

Tour San Francisco's Telegraph Hill Neighborhood



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Tour Summary

San Francisco's easy-to-walk Telegraph Hill Italian North Beach neighborhood lies between Chinatown and Fisherman's Wharf. Often sunny in both climate and character, the area feels quite European. Visit a bookstore which was at the forefront of the counterculture movement. Walk along streets lined with outdoor cafés, Italian delicatessens, bakeries, innovative restaurants, specialty boutiques, churches, and parks. Explore back streets, smell coffee roasting, hear Italian spoken, taste homemade gelato and chocolate. Hear fascinating anecdotes reflecting a colorful past, be privy to insiders' favorite haunts, and enjoy a panoramic city view from atop Telegraph Hill.

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Introduction to North Beach

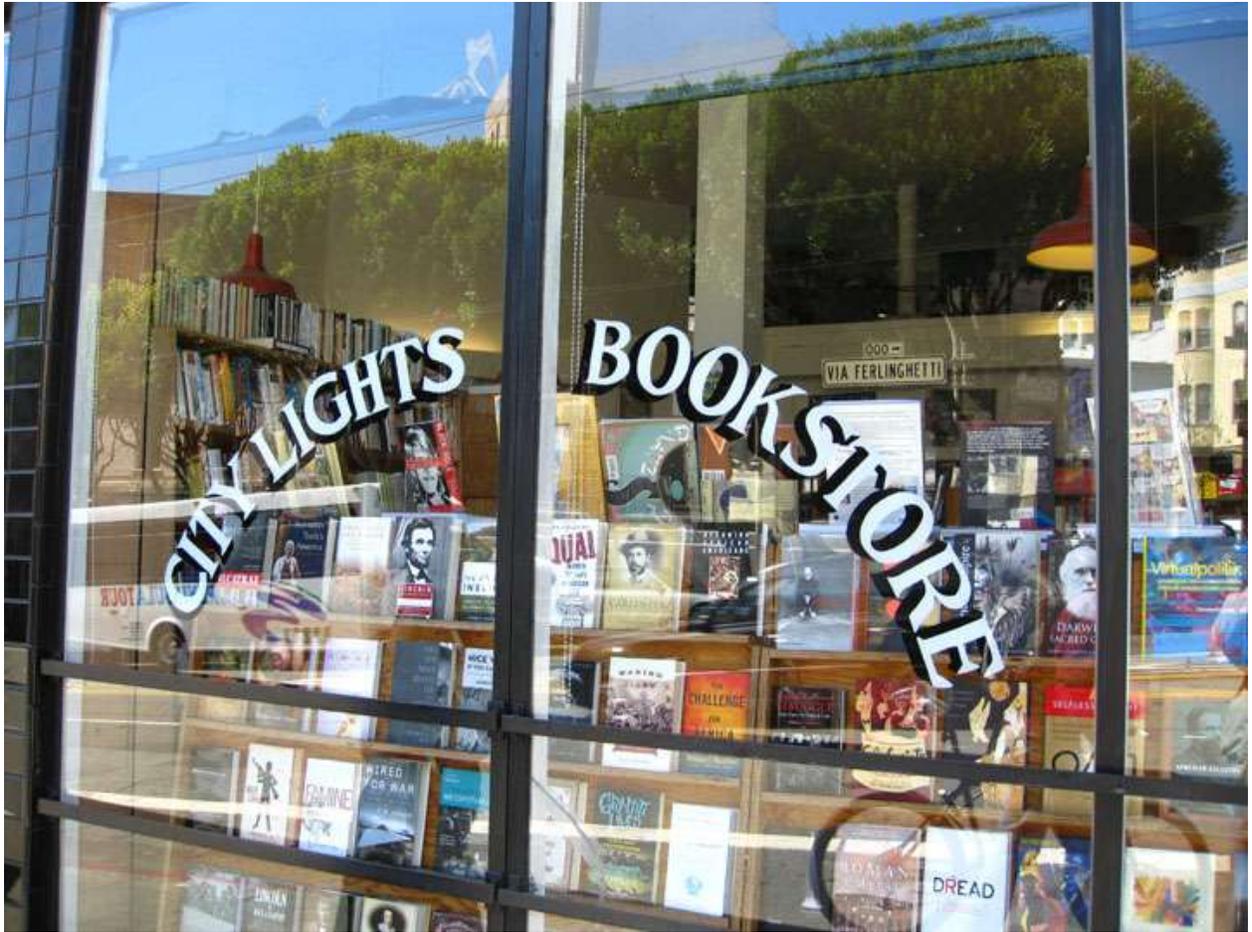




Ciao! That's Italian for hello. Welcome to my favorite San Francisco neighborhood. Wedged between Chinatown and Fisherman's Wharf, this special place, North Beach, or Little Italy, isn't a beach. It's a treasure-trove of rich Italian heritage. Settled by Sicilian and Genovese fishermen in the mid 1800s, and the center of Bohemian counterculture in the mid 1900s,

it is undeniably the most European part of San Francisco.

We'll visit hidden gems, like hole-in-the-wall restaurants and a rooftop with 360-degree views.



We'll explore a corner of North Beach where the Beat Generation emerged, and another corner where the area's unsavory past is revealed.



We'll stroll along Columbus Avenue, the main thoroughfare, and then uncover some treasures on the backstreets.



The many sidewalk cafes, bakeries, and small eateries let you savor the aroma of fresh-roasted Italian coffee, pastries, pastas, chocolates, and ice cream. Get ready to sample!



With the benefit of tried-and-true personal recommendations, you'll be able to sit and people-watch in the best cafes, do some serious gourmet grazing, or maybe even take in a zany musical revue.



Then we're off to check out some Italian pottery and glass shops, visit 2 special churches, and observe Tai Chi being practiced in the local park.



We'll complete the tour by climbing Telegraph Hill to Coit Tower, to enjoy colorful Depression-era murals and panoramic views of the city and bay.



So join me! Bring a jacket, a hearty appetite, and plenty of curiosity. You'll enjoy yourself, and learn a lot, too!

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