PRESIDIO VISITOR GUIDE

www.presidio.gov | #PresidioSF 2018

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INFO ON-THE-GO

Presidio mobile website: www.presidio.gov

NPS Golden Gate National Recreation Area App

SEE FULL CALENDAR: www.presidio.gov/events

Questions? Call the Presidio Visitor Center at (415) 561-4323.
Welcome to the Presidio. This inspiring national park at the Golden Gate has a remarkable past and a fascinating present. We’re glad you’re here!

A BRIEF HISTORY
Before there was San Francisco, there was the Presidio. This land was home to native peoples for thousands of years. The Ohlone occupied five villages in what today is the city of San Francisco, including one here called Petlenuc. In 1776, Spain established a military fort – El Presidio – on this land. The Spanish flag flew over the Presidio for 45 years. After winning its independence from Spain in 1821, Mexico controlled the Presidio and established a new pueblo nearby called Yerba Buena.

The United States seized the Presidio in 1847 during the Mexican-American War and soon after renamed the pueblo San Francisco. In 1972, Congress created one of the world’s largest national parks in an urban setting – the Golden Gate National Recreation Area – and declared that the Presidio would join that park should the military ever leave. In 1989, Congress decided to close the Presidio. Its 218-year tenure as a military post ended in 1994 when the Army lowered its flag for the last time.

Over the past two decades, the Presidio has undergone an exciting “post to park” transformation. The Presidio Trust, the National Park Service, and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy have rehabilitated hundreds of historic buildings for new uses, restored native habitats, built hiking and biking trails, and created scenic overlooks and vistas. The park is now home to 3,000 residents and 200 organizations, including many that welcome visitors.

POST TO PARK

The Presidio is where San Francisco began. Today it is a national park site and a National Historic Landmark District located at the center of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

DISCOVER AND ENJOY

Today, the Presidio is a national park that welcomes all. Begin your day by getting oriented at the Presidio Visitor Center (see p. 5) and learning about the park’s fascinating history at the Presidio Officers’ Club (see p. 22). Then head outside for a hike through the forest; see native wildflowers at Crissy Marsh; toss a Frisbee with the kids on the Main Parade Ground; stop for a bite at one of the Presidio’s many eateries; or watch the sunset from a scenic vista.

Visit www.presidio.gov to check the events calendar and find suggestions for park adventures.

Questions?
If you have questions about visiting the Presidio, call us!

WILLIAM PENN MOTT, JR.
PRESIDIO VISITOR CENTER
(415) 561-4323

www.presidio.gov | #PresidioSF
PresidiGo Downtown Shuttle

The PresidiGo Downtown Shuttle offers a free and convenient way for visitors to travel between downtown San Francisco and the Presidio seven days a week. Each one-way trip takes about 25 minutes. All shuttles are wheelchair accessible and feature bike racks.

Getting Here: Where can I pick up the PresidiGo Downtown Shuttle in San Francisco?

- Near the Transbay Terminal (Main Street at Howard Street)
- Near the Embarcadero BART Station (8th Street at California Street, in front of the Hyatt Regency)

Making Connections Inside the Presidio

The hub for the PresidiGo Downtown Shuttle is the Presidio Transit Center, located on the Main Post. From here you can connect to two PresidiGo Around the Park Shuttle routes, which will take you to more than 40 destinations in the Presidio (see p. 4). The Main Post is the heart of the visitor experience. Within easy walking distance of the Presidio Transit Center you will find the Presidio Visitor Center (see p. 5), the Presidio Officers’ Club (see p. 5), and other attractions. You can also make connections to many of the Presidio’s trails (see p. 8).

Getting Out: Where can I pick up the PresidiGo Downtown Shuttle inside the Presidio?

- Presidio Transit Center (215 Lincoln Boulevard)
- Lincoln Boulevard near the Presidio Community YMCA
- Tides Converge Center (Letterman Drive)
- Letterman Digital Arts Center (Letterman Drive)
- Lombard Gate (outbound only)

LIVE SHUTTLE TRACKING

Use your smartphone to download either “Swiftly” or “Transit App” from the App Store to track where the PresidiGo Shuttles are in real time. Both applications feature transit trip planning tools to get you to your destination quickly and efficiently. You can also visit www.presidiobus.com for a live map of the PresidiGo Shuttles.

LEARN MORE: www.presidio.gov/shuttle
Other Transportation Options

Several MUNI lines, including the 1, 28, 29, 30, 41, 43, 45, and 76X, come into or near the Presidio. The MUNI 43 provides direct service to the Presidio Transit Center. Use the MUNI 43 for transportation to Fort Mason, Golden Gate Park, and connections to other MUNI lines. Visit www.sfmta.com for details.

Golden Gate Transit (GGT) provides bus service from Marin County to San Francisco. GGT buses stop at the Golden Gate Bridge Toll Plaza and at the intersection of Richardson Avenue and Francisco Street near the Lombard Gate.

Bicycling

The Presidio is a bike-friendly destination. The Presidio Shuttle is equipped with bike racks; secure BikeLink lockers can be rented at the Presidio Transit Center. Bike rentals are available at Sports Basement, 610 Mason Street, at Crissy Field.
GETTING AROUND

PresidiGo AROUND THE PARK SHUTTLES

Both PresidiGo Around the Park Shuttle routes are **free** and run two continuous 30-minute loops:

**The Crissy Field Route** serves the northern Presidio, including the Main Post, the Golden Gate Bridge, Fort Scott, Crissy Field, and the Letterman District.

**The Presidio Hills Route** serves the Main Post, Inspiration Point, Washington Boulevard, Baker Beach, and the Public Health Service District.

