

You will leave your heart here

By ANNE WANSTALL
Travel Editor



SAN FRANCISCO, California — As your big plane circles over San Francisco and you eagerly look out for the Golden Gate Bridge, Twin Peaks, and even the notorious Alcatraz, you wonder if the promise made by Tony Bennett will be fulfilled. Can any city be so great that you leave your heart behind when you fly away?

San Francisco is that great, and it would be a cold heart that isn't quickly warmed by the beauty of this peninsula city that offers so much to its visitors.

The greatest attraction is the natural beauty of the land on which the city stands and the waters which surround it. Most visitors expect to find hilly streets, but not so steep that you feel you could lean on the sidewalk when you get tired of climbing them!

They are almost alpine in graduation so rather than explore them on foot, the best idea is to catch a cable car.

Cable cars are as much a part of San Francisco as

the Golden Gate Bridge — and even more of an experience than your first sight of that great span across the water.

It was a stroke of municipal genius not to retire the old cars, for although they frequently break down, they are an inexpensive tourist attraction no one should miss.

Make your first ride the one down to Fisherman's Wharf. You'll enjoy every minute of the banter between the conductor and his passengers, and have a fabulous view of two sides of the city.

When you leave the car at Fisherman's Wharf, rely on your feet to take you down to the water and an exploration of the attractions in this bustling section of the city.

Part of Fisherman's

Wharf is a little too much of an amusement arcade for some tastes, but the area also boasts some fine boutiques and San Francisco's newest shopping area, Pier 39.

Built in the style of old San Francisco, Pier 39 has 23 restaurants, 105 specialty shops, artisans and craftsmen, entertainment and a spectacular view of the busy waterfront.

But don't spend all your money at Pier 39. On your way back to the cable car you'll pass Ghirardelli Square, an old chocolate making factory that has been imaginatively converted into shopping boutiques and restaurants.

You can still buy Ghirardelli creamery ice cream there, and it's worth an inflated \$2.25 US to spoon into a Golden Gate banana split.

Alcatraz, the notorious old penitentiary, is now open to visitors who can get a boat ride across the Bay to the rock. It's a gloomy building, but does provide an excellent view of the waterfront area.

If you more seriously

First-time visitors should get one of the official city tour rides. They last about three hours and give you an excellent idea of the city layout, and the places you'd like to go back to if the stopover wasn't long enough.

Don't stay longer than the driver allows at stopovers. Our bus was often picking up passengers from previous stopovers — and they replaced those we left behind!

The longest stopover is at Cliff House on the Pacific, where you can pop in for a drink or just stand admiring the hundreds of seals sunning themselves on a nearby rock.

After the tour, get a BART and bus map. The Bay Area Rapid Transit system is the world's only totally automated transit system. The computer-controlled trains move at speeds up to 80 miles an hour, and you can ride the entire system for a 60 cent excursion fare.

If you more seriously

want to get from one place to another, BART information will plan the route for you.

There are 71 miles of BART track and 34 stations, so there is hardly a place over three counties that cannot be reached quickly and inexpensively.

One place gardeners will want to go back to is the Japanese Tea Garden in Golden Gate Park. This is a stunning and symmetrical garden around lily ponds and shrines, where it is so quiet that you almost feel you must whisper your comments.

Another, on the opposite side of the city, is Nob Hill where the wealthy paid millions for lush homes with views over the city.

San Francisco has so much to offer that many visitors leave without visiting its small neighbor, Sausalito, eight miles north of San Francisco.

Sausalito (the name means Little Willow) is a mass of charm. Its rustic houses cascade down steep slopes to the bay. Its shops and restaur' ats

hug the waterfront and its winding, wooded streets look down on a thicket of masts and a colony of houseboats.

If you eat at a restaurant on the hill, you look across at San Francisco, and if you do your eating at dusk the view will be one you'll never forget.

There's a ferry service between Sausalito and San Francisco that makes nine daily roundtrips on weekdays and eight on weekends and holidays. The crossing takes 30 minutes and costs \$1.

It's worth making enquiries about staying in Sausalito and commuting to San Francisco because rates are slightly cheaper.

