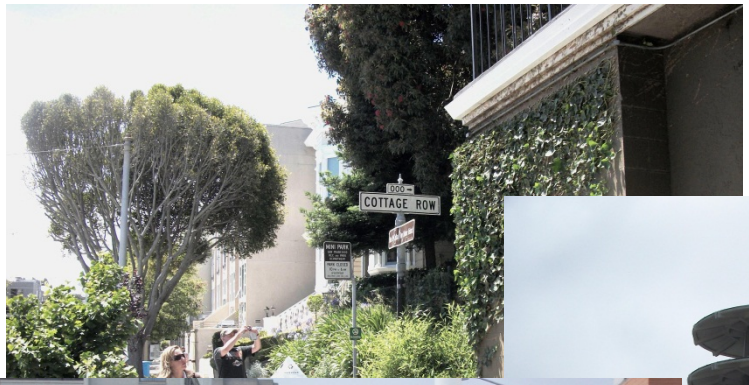

FOR THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

JAPANTOWN SURVEY RESULTS & ANALYSIS

Complied by Diane Onizuka Oct 15 2011

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Executive Summary

The public realm organizing committee created an informal survey and polled visitors in Japan Town from the period of June 2010 through Oct 2010, a few hours each week. The purpose of the poll was to gather input and perceptions from visitors as to what brought them here, what would enhance their experience and what would bring them back. Additionally 3 yes or no questions were posed as it related to more garden areas, transportation convenience and interest in additional historic or cultural sites in immediate area, which were all dominated with a minimum of a 90% yes rate. A space for additional responses for every question was provided, and was well used by respondents.

460 surveys were tallied showing knowledge of the unique neighborhoods of San Francisco, especially from the foreign visitors. San Francisco's Japantown shows how its serves it immediate and expansive regional Japanese community while being a recognized destination stop for world travelers. The Japantown neighborhood draws much interest and with the proper attention can serve as a great role model neighborhood for environmental stewardship with city support for public realm enhancements.

Following is a very general summary of responses to the questionnaire.

KEY FINDINGS:

- The Japanese Culture plays a significant importance to a wide regional spectrum of persons of Japanese heritage as well as persons with an interest in the Japanese culture, besides serving the immediate community.
- The majority of respondents specified the disappointment of not being able to see the Japanese gardens in person, wanting it to also be children friendly
- The majority of respondents specified the peaceful and relaxing atmosphere of this neighborhood when compared to other neighborhoods of San Francisco, often stating that they feel safe here.
- The majority of respondents loved the uniqueness of the shops and food of the Japanese culture.
- Many of the respondents specified in the need for better maps/directional signage, with better guides/directions/tours and not knowing where the other cultural and or historical sites were as it relates to Japantown.
- Many of the respondents specified the desire to see more Japanese architecture
- Many would like more open seating and tables

Survey Results and Analysis:

Questionnaires tallied: 460

1. **Name and contact information**

   Results show:

   98.2% provided names and 31.7% provided contact information of email or home addresses.

Guest/Visitor/Tourist from (fill in city, state, zip or country).

99.32% of the respondents provided how far they came to visit here. 61.73% were from outside of California of which nearly half were from beyond continental USA

The number of responses was categorized into the following:

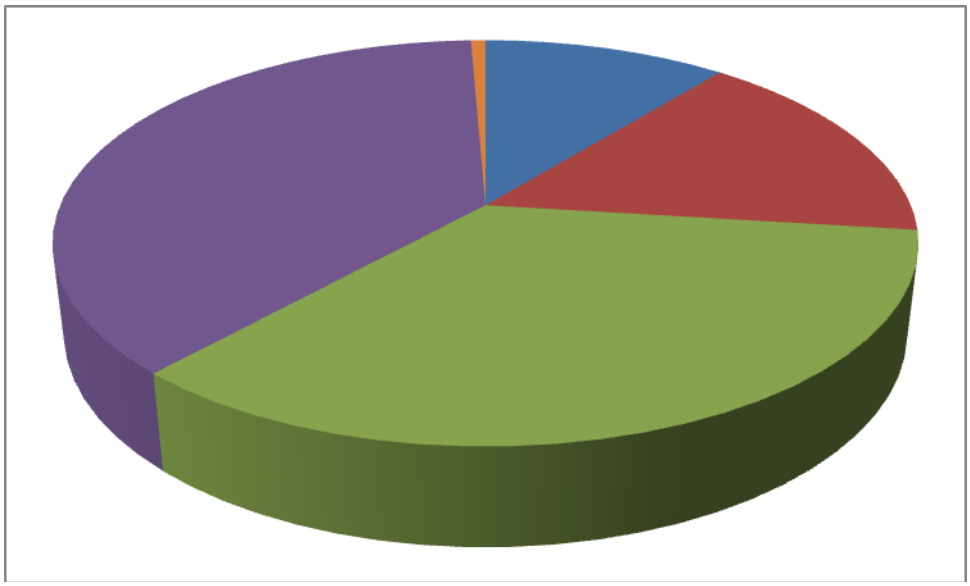
173 - Green - Live in San Francisco or in the community

160 - Purple – From California

74 -Red – From USA

50 - Blue – From outside continental USA

3 -Orange - No response

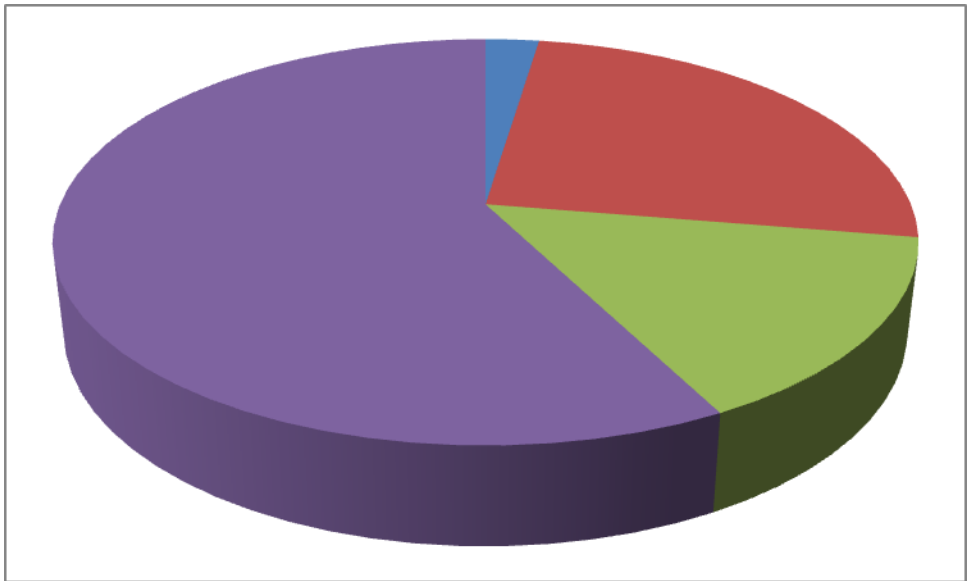


2. **<u>What brought you here</u>? Open ended question responses were categorized as first time trip, to specific store being cited, to specifying a cultural significance that includes visual and spiritual experiences.**

   Results show 72.3% came for community services or cultural significance, and 25.2% were curious first time seekers.

   <u>The number of responses was categorized into the following:</u>

   265 - Purple: Serving a community service or for cultural significance
   116 - Red: Vacation
   68 - Green: Cited an identifiable cultural relevant retail store
   11 – Blue: no reason provided

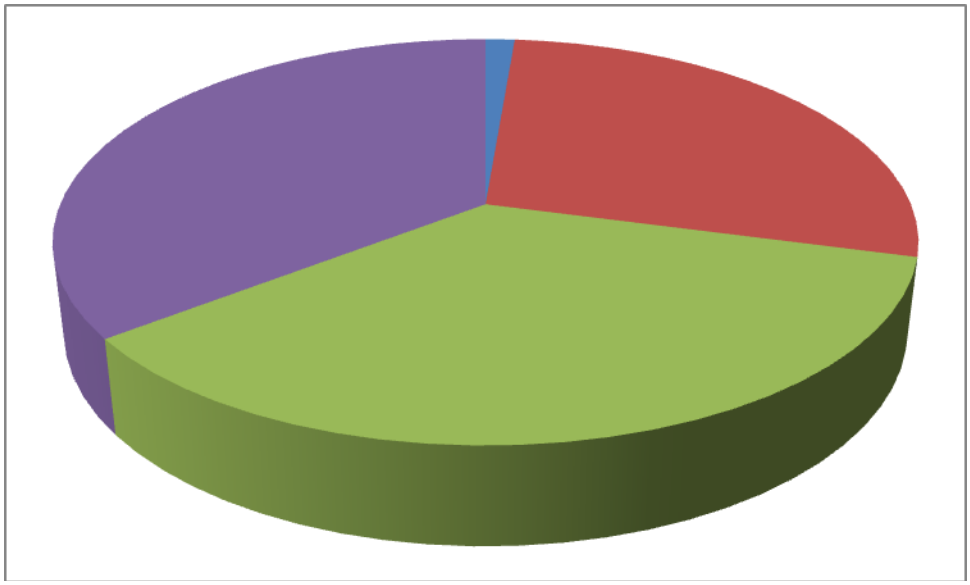


3. **<u>How frequently do you come here?</u>**

Results show that 70.8 % are repetitive visitors. 35.4% were frequent visitors (monthly to daily) and an equal response 35.4% were occasional visitors (every 2-3 months to annually or 1 every few years), 27.8% were first time visitors.