Both routes originate at the Presidio Transit Center (215 Lincoln Boulevard) and connect with MUNI and Golden Gate Transit. They operate on a limited weekend schedule on federal holidays. Pick up a shuttle brochure at the Presidio Visitor Center, the Presidio Officers’ Club, or the Golden Gate Welcome Center, or download at the link below.

LEARN MORE: [www.presidio.gov/shuttle](http://www.presidio.gov/shuttle)
The Presidio Visitor Center is the “front door” to the national park experience. It offers friendly staff and volunteers, engaging exhibits, maps, videos, retail items, and all the information you need to plan an amazing day in the Presidio.

Located on the Main Post next to the Presidio Transit Center, the visitor center is where you can get these “Top 5” questions answered.

1. **Why is the Presidio important?**
   The visitor center offers interactive exhibits that introduce the park’s fascinating history, its wild open spaces, and the key people and events that shaped this remarkable place.

2. **What's happening in the Presidio today?**
   A digital calendar offers a schedule of events happening in the park – from ranger walks to live music to family activities.

3. **What places should I visit?**
   A large topographical map of the Presidio and interactive touch screens reveal the “must see” destinations – from the Presidio Officers’ Club to Crissy Field.

4. **How do I get around the Presidio?**
   Learn how to use the free PresidioGo Around the Park Shuttle (see p. 4), where to rent a bike, and what trails match your interests.

5. **What do I need to support my visit?**
   A range of items – from books to water bottles to jackets – will make your park visit comfortable and memorable.

San Francisco’s most historic building is now the Presidio’s destination for culture and history. First established in 1776, the structure’s adobe walls stand testament to California’s deep Spanish roots. Throughout the 20th century, the Officers’ Club was an exclusive gathering place for Army brass and their families. Today, it is a multi-faceted destination that welcomes the entire community.

**10,000 YEARS OF HISTORY**
Dive deep into Presidio history and its “post to park” transformation. See the building’s original adobe walls and enjoy exhibits about seafaring scientists, the Buffalo Soldiers, Army nurses, war veterans, and how the Presidio was saved as a national park. A free multi-lingual audio tour is available.

**ARCHAEOLOGY LAB + LIVE DIG**
A state-of-the-art lab offers tours that reveal where artifacts are catalogued, studied, and curated. From April to October, a live dig invites visitors to watch archaeologists uncover the first Spanish Colonial fort, El Presidio.

**EVENTS + PROGRAMS**
Enjoy free events that enlighten, engage, and entertain, including live music, films, dances, talks, and tours.

**ARGUELLO RESTAURANT**
Operated by Chef Traci Des Jardins and the Presidio Trust, Arguello features Mexican cuisine. Don’t miss the patio!

**FOR KIDS**
On weekends, bring the kids in for Creative Family Fun, craft-making based on the Presidio’s nature and history. The Presidio Officers’ Club also brings learning alive through field trips for elementary, middle, and high school students.

**ANDY GOLDSWORTHY’S EARTH WALL**
This installation pays homage to the rich archaeological setting of the Presidio Officers’ Club – and it was built with clay and eucalyptus branches reclaimed from the site (see p. 22).

**CELEBRATION + MEETING SPACE**
The Presidio Officers’ Club features the 3,000-square-foot Ortega Ballroom with panoramic views toward San Francisco Bay, and the open-air Hardie Courtyard for small gatherings.

LEARN MORE: [www.presidio.gov/officers-club](http://www.presidio.gov/officers-club)

LEARN MORE: [www.presidio.gov/visitor-center](http://www.presidio.gov/visitor-center)
Start Here! 📚

**Presidio Visitor Center (see p. 5)**
The Presidio Visitor Center is the best place to begin your day in the park. Drop in to grab a map, learn about events, and get suggestions for your Presidio adventure. A 10-minute visit will get you started, but if you have more time, check out the interactive exhibits, watch a short video, chat with a staff member, and enjoy the bay views.

**IF YOU HAVE TWO HOURS**
**Presidio Officers’ Club (see p. 5)**
Take a deep dive into the park’s remarkable past at this cultural center and museum. See adobe walls from circa 1880, experience exhibits and artifacts that trace 10,000 years of history, watch powerful short films, and peel back layers of history in the archaeology lab. An audio tour is available in English, Spanish, Mandarin, and Cantonese.

At the end of your explorations, take a break in beautiful Moraga Hall (the Presidio’s “living room”) or visit Arguello Restaurant to enjoy Mexican food and a comfortable patio with a fire pit. On your way out, pick up a program calendar to plan your return visit.

**IF YOU HAVE FOUR HOURS, ADD THIS:**
**PresidiGo Around the Park Shuttles (see p. 4)**
Get an overview of the park on two 30-minute shuttle loops. The Crissy Field route showcases Golden Gate Bridge views and provides a glimpse of the forest and historic Fort Scott. The Presidio Hills route traces the Main Post on the way to Inspiration Point and Baker Beach. Pick up the shuttle at the Presidio Transit Center or hop on hop off at one of 40 stops.

**Enjoy Crissy Field (see p. 14)**
Here you’ll find beautiful views of the Golden Gate Bridge, the city skyline, Alcatraz, and Angel Island. This is the spot for recreation, birdwatching at the restored marsh, and taking that quintessential San Francisco photo.

**IF YOU HAVE ONE DAY, ADD THIS:**
**Discover Art (see p. 22)**
The Presidio welcomes a variety of temporary art installations and is home to the largest collection of Andy Goldsworthy art on public view in North America. His works can be enjoyed via a 3-mile loop along the Presidio’s trail network.

