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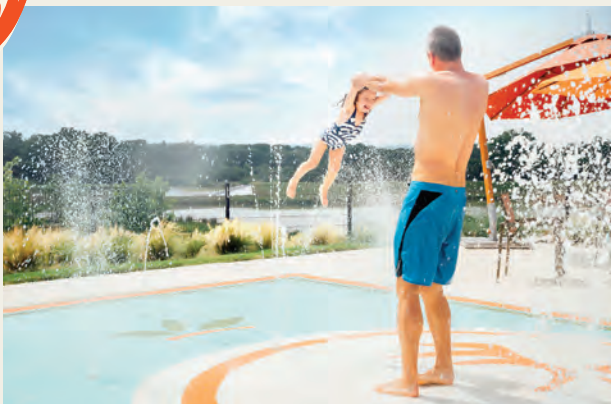
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ON THE COVER

Downtown view from Lady Bird Lake,
a local favorite

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WELCOME to AUSTIN

Whether it's the music, bats, food, or the University of Texas Longhorns, there's a reason why 27.4 million people each year choose Austin as their travel destination of choice – and why thousands more move here each year.

in this section

area history
who lives here
why we love it
creative culture

Austin, Texas, is the home of both the state capital and 1.5 million Mexican free-tailed bats that swoop from underneath the Congress Avenue Bridge nightly from March until mid-November each year – in addition to the 2.1 million residents who are proud to call the Austin MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area) home. The “Live Music Capital of the World” also offers a funky mix of award-winning restaurants, mouth-watering barbecue, tattooed hipsters, a refreshing liberal culture, politics that are always interesting, and innovative high-tech companies and startups.

Compared to nearby Dallas, Houston and San Antonio, Austin is like the upstart, renegade youngest sibling – the one who’d rather ask for forgiveness than permission, and in the process, created a whole new way of doing things. Austin’s laid-back, take-it-or-leave-it kind of attitude matches well with its fun and “weird” culture, celebrated on bumper stickers and T-shirts with the slogan, “Keep Austin Weird.” Perhaps that’s why so many celebrities – including Sandra Bullock, Robert Rodriguez and others – decide to move here. They won’t be bothered here – because, to be honest, no one cares.

AUSTIN’S TERRAIN: ANYTHING BUT FLAT

Located nearly in the center of the state, Austin is about three hours south of Dallas; three hours west of Houston; and about 90 minutes north of San Antonio – depending



Photo by Robert H. McGee

on I-35 traffic, of course. Austin’s geographic location is in south central Texas, where the Colorado River crosses the Balcones Escarpment – which separates the Texas Hill Country from the state’s blackland prairies to the east. The escarpment is also responsible for creating the city’s limestone cliff formations that define Austin’s anything-but-Texas surroundings.

One look at the scenic Hill Country views, and it’s clear that the words “flat” or “desolate” simply don’t apply. With its steep terrain, creeks, parks, and the Colorado River cutting a wide swath through the center of downtown, many visitors to Austin find it hard to believe they’re still in Texas.

Instead of the flat terrain common to most of the state, visitors are greeted with stunning vistas, rolling hills, and wildflowers. The area’s mostly temperate climate has earned Austin a reputation as one of the nation’s fittest cities, since there’s plenty to do outside to stay fit and enjoy an active lifestyle. There’s no question that both visitors and residents alike revel in the stunning beauty that combines the best of the Texas prairie with the scenic Hill Country.

The Colorado River only adds to that beauty – flowing through the heart of the city and feeding a series of lakes that stretch for more than 100 miles. The lakes are manmade, created by several dams built over the years. The crown jewel of these lakes is Lady Bird Lake, named in honor of Lady Bird Johnson. Surrounded by the expansive and popular Zilker Park, Lady Bird Lake is the epicenter of outdoor activity – from kayaking, rowing, and paddleboarding to miles of running trails that encircle it.

WATERLOO: THE ORIGINAL AUSTIN

Austin grew from the tiny village of Waterloo, originally settled by Native Americans. The area was chosen later to become the capital of the new Republic of Texas. Texas was an independent country for nearly ten years before being annexed by the United States in 1845.

Waterloo was renamed after Stephen F. Austin, “the father of Texas” and the



founders' vision included a state capitol building to look down from a hill over the city. The State Capitol was built on that hill in 1888, with stunning views of the city.

The Texas State Capitol was built as a result of one of the largest barter transactions in history – the Capitol's builders received 3 million acres in the Texas Panhandle, which later became the largest cattle ranch in the world, the XIT Ranch. The Capitol is one of the state's most popular attractions with more than 1 million visitors each year. Constructed from limestone and pink granite from nearby Marble Falls in the same architectural style as the nation's Capitol, it's actually taller than its distant D.C. sibling by seven feet – making it the largest state capitol in the U.S.

Today, Austin is the “Best Place in America for Starting a Business” according to Inc., and is on of the “Top Fastest Growing Job Markets” ranked amongst all 381 U.S. metropolitan areas, per HowMuch.net. The area continues to grow, and the Austin city demographer's office anticipates the population inside city limits to reach 1 million by 2025. For the five-county Austin-Round Rock MSA – which covers 4,279 square miles and includes Travis, Williamson, Hays, Caldwell, and Bastrop counties – they expect to reach 3 million by 2030 and 4 million by 2045.

DEDICATED CITIZENS

No matter how long they've been here, most people who live in Austin say they wouldn't live anywhere else – and for good reason. The state capital of Texas inspires fierce hometown dedication to its rolling terrain, natural living, liberal attitudes, interesting people, quality of life, stellar educational opportunities, and thriving business community.

The combination has attracted the attention of those relocating from all over the country and internationally – and plenty of accolades from diverse sources in recent years. For instance, Austin is ranked as the #1 Best City to Live for the third year in a row out of 125 major metros by the *U.S. News and World Report*. WalletHub ranked Austin the 4th best big city to start a business and the 5th best city to start a career in 2019.

The city also regularly leads “best of” lists for places where your dollar goes farthest – which include such critical factors as affordable housing, gas prices, inflation, and job market. The bottom line is that Austin has a lot to offer – and that has inspired a passionate dedication in those who live here, especially when it comes to community service and volunteer efforts to make Austin an even better place to live and work.

AUSTIN'S INTERESTING MIX

Austin residents – and visitors who want to be residents – have discovered a surprising combination that's like no other city in the state. The city is a heady mix of technology, education, government, music, film and the arts – and it's the kind of mix that's hard to ignore.


Think authentic Tex-Mex and barbeque to elegant, four-star restaurants and nationally-known chefs; two-stepping and country music to jazz, modern and alternative rock; Longhorns and cowboy hats to

shaved heads and tattoos. With its friendliness, laid-back and “anything goes” attitude, Austin is heavy on appeal.

AUSTIN'S ARTS SCENE: MUSIC, FILM, TV AND CULTURE


The Austin area is the smaller of its bigger siblings Dallas and Houston, but there's no doubt that it's a vibrant center of Texas life and culture. The arts are thriving here, thanks in part to a longstanding creative community, a passion for arts, music, and the influence of the University of Texas.


That influence is most evident with one of the city's cultural gems: the Jack S. Blanton Museum of Art at The University of Texas at Austin. Located on the UT campus, the Blanton is the largest university art museum in the country. Housed in an 180,000-square foot, two-building complex, the Blanton has the largest and most comprehensive collection of art in Central Texas with nearly 18,000 works of art in their collection.

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The Blanton's permanent collection is recognized for its European paintings, an encyclopedic collection of prints and drawings, and modern and contemporary American and Latin American art. Works include European Baroque and Italian Renaissance paintings by such masters as Sebastiano del Piombo, Rubens, Giulio Cesare Amidano and others; an American and Contemporary Art collection spanning the American West, early American Modernism, Pop, Social Realism, Abstract Expressionism and more; an 1,800-plus Latin American art collection representing more than 600 artists; and thousands of prints and drawings from such diverse artists as Rembrandt, Goya and Picasso; plus a host of rotating special exhibits throughout the year.

Along with the Blanton, other Austin cultural gems on the UT campus include The Harry Ransom Center, the Briscoe Center for American History, The University of Texas Press, UT Libraries, the Graduate School, and the Michener Center for Writers.

Austin is also home to a number of public museums throughout the city, as well as a host of private galleries, including the Thinkery (previously known as Austin Children's Museum), Austin Nature and



Patty Griffin performs onstage during the 2019 SXSW Conference and Festivals. Photo by Carol Watson

“...it’s easy to see that there is a lot to love about Austin. It’s a great place to live, find success, and enjoy the good life.”

Science Center, Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, Elisabet Ney Museum, Mexic-Arte Museum, LBJ Library and Museum, the Umlauf Sculpture Garden and Museum, and the Mexican-American Cultural Center.

Discover culture at the Austin Symphony, Ballet Austin and Austin Lyric Opera, along with ongoing music, theater and dance presentations at UT’s Performain Arts Center/Bass Concert Hall, and Austin Lyric Opera. You’ll find ongoing music, theater and dance presentations at UT’s Performing Arts Center/Bass Concert Hall, Austin Music Hall, and the Frank Erwin Center, all of which bring great talent to Austin.

The Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Center for the Performing Arts offers residents a vibrant community arts center – with top musical, dance and dramatic performances for kids and adults alike. The historic Paramount Theater downtown and the One World Theater in the hills off Bee Caves Road host national, regional and local productions. A huge variety of theater companies, both small and large, offer theater performances of every type, including the Dougherty Arts Center, Zachary Scott Theatre, State Theatre, Scottish Rite Children’s Theatre, the Austin Playhouse at Penn Field, Esther’s Follies, and the Capitol City Comedy Club, just to name a few.

As the “Live Music Capital of the World,” music is synonymous with the city. The bars and clubs on Sixth Street are always busy with tourists and local dwellers along with South by Southwest (SXSW), an annual conglomerate of film, interactive media, music festivals and conferences.

For more than 30 years, the national PBS series *Austin City Limits* was filmed and produced on the UT campus by local public television station KLRU, showcasing the best of American music and the thriving Texas and Austin music scene for millions of viewers worldwide. The new home for the filming and production of the show, *ACL Live at the Moody Theater*, is located adjacent to the W Hotel downtown. It has become a popular performance venue – hosting acts from both the famed television show and its associated three-day music extravaganza each fall – the Austin City Limits Music Festival.

The ACL Festival, as it’s called, launched in 2002, and has become a huge draw each fall at Zilker Park. The festival takes place over two consecutive weekends, six days in total, and attracts over 75,000 fans a day witnessing 130 bands across eight stages. Thanks to ACL, and to the many musicians who live, work and make music here, Austin more than lives up to its musical nickname.

Music clubs line both the popular Sixth Street entertainment district and the Fourth Street Warehouse District, and are spread throughout the rest of the city. There’s an opportunity to hear live music any time of day here – from the local musicians who welcome visitors with daily concerts at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport to the weekday lunchtime concerts in front of City Hall and the bars, restaurants, dance clubs and other entertainment options along and near Sixth Street and Congress Avenue, and the thriving Second Street District.

The city is also a center for filmmaking and television, home to nationally known directors Richard Linklater (*Dazed and Confused*), Robert Rodriguez (*Sin City*, *Sin City: A Dame to Kill For*, *From Dusk Till Dawn*, *Spy Kids*),

Mike Judge (*Beavis and Butt-Head Do America*), and filmmaker Terence Malick (*Badlands*). The variety of scenery and diverse natural environments in the area have made Austin the location for such Hollywood productions as the critically acclaimed opus from Richard Linklater, *Boyhood*, and Jon Favreau's food truck comedy-drama, *Chef*. Not to mention such perennial favorites as *Miss Congeniality*, *Courage Under Fire*, *The Alamo*, *Hope Floats*, *Michael*, all of Rodriguez's *Spy Kids* films, as well as the award-winning television series *Friday Night Lights*.

AUSTIN, TEXAS: A GREAT PLACE FOR BUSINESS

Besides fun, recreation, music and great food, Austin also has a reputation as a thriving and vibrant business community. Companies here offer a virtual cornucopia of business and industry, with key industries that include advanced technology and manufacturing (software, hardware, semiconductor, and more); government, education, music, health-care, and film – plus many other support services and industries.

Austin's rapid growth in the technology sector has dubbed it the "New Silicon Valley". Major corporate and regional headquarters include Apple, Cirrus Logic, Dell, eBay, Facebook, General Motors, Hewlett-Packard, HomeAway, IBM, Oracle, Whole Foods and more.

Large government and public sector employers rank among the area's largest employers, including the Internal Revenue Service, which operates a regional office; the University of Texas at Austin; the State of Texas; the City of Austin; the Austin Independent School District; and the Round Rock Independent School District, among others. (See specific large employer list in the Business and Economy section for more information).





The state in general – and Austin in particular – is a magnet for new projects, expansions and relocations. Besides a flourishing corporate business culture, Austin is tops for those who want to start their own business venture. Austin regularly leads business rankings in

various categories – Austin again ranked 8th for "Most Creative City in U.S." by Homes, April 2017 and No. 4 "Best Metro Area for STEM Professionals" by WalletHub, January 2019. That's great news for entrepreneurs in any industry.

Known as an incubator for countless home-grown enterprises, Austin boasts several stellar resources for startup companies,

including Austin Ventures – one of the region's most active venture capital firms with \$3.9 billion under management across 10 funds. It's no surprise, then, that the National Venture Capital Association consistently includes Austin in its list of "Top 10 Cities for Technology Startups." Multiple Austin companies have also made the Deloitte Texas Technology "Fast 50" list in past years, as well as *Inc.* magazine's annual list of the "500

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And, as the home to the University of Texas – the fifth-largest university in the country with an enrollment of about 52,000 graduate and undergraduate students – as well as such distinguished colleges and universities as St. Edward’s University, Southwestern University in Georgetown, and Texas State University in San Marcos, there’s no shortage of talented and highly educated employees and an entrepreneur base.

GET OUTSIDE! OUTDOOR LIVING IS TOPS IN AUSTIN

The Austin area gives first-time visitors a striking impression with its rolling hills and lush greenery. That natural beauty is yet another reason for the city’s appeal – and it has nurtured an active outdoor lifestyle for residents with plenty of beautiful places to swim, jog, cycle, boat, play golf, and much more.

The city’s natural surroundings invite residents to take part in a vast range of outdoor and sports activities – and they certainly do, thanks to about 230 days of sunshine per year, normal average daily temperatures of about 70 degrees (and about 95 degrees in the hottest months of July and August), and an average annual rainfall of 32.15 inches. Of course, there’s a saying in Texas that if you don’t like the weather, just wait a minute. It might be hot one day and freezing the next, but it’s just a

part of the charming dichotomy that residents have learned to love – or at least tolerate.

Love parks? Well, you’ve come to the right place. Austin is truly “a city within a park” with more than 15,000 acres of parkland that include more than 220 parks and 24 greenbelts, plus a number of nearby state parks. The city itself has more than 32 miles of inner city trails, including the 10-mile hike & bike trail around Lady Bird Lake, which is busy with walkers, runners and cyclists nearly every hour of every day.

Like to swim? There are 44 public pools throughout the city that keep residents “in the swim,” while Lake Austin on the west side of town and nearby Lake Travis offer even more aquatic activities. Don’t miss Austin’s jewel – Barton Springs, a natural spring that stays a refreshingly cool 68 degrees year-round. Hamilton Pool is another favorite, as are Deep Eddy and other local swimming holes.

As the home to golf legends such as Ben Crenshaw, Tom Kite and the late Harvey Penick, it’s not surprising that golf is big here, too. Avid golfers will feel right at home in Austin with its five municipal courses and one short practice course, plus a host of private links and country clubs, including a number of world-class courses designed by Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, and others. Central Texas has also been the host to several tournaments on the PGA Champions Tour.

Prefer spectator sports? The area is home to several professional sports clubs, including *Round Rock Express* Triple-A baseball; *Austin Spurs* basketball – an NBA Development League (D-League) team; and the *Texas Stars* minor league hockey team. Back in 2012, Austin began hosting the exciting Formula 1 racing at the Circuit of the Americas (COTA) track and racing facility, located in southeast Austin near Austin Bergstrom International Airport. Austin is the home for multiple racing events, including an agreement to host the prestigious Formula 1 United States Grand Prix through 2021, as well as the MotoGP and V8 Supercars series.

Of course, there’s no question that the University of Texas *Longhorns* are high on the list of most popular sports events here, and there’s also a host of top NCAA college athletic events throughout the school year, including UT’s football team, baseball team, basketball team, and men’s and women’s soccer and volleyball teams.

FINE FOOD AND ECLECTIC SHOPPING

When you’re out and about in Austin, you’re bound to get hungry after all that activity. That’s good, because dining in Austin is a delight. A bounty of restaurants offer such delicious local fare as Mexican food, barbecue and Southern-style cooking, as well as everything from sushi bars to Italian bistros to fine French cafés and sumptuous steakhouses. Try Guero’s Taco Bar on South Congress or Chuy’s Tex-Mex (multiple locations) for casual, Mexican fare; The Salt Lick or County Line for barbeque (see our barbeque article in this issue for additional mouth-watering choices); or Hudson’s on the Bend, Uchi, or Fonda San Miguel for the best in fine dining.

Once you’ve satisfied your appetite, it’s off to do some shopping. The Domain, located in northwest Austin, includes Neiman-Marcus and other luxury shops and boutiques such as Barney’s CO-OP, Tiffany & Co., David Yurman, Louis Vuitton, Michael Kors, Tumi, and the Apple store.

Then there’s the Hill Country Galleria – 152-acres of expansive natural beauty in

Bee Cave with eclectic shopping, dining and entertainment, as well as office and residential space. Surrounded by a lush nature preserve, wildflowers, native trees and rocky streams, the Hill Country Galleria is an ideal way to spend an afternoon.

Major malls in the Austin area include Lakeline Mall in Cedar Park (Macy's, Dillard's, Sears and J.C. Penney) and Barton Creek Square in west Austin (Macy's, Dillard's, Sears, J.C. Penney, and Nordstrom). There's also the Arboretum, which is home to national chains such as The Gap, Pottery Barn, and Barnes & Noble, plus local boutiques and spas.

Don't miss the charming boutiques and shops on South First, in the Second Street District, or the vintage and antique shops on South Congress, South Lamar, North Loop, Burnet Road, and Guadalupe Street (also known as "The Drag" on the UT campus).

For outlet shopping, this area can't be beat, whether you head to the Round Rock Outlets just north of town, or the Premier and Tanger Outlet Malls in San Marcos – just 30 minutes south of downtown on Interstate 35. Austin is also home to a 250,000-square foot IKEA store in Round Rock, which is the place to go for hip, inexpensive European choices in home décor for every room in the house.

NO PLACE LIKE HOME

There's no doubt that Austin's a great city – the "hippest in the Southwest," according to travel reviews in *The New York Times* and other national publications, but what ultimately makes any city feel like home is its many and varied neighborhoods.

Choose from charming inner city history to minimalist downtown loft living to lush gated communities around the city or quiet suburban neighborhoods – there's no shortage of diverse housing in Austin.

It's relatively inexpensive to live here. When many cities were still recovering from the after effects of the recession and a sluggish housing market, the Austin market remained steady and stable – with the city experiencing price gains. Now, even with the market heating up again, there is still

affordable housing to be found across the city. The median price for a single-family home was \$371,900 in July 2019, up over 6 percent from the same month in 2018.

Offerings range from classy downtown condos, elegant old homes and modern showplaces, to friendly suburban neighborhoods, to countryside ranches and farmhouses on the outskirts of town. Wherever you choose to live in Austin,

Texas you will always find the friendly and neighborly atmosphere that pervades the entire community.

Welcome to a city that residents and visitors adore – and that you will, too! As you explore the *Austin Relocation Guide* and the city that it represents, it's easy to see that there's a lot to love about Austin. It's a great place to live, find success, and enjoy the good life. ●

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Howdy and welcome to Central Texas: home of queso, baseball, traffic and tacos, lots of 'em. Whether you just moved here or have been here a while, you'll discover that our toll roads will connect you to the places and people that matter most. Looking for the fastest way to become a local? Visit these top five destinations along our roadways in the greater Austin area today.

- 1 Cheer on or sing along at the H-E-B Center.**
The H-E-B Center at Cedar Park is an indoor arena that hosts some of the biggest attractions coming to Texas. Whether you want to cheer on the Texas Stars hockey team or finally catch your favorite artist performing live, the H-E-B Center has got you covered.
- 2 Spend the day (or night) at The Domain.**
Situated in a park-like setting, The Domain features more than 100 upscale and mainstream retail stores, restaurants and bars, more than enough for an all-day outing. The shopping center also offers a movie theater, Wi-Fi connectivity and convenient parking.
- 3 Explore the heart of Austin on Lady Bird Lake.**
See the city come to life in a whole new way from Lady Bird Lake, one of Austin's best amenities. Whether you prefer kayaking, canoeing or want to try a standup paddle board, several businesses along the lake offer all the equipment you need to spend the day on the water.
- 4 See Texas' most diverse collection of native plants at the Wildflower Center.**
Austin is known for its wildflower-lined highways in the spring, but you can see native flowers and plants year round at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. The designated Botanic Garden of Texas includes 284 acres of cultivated gardens, natural areas and wildlands.



- 5 Catch Rodeo Austin at the Travis County Expo Center.**
The Travis County Expo Center is home to some of the City's premier events, including Rodeo Austin every March. Featuring a top 10 ProRodeo, daily concerts, a world class livestock show and more, this is a must-attend attraction for every Austinite.

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Sign up for AutoPay and your TxTag sticker is free.

TxTag.org

BUSINESS

and economy

Greater Austin offers wide appeal for both businesses and employees who relocate here and is known as one of *Forbes* magazine's "Best Places for Business and Careers." In fact, many Austin-area companies are ranked on both the Fortune 500 and Inc. 500 lists of fastest-growing companies.

in this section

chambers of commerce
top 25 employers
cost of living



There's no question that Austin is a great place to live and work – and that's reflected in the caliber of companies who have chosen to make the Capital City their corporate home – including Freescale Semiconductor, Whole Foods, Dell Inc., and National Instruments. Many other businesses have moved their research and development, manufacturing, and back-office facilities here – Apple Computer, Samsung and the Internal Revenue Service all have a large corporate presence here.

Austin's labor force is just one reason companies make the move here – and why the city has been consistently ranked among the “hottest labor markets” in the county by BizJournals.com, which analyzes annual employment trends in the nation's 100 largest labor markets — especially job growth and unemployment.

It's not surprising that the city's high percentage of college graduates are fueling its successful business economy, especially considering the number of top colleges and universities that are based in Central Texas, including the University of Texas at Austin; St. Edwards University, Huston-Tillotson University; Southwestern University in Georgetown, and Texas State University in San Marcos.

Consider that the latest U.S. Census found that nearly 49 percent of Austin area residents age 25 and over hold a bachelor's degree – well over the national average of 30.9 percent. The engineering, business and law schools at the University of Texas have all been ranked among the “Top 10 Schools for Hispanics” by *Hispanic* magazine, and the magazine also named Austin the Top City for Hispanics. It's clear that talented young graduates appreciate Austin's many opportunities – not to mention its quality of life – so recruiting prospective employees is a win-win for both companies and employees.

Research and development thrive here, too, and that has also helped to attract talent from all over the U.S. and internationally. The University of Texas has been ranked number one of more than 400 major research universities worldwide in a Milken Institute study that looked at the ability of universities to produce patents from their biotechnology research.

Not surprisingly, the city has also been able to build a formidable reputation as a hub for biotech research and companies. In fact, in a testament to that reputation, the Clean Technology and

Sustainable Industries Organization (CTSI), a not-for-profit industry trade organization “committed to the commercialization and global adoption of clean technologies and sustainable industry practices,” created a new branch here, naming it the new global headquarters of the organization.

LABOR & UNEMPLOYMENT: AUSTIN IS A GREAT PLACE TO BE

Statewide, Texas is in a good place. The Texas Workforce Commission reports that the state's unemployment rate has consistently remained well below the national rate (as of January 2019, the national unemployment rate was 4 percent). And, overall, the Texas labor market continues to make positive gains with the addition of jobs and a decline in the unemployment rate. Austin has also reaped these positive economic benefits. Even in challenging times, the city has experienced steady job, economic and income growth – and all have contributed to a thriving business climate. For example, the unemployment rate of Austin was 3.2 percent as of December 2018.

That kind of positive news has people and businesses from around the country headed to Austin for its lower overall cost of living,

fair tax structure, lower cost of doing business, and competitive environment. In *Chief Executive* magazine's eighth annual survey of CEO opinion of Best and Worst States to do business, Texas ranked first for the eighth consecutive year – Austin ranked number three for the “Best Performing Economy” in ranking the top 40 U.S. metros.

Austin company relocations and expansions in the last few years – companies that are planning, creating, relocating, or expanding their facilities here – included such companies as Apple, Inc., Progressive Insurance, Netspend, Kinnser Software, Lumeris, Mitrastech (legal software), AT&T Labs, Cirrus Logic, eBay/PayPal, Evernote, HostGator, Informatica, Rackspace Managed Hosting, and Office Depot, among other organizations.

Besides the city's beautiful and scenic surroundings, Austin's cost of living is much less than many major cities – and that's yet another reason companies – and relocating families – are attracted to the area. According to the numbers from the ACCRA Cost of Living Index (first quarter 2019), Austin has a composite index of 99.5 – on par with Atlanta (102.3), Dallas (106.7), Phoenix (97.4) and Raleigh (94.5), but far below Boston (153.5), San Francisco (200.1), and New York (238.4) in terms of the cost of grocery, housing, utilities, transportation and healthcare. (See chart in this section for a full picture of Austin's ACCRA Cost of Living Index ranking in comparison to other metro areas.)

According to the most recent information from the Austin Board of Realtors, the median home value in Austin was \$405,000 as of November 2019. Texas doesn't have either a personal or corporate income tax, adding to its relocation appeal. According to the nonprofit TaxFoundation.org, Texas has a state sales and use tax of 6.25 percent, with room for businesses to impose an additional 2 percent for a maximum combined 8.25 percent.

Because we've remained an affordable place to live and work, growth in the Austin

MSA has skyrocketed – increasing by 14.3 percent year over year since November 2018. The population is expected to double in the next 25 years – to 2,780,504 by 2030. In particular, Williamson, Hays and Bastrop counties have been consistently ranked among the top 100 fastest-growing counties in the country since 2000 – and all expect double-digit growth for the next 20 years.

AUSTIN & INDUSTRY: HIGH TECH THRIVING

The rise, fall and rise again of Austin's technology industry has proved that the city is resilient when it comes to starting, growing and nurturing successful businesses – even in a down economy.

Consider that, back in 2008 – even as the recession gathered steam – Texas saw the second largest high-tech employment gains in the nation. Austin has added 44,500 tech-related jobs since 2010 with an expected growth rate in this sector of about 5.8 percent year-over-year – with the largest tech employment gains in computer systems design and related services; engineering services; and R&D and testing labs.

Today, Texas remains the second-largest “cyberstate” in terms of total technology industry employment, behind California and ahead of New York. Austin ranked fourth among the country's 200 largest metropolitan areas on the Milken Institute's Best Performing Cities list, which ranks cities according to metrics like job creation and salary and technology growth.

Some of the largest industries in the Austin area include: pharmaceutical, biotechnology and largely technology. Top technology employers in Austin include such nationally known companies as Samsung, Advanced Micro Devices (AMD), Apple, Inc., Applied Materials, Cisco Systems, Dell, Inc., Freescale Semiconductor, IBM, Intel, and 3M, plus numerous startup companies. Most of these businesses are also either based in Austin, or they've chosen to locate large portions of their operations here. In fact, *Fast Company* magazine has named Austin, Texas a Startup Hub on its annual 30 Fastest Cities

in the World list, with criteria that included “a culture that nurtures creative action and game-changing enterprise, innovation and energy.”

We've also been ranked among the “Top 10 Hottest Wireless Cities”, with about 11 free wireless hotspots for every 100,000 residents. Austin's ranking is credited to a strong grassroots wireless movement, especially the Austin City Wireless Project (www.austincitywireless.org).

ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT AND HOMEGROWN COMPANIES

In December 2018, Austin was declared the “Best Place in America for Starting a Business” according to Inc. with an average of 550 new entrepreneurs per month, according to a list put out by *Fortune*. In addition, *Entrepreneur* magazine has ranked the University of Texas at Austin among the top 10 on its list of Best Graduate Programs for Entrepreneurs, and the *Wall Street Journal* named UT's Executive MBA Program the 12th best among business schools.

The Austin Technology Incubator, the University of Texas' IC2 Institute, the Central Texas Angel Network, the Austin Technology Council, and Capital Factory – a technology incubator program in which companies apply for cash, support and mentoring sessions with experienced, successful and local entrepreneurs – have all made it possible for young companies to be successful.

The Daily Beast has ranked Austin seventh on its America's Smartest Cities list, and it's that range of talent and ideas that have made Central Texas one of the top targets for venture capital investment in the country. In fact, one of the largest venture investments in the country was made in an Austin-based company – vacation home rental site HomeAway.com – which received \$250 million in venture funding in the past decade.

Prime investment sectors in the last several years have included biotechnology, business products and services, computers

“ SXSW draws more than 280,000 attendees to downtown Austin for two weeks every March, and generates an estimated \$355.9 million in economic impact. ”

and peripherals, consumer products and services, electronics/instrumentation, financial, healthcare and IT services, media and entertainment, medical devices and equipment, semiconductors, software, networking and related equipment, retailing and distribution, and telecommunications.

Austin is also home to several nationally known companies that have their roots firmly planted here. GSD&M Idea City, a national advertising agency founded in 1971 by six University of Texas students that is now owned by media giant Omnicom, has annual billings of more than \$1.5 billion. Whole Foods Market, Inc., the world's largest retailer of natural and organic foods, was also started here. Founded in 1980 and consistently named among *Fortune* magazine's annual “Best Places to Work” list, the company was purchased by Amazon for \$13.7 billion. And Dell, Inc., founded by Michael Dell out of his University of Texas dorm room in 1984, now celebrates over thirty years as the third largest computer maker in the world.

MUSIC, FILM, TOURISM AND DIGITAL MEDIA

Austin's reputation as the “Live Music Capital of the World,” plus tourism, film, gaming/digital media, television, and other entertainment industries have made a big impact when it comes to business economics. Events like the South by Southwest Music, Film and Interactive Festivals and Conferences (SXSW), Rodeo Austin, the Austin City Limits Music Festival, and Formula 1 Racing – among other events, have all combined to produce significant economic gains for the city.

Come Visit! Austin Tourism

For starters, tourists bring a lot of business to Austin, they come to see the State Capitol, the LBJ Library and the Texas State History Museum – in fact, Austin is the fourth most-visited city in Texas. And, every year, more than 100,000 people flock to the Congress Avenue Bridge to watch two million Mexican free-tailed bats emerge for nightly feedings.

According to an analysis of Austin's tourism industry commissioned by the Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau, nearly 27.4 million people visit the Austin area each year. Annual visitor spending totals approximately \$7.4 billion and provides about 121,900 jobs.

Guitars & Songwriters: Austin's Music Scene

Live music is part of Austin – and it draws millions of tourists and local fans each year. With Sixth Street, the South by Southwest Music and Film Festival each March, the Austin City Limits Music Festival each September, plus other music-related industry events like the International Music Products Association (NAMM) and the International Folk Alliance conferences, “music tourism” is a major industry.

SXSW draws more than 280,000 attendees to downtown Austin for two weeks every March, and generates an estimated \$355.9 million in economic impact. The annual Austin City Limits Music Festival, which celebrated its seventeenth year in 2018, generates a whopping \$255 million in economic impact for the city.

Game On!: Austin's Gaming & Digital Media Scene

Across Texas, the gaming industry is estimated to put \$177 million into the economy – and a lot of that is because of what's going on right here in Austin.

With hundreds of gaming and digital media companies here, it's an exciting sector of the entertainment industry that's also one of the fastest growing. It's no surprise that the Interactive segment of the annual South by Southwest Festival has grown by leaps and bounds since the festival began.

In fact, Austin's billion-dollar gaming industry is home to more than 130 game developers- including the industry's biggest names: Disney Interactive's Junction Point, and Electronic Arts' subsidiaries Pogo.com and BioWare. There are also more than 100 startup companies, and they all combine to create thousands of interactive games, iPhone applications, console games, massive multiplayer Internet games, and much more.

Ready, Action!: Austin's Film Industry

Moviemaker.com has ranked Austin sixth among its list of the “Top 10 Cities To Be A Movie Maker” – and for good reason. The site says “Texas' unofficial film capital,” has been a “thriving, moviemaker-friendly community for years, and home to the country's most exciting auteurs” – and that's the absolute truth.

In the last 10 years, more than 600 major features, made-for-television movies, television series' and short films have been produced here, in addition to hundreds of commercials and independent projects. Productions have included all three *Spy Kids* films, *The Life of David Gale*, *Secondhand Lions*, *Once Upon a Time in Mexico*, *School of Rock*, *The Alamo*, *Miss Congeniality*, *Courage Under Fire*, *The Alamo*, *Hope Floats*, *Michael*, and the critically acclaimed television series *Friday Night Lights*.

The city's vibrant music and film community has also earned it high rankings by *Moviemaker* magazine as one of the top American cities to be a filmmaker – including the top

honor on the magazine's "Top 10 U.S. Cities to Live, Work and Make Movies" list – citing Texas' statewide incentive program that offers rebates for filming here.

Our studios, experienced work crews, variety of scenery, diverse natural environments, and such acclaimed directors as Robert Rodriguez, Richard Linklater, Mike Judge, filmmaker Terence Malick, and others have helped to firmly establish Austin's film business – bringing business from Los Angeles and growing the city's economic impact from the film and television industry.

The total economic impact of Austin's film and visual media sector has totaled nearly \$2 billion in the last 10 years, including the many productions filmed at Austin Studios – the city's major film studio that's housed in old airplane hangars at the former Mueller Airport; at Rodriguez' Troublemaker Studios; and at Austin Studios' Ranch Studios project in nearby Kyle, which offers space for 257 acres of sets, equipment and production offices.

AUSTIN SPORTS: LONGHORNS AND MORE

The closest Major League sports team might be in San Antonio (the Spurs), Dallas (the Cowboys), or Houston (the Texans), but sports are big business in Austin. The University of Texas (itself a major employer) and other universities, University Interscholastic League (UIL) competitions, the Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays (a national collegiate track championship sponsored by UT and named after the school's legendary track coach) and USA Volleyball sanctioned junior tournaments bring more than \$50 million to Austin each year.

Every home Longhorn football game attracts more than 40,000 out-of-town visitors and generates an estimated economic impact of more than \$24 million, according to Angelou Economics, a local economic development and consulting firm. That doesn't include ticket sales or extras. Out-of-town fans buy more than 40 percent of all season tickets. Including single-game attendees, about 245,000 fans contribute to

local hotels, restaurants, retail stores and transportation systems.

Austin's terrain and outdoor-friendly weather also attracts competitors from all over the world for major running events, including the Austin Marathon and the Capitol 10,000. Both races attract race competitors and spectators who add to Austin's revenue via hotels, restaurants and retail. In fact, the city established the Austin Sports Commission to recruit professional, collegiate and amateur sporting events to the city.

Austin's status as the state capital means that government is another major industry, supporting more than 130,000 government workers in local, state and federal positions. In fact, the direct economic impact of the 140 days, every two years, that the State Legislature meets is more than \$27 million per session.

It's clear that, no matter what industry, Austin is an exciting and vibrant place to do business with a thriving entrepreneurial spirit and opportunities of all kinds. ●

“ The University of Texas has been ranked number one of more than 400 major research universities worldwide... ”



Connect with the Best of the ATX

There's no question that Austin is a great place to live.

Living near transit can make connecting around Austin even easier!

We love Austin! But the traffic....

Austin is great but getting around can be tough. Traffic congestion slows our roads and commuters waste an average of 40 hours per year stuck in traffic. While our region is working hard to solve these problems, there is something you can do when you relocate — take transit and let Capital Metro connect you to the best Austin has to offer.

Smart Choices

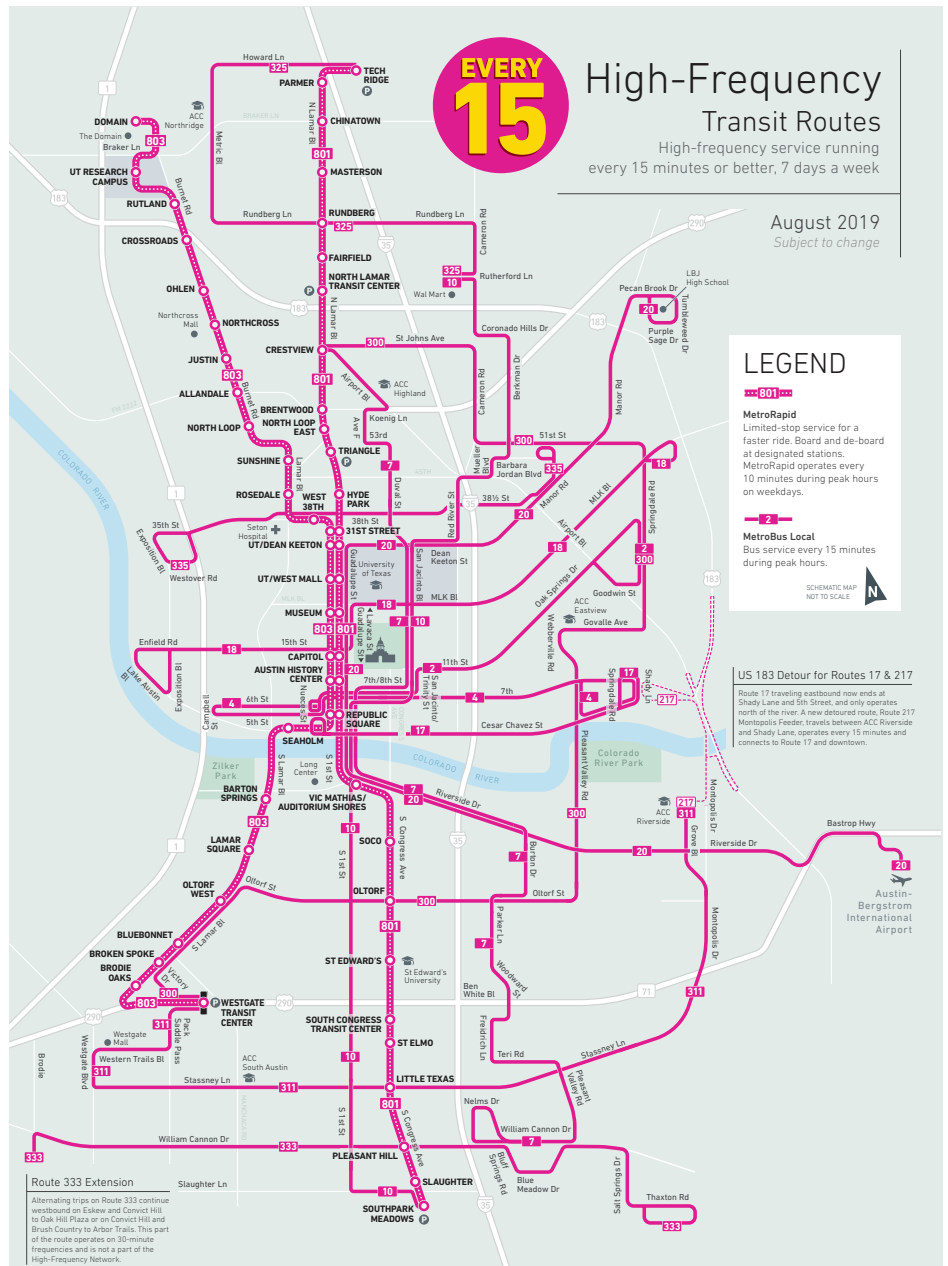
Living close to transit that connects you to work, school and entertainment can make your life less complicated and less expensive.

- Capmetro.org has a great trip planner that allows you to see the connections you can make from your new home to your destination.
- The CapMetro App lets you plan trips, buy your pass and check for real-time bus info directly from your phone.

Your Ride

Everyone's journey is unique! Capital Metro has a variety of services to meet your travel needs.

- MetroRail: Commuter rail that travels downtown from suburban Park & Rides.
- MetroRapid: Frequent service that serves the city's busiest corridors, late-nights and weekends too.
- High-Frequency Network: Local buses that connect the city with service every 15 minutes, 7 days a week.
- MetroExpress: Commuter express buses serving surrounding areas and operating in MoPac's Express Lanes so you can bypass rush hour traffic.
- MetroBus: Network of Local buses that connect neighborhoods, downtown, UT and the Capitol Complex.
- Pickup: On-demand transit service that provides shared rides booked through the Pickup apps in certain Central Texas neighborhoods.
- Night Owls: Late-night buses that connect downtown to surrounding neighborhoods.
- MetroBike: Secure 24-hour bike parking at five MetroRail Stations and two major transit centers.
- MetroAccess: Paratransit service for qualified individuals within a quarter-mile of transit lines.



DOWN THE ROAD
 Project Connect is Capital Metro's long-term vision that would transform how people move in and around Central Texas. That vision includes expanding the popular MetroRapid service from two lines to seven, placing mobility hubs and transit centers throughout the region and operating smaller services that connect your neighborhood to the larger system. Project Connect would connect the community to downtown and the airport with two lines of high-capacity transit that operate separate from other traffic, so there'd be no need to worry about sitting in traffic.

Our App is

**BETTER
FASTER
EASIER**



Apple Pay and Google Pay

Better Real-time Updates

Faster Pass Buying & Access

Easier App Interface



**GET AROUND AUSTIN
ON CAPMETRO!**





Greater Austin is not only the geographic center of Texas, but it also occupies center stage in the state's positive economic health as a hotbed for a number of industries – including technology, real estate, healthcare, and—as the state capital—local, state and federal government.

For example, Austin is often dubbed the “Silicon Hills” because of the plethora of technology companies that have chosen to make their home here. Austin counts 3M, Apple Inc., Hewlett-Packard, Google, Facebook, AMD, Applied Materials, Cirrus Logic, Cisco Systems, eBay/PayPal, VMWare, Indeed.com, Hoover's, Intel Corporation, National Instruments, Samsung Austin Semiconductor, Silicon Laboratories, Oracle Corporation, Hostgator, and United Devices among the many top companies with operations in Central Texas.

In fact, the tech companies here account for much of all tech-related revenue in Texas – second only to the Dallas/Fort Worth area. This industry diversity offers a veritable cornucopia of employment opportunities for those relocating here, with companies that have chosen to establish operations in Greater Austin for its high quality of life, plentiful housing opportunities and relatively low cost of living.

The following is a list of Austin's 25 largest employers. It includes corporations and government/municipal organizations in a range of industries, as well as a brief description of each company/ organization and its services.



Austin Independent School District

1111 West Sixth Street • Austin, 78703
512-414-1700 • www.austinisd.org

The fifth-largest school district in Texas and one of the city's largest employers, the Austin Independent School District serves approximately 80,000 students at 129 schools – in one of the fastest-growing, ever-changing metroplexes in the country. Other area school districts with significant employment opportunities include: Pflugerville ISD, Leander ISD, Hays ISD, and Round Rock ISD.



City of Austin

2006 East 4th Street • Austin, 78702
512-974-2000 • www.austintexas.gov

The City of Austin, another top large employer, runs all city and local government operations for the fourth-largest city in Texas, including city residential and business services. The City of Austin's Green Building program is one of the best in the country, having received multiple accolades for its groundbreaking environmental initiatives.



Dell, Inc.

1 Dell Way • Round Rock, 78682
512-338-4400 • www.dell.com

One of the top developers, sellers and supporters of computers and related

products and services in the world, information technology giant Dell is based in Round Rock – selling personal computers, servers, data storage devices, network switches, software, and computer peripherals.



U.S. Federal Government

The federal government has more than 10,000 employees in Austin – a large number of whom include workers for the U.S. Postal Service and the Internal Revenue Service, which operates a regional call and processing center here with about 4,500 employees.



IBM Corp.

11500 Burnet Road • Austin, 78758
512-838-0000 • www.ibm.com

The Austin location of multinational technology and consulting firm IBM, manufactures and sells computer hardware and software, as well as offers infrastructure, hosting and consulting services in areas ranging from mainframe computers to nanotechnology. IBM holds more patents than any other U.S.-based technology company and has nine research laboratories worldwide.



St. David's Healthcare Partnership

98 San Jacinto Center
Suite #1800 • Austin, 78701
512-708-9700 • www.stdavid.com

The St. David's HealthCare Partnership includes some of leading hospitals in Central Texas. Named as one of Austin's top largest employers in the Austin Business Journal's annual "Best Places to Work" listing, St. David's HealthCare has also been honored with the Texas Award for Performance Excellence. The organization also offers millions of dollars in free care each year to those patients who could not otherwise afford to pay.



State of Texas

512-463-2000 • www.texas.gov
www.gov.tx.gov

As the state capital, Austin is the undisputed hub of government activity and employment. Some of the largest state agencies include the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts; Texas Department of Transportation; Texas Department of Public Safety; Texas Water Development Board, and the Texas Department of Health. For information and to find local job leads via the Texas Workforce Commission, visit www.workintexas.com.



Seton Family of Hospitals • 512-324-1980 • www.seton.net

Part of the Ascension Health Network of nonprofit medical facilities, the Seton Family of Hospitals is a Catholic-centered organization that employs over 12,800 and is a major contributor to the Central Texas economy. Seton also provides millions of dollars in charity care for the uninsured every year.

9

University of Texas at Austin
1 University Station • Austin, 78712
512-471-3434 • www.utexas.edu

Founded in 1883, the University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin) is the largest component of The University of Texas System – a conglomerate of 16 academic and health institutions – and the largest institution of higher education in the Austin area. With more than 51,000 students (including 11,000 graduate students), and over 24,000 faculty and staff members, UT is the fifth largest public university in the United States.

10

Amazon
2093-2209 Rutland Dr. • Austin, 78758
888-280-4331 • www.amazon.jobs

Amazon delivers millions of products to hundreds of countries worldwide. Austin is home to one of more than 80 Fulfillment Centers worldwide. Not only does Amazon need talent to work in the warehousing space, but are constantly looking for new members for their team that possess a wide range of skills and expertise to help grow their company from business analysis to engineering.

11

Apple Computer, Inc.
12545 Riata Vista Circle • Austin, 78727
512-674-2000 • www.apple.com

Personal computer giant Apple, Inc. employs more than 7,000 at their Austin locations, with employees who work in sales, marketing, and customer service. A



Photo by Pixavril

massive expansion started in December 2012 and became the tech giant's new "Americas Operation Center" in 2015, with a second phase to be completed by 2021. Apple's new operations center will create approximately 3,600 jobs, more than doubling their current workforce in Austin.

12

Applied Materials
9700 Highway 290 East
Austin, 78724 • 512-272-1000
www.appliedmaterials.com

Applied Materials is a capital equipment producer serving the semiconductor, TFT LCD display, Glass, WEB and solar (crystalline and thin film) manufacturing industries. It creates and commercializes nano-manufacturing technology used in the production of semiconductor (integrated circuit) chips for electronic gear, flat panel displays for computers and television, glass coatings for homes and buildings, web (flexible substrate) coatings for industry and photovoltaic solar cells and modules using both thin film and crystalline (aka wafer or bulk) photovoltaic technology.

13

Austin Community College
5930 Middle Fiskville Rd. • Austin, 78752
512-223-4222 • www.austincc.edu

Austin Community College employs nearly 5,000 people in the Austin and surrounding area. They are the second largest institution of higher learning in Central Texas and teach students in their 11 campus and 8 centers located in and around the Austin area. Currently they have 11 campuses, 10 areas of study and over one hundred programs of study.

14

AT&T
400 W. 15th St. #1000 J • Austin, 78701
512-870-2528 • www.att.com

Headquartered in San Antonio, the AT&T/SBC merger in 2005 created one of the largest telecommunications companies in the world. It is the largest provider of fixed and mobile telephones in the United States, with more than 210 million total customers.

15

Flextronics (formerly Solectron)

12455 Research Blvd • Austin, 78759
512-425-4100 • www.flex.com

Flextronics is an electronics manufacturing services provider that offers services to original equipment manufacturers (OEM). It also provides supporting supply chain services, including packaging and transportation throughout the world, as well as design and after-sales.

16

Accenture

1501 S. Mopac, Ste. 300 • Austin, 78746
512-732-5300 • www.accenture.com

Accenture is a leader in providing their clients with services in strategy, consulting, digital, technology and operations. Accenture serves clients in more than 120 countries worldwide, and work across more than 40 different industries. Proudly, Accenture also has made 15 consecutive appearances in the Fortune’s “World’s Most Admired Companies” list.

17

National Instruments

11500 N. Mopac Expwy • Austin, 78759
512-683-0100 • www.ni.com

Headquartered in Austin, National Instruments produces automated test equipment and virtual instrumentation. Company products include software (LabVIEW, LabWindows/CVI, TestStand and Multisim), hardware (VXI, VMEbus, and PXI frames and modules; interfaces for

GPIB, I²C, and other industrial automation standards) and real-time embedded controllers (Compact FieldPoint and CompactRIO).

18

NXP Semiconductors – Samsung Austin Semiconductors

12100 Samsung Blvd
Austin, 78754 • 512-672-1000
www.nxp.com

NXP Semiconductors N.V. creates secure connectivity solutions for embedded applications, and the leader in innovative high-performance mixed-signal solutions. NXP has over 60 years of combined experience and expertise, and 30,000 employees crossing over more than 30 countries.

19

Texas State University

601 University Drive • San Marcos, 78666
512-245-2111 • www.txstate.edu

Located in San Marcos between Austin and San Antonio, Texas State University is the fifth-largest public university in the state with more than 38,600 students (including about 4,300 graduate students). The school offers 98 bachelor’s, 93 master’s, and 14 doctoral degree programs in ten colleges.

21

3M Corporation

6801 River Place Blvd. • Austin, 78726
512-984-1800 • www.3m.com

Austin, Texas is the global headquarters of the 3M Electro and Communications Business (ECB) and is the only multi-division site located outside of company headquarters in St. Paul, Minnesota. Besides 3M Center headquarters on River Place, the company also operates a plant at 11705 Research Boulevard that manufactures electronic hard goods and handles new product manufacturing to support global 3M operations.

22

Whole Foods

550 Bowie St. • Austin, 78703
512-477-4455 • wholefoodsmarket.com

In 1980 Whole Foods started with one small store in Austin, Texas and now you can find them all over the United States and internationally. Specializing in organic and natural foods, Whole Foods has its corporate headquarters in Austin, Texas and has over 400 stores throughout the world. The EPA recognized Whole Foods as the second highest purchaser of green power nationwide.

20

Travis County • 700 Lavaca, Suite 420 • Austin, 78701

512-854-4215 • www.traviscountytexas.gov

As the seat of government and resource for birth certificates, health and human services and other community services, Travis County is also among Austin’s top 10 largest public employers.



Activision Blizzard

9825 Spectrum Drive

Austin, 78717

512-485-7589

www.activisionblizzard.com

Activision Blizzard is a worldwide online, PC, console, handheld and mobile game publisher best known for its Call of Duty and Warcraft franchises, as well as Spider –Man, X-Men, James Bond and TRANSFORMERS game franchises. The company operates a call center out of its Austin offices.



Austin Energy

721 Barton Springs Road

Austin, 78704

512-494-9400

www.austinenrgy.com

Austin Energy is the public utility providing electrical power service to a 421-square mile area including Austin and parts of the surrounding area in Travis and Williamson counties. It has been owned by the City of Austin since its inception in 1893, and owns all or part of five different power plants.



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All loans subject to approval. Other fees or restrictions may apply. SouthStar Bank, NMLS# 410624.



Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. • 702 Southwest Eighth St.
Bentonville, AK 72716 • 800-331-0085 www.corporate.walmart.com

Employing approximately 5,500 employees in the Austin area, Wal-Mart Stores are the world's biggest retailer. With multiple locations in the Greater Austin area, consumers can find money-savings prices on everyday home goods, groceries, clothing, and so much more. The average Wal-Mart Supercenter is a massive 182,000 square feet and offers complimentary services such as Tire & Lube Center, Pharmacy, Vision Care Center, and Photo Center. ●

Austin's COST of LIVING

Anyone who has ever relocated to another city knows that number crunching before packing up the moving van is the first step. After all, knowing how far your paycheck can stretch once you're in your new city is an important consideration for any relocating family or individual.

If you're used to affordable housing prices, reasonable grocery bills, and inexpensive health care, you don't want to be surprised if your new city is much pricier. The good news for relocating

families is that the Austin area still ranks among one of the most affordable large metropolitan cities to live, work, play, and do business.

HOW AUSTIN MEASURES UP

When compared to cities that are similar – in terms of major industries and population, among other factors – your hard-earned dollar stretches much further here. In fact, you'll likely pay less for transportation, utilities, health care, and other

COST OF LIVING: AUSTIN BY THE NUMBERS

When it comes to overall cost of living, Austin is still an affordable place to live and work. Here's how the Austin area ranked in comparison to other major U.S. cities (2019 1st Quarter).

City	Composite 100%	Grocery 13.40%	Housing 29.34%	Utilities 8.94%	Transportation 9.22%	Healthcare 4.26%	Misc. 34.84%
Atlanta	102.3	101.8	104.2	85.7	100.6	107	105.1
Austin	99.5	89.7	103.1	95.6	91.2	106.2	102.6
Boston	153.5	110.5	227.2	119.6	121.4	117	129.6
Chicago	120	96.8	150.9	93.6	128	100.9	109.8
Cleveland	95.7	106.4	81.7	96.9	92.3	104.2	103
Dallas/Fort Worth	106.7	101.9	112.8	107.9	93.5	105.2	106.7
Denver	111.1	98.6	137	83.6	102	102.6	104.5
New York (Manhattan)	238.4	139.7	487.6	123	142.2	111.9	136.9
Phoenix	97.4	97	96	109.2	113.2	92.9	92
Raleigh	94.5	90.8	85	96.3	97.7	101.3	101.7
San Francisco	200.1	135.6	359.4	122.2	150	130.5	132.4
Seattle	159.4	128.6	225.7	107.9	143.6	130	136.4
Tucson	96.7	98.8	87	98.6	109.9	99.3	99.8

Statistics Source: ACCRA

critical goods and services like groceries (Texas doesn't tax unprepared food items) and housing – and we've got the stats to prove it.

ACCRA is a national organization dedicated to economic development and policy research, and it publishes an annual Cost of Living Index that ranks a range of living expenses in major cities. The index measures differences between areas in the cost of consumer goods and services, minus taxes and non-consumer expenditures.

It also measures relative price levels for consumer goods and services in participating areas. The average for a participating place—both metropolitan and non-metro—is 100, and each city's index is read as a percentage of the average for all places. See the chart on the opposite page to see how Austin ranks against other large metro areas, and you'll see that it's much less expensive, in just about every category measured, to hang your hat right here.

For example, when comparing the ACCRA Cost of Living Index for the last several years, housing in the Austin, Texas area has consistently been one of the most affordable metropolitan markets in the U.S. With an average 2019 composite score of 99.5, the Austin area is right at the U.S. average of 100.

Whether you're thinking about moving here, or have just made the move, it's easy to see that the Austin area is a thriving community that measures up not only with its quality of life – but also with its affordability. And that's good news from any perspective. ●

FROM ONE PAYCHECK TO THE NEXT

Want to know how living in the Austin area compares to other cities? Assuming a \$60,000 salary in the city you're moving from and that you'd own a house here, we used a salary/cost of living calculator to help figure out the rest.

If you made \$60,000 in Phoenix, for example, your salary could decrease to \$58,275 in Austin – and you'd still maintain the same standard of living. See the table below for the results from a sampling of other cities.

