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... *Glide with us through the city's outposts of good food, design, retail and more. First one to the bridge!* ...

Food and drink

— Edible options

Locally sourced, market-driven, farm-to-table: these core tenets of San Francisco's food scene may seem tired but, with farmland and wine country so close by, they're upheld with earnestness. Chefs regularly visit multiple markets a week and restaurants serving out-of-season produce are shunned.

But while there's an array of fine-dining destinations, this isn't a fine-dining city. Three-star restaurants spawn casual spinoffs that often become more popular than the originals: the young technology community has little interest in the fussy or stuffy. There's also a wealth of street food – especially in the Mission, where the burritos are unrivalled elsewhere in the US. We hope you're hungry.

Restaurants Top tables



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The Big 4, Nob Hill *Decadent history*

In both name and spirit, The Big 4 pays homage to the railroad tycoons whose influence dominated San Francisco in the late 19th century. The dining room is masculine and lavish, with emerald-green leather banquettes and white tablecloths, and features a grand piano.

The space underwent renovations in 2014 and the menu was lightened up when Kevin Scott took over the kitchen and brought a modern touch to the classic US dishes. Perfect for a martini and a steak, with live music, a roaring fire and plenty of people-watching.

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