



LOCAL VIBE INCLUDED

San Francisco's Japantown is only one of three remaining in the country. It all began in the 1860's when generations of Japanese immigrants settled here and began to share their art and culture with the city. Today, it's home to countless ramen and udon eateries, sushi restaurants and sweets shops where you can get imported, special treats that Japan is known for. Japantown also has shopping centers that feature everything from kimonos and manga to imported teas and folk art.

FOOD & DRINK

Best cup of coffee:

Compton's Coffee House 1910 Fillmore St. (415) 416-6173

Best local dish:

Marufuku Ramen 1581 Webster St. #235 (415) 872-9786

Best sweet treat:

Mochill Mochidonut 1737 Post St. Suite 95 (650) 619-2462

Best bar or lounge:

The Snug 2301 Fillmore St. thesnugsf.com

HEALTH & FITNESS

Best running route:

Lafayette Park Gough St. & Washington St. (415) 831-2700

Best gym:

Rumble Boxing - Marina 3060 Fillmore St. Suite 120-A (212) 804-7918

Best spa:

Kabuki Springs & Spa 1750 Geary Blvd (415) 922-6000

Best hiking trail:

Land's End Trail (415) 426-5240

NEIGHBORHOOD AMBASSADOR TIP

Hayes Valley is a neighborhood filled with upscale boutiques for designer fashions and home decor, dessert shops and a wide array of restaurants.



MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

Best comedy club:

Cobb's Comedy Club 915 Columbus Ave. (415) 928-4320

Best art gallery:

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art 151 3rd St. (415) 357-4000

Best music venue:

Bill Graham Civic Auditorium 99 Grove St. (415) 624-8900

Best live music:

SF Jazz Center 201 Franklin St. (415) 788-7353

PETS

Best dog park:

Alamo Square Hayes St. (415) 218-0259

Best outdoor seating:

Patricia's Green in Hayes Valley 50 Fell St.

Pet-friendly zones:

Marina District & Cow Hollow Neighborhood

PHOTO OPS

Alamo Square is home to the famous "Painted Ladies", a group of colorfully painted Victorian homes and Presidio Tunnel Tops offers stunning views of the Golden Gate Bridge.

BOUTIQUE / LOCAL GEM

Best local purveyor:

Maido Fine Stationery & Gifts 1581 Webster St. #260 (415) 567-8901

Best bookstore:

Kinokuniya San Francisco 1581 Webster St. (415) 567-7625

Best shopping:

Fillmore Street

Best home goods:

Daiso Japan 22 Peace Plaza Suite 400 (415) 359-9397

Best record store:

Originals Vinyl 701 Fillmore St. (415) 660-8779