



Elisabeth Wieselthaler-Toelly
Vice President, Global PR & Media Relations
415.227.2603
ewtoelly@sfrtravel.com

Laurie Armstrong Gossy
Sr. Director, Global PR & Media Relations
415.227.2615
larmstrong@sfrtravel.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

What's New in San Francisco

November/December 2017

Nov. 6, 2017 - In this monthly roundup from San Francisco Travel, you will find:

- San Francisco News
- Culinary News
- Attractions & Activity News
- Arts & Culture News
- San Francisco International Airport News

SAN FRANCISCO NEWS

San Francisco Puts On Its Seasonal Best with Holiday Guide

Visit www.sfrtravel.com/holidays for a complete guide to San Francisco during “the most wonderful time of the year.”

You'll find trip ideas and tips including:

- Five Reasons Why San Francisco is Always Awesome During the Holidays
- Ten New Holiday Treats
- Eight Must-Sees in San Francisco This Holiday Season
- 12 Unusual, Quirky Gifts You Can Only Find in San Francisco
- Fifth Annual Illuminate SF Festival of Light
- San Francisco Holiday Lights, Sights and Decorations

Media contact: Laurie Armstrong Gossy, 415-227-2615, laurie@sfrtravel.com.

Northern California Wine Country is Open for Business After Wildfires

Hotels, wineries, tasting rooms, restaurants and attractions in Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino and other Northern California counties are reopening as the wildfires that began on Oct. 8 are being contained. Below are links to media information on each of the affected destinations:

- Sonoma County Tourism: www.sonomacounty.com/media
- Sonoma Valley Visitors Bureau: <http://www.sonomavalley.com/media/>
- Visit Mendocino County: <https://www.visitmendocino.com/media/>
- Visit Napa Valley: www.visitnapavalley.com/press-room
- Visit Santa Rosa: <http://www.visitsantarosa.com/media-requests>

WeekendGo Names San Francisco High on List of Where to Getaway

In a data-based study ranking the best cities worldwide in which to spend 48 hours, weekenGO listed San Francisco as the #2 place in the United States and #11 in the world to spend a weekend. For more information, visit www.weekengo.com/en-EN/study/100-top-destinations-to-spend-a-weekend.html.

Tickets on Sale Now for Rugby World Cup Sevens Coming July 20-22, 2018

The world's best rugby sevens players will thrill U.S. crowds at the Rugby World Cup Sevens on July 20-22, 2018 at AT&T Park in San Francisco.

The three-day tournament features 24 men's teams and 16 women's teams competing for the title of world champions. The 45,000-seat stadium, which is home to the San Francisco Giants baseball team and events year-round, is one of the most familiar and highly rated sports venues in the USA and is located in downtown San Francisco, along the waterfront overlooking the bay.

Supporters can now plan their trip to San Francisco for the Rugby World Cup Sevens 2018. Tickets and travel packages for RWC Sevens 2018 are on sale now. More information is available at the new [RWC Sevens 2018 website](http://www.rwcsevens2018.com).

Media contact: Sarah Hawkins, 415-697-9574, sarah.hawkins@rwcsevens2018.com.

CULINARY NEWS

San Francisco Has the Most Michelin Three-Star Restaurants of Any U.S. City

The 2018 Michelin ratings are out and San Francisco has surpassed New York for the number of three-star restaurants.

San Francisco and the Bay Area has seven restaurants with the prized three-star rating: Benu, Coi, The French Laundry, Manresa, Quince, The Restaurant at Meadowood and Saison. There are five three-star restaurant in New York and the region.

"In total, 55 restaurants throughout the city, Bay Area and Wine Country received a Michelin star. While the star selections represent a remarkable achievement, Michelin's anonymous inspectors also recognized the 67 restaurants that earned the favorite Bib Gourmand distinction as well," Michelin said in its blog.

For more information, visit <http://michelinmedia.com/pages/blog/detail/article/c/a678/>. Media contact: Lauren Davis, 864-350-7984, lauren.davis@michelin.com.

