

Instructions for Housesitters

Our trip plans:

Depart from SFO on xxxx. Return to SFO on xxxx at 8:45am. We will probably take CalTrain back to San Jose.

Instructions for Care of the Cat, Sylvie

- Keep dry food available
- Keep her water bowl/electric fountain full
 - Clean out bowl every week or so, it gets a little grimy
 - Be sure water bowl doesn't run out of water and run dry (If you will go away for a day or two you may want to unplug it while you are gone so that if it runs low, it won't damage the motor)
- Scoop litter every few days
 - Change the whole litter every two weeks (more if you want, we are lazy :)
- Apply Advantage flea treatment to back of her neck on March 28
- We took her into the vet on 2/26 because of 3 red, raw spots on her belly that she had been licking, and three scabs on her back, tail and leg that she had been licking. They said she has an unidentified allergy (either food, fleas, or pollen). They told me to switch her food back to one she had been eating prior to this outbreak (Purina One - Tuna/Salmon), give her flea treatment every 3 weeks instead of four (she'll be due on March 28), give her an antibiotic for one week, and spray a disinfectant spray (Vetricyn VF) on the lesions as needed. She should be mostly healed up by the time we leave, but we will leave you with the spray to use if you notice any new scabs or red spots.
- Yell at her when she scratches on the couch
- She will want you to let her sit in your lap ALL DAY
- She will want you to let her sleep on your pillow ALL NIGHT. If you don't want her in the bed with you, close the doors (she may meow to be let in – I don't know, we always let her sleep with us)

Other things to know about the House:

- Garbage/Recycling Service's pick up on Monday morning (put garbage and recycling cans out in front of the house on Sunday night)
- Yard waste/compost pickup is also on Monday morning. You don't have to do anything in the yard (we plan to have it cleaned up and mostly weeded by the time you come, but if you do have any trimmings and/or lots of food waste, you can leave it in a pile in front of the house on Sunday night).
- We do compost normal food waste in a big black bin on the right side of the house. Feel free to use it or not, whatever you wish.
- Water indoor potted plants as needed. I don't have a very green thumb, and have no plants of sentimental value so I don't care if anything withers ☺

- The landlord hires a gardener to come by and maintain the front lawn every few months. They will just come do the work and not disturb you.
- Feel free to eat the oranges on the tree out back, and any lemons that fall off of the next door neighbor's tree into our yard
- The gate going into the back yard is warped so it is hard to close. It is challenging to get closed, but you can slam it hard, so don't worry about it breaking.

Contacts In Case of Emergency

- Our friends Joanne (lives on xxth St) and Karen (lives on xxth St) will be available to help in case of any cat or house-related concern:
 - Joanne: (cell) xxx-xxx-xxxx
 - Karen: (cell) xxx-xxx-xxxx
- Veterinarian: Akal Animal Hospital, 940 Berryessa Road - (408) 453-2524
- Our Landlords (live in the Naglee Park area of San Jose): Wil and Michelle, (home) xxx-xxx-xxxx
- Our email (we'll be checking it every day or two): Cassie xxx@xxxx.com and Kevin xxx@xxxx.com
- In case of health/safety emergency, call 911. The nearest hospital/medical office complex is at Regional Medical Center of San Jose. <http://www.regionalmedicalsanjose.com/>
- In case of earthquake, we have two plastic tubs full of emergency supplies. One with jugs of water, one with nonperishable food/medical supplies. We will leave these on the front porch.
- The hot water heater is in the basement, we'll leave instructions for turning it off in case of emergency

Public Transportation:

Most of these things we mention are in walking distance, but if you want to go farther out you can use the Google Transit Planner: <http://www.google.com/intl/en/landing/transit/#mdy> or check out the route maps on the website of the Santa Clara County Valley Transportation Authority (VTA): <http://www.vta.org/>. They operate local buses and light rail trains that go all around Santa Clara County.

Example trips:

- It's a 1.5 mile walk to the Coleman shopping center that has the Target/Trader Joes/Sweet Tomatoes restaurant, OR you can get a bus. From M-F it's the 11 Bus (that stops right across the street), and on weekends you would take the 62 Bus that stops at the corner of Taylor and 13th)
- If you walk or take a bus to the nearest VTA Light Rail station (Japantown/Ayer) you can take that south to Downtown San Jose. Continue south to the San Jose-Diridon Transit Center and change trains to get one that goes to the nice, walkable downtown Campbell. Or you could take a northbound train that goes all the way to nice, walkable downtown Mountain View.
- At either San Jose—Diridon or Mountain View you can transfer to the CalTrain (regional rail: <http://www.caltrain.com/>) that goes to all the way to San Francisco.

- From San Jose-Diridon station, you can transfer to a bus that will take you to downtown Santa Cruz. It's a very comfortable commuter bus with cozy seats and even Wi-fi (the light rail trains also have Wi-fi now, I believe)

If you need a taxi to go somewhere local and don't want to deal with transit, we use Rainbow Taxi (408-271-9900).

