

This is just a small sampling of SoCal wifi spots covered in the book. For more info, click [here](#).

MY WIFI LIFE

A tour of great wifi & coffee in Southern California



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About this Book

After more than ten years spent getting work done in wifi cafés around the US, and six years in Southern California, I've developed a set of standards and a reputation for knowing where the great spots are. This collection chronicles my best experiences in SoCal, and aims to guide dedicated wifi workers and players to welcoming spots with a solid connection and delicious fare.

I prefer to support independent and small businesses, but sometimes the choices are limited. In those cases, I've zeroed in on individual chain cafés that have got an outstanding staff. Businesses open and close, so this is a work in progress. If you've purchased the full version of my book, you'll get updates for free as long as I continue to create them.

Thanks for supporting me, and the great spots that welcome folks like us.

Penina's Wifi Etiquette

1. Buy stuff. Do I really need to say this? After seeing otherwise with my own eyes, it turns out I do. My rule of thumb is to buy something about every one-and-a-half to two hours.
2. Be gracious. Your two coffees and a scone aren't doing that much to pay the rent for all those hours you spend in a café. Help make it a friendly, welcoming place so they can attract and keep more customers.
3. Follow the rules. Busy urban areas limit wifi use because higher costs require them to generate quicker turnover. Sometimes plug placement is limited: if your power cord is a tripping hazard, then don't use it (or negotiate with the wifier closer in to swap locations so you can charge up).
4. Be considerate. Go outside to make phone calls.
5. Be very considerate. Your laptop should not make a sound—not even little beeps: use headphones. Same for the radio you brought to follow the game.
6. Tip generously. And tip again if you're there through a shift change.

Full of Beans

11534 N. VENTURA AVENUE • OJAI, CA 93023 • (805) 640-8500

Penina's Ratings

Coffee: *Good*

Food: *Good*

Wifi: *Mostly good*

Ambience/Decor: *Cozy and comfortable, with indoor and outdoor seating: outdoor plugs, too*

Ambience/Business: *Good for solo work and small-to-medium meetings*

Service: *Friendly, quick*

Clientele: *Locals and tourists*

Bathroom: *Clean, with a small shelf for your stuff*

During the early summer, we spent a week in Ojai, California, where I met my deadlines at **Full of Beans**, just south of town. They serve locals and tourists good coffee, specialty drinks and lunch either outdoors, on the inviting side porch or in the tree-shaded back courtyard.

I was there a few mornings in a row. I started with a good single latte, and later ordered lunch and a tea. The sandwiches and wraps are great. The staff tends to be a little guarded—normal for a place that sees more tourists, but the overall vibe was friendly and relaxed.

The wifi went down one of the days I was there, and unfortunately none of the staff on duty knew how to troubleshoot or do a restart. Most days, though, it was trouble free.



Veas Café

5412 W. ADAMS BLVD. • LOS ANGELES, CA 90016 • (323) 931-8337

Penina's Ratings

Coffee: *Very Good*

Food: *Very Good*

Wifi: *Effortless, solid*

Ambience/Decor: *Cozy, funky, local art; lots of indoor seating, some outdoor seating*

Ambience/Business: *Good for solo work and small meetings*

Service: *Friendly, gracious*

Clientele: *Locals, families, some businesspeople*

Bathroom: *Always clean; No place to put your stuff down (though the sink edge is usually clean and dry)*

Veas Café in the Mid-City area of Los Angeles is a “best kept secret” for wifiers seeking great fare, solid wifi and a down-to-earth, relaxed vibe.

Beyond espresso (they pride themselves on their organic coffees), Veas has fresh juices and a good-sized menu covering breakfast, lunch and dinner. We especially love their grilled paninis and salads. In fact, I go here at least as often for dinner as I do for wifi and coffee.

The whole staff is friendly and super gracious. The overall atmosphere is generally low key and quiet—a real find in the city!



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Got questions or suggestions? **Contact me!**

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