San Francisco is the Best Foodie City in the U.S.

To determine the Best Foodie City in America, the personal-finance website WalletHub compared more than 180 of the largest U.S. cities across 24 key metrics. The data set ranges from affordability and accessibility of high-quality restaurants to food festivals per capita to craft breweries and wineries per capita.

San Francisco was found to be the Best Foodie City in America, based on the following rankings:

- 1st – Affordability & Accessibility of Highly Rated Restaurants
- 1st – Craft Breweries & Wineries per Capita
- 1st – Coffee & Tea Shops per Capita
- 4th – Gourmet Specialty-Food Stores per Capita
- 5th – Restaurants per Capita

For the full report, visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-foodie-cities/7522/>. Media contact: Diana Popa, 202-684-6386, media@wallethub.com.

Michael Mina and Ayesha Curry Team Up at International Smoke

International Smoke, the new collaboration between Chef Michael Mina and lifestyle expert and bestselling cookbook author Ayesha Curry, opened Nov. 13, 2017 at 301 Mission St. Inspired by Curry's and Mina's individual heritages and travels, International Smoke explores global approaches to fire, grilling, and smoke to create flavorful dishes that bring communities together all around the world. Food is at the heart of community, and this restaurant truly celebrates this.

For more information, visit <https://www.michaelmina.net/restaurants/san-francisco-bay-area/international-smoke/>. Media contacts: Jane L. Chong, jane@magnumpr.co, Jamie Law, jlaw@minagroup.net.

ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES NEWS

Nov. 20, 2017 – Alcatraz Cruises Announces Indians of All Tribes Day

Alcatraz Cruises and the National Park Service will recognize the 48th anniversary of the occupation of Alcatraz Island by the Indians of All Tribes on Nov. 20, 2017.

Special events will include panel discussions by the members of All Tribes, guided walking tours about the occupation, Native American dancers and occupation videos. The cellhouse tour and other regularly scheduled events will still take place, as usual.

For more information, visit www.nps.gov/alca/learn/historyculture/we-hold-the-rock.htm.

Guests are encouraged to purchase tickets online and print before arrival. Tickets should be secured in advance and can be purchased online at www.alcatrazcruises.com, by calling 415-981-7625 or from the Ticket Booth at Pier 33 Alcatraz Landing.

Media contact: Molly Blaisdell, 925-300-7252; molly@hooklineandthinker.com.

San Francisco Names Golden Gate Park Meadow in Honor of Robin Williams

On Sept. 11, 2017, the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department announced the naming of the Robin Williams Meadow, the meadow located adjacent to Golden Gate Park's Sharon Building, in honor of the late Robin Williams, the legendary comedian and longtime Bay Area resident. Throughout his life, Williams made great contributions to local and international communities but for many San Franciscans his support for the annual free Comedy Day in Golden Gate Park was one of his most memorable. [Comedy Day](#), the annual free event, began in 1981 in Golden Gate Park's Music Concourse, then due to expanding crowds was relocated to the Polo Field, and now Sharon Meadow. The event has brought together nearly 1,000 of the world's funniest comedians to provide laughs to more than half a million people over 37 years.

Williams is perhaps most widely revered for his performance in Gus Van Sant's "Good Will Hunting." His performance earned Williams an Oscar® and Screen Actors Guild award. The Academy previously nominated Williams for Best Actor in "The Fisher King," "Dead Poets Society," and "Good Morning Vietnam." Williams also garnered a special honor from the National Board of Review for his performance opposite Robert De Niro in "Awakenings." In 2004, Williams received the prestigious Career Achievement Award from the Chicago International Film festival and, in 2005, the HFPA honored him with the Cecil B. DeMille Award for outstanding contributions to the world of entertainment. In 2007, Williams' received the Peter J. Owens Award for excellence in acting from the San Francisco International Film Festival.

