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5 Cities To Visit Before Summer Ends

By Randy Yagi

With just a handful of weeks left, time is running out to start planning for an end of summer vacation. While there are several great places to consider for that best trip ever, a handful of destinations seem to always have the best of everything, from great food and lodging to world-class attractions and lively festivals and events. Of the many great cities to visit before the summer ends, here are five of the very best.

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San Francisco

The weather can be unpredictable and people and traffic seem to be everywhere. But this is a very special summer to visit San Francisco as it continues to celebrate the [50th anniversary of the Summer of Love](#), the legendary happening in the city during the summer of 1967 that made the iconic Haight-Ashbury neighborhood the epicenter of America's counter-culture movement. While many Summer of Love 2017 festivities have already passed, visitors can still enjoy marquee events like [Jerry \(Garcia\) Day](#) at McLaren Park, the annual [Outside Lands Music & Arts Festival](#) in Golden Gate Park, with headliners like Metallica, the Who, Lorde and A Tribe Called Quest, the final four admission-free concerts at the must-see [Stern Grove Festival](#), the Pop, Minimal, and Figurative Art at the [San Francisco Museum of Modern Art](#) (SFMOMA) and a host of other events all over the city. Among other notable attractions to consider are the [Summer of Love](#) exhibit at the de Young Museum, the legendary [Fillmore](#) music venue, the Jimi Hendrix exhibition at the [Museum of African Diaspora](#) and wax figures of 1960s music icons like Jerry Garcia, Janis Joplin and Hendrix at Madame Tussauds San Francisco, adjacent to the equally entertaining San Francisco Dungeon. Of course, many of the city's leading hotels are offering Summer of Love specials, including [St. Regis San Francisco](#), the [Marker Hotel](#), [Hotel Vitale](#), and the brand new [Hotel Zoe](#), a gorgeous new addition to the Fisherman's Wharf neighborhood. Additionally, there are exceptional summer packages at the Conde Nast Traveler-rated [Hotel Zephyr](#) and introductory rates directly through the stunning new [Hotel VIA](#), right across from AT&T Park or through attractive last minute rates offered by the popular San Francisco-based travel app [HotelTonight](#).