Moving From Here...	You'd Need to Make...
Phoenix	\$58,729
Detroit	\$58,200
San Francisco	\$28,855
Boston	\$38,492
Denver	\$52,527
Miami	\$50,830
Pittsburgh	\$56,505
Houston	\$61,587
Dallas	\$54,802
Seattle	\$37,284
Philadelphia	\$52,813
Atlanta	\$57,453
Baton Rouge	\$58,669
New York City	\$24,000
Los Angeles	\$39,646
Chicago	\$48,460
Las Vegas	\$54,040
Portland	\$43,433
St. Louis	\$66,590
Raleigh	\$62,379
Cincinnati	\$63,124



FORMING
CHILDREN IN

*Wisdom
&
Holiness*

With 20 Catholic
Schools in Central
Texas



NOW ENROLLING | Early Childhood-12th

**ELEMENTARY &
MIDDLE SCHOOLS**

Cathedral School of Saint Mary
Holy Family Catholic School
St. Austin Catholic School
St. Gabriel's Catholic School
St. Helen Catholic School, Georgetown

St. Ignatius Martyr Catholic School
St. Louis Catholic School
St. Mary's Catholic School, Taylor
St. Theresa's Catholic School
Santa Cruz Catholic School, Buda

HIGH SCHOOLS

St. Dominic Savio Catholic High School
St. Michael's Catholic Academy
San Juan Diego Catholic High School

TO LEARN MORE VISIT WWW.CSDATX.ORG

EDUCATION in AUSTIN

Education has always been a central concern for Austin residents, but that could be because the city's such an educated town. With scores of national accolades and strong community support, Austin's a win-win proposition for education.

in this section

- public schools
- private schools
- childcare
- special needs
- higher education

Forbes has designated Austin as one of the U.S.'s biggest "brain magnet" cities – the result of the magazine's analysis of the 50 largest metropolitan areas and ranking them by gains in those with college educations compared to the population over 25 years of age.

Austin was one of the top cities with gains, scoring high marks all around. Approximately 49 percent of Austinites 25 years of age or older have a bachelor's degree or higher. *Intelligent Community Forum* named Austin the number one Top Intelligent Community, and *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* included UT Austin on its list as one of the "best values in public education."

We've also been recognized as one of the country's "top five intellectual capitals," and we've been ranked among the top five cities in *Forbes* annual "Best Place for Business and Careers" listing for the last several years, in part because of a highly educated workforce.

GROWTH, EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

It's not surprising that the city's growth in recent years has had a considerable impact on education. School districts have doubled in size to accommodate more students, with residents consistently approving bond packages in Austin and surrounding communities to renovate and build new schools.

The business community is also committed to education, with alliances like Austin Partners in Education (www.austinpartners.org) – a collaboration between the Austin Independent School District and the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce in which business community partners are matched with schools or districts, providing volunteer services, in-kind contributions, or cash donations. A nonprofit organization, the group offers schools support with technology and other necessary resources.

Other partnerships include the Skillpoint Alliance (www.skillpointalliance.org) – a program that promotes workforce development in such in-demand industries

“Austin is also tops for higher education – and area schools are just one of the reasons many people move here and decide to stay well past graduation.”

as technology (especially semiconductor, information technology and digital media); healthcare; and construction.

AUSTIN RANKS HIGH ON QUALITY OF LIFE, EDUCATION

No matter where you're moving, or even whether or not you have children in school, education is an important consideration for anyone contemplating relocation. After all, the quality of education in a community affects everything from resale value to neighborhood schools.

One of the many reasons people are drawn to Austin is that it's a vibrant place to be. *Money* magazine has consistently named Austin among its "Top 10 Best Big Cities" in its annual Best Places to Live ranking, which is based on family income, home price, schools and job growth. And, the Worldwide Employee Relocation Council and Primacy Relocation, LLC, have each ranked Austin tops in surveys of the country's best large markets for relocating families – and one of the factors is great schools.

Austin schools such as the Liberal Arts and Science Academy and KIPP Austin Collegiate are repeatedly noted as being one of the top 100 schools in the nation. Other area schools ranking high on the list include: Westwood High School, Westlake High School, Harmony Science Academy, Vandergrift High School and Dripping Springs High School.

Austin is also tops for higher education – and area schools are just one of the reasons many people move here and decide to stay well past graduation. The American Institute for Economics Research has named Austin its number two "mid-size

metro college destination." Rankings are based on three categories: academic environment, quality of life, and professional opportunities. Each addresses the larger learning environment according to objective criteria.

The University of Texas' business, law and engineering schools have also been recognized among the "top 10 schools for Hispanics" by *Hispanic Business* magazine, and the school's Executive MBA program has been named the 12th best by the *Wall Street Journal*. The University of Texas is also ranked top 10 in more than 49 areas for the best graduate school, according to *U.S. News & World Report*.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

No matter what your education needs – public, private, charter, higher education or trade schools – there are a wealth of options for those who choose to make Austin their home. The Austin area has 29 public school districts in the surrounding five-county Central Texas MSA, which include Travis, Williamson, Hays, Bastrop and Caldwell counties. The area also offers more than 100 private schools that serve students from kindergarten through 12th grade; plus 35 charter schools, 8 top-ranked colleges and universities – including the more than 51,000-student University of Texas, St. Edward's University, Huston-Tillotson University, Southwestern University, Texas State University and others; and numerous trade and specialty schools.

We've included a list of the Austin area's largest school districts, largest private schools, a roundup of area colleges and universities, and a listing of top area trade, technical and specialty schools as well. Welcome to Austin! ●

ACADEMICS IN TEXAS

Austin's ongoing and steady growth has an impact on education, with public school districts that boast strong reputations for both academic and extracurricular programs, and whose students consistently score high on state-mandated assessment tests and college entrance exams.



STANDARDIZED TESTING

In the state of Texas, student educational skills are assessed via state tests for general education, special education, and bilingual/English as a Second Language programs to help them reach their full academic potential. The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR™) test replaced the long-standing Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) test in the last few years. The STAAR program, which began in spring 2012, assesses students entering ninth grade with end-of-course (EOC) assessments, including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English I, English II, English III, World Geography, World History, and U.S. History.

According to information from the Texas Education Agency (TEA), the new STAAR program is more rigorous than previous state tests, with more test questions at most grade levels. The new STAAR assessments test on material students have studied that year. The STAAR tests also have time limits; unless students are eligible for an accommodation, they will have four hours to complete each STAAR assessment.



Accommodations for eligible students under the new testing curriculum include the STAAR Modified, which covers the same content as the general STAAR but uses a modified format and test design (such as fewer answer choices and simpler sentence structure and vocabulary), and the STAAR Alternate, which is available for students with significant cognitive disabilities.

Students enrolled at private schools don't take the STAAR test. In most cases, private schools set their own admission and graduation requirements; check with the admissions office at each school for more information on specific requirements.

TEXAS EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT TESTS - STAAR™

For those new to the area and to the state, understanding the state educational testing system can be a bit overwhelming. In the state of Texas, all children are tested with the STAAR exam.

The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) system is focused on “increasing post-secondary readiness of graduating high school students” and “helping to ensure that Texas students are competitive with other students – both nationally and internationally.”

Students are tested during their public school career in core subject areas including reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies. The number of tests taken each year will vary from two to four, depending on the grade level.

The STAAR tests for elementary school is comprised of mathematics and reading in grades 3, 4 and 5. The middle school test covers mathematics and reading in grade 6; mathematics, reading and writing in grade 7 and mathematics, reading, social studies and science in grade 8. In high school, students are tested with end-of-course (EOC) requirements for graduation that include: Algebra 1, biology, English 1, English 2 and US History.

More information on the STAAR can be found at the Texas Education Agency (TEA) website; for more detailed information and

any questions, contact TEA's Student Assessment Division at 512-463-9536, or student.assessment@tea.state.tx.us.

UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL PERFORMANCE RATINGS

The Texas Education Agency does not rank schools based on performance; rather, it assigns each school an accountability rating that takes performance into consideration.

The Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) collects data to rank Texas schools and districts according to a specific set of criteria. The system classifies districts and schools as Met Standard, Met Alternative Standard, or Improvement Required (see sidebar on What You Need to Know – School Performance Ratings for more information).

Reports are released each fall (see the Public School District listing in this section for a brief synopsis of each Austin-area school district's AEIS report). The reports include information on how the school, or the district, performed on various standardized tests, such as the SAT, ACT and other performance indicators including: new STAAR cumulative passing rates, attendance rates, annual dropout rates and college readiness indicators (completion of advanced/dual enrollment courses and participation and Performance on Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Examinations, among others).

Performance on each of these indicators is also shown disaggregated by ethnicity, sex, special education, low-income status, limited English proficient status, at-risk status, and by bilingual/ESL for the district, region and state. The reports also provide extensive information on school and district staff, finances, programs, and student demographics.

Parents can tailor searches by district, county, region, state and more. In all, the reports are a good resource for parents when learning about the schools their children will attend. Access school and district AEIS reports via the Texas Education Agency website at www.tea.state.tx.us in the Testing/Accountability section of the site. ●

AUSTIN-AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS

SCHOOL DISTRICT	COUNTY	PHONE	WEBSITE	ENROLLMENT	AVG TEACHER SALARY
Austin ISD	Travis	512-414-1700	www.austinisd.org	81,346	52,397
Bastrop ISD	Bastrop	512-772-7100	www.bisdtx.org	10,863	50,436
Blanco ISD	Blanco	830-833-4437	www.blancoisd.com	1,028	51,153
Burnet Consolidated ISD	Burnet	512-756-2124	www.burnetcisd.net	3,193	49,430
Coupland ISD	Williamson	512-856-2422	www.couplandisd.org	165	43,851
Del Valle ("Dell Valley") ISD	Travis	512-386-3000	www.dvisd.net	11,169	51,214
Dripping Springs ISD	Hays	512-858-3000	www.dsisdtx.us	6,430	50,142
Eanes ISD	Travis	512-732-9000	www.eanesisd.net	8,055	51,974
Elgin ISD	Bastrop	512-281-9774	www.elginisd.net	4,307	49,477
Florence ISD	Williamson	254-793-2850	www.florenceisd.net	1,046	46,220
Georgetown ISD	Williamson	512-943-5000	www.georgetownisd.org	11,508	50,501
Granger ISD	Williamson	512-859-2173	www.grangerisd.net	447	45,383
Hays Consolidated ISD	Hays	512-268-2141	www.hayscisd.net	19,788	51,412
Hutto ISD	Williamson	512-759-3771	www.hipponation.org	7,218	50,021
Jarrell ISD	Williamson	512-746-2124	www.jarrellisd.org	1,698	49,996
Lago Vista ISD	Travis	512-267-8300	www.lagovistaisd.net	1,472	47,907
Lake Travis ISD	Travis	512-533-6000	www.ltidschools.org	10,382	51,601
Leander ISD	Williamson	512-570-0000	www.leanderisd.org	38,936	51,567
Liberty Hill ISD	Williamson	512-260-5580	www.libertyhill.txed.net	4,013	47,430
Lockhart ISD	Caldwell	512-398-0000	www.lockhartisd.org	5,901	50,841
Luling ISD	Caldwell	830-875-3191	www.luling.txed.net	1,427	44,968
Manor ISD	Travis	512-278-4000	www.manorisd.net	9,061	49,081
McDade ISD	Bastrop	512-273-2522	www.mcdadeisd.net	324	43,708
Pflugerville ISD	Travis	512-594-0000	www.pflugervilleisd.net	25,269	50,725
Prairie Lea ISD	Caldwell	512-488-2370	www.plisd.net	199	45,359
Round Rock ISD	Williamson	512-464-5000	www.roundrockisd.org	48,919	51,493
San Marcos Consolidated ISD	Hays	512-393-6744	www.smcisd.net	8,167	50,862
Smithville ISD	Bastrop	512-237-2487	www.smithvilleisd.org	1,781	47,780
Taylor ISD	Williamson	512-365-1391	www.taylorisd.org	3,190	47,305
Thrall ISD	Williamson	512-898-0062	www.thrallisd.net	696	46,974
Wimberley	Hays	512-847-2414	www.wimberleyisd.net	2,437	50,179

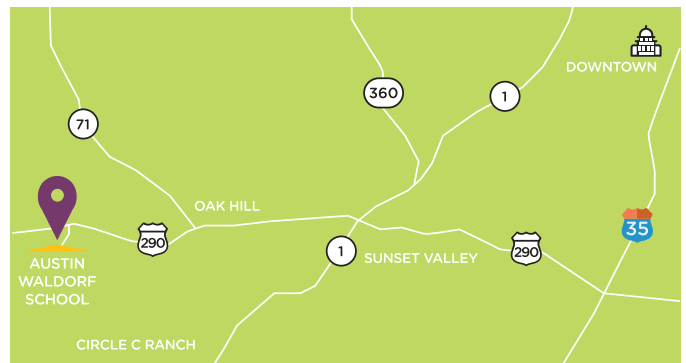
source: tea.texas.gov



Nestled on 27 acres in the beautiful hill country of central Texas and celebrating 40 years of educational excellence, the Austin Waldorf School provides a unique education to students in kindergarten through twelfth grade. The school is accredited through the Association of Waldorf Schools of North America (AWSNA), the Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS), and the National Council of Private School Accreditation (NCPSA).

The curriculum is designed to meet each stage of a student's development from early childhood, through adolescence, into young adulthood. The programs demonstrate a continued commitment to providing a well-rounded educational experience integrating academic, artistic, and practical disciplines. The Austin Waldorf School cultivates a love of learning, creative thinking, a sympathetic interest in the world, self-confidence, and an abiding moral purpose.

In addition to a rich academic curriculum, the students are taught two foreign languages, vocal and instrumental music, handwork, woodwork, blacksmithing, fine arts, drama, and sports and games from around the world.



At the center of the school experience is the relationship of the individual to the greater community. While this is cultivated differently at different ages, it is an important part of being a student here and of being a citizen of the world. The students participate in community service and work experience programs all geared to foster a sense of responsibility and empowerment in effecting change in society as a whole or simply in the life of a single person. Such meaningful engagement with people is one of the many extraordinary elements of being an Austin Waldorf School student.

The faculty is dedicated to excellence and artistry in education and many of the teachers have decades of professional experience in their fields. The parent body is stalwart and generous, and the community life is filled with student performances, festivals, and a vibrant parent society.

To learn more about the school visit the website at www.austinwaldorf.org.

DISCOVER THE WALDORF DIFFERENCE



Kindergarten through High School

Make a reservation to attend a Visitor Morning

www.austinwaldorf.org



AUSTIN WALDORF SCHOOL

Celebrating Educational Excellence for 40 Years



PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Austin prides itself on its great educational opportunities. Educational opportunities are a vital consideration for many people relocating to a new city. The emphasis on quality education has translated into a wealth of choices for private and parochial schools – offering more options for parents and children – and Austin is no exception.

According to U.S. Department of Education statistics, private schools have slowly become a more popular alternative – even in the face of recession and curbed spending. Recent figures from a National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) survey found that while enrollment dipped less than 1 percent nationally, it's still higher than it was five years ago.

The Council for American Private Education estimates that nearly 6 million students attend the country's 33,000+ private schools – about 11 percent of all American elementary and high school students. These private schools run the gamut – from elite preparatory academies that cost more than \$20,000 annually to less pricey parochial schools where tuition is often offset by generous donations.

Given the city's accolades as an educated community with lots of brainpower, it's not surprising that there are more than 300 private schools in Austin and in surrounding

Central Texas communities, with enrollment that ranges from pre-K through 12th grade.

The total enrollment for all private schools in the area is more than 11,000, and student tuition ranges from \$300 per month to \$18,000 per school year.

The following is a list of the 25 largest private schools in the Austin area – including the most recent enrollment figures, grades served, address, contact information and website, where available. We've also included a general sample of other private schools in the area to give you an idea of the depth and variety the Austin area offers for private education.

For a more comprehensive listing of other area private schools and more detailed information about each school – including tuition, admissions requirements, maps, reviews, and the ability to search by price, location, and more – please refer to the Local Private School Resources list.

AUSTIN AREA PRIVATE SCHOOLS

AHB Community School

4001 Speedway, Austin 78751
512-299-5487; www.ahbcs.org

AHB Community School is a unique K-8 school located in Central Austin that offers an alternative learning structure. This part-time school offers a school-week of 15-20 hours by providing a low 11:1 student-teacher ratio and by customizing the learning technique to each student's needs. After school programs are available to allow a convenient schedule for working parents. Gifted students tend to thrive with ABH's flexible learning style, and many students graduating from AHB go on to attend some of the best high schools throughout Austin. *Ages 5-14*

All Saints' Episcopal Day School

209 W. 27th Street. 78705 (adjacent to UT)
512-472-8866; www.allsaintseds.org

All Saints' Episcopal Day School is a private, accredited preschool for children ages 2

Strong Minds. Healthy Hearts. Full Spirits.

All Saints' Episcopal Day School:



- Accredited preschool for students ages 2 through kindergarten
- Encourages students to question, experiment, reason and think
- Promotes self-expression through creative activities
- Supports a variety of learning styles and neurodiversity
- Fosters a culture of open-mindedness, compassion and inclusiveness
- Respects individual differences
- Community service participation
- Before and after school programs



www.allsaintseds.org

allsaintseds@gmail.com • 512-472-8866 • 209 West 27th Street (North Edge of UT Campus)

All Saints' does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sexual orientation, religion, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its admission and education policies, financial assistance programs, employment practices, and other school-administered programs.



Photo courtesy of Austin International School



Photo courtesy of All Saints' Episcopal Day School

through kindergarten. This award-winning school is known for its array of academic and enrichment programs, a strong and adaptable play-based curriculum, a caring and committed faculty and a welcoming and supportive school community. Library time, outdoor play, music, the visual arts, social-emotional learning, community service projects, Spanish and Chapel are included in the instructional day. *Ages 2-K*

Austin International School

4001 Adelphi Lane, Austin 78727
512-331-7806; www.austinis.org

Provides students with an ability to thrive in diversity and develop efficient strategies to be effective global citizens and leaders for the future. The rigorous curriculum is delivered seamlessly in English, Spanish and French while incorporating innovative instruction and high standards across all academic areas. *Grades PreK-8th*

Austin Montessori School

Main campus: 5006 Sunset Trail
Austin 78745; 512-892-0253
Great Northern campus:
6817 & 6819 Great Northern Blvd.
Austin 78757; 512-892-0253
Adolescent community:
5677 Oak Blvd.; Austin 78735
www.austinmontessori.org

Established in 1967, Austin Montessori School provides an integrated, inclusive, highly personalized educational environment for children from 18 months to 15 years old. Individual classes are specially designed to meet the developmental needs of the age range they serve. Austin Montessori School is the oldest and largest Austin area school recognized by Association Montessori International (AMI). *Ages 18 months-15 years*

Austin Waldorf School

8700 South View Road, Austin 78737
512-288-5942; www.austinwaldorf.org

The world's fastest growing independent school, Austin Waldorf School is committed to excellence in teaching as well as the cultivation of a healthy social life in the school's community. Waldorf graduates meet new challenges with creativity, empathy, and adaptability. These students exhibit the courage to take intellectual risks and the moral and social compass to live as global citizens. *Grades PreK-12*

Brentwood Christian School

11908 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin 78753
512-835-5983; www.brentwoodchristian.org

Founded in 1963, Brentwood Christian School has grown to be one of the largest private schools in Austin offering a Christ-centered education through a rich experience

from college preparatory academics to Fine Arts and sports. *K-12th grades*

The Capitol School of Austin

2011 W. Koenig Lane, Austin 78756
512-467-7006; www.capitalschool.com

The Capitol School of Austin is the area's only private school dedicated to serving children with learning differences that are primarily language based. The school's dedicated staff of speech pathologists and highly qualified master's level teachers specializing in speech pathology assures that each child will receive individual attention aimed at his or her unique needs. *Grades PreK-4*

Cathedral School of St. Mary

910 San Jacinto Blvd., Austin 78701
512-476-1480; www.smcschoolaustin.org

The elementary/middle school of Saint Mary Cathedral Catholic church, the Cathedral School of Saint Mary "enriches students spiritually, academically and socially by fostering a diverse community through, with and in the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Christian educators and parents, share the privilege and responsibility of facilitating the growth of the whole child. Through a religious and academic program, the spiritual, intellectual, | CONTINUED PAGE 50 >

AI CORE VALUES

AN EDUCATION AT AIS FOSTERS:

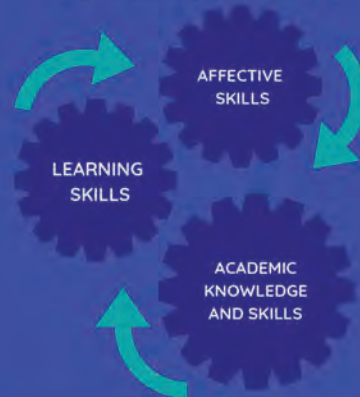
- CREATIVITY
- MUTUAL RESPECT
- INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION
- INDEPENDENCE
- CRITICAL THINKING
- PERSONAL BALANCE
- GENEROSITY OF HEART
- CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY
- AUTONOMY
- ADVENTUROUSNESS

ACCREDITATION

Austin International School's academic program is fully accredited (*homologu *) by the French Ministry of Education. Our early childhood program is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). We have begun the accreditation process from the Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS).



A WELL ROUNDED EDUCATION



AI CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK



AI HABITS OF LEARNING

AT AIS, STUDENTS FOCUS ON FIVE ESSENTIAL SKILLS:
THINKING SKILLS
COMMUNICATION SKILLS
SOCIAL SKILLS
SELF-MANAGEMENT SKILLS
RESEARCH SKILLS



PROJECT-BASED LEARNING AND S.T.E.A.M.



SCIENCE
TECHNOLOGY
ENGINEERING
ARTS
MATH

SEAMLESS INSTRUCTION

AIS's unique seamless curriculum combines the best of the French, American, and international education systems.

Instructional units are designed through the highly collaborative efforts of grade level teams.

Instructional units contain the following essential components:

- BIG IDEA
- ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS
- CURRICULAR CONNECTIONS
- ASSESSMENTS
- CONTENT
- SKILLS
- LEARNING ENGAGEMENT
- RESOURCES
- TECH INTEGRATION
- LINKS TO HABITS OF LEARNING
- LINKS TO AIS CORE VALUES

OUR VISION

We develop global citizens with strong interpersonal skills who will interact positively with people from all cultural backgrounds and adapt to ever-changing international conditions.

OUR MISSION

Through a rigorous, immersive, trilingual curriculum delivered in French, English, and Spanish, we develop our students' critical thinking skills and pique their intellectual curiosity, preparing them for personal and academic success at AIS and beyond. We inspire all our students to become independent thinkers and to develop their confidence by expanding minds and broadening perspectives.

4001 ADELPHI LANE
AUSTIN, TX 78727
512-331-7806
www.austinis.org

TRILINGUAL IMMERSION IN FRENCH, SPANISH, & ENGLISH

MULTILINGUAL COMPETENCY
INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING
RIGOROUS ACADEMICS



PRE-K THROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL

SMALL CLASS SIZES
LOW STUDENT TEACHER RATIOS
INDIVIDUALIZED INSTRUCTION



BRENTWOOD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Academic Excellence is the Standard not the Exception

Brentwood Christian School is a multi-facility campus with three distinct schools - elementary, middle and high school. However, even though it has an extensive campus, the shared campus affords a vertical education model that informs and directs the BCS Curriculum Road Map.

BCS has a 100% College acceptance rate with the average scholarship awarded per student in excess of \$32,000.

Brentwood Christian School students are the reigning State Academic Champions. In fact, this past school year the BCS Bears made Texas private school history by sweeping the academic meets for high school and middle school. Brentwood is also home to the 2019 NCSA National Educator of the Year and the University of Texas UTeach Outstanding Cooperating Teacher of the Year. These incredible academic achievements are made while also learning that Christ is the purpose of learning, values, manners and decency matters.

A Big Campus and Wonderful Community

Brentwood Christian Schools campus sits on 44 beautiful acres in North Austin. They are close to shopping, great neighborhoods, and many major tech companies such as Samsung, Facebook, and GM - just to name a few. The Brentwood Christian campus has a total of seven buildings which include lower and upper elementary schools, middle school, and high school as well as a Center for Science and the Arts, two athletic centers, and a chapel.

The school has an incredible community of parents, grandparents, teachers, alumni, and students and these relationships are nurtured through community events. Throughout the year

there are athletic games, fine arts events, festivals, concerts and so much more. The community surrounding the campus even believes that Brentwood Christian School is the best in Austin and voted them as the "Favorite Private School in Austin" during the 2019 Austin Family Magazine's Readers Poll of Favorites.

Athletics & Fine Arts Create a Well-Rounded Education

Students who participate in organized athletic programs experience many benefits that extend far past the field or court. Over 80% of the students participate on an athletic team. The athletic programs include football, volleyball, cross country, basketball, soccer, softball, baseball, golf, track, cheer, and drill team.

Brentwood Christian School values fine arts and provides one of the top performing fine arts programs in the state. Lower elementary students take art, choir and learn ukulele. The 4th grade students take art, choir and learn the recorder. Starting in 5th grade students may choose between band, choir, and art. Starting in 6th grade students also have the option to take theater. Every year the entire Fine Arts department and the students work together on a Fall Musical.

As anyone could see, Brentwood Christian School strives for excellence in all they do. Their students are given an academically superior, well-rounded education that fully prepares them for life beyond the Brentwood Christian campus. They also realize that creating an environment of support is vital to the success of its students. Call the Brentwood Christian School admission office at 512-835-5983 ext. 117 or schedule a tour and see why so many families say yes to Brentwood Christian School. ●



BRENTWOOD
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IS THE STANDARD NOT THE EXCEPTION



ONE CAMPUS, ONE COMMUNITY, ONE PURPOSE

Brentwood Christian School is a multi-facility campus with three distinct schools - elementary, middle and high school. However, even though it has an extensive campus, the shared campus affords a vertical education model that informs and directs the BCS Curriculum Road Map.

- Brentwood Christian School students are the reigning State Academic Champions!
- Brentwood is also home to the 2019 NCSA National Educator of the Year and the University of Texas UTeach Outstanding Cooperating Teacher of the Year.
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CALL THE BCS ADMISSION OFFICE AT (512) 835-5983 AND SCHEDULE A TOUR AND SEE WHY SO MANY FAMILIES SAY YES TO BCS!

www.BRENTWOODCHRISTIAN.org

“Austin prides itself on its great educational opportunities. Educational opportunities are a vital consideration for many people relocating...”

social, and physical abilities are developed in every student. The Cathedral School of Saint Mary is accredited by the Texas Catholic Education Department and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. All faiths are welcome. *Grades: PreK-8*

Challenger School

Avery Ranch Campus:

15101 Avery Ranch Blvd, Austin 78717

512-341-8000; *Grades Pre-7*

Round Rock Campus:

1521 Joyce Lane, Round Rock 78664

512-255-8844; *Grades Pre-K*

Spicewood Springs Campus:

13015 Pond Springs Road, Austin 78729

512-258-1299; *Grades Pre-K*

www.challengerschool.com

Challenger School is a non-profit, non-sectarian, independent, private school founded in 1963. It has 25 campuses in California, Idaho, Nevada, Texas, and Utah, and teaches over 10,000 students annually. Challenger offers preschool through eighth grade programs and, in addition to its academic foundation, emphasizes individual liberty as described in America's founding documents. Challenger accepts no government monies and is headquartered in Sandy, Utah.

The Fellowship Christian Academy

3379 Gattis School Road

Round Rock 78664; 512-255-5265

www.fellowshipacademy.org

A “Christ-centered educational experience” that meets individual needs of each child to help children grow physically, academically, emotionally and spiritually. The school “strives to offer excellent programs to promote Christian principles and support for children and their families in our community.” *Ages 13 months-5 years*

Girls' School of Austin

2007 McCall Road, Austin 78730

512-478-7827; www.thegirlsschool.org

This all-girls school with special emphasis on math, science and technology also offers a liberal arts program that includes visual and performing arts (classes in music and drama), and Spanish beginning in Kindergarten, with “girl-centric classrooms that make it easier for students to focus on academics in a community of like-minded peers.” *Grades K-8*

The Griffin School

5001 Evans Ave., Austin 78751

512-454-5797; www.griffinschool.org

Griffin School provides students with a balance between a rigorous college preparatory academic program and a vibrant, creative and supportive school community. Interactive classes are capped at fifteen students and academic programming fosters artistic expression, critical thinking, and genuine involvement in the school and Austin community. Griffin offers Advanced Placement courses across all disciplines, a broad array of fine arts classes and a competitive sports program. *Grades 9-12*

Headwaters School

Early Childhood Campus:

6305 Manchaca Road, Austin 78745

Elementary Campus:

9607 Brodie Lane, Austin 78748

Middle and High School Campus:

801 Rio Grande Street, Austin 78701

512-480-8142; headwaters.org

Headwaters School is an independent school serving students from early childhood through grade 12. At Headwaters School, they guide students to become Peacemakers, Advocates, Creators, and Thinkers. They believe student agency is essential for

authentic learning. Their educators, called Guides, create a learning environment where real inquiry and discovery flourish. Headwaters promotes collaboration and communication, depth over breadth and genuine engagement. Beginning with a Montessori foundation and progressing to the International Baccalaureate® Diploma Programme, Headwaters School designs vibrant learning environments across their three campuses.

Hill Country Christian School

12124 Ranch Rd 620 North

Austin 78750; 512-331-7036

www.hillcountrychristianschool.org

Hill Country Christian School is a Christ-centered community, a private school for PreK through 12th grades, offering a Christian, Classical, college-preparatory education. Hill Country Christian School wants to inspire and equip college-bound students to become lifelong learners, effective communicators, and servant-leaders who impact the world with the life-changing reality of Jesus Christ. *Grades PreK - 12*

Holy Family Catholic School

9400 Neenah Avenue, Austin 78717

512-246-4455; www.holyfamilycs.org

Holy Family Catholic School is a regional school that works with parents to nurture the growth of the whole child - spiritually, intellectually, socially, emotionally and physically. Holy Family received the "No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Award", given by the U.S. Department of Education. The award means that at the very least, our test scores place us in the top 10 percent of all schools in the nation. The school is promoting the teachings of the Church and inclusive of diverse cultures and socioeconomic backgrounds. *Grades PreK-8*



Unmatched Academic Results

Come tour a campus and see for yourself!

Avery Ranch (PS–8) (512) 341-8000
15101 Avery Ranch Boulevard, Austin

Round Rock (PS–K) (512) 255-8844
1521 Joyce Lane, Round Rock

Spicewood Springs (PS–K) (512) 258-1299
13015 Pond Springs Road, Austin



An independent private school offering preschool through eighth grade

© 2020, Challenger Schools
Challenger School admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin.



Headwaters™ SCHOOL



At Headwaters, we invite our students, guides, staff, parents, and trustees to be Peacemakers, Advocates, Creators, and Thinkers. We call our educators Guides because we believe that, ultimately, the education is the student's, and the guide's job is to point students in the right direction, challenge assumptions, and create an environment where real inquiry and discovery can happen. We believe that student agency is essential for authentic learning. We promote collaboration and communication, depth over breadth, and genuine engagement. In all of our classrooms, you will find inspired and inspiring guides, focused on scaffolding the learning process to help students prepare for a lifetime of learning.

The Montessori curriculum in our Early Childhood and Elementary programs is the foundation that leads to our International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma Programme in our High School, and sets us apart from every other school in Austin. Both Montessori and IB share a dedication to growing compassionate internationally minded citizens who are self-directed, lifelong learners.

Our downtown middle and high school campus is located on a tree-lined block in the heart of downtown Austin. In different courses and across different ages, we are using the city as our classroom. We are blocks from the State Capitol, City Hall, Central Library, Shoal Creek, Waller Creek, Lake Austin, and the business district. Our vision is an upper school program that is deeply integrated with civic, tech, environmental, and service opportunities for our students beyond the walls of our schools.

To learn more about Headwaters School, please visit our website at [headwaters.org](https://www.headwaters.org)

We look forward to speaking with you!





Peacemakers



Advocates



Creators



Thinkers



Headwaters[™] SCHOOL

Headwaters School is an independent school in Austin, Texas serving 535 students from early childhood through grade 12. We begin with a Montessori foundation and progress to the International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma Programme.

Founded in 2001, we design vibrant learning environments across our three campuses:

- **Springs Campus (Early Childhood)**
in South Austin at 6305 Manchaca Road
- **Creek Campus (Elementary)**
in Southwest Austin at 9607 Brodie Lane
- **River Campus (Middle and High School)**
in Downtown Austin at 807 Rio Grande Street

Shuttle service offered between Creek and River Campuses.

Learn more at headwaters.org.

Hyde Park Baptist School

Elementary and Middle School (Central Campus)
 3901 Speedway, Austin 78751
 512-465-8338
 High School (Quarries Campus)
 11400 North Mopac Speedway
 Austin 78759; 512-465-8333
 www.hp-schools.org

Hyde Park Schools is a private Christian school system offering an excellent, Christ-centered, college preparatory 4K through 12th grade education at multiple campuses in Austin, Texas. The school mission is to offer a Christ-centered foundation of biblical truth integrated in strong college-preparatory academics and well-rounded extracurricular programs. Hyde Park Schools does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, creed, and color, national or ethnic origin in administration of its education policies, scholarship, athletic, or other school-administered programs. In keeping with its heritage of academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment, over 99% of all Hyde Park graduates go on to higher education. *Grades 4K-12*

International School of Texas

4402 Hudson Bend Road, Austin 78734
 512-351-3403; www.istexas.org

International School of Texas is a non-profit, independent private school serving the areas of Bee Cave, Lakeway, Steiner Ranch, Four Points, River Place, Westlake and the surrounding communities. The school's mission is to provide students with rigorous academics while growing global citizens and global leaders. This is accomplished through the integration of the International Baccalaureate Program and a high quality,

unique, international curriculum including the renowned British National Curriculum and Singapore math. A special emphasis is placed on both Spanish and Mandarin world languages. A healthy eating program with lunch is provided daily. *Age 2-Middle School. Also offers 3 day and 1/2 day option for Early Childhood.*

Khabele

Rio Grande Campus: 801 Rio Grande Street
 Austin 78701; 512-480-8142
Primavera Campus: 6305 Manchaca Rd.
 Austin 78745; 512-443-8843
Brodie Campus: 9607 Brodie Lane
 Austin, TX 78748; 512-804-2708
 www.khabele.org

Founded in 2001, the Khabele School is an independent, coeducational day school. The Khabele School provides exceptional academics as well as a well-rounded educational experience, including the study of the arts, music, foreign language, and physical education. Khabele highschool now offers the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. *Grades PreK-12*

Rawson-Saunders School

2614 Exposition Blvd., Austin 78703
 512-476-8382; www.rawsonsaunders.org

Rawson-Saunders School is the only full-curriculum school in Central Texas specifically for students with dyslexia and related language-based learning disorders. The school is dedicated to excellence in education through which bright learners with dyslexia can develop to their fullest intellectual, emotional and social potential. *Grades 1-8*

Redeemer Lutheran School

1500 West Anderson Lane, Austin 78757
 512-451-6478; www.redeemerschool.net

Since 1954, The Redeemer Lutheran School has been part of the Austin community, Serving 500 students from 2 years through 8th grade in central Austin. The mission of Redeemer Lutheran Preschool and School is to provide a quality education while developing and nurturing the whole child (Spiritually, Intellectually, Physically, Emotionally, and Socially) in a Christ-centered environment. The students and parents enjoy RLS as a caring environment that often has alumni bringing their children to the same place they enjoyed as students themselves. Some families have their third generation attending Redeemer Lutheran School. *Grades K-8*

Regents School of Austin

3230 Travis Country Circle, Austin 78735
 512-899-8095; www.regentsaustin.org

Regents opened its doors in August 1992. A Classical Christian School serving K-12 on one 82-acre campus in Austin, Texas. Academically challenging and spiritually enriching students. Athletics and fine arts programs, laser lab and science & nature center. Regents School has become well-recognized by peers for outstanding accomplishments in teaching, curriculum, students' achievement, parental involvement, and community support. *Grades K-12*

Round Rock Christian Academy

301 N. Lake Creek Drive, Round Rock 78681
 512-255-4491; www.rrca-tx.org

Established in 1975, Round Rock Christian Academy is a Christ-centered, college

LOCAL PRIVATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Alt Ed Austin	www.altedaustin.com
Austin Private Schools	www.austinprivateschools.com
GreatSchools.org – Austin	www.greatschools.org/texas/austin/private/schools
Private School Review	www.privateschoolreview.com/texas/austin
Texas Charter Schools	www.txcharterschools.org
Texans for Parental Choice in Education	www.txpce.com



ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL
EST. 1985

St. Francis School

"Excellence Without Exclusivity"



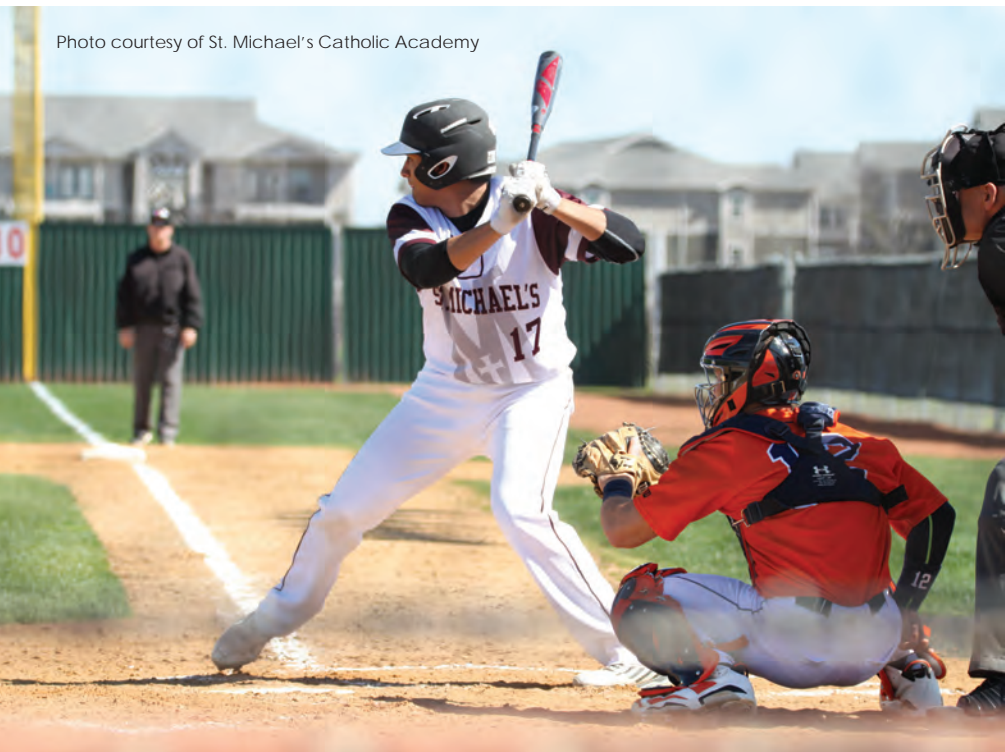
62% of students are testing at least one full grade level ahead in core subject and 50% of 2018 graduates attend private high schools with competitive admissions or were accepted into accelerated programs at public school.

- Pre-K - 8th Grade
- Interdenominational
- Before and After Care
- Project-based Instruction
- Individual Attention
- Maximum Class Size of 15

CONTACT US TODAY FOR OPEN HOUSE INFORMATION

Barbara A. Porter, *Head of School* • 512.454.0848 • www.stfrancis-school.org
300 E. Huntland Drive • Centrally located, just 2 blocks from ACC Highland Campus

Photo courtesy of St. Michael's Catholic Academy



preparatory school equipping and developing students to effectively integrate Biblical truth and academic learning into their daily lives to impact their community for Christ. Round Rock Christian Academy provides excellence in Christian education in Williamson County since 1975; RRCA currently has an enrollment of approximately 500 students from preschool through 12th grade. *Grades PreK-12*

Strickland Christian School

7415 Manchaca Road, Austin 78745
512-447-1447; www.stricklandschool.com

The mission of Strickland Christian School is to “equip students to be lovers of Jesus and His Word and to emulate Christ’s character, purpose and ministry.” Partnering with parents to provide a low-cost, high-quality private school education with a curriculum that emphasizes Bible knowledge, strong Phonics and Math skills in the early grades, teaching memorization of the rules necessary for proper Spelling, Grammar, Speech, and higher Math skills. Upper grade subjects include Grammar, Math, History, Music, P.E., Spanish, Computer, Science, and Literature and Composition. *Grades PreK 4-8*

St. Andrew’s Episcopal School

Lower & Middle Schools – Grades K-8

1112 West 31st Street
Austin 78705; 512-299-9800

Upper School – Grades 9-12

5901 Southwest Parkway; Austin, TX 78735
512-299-9700; www.sasaustin.org

The mission of St. Andrew’s Episcopal School is to provide an enriched academic program within a Christian environment emphasizing the fulfillment of each student’s potential and seeks students of character and intelligence from diverse ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic backgrounds. The school also strives to help young people achieve their potential not only in intellectual understanding but also in esthetic sensitivity, physical well-being, athletic prowess and moral decisiveness so that they may lead productive, responsible lives, not only for themselves, but also for their community. *Grades 1-12*

St. Austin Catholic School

1911 San Antonio Street, Austin 78705
512-477-3751; www.staustinschool.org

St. Austin Catholic School opened in 1917 under the administration of the Dominican

Sisters of Houston with a mission to prepare their students to be Christ-centered, academically strong, become moral community leaders and find expression in the academic achievements of their students preparing them for high school and beyond. *Grades K-8*

St. Francis School

300 East Huntland Drive, Austin 78752
512-454-0848; www.stfrancis-school.org

Project-based instruction with a focus on individualized education to meet each student’s needs and to accommodate differences in learning styles and abilities. “Excellence without Exclusivity,” St. Francis celebrates a diverse and inclusive learning environment. *Grades PK-8*

St. Gabriel’s Catholic School

2500 Wimberly Lane, Austin 78735
512-327-7755; www.sgs-austin.org

St. Gabriel’s Catholic School, leading the way in innovative education, is built on a foundation of dedicated faculty and staff who live their mission daily. Located on 32 acres of rolling hill country in southwest Austin, this independent Catholic school offers state of the art facilities, rigorous academics, meaningful spiritual formation opportunities, and so much more. With a 1:1 technology program, enriching spiritual opportunities, and access to innovative curriculum, all St. Gabriel’s students are prepared to be next generation thought leaders and global citizens. The entire St. Gabriel’s community is called to a mission of educating children in a Christ-centered environment that fosters character formation through scholastic excellence and physical, emotional, and spiritual growth. *Grades PreK-8*

St. Ignatius Martyr School

120 West Oltorf Street, Austin 78704
512-442-8547; www.school.st-ignatius.org

St. Ignatius Martyr Catholic School was founded in the Holy Cross tradition to educate the mind and form the hearts of children and believes that a Catholic school offers young people the means to gain knowledge and to develop understanding and wisdom, which are essential to serve



Find yourself here.

St. Michael's is an award-winning, independent, college preparatory high school that delivers cutting-edge programming and immersive study in order to develop self-directed students, who become the primary agents in their own education.

- Winter Term: A unique three-week academic, travel, internship, and mini-course program
- University of Texas program partnership
- Award-winning fine arts and athletics
- 19 AP classes

M ST. MICHAEL'S
CATHOLIC ACADEMY

SERVICE | COURAGE | INTEGRITY | CURIOSITY



3000 Barton Creek Boulevard • Austin, TX 78735 • (512) 328-2323

effectively and prosper in a global society.
Grades PreK-8

St. Louis Catholic School

2114 St. Joseph Blvd. , Austin 78757
512-614-6622; www.slcsaustin.org

St. Louis Church was established in 1950 in North Austin with an initial donation of land made to the Diocese. The school doors opened on September 4, 1956 with the Sisters of the Holy Cross serving as teachers with a mission to prepare the leaders of tomorrow with the light of Christ as their guide. *Grades PreK-8*

St. Martin’s Lutheran Preschool

606 West 15th Street, Austin 78701
512-476-4037; www.saintmartins.org

Saint Martin’s Lutheran Preschool seeks to meet the needs of young children and their families by providing an educational program that addresses all areas of development intellectual, social, physical, emotional, and spiritual and their mission is to facilitate the child’s awareness and understanding of the world around them and to foster a positive self-image and respect for others. *Grades 18 months-K*

St. Michael’s Catholic Academy

3000 Barton Creek Blvd., Austin 78735
512-328-2323; www.smca.com

St. Michael’s is recognized as an award-winning, independent, college preparatory high school. Their brand promise is that graduates will be confident individuals equipped for challenge and opportunity; that they will obtain the high school experience that will carry them forward — personally, intellectually and spiritually — allowing them to discover where their talents and interests intersect. They offer cutting-edge programming and immersive study to develop self-directed students, who become the primary agents in their own education. *Grades 9-12*

St. Stephen’s Episcopal School

6500 St. Stephen’s Drive, Austin 78746
512-327-1213; www.sstx.org

St. Stephen’s Episcopal School is a coeducational boarding and day school of the Diocese



Photo courtesy of All Saints Episcopal Day School

of Texas and is a caring, diverse community, inclusive of all faiths and grounded in the Christian tradition. Rooted in the Episcopal tradition of education they encourage and nurture the inner life of students with daily chapel and theology courses. *Grades 6-12*

St. Theresa’s Catholic School

4311 Small Drive, Austin 78731
512-451-7105; www.st-theresa.org

St. Theresa’s Catholic School believes that a child can only reach their true potential if everyone around them is invested in the child’s future and with a strong community of committed teachers, Catholic leaders and highly involved families they ensure that each child is surrounded by faith, love and support while being taught the highest standards of learning. *Grades PreK-8*

Summit Christian Academy

2121 Cypress Creek Road, Cedar Park 78613
512-250-1369; *Grades PK-12*
1303 Leander Drive, Leander 78641
512-259-4416; *2-4 year old*
www.summiteagles.org

Curriculum includes “rigorous academics, training in Biblical character, and engagement in servanthood;” affiliated with Shoreline Christian School at the high school level.

Trinity Episcopal School

3901 Bee Cave Road, Austin 78746
512-472-9525; www.austintrinity.org

Trinity Episcopal School is an inclusive, forward-thinking, faith-based K-8 school that meets each student where they are to nurture the whole child’s academic, social, physical, emotional, and spiritual growth. Trinity’s educators go to great lengths to assess and understand each child’s strengths and needs, learning style, talents, and interests. They create an environment of learning and discovery that is just right for developing each child’s individual talents and gifts. Trinity is deeply committed to supporting the development of their students as caring, respectful human beings, integrating social and emotional learning, arts, athletics, leadership and service, and daily chapel; all of which foster well-rounded students engaged in their world. *Grades K-8*

Veritas Academy

13401 Escarpment Blvd, Austin, 78739
512-891-1673; www.veritasacademy.net

Christian-based education including professional instruction, parent mentored study, and character development to achieve a college preparatory level of academic excellence. *Grades PreK - 12* ●

CHILD CARE RESOURCES

Anyone with children knows that finding a balance between working and raising children is always challenging, and part of that balance usually includes some type of childcare. Luckily, there are many organizations that help families ease the burden of finding safe, quality care for their children. The Austin area has hundreds of childcare facilities, including nonprofit, church and other community childcare centers; private centers; and company-sponsored childcare.



Waiting lists tend to be long at some centers and preschools, so make visiting facilities, narrowing down options, and getting on waiting lists a priority when you first move into town. Parents can get information on individual childcare facilities (i.e. licensing, accreditation) through the National Association for the Education of Young Children and information about specific providers through the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS).

The most helpful DFPS tool for parents is the online database and search form on the website that helps families locate nearby providers. There, parents can select from options that fit your family's needs, such as:

- *Type: Preference for a center or a home-based operation;*
- *Age: Whether your child is newborn, toddler, preschool or school age;*
- *Need: Whether your child requires special care; or*
- *Hours: Help after school, part-time, or on weekends*

Parents can then enter their ZIP code and get a list of providers that are close to home or work. For more information, call the daycare information hotline at 800-862-5252 or visit www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Care. For general information and childcare resources, visit www.dfps.state.tx.us.

The DFPS website also lists childcare standards and regulations, as well as protects children against abuse or neglect. Report suspected abuse issues by calling 800-252-5400, or through the secure DFPS website: www.txabusehotline.org.

CHILDCARE INFORMATION AND ORGANIZATIONS

The following are resources for local and national childcare information and organizations. For additional information – and to see a more comprehensive listing of area childcare resources and preschools – visit www.AustinRelocationGuide.com.

Austin Child Guidance Center

810 West 45th Street, Austin 78751
512-451-2242; www.austinchildguidance.org

Focused on the mental health and well being of children, the Austin Child Guidance Center has been helping children under 18 and their families gain the emotional skills to meet life's challenges since 1951. With a sliding fee scale, children and families from all income levels can access the professional, high-quality services they need and deserve.

The Center for Successful Fathering

13740 Research Blvd., Suite L-2
Austin 78750; 512-335-8106

The Center for Successful Fathering was founded on the belief that children need the balance of Mom and Dad. The Center focuses its efforts on identifying successful fathers and exploring the reasons for their success. The Center creates supporting materials to demonstrate that involved fathers are necessary for the complete development of a child.

Child Care Aware

380 Lafayette Road, Suite 103
Saint Paul, MN 55107; 651-290-9704
www.childcareawaremn.org

A program of the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (see listing below), Child Care Aware is a national initiative to “help parents find the best information on locating quality child care and child care resources in their community by connecting parents with the local agencies best equipped to serve their needs.”

Child, Inc.

818 East 53rd Street, Austin 78751
512-451-7361 or 800-222-4051
www.childinc.org

Child, Inc. is an early childhood education program that provides Head Start and Early Head Start services – comprehensive child development programs serving low-income children from birth to age 5, pregnant women, and their families.

Extend-A-Care for Kids

55 N. IH-35, Austin 78702
512-472-9402; www.eackids.org

Extend-A-Care for Kids offers on-site, after-school childcare at elementary schools in Austin, Del Valle and Hays Consolidated ISDs. The program includes outdoor and indoor activities including time for reading and homework, supervised sports, field trips, creative arts, table games, math and science projects, music, dramatic play, cooking, and health and safety.

Institute for Child Care Excellence

(formerly The Fund for Childcare Excellence)
P.O. Box 90723, Austin 78709
512-301-5557; www.naccp.org

Created by the Austin City Council in 1999 to address childcare quality and affordability, the former Fund for Child Care Excellence became the Institute for Child Care Excellence in 2005 and is now part of the National Association of Child Care Professionals (NACCP). The ICEE “provides a system to improve the quality, accessibility and affordability of child care.” Programs include college scholarships for childcare workers, fellowships for experienced childcare staff, community wide director training, awards ceremonies, and family-friendly business awards.

National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies

20001 Prairie Street, Chatsworth, CA 91311
818-717-1000; www.ccrcca.org

NACCRRA is a national network of more than 800 childcare resource and referral centers (CCR&Rs) to ensure that “families in every community have access to high-quality, affordable childcare.”

National Association for the Education of Young Children

1313 L St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005
202-232-8777; www.naeyc.org

NAEYC is focused on the quality of educational and developmental services for all children from birth through age 8, including improving professional practice and working conditions in early childhood education; supporting early childhood programs by working to achieve a high-quality system of early childhood education; and building an organization of

groups and individuals who are committed to promoting excellence in early childhood education for all young children.

National Association of Family Child Care

1743 West Alexander St Suite 201
Salt Lake City, UT 84123
801-886-2322; www.nafcc.org

The National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit membership association. NAFCC represents professional providers throughout the United States and in some cases on US Military bases located internationally. NAFCC is dedicated to promoting quality child care by strengthening the profession of family child care.

The SavvySource for Parents

601 Montgomery Street, Suite 675
San Francisco, CA 94111; 877-875-2288

Launched in 2006 by a California mom, the SavvySource website helps parents sort through the maze of preschools/childcare options in their area to find the right one for their child. Austin is one of many cities with listings and more than 100 schools are listed. The site's most popular feature, however, is the parent ratings, where parents with experience at a school can go online and weigh in on the quality of teaching, development of social skills, discipline, safety and much more. There are also listings for area camps, educational toys, books, activities, classes and more.

Texas Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

702 San Pedro, San Antonio 78212
www.taccrra.net

The Texas Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (TACCRRRA) supports Texas' young

children, parents and early education providers through a variety of services, including helping parents find childcare, advocating for and improving the quality of care, promoting early childhood education, and collaborating with community organizations.

Workforce Solutions – Capital Area

6505 Airport Blvd., Suite 101-E
Austin 78752; 512-597-7100
www.wfscapitalarea.com

A private, publicly-funded non-profit organization, Workforce Solutions - Capital Area is the leadership and governing body for the regional workforce system and is responsible for the planning, oversight, and evaluation of workforce development activities in the Austin/Travis County area – including offering such services as childcare referrals for low- to moderate-income families, job training, placement, and more. ●

PARENT TIPS for choosing childcare

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services offers the following tips for choosing childcare:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Once you have narrowed down a list of providers, get details about their license to provide care. Each childcare facility's regulatory history of inspections and reports is available online.</p> | <p>2. Visit the facilities. It is always polite to schedule a time with the director for your initial facility tour, but make a second visit to observe a classroom when you are not expected. See how well the caregiver provides a safe and healthy environment. Once you place your child in care, remain involved and keep asking questions.</p> |
| <p>3. Look carefully at homes or apartments that have a pool or are near lakes, creeks or other bodies of water. The caregiver can explain how they ensure the safety of children in and around these bodies of water.</p> | <p>4. Discuss any concerns with the caregiver. Respect the caregiver's time—her main responsibility is working with the children. Don't be offended if the caregiver can't spend much time talking with you when you drop off or pick up your child. If you need more time to talk about your child, set up a conference.</p> |
| <p>5. It's normal for children to have some fears and misgivings about starting childcare outside the home. Children need time to get used to new situations. Prepare your child for the change as far in advance as possible. Discuss his or her concerns. It is important to let the caregiver know about things at home that may affect how your child is doing while in care.</p> | |
| <p>6. Talk to your child about his or her experiences in care. Watch for a time each day when your child is quiet and feeling secure and protected.</p> | <p>7. Gently ask questions about how he or she is doing. Share their excitement about new friends, skills and abilities. Above all, listen to their concerns, and give them a chance to boast about their achievements.</p> |

SPECIAL NEEDS

Resources

Parents who have children with **special needs** will find a **wealth** of resources in Austin to ensure that kids get the care they need to thrive and succeed.

Not only does each and every Austin area school district have special education resources within the school system, but free bus transportation is offered as well. There are also specialized schools and centers across the city for those with learning disabilities, visual, speech, or hearing impairments, autism, orthopedic impairments, traumatic brain injuries, or other special needs. Parents should know that they have a wealth of options for care for their loved ones all over the Austin area. The following is a list of schools and resources for Austin parents.



ARC of the Capital Area
512-476-7044; www.arcaustin.org

ARC of the Capital Area is a local chapter of The ARC, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing independence and choice to people with developmental disabilities. They offer respite, parent-to-parent matches, basic needs and crisis assistance services, case-management, and other resources.

Association For Neurologically Impaired Children
512-444-1641; www.afniconline.org

The AFNIC trains parents and educators on how to handle the behavioral challenges that can accompany disabled children and empower them to be successful advocates for their children.

Austin Resource Center for Independent Living
512-832-6349; www.arcilinc.org

ARCIL provides advocacy and referrals to people with disabilities of all ages and independent living skills, and transition assistance for teens (14 and up).

Austin Travis County Integral Care
512-472-4357; www.integralcare.org

As part of the Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities Services, Integral Care links families to other support services and wait lists, respite, in-home and family support, and case-management.

CLASS and MRLA
877-438-5658; 512-483-5800

Both of these services provide funding for therapies, assisted/supported living, home modifications, nursing, and more. Waiting lists are years long, so parents should sign up as soon as possible.

Disability Services ASAP (A Safety Awareness Program) at SafePlace
512-267-7233; www.safeplace.org/DisabilityServices

Safe Place is an abuse prevention and education organization. They have great resources for helping teachers, parents, and students

with disabilities to identify and end abuse of people with disabilities.

