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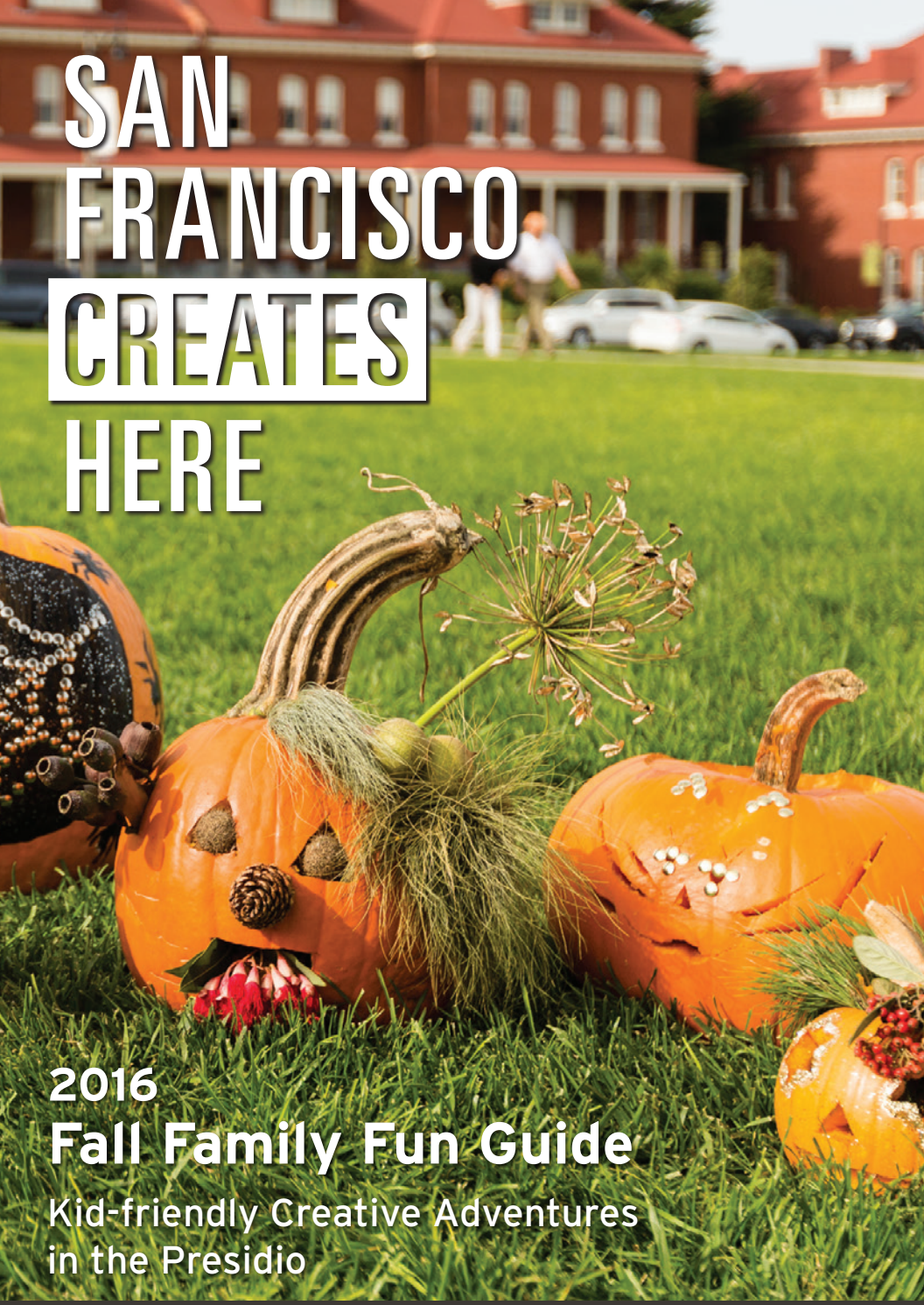


2016
Fall Family Fun Guide

Kid-friendly Creative Adventures in the Presidio

Presidio Trust

www.presidio.gov/kids

Presidio Fall Family Fun Guide

Autumn is in the air, a time when the creative juices begin to flow again after the lazy days of summer. Lucky for us, it's also when we get to enjoy some of the Presidio's sunniest days.

