



FACT SHEET | Presidio of San Francisco

The Presidio Trust (Trust), along with its partners at the National Park Service and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, has guided the Presidio through an ambitious post-to-park transformation. What was once an aging military installation is now open to a diverse public as part of the largest urban national park in the United States, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The Presidio hosts a new kind of national park community that sustains the park and provides an array of cultural, recreational, and educational activities, inviting visitors to explore and connect with the rich and varied history and ecology of the site.

Fast Facts

- In 1776, the Presidio was established as Spain's northernmost outpost in the Americas. It then served as a Mexican fort from 1822 until 1846, when it became a premier U.S. Army post. Generations of soldiers passed through its gates, serving America around the world.
- The 1491-acre Presidio became a unique national park site in 1994. It is managed by the Presidio Trust in partnership with the National Park Service and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy.
- The Presidio is a National Historic Landmark District. There are 800 buildings in the Presidio, 555 of which are historic, and hundreds of features, including a 300-acre historic forest. The Trust manages more than 30 archaeological areas that date from Native Ohlone settlements through the occupation of the Army.
- 3,500 people live in the park's rehabilitated housing and 4,000 people work at the 350 public, private, and non-profit organizations housed at the Presidio. Their rent supports the park.
- The Presidio is a model of sustainable park management, with two dozen U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified projects, the first LEED-certified neighborhood in the United States, the Public Health District.
- The Presidio's biodiversity is unusually high for an urban park, with 350 species of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects, and fish, and nearly 400 native plant species, 21 of which are threatened, rare, or endangered.
- 145 acres of relic and restored native plant communities include the Tennessee Hollow Watershed with three creeks that flow to San Francisco Bay, and Mountain Lake, one of the last remaining natural lakes in San Francisco.
- The Presidio features 24-miles of hiking and biking trails, eight scenic overlooks, and one of San Francisco's only campgrounds.
- The Presidio is home to the largest collection of British artist Andy Goldsworthy's public works on public view in North America.