LUMINA
REAL ESTATE & LENDING

RELOCATION GUIDE 2026

From South Bay & Long Beach to Temecula Valley

You don't have to leave Southern California to get more home. Trade beach traffic for wine country and a lot more house. Here's what I'd tell a friend making the move.

Felicia, the Broker, Temecula Valley local for 20+ years

INSIDE

What Your Money Buys · Your Commute · Neighborhoods You'll Recognize · The Real Costs · Schools and Everyday Life · Wine Country and Weekends · New Construction · One Person, Home and Loan



WHAT YOUR MONEY BUYS

More House, Same Paycheck

Here's what a detached home sold for in October 2026, side by side.



$490K

That's about how much less a detached home in Temecula runs than the South Bay and Long Beach median. And it's about 700 sq ft bigger.

DETACHED MEDIAN
SOUTH BAY & LONG BEACH

$1,261,500

Typical home is **1,646 sq ft** on a **5,825 sq ft** lot. Torrance runs **$1.36M**, Long Beach **$1.01M**.

DETACHED MEDIAN
TEMECULA

$770,000

Typical home is **2,354 sq ft** on a **7,623 sq ft** lot.

DETACHED MEDIAN
MURRIETA

$710,000

Typical home is **2,588 sq ft** on a **7,405 sq ft** lot.

DETACHED MEDIAN
WINCHESTER

$664,000

Typical home is **2,451 sq ft**. About a third were built in 2025 or later.

DETACHED MEDIAN
WILDOMAR

$629,000

Bigger lots, about **9,583 sq ft**. Fewer sales, so this one moves around.

DETACHED MEDIAN
MENIFEE

$586,000

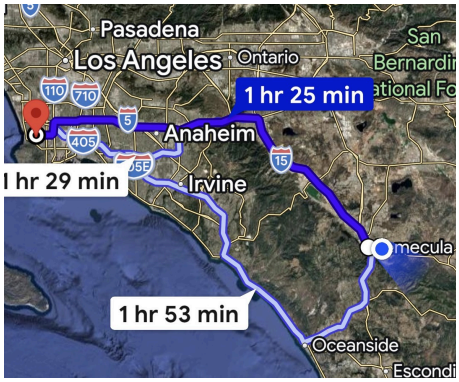
Typical home is **2,029 sq ft** on a **7,000 sq ft** lot.

Source: CRMLS, detached single-family homes closed October 1 to 31, 2026. South Bay & Long Beach includes Long Beach, Signal Hill, Torrance, the Beach Cities, El Segundo, Gardena, Carson, Lomita, the Palos Verdes cities, San Pedro, Harbor City, and Wilmington.

YOUR COMMUTE

The Drive, Honestly

Real drive times from Old Town Temecula. Rush hour is a 6:30 a.m. start on a weekday.



80 MILES
LONG BEACH AIRPORT

East Long Beach

Off-peak **1 hr 15 to 1 hr 50**. Rush hour **1 hr 40 to 3 hr**.

81 MILES
DOWNTOWN LONG BEACH

Downtown and the port area

Off-peak **1 hr 20 to 2 hr 10**. Rush hour **1 hr 50 to 3 hr 30**.

88 MILES
TORRANCE

Near Del Amo Fashion Center

Off-peak **1 hr 25 to 2 hr 10**. Rush hour **2 hr 10 to 3 hr 40**.

91 MILES
EL SEGUNDO

LA Air Force Base and aerospace

Off-peak **1 hr 30 to 2 hr 10**. Rush hour **2 hr 20 to 4 hr**.

30 MILES
THE BEACH

Oceanside Pier

Your new beach run. Off-peak **35 min to 1 hr 10** on I-15 S and SR-76.

GOOD TO KNOW

A daily drive back to the South Bay isn't realistic. This move works best if you're remote, in the office once a week, or done commuting.

Going back for a visit? Leave after 10 a.m. or on a weekend and it's a much easier drive.

Source and map: Google Maps typical drive times for Tuesday, November 17, 2026. Times change with traffic, so use them as a range.

FEELS FAMILIAR

Neighborhoods You'll Recognize

Love your South Bay neighborhood? Here's its closest match.



IF YOU LIKE
PALOS VERDES

De Luz and Wine Country

Acreage, views, and quiet roads. Many lots allow horses.

IF YOU LIKE
ROLLING HILLS ESTATES

Meadowview, Temecula

Bigger lots, horse trails, and 1970s and '80s homes with character.

IF YOU LIKE
MANHATTAN BEACH

Harveston, Temecula

A lake at the center, walking paths, and homes from the 2000s.

IF YOU LIKE
TORRANCE

Paseo del Sol, Temecula

Master-planned, built in the late '90s and 2000s. Parks, pools, and paths tie it all together.

IF YOU LIKE
BIXBY KNOLLS

Redhawk, Temecula

Rolling hills, mature trees, and a golf course. Most homes are from the '90s and early 2000s.