What's Happening This Fall?

This guide breaks down the Presidio's autumn escapades into four categories – Outdoor Fun, Inside Experiences, Art Activities, and "On Your Own" Adventures. There's so much happening in the park this season, you'll have to return again and again!

#PresidioSF

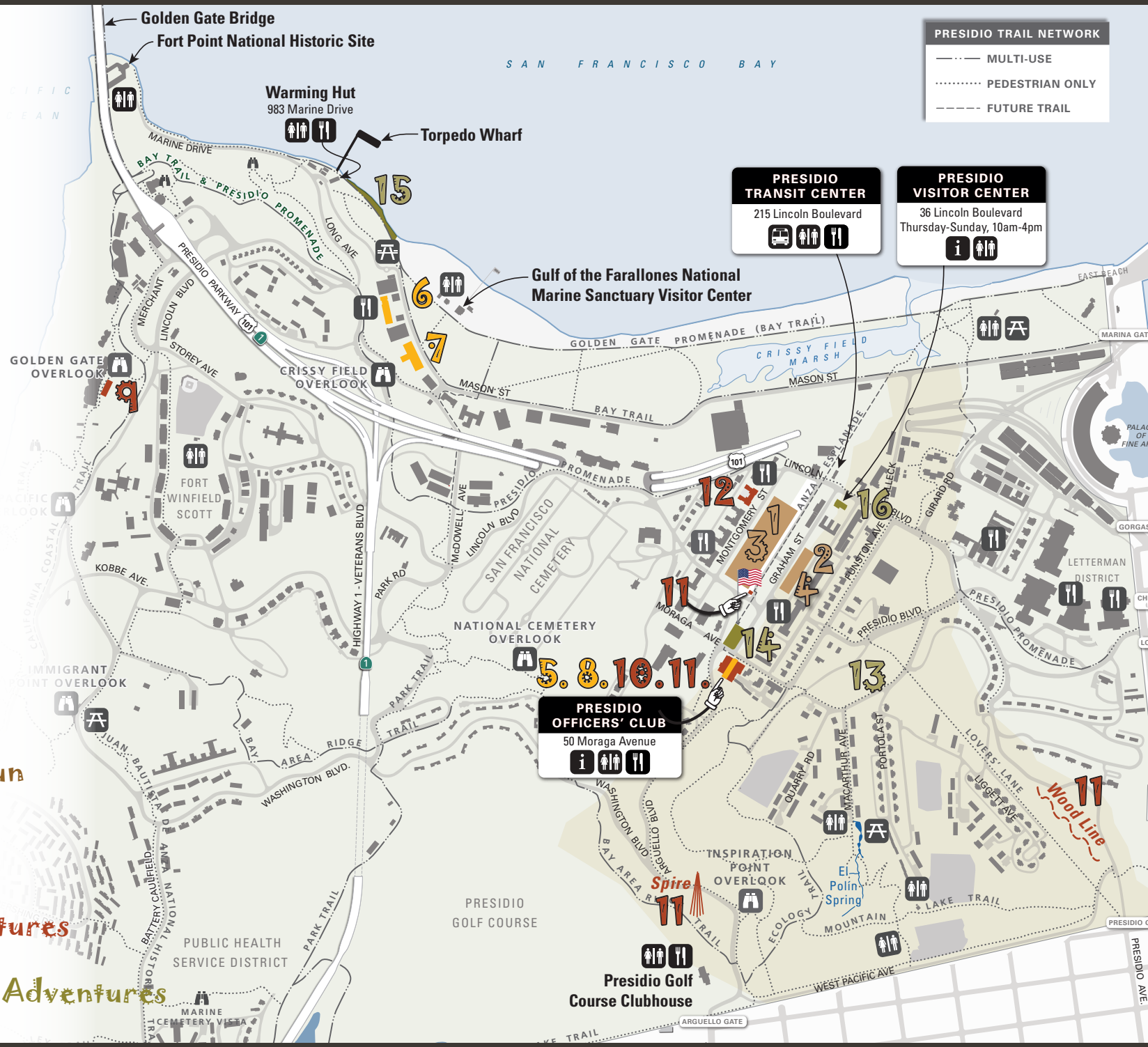
Share photos of your family enjoying this guide's activities, or make suggestions for new ways to experience the Presidio with your kids this fall – just use the hashtag #PresidioSF.

