

## ANDREWS PRESS RELEASES

### WHERE TO STAY

#### from the "San Francisco Guide"

**ANDREWS**, 624 Post. (415) 563-6877. Located near Taylor, it has 7 floors and 48 rooms with private bath. Prices include continental breakfast and an evening glass of wine.

The hotel, built in 1905 before the great quake and fire, is clearly a warm, lovely, cozy place from the moment you step inside the lobby, whose English feel, grandfather clock, well-stocked bookshelves, and clubby chairs have a welcoming feel. The fully automated and restored original cage lift is one way to get to your rooms, the beautifully maintained stairway with its white banisters is another. But however you ascend, the rooms are extremely likeable, pleasant, and homey. The beds sport iron head-railings (painted white), the curtains are lace, and the arm chairs are invitingly soft and comfortable, with old-fashioned floor lamps.

The modern amenities, however, have not been lost amid Victorian charm. There's a small TV with remote, a phone and clock radio, and the overhead chandelier is on a dimmer switch. The small bath is attractive, and the big walk-in closet has a full-length mirror. The suites are lovely, too. They are decorated in the same style, but have a sitting room as well, and a larger bathroom with a tub and separate shower. While the sofa doesn't turn into a bed, the hotel gladly provides rollaways or cribs for visiting families. The little breakfast delivered to your door each morning is very nice, and despite the street noise that filters in, this is a delightful place that gives a lot for its modern rates.

### ANDREWS HOTEL - A HISTORY

*Back in 1905, construction began for the Sultan Turkish Baths, a gentleman's bath and relaxation establishment. It was a Class A structure, meaning a steel frame that was state-of-the-art for the time. It was a good move on the part of the architects, because some months later in 1906 the big quake struck the city. Though the fire that followed left its mark, the Baths frame was hardly damaged by the earthquake, and repairs didn't take long. The Sultan Baths, which finally opened in 1907, was a full service affair, with a tiled hot room, a rubbing room, a restaurant, bar, barber, and chiropodist. Bedrooms could be rented as well, and the place had a steamy reputation that didn't arise from the sauna.*

*In 1928, the Sultan Baths catered to its last gentleman, and a hotel opened in its place. During the next decades, 624 Post was an office building, a youth hostel, and a number of restaurants (including The China Doll, which had an aquarium spanning most of a wall). In 1981 Harry Andrews acquired the property, renovated it to its original Victorian splendor, and named it after his grandfather, under whose name it flourishes today.*

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**Restored Victoriana glows in San Francisco**  
**by Esther Hecht, Jerusalem Post "Travel," Nov. 10, 1995**

ONE OF the joys of visiting San Francisco is seeing the glorious colors of the restored Victorian homes in many parts of the city. But not all the Victorian buildings were private homes.

The Andrews Hotel, where I was a guest for several days, is in the heart of the city, two blocks west of Union Square. It is conveniently located near theaters and sightseeing, business and shopping areas. On the street at night, however, you will encounter the city's most tragic blight: the homeless.

Construction on the building began in 1905. It survived the quake because of its steel beam frame, and opened in 1906 as the Sultan Turkish Baths, where gentlemen could go for a "bath and relaxation." For special relaxation, on the sixth and seventh floors they could rent one of the small apartments, each with bedroom and parlor.

In later incarnations, it was a hotel, an office building and an inexpensive lodging for young people. The building is now in the hands of the Andrews family, who remodeled it as a hotel in 1981 and again in 1991.

THE LOBBY is small, but a very pleasant contrast to the bustle of the street. You can relax there in comfortable armchairs, listening to classical music, reading books about the city or 19th-century literary classics, and drinking brewed coffee, tea or hot chocolate, available around the clock.

The Andrews has just 48 rooms and suites, giving it a warm, intimate feel. The reception staff is exceptionally helpful. For example, I asked where I could buy a book I had seen in the lobby; within minutes the receptionist called my room to say it was available in a store nearby and that she had reserved a copy in my name.

The suite I stayed in was flooded with light and attractively decorated, the floral patterned drapes giving it a British touch. The fittings, like the dark wood accessories in the bathroom, were obviously chosen with care. The bedroom had a king-size bed, and there was a TV in each of the two rooms. The rooms, however, faced the street, and I was grateful to be on a high floor, so that some of the noise was muffled.

Breakfast is laid out buffet-style on the landing of each story. Early risers have the best selection of juice, hot beverages, a variety of rolls and muffins, preserves and fresh fruit. I enjoyed having breakfast in my "living room," while watching the news on TV and planning my day.

In the popular Italian restaurant, Fino, adjacent to the lobby, hotel guests may sample complimentary

California wines in the early evening.

Parking is available for a fee.

*Andrews Hotel, 624 Post St.; tel. (415) 563-6877;*

*Toll-free reservations (800) 926-3739; fax (415) 928-6919.*