Easter Seals Central Texas
512-615-6800; www.easterseals.com/centraltx/

This is the local office of the national organization Easter Seals, which offers education and advocacy services for people with disabilities.

Grupo De Apoyo Para Familias Especiales
512-385-8839; grupo_gafe@yahoo.com

GAFE provides advocacy and support services to Spanish-speaking families.

McBeth Recreation Center
512-974-9011
www.austintexas.gov/McBeth

The McBeth Recreation Center was named after Danny G. McBeth, an advocate for rights and services for people with disabilities. The center provides programs and recreation participation opportunities for children, teens, and adults who have developmental and/or physical challenges.

Medically Dependent Children's Program (MDCP)
877-438-5658; hhs.texas.gov

MDCP is part of the Department of Human Services and provides a variety of disability services in the Austin and Travis County area.

Partners Resource Network
512-292-8135; www.partnerstx.org

PRN is a nonprofit agency in Texas which helps parents understand their child's disability and rights and find and evaluate resources and services. They offer individual assistance and workshops, including the PATH, PEN, and TEAM projects.

SSI (Supplemental Security Income)
512-916-5404; 800-772-1213
www.ssa.gov

Social Security benefits are available to people with disabilities in Austin. The Texas

Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services can assist the disabled community in accessing Social Security benefits in the Austin/Travis County area.

United Way 2-1-1
512-472-6267; unitedwayaustin.org/parenting

The United Way provides a comprehensive, confidential information and referral program with a computerized database of services for Travis County residents.

Texas Resources
The ARC of Texas
512-454-6694; www.thearcoftexas.org

The ARC is a great resource that promotes advocacy, education, and independent living. They also host some excellent conferences and keep you updated on legislative issues and government benefits for people with disabilities.

Children with Special Healthcare Needs
800-252-8023
hhs.texas.gov/services/disability/children-special-health-care-needs-program

As part of the Department of Health, CSHCN provides case management and support for family-centered, community based strategies for improving quality of life for children with special health care needs.

Disability Rights Texas
800-252-9108; www.disabilityrightstx.org

Disability Rights Texas is an advocacy organization which fights discrimination and negative stigmas regarding disabilities and is the federally designated legal protection and advocacy agency for Texans with disabilities.

Federal and State Regulations and Commissioner's Rules
512-463-9414; www.tea.state.tx.us

The Texas Education Agency breaks down all special education laws currently in effect in Texas, including Federal regulations and additional rules for Texas.



Special Education Monitoring and Review Procedures

tea.texas.gov

This page summarizes how special education programs are monitored to make sure your child is getting the support he or she needs. It is a good, short read to help parents familiarize themselves with monitoring procedures.

Texas Parent to Parent

512-458-8600; www.txP2P.org

Texas Parent to Parent is a statewide non-profit organization developed for parents by parents. It provides parent-to-parent matches, support, information, website, resources, a newsletter, and training.

NATIONAL RESOURCES

Easter Seals Disability Services

800-221-6827; www.easterseals.com

Easter Seals is one of the oldest organizations helping disabled persons and persons with special needs. They provide education, advocacy, outreach, and exceptional services to the disabled community.

Exceptional Parent Magazine

800-247-8080; www.eparent.com

Exceptional Parent is a monthly magazine for parents and professional caretakers of people with special needs. The national website includes resources for parent to parent programs, information and referral centers, a disability library, services, products and much more.

MUMS

(Mothers United for Moral Support)

909-336-5333; www.netnet.net/mums/

Once a national parent-to-parent network, MUMS now provides information and emotional support to parents whose child has a rare (or not so rare) disorder.

National Alliance on Mental Illness

800-950-6264; www.nami.org

NAMI provides information and training programs for caregivers of individuals with mental health issues or brain disorders, as well as the opportunity to connect with others.

National Center for Learning Disabilities

212-545-7510; www.nclld.org

NCLD enables young adults, empowers parents, and advocates for policy creation in an attempt to improve the lives of disabled people. They have great resources for parents, adults with disabilities, and educators.

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities

800-695-0285; www.nichy.org

NICHY is a list of various resources for people with disabilities and their families. The site provides links to various education, learning disability, and mental disorder resources.

National Institute of Health

301-402-4336; www.nih.gov

NIH is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and shares information on new developments and studies regarding mental and physical health, as well as which hospitals and physicians are doing research or clinical trials on any disease.

National Organization for Rare Disorders

800-999-6673; www.rarediseases.org

NORD provides information and resources for patients, families, other organizations, and medical professionals regarding rare disorders. They also advocate for consistent and fair government policies and support innovative research.

Social Security Supplemental Security Income

800-772-1213; www.ssa.gov/benefits/ssi/

The Social Security Administration provides certain benefits to disabled adults and children who have limited income sources. Give them a call or check out their website to find out how you can get these benefits.

Waisman Center

608-263-1656; www.waisman.wisc.edu

While located in Wisconsin, the Waisman Center is an excellent resource for staying up to date on the latest research on developmental disabilities and neurodegenerative diseases. ●

AUTISM Resources

I N C E N T R A L T E X A S

PPCD: Preschool Program for Children with Disabilities programs are available in every school district in Austin and are completely free. PPCD programs assist children ages 3-5 in preparing for further education. Below are some great PPCD programs in the Austin area.

Austin Independent School District	512-414-3123	www.austinisd.org/special-education
Lake Travis Independent School District	512-533-6460	www.ltidschools.org
Leander Independent School District	512-570-0368	www.leanderisd.org

DIAGNOSIS:

Austin Psychology & Assessment Center

512-891-1500; www.apacenter.com

The APA center specializes in diagnosing autism spectrum disorders and learning disabilities in children, teens, and adults. The center offers both individual and group therapy, educational support, and life coaching as well.

Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD)

512-330-9520; www.centerforautism.com

CARD offers individualized, comprehensive, and cutting edge diagnosis, therapy, and recovery programs for children and adults with autism spectrum disorders.

ABA and VB: Applied Behavioral Analysis and Verbal Behavior centers can assist autistic children in overcoming the behavioral challenges that accompany autism spectrum disorders. Below are just a few of those located in the Austin area. A more complete list of centers in Texas can be found at www.autismspeaks.org.

ABA Today

512-508-3362; www.abatoday.org

ABA Today offers assessment, treatment, and social skills training to assist families in the Austin and Travis County areas.

ASpiRe

512-423-3225; www.autismconsulting.org

Short for Autism Spectrum Instructional Resources, ASpiRe offers a variety of services for educational and behavioral assistance for children with developmental disabilities, many of which are home-based therapy programs.

Behavioral Innovations

855-782-7822; www.behavioral-innovations.com

Behavioral Innovations helps autistic people of all ages become more independent and function in society with a sense of dignity and self worth.

Central Texas Autism Center

512-328-5599; www.ctacl.com

The CTAC creates a nurturing environment where children with autism can thrive and learn using individualized therapy to develop behavior, language, and speech skills.

Explore Autism

512-689-9560; www.exploreautism.com

Explore Autism offers behavior therapy, autism consulting, and treatment plans for all autism spectrum disorders. They also help educate parents and professionals about various forms of autism and how to best support their child's development.

First Leap

512-887-2126; www.firstleap.com


First Leap features social learning groups where children can learn behavioral and communications skills with others who face the same challenges. First Leap also offers ABA therapy, parent training, and evaluation and assessment.

Little Behavior Consulting

512-200-4948; www.littlebehaviorconsulting.com

Little Behavior Consulting provides data-based, individualized behavioral intervention for children with a variety of diagnoses, as well as typically developing children. They strive for effective, collaborative treatment and support the child within the context of his or her family.

HIGHER EDUCATION

A young woman with long dark hair, wearing sunglasses and a black top, is smiling as she looks at a silver laptop. A young man with short dark hair, wearing a grey and black t-shirt, is sitting next to her, looking at the laptop. They are sitting at a wooden table in a cafe or cafe setting. On the table, there is a white coffee cup, a plate of food, and a smartphone. The background is blurred, showing other people and greenery.

Fortune magazine once named Austin one of the country's top five "intellectual capitals," and it's no wonder. *Forbes* has ranked Austin the third-biggest "brain magnet" city, and *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* ranks UT Austin among its "Best Values in Public Colleges" list. And, according to an *American Community Survey*, Austin ranks fifth in the number of college graduates, with 41.5 percent of the population holding a degree.

Many of those degrees are awarded right here in Central Texas. That's because Austin's thriving intellectual capital attracts students from across the country and internationally to attend one of the city's noted colleges and universities. In fact, the business, law and engineering schools at the University of Texas have all earned regular spots on Hispanic Business magazine's lists of top ten schools for Hispanics.

Getting a quality education outside the area is easy, too, with many prestigious colleges and universities within 100 miles of Austin. These schools include Baylor University (Waco); Texas A&M University (College Station); Trinity University (San Antonio); Central Texas College (Killeen); Texas Lutheran University (Seguin); University of Mary Hardin-Baylor (Belton); Our Lady of the Lake University (San Antonio); Texas State Technical College (Waco); St. Mary's University (San Antonio); University of Texas at San Antonio (San Antonio); Temple College (Temple); and the University of Texas Health Science Center (San Antonio).

Add these schools to what's already here in Austin, and it's easy to see how more than 100,000 undergraduate students and more than 18,000 degrees conferred each year are right here in Central Texas.

The following is an overview of Austin's major colleges and universities, including school history, degree programs and enrollment, tuition and fees (not including room/board), and contact information.

Austin Community College

5930 Middle Fiskville Road, Austin 78752
512-223-4222; www.austincc.edu

The Austin Independent School District established Austin Community College in 1972. Now governed by an independent board, ACC has grown to six campuses, plus the Highland Business Center and Downtown Center, as well as 40 teaching locations throughout Austin and surrounding areas. ACC also provides contracted training to many local high tech companies, and the school's Highland Business Center and Downtown Center are involved in the

development of course work and training specifically designed for Austin industries like high tech, government and manufacturing. ACC offers more than 100 degrees and certificates, including two-year Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees in 30-plus university transfer majors, and Associate of Applied Science degrees and certificates in more than 80 technical fields, as well as an Associate of Arts in Teaching program. ACC is also the leading source of transfer students to the University of Texas-Austin and Texas State University-San Marcos, and is the top choice for high school graduates and adults who enter college.

Baylor University Executive MBA Program

7700 West Parmer, Austin 78729
512-996-4095; www.baylor.edu/EMBA

Baylor University offers a 21-month Executive MBA Program in Austin, admitting up to a maximum of just 40 industry professionals each year. Classes are held on Monday and Thursday evenings, and the Baylor EMBA program is AACSB-accredited. Senior faculty members, department chairs, deans, and industry leaders all have years of experience as instructors.

Baylor Executive MBA graduates complete 48 credit hours over five semesters and 21 months in a curriculum designed to strengthen analytical and managerial skills. Areas of study include finance, economics, management, accounting, strategy, and more. Students also take a 9-day trip to Asia for a unique perspective on the global marketplace.

The cost of the Baylor Executive MBA Program in Austin for those entering is \$86,000, which includes a \$2,000 non-refundable deposit (the deposit is also "deferrable" for one year). The cost includes graduate tuition and student fees for 48 credit hours, a week-long residency program in Waco (including hotel and meals), a fully-configured laptop computer and wireless Internet access, all books, case studies, and other instructional materials, a 5-day trip to Washington, D.C. (including air, lodging and most meals), a 9-day international trip to Asia (including lodging and most meals, as well as

the flight between two cities in the middle of the trip), parking and meeting facilities at the Austin campus, and meals and snacks each class evening.

Concordia University

11400 Concordia University Drive
Austin 78726; 512-313-3000
www.concordia.edu

Concordia University at Austin is a small, private liberal arts and sciences school offering both undergraduate and graduate degrees. Founded in 1926, Concordia University is part of the Concordia University System and focuses on quality, Christ-centered, Lutheran higher education for lives of service to Church and community; the school's mission is to develop Christian leaders. Concordia is affiliated with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; however, all faiths are welcome.

Concordia offers 18 undergraduate majors in four colleges: Business, Education, Liberal Arts, and Sciences, as well as a Master of Education and Master of Business Administration graduate degrees. Concordia also offers both adult degree and distance learning programs for part-time and adult returning students.

Huston-Tillotson University

900 Chicon Street, Austin 78702-2795
512-505-3000; www.htu.edu

Huston-Tillotson University is an independent, church-based, historically black school that is affiliated with the United Methodist Church, the United Church of Christ, and the United Negro College Fund. The school's mission is to "provide opportunities to a diverse population for academic achievement with an emphasis on academic excellence, spiritual and ethical development, civic engagement, and leadership in a nurturing environment."

The Austin campus is located on 23 acres near downtown Austin; the college also owns 6 acres of property adjacent to the campus for future expansion and development, as well as a biological field station south of the city that faculty and students use for environmental research. The school awards four-year undergraduate degrees in

business, education, humanities, natural sciences, social sciences, and technology. The general college curriculum is focused on providing “a diverse student body with an exemplary education that is grounded in the liberal arts and sciences, balanced with professional development, and directed to public service and leadership.”

Park University

10415 Morado Circle, Avallon II
Suite 100, Austin 78759
512-385-PARK (7275); www.park.edu (main);
www.park.edu/austin (Austin campus)

Founded in 1875 with its main campus in Parkville, Missouri, Park University is part of the University’s *School for Extended Learning*. An independent, private, Christian school offering students a four-year, liberal arts education in a co-educational environment, Park University is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Park University has 40 campus centers across 20 states, as well as an extensive online program.

The Austin campus was established in 1975 at the former Bergstrom Air Force Base, founded to meet the educational needs of

primarily military members and their dependents, as well as civilians. That’s still the case today; the Austin campus is part of the *Park University School for Extended Learning*, which offers online classes and flexible schedules.

Park University offers several online degree options, including two-year associate of science degrees (computer science, management and management/accounting); four-year bachelor of science degrees (computer science, management, management/accounting, management/computer information systems, management/human resources, management/marketing, and social psychology), plus six graduate programs, also online.

Tuition varies by credit hour through out all the campus locations, although not many schools will allow students to pay by credit hour. Active duty military tuition is \$250/credit hour. Internet courses are \$415/credit hour.

St. Edward’s University

3001 S. Congress Avenue, Austin 78704
855-468-6738; www.stedwards.edu

St. Edward’s University is a private, Catholic liberal arts college that was founded in 1885 by

the Reverend Edward Sorin, Superior General of the Congregation of Holy Cross, who also founded the University of Notre Dame. St. Edward’s emphasizes critical thinking, ethical practice, an international perspective, and a liberal arts education, as well as small classes, personal attention, study abroad programs, and service-learning opportunities. *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked the school as one of “America’s Best Colleges” for the last eight years; *Forbes* and the Center for College Affordability have also named St. Edward’s among “America’s Best Colleges.”

St. Edward’s offers undergraduate degrees in more than 50 areas and five schools, including humanities, education, natural sciences, management and business, and behavioral and social sciences, as well as 10 graduate degree programs. The school also offers programs in pre-law, pre-medicine, pre-dentistry, engineering and physical therapy, as well as elementary, secondary and bilingual/bicultural education certifications.

Southwestern University

1001 E. University Avenue, Georgetown 78626
512-863-6511; www.southwestern.edu

TRADE & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

SCHOOL NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	PHONE	WEBSITE
The Art Institute of Austin	101 W. Louis Henna Blvd., Ste 100	Austin	512-691-1707	www.artinstitutes.edu/austin
Austin Cosmetology Institute	2521 Rutland Dr., Ste 500	Austin	512-217-5404	www.austincosmetology.com
Baldwin Beauty Schools	8400 Burnet Rd.	Austin	512-593-7481	www.baldwinbeautyschools.com
Baldwin Beauty Schools	3005 South Lamar	Austin	512-593-7426	www.baldwinbeautyschools.com
DeVry University	11044 Research Blvd., Ste B-100	Austin	512-231-2500	www.devry.edu
Everest College	9100 E. Highway 290, Ste 100	Austin	512-928-1933	www.everest.edu/campus/austin
New Horizons Computer Learning Centers	300 E. Highland Mall Blvd., Ste 100	Austin	512-349-9555	www.newhorizons.com
Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts	3110 Esperanza Crossing, Ste 100	Austin	888-559-7222	www.chefs.edu/austin



Texas State University – San Marcos
Photo by Jay Brittain



Located just 28 miles north of Austin in Georgetown, Southwestern University was the first institution of higher learning in Texas, chartered by the Republic of Texas in 1840. Affiliated with the United Methodist church, Southwestern is an independent four-year undergraduate national liberal arts college whose mission is to “foster a liberal arts community whose values and actions encourage contributions toward the well-being of humanity.”

Southwestern was also the second university in Texas to sign the *Talloires Declaration*, a green and sustainable practice initiative that includes a green residence hall, computer-based effluent water irrigation systems, alternative transportation programs, use of sustainable/recycled products, low/no maintenance building finishes and products, low-volume shower heads, and LEED certification on new construction projects.

The school is known for its solid liberal arts curriculum, including the Brown College of Arts and Sciences and the Sarofim School of Fine Arts. The university also has pre-professional programs in engineering, medicine, law, business, education and theology.

Degrees offered include a bachelor of arts, bachelor of science, bachelor of music, and bachelor of fine arts; no graduate degrees or

programs are offered. Enrollment for undergraduate was 1,511 and annual tuition and fees for full-time students for the year 2020-2021 is \$45,120.

Texas State University – San Marcos
601 University Drive, San Marcos 78666
512-245-2111; www.txstate.edu

Texas State University is located in San Marcos - a scenic Hill Country community about halfway between Austin and San Antonio on the San Marcos River. Formerly known as Southwest Texas State University, the school was founded in 1899 as Southwest Texas Normal College, in response to the state’s need for trained public school teachers. The school changed its name to Texas State University – San Marcos in 2003 and is the fifth-largest public university in Texas with more than 38,000 students.

Texas State is also an NCAA Division I university (Division I-AA in football; 2008 Southland Conference champions) that supports 7 men’s and 9 women’s sports. The school has also been a regular on U.S. News & World Report’s “America’s Best Colleges” list for the last several years.

The school offers 98 bachelor’s, 93 master’s, and 14 doctoral degree programs in seven colleges, including applied arts, business

administration, education, fine arts and communication, health professions, liberal arts, science, University College (general studies), and the Graduate College.

University of Texas at Austin
1 University Station, Austin, 78712
512-475-7348; www.utexas.edu

Founded in 1883, the University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin) is the largest component of The University of Texas System – a conglomerate of 15 academic and health institutions – and the largest institution of higher education in the Austin area. With more than 51,000 students (including 11,000 graduate students), and over 24,000 faculty and staff members, UT is one of the largest public universities in the U.S.

UT Austin offers more than 170 fields of study and 100 majors across undergraduate and graduate programs in 17 colleges and schools, awarding more than 12,000 degrees each year – including more than 8,700 bachelor’s degree and 3,500-plus graduate degrees. Besides top-notch research facilities, including the fifth-largest academic library in the country, UT Austin is also famous for Longhorns’ sports and is a member of both the NCAA and the Big 12 Conference. In football, UT’s a winner of four national titles (1963, 1969, 1970 and 2005) and ranks second in NCAA all-time victories. ●



LITTLE BEHAVIOR
CONSULTING LLC

Changing lives, little by little.

Little Behavior Consulting, LLC is committed to providing the most effective, data-based, and individualized behavioral intervention for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, as well as children with a variety of diagnoses and typically developing children ages 1 through 12. We strive for effective, collaborative treatment and support the child within the context of his or her family.

WHAT IS ABA?

“A science based on the principles of behavior utilized to improve socially significant behavior”

(Cooper, Heron, & Heward, 2007, p. 20)

HOW IS IT USED?

The understanding of why we behave in certain ways is used to decrease challenging behavior and increase appropriate behaviors.

(Examples: communication, self-help, academic, motor, and social emotional skills)

WE CAN HELP

What makes our intervention successful is our collaboration with families to develop individualized, behavior intervention and teaching plans to build new skills to decrease the need for challenging behavior.

Services We Provide

- Individualized Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
- Toilet training
- Parent training
- FBA (Functional Behavioral Assessment)
- BIP (Behavior Intervention Planning)
- PBS (Positive Behavior Support)
- ARD/IEP Advocacy
- Social Skills Training and Social Groups
- Communication Intervention
- Functional Living Skills Instruction
- Naturalistic behavioral intervention/ incidental teaching
- Social play dates and Community-based instruction

Why Choose Us?

- Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA personally oversees your child
- Over 20 years of experience with children with autism
- Evidence-based strategies and Data-based decision making
- Clinic and/or in-home therapy sessions
- Individualized treatment plan for your child
- Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, other diagnoses, and typically developed children served

Contact us to set up your **FREE**
30-minute consultation! 512-900-0948

6507 Jester Blvd, Suite 301 Austin, TX 78750
www.littlebehaviorconsulting.com

IN-NETWORK WITH AETNA, BCBS, OPTUM/
UNITED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, CIGNA
AND BEACON HEALTH OPTIONS

HEALTHCARE RESOURCES



There's no doubt that Austin is a healthy city. With miles of hiking, biking and running trails, a velodrome for cycling enthusiasts, and plenty of soccer, volleyball and football fields, Austin is a city that's committed to the health of its residents. That commitment includes many excellent healthcare resources – whether for preventive, emergency, short-term, long-term, or therapeutic care.

in this section

- hospitals & health centers
- finding a doctor
- non-emergency care
- public health & clinics
- pediatric services



There are three major healthcare systems in the Austin/Central Texas area: St. David's HealthCare, the Seton Healthcare Family of Hospitals, and Baylor Scott & White Health, which has several locations both in Austin and just north of Austin on I-35 that primarily serve the Temple area. With these three systems, as well as many other quality independent providers, such as the Austin Diagnostic Clinic and the Austin Regional Clinic, there are more than 5,000 healthcare facilities in the Greater Austin area.

Healthcare in Austin is top-notch, too. In fact, St. David's Medical Center was included on the "Watson Health 100 list of US hospitals" for 2019. This was the 9th time that St. David's Medical Center made the list. Each year Watson Health chooses the top 100 hospitals from more than 3,156 short-term, acute care, non-federal U.S. hospitals. Winners are chosen based on their high standards of excellence and their consistent top performance.

The biggest project to hit the Austin economy in decades is the new Dell Medical School at the University of Texas campus, which welcomed its first class in 2016. The large buildings have added

to the city's landscape, as they accommodate classes of 50 students in training to become primary physicians and specialists. The medical school is estimated to bring as many as 15,000 new jobs and about \$2 billion annually in economic activity for the Austin area.

More growth in the healthcare industry is taking place at the Innovation District downtown. The district is a one-of-a-kind downtown neighborhood, the current and future home to innovators who are working out new ways to create healthier communities. Anchored by the new Dell Medical School at the University of Texas, here, you'll find all kinds of innovators and groups, from startups to researchers, to non-profits and beyond. The district is a collaboration of public and private stakeholders including academic institutions, companies, startups, non-profits, community, healthcare systems, and government. It's a space to create, refine and validate disruptive ideas to achieve improving health locally with the potential for national impact. In the center of it all, is the new \$295 million Dell Seton Medical Center at the University of Texas, which is adjacent to the Dell Medical School opened in 2017.

St. David's HealthCare includes seven of the area's leading hospitals and is one of the largest health systems in Texas. The organization has been recognized with a Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award—the nation's highest presidential honor for performance excellence. St. David's HealthCare is the third-largest private employer in the Austin area, with more than 10,600 colleagues across 132 sites of care.

St. David's HealthCare is a unique partnership between a hospital management company and two local non-profits—St. David's Foundation and Georgetown Health Foundation. The proceeds from the operations of the hospitals fund the foundations, which, in turn, invest those dollars back into the community. Since the inception of St. David's HealthCare in 1996, more than \$518 million has been given back to the community to improve the health and healthcare of Central Texans.

Baylor Scott & White is the the largest not-for-profit healthcare system in Texas and includes 48 hospitals with more than 800 patient care sites. Its newest addition constructed and opened in 2019, Austin Oak Hills hospital, offers inpatient hospital services and specialty care including orthopedics, cardiology, dermatology, general surgery, gastroenterology, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, urology, podiatry and primary care.

General medical services at Baylor Scott & White Medical Center – Lakeway include advanced medical for brain and spine conditions, stroke, cardiology, orthopedics, urology, women's health, endocrinology, oncology, diagnostic imaging, and intensive and emergency care.

HEALTHCARE RESOURCES & HOSPITALS

The following is a list of Austin, Texas healthcare resources to help you find a doctor, hospital or immediate-care facility. We've also included a listing of public health and community clinics, as well as other health and wellness support services.

Arise Austin Medical Center
3003 Bee Cave Road, Austin, 78746
512-314-3800
www.austinsurgicalhospital.com

The Austin Surgical Hospital is a smaller facility that specializes in orthopedic, spine, bariatric and plastic surgery. Austin Surgical Hospital offers distinguished surgeons, spacious and private patient rooms, and individualized care from a specialized staff.

Austin Diagnostic Clinic

Main location; see website for specific locations
12221 N. Mopac Expressway, Austin, 78758
512-901-1111; www.adclinic.com

Established in 1952, the Austin Diagnostic Clinic is one of Austin's largest physician-owned clinics, with more than 140 doctors and providers representing 22 medical specialties. The ADC network includes multiple offices throughout Austin and Central Texas – including the main clinic and a family practice clinic in North Austin, Cedar Bend, Circle C, Lakewood (off Loop 360), Round Rock, Westlake, Bastrop, Cedar Park, Luling, Marble Falls, and San Marcos. ADC also offers focused services for weight loss, diabetes management, rehabilitation, and more, as well as specialty services and locations that include the EasyCare Clinic, Pediatric Urgent Care, an Imaging Center, Nephrology Clinics, and several laboratory and X-ray centers.

Austin Lakes Hospital

1025 East 32nd Street, Austin, 78705
512-544-5253 (LAKE)
www.austinlakeshospital.com

The Austin Lakes Hospital offers mental health diagnostic services and treatment, including inpatient and outpatient services for adults and specialized programming for those in the early stages of dementia.

Austin Regional Clinic

Main location; see website for specific locations
4515 Seton Center Parkway, Suite 215
Austin, 78759; 512-231-5513
www.austinregionalclinic.com

The Austin Regional Clinic was founded by three physicians in 1980, and is now one of the largest multispecialty health care

“ Healthcare in Austin is top-notch. In fact, five area hospitals have been named to a list of the a top 100 hospitals in the United States. ”

groups in central Texas, serving more than 471,000 residents. Primary and specialty care services include family practice, pediatrics, and general internal medicine, as well as OB/GYN services, podiatry, allergy, ENT, dermatology, rheumatology, gastroenterology, orthopedics, audiology, reproductive medicine, surgery, and travel clinics. There are 27 Austin Regional Clinic locations across the Austin area, including Cedar Park/Leander, Bee Cave, Central Austin, Kyle, Buda, Manor, Northeast Austin (including Hutto, Round Rock, and Pflugerville), Northwest Austin, and South Austin.

Austin State Hospital

4110 Guadalupe Street, Austin, 78751
512-452-0381
<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/mental-health-substance-use/state-hospitals/austin-state-hospital>

The Austin State Hospital (ASH) provides psychiatric care to a 38-county region in Central Texas. In addition to adult psychiatric services, the hospital also offers specialty services for children and adolescents, geriatrics, the hearing impaired, and those with a primary psychiatric diagnosis and a secondary diagnosis of mental retardation. The hospital also serves as an acute care facility for about 300 patients and provides such support services as laboratory, radiology, pharmacy, dental, and administrative services.

Central Texas Medical Center (CTMC) – San Marcos

1301 Wonder World Drive
San Marcos, 78666
512-353-8979; www.ctmc.org

Part of the Adventist Health System, CTMC is a full-service, 178-bed, acute care hospital

located 30 minutes south of Austin in San Marcos. CTMC has a state-of-the-art 64,000 square foot Women's Center that includes all private rooms, a Level II Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), and a new cardiac in-patient nursing unit with private rooms. The Center also includes an on-site, high-risk delivery suite, as well as a customized cesarean section suite. The hospital has a Certified Chest Pain Center as part of the hospital's ER that offers specialized services and protocols for ER patients suffering from chest pain or potential heart attack symptoms.

Central Texas Rehabilitation Hospital

See listing in the *Seton Family of Hospitals* section.

Cornerstone Hospital Austin

4207 Burnet Road, Austin, 78756
512-706-1900; www.chghospitals.com

Cornerstone Hospital of Austin is a licensed acute care hospital with 103 licensed beds, and a new state-of-the-art ICU. Services include pulmonary, wound care management, care for medically complex patients, and medical services with rehabilitation that are designed to compliment the continuum of care provided by traditional hospitals, skilled nursing units, home health and rehabilitation hospitals.

HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital – Austin

330 W. Ben White Blvd., Austin, 78704
512-479-3551; www.healthsouthaustin.com

HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Austin is a 60-bed hospital specializing in the medical rehabilitation of patients suffering from stroke, spinal cord injury, multiple trauma, orthopedic injury, neurological conditions, brain injury and other conditions



requiring specialized, focused physical medicine and rehabilitation. Services include inpatient hospitalization, day hospital, outpatient therapy, and home health care, as well as outpatient pediatric rehabilitation at the hospital's Starbright clinic in Round Rock.

The Hospital at Westlake Medical Center

5656 Bee Caves Road, Austin, 78746

Main: 512-327-0000

Emergency Room: 512-697-3628

www.westlakemedical.com

The Hospital at Westlake Medical Center serves the residents of Bee Caves and Westlake with such specialty services as otolaryngology, podiatry, radiology, endocrinology, cardiopulmonary, cardiovascular, and clinical pathology.

Northwest Hills Surgical Hospital of Austin

6818 Austin Center Blvd., Suite 100

Austin, 78731; 512-346-1994

www.northwesthillssurgical.com

Northwest Hills Surgical Hospital, which opened in 1995, has specialties in orthopedics, pain management, retinal, orthospine, urology, ENT, ophthalmology, and endoscopy. The hospital's team of nurses, surgical technicians, and anesthesia personnel work with physicians from many specialties to perform

more than 10,000 procedures a year in five operating rooms and four procedure rooms.

San Marcos Treatment Center

120 Bert Brown Rd., San Marcos, 78666

800-251-0059; www.sanmarcostc.com

San Marcos Treatment Center, the original Brown School, was founded in 1940 to provide psychiatric residential care for boys and girls age 8-18 years. Their highly-specialized intensive residential programs provide 24-hour care to a broad spectrum of children with IQs of 50 and above. With an abundance of trees and wildlife, along with a free-standing school complex, swimming pools, gym, sport court and playing fields, and a ROPES course, it provides a healthy environment for children and adolescents. The facility has 212 beds, divided into 13 living units across the campus.

Baylor Scott & White Clinics Health

Baylor Scott & White Healthcare – Burnet Clinic

101 E. Jackson Street, Burnet, 78611

512-756-7510; www.bswhealth.com

Family practice clinic services include general and family medicine, pediatric services, women's health, and preventive and internal medicine, among others.

Baylor Scott & White – Cedar Park and Cedar Park West Clinics

Cedar Park Clinic

910 E. Whitestone Blvd.,

Cedar Park, 78613

512-260-6100; www.bswhealth.com

Cedar Park West Clinic

12129 FM 620, Suite 600-E,

Austin, 78750

512-336-3400; www.bswhealth.com

The Cedar Park clinic is a family medicine practice offering pediatric care, acute care for minor emergencies, minor surgery, preventive care, radiology, and mental health counseling. Cedar Park West is also a family medicine practice, with specialties in women's health, hypertension, heart health and diabetes.

Baylor Scott & White – Georgetown Central Clinic; Georgetown Sports Medicine & Rehab Clinic; and Georgetown Sun City Clinic

Georgetown Central Clinic

1507 Rivery Blvd., Georgetown, 78628

512-509-9550; www.clinics.sw.org

Georgetown Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation Clinic, and Georgetown Clinic – Sun City

4945 Williams Drive, Georgetown, 78633

512-819-0500; www.bswhealth.com

Both the Georgetown Central and the Georgetown Clinic are multi-specialty family practice clinics combining internal medicine, family medicine, orthopedics, cardiology, ophthalmology, podiatry and otolaryngology. The Georgetown Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation Clinic offers comprehensive care in rehabilitation services, including sports injuries, wound care, and neurological conditions.

Baylor Scott & White – Hutto Clinic

120 Ed Schmidt Blvd., Suites B & E,

Hutto, 78634; 512-509-9500;

www.bswhealth.com

Family practice clinic services include general and family medicine, pediatric services, women's health, and preventive and internal medicine, among others.

Baylor Scott & White Medical Center – Lakeway

100 Medical Parkway, Lakeway, 78738
512-571-5000; www.bswhealth.com

Baylor Scott & White Medical Center – Lakeway is a full-service hospital offering the unusual combination of state-of-the-art medical technology and the plush comforts of home. Since their opening, Baylor Scott & White Medical Center – Lakeway has been providing Hill Country residents in Lakeway, Steiner Ranch, Bee Cave, Westlake, Circle C, Austin and Marble Falls with a place to which they can turn for comprehensive, compassionate and modern medical treatment. As a full-service hospital with board-certified physicians, Baylor Scott & White Medical Center – Lakeway manages everything from emergencies and labor/delivery to minor care wounds and outpatient procedures.

Baylor Scott & White Medical Center – Lakeway is an extraordinary hospital, incorporating many “best ideas” from

the hospitality industry to create a healing and comforting environment with therapeutic gardens and serene landscapes. As an independent, medium-sized facility, Lakeway gives patients the time and attention they deserve. Their guests find that they are never treated like just a number, last name or chart. Patients receive maximum individual attention and feel security and peace of mind knowing they are receiving the best of medical care. Lakeway’s mission is to deliver compassionate and exceptional quality healthcare that improves the quality of life for its patients, physicians, healthcare team and the communities they serve.

Baylor Scott & White – Round Rock Clinic

425 University Blvd., Round Rock, 78665
512-509-0200; www.bswhealth.com

Baylor Scott & White’s Round Rock Clinic is a specialty clinic that offers more than 20 medical and surgical specialties. Located off IH 35 adjacent to Round Rock Hospital, clinic specialties include

plastic surgery, a sleep study clinic, urology, children’s services, audiology, hematology, cardiology, allergy treatment, and other services.

Baylor Scott & White – Round Rock Cosmetic Surgery Center

425 University Blvd., Round Rock, 78665
512-509-8550; www.bswhealth.com

Baylor Scott & White’s Round Rock Cosmetic Surgery Center offers a complete range of reconstructive, cosmetic, and aesthetic surgical solutions. Services include breast and body surgeries, facial procedures (including eyelid surgery and neck lifts), and laser procedures (including tattoo removal). The Center also offers various spa services.

Baylor Scott & White Medical Center – Round Rock

300 University Blvd., Round Rock, 78665
512-509-0100; www.bswhealth.com

Baylor Scott & White’s Medical Center in Round Rock is a full-service, hospital with a primary care clinic and multiple

PEDIATRICS

AUSTIN	Austin Children's Chest Associates	1301 Barbara Jordan Blvd., Ste. 303	512-380-9200	www.dellchildrens.net
	Austin Pediatric Surgery	1301 Barbara Jordan Blvd.	512-708-1234	www.austinpediatricsurgery.com
	Children's Ear Nose & Throat Center	3705 Medical Pkwy., Ste 200	512-324-2720	www.dellchildrens.net
	Children's Eye Center	11111 Research Blvd., Ste. 220	512-324-6755	www.dellchildrens.net
	Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas	4900 Mueller Blvd.	512-324-0000	www.dellchildrens.net
	Pediatric Associates of Austin	1500 W. 38th St., Ste. 20	512-458-5323	www.pediatricassociates.net
	Specially For Children	1301 Barbara Jordan Blvd., Ste. 200	512-628-1800	www.dellchildrens.net
	St. David's Pediatric Program	12221 Mopac Expressway North	512-901-1000	www.stdavids.com
CEDAR PARK	Austin Pediatric Surgery	1401 Medical Pkwy., Bldg. B, Ste. 101	512-708-1234	www.austinpediatricsurgery.com
	KYLE	Children's Eye Center	1180 Seton Pkwy., Ste. 200	512-324-6755

specialty clinics. Located off IH 35 behind the Round Rock Premium Outlets, the campus offers 24-hour emergency care, more than 40 specialties, and access to Baylor Scott & White's seamless network of healthcare delivery throughout the region.

Baylor Scott & White – Round Rock Nephrology & Dialysis Center

2120 N. Mays, Rock Creek Plaza
Round Rock, 78664
512-238-2900; www.bswhealth.com

Centrally located along I-35, the Baylor Scott & White Nephrology and Dialysis Center in Round Rock is a specialty clinic providing comprehensive nephrology care to the residents of Williamson County.

Baylor Scott & White – Round Rock Specialty Clinic

425 University Blvd., Round Rock, 78665
512-509-0200; www.bswhealth.com

Baylor Scott & White's Round Rock Specialty Clinic is a state-of-the-art facility that offers a variety of medical and non-surgical specialties for men, women and children, as well as an on-site pharmacy. Located between Cypress Blvd. and Sunrise Road on Chandler Road/W. University Blvd./W. Chandler Street in Round Rock, the clinic opened when Baylor Scott & White expanded its services to this building. Specialties here include pediatrics, pediatric subspecialty, allergy, occupational medicine, internal medicine, mental health (psychiatry), rheumatology, medical infusions, dermatology, and dietary services.

Baylor Scott & White – Round Rock West Clinic

16420 RR 620, Suite 104
Round Rock, 78681
512-250-7000; www.bswhealth.com

Centrally located along I-35, the Baylor Scott & White Round Rock West Clinic is a primary care clinic offering pediatric, women's, and adult health care, as well as management of such chronic diseases as high blood pressure and diabetes.



Baylor Scott & White – Taylor Clinic

403 Mallard Lane, Taylor, 76574
512-352-4000; www.bswhealth.com

Baylor Scott & White's Taylor Clinic is a family practice clinic that also offers various specialties, including cardiology, occupational medicine, and otolaryngology.

Baylor Scott & White Hospital – Taylor

305 Mallard Lane, Taylor, 76574
512-352-7611; www.bswhealth.com

This critical care facility with 24-hour ER service for services the Taylor and surrounding communities. Services include emergency and acute inpatient medical-surgical; outpatient surgical care; diagnostic, therapeutic and extended care; and home health.

Baylor Scott & White – Temple Continuing Care Hospital

546 N. Kegley Road, Temple, 76502
254-215-0900; www.bswhealth.com

Baylor Scott & White's Temple Continuing Care Hospital is an acute care hospital for critically ill patients with complex conditions who depend on technology such as ventilators, special monitors or dialysis.

Baylor Scott & White Hospital – Temple

2401 S. 31st Street, Temple, 76508
254-724-2111 or 800-792-3710
www.bswhealth.com

The Baylor Scott & White health system's main hospital also includes a Children's Hospital, which houses the only Level III neonatal ICU between Dallas and Austin, and its Center for Advanced Medicine – which is digital, wireless, paperless, and has the latest in medical technology. Baylor Scott & White also operates several regional clinics, including the Baylor Scott & White Clinic at the main hospital, the largest multi-specialty group practice in Texas.

Seton Family of Doctors

www.SetonFamilyofDoctors.com

Seton Family of Doctors is comprised of primary and specialty care physician practices including family medicine, internal medicine, dermatology, Mohs surgery, general surgery, endocrinology, hematology/oncology, infectious disease, obstetrics/gynecology, and female pelvic medicine & reconstructive surgery. Offices are conveniently located throughout the greater Austin area and surrounding communities. For a complete listing of specialties and locations, visit www.setonfamilyofdoctors.com.

Austin Dermatologic Surgery Center

1601 Trinity St #704,
Austin, 78701; 512-324-7468

Blackstock Family Health Center

1313 Red River Street, Suite 100
Austin, 78701; 512-978-9610

Seton Family of Doctors at Bastrop

441 Highway 71 West, Suite C
Bastrop, 78602; 512-304-0313

Seton Family of Doctors at Hays

(Hays Medical Office Building 1)

1180 Seton Parkway, Suite 150
Kyle, 78640; 512-504-0865

Seton Family of Doctors at Hays

(Kyle Crossing Shopping Center)

5103 Kyle Center Drive
Suites 103, 104, 108, Kyle, 78640
512-504-0855

Seton Family of Doctors at Lockhart

(Church Street Building)

209 Church St., Suite B, Lockhart, 78644
512-376-2999

Seton Family of Doctors at Lockhart

(Commerce Street Building)

300 South Commerce Street, Suite B
Lockhart, 78644; 512-398-2331

Seton Marble Falls Healthcare Center

700 Hwy 281 1800 Mormon Mill Rd.,
Marble Falls, 78654; 512-715-3118

Seton Family of Doctors at Smithville

1201-A Hill Road
Smithville, 78957; 512-360-5272

Seton Family of Doctors at Stone Hill

1512 Town Center Drive, Suite 100
Pflugerville, 78660; 512-324-4875

Seton Family of Doctors at Williamson

2051 Gattis School Rd., Suite 250
Round Rock, 78664; 512-324-4813

Seton Surgical Group Austin

1601 Trinity St #704, Austin, 78701
512-324-7873

Seton Surgical Group Williamson

301 Seton Parkway, Suite 402
Round Rock, 78665; 512-324-4818

University Physicians Group –**Downtown Austin**

313 E. 12th St., Austin, 78701
512-324-9650

University Physicians Group – Midtown**– Women’s Health**

911 West 38th Street, Austin, 78705
512-324-8670

University Physicians Group -Kyle

5103 Kyle Center Dr, Suite 103
Kyle, 78640; 512-504-0873

Seton Family of Hospitals**Cedar Park Regional Medical Center**

1401 Medical Parkway,
Cedar Park, 78613; 512-528-7000
www.cedarparkregional.com

The Cedar Park Regional Medical Center is a joint venture partner of the Seton Healthcare Family intended to serve fast-growing Cedar Park and Leander. The Medical Center is a 108-bed, full-service acute care center with a hospital, doctor’s offices, labs and diagnostic services, women’s health, cardiology and many other specialties, as well as general medical and surgical services.

Central Texas Rehabilitation Hospital

700 West 45th Street, Austin, 78751
512-407-2111
www.kindredhealthcare.com

Central Texas Rehabilitation Hospital, a joint venture between the Seton Healthcare Family and Kindred Healthcare, is a 59,000 square foot, 50-bed comprehensive physical rehabilitation hospital. The facility features a therapy pool and specialized programs for patients with complex physical and cognitive needs. The hospital also provides guidance, education, support and motivation for patients recovering from a wide range of debilitating injuries and illnesses, helping them achieve the highest level of functional independence possible.

Dell Children’s Medical Center of Central Texas

(See the Pediatrics chart.)

Seton Edgar B. Davis Hospital

130 Hays Street, Luling, 78648
830-875-7000; www.seton.net/sebd

Located 50 miles southeast of Austin, Seton Edgar B. Davis Hospital is a general acute care facility committed to providing quality inpatient and outpatient services for residents of Caldwell and surrounding counties. The hospital offers 24-hour emergency care, plus comprehensive diagnostic and treatment services, health education and wellness programs.

Seton Highland Lakes Hospital

3201 S. Water Street, Burnet, 78611
512-715-3000; www.seton.net/shl

Seton Highland Lakes Hospital located approximately 50 miles northwest of Austin in Burnet, is a 25-bed critical access hospital offering acute care services, including surgical and medical procedures, emergency services and intensive care. Seton Highland Lakes is part of the Seton Trauma Network that includes the region’s only Level I Trauma Center. For minor emergencies, it offers SetonER.com to reduce your wait time in the Emergency Room to 15 minutes or less. Specialty health care services in Burnet include cardiology, dermatology, gynecology, nephrology, neurology, orthopedics, pulmonology and urogynecology.

Seton Medical Center Austin

1201 W 38th Street, Austin, 78705
512-324-1000; www.seton.net/austin

Seton Medical Center Austin is the largest medical/surgical acute care center in Austin and is the only hospital in Central Texas that performs heart transplants. One of four hospitals in the Seton Family of Hospitals to earn Magnet status for quality patient care and nursing excellence from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, Seton Medical Center Austin offers comprehensive diagnostic and treatment services for both inpatients



and outpatients. The hospital also features the area's only dedicated oncology unit, the new Cancer Care Collaborative, a full range of cardiovascular care including a Ventricular Assist Device and heart transplant program, a fully accredited Chest Pain Center, award-winning maternity services and Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), comprehensive surgical services, as well as Primary Stroke Center and Spinal Surgery certifications from The Joint Commission. For minor emergencies and non-life threatening illnesses, Seton Austin also offers SetonER.com which allows patients to schedule their visit online and reduce their wait time in the emergency room to 15 minutes or less.

Seton Medical Center Harker Heights

850 W. Central Texas Expressway
Harker Heights, 76548; 254-690-0900
www.setonharkerheights.net

Seton Medical Center Harker Heights, a joint venture between the Seton Healthcare Family and LHP Hospital Group, is an 83-bed hospital serving the growing communities of Bell County. The facility offers a full-service Emergency Department, intensive and critical care and women's services, including obstetrics

and gynecology, nursery and digital mammography, cardiology, interventional cardiology, orthopaedics, neurosurgery, imaging and diagnostic services. It also features a cath lab, surgery and an array of other services. The campus also includes a 60,000 square foot medical office building that houses primary care and specialty physicians.

Seton Medical Center Hays

6001 Kyle Parkway, Kyle, 78640
512-504-5000; www.seton.net/hays

Seton Medical Center Hays is the largest medical campus in Hays County, providing comprehensive health care services including 24-hour ED and Level IV Trauma Center; Primary Stroke Center certification; cardiovascular care including diagnostics, two catheterization labs, open heart surgery and cardiac rehabilitation; interventional pulmonology; cancer care; a Women's Center offering gynecological testing, mammograms, and maternity services with a Level II neonatal intensive care unit (NICU); surgical services including a minimally invasive surgery center; critical care; full-service imaging and lab, outpatient infusion center, adult sleep lab, and a wide range of rehabilitation services.

Seton Medical Center Williamson

201 Seton Parkway, Round Rock, 78665
512-324-4000; www.seton.net/williamson

Seton Medical Center Williamson is the only faith-based hospital in Williamson County. Located on the corner of University Blvd. and FM 1460, the hospital offers a comprehensive array of inpatient and outpatient services, delivered in a beautiful healing environment by a team of more than 33 physician specialties with highly advanced technology. Seton Williamson is a Level II Trauma Center and part of the Seton Trauma Network that includes the region's only Level I Trauma Centers. For minor emergencies, SetonER.com is available to reduce patients' wait time in the Emergency Room to 15 minutes or less. The medical center's state-of-the-art Women's Center provides a comfortable and family-friendly birthing center, a Level II Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and healing environment for gynecological surgery. Seton Williamson has also achieved Primary Stroke Center and Spinal Surgery certifications by The Joint Commission.

Seton Northwest Hospital

11113 Research Blvd., Austin, 78759
512-324-6000; www.seton.net/northwest

One of four Magnet hospitals in the Seton Family of Hospitals, Seton Northwest Hospital proudly provides convenient and comprehensive health services for residents in northwest Austin. Located off Highway 183 just north of Braker Lane, the 124-bed hospital offers complex medical-surgical and rehabilitation services provided in a comfortable environment by nationally-recognized caregivers. The Emergency Department at Seton Northwest is backed by a vast network of specialists to treat unexpected illness and injury around the clock. As a designated Level IV Trauma Center and part of the Seton Trauma Network that includes the region's only Level I Trauma Centers. For minor emergencies SetonER.com is available to reduce patients' wait time in the Emergency Room to 15 minutes or less. Women's Services include

the welcoming maternity unit, a Level II special care nursery, preventive screening mammograms and innovative alternatives to traditional gynecological surgery.

Seton Shoal Creek Hospital

3501 Mills Avenue, Austin, 78731
512-324-2000; www.seton.net

Seton Shoal Creek Hospital offers a wide spectrum of mental health and substance abuse services, treating children, adolescents, adults and senior adults on an inpatient or outpatient basis who

may be experiencing emotional and/or substance abuse difficulties. Inpatient services include intensive psychiatric stabilization for patients dealing with emotional crises, depression, and drug/alcohol dependence. Seton Shoal Creek is Austin's only private psychiatric hospital treating adults, children and adolescents, and also facilitates a wide range of support groups that meet on a regular basis. The hospital also has strong academic ties with the area's only psychiatric residency training program.

Seton Smithville Regional Hospital

1201 Hill Road, Smithville, 78957
512-237-3214; www.seton.net/smithville

Located 13 miles east of Bastrop, Seton Smithville Regional Hospital is an acute care facility providing inpatient and outpatient services to the people of Bastrop, Lee, Fayette and other surrounding counties, including cardiopulmonary/respiratory care; diagnostic imaging; physical therapy and rehabilitation; and ER, ICU and surgical services.

PUBLIC HEALTH & COMMUNITY CLINICS

AUSTIN

City of Austin Health and Human Services	7201 Levander Loop	512-972-5000	www.austintexas.gov/department/health
CommUnityCare	15 Waller St., 5th Flr.	512-978-9015	www.communitycaretx.org
People's Community Clinic	2909 N. IH-35	512-478-4939	www.austinpcc.org
People's Community Clinic	1101 Camino La Costa	512-478-4939	www.austinpcc.org
Shots for Tots - City of Austin	7500 Blessings Ave.	512-972-5520	www.austintexas.gov/immunizations
Shots for Tots - City of Austin	405 West Stassney	512-972-5520	www.austintexas.gov/immunizations
Texas Health Department of State Health Services - Community Clinics	1100 W. 49th St.	512-776-7111	www.dshs.state.tx.us
Volunteer Healthcare Clinic	4215 Medical Parkway	512-459-6002	www.volclinic.org

GEORGETOWN

Lone Star Circle of Care at Georgetown	2423 Williams Dr., Ste. 105	877-800-5722	www.lscctx.org
Williamson County & Cities Health District	100 W. 3rd St.	512-943-3600	www.wcchd.org

KYLE

Hays County Health Department	150 Lockhart St.	512-393-5520	www.hayscountytexas.com
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SAN MARCOS

Hays County Health Department	401-A Broadway	512-393-5520	www.hayscountytexas.com
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TAYLOR

Lone Star Circle of Care Health Center at Taylor	601A Mallard Ln.	877-800-5722	www.lonestarcares.org
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Seton Southwest Hospital

7900 FM 1826, Austin, 78737
512-324-9000; www.seton.net/southwest

Seton Southwest is a state-of-the-art facility conveniently located at the corner of Hwy 290 and FM 1826. Services include: 24-Hour emergency department, surgical services, a recently remodeled and expanded maternity unit including a Level II neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), full-service lab, imaging services (Including MRI, CT Scans, digital mammography, bone density testing, nuclear medicine, ultrasound and x-ray), physical therapy, two aquatic therapy pools, and a range of advanced

cardiovascular services – from preventive care and diagnosis to treatment and cardiac rehabilitation.

Dell Seton Medical Center at the University of Texas

1500 Red River Street, Austin, 78701
512-324-7000; www.seton.net

Dell Seton Medical Center at the University of Texas is a teaching hospital that is located at the center of downtown Austin's new health district. It was designed to support medical collaboration among doctors, nurses, researchers, staff, students, patients and families. The nearly 517,000-square-foot facility is the

new home of the region's anticipated Level I Trauma Center for adults. There are 211 beds in operation, and has the capacity to add another 135 beds in the future. It is projected that the hospital will create 15,000 new jobs, both directly and indirectly, throughout Austin's medical district, which will have a major economic impact of the area.

Seton Community Healthcare Centers

The Seton Healthcare Family provides accessible, comprehensive health and primary care services to medically underserved families through its three Community Health Centers. All medical and counseling services are available on a sliding scale, based on family size and income. Appointments are required, and the centers accept Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP.

Seton Kozmetsky Community Health Center

3706 S. First Street, Austin, 78704
512-324-4940; www.seton.net

Seton McCarthy Community Health Center

2811 E. Second Street, Austin, 78702
512-324-4930; www.seton.net

Seton Topfer Community Health Center

8913 Collinfield Road, Austin, 78758
512-324-6850; www.seton.net

Ascension Seton Healthcare Centers

Ascension Seton Bertram Healthcare Center

160 N. Lampasas Street, Bertram, 78605
512-355-9233; healthcare.ascension.org

Offering primary and preventive health care, the health care center is conveniently located for residents of Bertram, Liberty Hill, Burnet and the surrounding area.

Ascension Seton Highland Lakes Specialty Clinic

200 County Road 340-A, Bldg I & II
Burnet, 78611; 512-715-3118
www.healthcare.ascension.org

The clinics offer a variety of specialty care services, conveniently located for residents

of the Highland Lakes area. A full range of specialty care services are offered, including general surgery, pulmonology, gynecology, urogynecology, nephrology, neurology, orthopedic care and surgery. With the addition of the Seton Heart Institute, cardiac patients receive non-invasive diagnostic and interventional services, along with treatment options for invasive care.

Seton Lampasas Healthcare Center

1205 Central Texas Expressway
Lampasas, 76550; 512-556-5362
www.healthcare.ascension.org

Offering care for the whole family including primary and preventive health care and outpatient lab testing. The health care center is conveniently located for residents of Lampasas, Kempner and surrounding areas.

Ascension Seton Lockhart Family Health Center

300 S Colorado, Lockhart, 78644
512-376-9690;
www.healthcare.ascension.org

The Seton Lockhart Family Health Center brings urgent care and routine healthcare services to Lockhart and surrounding areas, and works with the Lockhart Specialty Health Clinic (see below for information) to provide patient services. A medical director oversees Seton Lockhart with the help of several advanced nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

Ascension Seton Family of Doctors at Lockhart

Church Street Building
209 Church Street, Suite A
Lockhart, 78644; 512-376-2999
Commerce Street Building
300 S. Commerce St., Suite B
Lockhart, 78644; 512-398-2331
www.healthcare.ascension.org

The Seton Lockhart Specialty Health Clinic provides primary care services, diagnostic testing, and independent visiting physician specialists.

Seton Luling Family Medicine Clinic

130 Hays St., Suite B, Luling, 78648
512-628-1880;
www.healthcare.ascension.org

Our new family medicine clinic provides a wide range of services to improve the health and wellness of infants, children and adults, including primary care, physicals and sports exams, well-woman exams, diabetes care and prevention, blood pressure, cholesterol and disease management.

Ascension Seton Marble Falls Healthcare Center

1800 Mormon Mill Dr., Suite B
Marble Falls, 78654; 830-693-2600
www.healthcare.ascension.org

Offering primary and preventive health care, as well as social services, the health care center is conveniently located for residents of Marble Falls, Kingsland, Granite Shoals and the surrounding area. Other services include bone densitometry, diabetes

management, digital mammography, stereotactic biopsy, physical therapy, sports medicine, wound care, gynecology and medical spa services.

Ascension Seton Pflugerville Healthcare Center

200 N. Heatherwilde Blvd.
Pflugerville, 78660; 512-345-5925
www.healthcare.ascension.org

The Ascension Seton rehabilitation services care team in Round Rock, Texas, specializes in outpatient physical therapy and occupational therapy for adults. Some of their other locations also have therapists who specialize in pediatric therapy.

St. David's HealthCare

With more than 110 sites across Central Texas, St. David's HealthCare includes seven of the area's leading hospitals and is one of the largest health systems in Texas. Known for compassionate, high-quality care, the organization has been recognized with the

Finding a Doctor

Moving to a new city is exciting, but it also requires finding the grocery store you like, the schools your kids will attend – and the healthcare practitioners that fit the needs of your family. The following is a list of local and national physician resources, including the American Medical Association – where you can search for general practice physicians by location, specialty, and more.