Outdoor Fun

Indoor Fun

Art Adventures

"On Your Own" Adventures



OUTDOOR FUN

1 Twilight + Picnic

Two food gatherings provide a fun outlet for all generations. Thursday night's Presidio Twilight vibe is chill with cabanas, fire pits, and live music. Presidio Picnic on Sundays is an upbeat festival of toddlers, puppies (on leash, of course), and sun seekers. Both events serve up great San Francisco Bay views and delicious eats.

Presidio Twilight – Thursdays, 5 to 9 pm through October 6.

Presidio Picnic – Sundays, 11 am to 4 pm through October 9

Main Parade Ground on the Main Post

Offered by the Presidio Trust and Off the Grid

2 Free Shakespeare in the Park

Bring Shakespeare to life by combining the "bard" with a picnic. This year's Free Shakespeare in the Park features *The Winter's Tale*, a great intro to the classics for your high school-aged kids. Bring a blanket or low lawn chairs, pack a picnic, and relax to William's iambic beat.

September 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 17 and 18, at 2 pm

Civil War Parade Ground on the Main Post

3 Pumpkin Carving

Nothing puts a smile on a kid's face like carving their very own jack-o-lantern. This two-day event draws hundreds of junior artists who make their own unique All Hallows' creations. Pumpkins are free (one per family), but registration is required.

Saturday + Sunday, October 22 + 23, 11 am to 4 pm

Main Parade Ground on the Main Post

Register at www.presidio.gov/RSVP

4 Film in the Fog

We cannot tell a lie – there's no better introduction to the magical world of Disney than through an outdoor screening of the classic *Pinocchio*. Bring a blanket and a picnic dinner, or enjoy food trucks and (free!) popcorn.

Friday, October 1: food 5:30 pm; movie 7:30 pm

Civil War Parade Ground on the Main Post

Register at www.presidio.gov/RSVP

Presented by the Walt Disney Family Museum and the Presidio Trust

5 Presidio Nature Lab

Spark your junior ecologist's curiosity about the natural world through this special family-friendly exhibition that includes fun hands-on tools and games. Added adventure: a guided Monarch butterfly walk on Saturday, October 22, at 10 am.

Tuesdays to Sundays, 10 am to 6 pm
Presidio Officers' Club, 50 Moraga Avenue
www.presidio.gov/NatureLab

6 Batter's Box

As lovely as fall in San Francisco can be, there will be a few days where the kids will need to blow off steam indoors. One way is at Batter's Box SF. It's a great spot for kids 4 and up to practice their swing and have fun! The baseball, softball, and whiffle ball cages are perfect for a party, to take a lesson, or to simply indulge in America's favorite pastime.

933B Mason Street at Crissy Field
www.battersboxsf.com

7 Planet Granite

Sometimes kids get a little bored…and they begin climbing the walls! Well bring that energy on over to the Presidio. At Planet Granite, kids can have a party, participate in a camp, and find walls meant for climbing. Planet Granite also offers drop-in classes, belay classes for families, and five-week after school climbing programs.

924 Mason Street at Crissy Field
www.planetgranite.com/sf

8 For the Parents

The fall season of talks and music offerings for the parental units kicks off this September at the Presidio Officers' Club. Splurge on a babysitter and come out Thursdays or Fridays. Round out your evening with dinner at Arguello restaurant. Or Jitterbug on over with your beloved to the Halloween Dance on Saturday, October 29.

www.presidio.gov/officers-club/events

9 Home Land Security Exhibition

If you're looking for a way to talk with your kids about the news of the world today, the *Home Land Security* exhibition might provide the perfect opening. Eighteen artists from around the globe use the Presidio's historic gun batteries to explore ideas of fear and safety and to create dialogue. Sponsored by the FOR-SITE Foundation.

