

San Francisco TOURISM TIPS



THE PERFECT DAY IN THE MISSION

A SELF-GUIDED ONE-DAY TOUR OF THIS ECLECTIC & COLORFUL DISTRICT

9am: Energize Yourself with a Coffee and Breakfast at the Dolores Park Café

One of my favorite places to stop in this area for coffee and a light breakfast is the Dolores Park Cafe. This popular local hang out offers breakfast pastries as well as a few sandwiches. After ordering, you can grab a seat either inside or out.

The best time to come here for breakfast is during the week. It is PACKED on weekends, so prepare for this if you happen to do this walk on a weekend day.

10am: Step Back in Time at the Mission San Francisco de Asis

After breakfast, walk over to 16th and Dolores Streets to visit the historic Mission San Francisco de Asis. This mission is the oldest building in San Francisco.

Originally built in 1791, this mission survived the devastating impact of the 1906 Earthquake and Fire. Today, you can visit both the mission and the newer basilica that is right next door (the tower featured in the picture above is on the basilica).

In addition, you can also spend time in their small museum and visit one of the only cemeteries within the city of San Francisco.

The entire visit takes just over an hour. The cost is \$5 per person.

QUICK FACTS

The Mission District is one of my favorites. It's home to the oldest building in SF, hundreds of colorful murals and some of the best food in the city.

If you want to step away from the popular tourist districts for one day, then I recommend heading to the Mission for this tour. [Click here for additional recommendations for this day.](#)

11:30am: Spend Time with the Locals at Dolores Park

One of the best parks in the city is just two blocks away from the Mission de Asis, Dolores Park. This beautiful park sits on a hill at the corner of 18th and Dolores Streets.

Spend a little time strolling through the park. You can also climb to the top of the hill for amazing views of downtown San Francisco.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE AMAZING TIPS AT WWW.SFTOURISMTIPS.COM

San Francisco **TOURISM TIPS**



12:30pm: Admire the Murals in Clarion Alley

The San Francisco Mission houses more than 50% of the city's colorful street murals. You can find more than a dozen of them in Clarion Alley alone.

From Dolores Park, walk back down to 17th Street and take a right. Walk two blocks to Valencia Street and take another right. Clarion Alley is less than a half a block away.

The murals in this alley range from political events to pieces about the changes happening in this neighborhood.

Spend some time admiring the murals in this one block stretch before continuing on your adventure.

1:30pm: Savor Authentic Mexican Food at Taquerias El Farolito

On your way to the next alley of murals, stop by Taquerias El Farolito for lunch at an authentic Mexican restaurant. They serve up everything from tacos to burritos. It's one of my favorites for a quick grab and go lunch.

To get here, take a right on Mission Street after you walk through the murals. Walk past 23rd Street and you will find this little restaurant at 2779 Mission Street.

Make sure you have cash as they do not accept credit cards.

3pm: Soak in the Beauty of the Balmy Street Murals

You will find another large concentration of Mission murals on Balmy Street. Many people refer to these as the "Balmy Alley Murals" since Balmy Street is more of an alley also.

You will see a variety of murals here. There are several political murals as well as a few religious murals and fun San Francisco based paintings. This area also has a few funky 3-D murals as well.

4pm: Discover Additional Murals and Mosaics in the Mission

Your walk down Balmy Street ends at Garfield Park. Walk down Harrison Street past the Garfield Pool to see several additional murals. You will find them on both the western and southern sides.

After you complete your time here, continue south on Harrison Street and cross Cesar Chavez. On the corner is the Leonard R. Flynn Elementary School. Take time to walk around the school checking out all of their gorgeous pieces of art.

Your walk around the school should end at Harrison and Precita Avenue. Walk east down Precita to the end of the park. Take a right and walk one block. Take a left on Precita (two streets have the same name) and walk half a block to the Precita Community Center.

Here you will find a beautiful mural that covers the front of the building, a memorial to two young adults killed in the park nearby. You will also find images of colorful local celebrities.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE AMAZING TIPS AT WWW.SFTOURISMTIPS.COM