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March

Where San Francisco



Sunset over Alcatraz Island
in the San Francisco Bay

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San Francisco is surrounded by water on three sides, and that water is dotted with fascinating isles worth exploring.

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COVER PROMOTION

Harris' Restaurant at 2100 Van Ness Ave. is classic steakhouse dining. ©Daniel Morris

COURTESY SF TRAVEL

CFA CHRISTOPHER-CLARK FINE ART



Sam Francis



Mr. Brainwash



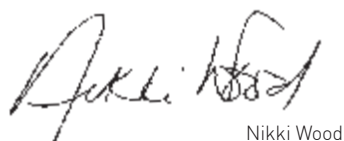
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ONE OF MY FAVORITE things to do is walk down to the Embarcadero and absorb the sights of the bay, especially at night, when a permanent art installation lights up the Bay Bridge. One of my favorite spots in the area is One Market. Just opposite the Ferry Building, this restaurant just celebrated its silver anniversary. When you visit, more often than not, general manager and partner Larry Bouchard will greet you at the entrance with a warm smile. Serving award-winning farm-to-table cuisine (the grilled octopus and the bacon-wrapped pork tenderloin are two of my favorites!), it's a sophisticated restaurant with a comfortable and friendly vibe. If it's a libation that you're seeking, pop into the bar for a glass of something from the impressive wine list and listen to some live jazz.


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Publisher, Where San Francisco

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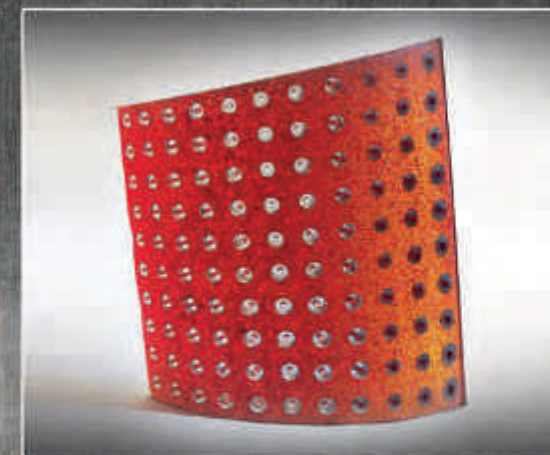
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EDITOR'S NOTE

March 2018

This month's issue includes a guide to the Sonoma Coast, a destination that I was lucky enough to visit for the third time earlier this year. My first visit was a day trip to Bodega Bay. I took in the view from Bodega Head—getting giddy whenever I spotted a whale spouting or a sea lion sunbathing—and ate an order of excellent fish tacos on the Fishetarian Fish Market's patio. Top memories from my second visit, for a bachelor-ette weekend, include an early morning walk on North Salmon Creek Beach and an epic sunset drive up Highway 1 for dinner at Coast Kitchen. On this latest trip, I had the chance to stay overnight at Timber Cove Resort, where I took in another Pacific sunset from the balcony of my room while sipping a glass of Fort Ross pinot noir. I started off the next morning with a windy hike along cliff tops that plunged into the ocean. If it's the California dream you're in search of, I'd say this is a good place to start.



Rachel Ward
Editor, San Francisco
@wanderingrachel



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MARCH 2018

WHERE NOW

An **explorer's guide** to what's trending in the city

Surrounded by a garden, the Dutch windmill stands next to Beach Chalet and across from Ocean Beach.

SAN FRANCISCO

TOP 5

Ways to Connect

1

NATURE

Admire the spring tulip bloom at the Dutch windmill in Golden Gate Park.

2

CULTURE

Visit the Chinese Culture Center on the third floor of the Hilton Hotel on Kearny Street.

3

MUSIC

See a performance at SFJazz Center, a venue with the acoustic qualities of a great concert hall and the relaxed intimacy of a jazz club.

4

VIEW

Admire the Diego Rivera murals and rooftop vista at the Spanish colonial San Francisco Art Institute campus.

5

WELLNESS

Flight delayed? Practice your downward dog at SFO's Yoga Room.



WHERE NOW

CALENDAR

March at a Glance

March 13-18

Bouquets to Art

This annual spring exhibit returns for its 34th year, featuring a variety of elegant and elaborate floral arrangements inspired by the museum's paintings, sculptures and architecture. Bay Area and international floral designers are featured in the exhibit, and a variety of events throughout the week include renowned guest speakers, floral demonstrations, an opening gala and luncheons. 50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Dr., 415.750.3600

March 17

St. Patrick's Day Festival



Don your best green outfit for the largest St. Patrick's Day event west of the Mississippi. The parade begins at 11:30 am, and the ensuing festival in Civic Center Plaza features live music, children's activities, food and plenty of beer.

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CALENDAR



March 23-25

California Artisan Cheese Festival

The weekend-long celebration of handcrafted cheeses, wines and beers returns to Sonoma for three days of farm tours, seminars, hands-on cheese-making classes, competitions, pairings and cooking demonstrations. Sonoma County Event Center, 1350 Bennett Valley Rd., Santa Rosa, 707.837.1928

March 24

Whiskies of the World

Sample more than 200 varieties of Scotch, Bourbon, Irish, Canadian and other whiskies from around the world. The event also includes seminars and pairings of whiskey with food and cigars. San Francisco Belle Hornblower yacht docked at Pier 3



LET'S DO THIS

Because we just want to have fun
IN MARCH

Black Cuisine Festival (March 3)

This soul food festival in the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood is back for its 37th year with down-home classics like fried chicken and fish, barbecue, greens, yams, beans and rice. It attracts more than 2,000 attendees.

Ocean Film Festival (March 8-11)

Now in its 15th year, this annual festival presents more than 50 independent films from around the world that celebrate the beauty of the ocean.

International Chocolate Salon (March 11)

The 11th annual event brings a day packed with chocolate tasting, demonstrations and chef and author talks with award-winning chocolatiers, confectioners and other culinary artisans.

Sonoma International Film Festival (March 21-25)

Now in its 21st year, SIFF features more than 90 hand-selected films, including independent features, documentaries, world cinema and short films. All films are shown at venues within walking distance of Sonoma's historic plaza.

"Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood Live: King for a Day!" (March 24)

This live show at SHN Orpheum Theatre is based on the hit PBS children's television series and features new songs and lessons on kindness, helping others and being a friend.

FROM TOP: COURTESY CALIFORNIA ARTISAN CHEESE FESTIVAL; WHISKIES OF THE WORLD

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FOOD

TIME FOR CLASS

Four of San Francisco's best cooking schools

IT'S NO SECRET THAT THE BAY AREA is home to some of the world's best restaurants, but the most memorable dish you try could be one that you make yourself. Culinary schools provide the guidance you need to learn about the ingredients and techniques that have made local chefs among the most celebrated in the world. The San Francisco Cooking School on busy Van Ness Avenue offers numerous one-day classes, including Cook the Book classes where you can master recipes from famous restaurant cookbooks, such as Chez Panisse, Kokkari and Zuni Café; or Best of the Bay classes, which feature chefs from top restaurants like Delfina, Mourad and State Bird Provisions. The cooking school also regularly hosts book signings, chef dinners, celebrity demonstrations and private cooking parties.

A Tasty Education



18 Reasons

Classes offer a foray into the food culture of San Francisco at this Mission cooking school owned by Bi-Rite, the celebrated gourmet grocer and ice cream shop.



Civic Kitchen

The city's newest cooking school hosts classes like Indian Street Food, Italy by Ingredient and the Wonders of Wonton at its shiny Mission campus.



Cozymeal

Local professional chefs lead classes at venues throughout the Bay Area, from art galleries to the chefs' homes. Farmers' market cooking experiences are the most popular.

For more great food in the city visit wheretraveler.com

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: COURTESY SF COOKING SCHOOL; ©KASSIE BORRESON; COZYMEAL

North Beach Restaurant

A San Francisco Tradition Since 1970



North Beach Restaurant has served the finest Cucina Toscana in the Bay Area for more than 45 years. Famous for its home-cured prosciutto and the freshest caught wild fish in the Bay Area, the restaurant is a dining destination with great food, award-winning wine list, relaxed atmosphere and superb service.

Lunch in North Beach Although open seven days a week for lunch and dinner, our lunch offers a unique opportunity to try some new dishes in a relaxed setting and at lower prices. Many offerings are unique to our restaurant and not available elsewhere.



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EXPLORE

GRAY WHALE SPOTTING

Where to see the ocean giants on their annual migration

THIS TIME OF YEAR, gray whales commute south from the icy waters of the Arctic to reproduce in the warm lagoons of Baja California and then return back north to feed with their calves in the Arctic. With countless accessible vantage points, from shoreline to hills, the Sonoma Coast is one of the best spots to catch the action. Point Reyes in Marin County is another prime spot for whale spotting. Chimney Rock and the lighthouse offer the finest views in the national park. On a good day, there are up to 100 whale sightings. In both Sonoma and Marin, you might see a whale's majestic breach or its powerful tail slap, and it's not uncommon to find curious whales staring right back at you. Grab your binoculars and read on for a look at some of the best spots to get up-close and personal with the grays.

Bodega Bay Head

This peninsula juts out into the ocean, providing some of the best views in Sonoma county. Volunteers staff the area on weekends with spotting scopes.

Salt Point State Park

Walking paths and drive-ins along this elevated stretch of coast provide frequent gray whale sightings.

Still Water Cove Regional Park

Calm waters and wind protection make this a popular spot for mothers to bring their calves on their return trip north.

By the Numbers:

- 15-18,000 number of gray whales migrating south
- 11,000 roughly the number of miles grays migrate each year
- 45 Feet length of a male gray whale
- 75,000 Pounds weight of a male gray whale
- 500 Pounds weight of a gray whale's tongue
- 500 Feet how deep gray whales dive

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INSIDER

CATCH A FLICK

A tour of San Francisco's most interesting movie theaters

IN SAN FRANCISCO you'll find a screen to catch a big-budget or indie flick in just about any corner of the city. Here, restricted land use and population density helped small, independent theaters (many built from 1910-30 as the street car lines spread and created more neighborhoods) survive the national shift to centrally located multiplexes. This is your handbook to the city's movie theaters, from historical single screens to a state-of-the-art newcomer.

**Clay Theatre**

Catch an old classic or current foreign or art house film at this charming single screen from 1910 on well-heeled Fillmore Street, and then get dinner at one of the many nearby restaurants.

**Sundance Kabuki Cinema**

This independent theater in Japantown has a full bar and bistro on the balcony in addition to gourmet concessions, and for the +21 showtimes you can bring your glass of wine or artisan beer into the theater.

**Alamo Drafthouse**

This location of the theater chain known for serving food and drink is housed in a century-old movie palace in the Mission District, with a beloved local video rental shop operating out of a kiosk in the lobby.

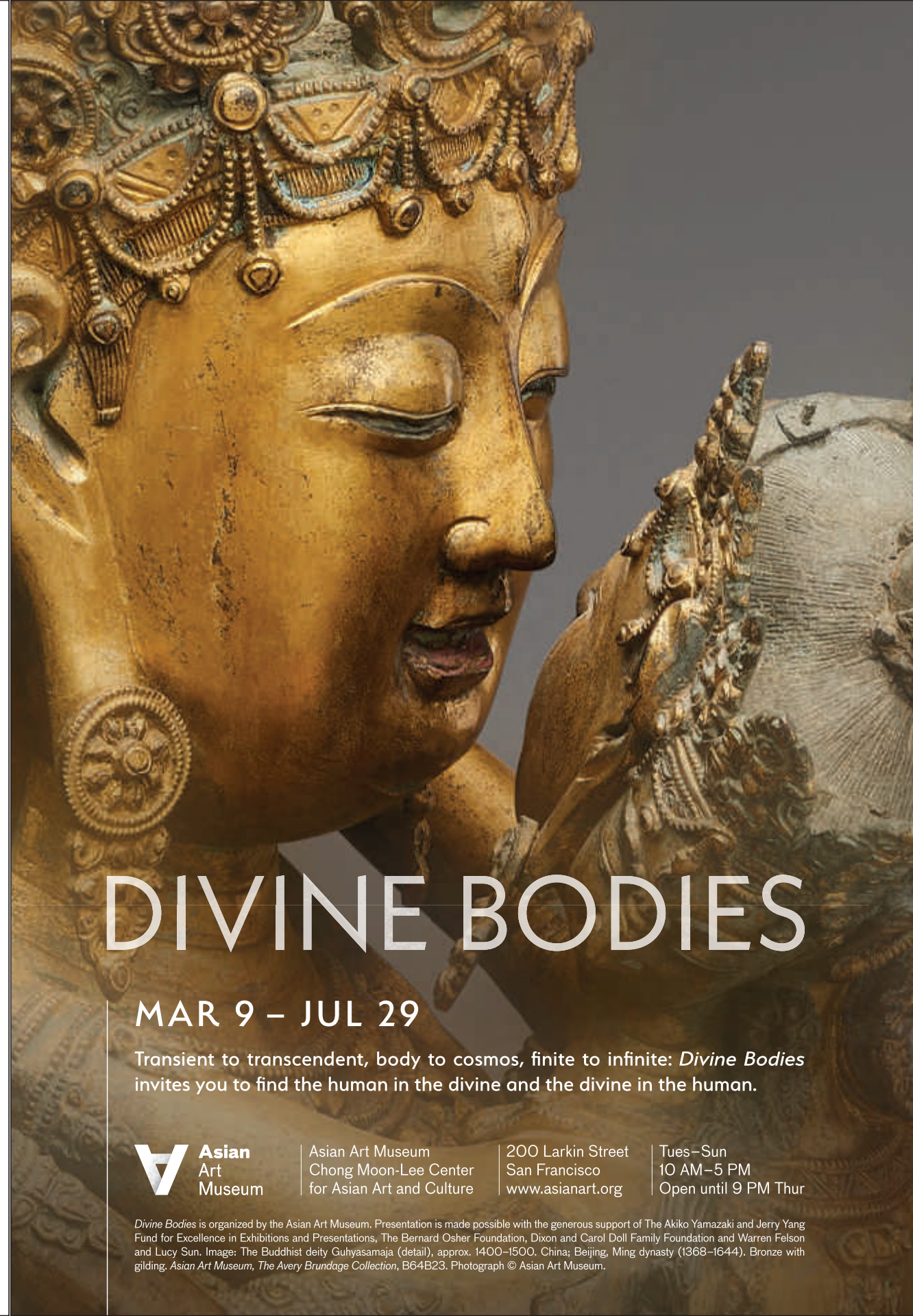
Cinematic Landmark

**Castro Theatre**

This Art Deco movie palace inspired by Mexican cathedral architecture contains more than 1,400 seats, a spectacular sinking pipe organ (opening most shows) and an ornate chandelier. Its iconic retro neon sign has come to symbolize the Castro neighborhood, and it was the site of the 2008 world premiere of "Milk" starring Sean Penn. It regularly screens cult-favorite films and hosts campy sing-alongs, drag stage shows and San Francisco International Film Festival events.

For more great entertainment in the city visit wheretraveler.com

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Divine Bodies is organized by the Asian Art Museum. Presentation is made possible with the generous support of The Akiko Yamazaki and Jerry Yang Fund for Excellence in Exhibitions and Presentations, The Bernard Osher Foundation, Dixon and Carol Doll Family Foundation and Warren Felson and Lucy Sun. Image: The Buddhist deity Guhyasamaja (detail), approx. 1400–1500. China; Beijing, Ming dynasty (1368–1644). Bronze with gilding. Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection, B64B23. Photograph © Asian Art Museum.

WHERE NOW

ONE BLOCK. ONE DAY.

FIND THE BEST ON **SUTTER STREET** ONE BLOCK AT A TIME

SHOP

The **Alessi** flagship is a wonderland for disciples of Italian industrial design, selling high-concept home goods and kitchenware. A mother-daughter team with a sharp eye for emerging global talent runs **Ethos** clothing boutique. At **Lang's Antique & Estate Jewelry**, browse baubles dating back to the late 1700s, from rare engagement rings to Art Deco watches. In the historic glass-front Hallidie Building, **The Hound** has been a destination for refined menswear for more than 40 years. The fairy tale **Teuscher Chocolate** shop displays Swiss imports and Champagne truffles. Devotees to Korean skincare can stock up on sheet masks at the tiny **Tonymoly** shop.

■ **Alessi** 424 Sutter St.

■ **Ethos** 333 Sutter St.

■ **The Hound** 140 Sutter St.

■ **Lang's Antique & Estate Jewelry** 309 Sutter St.

■ **Tonymoly** 500 Sutter St.

■ **Teuscher Chocolate** 307 Sutter St.

EAT

E&O Kitchen and Bar runs a popular happy hour with shareable bites like the

Clockwise from top: Entree at Gaspar Brasserie inside the Galleria Park Hotel; Ethos boutique, owned by a jet-setting buying duo; art at Caldwell Snyder Gallery; Alessi, where everyday items are designed by artists, engineers and architects.



pupu platter and creative cocktails like the Blushing Geisha. **Pacific Cocktail Haven** offers a long list of exceptional drinks, such as the Swizzle my Nizzle and the Tuk Tuk Tea. At Parisian-influenced **Gaspar Brasserie**, vintage chandeliers, leather banquettes and a pressed tin ceiling create a romantic setting for a date.

■ **E&O Kitchen and Bar**

314 Sutter St.

■ **Pacific Cocktail Haven**

580 Sutter St.

■ **Gaspar** 185 Sutter St.

CULTURE

The only gallery of its kind in San Francisco, **Montague Gallery** features an expansive roster of sought-after names in the contemporary fine art glass world, including Lino Tagliapietra, Dante Marioni and Hiroshi Yamano. **Caldwell Snyder Gallery** has exposed new collectors to established Latin American and European painters and sculptors who are lesser known stateside. Open since 1984, **Serge Sorokko Gallery** displays contemporary paintings, sculpture and photography by the likes of Donald Sultan and Hunt Slonem.

■ **Montague Gallery**

445A Sutter St.

■ **Caldwell Snyder Gallery**

341 Sutter St.

■ **Serge Sorokko Gallery**

361 Sutter St.

For more things to do near **Union Square** go to wheretraveler.com

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WHERE NOW

AROUND THE BAY

FIND THE BEST OF THE SONOMA COAST

EAT

In Bodega Bay, **Fishetarian Fish Market** serves the catch of the day in a super casual setting that includes patio seating. Wash down the gluten-free clam chowder with a glass of wine from Sonoma Coast Vineyards. Located across from Sonoma's fishing hub, Spud Point Marina on Bodega Harbor, **Spud Point Crab Company** welcomes local fishermen for breakfast and lunch. For dinner, consider taking an epic sunset drive up Highway 1 to **Coast Kitchen**, where you'll dine on upscale California fare like braised short rib and little gem salad in a rustic midcentury modern dining room that highlights its seaside location via floor-to-ceiling windows.

■ **Fishetarian Fish Market** 599 South Hwy. 1, Bodega Bay
■ **Spud Point Crab Company** 1910 Westshore Rd., Bodega Bay
■ **Coast Kitchen** 21780 Hwy. 1, Jenner

EXPLORE

Stop at **Bodega Head**, a rugged peninsula with incredible views (watch

Clockwise from top: The coastline along Highway 1; cocktails at Coast Kitchen; dinner special at Coast Kitchen; visible from the highway, the Bufano Peace Statue Monument is the second smallest park in California.



out for whales, seals and seabirds). For some beach time, head to the 17-mile-long **Sonoma Coast State Park**, where long, sandy stretches of sand meet rocky headlands and coves. Swing by the cliff-top, 93-foot **Peace obelisk** sculpture by artist Benny Bufano at Timber Cove Resort. Continue north to **Fort Ross Historic State Park**, bordered by beaches and redwood forests and home to a 1800s-era compound built by Russian fur trappers.

■ **Fort Ross State Historic Park** 19005 Coast Hwy., Jenner

PLAY

Visit **Fort Ross Vineyard Tasting Room** to sip cool-climate pinot noir and chardonnay, made from grapes that grow above the coastal fog line, while admiring the ocean view. Feeling adventurous? Rent a kayak at **Bodega Bay Kayak**. Or just stop in **Candy & Kites** for creatively flavored saltwater taffy (birthday cake, anyone?) and a colorful kite to fly in the sea breeze.

■ **Fort Ross Vineyard Tasting Room** 15725 Meyers Grade Rd., Jenner
■ **Bodega Bay Kayak** 1580 East Shore Dr., Bodega Bay
■ **Candy & Kites** 1415 Hwy. 1, Bodega Bay

For more things to do on the **Sonoma Coast** go to wheretraveler.com

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Serge Sorokko Gallery

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Hunt Slonem, Untitled, 2015, Oil on canvas, 40" x 30"



Hunt Slonem, Red Rover, 2015, Oil on canvas, 30" x 40"

Donald Sultan • Ross Bleckner • Hunt Slonem • Miguel Condé • Eric Freeman • Damien Hirst • Isabelle de Borchgrave • Jean-Pierre Rives • Ralph Rucci • Sol LeWitt • Rineke Dijkstra • John Baldessari • Jannis Kounellis • Antoni Tàpies • Thomas Struth • Candida Höfer • and others...

WHERE NOW

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● @amyberry_



● @the_disguised_djentalman



● @prest0ney



Snap a great moment in **San Francisco**, and tag it on Instagram with **#wheresanfrancisco** for a chance to appear in an upcoming issue.



