

San Francisco

California, U.S.A.



THE CITY BY THE BAY

At first light the iconic red pillars of the [Golden Gate Bridge](#) peek out above the fog which gradually slips away to reveal a cloudless, blue sky. A new day to explore San Francisco. The shores of its stunning bay, breathtaking bridges & endless steep hills fringed with soft, pastel buildings along which runs its world famous cable cars. Visit the waterfront, the piers, museums and restaurants.

Walk along the shoreline in [The Marina](#) towards the Golden Gate Bridge, to join the joggers at [Crissy Fields](#) ending below the bridge's spectacular arches at [Fort Point](#). Climb the hill above and take an unforgettable walk across this incredible bridge. Afterwards drive up the [Marin Headlands](#) to gaze back in wonder at the city. The delightful beach towns of [Sausalito](#) and [Tiburon](#) are a short drive away and [Muir Woods](#) for an unforgettable meander through the Californian Redwoods.

Back in the city explore its world class museums including those in in [Golden Gate Park](#); [The California Academy of Science](#), [The De Young Museum](#) and [Japanese Tea Garden](#). Look out for the buffalos in the park and then head to the [Presidio](#), [The Walt Disney Family Museum](#), & on to the [The Legion of Honor](#).

Climb the steps of [Coit Tower](#) and if you yearn for good Italian food, nearby [North Beach](#) is just one of San Francisco world class restaurant districts.

Jump on a cable car & discover how they operate with a stop at the [Cable Car Museum](#) continuing on to [The Yerba Buena District](#), a vibrant cultural area.

Don't leave without winding your way down [Lombard Street](#), the world's wiggliest street! Meander the shops and restaurants by [Union Square](#), along [Union Street](#), or by the [Civic Center](#) home to the Symphony and Opera houses.

Take a ferry to [Alcatraz](#), San Francisco's infamous island prison or rent a bike to explore neighboring [Angel Island](#).

Rent a [GOCAR](#), a GPS story telling car and depending when you're there, catch a baseball game at [AT&T Park](#). Lots to do in this wondrous Californian city!

HOW TO GET THERE

San Francisco airport is 20km south of the city. SFO airport buses run every 15 minutes to the downtown

WHEN TO GO:

Famous for its fog, which normally clears by midday, this is a year round destination, September and October are often the warmest months.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

The San Francisco Visitors Center



WHAT TO DO IN SAN FRANCISCO

Ferry Building opposite the end of Market Street you'll find gourmet food stores packed with local artisanal temptations and on Saturdays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, a fabulous regional farmers market.

The Marina explore this vibrant area including the:

- **Palace of Fine Arts** a monumental structure, built in 1915 for the Panama-Pacific Exposition.
- **Crissy Fields** meander along the shores of the Bay by this former military air field. Stop for a drink at the Warming Hut before you walk further to **Fort Point** where you shouldn't miss the short film about the construction of the bridge, towering above you **Golden Gate Bridge** whether you walk or drive across it or simply stand and gaze in wonder; it is an unforgettable site.

Golden Gate Park The city's beautiful central park, home to its buffalos & world class museums:

- **The California Academy of Science** San Francisco's incredible science museum, don't miss the white alligator!
- **The De Young Museum** home to a stunning collection of fine art and host to an ever changing collection of world class exhibitions.
- **Japanese Tea Garden** originally built as part of the 1894 World Fair, come and admire the Japanese architecture and seasonal blooms, the sakura trees, ginkgo leaves and azaleas blossoms.

Presidio San Francisco's former military center now also home to:

- **The Walt Disney Family Museum** learn about incredible life and legacy of Walt Disney.