<u>The number of responses was categorized into the following:</u>

128 - Red: First time
163 - Purple: Occasional (this included every 2-3 months to annually)
163 - Frequently (these were more frequent from monthly, weekly to daily repetitive visits)
6 - Blue: No answer



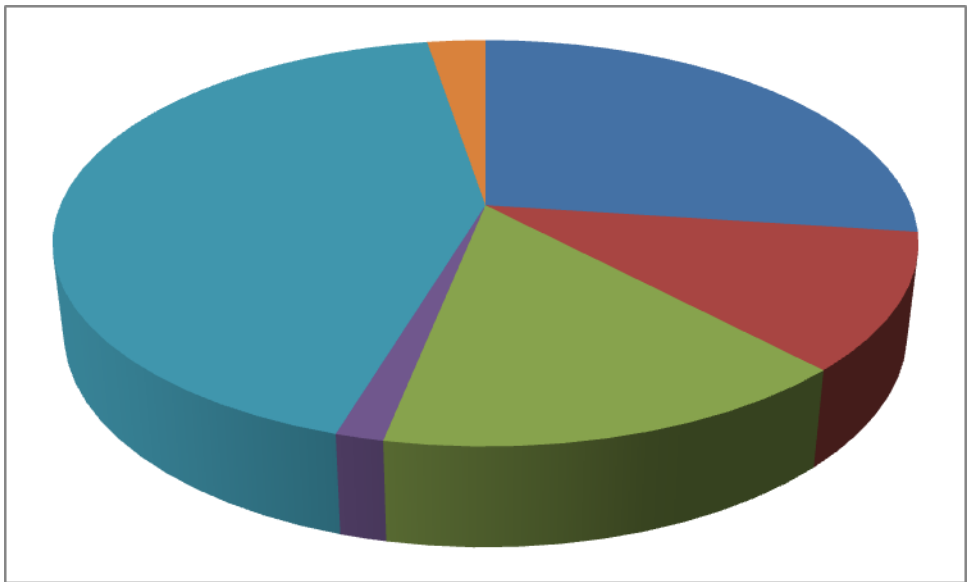
4. Was Transportation Easy or Convenient:

YES - 90.2% - 415 responses
NO - 7.17% – 33 responses
12 left blank - 2.60%

What modes of transportation taken:

The number of responses was categorized into the following:

197 -Turquoise –responded but did not specify mode of transportation
125 - Blue – drove their car or car pooled
70 - Green – walked from hotel, from friends home, or lives in area.
50 - Red – Public Transit – Bus, BART, Taxi
7 - Purple - Bicycle
12 - Orange – no responses

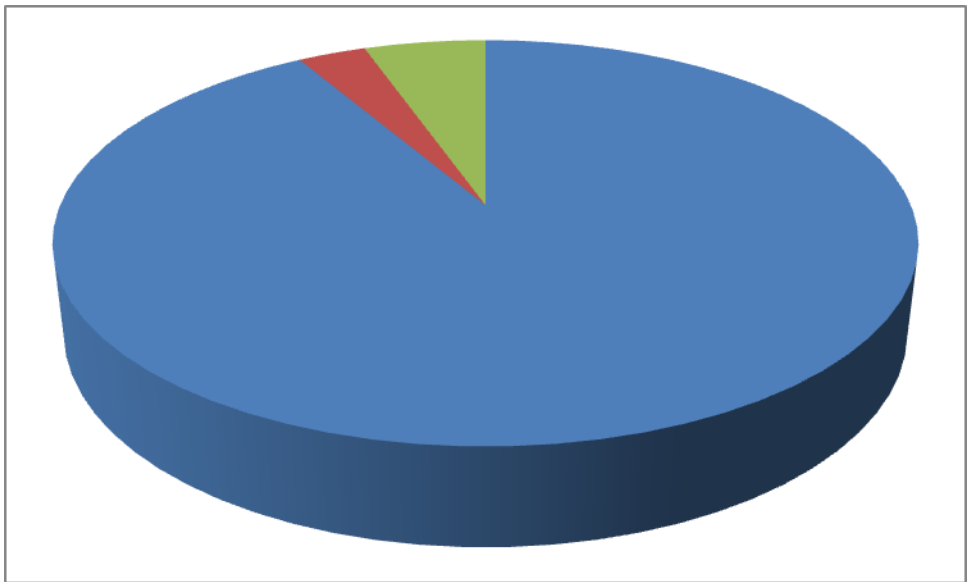


5. <u>More garden settings, seating, other features:</u>

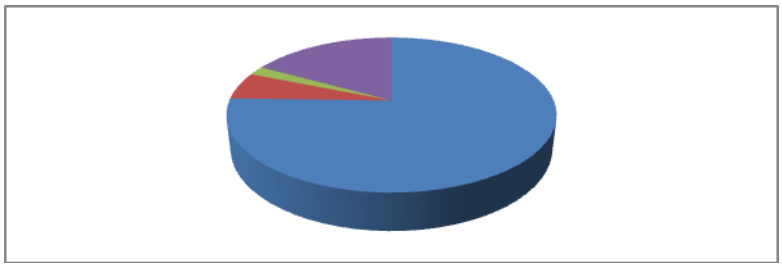
YES – 91.5% - 421 responses
NO – 3.04 % 14 responses
25 left blank – 5.43%

Included is survey where a question was changed from a public realm/street scape inquiry to a broad inquiry, with good results, and is extracted with a separate chart. All open ended responses are detailed at the end of this analysis.

<u>The number of responses was categorized into the following:</u>



Included above were 53 surveys taken during a street fair asked if you would like to see more Japanese features, and is broken down further as shown:



40 YES, 3 NO, 9-Blank, 1- INDIFFERENT

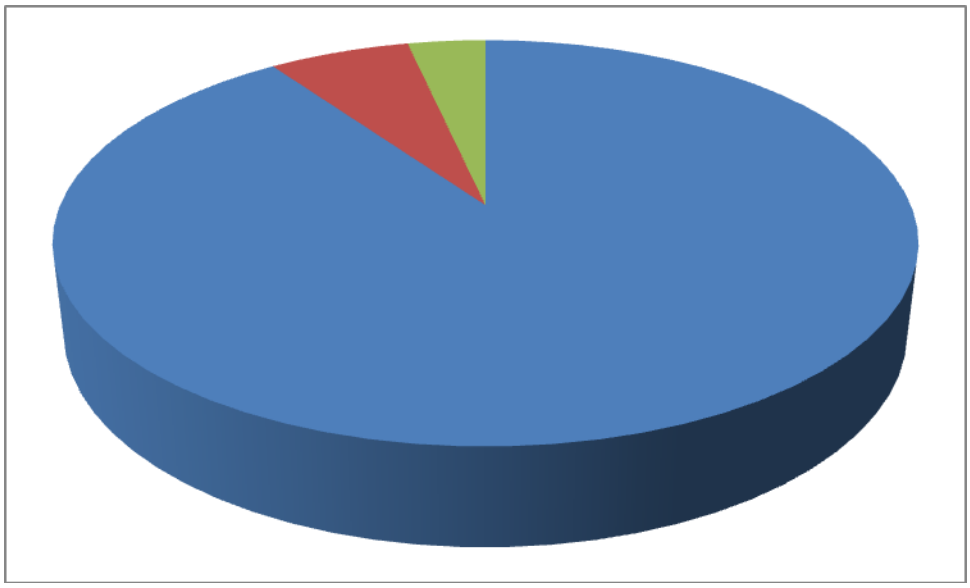
31 – Blue – Had no specific comments
17 – Purple – Specified cultural activities
7 – Red – Specified streetscape looks, gardens, gates, etc.

1 – Green – stated indifferent
Comments listed multiple items and are detailed out

6. Interest in other cultural and historic sites in Japantown:

Comments reflect the need to know where these are and directions, more information on the history of Japanese Americans and the Japanese culture as this was the focus of why they came to visit.

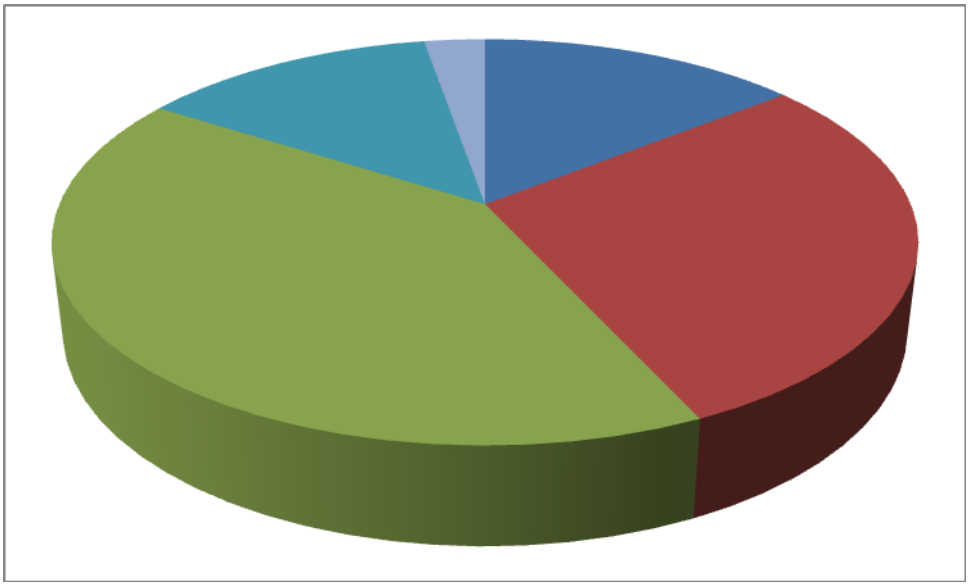
YES 90.2% - 415 responses
NO- 3.47% - 16 responses
29 were left blank or 6.3%



7. <u>What will bring you back or why will you come back?</u>

83.9 % will return because of the Japanese Culture and the activities of the food, shops, and importantly the atmosphere provided.