Williams took great joy in supporting causes from health care and human rights, to education, environmental protection, and the arts. Headlining a number of USO tours, Williams traveled to Iraq and Afghanistan five times to help raise morale among the troops. Williams' efforts with "Comic Relief" raised over \$50 million dollars to help America's homeless.

Media contact: RPDCommunications@sfgov.org.

ARTS & CULTURE NEWS

Fifth Annual "Illuminate SF Festival of Light" Shines a Spotlight on San Francisco as a Gallery of Light Art

Now in its fifth year, "Illuminate SF Festival of Light" shines a light on 36 dramatic, eco-friendly light art installations and a variety of other light-related events and activities. All are accessible by public transport and many are free for all to view. From Thanksgiving 2017 through New Year's Day 2018, art lovers are invited to embrace the power of light and tour San Francisco's art installations by a diverse range of local and world renowned light artists.

"Illuminate SF Festival of Light" has grown to include intimate artist talks, museum tours and a myriad of other light art activations across the city. Dates and details for these events will be announced in November and will be available at www.illuminatesf.com. More events will be added to the website as they are confirmed.

Media contact: Laurie Armstrong Gossy, 415-227-2615, laurie@sfrtravel.com.

The Cartoon Art Museum Opens in New Home at Fisherman's Wharf

The Cartoon Art Museum's new location at 781 Beach Street in San Francisco is just one block from Aquatic Park, the Maritime Museum, Ghirardelli Square and the Hyde Street cable car turnaround. The nearly 8,000 square feet of space allows the museum to design a perfect venue for viewing, discussing, creating and interacting with all forms of cartoon art and connecting with the artists who make it. The space also holds spacious galleries with a screening area, classrooms, bookstore, library and collections facility. Founded in 1984, the museum features everything from comic strips, comic books and anime to political cartoons, graphic novels and underground comix.

For more information, visit www.cartoonart.org. Media contact: Summerlea Kasher, 415-227-8666, office@cartoonart.org.

Through Jan. 28, 2018 – "Klimt & Rodin: An Artistic Encounter" at the Legion of Honor

Marking the centenary of Rodin's death in 1917 and that of Gustav Klimt in 1918, "Klimt & Rodin: An Artistic Encounter" examines the diverse connections between these artists and their impact upon the art world. While Rodin is widely regarded as "the father of modern sculpture," Klimt was a groundbreaking painter and a founding member of the modernist Vienna Secession movement.

This exhibition marks the first survey of Klimt's work in California. Sharing the galleries with the Legion of Honor's important holdings of Rodin works will be examples from Klimt's oeuvre on loan from public and private collections in the

United States and Europe, including the artist's estate in Vienna and the Österreichische Galerie Belvedere, which holds the world's largest and finest collection of Klimt paintings anywhere.

Klimt and Rodin are known to have met only once, at the "Beethoven Exhibition" mounted by the Vienna Secession in 1902. Rodin was especially fascinated by the notion of the collaborative "total work of art" (Gesamtkunstwerk) achieved through the mutually enriching juxtaposition of painting, sculpture, music, and installation design.

For more information, visit <http://legionofhonor.famsf.org/exhibitions/klimt-rodin-artistic-encounter>. Media contact: Miriam Newcomer, 415-750-3554, MNewcomer@famsf.org.

Nov. 16, 2017-Jan. 28, 2018 – "Curious Contraptions" at the Exploratorium

Explore small, surreal worlds at "[Curious Contraptions](#)," a temporary exhibition of the charming, often hilarious mechanical sculptures known as automata. Like complex mechanical toys, these whimsical machines are brought to life by intricate arrangements of handmade cams, cranks, and other simple mechanisms. Each sculpture performs an absurd miniature drama reflecting its maker's worldview and sense of humor. Take a look at their exposed inner workings and investigate the low-tech mechanisms that make these automata move. This year, *Curious Contraptions* features the varied viewpoints of artists including [Carlos Zapata](#), [Paul Spooner](#), [Keith Newstead](#), and [Fi Henshall](#), plus artist residencies with [Zapata](#), [Hernán Lira](#), and [Noga Elhassid](#).