**Take a “Springs to Bay” Watershed Walk**
Enjoy a two-hour, self-guided walk through Tennessee Hollow, the Presidio’s largest watershed, where an ongoing restoration is bringing natural habitats back to life. Trace the path of the creek as it flows from a natural spring north to Crissy Marsh. Along the way, learn about significant moments in Presidio history and enjoy amazing birdwatching. Download the Tennessee Hollow Watershed Walk at www.presidio.gov/places/tennessee-hollow-watershed.
ENJOY A VARIETY OF EXPERIENCES AROUND THE PRESIDIO

HISTORY BUFFS
- Presidio Officers’ Club (see p. 5)
- Fort Point National Historic Site (see p. 18)
- Korean War Memorial (see p. 13)
- Military Intelligence Service Historic Learning Center (see p. 14)
- San Francisco National Cemetery (see p. 13)

FAMILY FUN SEEKERS
- Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Visitor Center (see p. 14)
- Julius Kahn Playground (see p. 17)
- House of Air (see p. 15)
- Lettermen Digital Arts Center / Yoda Statue (see p. 13)
- The Walt Disney Family Museum (see p. 13)
- Mountain Lake + Mountain Lake Park (see p. 16)

NATURE ENTHUSIASTS
- El Polín Spring (see p. 17)
- Mountain Lake (see p. 16)
- Crissy Marsh (see p. 15)
- Lobos Creek Valley (see p. 17)
- Baker Beach (see p. 18)

ART LOVERS
- Spire (see p. 22)
- Wood Line (see p. 22)
- Tides Converge Galleries (see p. 13)
- Presidio Chapel + Interfaith Center (see p. 12)

OUTDOOR FUN FOR KIDS + FAMILIES

Go Geocaching

Geocaching is an any-day, any-time treasure hunt that people all over the world enjoy. There are two-million geocaches around the globe, including more than a dozen here in the Presidio. Use your smartphone to locate these hidden boxes and stories that lead you to interesting spots around the park. Start by visiting www.geocaching.com. Enter “San Francisco” to zoom in on the Presidio. A fun 75-second “how to” video will set you on your way!

What you Need to Know
Charge your phone before you arrive. Dress in layers and bring along water and snacks.

Check Out a Presidio Explorer Backpack

The Presidio Explorer Backpack is like a board game come to life. It contains an adventure map and cards that guide you to fun discoveries – wildflowers, creatures, and more – all around the park. It’s also packed with tools like a magnifying glass, binoculars, and a compass to help you along the way.

What You Need to Know
Drop into the Presidio Visitor Center (210 Lincoln Boulevard; see p. 5) daily from 10 am to 2 pm to check out a free backpack. Supplies are limited, so you may want to reserve one in advance by calling (415) 561-4323. One backpack per family or group.

Give yourself two hours for your adventure. Backpacks MUST be returned by 4:30 pm.

Travel around the park on foot or on the free PresidiGo Around the Park Shuttles (see p. 4).

All Ages

Ages 5 to 12

GO GEOCACHING

The Presidio is home to more than a dozen geocaches around the globe. Use your smartphone to locate these hidden boxes and stories that lead you to interesting spots around the park. A fun 75-second “how to” video will set you on your way!

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The Presidio

7
Create your own trail adventure or try one of these four recommended routes.

The Presidio's extensive hiking and biking trail network features 24 miles of trails, 25 miles of bikeways, and 10 scenic overlooks and vistas. The Presidio offers road and trail biking opportunities. Trails that are designated as "multi-use" welcome cyclists and pedestrians.

**A TRAIL FOR EVERYONE**

**Distance:** 2.7 miles

**Highlights:** Provides access for all modes of travel: foot, bike, wheelchair, or stroller. Showcases four scenic overlooks: forest, ocean, and bay views.

**Trails:** Park Trail, California Coastal Trail, Bay Area Ridge Trail, Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, Presidio Promenade

**ON THE WATERFRONT (EASY)**

**Pedestrians and Bicycles**

**Distance:** 2.0 miles

**Highlights:** Crissy Field, West Bluff Picnic Area, San Francisco Bay, and views of the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz, and Angel Island.

**Trails:** Bay Trail / Golden Gate Promenade

**Estimated Calories Burned – Walking:** 135

**Estimated Calories Burned – Biking:** 65

**Approximate Walking Time:** 40 minutes

**Approximate Biking Time:** 12 minutes

**HEART OF THE PARK (MODERATE)**

**Pedestrians Only**

**Distance:** 3.0 miles

**Highlights:** Presidio Officers’ Club, Main Parade Ground, El Presidio, Andy Goldsworthy’s Tree Fall and Spire, Inspiration Point Overlook, National Cemetery Overlook, historic forest.

**Trails:** Ecology Trail, Bay Area Ridge Trail, Presidio Promenade, Park Trail

**Estimated Calories Burned:** 200

**Approximate Walking Time:** 60 minutes

**PRESIDIO IMMERSION (CHALLENGING)**

**Pedestrians Only**

**Distance:** 6.4 miles

**Highlights:** Andy Goldsworthy’s Wood Line and Spire, El Polin Spring, Immigrant Point Overlook, Crissy Field Overlook, and views of the Pacific Ocean, San Francisco Bay, and Golden Gate Bridge.