WHERE CURIOSITY TAKES YOU

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A City Surrounded by Islands

San Francisco sits at the tip of a peninsula, bordered by a bay and ocean dotted with interesting isles that merit exploration.

By Brittany Shoot

San Francisco offers so many delights, it's hard to imagine wanting to escape. But savvy seafarers know some of the Bay Area's most interesting destinations are just off the mainland, only reachable by crossing the estuary. While not every one of the 40-some San Francisco Bay islands is only accessible by ship, many of the smaller, uninhabited islets remain largely untouched despite the shores teeming with humans nearby. Here, a look at several popular islands worth a visit—some just a short drive from the city, no boating required.

ALCATRAZ

The most iconic island in the San Francisco Bay, Alcatraz Island was first dubbed "Isla de los Alcatrazes," or "Island of the Pelicans," by Spanish explorer Lt. Juan Manuel de Ayala in 1775. President Millard Fillmore, who advocated for California statehood, declared Alcatraz a military reservation in 1850, two years after gold was discovered along the American River near

the city of Coloma and forever altered a state known for its wild beauty and erratic population growth.

The federal penitentiary part? That lasted just under three decades, from 1934 until the last cell door swung open in 1963. Today, that short history features most prominently in tours of the island, alongside the history of several Native American occupations on the island in 1964 and a nearly two-year occupation that began in 1969, both protesting the federal government's treatment of American Indians. In 1986, Alcatraz was designated a National Historic Landmark.

Today's visitors—more than a million annually—can learn about the island's many histories through informative signage and audio tours and view historic structures such as the guardhouse and water tower.

In recent years, the island has even become a site for artistic exploration. In 2014, Chinese dissident artist-activist Ai Weiwei used old outbuildings and even jailhouse cells to install "@ Large," his acclaimed exhibition on themes of and freedom.





ISLAND LIFE

(This page clockwise from top right) Angel Island is a popular spot for Bay Area families to picnic; kayakers can explore the wildlife around Hog Island in Tomales Bay; the rugged Farallon Islands are nicknamed the Galápagos of California; families can explore Angel Island by following its hiking trails; the restored wetlands of Bair Island are home to pelicans, California clapper rails, peregrine falcons, egrets, terns and stilts.



PREVIOUS SPREAD: ©MIKE MOIR PHOTOGRAPHY/SF TRAVEL. OPPOSITE PAGE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: COURTESY VISIT MARIN; ©BUDDHA DOG/FLICKR; ©JEFFREY/FLICKR; COURTESY VISIT MARIN; ©LIZ HENRY/FLICKR. THIS PAGE FROM TOP: COURTESY SF TRAVEL; ©MATT CHAN/FLICKR

ANGEL ISLAND

A California State Park even larger than neighboring Alcatraz Island, Angel Island is another former “site for activities undesirable in the middle of the city,” according to the book by the Center for Land Use Interpretation, “Around The Bay: Man-Made Sites of Interest in the San Francisco Bay Region.” The island hosted generations of gun batteries and a Nike missile site and was the so-called “Ellis Island of the West,” serving as the region’s primary immigration processing and detention center, as well as a prisoner of war camp in World Wars I and II.

The lush island has since been reclaimed for most enjoyable activities and become a popular day trip in the bay, offering beautiful panoramas of the city skyline and vistas from which to admire 360-degree views of the area. Island-goers can rent bicycles and cruise the perimeter loop trail, hike the squat hills or take a tram around the six-mile circumference of the island. Cantinas serving soft drinks and savory snacks are open seasonally.

ALAMEDA

The native Ohlone tribes of Northern California settled this former peninsula off the western coast of Oakland thousands of years ago. The Spanish arrived in the late 1700s, about 150 years before Alameda became a leisure destination. Neptune Beach, an early 20th century shoreline amusement park, featured carnival rides such a wooden roller coaster, and competitions in the park’s Olympic-size swimming pools featuring Bay Area legends such as Jack LaLanne, the so-called “Godfather of

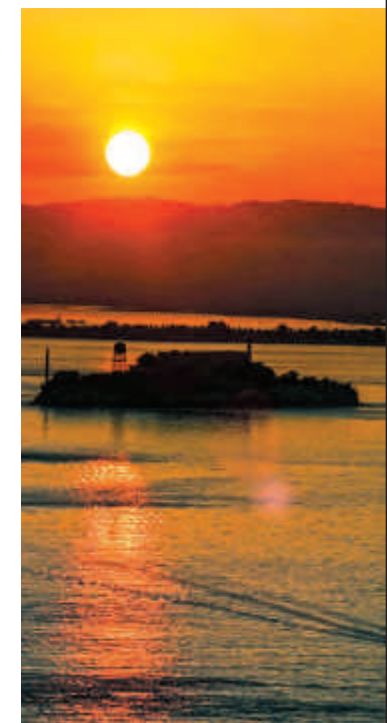
Fitness.” The bayfront park endured for over two glorious decades until the Bay Bridge directed traffic away from Alameda, and the town (mostly) ceased to be a destination for thrill-seeking tourists.

Mark Twain once called Alameda “the garden of California,” and the description holds. Today, Alameda is often considered the Mayberry of the Bay Area, accessible by car as well as ferry across the bay from San Francisco. The bedroom community boasts quiet, residential streets, easily accessible coastal parks and charming downtown stretches featuring affordable vintage shops and restaurants serving Old-World German and Lithuanian cuisine. In a quieter way, Alameda is also still a good-time destination with three retro arcades and gaming spots for all-ages fun including the Pacific Pinball Museum, where you can play over 90 pinball machines all day for a flat fee.

TREASURE ISLAND

There was much to celebrate when Treasure Island was constructed for the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition. The federal government commissioned construction on the manmade 400-acre parcel adjacent to Yerba Buena Island soon after construction was completed on two other major Bay Area landmarks: the Golden Gate Bridge, opened in 1937, and the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, completed in 1936 and with the eastern span replaced in 2013. The popular 49-Mile Scenic Drive was also created to lure visitors to San Francisco, and the 1939 World’s Fair and initially terminated on Treasure Island.

Shortly after the World’s Fair, the



FROM DUSK TO DAWN

(This page from top) The sun setting over Alcatraz in the San Francisco Bay; Seal Rocks, located at Ocean Beach on the city’s western coast.



ADVENTURES ON THE WATER

(From top) The San Francisco skyline at twilight from the vantage point of Treasure Island; a ferry takes passengers from Tiburon in Marin County to Angel Island; Angel Island in the San Francisco Bay is popular with cyclists and hikers.

BEACH DAY

(Right) Visitors to the island of Alameda can use the bike lane to pedal down to Crown Memorial State Beach for a long ride or walk along the beautiful coastline. A stop at Crab Cove on the northwest corner of the beach is a must. You can see bay wildlife burrowed in the mud flats at low tide and spend some time exploring the visitor center's hands-on marine life exhibits.



U.S. Navy took over the island as a training base for half a century, officially closing in 1997. Thousands of civilians now call the island home, and many of the Art Deco terminal buildings are used in film and television production, as well as housing art and antiques for dealers and collectors.

In the last decade, as Treasure Island has become known for its eponymous annual music festival, seven urban wineries have also planted metaphorical roots on the island, including Treasure Island Wines, a collective of artisan wineries. Treasure Island also offers some of the best views of the San Francisco skyline. Even amateur shutterbugs will enjoy the sweeping views of the city across the glittering waters of the bay—provided the fog hasn't rolled in.

FARALLON ISLANDS

"Twenty-eight miles from the end of the continent, you come upon the most forbidding piece of real estate to be found within the borders of any major city in the world: the Farallon Islands," writes San Francisco journalist Gary Kamiya in his bestselling love letter to his hometown, "Cool Gray City of Love." "The Farallones are only barren and desolate from a human perspective," he adds. "For the myriad other living things that swarm all over

and around them, they're like Times Square on New Year's Eve."

Indeed, nature-lovers populate the all-day excursions ferrying visitors to the jagged so-called Devil's Teeth several hours beyond the Golden Gate Bridge. The islands are a mecca for some dozen-plus species of birds, including several species of storm-petrel and the tufted puffin. The Farallones are also a haul-out site for several species of seal and sea lion, including hulking northern elephant seals. Gray, blue and humpback whales feed in the surrounding waters, as do great white sharks, which show up seasonally to feast at this marine mammal breeding ground. Designated a national wildlife refuge, only scientists are allowed on a single slab of rock, Southeast Farallon Island. All other visitors must stay aboard the vessel that brought them.

"Until recently, the Farallones were not islands at all," Kamiya notes in his history of the rocky outcroppings. "During the last glacial period, which ended 12,500 years ago, sea levels were much lower than they are today... The first San Franciscans, who arrived some 13,000 years ago, could have walked out there." Today's visitors will have to settle for a sail to sea instead.

ISLANDS IN THE BAY

■ **SEAL ROCKS** - Below the Cliff House and jutting out of the northern end of Ocean Beach you'll find these towering rocks, barely reachable in low tide and a handy stopover for hundreds of brown pelicans and cormorants searching the coastline for food.

■ **HOG ISLAND** - Known for its namesake oysters, this small, sandy mound in Tomales Bay north of San Francisco is also a roosting ground for cormorants and a stopover for the occasional bald eagle. Rent a kayak to explore the bay, and you'll likely spot orange bat sea stars and harbor seals keeping a respectful distance behind your boat.

■ **BAIR ISLAND** - New trails on this otherwise undeveloped 3,000-acre salt marsh restoration in progress make it a delightful spot along the Pacific Flyway to observe massive flocks of seabirds. Look for great and snowy egrets, as well as curlews, a long-billed wading bird.

OPPOSITE PAGE FROM TOP: ©SCOTT CHERNIS/SF TRAVEL; ©DENNIS ANDERSON/VISIT MARIN; COURTESY VISIT MARIN. THIS PAGE: COURTESY CROWN MEMORIAL STATE BEACH

THE GUIDE

An index of our favorite places

● **Shop** | SEARCH THE CITY / For more listings, see wheretraveler.com/san-francisco



A Material World

For over 60 years, **Britex Fabrics** has been an anchor of the Union Square shopping district and home to the largest selection of fabrics on the West Coast. The family-run store has been a go-to for hobbyists and professionals alike—everyone from tailors and DIY-ers to fashion students, performers and costumers have championed the store for its unrivalled selection. Each of the store's four floors are packed with fabrics from emerging designers and fashion icons; laces, ribbons, notions and buttons from around the world; accessories; and home decorating fabrics and furnishings. Catch a free tour every other Saturday. 117 Post St., 415.392.2910

ACCESSORIES & BAGS

SHINOLA

Founded in 2011, Detroit-based Shinola was conceived with the belief that products should be well made and built to last. As makers of modern watches, bicycles, journals and leather goods, Shinola stands for skill at scale, the preservation of craft and the beauty of industry. 53 Hotaling Pl., 415.513.1640.

TIMBUK2

A bike messenger founded this bag company in a garage in the Mission District in 1989, and the factory is still located in the same neighborhood. The flagship Hayes Valley boutique carries messengers, laptop bags, backpacks, luggage, totes and accessories in limited-edition designs. Customers can choose their own color combinations and play with specialty fabrics. All designs are guaranteed to last a lifetime. 506 Hayes St., 415.252.9860.

APPAREL

AZALEA BOUTIQUE

This youthful, trendy boutique in Hayes Valley offers designs for men and women by the likes of Found Made New, Vince, A.P.C. and James Perse, as well as an impressive inventory of denim. You might find a modish handbag, stylish sneakers or a hip denim jacket. 411 Hayes St., 415.861.9888.

MARINE LAYER

This casual clothing company sells luxuriously soft sweatshirts, tees and scarves that are sustainably made right here in San Francisco. The custom fabric is a blend of two yarns, pima cotton and MicroModal, which is a bio-based material that comes from recycled beechwood. 2209 Chestnut St., 415.346.2400. 98 Hayes St., 415.829.7519.

THE VOYAGER SHOP

A retail collaboration from a group of artistic businesses, Voyager features menswear

from Japanese and Italian lines, premium denim, American footwear, women's basics from French lines, ocean gear, books and art. 365 Valencia St., 415.779.2712.

BOOKS & MUSIC

AMOEBA MUSIC

This Haight-Ashbury institution has one of the largest selections of CDs, DVDs, videos, vinyl records and vintage rock posters anywhere. 1855 Haight St., 415.831.1200. 2455 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510.549.1125.

OMNIVORE BOOKS ON FOOD

Featuring new, antiquarian and collectible books by and for culinary gurus, this bookstore is a wonderland for readers interested in food and drink. It features books on everything from the traditions of colonial India to the kitchens of 1950s America and hosts numerous events with high-profile chefs and

authors. 3885A Cesar Chavez St., 415.282.4712.

DEPARTMENT STORES

BLOOMINGDALE'S

Located in Westfield San Francisco Centre, this is the second largest Bloomingdale's store in the country, offering the latest fashions for women, men and kids, plus home decor. A 140-year history of fashion, special events and the iconic Little Brown Bag make Bloomingdale's like "No Other Store in the World." Begin your day at the first floor visitor center with special offers. 845 Market St., 415.856.5300.

GUMP'S

Founded in 1861, this bi-level Union Square retailer is a legendary destination for luxury gifts, jewelry and home decor. Find sumptuous pearls, jade, fine jewelry and china on the first floor. The collections of crystal and silver are upstairs. 135 Post St., 415.982.1616.

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Shop

MACY'S

The flagship store is housed in two buildings between O'Farrell and Geary streets on either side of Stockton Street. Encompassing an entire city block, the west building features womenswear and accessories, watches, cosmetics, jewelry, the visitor center and a post office. Menswear and accessories are located across Stockton Street in the east building. Pick up your visitor savings pass at the visitor center on the cellar level. 170 O'Farrell St., 415.954.6271.

WILKES BASHFORD

This high-end specialty retailer boasts six floors brimming with men's and women's clothing, accessories, jewelry, shoes and housewares. In the city for more than 40 years and owned by the Mitchell Family of Stores, Wilkes Bashford offers truly unique and unexpected style that is San Francisco, with service that's unparalleled. 375 Sutter St., 415.986.4380.

HOME & DESIGN

ALESSI

The Italian houseware brand's flagship Union Square location is filled with an array of products for the home, including iconic 20th-century industrial design masterpieces like the Michael Graves whistling bird teakettle, the "Juicy Salif" citrus squeezer by Philippe Starck and the "Anna G" corkscrew by Alessandro Mendini. Bridal registry, gift certificates, complimentary gift-wrap and shipping are available. 424 Sutter St., 415.434.0403.

THE ANTIQUE TRADERS

This shop specializes in stained-glass lamps and windows, estate jewelry, cut crystal, bronzes and furniture, primarily from the Art Nouveau period. Worldwide shipping is available. 4310 California St., 415.668.4444.

ATYS

The modern household and personal items at this store are designed by architects and industrial designers, a practice that lends a high-art feel to everyday items. Most of the sleek pieces are imported from Scandinavia, Germany, France and Italy. 2149B Union St., 415.441.9220.

HEATH CERAMICS

One of the few remaining mid-century American potteries still in existence today, Heath has been making tableware and tile for over a half-century in its Sausalito factory. The shops sell artisan pottery that emphasizes design, handcrafted techniques and the reinvigoration of the company's designer-maker legacy. 1 Ferry Building, 415.399.9284. 2900 18th St., 415.361.5552.

NEEDLEPOINT INC.

For the best in hand-painted needlepoint designs, visit this shop in the heart of Jackson Square. Needlepoint Inc. carries a wide assortment of original canvases, fibers and stitching accessories. M-F 9 am-5 pm, Sa 10 am-4 pm. 326 Jackson St., 415.392.1622. 800.345.1622.

JEWELRY HUBLOT

Located in the heart of Union Square in the historic 180 Geary St. building, Hublot San Francisco offers an extensive selection of timepieces for ladies and men. Hublot timepieces merge classic Swiss horological complications with modern design and materials, redefining what a Swiss watch looks like. You'll also find hard-to-find, limited-edition pieces as well as a small selection of accessories including cuff links and belt buckles. The elegant boutique features a discreet bar and lounge below the sales floor. 174 Geary St., 415.981.2200.

SHREVE & CO.

Founded in 1854 and still one of the city's leading purveyors of fine jewelry, watches and crystal, the San Francisco institution features an in-store Mikimoto pearl boutique, Rolex watches and many other luxuries. 150 Post St., 415.421.2600. 329 Stanford Shopping Center, Palo Alto, 650.327.2211.

MEN'S APPAREL THE HOUND CLOTHIERS

A haberdasher of fine clothing for gentlemen, The Hound is located on the ground level of the historic glass-front Hallidie Building in the heart of the Financial District. Known for its exceptional customer service and large inventory of classically styled business clothing, accessories and sportswear, this shop has been dressing professional men for more

than 40 years. 140 Sutter St., 415.989.0429.

JOHN VARVATOS

Occupying a unique place in the landscape of American design, John Varvatos unites Old World craftsmanship and refined tailoring with modern innovations in textiles and a rock 'n' roll sensibility. The brand represents an entire men's lifestyle. 152 Geary St., 415.986.0138.

SHOES

THE ALDEN SHOP

Established in 1884, this shoe company offers classic men's footwear that represents New England's tradition of old-school, custom boot-making at its finest. Find a complete line of shoes, from wingtips to slip-ons, carefully hand-worked with painstaking attention to detail using premium calfskins, luxurious suedes

and genuine shell cordovan. 170 Sutter St., 415.421.6691.

SHOPPING DESTINATIONS

EMBARCADERO CENTER

The office towers stretching west from the foot of Sacramento Street, known as 1, 2, 3 and 4 Embarcadero, also house more than 100 retailers, 30 restaurants and a movie theater. Restaurants include Sens for Mediterranean favorites and Osha Thai for some of the best curry around. 415.772.0700.

WESTFIELD SAN FRANCISCO CENTRE

This nine-story shopping mall features Nordstrom, Bloomingdale's and more than 200 shops and restaurants, including the fine-dining Restaurant Collection Under the Dome. 865 Market St., 415.495.5656.

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SPECIALTY FOODS GHIRARDELLI ICE CREAM & CHOCOLATE SHOP

San Francisco's signature chocolatier operates two cafe-chocolate shop combos in the city: the original location in Ghirardelli Square (a renovated former chocolate factory) and another at the Palace Hotel. Let your nose guide you to displays bursting with great gift ideas, then sit for a while over decadent homemade hot fudge sundaes, milkshakes, hot cocoa or coffee. 900 North Point St., 415.474.3938. 2 New Montgomery St., 415.536.7830.

SPICE ACE

Considered by some to be one of the best spice shops in the world, this locally owned store on Steiner Street has more than 400 of the finest spices, herbs, blends, salts, peppers, chiles and extracts from around the globe. Tasting jars offer a chance to experience every spice. Try the customer favorites: Pacific Heights spice blend, Calabrian sea salt and smoked sweet paprika from Spain. 1821 Steiner St., 415.885.3038.

WOMEN'S APPAREL THE GROCERY STORE

No ordinary corner market, this is a hip European fashion oasis featuring cool clothing with a rock-star twist. Jeans and more jeans and a world-class selection of tees hang on simple rolling racks lining both sides of the huge space. Designer shoes and jewelry round out the merchandise mix. 3687 Sacramento St., 415.928.3615.

SUSAN

This elegant storefront offers fine European and Japanese apparel, shoes and accessories, including the latest styles by Comme des Garçons, Simone Rocha, Junya Watanabe and other avant-garde designers. 3685 Sacramento St., 415.922.3685.



A Shrine to Designers, Makers and Artists

San Francisco's only museum devoted exclusively to modern and contemporary craft and design, the **Museum of Craft and Design** (MCD) explores how the two themes relate to global culture. The non-collecting institution showcases designers, makers and artists in its shows, which currently feature furniture designer Tom Loeser and international artist duo t.w.five. Be sure to peruse the museum's excellent shop. 2569 3rd St., 415.773.0303

ART GALLERIES

111 MINNA GALLERY

This hip arts space on an alley just two blocks south of Market Street doubles as a bar and club and features work in all media by emerging and alternative artistic talent. 111 Minna St., 415.974.1719.

49 GEARY

The remarkable building that once housed the entire West Coast operation of Western Union is now home to about 20 art galleries and four rare-book dealers. Holding what may be the largest single concentration of art, photography, prints and rare books anywhere in the country, 49 Geary will keep any art lover entertained for hours. 49 Geary St.

ASIAN ARTS CENTER

Located near Union Square, the Asian Arts Center features traditional Asian artwork exhibits including silk embroidery art, Tibetan metalwork, Burmese jade and Hetian nephrite. Open daily. 45 Kearny St., 415.296.8508.

CALDWELL SNYDER GALLERY

Caldwell Snyder is a leading contemporary art gallery representing many of the most significant international painters and sculptors of the 21st century. It has con-

sistently been a vital force in the art world by introducing many renowned artists to the Bay Area for the first time. 341 Sutter St., 415.392.2299. 1328 Main St., St. Helena, 707.200.5050.

