



San Francisco's Great Ladies & Landmarks

+ Sausalito & Muir Redwoods

17th– 20th Oct, 2022 | 3 days / 3 nights | 10-20 guests

Imagine meeting a tribe of incredible like-minded women for a fabulous 2-day discovery of San Francisco's natural beauty, iconic architecture and always-innovating culture. Experience the City's Indian summer, gently tempered by the cool ocean breezes and famous Pacific Fog.

We'll begin our exploration of this world-class destination with a panoramic visit of the city center, with all its eclectic neighborhoods. Winding our way through colorful ethnic quarters and celebrated landmarks, we will share stories of several captivating women who helped make San Francisco the vibrant modern city it is today. Often described as one of the most "European-style" cities in the United States, "SF" has consistently been on the leading edge of cultural transformation, modernization and diversity since its founding in 1776. Collectively we'll hear, see and feel exactly why that is as we explore, dine and shop through our favorite San Francisco Bay highlights.

On our second day together, we'll venture out of the City to discover some of the Bay's most incredible natural features, from the rugged cliffs and bay shore, to the awe-inspiring Coastal Redwoods. Together we'll cross the Golden Gate Bridge into picturesque Marin County, along the way learning how Muir Woods was saved from development and contributed to United States National Park history. In this ancient old growth forest remember to breathe deeply from the fresh morning mist, listen to bubbling Redwood Creek and imagine what it must be like for each "mother tree" to support her own family circle for thousands of years. Walking at the feet of evergreen giants has a way of adding perspective to our own lives. After the woods we'll return to the charming seaside hamlet of Sausalito for lunch at our favorite waterfront restaurant with views of the San Francisco skyline across the bay. Our day will conclude at our boutique hotel with optional courtesty stops at hip shopping neighborhoods.

Highlights

- Stay in a hip, literary-themed hotel just steps from the official “heart” of the City, downtown’s Union Square
- Discover San Francisco’s iconic landmarks during an expertly guided private City Tour
- Visit hidden urban parks and botanical gardens featuring native and exotic species, as well as highlights from one of the largest and most diverse public art collections in the country
- Learn about the important women who shaped San Francisco’s history
- Enjoy a morning break for rich, steamy local hot chocolate
- Delight in a California wine tasting paired with a gourmet local artisan cheese and charcuterie board
- Take advantage of time to sample authentic Japanese biscuiterie in an authentic Japanese Tea Garden
- Explore an ancient old-growth coastal redwood forest and be filled with awe for mother nature in the iconic Muir Woods
- Take advantage of free time for shopping Sausalito’s boutiques
- Share a waterfront California-cuisine lunch on the San Francisco Bay
- Hit up the smart, sophisticated, stylish shops in the Filmore District

This exceptional journey will be guided by professional [tour director Heather White](#), who has been leading groups throughout California for more than 10 years. Heather came to guiding by blending a business, tech and higher education background. A University of California graduate, she designed her first tour itinerary for visiting diplomats and scholars while managing executive programs at UC Berkeley. A passionate life-long learner and teacher, she is a qualified wine educator and naturalist guide who especially loves sharing the untold stories of amazing women in history. Heather speaks English, French and terrier.

Arrival Day – 17th October, Monday

San Francisco International Airport

Recommended airport: San Francisco International (SFO)

Alternate airport: Oakland International (OAK)

Check into the [Hotel Emblem](#). This hip boutique hotel sits between the opulent Nob Hill neighborhood and San Francisco's Union Square, just above the City's theatre district.

After checking in, today is your day to see [the Painted Ladies](#) and [Lombard Street](#) on your own, as no chartered buses of any kind are allowed here.

Meals: Dinner at leisure, on your own, suggestion given.

Suggestion: Meet up with your fellow travelers in the Obsenity Bar at the hotel for a drink, this bar celebrates the First Amendment so you can swear to your heart's content!

Day 1 – 18th October, Tuesday

San Francisco

Well rested, we'll start the day with breakfast at our hotel. Then we'll head out for an all day city exploration with our tour guide, Heather around 10am. As we discover San Francisco's seven hills, waterfront and urban neighborhoods, you'll want to keep your camera handy to capture all the famous landmarks and iconic postcard shots!

As we climb to the top of Nob Hill, descend through Chinatown and through Northbeach, aka "little Italy" imagine how the landscape has changed in almost 250 years between the Spanish arrival, Gold Rush, Summer of Love and modern High-Tech Hub era. As we travel from one famous spot to the next Heather will regale you with stories of the most important women of San Francisco's history and the mark that they've made.

Mid-morning we'll pause at the historic and charming Ghirardelli square to savor a piping hot cup of their almost-sinfully decadent hot chocolate.

