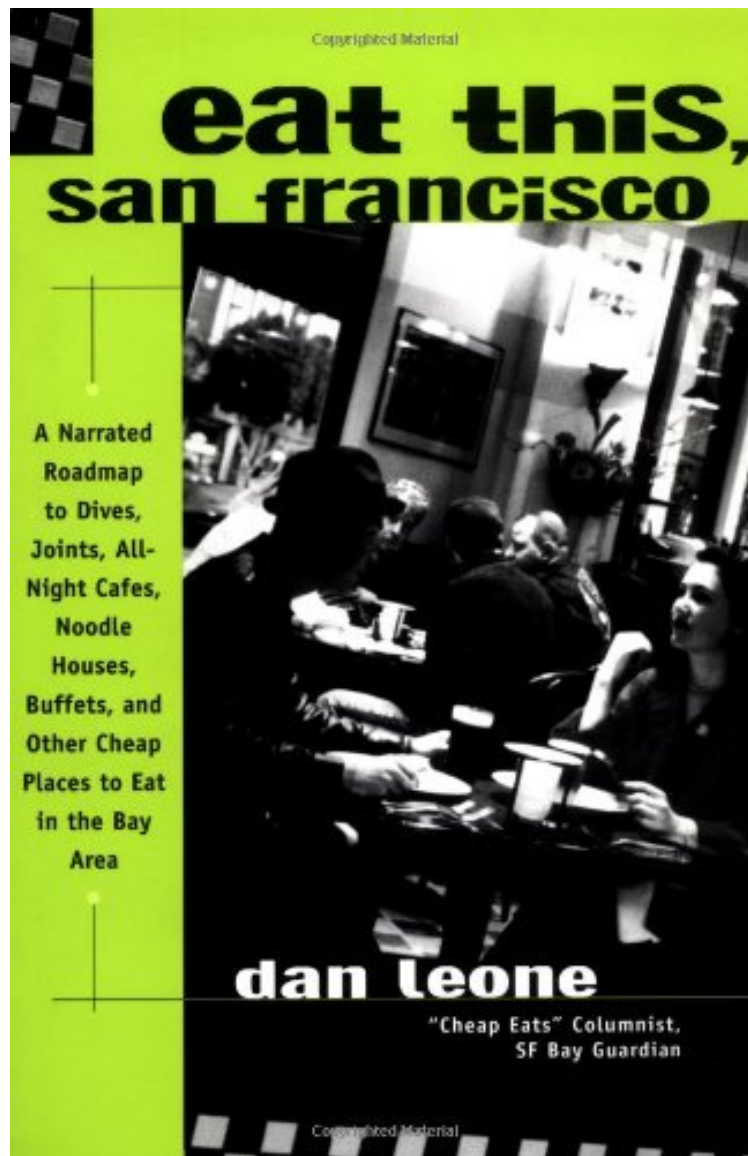


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Eat This, San Francisco: Dives, Joints, All-Night Cafes, and Other Cheap Eats in the Bay Area

Dan Leone

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Dan Leone : Eat This, San Francisco: Dives, Joints, All-Night Cafes, and Other Cheap Eats in the Bay Area before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Eat This, San Francisco: Dives, Joints, All-Night Cafes, and Other Cheap Eats in the Bay Area:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Dan's book is here at last!By C. CameronI was so glad to finally be

able to buy this book by writer, musician and all around nice guy Dan Leone. This book was originally slated to appear in '98 when his then-publisher folded. While that must have been frustrating to Leone at the time, it has worked out well for his readers because we now get the entire arc of how he met, wooed and finally married his wife, the beloved "Crawdad De La Cooter" in early '99. So yes, here are reviews of all the delicious, greasy mom-and-pop diners, soup counters, taquerias and Thai food eateries that make San Francisco the best five-dollar lunch city anywhere. But we also get Dan's mayoral predictions, car troubles, sports injuries and tributes to his many-monikered pals. There's real emotion in the review of Ana's Restaurant (p325), written during his last night as a bachelor. Leone creates a sense of romantic happiness as he wanders through the Mission District, quietly contemplating his love but not forgetting to fill his stomach with a big bowl of seafood soup, every ingredient of which reminds him in some way of his bride-to-be. "So you see? You see why I'm getting married tomorrow?" he ends the review. And we do and we're very happy for him. My only sore point was that this book was so long in the making that some of my favorite old reviews were cut because the restaurants they concerned had closed years ago. I hope that "Eat More Of This" appears before another six years go by. 20 of 21 people found the following review helpful. It's a GasBy Mark E. Morelli I work with a chap who keeps a box of gourmet jelly beans by his desk. Each day he calls me into his office and opens the box. "What shall we have today?" he says. We each pluck one -- just one -- of the mocha or popcorn or blueberry flavored jelly beans. We let it rest on our tongue. We savor it. Then he places the cover back on the jellybean box and we go back to work. Dan Leone's book serves the same purpose to me. In my lavatory, where I keep "Eat This" and where the author suggests it be kept, I am ensured a daily literary richness as I read one Leone review per day. Am I tempted to read more? You betcher boots. But I won't, because I will savor each lovely tasty and funny review without it clashing another. Not only that, I just want to stretch it out. It is not a book I want to end. In short: I've read lots of food books and restaurant guides. I don't live in SF, but I was intrigued by this book, a referral, and read it for its literary value. It's a gas. 5 of 8 people found the following review helpful. I Wish this Book had Been Released in 1995... By Patrick Burnett because then it would have been only half as annoying. As a long-time resident of San Francisco, I read Dan Leone's "Cheap Eats" column regularly, so it was natural for me to want the compilation book. Sadly, I discovered that what works well in a weekly column kind of fills you up quickly in larger doses. When you can compare columns and watch Dan progress over a period of time, it becomes obvious what a one-trick pony he is. He's like a six year old child who's just learned a new bad word and delights in repeating it over and over to shock dinner guests. So many of his columns are a study in scatology, that it makes one wonder how he eats at all with visions of body wastes dancing in his head. Dan Leone can be funny, in Ferrelly Brothers kind of way, and many of his columns make for amusing reading. But a little of him goes a long, long way.

