penna
Mayor Pro Tem



Bruce Whitman
Council Member



Greg Sanders
Council Member



Dana Reed
Council Member

Indian Wells Golf Resort Highlights

- The City Council authorized a funding agreement with Troon Golf to complete the rehabilitation of the Celebrity Course, and approved a supplemental appropriation of $880,000 from the Indian Wells Golf Resort Fund to fund initial design costs. Renovations are expected to begin in the summer of 2027 and will be overseen by Clive Clark, the original course architect.
- The City Council authorized a funding agreement with Troon Golf to oversee the design and construction of the Shots in the Night improvements, and approved a supplemental appropriation of $800,000 from the Indian Wells Golf Resort Fund for the future enhancements, including converting the existing putting course to an artificial turf facility. This will be an amenity for residents and visitors alike.
- The City Council authorized a funding agreement with Troon Golf to oversee the design and planning of improvements to the Special Event Pavilion, including a new banquet/service kitchen, and approved a supplemental appropriation of $75,000 from the Indian Wells Golf Resort Fund for design and pre-construction services. An upgraded kitchen located across the bridge near the first tee of the Players and Celebrity Golf Courses will increase opportunities for weddings and special events.
- The City Council discussed the Resident 14-Day Tee Time Booking System and voted to move the open reservation time from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m., reducing the number of tee times an individual can book for themself to one per day during protected rounds and requiring all resident tee times to be booked online.

- The City Council reviewed and approved the Safer Streets 30% design plans. The next steps for this project are final street designs and sending the project out for bids, targeting completion in fall 2027.
- The City Council approved the concept plans for various improvements to Fairway Park, including adding an accessible path around the grass and planting additional shade trees.
- The City Council discussed and approved the Indian Wells Preservation Foundation's recommendation to create placards celebrating the City's historic neighborhood designations in the Desert Bel Air and Indian Wells Village neighborhoods.

Council Meeting Agendas
CityofIndianWells.org/City-Hall/Current-Future-Agendas

Indian Wells Golf Resort News

Please note the following hours for the Indian Wells Golf Resort

Kestrel: A Richard Blais Kitchen + Lounge

Monday-Saturday
Lunch: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Dinner: 5-9 p.m.

Sunday
Brunch: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
No Dinner Service

Kocktail Hour
Monday-Saturday: 3-5 p.m.
Sunday: 2-5 p.m.

Fairway Grille Hours
Daily from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Golf Shop Hours
Daily from 6 a.m.-6 p.m.

Food Truck & Shots in the Night Hours
Friday & Saturday: Sunset-10 p.m.

Don't miss your chance to experience Shots in the Night before it closes for the season at the end of May!

Join us at the Indian Wells Golf Resort every Friday and Saturday evening for a one-of-a-kind after-dark experience featuring neon golf balls and glowing targets.

Enjoy the Laser Putting Course and Toptracer Glow Driving Range, where fun, easy-to-learn games make it perfect for all ages. Driving range bays are available to rent for 50 minutes and accommodate up to six people.

Experience the Coachella Valley's premier night golf event. Get your tickets today!

New Residence Benefit Card Discounts

Organic Glow Skin Studio & Desert Cold Plunge & Wellness Studio

Organic Glow Skin Studio and Desert Cold Pluge and Wellness Studio have partnered with the City of Indian Wells to offer our RBC holders a limited-time discount on all spa services until June.

15% discount for all services at both spa facilities.

You must present a valid RBC to receive these benefits. Be sure to check back next month for another RBC benefit spotlight!

Businesses in Indian Wells interested in partnering with the City to offer an RBC benefit are encouraged to contact Indian Wells City Hall at (760) 346-2489.

Breaking Records at the 2026 BNP Paribas Open

The 2026 BNP Paribas Open welcomed fans and players from around the world to experience the best of desert living, known globally as "Tennis Paradise."

This year's tournament broke numerous records, setting new standards of excellence in Indian Wells and for numerous other international tennis tournaments:

- **527,626 fans** attended — a new record
- **55 countries** competed (336 players)
- **$20 million** total prize purse
- **39% increase** in Tennis Channel viewership, with live coverage rising by 57% compared to the 2025 tournament
- **24** premier sponsors participated
- **36%** increase in merchandise sales
- **20%** increase in food and beverage sales

It was a truly record-setting year. Thank you to everyone who joined us, and congratulations to our champions:

