

# Hotel California

Words and Music by DON FELDER, DON HENLEY and GLENN FREY

♩ = 74  
Ballad

Acoustic 12-string

Capo at 7th fret

Bm F#7 Asus2 E9

Let ring throughout

Number 7 in Tab = capoed open string

G D Em F#7

H

Bm F#7 Asus2 E9

(Acoustic 12-String)

(Acoustic 6-String)

Let ring

P

(Electric 6-String)

Volume fade in

13

**G** **D** **Em** **F#7add9**

**H**

Let ring--

Volume fade in and out

17

**Bm** **F#7** **Asus2**

On a dark desert highway, cool wind in my hair, warm smell of colitas

(Acoustic 12-String)

Let ring throughout

(Electric 6-String)

Heavy PM throughout

(Electric 6-String)

Light PM throughout



Verse 2:

**Bm** **F#7** **Asus2**

25

There she stood in the door - way, I heard the mis - sion bell — An' I was think - in' to my - self — this could be

*Acoustic rhythm*

*Twin electric lead*

Chord diagrams for acoustic guitar:

|         |         |         |         |          |          |             |             |             |             |       |       |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|-------|
| 7 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 7 | 9 9 9    | 9 9 9    | 9 9 9 9     | 9 9 9 9     | 10 10 10 10 | 10 10 10 10 | 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 |
| 7 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 7  | 11 11 11 | 11 11 11    | 11 11 11 11 | 9 9 9 9     | 9 9 9 9     | 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 |
| 9 9 9 9 | 9 9 9 9 | 9 9 9 9 | 9 9 9 9 | 11 11 11 | 11 11 11 | 11 11 11 11 | 9 9 9 9     | 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     |       |       |
| 9 9 9 9 | 9 9 9 9 | 9 9 9 9 | 9 9 9 9 | 9 9 9 9  | 9 9 9 9  | 9 9 9 9     |             |             |             | (7)   | (7)   |
| 7 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 7  |          |             |             |             |             |       |       |

Chord diagrams for twin electric guitar:

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 8 | 8 | 8 |
| 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 4 | 3 | 2 |

**E9** **G** **D**

28

heav - en or this could be hell — Then she lit up a can - die — an' she showed me the way —

*Acoustic rhythm*

*Twin electric lead*

Chord diagrams for acoustic guitar:

|             |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     | 10 10 10 10 | 10 10 10 10 | 10 10 10 10 | 10 10 10 10 |
| 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     | 7 7 7 7     |
| 9 9 9 9     | 9 9 9 9     | 9 9 9 9     | 9 9 9 9     | 9 9 9 9     | 9 9 9 9     | 9 9 9 9     | 9 9 9 9     | 9 9 9 9     | 9 9 9 9     |
| 11 11 11 11 | 11 11 11 11 | 11 11 11 11 | 11 11 11 11 | 10 10 10 10 | 10 10 10 10 | 10 10 10 10 | 10 10 10 10 | 10 10 10 10 | 10 10 10 10 |

Chord diagrams for twin electric guitar:

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 |



35

F#7

Bm

lov - ly place— (such a love - ly place—) such a love - ly face—

37

G

D

Plen - ty of room— at the Ho - tel Cal - i - for - nia. An - y

39

**Em** **F#7**

time— of year— (an - y time— of year—) you can find— it here—

Rhythm guitar continues sim.

Verse 3:

41

**Bm** **F#7**

Her mind is tif - fa - ny twist - ed. She got the Mer - ce des— bends— (Uh)

43 **Asus2** **E9** **G**

She got a lot of pret-ty, pret-ty boys-- that she calls friends----- How they dance in the court-yard--

**H**

46 **D** **Em7** **F#7**

sweet sum-mer sweat. Some dance to re-mem-ber-- some dance to for-get--



Verse 4:

49 **Bm** **F#7**

So I called up the cap - tain, "Please bring me my wine..." He said that,

Chord diagrams for guitar: **Bm** (x220232), **F#7** (x220232).

Fretboard diagrams for bass and guitar are provided for measures 49 and 50.

51 **Asus2** **E9**

"We have - n't had that spir - it here since nine - teen six - ty nine..."

Chord diagrams for guitar: **Asus2** (x220232), **E9** (022020).

Fretboard diagrams for bass and guitar are provided for measures 51 and 52.