For more information, visit www.exploratorium.edu/curious-contraptions. Media contact: Martin Rock, 415-528-4327, mrock@exploratorium.edu.

Nov. 21-Dec. 10, 2017 - San Francisco Opera Presents World Premiere of "Girls of the Golden West"

One of the most eagerly-awaited classical musical events of the year, this new opera by the composer of "Nixon in China" and "Doctor Atomic" features a libretto by director Peter Sellars drawn from historical sources about the pioneer experience on California's Gold Rush frontier. "Girls of the Golden West" follows a group of remarkable characters who flock to Gold Country hoping to strike it rich but are quickly caught up in the optimism, greed, and prejudices of a rapidly changing world. The opera features a brilliant young cast including soprano Julia Bullock as Dame Shirley, the East Coast transplant whose letters about the rugged conditions in the mining camps became a classic of California history.

For more information, visit <https://sfopera.com/goldenwest>. Media contact: Jeffery McMillan, 415-565-6451, jmcmillan@sfopera.com.

Dec. 1, 2017-Feb. 11, 2018 - Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture Presents Isaac Julien's "Playtime"

Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture (FMCAC) has announced "Playtime," an ambitious exhibition of three video installations by award-winning British artist Isaac Julien exploring the wide-ranging effects of how information, labor, and capital circulate in our global, networked societies. "Playtime" is presented in partnership with the San Francisco Art Institute and the Kramlich Collection.

The free exhibition includes the U.S. premiere of Julien's seven-screen installation, "Playtime" (2014), featuring a cast of international film stars, including James Franco, Maggie Cheung and Mercedes Cabral." KAPITAL" (2013), a two-screen companion piece to "Playtime," documents the public discussion, "Choreographing Capital," held at London's Hayward Gallery between the artist, social theorist David Harvey, and an audience of academic luminaries such as Irit Rogoff, Paul Gilroy and the late Stuart Hall. A third artwork by Julien will inaugurate the San Francisco Art Institute's newly constructed Gray Box media gallery at FMCAC – "Better Life (Ten Thousand

Waves)" (2010)—the cinematic cut of Julien's monumental installation "Ten Thousand Waves," filmed on location in mainland China.

For more information, visit www.fortmason.org/playtime. Media contact: Nick Kinsey, 415-345-7530, nick@fortmason.org.

Dec. 2, 2017-April 29, 2018 - "Genre-Nonconforming: The DIS Edutainment Network" at the de Young

Presented by the New York-based collective DIS, Genre-Nonconforming: The DIS Edutainment Network, will reveal a "DIS-topian" take on the future of education—decentralized and open-access, yet communal and physically connected. The DIS Edutainment Network will be played on a continuous loop on 36 large LED screens in the de Young's atrium, Wilsey Court, inviting visitors to experience a twisted hybrid of entertainment and education. The result of a collaboration with an international group of artists, it will include a cooking show by Will Benedict, a nature show by Korakrit Arunanondchai, a video by McKenzie Wark, a visual essay by Aria Dean, a talk show by Hannah Black, a docu-short on "seasteading" in Tahiti by Daniel Keller, a report on "reparation hardware" by Ilana Harris Babou, a cartoon by Amalia Ulman, a docu-short on "economic utopias" by Christopher Kulendran Thomas, a Nollywood fictional drama exploring the influence of technology and digital culture in South Africa by the artist collective CUSS Group, and a contribution by the Women's History Museum. The different programs will be connected and disrupted by interstitials conceived by Darren Bader and DIS.

For more information, visit <https://deyoung.famsf.org/exhibitions/genre-nonconforming-dis-edutainment-network>. Media contact: Miriam Newcomer, 415-750-3554, MNewcomer@famsf.org.

