

152 of Our Favorite Things!*

Los Angeles

Tennis Shop

Churros

Children's
Bookstore

Golf Camp

Brunch

Country
Music Joint

Bagels

Bathing
Suits

Falafel

Comedian

Organic
Facial

Irish Music

Kids' Clothing

Silk Scarves

Wine Flights

Xeriscaper

Flower
Arrangements

Water Park



Fried Chicken

Malibu Spa

Indoor
Skydiving

Koi Dealer

Croquet

Late-Night
Bar Menu

Nail Salon

Pinkberry
Alternative

Tableware

Dog Beach

Expensive
Cocktail

Charcuterie

Sandals

Fetish Store

iPod Repair

Local Honey

Maternity
Eveningwear

...And More!

AUGUST 2008 • \$4.95



* Including the Greatest Thing About LA (as chosen by you)

FREE CHURCH ORGAN RECITAL

▶ THE WORLD'S LARGEST church pipe organ assemblage isn't in Canterbury, or Rome, or considering Las Vegas's penchant for drama, Nevada. It's in L.A.'s Koreatown, at the 19th-century Gothic revival **FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**. Twenty-three thousand pipes grouped in 346 ranks make it possible to surround listeners with music. On Thursdays free half-hour recitals by S. Wayne Foster start at 12:10. Whether thundering out Bach or Boellman, this instrument makes all other organs seem anemic. ▶ *540 S. Commonwealth Ave., L.A., 213-385-1341.*

CHANNEL ISLAND THAT'S NOT CATALINA

▶ ON THE BOAT TRIP OUT IN summer, it isn't uncommon to see a whale breaching, and once a visitor sets foot on **SANTA CRUZ ISLAND**, about the only sound to be heard is birdsong. With its elevated vantage points and vestiges of Chumash life, this island, the chain's largest, is the standout alternative to Catalina.

Boats land at either the National Park Service section of Scorpion Anchorage or Prisoners Harbor, and day-trippers can roam freely. (Hiking on the Nature Conservancy property requires signing a liability release form.) Ventura-based Island Packers sends boats out daily for a round-trip fare of \$48. Park Service volunteers give an orientation and lead tours.

▶ *Island Packers: 1691 Spinnaker Dr., Ste. 105B, Ventura, 805-642-1393 or islandpackers.com.*

POTTERY STUDIO FOR AMATEURS

▶ STUDENTS AT **XIEM CLAY CENTER** can live out their Jonathan Adler dreams with six-week courses in sculpture, pottery, and tile making. Each series of classes (registration fees start at \$240) includes 25 pounds of clay and 12 hours of instruction. Students have access to the center's studio, which opens on a patio that looks like a Zen garden by way of the Southwest. Those who sign up for premier membership can use the studio round the clock and have their ceramic work considered for display in the center's 1,000-square-foot gallery. ▶ *1563 N. Lake Ave., Pasadena, 626-794-5833 or xiemclay.com.*