

Explore San Francisco's Japantown

The San Francisco Japantown History Walk is a self-guided tour consisting of 16 interpretive signs along an approximately 10-block route through the heart of Japantown, providing visitors with a unique insight into the community's first hundred years of history and culture.

San Francisco was the entry point and historical gateway for the Japanese immigrants to America. Originally located in other parts of the city, Japantown was permanently established here in the Western Addition after the Great 1906 Earthquake.

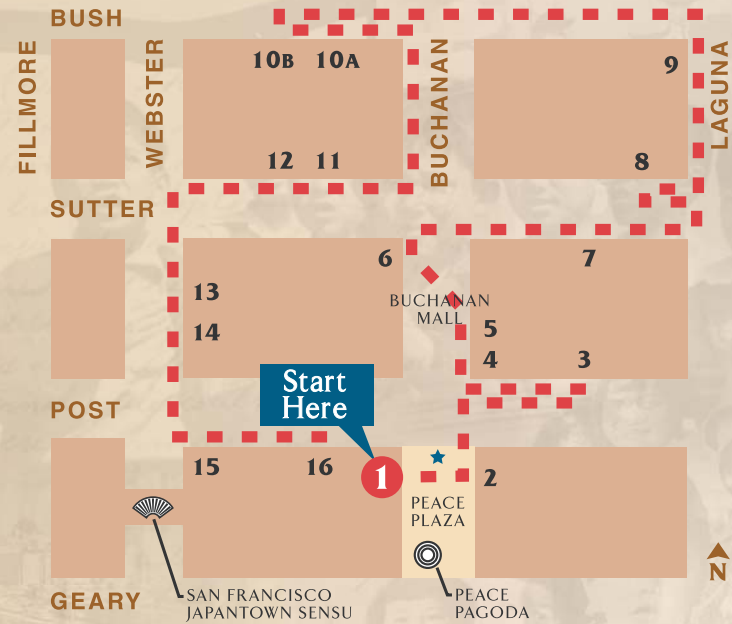
This once sprawling neighborhood was home to one of the largest Japanese American communities in America and embraced over 30 blocks of bustling family businesses, churches, recreational and social facilities.

The vitality of the community came to a halt during World War II with the forced evacuation and internment of Japanese Americans into concentration camps. Following the war, the neighborhood had changed and many businesses and families did not return to the area. Later, urban renewal reduced those numbers further.

Today, Japantown survives and prospers in tribute to the Issei, the first generation of Japanese immigrants to America, and the Nisei, their American born children, who preserved and passed on the legacy to future generations.

SAN FRANCISCO JAPANTOWN HISTORY WALK

START TO FINISH



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| 1 What Happened Here | 9 The Spirit of Nihonmachi |
| 2 Injustice and Honor | 10A In the Name of National Security |
| 3 Uoki Sakai Market | 10B Kodomo No Tame Ni |
| 4 Commerce & Community | 11 Issei Women's Legacy |
| 5 Beginnings of Japantown in the Western Addition | 12 A New Ballgame |
| 6 Benkyodo | 13 Internment Camps and Return to Nihonmachi |
| 7 Educating the Nisei Japanese American Citizens League | 14 Redevelopment to Redress |
| 8 Heart and Soul Continuing Our Traditions | 15 San Francisco Japantown Sensu |
| | 16 What You Leave Behind: Looking to the Future, Remembering the Past |

★ California Japantown Landmark