



Today's Dirty Dozen – 12 places where natives let their hair down...



Co-chair Pilar, pictured well before achieving Leather consciousness...

A list provided by conference Co-Chair, Pilar, who was born and raised and achieved leather consciousness in San Francisco.

Baker's Beach:

25th Avenue (off Sea Cliff)

In a tiny remote spot where folks love to nude sunbathe, is a little beach known as Baker's Beach. As a kid growing up in SF, it was also the place to have bonfires with beer.

Haight-Asbury:

I was not a flower child just because I grew up in the Haight. I saw folks who I never knew were famous (i.e. Janis Joplin, John Lennon, Dossie Easton or Jay Wiseman). The Haight is a wonderful bouncy, trendy place where everyone is different. Oh, wait, this is where I grew up! Must be all those 12 years in catholic school.

Liguria Bakery in North Beach:

1700 Stockton St (at Filbert St)

Liguria is the best Italian bakery in the city. I use to go there at 7:30 in the morning just for fresh off the oven focaccia. Garlic is the best, or was it the tomato? Just don't sit there, go get some fresh focaccia!!!

Chinatown:

Grant and Bush; go up

Underground restaurants: Go underground (meaning you go below the street) and have the best, and cheapest food you will ever have. The only downside is the waiters don't speak English. Bring George Wong with you. And if you don't know who George Wong is, just ask any titleholder in the room (like Mike Gerle).

Dim Sum:

As a native, I love dim sum but I won't go to Yank Sing. Yank Sing is too "American" and not really the true idea of dim sum. Go to City View (662 Commercial Street), Canton House (655 Folsom Street, south of Market) or Ton Kiang, 5821 Geary Blvd). Lots of hustling and bustling of little dishes of big carts. No, I won't make you eat the chicken feet, but only if you ask. But do ask for the Chrysanthemum tea.

Joe's Barbershop:

4102 19th St (between Castro St & Collingwood St)

I haven't personally met Joe Gallagher but I understand he's the best in the city. Just ask Sean, Dirk, Richard, Jay -- well, any SF gay leatherman that you know. He actually had a woman come in for a short hair cut, and it looked great! Kudos to Joe!

Black and Blue:

381 Guerrero Street (between 15th St & 16th St)

Want a great tattoo? Go see Natalie at Black and Blue and any other great tattoo artist. If you need some ideas, come see me. I'm adorned with Natalie's work, and give her high recommendations. Plus the endorphin rush with needles makes my nipples hard. Need I say more?

Honorable mentions go to:

Gotham Body Piercing & Tattoo:

3991 17th Street (between Castro St & Hartford St)

I can't leave Gotham out. Gauge is another great tattoo and piercing artist in the city.

Body Manipulations:

3234 16th St (between Dolores St & Spencer St)

Paul has been the man to give me my lovely body piercings. He's the only person I trust to give me permanent piercings (Sorry Marc, I just can't stop laughing at you when you pierce me.)

Golden Gate Park (on Sundays):

Love being green? So do I. I love to people watch. You can either sleep on the grass, listen to live music at some of the outdoor events, rollerblade, or bring your musical instrument and have a jam session with 8 or 9 other people you've never met before. Lots of museums, a tea garden, or just a leisurely run through the park. This place is good for stressed out leather leaders.

The Eagle Tavern:

398 12th Street (between Bernice St & Harrison St)

Beer bust you say? Another fundraiser? This is where we all meet sometimes. Oh, and you get to see Mama Reinhardt too! Another place for stressed out leather leaders.

Dore Alley:

(on Dore Alley/Folsom Street between 11th and 12th Streets)

How do I spend my birthday? Usually getting spanked and/or having lunch with my good friends from out of town. Dore Alley is considered Folsom Street Fair's raunchier little brother. Oh, lots to see, lots of eye candy, and hunky gorgeous men. Women also go and buy fun toys. Oh, gorgeous hunky men. I think I said that.....

Lovejoy's Tea Room:

1351 Church St (between 26th St & Clipper St)

www.lovejoystearoom.com

Ever want to feel like you're the queen of England? This is where you can be. A great place for "high tea." Relaxing, enjoyable, and service to boot! I enjoy service as many other of my friends do but this is nice high class service. A great place to gossip about leather (or maybe not).

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

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AROUSE!