Finally, a word about the weather. California seems hot to winter-weary Ontarians, but the temperature rarely rises above 65 degrees F. in summer and 57 degrees F. in winter. Best bet is to wear summer clothes but carry a sweater or cardigan. It's frequently foggy in July, August and September.

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TRAVELCHAT

By Anne Wanstall
Travel Editor

Sunflight has now leapt into the charters to Israel market, offering four special tours, ranging from \$689 for a week in youth hostels to the deluxe Land of the Bible two-week tour for \$1,189 per person (double occupancy).

The Youth Hostel Tour, available in one-, two-, three- and four-week versions (the most expensive being the four-week for \$849 per person, double occupancy) allows participants to choose from 31 government-operated hostels which offer dormitory accommodation.

There is no age limit, but travellers must be paid-up members of the Youth Hostel Association, 8 York St., Toronto.

All youth hostel tours include a hearty Israeli breakfast. Some say it's enough for the whole day.

The other two tours fall between the hostel and deluxe tours. There's a two-centre holiday which features one week in Jerusalem, followed by a week in either Tel Aviv or Herzliya. Prices start at \$829 per person, double occupancy.

The second tour is a one-, two-, or three-week stay in either Tel Aviv or Herzliya. Prices start at \$699 for one week, with the second week costing less than \$100 more.

The Battle for Britain is increasing as airlines compete for this heavily travelled market. British Airways has lopped about \$40 off its price, Sunflight is undercutting Laker, Wardair has chopped \$10 from some of its flights, and the battle goes on. Check on all possibilities before making your booking.

Via Rail is offering a Birdlover's Special to southwestern Ontario for the last three weekends in March to coincide with the birds' annual migration north.

The tour is based at Chatham and takes in the songbird banding station at Bradley Marsh, the goose show at the Jack Miner bird sanctuary and wildlife at the Point Pelee national park.

The special includes return rail travel, bus transfers, accommodation for two nights at the Wheels Inn with breakfast, and box lunches Saturday and Sunday. Cost is \$94 per person, double occupancy.

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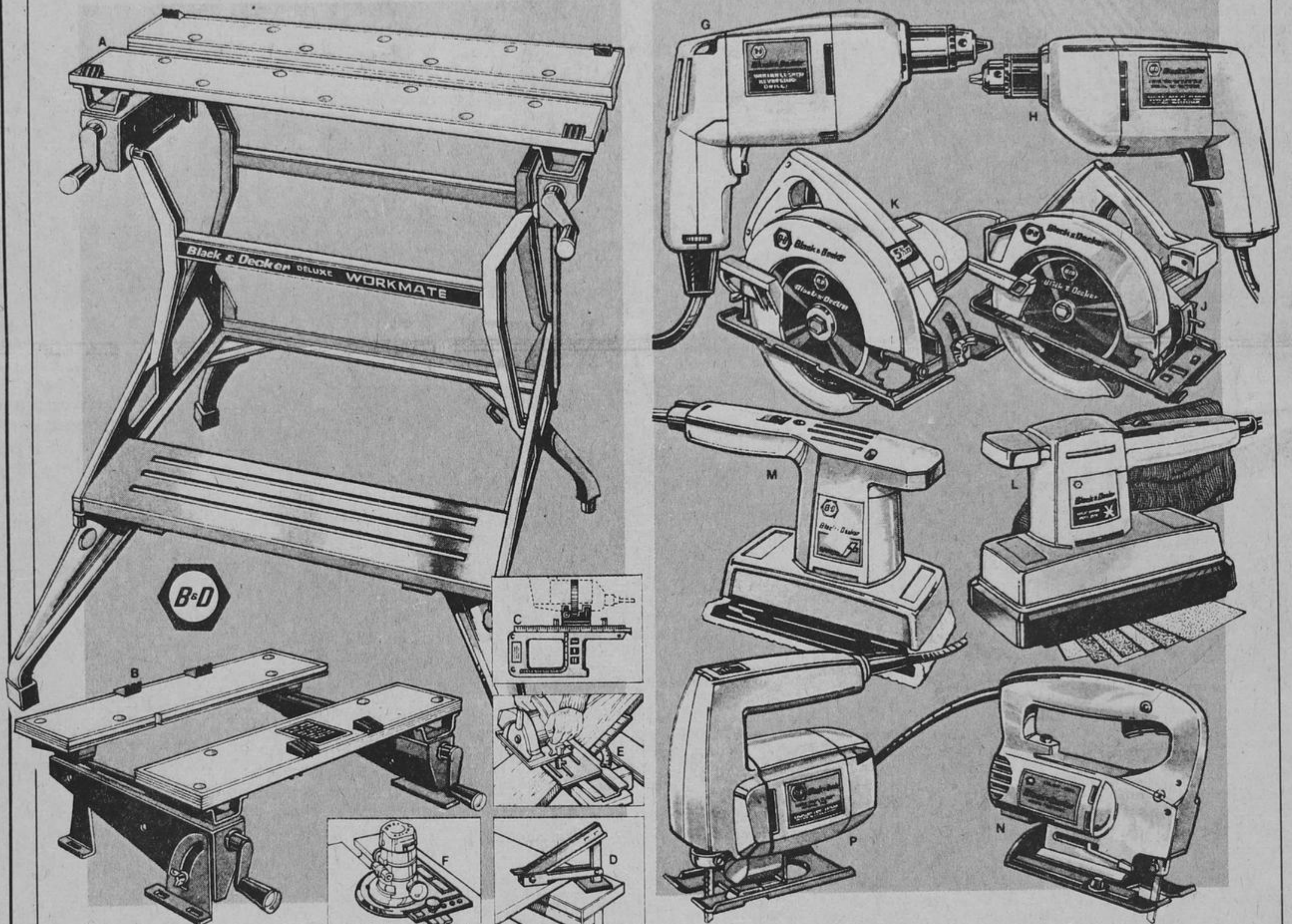
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C. It's a vertical drill press when used with a 'Workmate', a horizontal drill press when used on its own. Angular drilling from 0 to 90 in 5° increments. Accepts 1/4" and 3/8" drills except (MOD. 4) No. 79-015-04.