**Trails:** Lovers’ Lane, Mountain Lake Trail, Ecology Trail, Bay Area Ridge Trail, Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, California Coastal Trail, Presidio Promenade

**Estimated Calories Burned:** 435

**Approximate Walking Time:** 130 minutes

**LEARN MORE:**

www.presidio.gov/trails
EXPLORE THE PRESIDIO

MAIN POST (see p.12)
1. Presidio Visitor Center
2. Presidio Officers’ Club
3. The Walt Disney Family Museum
4. Korean War Memorial
5. Society of California Pioneers
6. Andy Goldsworthy’s Tree Fall
7. Presidio Chapel + Interfaith Center
8. San Francisco National Cemetery
9. Tides Converge Galleries
10. Letterman Digital Arts Center + Yoda Statue

CRISSY FIELD (see p.14)
11. Golden Gate Promenade / Bay Trail
12. East Beach
13. Crissy Marsh
14. Sports Basement Bike Rentals
15. Grass Airfield
16. Military Intelligence Service Historic Learning Center
17. Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Visitor Center
18. Recreational Destinations
19. West Bluff Picnic Area
20. Crissy Field Overlook

SOUTHERN WILDS (see p.16)
21. Andy Goldsworthy’s Spire + Wood Line
22. Lovers’ Lane
23. Julius Kahn Playground
24. El Polín Spring
25. Inspiration Point Overlook
26. National Cemetery Overlook
27. Mountain Lake + Mountain Lake Park
28. Lobos Creek Valley
29. Immigrant Point Overlook
30. Rob Hill Campground

GOLDEN GATE (see p.18)
31. California Coastal Trail
32. Baker Beach
33. Battery Chamberlin
34. Batteries to Bluffs Trail + Marshall’s Beach
35. World War II Memorial to the Missing
36. Pacific Overlook + Golden Gate Overlook
37. Golden Gate Bridge Welcome Center
38. Fort Point National Historic Site
39. Warming Hut Café + Park Store
40. Torpedo Wharf
The “heart of the Presidio” is the center of the visitor experience, featuring history, museums, events, restaurants, art, and culture.

5 SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA PIONEERS
Established in 1850, the Society of California Pioneers is dedicated to the study and enjoyment of California art, history, and culture. Its museum showcases diaries, maps, artworks, and historical items. Special exhibitions document the early history of California.
101 Montgomery Street; open Wednesdays to Sundays from 10 am to 5 pm; a suggested donation of $5 supports education programs; www.californiapioneers.org

6 ANDY GOLDSWORTHY’S TREE FALL
Andy Goldsworthy’s Tree Fall (see p. 22) is located inside a Civil War-era building that once housed Army gunpowder. The artwork is made up of a tree branch suspended from the domed roof and covered with clay that has dried and cracked in an organic pattern.
95 Anza Avenue; only open for drop-in docent-led tours weekends from 10 am to 4 pm; also open weekdays by appointment (415-561-2767); made possible by the FOR-SITE Foundation

7 PRESIDIO CHAPEL + INTERFAITH CENTER
All are welcome at the Interfaith Center. It’s located at the Presidio Chapel, built by the Army in the 1930s for Protestant services. On select Sundays from 11:30 am to 1 pm, drop in for a docent-led tour and learn about the fresco painted by a protégé of Diego Rivera, stained glass windows created by Willemina Ogterop, and a refurbished sacred space with banners featuring park wildlife.
130 Fisher Loop; www.interfaith-presidio.org

1 PRESIDIO VISITOR CENTER
The Presidio Visitor Center (see p. 5) is the place to begin your national park adventure. Newly opened in 2017, this is the “front door” to the Presidio experience. It offers friendly staff and volunteers, engaging exhibits, maps, videos, retail items, and all the information you need to plan an amazing day.
210 Lincoln Boulevard; open daily 10 am to 5 pm
Once the site of Letterman General Hospital, today this campus houses Lucasfilm Ltd., Industrial Light and Magic, and LucasArts. Visitors flock to see the life-sized bronze statue of Yoda and to walk on the public meadow designed by the late landscape architect Lawrence Halprin. The Lucasfilm lobby, open to the public during business hours, features props, memorabilia, costumes, and a life-sized Darth Vader statue.

One Letterman Drive

San Francisco National Cemetery

Occupying 29 hillside acres, this beautiful site overlooking the Golden Gate was the first national cemetery on the west coast. Approximately 30,000 soldiers, family members, and notable figures are buried here, including Civil War generals, Medal of Honor recipients, Buffalo Soldiers, and a Union spy. Periodic docent-led tours are offered.

1 Lincoln Boulevard; open daily from 6 am to 6 pm

Korean War Memorial

During the Korean War, 50,000 Americans and one million Koreans lost their lives. This memorial, built by the Korean War Memorial Foundation and the Presidio Trust, honors those who served and sacrificed. The memorial is accessible from the Presidio Promenade.

Located just outside the entrance to San Francisco National Cemetery
With breathtaking bay views, walking trails, beaches, picnic areas, and wild open spaces, this is a recreational paradise and a place to discover important stories about history and nature.

**Grass Airfield**
This expansive meadow is a great spot for an informal picnic, to toss a ball around with the kids, or to relax and take in the Golden Gate Bridge views.

**Military Intelligence Service Historic Learning Center**
This site was the original home of the Fourth Army Intelligence School, which secretly trained Japanese American soldiers as military linguists during World War II. It now houses an interactive museum and learning center that pays tribute to these soldiers and the Japanese American experience.

Open weekends, noon to 5 pm; $10 entrance fee - under 12 free; www.njahs.org/640

**Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Visitor Center**
This visitor center is a great place for kids and families to learn about the Farallon Islands, a wildlife refuge located 27 miles west of the Golden Gate. Here you’ll find a silky sea otter pelt, serrated sharks teeth, a blue whale baleen, and a tank filled with local creatures. Family programs are offered on select weekends; visit the website for details.