Other San Francisco sights

- **The Cable Car Museum** discover the cable cars fascinating history dating back to 1873.
- **The Yerba Buena District** A cultural arts center in the heart of the city.
- **Lombard Street** the world's most crooked street.
- **Union Street** shopping and culture.
- **Civic Center** beautiful civic buildings, shops, restaurants & San Francisco Opera & Symphony.
- **The Legion of Honor** ~ Housed in a stunning French neoclassical building, with art collections spanning four millennia of history. Don't miss the Holocaust Memorial opposite.
- **North Beach** San Francisco's Italian district, excellent authentic restaurants and **Coit Tower**
- **Alcatraz** This former prison was home to criminals like Al Capone & Machine Gun Kelly, Alcatraz is accessible by boat from Pier 41. Buy tickets through **Alcatraz Cruises**
- **Angel Island** take a ferry rent a bike and explore!
- **AT&T Park** to watch the famous Giants swing their baseball bats!





WHAT TO DO NEAR SAN FRANCISCO

MARIN

- **The Marin Headlands** ~From the city cross the Golden Gate bridge and take the first exit on the right, turn left, back under the freeway to access the road which will take you to the headlands. Wind up this headland road for stunning views of the bridge and city, up the headland road for stunning views of the bridge and city.
- **Sausalito** ~ shop and dine in this charming Riviera style spot just across the Bay
- **Tiburon** ~ a few miles further along the coast is this charming waterside town which basks in the view of San Francisco. Enjoy lunch by the water, **Sam's Cafe** is always a fun choice!
- **Muir Woods** ~home to California's beautiful Redwoods, come and spend the day exploring local nature along the beautiful trails.

WINE COUNTRY ~ NAPA & SONOMA VALLEYS One hour north ~ 50 miles. Sample world class vintages in perhaps America's finest wine region.

MENDOCINO Three hours north ~150 miles the picturesque town on the wild northern coast.

POINT REYES One hour north-east ~45 miles Hike the trails near the ocean & visit The Cow Girl Creamery to taste amazing artisanal cheese.

CARMEL & THE MONTEREY PENINSULAR One hour south ~ 100 miles. One of California's most spectacular spots, see the **Carmel Travel Guide**.

YOSEMITE Three hours east ~ 160 miles. One of America's most breathtaking National Parks.

ROUTE 49 GOLD COUNTRY Two hours north ~140 miles, the original Gold Rush center well worth visiting on route to Lake Tahoe.

SACRAMENTO One half hours north ~85 miles. California's historic capital.

WHERE TO STAY

THE SCARLET HUNTINGTON **Contact:** 1075 California Street San Francisco 94108 **Tel:**+1 415 474 5400 **Price:** From \$330
Comments: Located in prestigious Nob Hill, originally a 1920's apartment building, 134 unique guest rooms with first class service



THE FAIRMONT HOTEL **Contact:** 950 Mason Street San Francisco 94108 **Tel:**+1 415 772 5000 **Price:** From \$300 **Comments:** Also in prestigious Nob Hill, this is one of San Francisco's most beautiful historic hotels.

RITZ CARLTON **Contact:** 600 Stockton Street, San Francisco 94108 **Tel:** +1 415 296 7465
Price: From \$420 **Comments:** A beautiful hotel with the excellent standards you'd expect from a Ritz Carlton.

HOTEL VITALE **Contact:** 8 Mission Street, San Francisco CA 94105 **Tel:** +1 415 278 3700 **Price:** From \$300
Comments: Great location on the Embarcadero overlooking the Bay Bridge

W HOTEL **Contact:** 181 Third Street, San Francisco 94103 **Tel:** +1 415 777-5300 **Price:** From \$390
Comments: In the middle of the city's South of Market district, modern and chic!

CLIFT HOTEL **Contact:** 495 Geary Street, San Francisco, CA 94102 **Tel:** +1 415 775 4700 **Price:** From \$200 **Comments:** A modern, boutique hotel in the theatre district 375 rooms, unique interior design.

THE MARKER **Contact:** 501 Geary Street, San Francisco CA 94102 **Tel:** +1 415 292 0100 **Price:** From \$200 **Comments:** Opposite the Clift (see above), The Marker (formerly the Monaco) has 201 vibrantly decorated rooms many with canopied beds.