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D. Holds work for gluing, sawing, drilling, etc. Won't mar. Rotates 360°; adjusts up to 3 3/4". 2 per 'Workmate' recommended. No. 79-001-04.

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'Mitremate' saw guide

E. Use with 'Workmate' and any 7 1/4" circular saw. Mitres from 30° to 90° in 5° increments. Max cut 17"W x 2 7/8" thick. Cutting depth: 1 5/8" at 90°; 15/16" at 45°. No. 79-012-04. Each **18.98**

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F. Holds all 'Black & Decker' routers firmly, while work is guided by the rip fence. Adjustable width and depth. Max. wood thickness 1 5/8"; max. diameter of the cutter 1". Model No. 79-013-04.

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H. 1,200 rpm. Double reduction gear system; 3/8" chuck for tougher jobs. Recessed centre button prevents accidental "lock-on". Capacity: 3/8" steel, 3/4" hardwood. No. 7104-04.

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J. 5,300 rpm. Cutting depth: 2 7-16" at 90°, 1 7/8" at 45°. Two handle surfaces for control; sawdust ejection chute. Power "lock-off" button 7 1/4" combination blade included. No. 5738.

Complete **39.98**

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K. For paneling, trim work and shelving. 5 1/2" plywood and combination blades included. Sturdy steel wraparound shoe. No. 7300-04.

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L. Includes 7490-04 dual-action sander (4,000 rpm; paper size: 4 1/2" x 11"), dust collection attachment and assorted sandpaper. No. 7491-04.

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'Value-Plus' sander/polisher

M. 10,000 orbits per minute. One or two-handed control. Flush sands on three sides. Sandpaper size: 3 5/8" x 9". Includes 74-045 polishing pad. No. 7432-04.

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Deluxe variable jig saw

N. 3,200 rpm. Bevel and compound mitre cuts — up to 45° — are easy with the calibrated tilting shoe. Accepts optional U 2151 combination rip fence and circle guide. Capacity: 1" hardwood, 2" softwood. Includes blade. No. 7580-04.

Complete **29.98**

'Utility' single-speed jig saw

P. 3,200 rpm. double insulated. Accepts optional U 2151 combination rip fence and circle guide. Capacity: 1" hardwood, 1 1/2" softwood. Includes blade. No. 7504-04.

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