

2008 SIOP Conference Restaurant Recommendations

Most Restaurants included in Zagat's 2008 SF Survey

UNION SQUARE (hotel area)

Dottie's True Blue Cafe (American) (\$17)

522 Jones (btwn Geary & O'Farrell) 415-885-2776

Casual 60's diner. Inexpensive. Worth the wait. Open til 3pm.

Daily Grill (American) (\$25)

347 Geary St. (415) 616-5000

The menu has a great deal of variety and the food is consistently good. Slow service and high prices due to its location are the only faults.

Asia de Cuba (Asian/Cuban) (\$56)

Clift Hotel

495 Geary St. (At Taylor) 415-929-2300

The ultra chic Clift hotel houses one of the hippest bar/restaurants in town, although it's pricy! The adjacent Redwood Bar is the place to see and be seen.

E&O Trading Company (South/East Asian) (\$36)

314 Sutter St. 415-693-0303

Tasty small-plates, great for a group to share and experience many wonderful flavors. The corn fritters are a must.

Postrio (California) (\$62)

545 Post Street 415-776-7825

Distinguished New American cuisine makes this a classic Wolfgang Puck restaurant (attached to the Prescott Hotel). Reservations highly recommended.

Michael Minna (California/French) (\$108)

335 Powell St. 415-397-9222

One of the top restaurants in San Francisco, exceptionally creative, formal, reservations required.

Max's on the Square (Deli) (\$25)

398 Geary St. 4125-646-8600

"Leave your diet at the door" if you need a fix for Deli. The portions here are huge!

Scala's Bistro (French) (\$44)

432 Powell Street (at Post) 415-395-8555

Attached to the Sir Francis Drake Hotel. French food with an Italian accent right in the middle of Union Square.

Anjou (French) (\$43)

44 Campton Place (btwn Grant & Stockton) 415-392-5373

Small & intimate with classic French cuisine. You will feel like you are in Paris! Reservations recommended.

Grand Café (French) (\$46)

501 Geary St. 415-292-0101

2 blocks from the hotel. The grand art nouveau décor is the main highlight of this restaurant which serves well-presented French fare. Great bar to meet up with your friends.

Le Colonial (French /Vietnamese) (\$47)

20 Cosmo Place 415-931-3600

Great small plates. Good for large parties and drinks. DJ on Friday and Saturdays. Reservations recommended.

Naan 'n Curry (Indian/Pakistani) (\$14)

336 O'Farrell St. (btwn Mason & Taylor) 415-346-1443

Good Indian food, no frills, and cheap. Also located in North Beach at 533 Jackson St.

Kuletos (Italian) (\$42)

221 Powell St. 415-397-7720

Excellent, contemporary Northern Italian. Reservations recommended.

Uncle Vito's (Italian/Pizza) (\$15)

700 Bush St. (at Powell) 415-391-5008

The pizza is good and delivery is free.

Cortez (Mediterranean) (\$46)

550 Geary Street (at Taylor) 415-292-6360

Fantastic tapas, modern décor, good bar scene, reservations highly recommended.

Colibri (Mexican Tapas)

438 Geary St. 415-440-2737

Fantastic guacamole and margaritas. Reservations highly recommended.

Westfield Shopping Center @ Market & Powell

Food Court (Various)

845 Market Street, Basement

For those of you looking for an inexpensive and a quick meal, visit the basement of this new shopping center for an upscale, gourmet food court sure to please everyone in your group.

Straits (Singaporean) (\$37)

845 Market Street, 4th Floor

Creative Southeast-Asian cuisine is the focus at this loud, but happening spot in the shopping center. The exotic cocktails will transport you to Singapore.

Lark Creek Steak (Steak) (\$49)

845 Market Street, 4th Floor

Bradley Ogden's contemporary steak house is fast becoming a destination in this shopping center.

