

Take BART to the best Bay Area holiday events

Say "humbug" to traffic jams, bridge tolls and parking hassles as you head to Bay Area holiday events. Take BART ... and you're there! Plan your BART trip online at bart.gov.

San Francisco Ballet's "Nutcracker" at the War Memorial Opera House is a short walk from BART's Civic Center Station. For tickets and information, visit sfballet.org.

Ebenezer Scrooge gets in the spirit once again in "A Christmas Carol" in both San Francisco and Walnut Creek. Take BART to Powell Street for the American Conservatory Theater production. Visit act-sf.org or call 415/749-2ACT for info.

Center REPeratory Company of Walnut Creek presents "A Christmas Carol" at the Leshner Center for the Arts. Take BART to Walnut Creek station. For tickets and info, visit lesher-artscenter.org or call 925/943-SHOW.



A Christmas Carol

Kevin Berne

Celebrate Chanukah in Union Square December 21-28. This year marks the 34th lighting of the **Bill Graham Menorah**. Take BART to Powell Street. For event info, visit chabadsf.org.

African American gospel tradition and Christmas blend in the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre's soulful "Black Nativity," playing at the PG&E Auditorium in San Francisco. Take BART to Embarcadero Station. For info, visit lhtsf.org or call 415/474-8800.

From the General Manager

Have a safe and happy new year...

2008 will be a year to remember. Nationally, it was a year of choice and change. On the local level, BART began 2008 by changing our service to run more trains, more often and, as a result, millions of people made BART their preferred travel choice. Whether you were spurred by high gas prices or inspired by protecting the environment, new customers joined our loyal riders and helped BART break numerous ridership records, including our all-time high of over 405,000 riders in a single day.

Looking ahead to the new year, we are committed to build on the successes achieved in 2008 to deliver the quality of BART service that you have come to expect.

On behalf of the entire BART staff, thank you for choosing BART. We wish you and yours all the best this holiday season! Best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!



Dorothy W. Dugger, General Manager



Celebrate New Year's with a BART flash pass

BART is open late on New Year's Eve so you don't have to drive!

Grab a flash pass good for unlimited BART rides from 6 p.m. to 3 a.m. on New Year's Eve for the low price of \$6.

Visit bart.gov for flash pass sales locations and more information. This New Year's Eve take BART ... and you're there.

Nothing says "Thank You" like Ghirardelli Chocolates

Get free goodies Dec. 16 from 6-9 a.m.

Ghirardelli Chocolate will be



giving away samples of their newest and best-selling flavor – Milk Chocolate & Peanut Butter at the Civic Center, Powell Street, Montgomery Street, Embarcadero, Oakland City Center/12th Street, and Downtown Berkeley BART stations from 6-9 a.m. on Tuesday, December 16.

As an extra thank you, BART riders will also receive coupons good for sweet deals on Ghirardelli Chocolates.

And, as always, thank you for riding BART!

BART goes holiday shopping, too

Many BART stations are conveniently located near some of the best shopping areas in the Bay Area.

- The Westfield San Francisco Centre opens right into the Powell Street BART station. Powell Street is also just a block or two from the world famous stores of Union Square.
- Oakland City Center/12th Street is next to Oakland City Center Mall.
- Bay Fair Station opens onto Bayfair Mall.
- Rockridge Station is in the heart of Oakland's trendy Rockridge district.
- San Bruno Station is next to The Shops at Tanforan.

For info, destinations and maps of the areas around every BART station, visit bart.gov/stations.



See more about taking BART shopping at bart.gov/barttv.

Downtown SF elevators undergoing repairs

To improve the reliability of elevator doors, extend the life of equipment and bring elevator enclosures up to current standards, BART will be closing street elevators at BART/Muni stations in downtown San Francisco and replacing the elevator entrance structures.