53

**G** **D**

An'— still those voice - es are call - ing from far — a - way —

7 8 9 10 7 8 9 10 7 8 9 10 7 8 9 10 7 8 9 10

4 5 2 4 4 5

*P* *P* *P* *P*

15 14 15 16 15 16 10 9 10 11

55

**Em** **F#7**

Wake you up in the mid - dle of the night —, just to hear them — say —

8 9 10 11 8 9 10 11 8 9 10 11 8 9 10 11 8 9 10 11 8 9 10 11 8 9 10 11 8 9 10 11 8 9 10 11 8 9 10 11 8 9 10 11

5 7 3 4 3 4 1 1 2 4

*P* *P* *P* *P*

12 12 10 12 14 12 12 14 15

57 **G** **D**

"Wel - come — to the Ho - tel Cal - i - for - nia." such a

Heavy PM throughout

59 **F#7** **Bm** **A/C#** **Bm** **A/E**

love - ly place— (such a love - ly place—) such a love - ly face— They're

61 **G** **D**

liv - in' it up at the Ho - tel Cal - i - for - nia. What a

The first system contains two staves of guitar chords. The second system contains two staves of guitar chords with fingerings (7, 8, 9, 10) and a double bar line. The third system contains two staves of guitar chords with fingerings and a double bar line. The fourth system contains two staves of guitar chords with fingerings and a double bar line.

63 **Em** **F#7**

nice sur - prise. (What a nice sur - prise). Bring your al - i - bis.

The first system contains two staves of guitar chords. The second system contains two staves of guitar chords with fingerings (8, 9, 7, 8) and a double bar line. The third system contains two staves of guitar chords with fingerings and a double bar line.

**Verse 5:**  
65 **Bm** **F#7** 3

Mir - rors on the ceil - ling, the pink cham - pagne on ice. An' she said,

(Acoustic 12-String) (All other Guitars tacet)

Let ring throughout

The first system contains two staves of guitar chords with fingerings (7, 9) and a double bar line. The second system contains two staves of guitar chords with fingerings (7, 9, 8, 9, 7, 9, 7, 9, 9, 7, 9, 7) and a double bar line.

67 **A sus2** **E9**

"We are all just pris - on - ers here— of our own— de - vice."

7 9 10 9 9 10 7 9 7 9 7 | 11 9 7 7 7 7

69 **G** **D**

An' in the mas - ters cham - bers— they gath - ered for the feast.

10 9 7 9 10 7 7 10 7 9 7 8 | 9 7 7 10 7 9 7 10

71 **Em7** **F#7**

They stab it with their steel - y knives— but they just can't— kill the beast—

7 9 7 8 7 9 7 | 9 8 9 8 9 7 9 9

Verse 6:

73

Bm

F#7

Last thing I re - mem - ber — I was run - ning — for the door — .

75

Aus2

E9

I had to find the pas - sage back — to the place I was — be - fore — .

(Acoustic 12-String)

(Electric 6-String)

77 G D

"Re - lax", said the night - man, "We are pro - grammed to re - ceive"

Chord chart (guitar):

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  | 7  |
| 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  | 9  |
| 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |

Bass line:

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 16 | 15 | 14 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 14 | 14 |
| 17 | 16 | 15 | 16 |    |    | 16 | 15 | 14 |    |    |

79 Em F#7

You can check out an - y time you like but you can nev - er leave

Chord chart (guitar):

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |

Bass line:

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 12 | 12 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 12 | 12 |
| 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 12 |    | 10 | 11 | 12 |    |    |

Soloist 1 (Joe Walsh)

**Guitar Solos:**

(Electric 6-String)

81

**Bm** **F#7** **A**

div.

(1/2) sl H H P H P rake H 1/2 Full P P

(1/2) sl H H P H P rake H 1/2 Full P P

10 12 11 9 7 9 7 7 8 9 12 9 7 (7) x x 7 9 7 9 8 9 7 9 7 7 9 7 9 7

84

**E** **G**

Full Hold Bend P 1/2 Full Hold Bend Full P Full Full

Full Hold Bend P 1/2 Full Hold Bend Full P Full Full

10 10 10 10 7 10 8 7 7 10 10 10 x x 10 10 7 10 10 10 8 10 0

86

**D** **Em** **F#7**

Full 1/2 Full P H 1/2 1/2 P H 1/2 1/2 Full Full Full

Full 1/2 Full P H 1/2 1/2 P H 1/2 1/2 Full Full Full Full

10 9 9 9 7 7 7 6 7 x x 7 9 x 7 9 7 9 7 7 7 9 7 10 9 7 7 9 9 7 9





97

**Bm** **F#7** **A** **E9**

(Electric 6-String)

div.

Soloist 1 (Joe Walsh)

Soloist 2 (Don Felder)

8va

Full rake 1/2 1/2 grad. 1/2 P sl Full

Full rake 1/2 1/2 grad. 1/2 P sl Full

101

**G** **D** **Em** **F#7**

Full P sl Full

Full P sl Full



