

Fifteen Romantic Getaways

By Elaine Glusac

S Mainland Mediterranean

Via adobe walls, red-tiled roofs, and cascading flowers, California's colonizing Spaniards aimed to emulate the Mediterranean in seaside Santa Barbara (as did those who rebuilt it post-earthquake in 1925). Witness town history at Mission Santa Barbara established in 1786, then head downtown to the Moorish courthouse, El Paseo shopping arcade, and the original Presidio fort. Neighboring Presidio park, the new Inn of the Spanish Garden evokes a historic family compound with vaulted ceilings,



arched doorways, and antique furnishings. But new construction ensures comfort, providing a fireplace and private balcony or patio for every room. 915 Garden Street, Santa Barbara, California 93101; from \$225; (805) 564-4700, www.spanishgardeninn.com