CHRISTOPHER-CLARK FINE ART

This premier San Francisco gallery features paintings, drawings and original prints by European masters. Find engravings and etchings by Dürer and Rembrandt; French Barbizon paintings; Impressionist works by Pissarro, Renoir, Manet and Cassatt; and art of la belle époque from Toulouse-Lautrec, Chéret and Tissot. Twentieth century masters Picasso, Matisse, Chagall and Dali as well as Post-War American artists Stella, Motherwell, Frankenthaler and Lichtenstein are also represented. Open daily. 377 Geary St., 415.397.7781.

CK CONTEMPORARY

This new and beautifully renovated gallery space is home to a collection of original paintings by noteworthy American and European contemporary artists. In addition to mounting exhibitions, the gallery works closely with new and experienced collectors, locating works of art, managing commissions and

assisting designers and clients to find the perfect pieces for their home. 357 Geary St., 415.397.0114.

CREATIVITY EXPLORED

Artists with developmental disabilities create art for sale and exhibition here. The gallery offers remarkable art at surprisingly affordable prices and hosts exhibitions on a variety of engaging themes. 3245 16th St., 415.863.2108.

GALLERY 444

Celebrating more than 20 years in its location, this family-owned gallery exhibits original paintings, prints and sculptures. It features more than 20 international and local artists, including Boulanger and Olbinski, whose unique works inspire imagination and evoke emotion. 444 Post St., 415.434.4477.

GALLERY WENDI NORRIS

This bold and modern 5,100 square-foot gallery in SoMa is known for its surrealist network. It hosts exhibitions that are emblematic of its transcendental nature and works to integrate its contemporary artists into the global community of art professionals, institutions and collectors. 161 Jessie St., 415.346.7812.

HACKETT MILL

This gallery presents rare works from the 1950s and 1960s by important American, European and Asian artists. The gallery focuses on historical movements that took place in the mid-20th century including American Modern, Post-War Abstract Expressionism and California/Bay Area Figurative Art. Closed Su, M. 201 Post St., Ste. 1000, 415.362.3377.

HASHIMOTO CONTEMPORARY

Located in Nob Hill, Hashimoto Contemporary is home to an eclectic blend of new contemporary artists. With monthly rotating exhibitions, the gallery focuses on a range of painting, sculpture and installation-based work. 804 Sutter St., 415.655.9265.

JENKINS JOHNSON GALLERY

Features contemporary photography, painting, video, performance and glass sculpture by emerging, mid-career and established artists. With an emphasis on content-driven art, international artists challenge the traditional use of materials to produce work that focuses and reflects on societal issues. 464 Sutter St., 415.677.0770.

JOHN BERGGRUEN GALLERY

Established in 1970, this world-class, bi-level gallery hosts new exhibitions monthly, showcasing works by young contemporary artists as well as major 20th century modern and contemporary American and European painters and sculptors including Willem de Kooning, Roy De Forest, Georgia O'Keeffe, Henri Matisse and Jim Dine. Bay Area artists and tastes are well represented. Closed Su. 10 Hawthorne St., 415.781.4629.

MARTIN LAWRENCE GALLERIES

Founded in 1975, Martin Lawrence Galleries specializes in original paintings, sculptures and limited-edition graphics. The gallery features works by Pablo Picasso, Marc Chagall, Rembrandt, Andy Warhol and Keith Haring along with the best emerging artists. 366 Geary St., 415.956.0345.

MEYEROVICH GALLERY

One of the country's leading galleries, specializing in American and European paintings, works on paper, graphics and sculpture by modern and contemporary masters such as John Baldessari, Guy Dill, Alex Katz, Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Motherwell, Robert Rauschenburg, Frank Stella, Donald Sultan, Bernar Venet and Russian artist Grisha Bruskin. Closed Su. 251 Post St., Suite 400, 415.421.7171.

MONTAGUE GALLERY

The only gallery of its kind in San Francisco, Montague Gallery features an expansive roster of respected and sought-after names in the contemporary fine art glass world, including Lino Tagliapietra, Dante Marion, Hiroshi Yamano and Chihuly Workshop. The gallery also features jewelry and painting. 445A Sutter St., 415.964.4978.

SAN FRANCISCO ART EXCHANGE

San Francisco Art Exchange is a worldwide leader in art and photographs from rock 'n' roll and pop culture. The gallery features original photographs, paintings, drawings and limited-edition prints of The Beatles, Rolling Stones, Jimi Hendrix and more. Open M-Sa 10 am-6 pm. 458 Geary St., 415.441.8840.

SAN FRANCISCO CENTER FOR THE BOOK

This gallery and studio showcases every artistic aspect of books, from the antique to the experimental. Ponder exhibitions on censorship and literary forms from various cultures or take a peek at binding and printing workshops. 375 Rhode Island St., 415.565.0545.

SANDRA LEE GALLERY

This downtown gallery showcases original, innovative paintings, sculptures and photographs for art lovers and collectors. Representing both emerging and established local and international artists, it features superior art at affordable prices. Closed Su, M. 251 Post St., Ste. 310, 415.291.8000.

SERGE SOROKKO GALLERY

A stalwart in the San Francisco art scene since 1984, this gallery features contemporary paintings, sculpture and photography by critically acclaimed American and European artists, including Donald Sultan, Hunt Slonem, Ross Bleckner, Eric Freeman, Miguel Condé, Thomas Struth and others. The gallery provides expert art advising services to its international clientele and ships all over the world. Closed Su. 361 Sutter St., 415.421.7770.

SFMOMA ARTISTS GALLERY

This two-story SFMOMA satellite houses more than 800 emerging and established Northern California artists. The non-profit gallery offers

rentals and sales. Tu-Sa. 2 Marina Blvd., Fort Mason, Bldg. A, 415.441.4777.

TANGENT

Stroll by this Union Square landmark, and a remarkable and visually enticing work will likely catch your eye. The gallery showcases works from American and international artists that present new approaches to traditional media. Past exhibits have included candy sculptures, photomosaics and three-dimensional paintings. M-Sa, Su by appointment. 373 Geary St., 415.956.9999.

THOMAS REYNOLDS GALLERY

This small gallery housed in a restored Victorian near the Fillmore Street shopping district specializes in contemporary landscapes and cityscapes by emerging Bay Area artists. Open Th-Sa. 2291 Pine St., 415.441.4093.

V. VORRES GALLERY

This gallery specializes in contemporary painting, photography and works on paper. The work ranges from representation to abstraction, with a unifying theme of formal soundness, the achievement of originality and aesthetic excellence. The diverse artists presented range from strong emerging talent to established modern masters. 3681 Sacramento St., 415.423.4345.

VELVET DA VINCI

Named for an old "Perry Mason" episode, this gallery of contemporary crafts specializes in art jewelry and metalwork. It regularly organizes exhibitions of contemporary craft, representing more than 75 artists from around the globe. Tu-Sa 11 am-6 pm, Su 11 am-4 pm. 2015 Polk St., 415.441.0109.

WEINSTEIN GALLERY

This gallery's collection is dedicated to rare works of 20th century masters includ-

ing Picasso, Chagall, Calder and Miró. It represents several important artists' estates from the schools of early non-objective painting, Surrealism and Abstract Expressionism, as well as a collection of contemporary figurative painters. 349 Geary St., 415.362.8155.

WHITE WALLS

Over the past decade, this Tenderloin hipster art gallery has evolved into a destination for urban and contemporary art reflecting culturally diverse subjects, artists and current political themes. The quality of the culturally significant street art exhibited has elevated the gallery to fine art status and earned it a reputation for supporting ultra-progressive artists. It shares a stunning 5,000-square-foot white space with its sister gallery, Shooting Gallery. Closed Su-M. 886 Geary St., 415.931.1500.

ZK GALLERY

This contemporary and modern art gallery exhibits both internationally renowned and emerging artists, seeking to present hand-selected talent from across the globe. It serves both the novice art enthusiast and the discerning collector. 213 Jefferson St., 415.632.1036.

MUSEUMS

ASIAN ART MUSEUM

Home to more than 18,000 exquisite art objects spanning 6,000 years of history and culture throughout Asia, this museum is one of the largest in the Western Hemisphere devoted exclusively to Asian art. Free first Su of each month. Closed M. 200 Larkin St., 415.581.3500.

CHINESE CULTURE CENTER OF SAN FRANCISCO

A non-profit organization fostering the understanding and appreciation of Chinese and Chinese-American art, history and culture in the United States. 750 Kearny St., 3rd fl., 415.986.1822.

CONTEMPORARY JEWISH MUSEUM

Located in a stunning Daniel Libeskind-designed building, the CJM engages audiences of all ages and backgrounds through dynamic exhibitions and programs that explore contemporary perspectives on Jewish culture, history, art and ideas. Closed W. \$8 Th after 5 pm. Free first Tu of the month. 736 Mission St., 415.655.7800.

DE YOUNG MUSEUM

Founded in 1895, the impressively varied museum is currently housed in an architectural masterpiece designed by the Swiss firm Herzog and de Meuron. It showcases collections from the Americas, Pacific Islands and Africa and features a tower observation deck. Free general admission first Tu of each month. Closed M. 50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Dr., 415.750.3600.

LEGION OF HONOR

High on the headlands above the Golden Gate—where the Pacific Ocean spills into the San Francisco Bay—stands this grand museum, the gift of Alma de Bretteville Spreckels to the city of San Francisco. A three-quarter-scale adaptation of the 18th-century Palais de la Légion d'Honneur in Paris, the museum was built to commemorate California soldiers who died in World War I. The collection includes works by European masters and major holdings of Rodin sculptures. The grounds offer spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean, Golden Gate Bridge and San Francisco. Closed M. 100 34th Ave. in Lincoln Park, 415.750.3600.

MUSEUM OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA

This recently renovated cultural institution reminds visitors that Africa is the birthplace of humankind and celebrates the global contributions of people of African descent. 685 Mission St., 415.358.7200.

SAN FRANCISCO MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

After a three-year hiatus, SFMOMA has unveiled a Snohetta-led expansion that makes it the largest modern art space in the nation, easily housing entire floors of abstract American art and minimalist and pop art. There's an entire gallery devoted to Alexander Calder, with a focus on his work between the 1920s and 1960s. The Pritzker Center for Photography dedicates about 15,000 square feet to photography, more than any other U.S. art museum. The open-ceiling seventh floor houses nothing but contemporary art. Nearly 45,000 square feet of the museum's ground floor galleries are free and open to the public, and admission is free for visitors 18 and under. 151 3rd St., 415.357.4000.

YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS

This contemporary art center highlights multicultural issues through the artworks displayed in its two main gallery spaces, high-tech gallery and video screening room. Past exhibits have focused on the Dalai Lama, Anna Halprin and the political nature of contemporary women's art. 701 Mission St., 415.978.2787.

BAY AREA

BAMPFA

UC Berkeley's visual-arts center reopened early 2016 after a \$112 million renovation by world-renowned firm Diller Scofidio + Renfro, known for projects including NYC's elevated High Line park and LA's Broad Museum. The 83,000 square-foot museum includes an expansive permanent collection with a dynamic schedule of rotating art exhibitions that range from classical Chinese painting to abstract expressionism to provocative multimedia work by emerging artists. The film archive has more than 450 public screenings each year of rare and restored



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movie classics, new and historic foreign films and experimental cinema. 2155 Center St., 510.642.0808.

BUBBLE STREET GALLERY

From the bizarre to the romantic, Bubble Street Gallery offers an eclectic mix of fine arts and crafts. Contemporary surrealist Daniel Merriam's collection of paintings, prints, ceramics, jewelry and more reflect a variety of styles ranging from Steampunk to Neo-Victorian and pop surrealism. 565 Bridgeway Blvd., Sausalito, 415.339.0506.

GALLERY SAUSALITO

Located in the heart of downtown Sausalito, this contemporary gallery encompasses the working studio of artist and owner Sue Averell. Visitors can see her works-in-progress, purchase completed 2D and 3D pieces, or commission custom pieces for a home or business. 29B Princess St., Sausalito, 415.887.9238.

OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA

The OMCA brings together collections of art, history and natural science under one roof to tell the extraordinary stories of California and its people. 1000 Oak St., Oakland, 510.318.8400.

SFO MUSEUM

Founded in 1980 as the first such cultural institution inside an international airport, these rotating exhibition galleries are a nice treat while you wait for your plane at SFO. They include the San Francisco Airport Commission Aviation Library and the Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum located in a pre-security area in the International Terminal, as well as public art displayed throughout the airport in the form of paintings, sculptures, mosaics and environmental works. Located throughout SFO terminals, 650.821.6700.



BARS & NIGHTCLUBS

15 ROMOLO

One of the best bars in the city for a perfectly crafted, creative cocktail, this dim, hidden spot in an alley off the North Beach strip also serves well-priced carnival-themed bar bites. 15 Romolo Pl., 415.398.1359.

ALCHEMIST BAR & LOUNGE

This bar and lounge mixes SF's famed speakeasy-style bar scene (classic cocktails served in an off-the-beaten-path second story location) with a hipster vibe (shuffleboard, board games) in the SOMA district. 679 3rd St., 415.746.9968.

ALEMbic

Offering a long list of both classic cocktails and original concoctions, this Haight Ashbury restaurant and bar is a great place to try something new, like the Blood and Sand. Homemade brews and local food are the specialty, making it a true San Francisco experience. 1725 Haight St., 415.666.0822.

ANCHOR DISTILLING COMPANY

You may already be familiar with the historic Anchor Brewing Company, but you probably didn't know that the iconic brewery is also the home of Anchor Distilling Company. Established in

1993 as a top secret project, Anchor Distilling Company has recently opened its doors to the public with the launch of a new tasting room. The company offers a one-hour, intimate tasting experience, in which a beverage expert guides you through Anchor's production process and helps you explore the flavors and aromas of Anchor spirits, including Old Potrero 18th Century Whiskey, Hophead vodka, Genevieve gin and more. Reserve ahead. 1705 Mariposa St., 415.863.8350.

AUDIO DISCOTECH

With a nod to the past but an eye to the future, this dance club combines state of the art lighting and sound with a retro aesthetic reminiscent of a '70s Cadillac. It features a Funktion One sound system, a spring-loaded dance floor and two bars. The downstairs sister restaurant and bar, Bergerac, offers handcrafted cocktails and upscale pub food in a bohemian setting. 316 11th St., 415.481.0556.

BARREL HEAD BREWHOUSE

The first thing you'll notice when you walk into this modern brewpub is a giant torpedo behind the bar, which serves as the base of the bar tap. A must-visit for any beer aficionado, Barrel Head offers 30 rotating micro-beers on

tap, along with cocktails and a full menu of high-end pub fare. The brewhouse also offers a weekend brunch menu, featuring salads, Hog Island oysters, steak and eggs, and bottomless mimosas. 1785 Fulton St., 415.416.6989.

BENJAMIN COOPER

Located within Hotel G in Union Square, this intimate and contemporary oyster bar with a vintage San Francisco feel is for the serious cocktail aficionados. 398 Geary St., 415.654.5061.

BIEGARTEN

Located in Hayes Valley, this traditional beer garden offers a variety of German beers on tap and serves up locally sourced food like sausages and salaten—all to be enjoyed alfresco. 424 Octavia St., 415.252.9289.

BIMBO'S 365 CLUB

The atmosphere at this all-purpose event space brings you back to the era of smoking lounges and big bands. Check the web site for performances from major rock and roll acts to comedy to live jazz. 1025 Columbus Ave., 415.474.0365.

BOURBON & BRANCH

This Tenderloin speakeasy offers strong Prohibition-era cocktails in a 1920s private

club atmosphere. Imbibe Champagne or bourbon-heavy libations at the library or book a booth in the main bar in the back. Check the website for reservations and read the rules before you go. 501 Jones St., 415.346.1735.

BURRITT ROOM

Named after the Nob Hill alley off Bush Street that was the scene of the murder in "The Maltese Falcon," the Burritt Room at the Mystic Hotel brings well-crafted cocktails to the Union Square neighborhood. Pull up a red velvet bar stool and watch as expert mixologists shake and stir some of the best drinks around, like the Smoked Peach and Weissen Sour. 417 Stockton St., in the Mystic Hotel, 415.400.0561.

CASK

Sip boutique bourbons, hard-to-find whiskeys and more at this bar specializing in artisanal distillers. Created by the people behind Bourbon and Branch, this is the place to find a well-crafted drink, and with engraving services at hand, maybe even a thoughtful gift. 17 3rd St., 415.424.4844.

CERVECERIA DE MATEVEZA

This tiny place on the northeast corner of Mission Dolores Park brews its beers with yerba mate for a caffeine-rich

Hit the Lanes

Mission Bowling Club is San Francisco's take on a bowling alley. Along with six lanes of bowling, the retro-hip Mission District establishment houses a full bar and an excellent restaurant serving one of the best burgers in the city. Plan to have dinner or brunch at the bar, in the dining area or on the covered, dog-friendly patio before or after your game. The 21+ venue welcomes families during the day on Saturdays and Sundays.

3176 17th St., 415.863.2695

punch and also peddles piping-hot, Argentinian-style empanadas and assorted bottled beers. 3801 18th St., 415.273.9295.

COMSTOCK SALOON

Named after Henry Comstock and the famed Comstock Lode, which brought mining fortunes to the City by the Bay, this bar is a throwback to the city's Barbary Coast era, located in a site that's served as a San Francisco watering hole since 1907. Sip on carefully crafted classic cocktails and nibble on turn-of-the-century saloon fare. 155 Columbus Ave., 415.617.0071.

EL TECHO

Located in the Mission District, this expansive rooftop bar offers sweeping views of the city skyline. Drinks range from pisco-based cocktails to esoteric Brazilian beer. Dig into tasty nibbles like em-

panadas, ceviche and meat skewers or visit the downstairs dining room for a more serious, meat-focused menu. 2516 Mission St., 415.550.6970.

ELIXIR

This Mission Dolores bar—part pub, part sports bar, part lounge and part certified green business—offers a taste of the Old West. Serving its neighbors since 1858, there's no better spot for handmade fresh fruit cocktails. Tuesday nights are a hit with bar trivia, and weekends bring a make-your-own Bloody Mary bar. 3200 16th St., 415.552.1633.

LIPPO COCKTAIL LOUNGE

This cavernous watering hole is a quintessential Chinatown dive with cheap leather booths, a dusty jukebox and shiny golden Buddha's behind the bar. But the drinks are strong and the experience

is unique. 916 Grant Ave., 415.982.0072.

LOCAL EDITION

Beneath Market Street, the local bar superstars behind Bourbon & Branch have created this classy underground cocktail bar that provides a sophisticated addition to the city's nightlife scene. Inspired by the 1950s and '60s newspaper industry, the vintage décor includes typewriters and archived news clippings that let you relive San Francisco's past, and even the waitresses are dressed in time-period perfect outfits. And the drinks are equally on point: highballs, Gibsons and other updated classics rule here. 691 Market St., 415.795.1375.

MIKKELLER BAR

Located on the ground floor of a 1907 Victorian building, this beer bar features 40

taps from some of the best breweries in the world, two cask handles, exclusive house beers and a full kitchen serving up tasty bar bites that pair perfectly with beer. The cellar is home to the Tivoli Sour Room, where lambics and sour beers are on tap. 34 Mason St., 415.984.0279.

MONK'S KETTLE

This cozy Mission gastropub specializes in craft beer, serving 24 draughts and over 120 bottles of Belgian and Californian brews. The kitchen is open every night until 1 am for upscale pub food. Be prepared to wait—they do not take reservations. 3141 16th St., 415.865.9523.

MR. TIPPLe'S RECORDING STUDIO

This spirit-driven jazz bar with bar bites is tucked away in a cozy back alley of the city's Mid-Market neighborhood. The bar features live jazz nightly with no cover, a sharp list of rotating cocktails and under-\$10 snacks. On your first visit, try the Dizzy cocktail (East India sherry, terroir gin, cynar) and the catfish po boy (cabbage slaw, tartar sauce, side of hand-cut Cajun fries). 39 Fell St., 415.851.8561.

NIHON

Nihon is as much a delicious Japanese restaurant as it is a seductive whiskey bar, serving over 400 selections of whiskey. The servers are attentive and the bartenders know exactly which whiskey to pour, either straight up or sour. 1779 Folsom St., 415.552.4400.

NOIR LOUNGE

This spot in the Hayes Valley neighborhood is part wine bar, part brewpub and part movie lounge, showcasing Noir films in a private screening area. It has a 1940s jazz-era feel and serves an extensive menu of bar bites and entrees along with a changing array of flights of popcorn, both

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savory and sweet. 581 Hayes St., 415.431.6647.

PLAYERS SPORTS GRILL & ARCADE

This waterfront sports bar features more than 35 HDTVs, 200 sports channels, 85 arcade games and 15 beers on tap. The menu offers bar bites and American fare. Luau Lounge, located inside, is San Francisco's only waterfront tiki bar, with spectacular views of Alcatraz and the San Francisco Bay. Pier 39, 415.981.6300.

RICKHOUSE

Step into this bustling saloon and the sweet, musky odor of bourbon slaps you across the face. And for good reason. Launched by the owners of Bourbon & Branch, this place draws bourbon lovers from across the area. Groups of four should throw in their cards and order the Pisco Punch Bowl, a guaranteed party maker. 246 Kearny St., 415.398.2827.

RYE

Expert mixologists at this chic and artfully decorated lounge work hard to perfect their craft—and we think they're pretty darn close. 688 Geary St., 415.474.4448.

