

WELCOME TO THE **SAN FRANCISCO** INSIDER COLLECTION

Truly memorable meetings and events with authentic local flavor – that is the inspiration behind the InterContinental Insider Collection.

Our network of hotels and resorts is global; our knowledge and expertise local, giving planners guaranteed choice, range and depth to add to any meeting or conference. Each hotel offers its own bespoke selection of services which are firmly rooted in their location and are responsibly guided by our partnership with National Geographic's Center for Sustainable Destinations.

The options are limitless, the local knowledge rich, the service professional and faultless, the delegate experience enriching and rewarding every time.

Sample for yourself some of our wonderful San Francisco experiences.

1 of 3 ▶



INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

INSIDER LOCATIONS

Choose an InterContinental venue for your event and a world of possibilities opens up. As locals, your hotel team hold the key to a side of your locality tourists never see. What and who they know gives you an exclusive mix of authentic venues and experiences to play with.

INSIDER SPEAKERS

Bring your event to life with an inspirational speaker – someone who can really strike a chord with your delegates and enrich their experience beyond measure. Fascinating and engaging, motivating Insider Speakers range from celebrities and cultural experts to sporting heroes. Whatever their passion, they all have a local connection and you will discover that their unique insights and local know-how make your event one to remember.

INSIDER COMMUNITY

There's nothing quite like immersing yourself in the community to gain an added depth and understanding to your experience in a new destination. Insider Community has been designed to benefit local people and create truly memorable and meaningful experiences for your delegates too.

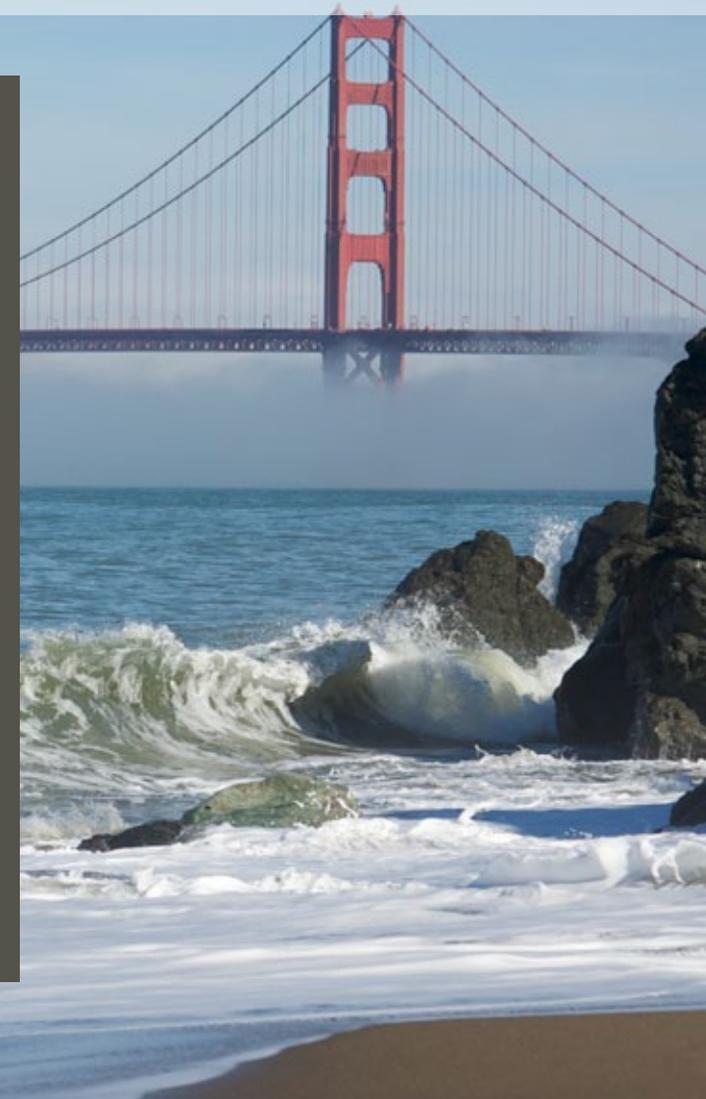
INSIDER INTERACTIONS

This team-building experience will help your delegates connect with each other as never before. Using the unique character, heritage or geography of your destination to inspire interaction, each experience, whether based on or off-site offers an original way to engage delegates and motivate them to build effective working relationships.

