

TRAVEL GUIDE



CACTUS
CANCER SOCIETY

10TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

TO BENEFIT YOUNG ADULTS FACING CANCER

EVENT DETAILS

MORNING ART WORKSHOP AT 10 A.M.

EVENING GALA FROM 6-10 P.M.

SATURDAY APRIL 5, 2025

HOSTED AT TAROCCO

2570 NINTH ST, BERKELEY, CA 94710

HOTELS

Cactus Cancer Society is committed to your comfort and connection to our community, as such we have reserved hotel blocks at the following hotels with a short commute to the venue:

DoubleTree by Hilton Berkeley Marina

\$169 per night from April 4-6

(510) 548-7920

Residence Inn Berkeley

\$249 per night from April 4-6

(510) 982-2100

Hyatt Place (Emeryville)

\$172 per night from April 4-6

(510) 285-9232



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BAY AREA ACTIVITIES

- Golden Gate Bridge: A walk or bike ride across the bridge is always a must for first-timers. The nearby Marin Headlands offers stunning panoramic views for those looking for a scenic photo op.
- Ferry Building Marketplace: Located on the Embarcadero, this iconic spot is perfect for food lovers to explore artisan shops, local wines, and gourmet food.
- Alcatraz Island: The historic prison is a great suggestion for those interested in history and unique experiences. Tours are a memorable way to see this iconic part of San Francisco.
- Muir Woods National Monument: Just north of the Golden Gate, visitors can explore the towering redwoods and peaceful nature trails—an excellent option for a half-day trip.
- Exploratorium: A hands-on science museum on the waterfront that's engaging for all ages. If attendees bring family, this could be an educational and fun stop.
- Sausalito: After crossing the Golden Gate Bridge, a visit to this charming waterfront town offers art galleries, quaint shops, and excellent dining options with views of the Bay.
- Oakland's Jack London Square: For a more local vibe, suggest a visit to Jack London Square, which has waterfront dining, shops, and seasonal farmers' markets.
- Napa/Sonoma Wine Country: For those who love wine, a day trip to Napa or Sonoma is an unforgettable experience. They can enjoy wine tasting and stunning vineyard landscapes.
- Dolores Park: In San Francisco's Mission District, this park is perfect for relaxing with great views of the city and experiencing the laid-back vibe of the local community.
- Berkeley's Gourmet Ghetto: For foodies, you can recommend the famous food scene in Berkeley, including spots like Chez Panisse and other farm-to-table restaurants.
- Fisherman's Wharf: A bustling area of San Francisco filled with seafood restaurants, shops, and attractions like Pier 39, where visitors can spot sea lions lounging. It's a fun spot for some classic San Francisco vibes.
- Unlimited Biking: Located near Fisherman's Wharf, Unlimited Biking rents e-bikes, perfect for exploring San Francisco's hills. They offer a variety of routes, including a scenic ride across the Golden Gate Bridge to Sausalito.



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BAY AREA ACTIVITIES CONT.

- Ghirardelli Square: Just steps from Fisherman's Wharf, this historic square is home to the famous Ghirardelli Chocolate shop. A great spot to indulge in some sweet treats after a long day of exploring.
- Mission District: Known for its vibrant street art (especially Clarion Alley), amazing food (like La Taqueria), and diverse culture. Recommend a stroll through this neighborhood to experience some of the best food and culture San Francisco has to offer.

HIKING OPPORTUNITIES

- Muir Woods National Monument
Location: Mill Valley
Distance: Various loop trails (1-5 miles)
Highlight: Famous for its towering ancient redwoods, Muir Woods offers tranquil, shaded hikes among the giant trees. There are plenty of trails, from easy to moderate, perfect for nature lovers.
- Mount Tamalpais State Park
Location: Marin County
Distance: Many trail options, including the Dipsea Trail (~7.5 miles) and Matt Davis-Steep Ravine Loop (~7 miles)
Highlight: Stunning views of the Pacific Ocean, redwood groves, and sweeping vistas of San Francisco make Mount Tam one of the best spots for hikers seeking a scenic adventure.
- Lands End Trail
Location: San Francisco
Distance: 3.4-mile out-and-back
Highlight: This urban hike offers incredible ocean views, cliffs, and the famous Sutro Baths ruins. It's also a great spot to catch sight of the Golden Gate Bridge in the distance.
- Mount Diablo State Park
Location: East Bay
Distance: Trails range from 3-6 miles
Highlight: Climb to the summit of Mount Diablo for some of the most expansive views in the Bay Area. On a clear day, you can see all the way to the Sierra Nevada mountains!
- Mission Peak
Location: Fremont
Distance: 6-mile out-and-back (challenging)
Highlight: One of the more strenuous hikes in the area, Mission Peak rewards hikers with a panoramic view of the Bay Area. It's a favorite for sunrise and sunset hikes.



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HIKING OPPORTUNITIES CONT.

- Tennessee Valley Trail

Location: Marin County

Distance: 3.4 miles

Highlight: A relatively easy trail that leads to Tennessee Cove, a beautiful hidden beach. Perfect for those looking for a more relaxed hiking experience.

- The Presidio – Ecology Trail

Location: San Francisco

Distance: 2.7 miles (round trip)

Highlight: This easy hike through The Presidio offers views of the Golden Gate Bridge, shaded forests, and historic military architecture.

- Berkeley Hills – Tilden Regional Park

Location: Berkeley

Distance: Many trails from 2-8 miles

Highlight: From forested paths to open grassy meadows, Tilden Park offers a range of hiking options. The Seaview Trail provides breathtaking views of San Francisco and the East Bay hills.