FOUR SEASONS SAN FRANCISCO **Contact:** 757 Market Street, San Francisco CA 94103 **Tel:** +1 415 633 3000 **Price:** From \$700
Comments: Luxurious and stylish located on Market Street opposite the Yerba Buena Center.

HOTEL DES ARTS **Contact:** 447 Bush Street, San Francisco, CA 94108 **Tel:** +1 415 956 3232 **Price:** From \$200 **Comments:** Small but stylish rooms well located on the cable-car route next to Chinatown and downtown.

HOTEL DEL SOL **Contact:** 3100 Webster Street, San Francisco CA 94123 **Tel:** +1 415 921 5520 **Price:** From \$180 a night **Comments:** In the Marina District, a converted 1950s motor lodge with 57 rooms including 10 themed suites such as The Love Shack & The Dream Factory!

HOTEL DIVA **Contact:** 440 Geary Street, San Francisco, CA 94102 **Tel:** +1 415 885 0200 **Price:** From \$160 a night **Comments:** Located opposite very near to Union Square this glitzy but stylish hotel has 116 rooms, good value!

CAVALLO POINT **Contact:** 601 Murray Circle, Fort Baker, Sausalito CA 94965 **Tel:** +1 415 339 4700 **Price:** From \$350 **Comments:** At Fort Baker across the Golden Gate Bridge. 68 rooms with fireplaces in the original buildings and 72 contemporary hillside rooms; spa and **restaurant**.

HOTEL KABUKI **Contact:** 1625 Post Street, San Francisco, CA 94115 **Tel:** +1 415 922 3200 **Price:** From \$250 **Comments:** Comfortable Japanese style rooms The Izakaya Lounge Restaurant serves a Japanese breakfast bento and hosts a karaoke night every Thursday.

HOTEL MAJESTIC **Contact:** 1500 Sutter Street, San Francisco CA 94109 **Tel:** +1 415 441 1100 **Price:** From \$130 per night **Comments:** A meticulously restored 1920's mansion with 58 rooms decorated in period style hotel. **Café Majestic**, opened in 2007 & is highly acclaimed.

HOTEL REX **Contact:** 562 Sutter Street San Francisco CA 94102 **Tel:** +1 415 433 4434 **Price:** From \$220 per night **Comments:** By Union Square, this 94 room hotel has a cool 1920s and 1930s literary artistic theme.

PHOENIX HOTEL **Contact:** 601 Eddy Street, San Francisco CA 94109 **Tel:** +1 415 776 1380 **Price:** From \$180 **Comments:** A former 1950s caravan lodge, now transformed into a trendy urban oasis.

ST REGIS SAN FRANCISCO **Contact:** 125 3rd Street, San Francisco CA 94103 **Tel:** +1 415 284 4000 **Price:** From \$500 **Comments:** In a 40-floor tower across from the Yerba Buena Center, the rooms are spacious & luxurious. Spa Remède spa & a 50ft pool in the fitness centre.

THE PALACE HOTEL **Contact:** 2 New Montgomery Street, Financial District, San Francisco, CA 94105 **Tel:** +1 415 512 1111 **Price:** From \$500 per night **Comments:** Old style elegance with and excellent service in this grand historic hotel on Market Street by the Financial District

WHERE TO EAT San Francisco has become a gourmet destination and I couldn't even begin to do justice to all the choices available but here are some of our favorites are:

SUTROS at THE CLIFF HOUSE ~ Contact: 1090 Point Lobos Ave, San Francisco, CA 94121
Tel: +1 415 386-3330 **Price:** Appetizers from \$12, Mains from \$23 **Comments:** Enjoy dramatic ocean views by the historic Sutra baths. Close to Golden Gate Park & cliff top walks



LA MAR ~ **Contact:** Pier 1.5 Embarcadero, San Francisco, CA 94111 **Tel:** +1 415 397 8880
Price: Appetizers from \$14.00 Mains from \$24.00 **Comments:** Peruvian tapas, fresh & delicious 'where life the sea and Peruvian culture are celebrated' reservations recommended!