INSIDER BREAKS

With Insider Collection even your breaks are fulfilling experiences. From serving up a delicious lunch of provincial dishes for a taste of regional cuisine to spending some quality time with your Concierge team to get their best insider tips, a few minutes out of your busy schedule becomes a whole experience in itself.

◀ 2 of 3 ▶



ENRICHING EXPERIENCES FOR OUR GUESTS AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

We believe that a responsible meeting is not only what you experience in the meeting room but also knowing that your hotel respects the destination around it.

We're proud to partner the leaders in geotourism, the National Geographic Center for Sustainable Destinations. Our ambition is that guests enjoy enriching experiences that reveal what makes a place truly special – its heritage, culture and tradition – and the importance of protecting it.

At InterContinental we use a holistic approach to being a responsible business: to work from the grass roots up, recognizing each individual hotel team as the experts best placed to use their local knowledge for developing community and environmental initiatives that meet the specific needs of the destination. This Insider Collection gives delegates access to some of these unique experiences, and for those meetings that stay in the meeting room, you can be assured our hotel is working behind the scenes to protect what is special about the place for fellow travelers.

[Contact us](#) for pricing specific to your group.

INTRODUCTION | LOCATIONS | SPEAKERS | COMMUNITY | INTERACTIONS | BREAKS | CONTACT US

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SPEND AN EXCLUSIVE EVENING AT GHIRARDELLI SQUARE

Housed in a 19th century former chocolate factory near Fisherman's Wharf, Ghirardelli Square has been transformed into a multi-level enclave of shops, galleries, and restaurants overlooking the magnificent San Francisco waterfront. San Francisco's colorful past and its pleasurable present all merge here in this unique blend of history, renovation and new additions.

Ghirardelli Square may be taken over exclusively for your group and whether it is a small corner or the entire block, tented or open air, this will be a memorable, San Francisco Only experience! Full bars and sumptuous buffets alongside clever seating including wine barrels, crab traps and park benches will be placed throughout the space while San Francisco's famous street performers entertain throughout the evening.

1 of 2 ▶

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HOLD A GALA EVENT AT THE THE WINERY SAN FRANCISCO

Situated just 4.3 miles from downtown on Treasure Island, The Winery SF brings the “California wine experience” to San Francisco. The Island was created in the late 1930s from fill dredged from the bay for the Golden Gate International Exposition. The Winery’s 20,000 sq. ft. winemaking facility allows visitors to see the winemaking process first-hand and experience highly rated boutique wines from a team of top winemakers from Napa, Sonoma, and beyond. From tours, to full-day meetings or cocktail receptions and dinners, The Winery is the perfect place for you and your guests to experience California Wine Country right in San Francisco!

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ROCK YOUR DELEGATES WITH JOLENE BABYAK

Jolene Babyak lived on Alcatraz Island when she was a child. Her father worked there for nine years, eventually becoming the associate warden. She was 15 when the infamous 1962 escape attempt occurred in which three men disappeared.

Today, she is an author and a speaker, presenting stories about the island prison from interviews, prison files, photographs, newspaper clippings and personal memories.

The author of *Breaking the Rock*, about the '62 escape attempt, and *Birdman, the Many Faces of Robert Stroud*, she is an infectious, engaging, thoughtful speaker – offering quick insights and lasting impressions of the psyches of the men who were incarcerated there. She uses humor and perspective as well as insider information, to weave tales of life on The Rock, escape attempts and more.

1 of 2 ▶

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DISCOVER SAN FRANCISCO'S OLD AND NEW CHINATOWN WITH SHIRLEY FONG-TORRES

TV chef and author, Shirley Fong-Torres offers a fantastic presentation on the history of the first Chinese to come to America. These were men with dreams of finding gold rushing down mountains. Trace the history of their determination to make it in this country, hear about 'picture brides', and enjoy Chinatown's beautiful and quaint architecture, its buildings, side streets and alleyways. Discover what visitors love about this colorful neighborhood and the unique places that most do not see. Share an insider's view of the 'new' Chinatown, the early days' traditions and values and learn what the future holds for this unique and fascinating community.

