BUSTER KEATON SAN FRANCISCO TOUR

Keaton filmed many scenes from Daydreams (1922) and a key scene from The Navigator (1924) in San Francisco. Why he chose to film there remains a tantalizing mystery. Perhaps it was simply a fun way to combine work with pleasure, and take in a free trip to San Francisco. The last stop on this tour describes a scene from The Navigator; all other scenes are from Daydreams.

The tour begins near Fisherman’s Wharf, at the end of the Powell and Mason cable car line. Looking east down Bay at the intersection with Taylor (1), is where Keaton filmed the turntable joke from Daydreams. The turntable has been subsequently moved out of the busy intersection.
Continue south down Taylor to Columbus, and make a slight left turn south onto Columbus, and continue down to Lombard (2). Here is where Keaton jumps off the cable car.
Go across Columbus going west, at Lombard, and look back east (3). Here is where Keaton catches the cable car.
Continue west a short block up Lombard until you reach Taylor (4). Here is where the chase begins. The last block of Lombard, at the top of the hill, is now world-famous for its twists and turns, which were built after Keaton filmed here.
Turn left (south) at Taylor, and continue nine blocks or so to Washington. Turn left (east) down Washington two blocks until you reach Powell (5). Here, looking west up Washington, are scenes of cops running toward the camera, and looking north up Powell, of the cable car coming around the corner.
Continue east on Washington to Kearny. There, turn right (south) and continue across Market Street onto Third Street. Continue to Mission Street, then turn left (east) until reaching Second Street, then turn right (south) and stop at Minna (6). At Minna and Second, looking east, a trolley car full of police surprise Keaton, while at the same spot looking west, Keaton flees down Minna from the camera.
Turn right (west) down Minna to New Montgomery Street, then turn left (south). Continue until Howard Street, then turn right (west) until reaching Third Street. Turn right (north) up Third, cross Market Street, and continue north on Kearny. At Pine turn left (west) and continue west for about twenty blocks until you reach Divisadero. Turn right (north) and continue up Divisadero to Pacific (7). Here Keaton filmed the U-turn street crossing scene from The Navigator.

This concludes the San Francisco tour.

Silent Echoes: Discovering Early Hollywood Through the Films of Buster Keaton - By John Bengtson, Foreword by Kevin Brownlow

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