American Medical Association: Resource for general health information, as well as a search function for local physician resources under the "Patients" tab of the site. www.ama-assn.org

American Academy of Pediatrics: National website for children's health resources; separate "Parenting Corner" website is comprehensive site for health-related news, questions, and other topics. www.aap.org • www.healthychildren.org

Texas Medical Association: Listing of member physicians across the state, as well as information on general health resources; go to the "Find A Physician" tab to search by specialty or location. www.texmed.org

Texas Award for Performance Excellence, the highest honor bestowed by the State of Texas based upon world-class quality measures. Four of the system's facilities—St. David's Medical Center, including its Heart Hospital of Austin and St. David's Georgetown Hospital campuses, and St. David's North Austin Medical Center—were named among the nation's 100 Top Hospitals by Truven Health Analytics, a leading provider of information and solutions to improve the cost and quality of healthcare. The organization has been recognized with a Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award—the nation's highest presidential honor for performance excellence. Perennially ranked as the top Austin-area employer among large companies by the Austin Business Journal's annual "Best Places to Work" survey, St. David's HealthCare is the fourth-largest private employer in the Austin area, with more than 8,700 employees.

St. David's Medical Center

919 E. 32nd Street, Austin, 78705
512-544-7111; www.stdavids.com

Founded in 1924, St. David's Medical Center includes a 350-bed, acute care hospital and a dedicated 64-bed Rehabilitation Hospital providing comprehensive inpatient and outpatient care. St. David's Medical Center is home to the NeuroTexas Institute and the internationally renowned Texas Cardiac Arrhythmia Institute. The hospital provides a complete range of women's services, including its acclaimed maternity unit, maternal-fetal medicine, a high-risk maternal and neonatal transport team, the region's largest and most sophisticated Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and The Breast Center; a fertility center; complex surgical services; a comprehensive Bariatric Surgery Center; and a 24-hour emergency department. St. David's Medical Center has repeatedly been named to the list of 100 Top Hospitals by Truven Health Analytics as well as the list of 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals. The hospital also earned a national distinction for patient safety from The Leapfrog Group, an independent national nonprofit run by employers and other large purchasers of health benefits.



St. David's North Austin Medical Center

12221 Mopac Expressway North
Austin, 78758; 512-901-1000
www.stdavids.com

St. David's North Austin Medical Center is a 378 -bed multi-specialty, acute care facility, dedicated to the highest level of women's health services, including maternity and newborn care with Level I, II and III nurseries at the adjacent St. David's Women's Center of Texas, as well as a 24-hour emergency department, The Texas Institute for Robotic Surgery, the Bariatric Center, heart and vascular center, neurology and neurosurgery, a kidney transplant program, inpatient and outpatient surgery, and acute inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation, among many others. St. David's North Austin Medical Center is also home to St. David's pediatric program (see pediatrics section). St. David's North Austin Medical Center has been named to the list of 100 Top Hospitals by Truven Health Analytics.

St. David's South Austin Medical Center

901 W. Ben White Blvd., Austin, 78704
512-447-2211; www.stdavids.com

St. David's South Austin Medical Center is a 316-bed acute care facility, offering a range of complex specialties

and sub-specialties, including a comprehensive and nationally recognized cardiac program, full-service maternity and newborn care with Level I and II nurseries, a thriving 24-hour emergency department, and two full-service emergency centers in the communities of Bee Cave and Bastrop. The medical center recently completed a comprehensive, \$72-million renovation and expansion project. A few years ago, St. David's South Austin Medical Center launched the region's first blood and marrow transplant program.

St. David's Round Rock Medical Center

2400 Round Rock Avenue
Round Rock, 78681
512-341-1000; www.stdavids.com

St. David's Round Rock Medical Center is an acute care hospital with more than 171 beds, providing comprehensive health services to residents of Williamson County and the surrounding areas. Services include The Heart and Vascular Center with express testing, maternity and newborn services with Level I and II nurseries at The Women's Center, and an emergency department with a Level II Trauma Center. St. David's Round Rock Medical Center is

also known for advanced orthopedic and bariatric services, among other complex specialties.

St. David's Georgetown Hospital

2000 Scenic Drive, Georgetown, 78626
512-943-3000; www.stdavids.com

St. David's Georgetown Hospital is an acute care, hospital with a range of services, including a 24-hour major and minor emergency department staffed with board-certified emergency medicine physicians, an intensive care unit, advanced pulmonary intervention capabilities, inpatient and outpatient surgery, acute inpatient rehabilitation and outpatient therapy, and excellent maternity and newborn services. Additionally, it is a Certified Primary Stroke Center and Chest Pain Center.

Heart Hospital of Austin

3801 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, 78756
512-407-7000
www.hearthospitalofaustin.com

Heart Hospital of Austin—one of the largest non-academic cardiovascular research sites in the world—is a 58-bed hospital with a comprehensive 24-hour emergency department, an advanced Executive Wellness Program, two hybrid operating rooms, five O.R. suites, three catheterization labs and two electrophysiology labs—all equipped with leading-edge technology and highly-specialized personnel. It is one of the highest performing cardiovascular facilities in the nation, specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease. The team of professionals at Heart Hospital of Austin has made it the No. 1 Cardiac Program in Texas for six consecutive years as ranked by HealthGrades®—a leading independent health ratings organization. Additionally, Heart Hospital of Austin has been named one of the Top 50 Cardiovascular Hospitals in the nation by Truven Health Analytics for eleven years, and it was named to the list of 100 Top Hospitals in 2019 by Truven Health Analytics in conjunction with its parent campus, St. David's Medical Center.

St. David's Rehabilitation Hospital

919 E 32nd Street, Austin, 78705
512-544-5100; www.stdavids.com

St. David's Rehabilitation Hospital features private rooms, state-of-the-art technology and the largest rehab pool in the market to support the most comprehensive aquatic therapy program in the region. All St. David's Rehabilitation facilities provide comprehensive rehabilitative care for patients with neurological conditions, including stroke, and orthopedic illnesses or injuries.

St. David's Neuroscience & Spine Institute

1015 E. 32nd Street, Suite 404
Austin, 78705; 512-544-9000
www.NeuroTexasInstitute.com

St. David's Neuroscience & Spine Institute is dedicated to ensuring the best clinical outcomes for patients with conditions affecting the brain, spine and nerves, as well as providing exceptional neurological, neurosurgical and rehabilitative care. Staff includes 40 physicians of various subspecialties who are committed to its vision of quality care and research advances. The physicians, together with other neuroscience professionals, provide comprehensive, individualized and high-quality care, integrating the most advanced clinical protocols and surgical technologies.

Texas Cardiac Arrhythmia Institute at St. David's Medical Center

Located on St. David's Medical Center campus
3000 N. IH 35, Suite 720, Austin, 78705
512-544-2342 or 877-887-7737
www.TCAInstitute.com

Texas Cardiac Arrhythmia Institute at St. David's Medical Center (TCAI) is one of the world's preeminent centers dedicated to the latest treatment advances for correcting abnormal heart rhythms such as Atrial Fibrillation (A Fib). The center is led by Executive Medical Director Andrea Natale, M.D., a world-renowned expert in the field

who is at the forefront of advancing treatment for A Fib, leading numerous clinical trials and participating in the development of new technologies and procedures.

Texas Institute for Robotic Surgery

12201 Renfert Way, Austin, 78758
(at Parmer Lane; located on the St. David's North Austin Medical Center campus)
512-901-2101; www.TexasRobotic.com

The Texas Institute for Robotic Surgery at St. David's North Austin Medical Center is an international treatment, training and clinical research center that combines excellence in robotic-assisted surgery and outcomes in education and training. It serves as the leading clinical center for delivering the highest level of care at every step in the treatment of a robotic surgery patient, and features the nation's first educational epicenter teaching best practices for hospital leadership, surgeons and surgical teams involved in robotic-assisted da Vinci surgery.

St. David's Women's Center of Texas

12221 MoPac Expwy. North
Austin, 78758
(at Parmer Lane; located on the St. David's North Austin Medical Center campus)
512-901-1050; www.stdavids.com

St. David's Women's Center of Texas is the first dedicated, comprehensive center in Central Texas devoted entirely to the health and wellness of women of all ages. The center provides its patients with the most advanced level of care supported by highly trained care specialists and the latest technological advances. Doctors and specialists at the center care for more mothers and babies than any other health system in Central Texas. High-level care capabilities include a 57-bed Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit; 37 labor, delivery and postpartum rooms; 61 dedicated postpartum rooms; 24/7 neonatology coverage; obstetrics and gynecology hospitalists; and a midwifery program.

St. David's Rehabilitation

St. David's Rehabilitation is a leading network of hospital-based inpatient physical medicine and outpatient facilities in Central Texas. We specialize in the treatment of complex neurological conditions like Guillain Barré, spinal cord injury, Parkinson's disease, stroke and traumatic brain injury, as well as the familiar, such as arthritis, chronic pain, and joint replacement.

St. David's Rehabilitation - Sun City

400 Del Webb Blvd., Suite 105
Georgetown, 78633; 512-931-2791

St. David's Rehabilitation - Lake Aire Center

2423 Williams Drive
Georgetown, 78628; 512-930-4163

St. David's Rehabilitation - Cedar Park

204 East Little Elm Trail
Cedar Park, 78613; 512-249-1961

St. David's Rehabilitation - Round Rock Medical Center

2400 Round Rock Ave., Suite 110
Round Rock, 78681; 512-341-1000

St. David's Rehabilitation - North Austin Medical Center

12221 Mopac Expressway North
Austin, 78758; 512-901-1000

St. David's Spine and Sport Therapy

3000 N. IH35, Suite 530
Austin, 78705; 512-544-5092

St. David's Rehabilitation - St David's Medical Center

1005 E. 32nd St.
Austin, 78705; 512-544-5116

St. David's Rehabilitation - The Hills of Westlake

4613 Bee Caves Rd., Suite 103
Austin, 78746; 512-544-0852

St. David's Rehabilitation - South Austin Medical Center

621 Radam Lane, Suite 200
Austin, 78745; 512-447-1083

St. David's Rehabilitation Pflugerville

1615 Grand Avenue Parkway, Suite 110
Pflugerville, 78660; 512-334-3530

OTHER MEDICAL CARE FACILITIES

Institute of Reconstructive Plastic Surgery of Central Texas	877-977-3866	www.setonplasticsurgery.com
Seton Brain & Spine Institute	512-324-7274	www.setonbrainandspine.com
Seton Heart Institute	877-860-1141	www.setonheart.com
Seton Mind Institute Medical Park Tower	512-324-3380	www.setonfamilyofdoctors.com
Seton Mind Institute Behavioral Health Services	512-324-2039	www.seton.net/behavioralhealth
Seton Orthopedic & Sports Medicine – Kyle	512-715-3046	www.setonfamilyofdoctors.com
Seton Orthopedic & Sports Medicine – Lockhart	512-715-3046	www.setonfamilyofdoctors.com
St. David's HealthCare - Bailey Square Surgery Center	512-454-6753	www.baileysquare.com
St. David's HealthCare - Central Park Surgery Center	512-323-2061	www.centralparksurgerycenter.com
St. David's HealthCare - North Austin Surgery Center	512-832-9088	www.northaustinsurgerycenter.com
St. David's HealthCare - Oakwood Surgery Center	512-246-8777	www.oakwoodsurgerycenter.com
St. David's Occupational Health Clinics - North	512-836-6555	www.stdavids.com/service/occupational-health
St. David's Occupational Health Clinics - Central	512-544-8195	www.stdavids.com/service/occupational-health
Surgicare of South Austin	512-416-6006	www.southaustinsurgicare.com
Texas Neuro Rehab Center	800-252-5151	www.texasneurorehab.com

St. David's Emergency Centers

St. David's HealthCare features four St. David's Emergency Centers throughout the Central Texas region, in addition to the emergency departments located within its hospitals. St. David's Emergency Centers are full-service freestanding emergency departments (EDs) that operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, but do not have attached inpatient facilities. The emergency centers feature exam rooms, an on-site CT scanner, ultrasound, X-ray, on-site lab for immediate results, board-certified emergency physicians and nurses trained in trauma care. The on-site medical team treats all urgent and emergent medical conditions such as heart attacks, strokes, head and spine injuries, respiratory distress, abdominal pain, dehydration, orthopedic injuries, sports injuries and lacerations that require sutures. Patients requiring inpatient care are transported from the freestanding ED to a nearby St. David's HealthCare hospital.

St. David's Emergency Center – Bastrop
3201 Highway 71 East
Bastrop, 78602; 512-308-5900

St. David's Emergency Center - Bee Cave
12813 Galleria Circle
Bee Cave, 78738; 512-816-2100

St. David's Emergency Center–Pflugerville
18917 Limestone Commercial Drive
Pflugerville, 78660; 512-532-2200

St. David's Emergency Center - Cedar Park
14016 N. Highway 183
Austin, 78717; 512-334-0327

St. David's Medical Group

The St. David's Medical Group provides care throughout Central Texas in the areas of primary care, cardiology, neurosciences and a wide array of specialty care.

Austin Heart - Cedar Park
1401 Medical Pkwy #407b,
Cedar Park, 78613; 512-249-7190



Austin Heart - Georgetown
1900 Scenic Drive, Suite 3308
Georgetown, 78626; 512-869-2566

Austin Heart - Central + Hospital Office
3801 N. Lamar, Suite 300
Austin, 78756; 512-206-3600

Austin Heart - Northwest
11149 Research Blvd., Bldg. 1, Suite 125
Austin, 78759; 512-338-0492

Austin Heart - Round Rock
Medical Oak Plaza
2410 Round Rock Ave., Suite 110
Round Rock, 78681; 512-341-0889

Austin Heart - South Austin
2559 Western Trails Blvd, Suite 200
Austin, 78745; 512-899-2028

Brushy Creek Family Physicians
7200 Wyoming Springs, Suite 1500
Round Rock, 78681; 512-218-8696

Brushy Creek Family Physicians
Forest Creek Medical Center
4112 Links Lane, Suite 201
Round Rock, 78664; 512-672-8933

Cardio Texas
1015 E. 32nd Street
Austin, 78705; 512-807-3140

Cardiovascular Specialists of Texas
7215 Wyoming Springs, Suite 100
Round Rock, 78681; 512-807-3180

Cardiovascular Specialists of Texas
2200 Park Bend Drive., Bldg. 1, Suite 401
Austin, 78758; 512-807-3160

Georgetown Medical Clinic
3201 S. Austin Ave., Suite 210
Georgetown, 78626; 512-763-4000

Georgetown Center for Adult Medicine
105 Wildwood Drive, Suite 105
Georgetown, 78633; 512-763-4060

St. David's Neuroscience and Spine Institute
St. David's Medical Center
1015 E 32nd St #404,
Austin, 78705; 512-544-9000

North Austin Maternal Fetal Medicine
12200 Renfert Way, Suite G-3
Austin, 78758
(South Location)
4316 James Casey, Bldg. B, Suite 101
Austin, 78745; 512-821-2540

Austin Rehabilitation Specialists
3000 N. IH-35, Suite 600
Austin, 78705; 512-236-1310

Texas Cardiac Arrhythmia
3000 N. IH-35, Suite 700
Austin, 78705; 512-807-3150

Texas Heart and Vascular
4316 James Casey St, Buildings A & C
Austin, 78745; 512-623-5300 ●

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1333 Shore District Drive
Austin, Texas 78741
SouthShoreDistrict.com
512.448.3000



APARTMENT LIVING

Not surprisingly, many Austin transplants rent apartments when they first move to the city. It gives them time to get the lay of the land, settle into a new job, and get to know their new neighbors before locking in a home of their own. Quite a few Austinites continue to rent, even after finding their “Austin legs” because they’ve found their perfect apartment — and love it so much, they don’t want to leave.

in this section

choosing a neighborhood
apartment locators
renter’s insurance
tenant rights

Moving across the country — or even just across the state — can be a huge decision. The solemnity of saying goodbye to friends and family, mixed with the excitement of starting a new life somewhere else, can leave you at your wit's end. Making decisions about where and how to live your new life can be downright frightening. Finding a place to call home is challenging in any city, but with a little knowledge and a little help, transplants to Austin have some pretty good odds of doing just that.

THE AUSTIN APARTMENT MARKET

Austin is one of America's fastest growing cities. As at July 1, 2017 the population in Austin was 950,715. Why are people flocking to Austin? Could it have something to do with the fact that it was named the 2nd among "America's top states for business" by CNBC? Maybe it's the 36.8 park acres per 1,000 residents, the great air quality, or the low 2.7 percent unemployment rate at a time when the national unemployment rate is 3.7 percent. Perhaps it's the amazing music, nightlife, and culture, as some Austinites insist. Whatever it is about Austin that brings flocks of new residents to the area each year, one thing is certain: most of those new residents will be renting apartments, at least for their first six months to a year.

The cost of living in Austin is considerably lower than most big cities, as well as the national average. Sitting at a cost of living index of 98.5 (with the national average being 100), Austin is a very affordable place to live. There are no personal or corporate income taxes in the state of Texas, and the average annual state and local taxes in Austin are \$4,828. Home prices, however, have increased 8.9 percent over the last one year, compared to a national average of just 5.5 percent.

What does all that mean? It means that, while Austin is an inexpensive place to live, owning a home in Austin isn't within everyone's reach. Renting an apartment is an excellent alternative. Apartments offer Austinites "lifestyle, convenience, and flexibility," according to Tiffany Walters, Senior Marketing Manager of Greystar Real Estate Partners in Austin. In addition, apartment renters can usually afford better amenities than they might in a single family home.

So what can you expect to pay for an apartment in Austin? A new one bedroom apartment in the suburbs run about \$1510. A one bed-room averages out at \$1,340 per month, and two bedrooms begin at \$1,672 per month. How much for a one bedroom in Downtown Austin? Upwards of \$2,925 —if you can find one that's available.

The Austin apartment market is a competitive one. While the city's population has boomed for decades, available housing has not kept up. Recently, Austin new build apartments reached an all-time high mark compared to the prior 20 years. In the last few years, however, the city has been trying to catch up with its population growth by building apartment homes and residential towers. Of over 723,000 houses, apartments, and condominiums in Austin, more than 233,000 were built after 2000, ranking Austin 5th in the country for youngest housing stock. Apartments are popping up all over Austin.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOOD

Austin is known for being an eclectic city, and Austin neighborhoods are no different. From young and hip high rises, to suburbs with great schools and parks, to customized luxury apartments, Austin has it all. Choosing the right neighborhood can be difficult, however, for someone who is unfamiliar with the lay of Austin land. "Many people immediately look to downtown areas, but I encourage anyone new to Austin to look at other areas," says Charissa Parkhill, Southwest Regional Field Marketer for The NRP Group, a full-service investment, development, and property management company. It's important to have an understanding of what Austin has to offer, so you can choose a neighborhood that's right for you.

Downtown: The greatest apartment growth may very well be in Downtown Austin, where construction cranes tower over existing skyscrapers to build even higher. Downtown Austin is seeing increasingly younger residents, mostly middle to upper class. These Austinites love the convenience of being just blocks from shopping on Congress Avenue, live music venues on 6th Street, and even some great parks, hiking, and biking along the Colorado River.

South Austin: Across the Colorado River from Downtown Austin is where young, artsy, and hippie types seem to collect. Although Barton Heights has some great family areas, Travis Heights and Bouldin Creek attract mainly hip, liberal Austinites, as well as transplants from other parts of the country. The main drag in this part of town is South Congress Avenue.

North Austin: North Austin consists of areas like Round Rock, Cedar Park, and Leander, which attract a lot of families. The Leander Independent school district is an award-winning district, and many tech companies like Apple and Dell have large operations in the area. North Austin also has some great luxury apartments, like The Allure, an Alliance Residential property. The Allure has a fitness center, conference room, wi-fi in all common areas, a pet park, and even green features like electric car-charging stations and smoke-free buildings. "Austin is a very green city. There's a lot of demand for green living," says Parkhill. North and northwest Austin are fast-growing Austin neighborhoods, great for families, animal lovers, and the environmentally-conscious.

West Austin: West Austin has some of the wealthiest (and most expensive) neighborhoods in the city, such as Westlake Hills and Steiner Ranch. The commute into town is a bit longer than in other areas of Austin, but residents are closer to Lake Travis and the great outdoors. Further south are middle class, conservative neighborhoods, such as Oak Hill and Circle C Ranch.

East Austin: East Austin is the epitome of Austin eclecticism. Although it used to be considered the poorest part of the city, the area is now mostly a hipster neighborhood. Old houses and funky remodels sit next to sleek, modern developments. Southeast Austin is home to a lot of University of Texas students, likely because of the large numbers of apartments and other rental properties in the area.

HOW TO FIND AN APARTMENT IN AUSTIN

With such a competitive market, and the variety of neighborhoods in an ever more eclectic Austin, how do you find a great Austin apartment? Like anywhere in the U.S., there is always Craigslist and newspaper listings. If you already live in Austin, you could

also drive around the part of town you think you might want to live in. With demand so high, many apartment managers just put up signs in front of the building. If you live across the country, however, finding a great Austin apartment can be more difficult.

There are a lot of things that can complicate an apartment hunt, like a limited budget or having pets. Austin is a very pet-friendly city. For example, there are over 200 restaurants in Austin that allow leashed dogs in their outdoor or patio seating areas. That's not to say, however, that every apartment complex will allow pets. Pets often mean more liability for a landlord, and some complex-owners choose to avoid problems by simply not allowing pets. Overall, however, quite a few places in Austin are pet-friendly. Some places have restrictions on species, size, and breed. Breeds that are considered aggressive, like pit bulls, for example, are restricted from many otherwise pet-friendly buildings. If you come across an apartment that does not allow pets, try offering to get pet liability insurance. The landlord may change his or her mind.

Having a restricted budget can also make an apartment search difficult, particularly in a market with as much demand as Austin. You may be tempted to rush into a commitment to secure a great deal before someone else snatches it up. As anyone who has surfed Craigslist apartment listings in any city will know, deals that are too good to be true, usually are. The fastest, easiest, and safest way to find the perfect apartment in your budget is to get help from a local — and Austin has a lot of apartment locating resources.

Many apartment hunters from other cities don't think they need an apartment locator to help them find a great place. The Austin market is a very different beast, however. While new apartment buildings seem to pop up daily, there's also a lot of demand for them. Somewhere between 94% and 98% of Austin apartments are occupied at any given time, so finding an open place is tough. "What you look at today will probably be gone within 24 hours," says Reeh.

INSURANCE, REGULATIONS, AND TENANT RIGHTS

While finding an apartment in Austin may be difficult, actually securing it can be even harder. Once you've found the perfect apartment, you'll want to snatch it up. It's a renter's market, here in Austin, so taking a lot of time to haggle over price or look at renter's insurance before signing a contract might be a huge mistake. Be prepared to take the next step by understanding Austin's housing regulations, renters insurance options, and your rights as a tenant — before your hunt for the perfect apartment even starts.

Renter's Insurance: All landlords are required by the city of Austin to have insurance for their building. This won't however, protect your personal items in the event that they are stolen or damaged. In Austin, housing laws allow landlords to require tenants to get renters insurance, and a landlord can specify a minimum limit for your policy. It's a good idea to speak with an insurance agent before even beginning apartment hunting, to speed up the renting process. Create a list of what you own

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APARTMENTS HERE!

Apartments HERE! is an apartment locator service that calls Austin home. Not only can these folks search a database of apartments all over the Austin Metropolitan Area, but they offer personalized service to find the right apartment for you. “What we can tell a prospective renter in five minutes will save them hours, if not days, of time, gas, and trouble,” says Reeh, who grew up in Austin. The best part is, these services are free to you. How is that possible? Apartment locators are compensated by landlords for bringing interested tenants their way, and this cost is never passed on to you in the form of higher rent or other fees. The service is genuinely free.

and each item’s value, and make sure you buy enough to cover it all.

In addition to covering your personal property, renters insurance can cover loss of use and personal liability. Loss of use insurance covers living expenses, such as food and rent, if you need to temporarily move out of your apartment. Personal liability insurance protects you against personal injury claims or lawsuits in the event that someone is injured in your apartment. Look closely at your policy, however, because it may list events or circumstances your policy doesn’t cover, like flood damage,

for example. Policies that cover every type of loss (except what is specifically mentioned in the policy) are called “all-risk” policies. Policies that only cover specific events listed in the policy are called “named-perils” policies.

Some types of renter’s insurance also include pet liability insurance. Your landlord may require this type of insurance if you have a pet, as well as specify a minimum liability limit. It’s a good idea to have this insurance when living in close quarters with other people and pets, even if your landlord doesn’t require it. Read the fine print in your policy, however, because it

may exclude “aggressive” breeds, like pit bulls or rottweilers, and only certain events may apply, like dog bites.

Regulations, Fire Codes, and Grilling: Before signing a lease, make sure you understand what you can do at your apartment, and what you can’t. Austin fire code prevents residents from having charcoal or gas grills on their patios or balconies, for example. Storing your grill (or even just propane tanks) on walkways is also a no-no, because it can block fire escape routes and annoy neighbors. Breaking these rules can get you slapped with a hefty fine, anywhere from \$350 to \$550 per offense.

Austinites love to barbeque, though — even in temperatures over 100 degrees. So what do apartment-dwelling Austinites do? Some of them have electric grills, because they don’t break fire code (unless they are used indoors — don’t grill in your apartment!) What if you just love that char-grilled taste, and electric just won’t do it for you? Since the new barbeque laws were passed in Austin, many landlords have installed community grills on

Thinking of Moving to Austin?

Relocating to a new city is a major decision.

Even though home ownership can be a great way to build wealth, Renting for the first 6-12 months allows you to get your bearings so you can make a better decision about the area you want to make your home.

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OR via email, info@ApartmentsHere.com**

their properties to attract barbeque lovers. Many of Austin's parks also have grills. Barbequing may not be as easy for Austin apartment dwellers as it is for home owners, but it's still possible. If you think you will want to grill at your apartment, make sure to find a complex with available facilities. Other Austin fire codes regulate how long holiday lights can stay up (90 days) and proper installation of smoke detectors. Breaking codes can not only result in fines for tenants, but you may also be risking your right to rent the apartment. Before signing a lease, make sure you read it carefully. It covers the landlords rules and regulations, and may also obligate you to obey fire codes and other restrictions.

Tenant Rights: While Austin may have strict fire and housing regulations, the city also gives its residents their deserved housing rights. The Federal Fair Housing Act protects against discrimination in the areas of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, and familial status. Austin's Fair Housing Act goes even further, protecting tenants from discrimination regarding marital status,

student status, sexual orientation, age, and gender identity.

The Austin Tenant's Council is a non-profit organization that helps Austinites fight against landlords who do not acknowledge a tenant's rights. If you feel discriminated against while apartment hunting or moving in, they can help. Their motto is "Safe, Decent, Fair Housing for All," and that means being able to move two adults and a child into a one-bedroom apartment, bringing your service pets, and much more. The best way to fight for your rights as a tenant is to make sure you understand those rights and ask potential landlords a lot of questions — before signing a lease. While you may be tempted to skip reading the lease agreement to secure that perfect apartment, don't. Texas has no "buyer's remorse" law for leasing agreements, so once you've signed, you are responsible for carrying out your side of the deal. Check the lease carefully for clauses regarding Landlord's Entry (when a landlord can enter your apartment), Landlord's Lien (a landlord's right to seize some of your property as collateral until you pay back rent), and

Evictions. Also, make sure you understand any renters insurance requirements or additional pet owner responsibilities if you have or want a pet.

Renting an apartment can be an exciting time as you picture your future as a new Austinite. It can also be a stressful time because there is such high demand for apartments in Austin. It's important to keep a level head and make sure you have all of your ducks (or dogs, cats, or fish) in a row before signing that lease and moving in.

Renting an apartment in Austin is a great way to get to know the Live Music Capital of the World from the inside out. Apartment living is ideal for new Austin transplants, or veteran Austinites with an on-the-go lifestyle, where convenience and flexibility are a must. While Austin's high-demand apartment market can make finding and securing a great apartment challenging, it's easy to find local experts to help you. If you think the Austin apartment lifestyle may be for you, take that first step and start investigating! Thousands upon thousands of Austinites can tell you it's worth it! ●

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AMLI Eastside
AMLI South Shore
AMLI on Aldrich



AMLI 300
AMLI 5350
AMLI Covered Bridge



AMLI on 2ND
AMLI Downtown
AMLI at Mueller



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AUSTIN'S energy CONSERVATION Disclosure Ordinance



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

As a renter, you have the right to know if your current or future apartment is energy efficient. The Energy Conservation Audit and Disclosure (ECAD) ordinance requires that Austin multifamily properties (such as apartment complexes) complete an energy audit of the residential units. These audits must be done the year the complex turns 10 years old, with new audits conducted every 10 years after. A qualified ECAD Energy Professional must conduct the audit. ECAD applies to properties that are:

- Within the Austin Energy service area,
- Within the Austin city limits and
- 10 years or older

Through the Energy Conservation Audit and Disclosure (ECAD) ordinance you can request the energy Audit results and a companion Energy Guide to see estimated average monthly energy costs for a complex. Use both the Audit and Energy Guide as tools to compare to other similar properties.

Energy audit results should also be posted at your property for all current and prospective residents to review. For current residents, a copy of the energy audit results must be provided upon request and automatically upon lease renewal.

Energy audit results must be disclosed for prospective residents by making the results available when they apply for a lease. Prospective residents must be able to review the results before any application fees are accepted.

When you receive audit results, you have the opportunity to discuss energy efficiency measures

and improvements with your property management. Residents can come together to encourage property owners to use audit results as a catalyst for property improvement. The ECAD audit covers:

- Air conditioning and heating system efficiency
- Air filtration, duct performance, air sealing in plumbing areas, and weatherstripping
- Windows
- Attic insulation

By choosing an energy-efficient property you can lower your energy and water bills, increase the comfort of your apartment, duplex or condo and improve the indoor air quality of your residence. Austin Energy offers a variety of energy efficiency upgrade incentives to help multifamily properties offset the costs of making energy upgrades identified through the ECAD audit. Your property management can learn more about rebates for improvements by visiting powersaver.austinenenergy.com.

DID YOU KNOW

The City of Austin Data Portal can help you with your search for energy-efficient properties in the Austin Energy service area. With the data portal, you can gain access to valuable energy audit results for Austin's multifamily properties to help you make an informed decision about your next residence. Start your search at data.austintexas.gov and search for ECAD multifamily properties.

MAKE ENERGY EFFICIENCY THE TOP AMENITY AT YOUR NEXT RESIDENCE

© Kimberly Davis



Choosing an energy-efficient property can help:

- Lower your energy and water bills
- Increase the comfort of your apartment
- Improve indoor air quality



As a renter, you have the right to know if your current or future apartment is energy efficient. Through the Energy Conservation Audit and Disclosure (ECAD) ordinance you can request the audit results and companion Energy Guide to see estimated average monthly energy costs for a complex. Use an Audit and Energy Guide as a tool to compare to other similar properties.

Learn more and begin your apartment search at austinenergy.com/go/ecad or call 512-482-5346 today.



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HOME
 with
FRESH AIR



At Caliterra in Dripping Springs, we make it easy to feel at home. From our neighborhood fire pit behind the Front Porch coffee lounge to the fishing dock and trails that meander along Onion Creek to the Adirondack chairs overlooking acres of natural open space – everything here has been developed (or left undeveloped) to make you feel at home with family, friends and nature.

The Cove

Swimming pool complex now open!

The Treehouse

Built in the 100 year old Live Oaks

The Hall

The neighborhood gathering place

Community Events

Hosted by the HOA team

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 AT HOME WITH NATURE

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Homes from \$300s – \$800s

Drees Custom Homes · Pulte Homes
 Scott Felder Homes

Gated Custom Homes from \$900s+

Alkire Construction · Arbogast Custom Homes
 Lake Travis Builders · Sommerfeld Construction
 Sterling Custom Homes



Kayak on Onion Creek



The Best Builders



The Cove Pool Complex



The Hall

HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOODS

Finding a place to live is one of the most exciting experiences a newcomer to the Austin, Texas area can have. After all, *Forbes* has rated Austin as the top city for economic growth among the country's largest 100 metros.



in this section

finding a home in austin
urban, downtown living
master planned communities map
counties, cities, neighborhoods

Top reasons for the honor include the city's status as a tech hub, close proximity to universities, thriving arts and entertainment scene, affordable housing, and a growing population. With the help of a real estate professional and a little research, those new to the area can find a great home or rental in one of the Austin area's many diverse neighborhoods and enclaves in no time!

FINDING A HOME IN AUSTIN

Finding a Realtor and becoming educated about the Austin area and the amenities offered in the different neighborhoods being considered, will go a long way toward making the house-hunting experience an enjoyable one.

Get Realtor recommendations from the *Austin Relocation Guide* or by contacting the local Board of Realtors to find a real estate professional in the area. Real estate agents know the neighborhoods, the schools, the extracurricular activities, and the tax bases of different school districts.

Location is important, too – and a lot has changed around the city in just the last few years. For example, SH-130 is the new 49-mile toll road located east of I-35 that runs through Williamson and Travis counties, and extends from I-35 north of Georgetown to U.S. 183 southeast of Austin. SH-45 is approximately 13 miles long, and extends from Ridgeline Boulevard west of U.S. 183 eastward to SH-130. And the SH-45 toll road is a four to six lane divided roadway, with major interchanges at U.S. 183, Loop 1, I-35 and SH-130, and includes limited frontage roads.

“ The housing market in Austin is thriving and is an excellent investment opportunity for homeowners. ”

AUSTIN HOMES FOR SALE, DIVERSE OPTIONS

The housing market in Austin, Texas is thriving and is an excellent investment opportunity for homeowners. Most Austin, Texas homes for sale are single-family homes, garden homes, condominiums and zero-lot line homes built on individual lots with surveyed and plotted boundaries. Depending on the development, these homes may be subject to certain legal rules and restrictions regarding the physical specifications of the home, including later housing alterations made to the home.

Like single-family homes, garden homes and zero-lot line homes are built on individual lots, but have little or no yard and therefore, no yard maintenance. Instead, these homes offer their owners small terraced areas or patios they can choose to landscape. Two attached single-family homes on one lot are considered a duplex, and give residents options for rental property.

Townhomes are one or two-story homes constructed in rows that share side walls, with unobstructed front and back entries and small lawns or patios. Townhomes may be one-story structures, depending on the lot size, but generally are constructed as

two-story homes to avoid that ‘bowling alley’ feeling in the design.

Condominiums and lofts offer a homeowner even less outdoor upkeep. While the homeowner is responsible for indoor maintenance, the exterior is largely the responsibility of a management company appointed by the homeowner's association of the condominium complex. The Austin market has become flush with high-rise lofts downtown and in the University of Texas campus area, making them good investments for students, young professionals and empty-nesters.

Buyers want more options, and Austin homebuilders have responded by building more townhomes, garden homes and condos to accommodate those desires. Find garden homes, zero-lot line homes and condominiums in heavily populated areas like Round Rock, Cedar Park, downtown and south Austin. Find duplexes throughout the city, usually sprinkled throughout a development to maximize development versus higher property costs.

The inner city loft and condo developments have become also more popular as the Warehouse District has rejuvenated downtown, especially for those who have relocated from larger cities like Chicago and New York, where they live in the same building they office out of, or don't care about a yard or living in an isolated format. Lofts in the downtown and West Campus areas have also become viable options for students attending the University of Texas at Austin.

UNDERSTANDING HOMESTEAD LAWS IN TEXAS

Before settling on the home of your dreams, it's important for future homeowners to understand a few basics about Texas real estate laws. A homestead is defined in Texas as the place of residence for a family or individual and is secure from forced sale by general creditors.



The Texas Constitution guarantees the only way a person can lose his or her homestead rights is by death, abandonment, sale of property, or foreclosure of a lien against the homestead. Texas has two types of homesteads: urban and rural. In most cases, Texas homeowners file for homestead exemption as a way to help lower their taxes. To qualify for homestead exemption, homeowners must move into the property by January 1 of that year. If a buyer purchases his or her home on January 2, application for the homestead exemption must wait until the following year.

Once filed, a homestead exemption is valid as long as the homeowner lives on the property and is using it as the primary residence. If the homeowner moves out of the property and rents it, then the exemption goes away. Also, homestead law states that if a property is purchased with a pre-existing homestead exemption, the homestead exemption transfers to the new owner.

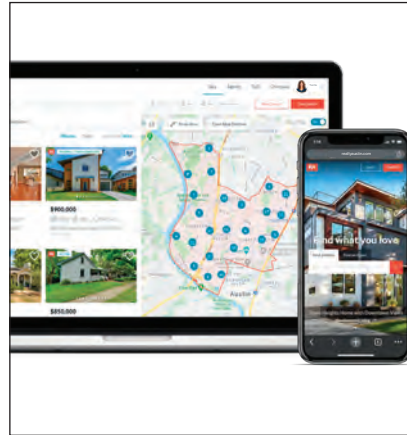
THE ENERGY CONSERVATION AUDIT AND DISCLOSURE ORDINANCE (ECAD)

Whether buying or selling a home in the Austin area, you can benefit from the Energy Conservation Audit and Disclosure (ECAD) ordinance during real estate transactions. The ordinance, as described in Chapter 6-7 Energy Conservation of the Austin City Code, requires energy disclosures for homes and buildings more than 10 years old which are served by Austin Energy and located within Austin city limits. This City of Austin ordinance simply indicates the responsibility of sellers to disclose energy audit details, without insisting that improvements must be made.

Like other energy ordinances throughout the nation and the world, ECAD helps promote energy efficiency and environmental responsibility by identifying energy savings opportunities for property owners. Improving home energy efficiency can:

- Improve indoor air quality and comfort
- Save money and energy
- Increase value and marketability

While certain exemptions may apply, the ECAD audit typically occurs during the time



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of home sale, with a completion deadline at time of contract signing or during the 10-day option period. Potential home sellers may arrange for the ECAD audit earlier, using the results to identify energy efficiency improvements made or desired to differentiate the house on the market.

To comply with the ordinance, home sellers work with certified energy professionals to conduct the ECAD audit, which requires specialized equipment and attention. Sellers pay for, receive and share audit details with potential buyers. The audit includes assessing the efficiency of air infiltration and ductwork, attic insulation, windows, weatherization, heating and cooling. Per the ordinance, this information then goes to home buyers and to Austin Energy.

As the City of Austin continues to encourage more sustainable practices, the ECAD ordinance benefits each side of a real estate transaction. For home buyers, the energy audit provides a helpful tool when evaluating a home, whether looking for a place already energy efficient or a new project for home improvements. In addition, home buyers can use the audit to anticipate any potentially hidden costs associated with ongoing maintenance and home energy use, clarifying the full cost of a new home.

For home sellers, an ECAD audit that discloses an array of energy efficiency home features translates into a more distinct and attractive listing in the competitive real estate marketplace. Savvy sellers and buyers recognize that the energy efficiency features identified through the

ECAD audit contribute to 'green' listings in the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) and increase home value.

Austin Energy offers a variety of energy efficiency upgrade incentives to help homeowners offset the costs of making improvements identified through the ECAD audit. Homeowners who have made energy efficiency improvements to the home through Austin Energy programs may qualify for an ECAD exemption.

For more information about the Energy Conservation Audit and Disclosure ordinance and related Austin Energy programs, go to www.austinenergy.com/go/ECAD or talk with a local real estate professional.

NOT READY TO BUY? CONSIDER RENTING

If you're new to the area, living in corporate housing or renting is a smart idea – and a great opportunity to discover areas of town before you decide to buy.

An excellent source for finding out the intricacies of renting property in Texas is the *Austin Tenants Council*. The ATC's counseling line at 512-474-1961 is open only for Travis County residents, however, the organization's website (www.housing-rights.org) has valuable Texas property code details and tenant-landlord information and forms for residents of surrounding counties.

No matter what you decide, those new to Austin and Central Texas will soon discover just how much the city has to offer when it comes to housing, neighborhoods, amenities, options, and much more. ●

the *Vibrant* *downtown* ATX SCENE



• austin's downtown explosion •

It's hard not to love all that's great about downtown Austin – so it doesn't come as much of a surprise that there's been a lot more activity when it comes to downtown real estate. After all, downtowns all over the country are the place to be, and it's easy to understand why. They are often the epicenters of culture and creativity, of hipness and newness, and vibrant with possibilities for the future of a city. *Austin is no exception.*

The city's downtown offers a vibrant lifestyle and is an exciting alternative to single-family homes in more traditional, suburban neighborhoods. This kind of "Austin-style" urban living means residents have easy access to all the city has to offer: a thriving entertainment district; the best in music, arts and film; fabulous restaurants; great bars; and a plethora of outdoor activities around Lady Bird Lake.

From low-rise condos dotting the shores of the lake to high-rise loft living, there's no doubt that the perks to living downtown can't be beat.

But it wasn't always this way. Years ago, businesses were all that occupied the downtown area, with the exception of four or five condo high-rises and a few apartment buildings – and those who lived downtown had to drive or take a bus to get to services like grocery stores and specialty shops. The closest entertainment was on Sixth Street, which was lined with bars and restaurants and had very few shops.

Now, the rise of new residential units has had a definite influence on the kinds of businesses that have sprung up downtown to support those who embrace the urban living scene. With all the recent development, the infrastructure of downtown has changed.

Consider that, without Whole Foods, the closest major grocery store would be at least two miles away. The eclectic mix of other businesses, many of which are locally owned, are also huge benefits because they contribute to downtown's status as a walkable city that's easy to get around.

WHO'S MOVING TO DOWNTOWN AUSTIN?

Like many downtowns across the country, there was a large concentration of single, young professionals, and investors snapping up downtown Austin lofts and condos. Not anymore.

The market may have catered to singles and empty-nesters several years ago, but

now there's a much broader spectrum of who lives downtown. While singles and professionals still dominate, more families with children are making the move. And, with plenty of good public, private and charter schools within easy access of downtown – plus parks and a location that's minutes away from tons of kid-friendly activities – it's getting easier for families to make the transition.

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Another factor that's drawing more and more people to downtown Austin are the increased services. Whole Foods Market's flagship store and corporate headquarters at Sixth and Lamar, plus tiny neighborhood grocery stores like Royal Blue Grocery in the Second Street District are welcome additions for downtown residents in need of a bottle of bubbly or a loaf of bread.

The newest downtown Austin development projects, such as the Second Street District, additions to the Warehouse District, and new shops and restaurants on Fifth Street, have made it a lot easier for people to make the decision to live in the heart of the city. There are also plans to bring in still more retail downtown, as residents are demanding more services and options.

For example, the Second Street District has done very well with the boutique stores, sidewalk cafes, and coffee shops that have popped up along the street in the last year or two. The Second Street District is also home to restaurants, retail stores, home furnishings stores, sandwich shops, and more. KLRU Studios (home of the long-running "Austin City Limits" television show) and its new performing arts venue – *ACL Live at the Moody Theater* – opened adjacent to the new W Hotel. The *Mexican-American Cultural Center* is closeby, adding to Austin's cultural base and downtown appeal.

WHERE TO LIVE?

There has always been some residential development in downtown Austin – like the historic *Brazos Lofts*, the *Railyard Condominiums*, and *Gables West Avenue*, all of which opened in 1999 – but it wasn't until 2002 when the residential market really exploded.

In that year, the *Plaza Lofts* at Republic Square and West 5th, the *Brown Building* lofts on West 8th, and the luxury *Nokonah* residences on West 9th all opened within

“ There’s no doubt that the idea of working and playing within easy walking distance of home is extremely appealing to many. ”

months of each other. Since then, countless residential projects have opened or have been renovated, including the *Austin City Lofts*; *Avenue Lofts*; *Austonian*; *404 Rio Grande*; *AMLI Downtown*; *The 5 Fifty Five* (atop the downtown Hilton hotel); *The Monarch*; *The Milago*; *The Shore*; *Posada del Rey*; *The Sabine on 5th*; *La Vista on Lavaca*; *The W Condominiums*; and others.

While there are some affordable housing options in downtown Austin, it's not often the norm. Average and median pricing for condos in the summer of 2019 was hovering around \$355 per square foot. The median price of the average condominium property in Austin sits at \$375,000. However, there are some residential developments in the works that are addressing the affordability factor – and many of them are in the hot area of East Austin.

KNOW BEFORE YOU BUY

Are you ready for the downtown lifestyle? Downtown living is not a perfect fit for everyone. Many downtown residential sales are in high-rise developments, and living in them requires some adjustment from a traditional single-family home.

Those thinking of making the switch to a downtown high-rise should do a bit of self-examination. Do you like to walk? Do you need a yard? Do you need your car every day? Have you lived in an urban setting before? Those are all important questions to consider before making the move to an urban lifestyle.

Buyers should also consider some of the extra expenses that go with condominium

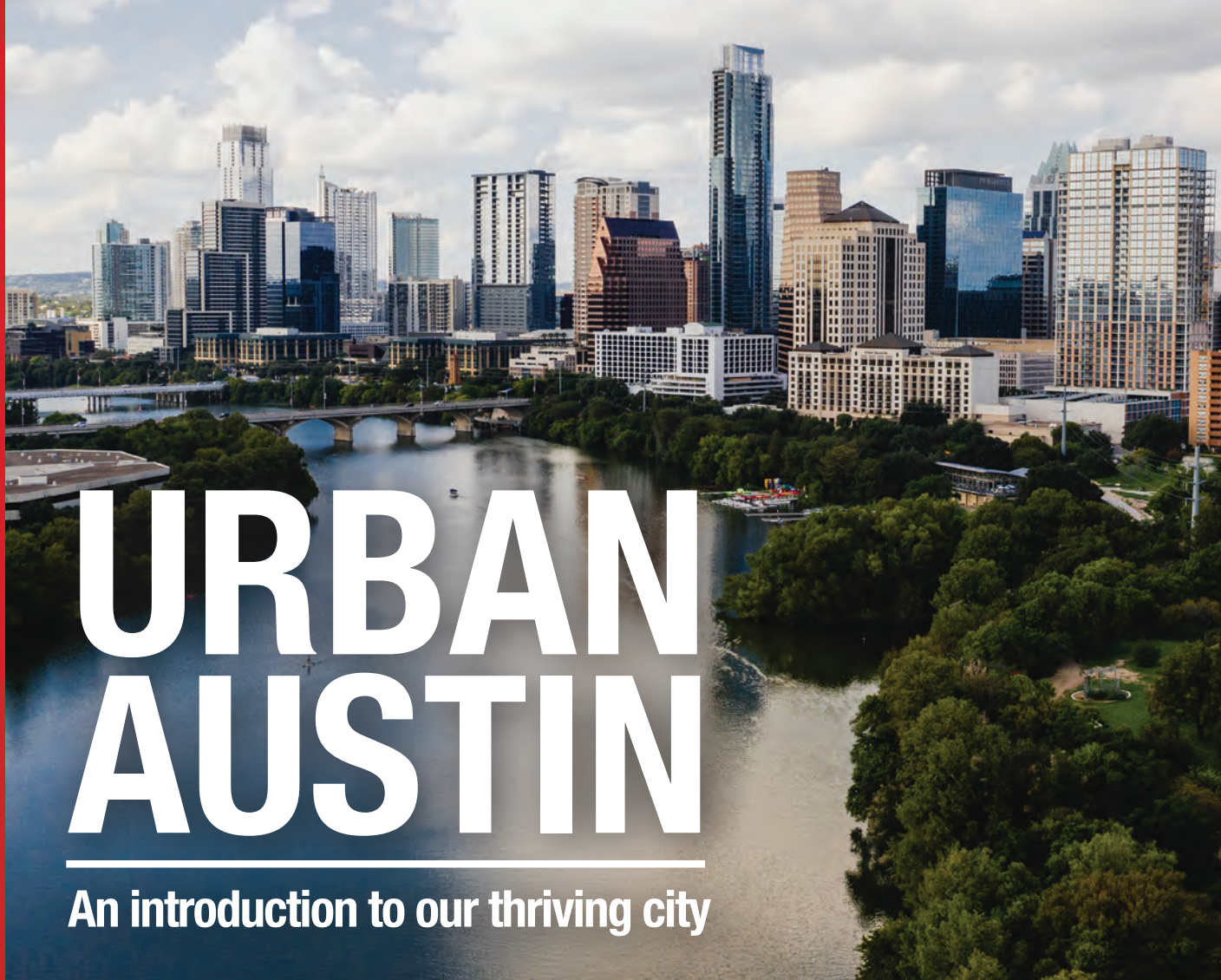
or loft living. Homeowner's association fees are just one example. Some amenities and services are included in your fees – but not all. If the property you are interested in offers a 24-hour concierge service, for example, think about whether that's a service you would use and want to pay for.

Always ask about a property's parking policy, too. Many properties allow for only one parking space per bedroom, so if you own a one-bedroom condo and have two cars, you will likely need to make special arrangements to park the second car. Ask about visitor parking spaces, too – are they available, or is the only option street parking? Given Austin's busy downtown weekend activity, that could be a challenge.

There's no doubt that the idea of working and playing within easy walking distance of home is extremely appealing to many. According to the Downtown Austin Alliance, more than 93,000 work in the downtown area; about 14,632 residents call downtown home; and according to the U.S. Census Bureau, Austin is the 11th largest city in the United States.

There is no particular profile of those who choose to make downtown their home, and the population includes many families and young professionals, not just college students. It's a mixture of all age groups – and all are attracted to the diversity that downtown has to offer. ●

Source: Downtown Austin Alliance DowntownAustin.com



URBAN AUSTIN

An introduction to our thriving city

Many know Austin as the “Live Music Capital of the World”, but it offers so much more than just its music. Austin is filled with an innovative spirit that drives change in each and every industry. It boasts a diverse mix of award-winning restaurants, a vibrant nightlife, tons of entertainment, and there’s no denying its natural beauty.

The natural beauty of Austin is integrated with the urban core, with multiple green spaces including the Shoal Creek and Waller Creek greenbelts and the string of parks interconnected by the Ann & Roy Butler Hike-and-Bike that stretch along the shores of Lady Bird Lake.

In the past decade, there has been a dramatic shift in homeowners trading in their single family homes for a life of convenience in downtown Austin. High rises have become the most popular housing trend in the capital city, attracting every age demographic, due to their centralized proximity to all that downtown offers. The city is revisiting its roots by innovating and restoring many districts, business establishments, residential buildings, office buildings, and parks for its residents to enjoy. Austin is evolving but, as always, it’s keeping it weird.

When Will Wynn served as mayor, he set a goal to bring 25,000 residents to downtown

Austin. In 2005 there were only 5,000 people living here. Today, there are over 14,000 downtown dwellers, and this number should continue to rise with the new wave of condominiums and apartments expected to deliver by year-end.

In addition to downtown Austin’s growing residential density, over 8 million square feet of office space is planned or under construction, which has the potential to add over 50,000 new jobs in the heart of the city — on top of the more than 90,000 people who currently work downtown.

Over 150 people move to the Austin area every day.

Over 8 million square feet of new office space could add over 50,000 new jobs.



1 Seaholm District

Due to the vast amount of green space and close proximity to some of Austin’s favorite hotspots like Whole Foods, Trader Joe’s, Lady Bird Lake, and The New Central Library — the Seaholm District is one of the fastest growing residential areas in downtown Austin.

This district has been completely transformed with the help of multiple private and public partnerships which worked together to recreate the area. The former Seaholm Power Plant transformed into the Seaholm Redevelopment consisting of 1.5 acres of parkland, creative office, retail, restaurants, Trader Joe’s and the Seaholm Residences. The former Electric Control Center now houses The Independent, which celebrated its grand opening in July 2019. The New Central Library, which took 4 years to build and around 125 million dollars to construct, brought a whole new level of architecture, diversity, and vibrancy to the neighborhood.

Both The Independent and The New Central Library sit along Shoal Creek, which underwent a multi-year beautification period, linking the trail with Lady Bird Lake. The Green Water Treatment Plant lies on the east side of Shoal Creek and encompasses four downtown blocks. Multi-family residences, office buildings, and a hotel + condo project make up this growing neighborhood.



2 Red River District

These historic streets don’t shy away from keeping Austin weird. Red River serves as the backbone to Austin’s music scene and fights to preserve our title as the “Live Music Capital of the World” with iconic Austin venues like Stubb’s BBQ and Mohawk. Popular nightclubs such as Cheer Up Charlies and Barbarella also contribute to the vibrant nightlife of this district.



3 6th Street Historic District

Once developed as Austin’s trade and commercial district in the late 1800s, this main artery of downtown Austin has grown into a world-renowned entertainment district. Visitors will find a multitude of bars, unique venues for live music, and great Austin restaurants such as Moonshine and Easy Tiger — often housed in historic buildings that have stood for decades.





4 Warehouse District

Anchored by Republic Square Park, the Warehouse district boasts many restaurants, lounges, and music venues — many of which are housed in renovated warehouses, lending the district its name. Notably, much of Austin’s LGBTQ+ nightlife scene is clustered around the 4th Street section of this district which is home to the nightclubs Rain, Oilcan Harry’s, and Highland Lounge.



5 Rainey Street District

In 2004 Rainey Street was rezoned as part of Austin’s Central Business District to help develop the area surrounding the Austin Convention Center. Over the past 15 years, Rainey Street has evolved from a sleepy residential street to a bustling center of activity with the construction of residential buildings — such as the upcoming 44 East Ave — and hotels, plus funky bars with outdoor patios and live music, such as Container Bar and Bungalow.



6 2nd Street District

As the shopping mecca of downtown Austin, 2nd Street District is densely packed with tons of retail shops and restaurants and also boasts classic Austin entertainment venues like Violet Crown Theater and ACL Live at the Moody Theater. Its central location within the urban core makes it a popular destination for downtown dwellers.

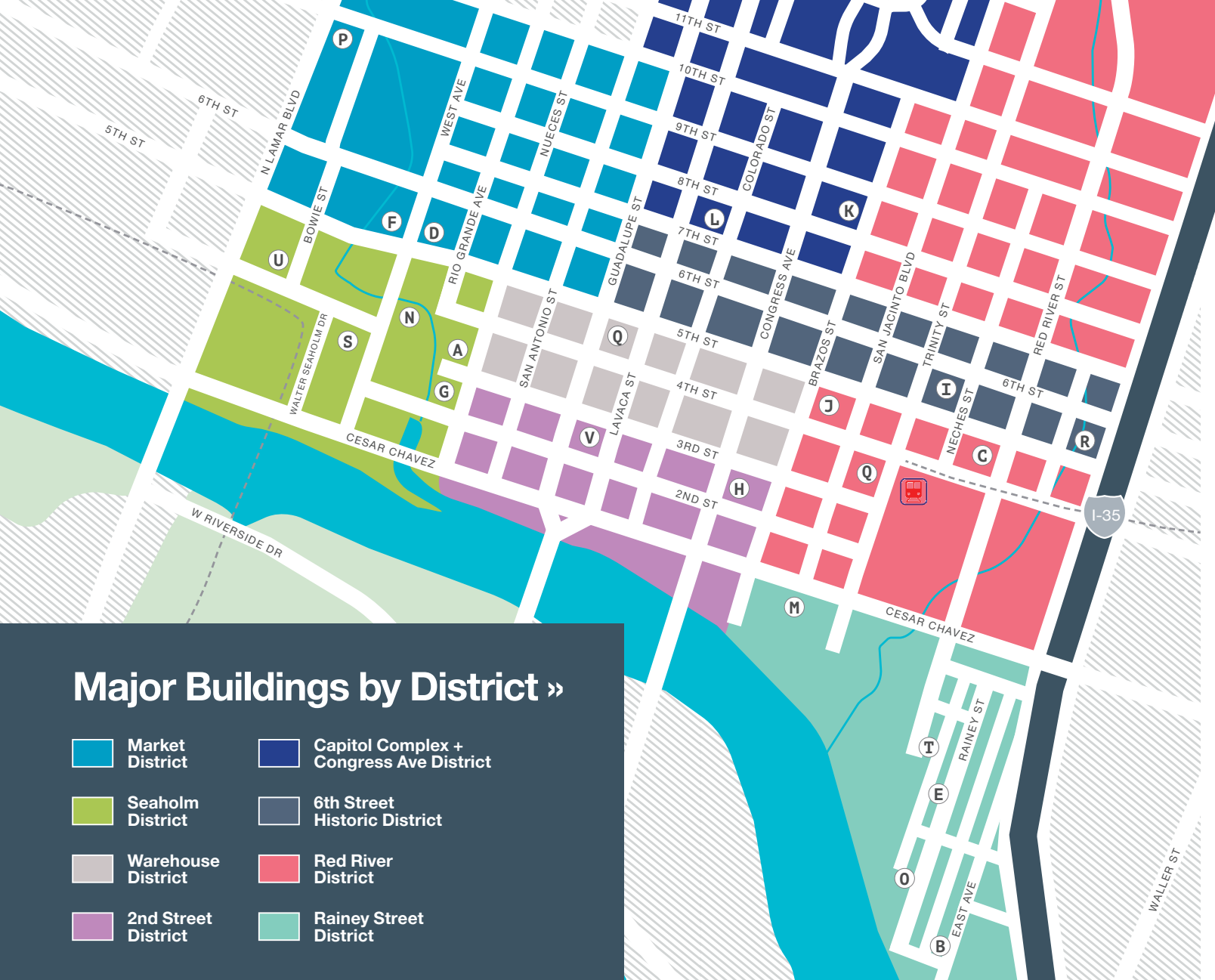


6



7 Capitol Complex & Congress Avenue District

Architecturally designed to serve as the main street in downtown, Congress Avenue has served as the address to prominent businesses since the mid-1800s, and continues connecting historical downtown with the Capitol and government buildings. The first Capitol building was completed in 1888. Until 1962 no buildings were allowed to be built taller than 200 feet to preserve the Capitol view with the exception of University of Texas Tower. Today there are both state and local Capitol view corridors that preserve the view of the Capitol from different vantage points in the city. Surrounded by 22 acres of grounds, the Capitol serves as an amazing amenity to both Austinites and Texans alike.