SHOTWELL'S

First opened in 1891 as the Schlichtmann & Bredhofy Grocery Saloon, this location still serves as a place for San Franciscans to meet and drink. With a decadent design, it offers visitors an old-time feel with local, regional and international beers. 3349 20th St., 415.648.4104.

SMUGGLER'S COVE

Taste the past, present and future of rum here, from traditional drinks of the Caribbean islands to classic libations of Prohibition-Era Havana to exotic cocktails from legendary tiki bars. Modeled after both a pirate ship and a tiki hut and featuring a waterfall, this bar offers a whole new

approach to rum, showcasing more than 400 varieties from around the world, including rare and vintage finds. The drink menu includes more than 70 cocktails made from premium spirits and liqueurs, house-made ingredients and fresh citrus juiced in-house daily. 650 Gough St., 415.869.1900.

THE INDEPENDENT

Groove and jive to the sounds you want to hear at The Independent, one of San Francisco's newest and most diverse, no-frill live music venues. 628 Divisadero St., 415.771.1421.

THIRD RAIL

Located in the Dogpatch neighborhood, this craft cocktail bar is home to the city's first jerky bar. From the same team behind the popular Mission District restaurant, Range, the high-caliber neighborhood bar mixes spirit-driven, bold-flavored drinks in four categories: spirituous, aperitif, seasonal and citrus. Pair your libation with the gourmet dried meats served by the ounce. The nine flavors include the Red Eye, made with coffee and chili, and a vegetarian and pork option. Local beer and wine are also on tap. Take the Muni T-line. 628 20th St., 415.252.7966.

TRICK DOG

Local bar stars The Bon Vivants opened this hot spot in the Mission District, focusing on hand-crafted, inventive drinks and late-night nibbles. The converted warehouse space features a dimly lit, downstairs bar with retro decor, and a small, loft-like restaurant upstairs serving multicultural elevated bar food. 3010 20th St., 415.471.2999.

VESEVIO

This historic North Beach dive bar, fittingly located just next door to City Lights Bookstore, used to quench the thirst of Jack Kerouac and Neal Cassady of "On the Road"

fame. These days, it can be packed on the weekends with a healthy mixture of locals and tourists. 255 Columbus Ave., 415.362.3370.

WHITECHAPEL

Featuring the largest gin selection in North America, Whitechapel's cocktail menu celebrates the history and traditions of this versatile spirit. The extensive drink offerings are by no means limited to gin, and the food menu features pub fare and several Indian dishes. 600 Polk St., 415.292.5800.

BREWERIES

21ST AMENDMENT BREWERY Within walking distance of AT&T ballpark, this brewpub is a fun place to visit before or after a Giants game. The airy, multi-level SoMa space delivers reasonably priced, home-brewed beer in unique flavors alongside dependable standards like cheeseburgers and house-made chili. The watermelon wheat beer, served alongside a slice of watermelon, is a customer favorite. 563 2nd St., 415.369.0900.

THIRSTY BEAR BREWING CO.

The oldest brewery-restaurant in the city (and the only organic brewery) serves house-made ales that complement Spanish-inspired cuisine, with dishes served primarily in tapas-sized portions. There's also a full bar and pool tables and darts upstairs. 661 Howard St., 415.974.0905.

CLASSICAL MUSIC & DANCE

SAN FRANCISCO BALLET America's oldest professional ballet company performed one of the first American productions of both "Swan Lake" and "The Nutcracker," as well as the first 20th century "American Coppélia." A vital ensemble, it is one of the three largest ballet companies in the United States. War Memorial Opera House, 301 Van Ness Ave., 415.861.5600.

SAN FRANCISCO CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

This professional school in the Civic Center neighborhood offers an array of musical programs, many of them free to the public. 50 Oak St., 415.864.7326.

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA

Located in the historic War Memorial Opera House since 1932, this is the second largest opera company in North America, bringing exciting performances to the stage each season. War Memorial Opera House, 301 Van Ness Ave., 415.864.3330.

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

Founded in 1911, the symphony is widely considered to be among the country's most artistically adventurous art institutions, well known for its acclaimed conductor Michael Tilson Thomas. Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness Ave., 415.864.6000.

SMUIN BALLET

Known for sassy dance numbers set to Bach, Gershwin and The Beatles, Michael Smuin founded this contemporary company in 1994, aiming "to infuse ballet with the rhythm, speed, and syncopation of American popular culture." Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater, 700 Howard St., 415.912.1899.

LIVE MUSIC BOOM BOOM ROOM

Self-proclaimed as "San Francisco's home to blues, boogie, soul, groove and funk," this sultry hot spot in the heart of the famed Fillmore District is the oldest blues club west of the Mississippi. Boogie to live music seven nights a week. 1601 Fillmore St., 415.673.8000.

BOTTOM OF THE HILL

This cramped, funky little joint has been lauded by Rolling Stone as "the best place to hear live music in San Francisco." Open seven nights a week and showcasing an

array of styles from hard rock and punk to folk and pop, the Bottom comes equipped with a full bar, pool tables, and a kitchen staff that stays up as late as you do. 1233 17th St., 415.626.4455.

FEINSTEIN'S

Located within the Hotel Nikko San Francisco, this elegant, intimate, 140-seat nightclub is operated in partnership with multi-platinum-selling entertainer Michael Feinstein and presents a wide range of local, regional and national entertainers. 222 Mason St., 866.663.1060.

SAN FRANCISCO GAY MEN'S CHORUS

For 40 years, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus has been an international standard bearer for a powerful mix of extraordinary musical excellence and mission-driven activism. It continues to inspire through performances and involvement in human rights, empowerment and inclusiveness, establishing it as an icon among LGBT organizations. 526 Castro St., 415.865.3650.

SF JAZZ CENTER

This is the first stand-alone performance venue of its kind in the country built specifically for jazz. The 35,000-square-foot glass structure seating 300 to 700 people, located in bustling Hayes Valley a block from Davies Symphony Hall, boasts the acoustic qualities of a great concert hall and the relaxed intimacy of a jazz club. 201 Franklin St., 866.920.5299.

THEATER AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER

Offering classical and contemporary theater productions, the A.C.T. is a large, highly respected nonprofit theater company located just outside Union Square. 405 Geary St., 415.749.2228.

BEACH BLANKET BABYLON

No trip to San Francisco is complete without seeing

Steve Silver's "Beach Blanket Babylon," the hilariously campy revue that has been a local favorite since 1974, known for its hats and wigs and spoofs of current events and celebrities in ever-evolving numbers. Persons under 21 not admitted to evening performances. 678 Green St., 415.421.4222.

NEW CONSERVATORY THEATER CENTER

NCTC produces theater that gives voice to, entertains and promotes exploration and open dialogue among underserved audiences and developing playwrights in the community. 25 Van Ness Ave., 415.861.8972. Map 1, B8

SF PLAYHOUSE

Located on the second floor of the charming Kensington Park Hotel, this theater company is dedicated to presenting critically-acclaimed works in an intimate setting that allows the audience to really connect with the performance, whether it's a world premiere or an invigorated classic. 450 Post St., 415.677.9596.

SHN

For more than 30 years, this has been the preeminent theatrical entertainment company in San Francisco, owning and operating two of the city's major venues: the historic Orpheum and Golden Gate theaters. It delivers a range of theatrical experiences: original Broadway cast productions, pre-Broadway world premieres and current hits fresh from Broadway. 1182 Market St., 888.746.1799.

THE SPEAKEASY

The experimental Boxcar Theatre Company relaunched its 2014 hit, "The Speakeasy," in a brand new North Beach venue last year. After a \$2 million renovation, the two-story circular cabaret space complete with secret passageways and disguised entrances is

the perfect venue for this immersive theater experience that has been compared to San Francisco's famous Beach Blanket Babylon. This year, the company unveiled its newest offering, a show titled "A Night at the Palace," which features a variety of cabaret acts and is set in the same Prohibition underworld as "The Speakeasy." 644 Broadway St., 415.967.2227.

THE MARSH

Best known for its provocative one-person shows, this breeding ground for new performance hosts new work from emerging artists in an intimate theater space. 1062 Valencia St., 415.282.3055.

URBAN WINERIES AND TASTING ROOMS BLUXOME STREET WINERY

Located in the heart of the SoMa neighborhood, this destination is both a working winery and a place to relax and enjoy a drink or two. The tasting room features expansive windows looking into the working winery, allowing you to enjoy a flight of wine while watching the crafting process. 53 Bluxome St., 415.543.5353.

WINE BARS AMELIE

This modern French-style wine bar has a happy hour that can't be beat, offering a \$10 customized flight with any three wines by the glass. Try the thoughtfully paired small plates to complement your wine. 1754 Polk St., 415.292.6916.

FERRY PLAZA WINE MERCHANT

Attached to the store of the same name, this wine bar offers visitors the opportunity to sample a rotating selection of 15-20 wines. Grab some cheese from Cowgirl Creamery, a loaf of bread from Acme Bakery, a seat at the bar and let the knowledgeable guide you. 1 Ferry Building, 415.391.9400.

PRESS CLUB

Located in the luxurious cellar space of the Four Seasons Hotel, this chic urban tasting room offers a wine country experience right in the middle of the city, uncorking an array of wines direct from acclaimed California wineries. It features social sipping lounges, rare and specialty beers on tap and light bites for delicious pairings. 20 Yerba Buena Ln., 415.744.5000.

THE HIDDEN VINE

Like a fine Zinfandel, this sophisticated Jackson Square wine bar offers a complex and satisfying bouquet of flavors for the discerning palate. The staff is knowledgeable, the atmosphere unpretentious and the menu thorough. Come taste with someone you're trying to impress or just nestle with friends in a cozy alcove. 408 Merchant St., 415.674.3567.

BAY AREA

GRATON RESORT & CASINO

The behemoth \$825 million, 340,000-square-foot resort is home to 3,000 slot and video poker machines, over 100 table games and an elegant dedicated poker room. As much a dining as a gaming destination, the complex packs in about a dozen eateries, ranging from casual favorites like The Habit Burger Grill, La Fondita Taqueria and Boathouse Asian Noodles to high-end options like Tony's of North Beach and 630 Park Steakhouse. 288 Golf Course Dr. W, Rohnert Park, 707.588.7100.

WEILL HALL AT THE GREEN MUSIC CENTER

Located on the Sonoma State University campus in wine country, this is a world-class indoor-outdoor music complex hosting performances by symphonies and renowned artists like Itzhak Perlman, Lang Lang, Renée Fleming, Herbie Hancock, Yo Yo Ma and many more. 1801 East Cotati Ave., Rohnert Park, 866.955.6040.

THE GUIDE | Food



Decade on the Waterfront

The temple to ceviche on the Embarcadero, **La Mar Cebicheria Peruana**, celebrates 10 years in 2018. To celebrate, celebrity chef Gastón Acurio's first stateside restaurant created the Experience Cebicheria Menu (\$65). The prix fixe feast samples the best of the menu, from the eponymous perfectly cool and tangy ceviche to the smooth lomo saltado. Housed in a sprawling warehouse, the restaurant has a smart separate bar area (where locals happy hour with Pisco sours) and outdoor seating in the back. *Pier 1 ½, 415.397.8880*

CASTRO CANELA BISTRO AND WINE BAR

Spanish/Tapas This elegant restaurant in the Castro neighborhood serves traditional tapas and modern Spanish dishes, sourcing ingredients from sustainable California markets, farms and fisheries. The wine list is carefully curated to pair with the extensive menu, and the dim, thoughtfully decorated dining room has a romantic feel. Brunch (Su), D (nightly), closed M. 2272 Market St., 415.552.3000.

FRANCES

California Serving modern California cuisine in a neighborhood setting, acclaimed Frances serves delights like chestnut soup with roasted cioppolini and house-cured pancetta; slow-roasted beef with creamed winter greens; and ling cod crusted with Boccalone lardo, squash and apples. D (nightly). 3870 17th St., 415.621.3870. \$\$\$

CHINATOWN R&G LOUNGE

Chinese This bustling spot has a colorful lounge and cheerful, modest decor in the dining room downstairs. The Hong Kong-style menu includes tank-fresh seafood. The Travel Channel's "No Reservations" host Anthony

Bourdain visited the restaurant on his show and raved about the salt and pepper crab. L, D (daily). 631 Kearny St., 415.982.7877. \$\$

CIVIC CENTER/HAYES VALLEY ESPETUS BRAZILIAN STEAK HOUSE

Steaks Pace yourself: This authentic Brazilian steakhouse offers all-you-can-eat skewers ("espetus" in Portuguese) of slow-roasted beef, lamb, pork, chicken and shrimp for a fixed price. The giant salad buffet is included. L, D (daily). 1686 Market St., 415.552.8792. \$\$\$ 710 S B St., San Mateo, 650.342.8700.

NOPA

American Named for its location North of the Panhandle, this expansive, hip restaurant serves wood-fired rustic cuisine that epitomizes the best of San Francisco's current food scene. One of the city's best late-night dining options, it's also popular for its brunch, burger and pork chops. Brunch (Sa-Su), D (nightly until 1 am). 560 Divisadero St., 415.864.8643. \$\$\$

RICH TABLE

American Named one of the country's top 50 new restaurants by Bon Appetit magazine in 2012, this James

Beard Award-nominated hot spot is owned by a husband-and-wife team who serve unfussy, market-driven food in a lively atmosphere. Must-order items include innovative snacks like sardine chips and porcini doughnuts and creative cocktails. D (daily). 199 Gough St., 415.355.9085. \$\$\$

SOUVLA

Greek Located in the heart of Hayes Valley, this Greek sandwich shop is inspired by the casual neighborhood souvlaki joints found throughout Greece. The sandwiches are made with spit-roasted all-natural meats on warm pita bread with spiced yogurt sauces and fresh herb salads. The "Greek fries" are spiked with Mizithra cheese, oregano, olive oil and sea salt. 517 Hayes St., 415.400.5458.

ZUNI CAFE

Mediterranean Three words: Get the chicken. This San Francisco institution has been in business for more than 35 years and is most famous for its cooked-to-order roast chicken for two (allow an hour), a true stand-out on the Mediterranean-inspired menu of roasted and grilled goodness. Watch the vintage street cars roll down Market Street through the floor-to-ceiling windows while you wait. Brunch (Su), L, D (daily),

closed M. 1658 Market St., 415.552.2522. \$\$\$

FINANCIAL DISTRICT AKIKOS RESTAURANT

Sushi Changing daily, the menu at this popular downtown sushi restaurant features an eclectic range of local and seasonal seafood with an emphasis on raw fish. It can be hard to get a reservation at the intimate, 30-seat restaurant, but you'll find incredible sashimi and some of the most unique rolls in town, and odds are they won't be on the menu next visit. The interior features imported rosewood floors and exposed brick walls, and the place settings and tableware are made by Sausalito's Heath Ceramics. L (M-F), D (M-Sa). Closed Su. 431 Bush St., 415.397.3218.

ONE MARKET

American This ever-popular restaurant on the Embarcadero waterfront across from the Ferry Building offers contemporary presentations of American classics from chef/partner Mark Dommen, showcasing farm-fresh ingredients, heritage meats, artisanal cheeses and an all-American wine list. 1 Market St., 415.777.5577. \$\$\$

WAYFARE TAVERN

American Step inside celebrity chef Tyler Florence's hand-



The Franciscan Crab Restaurant is the crown jewel of Fisherman's Wharf and has the best food that the wharf has to offer. It sits right on the water with the picture perfect view of Alcatraz and the Golden Gate Bridge.

Pier 43 ½ | 415.362.7733
franciscancrabrestaurant.com



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1177 California at Jones on Nob Hill | 415.771.6776
ossosteakhouse.com



The Stinking Rose: A Garlic Restaurant

325 Columbus Avenue in North Beach | 415.781.7673
thestinkingrose.com

COURTESY LA MAR

Food

some three-story restaurant and be transported back in time. Built with bricks salvaged from the streets of the devastated city after the 1906 quake, the eatery channels the Barbary Coast era with American fare inspired by the San Francisco restaurant scene of the late 1800s. The menu features a raw bar and dishes like grilled sardines, salt-roasted bone marrow, organic fried chicken and the classic Hangtown Fry. Don't miss the banana pudding for dessert and the hand-crafted cocktails. L, D (daily). 558 Sacramento St., 415.772.9060. \$\$\$

FISHERMAN'S WHARF/WATERFRONT

ALIOTO'S
Seafood One of San Francisco's oldest restaurants run by one of the city's most prominent families, this Fisherman's Wharf landmark has magnificent views of the San Francisco Bay and a reputation for great cioppino and fresh seafood. Don't mess around with the menu: Get the Dungeness crab. Cracked, caked, stuffed or stewed, it's impossible to get your fill. L, D (daily). 8 Fisherman's Wharf, 415.673.0183. \$\$\$

BEACH STREET GRILL ORGANIC RESTAURANT

American Known for its warm hospitality and all-day breakfast, the key word at this diner is homemade, from melt-in-your-mouth blueberry pancakes to gravy-smothered biscuits. The outside patio is a great spot to enjoy a break from city life. B, L (daily), D (Sa-Su). 380 Beach St., 415.867.1711. \$\$

BISTRO BOUDIN

American Seasonal cuisine and sourdough-crust pizzas dominate the menu at the famed bread-maker's two-story flagship facility, which also houses a sourdough-bread museum and an exhibition bakery and a café and gourmet market

downstairs. Saddle up to the gorgeous oyster bar for fresh oysters, baked and topped with mignonette or shucked and served straight up. L, D (daily). 160 Jefferson St., 415.351.5561. \$\$

THE BUENA VISTA CAFE

American This wharf institution by the Hyde Street cable car turnaround is famous for first introducing Irish coffee to the U.S. in 1952, and it has served millions of the hot cocktails since. B, L, D (daily). 2765 Hyde St., 415.474.5044. \$\$

CASTAGNOLA'S

Seafood & Steak In a dramatic setting by the waters of San Francisco Bay, diners can still watch fishermen bringing their boats to dock and unloading the day's catch. The menu here features fresh seafood, steaks and chops. Don't miss daily happy hour and live music throughout the week. 286 Jefferson St., 415.776.5015. \$\$\$

FRANCISCAN CRAB RESTAURANT

Seafood Floor-to-ceiling windows provide spectacular bay views from every table in this three-tiered, spacious mid-century modern gem. Menu highlights include fish and chips, sizzling iron skillet mussels and whole roasted Dungeness crab. Free parking with validation. L, D (daily). Pier 43 1/2, 415.362.7733. \$\$\$

JACKSON SQUARE COTOGNA

Italian This casual cousin to the acclaimed two Michelin star Quince restaurant next door opened under the same chef-owners. The rustic Italian eatery serves a seasonally changing menu that features spit-roasted meats and game birds, wood-oven pizzas, house-made pastas and fresh local seafood. All wine bottles on the prix fixe wine menu are under \$40, and the floor-to-ceiling windows afford abundant natural light and dramatic views of the



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450 Post St., San Francisco | Union Square
FarallonRestaurant.com | 415.956.6969

f t i FarallonSF

Food

Transamerica Building. L (M-Sa), D (nightly). 490 Pacific Ave., 415.775.8508. \$\$

QUINCE

Italian Elegant without being stuffy, this intimate two Michelin star restaurant with a superb wine list serves sophisticated Italian fare, such as a silky ricotta-filled ravioli in butter sauce and sole roasted on a fig leaf. A five-course tasting menu is available, and dining a la carte is also an option. D (nightly), closed Su. 470 Pacific Ave., 415.775.8500. \$\$\$\$

LOWER FILLMORE THE PROGRESS

New American Named after the Progress Theater that occupied the same building over a century ago, this is the second restaurant from the team behind the national smash-hit State Bird Provisions, and it's located just next door. The boundary busting, international menu is served family style (choose six dishes for \$62 per person) and features dishes like lamb merguez with yellow eye beans, octopus and crispy squid. If you don't manage to snag a reservation, the bar is walk-in only. The Progress is a 2015 James Beard Award winner. 1525 Fillmore St., 415.673.1294.

MARINA/COW HOLLOW

ATELIER CRENN

French This modern upscale restaurant from the world's only two Michelin-star female chef blends the line between food and art, presenting garden-centric dishes that are as pleasing to the eye as they are to the palate and menus that read like poetry. Giving center stage to the food, the 40-seat dining room has an earthy, minimalist appearance with teak tables, fig trees and glass orbs that provide soft lighting. Diners can select from one of two multi-course tasting menus. D (Tu-Sa). 3127 Fillmore St., 415.440.0460. \$\$\$\$

MISSION DISTRICT

CRAFTSMAN & WOLVES

Bakery This modern and sleek patisserie in the hip Valencia corridor from James Beard-nominated chef William Werner features a rotating menu of breakfast pastries, cakes, confections, confitures, desserts, lunch and other savory fare. The bakery is famous for the Rebel Within, a savory breakfast muffin with asiago cheese, green onion and breakfast sausage baked into the mix and a full soft-cooked farm egg in the center. 746 Valencia St., 415.913.7713. 1643 Pacific Ave., 415.855.1414.

