



Today's Dirty Dozen – Weather in SF

1. **It's not Los Angeles, dahling:** Attributed to Mark Twain, "The coldest winter I ever saw was the summer I spent in San Francisco."
2. **San Francisco is surrounded on three sides by water:** the Pacific Ocean, the Golden Gate, and San Francisco bay. And, there's desert to the East. Can you say "thermal mass" and "Venturi effect?" It can be breezy.
3. **Most weather comes from west, i.e. over the Pacific.** General forecasts (storms, sunny, etc) are pretty reliable. Sometimes the 'when' part is trickier...
4. **The winter (i.e. rainy) season is winding up by mid-April.** Hopefully your taxes are done as well. You can still get hosed by both.
5. **Updated, current weather information and forecasts** can be found at www.sfgate.com/weather, or www.weather.com/weather/local/94101.
6. **Be prepared for change from hour to hour:** Fog (aka nature's air conditioner) from the Pacific spills through the Golden Gate and gaps in the Santa Cruz mountains every evening (usually), then retreats (usually) during the next day.
7. **Be prepared for change from block to block:** San Francisco, and, to a lesser extent, the entire Bay area, is known for microclimates. It may be foggy and dank on one street, but sunny and summery on the next. For you amateur meteorologists, there's a good overview at <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/chronicle/archive/2001/07/09/MN139536.DTL>
8. **Mileage matters.** The further you get from San Francisco (and away from the ocean) the warmer it gets. For example, San Jose (50 miles or so) is typically 20 degrees warmer than San Francisco in the summer.
9. **Layering is always good, and may be fashionable as well.**
10. **There's a reason all Northern California surfer dudes and dudettes wear wet suits** (more properly called 'warm' suits). Typical ocean water temperatures are in the mid-50's.
11. **Tornadoes, hurricanes and thunderstorms are very infrequent visitors.** Non-meteorological thunderstorms abound in the local leather community, however.
12. **Earthquakes are not weather related events** (as far as we know) no matter what they say about those weird weather weeks in October.

Brought to you as a kinky public service from the folks who are bringing you Leather Leadership Conference 12.

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