

# Best Things to See and Do in San Francisco

## ❖ Visit SF Museums and Parks

The **San Francisco Museum of Modern Art** is close to the hotel. Current exhibitions are: Frida Kahlo, Matisse and Beyond, and Picturing Modernity, a photography collection. For information on hours, tickets and tours go to:

<http://www.sfmoma.org/>

### **Golden Gate Park**

The **Japanese Tea Garden**, **Stowe Lake**, and **De Young Museum** are all close to each other in Golden Gate Park, and many buses go there.

<http://www.sfgate.com/traveler/guide/sf/neighborhoods/ggpark.shtml>

On the way to or from the park you can go vintage clothes shopping in the **Haight-Ashbury** district.

<http://www.sanfranciscobay.com/haightashbury/>

Other sights you could combine in one trip would be **Chinatown**, **North Beach**, **Coit Tower**, **Pier 39** and Fisherman's **Wharf**.

## ❖ Dine on the Waterfront

A meal near the waterfront is highly recommended. There's McCormick & Kuleto's in Ghirardelli Square, several seafood restaurants on the piers at Fisherman's Wharf, The Hard Rock Cafe and other less expensive spots on Pier 39. Enjoy the gorgeous views of the Cliff House and end your visit in style with their Sunday Champagne Brunch. From 10am to the last reservation allowed at 2:00pm. It's not cheap, \$43.00 per adult. Make reservations by phone at 415-386-3330 The Cliff House is out at Ocean Beach and would only be feasible if you have a car or ride available.

<http://www.sanfrancisco.com/cliff-house/>

Here's a site to help with more delicious dining particulars:

<http://www.sanfrancisco.com/restaurants/>

Here's a site on North Beach, famous for Beat poets, espresso, pizza, and Beach Blanket Babylon!

<http://www.sftravel.com/beach.html>

<http://www.beachblanketbabylon.com/>

## ❖ Tour the City

### **FISHERMAN'S WHARF/PIER 39**

This area is completely tourist based, but that's part of the fun and the charm. Be sure to take a visit... no trip to San Francisco is complete without it. You can also take a Segway tour of the wharf!

<http://www.mustseesanfrancisco.com/sights.htm>

<http://www.sightseeingworld.com/tourdetailmain.asp?TourCode=300>

For information and pictures of San Francisco staple attractions such

as the **Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz, Union Square, Chinatown** and **Lombard Street**, these two sites are great:

<http://gocalifornia.about.com/cs/sanfrancisco/a/sfbest.htm>

[http://gocalifornia.about.com/cs/sanfrancisco/a/sfbest\\_2.htm](http://gocalifornia.about.com/cs/sanfrancisco/a/sfbest_2.htm)

### **TWIN PEAKS**

If you have a car, take a quick, 20 minute drive (from downtown) to Twin Peaks -it's the most amazing view.

### **EXPLORATORIUM**

For you or for family members who are coming with you and need something to do for a day...the exploratorium is an AMAZING science museum like none you've ever seen. Every exhibit is meant to be touched, explored, learned from... it will delight the children in all of us.

<http://www.exploratorium.edu/>

### **WALK!**

If you want to experience San Francisco "like a native", your best bet is to walk around. Choose some neighborhoods to visit, grab a cab or other transportation and just start walking. Here's a good summary of neighborhoods:

<http://www.sfgate.com/traveler/guide/sf/neighborhoods/>

### **ALCATRAZ NIGHT TOUR**

This is a huge tourist attraction, but not everyone knows that you can schedule a NIGHT TOUR! This tour includes things and options not offered during the day tours (and the added "creepy" factor, of course.!) Tickets are about \$32 per adult - call ahead as they will fill up fast. (415) 561-4926.

[http://www.sfgov.org/site/mainpages\\_page.asp?id=18191](http://www.sfgov.org/site/mainpages_page.asp?id=18191)

For more fun stuff to do after dark in the city involving vampires, ghosts or plain old ordinary **nightclubs**, this site has some good tips:

[http://gocalifornia.about.com/od/casfmenu/a/after\\_dark.htm](http://gocalifornia.about.com/od/casfmenu/a/after_dark.htm)

For a nightcap try the **Top of Mark** at Nob Hill's Mark Hopkins hotel, with live jazz from 8:30 on every evening. The cable car takes you there!

<http://www.bestofsanfrancisco.net/topofthemark.htm>

Or try the **Pied Piper Bar** with its original 1909 Maxfield Parrish painting at The Palace Hotel on New Montgomery, which is also near the hotel. Lunch at the **Garden Court** is excellent.

<http://www.sfpalace.com/>

The best piece of advice to enjoy San Francisco sights: Bring really, really comfortable shoes. :)

HAPPY TRIP PLANNING!