

Welcome to The St. Regis San Francisco

From Christmas celebrations on a former military base to the annual lighting of a giant Menorah in our city center, San Francisco has a long history of holiday traditions. From Thanksgiving to the New Year and everything in between, San Francisco is the place to be for the holidays. With that in mind, I present to you The St. Regis San Francisco Festive Season Newsletter.

Are you joining us over Thanksgiving? If so, you can preempt those Thanksgiving calories by taking part in the annual Turkey Trot or by showcasing your skills on the ice at Union Square holiday ice rink. Or, if your stay is closer to Christmas and you lean more toward the naughty than the nice, you might consider joining SantaCon, when bar hopping Santas roam free throughout the city. We won't judge.

You can count on San Francisco to offer the best live performances. Whether your preference is theater or music, San Francisco offers many options to get you into the holiday spirit. Enjoy such classics as The Nutcracker, performed by our San Francisco Ballet, or the not-so-traditional Golden Girls Live, where some of the city's best drag performers bring the iconic characters back to life. And if the holidays are not for you, why not enjoy a night of laughs and Chinese food at Kung Pao Kosher Comedy?

New Year's Eve is a time of celebration, and you will find many events throughout the city. You'll want to join the crowds ringing in the New Year at midnight, as San Francisco offers a spectacular fireworks display on the bay.

The holidays are celebrated in so many ways. Whether it be Christmas, Chanukah, or Kwanzaa, we all aim for the same: a time with loved ones, a time of reflection, and with the New Year, a time to reset and renew. Get those resolutions ready.

We wish you all the joy of the season. Thank you for allowing The St. Regis San Francisco be your home for the holidays.

Daniel Rey
Chief Concierge



ST REGIS
SAN FRANCISCO

Holiday '24
Newsletter

What's Happening

The House of Astor

Thanksgiving

November 28

Join us at Astra for an exquisite Thanksgiving experience like no other, featuring Moët & Chandon. Enjoy a complimentary welcome toast and a prix fixe menu showcasing traditional Thanksgiving dishes prepared to perfection. A special menu is available for takeaway and private dining. Kindly contact Astra at (415) 284-4188.

Reserve Now

Holiday Afternoon Tea

November 29 – December 31 | Mon - Sun

The Holiday Art of Tea presents a sumptuous menu of savory and sweet delicacies handcrafted by the hotel's culinary team, along with the finest selection of teas from TEALEAVES. The experience is enhanced with a complimentary welcome toast featuring Champagne Lallier R.O19.

Reserve Now

The Velveteen Rabbit Experience

November 30, December 1, 7, 8

Enjoy a culinary prelude to the ODC Dance The Velveteen Rabbit performance with a themed brunch at Astra, located across the street from the Blue Shield of California Theater. This experience includes brunch, a Center Orchestra seat for the performance, a "Very Important Bunny" gift bag, and a photo with the cast after the performance. On December 7th and 8th, celebrate LGBTQIA+ youth and families with Pastry Chef Sebastian's PRIDE-themed croissants.

Reserve Now

Christmas Brunch

December 24 and 25

Celebrate Christmas with a festive brunch at Astra. Sweet and savory notes are perfectly balanced in a focused à la carte brunch menu. Enjoy a welcoming atmosphere evoking the festive season and Northern California ingredients.

Reserve Now

What's Happening

The House of Astor

Twelve Days of Holiday Cocktails

December 13 – December 24

Discover a selection of signature cocktails crafted at The St. Regis Bar. The unexpected flavors will delight, from the Poinsettia Champagne Cocktail to the Spiced Maple Bourbon Fizz.

Twelve Days of Sabering

December 13 – December 24

The St. Regis Bar will commemorate the holidays with Twelve Days of Sabering, featuring a different champagne house and highlighting a custom champagne cart by Ginori every evening at 6 PM.

New Year's Eve Dinner

December 31

Astra will welcome 2025 with an exceptional prix fixe menu served in a contemporary, elegant atmosphere. Bask in live jazz, setting a timeless tone as you ring in the New Year in exceptional style.

