



An American Tour: 46



San Francisco's *Japanese Tea Garden*

In this world of ever-changing times, transient businesses, and here-today/gone-tomorrow attractions, it's amazing that San Francisco's Japanese Tea Garden is still around...after over 100 years! Quaint, picturesque, peaceful...I'm sorry to say that I've never been there! Goodness knows, I've certainly been in the vicinity often enough.

The Japanese Tea Garden in San Francisco, California, is a historical Japanese-style garden originally built as the Japanese Village for the 1894 California Midwinter International Exposition. Japanese immigrant and gardener Makoto Hagiwara designed the bulk of the garden and was officially appointed caretaker in 1894 until the hysteria surrounding World War II. In the years to follow, many Hagiwara family treasures were liquidated from the gardens, but new additions were also made.

Today, the Tea Garden, located in San Francisco's famous Golden Gate Park, is one of the most popular attractions in San Francisco, featuring beautiful monuments, bridges, native Japanese plants and ponds. Guests can also enjoy the service at the tea house and gift shop. [<http://japaneseteagardensf.com/visit.php>]

Maybe I'll bump into you there. It's now on my 'Things to do' list!