Open Wednesdays to Sundays; http://farallones.noaa.gov/visit

**Golden Gate Promenade/Bay Trail**
The 4.3-mile multi-use Golden Gate Promenade/Bay Trail stretches along the San Francisco Bay shoreline, offering front-row views of the city skyline, the Marin Headlands, and the Golden Gate Bridge. This route connects many of Crissy Field’s popular destinations, from East Beach to the West Bluff Picnic Area and beyond.
12 EAST BEACH
A favorite spot for families and kitesurfers alike, East Beach is a wonderful place to relax, play in the waves, make a sandcastle, and enjoy Golden Gate views. Picnic tables and restrooms are located onsite.

13 CRISPY MARSH
The fresh water that flows through the Presidio’s largest watershed ultimately meets the salty waters of San Francisco Bay at Crissy Marsh. This is an incredible place for birdwatching – more than 100 species stop here as they travel along the Pacific Flyway. Visit to soak in nature, views, and fresh air.

14 SPORTS BASEMENT BIKE RENTALS
Sports Basement is the perfect spot to rent a bike, grab a snack, or purchase gear for hiking, running, swimming, birdwatching, and more. Located in a former Army commissary, Sports Basement offers weekly community events like group runs, yoga classes, and bicycle maintenance clinics.

610 Mason Street; open daily; www.sportsbasement.com

15 RECREATIONAL DESTINATIONS
Former airplane hangars and warehouses have been creatively reimagined for a variety of recreational uses. Jump on a trampoline at House of Air; tackle the climbing wall at Planet Granite; take the kids to a swim class at La Petite Baleen; swing for the bleachers at Batter’s Box SF; and check out the bikes at Roaring Mouse Cycles.

16 WEST BLUFF PICNIC AREA
The West Bluff Picnic Area features large picnic tables, barbeque pits, and incredible views of San Francisco Bay and the Golden Gate Bridge. It is located near the beach and Torpedo Wharf.

20 CRISPY FIELD OVERLOOK
Crissy Field Overlook offers a panoramic view of the Presidio’s northern shoreline, including San Francisco Bay, Alcatraz, Angel Island, and Crissy Field. Its plaza features benches that invite you to relax and enjoy the vista. The overlook is accessible from the Presidio Promenade.

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Crissy Field Overlook offers a panoramic view of the Presidio’s northern shoreline, including San Francisco Bay, Alcatraz, Angel Island, and Crissy Field. Its plaza features benches that invite you to relax and enjoy the vista. The overlook is accessible from the Presidio Promenade.
Get a taste of the great outdoors and experience natural areas, the Presidio forest, trails, and creeks.

25 INSPIRATION POINT OVERLOOK
Take in a panoramic view of San Francisco Bay, Alcatraz, and Angel Island from Inspiration Point. Perched above Tennessee Hollow, the park’s largest watershed, visitors can glimpse rare serpentine grasslands, historic homes, and eucalyptus canopies from this vantage point. Access to Inspiration Point is from the Ecology Trail near the Arguello Gate.

26 NATIONAL CEMETERY OVERLOOK
Situated above San Francisco National Cemetery, this overlook is a tranquil place to contemplate the meaning of service and sacrifice. This vantage point offers breathtaking views of the Golden Gate Bridge, the Marin Headlands, and San Francisco Bay. Access is from the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

27 MOUNTAIN LAKE + MOUNTAIN LAKE PARK
Mountain Lake is where Spanish Lieutenant Colonel Juan Bautista de Anza and his scouting party camped in 1776 when they first arrived to establish the Presidio. Thanks to an ongoing restoration, Mountain Lake is a beautiful place for picnicking, birdwatching, strolling along a trail, or spotting a recently reintroduced western pond turtle. Adjacent to the lake is Mountain Lake Park, a City of San Francisco-operated site with a new playground.

21 ANDY GOLDSWORTHY’S SPIRE + WOOD LINE
These sculptures explore the rejuvenation of the Presidio’s historic forest, first planted by the U.S. Army beginning in the 1880s (see p. 22). They are composed of materials found onsite and invite visitors to see the park in a new way.

Spire is located along the Bay Area Ridge Trail; Wood Line is located just west of Lovers’ Lane.
Lobos Creek Valley offers a unique immersion in a restored dune habitat where Lobos Creek, the park’s fresh water source, flows year-round. By walking on a meandering boardwalk through the dunes, visitors can immerse themselves in a landscape that once covered one third of San Francisco. Educational signage and a self-guided story are available onsite.

El Polin Spring is located at the heart of the Presidio’s largest watershed, Tennessee Hollow. Thanks to restoration efforts, the stream has been brought back above ground and efforts are ongoing to restore native plant communities. Today it is a wonderful place for birdwatching, picnicking, and learning about some of the area’s earliest residents. El Polin features interpretive signs in English and Spanish. It is located at the south end of MacArthur Avenue and off of the Ecology Trail.

Located above Baker Beach and nestled in the Presidio forest, Rob Hill is the perfect escape for groups and families. It offers group (30-person) campsites featuring a campfire circle, a barbecue grill, and picnic tables. The camping season typically runs April through October. To make a reservation, visit www.presidio.gov/places/rob-hill-campground.

Nature lovers, art lovers, and history lovers will find something to gush about on Lovers’ Lane, an enchanting 0.6-mile trail that connects the Presidio Gate to the Main Post. The oldest footpath through the Presidio, Lovers’ Lane was established in the 18th century as a shortcut used by Spanish soldiers to get from the Presidio to Mission Dolores. Today, it offers views of Andy Goldsworthy’s Wood Line (see p. 22), the forest, historic homes, and more.

Kids flock here to enjoy slides, swings, and climbing structures. Adults enjoy the exquisite views of the Golden Gate Bridge and the Marin Headlands. The clubhouse includes public restrooms, a drinking fountain, and shaded picnic tables outside. The playground is accessible from Mountain Lake Trail.