226 – Green: Food and shops
159 – Red: Atmosphere, safety related responses
79 – Blue: Friends, family, will always come back
73 – Turquoise: Specific cultural activity
15 – Light Blue: Variety of answers



OPEN ENDED RESPONSES

Where are you from

Sweden
Washington
Berkeley
SF-SOMA
Spain
Sebastopol
Germany
Salinas, CA
Los Angeles
Live in the community
Germany
Oakland
Oakland
Live in the community
Live in the community
San Ramon
Live in the community
Live in the community
Arizona
Sacramento
Live in the community
Canada
Live in the community
Ontario, Canada
Live in the community
Spain

Live in the community
Riverside, CA
Live in the community
San Jose, CA
Palo Alto, CA
Texas
Live in the community
Live in the community
South Dakota
New Jersey
Pennsylvania
Live in the community
Walnut Creek, CA
Live in the community
Live in the community
East Bay, CA
Live in the community
Canada
Quahog
Berkeley
Washington DC
Live in the community
Michigan
Los Angeles
New York
New Mexico
Los Angeles, CA
New Mexico
Live in the community
Live in the community
Ireland
Live in the community

San Mateo
Live in the community
Arizona
Los Angeles, CA
Montana
Live in the community
Dallas, TX
Live in the community
Dallas, TX
Moss Beach, CA
Madrid, Spain
Fairfield, CA
Live in the community
Davis, CA
Mendocino, CA
New York
Live in the community
Live in the community
Toronto, Canada
Live in the community
Union City
Live in the community
Live in the community
Sweden
New York
Daly City, CA
East Bay, CA
Live in the community
Southern California
Sunset District
San Leandro, CA
Live in the community

Turlock, CA
Louisiana
San Leandro, CA
Oakland, CA
London
Live in the community
San Jose, CA
East Bay, CA
New York City
Pleasanton
Live in the community
Live in the community
Spain
Concord, CA
Tenderloin - SF
Live in the community
Live in the community
Live in the community
Washington
Haight District - SF
Live in the community
Washington
Dublin, CA
Live in the community
Texas
Live in the community
Live in the community
Live in the community
San Fernando Valley, CA
Live in the community
SF State
Hayward, CA

Santa Rosa, CA
Canada
Live in the community
Harrisburg, PN
Oakdale, CA
Sweden
Live in the community
Oakland, CA
Marin County
Live in the community
Sebastopol, CA
Santa Rosa, CA
Live in the community
Live in the community
Live in the community
Live in the community
Lafayette, CA
Cupertino, CA
Live in the community
Live in the community
Live in the community
Columbia
Live in the community
Merced, CA
Millbrae, CA
San Mateo County, CA
San Jose Bay Are, CA
East Bay, CA
Lower Haight - SF
Oakland, CA
Merced, CA
Winnebago, IL

Live in the community
Merced, CA
Watsonville, CA
TX
Live in the community
Sacramento, CA
Livermore, CA
Live in the community
East Bay, CA
Live in the community
Live in the community
Live in the community
Portland, OR
Live in the community
Little Rock, AR
Live in the community
France
Los Angeles, CA
San Jose, CA
Sacramento, CA
San Diego, CA
Humbolt County, CA
Ontario, Canada
Live in the community
Live in the community
Canada
Live in the community
Manila, Philippines
Salt Lake, Utah
San Jose, CA
Live in the community
Las Vegas, NV

Live in the community
Seattle, WA
Modesto, CA
Los Angeles, CA
Oregon
Live in the community
Alameda, CA
Richmond District
Alameda, CA
Live in the community
Alameda, CA
San Lorenzo, CA
San Francisco, CA
Irvine, CA
Live in the community
Los Angeles, CA
Live in the community
Oakland
Haight district, SF
Santa Clara
South San Francisco, CA
East Bay
East Bay
work here
used to live in community
Originally from Israel, now in 43723, OH
Live in the community
Live in the community
Live in the community
Live in the community
94103

Antioch
Houston, TX
Live in the community
Westminster, CA
Hercules, CA
San Jose, CA
Live in the community
San Jose, CA
Live in the community
Nevada
Live in the community
Berkeley, CA
North Carolina
Live in the community
New Mexico
Live in the community
British Columbia, Canada
Live in the community
Los Angeles, CA
San Francisco, CA
Walnut Creek, CA
Oakland, CA
San Francisco, CA
94107
94124
94115
94109
92870
94121
94115
94115
94124

Oakland 94601
Lafayette 94549
94579
Union City 94587
94134
Oakland 94601
94118
not from here
Sacramento 95823
Sacramento 95835
94115
94121
Seattle, WA 98053
Seattle, WA 98053
Hawaii
Live in the community
Palo Alto, CA
Palo Alto, CA
Live in the community
San Francisco
94112
94116
94119
Outer Mission 94112
Victoria, BC, CAN
Live in the community
Sequoias 94115
San Jose, 95132
94115
Millbrae 94010
94118
San Mateo 94403

94121
94121
94121
Fremont, 94536
Los Angeles, 90025
94114
94549
Live in the community
Hayes Valley, SF
94109-6830
Live in the community
Berkeley, CA
Honolulu, HI
Fairfax, CA
Live in the community
94115
Florida
94711
94526
Live in the community
Oregon
Live in the community
Live in the community
Hayward, CA
Live in the community
Poland
Miami, FL
Live in the community
Mountain View, CA
Hayward, CA
Live in the community
Los Angeles, CA

Canada
Sacramento, CA
Germany
Sweden
East Bay, CA
Michigan
Dublin, Ireland
San Jose, CA
New York City
Colorado
Live in the community
Los Angeles, CA
Daly City, CA
Live in the community
Sweden
Nevada
New York City
Tokyo, Japan
Live in the community
New Hamshire
Germany
Stockton, CA
Live in the community
Live in the community
Houston, TX
Seattle, WA
New Orleans, Louisiana
San Francisco
Montana
Ashland, OR
Livermore, CA
San Leandro, CA

San Jose, CA
Washington
Live in the community
Live in the community
Redding, CA
Live in the community
Live in the community
Turlock, CA
Live in the community
Santa Barbara, CA
Live in the community
Live in the community
Live in the community
Michigan
Live in the community
Los Gatos, CA
Berkeley, CA
Live in the community
Oregon
Oregon
Live in the community
Live in the community
Miami, FL
London, England
Other SF Neighborhood
Live in the community
Phillipines
Sweden
Australia
El Cerrito, CA
Spain
Sweden

Live in the community
Wisconsin
Denmark
Live in the community
Live in the community
Canada
Live in the community
Live in the community
Dallas, Texas
Live in the community
Live in the community
Arizona
Live in the community
Live in the community
Manila Philippines
Washington
SF & Alameda, CA 94502
Los Angeles, CA
Arizona
Live in the community
San Jose, CA
Live in the community
Sausalito, CA
Live in the community
Live in the community
Live in the community
Live in the community
Spain
New York
Belgium
Live in the community
Moss Beach, CA

New Mexico
Alameda, CA
Salt Lake City, Utah
Union City, CA
Live in the community
Oakland, CA
Las Vegas, NV
Gilroy, CA
Live in the community
San Jose, CA
Live in the community
Southern California
Live in the community
Santa Rosa, CA
Mission District, SF
Hayward, CA
San Jose, CA
Alaska
Live in the community
Mexico
Live in the community
SF resident
Los Angeles, CA
Oakland, CA
Live in the community
Sweden
East Bay, CA
Union City, CA
Live in the community
Hayward, CA
Live in the community
Live in the community

Pleasant Hill, CA
Live in the community
Live in the community
Montana
Los Angeles, CA
Alaska
Hayward, CA
Chicago, Illinois
Pleasanton, CA
Los Angeles, CA
Canada
San Diego, CA
Atlanta, GA
Oakland, CA
Lathrop, CA
Live in the community
Live in the community
Berkeley, CA

What brought you here today?

