

Downtown Los Angeles Fabric Shopping and Restaurant Guide



Compliments of American Sewing Guild Los Angeles

www.ASGLA.org

[NOTE: The fabric district is constantly evolving.]

Selections and store locations may change since the printing of the booklet.]

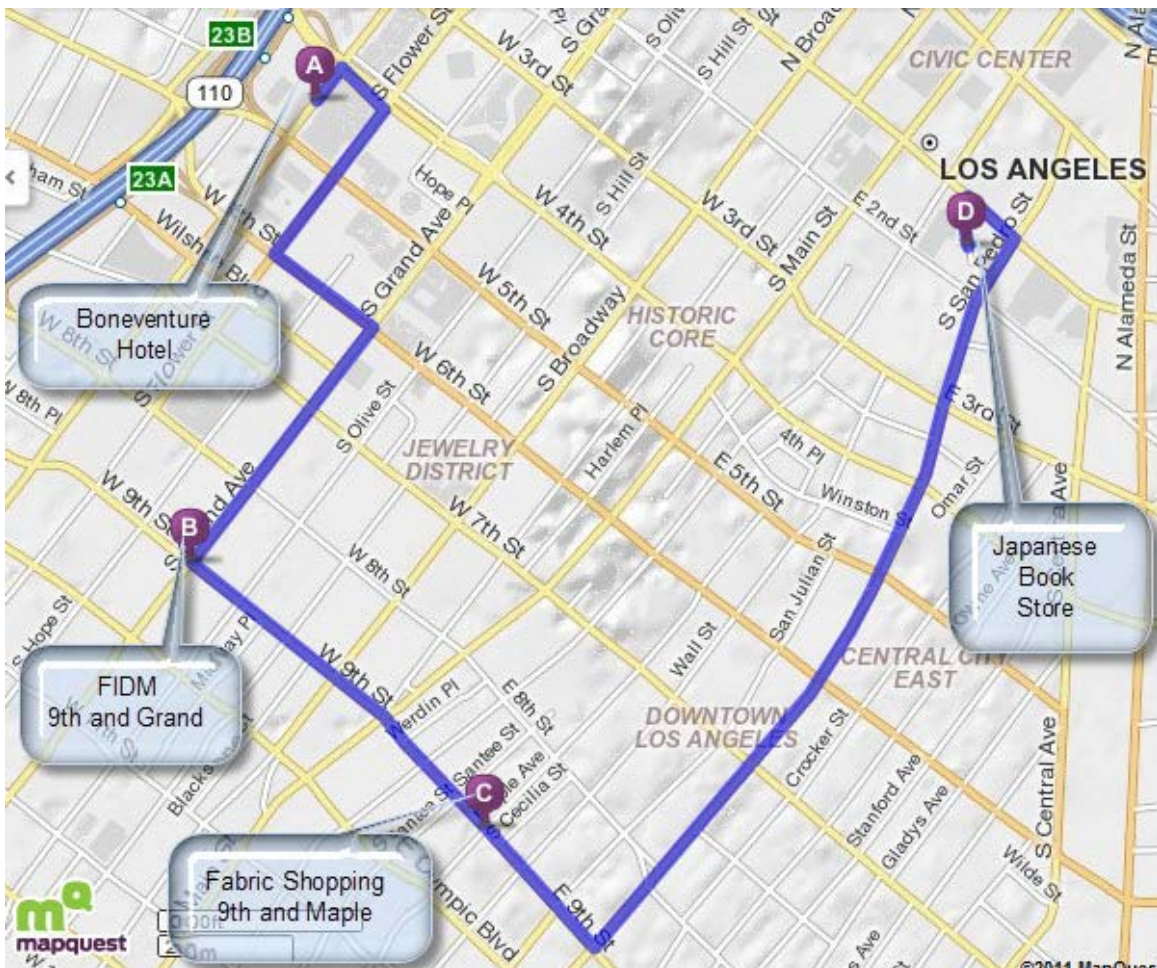
FABRIC SHOPPING IN DOWNTOWN LA

The LA Fashion District is home to the largest selection of textiles and notions in the United States. There are almost 200 wholesale and retail textile stores selling trim, beading, and fabric for apparel and home décor. Prices start at .99 cents. The fabric stores in this guide are clustered around the corner of 9th and Maple Streets. Don't be put off by what you see on display outside – the good stuff is inside the store. Step inside and have a look around. If you don't see what you are looking for, ask. The stores are shoulder to shoulder for blocks. A few of our favorites are listed here but **don't assume that these are the only stores with interesting fabrics ... be adventurous and don't be afraid to haggle.**

Textile and notion stores are generally centered within four blocks, from 8th Street down to Olympic Boulevard, between Maple Avenue and San Julian Street.

Directions:

DASH (Downtown Area Short Hop): Route E runs every day of the week; approximately every 6 minutes, and every 15 minutes on Sundays. The fare is .35. To catch the DASH From the Bonaventure Hotel: Walk south on Figueroa to 7th Street. Catch the DASH Route E on the southwest corner of 7th and Figueroa Streets going east and get off at 9th and Los Angeles Streets stop. Walk 2 blocks east to Maple Avenue. Fabric is located in this vicinity.



9th Street:

Ashanti Fabrics at 224 E. 9th St. carries African fabrics at very competitive prices. (period after each)

Golden Cutting and Sewing Supply at 318 E. 9th St., offering scissors.

City Fabrics at 324 E. 9th St. carries a full range of fake fur.

305 E. 9th St. is an indoor mall with stores (listed below) opening onto 9th and Maple Streets. This address includes:

- **Blue Moon** (entrance on 9th St.) specializes in dancewear fabric and baby blankets (minky), lots of glitz, glitter, and novelty knits.