EPIC ~ **Contact:** 369 The Embarcadero, San Francisco, CA 94105 **Tel:** +1 415-369-9955 **Price:** Appetizers from \$14.00 mains from \$36.00
Comments: Nestled under the Bay Bridge with fabulous views of the Bay & delicious food too!



THE WATERBAR ~ **Contact:** 399 The Embarcadero San Francisco, CA 94105 **Tel:** +1 415 284 9922
Price: Appetizers from \$12 Mains \$37 **Comments:** Next to Epic, especially wonderful sea food.

STATE BIRD PROVISIONS ~ **Contact:** 1529 Fillmore St, San Francisco, CA 94115 **Tel:** +1 415 795 1272
Price: From \$5.00 - \$30.00 **Comments:** An Urban-rustic storefront setting of American small plates served dim-sum style.

GARY DANKOS ~ **Contact:** 800 North Point St, San Francisco, CA 94109 **Tel:** +1 415 749 2060 **Price:** 3 Courses \$87, 4 Courses \$106
5 Courses \$124 **Comments:** Amazing food well worth the splurge, reservations essential.

FOREIGN CINEMA ~ **Contact:** 2534 Mission St, San Francisco, CA 94110 **Tel:** +1 415 648 7600 **Price:** Appetizers from \$7 Mains \$21
Comments: Sit outside & watch various film screenings whilst enjoying eat Californian-Mediterranean fare, popular for brunch

ACQUERELLO ~ **Contact:** 1722 Sacramento St, San Francisco, CA 94109 **Tel:** +1 415 567 5432 **Price:** 3 courses \$95, 4 courses \$120,
5 courses \$140 **Comments:** Fine Italian cuisine served in a converted chapel with vaulted, wood-beam ceilings.

MICHAEL MINA ~ **Contact:** 252 California St, San Francisco, CA 94111 **Tel:** +1 415 397 9222 **Price:** Seasonal 5 course dinner \$135.00
Comments: Celebratory chef's flagship restaurant for elegant American dining.

OZUMO ~ **Contact:** 161 Steuart St San Francisco, CA 94105 **Tel:** +1 415 882 1333 **Price:** From \$15.00 **Comments:** Creative sushi, robata
grilled items & an extensive sake menu in a cool contemporary space.

COTOGNA ~ **Contact:** 490 Pacific Ave, San Francisco, CA 94133 **Tel:** +1 415 775 8508 **Price:** Appetizers from \$15, Mains from \$19
Comments: Rustic-modern Italian dining serving wood-fired pizzas, house-made pasta

KOKARLESTIATORIO ~ **Contact:** 200 Jackson St, San Francisco, CA 94111 **Tel:** +1 415 981-0983 **Price:** Appetizers from \$12 Mains from
\$25 **Comments:** Delicious Greek food in a fabulous upscale rustic setting, reservations essential.

ZUNI CAFÉ ~ **Contact:** 1658 Market Street, San Francisco CA 94102 **Tel:** +1 415 552 2522 **Price:** Appetizers from \$10, Mains from \$30
Comments: Inspired by family style european restaurants, Zuni Cafe is known for its incredible roast
chicken from the wood-burning oven, delicious!

THE SLANTED DOOR ~ **Contact:** 1 Ferry Building, San Francisco CA 94111 **Tel:** +1 415 861
8032 **Price:** Appetizers from \$14, Mains from \$35 **Comments:** Classic Vietnamese food 'family
style', in the Ferry Building, enjoy the stunning as the view - across the bay by the Bay Bridge.

QUINCE ~ **Contact:** 1701 Octavia Street, San Francisco CA **Tel:** +1 415 775 8500 **Price:** Set price
from \$180 **Comments:** Set in an old apothecary, Quince serves excellent Italian inspired cuisine



RANGE ~ **Contact:** 842 Valencia Street, San Francisco CA 94111 **Tel:** 1 415 282 8283 **Price:** Appetizers from \$14, Mains from \$27
Comments: Like many city restaurants, a long, space by an open kitchen separates a busy front bar from a rear dining room, great food!