

YOUR ARTS & CULTURAL GUIDE TO

CENTRAL MARKET & CIVIC CENTER

San Francisco's Civic Center neighborhood hosts the city's most famed and historic venues that deliver a strong dose of culture.

01 DISCOVER THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF ASIAN ART AND CULTURE

Spark connections across cultures, ignite curiosity, conversation and creativity

Spanning cultures from Turkey to India and China to the Philippines through 6,000 years, the **Asian Art Museum's** collection offers visitors a panorama of Asian art and culture, including more than 18,000 works of art ranging from tiny jades to monumental sculptures. Some of their masterpieces include: paintings, porcelains, arms and armor, furniture, textiles and bronzes. You may be thinking, **what constitutes a masterpiece?** It's really up to personal judgement but the museum offers **free museum tours** (with price of admission) to provide a lens for determining what masterpieces exist in their collection.

02 WITNESS THE PREEMINENT THEATRICAL ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY IN SAN FRANCISCO

Presenting a year-round season of plays and musicals for the theatrically adventurous

For more than 30 years, **SHN** has presented musicals and plays, world premieres, pre-Broadway engagements, limited West Coast-only runs of productions starring their original Broadway casts and national tours. SHN owns and operates two historic theatres in San Francisco: Orpheum and Golden Gate Theatres. If you are looking for discounted tickets, **TIX Bay Area** hosts a booth in Union Square that offers full-price and discount tickets to almost every arts and cultural event in San Francisco, including booth-only same-day discount deals to some of the best shows in town!

03 LISTEN TO ONE OF THE MOST INNOVATIVE ORCHESTRAS IN THE U.S.

Before attending the symphony, get all of your facts straight with these resources

The **San Francisco Symphony** is your destination for live music events with performances on 200 days each year. From Mahler to pops, it's easy to find a Symphony concert you'll love that fits into your trip.

Before heading to Davies Symphony Hall, browse this **curated guide** to attending a concert, including how to obtain discounted tickets, pre-ordering a beverage, advice on what to wear and much more.

And while you're at it, check out this **100 Year History of the San Francisco Symphony Timeline** which highlights the highest possible standard for excellence in musical performance.

04 BE ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO THEATER SCENE

A dynamic performance complex featuring the most exciting artists of the Bay Area and beyond

Plan a dramatic evening with The **American Conservatory Theater** (A.C.T.) and their new performance space, the Strand Theater. The Strand boasts a 283-seat theater, a 120-seat event and performance space and a welcoming lobby and cafe, located directly across from the **Civic Center's** lively UN Plaza. The A.C.T. showcases an expanded range of productions each season, including specially commissioned new work, and cabaret and theater performances.

05 EXPERIENCE THE OLDEST PROFESSIONAL BALLET COMPANY IN AMERICA

An uncompromising commitment to artistic excellence based in the classical ballet tradition

The **San Francisco Ballet's** initial purpose was to train dancers to appear in opera productions, but it separated from the opera in 1942 and was renamed SF Ballet, making it the oldest professional ballet company in America. Have you ever wondered what dancers do when they aren't on stage? A typical day is full of ballet technique classes and rehearsals, which start with an hour-long class, followed by four to six hours of rehearsal, often concluding with a two-hour evening performance. Learn more about the classical ballet tradition by checking-out the **common questions** section of their website!

LINKS TO HELP PLAN YOUR TOUR

[Maps](#) | [SF Muni Schedule](#) | [San Francisco Travel Association](#)