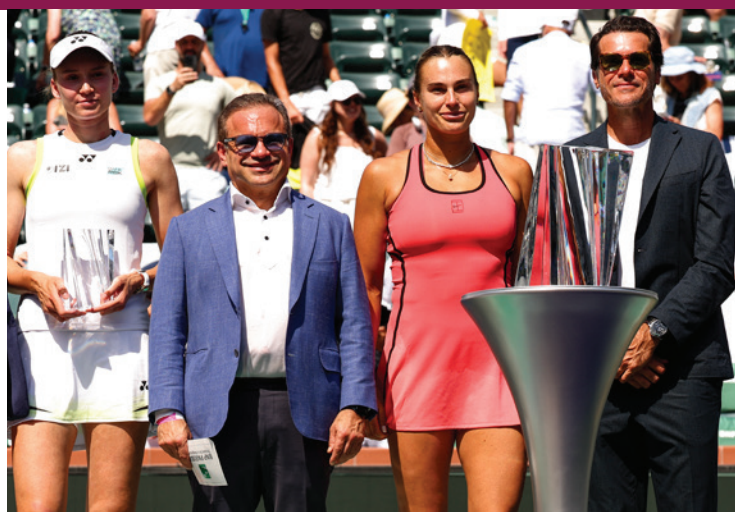
Singles
Jannik Sinner and Aryna Sabalenka

Doubles
Guido Andreozzi & Manuel Guinard and Kateřina Siniaková & Taylor Townsend



Save the Date!

"Tennis Paradise" returns February 28 to March 14, 2027.





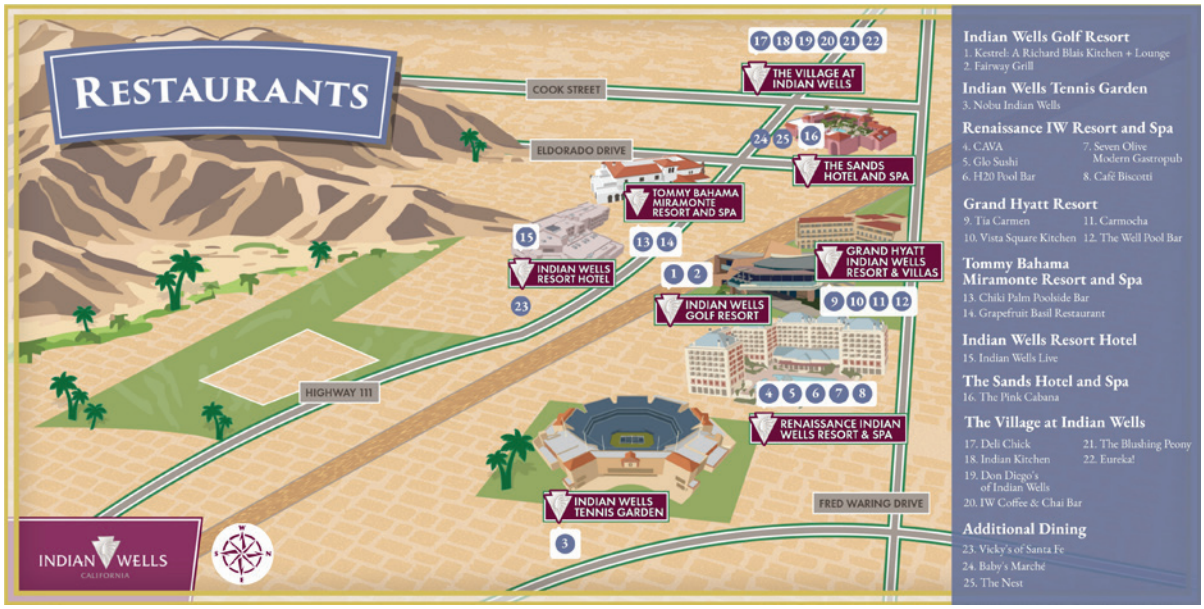


Indian Wells Releases Interactive Restaurant Map

Looking to dine locally and support your community's businesses?

The City has launched a new interactive map featuring all restaurants within City limits. This digital tool makes it easy to explore local dining options for your next meal out on the town.

View the Restaurant Map



Enjoy Exercise and Relaxation with Indian Wells Wellness Classes

Are you in search of ways to increase your physical activity while practicing mindfulness and engaging in your community?

The Indian Wells Community Activities Committee partners with the Desert Recreation District to host yoga and qigong sessions at Fairway Park, open to all skill levels. These sessions support relaxation, balance and overall well-being.

Advance registration opens weekly and is required as space is limited. Participants must have a valid 2026 Residence Benefit Card and complete a liability waiver for each class.

Subscribe for notifications on when to sign up!



Learn How Indian Wells Compiles the Biennial Budget

Budget Study Session: May 13

Join the Indian Wells City Council and Finance Director Kevin McCarthy for a Joint Budget Study Session on May 13 at 1:30 p.m. in the Indian Wells City Council Chamber.

This session will include an overview of **the City's current operating budget for Fiscal Years 2025-2027** and detail how priorities **from the 2026 Strategic Planning Session** will shape the budget for FY 2026-27.

We hope to see you there!