EMBARCADERO / DOWNTOWN

Boulevard (American) (\$64)

1 Mission Street (at Stuart) 415-543-6084

This SF classic hot spot serves amazing French-influenced New American fare which is innovative without being fussy. The service is spectacular and the room is beautiful. Make your reservations far in advance because it is difficult to get into.

Fog City Diner (American) (\$35)

1300 Battery St. (@ Greenwich) 415-982-2000

Set in a retro converted railroad car, just a short jaunt from The Wharf along the Embarcadero (also neat Levi Plaza), this aptly named local institution is same one you have seen in the VISA commercials, and despite the hype, the New American cuisine is very satisfying.

One Market (American) (\$53)

1 Market St. (at Stuart)

Bradley Ogden's bustling, big open space restaurant hums with energy and the food will make your taste buds sing. The Cesar salad is great.

Bix (American/French) (\$51)

56 Gold St. (btwn Montgomery & Sansome) 415-433-6300

This is the fanciest speakeasy you have ever seen. The fantastic bar scene features killer martinis and jazz. The upstairs restaurant provides an intimate, romantic setting to go with the lovely food.

EMBARCADERO / DOWNTOWN (cont'd)

Tommy Toy's Cuisine Chinoise (Chinese) \$60
655 Montgomery St. (btwn Clay & Washington)
This palace of Oriental glitz never fails to please. Chinese cuisine presented with a French flair and served Western-style.

Plouf (French) (\$38)
40 Belden Pl. (btwn Bush & Pine)
French bistro, great frites, outdoor dining available.

Kokkari Estiatorio (Greek) (\$53)
200 Jackson St. (at Front) 415-981-0983
The food here is fantastic. You can dine at a small table or join the crowd at the communal tables. It's a lively, warm place that will transport you to Greece.

Café Tiramisu (Italian) (\$37)
28 Belden Place (btwn Bush & Pine) 415-421-7044
This Italian treasure in a foodie alley can get crowded and noisy, but the food is great and if the weather cooperates you can eat outside where heat lamps allow year round dining alfresco.

Il Fornaio (Italian) (\$37)
1265 Battery St. (btwn Greenwich & Union) 415-986-0100
Regional Italian menus that change monthly keep this dependable Bay Area outfit fresh and interesting. This location is near Levi Plaza.

Tadich Grill (Seafood) (\$41)
240 California St. (btwn Battery & Front)
This San Francisco classic fish house still packs them in, serving "not-to-be-missed" sand dabs and some of the best cioppino around.

Ozumo (Sushi/Japanese) (\$52)
161 Steuart St. (btwn Mission & Howard)
Hipsters guzzle sake and slurp sushi at this cool spot on the Embarcadero with great views of the bay Bridge.

Millennium (Vegetarian) (\$44)
580 Geary Street (at Jones) 415-345-3900
The "delicate, complex, refined dishes reveal ingenious flavors at every turn." Even devout carnivores enjoy this "restaurant with a conscience."

Ferry Building Marketplace
Located on the Embarcadero at the foot of Market St.
This historic building, which still serves as the main Ferry Terminal for San Francisco, was renovated in 2003 and has become a world-renowned gourmet market place. There are many informal casual dining spots, gourmet food shops, as well as a few stand out restaurants. On Saturday's there is an amazing Farmer's Market.

Mijita (Mexican) (\$16)
Soak up the view of the Bay Bridge at this upscale taqueria in the cool Ferry Plaza.

Taylor's Refresher (American) (\$17)
Grab a fresh, high-quality burger and a glass of wine at this local institution. Don't forget to try the milkshakes.

Slanted Door (Vietnamese) (\$46)
People fight for tables at this Charles Phan Vietnamese empire.
This is the crowned jewel of the Ferry Building with beautiful views, great décor, and mind-blowing food.

SOMA (South of Market)

MoMo's (American) (\$37)
760 Second Street. (At King St.) 415-227-8660
If you are heading off to AT&T Park stop here before or after a game for some American Classics and a well-sized cocktail.

