



where she is seated, so that there are often quarrels and fierce fights amongst them. It is during the low season that the double call *cuc-cuc-lee* is heard, as if the male were assembling a passing company. The general opinion is that cuckoos lay many eggs, and these are very commonly deposited about the course of the river. The probability of the deposition of the eggs is well known, and it is not an individual peculiarity. The deposition of the eggs is solitary. That the male crows always select the same places in course of time, the same is true of the sparrows, vireos, and other ordinary victims of cuckoo eggs. The extraordinary similarity which is often shown to the parent, renders it difficult to distinguish the cuckoo's nest from that of the rightful owner of the nest; and sometimes a cuckoo will lay a blue egg in the nest of the red-eyed vireo, or a pied flycatcher, the nest of which is about the size of a hen's. A curious instance known to several persons, was, that a single egg of a cuckoo was found together with a real egg of the same species in a nest. On following up the nest, it was exhibited to me, and the resemblance between the egg laid by the cuckoo and the egg of the parent is exact, and the parent are distinguished at the moment of laying. The nest of a sedge-warbler is the exact counterpart of the nest of a cuckoo, and having noticed the fact, I have since that time, found a cuckoo's nest, where, of course, it would appear that I should find a second sedge-warbler's nest. A nest of a cuckoo has been recently found in which were taken near

Potlatch 18

POTLATCH 18

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For more information about Potlatch, please visit <http://potlatch.org>.



WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRS

Welcome to Potlatch 18, the first Silicon Valley Potlatch.

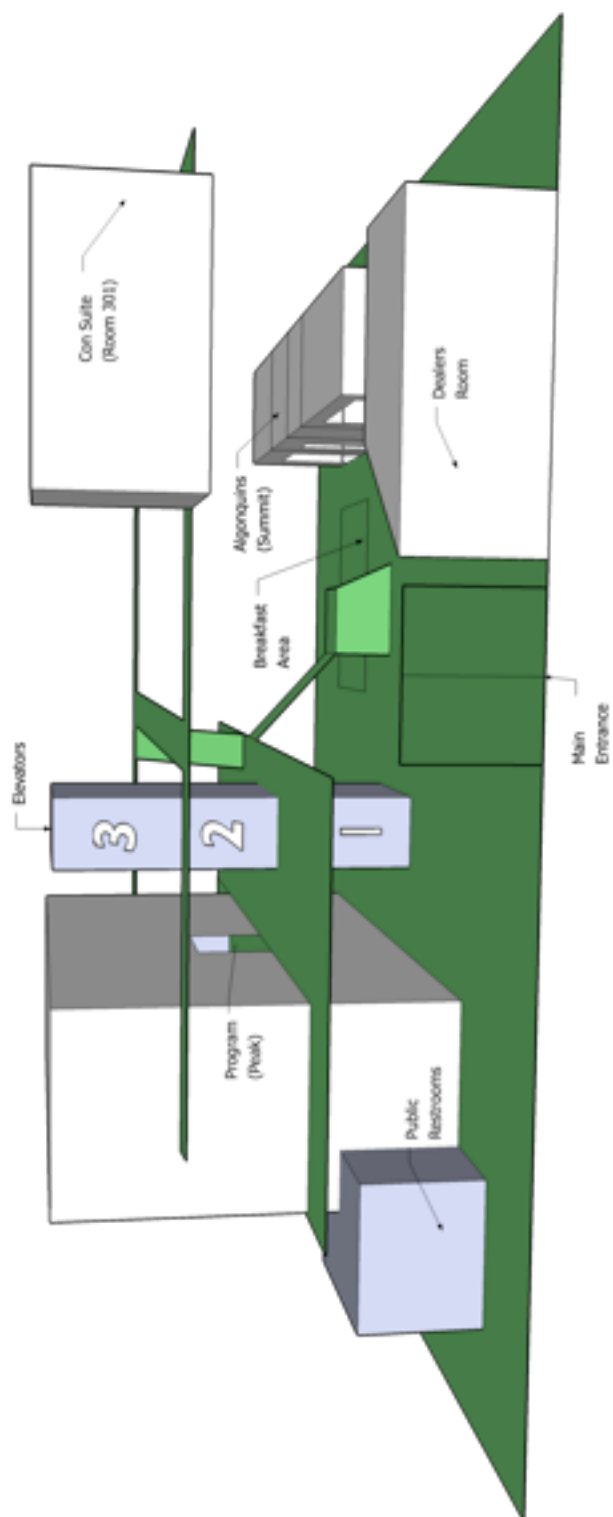
Potlatch is a small literary-oriented convention with a single track of panels, and it's fundamentally about books and conversations. Instead of a Guest of Honor, Potlatch traditionally has a Book of Honor. This year we have two: *Always Coming Home*, by Ursula K. Le Guin, and *Growing Up Weightless*, by John M. Ford. Don't worry, there won't be a quiz! But both books are worth reading – or rereading, if you haven't picked them up recently. They're very different books in many ways, similar in others, and it's interesting to think about them side by side. Each book is deeply rooted in a specific place – the Moon for *Growing Up Weightless*, Napa Valley for *Always Coming Home*. Each book uses unconventional narrative techniques, and both of them are partly about the ways in which a society is built on story and myths and art. Both have interesting things to say about the tension between belonging to your society and trying to escape from it, and both are partly about the ways in which our technologies shape and are shaped by us.

We'll be exploring some of those issues in our panels, sometimes explicitly and sometimes as subtext. But Potlatch is brought to life by you, the convention's members. When you're not at the panels, or browsing the dealer's room, you can participate in Algonquins (p. 8), or continue the conversation in the con suite and or in one of the many nearby restaurants (p. 12).

Whether this is your first Potlatch or (yes, you're out there) your 18th, enjoy the con!

– Matt Austern and Steven Schwartz

HOTEL MAP



SCHEDULE

Friday, February 27

5 pm	Con Suite opens, Dealers Room opens
7 to 9 pm	Books of Honor: <i>Always Coming Home</i> and <i>Growing Up Weightless</i>
9 pm	Dealers Room closes
9 pm to midnight	LARP
2 am	Con Suite closes

Saturday, February 28

7 to 10 am	Breakfast (for hotel guests)
9 am	Con Suite opens
9:30 am	Graphic Novels
10 am	Dealers Room opens
11:00 am	The “Scalzi Rule”: Questions and Comments from the Audience
12 noon	Break for Lunch, Tiptree Bakesale, Algonquins, Writers’ Workshops
2 pm	Good Reads
3:30 pm	Ursula K. Le Guin Reads
5 pm	Break for Dinner
6 pm	Dealers Room closes
7 pm	Invocation Against Entropy
8 pm	Clarion West Auction
2 am	Con Suite closes

Pluterday, February 29

8 am	Anti-Book of Honor: <i>Galaxy 666</i>
9 pm	The Great Bird of the Galaxy

Sunday, March 1

7 to 10 am	Breakfast (for hotel guests)
9 am	Con Suite opens
10 am	Dealers Room opens
10 am	How Many Roads
12 pm	Banquet
2 pm	Dealers Room closes
2 pm	Helixes, Corals, and Brains: Oh My!
12 midnight	Con Suite closes

PROGRAM

Friday, February 27

7 to 9 pm Books of Honor

The order of the book of honor panels will be settled by a coin toss at the start of the evening's program.

Always Coming Home

David Bratman (ringleader), Molly Gloss, Ellen Peel, Amy Thomson

What is this thing that we are calling our Book of Honor? Is it a novel, as some editions say on the cover? What expectations does that word raise? Is it a Multi-Media Event? Or a mosaic?

Norman Spinrad in a review called it a novella surrounded by the equivalent of the Dune Encyclopedia. Is it? If so, what are the myths and field notes in *The Left Hand of Darkness*? For that matter, what are the appendices of *The Lord of the Rings*?

Should you read it straight through, or follow Stone Telling's story first? What difference does it make? How should we approach this book as a work of art?

Who are the Kesh, and what is their society? Is it anti-technological, or is it at symbiotic peace with technology? Or both? Is it a utopia? Would you want to live there?

Growing Up Weightless

Liz Henry (ringleader), Eileen Gunn, Laurel Anne Hill, Danny O'Brien, Steven Schwartz

What's it like to grow up on the Moon, a few generations after Lunar Independence? In John M. Ford's young adult novel *Growing Up Weightless*, Matt and his friends evade ubiquitous surveillance by misdirection, hacking, role-playing games, and a road trip. Meanwhile, Matt's father, a government official, fields complicated political and economic problems, but doesn't understand his son's desire to leave Luna. The delicately balanced personal relationships of Matt's group of friends echo the political tangle between Earth, Luna, and interstellar pilots.

Let's look at the political and social themes of *Growing Up Weightless*, its stylistic quirks, and its relation to other SF texts.

9 pm to midnight LARP

John Kim (ringleader)

Games and ritual are important to both the Kesh and Matt and his friends. Inspired by this, John Kim will facilitate a Live Action Role Playing game (LARP) Friday evening: The Companion's Guild operates a high-speed transport, the Coronado. It makes a circuit of the Outer Worlds, looking out for the interests of Companions and the Guild. In the present time of crisis from last-ditch attacks by the embattled Reavers, however, Captain Granger has agreed to take on priority passengers bound for Persephone.

This is a live-action role-playing event for six to ten players that is heavy on role-playing, intrigue and tension. It focuses on a ship owned by the Companion's Guild and commanded by a Guild Master. Old West or Chinese themed clothing is suggested but not required. Sign up at the Algonquin board.

Saturday, February 28

9:30 am Graphic Novels

Ursula K. Le Guin (ringleader), Lenny Bailes, Jenn Manley Lee

Where is graphic fiction going, and where hasn't it gone that it might go, and why?

11 am The "Scalzi Rule": Questions and Comments from the Audience

Debbie Notkin (ringleader)

Some fans have asked audiences to keep from making statements, and only ask questions. What is the role of the audience and panel? This will be discussion among the members of Potlatch, facilitated by Debbie Notkin. Please note: We are discussing the Scalzi rule, not enforcing it. Not for the con, and especially not for this panel.

2 pm Good Reads

Naamen Tilahun (ringleader), Vito Excalibur, Karen Anderson, James Young

Naamen, Vito, Karen and James each selected a book that the others agreed to read. The four of them will discuss the novels:

Naamen's choice – *Skin Folk* by Nalo Hopkinson

Vito's choice – *Blindsight* by Peter Watts
Karen's choice – *Fledgling* by Octavia E. Butler
James' choice – *Spin* by Robert Charles Wilson

3:30 pm Ursula K. Le Guin Reads

Ursula will read from *Always Coming Home*. Live video of this reading will be streamed into Info Island on the Second Life Virtual World. Ursula will then take questions from participants at both Potlatch and in Second Life.

