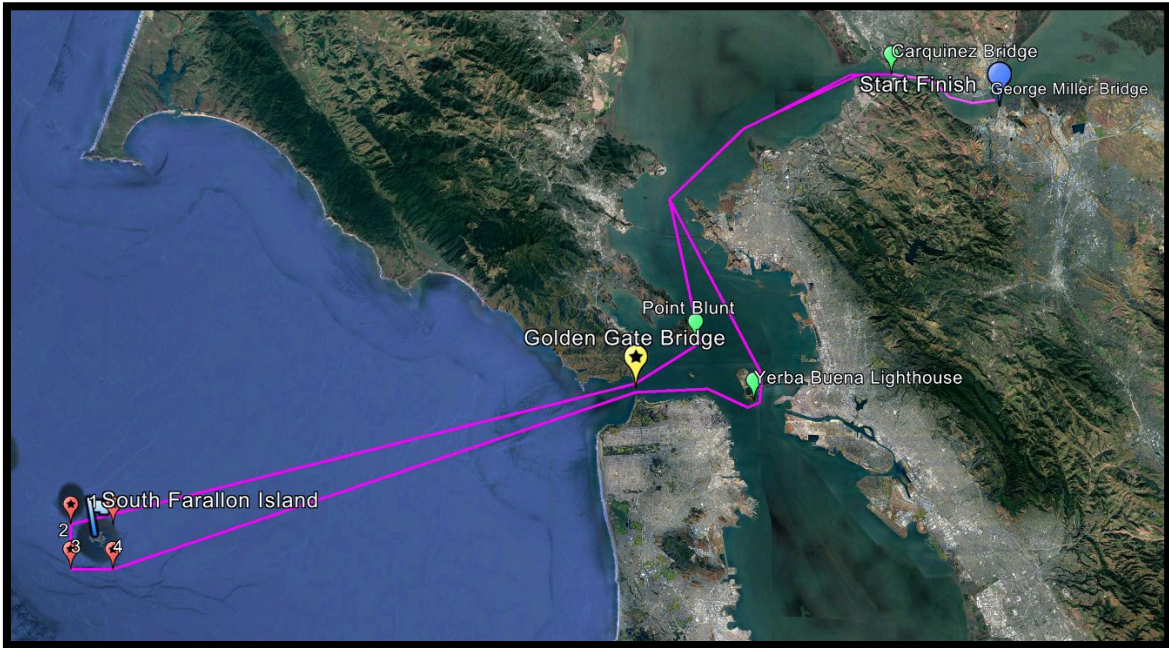


**Ocean Cup**  
**World Speed Records**  
**The Farallon Challenge – San Francisco *around* Farallon**  
**137 miles**



San Francisco <i>around</i> Farallon	Mark	Description	Coordinates	Distance
George Miller Jr. Memorial Bridge	Start	Bridge (HWY 680)	38° 2'49 "N 122° 7'41"W 38° 2'8 "N 122° 7'8"W	0
Carquinez Bridge		Bridge (HWY 80)	38° 3'38"N 122°13'32"W	6
Point Blunt Lighthouse	Mark	Island Keep Starboard	37°51'11"N 122°25'8"W	14
Golden Gate Bridge		Bridge	37°49'1"N 122°28'40"W	12
South Farallon Island ( 37°41'56.08"N 123° 0'12.10"W)	A	Island Preserve Buffer Zone	37°42'36"N 122°59'30" W	---
	B		37°42'36"N 123° 1'59"W	
	C		37°40'30"N 123° 1'60" W	
	D		37°40'30"N 122°59'30"W	
Golden Gate Bridge		Bridge	37°49'1"N 122°28'40"W	66
Yerba Buena Lighthouse Treasure Island	Mark	Island Keep Port	37°48'25"N 122°21'43"W	19
Carquinez Bridge		Bridge (HWY 80)	38° 3'38"N 122°13'32"W	14
George Miller Jr. Memorial Bridge	Finish	Bridge (HWY 680)	38° 2'49"N 122° 7'41"W 38° 2'8"N 122° 7'8"W	6
			Miles	137
			Kilometers	220.48

## Start-Finish - Benicia–Martinez Bridge



**The George Miller Jr. Memorial Bridge - Benicia–Martinez Bridge** refers to three parallel bridges which cross the Carquinez Strait just west of Suisun Bay in California; the spans link Benicia on the north side with Martinez on the south.

