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What's the Move? Weekly Spots to Gate Keep

Edited by Lily Zavala & Arianna Pascual

Super Mira Market, nestled in the heart of San Francisco's Japantown at 1790 Sutter St, is a delightful stop for tourists looking to immerse themselves in authentic Japanese culture and cuisine. This charming grocery store offers much more than just food; it provides a unique experience that reflects the vibrant spirit of Japantown.

Highlights

- **Authentic Japanese Cuisine:** Super Mira Market is renowned for its fresh, ready-made meals. Visitors can enjoy a variety of dishes including sushi, sashimi, and donburi (rice bowls). The market is particularly famous for its Spam Musubi and katsu curry, which are highly recommended by patrons. It has become my go to spot for onigiri (rice balls) as they have an assortment made fresh every morning. I recommend you come by 11am to get them fresh before they sell out.
- **Sweet Treats:** Don't miss the chance to try the legendary coffee crunch cake from Yasukochi Sweet Stop, located within the market. This family-owned bakery has been serving delicious desserts for nearly 50 years and is a must-try for anyone with a sweet tooth. Best known for their Coffee Crunch Cake that has become a San Francisco Staple for both locals and tourists. It is advised for people willing to purchase any of their desserts to bring cash as it is a cash only service.
- **Diverse Grocery Selection:** Beyond prepared foods, Super Mira offers a wide range of Japanese grocery items, including snacks, sweets, and fresh produce. It's an excellent place to pick up unique ingredients or souvenirs to take home. I usually go and grab any of the limited Daifuku (mochi) or green tea kit kats.

The Japantown Experience

Visiting Super Mira Market is just one part of the larger Japantown experience. Here are some nearby attractions to enhance your visit:

- **Peace Plaza:** Just a short walk away, this iconic plaza features a stunning five-tiered pagoda and hosts various cultural events throughout the year. It's a great spot to relax and soak in the atmosphere of Japantown.
- **Shopping and Dining:** Explore the Japan Center Malls, which are filled with retail shops, restaurants, and cafes. Notable spots include Kinokuniya Bookstore for book lovers and Sophie's Crepes for delicious custom dessert crepes.

- Cultural Events: If your visit coincides with local festivals like the Cherry Blossom Festival or the Nihonmachi Street Fair, you'll have the opportunity to experience traditional Japanese culture firsthand.

Super Mira Market is an essential stop for anyone visiting Japantown. With its delicious food offerings, friendly atmosphere, and proximity to other cultural attractions, it provides a perfect introduction to Japanese culture in San Francisco. Whether you're grabbing a quick bite or shopping for unique groceries, this market promises an enjoyable experience that captures the essence of Japantown.

Images by Ian Ngo







