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Balboa Park Voted Best California Attraction CITY CROWN JEWEL RECEIVES 10BEST.COM AWARD AS TOP SPOT TO VISIT IN THE GOLDEN STATE

SAN DIEGO – Balboa Park received the Reader's Choice Award for "Best California Attraction" by 10Best.com, topping such notable attractions as Disneyland, Yosemite Park and Lake Tahoe, among others. Visited by more than 10 million people annually, the iconic 1,200 acre park with its variety of museums, gardens, trails, performing arts venues and cultural and recreational attractions took top honors as the number one spot to visit in the nation's 31st state.

"Balboa Park continues to instill a sense of wonder in both residents and visitors alike with its ornate architecture, exotic gardens and cultural amenities," said Herman Parker, director of the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department. "We are honored that the crown jewel of the City was recognized as a top destination in California and are delighted to be able to offer a truly one of a kind experience to the public."

Designated as a National Historical Landmark, Balboa Park offers more than 17 museums, lush gardens, fountains, playgrounds, grand architecture and the World Famous San Diego Zoo for the public to discover and enjoy. More information about visiting Balboa Park can be found at <u>www.balboapark.org</u>.

In addition to Balboa Park, San Diego is home to more than 400 parks offering more than 40,000 acres of park land, 26 miles of shoreline, 57 recreation centers, 13 pools and three golf courses for all to enjoy. More information about San Diego's parks can be found at <u>www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation</u>.

10Best.com is owned by USA Today Media Group and provides travel content of best attractions, things to see and do and restaurants for top destinations in the United States and around the world. In 2016, the City won a Reader's Choice award for "Best Dog Park in America" for its off-leash dog area on Fiesta Island. To view the entire "Best California Attraction" list, visit <u>www.10best.com/awards/travel/best-california-attraction/</u>.