

CASA DE BANDINI

Social Center of Old California Restored to Former Brilliance

In all California there is no more romantic building than the Casa de Bandini, located in Old Town San Diego. Here, where once the dashing Dons and lovely señoritas recreated the social grace of aristocratic Castille, in this one time province of Spain, has endured for nearly a century and a quarter the tradition of a great family.

Out of the pages of the past unto the stage of the present comes a restored and brilliant Casa de Bandini. In this transition from yesterday to today, nothing of its former charm or beauty has been lost.

Much of California's history has centered in this truly magnificent specimen of real California architecture. Built in 1815 and blessed after the fashion of those days in 1829, it was the home of Don Juan Bandini, noted caballero. Today it is still owned by the Bandini family, in the person of Cave Cout's grandson of Don Juan.



The Spirit of Fiesta will reign once again at Casa de Bandini. Especially posed by Senor Rables and Maria de Heso, the later a talented dancer from the Foreign Club.

In this house, Pio Pico, Governor of California, had quarters. Here, too, General Stockton, maintained headquarters in 1846; and it was here that he received General Kearney's message delivered after terrific hardships by Lt. Edward Beale and Kit Carson, asking for aid. In the 1860's the building was known as the Cosmopolitan Hotel and was then used as a stage station.

On May 25, a few days prior to the opening of the California Pacific International Exposition, the Casa de Bandini once again



A group from Neighborhood House in a charming presentation of Caballero days, in the patio of the Casa de Bandini, dancing the "La Jota."

will assume its traditional place as the center of California's social gaiety.

Completely restored, furnished in authentic style with antiques and harmonizing furnishings that would make the original owner feel at home were he to return, today's Casa de Bandini is an example of what understanding creative genius can accomplish.

Modern comforts have been installed in a manner which detracts in nowise from the beauty of this time-mellowed building.

Members of San Diego's Mexican colony in native garb will vend their wares in the patio court. There will be a candle dipper, a cactus candy maker, a basket seller with his burro, a leather tooler, a maker of tulle bottom chairs, a professional puppet maker with his fascinating show, and a potter with native pottery.

Also in the patio court will be brilliant awnings sheltered by gaily-colored tables. From the galleria will hang exotic plants and bright vari-colored serapes.

Accommodations will be available for approximately 25 guests. Charming, single, two and three room apartments splendidly furnished with modern plumbing, will make Casa de Bandini the semi-permanent residence of many discriminating and fastidious people. Delightful will be the customs of this house, the customs of the old adapted to the needs of today. So charming are these that to tell them would spoil the delight they will bring.

The cuisine will be under the direction of one of the Pacific Coast's most outstanding chefs. Dining facilities will be ideal whether for luncheon, tea or dinner.

Strolling musicians, a wishing well, a field of riotously colored flowers, weekly fiestas, bridge, parties, and dancing, are but a part of the many features of Casa de Bandini. . . .

Cave Coutts, grandson of Don Juan Bandini, still owns Casa de Bandini, and the customs of the family will be preserved in that he, when at the Casa de Bandini, will occupy his special chair, the chair of the head of the house.

The direction of the Casa de Bandini is in the capable and intelligent hands of Margaret Adams Faulconer. To her must go the credit for this project, a project that makes Casa de Bandini unequalled in California.



A dancer and a musician who will be permanent entertainment features at the newly restored Casa de Bandini.

The Opening Fiesta, on May 25, will unveil the newly recreated Casa de Bandini to a group of especially invited guests,

representative of the discriminating and socially elect who will assume that this historic house will become a social center of today as it was in the days of the Caballeros.

Full information regarding Casa de Bandini may be obtained by writing Margaret Adams Faulconer, Casa de Bandini, 2660 Calhoun Street, San Diego California.

Because of Casa de Bandini's limited accommodations and because of the intense interest in its opening it is imperative that all reservations be made in advance.

Groups who plan to visit this delightful place will be welcomed but for them as well it will be wise to telephone in order to assure that they will be greeted and cared for in the manner which Casa de Bandini means to serve all guests – with the traditional hospitality of the Bandini family.