Exploring SF w/family have come back to enjoy Japantown's atmosphere often during our first time trip to SF to eat
eat dinner and shop
Crepes, grocery and Sanrio store
day off work, relaxing in Japantown
Sushi and shop
Visiting family in SF and Japanese Market & goods
Holiday to SF- want to see all parts
friends
Japanese Culture
Talk Freak/Auto Freak for phone & car accessories - affordable

Exploring SF for first time
looking for unusual gift for Japanese co-worker (dishes, etc. for housewarming party)
visiting friend
dinner with girlfriend & family
I am a psychoanalyst at SFCP and I came to hear a famous speaker in her suite at Hotel Kabuki
The famous bookstore
I come here at least twice a week
shop for specialty items in market
girlfriend visiting aunt
visiting brother in SF, came to Japantown for bookstore
works at Ichiban
Family vacation exploring SF
Stationery Store
To eat and shop
shop for specialty items @ grocery store (wife is Japanese & cooks Japanese cuisine)
explore Japantown and its history
Whenever I feel like Japanese food I come here
Friends
Lunch at Takara
Shop and eat
The Cultural experience with family
Sanrio store for daughter
Works @ Ichiban
buying gift for daughter at Sanrio store and for lunch
Touring San Francisco
Family & friends vacation
Vacation
food
Anime stores that my friends told me about

Walks here regularly, loves to frequent coffee shop & restaurants
loves all the different stores
Anniversary trip w girlfriend. Came to Japantown to buy some jewelry
looking for Kimono for an upcoming event that she is participating in
Shopping - favorite so far is fabric store because she likes to sew- saw some beautiful fabrics
Friends live in the city
Bookstore
Always wanted to visit famous SF and want to experience all of its wonderful neighborhoods
Kids
Touring SF
explore SF and eat sushi
Family friend in hospital, visiting SF and dropped by
Family vacation
Vacation for the week
Family vacation
Best place for false eyelashes and mail accessories (Ichiban) I came here for hair appointment at salon
car accessory store
Exploring & buying gifts for family back home
Andersen's bakery and video store
favorite place for sushi in San Francisco
blank
visiting aunt in SF came to eat sushi
Loves Japanese culture, wanted to compare Jtown to Little Tokyo in LA - says this one is much better, cleaner and safer.
To eat sushi & enjoy beauty/tranquility of Japantown
Bringing friend from France
On vacation, hotel nearby
works at salon
vacation with children

visiting family
Touring SF, near hotel, came to try sushi
to eat, shop at antique store, very sad to see it has been closed and going to visit new location next, but sad that she can't shop there and then eat at one of Japantown's restaurant - my routine
Big anime fan, came for shopping - anime related products
Friends go to school in SF
Stay at Kabuki Hotel and spa
Visiting SF and finding good tourist attractions
Bookstore
family moved to Japantown after parents disapproval
Exploring SF
stores
just wanted to visit
shopping at the Sanrio Store
hanging out with friends
family vacation to SF
Exploring SF with friends
shopping for gift in unique Japantown stores
weekend food
Crepes
explore Japantown, eat and shop
Shopping and dinner
Friends go to school in SF
Food
Family
Vacation tour of SF
Friends live out in SF
Always comes to SF, never been to Japantown
Use to live in SF, visiting friends
Bookstore
Cosplay, bookstore, restaurants

Manga products, bookstore
exploring SF is Japanese so wanted to see Japantown
bookstore, Sanrio store for daughter, also having lunch
visit New People building, shop for beauty supplies at Ichiban kan
lunch with mother and sister
Traveling on vacation
visit
Shopping, Ichiban, Daiso and Pika Pika
Take kids here
to shop for anime good for daughter
to eat dinner
Traveling on vacation
Manages Ma-shi-Ko folk art
Sushi & shopping at Ichiban-Kan
Summer vacation with family
Bazaar
shopping, eating
visiting family in SF
buying dinner ware, chop sticks for dinner party
likes to shop at Daiso and Ichiban for beauty/household bargains
Buy a gift at the bookstore
visiting family, hotel is nearby here
Lives up the street and visits whenever possible
Friends wanted to shop
photographing various SF places
shopping with family
half Japanese, interested in Japanese culture/shopping
anime shops
to eat
medical
to visit Japantown- exploring all of San Francisco
ice cream for the kids

just visiting
Shopping and dinner
bookstore
incense, books, manga, food, supermarket
visiting, shopping -Swords, food, kimono, incense, anime, manga
Lunch
Purchasing books at Kinokuniya, because it is better than Borders
Japanese Goods
Lunch
Monthly Jtown trip for manga & kitchen supplies
Window shopping
Works at Ma-shi-ko
I enjoy lunch in Japantown and then read a book in these wonderful Japanese surroundings
After Japanese language class
Frommer's guide
Shopping and food
shopping and food
Food, sightseeing, crepes!
food
shopping, visiting shops
shop for book and toys
Mifune Restaurant
hanging out with friends, plus I like the area
Ichiban, Daiso and Crepes
We asked for Chinatown and the bus driver brought us here, but I am not complaining
Ginza Bazaar
We are going to see Wicked and we wanted to go to Ichiban
Hotel is near- interested in different neighborhoods of SF
Traveling and visiting
cultural experience

cultural experience
loves to shop @ dollar stores for great bargains (in SF today for work always stops in Japantown to shop when in SF
comes here for a peaceful place to read outside and study
to experience the cultural difference between Chinatown and Japantown
recently moved nearby, in SF for school so checking out the area
comes for coffee every morning
Loves the cultural experience Jtown provides
visits a new, different part of the city
shopping at Kinokuniya
to experience Japanese culture, food, etc., Japan away from Japan
dropping child off at daycare
hotel near, came here on foot yesterday also
to compare with LA Japantown
friends - lunch
came for job opportunity, now exploring SF
Originally I am from SF, but now live in San Diego. Came to photograph
visiting SF to meet up with friends
vacation, to eat and shop
Ichiban-kan
Andersen's bakery and book store
visiting family in SF came to a wedding
Japanese lessons
Lunch
daughter running half marathon in SF
visiting grandmother, who lives in Japantown neighborhood
for my job
vacation with friends
comes for coffee in the morning
Touring SF, promoting CD

To shop
Friends go to UCSF, Visiting
Tour of SF while on vacation
Food/sushi
shopping with friends
random biking trip to explore alternative safe bike routes
Anime
came in out of the cold, looking around the shops
Food, shops, etc.
n/a
work
guest
lives near
first time in SF< wanted to explore all districts/neighborhoods
to visit anime shops, never been to Japantown although lives in SF, wanted to check stores out
Half Japanese & never been to Japantown
Ichiban
n/a
Leisure, food, shopping
n/a
Bored
work in community
shopping, lunch, community
visit
Meeting relatives who are staying in the Kabuki Hotel
Exploring with friend
eat
Eat Japanese Food
leisure, eat, the center of many Japanese & Korean Culture
All the shopping and food
Touring SF

Ichiban-kan & the Bookstore
Haven't been here in a long time
visiting Jtown has not been here in 4 years
to shop
shopping, bookstore, supermarket, food
have not been in over 10 years, wanted to visit
shopping with girlfriend
Touring SF
The café and Hardware store
Sanrio store- birthday gift for sister & Daiso
Family vacation to SF, came to Jtown for dinner
shopping Japan Video & bookstore
Loves the different cultural neighborhoods of SF, and wanted to see them all
Pika Pika with friend
great restaurants & sushi, crepes for dessert
shopping and dinner
visiting friends & wanted to see all of SF
grocery market and Ichiban Kan
looking for unique Japanese gifts & food
dinner with friends
Bookstore
Work at booth
festival and sticker pictures
Watch sco-journets performance, enjoy the festival
Street fair
Nihonmachi Festival
Nihonmachi Street Fair
Food
join in festivities, food, music
Street fair
help out at booth

don’t know
festival
lunch
street fair
Nihonmachi Festival
To enjoy the fun environment
street fair
to see what Japantown consists of/shop/clothing
culture and clothing
street fair
Walked past
Street fair
Nihonmachi Celebration , movie 441/Toyo Camera
Nihonmachi & Movies at New People
Staying at Kabuki Hotel, saw the festival
NSF
for the Asian festival
for the Asian festival
visit for fun
for the festival
Shopping
Shopping
Volunteer
street festival
for the festival
Nihonmachi Festival
Street Fair, on the way to WA library
Festival
to participate volunteer
street fair
Check out rap group
street fair

Nihonmachi Street Fair
Food and live music
Nihonmachi Street Fair
help with community
support the community
to see my granddaughter (hula group)
Nihonmachi St Fair
Street Fair
Journalist - Pop Culture Web
Volunteer at Kimochi and the NB Weekly
look around
Salon for Asian Hairstyles
Hotel Kabuki
The food and shops
Make it Korea town
Lunch
visit, sightseeing
visit, sightseeing
Visit
bookstore/toy store
Husband is Japanese so thought to visit Japantown
likes to go on walks through here and sometimes visits to eat
video store
visiting friends , came to eat
The restaurants and shops
Holiday, tour of SF
Family – brother
Bookstore
to eat and shop
Obon festival w family
Music Store/bookstore
Eat

holiday in SF, to eat sushi
Family
holiday in SF
shopping and food
Obon festival to eat at Japan Center
vacation, wanted to see all parts of SF on trip
explore SF
family trip
explore SF and Japantown
relax, likes to come here to read (reading newspaper)
visiting SF lives near LA's Japantown, wanted to compare
girlfriend wanted to shop for stuff
to bring girlfriend to Japanese restaurant for lunch (she is visiting from Oregon)
taking tour of SF
family lives in SF, but have never been to Japantown, have been to Chinatown before
very interested in Japanese culture, architecture, also to eat
visiting SF with family, had to visit Japantown since they are from Japan
always comes to get coffee early in the morning, but also comes to eat with family when they are in town
visiting tourist sites in SF
Our book on 1000 places to see in SF
Friends wanted to have lunch together and then see a movie
Family staying at nearby hotel, came to buy some toiletries for them
Bringing a foreign visitor
accident, likes Japantown is favorite part of SF
visiting family in SF, lives near Japantown, wanted to explore the area & eat here
family vacation
lunch at Suzu

eat sushi
explore Japantown
Family
wife wanted to go to Obon festival
Sanrio Store
explore Japantown and shop
hang out with friends
Anime shopping and to eat
Touring SF
The festival
Grocery shopping
family and wanted to shop
friend wanted to see all of SF & attractions
Friend goes to school in SF
Sister dancing in Obon festival
Family and Obon festival
Obon Festival
Vacation with family
Obon festival
Visiting family
Photographing Obon festival for my dad
Girlfriend wanted to shop
Vacation
Touring on vacation
to visit Japantown
Shopping
Family
half Japanese so interested in visiting an area w Japanese influence
Shopping
visiting, hanging out
Lunch
To visit Japantown shops, interested in Japanese culture

