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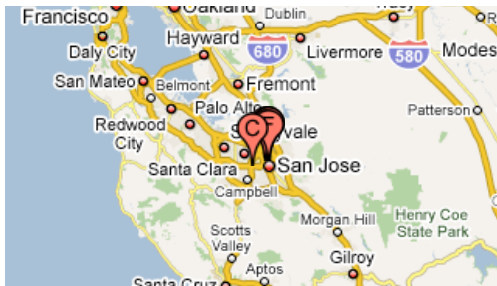
Top Picks of the Silicon Valley / San Jose Business Journal

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Top Attractions in San Jose

- A. [HP Pavilion](#)
- B. [San Jose Improv](#)
- C. [Santana Row](#)
- D. [The Rep](#)
- E. [Guadalupe River Trail](#)
- F. [The Tech Museum of Innovation](#)

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A. HP Pavilion

525 W. Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113
408-287-7070

www.hpsj.com

Check the schedule here because it's hopping all the time, especially when the San Jose Sharks are playing a home game. And if you hit it right you might see one of your favorite performers because they all wind up here Bruce Springsteen, Bon Jovie, Celine Dion, Barbara Streisand, Reba McEntire, Garth Brooks, Mickey Mouse. Even Luciano Pavarotti sang here.

Microsoft

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Because it's everybody's business

San Jose 49°



B. San Jose Improv

62 S. Second Street
San Jose, CA 95113
408-280-7475

www.symfonee.com/improv/sanjose

Laugh your socks off because the Improv brings in hilarious headliners that include Bob Saget, Norm McDonald, Jeff Dunham, and David Alan Grier. Make it an evening with a meal and a show. The dinner menu offers up prime rib, chicken, vegetarian, among others. You can figure on \$25 to 30 a person for dinner plus drinks and the cost of admission. Show tickets range from \$15 to \$35 depending on when you go and who's on stage.

C. Santana Row

San Jose, CA 95128
408-551-4611

Directions: www.santanarow.com/about/location.php
Dining: www.santanarow.com/dining
Shopping: www.santanarow.com/shopping/

This is a must-go-to place, about three miles from downtown San Jose. Here, you feel like you (and a few hundred others) are strolling along the streets of Europe. Condos with tall narrow windows, shutters and balconies—three stories of them—sit atop upscale restaurants, coffee houses, chic shops, and art galleries. A perfect place to eat, drink and browse. Street performers add the music, and the park along the meridian offers up wine tasting, outdoor chess games amid oak and palm trees, fountains and flowers. At the end of Santana Row, CineArts provides the movies. Hotel Valencia, with its Asian/Mediterranean ambiance and its very popular VBar, sits right in the middle of it all.

D. The Rep

101 Paseo de San Antonio
San Jose, CA 95113
408-367-7255

www.sjrep.com

Looking more like a huge, blue corrugated lean to than a theater, the San Jose Repertory Theatre's home is actually designed for excellent production with cutting edge technology. February to July, the Rep's six or seven plays range from classic to contemporary. And celebrities such as Holly Hunter, Carol Burnett and Angela Lansbury grace its stage each year.

E. Guadalupe River Trail

438 Coleman Ave.
San Jose, CA 95110
408-298-7657

Map: www.sjparks.org/Trails/images/Maps/MapGuadRiverDowntown.pdf
Connections to other trails: www.sjparks.org/Trails/GRiver/index.asp
www.grpg.org

San Jose turned its Guadalupe River flood control project into a beautiful trail that wends along the river, through downtown and on. Mornings and evenings find people riding bikes or walking to work along the trail. And just south of the airport, one can stop at the Heritage Rose Garden to smell more than 3,700 varieties of roses.

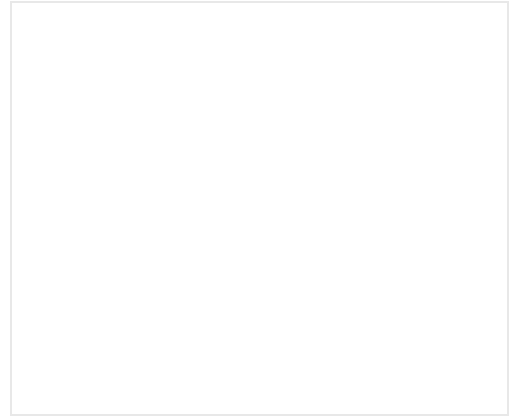
F. The Tech Museum of Innovation

201 South Market Street
San Jose, CA 95113
408-294-8324

www.thetech.org

The Tech is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m., making an evening visit impossible. But sneak away for a couple daytime hours because it's so much fun—a science lab, space station and technology playground all rolled into 250 exhibits. You can put jellyfish DNA into a dish of bacteria, and 24 hours later see the results online or maybe arm wrestle with some museumgoer in New York. You can program a

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microchip to make Mr. Potato Head move or drive a Manned Maneuvering Unit like the kind astronauts use in space. And that just scratches the virtual surface of this place.
Tickets, \$8, include one of the movies in the Imax Theater.

Helpful websites:

www.Artsopolis.com may be the most complete resource for Arts and Cultural information (and more) for the Silicon Valley region, which includes much of the Bay Area.

www.sjdowntown.com covers the history, the philosophy, and all the happenings of downtown San Jose

www.sanjose.org is the San Jose Convention and Visitors Bureau with even more information

www.paloaltdowntown.com is the website for Palo Alto's business and professional association. You can find just about any kind of restaurant, shop, professional or business organization you need here.

www.paloaltoonline.com updates twice a week about goings on in and around Palo Alto.

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