- **Niki Fabric Gallery** (entrance on 9th St.) , carries a full selection of plain and fancy higher end fabrics.
- **Silk City** (entrance on Maple), carries some very unusual silk fabrics, a large selection of solid color silk, some woolen fabrics, brocade, silk knits, and some trims. The store starts at a high price but seems to be somewhat flexible.
- **SamanTex** (entrance on Maple), specializing in lycras, glitz and glam, pleather, and good selection of solid lycra knits.

Fabrics and Fabrics, 403 E. 9th St. carries a large selection of solid color silks, some unusual silk prints as well as a wide range of cotton and linens with a room off to the right (as you enter the store) with fabric stacked up like cord wood. The staff is very helpful at directing you to the right location for a specific fabric.

L. A. 99 Cent Fabric Store, if you are looking for inexpensive costume fabric, this is the place.

L. A. Fred's, 411 E. 9th St. carries home dec and home dec trims.

Journal Fabric, 419 E. 9th St. is a large store with a little bit of everything.

Top Trims, 425 E. 9th St. carries costume components, appliqués, feathers, and rhinestones.

Town Fabric at 433 E. 9th St. carries plain and fancy fabrics, including embellished lace and silks.

Eco Fabric and Tex Carmel, 432 E. 9th St. **Eco** is the place for more contemporary home dec and outdoor fabrics, nicely displayed and easy to shop. **Tex Carmel** carries a wonderful selection of silk and linen at exceptional prices.

L. A. Alex, 418 E. 9th St. This is an eclectic store with unusual fabrics like oilcloth, poly mesh, and other novelty items. At the rear of the store they carry a selection of notions, serger threads (\$1.25 a cone), and bulk elastic, ribbons, and trims. Zippers are organized by type and hung on pegs in the notion section. Mixed in with the novelty fabrics are some nice knits, denim and woolens at unbelievable prices.

Robert Textiles, 510 E. 9th St. Robert's has a changing selection of cottons, linens, and novelty fabrics at exceptional prices, but it can be a challenge to shop. Ask for help if you are looking for something specific.

