

# TIMELINE OF SAN DIEGO COMIC-CON EVENTS



## Returning Registration

**October the year before**

Securing a badge is the first step to attending SDCC (obviously), and this typically happens in October the year before. This badge sale is only open to those who attended the year before as a general paid attendee.



## Open Registration

**November - December the year before**

Open Registration is the badge sale open to anyone with a Member ID — and it typically happens in the last two months of the year before.



## Early Bird Hotels

**November to March**

The Early Bird hotel sale is where you can book a non-downtown hotel, at a non-refundable rate. This sale has the widest discrepancy of when it happens — but likely because it's not urgent. We've never seen Early Bird Hotels sell out entirely. It will close before or when the General Hotel Sale opens.



## Downtown Hotel Sale

**April**

The Downtown Hotel Sale (or Hotelpocalypse) tends to occur in April, though it's happened in late March as well. Finding out your actual hotel placement may carry into May.



## Parking

**April to May**

Like most things at Comic-Con, parking is also a lottery. It opens with a lottery submission in April to May, and then you are placed in a group. When the groups start (typically in May), a new group is let through to purchase each week, until finally the sale opens to all (often in May or June).



## Exhibitor List

**June to early July**

The exhibitor list and floor map is your chance to really start planning your priorities on the show floor. Individual exclusive announcements can be much earlier or much later.



## Badges Ship

**Mid June**

Badges begin shipping in roughly mid June for eligible attendees (US addresses, verified by the deadline, etc). Typically, general attendee badges ship first, with other badge types (Press, Pro) coming a bit later. They also ship in batches, so if you don't get yours when everyone else does... Have patience.



## Complete Panel Schedule

**Two weeks before convention**

While individual panel announcements can start much earlier, the complete panel schedule is exactly two weeks before the con. Wednesday/Thursday's schedules are announced two weeks before on Thursday, Friday is announced two weeks before on Friday, etc.



## Exclusives Portal

**Late June to July**

You can try your luck at winning timeslots for the major exclusives players (like Funko, Mondo, UCC Distributing, etc.), as well as select autographs, in Comic-Con International's Exclusives Portal. This is essentially a lottery, and it's among the last things to happen leading up to the con. Also note that not all exclusives or autographs are included in the portal, and individual booths have their own rules/procedures.



## The Convention

**Late July**

Congratulations! You've made it to the big show. Now put all that planning and preparation you did to work for the best week ever.

