

San Francisco City Break | City by the Bay

Holiday Duration: 4 Nights



Overview

San Francisco City Break

Cable cars, Alcatraz, the Golden Gate bridge are just a few of the icons of this wonderful city. Spend your long weekend break strolling along Fisherman's Wharf, exploring San Francisco's lively restaurant scene or investigating some of the many boutiques, museums and galleries.

Of course, half the fun of any trip, is the planning. While San Francisco has many delights to satisfy every type of visitor, Frontier America has put together an itinerary that we think you will love. With many hotspots available just outside the city, such as Yosemite National Park or the world-famous Napa Valley, it is tempting to extend your city-break and we have all the tools fulfil the temptation!

San Francisco is such a wonderful city to explore and there are so many interesting places within a few hours drive. Why not combine a stay in San Francisco with some time on the beach, exploring the Pacific Coast, heading out to Hawaii, playing golf or sampling some of California's excellent wine.



Please see the above tabs for some ideas. Give us a call and we will be happy to help any way that we can with creating your own perfect holiday with Frontier America!

Here's a day-by-day guide to your itinerary. Feel free to ask us to add other days or ideas and excursions by contacting us directly, so we can give you the best price.

Day 1



San Francisco

Arrive on an early flight into San Francisco, drop your bags at the hotel and start exploring!

If this your first visit to San Francisco you might want to get yourself acquainted with your surroundings, head over to the iconic Coit Tower for beautiful views over the city. Then make your way to the quirky Haight-Ashbury neighbourhood that rose to prominence during the Summer of Love. Grab lunch at one of the district's many cafes before strolling down toward the Golden Gate Park, where there is something for everyone in this magical part of the city. Our top tip would be to visit the Japanese Tea Garden for a spot of tea. After you've finished exploring the park, the nearby Cliff House is a great place to eat with beautiful sunset views over the pacific.

4 nights

Day 2



San Francisco

Today we suggest that you visit some of San Francisco's most famous sites. First head over to Lombard to see the famous crooked street! As well as the unique look of this street, the surrounding Victorian houses are impressive.

Take the cable car over to Fisherman's Wharf for its famed fresh seafood and its sit-down eateries. From here you can walk to the bustling Pier 39, a waterfront area filled with shops, attractions and street performers. You can visit the Aquarium, ride the carousel or buy your holiday souvenirs. You may even catch a glimpse of the bay's most famous residents, the Sea Lions.

From Fisherman's Wharf, you can either rent a bike or take a ferry out to see the Golden Gate Bridge, one of America's most recognisable landmarks. The bridge really is a remarkable sight, and to get a true sense of its sheer size make sure you walk or bike along its 1.7-mile span.

Across the bridge is the charming town of Sausalito which is an excellent place to spend an evening. Enjoy one of the many waterfront restaurants before taking a ferry back to Pier 39.

Day 3



San Francisco

Start your day with a visit to one of the most iconic destinations in the city, the world-renowned Alcatraz prison. From 1934 until 1963, this imposing fort like structure in the centre of the bay was home to notorious criminals like Al Capone and Ethel Rosenberg. Be aware that tickets for this extremely popular attraction often fill up weeks in advance, so book as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

When you arrive back on land you could visit the Ferry Building Marketplace for a delicious late lunch. This afternoon might be time for some retail therapy, if so, visit Union Square, the main shopping hub of San Francisco. Filled with luxury restaurants, hotels and designer brands this is the place for shopping fanatics.

As night falls head over to Chinatown, the largest Chinatown outside of Asia, this bustling area is filled with shops and restaurants serving a wide variety of Chinese delicacies.

Day 4



San Francisco

Set in such a beautiful part of California, there is plenty to do beyond the borders of San Francisco. So if you feel like escaping the city, today might be your day to do so. There are lots of fascinating day trips that are close including nearby Berkeley, Mendocino and Monterey. However, we've outlined two of our favourite trips below.

Yosemite National Park

The breathtaking natural beauty of Yosemite National Park is just a short drive from the city and the trip is filled with great stopping points including Inspiration Point and Sierra Nevada. When you arrive at the park you could choose to hike and see the Giant Sequoia Trees or view the stunning El Capitan.

Napa Valley and Sonoma County

The wine of the Napa Valley is famed throughout the world, and this could be your chance to sample it up close. Walk through the beautiful vineyards, learn more about winemaking or simply take the opportunity to sample some of the world's finest wines.

Ask Frontier America to arrange a tour to you.

Day 5



San Francisco

Use your final day in San Francisco to visit any attractions that you may have missed or purchase the last of your souvenirs before heading back to San Francisco International Airport for your onward/homebound flight, unless we can persuade you to extend your holiday with a rental car to drive the famous Highway 101 south to Los Angeles, inland to Las Vegas or into the mountains.

If you are interested in a holiday to America please contact us on 020 8776 8709 to discuss your plans with a USA expert, or send an email to america@frontier-travel.co.uk with your requirements and we will put together your ideal itinerary and quotation. Let us take you there.