Introducing the I-REN Incentive Finder

Find Energy Rebates and Assistance Programs Available to You

There are dozens of programs and incentives available to help you save energy, go green and lower your energy bills. The I-REN Incentive Finder makes it easy to explore which federal, state, regional and local programs may apply to your household.

In just a few clicks, you can identify programs for:

- Energy bill discounts and income-qualified assistance
- Home energy improvements, including solar, batteries and insulation
- Electrification upgrades such as heat pump heating and cooling
- Clean transportation, including electric vehicles

No personally identifying information is required or stored. The Incentive Finder is brought to you by the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN), a collaborative of local governments in Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Access the I-REN Incentive Finder



The City of Indian Wells is making battery disposal safer and greener!

The City partners with Burrtec Waste Services to properly dispose of hazardous waste. Residents can pick up FREE compostable battery recycling bags at City Hall with their Resident Benefit Card. Place your used batteries in the bag, tape both ends of the bag and schedule your pick-up with Burrtec.

Contact Burrtec at (760) 340-2113 or CustomerService@BurrtecDesert.com.

April Resident Event Roundup



Brush Hour with Danielle

Local artist Danielle guided 25 residents through a relaxed and creative painting session, where participants created their own unique masterpieces.



Indian Wells Arbor Day Tree Giveaway

Indian Wells staff celebrated Arbor Day by giving away 50 Royal Poinciana (Delonix Regal) trees. As a Tree City USA, Indian Wells remains committed to supporting and maintaining our urban forest and looks forward to watching these shade trees mature.



Indian Wells Earth Day Celebration

UC Riverside Ecologist Cameron Barrows, Ph.D., Emeritus, and Desert Wildlife Center Director Mikah Curtis, RVT, led an informative and inspiring discussion about the Coachella Valley sand dunes ecosystem for 60 residents.



End of Season Party

Residents gathered for the annual End of Season celebration, enjoying delicious food and time together.



Desert Rodeo

Indian Wells proudly sponsored the Desert Rodeo at the Desert International Horse Park in Thermal. This three-day event was an unbridled success that allowed residents to lasso in a whole lot of community spirit.



An Evening with Author Camilla Sacre-Dallerup

The Community Activities Committee hosted a special event with Camilla Sacre-Dallerup, author of "It's Not You, It's Me." Participants enjoyed a lively discussion about the power of self-connection, mindset, healing and personal growth.

Indian Wells Renews Certified Autism Center Certificate™ with IBCCES

Indian Wells is proud to continue its designation as a Certified Autism Center™ (CAC) recognized by the International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES) since 2025.

The City is committed to creating a welcoming environment for all by training staff and providing accessible spaces.

This designation reflects Indian Wells' ongoing, year-round commitment to inclusion and acceptance, setting a positive example for communities across the region.

Want to support Indian Wells' unique past while gaining access to exclusive events and updates about historic preservation efforts?
Register to be an Indian Wells Preservation Foundation member today!

Upcoming Events

May 6 — Coffee with the Indian Wells Golf Resort General Manager
8-9:30 a.m.
Indian Wells Golf Resort

May 25 — Memorial Day Ceremony
9-10 a.m.
Indian Wells Golf Resort

June 3 — Coffee with a Cop
8-10 a.m., Players Room
Indian Wells Golf Resort

July 17 — Nine Cities Blood Drive
Indian Wells Golf Resort

July 25 — Shred Event
7-11 a.m., Burrtec Parking Lot

Upcoming Meetings

Dates and times are subject to change; please check the City Calendar.

May 13 — Joint Budget Study Session
Indian Wells City Hall

May 21 — City Council Meeting
Indian Wells City Hall

May 21 — Housing Authority Meeting
Indian Wells City Hall

May 26 — Indian Wells Golf Resort Advisory Committee Meeting
Indian Wells Golf Resort

May 28 — Planning Commission Meeting
Indian Wells City Hall



Submit Pictures of Indian Wells for a Chance to be Featured!

Capture the vibrant energy of spring in Indian Wells and the fun of our final month of resident season. Submit your original photos for a chance to be featured on our official social media channels or in an upcoming newsletter.

Send your photos to **Community@IndianWells.com** for an opportunity to be highlighted and shared with the community.

Please ensure photos showcase locations within Indian Wells and do not include identifiable people, including children. By submitting, you authorize the City to use your photo in promotional materials, including social media, videos, newsletters, the City website and IW-TV.

Contact Indian Wells

Visit City Hall

44-950 Eldorado Drive
Indian Wells, CA 92210

Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
(Closed for lunch 12-1 p.m.)

Contact Indian Wells
CityOfIndianWells.org/ContactUs

Contact the City

City Hall .....(760) 346-2489

Indian Wells Golf Resort .....(760) 346-4653

For Emergencies 911

Police Department..... (760) 836-3215, ext. 5

Fire Department ..... (760) 568-5252

For General Inquiries, contact
Community@IndianWells.com

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