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TRAVEL TALES

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE JEWISH TRAVELLER

By **MIKE COHEN**

SAN FRANCISCO- very proud of The Contemporary Jewish Museum (<https://www.thecjm.org>), which since 1984 has distinguished itself as a welcoming place where visitors can connect with one another through dialogue and shared experiences with the arts. Ever changing, The CJM is a non-collecting institution that partners with national and international cultural institutions to present exhibitions that are both timely and relevant and represent the highest level

According to recent figures, the Bay Area is home to the fourth largest Jewish community in North America. San Francisco, the East Bay and San Jose are listed separately, but their combined Jewish population is 391,500, according to the list put out by the Jewish Federations of North America. The breakdown is as follows: San Francisco (227,800), the East Bay (100,750) and San Jose (63,000).

The community is

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TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from page 8)

of artistic achievement and scholarship. It is located at 736 Mission Street in the downtown area.

DINING TIPS:

Kosher restaurants in San Francisco include the Shangri-La Chinese Vegetarian, the Sabra Grill and Wise Sons Jewish Deli.

We came upon the ideal dinner and show combination, a fabulous meal at Farallon Restaurant (www.farallonrestaurant.com), followed by an evening next door at the San Francisco Playhouse and a presentation of the La

(Please turn to following page)

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TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from preceding page)

Cage Aux Folles. The has with the Playhouse is dinner and a show pro- a \$49 three-course motion that Farallon prix fixe dinner. At

Farallon the freshest seafood available comprises the majority of the menu, rounded out with local produce, meat, and game. Dining room appetizers are priced from \$11 to \$19. Dinner entrees are priced from \$27 to \$36.

In terms of sushi, there is no question that Ryoko's Japanese Restaurant & Bar is tops in San Francisco. Located on the border of Nob Hill and Tenderloin at 619 Taylor, this is a lively basement sushi spot. There is a DJ every night but Sunday. It opens at 6 pm each night and continues serving until 1:30 am. Reservations are not taken here, so prepare to line up. When we arrived at 7:30 there was already an extended wait for a table.

I can never travel without sampling the best pizza in town. In San Francisco that would be Amici's East Coast Pizzeria(<https://>)
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TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from page 12)

www.amicis.com). Jewish businessman Peter Cooperstein is one of the founders and owners. There are 10 locations, including two in San Francisco. We stopped at the one at 2200 Lombard, conveniently on the route of the Hop-On, Hop-Off Bus and it made for a fantastic lunch!

Are you looking to do something completely different in San Francisco? We had a wonderful evening on the Hornblower Dining Cruise (www.hornblower.com). It came complete with a four course seated dinner. The Hornblower departs and returns from Pier 3 on The Embarcadero.

There is a very historic restaurant in

San Francisco called John's Grill (www.johng grill.com). This is one of the city's oldest and most famous dining establishments, born in 1908, known for its great steaks, seafood, salads and pastas. The restaurant was actually a setting in author Dashiell Hammett's *The Maltese Falcon*. You will be impressed with the interior, complete with original period furnishings as well as a kind of virtual museum of authentic memorabilia.

Mike Cohen's email address is info@mikecohen.ca. Follow him on Twitter @mikecohencsl and read his detailed stories on San Francisco at www.sandboxworld.com/travel.

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