

Need an escape? Don't have a lot of time? Living in Silicon Valley provides you with all kinds of options for a short getaway. From the beach to the mountains, wineries to windsurfing, the South Bay is one of the best hubs for launching into world-class scenery and activities. So why not take a day trip?



Burlingame, Ca.

Written by JOHANNA HICKLE Photography by DANIEL GARCIA

Though San Francisco is an impressive city, one can handle only so much fog, so many cramped streets. Seek respite in Burlingame, “San Francisco’s Sunny Suburb.” The surrounding hills act as a barrier against the ocean mist, resulting in mild weather year-round and heightening the allure of outdoor activities. The smaller population means less crowding, with all the city comforts of restaurants and specialty shops.

If you’re coming from the South Bay, you *could* exit the I-280 onto Chateau Drive. But don’t. Though you’ll arrive a few minutes later, follow the CA-35 onto Skyfarm Drive for a picturesque drive past grand houses nestled between eucalyptus and Dutch elm trees. One estate, the mostly hedge-ensconced Rose Court Mansion, was featured in the classic oddball film *Harold and Maude*.

When you arrive in Burlingame, start your day off by breakfasting downtown at the **Jougert Bar**. Choose from one of the signature Greek yogurt bowls or freelance by selecting your own toppings. For those in need of morning caffeine, there’s Turkish coffee with brown sugar and cardamom.

Just around the corner is the **Burlingame Museum of Pez Memorabilia**, which boasts the 2008 Guinness World Record for largest pez dispenser. The museum now includes a banned toys section with inmates like the Snacktime Kid Cabbage Patch Doll, whose motorized mouth munches on fake food and real hair alike.

Weave in and out of the downtown shops until you reach the far side of Burlingame Avenue. Then take a lunch break at **Rise Pizzeria**. Complementing the wood-fired pizzas are fine details in wood, from the dark walnut serving boards to the 50 salvaged douglas fir ceiling joists repurposed as a wood floor inlay. In the middle of the action are Nonni and Foozi, twin wood-fired ovens hand-built in Italy and shipped to California—all 10,000 pounds of them.

For a contrast with the bustling urban energy of downtown, drive to **Coyote Point Recreational Area**. It’s technically in San Mateo, just outside Burlingame, but it’s worth the border transgression. If you have little ones, put on your imagination caps at Magic Mountain Playground by exploring the three-story castle play structure and battling the two purple dragons rising out of the tanbark. If questing isn’t your thing, bike or walk along one of Coyote Point’s paths. The flat Bay Trail offers a route right beside the water. The elevated Bluff Trail winds through a grove of eucalyptus and Monterey cypress and points the way to the tide pools. It also has enough picnic benches to give rest to a small army.

Along Bluff Trail, you’ll stumble upon **CuriOdyssey**, a science and wildlife center for families. Bobcats, otters, and an aviary of feathered friends are among the many tenants within the 25 animal habitats. Hands-on science exhibits, both indoors and

out, provide kids with a sensory learning experience.

In need of a snack? Make a pilgrimage to that sweet tooth Mecca, **IT’S-IT Ice Cream Headquarters and Factory Shop**. They don’t give tours, but they do sell IT’S-IT memorabilia and all the hard-to-find flavors. If you want to pay tribute to creator George Whitney, enjoy the original IT’S-IT, with vanilla ice cream sandwiched between oatmeal cookies dipped in dark chocolate.

Make use of that energy spike at **GoKart Racer**. Don a snazzy jumpsuit and helmet, rev that 9-horsepower Honda engine, and peel around the rubber tire track at 35 miles an hour. The cars run on E85 Bio Fuel, which reduces exhaust emissions and makes the ride more environmentally friendly.

The big finale of your trip will take careful consideration. When differentiating a good day trip from a great one, it all comes down to dinner. If negitoro maki and salmon belly nigiri excite those taste buds, try **Sakae Sushi and Grill**. If lomo saltado and chicharron de pollo appeal, try Peruvian restaurant **Limón Rotisserie**. And if steak tacos and a barrel-aged Manhattan entice, **BarrelHouse** is the bar for you.

At the end of the day, you might find it difficult to leave Burlingame’s charming downtown and idyllic shoreline behind. But not to worry: it’ll be there when you return.



Gateway to Downtown Burlingame, at Broadway & California

JOUGERT BAR

1115 Burlingame Ave
Burlingame, CA 94010
650.343.1110

BURLINGAME MUSEUM OF PEZ MEMORABILIA

214 California Dr
Burlingame, CA 94010
650.347.2301

RISE PIZZERIA

1451 Burlingame Ave
Burlingame, CA 94010
650.235.9715

COYOTE POINT

1701 Coyote Point Dr
San Mateo, CA 94401
650.573.2592

CURIODYSSEY

1651 Coyote Point Dr
San Mateo, CA 94401
650.342.7755

**IT'S-IT ICE CREAM HEADQUARTERS
AND FACTORY SHOP**

865 Burlway Rd
Burlingame, CA 94010
650.347.2122

GOKART RACER

1541 Adrian Rd
Burlingame, CA 94010
650.692.7223

SAKAE SUSHI AND GRILL

243 California Dr
Burlingame, CA 94010
650.348.4064

LIMÓN ROTISSERIE

1101 Burlingame Ave
Burlingame, CA 94010
650.727.0050

BARRELHOUSE

305 California Dr
Burlingame, CA 94010
650.340.8642



BarrelHouse



Calrain Station



Rise Pizzeria



Limon Rotisserie

Welcome to Burlingame, CA
Population: 28,806

Burlingame has come a long way from its humble beginnings as a dairy farm in the late 1800s. Today, it is a thriving suburb threaded with parks and woodland areas, a built environment in a flourishing natural setting. Its 18,000 public trees have earned it the nickname "City of Trees."



Eucalyptus Groves