out on holiday
Just walking and taking pictures
Vacation
location is close to their hotel
comes every morning on walk
tourist related, shopping for Japanese manga
tourist and shopping
Appointment
Haircut for his wife
Holiday
with co-worker on break, works nearby
works nearby, so came to kill some time
visiting cousin
came to find a present for upcoming birthday
anniversary celebration at Hana Japan
Vacation
shopping, eating, Ginza Bazaar
mom brought here
Food
exploring SF
Daiso, Lunch & Market
Cosplay
To eat sushi and experience Japantown
Street fair
Street fair
Street fair
Ichiban, shopping for inexpensive household goods
Bookstore
Food
Japanese food
always visits for the dollar store
here w/family, shopping

touring SF, love the city
Japantown shopping vacation
Grocery shopping, Kinokuniya, restaurant
Daughter
wife Is Japanese, wanted to visit Japantown for food & souvenirs
anime
married to Japanese and & wants to share the culture w/her children
Visiting
field trip
Browsing
trip holiday
food, shopping, showing friend around
Japantown and cool Japan stuff
Is Japanese, so visiting Japantown just to check it out
loves Japanese culture and big anime fan, also interested in Japanese history
Japanese restaurants
trip with friends
works here
visit w/friends and eat
restaurants for dinner, anime stores
family vacation
Ichiban shopping for inexpensive kitchenware
exploring San Francisco
Hair appointment
Food
Friend lives in SF
food/shopping
Katachi, JPN toy
vacation with family
Japanese class
visiting

hair appointment @ salon
Friends
visiting with friends
Bookstore
shopping with Baby, and we stars shine brite
food and shopping
Japanese language lessons
visiting family and dinner
friends
family vacation
Anime shopping
The VIZ theatre
Surveys
vacation
vacation with family
family lives close by
Whenever I visit SF came to Japantown
love Jtown, bringing my daughter
The crepe shop
Soko Hardware and the bakery
Bookstore
friends lives in area

Would you like to see more Japanese Gardens and seating or what would you like to see more of:

a good place to bring children to
what you think of when you think of Japan
good for kids
YES! And a tea shop looking out on them
garden setting is what is missing

Preserve open areas. Remove those awful Ruth Asawa sculptures that block the area in front of Tanpopo, place them out of the way somewhere.
a great idea to add more cherry trees and a koi pond
The Peace Plaza could be used more wisely
would definitely add to Japantown experience
Sounds like a relaxing area
It would add to the experience
Would love to see a garden in person
Haven't seen an authentic garden in person
With a koi fish pond and a Japanese style bridge too
Have been to one before and was able to keep mind and thoughts peaceful
see previous comment
Japantown is noisy and having such a garden, people would need to be quiet
IF kid friendly
Loves the lush green Japanese style gardens
exactly what Japantown needs
love the serenity such gardens provide
Have not seen such a garden in person
add to the beauty of Japantown
excellent proposal
Yes, a peaceful place it really would be nice
If green yes, with bridge sand style NO
good place to rest & enjoy beauty of outdoors and nature
great place to study/read/relax
definitely would be nice
where Peace Plaza is now
And if possible a small fountain or Koi/goldfish pond would be very nice
would love to see a Japanese garden in person

open space - cleanliness
perfect to meet needs expressed
loves the idea although space may be an issue
It would be very peaceful I imagine
excellent idea would provide a new photo opportunity
Haven’t seen any Japanese gardens in person
It would make Japantown prettier
already beautiful but more greenery
would help brighten the area
space, other ones like golden gate park are nearby
Please I love Japanese gardens
I have traditional Japanese landscape
YES!!
very much, yes
Plants of Japanese Culture, bonsai trees
Micro gardens
would be very nice to see
Authentic Japanese gardens would be very fulfilling
yes, peace plaza is a wasted ugly space
love gardens
gardens would be sweet
I am interested in seeing more Japanese garden settings
I like the areas that are already here
not what he envisioned, would like to see it modernized
would love to see on if space permits
would be an excellent addition
requires too much space
Flowers would enhance experience
would help out with the atmosphere
Yes, would be a great place to relax and photograph
for kids to play in
Would be a nice place to relax and get inspired

Garden
Would like to see that
It would be a nice place to relax and think
see previous comment
The banners change for the seasons. I think more decoration would emphasize the importance of seasons with a Japanese touch
visited Japan's gardens & would love to see them
has visited Japan and would love to see the beauty brought here
Would love to see the fish again
more greenery
would be interested to see one
It needs anything to help
would love to see in person
love the pools with fish, but want a more authentic feel
always wanted to see one in person
would love to see a garden here
always wondered if they would
see previous comment – why he came to Japantown
pottery and landscaping
Indifferent
Karaoke and park
tea ceremony, samurai fight
Women in Kimono
singing performance
its ok now, but more Asian the better
dance, music
Festivals
Festivals
like to see both new & old representations of Japan & the culture
Gardens
films - more Asian American films, www.valorwithhornor.com
more j fashion

Tori gates, Tokyo-esque buildings
more traditional monuments
Tori gates
Japanese movie festivals
cultural arts, i.e. cooking, art, music
ask people from Japan to help establish businesses - need more stores here
indifferent
More displays of Japanese tradition
if placed in the middle of Peace Plaza, where they can be fully appreciated and enjoyed
see previous comment
if kid friendly
wondering where this would be put
see prior comment – more beauty
would be a great place to relax I imagine
would bring him to Japantown much more a free place to relax
expecting to see this, disappointed not to
was expecting to see some sort of gardens
always wondered why there was no such setting constructed
this is what was expecting to see
would love to see a garden
It does seem to be lacking traditional landscaping
Does not feel space would allow such a setting
Loves Japanese style gardens
This would enhance the experience. Line streets with cherry blossom trees
would love to see a Japanese garden
Definitely
would like to see Koi fish too
haven't seen one in person

Love the idea
It would be an excellent place to take pictures
would love to see a Japanese style garden
would love to see Japanese gardens
they don't expect to see a garden in a big city like SF
very much so, to add to Japanese feel and culture
sounds like an excellent idea
I would like area open for sitting and drinking tea
1 - culture shops, things a western US citizen would not see - not touristy things
Have not seen one, would like to
have always wanted to see one and relax in the setting
Perfect for children
Absolutely
not necessarily
would love to see more beauty added to community
It is beautiful and allows visitors to rest their feet
Seating
Please
love the peaceful setting & Koi fish would offer
It enhances the charm of Japantown
don’t care
love the idea, has not seen one
love the buildings, feels it would add to the atmosphere
love the architecture and feel, the garden would add to it
love to relax in plaza, would be great there
would be a great place to relax

<u>What would enhance your experience?</u>

More Japanese architecture and gardens

more cultural/family activities and festivals
more inexpensive places to eat- something on the go
more anime stores, stores for young people to just hang out
Japanese gardens
satisfied as is
advanced technology stores
paper towels in bathrooms, frozen yogurt shop
more historical info, may a tour of area
more stores aimed at men, seems like many stores are female oriented only
some shops too expensive, more store/places for children
more stores like Daiso, Ichiban, inexpensive but good quality merchandise
more traditional Japanese architecture
anime
I care about the environment, eating sustainable, organic and local food. I would like to see an emphasis on clean technology and more earth friendly foods. How about a Japanese movie fest, i.e. -Kurosawa
I would like to see more authentic Japanese style buildings & gardens
The area in front of Hana café worked much better as an open area with seating. Get rid of that awful claustrophobic concrete fish pond
larger grocery stores - maybe a farmer's market of sort on some days would be nice
More cherry blossoms, I thought I would see more of them
More bookstores/media stores w/unique goods
A larger café for casual meeting spot
satisfied with Japantown
Less expensive stores, but still willing to shop here because stores are unique
more places to sit inside the mall
satisfied
wishes the historical plaques were more visible - more cultural

information vs. just shops
Likes the specialty stores but wishes they were not as overpriced
Less expensive stores
More festivals, more gardens
Likes as is- nicer & more organized that Japantown in San Jose
More places that are more leisurely
Likes Japantown as is
more variety in restaurants and different places to eat on lunch breaks
less expensive shops
Was not sure what to expect, but likes what he sees
The bridge is nice but does not feel authentic
More child friendly stores, hard to bring kids to stores w/so much fragile/small things
wish I could find cheaper places, but will come anyway
There are not that many anime stores only one
More Japanese "culture" history
A Koi fish pond and/or Zen garden
Happy the way it is
More Japanese clothing stores
enjoying experience - expectations met
was not sure what to expect but love the culture
Would love to see a Japanese Festival sometime
More beauty, less buildings, but overall likes the atmosphere & vibe here
More places for kids to run around and have fun
Less expensive, unique jewelry stores, as likes to collect jewelry from her travels
more places for kids to play (has small children)
have not seen individuals that are dressed in traditional Japanese garments like Kimonos
More activities/places that are more children friendly would be nice
met expectations the Japantown in LA is not like this one here

