

Port Walk #6



Women in Fishing

From the beginning, women have been active members of the fishing community here at Fisherman's Wharf. They work in all kinds of jobs, serving as captains and crew members on the boats, and as processors and business managers on shore. Women and men, alike, appreciate the freedom of a life on the open water.



A Family Tradition

Jeanette Caito, whose family has operated Caito Fisheries since the 1880s, has worked in the fishing business for her entire life. In an industry that traditionally has had few female workers, she and a handful of other women have earned the respect of their peers. They work in all aspects of the business, from sales and marketing to skippering and crewing boats.



Women Who Fish

Fishing with hook and line for rockfish is labor-intensive, but the men and women who fish are rewarded by harvesting a premium product, sought out by restaurants and discriminating consumers.

Marie De Santis, Neptune's Apprentice

"The beauty of it was it didn't matter what the fishermen thought. The rules of the sea didn't take any regard to sex, and one of the most important of these rules is that one captain never tells another captain what to do. The freedom that gave me was beyond anything I'd ever experienced before. Add to that the rule that was taken just as seriously about helping anyone in trouble, and I felt I'd managed to find as utopian a community as existed anywhere and I was certain the rest would eventually work out."

– From Neptune's Apprentice, 1984