7 pm Invocation Against Entropy

A chiasmic farrago of poetry related to our Books of Honor.

8 pm Clarion West Auction

Auctioneers Jay Lake and Tom Whitmore will tempt you with all manner of goodies. From a 1977 *People* magazine with a *Star Wars* cover to vintage Potlatch t-shirts to exclusive handmade items to a wide assortment of books, there will be something for everyone at the Clarion West auction!

Sunday, March 1

10 am How Many Roads

L. Timmel Duchamp (ringleader), Howard Hendrix, Ursula K. Le Guin, Vylar Kaftan, Naamen Tilahun

When a story has multiple narrators, can the reader trust any of them? Does a narrative with multiple viewpoints give a more complete picture of the story or the world than a story with a single narrator, or does it make things murkier? What are the strategies we use to read stories with multiple narrators? What do we make of the same set of events seen from multiple points of view, or the same society seen from different positions within it? What if it's not even clear how many narrators a book has? And has anything changed since Rashômon?

2 pm Helixes, Corals, and Brains: Oh My!

Elise Matthesen (ringleader,) Laurie Toby Edison, Kate Schaefer

A discussion about crafts based on math, science and nature. Have you knit a möbius strip or virus lately?

ALGONQUINS

Algonquins are named for the meetings of Dorothy Parker and peers where lively discussion took place.

Our Algonquins can be anything you like; a continuation of discussion from a panel; a demonstration of craft, art, technology; a trip to a favored restaurant or to investigate a new one; a reading from a work in progress or an old favorite.

To create an Algonquin, use the sign-up board. During registration on Friday, it will be by the convention registration desk, then it will move to the dealer's room.

If you have an idea in mind, sign up early, or as soon as you have an idea.

You can use the meeting room on the ground floor (the Summit Room), or the seating area in the lobby, or the landings outside the program room, for your Algonquin. Or hold it in your hotel room or over a meal at a restaurant.

TIPTREE BAKESALE

The Tiptree bakesale benefits the James Tiptree Jr., Memorial Award, generally known as the Tiptree Award. The Tiptree Award recognizes works of science fiction and fantasy that explore and expand gender, and is awarded once a year. The bakesales come from founding mother Pat Murphy's statement: "If you can't change the world with chocolate chip cookies, how can you change the world?" For more information about the award, visit our website at www.tiptree.org.

The Tiptree bakesale will run from noon Saturday until we run out of stuff or 3:30, whichever comes first.

– Debbie Notkin



WRITERS' WORKSHOP

There are two preferred methods for holding a Writers' Workshop.

1. Sacrificing a goat. Usually the goat is roasted over a pile of rejected manuscripts. Rejections burn for a long time.
2. Gathering a group of writers who are interested in improving their craft. A professional writer leads groups of 3-4 participants.

Everyone exchanges stories and reads each other's work a few weeks before the workshop starts. At the workshop, the participants exchange their critiques. Each group member speaks in turn while the writer listens quietly. The critiquers focus on the story: what works, what doesn't work, and areas in which it could be improved. The pro writer speaks at the end of the round, adding deeper insight to what's been discussed. Finally, the writer is allowed to respond and ask questions about what they just heard. Then the group moves on to the next story. The critiquing experience helps the writer see the story's strengths and weaknesses from a fresh perspective. This method is sometimes called the "Clarion West style" critique. Goat sacrifice is rare.

Potlatch prefers the second method, mainly to keep blood off the hotel's carpet.

Instructors: *L. Timmel Duchamp, Jed Hartman, Jay Lake, David D. Levine, Debbie Notkin*

Participants: *Erin Cashier, Deirdre Saoirse Moen, Olga Zilberbourg, Naamen Tilahun, Christopher Reynaga, Barbara Gordon, Michele Graves, Paul Goodman, Eva Folsom, Loren Means, Karen Anderson, Brenda Paske, Ian Carruthers, Jeremy Erman, Michelle Murrain, Vylar Kaftan, Katie Howenstine, Maggie Croft, Kelly Green.*

—Vylar Kaftan



DEALERS ROOM

Here are the dealers who have signed up for the dealers room:

- Book Universe
- Borderlands Books
- Cargo Cult Books & Notions
- Dawno's Beaded Badge Lanyards and Jewelry
- Lioness: ornament for people and places
- Locus Publications
- The Other Change of Hobbit
- Michael Rightor
- Tachyon Publications

CONSUIE VOLUNTEERING

We will be recruiting Responsible Adults (RAs) to mind the consuite for short, 2 hr intervals. The consuite may close temporarily if no RA has volunteered for a particular timeslot. Talk to Karen Schaffer or Janet Lafler if you want to help out. Thanks!

INTERNET ACCESS

If you are staying at the Domain, you can access the internet either through a wired connection in your hotel room or through the hotel-wide wireless network. The system will ask you to authenticate your room number and last name.

If you are a Potlatch member who is not staying at the Domain, you can also access the hotel's wireless network. Use the username "potlatch" and the password "cityofmind" to connect to the network.

Once you've signed up, the system will recognize your computer's address and connect you the same way, so hotel guests should use their room-number accounts so as to leave access ports on the "potlatch" network free for other members.

There is wireless internet access throughout the common areas, including the main programming hall.

Please contact the front desk should you require additional assistance.

ABOUT CLARION WEST

Clarion West is an intensive six-week workshop for writers preparing for professional careers in science fiction and fantasy, held annually in Seattle, Washington. The board of directors, staff, and volunteers of Clarion West would like to thank Potlatch members for your ongoing support. Potlatch has been closely connected to Clarion West since the convention was first started, back in 1992, and many Clarion West alumni help organize and attend it. The Clarion West scholarship auction at Potlatch is a major source of support for students who could not otherwise afford to attend the workshop. Since 1992, Potlatch has raised over \$43,000 for the scholarship fund and an additional \$8,000 for general operating expenses.

Please attend the scholarship auction Saturday evening at 8, which will start with a brief Clarion West annual meeting and update on the state of the workshop.

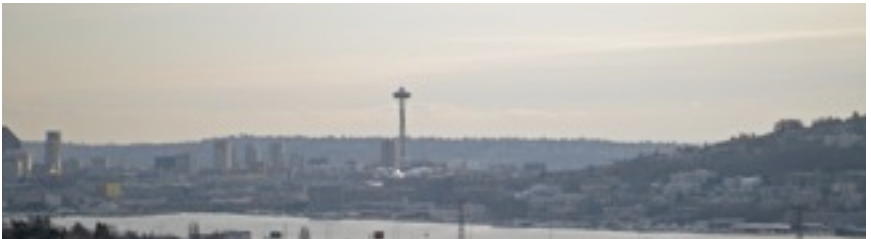
Thanks again!



Clarion West Writers Workshop

POTLATCH 19

Seattle will host Potlatch 19 in late winter or early spring 2010. During Potlatch 18, you can purchase an attending membership for US\$50. During the con, see Denys Howard or Mary Kay Kare to buy a membership. Keep an eye on www.potlatch-sf.org for the earliest available information about Potlatch 19!



RESTAURANT GUIDE

All phone numbers are 408 unless otherwise mentioned. Local newspaper restaurant listings and reviews are at www.mercurynews.com/restaurants and www.metroactive.com/restaurants. The web food discussion and review sites www.chowhound.com and www.yelp.com may also be helpful. A few menus are in the consulate.

Restaurants Close to the Hotel

This part of the list is of *everything* purveying food – restaurant or grocery, leaving out only bars and the snacks at gas stations or drug stores – along or just off El Camino Real within about ¾ mile of the hotel. We figure that's as far as anyone could possibly want to walk, even in good weather. All may also be reached by the 22 bus, which runs along El Camino. For convenience, we've listed them geographically, starting with those closest to the hotel, with approximate distance lines marking them off. Street numbers change abruptly when you cross into Santa Clara from Sunnyvale, about a block east of the hotel.

East of the Hotel

(alias logical south)

*[to the left from the hotel entrance]
All addresses are in Santa Clara unless noted*

Same Side of El Camino as the Hotel

Afghani House

1103 E. El Camino, Sunnyvale, 248-5087; Lunch M-F 11:30 am-2 pm; dinner daily 5:30-9:30 pm

Large pleasant setting. The aushak appetizers (ravioli-like and served

with a yogurt and meat topping) were awesome. The rest of the food was good, though not outstanding. Lunch and dinner entrees between \$10-\$20. Convenient to the hotel and pleasant enough, but we don't have a passion for the place. The best and heartiest Afghan food locally is at Kabul on the other side of Sunnyvale (see page 23). (KS, DB)

Fish Market

3775 El Camino, 246-3474; Sat 11 am-10 pm; Sun noon-9:30 pm; M-F 11 am-9:30 pm; www.thefishmarket.com
Your basic American seafood restaurant, adequate but uninspired. The heart of the menu is the basic grilled fresh fish, which comes in a moderate-size portion with a choice of two sides. Shellfish offerings are limited; vegetarian offerings are mostly salads. Dinner entrees are around \$20. (DL, KS, JM)

Thai Chili Cuisine

1550 Halford, (behind the Fish Market), 615-9199; Sat noon-10 pm; Sun 5 pm-10 pm; M-F 11 am-3 pm and 5 pm-10 pm; www.thai-chili.com

Small Thai restaurant with a dinner menu notable for a variety of fish prepared in a variety of ways, all interesting. Dishes range from the delicate mixing of flavors to the robust (spice level may be moderated). Dinner entrees \$8-\$15. (DB)

Pizz'a Chicago

1576 Halford, (behind the Fish Market), 244-2246; Sat-Thurs 11 am-10 pm; Fri 11 am-11 pm; www.pizzachicago.com
Chicago style pizza, i.e. deep-dish. Also has salads and pasta. Mostly take-away.