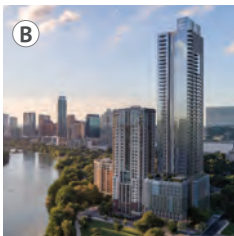
Major Buildings by District »

- Market District
- Capitol Complex + Congress Ave District
- Seaholm District
- 6th Street Historic District
- Warehouse District
- Red River District
- 2nd Street District
- Rainey Street District



360 Condominiums 360 Nueces St
430 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 44 STORIES
360condosaustin.com

A prominent addition to the downtown Austin skyline, 360 is located on the shore of Shoal Creek between the Market and 2nd Street Districts. Just a stone's throw from Ballet Austin, ACL Live at the Moody Theater, and Republic Square Park, residents can also enjoy the conveniences of 360's bustling ground level dining and retail.



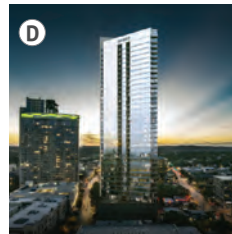
44 East Ave 44 East Ave NEW
309 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 49 STORIES
44eastave.com

Just steps away from sparkling Lady Bird Lake, 44 East Ave presents waterfront living with a world of options to suit your lifestyle. Invigorate your mornings by running or biking the lake's expansive 11 mile trail, or surround yourself in serenity with a sunset kayak trip. 1 to 4 bedroom residences are now selling, with prices from \$350K to \$4M+. Explore your downtown lakefront living options at 44EastAve.com today!



5 Fifty Five 555 E 5th St
98 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 31 STORIES
5fiftyfivecondos.com

Located atop the 800-room Hilton Hotel, on the edge of the 6th Street District, 5 Fifty Five offers amazing city views with a convenient location close to dozens of restaurants, access to the Hilton Hotel's elite amenities and services, and a private concierge.



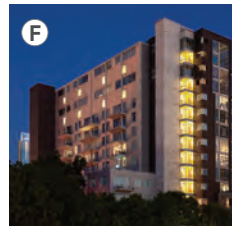
5th & West 501 West Ave
154 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 39 STORIES
5thandwestresidencesaustin.com

Fifth & West was envisioned by Texas-based architecture firm GDA Architects. With interior spaces designed by Michael Hsu Office of Architecture, each residence exemplifies the authenticity, beauty, and distinction that make Austin a city unlike any other.



70 Rainey 70 Rainey St
160+ RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 35 STORIES
70raineycondosaustin.com

Located in the heart of the vibrant Rainey Street District, 70 Rainey incorporates world-class design, dramatic architecture, uncompromising luxury, verdant landscaping, and meticulous attention to detail — all in a setting that promotes a walkable, active lifestyle. Developed by Sackman Enterprises.



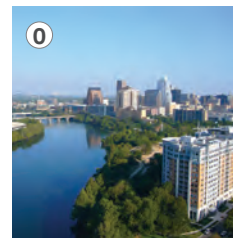
Austin City Lofts 800 W 5th St
82 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 14 STORIES
aclcondos.com

Located in the heart of the Market District, Austin City Lofts is a smaller boutique building just a block away from Whole Foods, and mere minutes from the bustling Seaholm Neighborhood District.



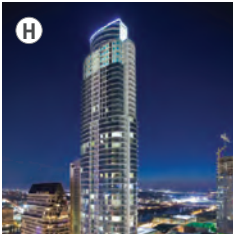
Austin Proper 202 Nueces St
98 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 32 STORIES
theproperaustin.com

Set atop the Austin Proper Hotel, the Proper uniquely combines the comfort of home ownership with the impeccable service and unrivaled amenities of a grand hotel, featuring stunning interiors by design visionary Kelly Wearstler.



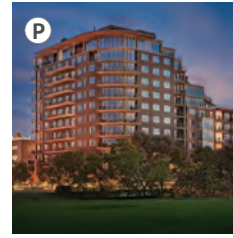
Milago 54 Rainey St
240 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 13 STORIES
milagoaustin.com

An IMPACT award winner on the edge of the Rainey Street District, Milago was the pioneer of luxury high-rise living in downtown Austin. Amenities include a rooftop pool, hike & bike trail, wi-fi lounge, club house, and 24 hour concierge.



The Austonian 200 Congress Ave
166 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 56 STORIES
austoniancondos.com

Located on Congress Ave. between West 2nd and 3rd Streets, The Austonian defines luxury living with its first class amenities and is home to Caffe Medici, 2nd Bar + Kitchen, Bar Congress, and the nationally-recognized restaurant, Congress. Certified with a 4-Star Green Building rating, The Austonian affords not only luxury but also sustainable living.



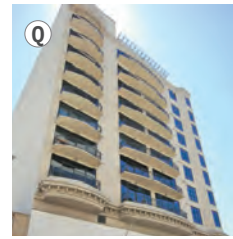
The Nokonah 901 W 9th St
95 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 11 STORIES
nokonahcondos.com

An IMPACT award winner for design, The Nokonah is located in the heart of the Market District along Lamar Boulevard, just a few blocks from Whole Foods, Duncan Park, and multiple Austin original restaurants and shops. Amenities at The Nokonah include 24-hr concierge, pool, fitness center, and club house.



Avenue Lofts 410 E 5th St
39 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 4 STORIES
austinavenuelofts.com

Avenue Lofts' exterior features an art-deco architectural design with a South Beach flair. The interior is home to 39 loft residences with concrete flooring and exposed columns for a unique industrial vibe. Situated in the heart of the Entertainment District, you can experience some of Austin's best live music venues, restaurants, and bars nearby.



Plaza Lofts 311 W 5th St
60 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 13 STORIES
plazaoftrsalestate.com

A 4-Star Green Building, Plaza Lofts offers sophisticated and dramatic spaces with a rooftop pool and terrace. It is conveniently located across the street from Republic Square Park in the heart of the Warehouse District.



Brazos Lofts 411 Brazos St
39 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 3 STORIES
brazosloftsrealestate.com

Located at the edge of the Red River / 6th Street Entertainment District, Brazos Lofts is Austin's first loft-warehouse conversion project. Its architectural style of 12 to 20 foot ceilings, exposed brick walls, and wooden trusses reflect its utilitarian heritage.



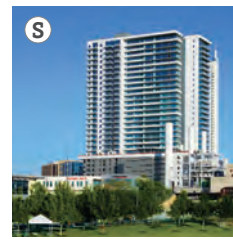
Sabine on Fifth 507 Sabine St
80 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 10 STORIES
thesabineonfifth.com

Located adjacent to the Hilton Garden Inn, the Sabine sits on Waller Creek in the Entertainment District. An adaptive-reuse project, featuring modern designs and hotel amenities, Sabine is true urban core living..



Brazos Place 800 Brazos St
72 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 13 STORIES
brazosplaceaustin.com

A popular destination for downtown living, Brazos Place is a luxury residential conversion located just one block from Congress Avenue. Residents also enjoy the convenience of its street level retail, large balconies, and city views.



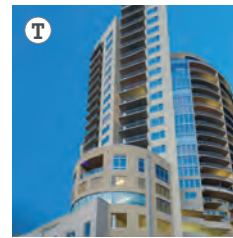
Seaholm Residences 222 West Ave
280 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 30 STORIES
seaholmresidences.com

The pillar of Austin's new center for downtown living, the Seaholm Residences offers modern living in an unrivaled location, with panoramic views of Lady Bird Lake, the Texas Hill Country, and Austin's unique skyline. The neighborhood features a 1.5 acre plaza and front yard, Trader Joe's, plus countless retail and dining options.



Brown Building 710 Colorado St
90 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 10 STORIES
brownbuildingforsale.com

Once known as the Wall Street of Austin during the 1940s & 50s, The Brown Building is now a renovated historic landmark that offers modern loft-style residences and a historic tax discount. The Brown Building boasts not only a rooftop terrace but also a wine vault and a street-level lounge & restaurant.



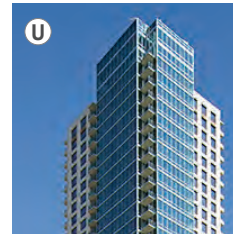
The Shore 603 Davis St
192 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 22 STORIES
shoreaustincondos.com

Located in the heart of the Rainey Street District, The Shore rests on the banks of Lady Bird Lake, adjacent to the Mexican American Cultural Center. Offering spectacular views of the lake and downtown city lights, The Shore boasts an expansive 6th floor resort-style terrace pool with cabanas and a grilling area perfect for entertaining. .



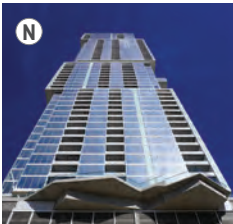
Four Seasons Residences 98 San Jacinto St
148 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 32 STORIES
fourseasonsaustinresidences.com

Adjacent to The Four Seasons Hotel on the banks of Lady Bird Lake, the Four Seasons Residences start on the 6th floor and ascend 26 stories, with rooftop amenities on the 32nd floor. Residents also have access to select Four Seasons Hotel services, including housekeeping, room service, and spa access.



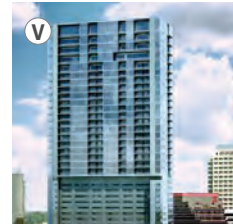
Spring Condominiums 300 Bowie St
249 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 42 STORIES
springcondominiumsaustin.com

Austin's first point tower, The Spring is an architecturally-striking building that melds skyscraper with high-rise residence. Offering various floor plans that offer maximum efficiency with extraordinary views, residents are minutes from Whole Foods, Lady Bird Lake, and dozens of office and retail spaces along Lamar Boulevard.



The Independent 301 West Ave
363 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 58 STORIES
independentaustin.com

Hands down the most significant addition to the Austin skyline, The Independent features an iconic architectural design and over 20,000 square feet of fitness, recreational, professional, and entertainment amenities.



The W Hotel & Residences 210 Lavaca St
159 RESIDENTIAL UNITS | 37 STORIES
wresidencesaustin.com

Situated at the heart of Austin's 2nd Street District, The W neighbors some of Austin's best restaurants and boutique shops, offering a lifestyle of incomparable design, world class service, and top notch luxury amenities.

TRAVIS COUNTY:

- 1 Addison
- 2 Avalon
- 3 Easton Park
- 4 Enclave of the Springs
- 5 Falcon Pointe
- 6 Lakeside at Tessera
- 7 Mueller
- 8 Provence
- 9 The Reserve at Lake Travis
- 10 Rough Hollow
- 11 Serene Hills
- 12 Steiner Ranch
- 13 Sweetwater
- 14 Travisso
- 15 West Cypress Hills
- 16 Whisper Valley

WILLIAMSON COUNTY:

- 17 Cimarron Hills
- 18 MorningStar
- 19 Orchard Ridge
- 20 Preserve at Mayfield Ranche
- 21 Sun City Texas by Del Webb
- 22 Teravista
- 23 Wolf Ranch

HAYS COUNTY:

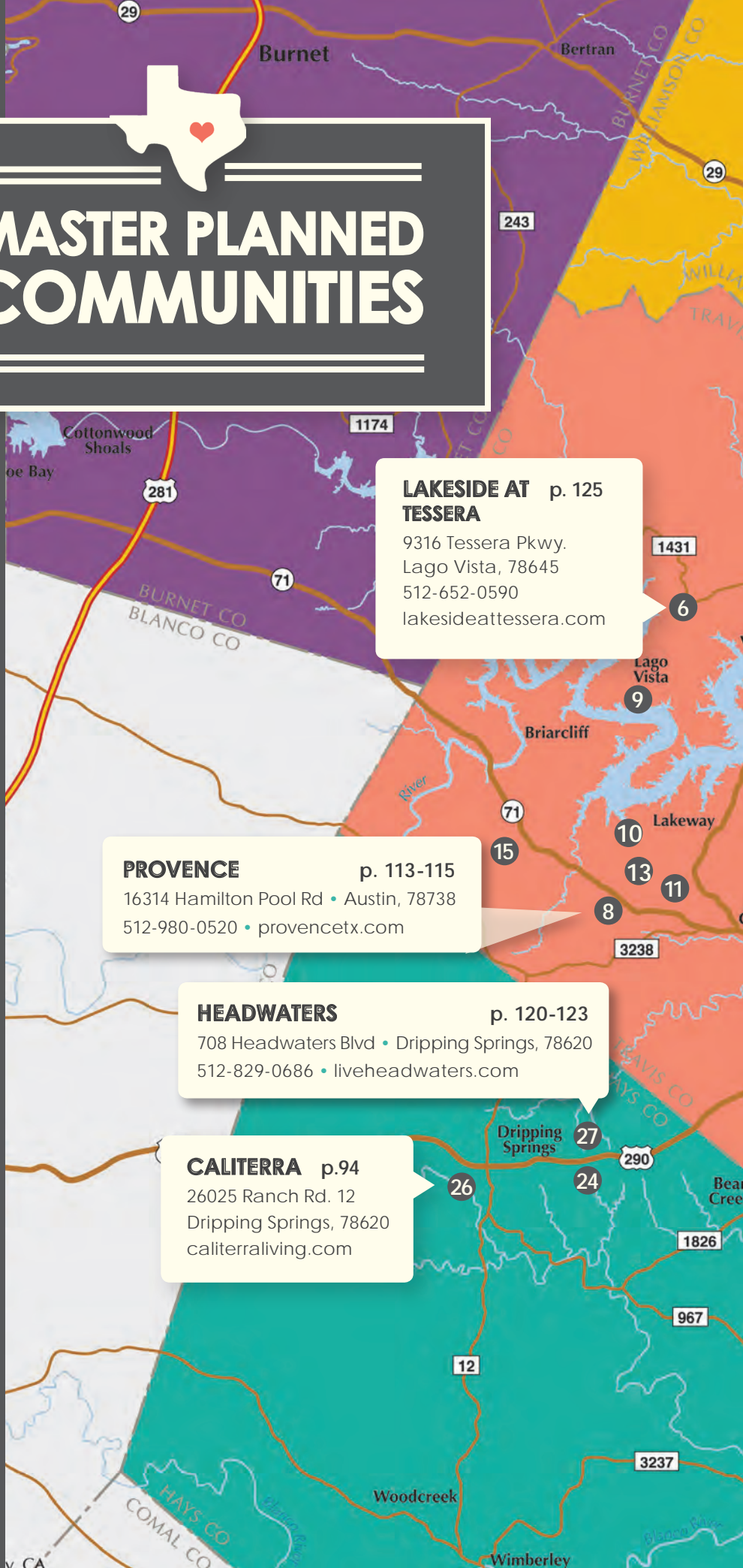
- 24 Belterra
- 25 Blanco Vista
- 26 Caliterra
- 27 Headwaters
- 28 Kissing Tree
- 29 La Cima
- 30 Plum Creek
- 31 Sunfield

BASTROP COUNTY:

- 32 Cassena Ranch
- 33 The Colony



MASTER PLANNED COMMUNITIES



LAKESIDE AT TESSERA p. 125

9316 Tessera Pkwy.
Lago Vista, 78645
512-652-0590
lakesideattessera.com

PROVENCE p. 113-115

16314 Hamilton Pool Rd • Austin, 78738
512-980-0520 • provencetx.com

HEADWATERS p. 120-123

708 Headwaters Blvd • Dripping Springs, 78620
512-829-0686 • liveheadwaters.com

CALITERRA p.94

26025 Ranch Rd. 12
Dripping Springs, 78620
caliterralive.com

ORCHARD RIDGE
p.2-3

100 Orchard Park Dr
Liberty Hill, 78642
orchardridgeaustin.com

WOLF RANCH p. 130-131

616 Memorial Drive • Georgetown, 78628
512-686-4266 • wolfranchlivesmart.com

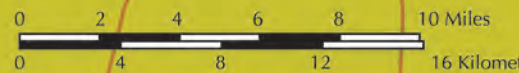
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SAN MARCOS





TRAVIS COUNTY

Lakeside at Tessera

Photo by Jay Brittain, Studio J Photography

Austin

City of Austin:

512-974-2000

www.austintexas.gov

Convention & Visitors Bureau:

800-926-ACVB (2282)

www.austintexas.org

BARTON CREEK

Barton Creek may be located close to downtown Austin, but feels as though it is a world away, with its panoramic views of the Texas Hill Country, Barton Creek, and even downtown Austin. With 20 residential communities to choose from and a wide array of neighborhood amenities, there's no doubt that those lucky enough to live in this exclusive area feel they have stumbled into their own little paradise on earth.

Located only 10 miles southwest of downtown Austin, Barton Creek covers the territory between the communities of

Westlake Hills and Bee Cave. Homes here tend to be large and private, with an average size of 5,000 square feet, and start in the \$400,000 range and go up to \$6,000,000. Depending on the location of the home, school-age children attend schools in Austin Independent School District, Eanes Independent School District or Lake Travis Independent School District.

Residents also may wish to indulge in the pleasures offered by the 4,000 acre Barton Creek Resort & Spa, featuring country club membership, as well as exceptional restaurants and one of Austin's most exclusive spas. Golfing enthusiasts will enjoy playing on their choice of three championship courses designed by Tom Fazio, Ben Crenshaw and Arnold Palmer. Fazio Foothills and Fazio Canyons are listed as the "Top 100 You Can Play" courses by *Golf Magazine*, while *Golf Digest* ranks Barton Creek as among the "Best Golf Resorts in North America." The Barton Creek Golf Academy is ranked as one of the best schools in the country for learning to play the finer points of the game.

CENTRAL AUSTIN

Central Austin is home to our city's diverse downtown and the vibrant neighborhoods surrounding it. Downtown Austin attractions are countless: trendy restaurants, lively clubs, outdoor concerts, historical architecture, eclectic shopping, a Saturday farmers' market, verdant parks with sparkling fountains in cool plazas. The magnificently restored and beloved State Capitol is in the heart of Central Austin. The University of Texas, only a few blocks north of the Capitol, isn't just for students. Concerts, art exhibits, theatre, lectures and exciting Longhorn sports – including the top-ranked Texas Longhorn football team – draw crowds from all over the state.

Ready for fun? Head for Sixth Street, Red River, and the West Downtown districts – you'll hear the hottest new music and enjoy casual dining in a friendly atmosphere. World class acts perform at Stubbs, The Moody and other downtown clubs and concert halls. Every year the whole town celebrates music with the annual South by Southwest (SXSW)

and Austin City Limits (ACL) multi-day music festivals.

Ready to shop? Stroll the 2nd Street District for the latest in fashion, accessories and home style. Stop for refreshment at a sidewalk café. Make an appointment to finish up with a soothing massage or mani-pedi at a sleek salon.

For those who love outdoor sports and activities, Central Austin abounds with opportunity for walking, running, biking, rowing, kayaking, tennis and golf. The Lady Bird Lake Hike-and-Bike Trail extends from East Austin to West Austin with several bridges crossing the Lake. The Shoal Creek greenbelt trail begins at Lady Bird Lake just east of Lamar and runs along the creek to 38th Street, a 6.5 mile round trip. City owned Caswell Tennis Center is located at Shoal Creek and 24th St. There are also three city-owned golf courses within Central Austin: Lions, Hancock and Morris Williams.

Central Austin neighborhoods are also diverse. North of the University, charming *Hyde Park* boasts 100+ year old Victorian mansions, Craftsman cottages and the occasional student condo complex. In West Austin, the crown jewels of *Tarrytown*, *Pemberton*, *Old West Austin* and *Brykerwoods* are home to dignified mansions, classic bungalows and newly built retro-modern houses.

Developed between 1935 and 1970, *Rosedale*, *Allandale*, *Crestview* and *Violet Crown* are in the north part of Central Austin. East of I-35 trendy meets traditional in a lively ethnic and cultural mix. Revitalized neighborhoods and artists' studio districts have brought new prosperity to East Austin. An entire new neighborhood, *Mueller*, has been created on land that was once the Austin airport. Low-rise and high-rise, older and brand new condominiums and apartments are available throughout Central Austin. A few towers exceed 30 stories and afford stunning views of Austin, Lady Bird Lake and the Hill Country. And, Austin's Metro Rail system links Crestview, Mueller and East Austin to Downtown destinations.

Submitted by Kay Keese,
Kuper Sotheby's International Realty

CIRCLE C

With its abundance of greenspace, soccer fields, golf course, country club, Olympic-size, heated swimming pool, and the Veloway, Circle C Ranch is a community unto itself. Located in South Austin, Circle C's northern boundary is Davis Lane, and it extends south to just past Highway 45, and is bounded on the east by Brodie Lane

and to the west by FM 1826, and offers easy access to Mopac.

Popular with families, singles and empty nesters because of its location, scenery, and proximity to downtown Austin, Circle C was the first master-planned community built in Austin, and there's something for everyone. Homes range from \$400,000 to \$700,000, and the area offers an active homeowner's association.

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Our diverse group of local experts average 10 years of experience and sell 5x more homes, 20 days faster than the average Austin REALTOR®. We only hire the best. So should you.



DOWNTOWN AUSTIN

People live downtown for many reasons, but mostly to be in the heart of the city's vibrant urban lifestyle. They enjoy the unparalleled accessibility to shops, entertainment, businesses, banks, restaurants, attractions, and much more.

Downtown dwellers are a diverse group of professionals, retirees, families, and college students. Even those who live out of town have chosen Austin's downtown as the perfect place for their second home away from home – it's ideal for UT football fans that live out of town. The cost of an urban lifestyle depends on the location, setting, views and amenities. The number of condos for sale has remained relatively constant for the last year or so.

Current active market listings range from about \$250,000 for a one-bedroom, one-bath condo to more than \$4 million for a premier penthouse suite. Designs for the downtown high-rise units are usually contemporary, with open floor plans, and natural materials like concrete, wood, brick, and steel.

EAST AUSTIN

Austin's Eastside isn't like other cities. Out of 250 neighborhoods in America, *Forbes Magazine* named it the 7th 'hippest hipster neighborhood' in the entire country.

Blooming with artistic expression, delicious dining experiences, family-friendly events and a group of forward-thinkers, East Austin epitomizes life as a modern Austinite. A haven for foodies along with a slew of bars in close proximity to The University of Texas, there are plenty of ways to enjoy your free time. Located just on the other side of the I-35, you're in close proximity to Downtown, South Congress Avenue, and Lady Bird Lake.

Home prices range between \$200,000-\$1,000,000 and the public school system is currently experiencing a large expansion. East Austin encompasses the areas off Manor Rd and neighborhoods like Cherrywood, French Place, Mueller, and French Legation.

East Austin has traditionally attracted students but is currently attracting everyone from

families, young professionals and Austin newcomers. If you're looking for a lifestyle that is uniquely Austin, close to downtown and a walkable neighborhood, look no further than East Austin.

NORTH CENTRAL AUSTIN

For those who don't want to live in a big suburb, the older, established North Central Austin neighborhoods like Allandale, Crestview, and Hyde Park offer great appeal. All have great parks, pools, shopping and strong neighborhood associations, plus a great location that makes it easy to get just about anywhere.

Allandale is bounded by Anderson Lane on the north, by Shoal Creek at 45th Street (from MoPac to the Shoal Creek waterway, and following the waterway to Hancock Drive) to the south, with Burnet Road as its eastern boundary and MoPac as the western boundary. It was developed in the late 50s, 60s and 70s, and many homes were built with three- and four-bedroom floorplans. Home prices in Allandale average over \$500,000.

Crestview is defined by Anderson Lane on the north, Justin Lane to the south, North Lamar Boulevard to the east, and Burnet Road to the west. Crestview was built as a post-World War II neighborhood, and was mostly two bedroom homes with some brick construction. Since then, it's been a prime area for remodeling because the lot sizes are bigger here. Homes in Crestview have a median price of \$435,000.

Hyde Park is bordered by 51st Street on the north, and 38th Street on the south, with Guadalupe Street on the west and Duval south of 45th and Airport north of 45th on the east, and prices range from the mid-\$200s to more than \$1 million.

Whether buyers are families, young professionals, UT professors, or retirees, they all want something eclectic, something with a little history and character, and the result is a neighborhood that is a profile of Austin itself. A great walking neighborhood, Hyde Park also offers a great selection of shops, restaurants, and grocery stores (Central Market is only a few minutes away).

NORTHEAST AUSTIN

Families, professionals and students in Northeast Austin enjoy this culturally and ethnically diverse neighborhood with its strong homeowner's associations. People who move here like the proximity to the Dell Children's Hospital and the master-planned community of Mueller Development. And, the University of Texas and downtown Austin are just 10-minute commutes.

Neighborhoods here include *Delwood IV* (between Cameron and Berkman, north of 51st Street); *Windsor Park* (51st Street to 290); and *Delwood* (51st Street South to East 38th Street, on the east side of IH 35). Most homes in these neighborhoods were built in the early 60s, with three bedrooms and either a garage or carport, and homes average \$300,000 to \$420,000.

French Place is a popular, older neighborhood between East 38th and 26th Street—directly across IH 35 from the University of Texas. French Place homes are usually two bedrooms with a median list price of \$475,900 and median cost per square foot of \$268.

The *Mueller* development adjoining IH 35 between 51st Street and Airport Blvd is a master planned community with diverse price points, from affordable housing (\$150,000 with grants) to home that are \$1 million-plus. The community features condominiums, townhomes and single-family residences, primarily in the \$250-500,000 range.

ONION CREEK

With its beautiful landscaping, fantastic golf course and outstanding country club, Onion Creek is a master-planned community in Southeast Austin with quick access to I-35 and the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. Located on the green belt area just east of I-35 and only 11 miles from the State Capital, Onion Creek is a gated community that offers a country club lifestyle and 24-hour private security.

Onion Creek also offers access to the acclaimed 27-hole Onion Creek Golf Course, founded by late Masters champion Jimmy

Demaret and Texas amateur golf legend Jimmie Connolly. In 1996, Ben Crenshaw and partner Bill Coore added an additional 9 holes to the course. Onion Creek was the home of The Legends of Golf Tournament, which then became the Senior PGA Tour.

Onion Creek's clubhouse also has outstanding amenities, including a junior Olympic-sized swimming pool, a 24-hour fitness center, and a 33,000 square foot clubhouse. Home prices here range from \$150,000 for condominiums to \$800,000 for home on the golf course.

RIVER PLACE

Tucked away in Northwest Austin along the shores of Lake Austin, River Place is both a waterfront community and a country club community. It's also a family community offering such amenities as parks, tennis courts, hiking trails, soccer fields, play grounds, and several scenic overlooks.

Located in the highly acclaimed Leander Independent School District, the community is served by River Place Elementary, and the Four Points Middle School and Vandegrift High School, both just minutes from the community entrance off FM 2222. Residents of River Place love that it is an established neighborhood and offers something for everyone. The community feel of the neighborhood is obvious as you see residents walking, jogging, hiking on nature trails, at the parks with families or taking part in community activities throughout the year.

River Place also offers easy access to major roads, shopping, Lake Travis, and Lake Austin. Add in its northwest Austin location with its rolling hills, and the beauty of the area is simply hard to beat. Community activities for the kids include "Dads in the 'Hood," ice cream socials, BBQs, kid's parades, Easter egg hunts, Halloween parties and much more.

River Place is also home to the River Place Country Club, a private club nestled in the heart of the Hill Country. Memberships at River Place Country Club offer such amenities as golf, tennis, state-of-the-art fitness facilities, swimming, dining and social events. Golf lovers will be in awe playing the championship 18-hole, Tom



Downtown Austin and Lady Bird Lake. Photos by Erin Sear

Kite-designed signature golf course. Conveniently located within River Place, residents can take advantage of the amenities it offers, meet friends, and benefit from the convenience of being minutes from home.

Living in River Place is about a lifestyle. For residents wanting a smaller established neighborhood feel, River Place is one neighborhood to consider. With more than 1,100 residences and homes ranging from garden homes to lakefront property and home prices that range from \$300,000 to more than \$5 million, there is quite a variety.

*Submitted by Rich and Sharon Walker,
Keller Williams Realty*

SOUTH CENTRAL AUSTIN

78704...*More than just a zip code!* A quick drive down South Congress lets visitors know that living in South Austin is a lifestyle. It has the reputation of being one of the coolest places to live in Austin – and offers a lifestyle where you can walk to dinner, shopping and entertainment. Trailer eateries line the streets and are mixed in with eclectic shopping, dining and entertainment with the Continental Club and other bars nearby.

Neighborhoods here include the historic *Travis Heights* with tree-lined streets and stately homes from as far back at the 1920's, many of which have been updated and renovated. To the west of Congress Avenue and stretching to Lamar is the *Bouldin Creek* area with its cottages and condos, some renovated and others new construction. Either neighborhood is minutes from downtown,

as well as both Zilker Park and the hiking trails of Lady Bird Lake. The grounds of St. Edwards University border South Congress Avenue and it's a quick hop on the Capital Metro bus line to The University of Texas at Austin or work downtown.

*Submitted by Camille Abbott,
Kuper Sotheby's International Realty*

SPANISH OAKS

Residents of Spanish Oaks love its great location on 1,200 unspoiled acres amid the spectacular Texas Hill Country, and its private 18-hole golf course designed by Bobby Weed and recognized by *Golf Digest* as one of the top private golf clubs in Texas. Others are attracted to the exclusivity of Spanish Oaks – limited to just 462 properties within this gated community and estate-size homesites that range from a half-acre to more than four acres, plus luxury villas, and finished custom homes that define this pampered lifestyle – and that include a dedicated concierge staff.

Located 20 minutes from downtown off Hwy 71 and within the acclaimed Lake Travis Independent School District, custom homes in Spanish Oaks start at \$1.4 million, and undeveloped lots are typically priced from \$300,000 to \$1,000,000. In addition to custom estate homesites, Spanish Oaks offers pre-designed Villas and Garden Homes in four distinctive neighborhoods within the community. The property is cradled on two sides by 15,000 acres of protected nature preserves and Barton Creek.

Spanish Oaks is unique in that the real estate and the club are tied together – the only way to join the club is to buy real estate here, making it a true lifestyle community with the club at its center. The neighborhood features a separate Resident’s Lodge with a resort-style swimming pool, casual grille, sports courts and access to Spanish Oaks’ hiking trails. The Lodge sits directly above

the Fish Camp, Spanish Oaks’ private three-acre fishing lake and bait shop.

The community’s personalized concierge services include personal chef service, party planning, and more – all tailored to the specific tastes and preferences of the club’s individual members. The club even maintains a 27’ Sea Ray boat docked at

nearby Lake Travis for the private use of its members and their guests.

**SPICEWOOD SPRINGS/
BALCONES, GREAT HILLS,
ANDERSON MILL**

Homebuyers who want an Austin metro home in a beautiful setting with excellent schools, recreation, shopping, and employers should look no further than northwest Austin and the Spicewood Springs, Balcones, Great Hills and Anderson Mill areas.

Homes in all four neighborhoods are generally in the same median price range, starting at around \$225,000 and going to more than \$600,000. There’s also a mix of older and new homes, offering a lot of opportunities for buyers. Accessible to downtown, the 360 corridor, and north Austin/Round Rock, all four areas are very appealing to those who work in the technology community.

Three school districts serve the neighborhoods, including the Austin Independent School District, Leander Independent School District or the Round Rock Independent School District – and area schools get high marks for a quality educational experience. There are also plenty of dedicated parklands, recreational facilities, activities, entertainment, and great restaurants in the Arboretum and Domain area – both of which are minutes away.

The area also offers excellent golf facilities at the area country clubs, including *Great Hills Country Club*, which has tennis facilities, a pool and an upper scale golf course; *Balcones Country Club*, which offers 36 holes of golf, with an 18-hole golf course and access to its sister club, *Spicewood at Balcones*, which has another 18-hole course.

STEINER RANCH

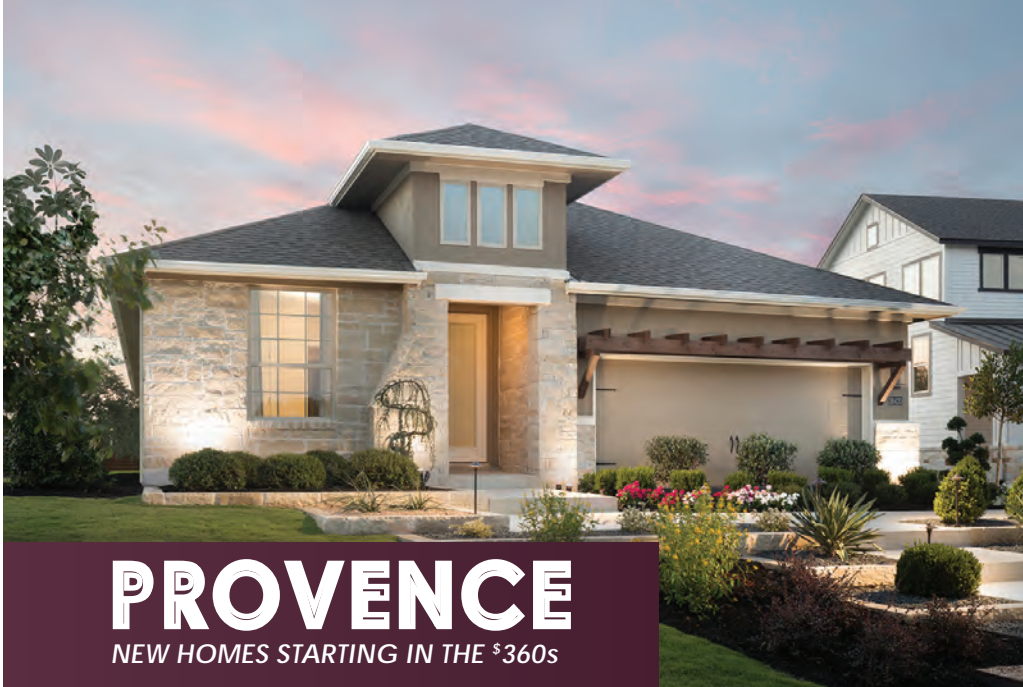
Nestled in the Texas Hill Country, Steiner Ranch is distinctive among Austin luxury home communities for its striking natural beauty. Known as the “Land Between the Lakes,” Steiner Ranch offers a wide range of amenities guaranteed to keep its residents busy and happy. | CONTINUED PAGE 116 >



Moontower creates custom complete home transformations for busy Austinites who value design and lasting quality. Our contextual, sustainable forever homes weave in personal narrative to each project, adding an extra dimension of function, style, and zeal to the places you dwell in every day. Our team is made up of talented collaborators who execute a lively vision for your home, giving you a one-stop-shop solution for superior architecture, construction, interiors, and landscape design.



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PROVENCE
NEW HOMES STARTING IN THE \$360s



Where Austin MEETS THE Hill Country

Provence is a brand-new 650+ home community located in the Lake Travis Independent School District on Hamilton Pool Road in between SH 71 and RR 12, just minutes from the Hill Country Galleria. Provence features beautiful Hill Country topography combined with French Inspired architecture and landscaping, which is why visiting this community is a luxuriously unique experience. We consider Provence to be perfectly located where homeowners will have an Austin address with all the benefits of an adventurous and wondrous Hill Country vibe.

AMENITIES

When designing Provence, the developer, Masonwood Development Corporation, took into consideration what amenities home buyers really want in a community. So, we emphasized the finer things in life, including nature, community, and simple beauty. Our amenities include a hike and bike trail system, a resort style pool and pavilion, vineyard(s), and scenic overlooks. Yes. You read that correctly. Provence will feature pocket vineyard(s) where the goal is to have grapes harvested and processed by a local Texas Hill Country Winery. Because, as forward-thinking residential real estate developers, the operators of Masonwood Development asked themselves, "wine not"?

BUILDERS

A good mix of builders is essential for a thriving community, which is why Masonwood Development considers

themselves very lucky to have partnered with some of the most outstanding home builders in the Austin area to build homes in Provence. The home builders in Provence have gone above and beyond to create a product that people who want to live in this location will love.



Home builders in the first section of Provence, which includes 150 homes of 50' and 65' lots (Now Selling), are Brookfield Residential and David Weekley Homes. The second section of the community will feature Drees Homes and Westin Homes on 75' lots, and the third section of Provence will feature the beautiful homes of Ashton Woods on 60' and 70' lots. Together these five award winning builders will emphasize the delicate beauty of the Texas Hill Country.

LOCATION

We undoubtedly lucked out with this beautiful piece of land that we call Provence. It is located in one of the most desirable locations in Austin, not just because of the rolling Texas Hill Country landscapes, but also because it is within one of the most highly rated

public school districts in Texas: Lake Travis ISD. Lake Travis ISD is renowned statewide for its academics and its athletics.

Located outside of any ETJs and right next to the successful shopping center, The Hill Country Galleria, which hosts a public library, and popular stores like Dillard's, Lowe's, and Whole Foods, Provence is a community with an Austin address that truly does have it all. ●

Disclaimer: Prices, floorplans and community features are subject to change anytime without notice. All square footage references are approximate and may vary upon elevations and/or options selected, and may change without notice. Any Material colors depicted, including windows, doors and shutters, are subject to change and may not represent the actual color installed on home. Any landscaping shown is an artist's rendering, and actual landscaping will differ. Provence reserves the right to change community amenities at any time. Home price will differ based on lot premium and elevation material and are subject to change without notice. Exterior stone is a natural material and is subject to variation. Please consult your Provence New Home Professional for current information.

A Better Lifestyle Is In Its Details

Provence is a brand new master planned community nestled in a beautiful Austin setting. Here, a unique lifestyle and a prime location are brought together to foster a modern take on natural living.



New Hill Country Homes Starting in the high \$300s

AMENITY CENTER ❖ SCENIC OVERLOOKS
HIKE & BIKE TRAILS ❖ VINEYARD



Where Austin MEETS THE Hill Country

Life Here

The Provence concept is founded upon the luxurious and natural lifestyle of southern France and the rustic, adventurous lifestyle of the Texas Hill Country. At Provence, our homeowners live a natural yet convenient lifestyle which is what we like to call Rustic Luxury. We pride ourselves on our very scenic location on the front porch of the Texas Hill Country, while still being a part of Austin.

Schools

Provence is located in the award-winning and enviable Lake Travis School District where children receive excellent educational and recreational opportunities. Lake Travis Schools are known for their innovative learning concepts in the classroom and have garnered numerous championships in both academics and athletics.

Shopping

If you consider yourself a shopper, you will love how close Provence is to the Hill Country Galleria, which features stores for everyone and all of your shopping needs. There are restaurants, grocery stores, fitness studios, book stores and libraries, movie theatres, gardening centers, and home goods stores.

Disclaimer: Prices, floorplans and community features are subject to change anytime without notice. All square footage references are approximate and may vary upon elevations and/or options selected, and may change without notice. Any Material colors depicted, including windows, doors and shutters, are subject to change and may not represent the actual color installed on home. Any landscaping shown is an artist's rendering, and actual landscaping will differ. Provence reserves the right to change community amenities at any time. Home price will differ based on lot premium and elevation material and are subject to change without notice. Exterior stone is a natural material and is subject to variation. Please consult your Provence New Home Professional for current information.

Amenities

Be a part of our vibrant, new community! Provence features unique amenities including hike and bike trails, outdoor living areas, scenic overlooks, a lounge & activity center, and a resort style pool.

- ❖ Resort Style Pool
- ❖ Activity Center
- ❖ Hike and Bike Trails
- ❖ Pocket Parks and Open Fields
- ❖ Scenic Overlooks
- ❖ Vineyard

Location

Located South West of Austin, Provence is perfect for anyone who wants to be near the action of a thriving city while still living a fulfilling and convenient home life.

16314 Hamilton Pool Road Austin, Texas 78738

Learn More About Provence

Discover for yourself what Provence has to offer. Sign up for our newsletter or contact us today. We will keep you informed on current developments and exciting updates.

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To book your appointment



Photo courtesy of Giddens Homes



Headwaters. Photo courtesy of Freehold Communities

Situated between two of the most popular recreational lakes in the area, Steiner Ranch attracts active people who appreciate a natural environment. Nature enthusiasts love this 4,600-acre master-planned community that has dedicated more than 1,500 acres to wildlife habitats, parks and greenbelts. This dedication to preserving the environment resulted in the community being recognized by the Austin Business Journal and winning the newspaper's Commercial Real Estate award as "Best Master-planned Community".

Located in northwest Austin, many Steiner Ranch neighborhoods and home sites look out over fabulous Hill Country vistas provided by the 819 acres of Steiner Ranch Preserve, part of the larger 27,000 acre Balcones Canyonland Preserve. Residents also enjoy more than 20 miles of hike and bike trails and 10 neighborhood parks with playscapes, picnic areas, and outdoor grills. More than 14 miles of greenbelt around the community ensures a natural wooded setting.

Amenities include the private membership Lake Club on Lake Austin, multiple basketball and lighted tennis courts, 4 swimming pools, including a year round heated lap pool, and full-time on-site activities offered by its three community centers. Golfers will be excited to know that Steiner

Ranch's 18-hole golf course, designed by Roy Bechtol, is the official home of The University of Texas Golf Teams. This championship course provides a breathtaking backdrop for many homes in Steiner Ranch.

Steiner Ranch is located in the highly acclaimed Leander Independent School District. Three elementary schools, Steiner Ranch Elementary, Laura Welch Bush Elementary and River Ridge Elementary, along with Canyon Ridge Middle School are all located within Steiner Ranch. Vandegrift High School is just minutes from Steiner Ranch. These exemplary schools offer children the best state-of-the-art educational resources available.

Home prices in Steiner Ranch range from \$350,000 to more than \$5 million, and home styles range from garden homes with small yards to large estates on multiple acres. New homebuilders here include Taylor Morrison, Drees, Monterey Homes, and Highland Homes, and custom homesites are also available.

*Submitted by Rich and Sharon Walker,
Keller Williams Realty*

SUNSET VALLEY

The southwest Austin community of Sunset Valley is a small oasis of planned growth that has held onto its small town identity

and principles. The city has its own mayor, city council, police force, and city services – contracting with the City of Austin for fire protection and EMS services, and electricity through Austin Energy.

With new shops and restaurants, the Sunset Valley Farmers Market every Saturday, Austin Montessori and Sunset Valley Elementary School within walking distance, and Central Market at the Westgate Shopping Center just minutes away, residents appreciate the neighborhood's proximity to downtown and great amenities.

Homes in Sunset Valley range in price because of the variety of homes available and start at \$200,000 and can range to \$15,000,000. There's no standard two bedroom or three bedroom homes out here – these are all individual homes that will suit just about any housing preference.

TRAVIS COUNTRY AND OAK HILL

Against the backdrop of the natural beauty of Central Texas, the southwest Austin communities of Travis Country and Oak Hill offer homebuyers both desirable and affordable housing options. For those who love nature and want to get away from the hustle and bustle of the city, but work in Austin and need to live close by, these communities

offer great options. The median home value in Oak Hill is \$100,000 and \$355,000 in Travis Country.

Oak Hill has never incorporated, and is a series of related neighborhoods with active homeowner's associations – the *Oak Hill Association of Neighborhoods* (OHAN) was instrumental in convincing the city of Austin to build the Will Hampton Branch Library. Capital Metro provides shuttle bus service to the area for those who make the commute to downtown Austin. Oak Hill is located in the Austin Independent School District, and residents in Austin's city limits use City of Austin services and utilities, while those in the Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) use Pedernales Electric Cooperative and other sources of water, such as Hill Country Water Supply.

Travis Country started as a sleepy neighborhood in the 1970s that was revitalized when it was rediscovered in the late 1990s. Buyers can find both new and older homes in the area, as well as condos and garden homes. Located north of the Southwest Parkway and west of MoPac, Travis Country is close in, with protected natural greenbelt areas all around it – because it was built over the Edwards Aquifer and the designers planned to leave large green space throughout the area to meet environmental concerns. The result is lots of dedicated parkland, with plenty of room for kids to play. There are also facilities such as a large community center, swimming pools, tennis courts in different locations throughout the neighborhood, and nature trails.

Travis Country is located within the Austin Independent School District, and is serviced by all City of Austin utilities. Travis Country's location is ideal for those who work south, and is easily accessible to downtown Austin or The University of Texas at Austin. Average home prices are about \$250,000, with condos and garden homes in Travis Country typically selling for less than the cost of a typical single family home.

WEST AUSTIN

West Austin neighborhoods include Davenport Ranch, Rob Roy, River Place, Lake



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Headwaters. Photo courtesy of Freehold Communities



Pointe, Spanish Oaks, Flintrock Falls, Ridge at Alta Vista, River Hills, Belvedere, Cypress Hills West, and the Hills of Lakeway, among others – and are mostly in the upper to very high-end price range.

With lots of rolling hills, stunning views, great public school districts, and an abundance of both private and public golf communities, this is a popular area of town for monied tech and business executives. Flourishing restaurants provide local flavor and offer venues for many musical artists. West Austin residents enjoy easy access to the Lower Colorado River chain, the Hill Country Galleria shopping center in Bee Cave, and hike and bike trails that twist along 360 and Southwest Parkway.

There are also nearby county parks at Lake Travis along Pace Bend and Hamilton Pool Road, and Pedernales State Park that provide a rural setting practically in your own backyard. Moving west of Austin also gives residents a choice of three top ranked school districts: Eanes ISD, Lake Travis ISD is located west of Bee Cave Road and along Lake Travis, while Dripping Springs ISD is located southwest along West Hwy. 290.

The Hill Country Galleria in the community of Bee Cave has gained attention as a outside walking mall with more distinctive shops than your traditional large shopping centers. Located just a short distance to

many of the Westlake communities, the Hill Country Galleria features restaurants, popular upscale shops and offices offering a wide array of services. In addition, Barton Creek Mall on Loop 360 and MoPac is only a short drive away.

WESTLAKE

Close to downtown in west Austin, Westlake is known for nationally acclaimed schools, hilltop views of the city, pricey real estate (the median home value in Westlake is \$1,538,400), and high school sports championships. Like most everything else in Austin, Westlake has more than one name and is known as “Eanes” for Eanes Independent School District or “the Westbank” for being on the west bank of Lake Austin.

Westlake has MoPac as its eastern edge and extends west to Highway 71, with the Colorado River as a southern boundary, and Barton Creek to the north. Choose the *Davenport Ranch* area and be close to Austin Country Club with its perfectly manicured golf course, tennis courts and marina and fine dining as well as having easy access to Loop 360 to go North or South. Shopping and dining, exercise facilities, and coffee shops are within walking distance of many of the homes. Large homes co-mingle with condos for those wanting smaller spaces.

Rob Roy sits to the west of Loop 360. This gated community boasts one-acre lots with

room for houses to sprawl. Perched high above Lake Austin, this neighborhood offers residents panoramic views of the lake and sunset views of the Hill Country.

Lost Creek is another favorite area. Across Loop 360 from Westlake High School and two elementary schools, this neighborhood is close to Lost Creek Country Club with its golf course, pool and tennis courts. Turn to the right out of the neighborhood and you are on your way to downtown or the airport. Turn left and be at the grocery store in 5 minutes!

Westlake also offers the opportunity to live on Lake Austin’s waterfront, a constant-level lake created by the damming of the Colorado River. Westlake Drive meanders through the hills alongside Lake Austin and beautiful lawns amid towering trees stretch to the water. But don’t expect to see these beauties. Part of the beauty is the privacy that the owners enjoy! A short drive across the low water crossing on Redbud Trail, and downtown Austin is just minutes away.

The Eanes Independent School District covers 32 square miles, and all of the schools are award winners. All areas funnel into Westlake High School which in addition to champion athletic teams, sports a second-to-none Fine Arts program, and unparalleled academics. While schools are a major draw for this area, many live here long after the kids have gone on their way – and many kids come back to make their homes here, too.

*Submitted by Camille Abbott,
Kuper Sotheby’s International Realty*

Bee Cave

City of Bee Cave:

512-767-6600

www.beecavetexas.com

A small community at the end of Bee Caves Road and just off Highway 71 west of Austin, Bee Cave has exploded in popularity for its beautiful scenery and its accessibility

to all Austin has to offer. In fact, it's estimated that more than 115,000 new residents will move into this triangle of land between Highway 71 and US 290 in the next 25 years, causing the Bee Cave area to undergo a whopping population increase of more than 600 percent by 2030.

This fast-growing sub-rural community offers a wide variety of neighborhoods for homebuyers, including *The Homestead*, and portions of other subdivisions such as *The Uplands* and *Lake Pointe*, just to name a few. Bee Cave is an interesting mix of old and new homes – you'll find everything from trailer homes to custom-built luxury homes in the master-planned development of Spanish Oaks that's just on the periphery of Bee Cave, where home prices start in the \$700s.

Students here attend school in either the Eanes Independent School District, or the Lake Travis Independent School District – both of which boast an equally excellent reputation for outstanding academic and sports accomplishments. The opening of the Hill Country Galleria adds to the area's appeal. This massive, 1.3-million-square-foot lifestyle center is a multi-use complex with 650,000 square feet of retail, 145,000 square feet of Class A office space, 300,000 square feet of multi-family housing, 80,000 square feet of retail pad space, 100,000 square feet of residential condominiums, and 50 acres of greenspace.

Lakeway

City of Lakeway:
512-314-7502
www.cityoflakeway.com

Back in 1963, a second home community was planned and built on the shores of Lake Travis in the Hill Country. A golf course and a marina were added, as well as a landing strip. People from Houston and Dallas flocked to the area to buy lots and build their dream lake home. Lots were sold and trendy lake homes were built. Access was

via the two-lane Bee Caves Rd or RR 2222 to RR620—both two-lane highways themselves. But that was just the beginning.

Today, the Lakeway area – which is located just 30 minutes from downtown Austin and only 10 minutes from marinas and golf courses – is a thriving, in-demand community that attracts those who want Hill Country views and who want to be close to the lake.

Gone are the days when Lakeway was just another retirement community on the lake. More and more families are moving here, and the acclaimed Lake Travis Independent School District is just one of the reasons why this community has grown so quickly over the years.

With sophisticated but casual dining, several nearby private and public golf courses, and

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A LIFESTYLE COMMUNITY THE DIFFERENCE IS IN EVERY DETAIL

- Stargazing amphitheater to embrace Dark Sky Community
- State-of-the-art fitness center
- Split-level, infinity-edge pool
- Miles of trails with Hill Country views

AREA ATTRACTIONS A BETTER VIEW IN EVERY DIRECTION

- Historic Shopping District, Top Retailers & Upscale Stores
- Live Music Events
- Wineries, Breweries & Distilleries
- Wide variety of parks & recreation



YOUNGEST RESIDENTS A STUDENT'S LIFESTYLE

- Attend an award-winning school district in Dripping Springs ISD
- Enjoy an after-school snack at The HUB
- Do homework at the WiFi Coffee Shop
- Stay dry on a rainy day while waiting for the bus at HW Central

HEADWATERS

FIND YOUR BEST VIEW IN SOUTHWEST AUSTIN

NEW HOMES FROM THE HIGH \$300s - \$700s+

WHAT'S FUN AROUND HEADWATERS?



BREWERIES & DISTILLERIES

Deep Eddy Vodka Distillery, Twisted X Brewing Company, Dripping Springs Distilling, Suds Monkey Brewing Co., Cypress Creek Rum Distillery, Last Stand Brewing Company, Revolution Spirits Distilling Co., Vista Brewing, & More

WINERIES

Solaro Estates Winery, Bell Springs Winery, Fall Creek Vineyards, Driftwood Estates Winery, Henley Vineyards



SHOPPING

Whole Foods Market, Hill Country Galleria, Barton Creek Square Mall, Belterra Shopping Village, Boutiques & H-E-B

RESTAURANTS

Salt Lick BBQ, Homespun Kitchen & Bar, The Pizza Cave, Torchy's Tacos, Ginger Sushi + Poke Shop, Chik-fil-A, Spoon + Fork Kitchen, Aroi Thai Cuisine



PARKS & RECREATION

Barton Springs, Deep Eddy Pool, Hamilton Pool, Lady Bird Lake, Lake Travis, The Dripping Springs Sports & Recreation Park, Zilker Park

HEADWATERS COM

-  David Weekley Homes Model Home (50')
-  David Weekley Homes Model Home (80')
-  Dream Finders Homes Model Home (70')
-  Taylor Morrison Model Home (60')
-  Coming Soon! Ashton Woods Model Home (60')
-  80' Lot
-  70' Lot
-  60' Lot
-  50' Lot
-  Future Development



OUTDOOR PAVILION

THE OVERLOOK

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COMMUNITY MAP

Headwaters Park (future)		Heritage Trail	+/- 3.5 miles
Homestead Park		Bridge Spur	+/- 0.2 miles
Pet Park (future)		Neighborhood Trail	+/- 1.7 miles
Trail Entrance		Skyline Trail	+/- 1.9 miles
HW Central		Little Barton Creek Trail	+/- 0.9 miles
			+/- 8.2 miles

Headwaters is the premier master-planned community of Dripping Springs in Southwest Austin. Here, residents enjoy a seamless blend of natural Hill Country beauty and modern living both at home and in the community. With breathtaking panoramic views, upscale amenities and close proximity to city life, Headwaters has the best of everything life in Southwest Austin has to offer. Plan your visit, today. The Hill Country is waiting...

30+ FLOOR PLANS **8** MILES OF TRAILS **30** ACRES OF PARKS **1,000** ACRES OF OPEN SPACE **40+** LIFESTYLE & RESIDENT EVENTS PER YEAR

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“ The Lakeway area – which is located just 30 minutes from downtown Austin – is a thriving, in-demand community that attracts those who want Hill Country views and who want to be close to the lake. ”

shopping of every sort, including the Hill Country Galleria, Lakeway is the perfect alternative for the homeowner wanting all of the adventure that Lake Travis provides and the convenience of all the amenities the city provides the urban dweller.

What started as Lakeway in 1963 now includes the gated community of *The Hills of Lakeway* with its own golf course; *Flintrock Falls*; and *The Preserve at Lakeway*, and condos and mansions dot the hillside. While some of the best lots are the original ones with homes on them, the new community of *Rough Hollow* offers new construction, a marina, and a club for those homeowners who prefer new construction. Many of the older homes with fabulous views or waterfront access have been renovated and remodeled to take advantage of the views and the proximity to the water.

The new Lakeway Regional Medical Center brings the final piece of the puzzle to the Lakeway area – a hospital. Southwest Parkway provides easy access to downtown as well as Austin Bergstrom International Airport. Residents can have it all in Lakeway – and never be more than 10 minutes from home.