Town Hall (American) (\$50)
342 Howard St. (at Fremont) 415-908-3900
Come here for New American comfort food for adults (including amazing desserts). It's trendy, yet casual.

TWO (Californian) (\$43)
22 Hawthorne St. (btwn Folsom & Howard)
In the past several years many upscale SF restaurants have reincarnated themselves to be more casual and less expensive. TWO has done it with style. The California-New American small plates menu has something for everyone and is sure to please.

AsiaSF (Californian/Asian) \$39
201 Ninth St. (at Howard) 415-255-2742
Not for the faint of heart. This SoMa gender illusionist club laughing, drinking, and nibbling the Cal-Asian tapas. Drinks get forgotten and meals get confused when the "hot" waitrons break into a dance on the bar. This very "Crying Game" venue is a hoot.

Restaurant LuLu (French/Mediterranean) (\$39)
816 Folsom (btwn 4th & 5th) 415-495-5775
This French-Med brasserie serves large portions family style. They feature a spit roasting oven and the food is delicious. Great for big parties or simply some wine and appetizers at the bar.

Tres Agave (Mexican) (\$33)
130 Townsend St. (btwn 2nd & 3rd) 415-227-0500
Take a crash course in Tequila education at this trendy SoMa Mexican near AT&T Park.

Manora's Thai (Thai) (\$25)
1600 Folsom St. (at 12th St) 415-861-6224
This super-fast, super-fresh super-tasty Thai restaurant has been around forever.

NORTH BEACH

Stinking Rose (American for Garlic lovers) (\$40)
325 Columbus Ave. 415-781-7673
One of the most unique dining experiences in San Francisco. The Stinking Rose has become famous for celebrating the culinary euphoria of garlic and serving over 3,000 pounds of the pungent herb each month. The whimsical dining room ensures this will be a fun experience for all.

Rose Pistola (Italian) (\$44)
This cosmopolitan North Beach stand out has a wood-burning oven/grill and wonderful food. If you like meat, don't miss the terrorized streak. The atmosphere is great and there is live jazz on the weekend evenings.

Tommaso's (Italian) (\$27)
1042 Kearny St. (btwn Broadway & Pacific) 415-398-9696
This 70 year old "real deal" Southern Italian joint is the quintessential North Beach experience. But be prepared to wait, they do not take reservations.

NORTH BEACH (Cont'd)

L'Osteria del Forno (Italian) (\$29)

519 Columbus Ave. (btwn Green & Union)

Superb food is served at this hole in the wall in North Beach. You will feel like you have walked into Momma's house, but you have to wait for the pleasure. There is always a line and they don't take reservations.

North Beach Restaurant (Italian) (\$44)

1512 Stockton St. (between Green & Union) 415-392-1700

Experience "old school at its finest" at this "bustling" "Tuscan classic" in the heart of North Beach.

Trattoria Contadina (Italian) (\$35)

1800 Mason St. (at Union) 415-982-5728

This place is known for large portions of red-sauce classics that won't break the bank.

CHINA TOWN

Henry's Hunan (Chinese) (\$19)

674 Sacramento St. (btwn Kearny & Montgomery) 415-788-2234

Have plenty of water on hand because this place is known for their spicy dishes. It's inexpensive and no frills, but people love to come here.

Hunan Homes (Chinese) (\$24)

622 Jackson St. (btwn Grant & Kearny) 415-982-2844

This restaurant has a large menu that has both Westernized dishes and spicy "real-deal" dishes to please everyone. Generous portions and good service are hall marks of this long time institution.

House of Nanking (Chinese) (\$20)

919 Kearny St. (btwn Columbus & Jackson) 415-421-1429

This hole in the wall has a constant line out the door because the heavenly Chinese food is all it is made out to be. Don't bother with the menu, the owner will figure out what to serve your group!

R&G Lounge (Chinese) (\$29)

631 Kearny St. (btwn Clay & Sacramento) 415-982-7877

This Hong Kong-style eatery is one of the few places the local Chinese go to get authentic Cantonese food. If you prefer food over décor skip the white table cloths upstairs and head down to the basement to eat with local Asian families.

