

# Neighborhood Experience Guide



HOTEL DRISCO  
PACIFIC HEIGHTS

Quintessentially San Francisco

## Parks & Promenades

### 1 THE PRESIDIO

The Presidio served as a military post for over 200 years for the Spanish, Mexican, and American Armies. In 1994, the Presidio was incorporated into the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and is now a national park. Within its 1,491 acres are forests, beaches, a historic airfield and a pet cemetery. You'll also discover picnic areas, playing fields, restaurants, hiking trails, a public golf course and the new Tunnel Tops Park. Visit the Walt Disney Family Museum at the Main Parade Lawn and tour the 17-acres of George Lucas' Letterman Digital Arts Center, home to Industrial Light and Magic, LucasArts, and Lucasfilm Ltd. ([presidio.gov](http://presidio.gov))

### 2 JULIUS KAHN PLAYGROUND

The Julius Kahn playground in the Presidio features a sand and water play area, soccer field, swings, climbing structures and slides. Take a leisurely walk through the forest-like surroundings and scent of the eucalyptus grove. There are picnic tables, tennis courts, and a clubhouse that offers various activities.

(West Pacific Avenue between Locust and Spruce Streets, Presidio)

### 3 ALTA PLAZA PARK

Take a leisurely stroll to this oasis of quiet, just three blocks east of the Hotel Drisco. Admire the famed baronial Pacific Heights mansions and discover the sweeping views of the San Francisco's Bay and city skyline. A small children's playground sits atop the park, and there are several hard surface tennis courts as well.

(Scott Street and Jackson Street)

### 4 JCC JEWISH COMMUNITY FITNESS CENTER

TakeThe JCC fitness and pool facilities are available to guests of the Hotel Drisco with our Courtesy Pass. The JCC offers four floors of state-of-the-art equipment, modern amenities, a basketball gymnasium, aquatics center, pool & hot tub, and a group exercise program.

(3200 California Street, [jccsf.org/fitness](http://jccsf.org/fitness))

### 5 LYON STREET STEPS

From the top of the Lyon Street Steps you're rewarded with breathtaking views of the Bay. You'll be lead through several levels of spectacular mansions, perfectly manicured gardens and colorful flower beds.

(Lyon Street and Green Street)

### 6 CRISSY FIELD

Crissy Field was one of the first airports in the West. Now, as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and after extensive renovations, it is a beautiful park of marsh and dunes. You'll find a pleasant Golden Gate Promenade for walking, jogging and bicycling that leads you to Fort Point and unforgettable views of the Golden Gate Bridge and Marin Headlands. There are picnic tables, a beach and an environmental center as well as the Warming Hut Store & Café.

(Between Marina Green and Fort Point)

### 7 GOLDEN GATE PARK

Larger than Central Park in New York City, Golden Gate Park starts at Stanyan Street and stretches all the way to Ocean Beach. Since the 1860's, the 1,017-acre parcel has been transformed into an environmental wonder. You'll discover Redwoods, waterfalls, windmills and tulips, and bison. While there are endless opportunities for enjoyment, some highlights are the Conservatory of Flowers, Stow Lake, the Japanese Tea Garden, the California Academy of Sciences (see #12), the de Young Museum (see #11), the AIDS Memorial Grove, the San Francisco Botanical Garden and Strybing Arboretum.

### 8 ALAMO SQUARE

Amble up the green hillside of Alamo Square for a great view of the famous 'Painted Ladies' of Postcard Row. In addition to the iconic Victorian façades, Alamo Square is a park full of plenty to do for the family. Enjoy the dual-level playground, let the dogs run around in the off-leash area, get in a few volleys at the tennis court, stroll along the trails, or have a picnic with friends.

(Between Marina Green and Fort Point)

## SAN FRANCISCO CITY GUIDES

Founded in 1978, this non-profit organization is made up of local volunteers who are enthusiastic about sharing their love for and knowledge of this magnificent city with others. Approximately 30 free guided walking tours are scheduled each month and last from 1 to 2 hours. Rain or shine, the tours focus on the architecture, history, legends and lore of San Francisco, each one leading you through a different part of this diverse city.

Visit [sfcityguides.org](http://sfcityguides.org)

## Arts & Entertainment

### 9 PALACE OF FINE ARTS

The Palace of Fine Arts is a visual reminder of the City's magnificent past. The surrounding park is a picturesque spot for a picnic lunch near the lagoon. Beyond the Corinthian columns, escape to play at Palace Games in an immersive experience for curious teens and adults. There is also a theatre that hosts dance, poetry and film festivals, as well as a wide range of lectures and concerts.