Lakeway is also a golf lover’s dream, with four area golf courses – Yaupon, Live Oak, The Hills, and Flintrock Falls – plus sailing and boating, and hike and bike trails. Waterfront homes in Lakeway start at more than \$1 million, while off-water home prices start in the low \$300,000s.

Those who love golf will love living in *Flintrock Falls*. With a golf course designed by Jack Nicklaus and his son Jack Nicklaus II, it’s the sister course to The Hills of Lakeway course designed by Nicklaus in 1980.

Located off Highway 620 and Lohmann’s Spur, Flintrock Falls is a gated community, with homesites ranging from \$500,000 to \$1.5 million and single family homes from about \$500,000. All homes have great views of the Nicklaus designed golf course, and the distant hills.

Other amenities here include the Flintrock Falls Country Club, with access to all club amenities in both the Hills and Flintrock Falls clubs, which includes restaurants, 26 tennis courts, two indoor tennis courts, swimming pools, the new Flintrock Falls golf pro shop, and the Academy of Golf teaching facility. A full-fledged club membership gives access to both the Hills and Flintrock clubs, with unlimited use for family members, and no green fees.

Submitted by Camille Abbott,

Kuper Sotheby’s International Realty

WEST CYPRESS HILLS

This scenic Lakeway community offers a range of housing options at affordable price points in beautiful neighborhoods that boast great schools and plenty of amenities.

Conveniently located to both Lakeway and downtown Austin and with easy access to major highways, including SH 71 and RR 620, West Cypress Hills sits on more than 1,000 acres of beautiful Hill Country land that also offers access to an abundance of greenbelts, trails and parks, and nearby lakes.

Homes here start at \$370,000 and are designed by top Austin builders – including Milestone Community Builders and Highland Homes. Floorplans are open and spacious, with elegant master suites, gourmet kitchens, covered patios, large secondary bedrooms, and many more amenities.

Children living in the West Cypress Hills community attend school within the acclaimed Lake Travis Independent School District, including Bee Cave Elementary, Lake Travis Middle, and Lake Travis High School – all of which are located minutes away.

Families will discover plenty of amenities here, too – including a mile-long nature trail that runs along a spring-fed creek that is perfect for walking, running or biking; and a fully-outfitted amenity center that includes changing rooms, three pools with a shaded area, adjoining sports courts, ball fields, shaded picnic areas, and playgrounds.

West Cypress Hills is also ideal for convenience and location when it comes to shopping and recreation, with the new Hill Country Galleria, HEB, Barton Creek Square Mall, Horseshoe Bay, and the University of Texas campus about a half-hour drive away.

Manor

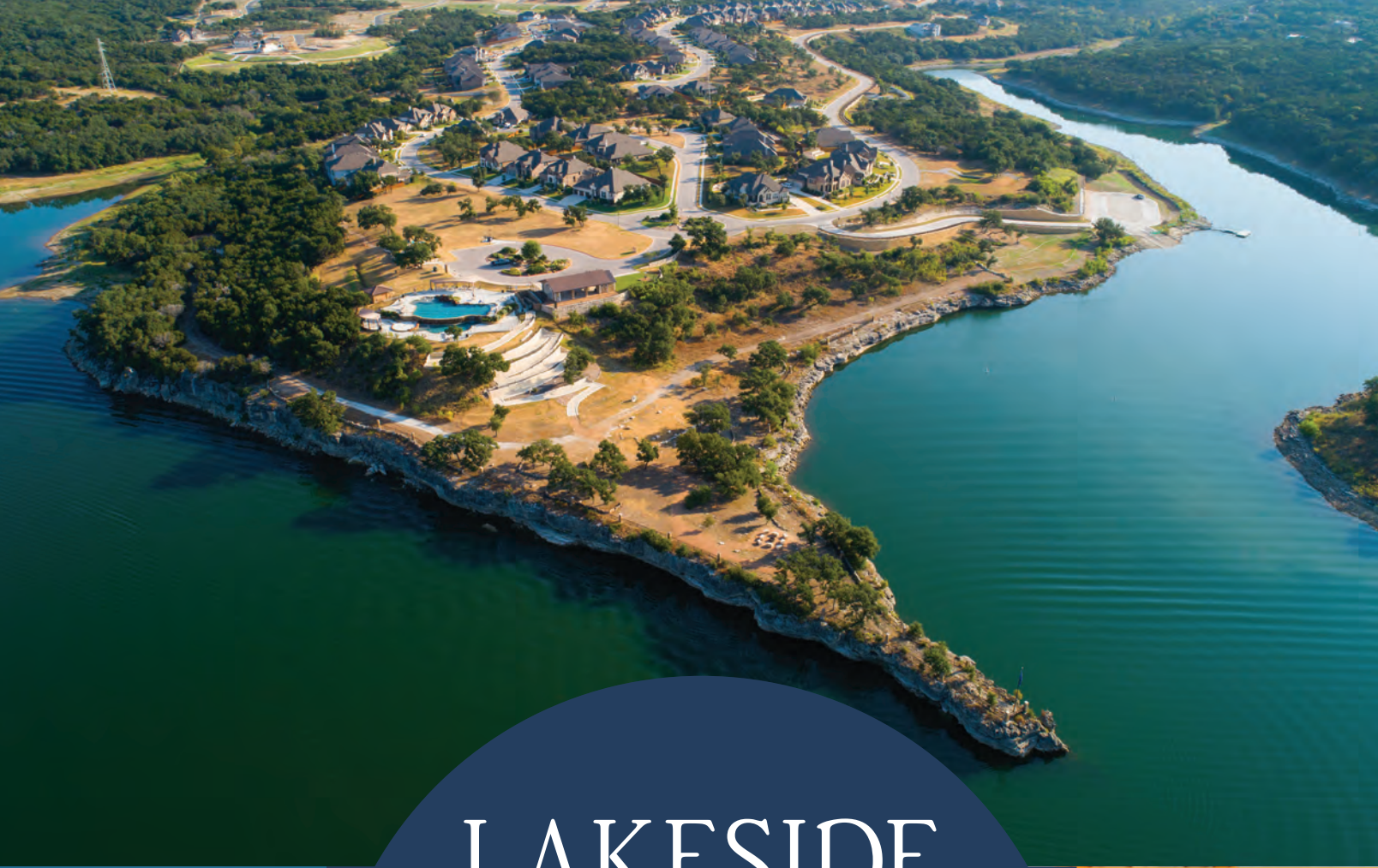
City of Manor:

512-272-5555

www.cityofmanor.org

Manor is a pastoral city that was mostly farmland, but it has become increasingly popular over the years – and is now become a bedroom community of Austin. Located on Highway 290 about 12 miles northeast of Austin in Travis County, Manor is popular with young families and professionals.

The community has its own school district, Manor Independent School District, which serves the educational needs of more than 9,000 students, and there are plenty of affordable housing options for buyers. Manor is especially appealing to those who are making their first home purchase, especially for single professionals and young families. Another advantage to living in Manor is that while the community is still in Travis County, residents of Manor often pay less in property taxes.



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SHADOWGLEN

Small, inviting, and strategically close to all that Austin has to offer, ShadowGlen in Manor is a 1,660-acre master-planned community with a spectacular 18-hole championship golf course. Convenient to Austin's downtown, major employers and the airport, life in ShadowGlen has all the benefits of small town charm at an affordable price.

ShadowGlen's amenity center boasts a Junior-sized Olympic pool, four-acre water park, playscapes and sports courts. Parks and trail systems crisscross ShadowGlen and lead to its recreation center.

Another major attraction is the ShadowGlen Golf Club, an 18-hole golf course designed by Bechtol/Russell Golf that winds through the community. The ShadowGlen Golf Club offers scenic views, more than 50 feet of elevation change, and water features. No matter how many times golfers play this course, each game promises to be a unique experience.

Homes in ShadowGlen start at \$200,000 and are built on generously sized homesites. The community's homebuilders also offer a wide range of elevations, floorplans and square footage.

North Lake Travis

Lago Vista Chamber of Commerce:

512-267-7952
www.lagovista.org

Jonestown Chamber of Commerce:

512-267-5577
www.jonestown.org

Point Venture Chamber of Commerce:

512-267-5511
www.vopv.org

Living in the North Lake Travis communities of Lago Vista, Jonestown or Point Venture isn't just about buying a house – it's about an entire lake lifestyle. With two 18-hole golf courses and land a great location on Lake Travis, it's clear that buying a home here offers plenty of recreational opportunities.

The North Lake Travis area has its own property owners association, which owns 10 private waterfront parks, a fitness center, three boat launches, tennis courts, and a pool. The amenities alone attract many new homebuyers, as does the lake with its boating, fishing and swimming.

Lago Vista is located on a peninsula jutting into Lake Travis. Its boundaries are the lake on the west and the east, the Travis County line, RM 1431 and Boggy Ford, as land continues to be annexed by the city. Houses range in price from the high 100s to well over \$1 million, with the median price range about \$250,000. Lago Vista is the place for active people and is known for its daylong 4th of July, open to the public event on the shoreline of Lake Travis.

Jonestown is located next to Lago Vista, and this small, rural community is attractive for its tucked-away location. Its friendly atmosphere is very appealing to those who do not want to live in a densely populated area but want or need the convenience of a larger metropolitan area. With its proximity to Lago Vista and the Texas Hill Country, Jonestown offers lots of amenities for residents, as well as a relaxed lakeside lifestyle.

Point Venture is a gated community at the end of Lohman Ford Road that offers a variety of choices for homebuyers. An established community of houses and townhouses, Point Venture is also experiencing increased

popularity as more people become aware of the lifestyle on the lake, which includes boating, fishing, swimming and a 9-hole golf course.

LAKESIDE AT TESSERA ON LAKE TRAVIS

Lakeside at Tessera on Lake Travis is an 875 acre master-planned community located directly on the north shore of Lake Travis along FM 1431 in Lago Vista. Named "2019 Best Master-Planned Community," it's a place where growing families and empty-nesters can enjoy a wide range of outdoor recreation, resort-quality amenities, highly regarded schools, and convenient access to some of the leading employment, shopping, and entertainment venues in northwest Austin.

It is an enviable location, with scenic Lake Travis as its southern border and the Balcones Canyonlands Wildlife Refuge, comprised of approximately 22,000 acres, to the north. The community stair-steps down from FM 1431 all the way to Lake Travis, to showcase beautiful shoreline and cove frontage and some of the most captivating views available on Lake Travis, especially at sunset.

Developed by award-winning real estate development company, Hines, Lakeside at Tessera offers an abundance of open spaces and park areas as well as a community pavilion and patio with an infinity-edge pool and splash pad overlooking Lake Travis. Residents enjoy an HOA private boat launch, kayak and stand-up paddle board launch, exercise lawn, one mile of shoreline and beach access. There are also over four miles of walking and hiking trails planned in Phase I and more plans are in the works for an interconnect trail system throughout the community.

The Lago Vista Independent School District is recognized for outstanding performance,

Lakeside at Tessera
Photo by Jay Brittain, Studio J Photography



sports, and extracurricular activities. As a 3A school district, families find this attractive in terms of what goes on both inside and outside of the classroom to help prepare their children for a bright future.

Lakeside at Tessera features homes priced from the mid-\$200s by well-established builders, Gehan Homes, Highland Homes and Wilshire Homes, available on 40- to 80-foot home sites. Models are open daily.

Pflugerville

City of Pflugerville:

512-990-4363

www.cityofpflugerville.com

Strategically located between Austin and Round Rock, the once-sleepy German community of Pflugerville is one of the fastest growing areas in Central Texas – offering an educated and varied workforce from northern Travis and southern Williamson counties and a great place to live.

The region offers a variety of housing, recreational facilities and transportation options for businesses and employees, as well as easy access to SH 130 and SH 45, which mean faster commute times for those who work in downtown Austin.

The Pflugerville Independent School District covers 100 square miles, with several campuses achieving the coveted *Recognized* performance rating by the Texas Education Agency based on academics and graduation statistics. Residents agree that despite the explosion of growth the community has experienced as the result of high-tech industries settling in the area, the glue that binds them together as a community is the interest in the education of Pflugerville's youngest residents. Like many small communities, life here revolves around the schools.

With a strong sense of its German heritage, the Greater Pflugerville community sponsors several family-oriented activities and festivals throughout the year, such as the local

Deutschen Pfest, golf tournaments, bike rodeo, and Halloween and Christmas festivals. It is this charming hometown feeling and friendly, neighborliness that people who settle here find the living more “pfun” in Pflugerville.

FALCON POINTE

Families seeking old-fashioned value in a new community need look no further than Falcon Pointe, a master-planned community by Newland Communities in the Pflugerville area. Falcon Pointe's location makes it an ideal choice for a family on the go, with close proximity to area schools, golf courses, and other activities.

Homes in the Falcon Pointe community are priced from the \$160s to the \$370s, with homes averaging 2,800 square feet. Falcon Pointe has three distinct areas, Arbor Landing, The Vistas and Brookwood Trail, and will include about 1,800 single-family homes over a 700-acre area when fully developed.

Located just off FM 685, Falcon Pointe is in the award-winning Pflugerville Independent School District. Residents will find all grades easily accessible to their school-age children, with Murchison Elementary School and Park Crest Middle School nearby. Hendrickson High School is adjacent to Falcon Pointe.

Falcon Pointe features an Amenity Center and Residents' Clubhouse that serves as a 6.7-acre community retreat for residents and their guests, including a fully functional kitchen and a party room available for residents to reserve and use for parties, and an on-site Activity Director to help.

The Residents' Clubhouse/Pavilion facility has a large fitness room indoors, while outdoors features a multi-feature pool, sand volleyball, tennis courts, an outdoor sports court, a park with children's play equipment, a play field, and picnic facilities.

Newland Communities has landscaped Falcon Pointe with more than 1,000 trees as part of a community forestry program to enhance the neighborhood's overall appeal and encourage the growth of wildlife. Newland Communities also has an extensive trail system, “pocket parks,” and pavilions with picnic facilities throughout the development. Another added benefit to living in Falcon Pointe is it is only

minutes away from *Blackhawk* and *Star Ranch*, two daily-fee golf courses.

Volente

Village of Volente:

512-250-2075

www.volente.org

The natural beauty of the Hill Country and Volente's excellent access to Lake Travis are just two of the reasons this once sleepy small town is so popular. Volente has experienced a recent boom in development, with new neighbors and new businesses settling into the area.

Those who live here appreciate living life in the Texas Hill Country and the beauty of the lake. Volente incorporated itself as a town to avoid annexation by the city of Austin or Cedar Park, allowing Volente residents more control over the city's planning, including future plans for zoning and growth control.

Bounded by Ranch Road 620 on the south and extending north to FM 1431, Volente enjoys a shared border with preserve land administered by the Audubon Society on the east. The median home price here is about \$450,000, with unimproved land tracts available for building.

The opening of Travaasa Austin – the former home of The Crossings that has been transformed into a luxury hotel and resort – also adds to the area's popularity. Overlooking Lake Travis, Travaasa Austin offers 70 guestrooms in a low-key campus-style layout. The property includes horse stables, a challenge course designed in partnership with Outward Bound, a fitness center and yoga studio, an infinity-edge pool, dining area with outdoor patio and exhibition kitchen, and an 11-room spa.

Twin Creeks Country Club and its golf course have also brought more golf enthusiasts and retirees to the area, and hiking and biking have always been popular area sports. *Shore Club Volente Beach Waterpark*, a family recreational facility and waterpark on the shores of Lake Travis, draws more than 1,000 people on the weekends at the height of its season. ●

WILLIAMSON COUNTY



Photo courtesy of Cimarron Hills

Cedar Park

City of Cedar Park:

512-401-5000

www.cedarparktexas.gov

Chamber of Commerce:

512-260-7800

www.cedarparkchamber.org

Much like the rest of Williamson County, the once sleepy town of Cedar Park has grown to become one of the hottest areas in Central Texas to buy a home. Located just 17 miles from downtown Austin, Cedar Park has all the advantages of being located close to city living and attractions, while also giving residents all the advantages of small town living.

The new roadways have been an integral part of Cedar Park's growth as a community – including connections from FM 1431 and Parmer Lane to I-35; FM 1431 to Highway 183 and Highway 183A; and SH-45, which connects Highway 183 to I-35 and acts as a corridor for Cedar Park. Parmer Lane also extends from Ranch Road 620 to Highway

29 in Georgetown, and the upper deck of Highway 183, Highway 183A and SH-45 goes all the way to Lakeline Mall, making it easy for residents to get just about anywhere.

Capital Metro also operates an urban rail commuter rail service that extends from Leander through northwest and east Austin and into the downtown area – including a stop near Lakeline Mall in Cedar Park (visit www.capmetro.org for schedules.)

Students in Cedar Park attend either the Leander Independent School District or the Round Rock Independent School District, and both are highly acclaimed school districts for both academics and sports programs. Texas State University also has a satellite campus here – the *Round Rock Higher Education Center (RRHEC)*, which provides students with professional development and adult continuing education and also offers the opportunity to attain associate's, bachelor's, or a master's degree from Texas State. The Texas State RRHEC brings together Austin Community College, Texas State University-San Marcos and Temple

College at Taylor. In addition, Round Rock Premium Outlets, IKEA, Southwestern University, Round Rock Hospital, Scott & White and the Dell Diamond are only minutes away.

Home prices here range between the \$200s to the \$450s, with lots of executives choosing to make their home here because of the area's proximity to such major employers as Dell, Samsung or Freescale. The Cedar Park Regional Medical Center, managed by Seton Hospital, is a major health care provider for area residents.

Cedar Park is also home to Twin Creeks, a 760-acre residential, country club, and golf course community complete with a water park. Twin Creeks was the first private country club in Cedar Park and includes a Fred Couples-designed signature 18-hole golf course. Located approximately three miles south of Highway 183 at the intersection of Anderson Mill Road and Cypress Creek Road, homes in Twin Creeks are priced from the \$400,000s to over \$1 million.

BUTTERCUP CREEK

Great property values, quality education, and close proximity to fishing, boating and water skiing makes Buttercup Creek a popular choice with homebuyers. Homes in the master-planned community of Buttercup Creek are affordable and offer more home for the money, as well as a prime location ideally suited for those who enjoy an active, involved lifestyle.

The first homes in Buttercup Creek were built in the 1980s. Now, with Lakeline Mall and the development of popular retail stores and services in Cedar Park, Buttercup Creek has continued to expand and is an excellent value.

Average costs for homes in Buttercup Creek begin in the \$250s and go up from there, with more established areas costing less and giving buyers more selection when considering whether to opt for a resale or new home. The community's *Westside Preserve* section offers more expensive homes with larger floor plans and more amenities and is ideally situated for those who enjoy living near Lake Travis and want easy access to the water, while giving residents the convenience of nearby shopping and fine restaurants.

Bounded by Highway 183 on the east, Buttercup Creek has grown to Lakeline Mall, with Cypress Creek Road as its northern boundary to West Park on the south. Students attend school in the highly rated Leander Independent School District. Singles, couples, empty nesters and retirees

“ Located just 17 miles from downtown Austin, Cedar Park has all the advantages of being located close to city living and attractions, while also giving residents all the advantages of small town living. ”

also enjoy the advantages of Buttercup Creek's ideal location next to Highway 183A and SH-45. The toll road system allows for easier access to and from work and shopping, and helps to cut commute times.

Residents also enjoy hiking and biking on the multi-purpose trails that wind around the area, tennis, and other activities. There's also a popular senior citizen activity center in the community.

A small rural Texas community located about 34 miles from Austin, Florence has a long history that dates back to the 1850s, and in its heyday boasted retail stores, hotels, a bank, a stone quarry and even a cheese factory. The Bartlett and Western Railway depot was popular with cotton and wheat farmers and cattle ranchers, and it seemed this little town's star was on the rise.

With the Great Depression came an economic downturn that made this Central Texas town a virtual shadow of its glory days. But, with typical Texas tenacity, those who stayed continued their commitment to their hometown. And now, it seems that tenacity has paid off. Florence has been on the comeback trail for the last several years, with a steadily increasing population as proof of its newfound popularity.

Those who are used to small communities move here to get that small-town, country lifestyle and atmosphere, and in the last few years, many buyers in Florence have been from Colorado and Arizona – as well as lots of equestrians from the east and west coasts who can board horses here. Florence is also popular with artists over the past few years looking for studio space; those who sell real estate here have compared it to the artist community in nearby Salado.

Located on Farm Road 195 about 13 miles from Georgetown in northwestern Williamson County, Florence residents are able to take advantage of the new road systems that offer quick access to the Austin area. Florence is about 45 minutes from downtown Austin. Parmer Lane goes all the way to Georgetown, and the next leg is 195 to Florence. | **CONTINUED PAGE 132** >

Florence
City of Florence:
254-793-2490
www.florencectex.com
Chamber of Commerce:
512-635-5170
florencechamberofcommerce.org



Photo courtesy of Giddens Homes



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San Gabriel Park in Georgetown.
Photo courtesy of Realty Austin

THE VINEYARD AT FLORENCE

The Vineyard at Florence is a spectacular new community that combines the latest in innovative design with traditional architecture. Instead of another master-planned golf community, the designers of The Vineyard at Florence community have built the first residential winery and vineyard in the state of Texas on its 400 rolling acres.

Estate sites sit on a minimum of two acres and emphasize the natural foliage, ridgeline and waterways of the area, as well as take full advantage of panoramic views. Residents are encouraged to “think green” by landscaping with Texas native plants and recycling water for irrigation. Drawing its inspiration from Tuscan influences, nearly every home in The Vineyard at Florence will feature a view of the 30-acre vineyard, and all homes feature stucco, tile and stonework.

Amenities here focus on wine, with a tasting village and a wine club that allows members to participate in the harvest. But the living here isn't limited to just wine lovers – horse enthusiasts share a place here as well, with riding trails winding through the community, as well as a polo field. Other attractions include a spa, café, and farmer's market, as well as space for corporate or private events and weddings, and rental casitas.

Georgetown

City of Georgetown:

512-930-3652

www.georgetown.org

Chamber of Commerce:

512-930-3545

www.visitgeorgetown.com

The northernmost gateway to the Hill Country of Central Texas, Georgetown has managed to embrace everything modern living has to offer, while maintaining its old town charm. This unique combination of old time charm and new tech industry has helped make Georgetown the “Second Fastest Growing City in the Nation,” according to the U.S. Census Bureau. And, it's home to “The Most Beautiful Town Square in Texas”, featuring antique stores, art galleries, flower shops, boutiques, excellent restaurants and a bookstore is at the heart of Georgetown, allowing new and old residents alike to enjoy the pleasures of small town living.

Located just to the north of Austin in Williamson County, Georgetown is a beautiful community where, like many

small towns in Texas, local schools figure prominently into bragging rights, with Georgetown known as one of the best school districts in Texas.

The popular active adult community, *Del Webb's Sun City Texas*, is in Georgetown, as is the luxury golf course community of *Cimarron Hills*, which features a Jack Nicklaus signature course. The city has taken great pride in the restoration and preservation of historic Georgetown and was a “Great American Main Street Award” winner in 1997. The Square that defines the center of Historic Georgetown is graced with buildings that keep history alive and provide an inviting gathering place for those who live here and those who visit.

Major employers here are diverse, ranging from metal manufacturing to higher education to recreation and leisure – including Chatsworth Products, Manitex, Sierra Microwave Technology, Texas Electric Cooperatives, The Candle Factory, Xycarb Ceramics, and TASUS Texas. Dell, Inc. and other well-known Austin companies are also nearby.

Getting around is easy, too. The SH 130 tollway starts at the interchange with I-35 north of Georgetown and extends to US 79 near Hutto, where it joins an SH 130 segment, offering lots of drive time options.

BERRY CREEK

The Berry Creek community from Jimmy Jacobs Custom Homes offers residents a master-planned community with lots of details – from outdoor recreational facilities to custom-built homes. The natural integrity of the area is intact, too, with heavily wooded estate home sites up to a half-acre in size, and a homeowners association that is dedicated to maintaining the beauty of the neighborhood.

All the homes in Berry Creek are custom, starting at around \$250,000, with the average in the \$400,000 upwards of \$500,000. Other custom builders in the area include Drees Custom Homes, Partners In Building, and others. Berry Creek also offers affordable newer sections starting in the \$100s that are ideal for first time buyers, young professionals

just starting out, and families. There's also the Villages of Berry Creek, which gives its residents the opportunity to live in Berry Creek, but for less money.

Amenities at Berry Creek include a recreational golf and tennis community center, and residents are only a short drive from Lake Georgetown. Berry Creek is located in the Georgetown Independent School District, with electricity supplied by Pedernales Electrical Cooperative and city services by the City of Georgetown.

Berry Creek is also close to Wolf Ranch Town Center, and open-air market with multiple anchor stores, more than 40 specialty retail stores, great restaurants, and beautifully landscaped grounds. Round Rock Premium Outlet stores are only a few exits away.

THE BROWNSTONE AT THE SUMMIT

Located at the Summit at Rivery Park, the Brownstone at the Summit features

beautifully appointed luxury townhomes that give residents the feel of living in a New England residential neighborhood – yet with all the charm and beauty of the Texas Hill Country.

Inspired by classic 19th Century row houses and designed with native Texas materials and styling, each two-story home features a rooftop terrace, downstairs garage and spacious customizable living spaces. With prices that range from \$370 to the \$600s, there's something for everyone here. Homes include such classic details as hardwood floors, 10-foot ceilings, gourmet kitchens with granite counters and eight-foot kitchen islands, three-story homes complete with elevators, a breakfast bar in the master bedroom, ground floor garages, bonus rooms, and even such pluses as private rooftop terraces and balconies.

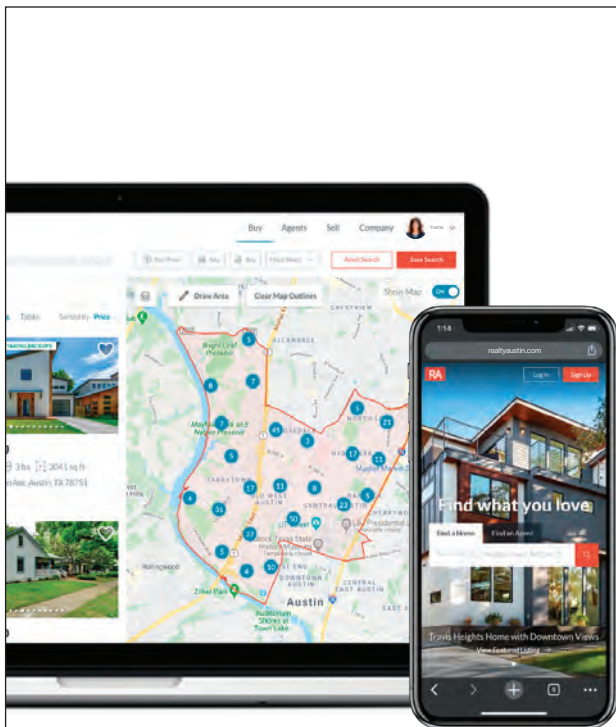
The community itself is surrounded by more than 20 miles of hike-and-bike trails, and also offers tons of great restaurants

and shopping, the small-town charm of Georgetown, and is minutes to Austin, Round Rock and Lake Georgetown. A modern urban village in the heart of the Hill Country – that's the appeal of this charming community.

CIMARRON HILLS

Bringing luxury resort-style living to the Georgetown area, Cimarron Hills is a private country club community with a Jack Nicklaus signature golf course. Encompassing 820-acres on the edge of the Hill Country, home sites in Cimarron Hills offer ideal settings on the golf course, along the green belts, bordering the banks of the San Gabriel River or at the waters edge of a 14-acre man-made lake.

Located on Hwy. 29 West – about five miles west of I-35, and five miles east of Highway 183 – new highway expansions heading toward Cimarron Hills allow for even easier access to major thoroughfares. Cimarron Hills enjoys a convenient



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location that is only minutes away from the historic Georgetown Square, and is in close proximity to the Dell Computers Campus and the Greater Austin area's high tech sector.

Cimarron Hills has become the community of choice for many of the top-level executives. In addition to the golf course and beautiful clubhouse with lifestyle amenities, the community features custom homes and home sites. Located just down the road from historic downtown Georgetown, the Cimarron Hills landscape opens up to rolling hills, glimmering rivers and the meadows of Texas wildlife. This family-oriented residential community has the amenities of a world-class resort, complete with miles of hike and bike trails.

Residents enjoy the casual elegance of the 27,000 square-foot Clubhouse complete with a lavish spa and state-of-the-art fitness facility. Inside, club members can treat themselves to an old world steakhouse experience, complete with leather chairs, oak walls, warm fires, and friendly neighbors.

Cimarron Hills has one of the finest natural sites for golf, which allowed Jack Nicklaus to incorporate much of the natural terrain, including the magnificent San Gabriel River,

the rolling hills, live oaks, river and fresh water ponds when designing his Signature Golf Course for Cimarron Hills. This elite area is perfect for an avid golfer looking for a golf course community in which to live or a family that enjoys living in a golf course community and all of the amenities that go with it.

Membership in the Cimarron Hills Golf & Country Club provides access to what the *Dallas Morning News* described as the "Best Private Course in Central Texas," featuring limited memberships, multiple-terrain practice facility, and the luxurious amenities of a world-class private club. Magazines such as *Golf Digest*, *LINK*, *Texas Golfer*, *Avid Golfer* and *Golfer* have rated the course as among the best.

SUN CITY TEXAS

Located in historic Georgetown west of I-35 off Williams Drive (FM 2338), Sun City Texas is a master-planned community for "active adults 55 and better." Built by Del Webb, the community is geared towards an active, fun and healthy lifestyle. Sun City Texas is home to three of Texas' best golf courses, offering challenging rounds of play to experts and recreational players alike. Legacy Hills and White Wing golf clubs were designed by golf course architect duo Billy Casper and Greg Nash and Cowan Creek was designed by Gary Stevenson.

Each 18-hole course sports its own practice range, putting green, pro shop and clubhouse, and each has a distinctive look and feel bringing genuine variety to this premier Texas golf destination.

Prices for a home here start around \$230,000 and go up to more than \$650,000. Homebuyers get choices of different floor plans for home types that range from single-family homes to attached cottages and, in some cases, home yard maintenance is also included. Sun City's Village Center, the recreational and social hub of the community, includes a fitness building with a six-lane indoor swimming pool, aerobics room and state-of-the-art exercise room, as well as a social hall with arts and crafts center, woodworking shop, ballroom, billiards and meeting rooms for social activities.

Outside you'll find a resort-style swimming pool, tennis courts and bocce courts. An Activities Center offers an additional 12,000 square feet of social areas for a computer lab and special interest groups. Outdoor enthusiasts will enjoy the miles of hiking and biking trails that run throughout the community. For family gatherings, a 5,000 square foot open-air Park Pavilion is located next to a picturesque lake.

SAN GABRIEL RIVER ESTATES, RIVER CHASE AND WOODLAND PARK

The mix of old Georgetown with new neighborhoods, featuring all the benefits of modern living, is the main appeal for homebuyers in San Gabriel River Estates, River Chase and Woodland Park. All are located within the charming, rolling hills of Georgetown, offering residents all the amenities of small town living with luxurious custom-crafted homes.

San Gabriel River Estates is located along the rolling Hill Country terrain, with home sites featuring majestic oaks and incredible views. Pristine and private, River Chase is nestled along the banks of the San Gabriel River, and offers heavily-wooded one-acre plus home sites overlooking the river and the San Gabriel Valley.

The community of Woodland Park has been honored as a Max Award winner for Custom Home Community Development and offers family living on one-acre plus wooded estate home sites. All three neighborhoods have new home designs that include plans for three, four and five bedroom homes, and homeowners can plan homes complete with grand family rooms, game rooms, media rooms and studies.

Residents are close to historic Georgetown, but are also able to enjoy the natural beauty of the Texas Hill Country – including such outdoor recreational areas as Lake Georgetown for boating, waterskiing and relaxing.

Hutto

City of Hutto:

512-759-1011

www.cityofhutto.com

Chamber of Commerce:

512-759-4400

www.hutto.org

The expansion along the northeastern corridor of Austin has meant opportunity for the city of Hutto, and an opportunity to find great homes at affordable prices for families in the Austin area. The overall growth of Williamson County and the increase of major employers from Georgetown to Austin settling in and around I-35 have encouraged the development of several new subdivisions around Hutto over the past few years. And, while some might be put off by having to travel on I-35 to commute into Austin, the development of the SH-130 toll road through both Williamson and Travis Counties offers plenty of alternate transportation options.

SH-130 is the largest highway contract in the history of Texas, and the \$3.6 billion project includes the extension of Mopac and Toll Road 45, providing 49 miles of toll road that extends from IH-35 north of Georgetown south to U.S. 183 southeast of Austin.

Many choose to make Hutto their home because of its proximity to schools such as the Texas State University campus in Round Rock and Southwestern University in Georgetown, and major employers such as Samsung and Cypress Semiconductor. Dell Diamond, home of the Round Rock Express Baseball Club franchise owned by Nolan Ryan, is also close, as are the Round Rock Premium Outlets and major anchor retail stores like IKEA.

Located off Highway 79, Hutto offers affordable homes in close proximity to Georgetown, Taylor, Round Rock and Pflugerville, with affordable homes that range in price from the low \$100s to the \$350s. Besides the affordable lifestyle, the Hutto Independent School District is another plus for families.

Those who enjoy playing golf will be pleased to know that there are two golf communities nearby. The Golf Club at Star Ranch is located off Dessau Road and provides a challenge to players of all levels, while the Blackhawk Golf Club is situated in nearby Pflugerville on Kelly Lane off Dessau Road. Designed by Charles Howard and Hollis Stacey, Blackhawk Golf Club has a links-style course and has a 15-acre practice facility so that players can warm up before their round.

Leander

City of Leander:

512-259-1142

www.leandertx.org

Chamber of Commerce:

512-259-1907

www.leandercc.org

Located in the heart of Central Texas off Highway 183, the growth of Leander over the past few years has been phenomenal, especially as the Leander Independent School District has become the largest school

district in Williamson County and the fastest growing school district in Texas. Homes in Leander are more affordable, too, giving buyers more for the money – home prices here start around the \$200s and go to more than \$400,000.

Surrounded by the natural beauty of lakes and rolling hills of the Texas Hill Country, Leander has a progressive city government that has successfully managed the city's rapid residential growth and encouraged new businesses to settle in the area.

New roads built around the area now help with those who commute from Leander to any number of major employers in the area, and Capital Metro's light rail service runs from Leander along the northwest corridor and into downtown Austin. The city also offers lots of shopping and dining options with Lakeline Mall and other shopping centers nearby.

The Leander Independent School District has earned recognized honors from the Texas Education Agency for academic excellence, and is another reason many have chosen to make this Hill Country city their home. The Leander Independent School District services both Leander and Cedar Park, and the district is known for their gifted and talented classes, as well as for special education programs.

LAKELINE RANCH

Families with a passion for the great outdoors will love living in Leander's Lakeline Ranch. Located off FM 1431, Lakeline Ranch is a new development that offers the convenience of a master-planned community in an acclaimed school district with access to great outdoor recreation.

Lakeline Ranch is the best of both worlds for those who love to fish and boat, go camping, hike or ride mountain bikes. Residents are just 25 minutes from Marble Falls, with lots of camping sites on Inks Lake and Lake LBJ. Jonestown is also nearby, offering great parks and a boat dock.

The community's location in the Leander Independent School District is another



reason families enjoy it here. Leander Independent School District has an excellent school system, and offers its students great educational opportunities that include a college freshman-level curriculum and National Merit Scholars program. Children living in Lakeline Ranch attend Whitestone Elementary School, Running Brushy Middle School, and Leander High School.

Lakeline Ranch is also an excellent value for those buying their first home, or those who want a home with lots of square footage for the least amount of money; homes here range from the \$200s to the \$350s. The community also features an amenity center with a pool, plus basketball and volleyball courts, Frisbee golf, picnic tables, and barbeque pits.

CRYSTAL FALLS

Crystal Falls, which was named the “Best Master Planned Community” by the *Austin Business Journal* in the past few years, offers a natural landscape of canyons and rolling hills and is anchored by the Crystal Falls Golf Club – voted “the most scenic public golf course in Texas.”

Located off of Crystal Falls Parkway, the community is very convenient to major

shopping centers, Cedar Park Hospital, Lake Travis and major employers. Crystal Falls offers five neighborhoods in one community – Grand Mesa, The Fairways, The Highlands, The Boulders, and Cap Rock. Homesites range in size from about .25 acre in The Boulders to about seven acres in Grand Mesa, and home sizes range from 1,500 to more than 6,000 square-feet.

This peaceful community has fantastic views of the hill country and many mature trees, with some homes located on the 18-hole Crystal Falls Golf Course. Crystal Falls also boasts two amenity centers with swimming pools, as well as playgrounds, a disc golf course, a fishing lake, and hike and bike trails. Whitestone Elementary and William Winkley Elementary are also located within the community.

VISTA RIDGE

Leander’s Vista Ridge community is an upscale subdivision located in northern Leander, featuring luxury homesites, stunning scenery, and quick access to major roadways. Homes in Vista Ridge are priced from the \$250s to the \$400s and range from 1,800 to more than 3,500 square feet, with wooded, oversized and cul-de-sac lots available.

The community Amenity Center includes a junior Olympic-sized swimming pool, children’s pool, cabana, and a playscape area. Schools in the Vista Ridge Community are located within the Leander ISD and include Whitestone Elementary, Leander Middle School, Leander High School (12th grade only), and Rouse High School.

Cedar Park Regional Medical Center is just six miles away, and the community is minutes from the Crystal Falls public golf course. The community is also close to shopping at Lakeline Mall, restaurants, and entertainment. The Capital Metro Rail Leander Station is just two miles from Vista Ridge, offering convenient service between Leander and downtown Austin. The Leander Public Library is also about a mile away, which includes a children’s library, 24 computer stations, and free wireless internet access.

Liberty Hill

City of Liberty Hill:

512-778-5418

www.libertyhilltx.gov

Chamber of Commerce:

512-548-6343

www.libertyhillchamber.org

Nestled in the Texas Hill Country off Highway 29 West, Liberty Hill offers its residents the best of country living with an excellent school district. This sleepy, rural community is also expanding, the result of the tremendous growth in Williamson County as a whole.

The decision of the Lower Colorado River Authority and the Brazos River Authority to form the Brazos-Colorado Water Alliance and construct a regional wastewater treatment system in the Liberty Hill area is just one sign of the city’s growth. Plans include new sewer lines and a treatment plant to serve existing homes and businesses as well as new development in Liberty Hill.

Located about 15 miles west of Georgetown and 33 miles northwest of Austin, Liberty Hill sits between the north and south forks of the San Gabriel River. Homes in Liberty Hill start around the \$149s and typically have a bit of acreage and Hill Country views, which makes it a great place for people who want that relaxed, country atmosphere.

Round Rock

City of Round Rock:

512-218-5400

www.roundrocktexas.gov

Chamber of Commerce:

512-255-5805

www.roundrockchamber.org

The home of Dell, Inc. and other technology firms, affordable housing, superb school system, and quality of life are just a few of the reasons Round Rock is so popular.

The Round Rock Independent School District has been named one of the nation's top school districts, with multiple campuses that are named national Blue Ribbon schools year after year. St. David's Round Rock Medical Center, located on FM 620, off IH-35, provides comprehensive health services to residents of the expanding Williamson County population. Services include The Heart Center with express testing and inpatient capacity of 107 beds with private rooms, The Women's Center, and an emergency room.

The Round Rock Express, a Triple-A minor league team owned by Nolan Ryan and the farm team for the Texas Rangers, also calls Round Rock home, playing at the Dell Diamond – one of the finest minor league stadiums in the nation. Round Rock Premium Outlets gives fashion-conscious shoppers their choice of shopping, with more than 120 stores that feature name-brand merchandise at savings of 25 to 65 percent off regular retail prices every day.

AVERY RANCH

Rich in a history that includes Native American tribes, cowboys, and even an outlaw or two, Avery Ranch is poised to bring the best the modern world has to offer to its residents, from a 226-acre golf course to homes hard-wired for fiber-optic and other broadband services – all within a natural setting of hike and bike trails, natural ponds, and parklands.

Located just 20 minutes northwest of Austin, the Avery Ranch Golf Course offers a variety of amenities, including a 15-acre driving range with chipping, putting, and bunker practice areas. But Avery Ranch is more than just a golfing community, presenting distinctive features for every type of family and interest.

The community of Avery Ranch has been planned in such a way that the oak tree lined streets meander through the neighborhood; and trails connect to an abundance of places for families to walk, swim, or play, thus giving residents a greater chance to get to know each other. The Regional Hike and Bike Trail spans 180 acres with access points throughout Cedar Park and Round Rock, allowing children to bike to school or to their friends' homes in connected neighborhoods without ever having to cross a major street.

Avery Ranch is located within the award-winning Leander and Round Rock Independent School Districts, with several schools located right in the neighborhood. In addition to five community centers totaling 17-acres of recreational family fun within Avery Ranch, the City of Cedar Park built an expansive 140-acre municipal park complex adjacent to the neighborhood. The main community center at Avery Ranch has basketball, tennis and swimming facilities, as well as an outdoor amphitheater, and the Avery Ranch Golf Course, was voted *Best Overall Golf Course* by *Avid Golfer* magazine. Designed by Andy Raugust, this spectacular course features natural limestone caverns, live oak trees, rolling hills and meandering streams and lakes to create the total golf experience.



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Different neighborhoods with different pricing within Avery Ranch make the community affordable. Avery Ranch is a master-planned community of 1,800 homes that has everything from entry-level homes to custom-built homes. For example, there are homes starting in the \$200s and prices can go up to the \$800s in other area neighborhoods.

Avery Ranch is popular with young professionals, families, and empty nesters. Many people build in Avery Ranch because they like the area, and they also like the fact that it's a master-planned community with a strong homeowners association. Its location off Parmer Lane with easy access to area tollways also hold wide appeal; it's easy to commute to major Austin employers and is close to major shopping areas.

LAKE FOREST

Lake Forest homeowners enjoy the benefits of a conveniently located community that offers

exceptional value, affordable and luxurious style, beautiful natural settings, and a host of amenities that give a wide array of choices for today's active lifestyle. It's no wonder that Lake Forest has been heralded as one of the most innovative neighborhoods in the area and that it's been named one of Round Rock's five-star communities.

Comprised of three villages featuring their own unique style, Lake Forest avoids the dreaded "cookie-cutter" design syndrome found in many planned communities. Homes in the three villages vary in size and price, ranging from the upper \$200's, with a variety of floor plans and designs geared to accommodate an owner's individual needs.

The natural setting of the area offers its residents a beautiful, secluded environment of mature native trees, rich verdant vegetation, wet creeks and a pond cutting through the community center. Hike and bike trails crisscross through the neighborhood and along Brushy Creek. There's also a junior Olympic swimming pool, park, playscape and tennis courts.

Attention to details, such as tree-lined streets with sidewalks and trails, and a community

“ The Round Rock Independent School District has been named one of the nation's top school districts, with multiple campuses that are named national Blue Ribbon schools year after year. ”

center that is the center of neighborhood activities gives Lake Forest a sense of community, as does the Lake Forest Homeowner's Association for the latest news. Round Rock's award-winning Blue Ribbon schools – including Blackland Prairie Elementary School and Ridgeview Middle School – are also located in the neighborhood. Lake Forest is conveniently located in the corridor of Austin and Round Rock's high tech industry, and offers easy access to I-35.

MAYFIELD RANCH

Mayfield Ranch, a master-planned community located in Round Rock, is designed with

the entire family in mind, complete with an amenity center that includes three pool areas: a large resort-style main pool, kiddie pool with splash pad, and a toddler pool.

Home prices here range from the \$300s to \$520s, and the neighborhood's playscape, veranda and oak-shaded courtyard offer a relaxed atmosphere and plenty of options for families who love to play together. A 1,785 square foot community center features a meeting facility, kitchen area, banquet tables and chairs for Mayfield Ranch homeowners.

Children in Mayfield Ranch attend either Round Rock or Leander schools, and the community's location offers easy accessibility to major employers and business centers, shopping, sport facilities and cultural events. Williamson County Regional Park with 800 acres of natural beauty is also within the community, featuring a 200-acre endangered species preserve, 11 soccer fields, walking paths, tennis courts, wildflowers, and wildlife.

TERAVISTA

Located along the I-35 corridor off Chandler Road, Teravista is easily accessible to shopping, and offers a short commute for those working in North Austin and homes starting in the \$200s. Gently curving streets, charming cul-de-sacs and beautiful green areas encourage families and children to get out and explore their community, which is right in keeping with the spirit of this Round Rock community.

From the neighborly attitudes to the natural habitat and walking trails to the actual high tech connections built within each home – it's all here in this master planned golf course



Koughan Memorial Water Tower in Historic Downtown Round Rock
Photo courtesy of Realty Austin

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Williamson County Regional Park in Leander
Photo courtesy of Realty Austin

community. Residents have an opportunity to get to know each other through regular socials and other activities, while the information center provides homebuyers with help and other services long after getting settled. Children attend school in the award-winning Round Rock Independent School District, and the open landscaping here gives them lots of room to roam. In addition to an 18-hole championship golf course and clubhouse, Teravista has a host of other amenities – including lighted tennis courts, two community swimming pools, and hiking paths.

Taylor

City of Taylor:

512-352-3675

www.taylor.tx.gov

Chamber of Commerce:

512-352-6364

www.taylorchamber.org

Taylor is a great place to live, work and raise a family – as well as convenient and accessible to wherever you might need to go. Located just 20 minutes east of IH-35 and 35 minutes from downtown Austin and ABIA, the city is the crossroad of SH 95 and U.S. Hwy 79 with Amtrak train service, Capital Area Rural Transit bus service and a general

aviation, municipal airport. It's easy to reach from anywhere.

Newcomers to Taylor can't help but be charmed by this town that is steeped in both tradition and family pride. The turn-of-the-century historic downtown is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is the home of world renowned Louie Mueller Barbecue, recipient of the prestigious James Beard Foundation's "American Classics" Award. Barbecue is legendary in Taylor, all different and all good. Unique shopping may be found downtown including shabby chic, antiques and high quality boutiques and restaurants.

Quality education is a priority for this community, too – in the past few years,

they opened the new Taylor High School, costing an estimated \$38 million. And, support for the community's Legacy Early College High School has helped qualifying students receive associates degrees from the East Williamson County Higher Education Center at the same time they receive their high school diploma.

Taylor is a good place to call home. Housing from every price point is available including new homes, vintage homes and historical homes in mature, tree-lined neighborhoods. Taylor also is home to many beautiful, historic churches. There is a strong sense of community with traditional activities like the Zest Fest each spring, July 4th celebrations, the Taylor Rodeo, an International Barbecue Cook-off, and fun holiday activities.

Taylor is also a city of parks with more than 311 acres of parkland and open spaces including nearly 10 miles of hike and bike trails and sidewalks. The Taylor Regional Park and Sports Complex is a state of the art sports facility that is located adjacent to the East Williamson County Event Center and draws more than 100,000 visitors per year. All parks are Wi-Fi accessible, too.

For outdoor enthusiasts, Lake Granger is just a short drive away for fishing, boating, bird watching, camping and swimming – all of which only add to Taylor's unique and charming quality of life. ●





HAYS COUNTY

Photo by Jay Brittain

Buda

City of Buda:

512-312-0084

www.ci.buda.tx.us

Chamber of Commerce:

512-295-9999

www.budachamber.com

The Buda area's small town atmosphere is appealing to many, explaining the area's growth over the last several years. The city is planning for the future, too – expanding through controlled economic and residential growth, while also making sure to maintain a rural feel and atmosphere.

Median home prices here are from \$270s, with options for single-family homes, town-homes, homes with acreage, new housing developments, and resale homes in established neighborhoods.

Buda's main employers include Texas Lehigh Cement, Centex Materials, CTX Builders Supply, Chatleff Controls, Nighthawk Foods, and Cabela's. Buda's historical downtown area has been recently renovated, and local merchants are using the local "BIG" grant program to fix up their storefronts.

Buda also offers residents a traditional sense of community, with events that include: the Country Fair and Wiener Dog Races in April, as well as Red, White & Buda celebrating the 4th of July, the Buda Fine Arts Festival in October, and the long-standing Budafest Christmas event in early December.

minutes from downtown Austin – and light years away from big city living. Dripping Springs is a tightly knit community that has worked to preserve the country lifestyle and values upon which it was founded.

As a growing community, along with that growth has come retail businesses, with a Home Depot and H-E-B opening here recently, as well as other shops and restaurants and a local hotel off Highway 290. For all the growth Dripping Springs is experiencing, however, the town has kept its small town charm.

Dripping Springs is appealing to families who want to provide the best education for their children; the school district here is a top notch, 4A district with schools that have been rated exemplary for the last several years. For that reason, the area has attracted a lot of younger families, with elementary schools growing at a faster rate than the area's middle and high schools.

Dripping Springs now has four elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high

Dripping Springs

City of Dripping Springs:

512-858-1526

www.drippingspringstx.org

Chamber of Commerce:

512-858-4740

www.drippingspringstx.org

Known as "The Gateway to the Hill Country," Dripping Springs is just 25

school, totaling seven different campuses. Residents are also enthusiastic and strong supporters of students and the school's programs, with lots of crowds for high school football games.

Homes in Dripping Springs start at around \$200,000, and that includes older homes, as well as those found in newer subdivisions such as Belterra, HighPointe and Ledgestone that have helped to bring new neighbors to the area.

BELTERRA

Homebuyers looking to enjoy the comforts of the country without giving up the conveniences of the city often look no further than Belterra. This master planned community nestled on 1,600 acres of wooded, rolling hills is just 15 minutes from downtown Austin and is located at the gateway to the Hill Country. Belterra offers residents first-class amenities, an award-winning school district, and a pristine natural setting for the perfect balance of home, community and outdoor enjoyment.

With open parks, scenic trails and outstanding amenities, Belterra is an ideal location for active families. Belterra residents enjoy the benefits of a first-class amenity center that features a 5,000 square-foot community building with a workout facility, activity room, toddler area, and kitchen and shower facilities. The pool complex features a junior Olympic-sized lap pool, a family activity pool, a toddler pool and is also home to ball fields, a sport court, a playscape and offers easy access to Belterra's neighborhood parks plus miles of hike and bike trails.

Located in the award-winning Dripping Springs Independent School District, Belterra features family-sized homes priced from the mid-\$200s, as well as estate-style homes priced from the mid-\$300s up to the \$700s. Belterra is located off of Highway 290 West, seven miles past the intersection of Highway 71.

DRIFTWOOD

Driftwood is located within one of the most beautiful areas found in Texas, with its rolling hills and gorgeous views, and is

“**Driftwood is located within one of the most beautiful areas found in Texas, with its rolling hills and gorgeous views...**”

popular with those who want to get away from it all – yet still be close to all that Austin has to offer.

Driftwood does not have its own independent school district, but rather feeds into Hays, Dripping Springs and Wimberley school systems, with each offering a wide array of educational curriculum from which to choose. From dual language programs, smaller class sizes and impressive performing arts programs, parents have the option to select a home in school districts that offer programs best suited to their child's educational interests and needs.

Part of Driftwood's charm is that while it is located in the Hill Country, it's a quick commute to downtown Austin. The subdivisions of Vineyard Estates, Vineyard Ridge, Sierra West and RimRock are all relatively new, and offer homeowners a variety of styles and plans from which to choose.

La Ventana is another Driftwood community that offers its residents a fantastic array of amenities. An equestrian community, it's ideal for horse enthusiasts. It also features a clubhouse with sauna and three swimming pools, a driving range, and tennis courts. Some La Ventana homes use water provided by the Lower Colorado River Authority, while some homesites require wells.

Rainwater collection has also become an attractive and economical alternative for some homes' water needs, and many homes have their own septic systems. Shopping in the area is also convenient, especially with the explosive growth of Kyle and Dripping Springs, in addition to growth along the Loop 1 South corridor.

HIGHPOINTE

Set against the beauty of the Hill Country, HighPointe in Dripping Springs takes full advantage of giving its residents every opportunity to enjoy a healthy, active lifestyle. Located less than 20 miles from downtown Austin, this gated community has everything a nature-lover could want.

HighPointe is designed to maximize the Hill Country landscape by taking full advantage of the hilltop vistas, lush green-belts and mature oak trees. The community also offers privacy, neighborhood amenities, and the security of a gated community.

HighPointe's countless opportunities for making the most of the outdoors are a draw for many buyers. Amenities include several miles of crushed granite hiking and biking trails, giving residents a relaxing way to enjoy the serenity of the scenery around them. HighPointe's residents also enjoy entertainment facilities, a two-story fitness center, dance studio, conference rooms, multiple playgrounds, basketball court, floodlit tennis courts, baseball field, soccer field, and outdoor barbeque pits. Whether swimming for fun or fitness, HighPointe's four-pool aquatic center serves everyone's needs with a junior Olympic lap pool, play pool, adult pool and baby pool.

HighPointe's world-class amenity center is the social hub of the community, with meeting rooms and kitchen available for special events. The amenity center also has private offices with high speed Internet access for residential use. Neighbors can also get together with family and friends at one of the seven neighborhood parks, or at the park pavilion with a fire pit and outdoor grill.



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Photo by Jay Brittain for La Cima Community in San Marcos



Headwaters. Photo courtesy of Freehold Communities

Homes in this gated community range in size from about 2,300 to more than 4,000 square-foot. The one and two-story floor plans on sprawling home sites include many luxury features at no extra cost, including standard granite kitchen countertops, 100 percent brick, stone and stucco exteriors. Many floor plans also include media and game rooms, and four-car garages are available on selected homesites. Children living in HighPointe attend school in the award-winning Dripping Springs Independent School District.

RIMROCK

RimRock provides a natural escape from city living, with large homesites ranging from one to three acres. The rustic charm of country life combined with the prestige of custom-built homes makes RimRock a popular address in the Texas Hill Country. Surrounded by spectacular meadows, the tree-covered homesites, and breathtaking views make RimRock a great place to hide out with nature. Enjoy acres of greenbelt area with more than six miles of nature trails for hiking and off road biking.

RimRock is located in the highly acclaimed Dripping Springs Independent School District just southwest of Austin. Located on FM 1826, RimRock provides easy access to major thoroughfares such as Highway 290 and Mopac (Loop 1) making it easy to get to downtown Austin, Barton Creek Mall and Austin-Bergstrom International Airport.

Kyle
 City of Kyle:
 512-262-1010
www.cityofkyle.com
 Chamber of Commerce:
 512-268-4220
www.kylechamber.org

The population of the Kyle/Buda area has exploded in recent years, further enriching the already vibrant communities here. Numerous historical sites and recreational opportunities await visitors and active community organizations provide information and activities throughout the year.

The population of Kyle is now more than 46,000 and numerous retail developments have sprung up to support the fast-growing population here and in nearby Buda. The award winning Hays Consolidated Independent School District offers a strong educational foundation and, with 24 colleges and universities in a 50-mile radius, major employers have no trouble finding a young, motivated workforce.

Major employers include Grande Communications (telecommunications), Hays Consolidated Independent School District, and businesses in nearby San Marcos. Lo-

cated 15-miles from Austin and 50-miles from San Antonio, the area is perfectly positioned to take full advantage of the fast growing IH-35 corridor.

San Marcos
 City of San Marcos:
 512-393-8000
www.sanmarcostx.gov
 Chamber of Commerce:
 512-393-5900
www.sanmarcostexas.com

San Marcos is a little town made large by Texas State University that hasn't let progress or growth get in the way of maintaining its peaceful lifestyle. Set amidst the serenity of the banks of the San Marcos River, life in San Marcos harkens back to a time when life wasn't quite so complicated.

San Marcos has that small town appeal, and for people who love small town living, it's perfect. There's the town square, which was recently renovated, and there are shops and stores all in downtown San Marcos. There are also lovely, beautiful old homes in downtown along San Antonio Street, at Christmas time

every year, they're all lit up – definitely something to see.