We'll also visit a gourmand's dream, the [Cheese School of San Francisco](#). Here professional cheesemongers will lead us in a delightful wine, cheese and charcuterie tasting. Stretch your legs and take a few moments to browse the specialty boutiques in the elevated courtyard.

Once satiated with all this deliciousness we'll continue with our sightseeing. Together we will cross the Presidio of San Francisco, headed toward the Pacific Ocean and the setting sun. We'll conclude our guided journey in Golden Gate Park, where you can use your free time to explore the Japanese Tea Garden and other cultural treasures in this 1000-acre park before returning to our hotel.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

NOTE: Dinner reservations will be made at a nearby [Thai Place](#) for anyone who wants to join, this meal will be hosted by a surprise guest! Approx cost \$20 pp before alcoholic drinks, taxes or tips.

Day 3 – 19th October, Wednesday

Crossing the Golden Gate to Muir Woods and Sausalito

After breakfast at the hotel, we'll set off to picturesque Marin County. We'll cross the world-famous Golden Gate Bridge on the way to Tamalpais Valley and Muir Woods National Monument. We'll stop on the way to capture that iconic shot with the country's most famous bridge in the background.

Then we'll arrive at Muir Wood, a tiny jewel of the National Park Service which provides sanctuary to the best-preserved ancient old-growth coast redwoods groves within reach of San Francisco's bustling metropolis.

California boasts the world's tallest, largest and oldest trees. Muir Woods is an idyllic, misty little pocket of protected coastal redwoods, or Sequoia Sempervirens, the tallest species of tree on Earth. Enjoy time for a self-paced stroll along Redwood Creek. Consider making it a moderate loop hike via the Hillside Trail to see the trees up close at canopy level. Fill your lungs with soothing forest air and pause for a coffee and souvenir stop at Muir Woods Trading Center. Purchase a tiny redwood or giant sequoia sapling to plant in your garden back home.

Next we'll return through the mountain pass to Sausalito. This charming seaside hamlet is a favorite day-trip destination for locals and visitors alike. Enjoy a waterfront group lunch of regional specialities at the famous [Trident Restaurant](#).

Once the Yacht Club of San Francisco, this restaurant boasts incredible views of the Bay and City Skyline. Between Bloody Marys, be sure to watch for curious sealions, jumping dolphins and don't miss the Janis Joplin inspired interior of the main dining room.

You'll also want to save a little time to browse boutique galleries featuring local artists, upscale clothiers and a broad assortment of curio shops. At the end of the day we'll return to San Francisco via the Golden Gate, with an optional drop off in the hip Filmore shopping district.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Note: Dinner will be reserved for those who wish to join at [China Live](#), a short walk away in Chinatown. This lively restaurant won restaurant of the year from Eater Magazine when it opened. Dinner is not included but an exciting family style menu will be ordered for whomever decides to join. Approx Cost \$50 pp before tips and drinks.

Day 4 – 10th October, Thursday

Transfer to the retreat center

Today we'll pack our bags and head for the hills! Together we'll enjoy a scenic ride to meet up with the rest of our group in Lake County wine country.

Meals included: Breakfast

Extra cost for transportation \$85 pp

Trip Notes:

- This is a convivial group experience – we anticipate 10-20 guests.
- Trip starts in San Francisco and finishes at our retreat center in Sonoma County.
- Your hosts reserve the right to alter the itinerary based on weather or availability of services. This flexibility is necessary to ensure the best possible journey experience for our guests.
- We are happy to assist guests wishing to extend their stay after the tour.
- Dietary requirements/intolerances can be accommodated – please let us know in advance.

Trip Cost: \$1985 or \$1035 without hotel

What's included:

- 3 nights accommodation in a highly rated hotel, ranked #3 of 252 hotels in San Francisco
- Your own private room at the hotel, no sharing or single supplement fee! You can save if you wish to share, just contact us
- Breakfast included daily buffet style or served
- All including delicious local dishes and a cheese/charcuterie & wine tasting
- At lunch soft drinks and/or a glass of wine is included along with water, tea or coffee
- All visits, excursions, experiences as listed in the itinerary
- All transportation and guiding services
- Local guide with deep expertise in San Francisco history, culture, California ecosystems and wine.
- Travelling as a small group of ladies with the friendship and conversation that this generates.

What's Not Included?

- Roundtrip airfare to San Francisco
- Any personal souvenirs or purchases
- Additional wine, beer or spirits beyond what is offered at meals
- Travel insurance and trip medical coverage which is essential
- Items of a personal nature including the minibar
- Snacks or drinks outside meal times
- Gratuities for guides and drivers