(3301 Lyon Street, [palaceoffinearts.org](http://palaceoffinearts.org))

### 10 LEGION OF HONOR

With an impressive collection of ancient and European art—some pieces date back 4,000 years—the Legion of Honor is one of San Francisco's most beautiful museums. Located in Lincoln Park, the 1924 Beaux-Arts building overlooks the Golden Gate Bridge. The museum features Rodin's monumental sculpture The Thinker as well as a permanent collection, temporary exhibits in the garden level, and a café with outdoor seating.

(Lincoln Park, 34th Avenue and Clement Street, [legionofhonor.famsf.org](http://legionofhonor.famsf.org))

### 11 DE YOUNG MUSEUM

Beyond repair after the 1989 earthquake, the cherished de Young was reborn in an magnificent new facility in Golden Gate Park in 2005. The ultramodern museum seamlessly integrates art, architecture and the natural landscape. Constructed of warm, natural materials, the de Young features a 144-foot tower with observation deck, a sculpture garden, the Pool of Enchantment, and a children's garden. Beyond the copper façade, you will discover the museum's priceless collections, including three centuries of American art.

(Golden Gate Park, Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive, [deyoung.famsf.org](http://deyoung.famsf.org))

### 12 CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Perhaps the greenest museum in the world, this scientific and cultural institution located in Golden Gate Park houses an aquarium, planetarium, natural history museum, and four-story rainforest under a 2.5-acre living roof. The behind-the-scenes tour, available on weekdays and weekends, are highly recommended.

(Golden Gate Park, 55 Music Concourse Drive, [calacademy.org](http://calacademy.org))

### 13 SHEBA PIANO LOUNGE

Intimate and cool, Sheba is a gem of a piano bar. The music is first rate, with cocktails to tempt the most discriminating, and food perfectly matching the music and the mood. Cozy up on a leather sofa next to the glowing gas fire, soak in the soothing sounds from the stately grand piano, and you're in the ideal spot for what locals have long known to be a great place for a date.

(1419 Fillmore Street, [shebalounge.com](http://shebalounge.com))

### 14 THE FILLMORE

It began in the 1960s. Everyone from Jimi Hendrix to the Grateful Dead to Santana played on this venerable stage, quickly making it the focal point for psychedelic music and counterculture in the United States. Damaged and closed by the Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989, this legendary venue reopened in 1994. Once again, The Fillmore Auditorium became a hot spot where music fans could rock out on the dance floor under huge chandeliers to their favorite bands. A nice bonus: Fortunately, the tradition of handing out apples and free posters at each show is alive and well.

(1805 Geary Boulevard, [thefillmore.com](http://thefillmore.com))







## Shopping & Dining

### 15 FILLMORE STREET

Comprised of 10 tree-lined blocks, Upper Fillmore is where Pacific Heights is at its most vibrant. You'll find an abundance of delightful eateries and bakeries, bookstores, jazz clubs, specialty shops for jewelry, gifts and home furnishings. Take in a cocktail at Harry's Bar, a neighborhood favorite and one of San Francisco's most legendary bars. Enjoy a night of music at The Fillmore (See #14).

(fillmorestreetsf.com)

### 16 UNION STREET

Union Street in Cow Hollow emerged as one of our city's most charming neighborhoods in the 1950s. Take a leisurely stroll where you'll discover Victorian mansions and carriage houses transformed into boutiques and restaurants. Sit back at one of the many outdoor cafes for a relaxed conversation and a drink.

(unionstreetsf.com)

### 17 CHESTNUT STREET

Chestnut Street may remind the casual visitor of a self-contained village with its own distinctive neighborhood feel. You'll find a mix of shops for clothes, books, gifts, and home furnishings. There are several restaurants large and small, perfect for breakfast, tasty lunches, or afternoon coffee and tea. If you need a respite, head to one of the two movie theatres.

(chestnutshop.com)

### 18 SACRAMENTO STREET

Lined with art and antique stores, this quiet neighborhood is paradise for the home decorator. Pamper yourself at one of the salons or indulge at the many consignment shops and high-end boutiques. You'll discover the second oldest theater in the city, the Vogue Theatre, which opened in 1910, as well as a unique selection of restaurants and cafes.

(sacramentostreetshop.com)