Eat out, eat well, and eat often in the Bay Area without breaking the bank by following the footsteps of Dan Leone, the San Francisco Bay Guardian popular "Cheap Eats" columnist. It's easy to find a decent herb-roasted quail served on a bed of organic greens that costs more than your weekly bus fare. But what about a perfect bowl of noodles, or a turkey dinner at midnight in July? And for under \$7? Here are 200 places where you can eat like a trucker, if not a king, all for a pittance. Dan Leone will tell you if the hash browns are real, if the curry is hot, and if the ambience is fluorescent or candlelit. That's why his "Cheap Eats" column in the San Francisco Bay Guardian is so popular. Here are eateries for anyone born with a stainless steel spoon in his or her mouth.

.com You don't have to live in San Francisco or be visiting there. You don't even have to be hungry to pick up this book and laugh away your whole lunch hour. Heck, you could be on a food strike in Tallahassee, and you'd still find yourself cracking up and saying, "Now this is a book to hang onto for the next time I'm in a bad mood." There's a reason why Eat This, San Francisco is one of the most refreshing, hilarious books of the year, even though it's a collection of reviews about San Francisco restaurants where you can dine for under \$10, an amusing thought in itself. That reason is author Dan Leone, the pen behind the engaging, if unusual, "Cheap Eats" column in the San Francisco Bay Guardian. The man understands food. He understands that it's either good, great, or blech--and that it comes in two prices: too pricey or darn affordable. Undoubtedly a child who "played" with his food, he sees in it potential for humor and how a meal, good or bad, is a magnet for stories. And you get plenty: tales about his car, his girlfriend Yatee-Yatee-Bing-Eh-Eh-Eh, his friends Haywire, Crawdad, Punk, and Punkess, even his fav Uncle Fatty. Occasionally reviews are more about the trip there, or the fellow diners, or what he was doing when a stranger yelled up a restaurant suggestion, but he ultimately serves up the goods. In an era when the culinary arts have risen to flavor alchemy and metaphor-happy food writers are nearly as important as chefs, Leone's flavors don't marry, his sauces don't embrace, and his favorite foods are ribs, calamari, and eggs. Dan Leone is a huge talent, disguised as a humble reviewer, and he could write a book about paper clips and make it a knee-slapper. You may not want to pull up a chair in one of his hallowed dives, but you will probably want to invite Dan Leone over to dinner. Even if you're on a food strike in Tallahassee. --Melissa Rossi From Library Journal Thirtysomething San Francisco Bay Guardian "Cheap Eats" columnist Leone writes as if he were a graduate of the "Yo, Dude" school of journalism. Obsessed with chickens (edible), fixated on bodily functions (bathrooms and boners), determined to ingest vast quantities of food whose

quality is questionable, and often accompanied by friends with unusual monikers (Yatee-Yatee-Bing-Eh-Eh-Eh, for one), Leone visited more than 150 San Francisco area eateries. This chunky volume presents his previously published columns in chronological order; the first is from 1994, possibly dating much of the information. For each restaurant, Leone lists addresses, phone numbers, meals served, whether credit cards are accepted, and a rating ranging from "cheap, cheap" to "splurge cheap." In more than a few reviews, the restaurant rates only a line or two, yet the reader gets a heavy dose of Leone's personal life. What could have been a great guide is more an exercise in self-indulgence by a writer of questionable taste and talent. The index (not seen) might save the book if it's organized by neighborhoods and/or types of food, etc. Not recommended.-Janet N. Ross, Washoe Cty. Lib. Syst., Sparks, NV
Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. "The San Francisco Bay Guardian's "Cheap Eats" guy takes readers on an expedition through the plastic tablecloth jungle of the Bay Area. The result? A no-bull guide to diner food, barbecue, ethnic eats, and all manner of grub that won't wound your wallet." -- Partners Pages, September 27,1999"This book includes not only over 200 fine eats in the area but also local stories and gossip." -- Borders, October Events Catalog