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SHIRLEY FONG-TORRES

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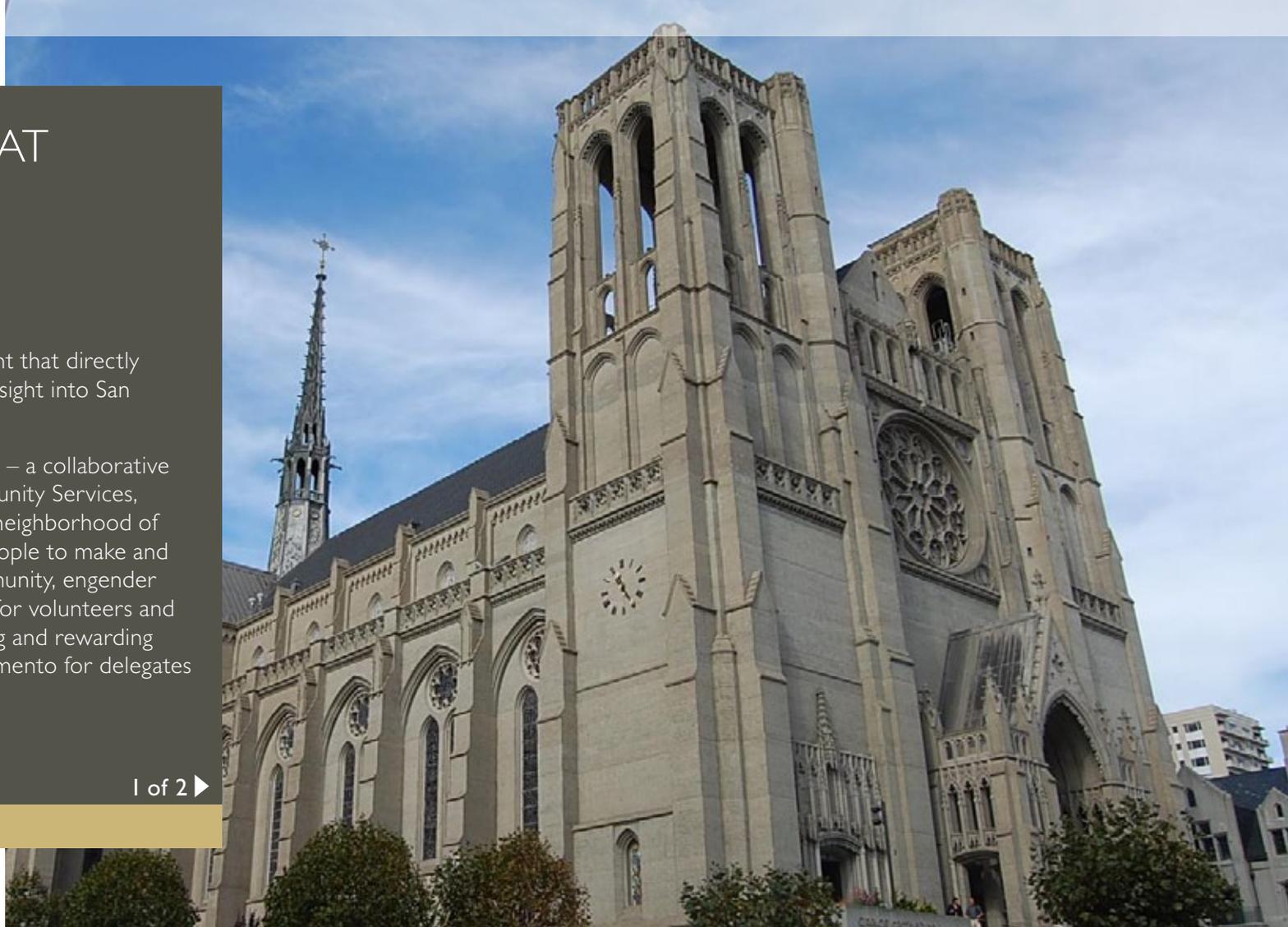
HELP THE HOMELESS AT GRACE CATHEDRAL

We invite your delegates to a very special event that directly benefits local people and gives you a unique insight into San Francisco's proud charitable tradition.

