

The Wharf is always lively and holds a few surprises. Stick near the waterfront, where sea lions bray, street performers scare unsuspecting passersby, and an aquarium and carousel entice wide-eyed kids. Explore tall ships, consult mechanical fortune tellers and eat the obligatory clam chowder in a sourdough-bread bowl. (🚏 19, 30, 47, 49, 🚏 Powell-Mason, Powell-Hyde, (M)F)

★ **Must see** The sea lions at Pier 39, Musée Mécanique, San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park, and the Aquatic Park.



🍴 | Snack shacks line the **Pier 39 boardwalk** and flank picnic benches at Pier 43½. The best sweet treats are at **Ghirardelli Sq.**

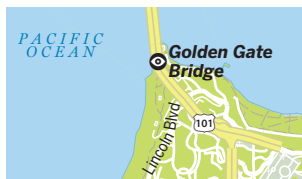
MORNING

From **1** to your afternoon destination

🚏 15min 🚏 20min 🚏 35min 🚏 15min 🚏 20min 🚏 20min 🚏 20min 🚶 5min 🚏 20min 🚏 25min 🚏 20min 🚏 45min 🚏 50min

Joseph B Strauss is the engineering mastermind behind the 1937 marvel, but architects Gertrude and Irving Murrow get credit for the soaring art deco design and custom 'International Orange' color. Laborers braved treacherous riptides constructing the nearly 2-mile span and 746ft suspension towers in just four years. (🚏 28, all Golden Gate Transit buses)

★ **Top tip** Dress warmly before crossing the bridge on foot or bike, with a waterresistant outer layer to break the wind and fog.



🍴 | Stop by the certified-green **Warming Hut** (983 Marine Dr) for fair-trade coffee and pastries.

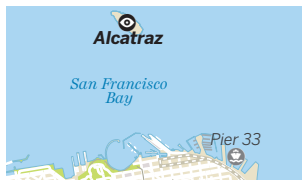
AFTERNOON

From **14** to your evening destination

🚶 15min 🚏 60min 🚏 45min 🚶 55min 🚶 25min 🚏 20min 🚏 25min 🚏 30min 🚶 20min 🚶 40min 🚶 35min 🚏 50min 🚏 45min

From its 19th-century founding to hold Civil War deserters and Native American dissidents, to its closure by Bobby Kennedy in 1963, Alcatraz was America's most notorious prison. No prisoner is known to have escaped alive. For maximum chill factor, book the spooky twilight jailhouse tour. On the return ferry to San Francisco, freedom never felt so good. (www.alcatrazcruises.com; night tours adult/child \$37/22; ferries depart Pier 33, 3:20pm & 3:50pm Nov-Mar, 5:55pm & 6:30pm Apr-Oct)

★ **Top tip** Weather changes fast and it's often much colder on Alcatraz, so wear extra layers.



🍴 | There's no food (just water) but you can bring your own; **picnicking** is allowed at the ferry dock only.

EVENING

## 2 GOLDEN GATE PARK



**Everything  
that San  
Franciscans  
hold dear**

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## 15 ALCATRAZ



**A forbidding  
maximum-  
security  
penitentiary**

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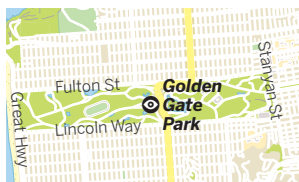
## 28 MISSION BARS



**Microbrews  
and organic  
cocktails  
in restored  
Gold Rush  
saloons**

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Everything that San Franciscans hold dear is in Golden Gate Park: free spirits, free music, redwoods, Frisbee, protests, fine art, bonsai and buffalo. In the southeast corner is a children's playground, while further west is a baseball diamond, pagan altars and the Shakespeare Garden. To the west around Martin Luther King Jr Dr are the Polo Fields. At the park's wild western edge, quixotic bison stampede in their paddock towards windmills and Ocean Beach sunsets. (🚶 5, 18, 21, 28, 29, 33, 44, 71, 🚇 M N)



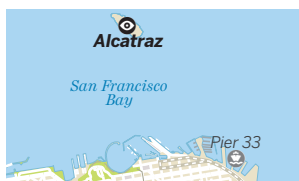
🍴🕒 Head south of the park's border for upscale Mexican at **Nopalito** (1224 9th Avenue).

MORNING

From 2 to your afternoon destination

🚶 15min 🚗 60min 🚗 45min 🚶 15min 🚶 10min 🚇 30min 🚇 35min 🚗 15min 🚶 10min 🚶 25min 🚶 20min 🚇 40min 🚗 45min

For almost 150 years, the name has given the innocent chills and the guilty cold sweats. Over the years it's been the nation's first military prison, a forbidding maximum-security penitentiary and disputed territory between Native American activists and the FBI. Book at least two weeks prior for self-guided daytime visits and dress in layers as weather changes fast and it's usually windy. (www.alcatrazcruises.com; daytime adult/child/family \$30/18/92; ferries depart Pier 33 half-hourly 9am-3:50pm)



🍴🕒 There's no food (just water) but you can bring your own; **picnicking** is allowed at the ferry dock only.