Rangoli Sweets & Snacks

1584 Halford, (behind the Fish Market), 244-1160; daily, 9 am-10 pm
Indian bakery. Desserts and a few samosas.

Shan

3739 El Camino, (near Lucky's), 248-8433; Lunch Sat-Sun noon-4 pm, M-F 11:30 am-3 pm; dinner daily 5:30-10 pm

Indian/Pakistani food counter. Very inexpensive, \$6-7 per dish. A lot of lamb on the menu, assuming they actually have it in stock, which they didn't on one visit. But it's fast, convenient, and tasty. (DB)

Adel's Liquor

3737 El Camino, 243-9594; Mon-Sat 10 am-10 pm; Sunday 10 am-6 pm

Denny's

3715 El Camino, 296-1048; Open 24 hours/day

Lucky's

3705 El Camino, 247-5200; daily, 6 am-midnight; pharmacy Sat 9 am-5 pm (except lunch 1-2 pm), M-F 9 am-7 pm (except lunch 1-2 pm), Sunday closed
Supermarket with deli counter, pharmacy, and Bank of America ATM.

Bombay Garden

3701 El Camino (near Lucky's), 241-5150; Lunch Sat-Sun 11:30 am-3:30 pm, M-F 11:30-3 pm; dinner Fri-Sat 5:30-10:30 pm, Sunday 5:30-10 pm, Mon-Thurs 5-10 pm; www.dinebombaygarden.com

A large Indian restaurant. The decor is modern Indian with glass tabletops and wide screen TVs on the walls showing Bollywood videos. It has a buffet for both lunch (daily, \$11-12) and dinner (Fri-Sun, \$14). This, and the moderate prices, makes it one of the better choices in the area for a large group. The buffet has an extensive selection of vegetarian and chicken dishes, plus some salads, pickles, chaat dishes, and desserts. The lamb is not up to the quality of the other dishes. (TB)

Starbuck's Coffee

3605 El Camino, 296-5078; daily, 5 am-1 am

[1/4 mile]

Chili's Grill and Bar

3591 El Camino, 554-9578; Fri-Sat 11 am-11:30 pm; Sun 11 am-10:30 pm; Mon-Thurs 11 am-11 pm

King Noodle

3577 El Camino, 261-8188; daily, 9 am-9 pm; www.kingnoodle.net

Noodle soups and rice plates. Reputedly not as good as California Noodle House across the street, but cheap, \$5 up.

Jang Su Jang

3561 El Camino #10, 246-1212; daily, 11 am-10 pm

Korean restaurant with barbecue-at-table options. Specializes in tofu dishes. Larger and with more upscale decor than other Korean restaurants in this area. Lunch under \$10; dinner entrees \$9-\$22.

Lawrence Plaza Food Court

3561 El Camino; daily, 10 am-9 or 10 pm

Inside, there are five separate Korean food counters and one with sushi, and

a yogurt/gelato vendor. Food is prepared in the back rather than being kept at steam tables, so it's not at all bad. (DB)

Paris Baguette Café

3561 El Camino #75, 260-0404; Fri-Sat 7 am-10 pm; Sun 8 am-9 pm; Mon-Thurs 7 am-9 pm;
www.parisbaguetteusa.com

When people in Korea have a hankering for hot sandwiches, croquettes, or croissants, they go here. Now a branch has come to the Korean shopping center in Santa Clara. Counter service a la carte.

Galleria

3529/3531 El Camino 557-5610 or 246-0005; daily, 8 am-9 pm

Korean/Japanese supermarket. Includes a bakery and a cosmetics section.

Cheon Joo Young Yang Dol Sot

3519 El Camino, 244-4002

Korean food aimed for Koreans, mostly hotpot soups and stews, \$8-\$20. Small place, open for lunch and presumably dinner, but the hostess had not enough English to understand a query for the opening hours.

[1/2 mile]

China Way

3475 El Camino, 247-1488; Fri-Sat 10 am-10 pm; Sun-Thurs 10 am-9:30 pm;
chinawayrestaurant.com

Strangely enough, considering all the other Asian cuisines jostling for your attention, this is the only Chinese restaurant close to the hotel. Mostly Mandarin cookery, tending towards dark and heavy sauces. Dinner entrees up to \$15 for the (extensive) seafood selections. (DB)

Oriental Market

3443 El Camino (behind the car wash), 984-0448

Tiny Korean side-dish deli, with signs only in Korean.

Truya Sushi

3431 El Camino, 244-4534; Lunch M-F 11 am-2 pm; dinner Mon-Sat 5 pm-10 pm; closed Sunday; www.deliversushi.com

A la carte sushi and sashimi; also teriyaki, sukiyaki, etc. entrees and bento boxes.

Nobali Liquor

3425 El Camino, 243-5609; Fri-Sat 9 am-2 am; Sun 11 am-11 pm; Mon-Thurs 9 am-midnight

Crab House

3395 El Camino, 984-8000; Mon-Sat 11 am-10 pm; Sun 5-9 pm

Korean. The usual hotpots, with various lunch specials up to \$10, but the dinner specials are all fish, including raw crab (about \$20).

Kyo-Po Market

3379 El Camino, 244-1234; daily, 9 am-9 pm; www.kyopo-market.com

Korean supermarket. Little if any prepared food.

Jack-in-the-Box

3367 El Camino, 249-7940; daily, 6 am-midnight; drive-through 24 hour

Opposite Side of El Camino from the Hotel

Palace BBQ

1092 E. El Camino #1, Sunnyvale (directly opposite the hotel), 249-8347; Tues-Sun 11:30 am-3 pm and 5-10 pm; closed Monday

Large, open Korean bbq buffet. All-you-can-eat, cook it yourself at your table. Fun, tasty, many interesting options, up to and including pork

tongue, which is tastier than it sounds. Weekend lunch buffet is \$15, dinner (with many more meat options) \$26. Salad bar and steam table foods (some of them vegetarian) supplement the meat-to-cook. Very crowded at dinner. (KS, DB)

Han Kook Supermarket

1092 E. El Camino, Sunnyvale (directly opposite the hotel), 261-2299 (deli), 244-0871 (market); 8 am-9 pm daily
Massive Korean supermarket, very clean and bright, with deli serving quick dishes and baked goods, and tables to eat at. Self-service chan bar (side dishes/condiments like kim chee) with amazing variety. Many need to be cooked or heated. (KS, DB)

Baker's Village

1488 Halford (around the corner from El Camino), 246-2434; Tues-Sat 9 am-9 pm; Sun 9 am-8:30 pm; Mon closed
Korean bakery.

Myung Dong Tofu Cabin

1484 Halford (around the corner from El Camino), 246-1484; daily, 10:30 am-10 pm; www.tofucabin.com
Small Korean restaurant, mostly hot-pots, specializing in tofu stews.

R & R Liquors

1480 Halford (around the corner from El Camino), 246-5518; Fri-Sat 10 am-11 pm; Sun-Thurs 10 am-10:30 pm
Largest of the nearby liquor/minimart stores.

California Noodle House

1460 Halford (around the corner from El Camino), 244-9721; daily, 9 am-10 pm; www.noodlehouse.com
Vietnamese pho, noodle soup typically with beef, but this place has other options. These restaurants don't vary much, but this is one of my

favorites locally. Huge tasty bowls of soup for under \$10. (DB)

Burger King

3750 El Camino, 241-6564; Mon-Sat 6 am-10 pm; Sun 7 am-10 pm; drive-through Fri-Sat to 2 am, Sun-Thurs to midnight

Bharat Bazar

3680 El Camino (behind Taco Bell), 247-4307; daily, 10:30 am-9 pm
Indian grocery, with a counter for takeout chaat (which was closed when I was there at lunchtime, with only a few samosas out). Not too appealing-looking. In the back corner of a shopping center parking lot. There are still signs for an Indian restaurant called Sanraj directing you here, but the restaurant is no more. (DB)

Taco Bell

3610 El Camino, 249-8226; daily, 10 am-10 pm; drive-through to 3 am

[1/4 mile]

Amilia Café

3590 El Camino, 247-4405; Fri-Sat 7 am-10 pm; Sun-Mon 7 am-3 pm; Tues-Thurs 7 am-9 pm; www.cafeamilia.com
Vaguely Italianoid American diner. Good place for breakfast at noon, or basic hamburgers with piles of lettuce, tomato, etc. on the other half of the bun. Also pasta entrees and such. Breakfasts under \$10; lunches a bit more; dinner entrees up to \$23. (DB)

Choi's Korean

3530 El Camino, 615-0200; Mon-Sat 11 am-10:30 pm; Sun 11:30 am-9:30 pm
Counter service. Great food, fresh-tasting ban chan. Skip the potstickers, but everything else was good. Meals \$8 up. (KS)

[1/2 mile]

Honeyberry

3488 El Camino, 985-9555; Mon-Sat 11 am-11 pm; Sun 11 am-10 pm
Bright little café with gelato, Korean shaved ice, sandwiches, and coffee.

Roll House

3486 El Camino, 246-4888; Tues-Sun 11 am-9 pm; closed Monday
Small Korean restaurant. Specialists in gimbap (Korean sushi rolls), made with rice, seaweed, and typically a mixed variety of (cooked) fillings. Entrees under \$10.

Pho Hoa

3484 El Camino, 249-8598; daily, 9 am-midnight; www.phohoa.com
Vietnamese pho, \$6-\$8 a bowl. Local outlet of a small chain. Explanatory menu is good if you haven't tried pho (Vietnamese beef noodle soup) before, but their "adventurous choices" aren't that adventurous. (DB)

SGD Tofu House

3450 El Camino #105, 261-3030; Fri 11 am-10 pm; Sat and Mon-Thurs 11 am-9:30 pm; closed Sunday
Small Korean restaurant. Mostly tofu bowls, but some have meat. About \$10 a bowl.

En

3450 El Camino #101; Dinner only; Mon-Sat 6-11 pm; closed Sunday
Izakaya (Japanese tapas): fried, grilled, and sashimi items ordered a la carte. Sister restaurant of Tanto (see p. 17).

Juju Bee

3438 El Camino, 241-0600; Dinner only: 7 pm-1:30 am weekends, 7 pm-1 am weeknights
Korean fusion bar food.

Via Mia Pizza

3436 El Camino (behind Juju Bee), 247-4300; daily, 11 am-10 pm; www.viamia.com
Primarily a storefront for a pizza-delivery service, but has a few tables for dine-in customers.

Secret Garden

3430 El Camino (behind Juju Bee), 244-5020; daily, 11 am-10 pm
Quiet Korean restaurant with nice decor. Broiled food, soups and hot-pot for \$10-\$15. Table bbq is about \$40 for two people. Recommended for the bahn-chahn (appetizers).

Seoul Rice Cake Bakery

3412 El Camino (behind Juju Bee), 244-2212
Hole-in-the-wall bakery outlet selling one-pound packages of various rice cakes for \$4.