- Twin Peaks

Location: San Francisco

Distance: 1.7-mile loop

Highlight: A relatively short but steep hike that rewards you with 360-degree views of San Francisco. It's one of the best places for sunset or nighttime hikes to see the city lights.

- Angel Island

Location: Accessible by ferry from San Francisco or Tiburon

Distance: 5.5-mile Perimeter Trail or 2.5-mile summit hike

Highlight: A hike around Angel Island offers some of the most unique views of the Bay, with sights of the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz, and the city skyline.

These hikes offer a fantastic range of experiences for all levels, from leisurely nature walks to more strenuous climbs with rewarding vistas!



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ICONIC BAY AREA FOOD SPOTS

- Tartine Bakery (Mission District, San Francisco)

Highlight: World-famous for its fresh-baked bread, croissants, and morning buns, Tartine is a must-visit for pastry lovers. The line can be long, but it's worth the wait for their buttery goodness.

- Zuni Café (Hayes Valley, San Francisco)

Highlight: Known for its legendary roast chicken and Caesar salad, Zuni is an icon in the Bay Area dining scene. It's the perfect spot for a classic Californian meal with a refined yet relaxed ambiance.

- State Bird Provisions (Fillmore District, San Francisco)

Highlight: A Michelin-starred restaurant known for its innovative dim-sum style service and seasonal Californian cuisine. Their signature State Bird with Provisions (quail) is a must-try.

- La Taqueria (Mission District, San Francisco)

Highlight: Famous for its Mission-style burritos and tacos. La Taqueria has been awarded as one of the best burrito spots in the U.S. by multiple food outlets.

- House of Prime Rib (Nob Hill, San Francisco)

Highlight: A classic steakhouse specializing in slow-roasted prime rib. If you're craving a hearty, traditional meal in an old-school setting, this is the spot.

SWEET TREATS AND DESSERTS

- B. Patisserie (Pacific Heights, San Francisco)

Highlight: Known for its kouign-amann (a caramelized croissant-like pastry) and beautiful desserts. B. Patisserie is a must-visit for any dessert lover.

- Bi-Rite Creamery (Mission District, San Francisco)

Highlight: Iconic for its salted caramel ice cream and other innovative flavors, Bi-Rite is the perfect spot for an afternoon treat while exploring the Mission District.

- Ghirardelli Chocolate (Ghirardelli Square, San Francisco)

Highlight: A quintessential San Francisco experience. Head to Ghirardelli Square for indulgent sundaes, chocolate confections, and a bit of local history.

- Dandelion Chocolate (Mission District, San Francisco)

Highlight: A bean-to-bar chocolatier offering tours, workshops, and exquisite chocolate treats. Their hot chocolate is also perfect on a foggy San Francisco day.

- Semifreddi's (Kensington, just north of Berkeley)

Highlight: A family-owned bakery featuring delicious breads, pastries, cookies, and more.



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ICONIC BAY AREA COFFEE SHOPS

- Blue Bottle Coffee (Various Locations, Bay Area)

Highlight: A pioneer in the third-wave coffee movement, Blue Bottle is known for its precision brewing and fresh, single-origin coffee. The flagship location in Mint Plaza is a great place to start your day.

- Philz Coffee (Various Locations, Bay Area)

Highlight: Known for its personalized blends and unique drip coffee experience, Philz is beloved by locals and visitors alike. Their Mint Mojito Iced Coffee is a fan favorite.

- Ritual Coffee Roasters (Mission District, San Francisco)

Highlight: One of the original third-wave coffee roasters in San Francisco, Ritual is known for its attention to detail and beautifully roasted beans. Their airy, minimalist café is perfect for a caffeine fix.

- Four Barrel Coffee (Mission District, San Francisco)

Highlight: A favorite of coffee aficionados, Four Barrel's emphasis on small-batch roasting and high-quality beans make it a must-visit for any serious coffee lover.

- Timeless Coffee (Piedmont Neighborhood, Oakland)

Highlight: A vegan coffee roastery and bakery, passionate for great coffee and exposing everyone plant-based treats.

OTHER BAY AREA FOOD ICONS

- Swan Oyster Depot (Polk Street, San Francisco)

Highlight: An old-school seafood counter where you can enjoy freshly shucked oysters, clam chowder, and crab salad. It's a legendary spot for seafood lovers, though expect to wait in line.

- Chez Panisse (Berkeley)

Highlight: Founded by Alice Waters, Chez Panisse is a pioneer of the farm-to-table movement. The café upstairs offers a more casual dining experience, but either way, you'll enjoy local, sustainable ingredients prepared to perfection.

- Boudin Bakery (Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco)

Highlight: The birthplace of San Francisco's famous sourdough bread, Boudin is the place to go for a bread bowl filled with clam chowder.

- Ike's Love & Sandwiches (Various Locations)

Highlight: Famous for its unique sandwiches packed with creative ingredients and a secret "Dirty Sauce." Ike's is a Bay Area institution for sandwich lovers.

- The Slanted Door (Ferry Building, San Francisco)

Highlight: A modern Vietnamese restaurant serving fresh, seasonal dishes in a chic waterfront location. Their spring rolls and shaking beef are local favorites.

- Cheese Board (Berkeley)

Highlight: A cheese shop-bakery found in the heart of the cutest neighborhood in Berkeley. They are well known for their Pizzy of the Day as well as cheeses, baked goods, and more.