IF YOU WANT
SINGLE-STORY, HIGH-END

Esplanade at Sommers Bend

A 55+ community by Taylor Morrison in south Temecula, with single-story plans and higher-end homes.

GOOD TO KNOW

You'll hear "French Valley" a lot. It's an area, not a city. It crosses parts of Temecula, Murrieta, and Winchester, so I always check which city and school district an address is in.

THE REAL COSTS

Beyond the Price Tag

The price is only part of it. Here's what else goes into your monthly budget.



THE BASE
PROPERTY TAX

Starts at 1% of your price

Local bonds add a little on top. Your tax is set when you buy, and the base can only go up 2% a year.

THE BIG ONE
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

Common in newer neighborhoods

They pay for roads, parks, and schools, and they show up on your tax bill. They change street by street. Some end after a set number of years.

MONTHLY
HOA DUES

Most master plans have one

Dues cover pools, parks, and shared spaces. Many older areas and acreage homes have no HOA at all.

SEASONAL
SUMMER POWER

Plan for AC in July and August

It's warmer than the coast. Solar is common here, so ask if a home's solar is owned or leased.

BEFORE YOU OFFER
HOME INSURANCE

Check fire zones early

Homes near hills and open land can cost more to insure. We'll get a quote before you write an offer.

HOW I HANDLE IT

I pull the real tax bill, special assessments, and HOA dues for every home we look at. That way the number in your budget is the real number.

SCHOOLS AND EVERYDAY LIFE

The Day-to-Day

Which school district a home is in depends on the exact address. Here's the lay of the land.



SCHOOL DISTRICT
TEMECULA

Temecula Valley Unified

Covers Temecula and parts of French Valley.

SCHOOL DISTRICT
MURRIETA

Murrieta Valley Unified

Covers most of Murrieta.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS
MENIFEE

Menifee Union and Perris Union High

Menifee Union runs K to 8. Perris Union runs the high schools.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS
WILDOMAR AND WINCHESTER

Lake Elsinore Unified and Hemet Unified

Wildomar is mostly Lake Elsinore Unified. Much of Winchester is Hemet Unified.

CLOSE TO HOME
HOSPITALS

Three nearby

Temecula Valley Hospital, Loma Linda University Medical Center Murrieta, and Rancho Springs Medical Center.

CLOSE TO HOME
SHOPPING AND DINING

The Promenade and Old Town

The Promenade has the big stores. Old Town has local restaurants and shops.

CHECK IT YOURSELF

See test scores and more for any school at the California School Dashboard. Then confirm the address with the district before you buy.

WINE COUNTRY AND WEEKENDS

Your New Weekends

This is the part people fall for. Here's what's close by.



EAST OF OLD TOWN
WINE COUNTRY

More than 40 wineries

Tasting rooms, vineyard views, and restaurants along Rancho California Road.

WALKABLE
OLD TOWN TEMECULA

Shops, restaurants, and a farmers market

The farmers market runs Saturday mornings.

OUTDOORS
TRAILS AND LAKES

Santa Rosa Plateau and Lake Skinner

Oak-lined hiking trails, plus camping and fishing at the lake.

NIGHTS OUT
PECHANGA RESORT

Concerts, dining, and golf

Big-name shows, restaurants, and a golf course in south Temecula.

WHAT MY SOUTH BAY CLIENTS TELL ME

WHAT YOU'LL MISS

- The Strand. Walking, biking, or skating right along the ocean. Nothing here replaces it.
- Walking to dinner by the water.
- Sunsets over the ocean. Now it's sunsets over the vines.

WHAT YOU WON'T

- The 405.
- Tiny closets.
- 45 minutes to go 8 miles.

Winery count: Visit Temecula Valley. Confirm event dates before you go.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Brand New, Done Right

From Temecula to Menifee, there are new homes going up in almost every city. Here's where to start looking.



BUILDING NOW
TEMECULA

Elderberry Park, Sommers Bend, Prado, Altair

Taylor Morrison, Richmond American, Meritage, and Brookfield, from south Temecula up to Roripaugh Ranch.

BUILDING NOW
MURRIETA

Rustic Meadows and Gierson Ranch

Both by Century Communities, with single-story and two-story plans.

BUILDING NOW
WINCHESTER

Creekstone, Stone Creek, Canterwood

KB Home, Meritage, Taylor Morrison, and D.R. Horton are all building here.

BUILDING NOW
MENIFEE

Banner Park, Cimarron Ridge, Legado

Pulte and Lennar, with lots of single-story plans.

READ THE FINE PRINT
BUILDER INCENTIVES

Often tied to their lender

Builders may offer closing-cost help or a rate buydown if you use their lender. Compare it with what I can do before you choose.

ASK FOR THE LIST
WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

Landscaping, window coverings, appliances

These are often extra. Special assessments are common too, so get the yearly amount up front.