El Camino Mongolian BBQ

3380 El Camino, 241-2413; Sat 11:30 am-9:30 pm; Sun 5-9 pm; M-F 11:30 am-2:30 pm and 5-9:30 pm
All you can eat; \$9 for lunch, \$11 for dinner. Fill your bowl with uncooked meat (beef, pork, chicken; also lamb at dinner), vegetables, and seasonings, and the chef stir-fries it for you. Here the vegetables are cooked less than at other Mongolian bbqs, and the quality and variety of the ingredients is somewhat higher. Very popular at lunch. (DB)

West of the Hotel

(alias logical north)

[to the right from the hotel entrance]

All addresses are in Sunnyvale

Same Side of El Camino as the Hotel

Kentucky Fried Chicken

1065 E. El Camino, 246-8924; daily, 10 am-10 pm

Tanto

1063 E. El Camino, 244-7311; Lunch Tues-Fri 11:30 am-1:30 pm; dinner Sat-Sun 6-9 pm, TF 6-11 pm; closed Monday Japanese. Tiny, crowded, extremely noisy. Sister restaurant of En (see p. 16), but also open for weekday lunch. Dinner is izakaya style. (KS)

Kumud Groceries

1053 E. El Camino #9, 554-8675; daily, 9 am-9 pm
Small Indian grocer.

Bhavika's

1053 E. El Camino #8, 243-2118; Tues-Sun 11 am-9:30 pm; closed Monday Indian vegetarian meals to go, sold by size.

Bhavika's Chatpat

1053 E. El Camino #2, 441-0917; Tues-Sun 11 am-9:30 pm; closed Monday Indian snacks and desserts.

Henderson Market

1053 E. El Camino, 247-3007; 24 hours/day
Minimart. More snacks than the minimart offerings of the local liquor stores.

Carl's Jr.

1051 E. El Camino, 296-7756; Fri-Sat 6 am-1 am; Sun-Thurs 6 am-midnight

[1/4 mile]

Starbuck's Coffee

1003 E. El Camino, 730-2311; daily, 5 am-10 pm

Yes, another Starbuck's, this one newly opened. Because one within half a mile of the hotel was apparently not enough.

[1/2 mile]

Chelokababi

1236 S. Wolfe, 737-1222; daily, 11 am-10 pm; www.chelokababi.com
Persian. Lots of kebabs. Good food; spacious restaurant but parking is limited. No separate lunch menu; entrees are \$15-\$20. (KS)

Rajjot Sweets & Snacks

1234 S. Wolfe, 730-5510; daily, 10 am-10 pm

Counter service of Indian steam table foods and desserts.

Karoon International Food Market

899 E. El Camino, 735-7171; Sat 10 am-8 pm; Sun 10 am-7 pm; M-F 10 am-9 pm

Small Persian/Middle Eastern grocers.

Karoon Persian Cuisine

897 E. El Camino; Mon-Sat 10 am-9 pm; Sun 11 am-8 pm

Tiny counter service of Persian food, entrees under \$12. A few tables but mostly for takeaway. The small menu focuses on well-flavored chicken-based dishes, so it's a quite different selection from Chelokababi across the street. Looks unimpressive but the food turned out tasty and well-prepared. (DB)

Chaat House

893 E. El Camino, 733-9000; daily, 11:30 am-9:30 pm; www.chaat.us.com

Vegetarian Indian snack food, a la carte or in \$7-\$8 combos.

Sitar India/Taj India

889 E. El Camino, 720-8396; daily, 11:30 am-2:30 pm and 5:30-10 pm
Sitar is the name outside; Taj is the name on the menus. Basic Indian restaurant, frequented more by non-Indians. Lunch buffet, decent but unmemorable chicken and vegetarian, is \$8. (DB)

Opposite Side of El Camino from the Hotel

Yume Sushi

1082 E. El Camino #7 (directly opposite the hotel), 248-1577; Lunch Mon-Sat 11:30 am-2 pm; dinner Mon-Sat 5:30-10 pm, Sunday 5-9 pm
Assorted sushi lunch plate is \$12.

Midori

1066 E. El Camino, 985-1000; Lunch daily 11:30 am-2:30 pm; dinner Tues-Sat 5 pm-midnight, Sun-Mon 5-10 pm
Japanese. Good and convenient, standard Japanese sushi and bento box fare. After 10 pm, transforms into a "midnight special" yakitori-appetizer bar. (KS)

Subway Sandwiches

1044 E. El Camino, 244-0007; Mon-Sat 9 am-10:30 pm; Sun 9 am-10 pm

Sawa Sushi

1042 E. El Camino, 241-7292
Tiny austere place. Open for dinner but apparently not for lunch, and disinclined to reveal their hours.

[1/4 mile]

Kwality Sweets 'n Food

1034B E. El Camino, 617-0660; daily, 10:30 am-10 pm

Indian fast food lunch items and desserts.

India Cash & Carry

1032 E. El Camino, 735-7383; daily, 9 am-10 pm; www.indiacashandcarry.com
Medium-sized Indian market. A few light snack items but no other prepared food.

Point

1030A E. El Camino, 749-9661; Dinner only: daily 5 pm-12:30 am.
Korean fusion bar food, \$9-\$14.

Dusita

1028 E. El Camino, 738-2177; Lunch Mon-Sat 11 am-3 pm; dinner daily 5 pm-10 pm; www.dusitathaicuisine.com
Thai. I've been happy with the lunch specials at this unpretentious but spacious restaurant. Lunch under \$10; dinner entrees \$9-\$13. (DB)

Komala Vilas

1020 E. El Camino, 733-7400; Wed-Mon 8:30 am-2:30 pm and 5:30-9:30 pm; closed Tues; www.komalavilas.com
South Indian (Tamil) vegetarian. At lunchtime, servers circulate and ladle portions (and refills) of vegetarian set menu (\$10) onto your divided metal plate. A unique experience. Spicy but not especially hot. Also serves breakfasts and dinners. (KS)

Jang Tu

1012 E. El Camino, 245-5720; Mon-Sat 11 am-10 pm; closed Sunday
Small Korean neighborhood restaurant.

Ocean Blue Sushi Club

1010 E. El Camino, 720-8840; Mon-Sat 11:30 am-2:30 pm and 5-10 pm; closed Sunday
Sushi restaurant. Menu includes the likes of teriyaki/sushi combinations for \$10-12.

Quincy Liquors & Grocery

982 E. El Camino, 245-0833; Mon-Sat
10:30 am-10 pm; Sunday 11 am-7 pm

Udupi Palace

976 E. El Camino, 830-9600; daily,
11:30 am-10 pm;
www.udupipalaceca.com
Indian vegetarian. Lots of dosas (rice
crepes). Dishes under \$10.

[1/2 mile]

Singh Video & Groceries

934 E. El Camino, 746-0758
Cramped little Indian video store
with some groceries.

Lovely Sweets and Snacks

932 E. El Camino, 245-6512; daily, 10
am-10 pm
Indian dessert bakery.

Bangla Bazaar

924 Fremont Ave., 738-3213; Fri-Sat 10
am-9 pm; Sun-Thurs 10 am-8:30 pm
Small local Bangladeshi market, in-
cluding halal butcher counter.

Wendy's Hamburgers

1313 S. Wolfe Rd., 739-3123; daily, 9:30
am-10 pm; drive-through Fri-Sat to 2
am, Sun-Thurs to 1 am

Recommended Restaurants Further Away

These are all within easy driving distance: about 6 miles, listed by city. There are many more good restaurants in Palo Alto and downtown San José and beyond, but we had to cut off the cornucopia somewhere.

Santa Clara

The stretch of El Camino east of the hotel is packed with even more Korean, Indian, and a few Thai and Vietnamese eating places than the immediate hotel neighborhood. This list is very selective, and concentrates on the places that don't fall in those categories. Listed in order of distance from the hotel. Odd numbers on El Camino are on the left driving from the hotel; even numbers are on the right.

Acapulco

1299 Lawrence Expressway, 249-2001;
Fri-Sat 11:30 am-11 pm; Sunday 10 am-
2 pm; Mon-Thurs 11:30 am-10 pm
This is actually only half a mile from the hotel, but getting there is more roundabout. To drive, turn right (southbound) onto Lawrence, go to the first stoplight at Benton, make a U-turn, and it's just ahead on the right. Walking is illegal on the expressway and would be even more out of the way legally, so don't try it. More a Mexican-style bistro than a Mexican restaurant, with karaoke nights. Dinner plates are under \$20; weekday lunch buffet at \$8.50; Sunday brunch.

Real Ice Cream

3077 El Camino (in Bowers Plaza, behind Korean restaurant Tutti, between Calabazas and Bowers Ave.), 984-6601; Sat-Sun noon-9 pm; Tues-Fri noon-3 pm and 5-9 pm; closed Mon;
www.angelfire.com/ca2/realicecream/
Over 30 yummy Indian ice creams and kulfis like saffron pistachio and cardamom rose pedal, and at least 3 other rose flavored ones. You can also order chaat here, vegetarian Indian dishes that can easily make a meal if you order 1 1/2 to 2 per per-

son, but they're not set up as a full-service restaurant. Sharing was challenging for our group of six. (KS)

Jerusalem Restaurant and Deli

3064 El Camino (in the back of the 3050-3080 plaza), 260-7739; Sat-Sun noon-9 pm; M-F 11 am-10 pm; www.jerusalemrestaurantanddeli.com
Sandwiches and kebabs, under \$12. The falafel has gotten good reviews.

Vesuvio's Restaurant and Pizzeria

3044 El Camino, 296-1052; Mon-Sat 11 am-11 pm; Sun 11 am-10 pm; www.vesuviopizzeria.com

East coast-style neighborhood Italian place, gloomy with the window shades drawn. Counter service. Besides pizza, the specialty is grinders, sub sandwiches on toasted bread. (DB)

99 Chicken

2781 El Camino, 244-5599; Mon 5 pm-midnight; Tues-Sun noon-midnight
Specialists in Korean-style fried chicken: lightly fried, juicy but not greasy, plain fried chicken, cooked to order and served with a salt/pepper mix on the side. Expensive (\$1-\$2 per small piece, depending on order size), but addictive. (DB)

HomeTown Buffet

2670 El Camino, 247-9001; Sat 8 am-9 pm; Sun 8 am-8:30 pm; Mon-Thurs 11 am-8:30 pm; Fri 11 am-9 pm; www.buffet.com

Where old people and mobs of small children go for endless quantities of baked chicken, baked fish, baked spaghetti, and unseasoned vegetables. From \$8 to \$12 depending on time of day.