FISHERMAN'S WHARF

Gary Danko (American) (\$104)

800 North Point St. (at Hyde) 415-749-2060

According to the Zagat Survey this is THE restaurant in San Francisco. The restaurant deserves all of the accolades it gets. Get ready to be pampered and have your taste buds singing, but only if you call 2 months in advance to snag a reservation!

McCormick & Kuleto's (Seafood) (\$44)

900 N. Point St. 415-929-1730

You can't beat the view of Alcatraz from this restaurant which serves well prepared seafood right in the heart of Ghirardelli Square. If you come here, stop by next door to Kara's Cupcakes for dessert. They are amazing!

Scoma's (Seafood) (\$45)

Pier 47 on Al Scoma Way 415.771.4383

Since 1965 Scoma's Restaurant has been a must-visit for delicious food with a wonderful dining environment overlooking the San Francisco Bay with Alcatraz in site.

FISHERMAN'S WHARF (Cont'd)

Alioto's (Seafood) (\$40)

8 Fisherman's Wharf 415-673-0183

A long-time institution with a fantastic view serves up fresh seafood, Sicilian dishes and homemade pastas. Diehards love the chowder served in a sourdough bowl.

Bistro Boudin (Californian) (\$25)

160 Jefferson St. (near Pier 43 ½) 415-928-1849

The Original San Francisco Sourdough French Bread Since 1849. Peer into the working bakery on your way upstairs to the bistro where you can feast on fresh-baked bread bowls filled with anything from crab to clam chowder. Sandwiches available too.

Buena Vista Café (Irish Pub) (\$30)

2765 Hyde St. (at Beach; across from the Cable Car turnaround)

Believe it or not, this is where Irish Coffee was first created in 1952. They make over 2,000 Irish Coffees each day. Stop in and try one!

Ghirardelli Chocolaterie & Café (Ice cream & confections). (\$15)

Ghirardelli Square, Corner of Beach & Larkin

This coffee and dessert café will bring out the child in you. They have wonderful ice cream dessert creations and a chocolate shop where you can bring some goodies home to share with your family and friends.

In-in-Out (Hamburgers) (\$8)

333 Jefferson St. (btwn Jones & Leavenworth)

Rated No. 1 in Zagat's Bang for the Buck survey this California chair offers one of the guilty pleasures in life. It is a cut above other fast food joints with amazing milk shakes, fresh-cut fries, and juicy made-to-order burgers.

MARINA

Nectar Wine Lounge (California) (\$35)

3330 Steiner St. (btwn Chestnut & Lombard) 415-345-1377

Interesting wines are the focus at this happening enoteca, but customers also praise the savory California small and large plates.

Isa (French) (\$44)

3324 Steiner St. (btwn Chestnut & Lombard)

Great French tapas served at this little known jewel. Go with a group and try everything, or grab someone special and sit under the twinkling lights on the picturesque covered patio.

A16 (Italian) (\$43)

2355 Chestnut At. (btwn Divisadero & Scott) 415-771-2216

This busy Neapolitan enoteca pairs inexpensive Italian wines with rustic Italian cuisine. Difficult to get into, but worth it.

Amici's East Coast Pizzeria (Italian/Pizza) (\$19)

2200 Lombard St. (at Steiner) 415-885-4500

Come here for thin-crust wood-oven-fired pizza. There is also an Amici's near AT&T part on 216 King St.

Mamacita (Mexican) (\$30)

2317 Chestnut St. (at Scott) 415-346-8494

This is a colorful hip place with excellent food. The lively bar will soothe those who have a long wait for a table. The menu is diverse and the food unusual.

Pacific Catch (Seafood) (\$20)

2027 Chestnut St. (btwn Fillmore & Steiner) 415-440-1950

Satisfy your fish craving without breaking the bank at this family-friendly Pacific Rim seafooder in the Marina.