AFTERNOON

From 15 to your evening destination

🚗 45min 🚇 30min 🚗 35min 🚗 40min 🚇 10min 🚇 20min 🚇 30min 🚇 25min 🚇 25min 🚶 30min 🚶 5min 🚗 20min 🚇 15min

Circa 1849, a San Francisco bar crawl that began with smiles and a 10¢ whiskey from barman Shanghai Kelly could end two days later, waking from a drugged sleep on a vessel bound for Patagonia. Today Mission revelers can relax and pick their own poison: microbrews and organic cocktails in restored Gold Rush saloons (at Elixir, 3200 16th St), cult California wines and Pantone-color-coded bar menus in midcentury lounges, and enough tequila and late-night tacos to keep you asleep to Patagonia and back. (Valencia St, Mission St; 🚇 16th St Mission)



🍴🕒 Start your night with a perfect burrito at **La Taqueria** (2889 Mission St).

EVENING

### 3 ALAMO SQUARE PARK



**A lineup of  
Victorian  
'Painted  
Lady'  
houses**

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### 16 CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES



**38,000  
weird and  
wondrous  
animals**

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### 29 SOMA NIGHTLIFE




**San  
Francisco's  
work hard,  
play harder  
district**

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Weather-beaten picnic tables provide sweeping panoramas of City Hall's gilded dome and Postcard Row, a lineup of Victorian 'Painted Lady' houses on Steiner St with gingerbread detailing and frosting flourishes. Crowning the northwest corner are Barbary Coast baroque mansions, including watchtower-topped, gilded 1889 Westerfield House, which has survived tenancies by czarist Russian bootleggers, Fillmore jazz musicians and hippie communes. (Hayes & Scott Sts; ☎ 5, 21, 22, 24)



**Rosamunde Sausage Grill** (545 Haight St).

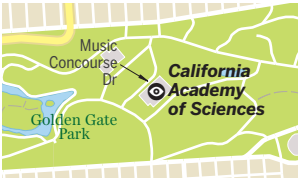
Impress a date on the cheap at nearby

MORNING

From **3** to your afternoon destination

-  40min  5min  25min  55min  45min  30min  30min  15min  45min  45min  50min  45min  30min

Leave it to San Francisco to dedicate a glorious four-story landmark entirely to freaks of nature. Architect Renzo Piano's 2008 Platinum LEED-certified green building houses 38,000 weird and wondrous animals, with an indoor rainforest, penguin habitat and underground aquarium capped by a 'living roof' of California wildflowers. ([www.calacademy.org](http://www.calacademy.org); 55 Music Concourse Dr; adult/child \$34.95/24.95; 9:30am-5pm Mon-Sat, 11am-5pm Sun; ☎ 5, 6, 31, 33, 44, 71, **M** N)



**Academy Cafe** features treats made with local ingredients by award-winning SF chefs Loretta Keller and Charles Phan.

AFTERNOON

From **16** to your evening destination

-  30min  20min  40min  35min  15min  15min  20min  15min  20min  20min  15min  25min  10min

In San Francisco's work hard, play harder district, warehouse clubs and leather bars are located near business-class hotels. Street-wise art gallery by day, 111 Minna busts moves after 9pm, when retro dance parties storm the back room. Tiny Club OMG lights up a grungy SoMa block with a mod turquoise-Lucite bar. Monarch rules Skid Row with circus-burlesque performers on the trapeze. Jump to '90s power pop on Saturdays at Cat Club. Club-kids do surface at the EndUp, SF's only 24-hour club. (Minna St, Howard St, 6th St, Folsom St)



**Zero** (826 Folsom St).

Start your night off with Naples' famous puffy-edged pizza and inspired SF-themed toppings at

EVENING

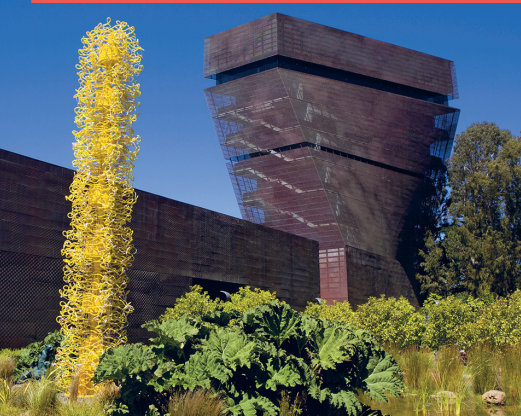
## 4 LOMBARD STREET



**A redbrick street with eight sweeping turns**

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## 17 MH DE YOUNG MUSEUM



**Standout shows of global art and fine craft**

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## 30 GAY NIGHTLIFE, THE CASTRO



**Whatever scene you're looking for this is where you'll find it**

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