Maple Street:

The 800 block of Maple Street is the place for beading and trims.

Trim 2000 Plus, 820. S. Maple claims to have the largest selection of buttons in the district, and they might be right. The store is well lit and roomy, a delight to browse. The buttons range from standard shirt buttons to beautiful embellished fancy buttons, toggles and everything in between. They also carry buckles, studs, purse hardware, lace trim, elastic and beaded appliqués. Trim 2000 carries more colors of serger thread than the other stores, priced right at \$1.25 per cone.

Button and Trim Expo, 828 S. Maple carries, more exotic trims and an extensive selection of appliqués.

Angel Textiles, 850 S. Maple, is a fabric store along this block of trims. Angel offers exceptional prices on knits (on the left side as you walk in) and wovens (to the right). The inventory changes frequently and is always worth a look.

Michael Levine territory, 900 block of Maple, is the only full service fabric store in the district carrying a wide selection of fabric, notions, and patterns. The main store is at 920 S. Maple and is worth a visit if only to see a beautiful, huge world of fabric. If you are looking for something special, this is the place to shop. Home dec fabric is in a separate location across the street.

Michael Levine's Annex is above the home dec store and is a challenge to some and a delight to others. Fabric is stacked on shelves and in boxes and is sold by the pound. It can be a bargain hunter's paradise. Both the main store and the home dec store have public restrooms, a rarity in the fashion district.

Island's Fabric, 829 S. Wall St., the go-to place for tropical printed fabric in cotton, poly blend, and rayon. They also carry bark cloth. Most of the fabric is hanging on rolls along the walls so it is very easy to shop. The owner of Island's asked us to let you know that they allow customers to borrow the restroom key.

Zip Up Zipper, 828 S. Wall St. a trim and zipper store without much organization. If you can't find trim or specific zippers you need you might try this place.

Fabric Hotel, 848 S. Wall St., the only place we have found with a selection of quilting fabrics. The store is large; the fabric is stored on bolts and is well organized by designers. The name of the store isn't obvious from the outside, so you will have to look for the address.

Stores – Off the Beaten Path:

B. Black and Sons at 548 S. Los Angeles St. This store is a step back in time to what a fabric store would have been in the 1920s. B. Black specializes in fine woolens and silks and tailoring supplies. If you are browsing, be sure to look at the remnants, which are generously cut and very reasonably priced. Most of the fabric is not priced, so you may want to explain what you need and a budget range so that staff can direct you to appropriate choices. B. Black has a website (<http://www.bblackandsons.com>) so if you are from out of the area, it would be worth a visit to get an idea of the quality and selection for future shopping from home. Buttons are available in a wide range of colors and sizes.

FIDM Scholarship Store on the corner of 9th and Grand Avenue, has a small fabric selection at the back of the store (behind the wall divider) but their prices can't be beat. The store sells donations from local fashion companies and funds scholarships for students, giving us the opportunity for a great bargain and good deed at the same time. Sometimes the store is loaded with knits, other times it might be home dec. They also carry a variety of notions (threads, zips, and trims) but stock varies greatly based on donations..

California Mart Bookstore at 9th and Main Streets, sells fashion and sewing related books and magazines.

Kinokuniya Bookstore, 123 Astronaut E. Onizuka St. Los Angeles (located in the Little Toyko District). This store carries a nice selection of Japanese fashion magazines and books. They sometimes have a few Bunka Fashion Series Garment Design Textbooks in English in stock. You can order anything they carry and have it shipped home.

