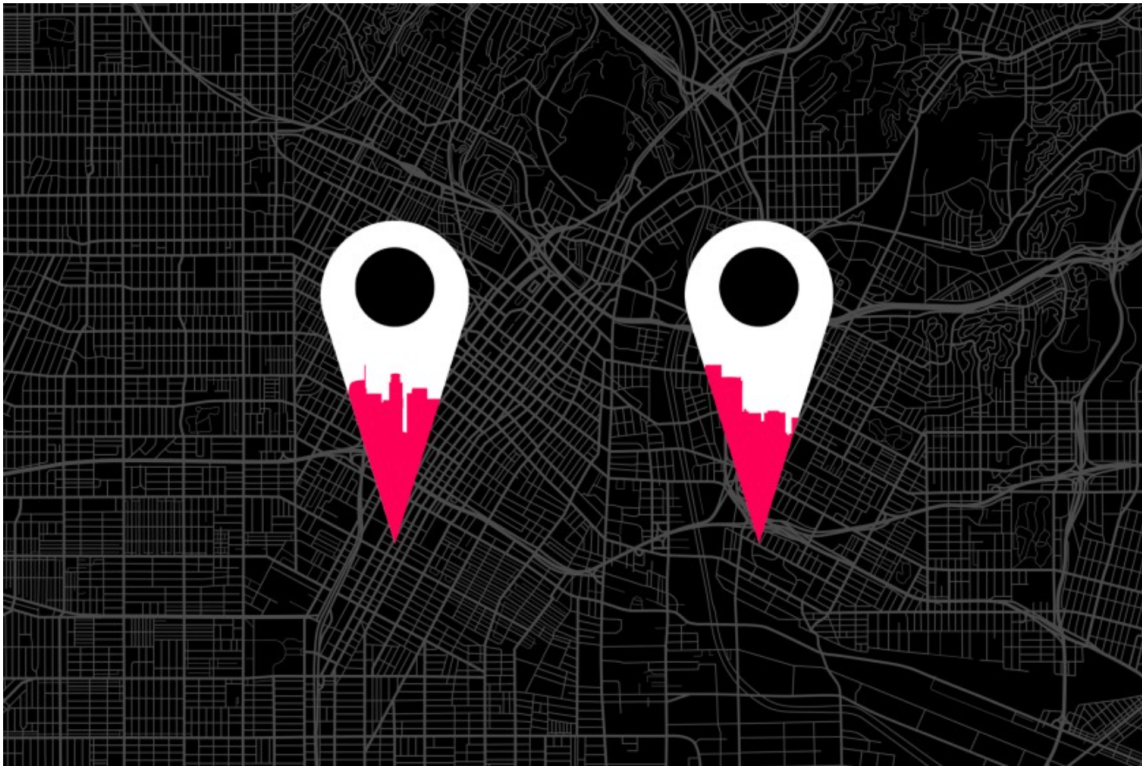


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LIFESTYLE

Halloween is near! Add these 14 L.A. activities to your spooky season checklist



(Illustration by Ross May / Los Angeles Times; Getty Images)

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Masks? Check. Gallows humor? Check. Reminders of mortality? Check, check, check.

This year Halloween and Día de Los Muertos carry a different sort of resonance after 18 months of the pandemic, with Southern California full of holiday events, many of which were canceled or virtual last year.

Here's a sampling of seasonal shows and displays as well as a roundup of activities at a trio of theme parks. (Note that L.A. County mandates masks — covering your nose and mouth — in indoor public settings for visitors 2 or older, and businesses may choose to require masks indoors as well.)

Witchy Architecture Tours

A team of architectural preservationists has come up with a free, family-friendly driving tour of L.A. “witches’ houses,” including castles, cottages and other structures fit for a fairytale or ghost story. The list will be posted as a free download Oct. 13 by Friends of Residential Treasures: LA (FORT: LA), and this year’s itinerary covers five structures chosen by actor Amber Benson (who co-starred in the series “Buffy the Vampire Slayer”) including buildings in Hollywood, Los Feliz and West Hollywood. The group has also recorded actors reading bits of “Grimms’ Fairy Tale” passages, so you can listen while you drive. fortla.org



A look at Normandie Towers in West Hollywood. The apartments have been featured in the Witchy Architecture Tours. (Michael Locke)