Through Dec. 10, 2017 - New Conservatory Theatre Center Presents Regional Premiere of "Le Switch"

New Conservatory Theatre Center welcomes the return of the plays of Philip Dawkins with the regional premiere of "Le Switch," directed by Tom Bruett. The play has been hailed by the "Chicago Tribune" as "another significant play from one of the Chicago's theater's brightest talents." "Le Switch" follows David, a self-possessed New York librarian with a need for classification, a love for collecting rare books he never opens and a strong ambivalence about marriage. What happens when his best friend's bachelor party takes him to Montreal, and he is swept off his feet by a charming young florist? A witty and whimsical romantic comedy tied in knots.

For more information, visit nctcsf.org or call 415-861-8972. Media contact: Paul Niemi, pauln@nctcsf.org.

Through Dec. 23, 2017 - Chinese Culture Center presents "Requiem" by contemporary artist Summer Mei Ling Lee

The Chinese Culture Center has commissioned contemporary artist Summer Mei Ling Lee to create a large scale installation work inspired by the 135th anniversary of the Chinese Exclusion Act and a compelling chapter in the history of the Chinese immigrant diaspora here in San Francisco and beyond. It shines a light on the important role that a Hong Kong hospital and charity played in ensuring that the remains of Chinese immigrants in the U.S., who were considered permanent aliens under the Act, made it back to China and to their ancestral land. Tens of thousands of bone boxes were shipped across the seas in this massive repatriation effort led by the truly extraordinary Tung Wah Hospital in Hong Kong.

For more information, visit www.cccsf.us. Media contact: Nina Sazevich, 415-752-2483, nina@sazevichpr.com.

Through Jan. 7, 2018 – "Gods in Color: Polychromy in the Ancient World" at the Legion of Honor

“Gods in Color: Polychromy in the Ancient World” presents ancient sculpture to Bay Area audiences as never before: in vibrant color. The exhibition will reintroduce “polychromy” – the painting of sculpture to dazzling and powerful effect. Defying the idea of the stark white marble of antiquity, the installation is the result of over 30 years of groundbreaking research in pigmentation of ancient sculpture by international scientists and archaeologists. On view at the Legion of Honor will be nearly 40 reproductions of well-known Greek and Roman artworks painted in brightly colored authentic pigments, uniquely juxtaposed with 30 statues and carved reliefs from ancient Egypt, the Near East, Greece, and Rome from FAMSF’s own holdings, supplemented with magnificent loans from Californian and European collections.

When the idea of classicism took hold during the Renaissance, artists like Michelangelo and other masters hailed form and composition, instead of color, as the most prominent and venerable features of ancient sculpture. Over time, knowledge of color in ancient sculpture became all but forgotten and any evidence of polychromy was ignored. But even today, after millennia of burial and exposure to the elements, faint traces of color pigments on ancient sculptures can sometimes be detected with the naked eye.

For more information, visit <http://legionofhonor.famsf.org/exhibitions/gods-color-polychromy-ancient-world>. Media contact: Miriam Newcomer, 415-750-3554, mnewcomer@famsf.org, Francisco Rosas, 415-750-8906, frosas@famsf.org.

Jan. 19-Feb. 25, 2018 - New Conservatory Theatre Center presents World Premiere of “Still at Risk”

Playwright Tim Pinckney returns to New Conservatory Theatre Center with the world premiere of the sharply humorous and moving “Still at Risk” that takes a new look at the personal and political effects of HIV/AIDS on the LGBT community decades after the crisis. Kevin, a surviving front line AIDS activist struggles to find purpose in a modern age of greater gay rights. As he tries to move forward, an unexpected event threatens to erase the history he was part of creating and his anger and passion are renewed.

Information and tickets are available at www.nctcsf.org or call 415-861-8972.

Through Jan. 28, 2018 – “Jewish Folktales Retold: Artist as Maggid” at the Contemporary Jewish Museum

In “Jewish Folktales Retold: Artist as Maggid” at the Contemporary Jewish Museum, 14 diverse contemporary artists act as modern maggids—interpreting traditional Jewish folktales and characters in new, commissioned works inspired by the rich Jewish tradition of stories that incorporate cautionary tales, traditional wisdom, and the supernatural.

