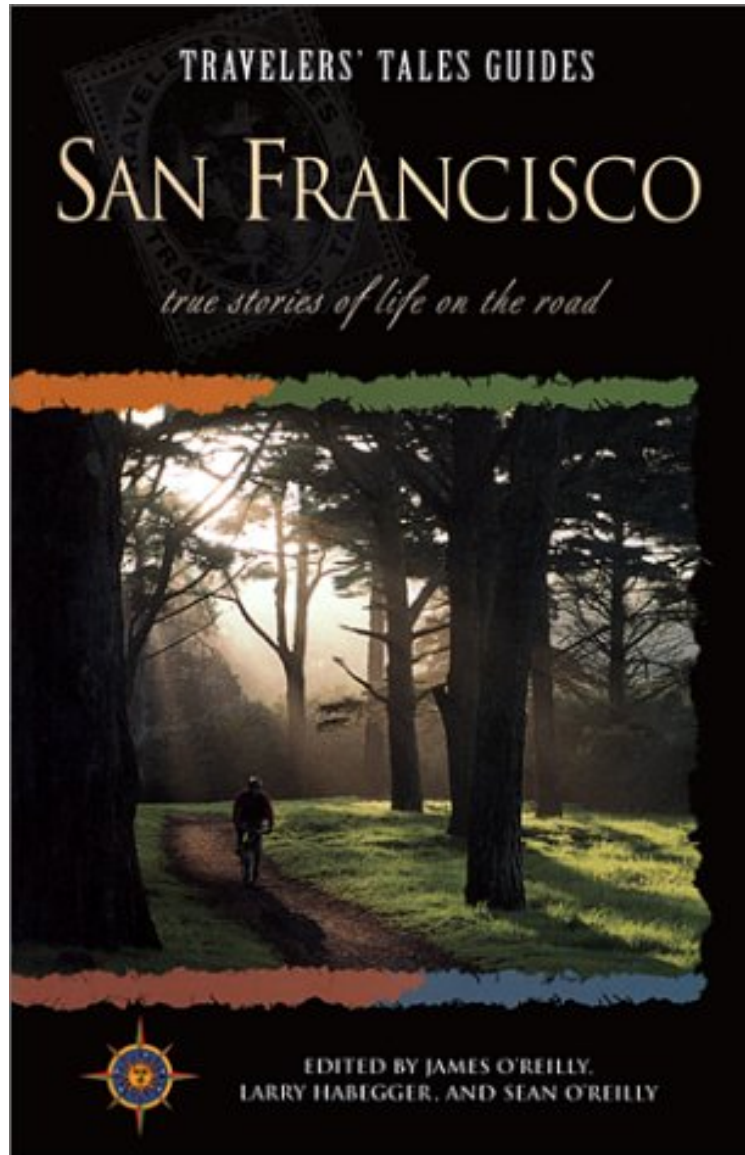


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From Brand: Traveler's Tales : Travelers' Tales San Francisco (Travelers' Tales Guides) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Travelers' Tales San Francisco (Travelers' Tales Guides):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. More than armchair travel By Susan H. I read Tales and loved it. This copy was a gift for a San Francisco friend who loves the stories. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Inspiring Traveler's Tales By A Customer Traveller's Tales San Francisco is a very unusual travel guide. It is more like

a collection of short stories set in, and all about, the most beautiful city on the planet. Each story takes the reader on a journey through either a specific neighborhood, cultural enclave, outdoor activity or unique "only in San Francisco" setting in a way that no other travel guide does. I am a local and tremendously enjoyed reading this guide because it was like taking a tour of The City without leaving my reading room. The story of the "in-line midnight skaters" swooping up down our wonderful hills was quite a ride indeed. Also, the story of a Golden Gate Bridge Jumper, who survived was quite moving. This book is a must for locals who think they know all that goes on in their City.² of 2 people found the following review helpful. The best book available on San Francisco By A Customer I have read many books about San Francisco and this will give anybody incredible insight into the City. If you had one book to read about SF, this should be it.

Only about 220 years old, San Francisco is spoken of with the same wonder as Paris, Venice and Rome. This unique book written for travelers as well as lovers of literature, compliments the traditional guidebook.

From Publishers Weekly What better way to prep for a journey than by reading interesting stories about one's destination? As glimpsed here through the eyes of beatniks, hippies, surfers, "lavender cowboys" and talented writers from all walks, San Francisco comes to vivid, complex life. One short story takes the reader surfing in monstrous waves at Ocean Beach; another, through an incredible history of SF's gay culture linked with a tour de force tale of AIDS and devotion. The diverse memoirs range from a dim sum disaster in Chinatown to the hot tub scene in Elgy Gillespie's wonderfully funny debut ("But letting boldness be my friend, I dropped the towel and plunged right in, with one smooth movement and an almighty splash, only to find that nobody was noticing anyway"). A far cry from a traditional guidebook, the tales also delve into the city's nitty-gritty, with accounts of pit-bull fighting, earthquakes, bad trips in the '60s and the dangers and thrills of a glory hole. Carefully chosen Herb Caen bits, news clips and historical details (the bullfights that once took place outside Mission Dolores Chapel, for example) mesh with the fiction pieces and poems to weave a rich fabric of place and time. For either San Francisco first-timers or third-generation natives, this compilation opens many windows on the city and offers great escapist reading. Maps and graphics not seen by PW. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal The "Travelers' Tales" series changes its focus from foreign countries to the City by the Bay. San Francisco fits well in the series, which gathers diverse articles to give readers an idea of the flavor of a region rather than offering a "go here, see this" guidebook. The appeal is as much for those who already know the city as for those who plan to visit. This book has wonderful articles about surfing at Ocean Beach, rollerblading at night from Golden Gate Park to downtown, the Presidio, and North Beach. Happily missing are the usual lurid "Only in SF" gossipy pieces, which caricature San Francisco as a mischievous theme park. Prominently featured in the short sidebars is Herb Caen, a longtime columnist for the San Francisco Chronicle and well known and trusted as a commentator on the scene. Recommended for travel collections with other "Travelers' Tales" books, and especially for California collections. ?Mary Ann Parker. Dept. of Water Resources Law Lib. Sacramento, Cal. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. From the Publisher San Francisco is "everybody's favorite city," or so the saying goes. Only about 220 years old, it is spoken of with the same wonder as Paris, Venice, and Rome. From the start, when the '49ers first arrived in hordes to scabble for gold, it was a place where "anything goes"; today it is still a reservoir of tolerance, drawing spiritual desperadoes who constantly enrich the human skyline. It is a city of ethnic complexity, delicate Victorian architecture, and startling views of the Pacific Ocean and San Francisco Bay from its forty-odd hills. But more, it's a place where the spirit can be renewed simply by walking the streets, feeling the sea breeze, watching the fog pour over the hills. Geographically, San Francisco straddles an earthquake fault on the edge of a continent -- but for the seeker within, it remains an outpost for the soul. "Java Crawl," "Footprints in the Sand," and "Circle of Gold" are just a few of the selections in this new, diverse collection that reveals the heart and soul of San Francisco. Some of the notable authors included in the book are Herb Caen, Herbert Gold, Meredith Maran, Richard Rodriguez, and Michele Anna Jordan.