Reserve Now

What's Happening

Theatre

Dear San Francisco

Ongoing

Club Fugazi reemerges with an acrobatic love letter to our dear San Francisco. Created by Bay Area natives and the modern circus collective, The 7 Fingers, co-founders Shana Carroll and Gypsy Snider, the intimate and immersive resident production will pay homage to the stunning beauty, storied characters, and astounding resilience of the City by the Bay.

www.clubfugazisf.com

Kimberly Akimbo

11/06 – 12/01

Curran Theatre presents *Kimberly Akimbo* - Turning 16, moving to a new town, and life's first crush. What could possibly go wrong? Oh, and let's not forget the possible felony charges! This Tony Award winner reflects the best in us all, especially when life throws challenges our way.

www.broadwaysf.com

A Whynot Christmas Carol

11/11 – 12/24

American Conservatory Theatre presents *A Whynot Christmas Carol* - Nothing ever seems to come easy in the town of Whynot. Case in point: when a small-town theatre group attempts to perform the director's reimagined version of A Christmas Carol.

www.act-sf.org

What's Happening?

Theatre

Hamilton

11/27 – 01/05

The Orpheum Theatre presents *Hamilton* – This worldwide sensation took Broadway by storm with talents such as Lin-Manuel Miranda as it offered a new take on a revolutionary story of passion, unstoppable ambition, and the dawn of a new nation.

www.broadwaysf.com

The Velveteen Rabbit

11/30 – 12/08

The Blue Shield of California Theatre at YBCA presents

The Velveteen Rabbit – Celebrating its 38th season, this holiday tradition brings to life the beloved children's book by Margery Williams. Witness the magic made by the world-class dancers at ODC Dance!

www.odc.dance

The Golden Girls Live: The Christmas Episodes

11/06 – 12/01

Curran Theatre presents *The Golden Girls Live: The Christmas Episodes* - The ladies have arrived! What's become a holiday tradition is now moving from the Victoria Theatre to the Curran Theatre. This drag performance Christmas parody features two Christmas episodes of the original series, brought back to life as only these girls can do it.

www.broadwaysf.com

Shrek: The Musical

12/06 – 12/08

Golden Gate Theatre presents *Shrek: The Musical* – Fairytales are never complete without an ogre! And there's no ogre quite like Shrek. Throw in a princess and a talking donkey, and you have a hilarious stage spectacle based on the award-winning film. Fall in love all ogre again!

www.broadwaysf.com

Cirque Dream Holidaze

12/13 – 12/15

Golden Gate Theatre presents *Cirque Dream Holidaze* – You've never seen sugarplum fairies quite like these before. Let a child's imagination on this most special of holidays carry you through a world of breathtaking acrobatics wrapped in a Broadway-style production.

www.portolamusicfestival.com

Theatre

Mean Girls

12/19 – 12/22

Golden Gate Theatre presents *Mean Girls* – It's never easy being popular, but it's worse if you're not! When Cady moves to a new town, she quickly learns what it means to be a frenemy and the cost of popularity.

www.broadwaysf.com

Beetlejuice

12/24 – 12/29

Golden Gate Theatre presents *Beetlejuice* – Tim Burton's wacky film is now a musical! Join Lydia, an awkward teen who can see the dead spirits occupying her home and learns that there is more to a crazy demon who has a thing for stripes.

www.broadwaysf.com

SF Opera

Thru 12/01

Enjoy the remaining '24 Season with the magnetic allure of Carmen and witness as Don José descends into a dangerous spiral of desire. No one does jealousy and obsession quite like the San Francisco Opera! The '25 season begins in June 2025.

www.sfopera.com

What's Happening

The Arts

San Francisco Symphony

Thru 12/21

The halls have been decked and the sleighs are belled as the San Francisco Symphony offers a variety of performances sure to get you into the holiday spirit. Expect performances such as Handel's *Messiah*, *The Colors of Christmas*, *The Muppet Christmas Carol*, and the ever-popular *A Merry-Achi Mexican Christmas*.

www.sfsymphony.org

San Francisco Ballet

Thru 12/29

The 2024-25 Season opens with the return of a holiday favorite, *Nutcracker*. San Francisco has made this a unique tradition, as the story has been told and performed by the San Francisco Ballet since Christmas Eve, 1944. Our story is set in 1915 during the Panama-Pacific International Exhibition

www.sfballet.org

Smuin Contemporary Ballet

12/13 – 12/24

It wouldn't be the holidays without Smuin's annual run of *The Christmas Ballet*. From the classical first act to the "Cool Yule" of the second, make your spirits bright with this big-hearted production. As always, new additions keep Smuin's *The Christmas Ballet* evergreen.

www.smuinballet.org

Speaking of Art...