Dosa Place

2665 El Camino, 243-3672; Sat 11:30 am-10:30 pm; Sun 11:30 am-9:30 pm; M-F 11:30 am-2:30 pm and 5:30-10 pm (Fri to 10:30).

All vegetarian dosas (south Indian rice/lentil crepes) with various toppings, all under \$10.

China China

2570 El Camino, 261-9000; daily, 11 am-9:30 pm

If you must go to a Chinese all-you-can-eat place, this one is a cut above the others in the area. \$8-\$12 per person, depending on time of day. (DB)

Andy's BBQ

2367 El Camino, 249-8158; Sat 3-10 pm; Sun 3-9 pm; Mon-Thurs 11 am-9 pm; Fri 11 am-10 pm; www.andysbbq.com

Bigger on the quantity than the taste, but this is a popular local landmark. Plates are \$13-\$22, and you get enough to eat.

La Paloma

2280 El Camino, 247-0990; Fri-Sat 11 am-10 pm; Sun 4-9 pm; Mon-Thurs 11 am-9:30 pm; lapaloma.yppguides.net
Basic solid Americanized Mexican food. An old standby located on, ironically enough, the site of the only battle of the Mexican War in Northern California. I haven't tried the lunch buffet, but dinners are hearty at \$8-\$15. (DB)

Zafran

1855 El Camino, 247-9998; Fri-Mon 11 am-11 pm; Tues-Thurs 11 am-3:30 pm and 5:30-10:30 pm; www.zafranrestaurants.biz

Pakistani and Northern Indian (so there's a lunch buffet, \$10). For serious meat eaters. This is a good place

to get your goat. They also have brains on the menu. *Brains*. (DB)

Kabab & Curry's

1498 Isabella St. (at Clay, one block to the right off El Camino just before Lincoln), 247-0745; Lunch T-F 11:30

am-2:30 pm, Sat-Sun noon-2:30 pm; dinner T-F 5:30-10 pm, Sat-Sun 5:30-10:30 pm; closed Monday; www.kababandcurrys.com

Neighborhood Indian restaurant with a small but high-quality lunch buffet for \$9. Several vegetarian offerings.

Penang Village/Rasa Malaysian

1290 Coleman Ave (on the back road to the airport at Brokaw, kitty corner from Staples), 980-0668; Mon-Sat 11 am-3 pm and 5-10 pm; closed Sunday; www.rasa-malaysia.com

Rasa Malaysian is the current name, but the sign still says Penang Village. Tasty Malaysian food. Go with a group so you can try several dishes. Ramshackle building betrays origins as hillbilly styled bar (uneven floor, watch your step). Entrees under \$15; specials \$8. (KS)

Downtown Sunnyvale

Most of downtown Sunnyvale was long ago eaten by a deadly shopping mall now under complete reconstruction. What remains of life there is centered on one densely-settled block of S. Murphy Ave. between Evelyn and Washington Avenues, near the train station. Avoid Gumba's and Chef Yu Hunan Gourmet, which are not very good.

Del Monte Restaurant

100 S. Murphy #4, 737-7678; Lunch Tues-Fri 11 am-2 pm; dinner Sat and T-F 5-9:30 pm; closed Sunday and Monday; www.delmonterestaurant.com

A nice, white-tablecloth Italian restaurant in a historic building. The dining room is spacious and quiet. It's not very expensive. Lunch entrees up to \$15, with sandwiches under \$10; dinner entrees \$12-\$25. (TB)

Thai Basil

103 S. Murphy, 773-1098; M-F 11 am-2:30 pm and 5 pm -9:30 pm (Thurs-Fri to 10); Sat 11:30 am-10 pm; Sun 5 pm-9 pm; www.thaibasil.com

More pure Thai than Siam Taste (below). Lots of basil. Very good and cheap; dinner entrees \$8-\$13. (DL)

Taverna Bistro

133 S. Murphy, 735-9971; daily, 11 am-2:30 pm and 5-10 pm; www.tavernabistro.com

Originally a gyros sandwich place upgraded over the years into its current upscale eastern Mediterranean restaurant incarnation. Killer French fries which you get if you order the Adana kebob plate [\$12] (not the gyros). (DL)

Siam Taste

172 S. Murphy, 245-8585; Mon-Sat 11 am-10 pm; Sun noon-10 pm; www.siamtastethaicuisine.com

More Chinese Thai than pure Thai. Very good and cheap; lunch specials and dinner entrees up to \$10. (DL)

DishDash

190 S. Murphy, 774-1889; Lunch Mon-Sat 11 am-2:30 pm; dinner Fri-Sat 5-10 pm, Mon-Thurs 5-9:30 pm; closed Sunday; www.dishdash.net

Upscale Mediterranean (Greek/Levant/North Africa). Wonderful complimentary bread with olive oil/herb dip. Unusual appetizers (filo dough stuffed with seasoned ground beef and parsley; grated cucumber in a yogurt-garlic sauce); Greek salads; dinner entries including fish, chicken,

lamb, and vegetarian options, mostly in the \$14-20 range. Popular and trendy; reservations recommended, especially on the weekend. (JM)

Il Postale

127 W. Washington (near Murphy), 733-9600; Sat 5-10 pm; Sun 5-9:30 pm; Mon 11 am-2:30 pm and 4:30-9:30 pm; Tues-Thurs 11 am-9:30 pm; Fri 11 am-10 pm; ilpostale.com

A very good northern style Italian restaurant. Dinner entrees mostly in the \$12-\$25 range; lunches slightly less. (DL)

Bay Leaf

122 S. Sunnyvale Ave. (a block east of Murphy), 481-9983; Fri-Sat 11 am-10 pm; Sun 11 am-9 pm; M-Th 11 am-3 pm and 5-9:30 pm; www.bayleaf-restaurant.com

Thai and Indonesian. There are other Thai restaurants; the Indonesian is the interesting part of this menu. Combination plates with chicken, beef, eggs, anchovies and other miscellanea for under \$10. (DB)

Sunnyvale Outside of Downtown

Ariake Sushi

759 E. El Camino Real (between Wolfe and Fair Oaks, on the right by the Marie Callender's), 245-8383; daily, 11:30 am-10 pm

Standard Americanized Japanese sushi. The food is good, portions are ample and the price is very reasonable, \$5-6 per sushi item. An excellent place to get a quick bite to eat. (DL)

Cabritos Mexican Bistro

685 E. El Camino (between Wolfe and Fair Oaks, on the right), 738-0517; Sat 10 am-1 am; Sun 9 am-midnight; Mon-

Thurs 10 am-10 pm; Fri 10 am-1 am
Live music and dancing weekend evenings. Fairly good neighborhood Mexican food, less Americanized than some. I like their light mole sauce (with chicken in bone, \$12). But for genuine Mexican taquería food, you need to go to East San José or, better yet, the Fair Oaks district of Redwood City. (DB)

In-N-Out Burger

604 E. El Camino (at Fair Oaks); Fri-Sat 10:30 am-1:30 am; Sun-Thurs 10:30 am-1 am; www.in-n-out.com
Nearest location of a California burger chain many connoisseurs swear by.

Annapoorna

573 E. El Camino (on the right in a small shopping center past Fair Oaks), 524-2662; Lunch Sat-Sun 11:30-3 pm, M,W-F 11:30-2:30 pm; dinner Fri-Sat 5:30-10 pm, M,W-F 5:30-9:30 pm; closed Tues; www.annapoorna.us
Indian. Cafeteria decor with counter service, well-regarded locally. Lunch buffet; dinner entrees under \$10.

Peet's Coffee and Tea

144 W. El Camino (opposite downtown, at Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road), 636-0545; Fri-Sat 5 am-10 pm; Sun 6 am-9 pm; Mon-Thurs 5 am-9 pm

Yume-Ya

150 W. El Camino (behind Peet's, at Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road), 530-8156; Dinner only: Sat 5:30-10 pm; M-F 6-11 pm; closed Sunday
Japanese. A great find, an inexpensive casual restaurant with lots of great dishes, the kind of place you would feel lucky to have in your neighborhood if you lived in Japan. That it exists in Sunnyvale is a modest miracle. Skip the set dinners and the sushi

(which is good, but you can get it anywhere), and explore the menu. The gyoza are made fresh and are extraordinarily light. The ocha-zuke is green tea soup; it has an amazing complex of tart and savory flavors. The rice balls are substantial. The miso soup can be ordered loaded with mushrooms, or with clams. The pickles are fresh and crunchy. Say “oishi-katta des” – it means “that was tasty.” (TB)

Trader Joe's

727 Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road (near El Camino, same shopping center as Peet's and Yume-Ya), 481-9082; daily, 9 am-9 pm; www.traderjoes.com

Nearest outlet of the quintessentially provocative specialty grocers.

Ginger Café

398 W. El Camino #114 (hidden in the back of Cherry Glen Plaza, a small shopping center at the far corner of Matilda), 736-2828; daily, 11 am-10 pm; www.gingercafe.net

A surprisingly good Chinese hole in the wall place. It looks like your basic unimpressive family run Chinese restaurant but I found it unexpectedly tasty. Lunch under \$10; dinner entrees \$11-\$28. (DL)

Kabul

833 W. El Camino Real (at Pastoria), 245-4350; Lunch M-F 11:30-2; dinner daily 5:30-10 pm; www.kabulrestaurant.net

Best Afghan food in the area. Reasonably priced (\$13-18 range for dinner entrees) for the quality and quantity of food served. Meat entries are mostly well-marinated and char-broiled kebabs, served with salad, bread, and rice. Also excellent is the aushak, green onion raviolis topped with a yogurt-meat sauce. Single vegetables, stewed or sautéed, are

available, separately priced, as side dishes or vegetarian entrees (try the stewed pumpkin). (JM)

Fresh Choice

1105 W. El Camino (one block west of Mary, hidden behind a produce stand on the right side of the street), 732-7788; daily, 11 am-9 pm; www.freshchoice.com
All you can eat salad, soup, and pasta bar, for \$10 per adult, excluding beverages. Not as exciting or reliable as it used to be, but a good standby.

