

THE SMALL  
(and *not* so small)

WONDERS OF  
NORTHPARK SQUARE



## HERE, A THOUSAND LITTLE THINGS ARE THE *big* PICTURE.

Does it really matter if the streetlights and the water fountains of a place complement the architecture of the surrounding homes?

Or if its main play area has so many fascinating and fun places to explore, parents, too, are likely to protest when it's time to head home?

Is it important in the scheme of things that walls are embellished with tiles like those that once adorned California's fine old estates?

That a community's parks have whimsical sculptures or private gathering areas edged in roses? That the grass in the park has been chosen because it's tough enough for soccer practice, yet tender enough for a toddler's toes?



*The private recreation center features an "outdoor living room" with fireplace.*



*From gazebos to shade trees, the perfect places to picnic.*

And does it make any difference that the trees that line a street were selected for their scent and the sound the wind makes in their leaves — as much as for their shade? That a cul-de-sac connects to a biking trail or a footpath? And that a line of towering eucalyptus, established as a windbreak back when this area was orange groves, has been preserved to add roots and character to this new place?

Do things like this really matter? Indeed they do.

## A DOMAIN CALLED THE IRVINE RANCH.®

Long ago, cattle hands who worked this land gave special names to the places on the ranch they'd go when they needed to get away from it all. There was "Top of the World" on Shady Canyon hilltop. "Willow Pond" in the foothills.

Today, SUVs have become our horses and laptops our lassos. But the soul's need for balance, connection and those special places in nature remains the same.

That's why a 37,000-acre wildlife preserve surrounds The Irvine Ranch's urban centers and residential areas. Why neighborhoods connect to a regional system of hiking and bike trails, like the one that links Northpark Square to Peters Canyon. Why more than 100 parks dot this master-planned network of communities that stretches from the coast to the canyons to the foothills.



*Hiking and biking paths link to miles of regional trails.*



*Plays, concerts and museums provide cultural enrichment.*

And to make the crucial balance between work and relaxation even easier for people to achieve, we carefully clustered business and retail centers around residential villages to simplify commuting and create a larger sense of place.

Today, The Irvine Ranch exhibits the successful interplay between nature and technology, commerce and arts, private interest and public good. Simply put, it's a great place to live life to the fullest.

## WATCHING SOMETHING *new* TAKE ROOT.

It's a pleasure to be part of something from the very beginning. Every parent, who has ever cheered a child's first step, knows this. Gardeners do, too, each time they smooth the soil over a sprinkling of seeds.

The first settlers in a new neighborhood can anticipate a similar kind of pleasure. The pleasure that's rooted in a hundred-and-one imaginings of things to come.

Like the expanding canopy of shade trees, the colorful explosion of flower beds in the springtime. The serpentine growth of vines as they transform trellises, arbors and walls. Watching front yards express the character of the families within. And, of course, seeing all sorts of new friendships blossom among such hospitable surroundings.

After all, what could be better than to approach each day with a child's sense of anticipation and adventure about what comes next.