Food and Restaurants:

Great Lunch Spots in the Fashion/Fabric District:

Wood Spoon
Category: [Brazilian](#)
107 W 9th St.
(213) 629-1765

Tiara Café
Categories: [American \(New\)](#), [Coffee & Tea](#)
127 E 9th St.
(213) 623-3663

Gram And Papa's
Category: [Sandwiches](#)
227 E 9th St.
(213) 624-7272

L'Angolo Cafe
Category: [Italian](#)
101 W 9th St.
(213) 622-2262

The New Moon
Category: [Chinese](#)
112 W 9th St.
(213) 624-0186

Restaurants that Deliver to the Hotel:

Rocket Pizza and Ale
Category: Pizza, salads, pasta - lounge, happy hour, delivery
rocketpizzalounge.com
122 west 4th Street
(213) 687-4992

Urban Noodle
Category: Asian Fusion – free delivery, min order \$15
<http://urbannoodlela.com/>
118 W 4th Street
(213) 626-0662

When you just need some good coffee! (and maybe a pastry or sandwich) Walking distance of the Westin Bonaventure

Syrup Desserts

Categories: [Desserts](#), [Coffee & Tea](#), [Juice Bars & Smoothies](#)

611 S Spring St

(213) 488-5136

Harlem Place Cafe

Categories: [Coffee & Tea](#), [Sandwiches](#)

124 W 4th St

(213) 617-7006

Spring for Coffee

Categories: [Coffee & Tea](#), [Bakeries](#)

548 S Spring St

(213) 228-0041

CoffeeBar

Categories: [Coffee & Tea](#), [Sandwiches](#)

600 S Spring St

(213) 327-1157

groundwork coffee company

Categories: [Coffee & Tea](#), [Bakeries](#)

108 W 2nd St

(213) 620-9668

For a Quick Lunch (Close to the Conference Hotel)

Mendocino Farms (2 locations downtown)

Category: [Sandwiches](#)

444 S Flower St., LA

(213) 627-3262

OR

300 S Grand Ave., LA

(213) 620-1114

Esaan - A Taste Of Thai

Category: [Thai](#)

601 W 5th St., LA

(213) 488-9995

Angry Chef Grill

404 S Figueroa St

(213) 629-2000

Lemonade

Category: [American \(New\)](#)

505 S Flower St., LA

(213) 488-0299

JJ's Sandwich Shop

119 E 6th St., LA

(213) 625-2363

Simply Salad

645 W 9th St., Ste. 106., LA

(213) 488-9191

Sandwich Joint

Category: Sandwiches

1068 W 7th St., LA

(213) 623-5300

Sandwich Shop

Category: Sandwiches

531 W 6th St., LA

(213) 627-1508

Casual Dining (Entrees \$10-30) Within Walking Distance of the Westin Bonaventure

Arashi Sushi

Category: [Sushi Bars](#)

1111 South Hope St
(213) 749-1900

Bottega Louie

Categories: [Pizza](#), [Italian](#)

700 S Grand Ave
(866) 418-9162

Bar & Kitchen

Category: [American \(New\)](#)

819 S Flower St
(213) 623-9904

Library Bar

Categories: [Bars](#), [Gastropubs](#)

630 W 6th St
(213) 614-0053

Checkers Downtown

Category: [American \(New\)](#)

535 S Grand Ave
(213) 624-0000

Pete's Cafe & Bar

Categories: [American \(New\)](#), [Bars](#)

400 S Main St
(213) 617-1000

Public School 612

Category: [Gastropubs](#)

612 S Flower St
(213) 623-1172

Portofino Cucina Italiana

Category: [Italian](#)

464 S Main St
(213) 239-9019

Colori Kitchen

Categories: [Delis](#), [Italian](#)

429 W 8th St
(213) 622-5950

Yojie Japanese Fondue & Sake Bar

Category: [Japanese](#)

501 W Olympic Blvd
(213) 988-8808

Fine Dining (Reservations recommended, Entrees \$30-60)

Standard-Downtown

Categories: [American \(New\)](#)

550 S Flower St., LA

(213) 892-8080

Drago Centro

Category: [Italian](#)

525 S Flower St., LA

(213) 228-8998

Chaya Downtown

Category: [Asian Fusion](#)

525 S Flower St., LA

(213) 236-9577

Nick & Stef's Steakhouse

Categories: [Steakhouses](#), [Bars](#)