Located along the high-tech corridor of I-35 linking Austin and San Antonio, San Marcos is an easy commute, with only 30 minutes drive time to the state capital. The low cost of living in San Marcos means that residents can afford a house with outstanding amenities. San Marcos offers affordability in every range, from Victorian homes to new subdivisions. Find “fixer upper” homes in San Marcos for around \$100,000 while homes in newer suburban areas start at around \$190,000.

There's no shortage of things to do here, too – including toobin' down the San Marcos River, bargain hunting at nearby outlet malls, or going on a biking or hiking adventure in the rolling hills around San Marcos.

Another major area attraction, Aquarena Center, has been bought by Texas State University and transformed from a tourist attraction to an environmental educational center. Gone are the mermaids and Ralph the Swimming Pig, but Aquarena's famous glass-bottom boats remain, as they provide the public with a clearer understanding of the importance and diversity of wetlands and the Edward Aquifer, and allows them to see native and exotic species found in the area.

BLANCO VISTA

Set against the peaceful backdrop of the Blanco River, Blanco Vista is the first master-planned community in the San Marcos area, allowing its residents to experience small town living with all of the big city upgrades.

Blanco Vista features a range of housing, including starter homes, family homes, townhomes, estate housing, and even patio homes. Homes in Blanco Vista are reflective of the developer's 360-degree attitude that is “designed to take care of community residents in all phases of life.”

Blanco Vista enjoys a wide appeal with San Marcos residents who want to move up to a quality master-planned community in their hometown, as well as Austinites who want to enjoy a more laid-back lifestyle.

At the center of Blanco Vista is the main amenity center, which serves as the heart of the community. Here Blanco Vista residents will find a community facility, junior-sized Olympic pool as well as a splash pool, and two age-appropriate playscapes. Blanco Vista also features a catch and release pond, and is adjacent to nearly 80 acres of county parkland.

Wimberley

Village of Wimberley:

512-847-0025

www.wimberley.org

Chamber of Commerce:

512-847-2201

www.wimberley.org

Named by *Travel Holiday* magazine as one of “America's Ten Best Small Towns,” Wimberley enjoys a special and magical place in the hearts of its residents. Considered by many to be a kind of mecca for area artisans who want to leave the bright lights of the big city behind, Wimberley combines old-style Texas hospitality with an eclectic sense of style and panache.

Located off FM 12 north of San Marcos amid the green meadows of the Texas

Hill Country, Wimberley is a 50-minute commute from downtown Austin. Towering cypress trees line the Blanco River and Cypress Creek, and residents can be counted on to find time for a dip into cool shady swimming holes such as Blue Hole. Wildlife in the area is abundant as well, with white-tailed deer, rabbits, and even that Texas icon, the armadillo.

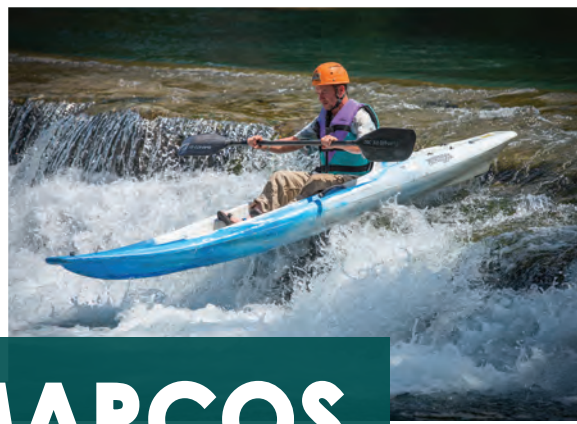
Wimberley is also known for its down home approach to events and entertainment, and is also a next-door neighbor to the Devil's Backbone Tavern, a classic Texas honky-tonk. Market Days in Wimberley is the second largest event of its kind in Texas and is held the first Saturday of the month from April to December with more than 450 booths.

Another popular attraction is the Corral Theatre, a “walk-in” outdoor movie theatre. You literally park your car, walk in, and sit down in lawn chairs to enjoy the show, all under the big open night sky.

Wimberley incorporated itself as a town in 2000, but it was only the central part of the town. There's a huge area that's not incorporated (called Wimberley Valley), and the whole area attracts many artisans, artists and musicians. Wimberley has also experienced a lot of growth recently, which gives great variety to the housing market – prices generally start in the low \$200s and go up to more than \$1 million. ●



Photo by Jay Brittain for La Cima Community in San Marcos



LA CIMA IN SAN MARCOS

1/4-Acre Home Sites Now Available with College Town Charm and Big-City Conveniences

If you're looking for a place to call home that offers a unique blend of home designs by award-winning builders, an array of outdoor-centric amenities and hundreds of acres of parkland and recreation space, all in a vibrant college town combining small time charm with big-city conveniences, then it's time to get to know La Cima in San Marcos. The community's gorgeous model homes are open daily.

La Cima, located at the doorstep of the Texas Hill Country just five minutes west of San Marcos, is destined to become the premier master-planned community on the bustling I-35 corridor between Austin and San Antonio, an area recently hailed as the "next great metropolis" by Forbes magazine.

Spanning over 2,400 acres, La Cima offers distinct new 50- and 60-foot home designs priced from the \$280's by a distinguished line-up of builders including Highland Homes, Scott Felder Homes and Wilshire Homes. The community also has 1/4-acre home sites now available.

Complementing the community's stylish homes are amenities designed with all ages in mind. The Recreation Center will feature an activity room, meeting room, 8-lane junior Olympic swimming pool and family pool. There will also be playscapes,

10-plus miles of hike and bike trails, community recreation fields and a Central Park covering over 45 acres. All told, La Cima outdoor assets will span more than 800 acres of open space and parkland for residents to enjoy.



When it comes to location, there are few cities with more fun per square foot than San Marcos. The spirit of San Marcos is endless, thanks to its diverse businesses, outdoor recreation, entertainment, restaurant, shopping and academic offerings. From Texas State University, which supports local careers and exudes a youthful vibe, to the many preserved nature areas, to the city's impressive music, arts and cultural scene, there's something for everyone here.

La Cima's students will be served by the highly regarded San Marcos Consolidated ISD, with plans for a future elementary to be located within the community. There are also two exceptional private schools close by in the San Marcos Academy and the Hill Country Christian School.

Just 30 minutes from both Austin and San Antonio, La Cima is a relaxing, fun-filled place to call home, and a place where you and your family will make lasting memories. To learn more about La Cima in San Marcos, visit www.LaCimaTX.com. ●



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BASTROP COUNTY

Bastrop

City of Bastrop:

512-321-3941

www.cityofbastrop.org

Chamber of Commerce:

512-321-2419

www.bastropchamber.com

Custom homes in a beautiful, natural setting at a reasonable price just 30 miles from Austin is the major draw for living in Bastrop – as is a relaxed lifestyle for those who want country living with all the benefits of the city. Those who live here like Bastrop for the natural beauty of the trees and the pines, the four golf courses, and the Hyatt Lost Pines Resort and Spa. There's no lack of things to do when you have country living and city access.

Bastrop is also a vibrant rural community that's very attractive to families and young professionals who love the lure of the great outdoors. With the Colorado River running through the town, Bastrop is the perfect place for those who enjoy kayaking, fishing, and other water-sports. Residents

have easy access to local state parks, including Bastrop State Park and nearby McKinney Roughs with its 1,100 acres. Golf enthusiasts will appreciate being in an area featuring some of the finest golf courses in the area. Other Bastrop residents enjoy horseback riding, cycling and hiking amid Bastrop's hilly terrain.

The City of Bastrop was awarded a rating of "A+" by the internationally respected Fitch Ratings for the city's sound financial position created by healthy fund balances in the face of Bastrop's growth pressures and ongoing economic development. Recent road construction leading into Austin now means those who commute have an even shorter drive time. With the completion of the SH-130 toll road, those who live here and work in north Austin can be there in about 35 minutes.

Home developments in Bastrop range from the established Tahitian Village to newer developments like Hunters Crossing. Many homes are also built on acreage that allow for large homes and a sense of privacy. The

median price for a single-family home here is \$240,000. The area's newest shopping center is the 60-acre *Burleson Crossing* retail development, featuring several anchor stores and multiple restaurant, as well as 117,000 square-feet of retail space.

THE COLONY

Enjoy lots of sunny skies and land at The Colony, located just 16 miles east of the Austin Bergstrom International Airport off Highway 71 and about 20-minutes from downtown Austin. The Colony is a gated community that gives its residents everything they would have in the city, with spacious lots that offer a sense of privacy in the natural setting of the Bastrop countryside.

Homesites in The Colony are much larger than an average city lot, with one-acre-plus homesites and larger two- and three-acre sites available. Students in The Colony attend schools in the Bastrop Independent School District.

The community offers a real bonus for those seeking to get away from it all in

“Custom homes in a beautiful, natural setting at a reasonable price just 30 miles from Austin is the major draw for living in Bastrop...”

their own private forest on large tree-covered homesites in a master-planned residential community. Neighborhood amenities here include a tree-shaded junior Olympic pool, tennis court, basketball court, sports fields, and wet and dry saunas in the fitness center. The Colony's clubhouse offers a place for meetings and neighborhood events, as well as for private use by property owners.

There are plenty of outdoor recreational activities to enjoy in the area. A boat launch on the Colorado River is a little more than two miles away, and the 1,100-acre McKinney Roughs nature preserve is also nearby. Adjacent to The Colony's entrance is the *Lost Pines Resort and Spa*, a Hyatt Regency resort property that features an 18-hole championship golf course.

COLOVISTA

A master-planned community, ColoVista offers the amenities found in the city, while residents enjoy living in some of the most beautiful natural surroundings Bastrop County has to offer, including homes on acreage.

Located in a heavily wooded area offering beautiful views of the Bastrop countryside, homebuyers moving to ColoVista will find plenty to do. Bastrop State Park and four golf courses are within a five-mile radius of each other.

Depending on the section, homes in ColoVista start at around \$200,000, and can go to \$1 million-plus, with the option to build custom homes on the lot. Located in Bastrop County, the community is located within Smithville Independent School District.

HUNTERS CROSSING

Known for its famous “Lost Pines” forests, its historic downtown and beautiful Colorado River, Bastrop is the perfect setting for those who want affordable homes and a wide array of neighborhood amenities. *Hunters Crossing* offers small town charm with new homes located deep in the heart of beautiful Bastrop.

Neighborhood amenities include an Olympic-sized swimming pool, a community room, a park and playground, picnic area, soccer and baseball fields, a community fishing lake, and greenbelts and trails that connect to Bastrop's city-wide network of trails.

Hunters Crossing is located in the Bastrop Independent School District, a designated 5A school district. Parental involvement in their children's education is key in Bastrop, and the community is known for its strong show of support of school sponsored teams and organizations. Homes in Hunter's Crossing are priced from the \$170s to the \$250s, and the community offers easy access to Bastrop's retail centers, restaurants, and schools.

Residents say that Elgin offers a classic small town feeling – with residents walking in the evening or riding bicycles; gathering on Main Street for parades; and getting to know all their neighbors.

Elgin is a Main Street community and has worked with the Texas Historical Commission on the designation. The city also has an active economic development board that helps businesses relocate here.

Many residents work in Austin, and are a mix of retirees and middle-aged and young couples. Elgin offers homebuyers a lot of variation and choice in their decision to purchase a home. From new homes to custom homes to homes on various sized acreages, there are options for all. The market is strong for homes on acreage and for older historic homes, and prices are affordable.

Elgin is located in Bastrop County, although the Travis County line is located just out of town, and Elgin's city limits and school district fall into part of Williamson, Lee, Travis, and Bastrop Counties, so calculating property taxes depends on the location of the home.

THE ARBORS AT DOGWOOD CREEK

Juniper, oak and loblolly pine trees add to the landscape of the more than 500-acres of The Arbors at Dogwood Creek in Elgin. Nestled away in the rural forest surrounding Highway 95, The Arbors gives its residents the opportunity to enjoy affordable country that's close to Austin.

Families will especially enjoy the lifestyle that The Arbors at Dogwood Creek offers, with a community park featuring basketball, volleyball and tennis courts. Gazebos with barbecue pits, a pavilion and a playscape are also available to residents, as well as a quarter-mile concrete jogging trail. Students attend school in the Elgin Independent School District.

Home prices here range from the \$170s to more than \$500,000, and homes are architecturally controlled and well maintained to protect home investment values. With the larger lot sizes, homeowners at The Arbors also have plenty of room for children to play, a pool, outbuildings, a guest home, and horses. ●

Elgin

City of Elgin:

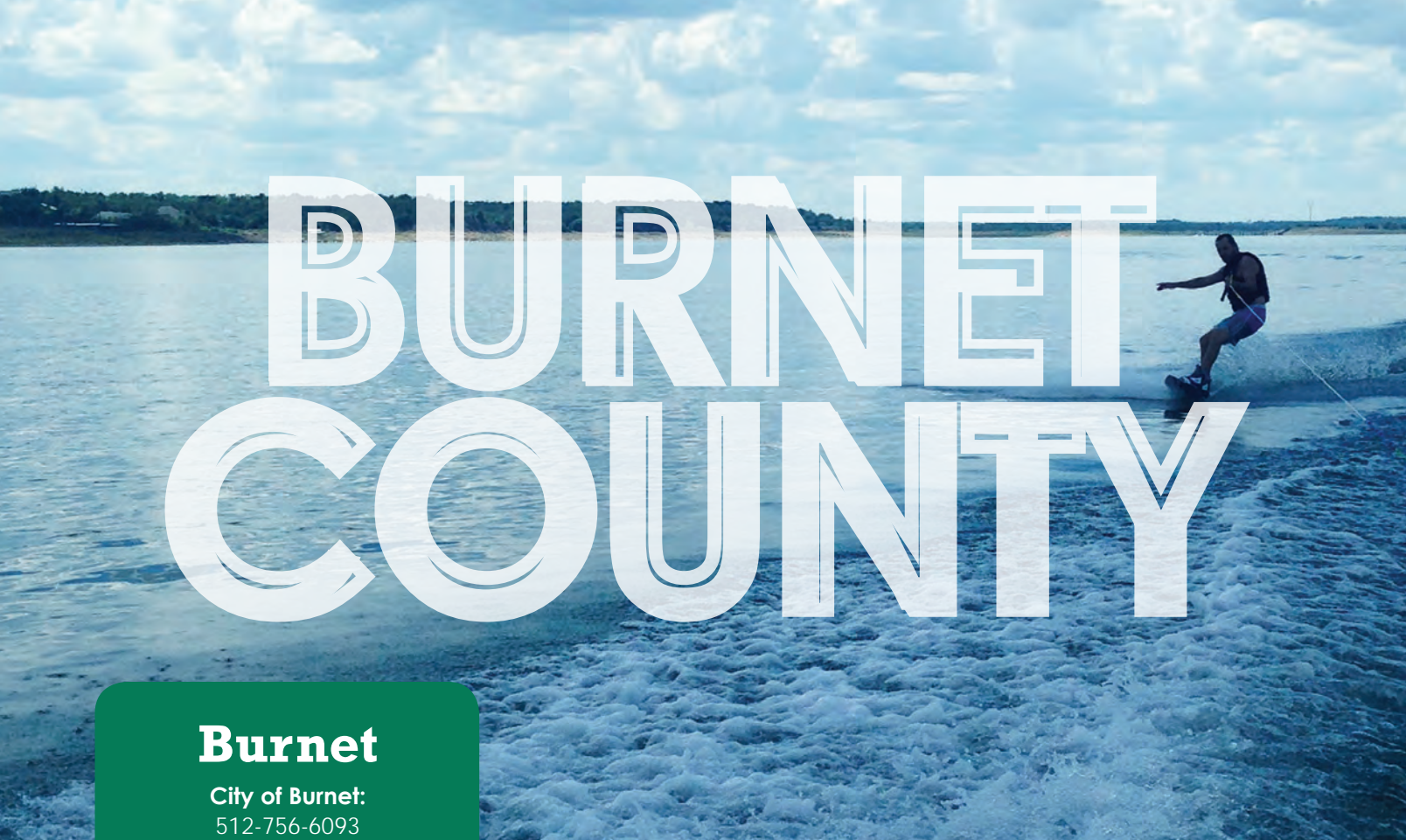
512-281-5724

www.elgintx.com

Chamber of Commerce:

512-285-4515

www.elgintxchamber.com



BURNET COUNTY

Burnet

City of Burnet:

512-756-6093

www.cityofburnet.com

Chamber of Commerce:

512-756-4297

www.burnetchamber.org

For years, Burnet has been a hidden gem of a lakeside community, tucked away in the hills of central Texas and far away from the stresses of big city living. But with Burnet's designation in *Money* magazine article as one of the "top five rural hot spots to invest", and its growth since then, more people are discovering this Hill Country town.

Burnet's natural beauty and convenient location to the Highland Lakes chain makes it appealing, as does its sense of community. As with many small communities, life in Burnet is centered on its children and schools. Burnet Consolidated Independent School District is the largest employer here, and the Hill Country Community Foundation awards a scholarship to every Burnet High School graduate accepted to an accredited college or university.

Health services here include Seton Highland Lakes Hospital – a 25-bed acute care hospital

located between Burnet and Marble Falls that offers 24-hour emergency care, plus comprehensive diagnostic and treatment services for residents in the surrounding area. The healthcare clinic adjacent to the hospital offers primary and preventive care.

Families and empty nesters alike choose to live here, with many people coming to looking for a great place to retire that is just 50 miles northwest of Austin. Burnet also offers smaller local shops and stores, as well as larger department stores in nearby Marble Falls.

Marble Falls is known for many things, but the city is probably best known for supplying the beautiful pink granite that helped build the Texas Capitol in Austin. Located in the middle of the Texas Hill Country on the Colorado River, Marble Falls is 47 miles northwest of Austin and 85 miles north of San Antonio.

Its location in the middle of the Highland Lakes Region, the largest chain of lakes in Texas, makes it ideal for boating enthusiasts, and many people have vacation and retirement homes here. Marble Falls is also a relatively affordable place to live with median home prices in the \$280s and prices that go higher for homes within lake communities.

Marble Falls

City of Marble Falls:

830-693-3615

www.marblefallstx.gov

Chamber of Commerce:

830-693-4449

www.marblefalls.org

BEE CREEK

Located in the hilly terrain between Spicewood and Lake Travis off Hwy. 71, Bee Creek is experiencing growth with the addition of planned neighborhoods and the Hill Country Galleria down the road – offering a mix of older and newer homes.

For those who love the natural beauty, privacy and access to the lake that Bee Creek offers, it's a very appealing place to live. The mix of new and older homes in the area also means a greater spread between home prices as well. In Bee Creek, it's not unusual to see a very large, expensive house and then down the road see a little A-frame home. Prices in the area range from the \$250s to more than \$2 million, and everyone has some access to Lake Travis.

Spicewood

City of Spicewood:
www.spicewoodtx.us

Looking at a map, Spicewood is pretty easy to find. Of course, when driving out to the rural community, the area is a little less defined because of its small size. With a few gas stations, a few barbecue places, and a small mini grocery store, it's much less of a city than nearby Lakeway – with a country lifestyle to match.

Residents here find they can relax and enjoy beautiful views of Lake Travis and the surrounding Texas Hill Country, and wake up in the morning to the sound of birds, not the sound of traffic. Those who move to Spicewood want a vacation home or a second home in the midst of Hill Country surroundings. And for those who decide to make it the location of their primary home, they are happy to learn that their children attend school in the top rated Marble Falls Independent School District.

THE RESERVE AT LAKE TRAVIS

Located on the highly desirable south shore, The Reserve at Lake Travis boasts panoramic lake and hill country views from beautifully treed home sites. Located near Lakeway and in the award winning Lake Travis Independent School District, it's easily accessible from major

“Residents of Spicewood find they can relax and enjoy beautiful views of Lake Travis and the surrounding Texas Hill Country, and wake up in the morning to the sound of birds, not the sound of traffic.”

thoroughfares of Hwy 71 and Bee Creek Roads. There's even a helipad for air travelers. The Reserve is just minutes away from several championship golf courses, upscale shopping at the nearby Hill Country Galleria, and an array of fine dining, casual restaurants and many other area amenities.

Encompassing 300 lush acres of rolling hill country just minutes west of downtown Austin and featuring 3.5 miles of pristine waterfront property along the coveted south banks of Lake Travis, The Reserve is the ultimate in Texas luxury living. Large one to five acre home sites are carefully designed to take full advantage of expansive vistas and water frontage. Complete resort amenities abound including a comprehensive equestrian center and private lake club, full service marina, lakeside restaurant, lazy river pool and much more. With Hal Jones Development's signature attention to detail, The Reserve at Lake Travis is the perfect blend of harmonious design and spectacular natural elements.

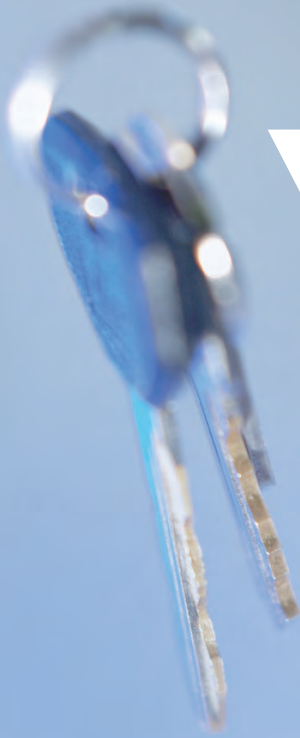
The Reserve at Lake Travis offers abundant amenities for relaxation and entertainment for those seeking true resort living. A multitude of available activities ranging from boating and water sports, to horseback riding, dining, swimming, tennis, or just relaxing with friends will all provide and enhance a casual yet elegant lifestyle. For horse enthusiasts, the Equestrian center is a full-service facility

offering English and Western disciplines complete with covered and open arenas. The center also offers boarding, grooming, butler service, training, lessons, events, and trail rides.

The community's full-service public marina offers comprehensive concierge-style services; the housekeeping staff and on-site mechanics allow residents to boat virtually maintenance-free. State-of-the-art security provides maximum protection for 150 covered boat slips, which can accommodate boats up to 80 feet.

Experience carefree living to its fullest in one of The Reserve's beautifully appointed cottages where cozy farmhouse meets elegant plantation manse. The Cottages offer Texas-inspired charm in one and two story floor plans ranging from 2,000 to 4,000 square feet. Casual yet chic design features include metal rooftops, expansive outdoor living spaces, and spacious interiors.

Envision your favorite summer camp complete with all the activities you love: swimming, canoeing, badminton, bocce, horseshoes, and roasting marshmallows over open fire pits. The Cypress Club is also exclusive to residents. Members can relax at the waterfront Bar and Grille, enjoy dining outdoors or in the rustic clubhouse. Prices for homesites start at around \$200,000, and homes from the \$900s. ●



texas title insurance: YOU have the POWER

do you know *how* to use it?

By Kara McGregor, Senior Vice President of Business Development, Independence Title

How do you choose a title company in Texas? Both federal and state laws specifically enforce the consumers' right to choose their title services provider in a real estate transaction. However, most consumers lack the knowledge to differentiate between title companies, and default to a vendor chosen by their real estate agent or mortgage lender.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau put some rules in place that provide fresh emphasis on consumer choice, but there are no guidelines to help home buyers and sellers make an informed decision on what company should handle their transaction. Most consumers aren't sure what title companies really do, much less how to judge which one is "best."

In Texas, title insurance rates are set by the Texas Department of Insurance, so there is no price differentiation to help steer a consumer toward one company over another. The Texas model for title insurance is one of the most consumer-friendly in the nation, with rate-making formulas based on actual costs of doing business, profit margins capped, and discretionary fees low. Since rates are non-negotiable, large commercial customers are not able to

negotiate lower rates at the expense of the average consumer, which is the norm in deregulated states. All Texas title policies cost the same one-time fee, based on the sales price of the property.

“ Most consumers aren't sure what title companies really do, much less how to judge which one is 'best'.”

So, how do you know? What do you ask? What search criteria do you put in the box?

Here is a brief primer on some factors that can truly affect the experience of your transaction, with

some clarifying questions to ask as you talk to your real estate agent or mortgage lender, or as you browse title company websites in search of clues.

Are there convenient locations?

With the parties to your transaction in mind, does the title company have a location that is reasonably

accessible? Despite the conveniences of the digital age, many aspects of the transaction are best handled in person, and some documents still need “wet signatures” to be legally binding.

Title companies without many options as to brick and mortar locations will offer mobile notary services, but you sacrifice the benefit of working face-to-face with the escrow officer or “closer” who put the transaction together. The closer is empowered to answer questions, catch discrepancies in the documents, make changes as needed to close the transaction smoothly, as well as manage the process of funding the transaction. A notary merely affirms the signatures and cannot provide any other service. And again, you won't pay any more to sign documents with a qualified professional.

Who's underwriting the transaction?

Like any insurance policy, title policies are underwritten by a financial holding company that would pay the cost of a claim. The underwriter makes the rules that determine whether your transaction is insurable. This is a business decision that turns on many factors that come up in researching the history of the property. Are there gaps in the “chain of title,” or the history of ownership? Are there buildings that don't conform to property lines? These issues and hundreds more are considered when a title underwriter assumes the risk of insuring the sale of a property from one owner to another.

When choosing a title company, investigate whether the company has multiple options as to underwriters. Some companies are direct operations of national underwriters, with just a single set of underwriting guidelines. Other companies have the ability to write policies on any of several underwriters. This makes a difference on complicated transactions, when the title company can shop around and choose an underwriter with guidelines that offer workarounds.

Where is the title research handled?

Many large title companies have followed national trends and sent behind-the-scenes jobs to other states or other countries, particularly parts of the

title research process. On the ground in your town, this can impact the ability of local employees to get timely answers and solutions when there's an issue to be cleared up before closing the transaction.

Find out if the company you're considering has a fully staffed title department at their local headquarters, or at least in your time zone.

What value-added service do I get?

Again, title companies in Texas can't compete on price, and those that are serious about standing out from the herd offer a range of resources and services to smooth and enhance the experience of buying or selling a home.

Look for things like reports and guides that help sellers answer questions about their property, and explain the closing process for the lay-person. Some offer

both printed and online resources that help buyers learn about local schools, taxing authorities, and communities. Some have online resources and mobile applications to help you in estimating closing costs, and connect you with branch locations and other resources.

Except... it's negotiable in Texas

That is to say, buyers and sellers must ultimately come together and agree on the choice of title company. In Texas, the agreed upon title company is indicated on the promulgated sales contract.

There are arguments on both sides of the issue as to whether sellers or buyers should have their choice. On the one hand, sellers sometimes need the assistance of a title company to resolve known issues that would complicate the sale, even before talking to a potential buyer. And in Texas, typically the seller pays for the title policy insuring the buyer (although this is also negotiable). On the other hand, the buyer is ultimately the insured party, and will have the ongoing business relationship with the title company.

The important takeaway is that you as the consumer have a voice and a vote. All title companies are not the same, and a little research can help you make an informed choice.

“The important takeaway is that you have a voice and a vote.”



BOWL



TAG



Austin Has a New Game in Town.

High 5 is proud to be a homegrown, family-owned and operated business offering world-class service with a unique Austin vibe.

1502 Ranch Road 620 S., Lakeway | 512-710-2695 | bowlhighfive.com



GAME



DINE

LEISURE & RECREATION

The hardest part of living in Austin is trying to fit in so many fun things to do! Love sports? Try the Round Rock Express for minor league baseball, the Texas Stars for hockey, or top college football with the University of Texas Longhorns. Looking for culture? Austin has that too, with noted museums, theaters, and galleries. Cool off at area lakes for swimming, waterskiing, sailing, or fishing. No boat? No problem! There are plenty of marinas to rent your own. Read on for a sample of what this fun city has to offer.

in this section

arts and culture
attractions & family fun
sports, athletics & golf
parks & recreation
calendar of events

PARKS & CAMPING

The Austin area has a variety of options for lodging and camping that are sure to offer great value to the entire family. Austin has many camping grounds and parks where there are wonderful amenities such as rental cabins, full hook-ups for an RV, hiking, fishing, biking, swimming, scenic driving and bird watching, volleyball, horseshoes and so much more. Part of the benefits of living in Austin is the accessibility you have to so many outdoor activities. With the Hill Country backdrop, any outdoor lover will swoon over the availability of so many great parks and trails to check out. If you wanted to venture out for the weekend and have a staycation, there are an abundance of places to stay while you are in Austin, from camping under the stars to cozying up in a cabin.

FAMILY FUN

There are plenty of fun and educational family attractions that can be found in Austin. Some popular local favorites include skate parks, a train museum, concerts, libraries, movies, baseball games, farmers markets – just to name a few. Austin has a population that has shifted to a younger median age. This, in turn, means that the overall number of family-centered activities has increased. Austin provides numerous options for family fun that prove

valuable to both children and adults alike. Take the family out on a duck tour or check out the marinas and water activities for kids. There are activities in and around Austin for any child's age group, from toddlers to teens.

ARTS & CULTURE

With museums, music, dance, theatre and cultural center options to choose from, there is something for everyone both young and old. Austin has a rich history that is featured in local museums, art studios, and cultural centers. There are many annual events that showcase the rich heritage of the people of the area. While visiting or traveling to this area, experience the local arts, which creates the fabric of the South. Williamson County does a tremendous job of featuring a rich local culture while keeping in touch with Texas tradition.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

Sport fans can find plenty to enjoy in Austin, including minor league baseball, basketball, hockey, rugby and roller derby. If you don't want to just sit by the sidelines, there are also a multitude of athletic activities you can enjoy such as hiking, biking, and disc golf among others. Some athletics that are most prevalent include sports at the University of Texas. The college puts out great sports teams year after year, to the delight of their patrons. Minor league

teams include the Texas Stars, the Austin Toros and the Round Rock Express. Cycling is also big in Central Texas! Come out and watch LIVESTRONG's annual Ride for the Roses. Lance Armstrong hosts a cycling and a running marathon for the area. Thousands of people come out to participate in support of the foundation and all its services to the community. Lastly, there is some wonderful high school football in and around Austin. Consider coming out to a sporting event this year.

GOLF

From the moment you step onto a fairway on any of the lavish golf courses in Austin, Texas, you experience the natural beauty and interweaving design only found in the Hill Country. The Southern topography is aglow with magnificent trees and wildflowers that grow freely. They are the Hill Country's own distinguished perfume. Golf courses in this slice of heaven – the Texas Hill Country – can challenge the best golfers and accommodate the newest ones ready to take their shot.

Memories await you at any of the championship golf courses in this peaceful atmosphere and natural paradise setting. The rolling fairways and ambiance you will experience on these posh, green-velvet courses is exhilarating, even with those perilous bunkers dotting the landscape. Making your way to the first tee, you almost hear the wind whispering the names of golf power-players like Jordan Spieth. Lexie Thompson. Who knows? Maybe one day, your name will be mentioned in the golf annals as well. But now, in the present, it's just you and the green-carpeted fairway. And your clubs. From the tee, you frame the scenic corridor of the fairway that's lined with swaying majestic oak trees. They stand like sentinels over the course, watching and hoping your slice doesn't chip away at any of their bark. You nod to them and silently send a message promising their safety; you are hoping for a stroke of genius.

With so many options, you're sure to stay busy exploring this wonderful city and the beautiful Hill Country. ●

Austin Rodeo Fairgrounds
Photo by Erin Seal



ATTRACTIONS AND *family* FUN



Austin Kiddie Limits
Photo by Katrina Barber
for ACL Fest 2019
courtesy of C3Presents

Alamo Drafthouse Cinemas

Village: 2700 W Anderson Lane, Austin

South Lamar: 1120 S. Lamar, Austin

Mueller: 1911 Aldrich Street, Ste. 120, Austin

Ritz Downtown: 320 E. 6th Street, Austin

Slaughter: 5701 W. Slaughter Lane, Austin

Lakeline: 14028 Hwy 183 Bldg F, Austin

512-476-1320; www.drafthouse.com

The Alamo Drafthouse Cinemas are a movie buff's dream come true. Constantly changing movies and themes, sliding easily from one eclectic genre to another the Alamo Drafthouse Cinemas succeeds where other independent movie houses failed. Films include independent releases, Anime, the latest from Hong Kong, spaghetti western nights, midnight movies, and of course, the ever-popular Mr. Sinus Theatre – an experience unto itself. There's even UT football on the big screen. Ever true to their motto: Dinner – Drinks – Movies – Events, the Alamo Drafthouse is a popular Austin entertainment destination.

Antiquing

South Congress Avenue

Just south of downtown from W. James

o Johanna Streets, Austin

Looking for the perfect afternoon of shopping for antiques as you stroll along the avenue? Look no further than South Congress, with its variety of antique and

what-not shops, and little eateries nestled in between.

AO Tours, Inc.

512-659-9478; www.aotoursaustin.com

"Austin and Hill Country in 90 Minutes" tour. Owners, Dow and Mary Davidson, want you to know and love Austin as much as they do. This 30-mile Austin city tour showcases the best and most interesting sites to see in the city. Guests enjoy the commentary of the tour guide, an experienced Austinite who enjoys sharing Austin's unique qualities and stories with visitors. Guests also hear about the rich history and learn about Austin's natural environment from the knowledgeable tour guide. Purchase tickets for this eclectic and entertaining tour online or at one of their departure locations. Wild About Music, 209 E 6th Street or Austin Visitor Center 602 E. 4th Street. Private, custom tours for individuals and groups are available upon request.

Austin BMX and Skate Park

1213 Shoal Creek Boulevard

Austin; 512-974-6700

www.austintexas.gov/page/austin-bmx-skate-park

A free, public facility like this is what makes Austin so awesome. The park opened in 2011 with a bowl and various

ramps, catering to experienced and novice skateboarders and BMX-er's. All ages are welcome. Remember to wear a helmet and bring plenty of drinking water. Go early, especially if you have kids. Afternoons attract bigger kids/adults so it can be more dangerous, if you have smaller kids. If you go early, it's still open enough that your kids can enjoy the park without worrying about getting in other people's way.

Austin City Limits (ACL Live) at The Moody Theater

310 Willie Nelson Boulevard, Austin

Venue: 512-225-7999; *Tickets:* 877-435-9849

www.acl-live.com

The acclaimed KLRU-TV produced PBS series, Austin City Limits is the longest running music series in American television history. Austin City Limits is the only television program to ever receive the National Medal of Arts, the nation's highest award for artistic excellence. The state-of-the-art, 2,750-person capacity live music venue hosts approximately 100 concerts a year, in addition to special and private events. Enjoy some of the industry's biggest stars and rising talent, performing live from the world-famous Austin City Limits Live at The Moody Theater, or on-demand webcasts at www.cbs.com/stage-side-live.

Austin City Limits (ACL) Music Festival Zilker Park

2100 Barton Springs Road, Austin

888-512-SHOW (7469); www.aclfestival.com

ACL Festival takes place on 46-acres in Zilker Park, the crown jewel of Austin's park system. Over 130 musical artists from across the globe, amazing local food and wares, fun things for the kids, green goings-on, and other cool activities to entertain you. The festival is a two weekend offering and is an event not to be missed by the music lover. Tickets are available online.

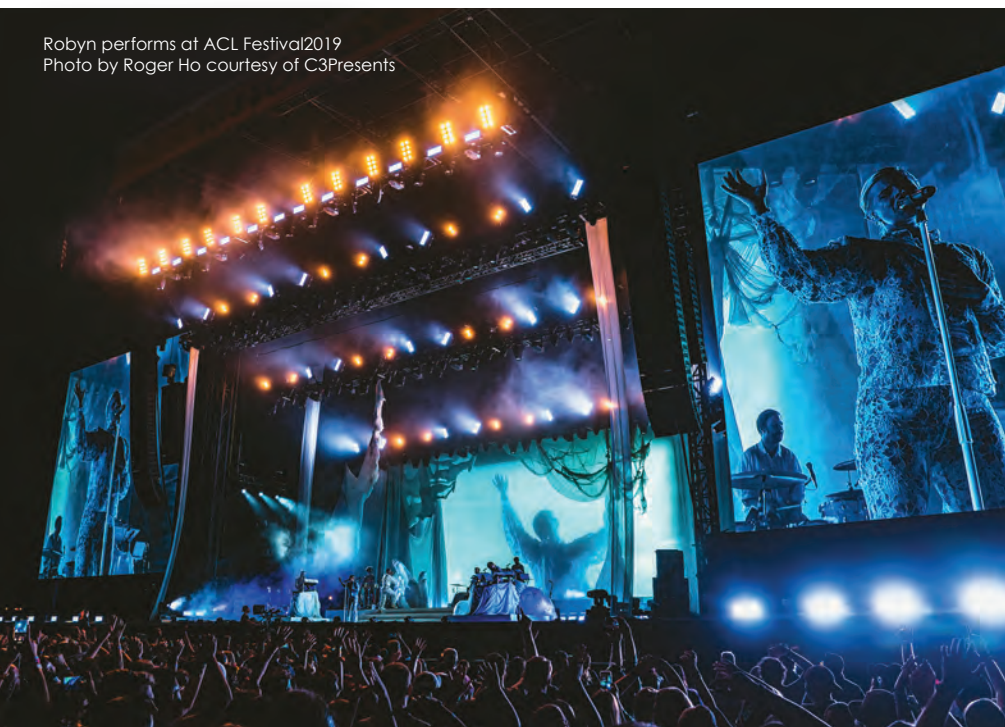
Austin Duck Adventures

300 Pressler Street, Austin

512-477-5274; www.austinducks.com

Make a splash, and enjoy the best touring on both land and lake! Austin Duck

Robyn performs at ACL Festival 2019
Photo by Roger Ho courtesy of C3Presents





Barton Springs Pool
Photo by Erin Seal

Austin's Park n' Pizza

16231 South IH-35 Frontage Road
Pflugerville; 512-670-9600
www.austinspark.com

Open year-round, Austin's Park is reminiscent of "Paradise Island" from the Disney classic movie "Pinocchio" – except you don't have to worry about sprouting donkey ears halfway through your fun. Over 22 fun-filled acres just off the Grand Avenue Parkway exit on I-35, Austin's Park features family-oriented activities such as miniature golf, go-carts, bumper boats, laser-tag, batting cages, and even a rock climbing wall. A game pavilion and an arcade help to maintain the non-stop action and an imaginative and interactive kiddie ride and play area offers something for the younger set, while older siblings scamper off.

Barton Springs Pool

2201 Barton Springs Road, Austin
512- 476-9044; www.austintexas.gov/departments/barton-springs-pool

One of the crown jewels of Austin is Barton Springs Pool, the fourth-largest natural spring in Texas. Three acres in size, the pool is fed from underground springs and is on average, 68 degrees year-round. Over the years, Barton Springs Pool has drawn people from all walks of life, from legislatures who have concocted state laws there to free-spirited, topless sunbathers who turned head in the 1970s. Robert Redford learned to swim at the pool when he was 5 years old while visiting his mother's relative in Austin. Today, Barton Springs still attracts a diverse crowd of people.

Capital Cruises

Hyatt Regency Boat Dock
208 Barton Springs Road, Austin
512-480-9264; www.capitalcruises.com

Just add water! Capital Cruises offers a variety of options for those who would like to cruise around Town Lake. Public and private dinner cruises, sightseeing cruises, and bat watching excursions are among the services offered, in addition to canoe, kayak, and electric paddle-boats.

Adventures offers the best of both land and water worlds as you tour downtown on wheels and see the State Capitol, the Governor's Mansion, the Bob Bullock Museum, Congress Avenue and 6th Street before taking to the lake in a revamped amphibious vehicle – a British Alvis Stewart.

Austin Sailboat Rentals

20 N IH-35, Austin; 512-815-0980
www.austinsailboatrentals.com

On a fine day in Austin, nothing is better than manning your own boat on Lady Bird Lake, be it a dinghy sailboat, a day sailor or a Hobie Adventure. It's a sport as well as an experience! Make it a date, or celebrate a birthday. Depending on your experience, they'll suggest just the right boat for you, to make your experience stand out. Not ready to hit the waves, calm as they may be? They also rent bikes, single or tandem, by the hour or by the day. So, come on over and enjoy your city in different way.

Austin Steam Train

401 E Whitestone Boulevard, Cedar Park
512-477-8468; www.austinsteamtrain.org

All aboooooard! Step into another era as you leisurely travel aboard the Hill Country

Flyer, one of several steam powered excursion trains operated by the Austin Steam Train Association. The central Texas steam train travels deep into the Hill Country and returns to Cedar Park, while another, shorter route offers a two hour excursion to Liberty Hill and back.

Austin Triathlon Club

www.austintriclub.org

Good things come in threes, and members of the Austin Triathletes couldn't agree more. This multi-sport club is focused on sharing their passion of sports and fitness with others on all skill levels. Anyone who is a Triathlete, or interested in completing his or her first triathlon is encouraged to join.

Austin Zoo

10808 Rawhide Trail, Austin
512-288-1490; www.austinzoo.org

Take a walk on the wild side. A visit to the Austin Zoo offers an up close look at animals from around the world in a safe, family-friendly environment. Bonus: there's a shady picnic area complete with grills-perfect for parties and get-togethers.



The owners of Capital Cruises also pride themselves on their all-electric boat fleet to minimize impact on the environment, as well as their involvement in the Austin community through their donation of time, and services to many area youth and nonprofit organizations.

Capital Metro Moonlight & Starlight 'Dillos

Specific Route Information:

512-474-1200; www.capmetro.org

Trying to get around downtown Austin for some evening entertainment? Frustrated by ever-increasing parking lot fees, if you can find parking downtown? Take Capital Metro's advice, and "Skip the limo, take the 'Dillo", from 6 p.m. to 3 a.m. Thursday through Saturday nights. The 'Dillo is Cap Metro's popular and FREE historic park and ride trolley and small bus service designed to take you from your north or south Austin location to the posh downtown Austin entertainment district, without the parking hassle! The Moonlight 'Dillo runs a downtown circuit through the entertainment district, while the Starlight Dillo runs much further, running north and south from 15th Street to Riverside Drive.

Capitol Visitors Center

112 E. 11th Street, Austin
SE corner of the Capitol Grounds
512-305-8400; www.tspb.texas.gov

Get a historical perspective, and learn all about the Capitol, its grounds, and the General Land Office when you visit the Capitol Visitors Center. Open seven days a week (but closed on holidays), the CVC features a theatre, a Texas Department of Transportation information kiosk, and a gift shop. Park in the nearby State Visitor Parking garage, off 12th and 13th Streets on San Jacinto.

Capitol City Comedy Club

8120 Research Boulevard, Austin
512-467-2333; www.capcitycomedy.com

Blessed with some of the best local and national comic talents to hit the stage, Cap City has been keeping their audiences laughing in Central Texas for more than 28 years. The club presents and promotes newer talents from the Austin area, while assembling a strong line-up of Austin favorites. The club also hosts headlining appearances by touring national comic talents such as Paul F. Tompkins of HBO's Mr. Show and Rick Overton.

Shows are every night at 8 p.m., with additional shows Friday and Saturday at 10:30 p.m.

Circuit of the Americas

9201 Circuit of the Americas Boulevard
Austin; 512-301-6600
www.circuitoftheamericas.com

A world class destination for performance, education, and business. It is the first purpose-built Grand Prix facility in the U.S. designed for any and all classes of racing, from motor power to human power, and is home to the Formula 1 United States Grand Prix. The signature element is a 3.4 mile, 20-turn circuit track. Other support buildings include an expansive outdoor live music space, an iconic 251-foot tower with observation deck, an events and conference center, a banquet hall, as well as a state-of-the-art medical facility.

Congress Avenue Bats

Congress Avenue Bridge, Austin
512-327-9721; *Mid-March through Mid-October*

Bat's Entertainment! The summer home of the 2 million Mexican free-tailed bats that migrate here every year, the Congress Avenue Bridge also is a great place to witness the dramatic night flight that occurs every evening. Park in the free spots on the southeast end of the bridge in the *Austin American-Statesman* designated spots. The best viewings are in May-October.

Double Decker Austin

602 E 4th Street, Austin
512-478-0098; www.doubledeckeratx.com

Austin's only double decker, hop on/off sight-seeing tour. The stops include LBJ Library, The Bob Bullock Museum, Chuy's at Zilker park, South Congress, and the Austin Visitors Center. You will be able to see the best of Austin and visit our prime attractions while letting someone else do the driving.

East Sixth Street

Intersection of East Sixth Street and Congress to I-35, Austin
www.6street.com

This is truly a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde experience. By day this section of Sixth Street is bustling with the office workers going about their normal routine and tourists attracted by the many landmarks and historical buildings in the area. By night the area is transformed, becoming a glittering strip of bars and live music clubs.

Epic Fun

7101 W. Hwy 71, Austin
512-957-9099; www.epicfun.com

Make memories that will last a lifetime. Epic Fun is a beautifully designed facility equipped with amazing activities for families, including laser tag, climbing walls, ropes course, arcade games, bumper cars and so much more. Take a break between activities and enjoy a bite from their mouthwatering menu. Host a birthday party, or corporate event at Epic Fun today.

Fredericksburg

www.fredericksburg-texas.com

A short daytrip away, this quaint German colony town seems almost like a fairy tale. Antique shops abound, as do the historic buildings, boutiques, and German restaurants. Take the time to check out the cute peach and fruit stands, vineyards and orchards that dot Hwy 290.

Hamilton Pool

24300 Hamilton Pool Road, Dripping Springs
FM 3238 off Hwy. 71; 512-264-2740
Open 9a.m. to 6 p.m.

Thousands of years in the making, this uniquely beautiful grotto and its swimming hole have access limited to the 100 cars that fit in its parking lot. Swimmers should call ahead to check availability.

High 5 Austin

1502 RR 620 South, Lakeway
2700 W Anderson Ln #101, Austin
www.bowlhighfive.com

High 5 is Austin's go-to fun destination. Their expansive facilities have something

to offer both kids and adults who are kids at heart. With full-service restaurants, upscale bar and lounge areas, bowling lanes, video arcades and specialty features like laser tag, virtual reality and karaoke, High 5 ensures all guests have first-class fun.

Inner Space Cavern

4200 South IH-35, Georgetown
512-931-2283; www.innerspacecavern.com

Beauty is more than surface deep, and nowhere could that be truer than Georgetown's Inner Space Cavern. This living cavern is estimated to be over 100 million years old and continues to grow and develop.

Just For Fun

Emerald Point Marina
5973 Hilina Road, Austin
512-266-9710; www.jff.net

Since 1987, Austinites have logged more than one-half million boating hours on



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EPICFUN.COM

Bearer is entitled to select one \$10 game card for the specified location during normal business hours. No purchase necessary. Subject to availability. This voucher cannot be combined with any other promotion or discount, and is non-transferable. One voucher per person. No cash value. Void where prohibited by law.

Central Texas lakes thanks to Just For Fun, the watercraft rental company. Fun in the sun and enjoying the lake lifestyle can be yours with a watercraft rental from Just For Fun. From sporty Waverunners and ski boats to pontoon boats and party barges for up to 50 people, rent by the hour or by the day from the biggest fleet around – only at Just For Fun. Visit them at Emerald Point Marina, the best location on Lake Travis, and find your fun on the lake today.

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

4801 La Crosse Avenue, Austin
512-232-0100; www.wildflower.org

The official Botanic Garden of Texas features beautiful native gardens, architecture and trails, and offers classes, events and programs throughout the year. Enjoy nature play in the Family Garden and discover native plants great for your home garden.

Lady Bird Lake

www.texasoutside.com/townlake.htm

Lady Bird Lake, aka Town Lake, offers Austinites a number of ways to get out and enjoy Mother Nature right in the heart of downtown - by canoeing, kayaking, or paddle boarding on the waterway, or biking, running, walking the very popular Hike and



Photo courtesy of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Bike Trail around this section of the Colorado River.

Lake Austin Spa Resort

1705 S. Quinlan Park Road, Austin
512-372-7300; www.lakeaustin.com

Need a little pampering? Look no further than Lake Austin Spa Resort, where you can find the rest and relaxation you seek. In addition to their variety of spa services, Lake Austin Spa Resort also offers programs on many different topics, including health, gardening, cooking classes, and nutrition. Award winner of the Condé Nast Travelers Gold List Platinum Circle.

Lake Travis and Lakeway Marina

103A Lakeway Drive, Austin
512-261-7511; www.lakewaymarina.com

The largest and longest lake in the Highland Lakes chain, Lake Travis is popular with boating and fishing enthusiasts. Of special note is Lakeway Marina, one of the larger marinas on the lake, which offers permanent or daily slips, and has a full service repair facility. Don't own a boat but want to enjoy a day on the lake? They also offer boat and wave-runner rentals, fishing guides and sunset cruises, as well as private charter boats for entertaining, corporate outings, and other events.

Lake Travis Zipline Adventures

“Longest Zipline in Texas”
14529 Pocohontas Trl, Volente
512-614-1996; www.ziplaketravis.com

Lake Travis Zipline Adventures offers you the “Adventure of a Lifetime” soaring over beautiful Lake Travis. LTZA provides an active outdoor adventure that is incredible fun for people of all ages. LTZA's World Class 3 Hour Tour includes a Boat Ride & 5 Amazing Ziplines.

LBJ Yacht Club & Marina

200 S. Wirtz Dam Road, Marble Falls
(Located off FM 2147 next to Horseshoe Bay)
830-693-9172; www.lakelbjmarina.com

Making that getaway to the lake that much easier, the LBJ Yacht Club and Marina on



Photo courtesy of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

the Highland Lakes is only 40 minutes away from Austin proper, and a world away from your everyday routine. Located next to the famous Horseshoe Bay Resort and only five minutes from historic Marble Falls, the LBJ Yacht Club is considered one of the prettiest marinas around, and offers a host of activities perfect for a family weekend. Granite Beach waterpark is a great destination right next to the marina. Beach swimming, jet ski rentals, a water park and water slides keep things cool, while boating enthusiasts will enjoy LBJ Yacht Club's full service facility that includes amenities such as a public boat ramp, boat rental service, and shore power among others.

The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment

921 Aquarena Springs Drive, San Marcos
512-245-7570; www.meadowscenter.txstate.edu

The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment provides people of all ages with the ability to recognize Spring Lake as a unique freshwater ecosystem through

interpretative interactive experiences that engages the audience in an exploration of interconnections between all living things and water.

Mount Bonnell at Covert Park

3800 Mt. Bonnell Road, Austin
512-974-6700

To visit Mt. Bonnell is to indulge in a time-honored tradition. Climb the 99 steps to one of the highest vantage points in Austin and enjoy the beautiful sunset overlooking one of the most beautiful vistas in the city.

Mt. Playmore – Amusement Center

13609 N IH 35, Austin
512-989-8886; www.mtplaymore.com

With a "Texas Sized" playscape, extensive arcade, large toddler area and restaurant menu full of fresh choices, Mt. Playmore is the perfect place to take the whole family! The comfy central seating area is great for parents to relax, but the 18 foot tall, 120 x 60 foot playscape, complete with rope swing &

zip line, is built to accommodate both kids AND adults! Regular events include Reptile Shows and Adults Only Night! Mt. Playmore is a great place for birthday parties and group events! And, because it's indoors, you don't have to worry about the weather (or the heat) messing up your plans!

Natural Bridge Wildlife Ranch

26515 Natural Bridge Caverns Road
San Antonio; 830-438-7400
www.nbwildliferanchtx.com

Ever long to visit exciting, exotic, wild places, but lack the money and time to do so? Now there's a way to scratch that itch for adventure – take a photo safari at Natural Bridge Wildlife Ranch. You'll get a taste of the African Savannah, jungles of Madagascar, the outback of Australia, the North American Plains, the Rocky Mountains, and other wild habitats from around the world. Visitors can also see over 500 animals from six of the seven continents, and photograph to their hearts content as they drive through this beautiful rolling Hill Country ranch.



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Lakeway at Lakeway Marina

103 Lakeway Dr, Ste B • Lakeway, TX 78734-4359

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2215 Westlake Drive, Suite 102 • Austin, TX 78746

www.NauticalBoatClub.com

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BOAT OWNERSHIP

Initial Capital Required

20% down payment	\$12,000
Outfitting (life jackets, toys, skis)	\$1,000
Total Initial Capital	\$13,000

Ongoing Monthly Expenses

Monthly payment @4% for 5 years	\$885
Insurance	100
Maintenance	50
Slip fees	300
Gas (estimate)	100
Total Monthly Expenses	\$1,435

NAUTICAL BOAT CLUB VOLENTE AND LAKEWAY

Initial Capital Required

One-time membership fee	\$3,395-4,995
Outfitting (life jackets, toys, skis)	0
Total Initial Capital	\$3,395-4,995

Ongoing Monthly Expenses

Monthly dues	\$230-425
Insurance	0
Maintenance	0
Slip fees	0
Gas (estimate)	100
Total Monthly Expenses	\$330-525

Prices subject to tax. Lake Austin pricing varies.

HIGH AVAILABILITY

OUR MEMBERS GET THE BOAT THAT THEY REQUEST OVER 97% OF THE TIME!

Since opening in 2004, Nautical Boat Club has maintained availability by tracking each request for reservations, fulfilled or declined. This system has been proven with over 20 years of success. To date our members have requested over 42,500 outings with a success rate over 97%. This means less planning and more boating for you!



3 AUSTIN LOCATIONS

VOLENTE – VIP Marina on Lake Travis

Austin's oldest and largest Boating Country Club® offers its members unlimited use of more than two dozen watercraft.

LAKEWAY – Lakeway Marina on Lake Travis

From sailing, fishing, skiing and wake sports to room for everyone on our pontoon party boats, our fleet is fit for any occasion.

WESTLAKE – Lake Austin Marina on Lake Austin

Access to a brand new fleet of fully outfitted watercraft and you always have access to the 40+ boats at our Lake Travis locations.

EQUIPMENT

OVER 50 BOATS

Nautical Boat Club has over 50 boats from 9 different manufacturers available to our members. Our fleet includes tournament wakeboard/surf boats, double decker party boats, sports boats with wake tower, luxury tri-toons, sportboats, fishing/fish & cruise tri-toons (pet friendly boats), and a sailboat.

FREE WATER TOYS

Nautical Boat Club is the only club that includes unlimited use of a variety of complimentary water toys — also updated every year. We have Lily Pads, wakeboards, surfboards, wake skates, skis, kneeboards, two varieties of tubes, slalom skis, training skis, and watersports lifejackets.