When health-conscious out-of-state visitors want to try something distinctively Californian, I take them here. Also has nearby locations at Cupertino Square on Wolfe and Westgate in West San José. (DB)

Country Gourmet

1314 S. Mary Ave. (at Fremont Ave.), 733-9446; Sat 8 am-9 pm; Sun 8 am-8:30 pm; M-F 7 am-9 pm; countrygourmet.com

Also at 2098 W. El Camino in Mountain View (at Rengstorff; about twice as far from the hotel). From the hotel, take El Camino to Wolfe, turn left and immediately right on Fremont. It's two miles along on the left. Well made, at least nominally healthy, American food. The Mexican salad, based on pinto beans, lettuce, cheese, and tortilla chips, may not be very Mexican, but it's extremely hearty, and my favorite vegetarian meal anywhere. Lunch under \$10; dinner specialties run higher. (DB)

Sweet Tomatoes

1210 Kifer Road (at Lawrence Expressway: turn right on Kifer), 730-8117; Fri-Sat 11 am-10 pm; Sun 9 am-9 pm; Mon-Thurs 11 am-9 pm; www.sweettomatoes.com

Similar to Fresh Choice, with possibly better soup. Adults are \$8 for lunch,

\$10 for dinner. Located down in the Silicon Valley industrial district.

Downtown Mountain View

Downtown Mountain View – centering on the few blocks of Castro Street closest to the Central Expressway – has the finest collection of Chinese restaurants in the South Bay, and also many other good restaurants, especially Thai and Asian fusion, but also European cuisines. These are just a few of our favorites.

Hunan Chili

102 Castro St., 650-969-8968; Lunch daily 11 am-2:30 pm; dinner Fri-Sat 5-10 pm; Sun-Thurs 5-9:30 pm

This is my local home for hearty, spicy Chinese food. A few dishes are odd, but most are excellent. A house special lamb (\$11) is heavily seasoned, with bits of bell pepper, but the best dish is a four-alarm dry braised chicken, also with bell peppers, called Marni's Chicken (\$9). Both are also available cheaper as lunch specials. (DB)

Hangen

134 Castro St., 650-964-8881; daily, 11 am-2:30 pm and 5-9:45 pm

Best of the few remaining old-line Chinese places on Castro. The house special beef (\$9) is foil-wrapped and cooked with basil and chili. Quite tasty. (DB)

Fu Lam Mum

153/155 Castro St., 650-967-3562 or 650-967-1689; Lunch Sat-Sun 10 am-3 pm; M-F 11 am-2:30 pm; dinner daily 5 pm-midnight

Chinese restaurant serving dim sum daily. Also does lunch rice plates (\$8), dinner dishes, and late-night specials.

Pasta?

160 Castro St., 650-938-4147; daily, 10 am-10 pm; www.pastaq.com

Casual Italian restaurant with excellent food. It is part of a small local chain that started in Palo Alto. The soups are fresh, there are many salads and appetizers, all very good, and a wide variety of pasta dishes. The wine list is limited, but has some good Italian and Californian selections. Can be noisy on weekend nights. Lunch under \$12; dinner entrees \$12-\$17. (TB)

Amarin

174 Castro St., 650-988-3623; Lunch Sat-Sun 11 am-3:30 pm, M-F 11 am-3 pm; dinner Sat 4:30-10:30 pm, Sun 4:30-10 pm; M-F 5-10 pm; www.amarinthaicuisine.com

Sinicized Thai restaurant with a large vegetarian menu as well as plenty of meat dishes, including something they call barbecue. If you order the sticky rice here, it's sticky: it comes in a loaf that almost has to be cut with a knife. Dinner entrees \$10-\$15. (DB)

New Mongolian Barbeque

304 Castro St., 650-968-0381; Lunch Sat-Sun 11 am-2:30 pm, M-F 11 am-2 pm; dinner Fri-Sat 5-10 pm, Sun-Thurs 5-9:30 pm

More thoroughly cooked veggies and chewier meat than at El Camino Mongolian BBQ in Santa Clara, if that's what you like: I do. All you can eat \$8 lunch, \$10 dinner and weekends; also does takeout. (DB)

Chez TJ

938 Villa St. (1½ blocks west of Castro), 650-964-7466; Dinner only: Fri-Sat 5:30-9:30 pm; Tues-Thurs 5:30-9 pm; www.cheztj.com

If you're seeking an elegant, expensive French restaurant with a "contemporary menu" in these parts, here's one

in a green-painted Victorian mansion. Tasting menus \$65-\$120, depending on number of courses, excluding wines.

Tied House Café & Brewery

954 Villa St. (near Franklin, 2 blocks west of Castro), 650-965-2739; Sat, Mon-Thurs 11:30 am-10 pm; Sun 11:30 am-9 pm; Fri 11:30 am-11 pm; bar open later; www.tiedhouse.com

Brewpub. Popular gathering place. Lots of \$10 burgers, hearty entrees, and beer.

Café Yulong

743 W. Dana St. (off Castro), 650-960-1677; Fri-Sat 11:30 am-10 pm; Tues-Thurs and Sun 11:30 am-9:30 pm; closed Monday

One of the most highly regarded Chinese restaurants in Mountain View, and one still following the tradition of closing on Mondays. Daintier, lighter cuisine than most of the others. I particularly recommend the fish in black bean sauce. (DB)

Mountain View Outside of Downtown

La Fiesta

240 Villa St. (near Calderon, 5 blocks east of Castro), 650-968-1364; Fri-Sat 11 am-10:30 pm; Sun-Thurs 11 am-9:30 pm; lafiestarestaurant.biz
A reliable and popular Americanized Mexican restaurant. Notable for their enjococado chicken in a sour cream-based sauce. Entrees under \$20. Weekend champagne/sangria brunch.

El Calderon

699 Calderon Ave. (at Church St., 2 blocks off El Camino, 5 blocks east of Castro), 650-940-9533; Lunch M-F 11 am-1:45 pm; dinner Mon-Sat 5-8:45

pm; closed Sunday
Salvadoran/Mexican. Small and crowded. A fair number of pupusas hiding on the menu; also a comfort spot with lots of Mexican soups. Entrees under \$14.

Frankie, Johnnie, & Luigi Too

939 W. El Camino Real (on the left just beyond Castro), 650-967-5384; Sat 11:30 am-midnight; Sun 11:30 am-11 pm; Mon-Thurs 11 am-11 pm; Fri 11 am-midnight; fjlmountainview.com
Italian comfort food, mostly pasta and pizza. Dinners under \$20. Also has a branch in West San José (see p. 26).

La Costena

2078 Old Middlefield Way (at Rengstorff), orders to go 839-6370; daily, 8 am-10 pm; www.costena.com
Takeout burrito vendor in the back of a Mexican grocery store. There's a few tables outside if you want to eat there. Closest thing to the fabled San Francisco Burrito, as celebrated by Calvin Trillin, that you'll find down in these parts. (DB)

Uncle Frank's BBQ

2135 Old Middlefield Way (just west of Rengstorff, in the back of a bar called Francesca's), 650-964-4476; Lunch, Sat noon-2:30 pm, T-F 11:30 am-2:30 pm; dinner Sat, T-F 5-8 pm; closed Sun-Mon; www.unclefranksbbq.com
Louisiana-style smoked meats. Highly regarded by some, but not tremendously to my taste. Good baked beans, though. Parties with children have to sit on the patio, because of the bar, and reservations are needed for patio parties of 4 or more. (DB)

Chef Chu's

1067 N. San Antonio Rd., Los Altos (at El Camino), 650-948-2696; Sat-Sun noon-10 pm; M-F 11:30 am-9:30 pm;

www.chefchu.com/mall/c102/s11_new/Directions.asp

Photos of famous and infamous politicians loom from the wall over the waiting area, but despite the celebrity status this is actually a good Chinese restaurant, with a knack for imaginatively tasty versions of standard dishes. Dinner entrees \$10-\$14; house specialties higher. (DB)

Cupertino and West San José

Ramen Halu

375-M Saratoga Ave., San José (just south of Stevens Creek Blvd, across from Harry's Hofbrau), 246-3933; Lunch Thurs-Mon 11:30-2 pm; dinner Fri-Sat 5:30-9:30 pm, Sun-Thurs 5:30-9 pm; www.ramenhalu.com/halu_main_english.html

Amazingly flavorful broth with fresh, chewy noodles, run by a Japanese surfer with deep belief in the healthful properties of ramen. Truly worth a trip. Stick with the original broth. Not vegetarian. (KS)

La Patisserie Bakery

19758 Stevens Creek Blvd, Cupertino (near Cupertino Square, across the street behind Elephant Bar), 446-4744; Sat 8 am-7 pm; Sun 9 am-5 pm; Tues-Fri 7 am-6:30 pm; www.lapatisserie.net
High-quality decadent European desserts. Mostly works on special-order cakes, but has some treats for sale to drop-in customers.

Mandarin Gourmet

10145 N. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino (just north of Stevens Creek, near Apple), 725-8168; Lunch daily 11:30-2:15; dinner Fri-Sat 5 pm-9:45, Sun-Thurs 5 pm-9:15; www.themandaringourmet.com
Best Chinese restaurant in the immediate vicinity outside of downtown

Mountain View, to my tastes. Good service and pleasant decor as well as excellent, refined food. Lunches \$9-\$13; dinner entrees up to \$14. (DB)

Original Pancake House

1366 S. DeAnza Blvd., San José (between State 85 and Prospect, beyond the city of Cupertino), 255-7373; Sat-Sun 7 am-3 pm; M-F 6:30 am-2 pm; www.originalpancakehouse.com

If you're hankering for hearty breakfast food at lunchtime, this is the place to go.

Frankie, Johnnie, & Luigi Too

5245 Prospect Rd., San José (Westgate West center, between Lawrence Expressway & Saratoga Ave.); 446-9644; Fri-Sat 11:30 am-10:30 pm; Sun-Thurs 11:30 am-9:30 pm; fjlsanjose.com
Italian comfort food, mostly pasta and pizza. Dinners under \$20. Branch of the original in Mountain View (see p. 25).

Cupertino Village

Wolfe Rd. and Homestead Rd., Cupertino

A huge East Asian shopping center with many restaurants, bakeries, boutiques, and other shops of several nationalities, mostly Chinese and Korean, but also Japanese and Vietnamese. The anchor supermarket is 99 Ranch Market (343-3699). Of the restaurants, the dim sum at The Joy Luck Place (255-6988) is best known. A&J Restaurant (873-8298) is fast-food Chinese known for their beef noodle soup. Guan Dong House (253-3998) is country-style Northern Chinese.

