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COMPLIMENTARY COPY FROM OUR ADVERTISERS

Harry Prowls the West Coast

When hitting the trail searching for antique adventures, there are some criteria I insist on for my own pleasure and comfort. After all, we want to enjoy the journey as much as the destination and too much work is, well... let's say I want a total experience.

1) Is the place easy to get to? Climbing the Himalayas in search of a 1890's smoking jacket doesn't seem worth the effort.

2) Is the trip enjoyable or only nice once you get there after fighting bugs and vicious furry swamp animals?

3) Are there good eats? Hey, we all have to have lunch.

4) What other venues are around to add to the trip. Antiquing is fun but I like to do other things as long as I'm there.

I've been super lucky to find a great place that really matches all these elements of fun travel. (Ok, there were a few bugs but they were really small and not that intrusive)

When visiting the wonderful city of San Diego, you can easily visit the antique shops and fun spots of Solana Beach. For about \$9 you can take the train up the coast (you can drive if you insist but the train is fun - when was the last time you took a short train ride?) and get off in Solana Beach. A short walk takes you to the "Cedros District."

It's a fun street of shops for your home and garden, cafés, bookstores, galler-

ies and more. I like it when you can wander from store to store without having to get back in the car, fasten the seat belt, drive a block, get out, lock up and start all over again. Plus you get to spend more money so much quicker when things are clumped.

This hidden treasure of goodies has been around a long time and I'm sure you'll enjoy as much as I do. I try to get there every trip or two to the coast as things are always changing. You can even hit the Belly Up Tavern for some old time rock and roll although this cat likes a quieter venue for his chow down and listening.

This trip, I was in need of a clock for my patio so I thought if I find one I'm in luck - and... I was in luck 'cause at the Leaping Lotus I found it. An English looking, two sided clock that fit my needs. The cost was right, the people friendly and this type of shopping - an antique mall with over 100 dealers - makes for great selections. They shipped it to my humble home and I now I can see the time whether sitting at the patio table on one side or at the bbq on the other.



A comfortable stroll awaits the casual browser in the Cedros District



Time well spent at the Leaping Lotus Mall

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Antiques on the Web?

Yes bet! We all know that the web is "the" source for today's research, updated timely information and more. And why should the search for quality antiques, dealers, information or events be any different than searching for the latest new home, auto or clothing sale?

Arizona Antiques - your newspaper source for antique information serving the valley's dealers since 1985 - has now entered the information age with its exciting new site: www.azantiquesonline.com.

People have less time to drive and search as they used to. Less time even to search all over the web for specials, events, places and things. Our new website now makes everything available with a few mouse clicks. Your chance to get the latest news and views, wheels and deals, sales on scales and bails and more.

You'll find the most comprehensive search engine for more than 300 antique dealers around Arizona. You can find them by name, address, geographic area for when you travel or by specialty if you want that certain something. You'll see their emails, websites, hours of operation, specialties and more.

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