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Enjoy panoramic Pacific Ocean views, learn how the Presidio once served as “defender of the gate,” relax on the beach, or walk across the iconic Golden Gate Bridge.
Torpedo Wharf offers a view of the San Francisco skyline and the Golden Gate Bridge. It was built in 1854 to support the construction of Fort Point. The wharf is popular for fishing; no license is required. From these vantage points, you can see the Pacific Ocean, the Marin Headlands, and the Golden Gate Bridge. Bikers, hikers, and runners love to rest here while taking in the gorgeous vista. The overlooks are along the California Coastal Trail, the Bay Area Ridge Trail, and the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.

FORT POINT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
A military and architectural gem, Fort Point defended San Francisco Bay following California’s Gold Rush through World War II. It became a National Historic Site in 1970. Today, Fort Point is a wonderful place to experience history and Golden Gate views. Frequent tours are offered. A bookstore is onsite. It is located at the end of Marine Drive. Hours vary seasonally.

WARMING HUT CAFÉ + PARK STORE
This beloved café and park store run by the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy is the spot for a bite to eat or to find unique and locally made gifts, park gear, books, and kids items. Enjoy casual and healthy food and drinks at outdoor picnic tables or at indoor seating. Open daily.

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL TO THE MISSING
Located against a backdrop of Monterey pine and cypress trees, this gently curved wall of California granite bears the names of 412 servicemen who were lost or buried at sea in U.S. Pacific waters between 1941 and 1945.

BAKER BEACH
The one-mile stretch of Baker Beach is the perfect spot to catch some rays, make a sandcastle, or enjoy a striking sunset. Nature lovers can glimpse sea stars at low tide, grey-green serpentine rock formations, and native wildflowers that bloom year-round on the nearby dunes. Barbeque pits and picnic tables are available. Venture onto the rugged Batteries to Bluffs Trail to connect to nearby Marshall’s Beach (see #34).

BATTERIES TO BLUFFS TRAIL + MARSHALL’S BEACH
This short (0.7-mile) but inspirational trail traces a majestic route along the Presidio’s wild western bluffs. Stretching from just south of the Golden Gate Bridge to Battery Crosby, the trail offers spectacular coastal panoramas, views of the Golden Gate, and a safe descent to Marshall’s Beach. Watch for dolphins and whales, see native dune plants and wildflowers, and glimpse butterflies and birds.

BATTERY CHAMBERLIN
Built at Baker Beach in 1904, Battery Chamberlin houses a 50-ton, six-inch-diameter “disappearing gun.” On the first full weekend of each month, the National Park Service offers public demonstrations of how this gun was once loaded and aimed. A small seacoast defense museum is located inside the battery’s underground cartridge room. Free.

PACIFIC OVERLOOK + GOLDEN GATE OVERLOOK
From these vantage points, you can see the Pacific Ocean, the Marin Headlands, and the Golden Gate Bridge. Bikers, hikers, and runners love to rest here while taking in the gorgeous vista. The overlooks are along the California Coastal Trail, the Bay Area Ridge Trail, and the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.
The Commissary
The Commissary offers Spanish-influenced California cuisine. It has been honored three times as a Top 100 restaurant by the San Francisco Chronicle. Open for Social Hour and dinner. Operated by Chef Traci Des Jardins in partnership with the Presidio Trust.
101 Montgomery Street
(415) 561-3650  |  thecommissarysf.com + Open Table

Arguello
Arguello offers Mexican cuisine and refreshments. It features casual service lunch options, table service for dinner, and weekend brunch. The heated patio features a fire pit. Operated by Chef Traci Des Jardins in partnership with the Presidio Trust.
Inside Presidio Officers’ Club, 50 Moraga Avenue
(415) 561-3650  |  arguello_sf.com

TRANSIT
TRANSIT is the essential casual eatery and market to fuel a day in the park. It offers indoor seating as well as an outdoor patio with views toward San Francisco Bay.
215 Lincoln Boulevard, inside Presidio Transit Center
(415) 561-4435  |  presidio.gov/places/transit

Presidio Social Club
Located inside a former military barracks, Presidio Social Club features a comforting seasonal lunch and dinner menu along with craft cocktails. It offers indoor and outdoor seating.
563 Roger Street
(415) 885-1888  |  presidiosocialclub.com

Sessions at the Presidio
Located in the Letterman Digital Arts Center, Sessions is a modern gastropub featuring more than 100 craft beers.
One Letterman Drive, Bidg D
(415) 885-9413  |  sessionsatpresidio.com

House of Air + Café
The café at the House of Air trampoline park offers hot and cold sandwiches, healthy snacks, and beverages from San Francisco’s Bicycle Coffee Company.
926 Mason Street
(415) 345-9675  |  houseofair.com

Presidio Bowling Center
The Presidio Bowling Center offers a walk-up grill and bar serving hamburgers, sandwiches, snacks, and other favorites.
93 Moraga Avenue
(415) 561-2695  |  presidiobowl.com

Presidio Palms Café
Offered by the team behind Presidio Social Club, Presidio Palms Café serves a seasonal California breakfast and lunch menu. The cafe is inside the San Francisco Film Centre building and open weekdays.
39 Mira Road, Suite 108
(415) 441-1360  |  presidio.gov/places/cafe-rx

The Walt Disney Family Museum + Café
This café offers sandwiches, salads, soups, snacks, and hot and cold beverages.
104 Montgomery Street
(415) 346-6800  |  waltdisney.org

Starbucks
Located overlooking the meadow at the Letterman Digital Arts Center, Starbucks offers coffee, tea, pastries, snacks, and sandwiches.
One Letterman Drive, Bidg C
(415) 441-1740