September 10 to December 18
Wednesdays to Sundays, 10 am to 5 pm
Fort Winfield Scott, near the Golden Gate Overlook
www.FOR-SITE.org

11 Andy Goldsworthy in the Presidio

Playful, unexpected, and always inspirational, artist Andy Goldsworthy's four Presidio installations make an impression on people of all ages. Towering *Spire* makes even big kids feel small while snaking *Wood Line* invites kids of all ages to balance as they walk atop its curves; *Tree Fall* and *Earth Wall* create "how did he do that" moments. All inspire big and small kids to unleash their creativity.

Download the Andy Goldsworthy in the Presidio *brochure at www.presidio.gov/art and see all four exhibits on a three-mile hike.*

10 Creative Family Fun

Drop in to the Presidio Officers' Club every weekend for free imaginative craft-making based on the Presidio's natural and cultural heritage. This fall, kids will make Mexican metal art, Dia de los Muertos masks, and scratch away ceramics.

Weekends 11 am to 4 pm
Presidio Officers' Club, 50 Moraga Avenue

12 Art Two Ways at The Disney Museum

This exhibition at The Walt Disney Family Museum lets young artists see how animation is born. *Wish Upon a Star: The Art of Pinocchio* features original artwork and artifacts of a film that still captures our imagination 75 years after it was first released. The museum also offers an After School Animation Program for middle- or high-school aged students. Scholarships for qualified families may be available.

Wish Upon a Star: The Art of Pinocchio *exhibition runs through January 9, 2017*

After School Animation and more at www.waltdisney.org/education

"ON YOUR OWN" ADVENTURES

13 Tennessee Hollow Self-Guided Walk

Sometimes a walk is so much more than exercise – it's a feast for the senses and a chance to learn something new. A new self-guided hike allows families to take a special two-mile walk through the Presidio's largest watershed, which runs in a series of creeks flowing north to Crissy Marsh.

Download the Tennessee Hollow Watershed Walk *at www.presidio.gov/TH.*

14 Dig It!

Many city kids don't realize all the amazing things happening right beneath their feet. A live archaeology dig outside the Presidio Officers' Club helps kids learn about the people who've walked through the Presidio through time, leaving behind a little piece of themselves along the way.

Live Archaeology Digs - Every Friday and Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm, through October 15

International Archaeology Day – Saturday, October 15, 10 am to 3 pm

Presidio Officers' Club, 50 Moraga Avenue

15 Rock On!

Rock balancing or building "cairns" happens all around the world; people often do it to mark trails in the wilderness. The stones along the shoreline near the Presidio's Warming Hut and Torpedo Wharf offer creative material for impromptu rock stacking. See how high you and the kids can go!

16 Centennial Passport Stamp

The National Park Service celebrates its 100th birthday this year! To commemorate

this occasion, kids are invited to drop by the Presidio Visitor Center to receive a Golden Gate National Recreation Area or a Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail Centennial Passport Stamp. Also, kids can earn a Junior Ranger Centennial Badge by completing the Centennial Junior Ranger Activity Book and showing it at the Visitor Center. While supplies last.

Presidio Visitor Center, 36 Lincoln Boulevard

www.presidio.gov/places/presidio-visitor-center

Can you find me in the Presidio this fall?

For the Birds

In the fall, the Presidio is a great place for an avian safari. Western Tanagers and many other migratory birds make use of the Presidio's habitats for feeding and resting: some will stay for the whole winter!

Where to find me: El Polín Spring and Mountain Lake

Farewell to Summer

Summer wildflowers (like Coast Buckwheat) slowly fade in the fall, dispersing their seeds in time to benefit from the upcoming winter rains.

Where to find me: Lobos Creek Valley

A Halloween Treat

The Pumpkin Spider – which gets its name from its bulbous, rust-colored thorax – is particularly active around Halloween.

Where to find me: "Sand Ladder" connector to the California Coastal Trail near Baker Beach

Look but Don't Touch

Poison Oak offers a West Coast version of colorful fall foliage before losing its leaves for winter. The natural areas alongside Presidio trails are great places for leaf-peeping.

Where to find me: Ecology Trail

Park Skies at Dusk

Autumn sunsets are the most spectacular of the year in the Presidio. You'll find beautiful golden and rose hues all over the western Presidio.

Where to find me: Pacific Overlook or Fort Winfield Scott