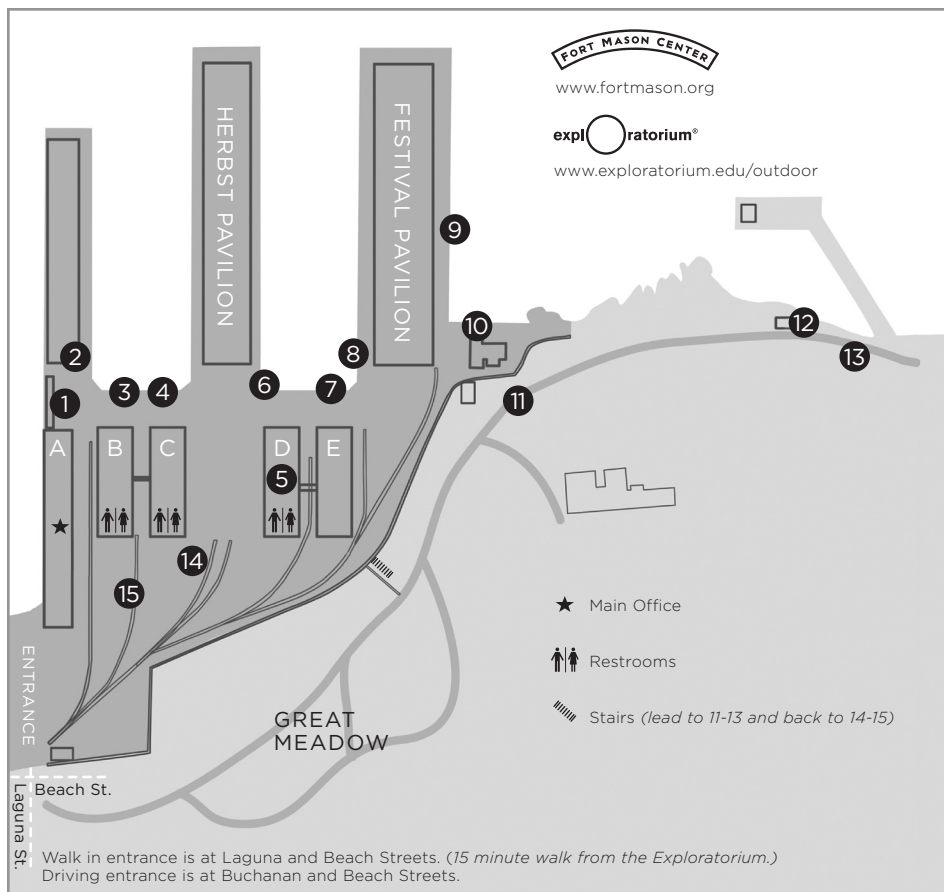


OUTDOOR EXPLORATORIUM EXHIBITS AT FORT MASON

The Outdoor Exploratorium at Fort Mason was created by the Exploratorium in partnership with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Fort Mason Center. These interactive exhibits were designed to help you investigate the subtle phenomena and unseen processes of the everyday world. Fort Mason offers a unique location for observing the movement of wind and waves, the interplay of light, shadow, and temperature, and the interaction between natural and built environments.



1 LIFT

A series of airfoils rises and falls to graph the flow of moving air at Fort Mason.

2 ARCHITECTURAL MIRAGE

This exhibit lets visitors experiment with a "wall mirage" created by the thin layer of sunwarmed air next to a Fort Mason building.

3 PORTABLE OBSERVATORIES

This kiosk provides pocket guides to heightened observation in Fort Mason's unique landscape.

4 SHIP CONSTELLATIONS

This guide to navigation lights helps visitors decode the visual language of boats on the Bay.

5 OBSERVING

The artworks inside Building D are prototypes for future exhibits which explore new ways of interpreting contemporary landscapes. Included is a meditation on the intersection of land and water between Fort Point and Fort Mason.

6 SPEED OF SOUND

A light and bell on the Festival Pavillion let visitors learn how distance affects perception of sound. Call 415.202.3809 and hear how long the sound of a Golden Gate Bridge foghorn takes to reach you.

7 RUST WEDGE

This sculptural exhibit illustrates the power of corrosion to slowly shatter waterfront buildings.

8 PIER PILING PIVOT

A movable piling unveils the extraordinary range of plant and animal life making an aquatic home at Fort Mason's piers.

9 WAVE TRACING

A loose piling on the Festival Pavillion traces the movements of currents, waves, and tides.

10 TASTING THE TIDES

A modified drinking fountain allows visitors to experience the surprising range of salt content in local waters.

11 BRIDGE THERMOMETER

This spotting scope reveals the temperature sensitivity of even massive structures—like the iconic Golden Gate Bridge.

12 HOUSE OF DAYS

An automatic camera creates a visual record of changing atmospheric conditions.

13 WIND ARROWS

The wind's direction changes dramatically with even small differences in altitude.

14 FRACTURE MAPPING

Embedded symbols in the Fort Mason Center parking area let visitors decipher the hidden geological stresses beneath their feet.

15 AUDIO POST

This exhibit turns a parking lot into an interpretive resource by allowing visitors to tune their radios to 90.1 FM and hear short programs on local phenomena.