

## **6 Bucket-List-Worthy Things to Do in San Francisco**

"Strobe lights beam creates dreams. Walls move, minds do too.  
On a warm San Franciscan night."

So, said Eric Burdon with his Animals...

San Francisco truly evokes dreams. And it's a must-see place.

### **Golden Gate Park and 3 Cool Places in It**

One of the best places in this beautiful, iconic city is Golden Gate Park; it's the largest park in the city and one of the most visited in the country.

What can you do here?

A lot!

24 million annual visitors can't possibly be wrong. This is the place to be.

You can simply walk, hike, jog, or take a bike ride around the park. Have a picnic. Play ball, frisbee, or badminton. Meditate. You can even go horseback riding. Pretty much anything you do outdoors—you can do here!

Besides the park's panoramic views of the Golden Gate Bridge and the waters of the Bay—there are three other must-see destinations within the park:

The California Academy of Sciences, the Japanese Tea Garden, and the de Young Museum. I'll take you on a mini tour of each.

The California Academy of Sciences is one of the biggest natural history museums on earth, featuring nearly 50 million specimens.

I know. That's a lot of specimens. And that's no exaggeration!

The Museum also features an aquarium, planetarium, and a rainforest exhibit. It's also a research institute, specializing in the study of biodiversity, environmental education, and global sustainability.

Next, slide on over to the beautiful Japanese Tea Garden—one of the most popular destinations in San Francisco.

Here, you'll seemingly step into Japan—where you'll experience pagodas, koi ponds, stepping-stone paths, a Zen Garden, and native Japanese plants—including cherry trees that show their splendor, blossoming in March and April.

The third must-see attraction in Golden Gate Park is one of the country's premier art museums—the de Young Museum.

Here, you'll find art from all over the world, spanning from the 16<sup>th</sup> century right up to the present. It features well-known artists such as Picasso and Matisse. Paintings, sculptures, architecture, and fashion designs—among other things—can be found here.

## **The Draw of Fisherman's Wharf**

Once you leave the park, head on over to the northern waterfront, where you'll find the world-famous Fisherman's Wharf. If you like seafood—you'll be in heaven!

Make sure you're hungry when you arrive. 'Cuz you'll find stands selling crab and clam chowder in sourdough bread bowls. You'll find fish, fried clams, lobster, and on and on.

You really can make a day of it at the Wharf. There are eateries everywhere, boutiques and shops in abundance, and pubs if you're thirsty.

There are splendorous views of the Bay—including the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz, and the glistening sea in between and all around.

There are tours of historic ships and even a colony of sea lions you can watch frolic in the waves.

Fisherman's Wharf is a place where you cannot get bored.

What's next on your itinerary?

## **Chinatown—A Place to Remember**

Chinatown is one of my favorites. If you like authentic Chinese food, this is the place to be!

The most sought-after entry into Chinatown is Dragon's Gate, at the corner of Bush St. and Grant Ave.

The iconic stone pillar and green-tiled pagoda structure is adorned with dragons, lions, and fish. It is considered the gateway to prosperity and good luck.

Take me through it, please!

And when you're in Chinatown—be sure to experience a dim sum brunch.

You can order an array of traditional Chinese dumplings filled with your choice of chicken, pork, beef, prawns, or veggies. Dim sum usually features steamed buns with barbecue pork, too. And it's not authentic unless it's served with Chinese tea.

There you go! Now you know the six best places to visit in San Francisco.