DELFINA

Italian This bustling neighborhood trattoria is a local favorite that pioneered San Francisco's farm-to-table movement. It has received rave reviews since its opening in 1998 and still packs the house (and outdoor patio) each night. D (nightly). 3621 18th St., 415.552.4055. \$\$\$

FOREIGN CINEMA

California Never was the old dinner-and-a-movie done so artfully, or so deliciously. The vast, bohemian-chic space suits the always excellent California-Mediterranean cuisine. A heated, covered patio screens a rotation of classic, foreign and independent films projected onto one of three walls, and speakers on each table allow you to adjust the volume. Meandering through the changing exhibits in the adjacent gallery is the perfect way to wait for a table. Brunch (Sa-Su), D (nightly). 2534 Mission St., 415.648.7600. \$\$\$

ICHI SUSHI

Sushi Celebrated as one of San Francisco's top sushi destinations and izakayas, Ichi Sushi is the place to go for traditional nigiri, sashimi and an extensive sake list. Sustainability is a huge focus here, and the recently renovated space features a

wall-sized mural with playful instructions on how to eat sushi correctly. D (M-Sa). 3282 Mission St., 415.525.4750.

LITTLE STAR PIZZA

Italian Famous for its deep dish, Chicago-style pizza with a slightly sweet, cornmeal crust, this place draws a stream of addicted regulars. Valencia St.: L, D (daily). Divisadero St.: L (F-Su), D (nightly). 400 Valencia St., 415.551.7827. 846 Divisadero St., 415.441.1118. \$\$

LOLO

Mexican Step into a world of color and pattern when you visit one of the two locations for this eclectic Mexican restaurant in the Mission. Inspired by Jalisco-Californian cuisine, don't miss the Taco Tropical, which includes jicama tortillas, spice-dusted shrimp, an exotic fruit relish and spicy aioli. 974 Valencia St., 415.643.5656.

TARTINE BAKERY & CAFE

Dessert/Coffee This popular artisan bakery serves fresh-from-the-oven pastries all day, as well as pies, cakes, artisan bread and coffee. Breakfast quiches, gourmet sandwiches, classic pastries and an addictive bread pudding keep folks lining up. B, L (daily). 600 Guerrero St., 415.487.2600. \$

TAWLA

Eastern Mediterranean Located in the Mission District, Tawla is an Eastern Mediterranean restaurant serving family-style dishes inspired by the Levant, the region including Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria, Turkey and Greece. The menu changes daily and features seasonal produce as well as locally sourced, sustainably-raised and caught meats and seafood. On clear evenings, gather friends and enjoy the large table on Tawla's back patio. 206 Valencia St., 415.814.2704.

NOB HILL

OSSO STEAKHOUSE

Steaks This swanky, sprawling steakhouse with a striking Art Deco interior is located just across the street from Grace Cathedral in the storied Nob Hill neighborhood. Menu standouts include dry-aged steaks and buttery Dungeness crab. D (nightly). 1177 California St., 415.771.6776. \$\$\$

SWAN OYSTER DEPOT

Seafood Founded in 1912, this seafood market and oyster bar is a San Francisco institution. There's almost always a wait at this intimate, 18-stool oyster bar, but you'll be rewarded with a pint of Anchor Steam beer and a lunch of a dozen oysters on the half shell. L (M-Sa), closed Su. 1517 Polk St., 415.673.2757. \$\$\$

NORTH BEACH

BETTY LOU'S SEAFOOD & GRILL

Seafood A warm, friendly eatery with an Italian flair, Betty Lou's is best known for its cioppino, San Francisco's seafood stew filled with succulent Dungeness crab, prawns, scallops, clams, mussels and calamari; as well as Mike's Wok Crab, a wok-tossed concoction of Dungeness crab, ginger, scallions, red peppers and soy sauce. If seafood isn't your thing, try the juicy 16-ounce bone-in ribeye or chicken piccata. 318 Columbus Ave., 415.757.0569.

SOTTO MARE OYSTERIA & SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

Seafood One of Tony Bennett's favorite San Francisco restaurants, Sotto Mare is an authentic Italian North Beach experience. The seafood restaurant serves up oysters and clams on the half shell, Boston-style clam chowder, baccala, crab cioppino, Louis salads, seafood pastas and more. Sotto Mare's daily fresh fish can also be purchased retail if you feel like cooking yourself. L, D (M-Sa), close Su. 552 Green St., 415.398.3181.

THE STINKING ROSE

Italian Follow your nose to one of the city's most interesting dining experiences, where garlic is king. This restaurant goes through more than 5,000 pounds of the pungent ingredient each month. Specialties include 40 clove garlic chicken, pork chops, roasted Dungeness crab and even garlic ice cream. L, D (daily). 325 Columbus Ave., 415.781.7673. \$\$

RICHMOND/OCEAN BEACH

CLIFF HOUSE

American Near Ocean Beach and Lands End Trail, this iconic historic site located on a headland above the coastal cliffs is home to two restaurants and spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean (whale and sea lion spotting is a possibility) and Sutro Baths. The camera obscura on the deck is on the National Register of Historic Places. Sutro's offers an upscale setting, while The Bistro offers a more casual experience, with burgers, sandwiches and other California favorites. B, L, D (daily). 1090 Point Lobos Ave., 415.386.3330.

OUTERLANDS

New American The reclaimed wood interior of this Outer Sunset restaurant is as celebrated as its food. The owners designed the space themselves, and a recent renovation has made the intimate space formerly notorious for long lines that much more accessible. The grilled cheese sandwich served with housemade levain bread is the menu standout, but the regular lineup of pastries, soups and cold and open-face sandwiches is always worth the trip. 4001 Judah St., 415.661.6140.

SOUTH OF MARKET

BLUESTEM BRASSERIE **California** This upscale urban neighborhood restaurant in the heart of the museum district is a modern interpre-

tation of the classic American brasserie. The menu features fresh, simple fare emphasizing a nose-to-tail cooking philosophy. Local ingredient sourcing extends to the wine list. Dishes include grass-fed beef burgers and steaks, apple-fed pork with cheddar grits and several selections of house-made charcuterie and salumi. L, D (daily). 1 Yerba Buena Ln., 415.547.1111. \$\$\$

DUMPLING TIME

Chinese/Japanese This newly opened spot in the SoMa district serves up freshly-made dumplings in both the Japanese and Chinese traditions. The restaurant's signature dumplings are Japanese-style gyoza, small, well-stuffed dumplings with crispy, pan-seared skin. It also offers bao, har gow, Xi'an dumplings and xiao long bao as well as traditional, hand-

rolled noodles and more. 11 Division St., 415.525.4797.

TRACE

California Named after its traceable ingredients, this restaurant in the W Hotel serves up a thoughtful culinary experience with a dedication to socially responsible food, prepared from locally sourced and sustainable ingredients. The menu includes a selection of items that are farmed, foraged and crafted, as well as small plates to share and large plates to savor yourself. 181 3rd St., in the W Hotel, 415.817.7836. \$\$\$

UNION SQUARE

FARALLON

Seafood This classic Pat Kuleto restaurant in Union Square has been enchanting guests for two decades with carefully crafted details that capture the life aquatic. Blending casual and high-end coastal

cuisine, Farallon offers fresh seafood options and simple raw preparations from the oyster bar. Beyond the welcoming spot's dinner menu, find an approachable wine list, one of the largest collections of single malt whiskeys in the city and inventive desserts. D (nightly). 450 Post St., 415.956.6969. \$\$\$

JOHN'S GRILL

American Founded in 1908, this casual steakhouse is one of the city's oldest restaurants, steeped in San Francisco history. It served as a setting for the classic book and movie, "The Maltese Falcon." The framed black-and-white photographs and news clippings hung throughout serve as a veritable museum of San Francisco memorabilia. Live jazz every night. L, D (daily). 63 Ellis St., 415.986.0069.

NEW DELHI RESTAURANT

Indian Decorated like a Maharajah's private banquet room, this regal restaurant serves northern Indian food, with recipes culled from royal menus dating back 400 years. Chef-owner Ranjan Dey creates daily specials with his six gourmet spice blends. The bar has drawn downtown professionals since the '80s with its Double-Happiness-Happy Hour, 5:30-7:30 pm and 10 pm-midnight. Try the Madras Madness or Oh! Calcutta. L (M-Sa), D (nightly). 160 Ellis St., 415.397.8470. \$\$

SONS & DAUGHTERS

California The brainchild of two young chefs, this restaurant on the cable car line brings contemporary fine dining to Union Square. An open kitchen is centered in the middle of the sleek dining room, turning out inventive dishes like sweetbreads with lobster claw, lavender pork belly and scallop with mushrooms and veal tea. D (W-Su). 708 Bush St., 415.391.8311. \$\$\$

VAN NESS CORRIDOR

HARRIS' STEAKHOUSE

Steaks This iconic restaurant represents classic steakhouse dining, but chef Michael Buhagier adds a California sensibility, The Kobe rib eye, cut from select Japanese cattle reared for optimal marbling, has a rich and delicate texture. A red cabernet butter melts on its seared surface, typifying a subtle flair for the unexpected. 2100 Van Ness Ave., 415.673.1888.

BAY AREA

THE RESTAURANT AT WENTE VINEYARDS

California Located at the famous Wente Vineyards, this restaurant features California wine country cuisine. Enjoy seasonal dishes made from ingredients sourced from the vineyard's magnificent herb and vegetable garden, along with numerous wine pairings for each dish. 5050 Arroyo Rd., Livermore, 925.456.2450.



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TASTE OF THE CITY



CLIFF HOUSE

Since 1863 the Cliff House has perched high on a rocky bluff above the Pacific Ocean at the western edge of San Francisco. With unparalleled ocean views it is famous worldwide, attracting visitors from around the globe and is a favorite destination of the locals. Offering the casual Bistro Restaurant with San Francisco classics for breakfast, lunch, and dinner; the elegant Sutro's at the Cliff House with California coastal cuisine for lunch and dinner; and the famous Sunday Champagne Brunch Buffet in The Terrace Room!

1090 Point Lobos, 415.386.3330, www.cliffhouse.com

BUENA VISTA

As rich in history as the City itself, the Buena Vista Café has served warming libations and hearty meals along Fisherman's Wharf since 1886. It's famously known as home of the "original" Irish Coffee. Though "the BV" has attracted celebrities and sports stars, and has featured in films and television, it remains an authentic and welcoming favorite of locals and visitors. Still serving bountiful meals - all-day breakfasts, as well as lunch and dinner, and of course, its famous Irish Coffee. Mon-Fri: 9am- 2am | Sat- Sun: 8am- 2am All-day breakfast and full bar.

Fisherman's Wharf, 2765 Hyde Street (at Beach St.), San Francisco 415.474.5044, www.thebuenavista.com



CASTAGNOLA'S

The birthplace of the Dungeness crab cocktail and the oldest restaurant on Fisherman's Wharf, Castagnola's began as a crab stand in 1916. The restaurant quickly became a popular destination for fresh fish and crab, and to this day, you can still watch fishermen dock their boats and bring in the day's catch while you dine. In addition to fresh seafood, Castagnola's is known for its hearty steaks as well as award-winning clam chowder. Enjoy live music throughout the week and daily happy hour from 2-6 pm.

286 Jefferson St., 415.776.5015, castagnolassf.com

TASTE OF THE CITY



SOTTO MARE

Tony Bennett says that Sotto Mare is one of his favorite places to dine in San Francisco. Located in the heart of North Beach, Sotto Mare provides an authentic Italian North Beach experience. Sotto Mare serves the freshest fish and shellfish in town. Oysters, Boston style clam chowder, crab cioppino, Louis salads, seafood pastas, seafood risotto and a selection of fresh fish daily. Private parties are available in our restaurant and banquet room. We also sell our fresh fish retail. Open Monday-Saturday 11:00 am -10:00 pm.

**552 Green St., San Francisco
415-398-3181, www.sottomaresf.com**

NEW DELHI RESTAURANT

A Delicious San Francisco Experience! Chef Ranjan has been serving guests from around the world at the same location for over 30 years, creating classic and unique dishes from all over India - using fresh, local ingredients. Voted the Best Indian Restaurant and decorated like a Maharajah's banquet room, New Delhi Restaurant has been a favorite for locals and visitors. Within walking distance of downtown hotels, it's ideal for a delicious meal or a refreshing cocktail. Join us for an experience you cannot find anywhere else!

160 Ellis St., 415.397.8470, NewDelhiRestaurant.com



THE BEACH STREET GRILL ORGANIC RESTAURANT

SF Concierge's Top Pick! Celebrating 10 years where quality matters at The Beach Street Grill Organic Restaurant located at Fisherman's Wharf. We prepare home-made fresh and clean comfort food with Organic and Gluten free options. Come enjoy our famous recipe of regular or gluten free pancakes topped with fresh organic berries and a spiked latte! or a Beach Street Mary with cagefree eggs crab benedict... Sit outside with your dog, we make organic dog biscuits. Sit inside to watch sports TV. Serving the best breakfast experience all day! Open daily, 7am; take-out. Located on the F streetcar line.

380 Beach Street, Fisherman's Wharf, 415.867.1711, sfbeachstreetgrill.com/fb/tripadvisor

TASTE OF THE CITY

ALIOTO'S

San Francisco landmark at Fisherman's Wharf - Alioto's serves world famous fresh Seafood & Sicilian family recipes since 1925, San Francisco's oldest family owned & run restaurant. Every table boasts a view: Golden Gate Bridge, harbor, Fisherman's Wharf & Bay. Alioto's offers Dungeness Crab year-round. Don't miss San Francisco's Finest Calamari or their Famous Crab Cioppino. Also visit Alioto's CAFE 8 for Artisan Pizza in our wood burning oven, Clam Chowder in sourdough bread bowl, or their outdoor Crab Market. Open daily 11am - 10pm. 2 hours free parking w/ validation.

8 Fisherman's Wharf 415.673.0183 www.aliotos.com



HISTORIC JOHN'S GRILL

John's Grill, a San Francisco tradition since 1908, is a must when in the city. It is a favorite with locals and national celebrities (most recently Olympia Dukakis, Renee Zellweger and Drew Brees), who enjoy the great steaks, fresh seafood with excellent service at honest prices in a casual atmosphere of dark panel walls and pictures of old San Francisco. John's Grill is a setting in the novel "The Maltese Falcon" and was featured in Gourmet and chosen one of the Top 10 by Esquire. Walking distance from downtown hotels and theatres. Private banquet rooms are available. Open Mon-Sat: 11am-10pm; Sun: noon-10pm.

63 Ellis St. at Union Square, 415.986.0069, johnsgrill.com

BETTY LOU'S SEAFOOD & GRILL

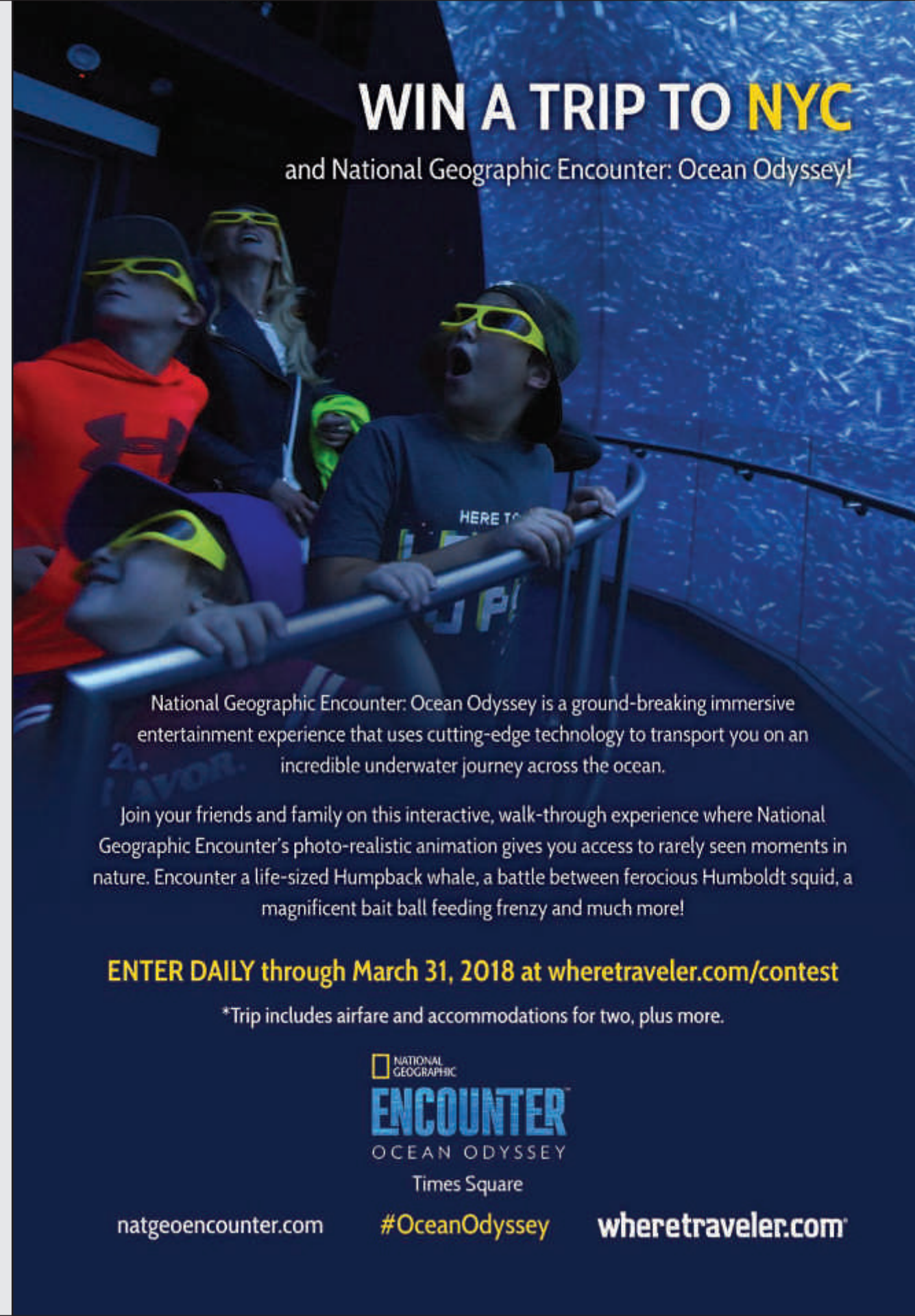
A warm, friendly eatery with an Italian flair, Betty Lou's is best known for its classic cioppino, San Francisco's seafood stew, filled with succulent Dungeness crab, prawns, scallops, clams, mussels and calamari. Expect to be dazzled by Mike's Wok Crab, a concoction of Dungeness crab, ginger, scallions, red peppers and soy sauce, wok-tossed with lots of love. This dish has become a huge favorite. If seafood isn't your thing, you might try the juicy 16-ounce bone-in ribeye or chicken piccata. Open daily

North Beach, 318 Columbus Avenue, San Francisco
415.757.0569, bettyloussf.com



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● THE GUIDE | *Wine Country*



Drinking to Health

Located in Napa's Carneros District, **Kieu Hoang Winery** was founded by the pharmaceuticals entrepreneur of the same name and opened in Napa in 2014 after he bought the property from Mondavi Family Estates. It's surrounded by rolling hills and features a tasting room designed by Howard Backen, veranda seating with beautiful views and an olive garden. Carneros is Napa's coolest wine growing region, ideal for growing chardonnay and pinot noir. 1285 Dealy Ln., Napa, 707.253.1615

SHOPPING THE BARLOW

A sleek stretch of renovated warehouses (once part of an apple processing plant) in downtown Sebastopol is home to some of the best local food producers, wine-makers, brewers and artisans. This unique space is the first business community in the country to connect customers not only with products and the people who make them, but also with the production itself. 6770 McKinley St., 707.824.5600. Map 4, C6

DEAN & DELUCA

The gourmet supplier's store has separate deli, meat, and bakery counters, as well as an on-site wine shop to ensure one-stop picnic packing. 607 St. Helena Hwy. S., St. Helena, 707.967.9980.

JIMTOWN STORE

Part deli, part inspired five-and-dime shop, the Jimtown Store is the essential stop for small town souvenirs and tasty grilled eggplant-and-provolone box lunches. 6706 Hwy. 128, Healdsburg 707.433.1212.

OXBOW PUBLIC MARKET

Visit this gourmet mall for the freshest local ingredients for an afternoon picnic before wine tasting. Or stick around and order from the selection

of independent eateries offering elevated takes on pizza, burgers and tacos plus oysters and rotisserie chicken and then grab a seat on the patio overlooking the Napa River. 644 1st St., Napa, 707.226.6529. Map 3, E7.

SHED

Wine, dine and shop at this glass-walled, 10,000-square-foot locavore's paradise in Healdsburg. You'll find a store selling high-end kitchen and gardening equipment, local foodstuffs (including grains milled onsite) and books; a cafe with daily-changing menus inspired by neighboring produce and farms; and a coffee bar with its own espresso, house-made pastries and ice creams. Shed also has the only fermentation bar in the area, where local wines, beers, kombuchas, natural sodas and hard ciders are all available on tap. 25 North St., Healdsburg, 707.431.7433. Map 4, C3

TOURS & ATTRACTIONS

BIN 415

With over 900 wineries between Napa and Sonoma, deciding where to go can be overwhelming. Bin 415 offers unique excursions hosted by a certified sommelier to wineries offering the perfect combination of amazing

wines, warm hospitality and beautiful scenery. Bin 415 also offers tours throughout San Francisco, Sausalito, Muir Woods and the Pacific Coast Highway. 1616 Grove St., 415.851.5711.

