

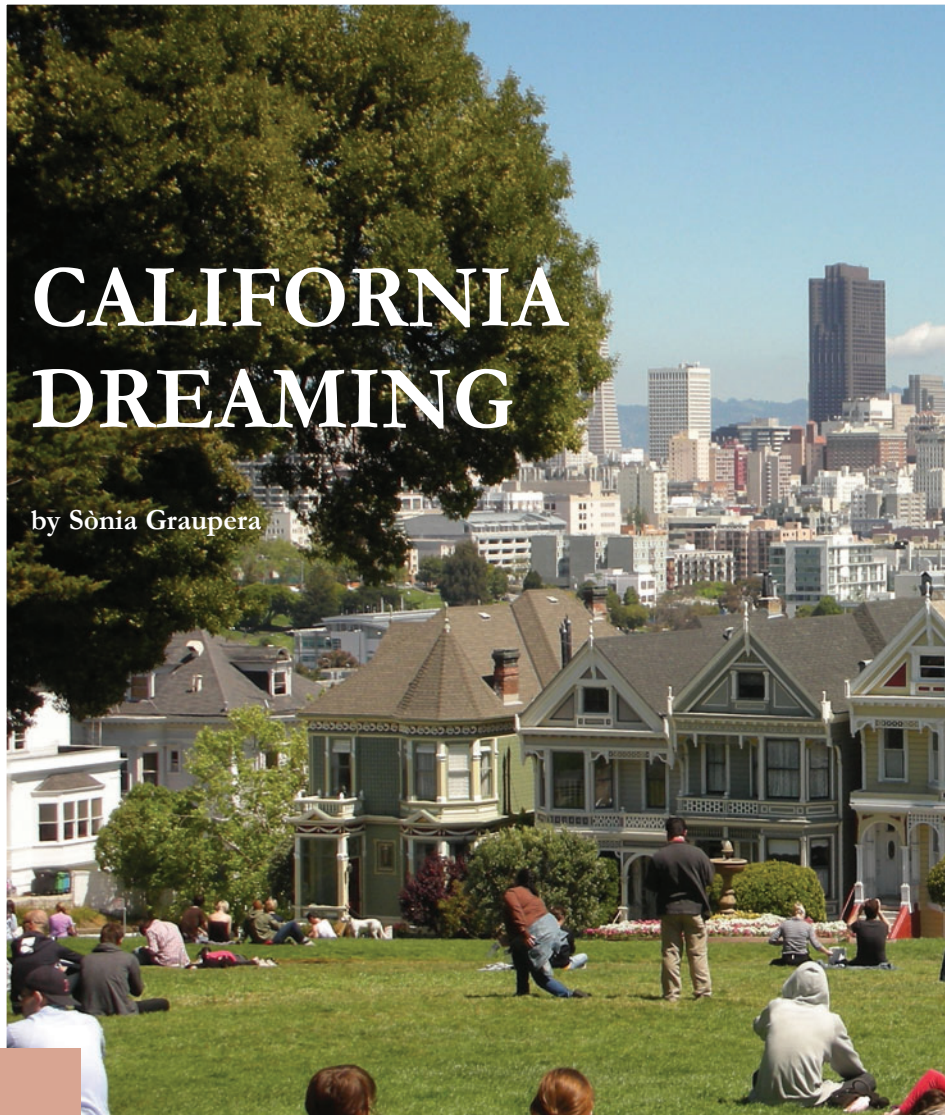


California has 1.400kms of coast and a pleasant climate along the year. It offers a serie of unique geological features that creates a wide scenary of amazing landscapes, which together with the palm shaded beaches makes California as one of the most greatest States to visit.... Its two most exciting cities and are San Diego and San Francisco; they are just beautiful and offer business, relaxation, wine tasting & great food, and much more:

San Diego is the second largest city in California. It is a large modern metropolitan center, a year-around tourist resort and a thriving commercial seaport with a large naval base. San Diego offers an extremely pleasant and relaxed atmosphere San Diego has spread north and south along the coast and eastward into the foothills of the mountains and now encompasses several distinct communities. Downtown San Diego is a combination of high-rise hotels, modern office buildings and a restored "Gas Lamp Quarter". Here, you will find the large convention center ([http://www.visitsan-](http://www.visitsan-diego.com/)

# CALIFORNIA DREAMING

by Sònia Graupera



## Las Vegas

A quick jump into Nevada's (one hour flight, 4 hours drive from California) main destination Las Vegas, one of the most surprising cities in the world: Las Vegas competing Casino Hotels have constructed some of the largest, most elaborate attractions on earth! All designed to get the visitor's attention: Roller Coasters, Spectacular Thrill Rides, World Renowned Art Exhibits, Museums, Hotel Shopping Malls, World Famous Restaurants, the Mirage Volcano, the Luxor Pyramid Hotel, the MGM Grand Entertainment Center, the Mandalay Bay's Wave Pool, the Paris Las Vegas Eiffel Tower, the Bellagio's Dancing Fountains, the Stratosphere Tower, etc? The Las Vegas Strip is simply the most exciting place on earth, loaded with celebrities, beautiful people, famous people, non-stop fun!