330 S Hope St., LA

(213) 680-0330

Café Pinot

Categories: [French](#), [American \(New\)](#)

700 W 5th St., LA

(213) 239-6500

McCormick & Schmick's

Categories: [Seafood](#), [American \(Traditional\)](#)

633 W 5th St., LA

(213) 629-1929

LA Prime

Category: [Steakhouses](#)

404 S Figueroa St., LA

(213) 624-1000

Border Grill

Category: [Mexican](#)

445 S Figueroa St., LA

(213) 486-5171

Getting Around

Metro

Riding Metro is easy with convenient access to Downtown LA from 4 Metro Rail lines - Red, Purple, Gold, and Blue - and hundreds of Metro bus lines, Metro can get you here from just about anywhere in LA County. Day passes are \$6 to ride all Metro-operated rail and bus lines. To find your way call **1-800-COMMUTE (1-800-266-6883)**, Metro's toll-free telephone information number for all LA County transit services.

Basic fares: Single trip cash fare – \$1.50; Day Pass – \$6

DASH Buses

When you need to get around quickly, DASH is the way to go - and for only 50 cents! Six routes serve the Downtown area with stops at major tourist and business locations. Weekday hours are every 5-12 minutes up to 6:30pm or 7:00pm.

Taxi Services

Mass transit not your thing? Hail a taxi! When you board, look for the official [City of LA Taxicab Seal](#). Taxicabs bearing this seal are insured, have trained drivers, and are regularly inspected by the City of LA.

[Bell Cab](#) - (888) 235-5222

Beverly Hills Cab Company - (800) 273-6611

[Checker Cab](#) - (800) 300-5007

City Cab - (800) 750-4400

[Independent Taxi](#) - (800) 521-8294

United Independent Taxi - (800) 411-0303

Yellow Cab - (800) 750-4400

Dodger Stadium Express

Going to a game? Go Metro to Union Station and connect with the [Dodger Stadium Express](#). You won't have to fight traffic and you'll help reduce air pollution. Best of all, the trip is free with your Dodger ticket!

Union Station is served by Metrolink, Amtrak and many Metro and municipal bus lines, plus Metro Rail's Red, Purple and Gold lines. So it's easy to leave your car at home and connect with the Dodger Stadium Express.

Downtown Los Angeles

Downtown Los Angeles is anchored to the south by the Figueroa Corridor. The Figueroa Corridor is best known for being home to the University of Southern California, Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, Exposition Park, and the Shrine Auditorium. Some of the memories that echo through this community include the Olympic Games, the Academy Awards, a Nobel Laureate, and world-class museums.

The area is also home to a large number of architectural landmarks, such as the historic Doheny Mansion and the new Science Center School, designed by 2005 Pritzker Prize Winner Thom Mayne.