The Hebrew concept of maggid has multiple meanings and layers. The most basic definition is that of a religious teacher and teller of stories. Contrasted with the more formally trained rabbis, the lay maggids acted as repositories and transmitters of cultural knowledge, folklore, and social norms and mores.

The exhibition explores concepts such as transformation and metamorphosis, good and evil, moral education, political and class metaphors, the role of women, and storytelling in contemporary art. It also features new commissioned works.

Each work is accompanied by a listening station where visitors can hear Bay Area storytellers reading the folk tales that served as the artist’s primary inspiration.

For more information, visit www.thecjm.org or call 415-655-7800. Media contact: Nina Szevich, 415-752-2483, nina@szevichpr.com.

Through Feb. 4, 2018 – “Couture Korea” at the Asian Art Museum

From the courts of Seoul to the runways of Paris, Couture Korea — a special exhibition opening at the Asian Art Museum on November 3rd — immerses audiences in the sophistication and superb craftsmanship of historical and contemporary Korean fashion. The exhibition features more than 120 garments, including ancient kings' robes, elegant courtesans' ensembles, modern designs in new fabrics inspired by traditional clothing, alongside Korean-influenced styles from Chanel's Karl Lagerfeld. Visitors will come away with a rich understanding of the social and cultural roots, as well as the global impact, of Korean fashion.

For more information, visit www.asianart.org. Media contact: Zac Rose, zrose@asianart.org.

Through Feb. 11, 2018 – “Teotihuacan: City of Water, City of Fire” at the de Young

The Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco are pleased to premiere “Teotihuacan: City of Water, City of Fire,” the first major exhibition on Teotihuacan in the U.S. in over 20 years, organized in collaboration with Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH). The ancient metropolis of Teotihuacan is one of the largest and most important archeological sites in the world. At its peak, Teotihuacan was the cultural, political, economic, and religious center of Mesoamerica, and inhabited by a multiethnic population of more than 100,000 people. This historic exhibition will feature over 200 artifacts and artworks from the site, many recently excavated and on view in the U.S. for the first time.

For more information, visit <https://deyoung.famsf.org/>. Media contact: Miriam Newcomer, 415-750-3554, MNewcomer@famsf.org.

Through Feb. 18, 2018 – “Alexander Hamilton: Treasures from the New-York Historical Society” at the California Historical Society

The extraordinary life and prolific career of Alexander Hamilton (1757–1804) continue to captivate the American public more than two centuries after his death. Drawing from the collections of the New-York Historical Society and JP Morgan Chase bank, this exhibition presents original artifacts and documents—many never before seen on the West Coast—that illuminate Hamilton's role in shaping the legal, economic, and political systems at the foundation of the modern United States.

For more information, visit www.californiahistoricalsociety.org. Media contact: Jason Herrington, 415-357-1849, jherrington@calhist.org.

Through March 4, 2018 - “EN MAS’: Carnival and Performance Art of the Caribbean” at MoAD

“EN MAS’: Carnival and Performance Art of the Caribbean” is a pioneering exploration of the influences of Carnival on contemporary performance practices in the Caribbean, North America and Europe. Conceived around a series of nine commissioned performances realized during the 2014 Caribbean Carnival season across eight cities in six different countries, the exhibition considers the connections between Carnival and performance, masquerade and social criticism, diaspora and transnationalism. Taking its title from a pun on “Mas” (short for masquerade and synonymous with carnival in the English-speaking Caribbean), “EN MAS’” considers a history of performance that does not take place on the stage or in the gallery but rather in the streets, addressing not the few but the many.

“EN MAS’” takes into account performance practices that do not trace their genealogy to the European avant-gardes of the early 20th century but rather to the experiences of slavery and colonialism through to the mid-19th century, the independence struggles and civil right movements of the mid-20th century and population migrations to and from the former colonial centers for most of the last century.