Local things you may need (< 2 miles away):

- **Nearest Drugstore:**
 - **Walgreens**, 780 E. Santa Clara St., San Jose
 - **Target** (see below)
- **Nearest Grocery Stores/Target:**
 - **Nijiya** (Japanese and organic grocery staples): 240 Jackson Street, San Jose, CA. <http://www.nijiya.com/>
 - **Mi Pueblo** (Mexican market, has great deli with marinated meats, and cheap produce): 235 E. Julian St., San Jose, CA. <http://www.mipueblo.com/>
 - **Trader Joes**: 635 Coleman Avenue, San Jose, CA
 - **Target** (also sells groceries): 533 Coleman Ave, San Jose
 - **Safeway**, 100 S. 2nd St., San Jose, CA
- **Nearest Farmer's Market:**
 - **Japantown Farmer's Market**, Sundays from 8:30 a.m. till 12 noon (Jackson Street between Sixth and Seventh Streets) <http://www.japantownsanjose.org/market.html>
- **Nearest Libraries** (SJPL: <http://www.sjpl.org/locations>)
 - Joyce Ellington Branch Library (right down the street)
 - Dr. MLK Main Library (downtown San Jose on the campus of SJSU)
 - I will leave you my library card so you can check out anything you want
- **Our Favorite Restaurants (<2 miles):**
 - **American/Cajun**: Naglee Park Garage, 505 East San Carlos St., <http://www.nagleeparkgarage.com/>

- **Sushi:** Kazoo Sushi, 250 Jackson St., <http://www.kazoorestaurant.com/direction/san-jose-japan-town>
- **Korean:** Omogari, 154 Jackson St., <http://www.omogari.biz/>
- **Ethiopian:** Rehoboth Café, 655 N. 6th St., <http://www.yelp.com/biz/rehoboth-ethiopian-cafe-and-restaurant-san-jose>
- **Vegetarian:** Vegetarian House, 520 E. Santa Clara St., <http://vegetarianhouse.us>
- **British Pub:** Trials Pub, 264 N. 1st St., <http://www.trialspub.com/>
- **Pizza (Napoli Style, sit-down):** Pizza Boca Lupo, 87 N. San Pedro St., <http://www.sanpedrosquaremarket.com/san-jose-restaurants-pizza-bocca-lupo/>
- **Pizza (Delivery):** There are a few places in the neighborhood that deliver, coupons and contact info are attached to refrigerator with a magnet. Feel free to use them.
- **Mexican:** We usually go to Mi Pueblo (grocery store listed above) and buy marinated meats we fry at home for tacos. Or we get burr, itos at the Mi Pueblo in-store taqueria (see grocery above). Broncos Mexican Food (498 N. 13th St) is okay (not great) but very close and convenient. Casa Vicky is pretty good and in walking distance 792 East Julian Street <http://www.casavicky.com/>
- **Soup/Salad Bar:** Sweet Tomatoes, 625 Coleman Avenue, San Jose, www.souplantation.com
- **Coffee shop** (with a nice outdoor patio to sit and read on a nice day): Roys Station Coffee + Tea, 197 Jackson St., San Jose. <http://www.roys-station.com/>

Great things to do in the San Jose Area:

- **Guadalupe River Park and Rose Garden:** Nice park with trails that goes through downtown San Jose, and a heritage rose garden. Entrances are right across the street from the shopping center that has Target/Trader Joes/Sweet Tomatoes. <http://www.grpg.org/>
- **Museums downtown:** San Jose Museum of Art, the Tech Museum, Museum of Quilts and Textiles, and lots of other museums and art galleries: http://www.sjdowntown.com/Museums_Galleries.html

- **San Jose Flea Market.** Huge outdoor market held every weekend! Vendors selling everything from housewares, clothing, souvenirs to fresh produce and multi-ethnic food stalls. (<http://www.sjfm.com>)
- **Downtown Campbell and Los Gatos Farmers Markets.** The biggest and best local farmer's markets. <http://www.urbanvillageonline.com/markets/campbell/>, <http://www.localharvest.org/los-gatos-farmers-market-M23034>
- **Movie Theaters:** Camera 12 downtown San Jose plays all the blockbusters, and Camera 3 plays more diverse art/foreign films. <http://www.cameracinemas.com/75>
- **Spring Garden Market**—Saturday, March 31. Santa Clara County Master Gardner's plant sale and garden marketplace. Huge event we usually go to get our tomato plants, new/used garden household items, and informative gardening/cooking lectures. <http://www.mastergardeners.org/spring-garden-market>
- **History San Jose**—Local history museum complex, with historic homes and a historic rail line (the same park the Spring Garden Market is held at). <http://www.historysanjose.org/>

Things we will do before we leave

- Clip Sylvie's nails
- Clean out litter pan, wash out pan
- leave out flea treatment
- leave out library card
- leave out VTA/trail map
- leave out TV instructions