would like more Manga/Anime
More inexpensive shops like Ichiban
More automotive stores and anime stores
really like the unique things you can find here, has found better gifts here than anywhere in SF so far
Would love to see video store updated - great selection but feels old
for more restaurants to serve sake
more Japanese artwork displays would be nice
traditional Japanese style eateries would love to experience that
Gardens, not expecting but would love to see
More Japanese architecture and gardens
Enjoyed the wishes on the trees
children enjoy anime shops, would like to see more
since I live nearby would like to see a larger grocery store
expectations were met, not sure what to expect
More Japanese architecture
Happy with experience so far
wasn't expecting to see antique shop to be gone, would love to see it re-open or another one be put in
more anime stores
less expensive shopping
Outside exhibits and activities besides just the mall
Expected to see a dirty place like Chinatown, but was nothing like that at all.
Less expensive stores
finally the fountain was taken
more gardens
Music stores
More festivals, more gardens
More traditional Japanese clothing stores
more places to just hang out besides Peace Plaza, perhaps a youth center

more historical cultural education information
more inexpensive restaurants
happy as is, loves the unique things you can find in Japantown that you can't find in other places
perhaps a larger grocery store, like Uwajimaya in Seattle
frozen yogurt shop
satisfied so far- unique shops& variety of restaurants to choose from
Japanese Shops: Food, Art, Kitchenware
More anime stores
more traditional Japanese clothing
I came for food, would like less expensive stores and restaurants
expecting to see more Japanese style settings
more anime themed stores and clothing
more traditional dressed people, saw very different type of style
It has changed since last time here, wants to see more Japanese art
love the bookstore, but store tends to be pricey
more anime related stores
more stores with anime goods
more museums or cultural activities for tourists
more historical cultural info - daughter and wife are Japanese - would like to teach daughter more about Japanese heritage
more stores like Daiso & Ichiban, less knock-off stores
like Japantown as it is
more traditional Japanese artwork, decorations
more restaurants
More kid oriented activities, places for them to go
more clothing stores, Japanese kimonos, etc.
more outside seating/areas to meet
more historical info, maybe a museum
more traditional style items
shops, some were vacant, it would be nice to see stores or something open

more shops aimed towards children/young people
variety of shops
more places for men to shop, i.e. more car/electronic stores
likes Japantown as it is
more stores like the ones mentioned
more places to sit and relax without having to buy/eat something, and places for kids
Thought there would be more Japanese Antiques/collectibles
more artwork, feels that there is not enough
more clothing stores that are different from what they have now
came to photograph more traditional Japanese structures
less expensive shops for my family
would love to see more Japanese gardens
public space
American food - looking for something other than Japanese food because not familiar w/it
enjoying everything
we would love to feed the fish, also be able to do kids activity
Festivals, music, dancing
more clothing stores, community events
more restaurants that are nicer
Karaoke, cherry trees, cosplay, Japanese clothing, library
cheap Japanese language children's books, used bookstore, geisha
museum, book store, records
Japantown is very peace but also needs more life. Change scenery, or more natural look
a handout with directory of mall, map, history of Japantown/San Francisco
Japanese & Korean cultural experiences & Japanese Restaurants owned by Japanese
Clothing stores
more Japanese style structures

Authentic Japanese restaurant service w/women in Kimono serving traditional Japanese styles sitting on floors
more cafes for casual meeting place
exotic dancer, free stuff
paper towels in bathrooms I cannot emphasize this enough
more places that are cheaper
more shops, cheaper food
more shops, cheaper food
small community events
a ramen stand
More parades, more clothing stores and events
More Japanese plants, but I like the place just the way it is
Wants more cultural crafts, Senior citizens craft - like Kimochi. Glad it’s open on Saturday now - to sell the craft
It was a great visit, my 2nd time here and I wouldn't change anything
More information on places to go and see
Enjoyed it, not expecting anything
more modern Japan
more inexpensive shops
more outdoor gardens
Expecting to see a more fast paced modern area
expected it to be more modern, maybe more electronic stores
loves Jtown could not ask for more in the past 10 years a lot has been accomplished
an actual koi fish pond with a garden setting
happy with experience, impressed w Japantown
more authentic Japanese style art and buildings
more historical information, more maps
the fountains, nice to have the water running
enjoy it as is, likes Japanese culture and like seeing it in SF
feel that it’s not authentic, overpriced, does not like the atmosphere
more anime stores

expected to see Japanese Style gardens
wish they still had the fountain
expecting to see more food not restaurants but stores
needs more kid friendly places
more inexpensive stores w unique goods like Ichiban-kan
cheaper prices in stores, sales
less expensive shopping
more variety in restaurants
more activities, martial arts demos, etc.
Japanese gardens - a place to visit w grandmother outside the home
Japanese culture for young people
More Japanese architecture to photograph
Although dollar store is cheap, most shops are expensive
A good music store, not necessarily only Japanese music but all kinds
More open shops
Would like to see more architecture like that of Japan
Although much cleaner than Chinatown, was expecting to be cleaner
More Japanese gardens
likes the way it is
Was expecting to see more Japanese cultural related places such as a tea ceremony shop not hidden in the corner.
More anime shops
slightly less expensive stores, like specialty goods but some overpriced
good as is
pretty satisfied w/experience so far, feels Japantown is most peaceful/relaxed place in SF
thought there would be more stores specializing in anime
is pleased w/Japantown so far, happy to see culture being celebrated
More cultural opportunity. Not only food and Manga
My experiences here are always great
more green landscapes & gardens
More cultural attractions

Japanese themed stores, Japanese animation store, Cosplay, J-Pop
more shops
don't know
mix of historical & modern trends in Japan
more shops with Japanese cartoon, maybe clothing shops since there already a lot of food
More affordable traditional food & culture
less expensive stores
J-town seems like an old school mall with tacky decorations, thought there would be more of authentic experience
needs remodeling and more authentic food
Would like to see it be more busy, much better than LA's J-town, don't want to see it end up like it
loved everything and had so much fun
Jtown needs major renovations or a new look
love the food, but really the best Japanese food is not here
a lot different, miss the fountain
less expensive stores
traditional dressed people
less expensive stores and more authentic items not made in China
more places to get mochi ice cream w/out having to sit down
Nothing
more electronic/technology stores - more modern architecture
more traditional Japanese architecture & designs
more anime themed stores
nothing like Japantown as is, maybe more festivals, activities
authentic Japanese tea garden
gardens, more beauty and less concrete
More good bakeries with Japanese pastries
another grocery store with more variety
more anime stores
more variety of stores and restaurants

it was great
no expectations
like it as is
Night life experience
more of a nightlife for the younger generation to bring them to Japantown
updated indoor mall
more native Japanese plants/statures/cultural aspects
More Japanese people and karaoke
Stuff
festivals for fun, more shops
more plants, better scenery
expand the place, more karaoke
show, first time
more Japanese store/food
Culture
not sure
More restaurants
Always fun
Actually less closed businesses
more of these festivals throughout the year
more street life
nothing, Japantown rocks
More unique shops
visit for fun
fashion
more stores, activities
more stores
more events and workshops
more vendors activities
it is great the way it is
higher quality arts and crafts

Love Jtown. bowling alley back
Revitalize Japan Center- better flow, feeling, more light and space. (now feels like Osaka subway)
more places for 20-something to eat, hangout, shop, more places for JA nonprofits
more towers/tori gates
it was very fulfilling
concerts and street fairs
just part of the neighborhood
more affordable movie (not Kabuki), more Korean restaurants, don't hear about things frequently - need better outreach - news online
Lectures in the Japanese Bunka
establish more stores, to set up "helping" to build business around here
More handout areas like arcade PC Bang, comic rental, Japanese fashion, street food vendors, karaoke, advertise events and to raise more awareness of Japantown
I had no expectation other than positive things about Hotel Kabuki
more cultural events and shows, etc.
better shops
Japanese music and Japanese dress
Japanese music
more greenery, trees
more shops for men, feels like many of the shops here target women only
historical information about Japantown and Japanese culture
things like Zen garden are nice touches but bad placement, not many people take time to notice
Nothing
more modern restaurants, like the Asian Fusion Bistro
more community activities
more green gardens, cherry blossom trees, etc.- less concrete

more bookstores like the one already here
more places for kids to play
happy with Japantown as is
more media/music shops
likes as is, more lively than LA Japantown, say little Tokyo is dead
more historical information
frozen yogurt shops
satisfied with experience as is
more covered / inside seating
more festivals/celebrations of Japanese culture
art stores/home décor/love Asian influenced décor
tour of Japantown/ information center
more places for kids/teens to hang out
Koi fish pond, garden settings, more beauty, less retail
more comfortable places to sit and read
more Japanese gardens and architecture
Less expensive stores! Ha-ha and more stuff for guys
loves Japantown as it is, although feels it is a bit expensive
being able to take a small tour of Japantown, tour bus simply dropped them off- would like more information about the area
overall very pleased, exceeded expectations
wanted to see more Japanese style architecture/ buildings
Japan is very modern, was expecting to see more modern feel & gardens
more community involvement and events
Haven't seen everything but would like to see more authentic style Japanese art /architecture
More Japanese people
would think it would be a good place to photograph but not many thing to portrait
Does not frequent very often because of the prices but would like to see more Japanese media and entertainment

I enjoyed the Tanabata wishes
likes the restaurants and atmosphere, feels expectations were met
more historical information, maybe a small Japanese museum for example
More elegant, traditional architecture
more shops, more green gardens, more cherry blossoms in April, more Obon type festivals
More traditional Japanese restaurants (sit on floor, etc.)
more variety in restaurants
More Japanese temples
Expectations were met
flowers and gardens
less expensive stores- more shops like Daiso
more shoe and clothing stores
More anime specialty shops
not sure what to expect, like what is here
Was expecting a Zen gardens of sorts
less expensive tourist traps
thought there would be more cherry blossoms trees
although I figured my way around, wish there was a better map for people who haven't been here before
always wanted to see a Japanese festival
disappointed to see that the fountain is gone
more cherry blossoms
more festivals and activities families can enjoy
more Japanese style art, sculptures
Less touristy
authentic architecture
more Japanese style areas for pictures
Less expensive shops
more discount stores and things on sale
would like to see Koi fish in a garden pond setting