BEFORE YOUR FIRST VISIT

Bring your agent to the very first visit, or call me first. Many builders need your agent registered on day one, or they won't work with one later.

Communities sell out and new ones open all the time. See this month's move-in ready list and builder offers.

ONE PERSON, HOME AND LOAN

How I'll Help You Move

I handle both the home and the loan. One plan, one person, no handoffs.



01

Let's talk budget and commute

A quick call about where you work, what you want, and what feels comfortable each month.

02

Get pre-approved

VA, conventional, or FHA. VA loans can mean no down payment if you qualify. I'll walk you through each one in plain words.

03

One tour day

I line up homes around your commute, so you see real drive times and real streets.

04

An offer and a loan that work together

Since I do both, I can shape them as one. A rate buydown or lender credits can lower your costs. I'll show you the real numbers for your home.

05

Close and move in

Same person from your first call to your keys.

SELLING IN THE SOUTH BAY TOO?

Have a home to sell there? You've got three common ways to do it: sell first and rent back for a few weeks, make an offer here that depends on your sale, or use your home equity to buy first. I'll help you pick the one that fits, and I can help with the sale too.

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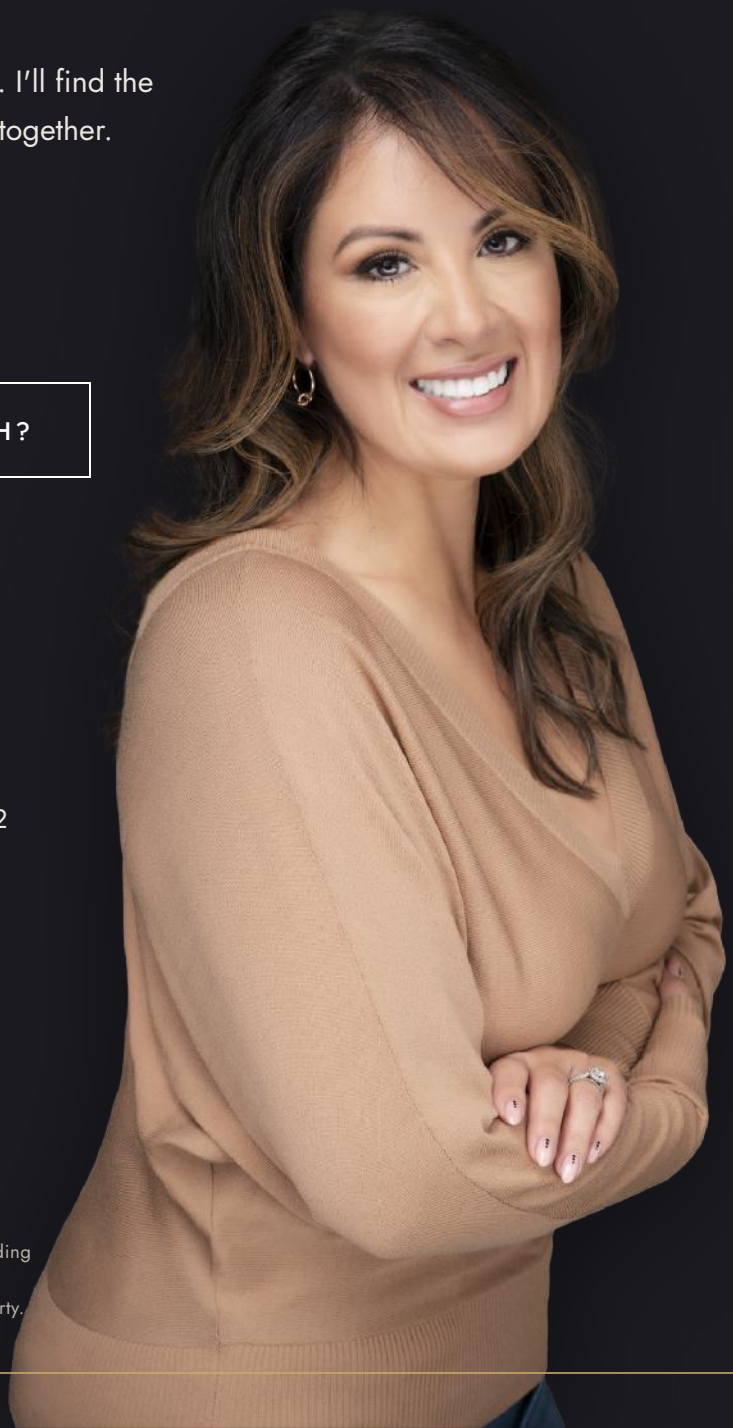
YOUR NEXT STEP

Ready to see it in person?

You don't need a team of strangers for this move. I'll find the home, set up the loan, and make sure they work together. Let's start with a quick call.

BOOK A CALL WITH FELICIA

WHAT'S MY SOUTH BAY HOME WORTH?



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