

Port Walk #4



Why Here?

Fisherman's Wharf remains the best place to bring in a catch from the rich Pacific Ocean waters just outside the Golden Gate. In addition to providing the closest sheltered harbor, the Wharf also has the largest concentration of fish processors and other services for the commercial fishing industry.



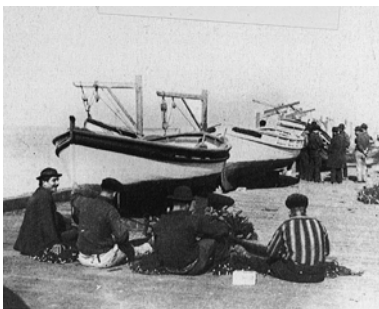
Italy Harbor

Fisherman's Wharf was originally called Italy Harbor. Immigrants from Genoa pioneered San Francisco's commercial fishing industry in the Gold Rush era. In the late 1880s and early 1890s increasing numbers of Sicilians joined the fleet, many fleeing drought and crop failure in their homeland. North Beach became a lively Italian neighborhood and a warmhearted contributor to San Francisco's cultural diversity.



Sportfishing Mecca

The thrill of landing a big salmon, halibut, striped bass or other prized game fish has drawn generations of recreational anglers to Fisherman's Wharf. The Wharf's fleet of sportfishing boats offers a variety of daily trips, both inside and outside the Golden Gate, for fishing enthusiasts of all experience levels.



Last Felucca Fisherman

The fishing fleet wasn't always here at the Wharf – it was near Green Street. People called it Italy Harbor. Around the turn of the twentieth century, the city built a seawall and new cargo piers. So, the fishing fleet had to move to what's now Fisherman's Wharf. It's a good spot – the protected area closest to the Golden Gate. When the fleet moved here, the city made the lagoons to protect the feluccas.