

**INN OF THE SPANISH GARDEN** This is one of the newer kids on the Santa Barbara block, a 23-room hotel in the historic Presidio district that's just a few blocks from State Street's shops and restaurants. The lot was originally the site of a bronze-casting school, which was gingerly relocated, along with several olive



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*Blocks from the shops*

trees, to make room for this Spanish-style complex with a pool and a courtyard. The staff is mostly young, the service friendly, and hospitality includes a buffet breakfast and a happy hour with hearty hors d'oeuvres. Rooms are spacious and elegant, with

Frette sheets, Moulton Brown toiletries, and decks or patios, as well as Internet lines, cordless phones, and TV. Room 12 has a garden with a fig tree. Less romantic but just as gracious is the underground parking, and it's free. *Rooms and suites: \$225-\$395. 915 Garden St., Santa Barbara, 866-564-4700 or [www.spanishgardeninn.com](http://www.spanishgardeninn.com).*