Restaurants Listed by Cuisine

American

East: Denny's, Chili's Grill and Bar, Amilia Cafe. *Sunnyvale:* Country Gourmet. *Mountain View:* Tied House Cafe & Brewery. *Cupertino:* Original Pancake House

Seafood. *East:* Fish Market

Soup & salad bar. *Sunnyvale:* Fresh Choice, Sweet Tomatoes

Buffet. *Santa Clara:* HomeTown Buffet

Barbecue. *Santa Clara:* Andy's BBQ. *Mountain View:* Uncle Frank's BBQ

Fast food. *East:* Jack-in-the-Box, Burger King, Taco Bell. *West:* Kentucky Fried Chicken, Carl's Jr, Subway Sandwiches, Wendy's Hamburgers. *Sunnyvale:* In-N-Out Burger

Markets. *East:* Lucky's (supermarket). *West:* Henderson Market (minimart). *Sunnyvale:* Trader Joe's (specialty market)

Chinese

East: China Way. *Sunnyvale:* Ginger Cafe. *Mountain View:* Hunan Chili, Hangen, Cafe Yulong, Chef Chu. *Cupertino:* Mandarin Gourmet, Cupertino Village

Dim sum. *Mountain View:* Fu Lam Mum

Mongolian BBQ. *East:* El Camino Mongolian BBQ. *Mountain View:* New Mongolian Barbeque

Buffet. *Santa Clara:* China China

Coffee

East and West: Starbuck's Coffee. *Sunnyvale:* Peet's Coffee and Tea

French

Mountain View: Chez TJ

Bakery. *Cupertino:* La Patisserie Bakery

Ice cream and gelato

East: Lawrence Plaza Food Court, Honeyberry. *Santa Clara:* Real Ice Cream

Indian/Pakistani

East: Bombay Garden. *West:* Sitar India/Taj India. *Santa Clara:* Zafran, Kabab & Curry's

Cafeterias. *East:* Shan. *West:* Bhavika's (to go only), Rajjot Sweets & Snacks, Chaat House, Komala Vilas. *Santa Clara:* Real Ice Cream.

Sunnyvale: Annapoorna

Dosas. *West:* Udipi Palace. *Santa Clara:* Dosa Place

Bakeries (some with snack food). *East:* Rangoli Sweets & Snacks. *West:* Bhavika's Chatpat, Kwaliti Sweets 'n Food, Lovely Sweets and Snacks

Groceries. *East:* Bharat Bazar. *West:* Kumud Groceries, India Cash & Carry, Singh Video & Groceries, Bangla Bazaar

Indonesian

Sunnyvale: Bay Leaf

Italian

Santa Clara: Vesuvio's Restaurant and Pizzeria. *Sunnyvale:* Del Monte Restaurant, Il Postale. *Mountain View:* Pasta?, Frankie Johnnie & Luigi Too. *Cupertino:* Frankie Johnnie & Luigi Too

Pizza parlors. *East:* Pizz'a Chicago, Via Mia Pizza

Japanese

East: En. *West:* Tanto, Midori.

Sunnyvale: Yume-Ya. *Cupertino:* Ramen Halu, Cupertino Village

Sushi (predominantly). *East:* Truya Sushi. *West:* Yume Sushi, Sawa Sushi, Ocean Blue Sushi Club. *Sunnyvale:* Ariake Sushi

Markets. *East:* Galleria

Korean

East: Jang Su Jang, Cheon Joo Young Yang Dol Sot, Crab House, Myung Dong Tofu Cabin, Roll House, SGD Tofu House, Secret Garden. *West:* Jang Tu. *Cupertino:* Cupertino Village
Buffet. *East:* Palace BBQ

Cafeterias, fast food. *East:* Lawrence Plaza Food Court, Choi's Korean. *Santa Clara:* 99 Chicken

Korean bars. *East:* Juju Bee. *West:* Point

Markets and bakeries. *East:* Galleria, Oriental Market, Kyo-Po Market, Han Kook Supermarket (includes cafeteria), Baker's Village, Seoul Rice Cake Bakery

Liquor stores

(with a minor in minimart)

East: Adel's Liquor, Nobali Liquor, R & R Liquors. *West:* Quincy Liquors & Grocery

Malaysian

Santa Clara: Penang Village/Rasa Malaysian

Mediterranean

Sunnyvale: Taverna Bistro, DishDash

Mexican

Santa Clara: Acapulco, La Paloma.

Sunnyvale: Cabritos Mexican Bistro.

Mountain View: La Fiesta, El Calderon (also Salvadoran)

Burritos. *Mountain View:* La Costena

Fast food. *East:* Taco Bell

Middle Eastern

(including Persian and Afghan)

East: Afghani House. *West:*

Chelokababi, Karoon Persian Cuisine.

Santa Clara: Jerusalem Restaurant and Deli. *Sunnyvale:* Kabul

Markets. *West:* Karoon International Food Market

Sandwiches

East: Paris Baguette Cafe, Honeyberry. *West:* Subway Sandwiches

Thai

East: Thai Chili Cuisine. *West:* Dusita.

Sunnyvale: Thai Basil, Siam Taste, Bay

Leaf. *Mountain View:* Amarin

Vietnamese

East: King Noodle, California Noodle House, Pho Hoa. *Cupertino:* Cupertino Village

LOCAL GUIDE

Shopping

Three large and useful stores are all in the shopping center two blocks east of the hotel (to the left as you exit), on the left side of El Camino. Lucky's Supermarket, 3705 El Camino, Santa Clara, 247-5200 (daily 6 am-midnight). Orchard Supply Hardware, 3615 El Camino, 247-1915 (Mon-Sat 7 am-9 pm; Sun 8 am-8 pm). Big Lots (closeout retailer), 3735 El Camino, 247-0389 (daily 9 am-9 pm).

Necessary Nearby Stuff

Pharmacy: Inside Lucky's, 3705 El Camino (see above; Sat 9 am-5 pm, M-F 9 am-7 pm, Sunday closed, also closed for lunch at random periods between 1 and 2 pm). There are 7-day Walgreens along El Camino within several blocks from the hotel, at Flora Vista in Santa Clara and just beyond Wolfe in Sunnyvale.

ATM: Citibank, two blocks left on El Camino; Bank of America, inside Lucky's (see above).

Coin laundry: Lauderland IV, 1564 Halford, Santa Clara (two blocks east of the hotel, behind the Fish Market), 249-8481 or 244-1039 (daily 5:30 am-11 pm, last wash at 10 pm; \$1.75 per wash)

Photocopying and mailing services:

Tax Genie, 1556 Halford, Santa Clara (behind the Fish Market), 868-4567, two blocks from the hotel, has a photocopy machine and takes FedEx dropoffs (Sat 10 am-4 pm; M-F 9

am-7:30 pm; closed Sunday). UPS Store (mailing service), 1030 E. El Camino, Sunnyvale (just beyond Henderson, on the left), 245-1600 (Mon-Fri 9 am-7 pm, Sat 9 am-5 pm, closed Sunday). FedEx Kinko's (copying and mailing), 598 E. El Camino, Sunnyvale (just beyond Fair Oaks, on the left), 530-0111 (Sat-Sun 9 am-9 pm, M-F 6 am-10 pm) Office Max (office supplies), 2790 El Camino, Santa Clara (just past Kiely Blvd., on the right), 261-7520 (Sat 9 am-7 pm; Sun 10 am-6 pm; M-F 8 am-9 pm)

Bookstores

Trade-A-Book

2740 El Camino, Santa Clara (by Office Max), 248-7598; Sat 10 am-5 pm; Mon-Thurs 10 am-6 pm; Fri 10 am-7 pm; closed Sunday; www.tradeabook.com Neighborhood used bookstore specializing in beach-reading paperbacks, but it has a good SF section stretching along one wall the length of the store (about 50 feet), with good and unusual books dating back to the 1970s. (DB)

Recycle Bookstore

1066 The Alameda, San Jose (at Race St.), 286-6275; Fri-Sat 11 am-7 pm; Sun noon-7 pm; Mon-Thurs 11 am-9 pm Halfway between I-880 and downtown San Jose on Hwy 82. A touselled sea of used books on all subjects, excellent for serendipitous browsing. The store has comfortable hardwood floors, friendly staff, and a cat. (DB)

Leigh's Favorite Books

121 S. Murphy Ave., Sunnyvale (downtown), 736-2665; Fri-Sat 10 am-10 pm; Sun 12-8 pm; Mon-Thurs 10 am-9 pm; www.leighsbooks.com

A small used book store, but better than nothing. (BP)

Books Inc.

301 Castro St., Mountain View (downtown), 650-428-1234; Fri-Sat 9 am-midnight; Sun 9 am-10 pm; Mon-Thurs 9 am-11 pm; www.booksinc.net

A small local chain with a cutout of Hemingway by the door. Fairly small but very choice and intelligent selection of new books. Outside of a con or club meeting, the single place in the area you're most likely to run into someone you know. (DB)

Bookbuyers

317 Castro St., Mountain View (downtown), 650-968-7323; Fri-Sat 10 am-midnight; Sun 10 am-11 pm; Mon-Thurs 10 am-11 pm; www.bookbuyers.com

Enormous used book store, very generous in their buying policies but still keeping the selection on their shelves limited to good material. Excellent paperback SF section. (DB)

Ananda East West Bookstore

324 Castro St., Mountain View (downtown), 650-988-9800; Fri-Sat 10 am-11 pm; Sun noon-8 pm; Mon-Thurs 10 am-10 pm; www.eastwest.com

New Age and spiritual books and music. Does a lot of educational events and occasional concerts in their meeting room in the back of the store.

Clothing, Yarn, Fabrics, and Accessories

Starting with the three four five sari palaces close to the hotel. Women's Indian clothing: ready-made plus what looked like just cloth as well. These are the places to get salwar kameez, the Indian outfit for women that is a knee-length tunic over matching pants that was very popular among fans a few years ago. (BP)

Manisha Saree Palace,

1053 E. El Camino Real #7, Sunnyvale (at Henderson, behind Carl's Jr), 248-2851; Tues-Sat 11 am-8 pm

East West Sari Music & Gift

1046 E. El Camino, Sunnyvale (at Henderson, kitty corner from Manisha), 261-3003; Tues-Sun 11 am-8 pm

Khoosurat Saree Palace

1024 E. El Camino, Sunnyvale (same shopping center as Dusita and Komala Vilas), 774-1284; Tues-Sun 11 am-8 pm

Fashion Fabrics & Gifts

936 E. El Camino, Sunnyvale (near Wolfe), 245-8080; Tues-Sat 11 am-7 pm; Sunday by appointment

Taal Boutique

895 E. El Camino (at Wolfe), Sunnyvale, 830-9555; Wed and Fri-Sun, noon-7 pm
More of an upscale boutique than the others.