Bunker Hill and Grand Avenue

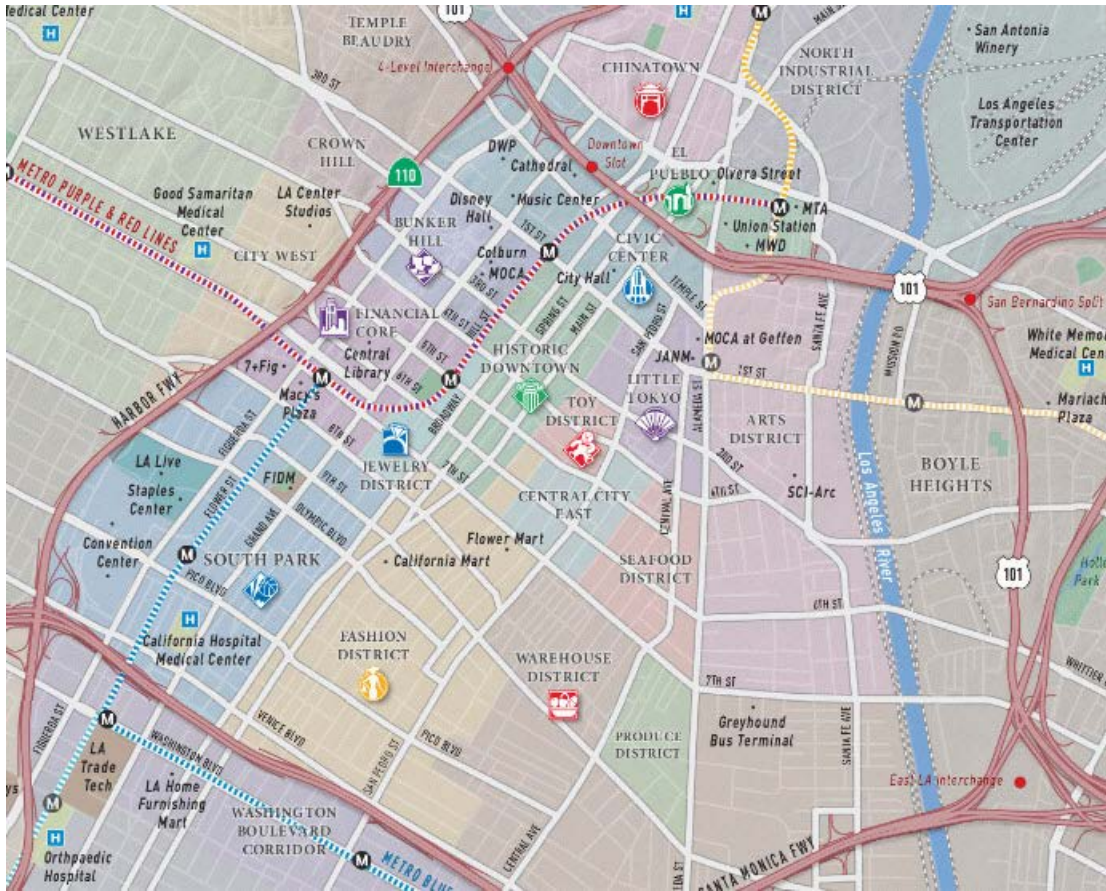
Bunker Hill is Downtown's cultural center and home to numerous corporate headquarters. Grand Avenue landmarks include the Music Center's Walt Disney Concert Hall and Center Theatre Group, the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, the Colburn School of Music, and the Los Angeles Central Library.

Chinatown

As early as 1852, a Chinese settlement was recorded near the site of today's Union Station. The community resettled some 86 years later a few streets over, and in 1938, with the dedication of Central Plaza, became the first modern American Chinatown, owned and planned from the ground up by Chinese.

Olvera Street

The oldest part of [Downtown Los Angeles](#), and is part of the [El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Monument](#). Having started as a short lane, Wine Street, it was extended and renamed in honor of [Agustín Olvera](#), a prominent local judge, in 1877. There are 27 historic buildings lining Olvera Street, including the [Avila Adobe](#), the [Pelanconi House](#) and the [Sepulveda House](#). In 1930, it was converted to a colorful [Mexican](#) marketplace. It is also the setting for Mexican-style music and dancing and holiday celebrations



Shopping Hints:

- Many stores are wholesale-only (solo mayoreo). Signs will be posted on the outside if they are not open to the general public. Occasionally, (generally on Saturdays) some wholesale-only stores will sell to the general public - don't be afraid to ask!
- Many stores do not accept credit cards and only take cash. However, there are numerous ATMs located throughout the District.
- Bargaining is encouraged. Store owners are more likely to lower the prices if you buy more than one item.
- Merchandise varies from day to day. If you see something you like - buy it now, it may not be there later.
- Choose merchandise carefully - many sales are final and sold "as is," meaning the merchandise will be sold in its current condition.
- Public restrooms are limited.
- Luggage strollers come in handy when making large and numerous purchases.
- Wear comfortable shoes and clothing!