The Warming Hut Café
The Warming Hut Café offers a selection of casual and healthy food and drinks, including soup and sandwiches, tea, fair trade coffee, and other light snacks and refreshments.
983 Marine Drive
(415) 561-3042  |  parksconservancy.org

Round House Café at the Golden Gate Bridge
This circular Art Deco building overlooking the Golden Gate Bridge houses a casual eatery that serves American classics like hot dogs, apple pie, and clam chowder in a sourdough bowl.
(415) 426-5229

Bridge Café at the Golden Gate Bridge
Located steps from the Golden Gate Bridge, the Bridge Café is open daily and offers sandwiches, salads, beverages, and more.
(415) 426-5229

Warming Hut Café + Park Store
The Warming Hut Café offers a selection of casual and healthy food and drinks, including soup and sandwiches, tea, fair trade coffee, and other light snacks and refreshments.
880 Marine Drive
(415) 561-3042  |  parksconservancy.org

Presidio Café
At Presidio Café in the golf course clubhouse, enjoy American comfort food with California flair.
300 Finley Road
(415) 561-4600  |  presidiocafe.com

Golf Course General Store
Located along the Park Trail within Presidio Golf Course, the General Store offers hot dogs, barbeque, snacks, and beer. The hours change seasonally.
(415) 561-4681  |  presidiogolf.com
PICNIC SITES

The Presidio offers a half-dozen picnic sites. Almost all picnic tables are available on a first-come, first-served basis and cannot be reserved. Grills, open flames, and barbecues are not permitted. For information about special park use permits at Baker Beach and Crissy Field, visit www.nps.gov/goga. For all other picnic sites, visit www.presidio.gov/presidio-trust.

Crissy Field East Beach (see p.15)

Why We Love It: If you’re here to play in the sand, birdwatch at the marsh, or bike along the Golden Gate Promenade, this is a great place for a picnic. The Golden Gate Bridge views are breathtaking.

What's Provided: Picnic tables, grills, and restrooms are available.

Getting There: Arrive along the Golden Gate Promenade or take the PresidiGo Shuttle CRISSY FIELD ROUTE to the Crissy Field Center stop. Parking is available in the East Beach parking area.

Crissy Field West Bluff (see p.15)

Why We Love It: Spectacular Golden Gate Bridge views are complemented by grassy play areas for the kids and nearby beach access.

What's Provided: Picnic tables, grills, and restrooms are available.

Getting There: Arrive on foot via the Golden Gate Promenade. Take the MUN 28 to the Golden Gate Bridge, or take the PresidiGo Shuttle CRISSY FIELD ROUTE to the Pilots’ Row stop. Parking is available at Battery East.

El Polin Spring (see p.17)

Why We Love It: This is a wonderful place to learn about nature as well as the lives of some of the Presidio’s earliest residents. Bring your binoculars for spectacular birdwatching.

What's Provided: Picnic tables, grills, and restrooms are available.

Getting There: Access to El Polin Spring is off the Ecology Trail. Limited parking is nearby.

Immigrant Point (see p.17)

Why We Love It: Located near a scenic vista overlooking the Pacific Ocean, the Immigrant Point picnic site is a tranquil place for a sack lunch while hiking on one of several trails that converge in the area.

What's Provided: Picnic tables are offered; no grills or restrooms are available.

Getting There: Arrive from a nearby trail or take the PresidiGo Shuttle CRISSY FIELD ROUTE to the Pilots’ Row stop. Parking is available at the Presidio Officers’ Club.

Baker Beach (see p.19)

Why We Love It: Locals come here to bathe in the (occasional) sun, build sandcastles, and enjoy views of the Pacific Ocean.

What's Provided: Picnic tables, grills, and restrooms are available.

Getting There: Parking is available. The MUN 29 and the PresidiGo Shuttle PRESIDIO HILLS ROUTE stop nearby. Baker Beach is accessible via the California Coastal Trail.

Pershing Square (see p.12)

Why We Love It: Pershing Square is across from the Presidio Officers’ Club, the park’s museum and cultural center. Spend the morning exploring the club’s fascinating exhibits and then unpack your lunch beneath the big flag pole.

What's Provided: Picnic tables are offered; no grills are available.

Getting There: Access to Pershing Square is via the Presidio Officers’ Club.

Presidio Garden + Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy + San Francisco Parks Conservancy + Presidio Trust + National Park Service.

VOLUNTEER

It’s easy to volunteer at the Presidio! Volunteer activities happen several days of the week. The programs listed below provide flexible opportunities that work with any schedule. For more information, visit www.presidio.gov/volunteer.

SATURDAYS

Presidio Habitat Stewards
Every Saturday, 9 am to noon. Meeting location is the Presidio Transit Center.

Presidio Nursery
Every Saturday, 1 to 4 pm. Meeting location is 134a Appleton Street, Fort Scott.

SUNDAYS

Presidio Habitat Stewards
Every Sunday, 10 am to 1 pm. Meeting location is the Presidio Transit Center.

Presidio Nursery
Every Sunday, 1 to 4 pm. Meeting location is 134a Appleton Street, Fort Scott.

WEDNESDAYS

Presidio Habitat Stewards
Every Wednesday, 9 am to noon. Meeting location is the Presidio Transit Center.

Presidio Nursery
Every Wednesday, 1 to 4 pm. Meeting location is 134a Appleton Street, Fort Scott.

THURSDAYS

Presidio Garden + Sustainability Stewards
Every Thursday, 9 am to noon. Meeting location is the Presidio Transit Center.

