

A San Francisco “To Do” List

- ✓ **1. Watch the surf crash at *Fort Point*.**

Fort Point is an 80-year old bastion where the park rangers dress in period soldier attire to demonstrate what army life was like a century ago. The Fort itself is a national historic site with views of the *Golden Gate Bridge* and the infamous *Alcatraz*. However, the most spectacular event to witness here is the waves slamming into the seawall. When a Pacific squall barrels through the Bay, waves crash against the red brick walls of the Fort, fanning water high into the air.
- ✓ **2. Explore the park of the 21st century.**

Presidio National Park, a former military installation, joined the National Park Service in October 1994. The Park has since become a 21st century park in the making. Containing three hundred acres of forest, six hundred historic buildings, 11 miles of hiking trails, 14 miles of bike paths, picnic areas and miles of beach, the *Presidio* is sure to lure many visitors.
- ✓ **3. Inhale the incense at a Chinese temple.**

Does the Far-East intrigue you? Are you drawn to the mysticism of Oriental culture? Well, you don't have to go to China to experience the Orient. Nestled in the heart of San Francisco is Chinatown, and, once you walk into the *Norras Temple*, the *Tin How Temple*, or the *Jeng Sen Temple*, close your eyes and inhale the incense, you would swear you were in China — if for only a moment.
- ✓ **4. Discover the arts at *Fort Mason Center*.**

Housed in a former waterfront army supply depot, *Fort Mason Center* is an “only in San Francisco” cultural gathering place. The Center plays host to performing arts groups, special events, art exhibits, music and drama workshops, and offers a striking waterfront view.
- ✓ **5. Enjoy cool libations aboard a floating pub.**

Jump aboard a Golden Gate Ferry bound for Sausalito or Larkspur Landing and experience happy hour as you never have before. As you sit back, relax and sip your beverage, you can take in the fabulous San Francisco waterfront scenery, get a close-up of *Alcatraz* and view all the Bay Front has to offer. The ferry trip is a two-martini commute, and you won't be disappointed with your drop-off destination.
- ✓ **6. Shake at a quake and smile at a crocodile.**

There is no reason why you can't mix a little learning with your leisure vacation. *The California Academy of Sciences* in *Golden Gate Park* is a must-see. This is not your typical museum; it has many things under one big roof. The *Academy of the Sciences* houses a Natural Sciences Center packed with creatures in realistic settings, a planetarium, and a major aquarium.
- ✓ **7. Have a look at a liberty ship.**

During World War II nearly three thousand liberty ships, prefabricated, hastily assembled cargo carriers, were built to help supply troops with ammo. The *SS Jeremiah O'Brien*, built in 1943, is the only liberty ship remaining. The *O'Brien* saw action during the Normandy Invasion. It has since retired but is well worth a look.
- ✓ **8. Climb the stairs of Telegraph Hill.**

Want your exercise? Brave the steep, lushly landscaped stairs of *Telegraph Hill* and it will do more than just take your breath away. *Telegraph Hill* offers splendid views of San Francisco Bay and the waterfront. If you do decide to take the stairs, bring your camera and possibly a sleeping bag — you may need to camp half-way up! If you happen to leave home without these essentials, there are plenty of historical pit-stops along the way.

Join United American in San Francisco
July 9-13, 2003, and you too can mark these
fabulous sites off your “to do” list!