Museum of the African Diaspora

Thru 03/02/25

Helina Metaferia: What We Carry To Set Ourselves Free

www.moadsf.org

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

Thru 02/18/2025

Get in the Game: Sports, Art, Culture

Thru 03/09/2025

Amy Sherald: American Sublime

www.sfmoma.org

The Contemporary Jewish Museum

Thru 02/02/2025

Nicki Green: Firmament

www.thecjm.org

Asian Art Museum

Thru 01/06/2025

Hallyu! The Korean Wave

www.asianart.org

Legion of Honor Museum

Thru 01/26/2025

Mary Cassatt at Work

www.famsf.org

de Young Museum

Thru 02/09/2025

Tamara de Lempicka

www.famsf.org

The Walt Disney Family Museum

Ongoing

Walt Disney - The man. His story. His work. His innovations.

www.waltdisney.org

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts.

Located across from the St. Regis in our Yerba Buena Gardens, YBCA spans the realms of contemporary art, performances, and film with a focus on civic engagement and public life. You'll also want to take advantage of the FREE self-guided audio walking tour, showcasing an array of outdoor art throughout the surrounding area. Simply download the free audio walking tour app.

www.ybca.org

www.visityerbabuena.org

Guess Who's Coming to Town?

SF Masonic Auditorium

The Nob Hill Masonic Center of San Francisco, also known as the Masonic Temple or Masonic Auditorium, hosts concerts as well as a range of other live events managed by Live Nation. There is a war memorial sculpture on the outside of the building, as well as marble sculptures representing good and evil.

www.livenation.com

SF Jazz

The holidays don't have to be jazz-free, as SF Jazz presents a lineup sure to get you into the holiday spirit. Enjoy performances such as Mads Tolling: *A Cool Yule*, George Cole: *The Magic of Christmas*, and Cyrus Chestnut: *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. And be sure to ring in the New Year with the Dirty Dozen Brass Band!

www.sfjazz.org

BroadwaySF

Leslie Odom Jr.: The Christmas Tour – 11/29
A Drag Queen Christmas – 12/10

www.broadwaysf.com

Chase Center

Nick Cannon Presents: Wild 'n Out Live Tour – 11/23
Cyndi Lauper – 11/26

www.chasecenter.com

Events of Note

The Safeway Holiday Ice Rink in Union Square

11/06 – 01/20

This beloved holiday tradition returns for its 17th magical season. Don't miss the many events planned, or just show off your skills as you enjoy the sights and sounds of our premier shopping district.

www.unionsquareicerink.com

The Great Dickens Christmas Fair

11/23 – 12/22

Immerse yourself in the holiday wonders of Victorian London with hundreds of costumed performers and over 140,000 square feet of holiday-themed music halls, pubs, and festive shops.

www.dickensfair.com

San Francisco Turkey Trot

11/28

Get yourself in "feasting" shape as you conquer a 5-mile stretch of Golden Gate Park. See wacky costumes throughout the run and be sure to enter your kids in the Kids Gobbler Chase. This is fun for the whole family.

www.sfturkeytrot.wixsite.com/sftt

Fan Expo San Francisco

11/29 – 12/01

If you are into comics, sci-fi, horror, anime, gaming, or cosplay, then this is the expo for you! Expect three days of fun-filled fan culture!

www.fanexpohq.com

Yerba Buena Carousel and Holiday Tree Lighting

11/30

At 4 pm, the fun begins as kids of all ages enjoy the Leroy King Carousel. This iconic feature at Yerba Buena Gardens becomes even more magical as it is decorated in holiday splendor, and all rides are free! Afterward, you won't want to miss the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony on the Yerba Buena Gardens Great Lawn.

www.yerbabuenagardens.org

Parol Lantern Festival

12/14

The Yerba Buena Center for the Arts presents the 2024 Parol Lantern Festival. The parol lantern is the quintessential Filipino symbol of hope, blessings, luck, and peace during the holiday season and can be found lighting up windows in Filipino homes throughout the world.

www.parollanternfestival.com

Events of Note

32nd Annual Kung Pao Kosher Comedy

12/24 – 12/26

Who can say no to Jewish comedy in a Chinese restaurant over the Christmas holiday?! Answering the age-old question: “What are Jews supposed to do on Christmas?”

www.koshercomedy.com

Bill Graham Menorah Lighting Ceremony in Union Square

12/25 – 01/02

A local miracle happened in San Francisco in 1975 when community leaders joined together to create the first big public menorah and celebration of Chanukah outside of Israel. The San Francisco “Mama Menorah” public celebration has now become a global phenomenon, with large menorahs lit annually in over 500 cities worldwide.

www.billgrahammenorah.org

Dirty Dozen Brass Band at SF Jazz

12/31

The New York Times calls the Dirty Dozen Brass Band “a national treasure steeped in both the past and the present.” What better way to ring in the new year?

www.sfbjazz.org

New Year's Eve Fireworks Display

12/31

Come celebrate the arrival of 2025 at the Embarcadero's Ferry Building as San Francisco rings in the New Year with our magnificent fireworks extravaganza! The waterfront is the place to be at midnight when barges on the bay release a spectacular display of color and light while accompanied by a celebration of music. Enjoy the festive atmosphere with those around you or consider one of the many cruise offerings on the bay. Please see the Concierge desk for more details.

