

Memorial Museum, the San Francisco Museum of Art, and the California Palace of the Legion of Honor attract hundreds of thousands of visitors annually.

Library—The main Public Library is located in the Civic Center. There are 21 branches and one depository. This system has more than 650,910 volumes. About 2,500,000 books are circulated for home reading. In addition to the public libraries, there are nearly 100 private and special libraries, including technical and institutional. There are also numerous circulating libraries.

Public Buildings—The Civic Auditorium, with a seating capacity of 9,136, contains a magnificent organ and is in use for a variety of events daily throughout the year. The Civic Opera House and the War Memorial Building provide a home for opera, the symphony orchestra, and a permanent war relics museum. San Francisco was the first city in the nation to have a civic opera house. It has a seating capacity of 3,285. The Civic Opera House and the War Memorial buildings were chosen for the meeting place of the United Nations delegates who assembled there from April 25 to June 26, 1945, to construct the charter of the organization.

Clubs—There are numerous societies, clubs, lodges and fraternal groups beside the civic, historical, military, religious, and sporting groups. San Francisco contains many foreign colonies where the daily life and social affairs familiar to their native countries have been re-established here.

Churches—San Francisco has 353 churches, representing many denominations. The congregations include people of many nationalities, such as English, German, Italian, French, Spanish, Scandinavian, Russian and Chinese.

PUBLIC HEALTH

San Francisco public health facilities are efficient and modern in every detail, including a bacteriological laboratory, a chemical laboratory, consolidated inspection services, the San Francisco Hospital, the Laguna Honda Home for aged indigents, the Hassler Health Fund for convalescent tuberculosis cases, six emergency hospitals, child welfare centers, well-baby clinics and other health control facilities scattered throughout the city.

RECREATION AND CULTURE

San Francisco is a city of supreme and exotic beauty, a city of many interesting aspects, and a cultural and vacation center for those who like to explore. The vacation experts, Californians, Inc., say—"There is the story-book part that is not on the map—the things of the city that guidebooks only hint at—small in area as great cities go, it is America's most cosmopolitan city. Almost surrounded by the sea, it's like being on shipboard all the time—there's salt in the ocean breeze, filling you with buoyant energy."

Some Outstanding Points of Interest and Their Characteristics

The Waterfront—"Threshold to all the world."

San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge—"World's largest, with foundations of greatest depth."

Golden Gate Bridge—"Longest single span in the world."

Latin Quarter—"Spreads up the slopes of Telegraph Hill and on to Fisherman's Wharf."

Educational Institutions—"Few cities in the world offer finer or more diversified facilities."

Chinatown—"Largest Chinese settlement in America."

Hotels, Restaurants—"Distinguished and distinctive."

Theatres—"Bid you to come forth for entertainment."

Downtown San Francisco—"Atmosphere all its own."

Civic Center, Auditorium, Opera—"First city to have a civic opera house and symphony concerts."

Parks, Museums, Sports—"Enough for days and days for spectators and participants alike."

Scenic Drives, Evenings—"Stunning vistas framed in the afterglow of sunset, and then, the lights."

Other facilities for outdoor activities embrace many golf courses in and adjacent to the city, including three San Francisco municipal courses; a yacht harbor; and several boat and swimming clubs.

A tour of San Francisco is refreshing and filled with many pleasant surprises. The city's delightful setting amidst sparkling waters and high hills is inspiring. Beautiful vistas, lovely homes, a happy climate, comfortable living, all combine to spread a romantic aura over the whole community and lend to its distinction.

CLIMATE

San Francisco is a clean city with a cool, bracing, equable, open-all-year-around climate. The daily mean maximum temperature is 62.6 degrees. The daily mean minimum temperature is 50.4 degrees. The average daily temperature range is 12.2 degrees.

The hours of fog over San Francisco Bay recorded by the Lighthouse Service averaged only 153 per year.

San Francisco is one of a few of nature's air-conditioned cities, relatively warm in winter and cool in summer. The long-time record of the Weather Bureau reveals that the sun shines in San Francisco during 66 of every 100 possible hours.

POPULATION AND CHARACTERISTICS

San Francisco Residents

The population of San Francisco on April 1, 1950, was 775,357 according to the U. S. Census, or 140,821 above 1940, and ranking San Francisco among the leading cities in the U. S. in numerical population gain. On Jan. 1, 1953 the population was estimated at 798,000. It is the eleventh largest city in the nation, based on population, but ranks close to first in several economic and social developments.

On April 1, 1940, the resident population, reported at 634,536, included 630,785 civilians and only 3,751 military. At about the peak of the nation's war production, on April 1, 1944, the resident civilian population had risen to 683,340 and the resident military had soared to 103,250, bringing the total resident population to 786,590. Near the end of the war, on Aug. 1, 1945, the special U. S. Census reported that San Francisco had 827,400 residents, including 59,753 military, 20,416 seamen on ships registered to San Francisco, and about 30,000 hotel occupants, or nearly 110,000 persons other than those living in owner-occupied and tenant dwellings.

Visitors and Commuters

People with regular occupations in the city, but living in the Bay Area, and the large number who come here for business and pleasure brought the average daily two-way passenger trips to and from San Francisco through the Peninsula, East Bay and North Bay gateways to about 269,025 during 1952, compared to 105,800 in 1940 and 220,000 in 1945.

EDUCATION

Fine Facilities for Education and Research

The educational facilities available in San Francisco and the Bay Area cover all fields and are outstanding in the West and in their rank among national institutions. Few cities in the world offer finer or more diversified educational opportunities.

Enrollment in institutions of higher education in northern California is above the national average in relation to the population.

Higher education facilities include the public universities system, state colleges, public junior colleges, private four-year colleges and private junior colleges.

Besides the extensive research activities carried out by the larger universities of California and Stanford, a recent survey revealed numerous northern California