Golden Gate Maintenance
Every Thursday, 9 am to noon. Meeting location varies.

Park Stewardship
San Francisco
Every Thursday, 1 to 4 pm. Meeting location varies.

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Presidio Trust
(415) 561-5332
www.presidio.gov/volunteer

National Park Service
(415) 561-4795
www.nps.gov/goga

Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
(415) 561-3044
www.parksconservancy.org
DISCOVER PLACE-BASED ART

Andy Goldsworthy is one of the world’s most talented site-specific artists. The Presidio Trust is honored to host the largest collection of his works on public view in North America. His four installations – Spire, Wood Line, Tree Fall, and Earth Wall – can be visited individually or enjoyed together via a three-mile loop along the Presidio’s trail network.

Goldsworthy in the Presidio was brought to the Presidio by the FOR-SITE Foundation (www.FOR-SITE.org) in partnership with the Presidio Trust.

Experience the Art

Guided Art Hikes
2nd Saturday of every month 10:30 am to 1 pm
This docent-led hike visits each of the park’s four installations by world-renowned artist Andy Goldsworthy. The moderate three-mile loop journeys along several major trails. Rain or shine. Registration is required. Please visit www.presidio.gov/events.

Spire
Located on the Bay Area Ridge Trail near the Arguello Gate
Standing 100 feet tall and surrounded by newly planted Monterey cypress, Spire celebrates the rejuvenation of the Presidio forest. The artwork was constructed with 37 aging Monterey cypress trees felled from the area and symbolizes the declining forest welcoming the new.

Wood Line
Located near the intersection of Presidio Boulevard and West Pacific Avenue
Wood Line fills a gap in the Presidio’s largest eucalyptus grove with a 1,200-foot-long sculpture made up of eucalyptus branches. The sinuous line, in Goldsworthy’s words, “draws the place.”

Tree Fall
Located on Anza Avenue
(95 Anza Avenue) on the Main Post
Tree Fall is located inside a Civil War-era building that once housed Army gunpowder. The artwork is made up of a tree branch covered with clay that has dried and cracked in a beautiful organic pattern. Drop in for docent-led tours weekends from 10 am to 4 pm.

Earth Wall
Located inside the Presidio Officers’ Club, 50 Moraga Avenue on the Main Post
Earth Wall, composed of eucalyptus branches and clay from the site, is a nod to the archaeological artifacts found near the Presidio Officers’ Club. View this piece in the Hardie Courtyard Tuesdays through Sundays, 10 am to 5 pm.

Take the Self-Guided Art Walk!
Goldsworthy’s installations can be visited individually or enjoyed together on a three-mile loop along the Presidio’s trail network.

Tour of Tree Fall
Open for drop-in docent tours weekends from 10 am to 4 pm and weekdays by appointment; call (415) 561-2767.
This docent-led tour of the park’s four installations by world-renowned artist Andy Goldsworthy takes visitors to the park’s natural and cultural treasures through a new lens.

For an overview of current park treasures through a new lens. Please visit www.presidio.gov/art.
The Presidio is an inspiring backdrop for gatherings, from weddings to retreats. The park features elegant reception sites, intimate chapels, and spacious conference facilities. Popular sites include the Presidio Officers’ Club, the Golden Gate Club, the Log Cabin, and the Presidio Chapel. With lodging, restaurants, a spa, and an award-winning golf course nearby, the Presidio offers all the amenities needed for a complete event experience.

Presidio Event Venues
(415) 561-5444
events@presidiotrust.gov
www.presidio.gov/venues

Celebrate
Weddings, celebrations, meetings, and retreats.

Stay
The Presidio offers two hotels and a group campground.

Inn at the Presidio
Located in what was once a stately home for bachelor officers when the Presidio was an Army post, the Inn at the Presidio offers an authentic historic experience in a beautiful setting. It also includes the nearby Funston House, which may be rented as individual suites or in its entirety.

(415) 800-7356 • www.presidiolodging.com

Lodge at the Presidio (opens in summer 2018)
Located within the iconic Montgomery Street Barracks, the Lodge at the Presidio features 42 guest rooms with views toward the Golden Gate Bridge or the San Francisco skyline. It is adjacent to the Presidio Visitor Center and the future Presidio Tunnel Tops site.

(415) 800-7356 • www.presidiolodging.com

Rob Hill Campground
Rob Hill is a hidden treasure located at the Presidio’s highest point. It offers group (30-person) campsites featuring a campfire circle, a free-standing barbecue grill, and picnic tables. Rob Hill has restrooms and a large communal campfire circle. A reservation and Special Use Permit are required. Camping season runs from April to October.

(415) 561-4323 • camp@presidiotrust.gov • www.presidio.gov/places/rob-hill-campground

Live
Did you know that anyone can live in the Presidio? The Presidio features 22 distinct residential neighborhoods representing a spectrum of architectural styles. More than 3,000 people live in the park.

Residents can begin their day with a stroll in the Presidio forest, take the free PresidioGo Downtown Shuttle (p. 2) to work, and relax on the weekends by cultivating wildflowers in a community garden.

Presidio Residences Leasing Office
(888) 485-1725
housing@presidioresidences.com
www.presidio.gov/live

Work
The Presidio is home to 200 organizations that contribute to the character and vitality of the park. More than 4,000 people come to work here every day. Airplane hangars, barracks, and warehouses have become gyms, spas, and other recreational facilities. Small businesses, non-profits, schools, and cultural organizations have brought new activity to historic buildings. Redevelopment opportunities and ready-to-occupy spaces are available.

Presidio WorkSpaces Leasing Office
(415) 561-5335
leasing@presidiotrust.gov
www.presidio.gov/presidio-workspaces-leasing