

I Need My Java

Hidden Cafés & Breakfast Spots



Rival to Paris in its café culture, this city knows how to drink its java. While there's not a big breakfast tradition in San Francisco, Sunday brunch is a religion in itself! If you want to look like a typical San Franciscan, hang out at a popular brunch spot wearing a SF Giants cap backwards with a Sunday paper under your arm (to be real cool, make sure it's the New York Times). To guarantee that you have a perfect café experience make sure you don't wear a watch—paradise knows no time! bowls, tartines and omelettes are très bien!

Delicious Diners & Cafés

DOTTIE'S TRUE BLUE CAFÉ

A Southern diner with heart and soul. One of the biggest and best breakfasts you'll find downtown. Although it's in a slightly tough area, it's just like home inside. 522 Jones St., 885-2767

ELLA'S

The owner calls the food "Neo-classic American," we just call it delicious! Locals swear the house-made chicken hash is the best in town. The line is out the door on the weekends, so come during the week for a more relaxed repast. 500 Presidio Ave., 441.5669
ellasanfrancisco.com

IT'S TOPS COFFEE SHOP

It's the cutest little bite-sized diner in town, and though the food isn't spectacular, we still think this place is worth a visit. This is a good choice if you're headed to the Castro District. 1801 Market St., 431-6395

JUDY'S CAFÉ

Superbly friendly service and yummy great food in no time flat despite the fact that this place is super popular. Have a couple mimosas and talk a stroll down Chestnut street. 2268 Chestnut Street, 415-922-4588

KATE'S KITCHEN

If you're near the Haight District you can fuel up at this small eatery. Favorite dishes include cheese and onion biscuits with gravy, and French Toast Orgy! 471 Haight St., 626-3984

MAMA'S ON WASHINGTON SQUARE

French Toast is the big draw at this North Beach spot. Peruse the menu before getting in line at the counter so you're ready to order. Small and popular so be prepared to wait on weekends. 1701 Stockton St. 362-6421

SEARS FINE FOODS

This Union Square restaurant has been satisfying tourists and locals with its famous 'little pancakes' for over 30 years. The décor doesn't seem to have changed since the day it opened, but that doesn't keep the crowds from coming. 439 Powell St., 986-1160
searsfinefood.com

CANTEEN

Its Cal-Cuisine in this 20-seat spot is served up with flair. The omelettes are fabulous. The place to go when good strong coffee is required to open your eyes met with superb food from this young Chef Dennis Leary! 825 Sutter St., 928-8870