Elevators will be closed one at a time on the following schedule:

Civic Center

(UN Plaza elevator): Jan. 5-April 2009

Embarcadero

(California/Drumm): May-Aug. 2009

Montgomery Street

(Sutter/Sansome): Sept.-Dec. 2009

Powell Street

(Stockton/Ellis): Jan.-April 2010

For more information, visit bart.gov or sfmta.com.

December Good Times calendar

The Great Dickens Christmas Fair

The Cow Palace, 2600 Geneva Ave., Daly City
www.dickensfair.com

> **BART: GLEN PARK;** continuous free bus shuttle service every 20 minutes from 11:15 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day of the fair.

Dec. 5-7, 12-14 and 19-21: Come wander the lanes of Victorian London, as the glow of twilight settles upon the city. The scent of pine boughs and freshly baked scones floats in the air and the sound of carolers and holiday merrymakers accompanies your stroll. Shops, crafts, entertainment, refreshments and more.



Molière's George Dandin, or The Confounded Husband

Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. at Capp, San Francisco
www.victoriatheatre.org

> **BART: 16TH STREET**

Dec. 4-20: A hilarious chronicle of the troubles of a nouveau-riche man's attempt to better himself through marriage to an aristocratic younger wife who ends up cheating on him. BART riders get 2 for 1 tickets on Thursday night. See www.myBART.org for details.



Voices of the Season ... 'Twas the Night

VOENA young people's choir
Leshar Center for the Arts
1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek
www.lesharartscenter.org or 925/295-1400

> **BART: WALNUT CREEK**

Tuesday, Dec. 23, 7:30 p.m.: A celebration of the world's cultures and the spirit of the holiday season, in rich and inventive a cappella arrangements by a community choir of young people ages 6 to 18.

KPFA Crafts & Music Fair

www.kpfa.org/craftsfair or 510/848-6767 ext. 646.

> **BART: CIVIC CENTER.** Free shuttles available at 8th and Market Street Muni bus stop.

Dec. 13-14: Catch the 38th Annual version of this fantastic event at the Concourse Exhibition Center in SF.

Macbeth

Shotgun Players, 1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley
www.shotgunplayers.org or 510/841-6500

> **BART: ASHBY**

Through Jan. 11: Meet the Macbeths: two young, wealthy hipsters with sharp wardrobes and insatiable appetites for more of everything. Macbeth has never looked so good, or killed with such style!



Sing-it-Yourself Messiah

The San Francisco Sinfonietta Orchestra and Chorus
Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness at Grove, San Francisco
www.sfsinfonietta.org or 415/401-9229

> **BART: CIVIC CENTER**

Sunday, Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m.: Maestro Urs Leonhardt Steiner conducts as the audience joins in with the chorus and orchestra.

Shop in SF. Get more.

www.onlyinsanfrancisco.com

> **BART:** stations throughout SF through Feb. 1

Take advantage of San Francisco's fabulous shopping, world class dining and exciting museums and entertainment, all just a short BART ride away! The "Shop in SF. Get more" program offers residents in the nine-county Bay Area (San Francisco, San Mateo, Marin, Napa, Sonoma, Contra Costa, Alameda, Solano and Santa Clara special discounts and other incentives when you show your Zip code at over 170 participating local merchants.



Reserve a BART Airport/Long Term parking space

Additional spaces available for holiday travelers Dec. 19 - Jan 4

You might wait until the last minute to do your holiday shopping, but you shouldn't put off reserving your BART Airport/Long Term parking space. Visit bart.gov/parking to reserve a spot online (permits are not available at BART stations).

Over 500 additional spaces will be available

for Airport/Long Term parking from December 19-January 4.

Reserved spaces are available at most East Bay BART lots for just \$5 per day. Colma, South San Francisco, San Bruno and Millbrae BART lots offer Airport/Long Term parking for \$6 per day.

BARTOON grimescartoons.com

When Santa's Helpers Specialize...

I love my work!
I deliver only heartfelt gifts and wonderful toys!



Lucky you!
I do tacky sweaters, unassembled bikes and smoked sausage baskets.

Fabulous Festival!
Illustrated by Stanley Fong