



» **Pay a visit** to the stunning California Academy of Sciences ([www.calacademy.org](http://www.calacademy.org)), which reopened in 2008 after an extensive renovation, and is the largest public Platinum LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)-certified building in the world. Check out its energy-generating solar panels and its undulating 2.5-acre green roof, which helps insulate the building and prevent runoff. Inside, the natural-history museum includes a vast aquarium that's home to some 38,000 creatures, a hugely popular planetarium (book a spot as soon as you arrive, as the shows fill up quickly), a four-story rain forest where a butterfly might land on you, and a great deal more. Located in Golden Gate Park, the Academy is right across from the de Young Museum, the Asian Art Museum and the Japanese Tea Garden, and within walking distance of the Conservatory of Flowers—all enticing ways to extend a visit to this part of the city.

At the Platinum LEED-certified California Academy of Sciences, located in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, a winding ramp allows visitors to explore four levels of a rain forest. At the bottom, visitors can walk in an acrylic tube through a 100,000-gallon tank and watch tropical fish swim overhead.