Delegates will take part in 'Dinner with Grace' – a collaborative ministry of Grace Cathedral, Episcopal Community Services, and the formerly homeless of the Tenderloin neighborhood of San Francisco. Delegates will join with local people to make and share a healthy meal. The aim is to build community, engender empathy, end isolation and combat loneliness for volunteers and those served by the project. This is an inspiring and rewarding experience, providing a lasting and unique memento for delegates of their stay in San Francisco.

1 of 2 ▶

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VOLUNTEER FOR PROJECT OPEN HAND

Why not spend some rewarding time volunteering for a local charity? It's a great way to inspire and motivate delegates. Project Open Hand provides meals and groceries for people with symptomatic HIV/AIDS or breast cancer, meals for homebound or critically ill people under the age of 60 and congregate lunches for people over 60 years of age.

Delegates will work together as a team to help sort and deliver groceries and prepare meals. They will also have the opportunity to view the great work that goes on here and to meet the people whose lives have been transformed as a result. It will be possible to make a donation to the charity if you wish.

◀ 2 of 3 ▶

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BECOME A FRIEND OF THE URBAN FOREST

Spend the day planting trees, getting to know local people and the area. Delegates can join Friends of the Urban Forest volunteers as they work side-by-side with local residents to plant trees so everyone can enjoy a greener, healthier environment.

At plantings neighbors meet, often for the first time, to improve their streetscape and community bond. Spirits are high and everyone has a good time for the common good. This is a great way to spend some energizing time out of the meeting room in the great outdoors. Delegates can benefit from the fresh air and enjoy exploring the local area, meeting the community and achieving something truly good and lasting during your stay in our city.

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YOGA IN THE CITY

Take this opportunity to balance mind and body with this relaxing session. Forget that you are in one of the most busy convention cities of the country! Let our professional yoga instructor gently lead your delegates through yoga and tai chi movements. A soothing aroma mist and the scent of aromatic candles will delicately awaken your senses, leaving delegates refreshed and re-energized for the meeting to come.

1 of 2 ▶

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WOK WIZ CHINATOWN TOUR

Discover the vibrant and colorful Chinatown with WOK WIZ tour leader, Shirley Fong-Torres. She and her friendly tour leaders will introduce you to historic Chinatown, starting at Portsmouth Square, the community's 'living room'. Listen to fascinating 'talk stories' about the first Chinese to come here and how they survived after not finding gold 'streaming down mountains'. Hear about the old Chinatown Telephone Exchange, family and district associations, Chinese herbal shops, and tea-tasting. Walk along side streets and alleyways and learn how the Chinese extended food by using the natural resource of the sun and by using salt and preservatives. Enjoy a hosted Dim Sum luncheon with your dynamic tour leader who will gladly answer questions about the delicious food you will share family-style.

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BIODYNAMIC WINE TASTING

Gain a deeper insight into Northern California by joining an ultimate biodynamic wine tasting paired with cheese selections from a variety of local producers.

Biodynamics is all about treating the vineyard as a whole, as a complete living system. So as well as the vines and the grapes, it cares for the soil, compost, insects, and other vegetation and animals that inhabit space in the vineyard. Together they all work in harmony to create amazing wines – the very best of which delegates can sample during this interesting and unusual break.

1 of 3 ▶

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CAVIAR BREAK

Add a touch of grandeur to celebrate your successes. Experience an exquisite tasting of sustainably farmed California sturgeon caviar perfectly paired with flights of bubbly from the lush valleys of Sonoma and Napa.

◀ Testimonials ▶

Contact us for pricing specific to your group.



CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

“My client was very pleased with the service, staff, meals, accommodation and the overall event. This is a true testament to you and your property. Congratulations to everyone who assisted in making this conference a seamless and very successful event.”

Julie Briggs Dunn, JBD Events



THANK YOU

Contact us to learn more about the San Francisco Insider Collection and how we can help you create a truly memorable experience with authentic local flavor.

Whichever Insider Collection experience is right for you, you can be assured that it reflects the best principles of Responsible Business, a commitment demonstrated by our partnership with the National Geographic Center for Sustainable Destinations.

Email address: icmarkhopkins@ihg.com

