

Whitechapel



SFMOMA



San Francisco

You're in town for business, but you have the day off. Go!

Kelly Puleio (Whitechapel); Henrik Kam/Courtesy of SFMOMA (museum); Amy Harrity (Coit Tower); Alanna Hale (tacos)

Coit Tower, seen from the Fairmont San Francisco



Cala

9 a.m.

• They call San Francisco the City by the Bay, so start your day on the water, at the **Ferry Building Marketplace**. The nearly 120-year-old building, with its iconic clocktower, is still a functioning ferry terminal, but the main draw now is the expansive gourmet food hall. Grab a Ham & Tam sandwich (smoked ham and Mt. Tam cheese on an Acme challah roll) from the **Cowgirl Creamery Sidekick Cafe** and have a bite while sitting on the dock of the bay.

10:30 a.m.

• Stroll down Market Street and hang a left past Yerba Buena Gardens and into the **San Francisco Museum of Modern Art**. SFMOMA reopened in 2016 after a three-year renovation that made it one of the largest modern and contemporary art museums in America, and this month is a perfect time to visit: Current shows include an Alexander Calder sculpture exhibit and major retrospectives on Robert Rauschenberg and the photographer Walker Evans.

1 p.m.

• Mexican food is a must in San Francisco, but if you don't quite have the appetite for one of the Mission District's famously hefty burritos, head to **Cala**, just on the other side of Civic Center in tony Hayes Valley. Gabriela Cámara, of Mexico City's famed Contramar, opened this Modern Mexican restaurant in 2015 to smashing success. At lunchtime, she serves mouth-watering *tacos de guisado*—stewed

meats and potatoes on handmade corn tortillas—in a spare tile and concrete space at the restaurant's back entrance. As SF's own Carlos Santana would say: *¡Que sabor!*

2 p.m.

• Brave the fog and head to the city's largest park, the **Presidio**, a former military base that became part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in 1994. The green space is replete with hiking and biking trails and views of that big orange bridge everyone's always talking about and that prison allegedly no one ever escaped from, but it's a real treat for film geeks. Fort Point is where Kim Novak—actually, her stunt double—jumped into the bay in *Vertigo*, and the Letterman Digital Arts Center, George Lucas's headquarters, is guarded by a statue of Yoda. Life-size, it is.

5 p.m.

• It's nap time, so climb—no, actually, cab—to the top of Nob Hill and the **Fairmont San Francisco**. The classic Gilded Age palace is on the National Register of Historic Places, and for good reason: Following the 1906 earthquake it was repaired by groundbreaking (no pun intended) architect Julia Morgan, and in 1961 Tony Bennett gave his first performance of "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" in the hotel's Venetian Room (a statue of the now-nonagenarian crooner stands out front). Don't forget the earplugs to counter the clanging of the cable cars on California and Powell streets.



Clockwise from top left: the Yoda statue at the Letterman Digital Arts Center in the Presidio; anchovies and fried butterbeans at The Progress; a martini at Whitechapel; grilled cheese from the Cowgirl Creamery Sidekick Cafe; a gallery at SFMOMA

7:30 p.m.

• Shake out the cobwebs and zip over to the Fillmore District, where, just around the corner from the hallowed concert hall, you'll find **The Progress**. Stuart Brioza and Nicole Krasinski's 2-year-old restaurant may not have the hype (or the wait) of its older, more casual sister, State Bird Provisions, but it has earned James Beard Award nominations and a Michelin star (and it takes reservations). This is Northern California, so seasonality rules, but can't-miss menu items include lamb shank and octopus *a la plancha* and local anchovies with fried butterbeans. (Brioza himself calls those tiny fish "a religious experience.")



10 p.m.

• Lovers of juniper-based liquor and Tube-station aesthetics will agree on the cocktail venue. **Whitechapel**, in the city's newly hip Tenderloin, is from the owners of the literary-minded cocktail bar Novela and the nautically minded tiki bar The Smuggler's Cove (a mainstay on the World's 50 Best Bars list), and claims to have "the largest gin selection in North America." Order one of the many variations on a G&T or a martini, or get a Bohemian Grove Accord (cabernet-barrel gin, genever, Becherovka, oloroso sherry, and orange Curaçao), named after a high-society men's camp in Sonoma County, and have a seat beneath the subway tiles and barrel-vaulted ceiling. Don't forget to take your heart when you go.



imageBROKER/Alamy (Yoda); Henrik Kam/Courtesy of SFMOMA (museum); Chloe List (sandwich)