CIA AT COPIA

Located in Napa's Oxbow district, The Culinary Institute of America's CIA at Copia offers daily cooking and beverage classes, and is home to a lifestyle and home goods store, an 80,000 square-foot indoor and outdoor event and theater space, and the Restaurant at CIA Copia, offering Mediterranean-inspired California cuisine and an extensive wine list. 500 1st St., Napa, 707.967.2500. Map 3, E7

LONG MEADOW RANCH

Farmstead Restaurant anchors this sustainable food, wine and agriculture center in St. Helena, which also features a wine and olive oil tasting room located in a restored Gothic Revival farmhouse, a full organic nursery and a seasonal outdoor farmers market. 738 Main St., St. Helena, 707.963.4555.

MAIIISONRY

Housed in a beautifully maintained 1904 stone manor, this winery collective and art gallery feels like a luxurious

home with rotating seasonal art collections that feature internationally acclaimed names as well as Napa Valley and Bay Area artists. The tasting room pours bottles from limited-production boutique wineries such as Blackbird Vineyards, Casa Piena Estate, Renteria Wines and more, which can be enjoyed with a bite in the landscaped gardens dotted with contemporary sculpture. 6711 Washington St., Yountville, 707.944.0889.

NAPA VALLEY WINE TRAIN

Passengers sip select Napa Valley wines and indulge in gourmet cuisine as they ride past vineyards on these three-hour lunch and dinner tours aboard restored Pullman coaches. Reservations recommended. 1275 McKinstry St., Napa, 800.427.4124. Map 3, E7

WINERIES

B CELLARS

Named for the first letter of the word brix, a wine term defining the optimal sugar/alcohol content in grape juice that produces great wine, B Cellars is a new winery and tasting lounge in Oakville. It uses a multi-vineyard wine-making strategy, blending grapes grown on nine Napa Valley vineyard sites to create unique wines with distinct

COURTESY KIEU HOANG

Wine Country ●

character, depth and layers of flavor. The sophisticated new tasting room features food tastings to complement the wines and a scenic setting. Open daily, no appointment necessary. 703 Oakville Cross Rd., Oakville 877.229.9939. Map 3, D4

B.R. COHN

Specializing in estate-grown Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot wines, this hillside winery also produces award-winning olive oils and vinegars. Tastings open to the public; tours by appointment. 15000 Sonoma Hwy., Glen Ellen, 800.330.4064.

BEAULIEU VINEYARD

This more than 100-year-old winery is the longest continually operating winery in Napa Valley and is the production site for the flagship Cabernet Sauvignon. Beaulieu was founded on a four-acre ranch by a French winemaker who envisioned a company producing fine wine unparalleled to his native France. Daily tastings feature wines you can't find anywhere else. 1960 St. Helena Hwy., Rutherford. 707.967.5200. Map 3, C4

BERINGER VINEYARDS

Napa Valley's oldest continuously operating winery is also among its most accessible. Beringer is known for its Cabernet Sauvignons and bold, oaky Chardonnays. The large facility includes a gift shop that offers tableware, stemware and kitchen and home accessories. A variety of tours and seminars are available. Daily 10 am–5 pm. 2000 Main St., St. Helena, 707.257.5771. Map 3, B3

BREATHLESS WINES

Three sisters—Sharon, Rebecca and Cynthia—founded this winery alongside renowned winemaker Penny Gadd-Coster (recently named Winemaker of the Year by the North Bay Business Journal). They make refreshing sparkling wine in the

traditional French method, *méthode champenoise*, from Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grapes. 499 Moore Ln., 707.395.7300.

BUENA VISTA WINERY

California's first premium winery just completed its very first major renovation since its inception in 1857. Located just outside the town of Sonoma, this California Historic Landmark's restoration included a renovation of the champagne cellars and caves as well as a new fountain, vineyard landscaping and stonemasonry detailing. Stop in for a tour, and taste world-class Cabernets, Pinot Noirs, Chardonnays and Zinfandels. Tasting room open seven days a week, year round. Reservations recommended. 18000 Old Winery Rd., Sonoma, 800.926.1266.

CASTELLO DI AMOROSA

For a one-of-a-kind experience in wine country, visit this 13th century Tuscan-style castle that took 15 years to build. Authentic features include hand-forged Italian ironwork, hand-painted frescoes, a 500-year-old fireplace, half-ton hand-hewn doors, a drawbridge, a courtyard and even a torture chamber. But the real treasure is inside: an award-winning collection of wines, including Sangiovese, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Don't miss the daily cheese and wine pairing tour or the family-friendly tasting areas. 4045 N. Saint Helena Hwy., Calistoga, 707.967.6272.

CHARBAY WINERY & DISTILLERY

Named for its first drink—Chardonnay combined with brandy—Charbay now produces much more than just wine and brandy. Discover the artisan world of distilling many spirits like whiskey, vodka and rum from a family in the distillery business for 13 generations. Taste Charbay's wines and ports,

then enjoy a cigar in the rustic setting of Spring Mountain. Tastings open to the public. 4001 Spring Mountain Rd., St. Helena, 707.963.9327. Map 4, F4

CHARLES KRUG

Since its opening in 1861, Charles Krug winery has produced award-winning Cabernets and renowned Sauvignon Blanc. Tasting room open daily. 2800 Main St., St. Helena, 707.967.2200. Map 3, B3

CHATEAU MONTELENA WINERY

The Napa winery whose Chardonnay earned California wines international recognition at the 1976 Tasting of Paris (portrayed in the movie "Bottle Shock") is still producing great wines, like the Estate Cabernet, Estate Zinfandel and the limited production Potter Valley Riesling. Can't get up to wine country? Stop by the tasting room in the Westin St. Francis hotel in Union Square, open five days a week (W-Su). No reservations needed. 1429 Tubbs Ln., Calistoga, 707.942.5105. Map 4, E3

DOMAINE CHANDON

Sample toast-worthy sparkling wines, Pinot Noir and Chardonnay in the tasting room. Tastings open to the public. 1 California Dr., Yountville 707.944.8844.

EHLERS ESTATE

Featuring a unique fusion of outstanding wine-growing, environmental consciousness and international philanthropy, this is a California winery through and through. Organic and biodynamic farming techniques are used to produce a small portfolio of estate-grown wines. Tastings by appointment. 3222 Ehlers Ln., St. Helena, 707.963.5972. Map 3, B2

FARNIENTE

The winery so committed to quality that it only produces one Chardonnay and one

Cabernet Sauvignon each year just recently opened its doors to the public. Tours of the winery and tastings available by appointment only. 1350 Acacia Dr., Oakville, 707.944.2861.

FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA WINERY

Celebrate all the best things in life at this winery in the heart of picturesque Alexander Valley. Sip from more than 40 wines produced on site and eat authentic, Neapolitan-style pizzas and South American wood-grilled meats at the full-service restaurant Rustic and take a dip in the sparkling swimming pools (open seasonally). 300 Via Archimedes, Geyserville, 707.857.1471. Map 4, B2

GRGICH HILLS ESTATE

Miljenko "Mike" Grgich, whose belongings were appropri-

ated by the Smithsonian, gained international recognition in 1976 when judges at the Paris Tasting named his Chateau Montelena Chardonnay the best white wine in the world. In 1977, he partnered with Austin Hills (of the Hills Bros. Coffee family). Their winery produces Cabernet Sauvignons, Zinfandels, Fume Blancs and, of course, Chardonnays. Tastings and tours open to the public. 1829 St. Helena Hwy., Rutherford, 707.963.2784. Map 3, C4

GUNDLACH BUNDSCHU

After more than 150 years, the sixth generation of this wine-growing family still produces quality estate-grown and bottled Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Cabernet Sauvignon, to name a few. Check online for the seasonal cave tour, vineyard excursions and courtyard tasting

availability. 2000 Denmark St., Sonoma, 707.938.5277. Map 4, F6

HALL WINES

This winery plants twice as many vines per acre in comparison to traditional practices, resulting in smaller vines that produce richer and more concentrated wines. It boasts five estate vineyards planted with 500 acres of classic Bordeaux varietals: Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Sauvignon Blanc. The monumental new LEED-certified visitor center features wine tasting, food and wine education, tours, gardens and an impressive contemporary art collection. 401 St. Helena Hwy. S., St. Helena, 707.967.2626. Map 3, C3

HESS COLLECTION

A winding road near Mt. Veeder leads to this winery and art gallery. In the

gallery, you'll see works by Francis Bacon and Robert Motherwell; the tasting room serves award-winning Chardonnays and Cabernet Sauvignons. 4411 Redwood Rd., Napa, 707.255.1144. Map 3, C6

INGLENOOK CHATEAU

Filmmaker Francis Ford Coppola's team produces five estate wines, including the renowned Rubicon, on this 19th-century estate. The wines are made from 235 acres of certified organically grown grapes. The grounds include two tasting salons, a wine bar where guests can enjoy wines by the glass and a museum featuring antique zoetropes and artifacts from the estate's founder, Gustave Niebaum. Children can float small wooden boats in a courtyard reflecting pool free of charge. Reservations recommended for tastings

and tours. 1991 St. Helena Hwy., Rutherford, 707.968.1100. Map 3, C4

JORDAN VINEYARD & WINERY

The quiet retreat of this 18th century French chateau-style winery (built in the 1970s) is the perfect setting for enjoying its Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay—the only vintages it bottles. By appointment only. 1474 Alexander Valley Rd., 800.654.1213.

MATERRA, CUNAT FAMILY VINEYARDS

Roughly translated, Materra means Mother Earth. The Cunat Family Vineyards, where Materra wines are grown, combine terroir, hand-selected and planted vines, a cooler climate and the talents of a dedicated team to produce complex wines. Materra wines are grown in the Oak Knoll District of

the Napa Valley, a region well known for its deep, rich alluvial soil and excellent microclimates. The winery is known for Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc and Viognier. 4326 Big Ranch Rd., 707.224.4900.

MUMM NAPA

The famed Champagne house's California winery produces top-of-the-line cuvees, including its premium DVX label. The on-site art gallery showcases photography, including a collection of Ansel Adams prints and rotating exhibits. 8445 Silverado Trail, Rutherford, 707.967.7700. Map 3, C4

PEJU PROVINCE WINERY

For more than 30 years in the Napa Valley, this winery has been a garden oasis along Highway 29 in the famed Rutherford appellation.

Known for its legendary Cabernet Sauvignon, it produces many award-winning varietals, including Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Syrah, Zinfandel, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc and Fifty/Fifty, a Bordeaux blend. Guests can make an appointment for a private wine tasting 50 feet up in the French Provincial tasting room tower. Tastings open to the public. 8466 St. Helena Hwy., Rutherford, 707.963.3600. Map 3, C4

QUIXOTE WINERY

The excellent Petite Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon from Stags' Leap Ranch is matched by the eclectic design of Friedensreich Hundertwasser. Visits by appointment. 6126 Silverado Trail, Napa, 707.944.2659. Map 3, D5



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RAM'S GATE WINERY

Just a 35-minute drive from San Francisco, this winery uncorks the best in wine, food, architecture and interior design. Its rustic yet elegant barn includes an open-air reception courtyard, a tasting pavilion, an open kitchen, a fireside lounge, a wine library, underground dining alcoves and floor-to-ceiling glass walls that open to sweeping vineyard and bay views. 28700 Arnold Dr., Sonoma, 707.721.8700. Map 4, F8

ROUND POND ESTATE WINERY

The winery joins a fabulous olive mill and features a stunning tasting room with dramatic views that complement the world-class Cabernet Sauvignons and Sauvignon Blancs. Tastings and tours by appointment. 875 Rutherford Rd., Rutherford, 707.302.2575. Map 3, C4

STARMONT WINERY & VINEYARDS

Established in 2006 by the Schlatter family as a sister property to the Bordeaux-focused Merryvale Vineyards, Starmont Winery, with its distinctive terroir, thoughtful farming and hands-on winemaking, results in serious yet approachable wines. 1451 Stanly Ln., 707.252.8001. Map 3, E7

STERLING VINEYARDS

Take in exceptional panoramic views of Napa Valley on a tram ride to this winery's visitors center, perched atop a 300-foot-tall hillside overlooking the valley. The winery specializes in Cabernet Sauvignon, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay and more. Tastings and self-guided tours open to the public; guided tours at 11 am. 1111 Dunawee Ln., Calistoga, 800.726.6136. Map 4, E3

TRINCHERO NAPA VALLEY

The Trinchero family has been making wine in Napa Valley since 1948, and is best known for their Cabernet Sauvignon. The tasting room is a unique and inviting space where visitors can taste small-lot, single-vineyard wines from Trinchero's premiere Napa Valley estates, and sample delectable food and wine pairings. Discover the art of winemaking through behind-the-scenes barrel tastings in Trinchero's wine cave. 3070 N. St. Helena Hwy., St. Helena, 707.963.1160. Map 3, B3

WENTE VINEYARDS

The country's oldest continuously operating family-owned winery offers wine tasting, vineyard and garden tours, educational workshops, an upscale restaurant and a scenic 18-hole championship golf course. Visit the Vineyard Tasting Room to learn about

the rich history of California winemaking, book a class at the Winemakers Studio to blend your own bottle or make an appointment for a private group tasting in the historic wine caves. The winery's summer concert series features musical performances on the beautiful outdoor lawn. 5050 Arroyo Rd., Livermore, 925.456.2300.

SCRIBE WINERY

Owned by two young brothers, Scribe Winery is a photographer's dream, with sun-dappled hills, colorful wildflowers and even a wooden swing. The stylish and friendly staff knows their stuff, and the wine, made with yeasts, is solid. 2100 Denmark St., 707.939.1858.

SWIRL & SIP



WENTE VINEYARDS

Wente Vineyards is the country's oldest, continuously operated family-owned winery. The winery maintains its leadership role in California winegrowing under ownership and management by the Fourth and Fifth Generations of the Wente family. Blending traditional and innovative winemaking practices, the winery draws from approximately 3,000 acres of sustainably farmed Estate vineyards to create an outstanding portfolio of fine wines. Located in Livermore Valley, Wente Vineyards is recognized as one of California's premier wine country destinations.

5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore, CA 94550
925.456.2424 www.wentevineyards.com



PEJU WINERY

Established in 1983, Peju Province Winery produces expressive wines from organic and sustainably farmed vineyards in the Napa Valley. Located on an idyllic estate in Rutherford, the winery is home to lush gardens, distinctive architecture, and a tasting room offering world-class hospitality and culinary experiences. Experience our local, small-farm, cheese and wine pairings or our "farm to table" wine and culinary explorations. The winery is open daily for tastings from 10 am-6 pm.

8466 St. Helena Highway, Rutherford,
707.963.3600, www.peju.com



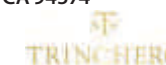
Owners Lisa and Ariana Peju



TRINCHERO NAPA VALLEY

The Trinchero family has been making wine in Napa Valley since 1948, and is best known for their Cabernet Sauvignon. The tasting room is a unique and inviting space where visitors can taste small-lot, single-vineyard wines from Trinchero's premiere Napa Valley Estates. Open daily 10am- 5pm. Educational seminars are offered by appointment; sample delectable food and wine pairings, discover the art of barrel usage or learn about the origin of Napa Valley's unique terroir.

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Coastal Gem

Cross the Golden Gate Bridge and exit toward the Marin Headlands, the wild peninsula just north of San Francisco, continue to the Point Bonita trailhead and walk a steep, windy half mile past rocky cliffs, loafing seals and crashing waves, and you'll arrive to **Point Bonita**

Lighthouse. It was established in 1855, when the California Gold Rush was in full swing and the bay's dense fog provoked rampant shipwrecks. The U.S. Coast Guard now maintains it.

Fort Barry, Building 948, Marin Headlands, 415.331.1540

ATTRACTIONS & SIGHTS

ALCATRAZ CRUISES

This is the only way to get to "The Rock," the famous former federal penitentiary that housed some of the nation's most notorious criminals from 1934-1963. Now one of San Francisco's most popular visitor attractions, ferries depart regularly for the island from Pier 33 starting at 8:45 am. The dynamic 45-minute cellhouse audio tour, offered in 11 languages, features the voices of former Alcatraz prison guards and inmates who recount escape attempts, prison riots and solitary confinement. The night tours include a narrated boat ride around the island. Tours sell out quickly, so be sure to make reservations in advance. *Pier 33, 415.981.7625.*

AQUARIUM OF THE BAY

Visit San Francisco's only waterfront aquarium to get up close and personal with the bay's amazing marine life. Walk through crystal-clear tunnels of water filled with more than 20,000 aquatic animals, including seaventilators, sharks, the bay's largest predators. You can touch leopard sharks, rays and sea stars. Daily events include animal feedings and naturalist presentations. Don't miss the permanent river otter exhibit, where you can watch otters

playing, swimming and eating. *Pier 39, 415.623.5300.*

AT&T PARK

Home of the San Francisco Giants, AT&T Park boasts breathtaking city views and a classic design. The stadium features a nine-foot tall statue of America's greatest living ballplayer, Willie Mays, at the entrance, home runs that splash into McCovey Cove, an 80-foot Coca-Cola bottle with playground slides, a miniature AT&T Park for kids and diverse dining options within the stadium. You can also take tours of the ballpark that allow fans to explore areas normally closed to the public. *24 Willie Mays Plaza, 415.972.2400.*

BAKER BEACH

This mile-long beach lies at the base of the rugged cliffs west of the Golden Gate. No swimming here, but bring your camera for great views of the Golden Gate Bridge, the Marin Headlands and Lands End. *415.561.4323.*

COIT TOWER

Upon her death in 1929, socialite and art patron Lillie Hitchcock Coit bequeathed funds for the "beautification of the city." Her heirs used the money to build Coit Tower on Telegraph Hill. Completed in 1933, the fluted column provides bird's-eye views

from an observation deck near the top. Local artists commissioned by the Works Progress Administration (a New Deal agency employing millions of unskilled workers to carry out public works projects) painted the murals inside in 1934. Admission to the ground-floor gift shop and murals is free. Open daily 10 am-6:30 pm. Guided mural tours 11 am Sa. *1 Telegraph Hill Blvd., 415.249.0995.*

CONSERVATORY OF FLOWERS

The botanical wonderland in Golden Gate Park is the oldest wood and glass conservatory in North America. The striking white exterior is as eye-catching as the inside, which houses nearly 2,000 plant species in five galleries. Closed M. *100 JFK Dr., Golden Gate Park, 415.831.2090.*

CRISSY FIELD

A nationally protected former U.S. Army airfield, this strikingly scenic waterfront recreation area is now a favorite among active locals and visitors. A wide (stroller and wheelchair-friendly) trail between Marina Green and Fort Point is perfect for an easy walk, jog or bike ride. Offering unparalleled views of the Golden Gate Bridge in one direction and the city in the other, the shoreline

is home to sandy beaches, picnic tables, tidal marsh overlooks and a nationally renowned windsurfing site, as well as cafes, bookstores and an environmental education center. *415.561.7690.*

DOLORES PARK

This generous square of grass on the Mission District's west side is a great place to soak up some sun on most days and an even better place to get a glimpse of real San Francisco culture. Kids play on the monster playground, dogs romp together and adults in couples and groups lounge on the grass with picnics. Rallies and organized community events are not uncommon sights. *18th and Dolores streets, 415.554.9521.*

FERRY BUILDING MARKETPLACE

The historic, renovated ferry terminal at the foot of Market Street is now a world-class food market with more than 40 shops and restaurants featuring some of the area's most prized artisanal treats: rich Cowgirl Creamery cheese, buttery Miette Patisserie madeleines and Recchiuti chocolates redolent of lavender and ginger. It is also the spot for one of the nation's best and biggest farmers markets on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings, featuring

colorful displays of local produce, meat, cheese, flowers, cooking demos, food trucks and more. *415.983.8030.*

FISHERMAN'S WHARF

You'll find crab stands along the sidewalks, seafood restaurants and a bevy of souvenir shops in the historic heart of the city's fishing industry. Several bay charter boats depart from the piers. Nearby is the bustling food and shopping center Ghirardelli Square, scenic Aquatic Park and historic Hyde Street Pier. *415.673.3530.*

FORT POINT

This powerful fort guarded the Golden Gate Bridge entrance for almost half a century until its original cannons were removed. Visitors can explore its brick casemates, grand arches and spiral stairs and even participate in a can-

non drill. *Long Ave. and Marine Dr., Bldg. 999, 415.556.1693.*

GHIRARDELLI SQUARE

The renovated former chocolate factory site is now home to boutiques, restaurants and the original Ghirardelli Ice Cream and Chocolate Shop. Find gifts and souvenirs at Lola Toy Shop, Gigi + Rose, Jackson & Polk and Elizabeth W then sit down for a meal at McCormick & Kuleto's, Lori's Diner or The Pub. *900 North Point St., 415.775.5500.*

GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE

One of the most iconic landmarks in the world, let alone San Francisco, the magnificent international orange Golden Gate Bridge defines the city. The 4,200-foot suspension bridge was completed in 1937 after four years of construction to a rowdy, week-long celebration. Even today, Golden Gate

Bridge's two 746-foot-tall Art Deco towers stand as proud testaments to the ingenuity and grace of the structure's design. A stroll down the east side offers stunning views of the city and boats in the bay—if you can withstand the wind. A drive across the Golden Gate Bridge leads directly to a breathtaking vantage point in Marin County. Either way, a trip across the Golden Gate Bridge truly brings the stunning San Francisco landscape into focus. *Lincoln Boulevard, near Doyle Drive and Fort Point, Presidio, 415.921.5858.*

GOLDEN GATE PARK

Bigger than New York's Central Park and encompassing over 75,000 trees, this horticulturally diverse urban oasis is home to countless attractions, including the de Young Museum; California Academy of Sciences;

Japanese Tea Garden; Botanical Gardens; Stow Lake; Conservatory of Flowers; Garden of Shakespeare's Flowers; two historic windmills; a bison paddock; and a rose garden. It's also the city's recreational headquarters, featuring polo, baseball and soccer fields; a nine-hole golf course; an 18-hole disc golf course; tennis, handball and basketball courts; an archery field; horseshoe pits; lawn bowling; fly-fishing; a running track; and more. Come here and join the city's runners, cyclists, hikers, skaters, yogis, picnickers and swing dancers. *Pick up a park map at McLaren Lodge at the east park entrance at Stanyan St. and JFK Dr., 415.831.2700.*

GRACE CATHEDRAL

A famous San Francisco landmark, this cathedral inspired by the architecture of Paris' Notre Dame serves

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as a diverse gathering place for worship, celebration and conversation. It is known for its striking architecture, stained glass, De Rosen mosaics and replica of Ghiberti's "Gates of Paradise." It's also home to an Interfaith AIDS Chapel, well-attended free community yoga classes on the labyrinth and three choirs, including one of the last Episcopal men and boys cathedral choirs. Guided tours available. 1100 California St., 415.749.6300.