Isabella Boutique

152 S. Murphy St., Sunnyvale (downtown) 738-2980; daily, 11 am-7 pm; www.isabela.biz

This is unusual, glitzy stuff. (BP)

Tangerine Gifts & Accessories

160A S. Murphy Ave., Sunnyvale (downtown), 733-3780; Sat 9 am-8:30 pm; Sun noon-5 pm; M-T 11 am-6 pm; W-F 11 am-8:30 pm;

www.tangerinestore.com

Jewelry, hats, watches, purses, art – all kind of funky. She has aromatherapy/bath stuff, too. (BP)

Lunatic Fringe Belly Dance Essentials

182 S. Murphy St., Ste. A, Sunnyvale (downtown), 732-2405; Sat 12-5 pm; Tues-Fri 11:30 am-7 pm;

www.lunaticfringebd.com

Pretty much everything you'd need to belly dance: the clothes, the music, classes, finger cymbals, etc. (BP)

Pan African City Alive

108 S. Sunnyvale Ave. (downtown, a block east of Murphy), 830-9427; Tues-Sat 10 am-7 pm;

www.panafricacity.com

Jewelry, African fabric and clothes, Obama T-shirts, books, ethnic greeting cards, African art, and all kinds of things. (BP)

Lace Museum

552 S. Murphy Ave., Sunnyvale (just off El Camino), 730-4695; Tues-Sat 11 am-4 pm; www.thelacemuseum.org

Nothing's for sale, but they have beautiful examples of various types of lace, both in cases and displayed on vintage clothing. The little old ladies who run it are willing to give tours. If it's going to be more than a couple of people, they would prefer a phone call first so they can have someone ready to give a tour. For a group of 6 or more, they charge \$2 or \$3. (BP)

Purlescence Yarns

586 S. Murphy Ave., Sunnyvale (just off El Camino), 735-YARN; Sat 12-5 pm; Sun 12-4 pm; MWF 12-6 pm; Thurs 12-

9 pm; www.purlescencyarns.com
High-quality yarn at high-quality prices. Favorite lunch-time hangout of the local knitters. Phone before visiting, for they may be closed this weekend for Stitches West.

Mystiq Boutique

282 Castro St., Mountain View (downtown), 650-964-4323; Sat 11 am-10 pm; Sun noon-7 pm; M-T 11 am-8 pm; Wed-Thurs 11 am-9 pm; Fri 11 am-11 pm

Interesting women's clothing and accessories, with a lot of sale merchandise.

Silicon Valley Specials

Fry's Electronics

1077 E. Arques Ave., Sunnyvale (take Lawrence to Arques and turn left; or take Wolfe and turn right), 617-1300; Sat 9 am-9 pm; Sun 9 am-7 pm; M-F 8 am-9 pm; www.frys.com

Nowadays Fry's looks more like a department store than computer geek heaven, but this store – the third home for the mothership of the famed electronics chain – is still a place where you can buy just about any electronic or electric part in existence. (DB)

Weird Stuff Warehouse

384 W. Caribbean Dr., Sunnyvale (at the foot of Matilda, beyond US 101 and Yahoo HQ at the bayshore; also reachable by taking Lawrence Expressway which continues into Caribbean), 743-5650; Mon-Sat 9:30 am-6 pm; Sun 11 am-5 pm; www.weirdstuff.com

Resellers of surplus computer equipment. This is what Fry's used to look like back in the day.

Sightseeing and Touristing

Birding at the Bottom of the Bay

The south bay can be a great place for bird-watching: during a recent Potlatch committee meeting, I was distracted by hummingbirds and chestnut-backed chickadees, as well as a scrub jay and a black phoebe, flying around our back yard in Palo Alto. Santa Clara Valley has a wide variety of habitats: grassland and woodland at varying elevations, and a shoreline that is a stopping place for great numbers of birds on their annual migration. As a result, there is always a wide variety of birds to be seen here. (Condor sightings are rare.) Good bird-watching sites along the shoreline include **Palo Alto Baylands** (at the foot of Embarcadero), **Shoreline Park** in Mountain View (on Shoreline Blvd.), and the **Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge** (Zanker Road, off Hwy 237 in the Alviso district of San Jose; www.fws.gov/desfbay/). In the foothills, **McClellan Ranch Park** (in a canyon on McClellan Road in Cupertino), where the local Audubon society has its headquarters and shop, is a good place to start (and if the shop is open you may get some good advice from the volunteers). All these are within a 20-minute drive of the hotel. Even if you don't know a dark-eyed junco from a yellow-rumped warbler, it's never too late to learn.

Copies of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society's *Birding at the Bottom of the Bay* and David Fix and Andy Benzener's *Birds of Northern California* are available for reference in the con-

suite. Or check out the SCVAS web site at www.scvas.org. (JL)

Museums and Other Human Attractions

Computer History Museum

1401 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View (bayshore side of US 101), 650-810-1010; Sat 11 am-5 pm; Sun noon-4 pm; Wed-Fri noon-4 pm;

www.computerhistory.org

Where Silicon Valley keeps its history, and where fan Chris Garcia is a curator. Free admission, but donations are welcome. Special exhibit now through May: a newly-completed physical incarnation of Babbage's Difference Engine, from the original design. It puts on a demonstration of its polynomial-calculating capacities each afternoon from Thursday to Sunday; phone for exact times.

Moffett Field

This federal airfield and retired Naval Air Station on the bayshore between Sunnyvale and Mountain View (take Moffett Blvd./NASA Parkway exit off US 101), notable for Hanger One, the huge airship hanger visible from the freeway (closed due to PCB contamination), has:

Moffett Field Museum

Severyns Ave., 650-964-4024; Wed-Sat, 10 am-2 pm;

www.moffettfieldmuseum.org

Museum on the history of aviation in general and Moffett Field in particular. Admission is \$5 for adults.

Exploration Center

NASA Ames Research Center, 650-604-6274; Sat-Sun noon-4 pm; Tues-Fri 10 am-4 pm; www.nasa.gov/centers/ames/home/exploration.html

Free public air and space museum. Exhibits include spacecraft and moon rocks from the moon program, an interactive air traffic management exhibit, and Mars exploration videos on an IMAX-sized screen.

Airship Ventures

(www.airshipventures.com, 650-969-8100) runs one- and two-hour zeppelin flights out of Moffett Field. Prices start at \$495 (no decimal, alas) and reservations must be made in advance.

Stanford University

www.stanford.edu/dept/visitorinfo/plan/guides/visit.html;
visitor info 650-723-2560

The sprawling university campus outside of Palo Alto offers a lot for the visitor: the **Hoover Tower** and its high observation platform (daily, 10 am-4 pm; \$2); the **Hoover Institution's** current exhibit on "The Road to World War II" (Tues-Sat, 11 am-4 pm); the unforgettably ornate **Memorial Church** (M-F 8 am-5 pm); the historical marker at the **Red Barn** where Eadweard Muybridge invented motion pictures in 1878; the **Cantor Center for the Visual Arts** (Wed-Sun 11 am-5 pm, Thurs to 8 pm), which keeps, among other things, prints of Muybridge's photos, and its outdoor **Rodin Sculpture Garden**. The **Linear Accelerator** is currently closed to visitors pending a repurposing of the facility, but you can still drive over the accelerator on I-280 between Sand Hill and Alpine Roads (best seen going southbound in the rightmost lane). (DB)

Intel Museum

Robert Noyce Building, 2200 Mission College Rd., Santa Clara (on the Intel campus off Montague Expressway), 765-0503; Sat 10 am-5 pm; M-F 9 am-6 pm; www.intel.com/museum

Free exhibits on the history, manufacture, and use of Intel microprocessors.

Winchester Mystery House

525 S. Winchester Blvd. (between I-280 and Stevens Creek Blvd.), San José, 247-2101; Open daily, 9 am; last tour at 5 pm; www.winchestermysteryhouse.com

This is the Victorian mansion whose owner ordered that construction proceed continuously without stop, and without any plans, either, as a result of which it's the largest, most complex, and generally weirdest Victorian mansion ever built. Features prominently in *Vanishing Point* by Michaela Roessner. Open by guided tour only; basic tour price is \$26 for adults. (DB)

Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum and Planetarium

1664 Park Ave. (at Naglee Ave., three blocks on Naglee south of Hwy 82 in the Rose Garden district west of downtown San José), 947-3636; Sat-Sun 11 am-6 pm; M-F 9 am-5 pm; www.egyptianmuseum.org

"Small, yellow and leech-like, and probably the oddest thing in the Universe" – Douglas Adams. \$9 general admission.

Children's Discovery Museum

180 Woz Way [yes, named for Wozniak], San José (near San Carlos St. and State 87 downtown), 298-5437; Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm; Sun noon-5 pm; www.cdm.org
Even if you don't have a child, it's fun to watch them clamber around on the hands-on exhibits in this giant tech-oriented playground. (\$8 for children or adults).

The Tech Museum of Innovation

201 S. Market St. (on Cesar Chavez Plaza in central downtown), San José, 294-8324; daily, 10 am-5 pm; www.thetech.org
Lots of buttons to push, where you can pretend to design anything from roller coasters to ballet dances. The \$8 ticket includes a show in the IMAX theater, currently showing *Grand Canyon: River at Risk* and several other nature films; phone or check the website for details.

Lick Observatory

7299 Mount Hamilton Road, San José; 274-5061; Sat-Sun 10 am-5 pm; Mon-Fri 12:30 pm-5 pm; mthamilton.ucolick.org
University of California observatory, established in 1888, on a mountaintop east of San José. It's only 20 miles from downtown, but the twisty road will take close to two hours to drive. No food or fuel is available, and at 4200 feet it's often cold up there. What is available are free tours of the visitor center and telescopes, given every half hour. As of writing, the observatory is hosting an exhibit of Chesley Bonestell's space paintings; phone to confirm it's still on display when you plan to visit. (DB)

Copies of a **Driving Tour of Historic Silicon Valley** are on the freebie table. Brief suggestions for other tourist sites further away may be found at home.earthlink.net/~dbratman/visitors/tourist.html.

Contributors:

Tom Becker (TB), David Bratman (DB), Danny Low (DL), Janet Lafler (JL), Janice Morningstar (JM), Berni Phillips (BP), Karen Schaffer (KS)



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