

# Taking A Night Off Across The Bay: A Waterfront Hideaway In Sausalito

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I've always liked [Sausalito](#) for its artsy, counterculture background mostly earned in the 60's when San Francisco area rock musicians used it as a hangout; Otis Redding used the town as inspiration for his hit "Sittin' on the Dock By the Bay." (Flashes of that still exist if you drop into the [No Name Bar](#), a retro, unabashed dive bar with often great live music on the main drag Bridgeway.) The major part of the attraction, though, is the view—on the other side of San Francisco Bay with the city's skyline in the distance, ferries and sailboats skimming the water and gulls circling overhead. If you stay at the [Inn Above Tide](#), you avoid the hordes of tourists on the streets who have gotten there easily by hopping a ferry from [San Francisco's Ferry Building](#)—it's tucked away in a cul de sac near the ferry stop. And since it's set directly over the water, you have the best, uninterrupted bay/skyline views in town—you feel like you're on a cruise, not in a hotel.



*The Vista Suite at Inn Above Tide. Photo courtesy of Inn Above Tide.*

Because of that soothing, seductive view, guests often spend hours just reclining on their terraces staring out. All of the contemporary, neutral palette rooms have them and all rooms face the water.

But they emerge to shop—the surrounding streets are packed with galleries and shops—and for meals: the hotel doesn't have a full restaurant but puts out complimentary wine and cheese selections at cocktail hour and a well chosen continental breakfast buffet in the morning. They do offer guests a comprehensive list of their favorite restaurants nearby (I can vouch for the longstanding [Trident](#), a waterfront seafood specialist and [Poggio](#) for Italian dishes.) But they also offer room service provided by an outside outlet—and quite a few guests prefer to stay in.



*Complimentary wine cocktail hour. Photo courtesy of Inn Above Tide*