

## TRAVEL

# Sausalito Travel Tips

By **Carrie Smith** • August 20, 2015



Just over the Golden Gate Bridge from San Francisco, Sausalito is a gorgeous haven for cyclists, art enthusiasts, and nature lovers. You'll often hear about people biking over the bridge into Sausalito for lunch. If this is all the time you can spare to see this beautiful place then do it. It is worth even the short trip. Much more satisfying than a few hours stay is an overnight. Sausalito has much to offer and once the day trippers depart, serenity engulfs this magical city by the bay.



## Stay

An overnight in Sausalito meant that we could enjoy the gorgeous, nautically-themed [Inn Above Tide](#). This month marks the inn's 20th anniversary. As you step into the hotel, you are greeted warmly by the staff and immediately notice the original artwork that adorns the walls – most of it created by local artists.



I imagine that this is a wonderful place for San Franciscans to get away from it all, but for tourists it is equally enchanting. The rooms are set right above the water. Balconies, filled with flowering succulent plants, provide a panoramic view over the bay to San Francisco that is unparalleled. Once the sun went down, we spent time on the comfortable lounge chairs sipping some Sonoma County wine and watching San Francisco's twinkling lights.



Great thought went into the layout, amenities and decor of each room at the inn. A complimentary breakfast is provided in the morning – fresh fruits, hearty granola and homemade muffins – to start you out on a healthy note for the day.



The inn is perfectly located, within steps of numerous dining and shopping options, a visitor's centre and the ferry that whisks you to San Francisco in a half an hour. Or stay right where you are....

### **Eat and Drink**

For lunch, you can't go wrong with [Fish](#) for fish tacos, crab rolls and fried oysters. Cash only and not inexpensive, this place is still incredibly popular for its simple and delicious seafood dishes. If you feel like something a little different, go to the cute [Bar Bocce](#), an Italian favourite with waterfront dining, pitchers of beer and sangria and of course – bocce!

Ask any local and they are bound to recommend [Sushi Ran](#). In fact, if you ask food lovers in San Francisco where they like to eat sushi they may point you to this wonderfully fresh sushi place in Sausalito.

In the mood for locals, unpretentious bar drinks and live local music? Check out the fabulously named [No Name Bar](#). After hearing that poet /writer Lawrence Ferlinghetti and comedian Lenny Bruce graced the barstools here, I was intrigued.

[Driver's Market](#) is a great store to take out a gourmet lunch for a seaside picnic. Sandwiches, wraps, “grab and go” salads, and even hot Nepalese food – this place is awesome! It is a community-focused grocery store that specializes in organic and locally sourced foods.

### **Do**

Stop by the [Sausalito Visitor Information](#) kiosk, located close to the ferry dock. The staff there are incredibly helpful and will be thrilled to tell you what is happening in the city during your visit. If you have kids in tow, head to the [Bay Area Discovery Museum](#). Places to enjoy a family picnic, along with activities well suited for young children such as a train room, art studios and playground make this a wonderful stop for travellers to help kids let off some steam and learn something along the way.

Biking is always a good option for Sausalito. There are numerous bike rental shops that will set you up to head around town and check out the houseboats and art galleries, or get a map of some of the nearby paths such as the Mill Valley-Sausalito Multi-Use Path, well loved by cyclists and walkers. The floating homes community is truly something special to see. The residents take such pride in their homes on the water. If you want a quintessential Sausalito experience, [through airbnb you can even stay in one of the marvelous places](#) on the water.

Happy Travels!

*Images: Driving to Sausalito on the Golden Gate Bridge, Inn Above Tide entrance, the balcony of our suite at Inn Above Tide, bedroom of suite at Inn Above Tide, fresh fruit in the breakfast room at Inn Above Tide, fresh sushi at Sushi Ran, Visitor's information kiosk, Art as seen from gallery window.*

*Disclaimer: I was a guest of The Inn Above Tide during my stay in Sausalito. This has no effect on my opinion on a place or experience – all opinions are my own.*