### WHERE TO STAY & WHERE TO EAT

The Mirage Hotel: <http://www.mirage.com/>

L'Atelier de Joel Rebuchon: <http://www.joel-robuchon.com/>

And of course, once in Las Vegas a ride to the Grand Canyon's West Rim is a must. The adventure begins when an experienced, professional tour guide picks you up, then you cross the world record holding Hoover Dam, the Mojave Desert, and Joshua Tree Forest before you arrive at the West Rim of the Grand Canyon, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Just amazing and a must? when you are in Las Vegas.

<http://www.pinkjeep.com>

diego.com/) alongside an extensive yacht basin, several unique shopping centers and a wide assortment of restaurants, bars and clubs. Balboa Park, on the eastern hills skirting downtown, offers a wide assortment of museums, cultural attractions and one of the best zoos in the USA. San Diego International Airport is located near the downtown section of the city.

Coronado Peninsula stretches across the harbor from downtown. It is a beach resort community that offers a wide assortment of recreational activities like swimming, boating and fishing and many resort hotels. This beach has been chosen as the best family beach in the States.

Mission Bay, just north of downtown, has an extensive shorefront park with two family amusement facilities: Sea World and Belmont Park. The "Old Town" section of San Diego to the northeast includes six square blocks of historic buildings restored to their colonial splendor. There are a lot of restaurants, clubs, boutiques and souvenir shops in the Old Town area. A bit further north along the shore lies the beautiful seaside community of La Jolla with its up-scale shops and exclusive hillside homes.





cuisine found in the many fabulous restaurants of the city. Among the many attractions of San Francisco are the ethnic neighborhoods like Chinatown and Japantown with their traditional shops and restaurants. The Embarcadero, a broad avenue along the bayfront, is now lined with shops, restaurants and tourist attractions including several piers that have been converted to specialty shopping malls. Most famous is the historic Fisherman's Wharf which still hosts a fleet of working fishing vessels as well as fish markets, seafood restaurants and gift shops.

San Francisco is renown for its steep streets with panoramic views of beautiful San Francisco Bay and the surrounding mountains. Oakland and Berkeley, California lie just across the bay from San Francisco and are easily accessible via the Bay Bridge. The world famous Golden Gate Bridge connects San Francisco with a mountainous peninsula called the Marin headlands that is primarily known for beautiful scenery and expensive homes with

San Francisco is one of the most popular vacation destinations in the USA. Steep streets lined with Victorian era houses, a great turquoise bay surrounded by low mountains, and antique cable cars that still shuttle passengers up and down the city slopes all make San Francisco one of the most picturesque cities in the US. The city has developed a unique character from its mixture of diverse cultures including Native American Indians, Spanish colonials, gold seeking adventurers and numerous European, African and Asian immigrants. This is reflected in the great San Francisco





## WHERE TO STAY & WHERE TO EAT

### San Diego:

The Sofia Hotel: <http://www.thesofiahotel.com>

The Fish Market: <http://www.thefishmarket.com>

Oceanaire: <http://www.theoceanaire.com/location/seafood-restaurant-san-diego>

### San Francisco:

Frank Hotel: <http://www.hotelfranksf.com>

Vertigo Hotel: <http://www.hotelvertigosf.com/>

Gary Danko: <http://www.garydanko.com>

John's Grill: <http://www.johnsgrill.com>

Epic Roasthouse: <http://www.epicroasthousesf.com>

One Market: <http://www.onemarket.com>

Waterbar: <http://www.waterbarsf.com>

Piperade: <http://www.piperade.com>

spectacular views. Sausalito, a small village on the bay shore of the Marin headlands is famous as a local artist's community. Alcatraz Island with its abandoned prison is situated in the middle of San Francisco Bay. The area near San Jose and Santa Clara is known as "Silicon Valley", home of the largest concentration of electronics and computer firms in the USA.

Not only holidays but also business can attract visitors to San Francisco, very well know for its premises the Moscone Center (<http://www.moscone.com/site/do/index>).

Other California tourist attractions are located near San Francisco. Across the Golden Gate Bridge, this road eventually leads to Sausalito Beach, a popular Pacific Ocean swimming and surfing area, and to Muir Woods, an impressive reserve of Giant California Redwood trees. Wine Country, Big Sur and Yosemite are not far away. Beautiful Monterey Bay is an hour-and-a-half drive south along the scenic Pacific Coast Highway and Big Sur extends about 100 miles further. Napa and Sonoma valleys, in the heart of California Wine Country, are just an hour drive north of San Francisco. The Sierra Nevada Mountains and exquisite Yosemite National Park are within a half-day drive to the east.