When in San Francisco...

Places Of Interest

Alcatraz

No prison has been made more popular in books and movies than the one on Alcatraz. This small island in the San Francisco Bay, however, has a story that extends far beyond the famed penitentiary. Originally named Isla de los Alcatrazes (Isle of the Pelicans), Alcatraz Island became a part of the U.S. in 1849. During the 1850s, a fortress was built, and cannons were installed as, along with much of the nearby Pacific coastline, Alcatraz aided in protecting the entry into the bay, dubbed the Golden Gate. The first inclinations of what was to come appeared as the U.S. Army began holding military prisoners in the late 1850s.

Alcatraz is best known, however, for the famed gangsters and notorious criminals that were sent to “The Rock” after a maximum-security federal prison was built, which began operations in 1934. No one escaped, and those who managed to free themselves and dive into the chilly bay waters were never heard from again. Still, it’s thought that a few may have made it across.

Now owned by the National Park Service, a limited number of tickets are sold each day. It’s best to plan ahead to ensure a day and time that works for you.

www.cityexperiences.com

Coit Tower and the Filbert Steps

A wealthy eccentric and patron of San Francisco’s firefighters, Lillie Hitchcock Coit left a large amount of money after her passing for the sole purpose of erecting a monument to her beloved firefighters, including those who fought the fires that engulfed much of San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake. Contrary to popular belief, however, the tower was not designed to resemble the end of a fire hose. Purchase tickets for an elevator ride to the top for a spectacular 360-degree view of The City. Within its walls are murals painted by muralists who were influenced by such famed artists of the time as Diego Rivera and Raoul Dufy.

If you are keen for a workout and beautiful views of the bay, why not take the Filbert Steps beginning from the Embarcadero (waterfront) up Telegraph Hill, with Coit Tower as your reward? Or make it easier on yourself and take the steps heading down. The views will still be there.

Golden Gate Bridge

Guests often think that the bridge was named after its golden appearance in the distance. Actually, the official color is International Orange. The bridge was built across an important entry into the U.S., often referred to as the golden gateway. With a span of 1.7 miles, the Golden Gate Bridge opened to the public in 1937. No one could’ve predicted just how iconic the structure would become for our city.

When visiting the bridge, be sure to stop by Fort Point, located directly underneath on the south (San Francisco) side of the bridge. During the bridge’s planning stages, there was a proposal to demolish this Civil War-era fort. After a massive outcry from residents, an alternate plan was adopted, with an updated design that would have the bridge built over the fort, thus saving this historic site for future generations to come.

When in San Francisco...

Places Of Interest

The Presidio & Crissy Field

Once belonging to the native Ohlone people, the Presidio and the surrounding area that is now San Francisco became the northernmost outpost for the Spanish Empire in western North America. After being acquired by Mexico and eventually the U.S., the United States Army established a military post on the Presidio grounds in 1847. The Presidio served as a military post through to the Vietnam War. A memorial bears the names of the 413 members of the armed forces who were lost or buried at sea in U.S. Pacific waters during World War II. Now the Presidio is a place of peace and reflection, offering hiking trails throughout the woods. Many of the classic barracks have been refurbished or reimaged with restaurants or campuses such as Industrial Light and Magic.

An extension of the Presidio, it was recommended by a board of Army officers after the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition that the vacant bayfront now called Crissy Field should become a site for an Air Coast Defense Station, supplementing the artillery defenses around San Francisco Bay. Named in honor of Major Dana Crissy, this airfield helped develop the air power that proved essential in winning World War II. Now a beautiful open area with reclaimed marshes, Crissy Field is ideal for a stroll, jog, or run.

UPDATE - A bold and ambitious project known as the Presidio Tunnel Tops now connects the two! Make your way from one to the other over grass and manicured greens situated atop two new tunnels, taking motorists from the Golden Gate Bridge into the city proper. Enjoy a picnic or just take in the views atop this innovative landscape.

Twin Peaks

One of San Francisco's highest points, Twin Peaks offers a spectacular vista of San Francisco and the surrounding areas. Many of our iconic landmarks can be seen from this vantage point. If you are up for a good hike, there are paths that will take you to the viewing area. The payoff will be well worth it!

