



Incredible Collections

If you thought your comic book or vintage toy collection was getting out of hand, you haven't visited some of the places listed below!

Avid collectors will think they've died and gone to heaven upon seeing the incredible collection of machinery and artifacts at [Hathaway Ranch](#) [11901 East Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs, (562) 777-3444]. The Hathaway family, whose motto was "Fix it up and make it work," moved to the area that would become Santa Fe Springs in 1905 and initially made their living as farmers. Today, visitors can explore their collection and tour the family ranch house which was completed in 1933.

Another incredible collection is at the [American Military Museum](#) [1918 North Rosemead Boulevard, South El Monte, (626) 442-1776]. An outdoor museum, it contains American military equipment and vehicles that were used in battles from the early 1900s to the present.

The [Los Angeles County Sheriff's Museum](#) [11515 South Colima Road, Whittier, (562) 946-7859] has displays that cover the history of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Exhibits include weapons, old uniforms, and a replica of an early jail. The museum tackles such issues as gambling, drug abuse, and gang violence and explains techniques used in apprehending criminals.



A collection that will appeal to the young in age and at heart can be found at the [Children's Museum at La Habra](#) [301 South Euclid Street, La Habra, (562) 905-9793], which is also the first museum dedicated to children in California. Housed in a restored 1923 railroad station, the museum features exhibits (some of which are hands-on) on science, history, art, and everyday life. A caboose located next to the building can be toured as well.

If you enjoy aviation history, head to the first permanent air museum west of the Rocky Mountains: the [Planes of Fame Air Museum](#) [7000 Merrill Avenue, Chino, (909) 597-3722]. Opened to the public in 1957, the museum's collection of 150 aircraft chronicles the history of manned flight from the Chanute Hang Glider of 1896 to the space age. The museum also currently maintains the largest collection of historic Japanese aircraft in the world.



This is one of six sections of the Homestead Museum's *Hidden Treasures* resource. Find more on-line at www.homesteadmuseum.org.

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