For more information, visit www.moadsf.org Media contact: Mark Sabb, [415-358-7200](tel:415-358-7200), msabb@moadsf.org.

Through March 11, 2018 – “Sanctuary” at Fort Mason Chapel

For its latest presentation of art about place, FOR-SITE Foundation invited 36 artists from 22 different countries to design contemporary prayer rugs reflecting on the idea of sanctuary. The exhibition, titled “Sanctuary,” will feature these rugs arrayed on the floor of the historic Chapel located on the Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture’s upper campus in San Francisco. The participating artists represent diverse backgrounds and individual ideologies, but the project’s template which presented each artist with the same task and format lends a unifying element that bridges racial, cultural, and religious differences. The 4-by-6-foot wool rugs, woven in Lahore, Pakistan using traditional materials and hand-knotting techniques, offer visitors a multiplicity of perspectives on the basic human need for sanctuary. Rugs are at once sites of religious devotion, records of cultural heritage, symbols of global trade and exchange, and emblems of migration and self-sufficiency. They also invite interaction: visitors are encouraged to remove their shoes - a universal gesture of reverence that marks the transition into sacred space - and to walk, sit, and recline on the artworks, to reflect on the shared human experience.

For more information, visit www.for-site.org/project/sanctuary/. Media contact: Alison Konecki, 415-362-9330, alison@for-site.org.

SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (SFO)

Alaska Airlines/Virgin America Add SFO-New Orleans Service

On Sept. 21, 2017, Alaska Airlines and Virgin America launched nonstop service between San Francisco International Airport and Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport, connecting the Bay Area to the "Big Easy." The new route is part of the largest network expansion in Alaska Airlines' 85-year history and is one of 33 new California routes to launch this year.

"We're proud to bring our low fares and award-winning service to this exciting destination and grow our Bay Area footprint with 18 new markets. By year-end, we'll have grown Alaska Airlines and Virgin America's network to serve 42 destinations from the three major Bay Area airports," said Annabel Chang, Alaska Airlines' vice president of the Bay Area.

Alaska Airlines, together with Virgin America and its regional partners, flies 40 million guests a year to 118 destinations with an average of 1,200 daily flights across the United States and to Mexico, Canada, Costa Rica and Cuba. With Alaska and [Alaska Global Partners](#), guests can earn and redeem miles on flights to more than 900 destinations worldwide. Alaska Airlines ranked "[Highest in Customer Satisfaction Among Traditional Carriers in North America](#)" in the J.D. Power North America Satisfaction Study for 10 consecutive years from 2008 to 2017. Learn more about Alaska's award-winning service and unmatched reliability at newsroom.alaskaair.com and blog.alaskaair.com. Alaska Airlines, Virgin America and Horizon Air are subsidiaries of Alaska Air Group.

Hong Kong Airlines to launch non-stop flights from San Francisco

Hong Kong Airlines has announced the launch of a new non-stop service between San Francisco and Hong Kong, starting March 25, 2018. Tickets are now available for purchase on the airline's website with Business class tickets starting from \$4,760.00 and Economy class tickets starting from \$428.00. (Fares are inclusive of all taxes and surcharges subject to currency fluctuation. Other terms and conditions apply.)

The timing of the new San Francisco service ensures that travelers arrive in Hong Kong in the early evening, just in time to enjoy the city's vibrant culinary scene and bustling night life.

Hong Kong Airlines' new San Francisco-Hong Kong service will be operated by its brand-new fleet of Airbus A350 aircraft. Each fuel-efficient wide body aircraft features a total of 334 seats, with 33 in Business Class, 108 in Economy Comfort, and 193 in Economy Class.

All Business Class seats have a width of 23" and fully recline into a flatbed. This, combined with specially designed smooth and soft bedding, ensures passengers the highest quality of sleep in the air. All seats are also equipped with the latest high-definition TV screens—offering a variety of in-flight entertainment options, including movies, television, news, and music—as well as a power outlet and USB port fitted to the side for maximum convenience. Finally, onboard Wi-Fi service is available to all passengers, with the first 15 minutes of use free.

