

Hotel and Leisure Lawyers

Hotel Review: Grand Hyatt San Francisco



If you are looking for a hotel that is centrally located in downtown San Francisco, check out the Grand Hyatt at Stockton Street situated right in the heart of Union Square.



The 36 storey hotel which towers over the City's main shopping belt has 685 rooms offering stunning views of the City or San Francisco Bay from each room.

The Grand Club suite is located on the upper floors. The suite is very spacious and has an Oriental theme depicted through tastefully selected artwork, authentic wood furniture and object d'art. The lounge area is commanding with capacity to easily host up to 20 guests in your room. Amenities such a wide flat screen TV, hi-fi system and separate dining area invoke a feeling of *"home away from home"* for the discerning traveller. Staying at a huge hotel can sometimes be intimidating for some travellers. That said, a welcome card from the General Manager, complimentary fruit basket and a bottle of local Californian wine on my arrival were unexpected personal touches which went a long way to making my holiday very special indeed.

Beyond the living area lies the bedroom featuring Hyatt's signature Grand Beds wrapped in crisp white

linen. The impressive work station houses the state of the art HP Touch wide-screen PC, complimentary internet access and Wi-Fi access. There is also a sofa by the floor to ceiling window should you wish to relax and unwind.

The bedroom takes you into a "walk in" wardrobe which has a separate shower and private Jacuzzi. Unlike some other 4 star hotels I have stayed at, the Grand Hyatt is one of those few remaining downtown hotels that put space and comfort as their top priority.

Draw the curtains in the living area and bedroom and you will be consumed by the panoramic views of downtown San Francisco. Macys, Tiffany's, Saks Fifth Avenue, Nike Town USA and a cluster of designer boutiques dwarfed by the spectacular view are all within walking distance of the hotel which makes the Grand Hyatt an ideal hotel for the *"shop 'til you drop"* retail experience.



The Grandviews Restaurant is situated high above the city on the 36th floor. Innovative menu selections feature the freshest of local ingredients, skillfully blended to create the sumptuous flavours of

American cuisine tinged with a touch of French flair. Being a consummate lover of fusion cuisine, I decided to have dinner at the hotel shortly after I had checked in. Although my reservation was made at the eleventh hour, the restaurant was able to accommodate my request. The food was well presented and lived up to the reputation of the award winning chefs. Executive sous chef Michael Wong whips up mouth watering dishes with a twist such as lemongrass seared

scallops with green papaya salad, charbroiled sesame baby back ribs with grilled edamame, snake river farms Kurobuta Pork ~ 3 ways (petite pork chop with artichoke ravioli, 'Shaken Pork Belly' parsnip puree, stuffed squash blossom fritters) and Maple Leaf Farms Duck Saltimbocca served with polenta and summer white peach with lavender glaze. It comes as no surprise that the waiter was attentive throughout my dining experience.

Breakfast is also served at the Grandviews Restaurant. In the day, the magnificent windows framing Grandviews offer breathtaking views of the Bay, Alcatraz, the Golden Gate Bridge, Coit Tower, North Beach, Chinatown and the Financial District. The breakfast buffet is however not very comprehensive compared to other Hyatt properties I have stayed at. The service also felt rushed due to the number of guests waiting for a table.

Although the hotel does not have a swimming pool, Hyatt's signature Stay Fit programme includes a 24-hour gym. This is especially useful if you are experiencing jet lag and would like to use the gym in the early hours of the morning.

The Grand Hyatt San Francisco oozed luxury during my four day stay on the West Coast. General Manager, David Nadelman and his team made my stay a very memorable one indeed.



Things to do in San Francisco:

Fisherman's Wharf – spot the seals nestling by Pier 37 and try the local seafood.

Coit Tower – the uphill walk can be a bit tedious but the panoramic views are rewarding.

Alcatraz Island – without a doubt, a “must see”!

Golden Gate Bridge – rent a bicycle to take you across the Bay to Marin County and return by ferry but beware of the hilly terrain.

Chinatown, Italian quarter, Castro and Pacific Heights – soak in the diversity of this vibrant City which makes San Francisco a favourite holiday destination.

Website

www.grandsanfrancisco.hyatt.com

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