IMMIGRANT POINT

Dedicated to all those who came to San Francisco in search of a better life, Immigrant Point is located on the bluffs of the Presidio. Offering stunning vistas of the Marin Headlands, Point Reyes National Seashore, and the Pacific Ocean on clear days, this stone plaza built into the cliffs is the perfect place to enjoy the Bay Area coastline. Washington Blvd. & Harrison Blvd.

JAPANESE TEA GARDEN

Take a slow stroll among bonsai trees and koi fish in the oldest public Japanese garden in the United States. Originally built as the Japanese Village for the 1894 California Midwinter International Exposition, the Japanese Tea Garden boasts traditional monuments, bowed bridges, native Japanese plants and trees, serene ponds and some of the best photo opps in the city. Conclude your visit with a cup of tea or snack at the teahouse. 75 Hagiwara Tea Garden Dr., Golden Gate Park, 415.752.1171.

JAPANTOWN CENTER

The focal point of San Francisco's Japanese neighborhood stands near the Peace Pagoda. It contains Japanese supermarkets and shops selling books, anime and gifts, as well as sushi bars and galleries. Post and Buchanan streets, 415.922.6776.

LANDS END

Known for its shipwrecks and landslides, this is San Francisco's wildest and rockiest coast, located on the edge of the continent. The headlands connect popular landmarks the Cliff House and the Palace of the Legion of Honor. The crown jewel is the jaw-droppingly scenic (and dog-friendly and partially wheelchair accessible) Coastal Trail, with postcard views of the Pacific coast and Golden Gate Bridge framed by windswept cypresses. Start the 3.5-mile out-and-back hike with an introduction to the area's history and wildlife at the beautiful Lands End Lookout visitor center, complete with a gift shop, cafe and restrooms. Also located here are the historic Sutro Baths and a memorial to a WWII cruiser that sustained 45 hits and 25 fires during the Battle of Guadalcanal. 680 Point Lobos Ave., 415.561.4700.

LOMBARD STREET

Eight hairpin switchbacks and the downward pitch of the so-called "crookedest street in the world" have made this block a must-drive for visitors. The quarter-mile downhill stretch is lined with gorgeous gardens and barriers to ensure that drivers maintain a speed of five miles per hour. Those who simply walk to the top of the hill are rewarded with sweeping views of Russian Hill and Coit Tower. Lombard and Hyde streets.

MISSION DOLORES

Completed in 1791, Mission Dolores is the oldest intact building in San Francisco, the city's first church and the sixth of 21 missions built along the El Camino Real from Mexico to Sonoma. Visit to learn about the mission's unique historic, religious and architectural significance and enjoy its tranquil garden. 3321 16th St., 415.621.8203.

NATIONAL AIDS MEMORIAL GROVE

Deep within Golden Gate Park, the National AIDS Memorial Grove pays quiet tribute to the millions of people who lost their lives to AIDS. The first memorial of its kind in the United States, the Grove stands as a constant reminder of how this disease devastated the San Francisco community and why the struggle against AIDS must continue today. Golden Gate Park, Nancy Pelosi Dr. & Bowling Green Dr., 415.765.0498.

OCEAN BEACH

The widest and longest expanse of sand on San Francisco's shores, this beach extending from the Cliff House to Fort Funston along the Pacific Ocean is a destination for seaside drives, jogs, sunset walks and bonfires. Often windy and foggy, the

notorious currents attract serious surfers who brave the frigid waters.

PAINTED LADIES

This row of seven perfectly pastel, ornate Victorian homes from the 1890s (made famous by the opening credits of the sitcom "Full House") lines the eastern side of Alamo Square park. Victorian and Edwardian-style houses are among San Francisco's most recognizable architectural features. From the top of the park, you'll be treated to a view of the Painted Ladies in the foreground of downtown San Francisco that's popular with photographers. This little stretch of homes is often also called Postcard Row. 710-720 Steiner St.

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domed rotunda is all that remains from eight identical structures built to show the world that San Francisco had risen from the ashes after the devastating 1906 earthquake. The world's fair honored the completion of the Panama Canal, and the construction of the Palace of Fine Arts turned the dilapidated Marina District into an exhibit of architectural beauty. Featuring a lagoon with swans, today this is a popular spot to stroll and take photos. 3301 Lyon St., 415.567.6642.

PIER 39

This family-friendly shopping, dining and entertainment destination near Fisherman's Wharf features more than 90 specialty shops and 14 restaurants serving seafood and casual fare with beautiful bay views, including Alcatraz, the Golden Gate and Bay bridges, Fisherman's Wharf and city skyline. Learn about sea life in the Aquarium of the Bay and don't miss the sea lions who laze on the west docks and the adjacent Sea Lion Center. 415.981.7437.

THE PRESIDIO

A patchwork of eucalyptus groves, freshwater creeks, wildflower-splashed sand dunes and coastal prairie covers the Presidio, a former military post and modern-day national park in the northwest corner of the city. Exploring the 1,491-acre playground starts with 24 miles of trails and eight scenic overlooks with postcard-worthy views of the Golden Gate Bridge and San Francisco Bay. Three installations by nature artist Andy Goldsworthy grace the park, inspired by 300 acres of pine, cypress and eucalyptus trees planted there in the late 1800s. The Presidio also draws outdoor enthusiasts with gems such as Baker Beach, Presidio Golf Course and Rob Hill Campground. Accessed via Washington Blvd., 15th Ave., 25th Ave., Arguello Blvd., Presidio Ave. and Chestnut St.

PRESIDIO OFFICERS' CLUB

San Francisco's oldest building (Spanish colonists built its adobe walls in 1776) and the crown jewel of the Presidio reopened fall 2014 after a \$30 million renovation. The 38,895-square foot cultural destination is home to permanent and rotating exhibits, the most noteworthy of which is the Heritage Gallery, which features multi-media displays on the area's history, much of which has been discovered by local archaeologists who staff an active research center for Presidio artifacts. The building is also home to Arguello, a new Mexican restaurant from acclaimed chef Traci Des Jardins. Inside are original pendants and wall sconces as well as a bar made from the reclaimed wood of a demolished Presidio building. Adjacent to the restaurant is the latest sculpture from nature artist Andy Goldsworthy, which incorporates local eucalyptus trees. 50 Moraga Ave., 415.561.4440.

SAN FRANCISCO BOTANICAL GARDEN

This internationally recognized urban oasis and self-described outdoor classroom includes 55 acres of gardens displaying more than 8,000 different kinds of plants, plus a library, bookstore, family activities and guided walks. The Bay Area's mild temperatures, wet winters and dry summers, coupled with San Francisco's famous coastal fog, provide this garden with a rare and advantageous range of climatic conditions that allow it to grow and conserve plants from all over the world, including plants from high elevation tropical cloud forests and plants that are no longer found in their native habitats. 1119 9th Ave., 415.661.1316.

SAN FRANCISCO MARITIME NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

The historic park offers opportunities to tour several historic ships, including

the meticulously restored square-rigger "Balclutha" (open daily 9:30 am-6 pm; \$5 adults, children under 16 free). The visitors center in the nearby Argonaut Hotel (499 Jefferson St.) features interactive exhibits. Join the free pirate party called Chantey Sing at 8 pm on the first Saturday of each month. Hyde St. Pier, 415.447.5000.

STOW LAKE

One of the gems of Golden Gate Park, this serene, man-made lake has provided an escape from city living since 1893. Rent a rowboat, pedal boat or electric boat and gently cruise under the many bridges and visit the waterfall. This is a scenic and relaxing retreat for couples and families alike. 50 Stow Lake Dr., 415.386.2531.

THE WOMEN'S BUILDING MURAL

This spectacular mural is a culmination of a multi-cultural, multi-generation collaboration of seven women artists. The mural was painted in 1994 and its themes include the healing power of women's wisdom over time and the contributions of women throughout history. 3543 18th St. #8, 415.431.1180.

URBAN PUTT

Located in the Mission District, Urban Putt is San Francisco's first and only miniature golf course. A team of local designers, robotics engineers, welders and artists designed the indoor, 14-hole course, which features imaginative handmade marvels and interactive, kinetic sculptures inspired by San Francisco's landmarks and architecture. Two bars pour drafts from local breweries, wines and cocktails which are served in custom-designed "adult sippy cups" so that players can drink on the green. After your game, grab a bite at the upstairs restaurant serving California comfort food with

organic and locally sourced ingredients. 1096 South Van Ness Ave., 415.341.1080.

YERBA BUENA GARDENS

The large complex next to Moscone Center has much to offer in the way of theater, restaurants, public art and formal gardens. Facilities include an ice rink, a 12-lane bowling alley and a historic carousel. Nearby museums include the Contemporary Jewish Museum, SFMOMA, the Museum of the African Diaspora, the Cartoon Art Museum and the Children's Creativity Museum, an interactive art and technology center. The Yerba Buena Center for the Arts offers visual, performing and film arts, plus educational programs. The area also hosts the annual Yerba Buena Gardens Festival, offering free outdoor multicultural performances throughout the summer. 750 Howard St., 415.978.2787.

THE SAN FRANCISCO ZOO

A vast array of wildlife awaits at this facility near the far edge of Ocean Beach. The attractions include a children's petting zoo and a lemur forest. Sloat Blvd. at Great Hwy., 415.753.7080.

MUSEUMS BEAT MUSEUM

Dedicated to the poetry and social movement that made San Francisco a part of literary history, this museum showcases artifacts from authors such as Jack Kerouac and Lawrence Ferlinghetti. Located across the street from City Lights Books. Open 10 am-7 pm daily. 540 Broadway St., 415.399.9626.

CABLE CAR MUSEUM

Unravel the mystery of exactly how the cable car, one of San Francisco's greatest attractions since 1873, actually works. Located in the historic Washington-Mason cable car depot and powerhouse in Nob Hill, the small museum houses a collection of historic

cable cars, photographs and mechanical displays. 1201 Mason St., 415.474.1887.

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

The academy is an international center for scientific education and research and the only museum in the world to house an aquarium, planetarium and natural history museum under one (living) roof. See what's shaking at "Earthquake," an exhibit exploring how seismology has shaped earth's past and present. "Human Odyssey," a dramatic addition to Tusher African Hall, traces the milestones of our species' fascinating history. Thursday nights: "Nightlife," the museum's weekly 21-and-older event, invites visitors to drink, dance and experience world-class exhibits with topics ranging from the science of sex to the cosmos. non-members \$15, members \$12. 55 Music Concourse Dr., Golden Gate Park, 415.379.8000.

CHILDREN'S CREATIVITY MUSEUM

This hands-on, multimedia arts and technology experience for kids of all ages is located in San Francisco's Yerba Buena neighborhood. The museum promotes 21st century skills—creativity, communication and collaboration—to inspire new ideas and a spirit of invention. 221 4th St., 415.820.3320.

EXPLORATORIUM

Relocated to a spectacular waterfront location on Pier 15 as of 2013, this educational center offers an array of interactive scientific exhibits and hands-on displays that stimulate the senses and minds of the young and old alike. Ongoing: "After Dark," the Exploratorium's 18-and-up event from 6-10 pm on the first Thursday of the month features cocktails, exclusive performances, films and cutting-edge technology

exhibits. Closed M. Pier 15, 415.528.4444.

GLBT HISTORY MUSEUM

Celebrating 100 years of the San Francisco gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community's history through dynamic and surprising exhibitions and programming, this museum is the only one of its kind in the U.S. and the second in the world. Located in the heart of the Castro, it features long-term and changing multimedia exhibitions. A display of Harvey Milk's personal belongings pays tribute to the late San Francisco supervisor, who was the first openly gay politician elected in California. 4127 18th St., 415.621.1107.

SAN FRANCISCO RAILWAY MUSEUM

This museum near the Ferry Building celebrates the history of San Francisco rail

transit with historic artifacts, displays, archival photography, historical interpretation and audio-visual exhibits. Kids can play pretend on a full-sized replica of the motorman's platform of a 1911 San Francisco streetcar. Open M-Su 10 am-6 pm. Closed M during winter months. 77 Steuart St., 415.974.1948.

WALT DISNEY FAMILY MUSEUM

Storytelling was Walt Disney's specialty, and now this museum tells the story of the man behind the Disney magic. The tale of Walt Disney's life and career comes to life in interactive galleries full of voice clips, home videos and family photographs not seen anywhere else. Catch a glimpse of Disney's early drawings, animation and live film camera inventions as well as the steam-powered miniature train Disney built in his back-

yard in 1950 that eventually inspired the life-size train in Disneyland. 104 Montgomery St. in the Presidio, 415.345.6800.

SPORTS

BATTER'S BOX SF

The freshly opened, 2,000-square-foot facility in the Presidio packs a softball and two baseball batting cages, all equipped with HD video screens so you know when the pitch is about to be fired. 933B Old Mason St., 707.412.8228.

GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS

The Bay Area's professional basketball team currently plays at the Oracle Arena in Oakland but has plans to move to a state-of-the-art, privately financed recreation and entertainment facility in San Francisco's Mission Bay. Oracle Arena, 7000 Coliseum Way, Oakland, 510.986.2200.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

The NFL team has moved to Santa Clara to play at the new state-of-the-art Levi's Stadium, nearly two million square feet of cutting-edge technology, sustainable design, gourmet concessions and art exhibits that redefine the fan experience. Visitors can take a tour of the stadium and visit the 49ers Museum. 4900 Marie P. DeBartolo Way, Santa Clara, 415.464.9377.

SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS

One of the longest-established professional baseball teams, the 2010, 2012 and 2014 MLB World Series champions attract 3 million fans annually. Watch star players play ball at the beautiful waterfront 43,000-seat AT&T Park, which frequently sells out. 24 Willie Mays Plaza, 415.972.2000.

BAY AREA

MARINE MAMMAL CENTER

This nonprofit organization rescues and nurses back to health more than 600 distressed animals each year, including elephant seals, harbor seals and California sea lions. One of the largest hospitals of its kind to combine rehabilitation with a research lab, the center welcomes visitors, who can observe the animal care and work quarters. 2000 Bunker Rd., Fort Cronkhite, 415.289.7325.

MUIR WOODS NATIONAL MONUMENT

The world's most famous grove of virgin redwoods, this forest is full of trees that are 400-800 years old and grow to more than 250 feet high, as well as a plethora of other wildlife. Activities include a leisurely (wheelchair accessible) hike alongside a salmon-filled creek. Tip: Starting this year, parking (\$8) and shuttle reservations (\$3) are required. Visit gomuirwoods.com. Open daily. 1 Muir Woods Rd., Mill Valley, 415.388.2595.

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THE GUIDE | Explore



Celebrities of Pier 39

The sea lions that hang out by Pier 39 get millions of visitors each year. Sightseers have the chance to not only see the 650 giant mammals, but also learn about the creatures at the **Sea Lion Center**, operated by the nearby conservation-focused Aquarium of the Bay. Located above the dock and staffed by naturalists who give free presentations, it features a classroom and an interactive exhibit space with a sea lion skeleton, a great white shark replica and films.

Embarcadero at Beach sts., 415.262.4734

BAY CRUISES

ADVENTURE CAT SAILING CHARTERS

Take in the sights of the San Francisco Bay while cruising aboard a 55-foot catamaran with an enclosed cabin. Excursions include the Bay Sail, a 1.5-hour cruise that glides under the Golden Gate Bridge and past Alcatraz, and the romantic Sunset Sail, which includes hors d'oeuvres and two beverages. Reservations required. March–November. Pier 39 at J Dock, 800.498.4228.

BLUE AND GOLD FLEET

The premier provider of ferry and water excursion services on the San Francisco Bay, Blue & Gold Fleet offers the famous one-hour Bay Cruise Adventure, Escape from the Rock Cruise around Alcatraz Island and the ever-popular RocketBoat, the ultimate high-speed thrill ride along San Francisco's waterfront. A free multi-language audio tour is now available on Bay Cruise Adventure and Escape from the Rock cruises in nine languages. Bring your Wi-Fi enabled device to access the tour. Pier 41, 415.705.8200.

HORNBLOWER CRUISES & EVENTS

Enjoy beautiful views of the Golden Gate and Bay bridges, Alcatraz and San

Francisco along with food and entertainment aboard Hornblower's fleet of luxury vessels. Offerings include a weekend Champagne brunch cruise, a dinner or supper club cruise, a lunch cruise or a cocktail cruise. Hornblower also has yachts available for private events accommodating up to 1,500 people. Pier 3, Hornblower Landing, 415.788.8866. \$\$\$

RED AND WHITE FLEET

Founded in 1892, this historic fleet is legendary for its breathtaking San Francisco cruises. Sail under the Golden Gate Bridge and around Alcatraz aboard the one-hour Golden Gate Bay Cruise, narrated in 16 languages with up to 13 sailings daily. Enjoy gorgeous sunsets, twilight views, an appetizer buffet, complimentary beverages and live music aboard the relaxed 2-hour California Sunset Cruise (check the schedule online for seasonal times). The 90-minute Bridge 2 Bridge Cruise highlights San Francisco's history, architecture and Native American culture on a sailing route past city icons from the Bay Bridge to the Golden Gate Bridge. All tours depart from Pier 43 1/2, Fisherman's Wharf, 415.673.2900.

BIKE RENTALS

BAY CITY BIKE RENTALS

Simply rent a bike here, or get to know San Francisco and Sausalito on a guided tour. 2661 Taylor St. ; 1325 Columbus Ave., 415.346.2453.

BLAZING SADDLES

Bike the bridge with this professional and accessible biking adventure company, offering eight San Francisco locations at Fisherman's Wharf and a fun, family friendly way to combine sightseeing and fresh air. 2715 Hyde St., 415.202.8888.

WHEEL FUN RENTALS

With multiple locations in Fisherman's Wharf, Wheel Fun Rentals offers the only free GPS-guided audio tour in town, and is the only rental company that offers "infinity shifting" bikes along with free maps, safety equipment, and locks. Pier 43 1/2, 415.770.1978.

DISCOUNT TICKETS CITYPASS

Save 46% at the Bay Area's major attractions. Valid for nine days from first use, each prepaid ticket booklet includes a week-long unlimited San Francisco Muni and cable car passport and a Blue & Gold Fleet bay cruise, as well as admission to California Academy of Sciences, Aquarium of the Bay

and either the Exploratorium or the de Young Museum and Legion of Honor. \$94 adults, \$69 children ages 5–11.

PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION

AUDI ON DEMAND

The innovative mobility program gives customers a new way to experience the Audi brand and its range of vehicles at the touch of a button. Choose your preferred Audi model via iPhone app and reserve by the day for up to 28 days. The service is currently only available in San Francisco. 877.506.2834.

BAUER'S LIMOUSINE & TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

This fleet includes limos, sedans, classic cars, buses and vans to transport 2–82 passengers. Hot-air balloons, yachts, helicopters and motorized cable cars are also available for private charter. 800.546.6688

CITY RENT-A-CAR

A family-owned business founded in 1996, City Rent-A-Car offers a fleet of economy and luxury cars, convertibles, SUVs and vans. The company is open seven days a week with 24/7 return options in town and near SFO, including vehicle delivery and pickup. 1433 Bush St., 415.359.1331.

COURTESY SEA LION CENTER

Explore

EDGEWATER MARINE

Explore the beautiful Foster City Lagoon in a quiet, eco-friendly and easy-to-drive Duffy Electric Boat. Bring your own refreshments and tunes or enjoy dining at one of many waterfront restaurants. Rentals available daily year-round. 650 Shell Blvd., 650.766.9155.

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From sports cars to sedans and SUVs, this is one of the largest selections of high-end vehicles from some of the world's top luxury manufacturers. 233 Ellis St., 415.292.2150.

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This service offers private rides to and from the airport, business meetings or anywhere else around town. It serves more than 55 airports around the country and offers sedan and SUV service; flat rates; meet-and-greet and specialized group services; and frequent flier points and miles with select airlines. Book online or via its mobile apps. 800.410.4444.

