

Excerpt from

Geologic Trips  
San Francisco and the Bay Area

by Ted Konigsmark

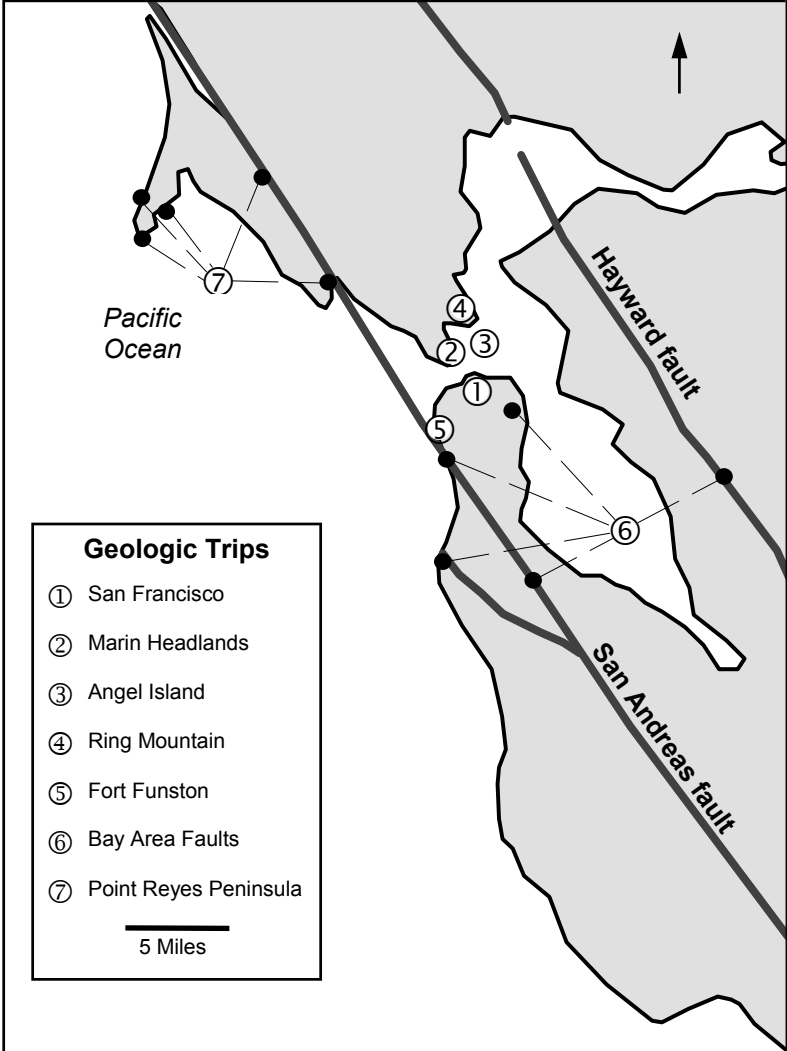
ISBN 0-9661316-4-9  
GeoPress

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced without written permission in writing, except for critical articles or reviews.

For other geologic trips see:

[www.geologictrips.com](http://www.geologictrips.com)

## GEOLOGIC TRIPS San Francisco



These seven geologic trips provide a sampling of the rocks and geology of the Bay Area. Most of the trips can be easily done in one day, although two days should be allowed for the trip to the Point Reyes Peninsula.

## **PART II**

# **THE GEOLOGIC TRIPS**

## **GEOLOGIC TRIPS**

Location: ● *Geologic site*

### **Trip 1. San Francisco**

Alcatraz Island: ● *Officers Club*, ● *Cellblocks*  
Fort Point: ● *Parking Lot*, ● *Baker Beach Bluff*  
Palace of the Legion of Honor: ● *Landslide*  
Cliff House: ● *Cliff House*, ● *Sutro Baths*  
Twin Peaks: ● *Viewpoint*

### **Trip 2. Marin Headlands**

Battery 129: ● *Parking Area*  
Point Bonita Lighthouse: ● *Lighthouse*  
Rodeo Beach: ● *North End*, ● *Rodeo Beach*, ● *South End*

### **Trip 3. Angel Island**

Ione Point: ● *Perimeter Road*  
Camp Reynolds: ● *Seawall*, ● *South End of Beach*  
Perle's Beach: ● *East End*, ● *West End*  
Rock Crusher: ● *Serpentine Quarry*  
Fort McDowell: ● *Guard House*

### **Trip 4. Ring Mountain**

Taylor Road: ● *Parking Area*, ● *Crest*

### **Trip 5. Fort Funston**

Ocean Beach: ● *Beach*  
Fort Funston: ● *Viewing Platform*, ● *Bluff*

### **Trip 6. Bay Area Faults**

Mussel Rock: ● *Westline Drive*, ● *Longview Playground*, ● *Skyline Drive*  
Devils Slide: ● *North End*, ● *Landslide*, ● *Gray Whale Cove*  
Crystal Springs Reservoir: ● *Causeway*, ● *San Andreas Dam*  
Hayward: ● *Mission Blvd.*, ● *D Street*, ● *Prospect Street*  
South of Market: ● *Clara Street*

### **Trip 7. Point Reyes Peninsula**

Bear Valley Visitor Center: ● *Earthquake Trail*  
Point Reyes Headlands: ● *Sea Lion Overlook*, ● *Lighthouse*  
South Beach: ● *South Beach*  
Drakes Beach: ● *Drakes Beach*  
Bolinás: ● *Bolinás Bluff*, ● *Agate Beach*

## OVERVIEW OF THE TRIPS

The seven geologic trips listed on the opposite page have been selected to sample different aspects of the geology of the Coast Ranges in and around San Francisco. On the first four trips – to San Francisco, the Marin Headlands, Angel Island, and Ring Mountain – you will see examples of the many different types of Franciscan rocks that occur in the Bay Area. During Trip 5, to Fort Funston, you will see how some of the younger sedimentary rocks in the Bay Area were formed. On Trip 6 you will see the San Andreas and Hayward faults and how they have affected the landscape, buildings, and life in the Bay Area. Trip 7 is to the Point Reyes Peninsula where you will walk along the San Andreas fault and see rocks on the peninsula that have been abducted from southern and central California and carried northward tens to hundreds of miles by the fault.

During each trip you will visit a number of specific geologic sites to look at the rocks and geology in detail. Many of these sites are along the shoreline. It is best to go to the shoreline on a calm day and at low tide, preferably in winter when the rocks are clean and bare. Be on the lookout for sneaker waves and watch your step where rocks are slippery.

Use caution and common sense while on the geologic trips. Drive, park and hike safely. Do not go along the seashore if conditions are potentially dangerous, and do not go anywhere that you feel may be unsafe. On inland trails try to avoid the ubiquitous poison oak. Changes by man or nature can occur along any of the roads, hiking trails, and especially along the shoreline.

Collecting rocks is prohibited on Angel Island, in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and in the Point Reyes National Seashore. In other areas it is best not to collect the rocks unless you have received permission or know that collecting is permitted. To see the details of the rocks, bring a hand lens or magnifying glass if you have one. You may be surprised at what you see.