Built to replace the ferries crossing the Carquinez Strait between Benicia and Martinez, the Benicia-Martinez Bridge is now a bustling span, and was the first of Northern California's bridges to feature an open road tolling system.

## The Carquinez Bridge



The original Carquinez Bridge, built in 1927, was a cantilever steel bridge that is over 400 feet tall and spans nearly 3,500 feet over the Carquinez Strait. The bridge is supported by abutments on land and steel trussed pier supports along the midspan. The construction of the bridge provided a vital link along Interstate 80 between the cities of Crockett and Vallejo. A second identical cantilever bridge was constructed in 1958 parallel to the original. Both bridges suffered structural damage following the Loma Prieta Earthquake, prompting a retrofit of the second bridge and the replacement of the first bridge with the iconic Alfred Zampa Memorial Suspension Bridge. Today, the bridge is maintained by the California Department of Transportation and serves an average of 50,000 vehicles per day with the 1958 bridge serving Eastbound traffic flows and the Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge serving Westbound traffic flows.



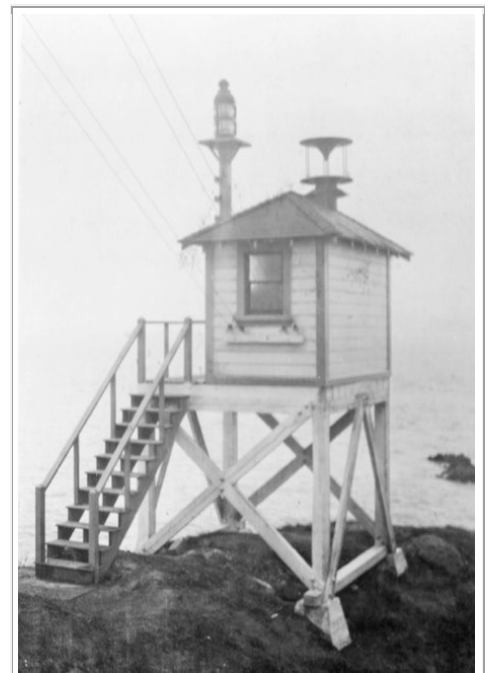
# Point Blunt Lighthouse



In 1775, Juan Manuel de Ayala became the first European navigator to sail into San Francisco Bay. He found a protected anchorage in a small cove on the northern side of the bay's largest island and promptly named the island "Isla de Nuestra Senora de Los Angeles" or in English, "Island of Our Lady of the Angels." The name stuck, though later shortened to simply Angel Island. Angel Island's cove, where passengers now disembark to visit the island, is called Ayala Cove in honor of the early explorer.

As the number of vessels entering the bay increased, a fog bell was placed at [Point Knox](#) on the southwest side of Angel Island in 1886, and a light was added to the fog station in 1900. Still, Angel Island was too big an obstacle to be marked by a single light, and in 1915 lights were placed on [Point Stuart](#), roughly a half mile north of Point Knox and at Point Blunt, the island's southeast extremity. The light at Point Stuart would serve to mark Raccoon Strait, which passed between the north side of the island and Tiburon, while Point Blunt's light would guide vessels into the shipping lane that led north to the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers.

