

# San Francisco TOURISM TIPS



## THE PERFECT DAY IN THE MARINA

A SELF-GUIDED ONE-DAY TOUR OF THIS GORGEOUS WATERFRONT DISTRICT

### 8:30am: Admire the Golden Gate Bridge

Start your morning off with a visit to the gorgeous Golden Gate Bridge. You can visit the outdoor museum, which discusses the bridge's history and shows pictures of it being built. You can also learn more about its cables support more than 100,000 cars that drive over it every day.

The best part of your visit here is the walk (or partial walk) across the bridge.

It's usually a little chilly, so make sure you bring along a few layers to stay warm.

### 10:30am: Discover the History of Fort Point

After you finish your walk, head down to the Fort Point National Historic Site. It's located, under the southern side of the Golden Gate Bridge.

This old military fort opened in 1861. Walk around the barracks, see videos on the history of the fort and get some of the most amazing pictures of the Golden Gate Bridge. It's open Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 5pm. It's free to visit.

### 11:30: Stroll through Crissy Field

This large green area offers a walking and jogging path so you can easily get from Fort Point to the Marina district. As you walk, you will get amazing views of Alcatraz Island, the Palace of Fine Arts (your next stop) and downtown San Francisco. Also, don't forget to turn around for more fun photos of the Golden Gate Bridge.

## QUICK FACTS

The Marina district is home to the Golden Gate Bridge, the Palace of Fine Arts and Fort Mason.

During today's journey, you will visit all of those places along with a few others. You will also get the chance to sample food from some of the Marina's top restaurants.

[Click here for the full itinerary.](#)

### 12pm: Photograph the Palace of Fine Arts

This is another SF beauty. Built for the Panama-Pacific Exposition in 1915, this work of art is the only building still standing from this important SF event.

Stroll under the walkways and take a close look at the detailed work on the building. Make sure you walk around the pond for some of the best views of this enchanting structure.

The visit is free and the entire walk is outdoors.

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## **1pm: Enjoy Lunch on Chestnut Street**

From here, walk over to Chestnut Street to rest your feet and grab some lunch. Along this street, you will find a variety of options from sushi to burgers.

One of my favorites is Pacific Catch near Fillmore at 2027 Chestnut Street. They serve up simple, yet delicious seafood dishes.

Another favorite is The Sandwich Spot. They have amazing gourmet sandwiches including several vegetarian options. They are just off Chestnut Street at 3213 Pierce Street.

## **2pm: Visit the Fort Mason Attractions**

Your next stop is Fort Mason Center. This attraction sits on the eastern side of the Marina district along the SF Bay.

Inside this old army fort, you will find the Mexican Museum, the Italian American Museum and the SFMOMA Artists Gallery.

Another fun thing to do here is walk through the outdoor Exploratorium. It offers more than a dozen hands on exhibits.

On Friday nights, you can also grab dinner in the parking lot through Off the Grid from 6pm to 10pm. During these hours, up to a dozen gourmet food trucks sell everything from Indian cuisine to ice cream.

The best way to get to Fort Mason from Chestnut Street is to walk. Take Chestnut Street to Laguna and turn left. Walk three blocks to the Fort Mason Center.

## **6pm: Dinner or Drinks on Chestnut Street**

After your time in Fort Mason, walk back to Chestnut Street for dinner and/or drinks. This fun neighborhood comes to life at night and offers several great options for a night out on the town.

For dinner, A 16 (Italian), the Topsy Pig (Gastro Pub) and Mamacita (Mexican) are three of my favorites. However, all three can get busy, so I recommend making a reservation if possible.

You can also grab a nice glass of wine and appetizers at BIN 38. I also enjoy the cocktails at Delarosa.

## **How to Get to the Golden Gate Bridge**

From Union Square, pick up the 45 bus on Stockton and Sutter. Take it to the stop at Union and Fillmore Streets. Walk three blocks north (toward the water) to Lombard and Fillmore Streets. This is where you will pick up the 28. This bus takes you to the southern side of the Golden Gate Bridge.

From Fisherman's Wharf, pick up the 30 bus at Columbus Avenue and North Point Street. Take it to the stop at Laguna and Chestnut. At this same stop, you will transfer to the 28, which takes you to the Golden Gate Bridge.

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