PARK 'N FLY

The closest parking lot to the San Francisco International Airport, Park 'N Fly offers valet parking, door-to-door shuttle service, luggage assistance and 24-hour security. Open 24 hours per day, seven days per week. 160 Produce Ave., South San Francisco, 415.827.4659.

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PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

This is a free mobile and web source for up-to-the-minute transportation information, covering the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. Just dial 511 or check the website.

BART

Bay Area Rapid Transit trains serve the city of San Francisco as well as San Francisco and

Oakland International airports, Berkeley, Oakland and other Bay Area destinations. Trains run until midnight daily. 415.989.2278.

BUSES

Golden Gate Transit provides regional fixed-route bus service from San Francisco to Marin and Sonoma counties. **AC Transit** offers frequent transbay connections to and from San Francisco and the East Bay, as well as service within Oakland, Berkeley and other East Bay cities. Dial 511 and request either Golden Gate Transit or AC Transit.

CABLE CARS

These moving National Historic Landmarks run on three lines 6 am-12:30 am daily: **Powell-Hyde** (line 60), **Powell-Mason** (line 59) and **California Street** (line 61). The Powell-Mason and Powell-Hyde lines run

between Union Square and Fisherman's Wharf; the California car runs between Market Street and Van Ness Ave. \$6; Muni Passports and Clipper Cards accepted. 415.673.6864.

CALTRAIN

Offering commuter rail service along the San Francisco Peninsula, through the South Bay to San Jose and Gilroy. 800.660.4287.

CLIPPER CARD

Available for use on Muni, BART, CalTrain and more, this is an all-in-one transit card that keeps track of any passes, discount tickets, ride books and cash value loaded onto it.

FERRIES

The **Golden Gate Ferry** fleet offers daily ferries to two Marin County destinations: Sausalito and Larkspur. The **Blue and Gold Fleet** offers

ferry service to Sausalito, Tiburon, Angel Island, Vallejo and Alameda/Oakland. The **East Bay Ferry** provides ferries between San Francisco, Alameda and Oakland (with Angel Island added May through October). The **Alameda Harbor Bay Ferry** offers service strictly between San Francisco and Alameda at rush hours. **Bay Link Ferry** offers ferries between Vallejo, the Ferry Building and Fisherman's Wharf.

GOLDEN GATE PARK SHUTTLE

Now it's easier than ever to explore the many different attractions located throughout the 1,017 acres that make up Golden Gate Park. Drive to the free parking at Ocean Beach to catch the shuttle, which runs every 15 to 20 minutes and stops at the Conservatory of Flowers, de Young Museum, California Academy

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MUNI

Citywide bus and light-rail service includes the restored, brightly colored F-line streetcars that run from the Castro District to Pier 39 and back. Light-rail trains run above ground on tracks and also below ground to make stops at various destinations on Market Street. Muni Passports, good for unlimited rides for one, three or seven consecutive days, are available at the Visitor Information Center at the BART station on Powell and Market streets. 415.673.6864.

TOURS

AT&T PARK TOUR

Home of the San Francisco Giants, AT&T Park offers a grand slam attraction for its fans when the dugout is empty. Walk through the places only the players and coaches go, including the Giants' dugout, the visitors' clubhouse and the field. 24 Willie Mays Plaza, 415.972.2400.

AVITAL TOURS

Visit some of the city's best eateries and bars and take in the sights along the way as your guide shares engaging historical anecdotes. Stops on the Mission District tour include Bi-Rite Creamery and Hog & Rocks, the city's first ham and oyster bar. On the Union Square cocktail tour, you'll take a jaunt through former speakeasy territory and find out why San Francisco is now considered one of the top cocktail destinations in the world. At each stop you'll spend time with a chef, bartender or owner tasting, chatting and maybe even baking. 415.355.4044.

BARBARY COAST TRAIL SELF-GUIDED WALKING TOUR

The Barbary Coast Trail is a 3.8-mile walk through the

heart of historic San Francisco, marked by bronze medallions and arrows set in the sidewalk that lead to 20 of the city's most important historic sites. *5th and Mission streets, 415.775.1111.*

BIG BUS TOURS

Take a tour through San Francisco aboard an open-top bus and learn about its rich history and culture, hopping on and off at any of the 20 stops located throughout the city. Choose between a 24 or 48-hour ticket and live tour guides or recorded commentary in 10 languages. *99 Jefferson St., 855.854.8687.*

CITY KAYAK

Docked near AT&T Park, this company offers all the gear you need for a day on the bay, regardless of your ability level. You can even paddle to McCovey Cove behind the park and try to catch a home-run ball. Guided tours available. *South Beach Harbor, Embarcadero at Townsend St., 415.357.1010.*

CITY SIGHTSEEING

The tours on these open-top, vintage double-decker buses feature live guides. The downtown loop is hop-on, hop-off, and tickets are valid for 48 hours. *1331 Columbus Ave., 415.440.8687.*

CRUISIN' THE CASTRO TOURS

Learn fascinating facts about San Francisco and its transformation into one of the world's most diverse cities on this fun and easy walking tour (founded in 1989) that explores one of the oldest and largest gay neighborhoods in the country. Take the newly added food and wine tour Thursday and Friday evenings with stops at Blush Wine Bar, Canela Bistro & Wine Bar, Catch, Poesia and Hot Cookie. *Harvey Milk Plaza, corner of Castro and Market streets, 415.255.1821.*

EDIBLE EXCURSIONS

Epicurean concierge Lisa Rogovin offers intimate culinary excursions in San Francisco, Berkeley and Oakland for foodies looking to get a behind-the-scenes taste of the Bay Area's remarkable food culture with a local expert. Tours explore the Mission District, Japantown, the "Gourmet Ghetto" of North Berkeley, the Ferry Building Marketplace and Farmers Market, the craft cocktail scene and Uptown Oakland. *415.806.5970.*

ELECTRIC TOUR COMPANY - SEGWAY TOURS

Sign up for fully guided Segway tours of Fisherman's Wharf and the waterfront, Golden Gate Park, Chinatown and Lombard Street. Experienced Segway riders can try the Advanced Wharf & Crooked Street tour. Participants must be 12 years of age or older and weigh 100-250 pounds. *757 Beach St.; Golden Gate Park office located behind the stage in Music Concourse near Japanese Tea Garden, 415.528.5837.*

GOURMET WALKS

Take a stroll in a burgeoning foodie neighborhood and discover the city's best food, chocolate and wine. The signature Chocolate Tour satiates sweet tooth with a delicious education on fine chocolate and samples from gourmet chocolate boutiques. The Hayes Valley tour explore the origins of California cuisine while sampling everything from gourmet tea at Samovar and Parisian macarons from Chantal Guillon to an artisan exotic cocktail from Smugglers Cove. *415.312.1119.*

GRAY LINE OF SAN FRANCISCO

A popular provider of travel experiences since 1916, Gray Line of San Francisco offers over 30 tours in the Bay Area and beyond, including Muir Woods and Sausalito, Napa and Sonoma, Yosemite

National Park, Monterey and Carmel and more. Tours are multi-lingual. *Pier 41 Marine Terminal, 415.353.5310.*

MISSION MURAL WALKS

The Precita Eyes Mural Arts & Visitors Center, a multipurpose, community-based arts organization that has played an integral role in the city's cultural heritage and arts education, organizes a variety of artist-led cultural and historical walking tours. Explore more than 80 gorgeous murals and the stories behind them in an eight-block walk in the Mission District. Bicycle, private bus and group tours available by appointment. *2981 24th St., 415.285.2287.*

MUIR WOODS SHUTTLE TOURS

The Muir Woods Shuttle Tour is a comprehensive 4-1/2 hour Muir Woods Tour. They also make stops at the Muir Beach

Overlook and the Marin Headlands. *San Francisco Ferry Bldg., 866.991.8687.*

SAN FRANCISCO CITY GUIDES

Volunteers from the San Francisco Public Library lead dozens of free neighborhood tours. There's a tour for just about every interest or passion, including Alfred Hitchcock's San Francisco; various 1906 retrospectives about the earthquake and fires that leveled the city a century ago; and a Golden Gate Bridge walk, to name just a few. *415.557.4266.*

SAN FRANCISCO HELICOPTER TOURS

These narrated tours offer bird's-eye views of the city and popular attractions such as the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz, Treasure Island and more. Tours range from 20-minute flights over the city

to half-day excursions to wine country, as well as dinner flights and Sausalito lunch flights. Complimentary shuttles pick up passengers from Fisherman's Wharf, Union Square and Nob Hill. Flights depart from the executive terminal at SFO and Sausalito. Reservations required. *800.400.2404.*

SAN FRANCISCO MOVIE TOURS

Watch clips from dozens of movies shot in San Francisco as you pass the actual film locations on this engaging two-hour bus tour of the city. You'll see the house from "Mrs. Doubtfire," the spot where Jimmy Stewart pulled Kim Novak from the water in "Vertigo" and much more. Departs from Pier 43 1/2. *415.624.4949.*

SAN FRANCISCO WHALE TOURS

Journey to the Farallon Islands, where grey and humpback whales migrate through the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, aboard the "Kitty Kat" catamaran. Experts narrate the 5-hour daily cruises. If no whales are spotted, the next trip is on the company. Slightly longer natural history excursions are also available, along with two-hour sunset eco-tours of the San Francisco Bay that feature seals, dolphins, the Golden Gate Bridge and Alcatraz. Advance purchase required online or by phone. *Depart from Pier 39, Dock B, 212.209.3370.*

SEAPLANE ADVENTURES

Get a bird's-eye view of the city and the bay on this flying tour, which takes passengers soaring above the Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco

skyline, Alcatraz and the Pacific coastline. Sunset Champagne flights are available. Daily departures on the hour from Sausalito, four miles north of the city. Reservations recommended. *242 Redwood Hwy., Mill Valley, 415.332.4843.*

STREETS OF SAN FRANCISCO BIKING TOURS

If you're reasonably fit, perhaps the most exhilarating way to explore the city is to join the thousands of locals commuting on two wheels. The efficiency of a bicycle allows for routes that traverse multiple neighborhoods, and this young company takes out the urban intimidation factor. Go off the beaten tourist track on rides of 9-18 miles to areas where the locals work and live, like the Richmond, SoMa and the city's most highly trafficked bike route,

The Wiggle. *370 Linden St., 415.448.7673.*

SUPER SIGHTSEEING TOURS

Choose from Ultimate City Tour, Alcatraz Combination Tour, Giant Redwoods Tour, Deluxe Wine Country Tour, Monterey/Carmel Tours, and much more. Tours range from a few hours to all day. All tours include pick-up and drop off at many San Francisco hotels. *415.353.5310.*

URBAN HIKER SAN FRANCISCO

Get in a true workout while taking advantage of one of San Francisco's best secrets: great hiking within city limits. Trek hills, stairways and trails and take in history, nature and incredible views on 5-mile routes during these 2-3 hour jaunts. This tour outfit has even attracted a local following, with groups meeting up for monthly long hikes. *415.669.4453.*

VISITORS CENTERS

PRECITA EYES MURAL ARTS & VISITORS CENTER

Precita Eyes is the starting point for tours encompassing more than 80 murals in an eight-block walk in the Mission District. The center is a multipurpose, community-based arts organization that has played an integral role in the city's cultural heritage and arts education. *2981 24th St., 415.285.2287.*

PRESIDIO VISITOR CENTER

Housed in a renovated guardhouse (circa 1900), the William Penn Mott, Jr. Presidio Visitor Center is home to a large-scale Presidio model with informative touch screens, a calendar projected onto a video wall and an interactive digital table depicting two centuries of history. The retail store sells themed merchandise and tools for exploration. *210 Lincoln Blvd., 415.561.4323.*

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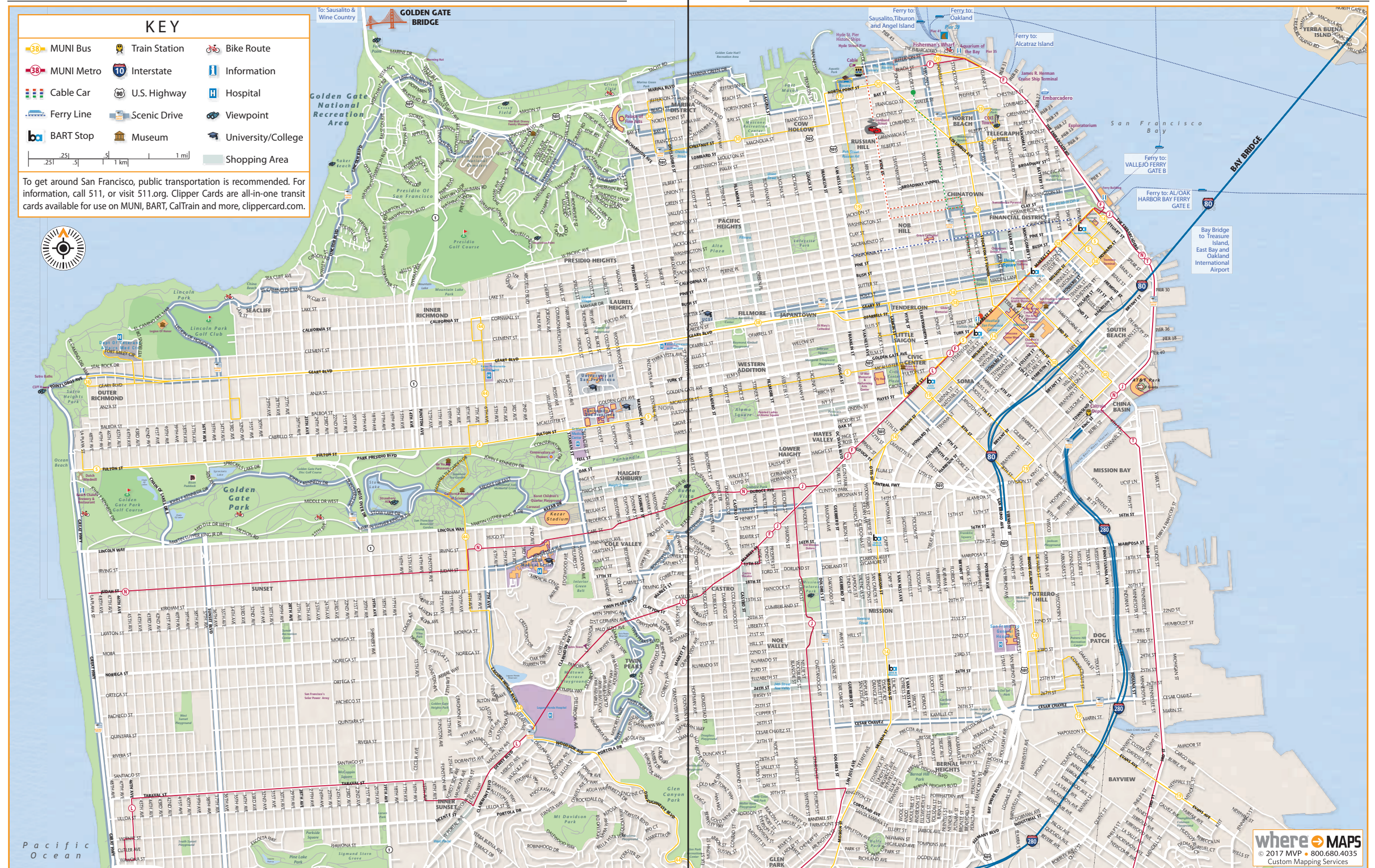
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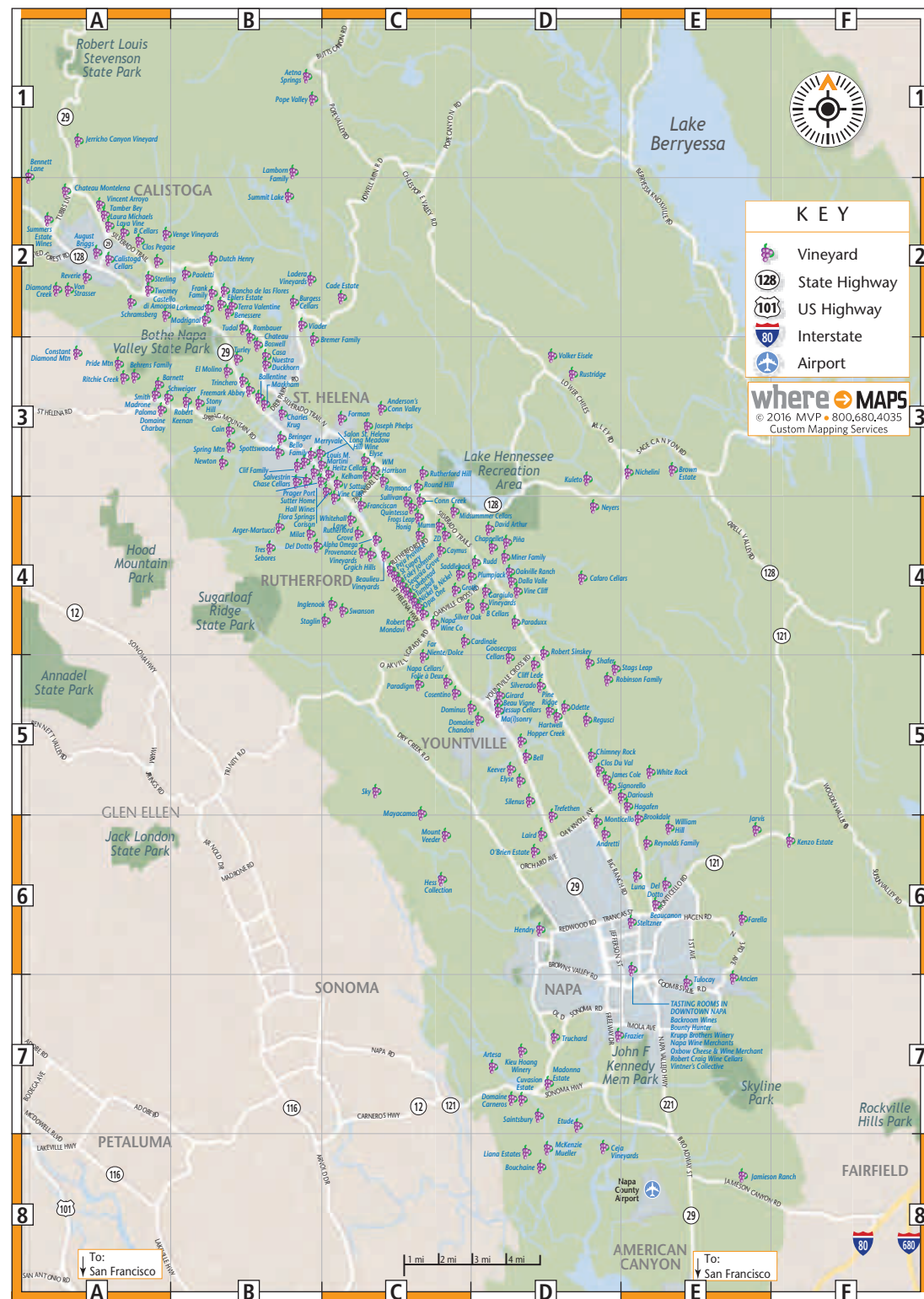
THE GUIDE | Map 1 | DOWNTOWN



UNION SQUARE | Map 2 |







WHERE IN SAN FRANCISCO

THE FIX

We're Addicted to the Burritos



■ San Francisco is known for the Mission burrito, an especially large variety that's stuffed with rice and other toppings and wrapped in aluminum foil. It was first popularized in the city's Mission District. Many residents consider them a staple fast food and have strong opinions about which taqueria produces the best version, so we asked a few of our favorite local experts to weigh in.

For more great burritos in the city visit wheretraveler.com

Publico Urban Taqueria

The flavors are bold, and it's the perfect size that doesn't weigh me down (after I eat the whole burrito in under three minutes). Another great thing about this spot: the chips. They're just the right mix of firm and crunchy. I open the burrito and stuff them in there. Also, the salsa is fresh and herbaceous with a hint of spice. I generally follow the burrito up with a jack cheese quesadilla.

—Tai Ricci, co-owner, Hi Neighbor Hospitality Group, @tairicci

La Taqueria

The carne asada burrito. However, I also highly

recommend the carnitas taco (ask for it crispy) with lots of the addictive green sauce. —Jessica Everett, bar manager, Barvale, @jceverett

Loló

You can only get it Saturday and Sundays, but the wet breakfast burrito is delicious. It comes with chorizo, eggs, beans and tomato sauce on top.

—Alberto Soto, bar manager, El Techo, @alberto.soto.duran

La Taqueria

We venture over here whenever we get the craving for a burrito. If we've worked up a big appetite from our walk

over Potrero Hill into the Mission from Dogpatch, we may even start with a cheese quesadilla!

—Jacky and Michael Recchiuti, chocolatiers, Recchiuti Confections, @recchiuticonfections

Taqueria Cancun

Hands down the super el pastor burrito. If you're going to go big, you might as well do it right!

—Patricio Duffoo, executive chef, Barvale, @epicuro101

Taqueria El Farolito

This spot in the Mission is my go-to. —Aaron Feeney, sales and marketing director, Viceroy San Francisco properties, @chiguy2xaron

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