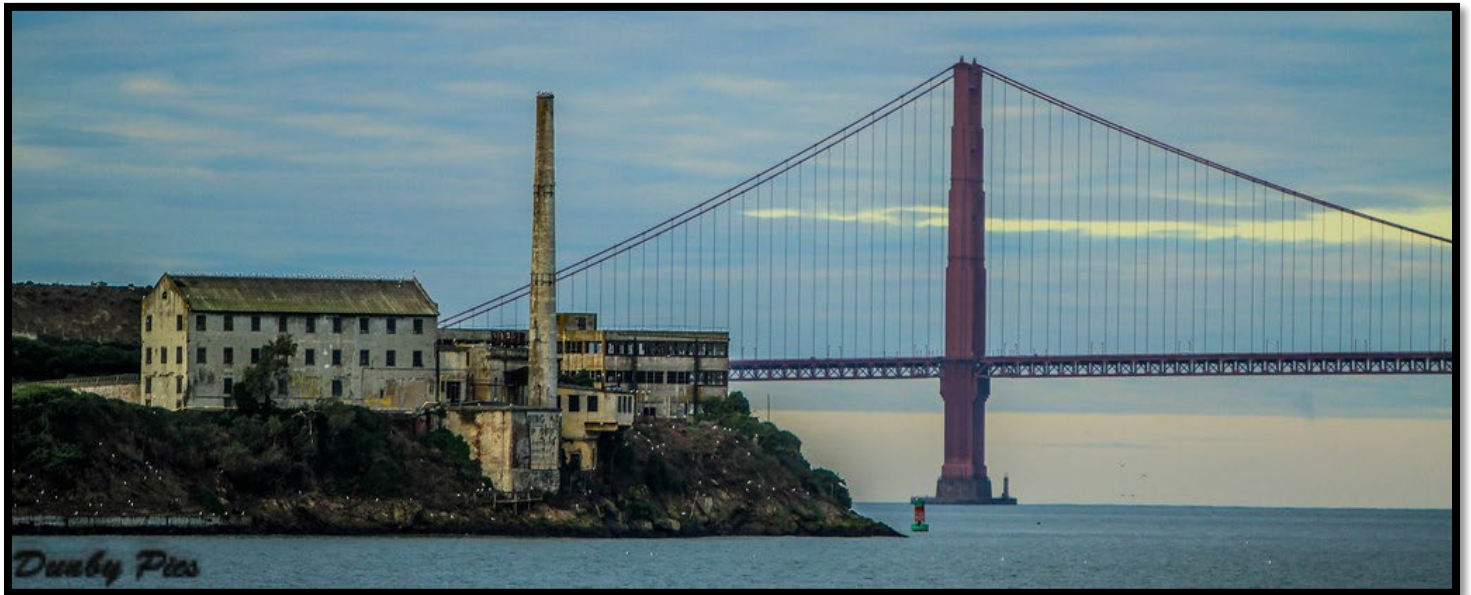
The wooden staircase leading down the rocky slope to the keepers' dwelling at Point Knox had become unstable in the 1950s, and the decision was made to build a modern Coast Guard station at Point Blunt. Point Blunt would thus become home to the last manned lighthouse built in California, and interestingly it was located less than two miles from [Alcatraz Island](#), where California's first lighthouse once stood. A new flat-roofed structure, topped with a lens lantern and fog horn was built near the end of the point, with a similarly constructed watch building nearby. Four, three-bedroom, ranch-style quarters for the keepers and their families were placed farther up the [point](#), and a concrete structure still higher on the point served as a paint locker. The station was completed in 1961, and the keepers at Point Knox moved into their new housing. The vacated dwelling and signal building at Point Knox were unceremoniously burned down in 1963, and the light there was discontinued.



[Point Blunt Light](#)  
Photograph courtesy U.S. Coast Guard

As plans for automating the Point Blunt Station progressed, the Point Blunt Lighthouse was torn down, and the watch room building was outfitted with an automatic light and fog signal. Local mariners were notified by the Coast Guard that on June 28, 1976, the light would be automated and resident personnel would no longer be in attendance.

# Alcatraz Island





## Golden Gate Bridge



**Alcatraz (foreground), the Golden Gate Bridge, and Farallon Island (background)**



## Farallon Islands



The **Farallon Islands**, or **Farallones** (from the Spanish *farallón* meaning "pillar" or "sea cliff"), are a group of islands and sea stacks in the Gulf of the Farallones, off the coast of San Francisco. The islands are also sometimes referred to by mariners as the **Devil's Teeth Islands**, in reference to the many treacherous underwater shoals in their vicinity. The islands lie 30 miles outside the Golden Gate and are visible from the mainland on clear days. The only inhabited portion of the islands is on Southeast Farallon Island, where researchers from Point Blue Conservation Science and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stay. The islands are closed to the public.

## Pier 39 - Tourists viewing Alcatraz



**Pier 39** is a popular tourist attraction with shops, restaurants, a video arcade, street performances, the Aquarium of the Bay, virtual 3D rides, and views of California sea lions hauled out on docks on Pier 39's marina.

The pier is located at the edge of the **Fisherman's Wharf** district. From the pier one can see Angel Island, **Alcatraz Island**, the **Golden Gate Bridge**, and the Bay Bridge. Blue & Gold Fleet's bay cruises leave from Pier 39.



## Yerba Buena Lighthouse



Just above the notch, the unique, octagonal Yerba Buena Lighthouse was built in a Victorian style. This short, ornate tower was constructed of wood, and has the year of completion, 1875, mounted above its doorway. About eighty yards farther up the island's slope and constructed in a similar style to the tower stands the historic two-story keepers' dwelling. This historic postcard shows the station with all its structures intact. Note that the cliff face in front of the lighthouse was painted white to help mark the island.