Established in 2006, Hong Kong Airlines is a full-service airline firmly rooted in Hong Kong. It has grown remarkably with a wide destination network covering close to 40 major cities across the Asia Pacific region and North America, including Gold Coast, Auckland, Beijing, Shanghai, Taipei, Tokyo, Sapporo, Seoul, Bangkok, Bali and Okinawa, and the newly launched Vancouver and Los Angeles routes in 2017. The Company has also signed agreements with 18 codeshare and 76 interline partners respectively. The current operating fleet is made up of 35 Airbus aircraft, consisting of 31 passenger aircraft and 4 freighters. With an average age of around 5 years, Hong Kong Airlines operates one of the youngest fleets in the world. Hong Kong Airlines has been awarded the internationally acclaimed four-star rating from Skytrax since 2011. It was also the winner for Asia's Leading Inflight Service in World Travel Awards 2015.

For more information, visit www.hkairlines.com.

SFO Launches Gallery to View Short Films on the Fly

SFO has launched a new gallery space located in the International Terminal Main Hall. SFO Museum's Video Arts program features a rotating exhibition of four short films with a new film introduced weekly, providing visibility to a range of contemporary artists and filmmakers who are at the leading edge of their craft.

From short-form documentaries and narratives, to experimental films and all forms of animation, Video Arts presents the thought-provoking, innovative work of today's filmmakers. This gallery is located prior to security checkpoints and is open to the public daily from 5 a.m. to midnight.

Through May 13, 2018 - Model Aircraft Exhibition

Over a century of aviation is represented in a unique collection of scale model aircraft now on view at San Francisco International Airport, SFO Museum presents the exhibition "Aviation Evolutions: The Jim Lund 1:72 Scale Model Airplane Collection." The nearly three hundred examples of pioneer, sport, and commercial aircraft were created by master model

Lund, a Bay Area native, has created nearly 1,600 aircraft models in all, representing historically significant aircraft from the 1903 Wright Flyer to today's airliners. They are primarily constructed of plastic, wood, metal, wire, string, and epoxy, and detailed with paint and decals. The exhibition presents models that he has generously donated to the SFO Museum aviation collection.

"Aviation Evolutions: The Jim Lund 1:72 Scale Model Airplane Collection" is on view in the Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum. The museum is located pre-security in the International Terminal and is open free of charge from 10:00am to 4:30pm daily, closed holidays and for private events.

For more information about the exhibition, visit: <http://www.flysfo.com/museum/exhibitions/aviation-evolutions>
[#AviationEvolutions @SFOMuseum](#)

For more information about San Francisco International Airport, visit www.flysfo.com. Media contact: Doug Yakel, 650-821-4000, Doug.Yakel@flysfo.com.

The San Francisco Travel Association is the official destination marketing organization for the City and County of San Francisco. For information on reservations, activities and more, visit www.sftravel.com, read the Visitors Planning Guide or call 415-391-2000. San Francisco Travel operates Visitor Information Centers at Hallidie Plaza, 900 Market St. at the corner of Powell and Market streets, and on the lower level of Macy's Union Square. San Francisco Travel is also a partner at the California Welcome Center at PIER 39.

American Express® is the official Card partner of the San Francisco Travel Association.

San Francisco International Airport (SFO) offers non-stop flights to more than 46 international cities on 39 international carriers. The Bay Area's largest airport connects non-stop with 79 cities in the U.S. on 13 domestic airlines. SFO is proud to offer upgraded free Wi-Fi with no advertising. For up-to-the-minute departure and arrival information, airport maps and details on shopping, dining, cultural exhibitions, ground transportation and more, visit www.flysfo.com. Follow SFO on www.twitter.com/flysfo and www.facebook.com/flysfo.

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Note to editors: Additional San Francisco stories and ideas are available in the Media section of San Francisco Travel's website, www.sftravel.com/media.