Extend Your City Break

Yosemite National Park – 2day/1 night Guided Tour

Yosemite is one of the most spectacular natural sights in the whole of the United States. Marvel at the world famous El Capitan and hike amidst the Giant Sequoia Trees. Your bio-diesel 13 passenger van will collect you early in the morning from your San Francisco Hotel for the four-hour drive into Yosemite National Park. You will be accompanied by a local guide who will show you not only the famous sights such as El Capitan and the Bridalveil Falls but some of their favourites parts such as Glacier Point. You will have a chance to hike among the Giant Sequoias, photograph the Yosemite Falls and much more. Your accommodation will be in a hotel in or near the park, the choice is yours and will depend on your budget and the availability at the time of booking as Yosemite is very popular.

Californian Wine Tasting – 2day/1 night Private Tour

The tour is flexible but will start with a pick-up from your San Francisco hotel. You will begin by exploring the Muir Woods National Monument just north of the Golden Gate, renowned for its towering old-growth redwood trees. From there you will go to several wineries in Sonoma Valley. After touring and tasting with your guide you will end your day at the Sonoma Valley Inn just steps away from Sonoma Square. The family-owned and operated hotel has a lush garden, saltwater pool and a hot tub. The Inn is a “green” hotel, committed to preserving the environment through sustainable practices including recycling, use of citrus-based cleaning products, saltwater pool filtration, and other green practices.

Downtown Sonoma is a visual feast of Franciscan Spanish building structures, which now house a unique selection of fine dining and elegant tasting rooms. History buffs can wander to the Sonoma Mission de Solano to get a snapshot of how the area changed hands, transitioning from the moniker “Valley of the Moon” to the northernmost Spanish mission in California. The rest of the evening is yours to enjoy! Please ask us if you would like us to make dinner reservations for you. Should the Sonoma Valley Inn be full on the date you need, we will substitute with a similar property. Equally, should road or weather dictates, the itinerary is subject to change.

On Day 2 – In the morning, you will go to Glen Ellen to explore the Benziger Family Winery on a 45-minute tram ride. You’ll follow the whole winemaking process from vine to glass, seeing their unique biodynamic farming methods as well as tasting the fruits of their labour. After a scrumptious picnic lunch, you will embark on the second half of your tour to a mix and match selection of additional tastings in Sonoma and Napa Valley. After you’ve tasted wines to your heart’s desire, there will be one more stop to take some pictures by the Golden Gate bridge before returning to your San Francisco hotel in time for dinner.



Yosemite Park - Camping tour 3 day add on

This tour will take you off the beaten path to explore parts of Yosemite National Park that most cannot reach. It truly is the best way to experience the majesty of Yosemite. You will be able to see the towering Yosemite Falls, learn about the brave climbers of El Capitan and marvel at the Giant Sequoia Trees. You will have 3 days and 2 nights of camping, hiking, and swimming in Yosemite National Park. This is a guided, fun-filled, friendly trip for all the family and all camping equipment is provided for you. The maximum group size is 13 people but we can organise a private tour for you if you prefer. It only operates mid-June / mid- September due to the weather conditions in the park.

DAY 1

An early start in downtown San Francisco where you will meet your guide. Once over the Bay Bridge, you will cross the agricultural Central Valley, famous for its fruits and almonds and through gold country on your way into the mountains. Lunch will be a picnic in a grove of Giant Sequoia trees: these are over 1,000 years old and measure up to 300 feet and 30 feet wide – the largest living things on Earth.

Later, the shuttle will climb the winding route 4,500 feet above sea level to Tunnel View which overlooks Yosemite Valley and offers spectacular views towards El Capitan, Half Dome and Bridalveil Falls. Once at camp, your guide will hand out camping gear and show you the local amenities. Camp set up is a doddle with easy set-up tents, sleeping pads, and camp stove all provided. There are also showers, flush toilets as well as the use of a swimming pool and hot tub at a nearby lodge if you prefer than to swimming in the Merced River. . The cookout dinner is a group event where everyone helps out, campers take turns cleaning up after meals, and stories are swapped by the camp fire.

DAY 2

Rising early, you will prepare breakfast and a picnic lunch and head off in the van for a fun day full of hiking, sightseeing, and exploring. The itinerary is subject to weather conditions and the abilities of the group but usually the second day is reserved for exploring Yosemite's High Country and might include a hike to May Lake, a picturesque example of a High Sierra lake, and perhaps on to Mount Hoffman. Located at the geographic centre of the park, Mount Hoffman is a non-technical hike that rewards you with a 360-degree view of the surrounding mountain landscape. At the end of the day, you will head back to camp for dinner and time to unwind by the campfire.

DAY 3

Day three is a free day, where the itinerary is based on the interests of the group. The usual is to head back into Yosemite Valley, where you can choose one of several great hikes, rent a bike, or relax in the shade by the emerald-green Merced River. The final group activity will be a visit to the El Capitan Meadow to watch the dare-devil climbers before heading back to San Francisco arriving at around 2030.