More Japanese architecture
More shops that are less expensive
No expectations, seen everything
enjoying their experience so far, feel their expectations have been met
more sailor moon appearances and free stuff
more places to play like games
this place is perfect
More Japanese history information other than just shops
More Japanese style building and places
Japanese gardens with Koi fish
Haven't explored all of Japantown, just walked in
likes to come here for the peaceful atmosphere, to meditate
More bookstores
More Japanese culture and authentic food
some more children stuff
gardens more culture specific
very interested in anime, mostly come here for anime products, and would like to see more stores that specialize in this
could be improved but not sure exactly how
more cool little shops
wish I could find things that were cheaper
Japanese grocery store with fresh food/produce/fish, etc.
art displays
more craft, cultural activities
Happy with Jtown the way it is
More Japanese stores, more history, more Japanese culture (without Western Influence) more Japanese families and people working in J-Town
More Japanese architecture, more cosplay/anime shops
More cultural activities and tour
more fairs and cultural activities

wish I knew more about events going on
would like to see a remodel of J-town, more modern with traditional styles
more inexpensive stores like Ichiban-Kan & Daiso
more music / entertainment stores
More convenient stores that aren’t as expensive
Although Ichiban is cheap, other stores are not
Satisfied
thought I would see Japanese landscapes/settings
doesn’t know
bigger Nigiya
More benches
disappointed that Japantown wasn't bigger (compared to Chinatown)
anime stores
More places for kids
music stores
more chairs
more parades, more authentic, more clothing stores
Foods
all good
more cool Japanese items and price tags that say 15$ or less
doesn't feel that Japantown needs improvement, so far is satisfied
more free food and good attitudes
more historical information/exhibits and more specialty anime stores
loves to come to frequent the restaurants here, more specialty food stores in particular
more comedians, lockers, cosplayers
more seating
video game stores and media stores
more anime themed stores
gardens, more Japanese art and cultural activities
more cheap shops with unique things

more places for children, kid stores
a beauty supply store w Japanese goods - more variety than Ichiban
gardens, outdoor feeling in shopping mall
would like to see more koi fish, traditional Japanese architecture
more festivals/group activities
More cultural information/ historical education
More cultural events
More seating areas and chairs
more clothing /shoe stores, more upscale shops like downtown
more anime goods, videos
a good music store
Gardens
cleanliness on street and mall area
I would love a Japanese video game store (they are all over in Japan) a GOOD bread bakery (like Japan)
more cultural activities
less expensive shopping
satisfied with experience
would like to see stores that were less expensive
more manga store
a map of the area and its settings
Maybe more historical information about the Japanese culture & their influence on San Francisco
A koi fish pond
more stores for young people
More cherry blossoms and koi fish
Nothing seems to really change, shops & restaurants are the same every time
love the area, but wish getting here was easier
less hassle while parking, more festivals
too much stuff that doesn't meet expectations, too expensive, not authentic

seeing like there is a lot of construction to make it better, but doesn't seem any better, not enough variety of stores
More traditional architecture

Would you like to see more cultural/historical sites in Japantown?

great family experience
important to cultural interest
Do not know how to visit other cultural historical sites
Great to teach kids about their heritage
yes and no
tea gardens
very
Any ideas??
Sure, but I'm not aware of these cultural/historical sites
Nagasaki Memorial
what is there
of course
sure
would be interested in learning more about both if it were easily accessible
samurai heritage
Student, not working not much time
have not visited any
have not visited other
have not visited other cultural sites
have not visited other cultural sites here
will find out today
expected this also

very much so
Maybe, it would depend on cost and type of /frequency of exhibits
not aware
not aware
would love to share this with children
very interested in seeing more of this

What will bring you back?

It is the cleanliness and safety of Japantown
nice restaurants and its safe atmosphere
crepes, unique shops
Relaxing atmosphere of Japantown vs. other parts of the city
unique stores w/one of a kind gifts, great sushi
Japanese culture & goods that can't be found elsewhere
Safety & beauty of Japantown - unique stores
friends and shops
more information about Japanese history in America - but great restaurants here
great stores and food
food and shops
Great quality unique products that are affordable
Food
great authentic restaurants
Movies, Kabuki spa, SFCP. Samovar Tea Café has excellent teas, snacks and Japanese style food. If that were her, I'd come a lot more. I like it when it stays Japanese not so Korean, there are too many shops selling plasticky things
Vacation
bookstore when visiting brother again
Work and I come to shop and relax when I am nearby

Restaurants
unique stores
atmosphere compared to other parts of SF
grocery store and restaurants
next vacation
Food of course
Food is amazing
The restaurants and unique shops that you cannot find anywhere else in the bay area
Unique shopping experience
The food
Stores and food
work and shopping
comes here frequently to eat, often orders out
any opportunity he gets
The entire experience has been pleasant
food (great restaurants) one of the favorite parts of San Francisco so far
I come back regardless but always will come back for special events and festivals
More anime stuff
Really likes the idea of Japanese gardens to enhance experience
Will come anyways but would like to see an environment true to the culture
shops and restaurants
Shops
interesting selection of stores
Overall the experience has been nice and would love to come again if in the area
The overall cultural experience
atmosphere
More activities and places oriented towards children

experience and atmosphere
Restaurants
Whenever I am on vacation
Family
The shops are excellent would definitely come back if I had more money
more anime and manga shops
salon, Ichiban, food
Auto store
Long Live Japantown, unique experience
video store and bookstore
Restaurants
shopping
food
More gardens/beauty. Very much likes the atmosphere though already. Wanted us to know that our Japantown is a wonderful, peaceful haven in this busy city.
More gardens/architecture reflecting traditional Japan
Will come anyway but would like to see more Japanese style bldgs. instead of the one in the plaza
children
work and necessities
Children and whenever in the area
more authentic Japanese areas that would add to the atmosphere
The food, it is good, on their way now
Restaurants, another antique store, to whom it may concern bring the wonderful antique store back
anime stores and restaurants
The food is amazing, I want to move here
family
unlike Chinatown I can understand store ownership here and feel although smaller needs nothing more

visits the bookstore frequently
festivals
experience of Japantown
Stores and food
Pictures and stationary
restaurants here, Japantown atmosphere
Please provide tour of Japantown historical sites. Japantown is clean & nice atmosphere, more peaceful
Food, experience
Unique shops and food
giving Japantown a deeper Japanese look not so western
crepes, restaurants
variety and uniqueness
Anime
any special events and festivals
Food
Food was amazing
anime and manga
The food was great and stores have things I cannot find anywhere else.
Anytime I can come visit
The bookstore and shopping
restaurants and shops
Manga, anime
great atmosphere here and good food
beautiful area of the city, safe and clean and great shops /food
shops
inexpensive specialty shops and great restaurants
atmosphere
more shopping and eating
I love the stores
my kids

shopping
food, more gardens
food/shops
A map of the area and all its shops sores, restaurants and attractions
Cultural experience
food more unique
when visiting family again, come here to eat
shopping
shopping
more open space to sit and play
n/a a frequent visitor
The shopping is nice, but it is the food that brings me back
Being in SF, so I would visit Jtown
My wife will
food/shops/atmosphere
The community and stores
good experience
it is beautiful here & would live to come back, just more American food but says area is very pretty
Japantown favorite place in SF so far, wish Japantown was larger, foods, shops, people have been very friendly even w/language barrier
food, fun items, Japanese culture in a way Westerners can understand
food, Museum, cultural tours would be nice
I will continue to visit for as long as it is here, keep Japantown in SF
loves the area, really good restaurants, more authentic
cosplay, books, stationery, incense, kimonos, food, supermarket
incense, swords, anime, boos, manga, kimono, Sophie's crepes, cosplay, the Hanami
the sex
Scenery, s hops, more gardens this is the closest I get to going to Japan. Originally from Hawaii, and now lives here for 3 years now
Is there one entrance gate, welcome sign at every entrance? This

shows where Japantown begins/ends. For courtesy/hospitality, have 2 hosts, welcoming visitors at entrance corner, dressed in Japanese kimonos/clothing
Food
Bookstore
he will bring himself back, make things cheaper
Japantown as a whole, the entire atmosphere and experience. Wants to be contacted as too numerous to mention here
More café style restaurants, please have a competition to redesign Peace Plaza
Concerts, free stuff
Bring back paper towels in the bathroom, the hand dryers are nasty!!!
The friendly atmosphere
food, events
food, good, stationery, books
book store, dishes, clothes
Food, book store. I actually like the mall, I wish there was more contemporary Japanese stuff.
Changes to the area, more of an agricultural setting, as well as shopping centers with low prices. Shopping centers that open longer is also something I feel would help improve Japantown
Ichiban
The wish trees are a great touch! Maybe some brighter colors?
Ikebana demonstration, cheaper food and craft
Ichiban
The restaurants and shops, so far very pleased with experience. Would like more info on events/things to do - Information booth
vacation
BART going all the way to Sacramento
the shopping, a frequent patron on Japantown
peaceful atmosphere on weekdays
The atmosphere is amazing