Golden Gate Park

It's hard to believe that a swath of land longer than New York's Central Park was once nothing more than wind-swept sand dunes. Construction began in 1870 and would eventually encompass 1,017 acres. Over the years, lakes and unique gardens were added, among them the Japanese Tea Gardens, the Botanical Gardens, and the AIDS Memorial Grove. Enjoy a paddleboat on Stow Lake or rent a bike. You might even come across a corral of bison!

...And While in the Park

Conservatory of Flowers

Calling it a greenhouse doesn't do justice to the Conservatory of Flowers. Opened in 1879, this unique structure is the oldest wood-and-glass conservatory in North America. Take the audio-tour as you see first-hand an incredible array of unique and exotic plants from many regions.

www.conservatoryofflowers.org

California Academy of Sciences

Much has changed since the California Academy of Sciences opened its doors in 1853. Once drawing thousands of visitors to gawk at the taxidermized grizzly bears or the giant woolly mammoth, much of the collection was lost during the 1906 earthquake. The Academy persevered and now showcases incredible exhibits such as the Steinhart Aquarium, a cool Planetarium, and a Living Roof. They've even recreated a Rain Forest! There is so much more to see, learn and enjoy.

www.calacademy.org

The DeYoung Museum

A must-visit when in the park, the DeYoung Museum originated as the Fine Arts Museum with construction beginning in 1894, in time for the California Midwinter International Exposition. Named for the chair of the exposition organizing committee, Michael H. de Young, the museum has grown from an attraction originally designed to temporarily house an eclectic collection of exotic oddities to becoming the foremost museum in the western U.S. concentrating on American art, international textile arts and costumes, as well as art of the ancient Americas, Oceania and Africa.

www.famsf.org

Did You Know?

Mission Dolores Park

San Francisco has always been a destination for holiday shopping. For many years, there was no finer holiday shopping experience than the old San Francisco Emporium. Originally founded in the 1890s, the Emporium was created as a vendor cooperative. Suburbanites and San Franciscans alike would make their way downtown to the Emporium for holiday revelry and to watch Santa arrive by stagecoach or cable car. There was even a rooftop holiday carnival. Placed atop the Emporium, a stunning 102 ft-wide glass and steel skylit dome brightened the shops. Though the original building no longer exists, the dome now sits proudly atop our largest mall, the San Francisco Centre.

No figure embodies the Summer of Love like Bill Graham, who moved to San Francisco in the early '60s. After managing the radical San Francisco Mime Troupe, he turned his sights to music, where he came into contact with many of the biggest names at the time, including his work as manager of Jefferson Airplane. True to his Jewish faith and always pursuing greater ideas, he launched the Bill Graham Menorah Project in 1975 with the aim of lighting a giant menorah annually over Chanukah. This was the first giant menorah outside of Israel. Now a fixture in our Union Square Park, the giant "Mama Menorah" began as a dream and now, thanks to Bill Graham, has inspired large menorahs in over 500 cities worldwide.

New Year's Eve is one holiday celebrated in all corners of the world. Each city and town has its own unique way of saying goodbye to the previous year and welcoming the next. San Francisco is no exception. Beginning in the 1940s until the latter part of the 20th century, San Franciscans working in our Financial District celebrated by throwing paper calendar pages from office buildings which, at the time, had windows that opened out to the streets below. San Francisco's best-known journalist, Herb Caen, once wrote, "On New Year's Eve, I strolled downtown Powell Street, looking at the old calendar leaves strewn about in what is said to be a custom observed nowhere else. Just the pages. Throwing the entire calendar out the window is considered bad form, and somebody could get hurt." It wasn't until the '90s that San Francisco began to discourage the practice, as clean-up costs became a burden on the city's coffers. Our San Francisco Chronicle estimated that in 1978 alone, 30,000 pounds of paper were tossed out of office building windows.

Play Ball!

San Francisco Giants

The season begins in March '25

Tickets

San Francisco 49ers

Tickets

Golden State Warriors

Tickets

And introducing the Golden State Valkyries!

Coming in 2025!

Tickets

Marriott Bonvoy

Discover Extraordinary Destinations.
Enjoy Exclusive Rewards.

Become a member of Marriott Bonvoy to enjoy exclusive benefits
and earn points toward free nights and more when you book direct
on marriott.com or in our app.

Join Marriott Bonvoy for free today





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The concierge team is available to assist and answer any questions that you might have. Enjoy the stay!
Daniel Rey - Chef Concierge (daniel.rey@stregis.com)