Frequent visitor, the atmosphere and culture brings me back
Although frequents this place, loves the entire setting Jtown offers
The fish, Ate wonderful sushi
n/a frequents
food & shops Japanese atmosphere
Frequent visitor, wants to introduce artwork (contemporary Japanese art) in the windows. Mailing list - put on mailing list for future events notification
nothing needed, will come back
Won't come back, no Japanese speaking people
Friends and restaurants here
Hopefully a job. Like Japantown very much so far
Japanese gardens
Friends and only place I know where I can get authentic Japanese food to
good restaurants
Ichiban-kan. I shop there frequently for specialty gifts, beauty & household goods. Likes Japantown mall as it is, fears more construction will harm small businesses
food and shops, better prices
unique shops/items that cannot be found just anywhere, many gifts, etc.
lessons, shops
cultural events
The food
when visiting again, also loves to eat at Mifune
Whenever visiting SF
comes frequently because of convenience
Japanese Culture
Food and shopping
Love the atmosphere and whenever my friend lets me I will visit
Food

Zen like gardens/koi fish ponds
same shops, likes it as is
Food & Festivals. Nihon-machi & Cherry Blossom festivals. Should host wagashi workshops & have an Obon festival which helps people understand more of the culture not only as something fun but the importance
Anime
Will come back anyways for goods, likes visiting Japantown. No other suggestions, enjoys Japantown
comes here regularly, happy to see people interested in improving Japantown
The food & shops here, also the relaxed feel, nice contrast to rest of busy SF
anime shops, if she finds them to be worthwhile
plans to return for shopping and experience
Ichiban-kan
any attractive event
The architecture of the Japantown complex, a lot of natural light shines through ceiling glass, easy parking. Please upgrade bathrooms
would like to visit cultural historical sites
More events that observe Japanese culture, tradition and language
used to live here, hopes to return
Suggested to review how Japan caters to Americans in Japan
I like environment, cheaper prices
I live here and I like taking Japanese language. Good food and like Ichiban and Daiso
Because I have interest in the Japanese culture
Everything. Love the whole experience, bookstore and hardware
Not sure, stores were disappointing
all my favorite stores
The awesome food and shops
Ichiban-kan, Pika Pika, crepes

Bookstore
Always will come back
The small gift shops like Sanrio, will bring my sister back
My girlfriend will bring me back
When in the area
Hardware store and the peacefulness
Stores and food
Great sushi
shops and foods
safety and beauty of Japantown
great unique shops
have chosen to eat & stay here more than any other area during our stay in SF
loves that SF is so culturally diverse and that you can get great Japanese goods right here in the city
great cultural atmosphere
Japanese goods that can't be bought anywhere else in the city
great culture with awesome finds at shops
great food/sushi and atmosphere
bookstore & restaurants
book Fairs
Food and sticker pictures
Been coming here since I was a child
shops and walk
great atmosphere, gives me a very welcoming feeling
because of the community, restaurants, shops
Foods, good restaurants
I live here
For the food
pika pika, pocky
to hang out
pika pika, festivals

will come back
to sight see
Festivals
yes will come back
nice fair, yearly visit possible
Shops
cultural experience/food
Food
more parking
enjoyable - excellent products
History of Jtown in SF, restaurants
its clean and well kept
more street food, yaki nigiri, tako yaki
will come back of course
for food and fun
for fun
shopping for some Japanese foods
to see what's on sale and what's new, I hope there will be more festivals
to walk around
shop and eat, more public events
atmosphere and events
different from any other place visited
food and shopping
Resurface Post St, add to charm, like New People but don't' like the architecture of the building, here in Jtown or Condo on corner, too massive and blocky, not human scale
will always come back
to shop and visit friends, volunteer
street fairs
Love this place, worked here in high school. Replica pagoda with history, etc.

shopping, events
Will come back to Japantown
food and culture
Always will come back
Great cultural experience
Yes, will come back to Jtown
I come regularly
Yes, because lots to do here
Yes, will come back
This is a wonderful place
I live near here
Japanese Pop culture is actually quite big among the Asian and local teenage population. Consider targeting this group
More of the same
bank, stores & restaurants
I like Japan Culture
Culture
Please add gardens. Walks, restaurants, more nice touches like Zen garden for example
Like the unique shopping experience of Japantown
friends and restaurants
The food and experience
Sushi
Family
Stores
Atmosphere
family and restaurants
Shops
to eat here
Restaurants
visit family again and to shop
peaceful atmosphere compared to other parts of busy SF

restaurants
more festivals and to shop/eat in Japantown
atmosphere of Japantown vs. other parts of SF
another vacation
Family
If gardens/ponds were added
cleanliness, safety of this neighborhood - feels safer here compared to other parts of SF
always comes back to read here
likes stores and restaurants here
Probably my girlfriend
Plans to return regularly for the food
likes Japantown so far, different from rest of SF, has found some neat /unique things in the stores here
Japantown very clean and compared to Chinatown is much better. Would love to come back
Food and atmosphere
The feeling of being home although in a foreign land
Always will come back
Overall experience has been nice so far, however less expensive shops would be nice and food is excellent. Needs better maps as it is hard to navigate to find what you are looking for
Japanese gardens would bring us back
Normally I don't come here but it worked out that way with friend, but love the atmosphere and culture
Less expensive stores and the bookstore
I will come anyway, shopping, cafes
Will come back, as this is the favorite part of SF
food, shopping history of area
The overall experience has always been nice and welcoming. Would love to visit more often in time allowed
Food

experience, shopping great for souvenir's
My family will drag me back
The food is great
Sanrio Store and shopping
Peacefulness of Japantown
Will come back anyway
Anime stores and sushi
when times allows
When I am in the Area
More relaxing areas
A relaxing Zen garden
I come here often but would love to see a Japanese garden
Friend, whenever in the area
always here
More events and activities, shops are the same after awhile
I always come to Japantown
whenever time provides
always comes
More Japanese gardens and family activities
When visiting SF
My girlfriend
The shopping whenever in SF
Japanese garden with Koi fish
More authentic style buildings
more festivals and activities
The restaurants and shops
shopping, food, Godzilla
sales or festivals, anything new, speaking on behalf of 5 people from my group
The shopping and restaurants, likes Japantown's peaceful atmosphere
More Japanese gardens
Eating, toy stores and movies

Shopping
Not sure
This is her neighborhood and fells lucky to live close by. Loves this area and nothing needs improving , this is a spiritual peaceful place
Will come whenever they are back in town
The shopping. Japanese shopping is very exotic. It is interesting to experience other cultures inside of the U.S. because Denmark does not have a diverse cultural area
Comes regularly. Sometimes feels unsafe at night, would like safety/security improved, especially outside parking
A frequent visitor
more anime shops, likes Japantown and comes here frequently, although not Japanese
would like to see more collectables/DVD stores this would bring me back more often
family and vacation
I always come back but more competitive pricing would be nice
Restaurants
continued Japan feeling or an atmosphere; fairs and festivals or things like the Ikebana demonstrations
Cultural stuff, cultural store
Sanrio Store and sushi
Food, shops culture. Removing J-town bowl was a horrible idea. As a child who frequently bowled since 1984, JTB was my introduction to Japantown and all the stores. Sadly little has changed since 1984. I'd like to introduce my daughter to other things aside from the usual touristy items. There has to be a way to draw more Japanese families to this area (to live) aside from a "once a month" jaunt to the grocery store. Safety is a major concern and must be addressed. Also, if there is a way to grow Japantown it's not just Webster-Laguna. I believe that bringing a new generation of Japanese families to Japantown is important; while I am not Japanese, the bowling alley provided after

school activities for me to learn & appreciate the area. Japantown really needs this to continue to grow; otherwise it will slowly wither away where the stores are not even Japanese owned or run. Thank you.
atmosphere and environment
Japanese culture, Japantown very clean and safe
shopping and food
bookstore and karaoke
Have more things about Japan, OK??
the food, convenience of grocery store
always visits
Unique shops and gifts
when time permits
?
Restaurants
food, although disappointed by Japantown's size, did like it much better than Chinatown - feels safes & cleaner
I don't know
the food and experience
when I have time
If it is here
parades and changes
food
cheap things, make everything cheaper
plans to visit again w/friends family - enjoying restaurants so far
The people of Japantown
more anime stores
Tries to be environmentally conscious and eat healthy - why she love to come have sushi here, wouldn't go anywhere else in the city for sushi/Japanese cuisine
My friends and cosplay events, more Japanese culture
More Japanese cultural arts

stores and food
atmosphere feels safer here vs. other parts of SF - food and shops
shopping and best sushi around
cleanliness and safety of area- like that there are security guards here
hair salon and shops
Food
whenever I can visit friends again
comes back for unique shopping and good food
don’t know, other toys
Japantown is peaceful and beautiful and has great food too
great shops - I shop here every week
When I get more money. More music stores
Salon, Daiso, Sanrio stores
the food
friends
stores
The shops and restaurants, more pop culture for young people
The Japanese supermarket, food, Ichiban-kan. More good shops, less cheap knock-off stores. Too many fake merchandise stores
Lessons/shopping and food
family and shopping
food
Whenever in the area
Anime video store
I enjoy this area, would return for shops, restaurants and atmosphere. I would like to see a Japan center Visitors website for info on future events
The atmosphere and cultural experience
food/shops/cultural experience
More gardens
When I’m in SF
the shops have things you cannot find anywhere else

The crepe shop and the cleanliness of it
Soko hardware, bakery, ceramic store
bookstore
the restaurants/food

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