MUSEUMS

Austin History Center	810 Guadalupe	512-974-7480	library.austintexas.gov/ahc/about-us
Austin Nature and Science Center	301 Nature Center Dr.	512-327-8181	www.austintexas.gov/department/austin-nature-and-science-center
Blanton Museum of Art	200 E. MLK Jr Blvd.	512-471-7324	www.blantonmuseum.org
Bullock Texas State History Museum	1800 North Congress Ave.	512-936-8746	www.thestoryoftexas.com
The Contemporary Austin - Jones Carter	700 West Congress Ave.	512-453-5312	www.thecontemporaryaustin.org
the Contemporary Austin - Laguna Gloria	3809 W. 35th St.	512-458-8191	www.thecontemporaryaustin.org
Dougherty Arts Center	1110 Barton Springs Rd.	512-397-1458	www.austintexas.gov/dac
Elisabet Ney Museum	304 E. 44th St.	512-458-2255	www.austintexas.gov/Elisabetney
French Fegation Museum	802 San Marcos St.	512-472-8180	www.frenchlegationmuseum.org
George Washington Carver Museum	1165 Angelina St.	512-974-4926	www.carvermuseum.org
Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center	21st Streets	512-471-8944	www.hrc.utexas.edu
Jourdan-Bachman Pioneer Farms Living History Park	10621 Pioneer Farms Dr.	512-837-1215	www.pioneerfarms.org
Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library and Museum	2313 Red Rive	512-721-0200	www.lbjlibrary.com
Mexic-Arte Museum	419 Congress Ave.	512-480-9373	www.mexic-artemuseum.org
Neill-Cochran House Museum	2310 San Gabriel St.	512-478-2335	www.nchmuseum.org
O. Henry Museum	409 E. 5th St.	512-472-1903	www.ohenrymuseum.org
The Republic of Texas Museum	510 E. Anderson Ln.	512-339-1997	www.drinfo.org
Texas Memorial Museum	2400 Trinity St.	512-471-1604	www.texasmemorialmuseum.org
Texas Military Forces Museum	2200 W. 35th St., Bldg. 6406-6967	512-782-5659	www.texasmilitaryforcesmuseum.org
Thinkery	1830 Simond Ave.	512-469-6200	www.thinkeryaustin.org
Umlauf Sculpture Garden and Museum	605 Robert E. Lee Rd.	512-445-5582	www.umlaufsculpture.org

MUSIC

Austin Cabaret Theatre	1005 Stobaugh St.	512-786-6121	www.austincabaret.org
Austin Chamber Music Center	3814 Medical Pkwy	512-454-7562	www.austinchambermusic.org
Austin Civic Orchestra	11213 Tracton Ln.	512-301-7370	www.austincivcorechestra.org
Austin Girls Choir	3710 Cedar St., Ste. 290	512-453-0884	www.austin.girlschoir.com
Austin Lyric Opera	3009 Industrial Terrace, Ste. 100	512-472-5992	www.austinlyricopera.org
Austin Symphonic Band	7900 Centre Park Dr., Ste. A	512-345-7420	www.asband.org
Austin Symphony Orchestra	1101 Red River St.	512-476-6064	www.austinsymphony.org
Capital City Men's Chorus	P.O. BOX 50082	512-477-7464	www.ccmaustin.org
Chamber Soloist of Austin	3922 Balcones Dr.	512-380-0065	www.chambersoloists.com
Chorus Austin	P.O. BOX 204361	512-719-3300	www.chorusaustin.net
Matthews Episcopal Church - La Follia Austin Baroque	P.O. BOX 29773	512-879-1993	www.lafollia.org
River City Pops	P.O. BOX 201285	512-350-7777	www.rivercitypops.org
Salon Concerts	P.O. BOX 163501	512-342-2785	www.salonconcerts.org

Nautical Boat Club

Lake Austin and Lake Travis
512-257-2628; www.nauticalboatclub.com
Open 10am - 5pm daily (Closed Monday)

Why worry about the upkeep and expense of owning a boat? Nautical Boat Club gives members all the benefits of boat ownership – and none of the hassle! With service plans for just about every level of interest, there's truly something for everyone. You'll enjoy boating on your schedule – whether you're an after-work or weekend boater – plus guaranteed reservations, more than 45 new boats to choose from, and full coverage insurance. They take care of everything – all you do is show up and have fun!

Schlitterbahn Waterpark Resort

381 E. Austin Street, New Braunfels
830-625-2351; www.schlitterbahn.com
Open late April - late September

Unlike any other area waterpark, Schlitterbahn means cool relief from the hot Texas

summer heat for thousands of Texas families. Jump into the refreshing waters of the Comal River, and find out what all the fuss is about. With high tech rides, slides, pools, inner tube floats, and kiddie parks, it is no wonder that Schlitterbahn is consistently voted one of top waterparks in the world, and it is located right in Austin's backyard.

Texas Governor's Mansion

1010 Colorado, Austin
512-463-5516; www.txfgm.org

Home to Texas governors since 1856, the ante-bellum Mansion underwent a major restoration from 2009-2012, necessary because of extensive damage by a June 2008 fire. A registered National Historic Landmark and the oldest executive residence west of the Mississippi and the fourth oldest in the Nation, the Governor's Mansion is a reminder of the dedicated leaders who helped create the great State of Texas. Tours resumed in April 2013 to enjoy the historic collections, gardens, and educational programs.

Thinkery

1830 Simond Avenue
512-469-6200; www.thinkeryaustin.org

Thinkery is where Austin's children and their families come to enjoy play-based, inquiry-rich, hands-on learning experiences. Through a variety of hands-on, interactive STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) exhibits and programs, Thinkery encourages physical, emotional and cognitive development for young learners and fosters joyful curiosity for all ages.

Treaty Oak

Treaty Oak Park, 503 Baylor Street, Austin
between 5th and 6th Streets

The Treaty Oak southern live oak is the last surviving member of the Council Oaks, a grove of 14 trees that served as a sacred meeting place for Comanche and Tonkawa Tribes. Forestry experts estimate the Treaty Oak to be about 500 years old and, at one time, | CONTINUED PAGE 170 >

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AUSTIN'S THINKERY

A STEAM engine to power kids' imagination, creativity and **love** of learning.

Thinkery is where Austin's children and their families come to enjoy play-based, inquiry-rich, hands-on learning experiences. Through a variety of hands-on, interactive STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) exhibits and programs, Thinkery encourages physical, emotional and cognitive development for young learners and fosters joyful curiosity for all ages.

In 1983, a group of Austin parents and educators created a space to provide innovative new educational and cultural opportunities to local children. Over the next three decades, the Austin Children's Museum would grow and evolve, dedicated to creating innovative learning experiences that equip and inspire the next generation of creative problem solvers.

In 2013, the newly-renamed Thinkery moved into its current home, which offers 40,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor activities for children and families to learn through play. The iconic "big red cube" has become a top destination for Austin families and educators, hosting more than 460,000 visitors each year.

Play with a Purpose!

Children learn through play – it helps develop the ability to imagine, perceive, reason, and problem solve while building a foundation for a lifetime of learning. Thinkery's galleries are full of hands-on, play-based activities, whether it's a child-led exploration of the connections between water and sound in Currents; alongside an adult creating stop motion animations in Innovators' Workshop, experimenting with movement in a Move Studio obstacle course; or testing out an idea with new materials in a Spark Shop making activity.

Build STEAM Knowledge

While all children are born with an innate sense of curiosity about the world around them, they need adults to foster, guide and amplify their interests in STEAM. Thinkery provides engaging, high-quality STEAM experiences that cut across subject areas and set the stage for how children approach learning into adulthood. At Thinkery, children can explore cause and effect with electricity and switches, play with patterns manipulating colors in Light Lab, test structure and purpose designing a catapult in Camp, and investigate size and purpose of tiny structures at Micro Eye.

By providing opportunities for parents and caregivers to share these STEAM learning experiences and to act as essential parts of their child's early learning, Thinkery helps create a foundation for families to grow and play together throughout their lives.

Keeping parents in mind

Thinkery offers a variety of programs for busy parents, including a variety of drop-off activities like Day Camps (for school holidays when many parents need to work) and regular Parents' Night Out events, which allow parents and caregivers some "me time" on a Friday night. Thinkery is also open late every Wednesday evening for Community Night, when admission is free (but donations are always welcome).

To learn more about Thinkery exhibits and events, as well as a variety of helpful information for first time visitors, visit thinkeryaustin.org. ●

Play With A Purpose!



Thinkery is Austin's home for "why" and "how." It's a place where science and families play side by side, and people connect with ideas by doing, making and experiencing.

Through a variety of hands-on, interactive STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) exhibits and programs, Thinkery encourages physical, emotional and cognitive development for young learners and joyful curiosity for all ages.

SEE FOR YOURSELF WHY THINKERY IS ONE OF AUSTIN'S TOP-RATED & MOST POPULAR FAMILY DESTINATIONS!

Visit thinkeryaustin.org/athome for fun, FREE activity videos, story times and more at-home learning tools!



1830 Simond Ave. | thinkeryaustin.org

the tree's branches had a spread of 127 feet. According to legend, the oak stood as a witness to a treaty between Indians and the Anglo settlers.

Violet Crown Cinema

434 W 2nd Street, Austin

512-495-9600; www.violetcrowncinema.com

The locally owned Violet Crown Cinema is an art house theater that brings to Greater Austin the best, and most creatively relevant, of the world's movies. This venue also offers the added, rare advantage of providing its patrons with a bar and a café featuring great drinks and a number of excellent appetizers and snacks that go well beyond the usual popcorn-and-soda movie theater fare. As icing on the cake, Violet Crown Cinema also offers parking validation with the purchase of a movie ticket, affectively giving movie buffs a total of four hours

of free parking in the AMLI Building's attached garage. Also, free valet parking is available to patrons near the Cinema's Malaga entrance. Patrons must bring their parking tickets to the box office for validation.

Waterloo Adventures

14529 Pochontas Trl Suite A, Volente

512-614-1979; www.waterloadventures.com

Enjoy an excursion on the lake which includes a boat ride, UNLIMITED access to the water park and a 45 minute pulse pounding session on the challenge course. It consists of a series of floating obstacles including climbing walls, monkey bars, slides, hurdles, balance beams, bridges and so much more. Over 21 different elements are sure to test your agility and skills while bonding with family & friends.

Windsurfing at Windy Point

Bob Wentz Park

512-340-2833; parks.traviscountytx.gov/parks/bob-wentz

On any sunny day, you'll find the windsurfers at Windy Point in Bob Wentz Park. In fact, Windy Point's popularity with windsurfers is the reason it has become the adopted home to the Austin Windsurfer Club.

Zilker Botanical Gardens

2220 Barton Springs Road, Austin

512-477-8672; www.zilker.org

Twenty-two acres, forty garden clubs, and a lot of green thumbs went into making this a paradise. The acreage now includes an Oriental garden, a butterfly garden, cactus garden and the Mabel Davis Rose Garden among others. ●

THEATERS & COMPANIES

Austin Playhouse at Penn Field	3601 S. Congress Ave.	512-476-0084	www.austinplayhouse.com
Ballet Austin	501 W. 3rd St.	512-476-9151	www.balletaustin.org
Dougherty Arts Center Theatre	1110 Barton Springs Rd.	512-397-1458	www.austintexas.gov/dac
Esther's Follies	525 E. Sixth St.	512-320-0553	www.estersfollies.com
Hyde Park Theatre	511 W. 43rd St.	512-479-7529	www.hydeparktheatre.org
Mary Moody Northern Theatre	3001 South Congress Ave.	512-448-8484	www.stedwards.edu/theatre
One World Theatre	7701 Bee Caves Rd.	512-330-9500	www.oneworldtheatre.org
Planet Theatre / Vortex Repertory Company	2307 Manor Rd.	512-478-5282	www.vortexrep.org
The Joe R. and Teresa Long Center for the Performing Arts (The Long Center)	701 W. Riverside Dr.	512-474-5664	www.thelongcenter.org
The Paramount Theatre	713 Congress Ave.	512-472-2901	www.austintheatre.org
The University of Texas at Austin Texas Performing Arts	Main Complex at 23rd and East Campus Dr.	512-471-1444	www.texasperformingarts.org
ZACH Theatre	202 South Lamar	512-476-0541	www.zachtheatre.org
Zilker Hillside Theatre	Zilker Park - Near Barton Springs Pool	512-477-5335	www.zilker.org

SURROUNDING AREAS

Bastrop Opera House	711 Spring St. • Bastrop	512-321-6283	www.bastropoperahouse.com
Jones Theater	1001 E. University Ave. • Georgetown	512-863-1378	www.southwestern.tix.com
Texas State University Theatre Center	601 University Dr. • San Marcos	512-245-2147	www.theatreanddance.txstate.edu
Greenhouse Theatre	450 Old Kyle Rd. • Wimberley	512-847-1592	www.wimberleyplayers.org



SPORTS

something for *every* fan.

Sports fans can find plenty to enjoy in Austin, including minor league baseball, basketball, hockey, rugby and roller derby! If you don't want to just sit by the sidelines, there are also a multitude of athletic activities you can enjoy such as hiking, biking, and disc golf among others.



THE NBA'S NEXT MEETS ATX



AUSTINSPURS.COM | (512) 236-8333





EXPERIENCE IT

PARKS AND RECREATION

One thing is for certain: when it comes to the great outdoors, Austin just can't be beat. Here are just a few of the many parks found in the Austin area. For more information and a complete listing of all area parks, call the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PAR) at 512-974-6700, the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) at 512-473-3200, the Travis County Parks Department at 512-854-7275, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at 512-389-8900.

CITY PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS

Auditorium Shores at Town Lake Metropolitan Park	Tom Miller Dam to Longhorn Dam
Austin BMX and Skate Park	1213 Shoal Creek Blvd.
Barton Creek Greenbelt	Access off MoPac Southwest of Capital of Texas Hwy. (Loop 360), or from Zilker Park west of the pool.
Blunn Creek Greenbelt	700 East Live Oak to 1400 Alameda, then to Riverside Drive.
Emma Long Metropolitan Park	1600 City Park Rd.
Mansfield Recreation Area	4370 Mansfield Dam Rd.
Mayfield Nature Preserve	3508 W. 35th St.
Pace Bend Park	2501 Pace Bend Rd. North, Spicewood
Pease District Park & Splash Pad	Lamar, between 12th and 24th Streets
Red Bud Isle	3401 Red Bud Trail
Shoal Creek Greenbelt	From 38th Street to Town Lake
Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve	805 Capital of Texas Hwy.
Zilker Metropolitan Park	2100 Barton Springs Rd.

STATE PARKS & LCRA (Lower Colorado River Authority)

Bastrop State Park	Bastrop; 512-321-2101
Enchanted Rock State Natural Area	Fredericksburg; 830-685-3636
Garner State Park	Concan; 830-232-6132
Hill Country State Natural Area	Bandera; 830-796-4413
Lost Maples State Natural Area	Vanderpool; 830-966-3413
McKinney Falls State Park	Austin; 512-243-1643
McKinney Roughs Nature Park/LCRA	Cedar Creek; 512-303-5073
Pedernales Falls State Park	Johnson City; 830-868-7304

*Camping and entrance fees vary.

BASEBALL

Round Rock Express

Dell Diamond

3400 E. Palm Valley Boulevard, Round Rock
512-255-2255; www.rrexpress.com

The Round Rock Express are the Triple-A affiliate of the Houston Astros, playing ball at the iconic Dell Diamond in Round Rock. Founded in 2000 by Ryan Sanders Baseball, a group including Principal Owner and Hall of Fame pitcher Nolan Ryan and his sons Reid and Reese. The Express provide affordable, family-friendly entertainment at games from April through August, offering nightly promotions. Dell Diamond is a true multi-purpose sports and entertainment complex, also hosting rugby, soccer, concerts and festivals throughout the year. Tune in to 1300AM The Zone for live broadcast.

BASKETBALL

Austin Spurs

HEB Center at Cedar Park

2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park
512-236-8333; www.austinspurs.com

The Austin Spurs, presented by SWBC, are the NBA G League affiliate of the San Antonio Spurs. The team is celebrating its 16th season this fall (2020-21). Since their inaugural season in 2005, when the team was then named the Austin Toros, Austin has won two NBA G League championships (2018, 2012) and advanced to the playoffs eight seasons. As the NBA's official minor league, the NBA G League prepares players, coaches, officials, trainers and front office staff for the NBA while acting as the league's research and development laboratory. Featuring 28 teams with direct NBA affiliations for the 2020-21 season, the league offers elite professional basketball at an affordable price in a fun, family-friendly atmosphere. At the end of the 2019-20 season, 52 percent of all NBA players boasted NBA G League experience.

FOOTBALL

Austin Outlaws

106 W. Covington, Austin
512-796-0108; www.austinoutlaws.com

The Outlaws are the longest lasting of any other women's football team in the country. Working to bring the Women's

Football Alliance championship title to Austin, they made great progress thusfar by winning two Division titles (in 2001 (IWFL) and 2009 (WFA)) and one Championship (in 2001 (IWFL)).

HOCKEY

Texas Stars

H-E-B Center at Cedar Park

2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park

512-GO-STARS (512-467-8277)

www.texasstars.com

The AHL's Texas Stars are the primary affiliate of the NHL's Dallas Stars, playing all of their home games at the H-E-B Center at Cedar Park. The Stars won the Calder Cup Championship in 2013-14, and have captured three Western Conference Championships (2009-10, 2013-14, 2017-18) as well as two division championships (2012-13, 2013-14). The team has qualified for the Calder Cup Playoffs in seven of their first nine seasons.

ROLLER DERBY

TXRD—Lonestar Rollergirls

512-428-4475; www.txrd.com

Sexy, and on wheels. Welcome to all-girl roller-rama mama entertainment that begs to be seen to be believed. Watch the four league teams – the Putas del Fuego, the Holy Rollers, the Hellcats and the Rhinestone Cowgirls tear it up at the Playland Skate Center.

RUGBY

**The Austin Rugby Football Club and
The Austin Women's Rugby Football Club**
512-926-9017; www.austinrugby.com

Rugby is alive and well and kicking and elbowing and whacking. The Austin Rugby Football Club is the original Austin area rugby club, and after its start in 1967, is still going strong with numerous wins and divisional titles to their credit. The Austin Rugby Football Club is also one of only two rugby clubs in the United States to own its own grounds and ball clubhouse. In 1992 the club incorporated and restructured to become a corporate organization by 1994, with the goals of becoming involved in community activities, charitable work and a closer involvement with the business community of Austin. Affiliated

“ Round Rock Express, Austin’s Minor-League baseball team, has a Triple-A class level and is affiliated with the Houston Astros – the 2017 World Series Champions. ”

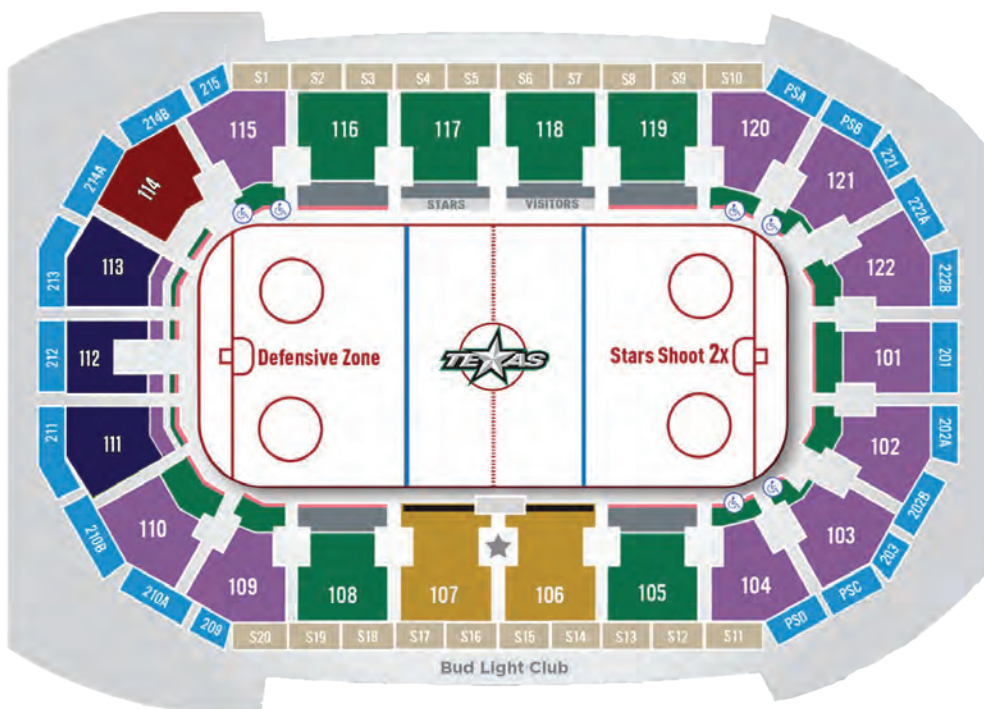
A promotional graphic for the Round Rock Express baseball team. At the top center is the team's circular logo, which features a stylized 'E' and 'R' and the words 'ROUND ROCK EXPRESS'. Below the logo, the slogan 'CAN'T STOP THIS TRAIN' is written in large, bold, red and blue letters. The central image shows three players in white uniforms with 'EXPRESS' and the number '21' on them. One player is in the middle of a batting swing, another is in the foreground looking towards the batter, and a third is on the right side of the frame. At the bottom center, there is a dark blue rounded rectangle containing the website address 'RREXPRESS.COM' in white capital letters.



2020-21

SEASON TICKET PACKAGES

Come experience hockey at the H-E-B center of Cedar Park!



Full Season Ticket Packages

Package Benefits

- NEW - RTIC Cooler***
- NEW - Refillable Popcorn Bucket****
- NEW - STH Commemorative Puck**
- NEW - Reusable Straw**
- AHLTV Road Game Package***
- Refillable Souvenir Cup
- Discounted Tickets
- Exclusive Team Events
- Flexible Ticket Exchange
- Nameplate On Your Seat
- Complimentary Tickets to a Dallas Stars Game
- Early Entry on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays
- 6 Buddy/Upgrade Passes
- 15% Merchandise Discount
- Playoff Ticket Options

LEVEL	Package	Per Game
GLASS CLUB	\$2,584	\$68
GLASS	\$2,014	\$53
CLUB	\$1,634	\$43
LOGE	\$1,140	\$30
PREMIUM	\$950	\$25
LUXURY	\$874	\$23
EXECUTIVE	\$646	\$17
PLAZA	\$494	\$13

Club Ticket Packages

LEVEL	FULL SEASON		24-GAME		12-GAME	
	Package	Per Game	Package	Per Game	Package	Per Game
GLASS CLUB	\$2,584	\$68	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CLUB	\$1,634	\$43	\$1,104	\$46	\$600	\$50

Club Ticket Package Benefits

- NEW - Complimentary Popcorn**
- NEW - Complimentary Soda**
- 20% Merchandise Discount
- In-Seat Wait Service
- Private Club Lounge
- VIP Parking
- Wider Seats
- Presale Options for H-E-B Center Events

+ Season Ticket Package Benefits

- NEW - RTIC Cooler (Full & 24-Game Only)***
- NEW - Refillable Popcorn Bucket (All Packages)****
- NEW - STH Commemorative Puck (All Packages)**
- NEW - Reusable Straw (All Packages)**
- AHLTV Road Game Package (Full & 24-Game Only)***
- Refillable Souvenir Cup (All Packages)
- Discounted Tickets (All Packages)

- Exclusive Team Events (All Packages)
- Flexible Ticket Exchange (All Packages)
- Nameplate On Your Seat (Full Only)
- Complimentary Tickets to a Dallas Stars Game (Full Only)
- Early Entry on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays (Full Only)
- Buddy/Upgrade Passes (Full: 6, 24-Game: 4, 12-Game: 3)
- Playoff Ticket Options (All Packages)

*One (1) Cooler for every Full Season seat/ One (1) Cooler for every Two (2) 24-Game Plan seats.

**One (1) Refillable Popcorn Bucket per account.

***One (1) AHLTV subscription per Full Season account/ One (1) AHLTV Subscription for every 24-Game account minimum of Two (2) seats.
For a full set of Terms & Conditions, please visit: TexasStars.com/STHTERMS

Austin Spurs
Photo by Chris Covatta
NBAE/Getty Images



with the ARFC is The Austin Women's Rugby Football Club, the Austin Valkyries. Both groups meet Tuesdays and Thursdays of every week for practice on Burr Field, and newcomers are always welcome. Check out the website for directions, or call the clubhouse.

The Austin Huns Rugby Football Club
512-459-HUNS; www.austinhunsrugby.com

The Huns splintered off from the Austin Rugby Football Club in 1972, and haven't looked back since. They have a reputation for tough and scrappy rugby, and have also toured, playing in countries such as England, Scotland, Wales, Australia, and the Cayman Islands. Players come from all walks of life.

SOCCER

Austin Aztex

House Park

1301 Shoal Creek Blvd., Austin
www.austinaztex.com

The Aztex play their home games at House Park, located in the heart of downtown Austin. The historic 6,000-capacity stadium, opened in 1939, is a short walk from local pubs, and is close to many Austin attractions including Shoal Creek, Austin's famous 6th Street, Zilker Park, a skate park, Austin Recreation Center, and the UT campus. In their inaugural season, the

"new" Austin Aztex finished in the final 8 (of 73 teams). Kids 10 and under are always admitted free to Aztex home matches. Parking at the ACC Rio Grande parking garage is also free.

TENNIS

Austin Parks and Recreation Department
512-974-3921
www.austintexas.gov/department/tennis

Call PARD for a complete listing of the 28 first-come, first-served free municipal tennis court facilities found throughout the city. The city's larger municipal facilities may charge a small usage fee and may also require reservations.

VOLLEYBALL

There's nothing like a game of volleyball on sand, and with a variety of sand courts to choose from, there's no reason not to indulge.

Austin Park Facilities

512-974-6700;
www.austintexas.gov/page/park-directory

Zilker Park has four public sand volleyball courts complete with nets just north of Barton Springs Road. Pease Park has three courts without nets, but call PARD to check with them about net rental.

Aussie's Bar and Grill

306 Barton Springs Road, Austin
512-480-0952; www.aussiesaustin.com

Nets and brewskis are a natural combination. Aussie's maintains league play in the summer.

GOLF

Please see the next page for private and public course information in the area. ●



Photo by Steve DeMent Photography

PRIVATE GOLF COURSES				HOLES/ PAR	USGA RTG/ SLOPE	LENGTH (YARDS)
Austin Country Club	Austin	512-328-0090	www.austincountryclub.com	18/72	73.5/135	6,848
Balcones Country Club	Austin	512-258-2775	www.balconescountryclub.com	18/70	69.8/115	6,360
Barton Creek Country Club Fazio Hills Fazio Canyons Crenshaw Canyons Palmer Lakeside	Austin	866-572-7369	www.bartoncreek.com/golf.aspx	18/72 18/72 18/72 18/72	74.0/138 75.1/141 70.8/121 72.2/133	7,125 7,153 7,100 7,150
The Hills of Lakeway The Hills Flintrock Falls Yaupon Live Oak	Austin	512-333-0340 512-333-0340 512-261-7175 512-261-7173	www.clubcorp.com/Clubs/The-Hills-of-Lakeway	18/72 18/72 18/72 18/72	73.8/140 74.1/140 70.8/121 71.6/121	7,035 7,051 7,045 6,643
Great Hills Golf Club	Austin	512-345-0505	www.greathillsgolf.com	18/71	72.2/171	6,607
Lost Creek Country Club	Austin	512-892-1205	www.lostcreekclub.com	18/72	68.8/130	6,700
Onion Creek Club	Austin	512-282-2150	www.onioncreekclub.com	27/70	71.1/124	6,500
River Place Country Club	Austin	512-346-6784	www.riverplaceclub.com	18/71	72.0/128	6,611
Spicewood Golf Course	Austin	512-258-1621	www.balconescountryclub.com	18/72	71.3/118	6,769
University of Texas Golf Club	Austin	512-266-6464	www.utgolfclub.com	18/71	74.4/130	7,154
Twin Creeks Country Club	Cedar Park	512-331-5900	www.twincreeksaustin.com/golf	18/72	75.7/142	7,033
Cimarron Hills	Georgetown	512-763-8700	www.cimarronhills.com	18/72	74.3/135	7,302
Berry Creek Country Club	Georgetown	512-930-4615	www.berrycreekcc.com	18/72	71.6/126	6,648
Blue Lake Golf	Horseshoe Bay	830-598-5524	www.bluelakegolf.com	9/32	31.6/104	2,336
Horseshoe Bay Resort	Horseshoe Bay	830-598-2511	www.horseshoebaytexas.com	18/72	75.4/136	7,000
PUBLIC GOLF COURSES				HOLES/ PAR	USGA RTG/ SLOPE	LENGTH (YARDS)
Avery Ranch Golf Club	Austin	512-248-2442	www.averyranchgolf.com	18/72	18/72	7,121
Bluebonnet Hill Golf Club	Austin	512-272-4228	www.bluebonnehillgolf.com	18/72	70.0/113	6,500
Falconhead Golf Club	Austin	512-402-1558	www.falconheadaustin.com	18/72	75/129	7,302
Grey Rock Golf Club	Austin	512-288-4297	www.greyrockgolfclub.com	18/72	72.7/122	6,859
Hancock Golf Course	Austin	512-978-2330	www.austintexas.gov/department/hancock-course	9/35	65.2/112	5,266
Jimmy Clay Golf Course	Austin	512-974-4653	www.austintexas.gov/department/jimmy-clay-course	18/72	72.4/124	6,900
Lions Municipal Golf Course	Austin	512-477-6963	www.austintexas.gov/department/lions-municipal-course	18/71	68.9/118	6,001
Morris Williams Golf Course	Austin	512-974-8333	www.austintexas.gov/department/morris-williams-course	18/72	71.5/121	6,636
Riverside Golf Course	Austin	512-223-6677	www.riverside-gc.com	18/71	69.0/123	6,300
Roy Kizer Golf Course	Austin	512-974-4653	www.austintexas.gov/department/roy-kizer-course	18/71	71.6/125	6,814
Lost Pines Golf Club	Bastrop	512-321-2327	www.lostpinesgolfclub.com	18/72	71.1/117	6,646
Pine Forest Golf Club	Bastrop	512-321-1181	www.pineforestgolfclub.com	18/72	71.5/126	6,600
Delaware Springs Municipal	Burnet	512-756-8471	www.delawaresprings.com	18/72	72/121	6,891
The Golf Club of Star Ranch	Hutto	512-252-4653	www.starranchgolf.com	18/71	73.5/130	7,017
Lago Vista Golf Course	Lago Vista	512-382-6529	www.lagovistagc.com	18/72	70.0/118	6,579
Crystal Falls Golf Club	Leander	512-259-5855	www.crystalfallsgolf.com	18/72	72.3/126	6,654
Point Venture Golf Course	Leander	512-957-2760	www.pointventuregolf.com	9/36	67.2/110	5,853
Wolfdancer Golf Club	Lost Pines	512-308-9653	www.wolfdancergolfclub.com	18/72	76.1/137	7,205
Shadow Glen Golf Club	Manor	512-278-1304	www.shadowglengolf.com	18/72	74.2/139	7,174
Forest Creek Golf Course	Round Rock	512-388-2874	www.forestcreek.com	18/72	73.8/136	7,147
Teravista Golf Club	Round Rock	512-651-9850	www.teravistagolf.com	18/72	74.3/140	7,039
Pedernales Golf Club	Spicewood	512-264-1489	www.pedernalesgolfclub.com	9/36	70/110	3,400

CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

*A snapshot of Austin-area
annual events you won't
want to miss*



JANUARY

3M Half Marathon

Stonelake Blvd near 360 (race start)
www.3mhalfmarathon.com

One of the most popular of Austin's road races because of its consistently stellar goody bag (think LOTS of Post-Its and other practical household items by 3M) the 3M Austin Half Marathon also draws a speedy international field and offers plenty of fun family activities

Annual Tenant Show

Guadalupe Arts Center
512-473-3775

Running from mid-January to mid-February, this show features artisan creations from over 40 artists, ranging from photography and sculptures to jewelry, all under \$500.



Austin Home and Garden Show Convention Center

512-404-4000

www.austinconventioncenter.com

The Austin Convention Center showcases what's new in home décor, gardening and general fix-ups. The show features exhibitions, live demonstrations and programs, so you can get your hands dirty and walk away with a fun project or two. You'll also be helping out the Austin Food Bank, Austin Humane Society and the Austin Habitat for Humanity.

Polar Bear Splash

Barton Springs Pool

2101 Barton Springs Road

www.sosalliance.org

For the last 30-plus years, Austinites have been plunging into Barton Springs Pool for this annual Austin version of the Polar Bear swim. The event is sponsored by the SOS Alliance, a nonprofit dedicated to the preservation of Barton Springs. Worried about the cold? Barton Springs is a constant 68 degrees, so our human polar bears are much warmer than those in, say, Minnesota.

FEBRUARY



Austin Marathon and Half Marathon

512-476-7223
www.youraustinmarathon.com

The Austin Marathon and Half Marathon is an annual event for the fitness focused of our town. The event has hosted as many as 20,000 runners a year and has generated more than \$90 million for the local economy and \$6 million for Austin non-profits. The Marathon is the 25th largest marathon in the United States and has been host to an international field of approximately 130,000 runners over the years.

Carnaval Brasileiro Palmer Events Center 900 Barton Springs Road www.sambaparty.com

Touted by Texas Monthly as Texas' "best public bash" Carnaval in Austin is one of the biggest celebrations outside of Brazil. Music and wild abandon converge in a festival of fun, music, dancing, and traditional food.

MARCH



Texas Whiskey Festival 11801 Domain Blvd. txwhiskeyfest.com

An event for whiskey lovers and enthusiasts, the Texas Whiskey Festival is an event for whiskey enthusiasts to meet the distillers and master blenders that make Texas whiskey among the best of the best. With entertainment, cigar pairings, vendors, and a live concert to finish the night off, this event is sure to be an experience to remember.

Capitol 10,000 512-445-3598 • www.cap10k.com

The Statesman Capitol 10,000 is the largest 10K run (or walk, if you wish) in Texas and the fifth largest in the nation. Since 1978, the Capitol 10,000 has become an annual rite of spring in the region.

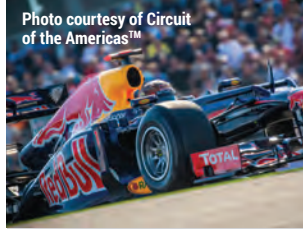
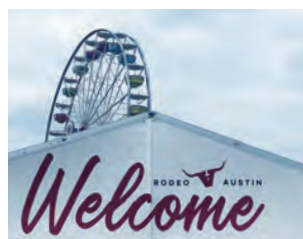


Photo courtesy of Circuit of the Americas™

MotoGP Red Bull Grand Prix of the Americas

Circuit of the Americas
866-801-6975
www.circuitoftheamericas.com

Sign up early to catch the action at the MotoGP. Watch as the finest talent in motorcycle racing showcase skills in riding and racing along a cutting-edge grid, riding prototype machinery.



Rodeo Austin – Star of Texas Fair & Rodeo 512-919-3000 www.rodeoaustin.com

Founded in 1938, the Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo hosts the world's fifth largest indoor, regular season ProRodeo. It includes an amusement park for kids of all ages and great entertainment from artists in a range of musical genres from rock to country.

South by Southwest (SXSW) 512-467-7979 • www.sxsw.com

One of the world's largest and most respected industry conferences, SXSW showcases two weeks of the best in new music, film, digital media and interactive arts - plus hundreds of industry-related seminars, discussions, workshops, interviews, meetings, and panels.

South by Southwest edu (SXSWedu) 512-467-7979 • www.sxsw.com

An energetic and enthusiastic gathering of minds and ideas to make monumental differences in education. Members of the education community converge to collaborate on thoughts and experience in fun breakout sessions and presentations.



Zilker Kite Festival Zilker Park, 512-312-4056 www.zilkerkitefestival.com

Started in 1929 by the Austin Exchange Club, the Zilker Kite Festival is a staple annual Austin event, which celebrates the beauty of the homemade kite. Each year thousands of kites take to the air, painting the blue sky with a rainbow of bright colors. While attendees are encouraged to bring their own homemade kites to participate, the Festival is for anyone who wants to attend. Other activities include face painting, games and contests, rock wall climbing, moonwalks, and plenty of tasty food.

APRIL

Art City Austin 512-609-8591 www.artallianceaustin.org

Reflecting Austin's intense creative energy, Art City Austin is a spring celebration of the arts in the city's popular 2nd Street District. Event includes lots of art and artists, live music, local eats, a Kid's Block, and more.

Eeyore's Birthday Party 512-448-5160 • www.eeyores.com

A fun event for all ages, Eeyore's Birthday Party is an annual fundraiser that benefits a multitude of Austin nonprofit groups. Besides food, soft drinks, and beer, there are prizes for the best costume (pretty much anything goes, so be creative!), face painting, live music, and more.



Old Settler's Music Festival 512-478-0578 www.oldsettlersmusicfest.org

The Old Settler's Music Festival is Central Texas' signature music event featuring Americana roots music, arts and crafts, camping, food, and more. Some of the musical genres at the Festival include acoustic jazz and blues, bluegrass, favorite local musicians, and award-winning artists from around the world.



Photo by Charles Reagan Hackleman for Austin Food + Wine Festival

Austin Food & Wine Festival Butler and Republic Square Park www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com

Great music, wine, chefs and culinary experts converge to offer a special festival for the Austin population. The Festival is held at Butler and Republic Square Park and tickets as well as future event talent and sponsors can be found online.

MAY

Annual O. Henry Pun-Off World Championship O Henry Museum 512-472-1903 www.punpunpun.com

Celebrate the lowest form of humor in high style at the O. Henry Pun-Off World Championships, where participants "jest for a wordy cause!" This freestyle competition for punsters with prepared material allows 90 seconds "for creative have-wits from every crook and nanny to stuff their struts." The festivities also include live music, BBQ, and a vintage book sale.

Shakespeare in the Park
Zilker Hillside Theater
www.austinshakespeare.org

Free to the public and located on Zilker Hillside Theater, this outdoor event runs from Thursday through Sunday the entire month of May. Come out and get Bardy!

JUNE

Juneteenth
512-369-2725
www.juneteenthcentraltexas.com

Also known as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day, Juneteenth honors African American heritage by commemorating the abolition of slavery in the U.S. Recognized as a state holiday in 37 U.S. states and a day of both reflection and celebration, the event features entertainment, vendors, a pageant and parade, and a 2K Freedom Run/Walk.



KGSR's Blues on the Green
www.kgsr.com/botg/

An Austin summer tradition, held in Zilker Park, Blues on the Green is the place to bring friends and family every other Wednesday evening between June and August to enjoy six big nights of Austin's longest running FREE music series. Enjoy food from local restaurants, and stop by the local charity area for volunteer and donation information. Bring the kids, pets on leashes, blankets, and lawn chairs for a rockin' good time.

Keep Austin Weird Fest and 5K
The Long Center, Austin
512-524-295

www.KeepAustinWeirdFest.com
Keep Austin Weird Fest is a salute to the nonconformist in every Austinite. The festival includes a variety of entertainment and events that celebrate the city's eclectic and artistic nature, including a symphonic selection of music, family activities, weird and wacky costumes, and local food and drink vendors.



Republic of Texas Biker Rally
512-252-9768; www.rotrally.com

The Republic of Texas Biker Rally is the biggest motorcycle rally in Texas and one of largest motorcycle events in the U.S. Come and enjoy an impressive selection of machines, motorcycles and legendary Austin nightlife during this four-day event. The Rally is known for great music, too – past headliners have included Hank Williams Jr., Willie Nelson, Bret Michaels, Joan Jett, Paul Rogers, Steppenwolf, David Allen Coe, and Charlie Daniels.

Solstice Festival
512-270-1564
www.solsticeatx.com

This annual music festival is an Austin Green Art project that celebrates the local Austin music community. The festival is held at Pan Am Park but unofficial parties are held at various venues around town during the weekend.

JULY

H-E-B Austin Symphony July Fourth Concert and Fireworks
512-476-6242
www.austinsymphony.org

This yearly celebration of independence at Austin's Lady Bird Lake is marked by music and a spectacular fireworks display. Admission is free. Bring a blanket and come early!

Zilker Summer Musical
Zilker Park • 512-479-9491
www.zilker.org

It's a hot summer night and that tells most Austinites that it's time to grab a blanket, some food, and

your family to enjoy a free production at the Zilker Hillside Theatre. The production is free to the public.

AUGUST

Austin Chronicle Hot Sauce Festival
512-454-5766
www.austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Market/HotSauce

Come join this beautiful confluence of music and hot culinary delights! This spicy event is free with a donation of 3 non-perishable food items for The Capital Area Food Bank of Texas.



Austin Ice Cream Festival
512-480-5966
www.icecreamfestival.org

The Austin Ice Cream Festival, held at Fiesta Gardens, is an event centered on family, fun and ice cream which harkens back to a time when ice cream trucks roamed the streets and running through sprinklers was an art form. Come enjoy contests, music and, of course, iced treats. Admission price includes free ice cream.



Austin Bat Fest
512-441-9015
www.roadwayevents.com

This unique celebration, of one of the region's most interesting natural wonders, attracts around 40,000 spectators and features arts and crafts, music, food, bat watching, children's activities and educational displays. Enjoy the scenic backdrop of Lady Bird Lake and downtown Austin as two million Mexican free-tailed bats emerge for their nightly flight. A general admission fee is charged.

SEPTEMBER

Tri Rock Austin
Auditorium Shores
800 West Riverside Drive
www.trirock.competitor.com

Now part of the Land Rover TriRock Triathlon Series, the Austin Triathlon is an annual, world-class event that attracts top local and international athletes and spectators.



Pecan Street Festival
512-485-3190
www.oldpecanstreetfestival.com

The Pecan Street Festival, held in both spring and fall, has been an Austin tradition for more than 30 years. The event features hundreds of local artisans who display and sell homemade art and craftwork. Festival attendees can find paintings, sculpture, woodwork, candles, jewelry, cowboy hats, clothes, home decor, games and other useful and whimsical household items, plus tons of performing artists, kids activities, and more than 20 food vendors. Admission is free.

OCTOBER

Austin Lobster Festival
Republic Square
422 Guadalupe Street
republicsquare.org/events/austin-lobster-festival

The Austin Lobster Festival provides Fresh Live Maine Lobster,

prepared to mouth-watering perfection. You can also dance away the calories to a variety of popular artists throughout the day on the dance floor, enjoy tasty eats in the food tent, take a Free Souvenir E-Photo, sip on adult beverages, and play lawn games. There is something for everyone, including kids!



Austin City Limits Music Festival (ACL Fest)

Zilker Park
2100 Barton Springs Road
512-505-4483
www.aclfestival.com

This annual musical event, which occurs in two consecutive weekends, brings home the city's nickname as the "Live Music Capital of the World" with a huge array of artists from local and international stages. In all, the ACL Festival hosts more than 130 acts playing rock, indie, country, folk, electronic and more on Zilker Park's eight stages, with more than 70,000 fans attending each day.



Austin Film Festival (AFF)

512-478-4795
www.austinfilmfestival.com

The Austin Film Festival furthers the art and craft of filmmaking by "inspiring and championing the work of screenwriters, filmmakers, and all artists who use the language of film to tell a story." The annual event attracts top movie executives, producers, screenwriters, and filmmakers.

South by Southwest Eco (SXSWeco)

Austin Convention Center
512-467-7979
www.sxsweco.com

Join others who are passionate about the earth, seeking innovative solutions to move us beyond sustainability. Professionals from all walks of life gather to seek solutions on how to operate and stay green.



Texas Book Festival

512-477-4055
www.texasbookfestival.org

Established in 1995 by former First Lady Laura Bush – a former librarian and ardent literacy supporter – the Texas Book Festival celebrates authors and their contributions to the culture of literacy, ideas and imagination. The Festival has become one of the premier literary events in the country, annually hosting more than 200 Texan and nationally known authors. Approximately 40,000 visitors participate annually in a weekend of author readings and presentations, panel discussions, book signings, and musical entertainment. The Festival is held on the State Capitol grounds and surrounding venues.

NOVEMBER

Austin Celtic Festival

www.austincelticfestival.com

The Austin Celtic Festival is the largest gathering of Celts in Central Texas. Its attractions and activities run the gambit of Celtic culture, including music, dance, athletic competitions, history, animals and artisans.

Formula 1 United States Grand Prix™

Circuit of the Americas
512-301-6600
www.circuitoftheamericas.com

Cheer on your favorite drivers in an action-packed race. The indescribable energy and anticipation brings fans from all over the world.

The three-day event attracted over 265,000 in its 2012 debut and continues to grow each year.



ThunderCloud Subs Turkey Trot

Zilker Park; 512-479-8805
www.thundercloud.com/register/

Every Thanksgiving the ThunderCloud Subs Turkey Trot five-mile race has helped to raise more than a million dollars for local charities. This unique running event has something for everyone, including a chip-timed five-mile run, a one-mile walk, and a Kids K.

DECEMBER



Armadillo Christmas Bazaar

512-477-1605
www.armadillobazaar.com

The Armadillo Christmas Bazaar is an Austin tradition with an incredible selection of original work made right here in Austin by some 160 artists and artisans – from affordable gifts to high-end art. It's the city's favorite shopping party, complete with live music and a full bar. Gift givers, art collectors and music lovers can grab a beer, dance a bit and have fun while the shop.

North Pole Flyer

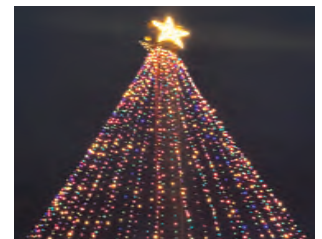
Cedar Park; 512-477-8468
www.austinsteamtrain.org

The Austin Steam Train Association helps Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus celebrate Christmas aboard the North Pole Flyer starting in late November continuing through December. This 2- to 2-1/2 hour round-trip holiday celebration train ride is sure to please young and old alike as they experience the train's own Christmas story.

Trail of Lights

Zilker Park
www.austrailoflights.org

Featuring lights, lights, lights and a Christmas village sure to warm anyone's heart, the annual tradition of walking through Zilker Park and seeing the culmination of a month's work by the city putting up breathtaking lights and scenery, the Trail of Lights is an event not to be missed. A festival like atmosphere with music, food, entertainment, and Austin silliness abound. Corporate sponsorships allow this event to continue and Austinites to enjoy a special celebration.



Zilker Tree Lighting Ceremony

www.austintexas.gov/zilkerholidaytree

It's just not the holidays until you twirl under the Zilker Tree! Come to Zilker Park every night in December and watch the spectacle of lights on the Zilker Tree, which stands 155 feet tall and is composed of 39 streamers that hold more than 3,300 lights. A double star at the top of the tree measures 10 feet from point to point.

For a more comprehensive list of things happening in Austin, visit events.austinrelocationguide.com.

DOMAIN
NORTHSIDE



SHOP . DINE . EXPERIENCE

7 FOR ALL MANKIND ◦ AMAZON BOOKS ◦ AWAY ◦ BAKERY LORRAINE ◦ BONOBOB ◦ BRANDY MELVILLE
CB2 ◦ CASPER ◦ CULINARY DROPOUT ◦ DOC B'S FRESH KITCHEN ◦ DRYBAR ◦ ERIN CONDREN
FLOWER CHILD ◦ FREE PEOPLE ◦ JENI'S SPLENDID ICE CREAMS ◦ LIVELY ◦ MARINE LAYER ◦ NORDSTROM
PAIGE ◦ RAY-BAN ◦ SOULCYCLE ◦ SUITSUPPLY ◦ SUR LA TABLE ◦ TARKA INDIAN KITCHEN
THEORY ◦ WARBY PARKER ◦ YETI ◦ AND MANY MORE

OVER 130 STORES AND RESTAURANTS, WITH MANY EXCLUSIVE TO AUSTIN.

SHOPPING & DINING



Austinites are known for having a longtime love affair with food, and there's no better proof than the thriving restaurant scene you'll find here. Look around, and you'll find something for every taste and wallet – from spunky upstart bistros to mom and pop eateries to classic haute cuisine dining – the culinary side of Austin is waiting for you. All that eating requires walking it off – and shopping in the Capital City is the way to burn off those calories! Whether your taste is in antiques, luxury items, funky vintage, trendy, or everyday needs, you can build up a healthy appetite running from one boutique to the next – scoring one great deal after another. Enjoy!

in this section

- area shopping
- delicious dining spots
- barbecue in central texas
- locally-made beer+spirits
- central texas wineries

Style, artistry, quality, experience: though diverse in goods and services, these are the essence of what makes shopping in Austin unique. Austin is known for its eclectic tastes, and retailers here aim to please with a bountiful selection.

Are you looking for something new, straight from the designer's personal showcase? Austin is sure to have it, with the latest cutting edge styles. Do you love antiques? Then get ready to fall in love with the beautiful items selected by Austin antique dealers who have done a marvelous job of assembling pieces from around the globe for their stores. If your idea of a great weekend is a trek in the wilderness, take advantage and gear up at one of the outdoor recreation shops in town that have quality merchandise and knowledgeable employees. These are just a few examples of the many choices available to you as you delve into shopping for those necessities and elements that help make life enjoyable.

Austin's inviting atmosphere encourages you to take your time, and enjoy shopping

as an experience unto itself. In a city that prides itself on its active lifestyle, Austin also prides itself on doing things "the old fashioned way" in these fast-paced, high tech times. Austin's unique environment also adds to the shopping experience, and its diverse culture is part and parcel of that experience. Whether shopping at one of the newest malls or venturing into one of Austin's singularly famous boutiques, you're sure to find that fabulous treasure you've been searching the world over for, right here at home.

SHOPPING MALLS

Barton Creek Square Mall

2901 Capital of Texas Highway, Austin
512-327-7041; www.simon.com/mall/barton-creek-square

Shopping is a whole new experience at Barton Creek Square, one of Austin's

most popular malls. The mall features a 145,000-square-foot Nordstrom department store – known to avid shoppers everywhere as the place to go for shoes, shoes, shoes.

Barton Creek Square, located just off Mopac and 360, is also the new home to several specialty shops, including Abercrombie & Fitch, Talbots, Michael Kors, Williams-Sonoma, Coach, J.Jill, J. Crew, and Steve Madden. For the kids, there's Build-A-Bear, Janie and Jack, Pottery Barn Kids, The Children's Place, and Gymboree. The mall has also undergone extensive remodeling, creating comfortable spaces for shoppers to relax throughout the mall. If that's not enough, there's the Day Spa and Salon at Barton Creek; it's the perfect place to relax and get a facial, manicure, pedicure or massage.

Lakeline Mall

11200 Lakeline Mall Drive, Cedar Park
512-257-8500; www.simon.com/mall/lakeline-mall

Located at the northwest corner of Austin on the border of Cedar Park, Lakeline Mall is a home to anchor stores Dillard's, Macy's, JCPenney, and Sears. The mall also includes more than 150 specialty stores, a 9-screen theatre, two sit-down restaurants and a Food Court featuring the architecture of downtown Austin.

Lakeline Plaza is located adjacent to Lakeline Mall and offers customers an additional 11 anchor stores, including Best Buy, Ulta Beauty and Old Navy, plus 20 other specialty stores. Find a meal to suit everyone's taste at any one of several sit-down restaurants—Chili's, Buca di Beppo Italian Restaurant, Plucker's and Texican Cafe. Lakeline Mall and Lakeline Plaza—You love it? They've got it!





Discount Home Improvement Store & Donation Center
SELLING NEW AND GENTLY USED
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Windows | Building Materials | Home Décor

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Ebonie's story is made possible because of our amazing donors, volunteers, and ReStore shoppers - like you!

“ Austin Habitat afforded me the opportunity to show my daughter what it feels like to live in a stable environment, as well as how to become a business owner. ”



Tanger Factory Outlet Center

4015 South I-35, San Marcos
800-408-8424; www.tangeroutlet.com/sanmarcos

Ready for an all day shopping excursion? Then the Tanger Outlet Center and Prime Outlets mall in San Marcos is for you. Wear comfy shoes, and hike all over the 200 shops in the shopping centers as you search for the best bargains. Popular stores at Premium Outlets are Armani Exchange, Dooney & Burke, Gucci, Movado, Nike, Converse, The North Face and Bose. There is a section with the emphasis on home decor and furnishings, including Pottery Barn.

SHOPPING CENTERS & DESTINATION SHOPPING

The Arboretum

10000 Research Blvd., Austin
512-338-4755; www.thearboretum.com

Nature has a way of soothing the soul... especially when it accepts all major credit cards. The Arboretum, features over 40 of Austin's finest shops including Heroes and Legacies, Pottery Barn, and Jos. A. Bank, and restaurants like The Cheesecake Factory, all in a relaxed outdoor

environment. You'll love the tranquility of the surrounding landscape as you stroll from store to store. And after a long day of shopping, do what Austinites have been doing for years – visit Amy's Ice Cream, and take that frosty treat out under the trees and climb on the stone cow sculptures. The Arboretum offers great shopping in a beautiful environment!

Brodie Oaks Shopping Center

4021 South Capital of Texas Highway, Austin
512-477-1212; www.barshop-oles.com

Although the Brodie Oaks Shopping Center is sprawling, the variety of stores and the satisfying shopping experience more than make up for it. With Starbuck's and Sprouts on one side, and Toys-R-Us on the other, and Neiman Marcus Last Call and Hobby Lobby, in between, Brodie Oaks is also home to many other exquisite and varied specialty stores, including Sally's Beauty Supply, Tuesday Morning, and Performance Bicycle among others. Restaurants in the center run the gamut of tastes, too – take your pick from Texican Cafe, Chili's, The Park, Freebirds World Burrito, Pei Wei and Olive Garden.

Cabela's

15570 IH 35, Austin
512-295-1100; www.cabelas.com

Cabela's, "The World's Foremost Outfitter," continues to provide everything under the sun for the outdoor adventurer. Hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, boating and so much more is represented within its 185,000-square-foot showroom, which also serves as an educational attraction featuring realistic, museum-quality animal displays and huge aquariums.

Capital Plaza

5600 N. IH 35, Austin
512-482-0094

An Austin landmark, Capital Plaza is the oldest shopping center still operating in the city, and just recently received a revitalizing economic boost with the opening of a new 134,000 sq.ft. Target store as one of its main anchor stores. Convenient to downtown, the Capitol and the UT campus, Capital Plaza is also home to the Shoe Carnival and OfficeMax. Restaurants include Subway, McDonald's and Grandy's. Chase has a large branch office located in Capital Plaza, and Walgreen's offers 24-hour convenience.

The Domain

11410 Century Oaks Terrace, Austin
512-795-4230 or 512-873-8099
www.simon.com/mall/the-domain

Opened in 2007, The Domain features 100 upscale mainstream stores and restaurants. High-end retailers such as Burberry, Coach, Tiffany & Co., Tommy Bahama, Tory Burch, Louis Vuitton, Macy's, BCBG Max Azria, Neiman Marcus. The center also includes several first-class restaurants including, CRU Wine Bar, Fleming's Steakhouse, Kona Grill, Maggiano's and Sushi Zushi. The Domain also offers 75,000 square feet of Class A office space, more than 400 high-end apartments, and hotels such as Westin Hotel and Aloft Austin.

Domain NORTHSIDE

11700 Domain Blvd., Austin
512-758-7937; www.domainnorthside.com

Experience the best Austin has to offer at Domain NORTHSIDE. The North Austin shopping district captures the creative essence that makes the Capital City one-of-a-kind. Visitors can find things to do day and night with fashionable shops, award-winning restaurants, the Rock Rose entertainment district and luxury Archer Hotel. Domain NORTHSIDE is the latest evolution in mixed-use real estate. Center hot spots include Amazon Books, Apple, Away, Brandy Melville, CB2, Drybar, Erin Condren, Free People, FRYE, LIVELY, Mizzen+Main, Nordstrom, PAIGE, Peloton, Restoration Hardware – The Gallery, Sephora, Warby Parker and Austin-favorite YETI. Shoppers can take their pick from celebrated dining options including Culinary Dropout, Flower Child, Jinya Ramen Bar, Sway and Taverna. Domain NORTHSIDE brings together Austin's most notable home-grown names with a list of best-in-class brands and first-to-Austin experiences. Fashion, home interiors, beauty, dining and nightlife: NORTHSIDE combines the best of all worlds while cultivating the vibe that makes Austin unique.



An Austin, TX Hotel with a Timeless Twist

Located in Austin's newest residential and commercial district, The Domain, Lone Star Court is a true piece of Americana, with attractive room décor and relaxing outdoor courtyards.



Lone Star Court | 10901 Domain Drive | Austin | TX | 78758
512-814-2625 (Direct) | 855.596.3398 (Reservations)
www.lonestarcourt.com



Gateway Shopping Center

9607 Research Blvd, Austin
512-338-4755;
www.gatewayshoppingcenters.com

Gateway Shopping Center has a variety of stores. From Whole Foods Market to Best Buy, Crate & Barrel, Old Navy, Nordstrom Rack, Saks Off 5th and ULTA shoppers are sure to find a store that satisfies every need.

Hill Country Galleria

12901 Hill Country Boulevard, Bee Cave
512-263-0001; www.hillcountrygalleria.com

Experience the best of both worlds. Explore Bee Cave's lifestyle center – 152 acres of expansive natural beauty mixed with eclectic shopping, dining and entertainment, as well as first-class office and residential space. Wrapped in a verdant nature preserve cloaked with wildflowers, native trees and rocky streams, Hill Country Galleria is more than a fashion icon, more than a thriving business district or residential utopia – it's a social evolution. And there is much more to come. Visit often and watch them evolve!

IKEA Round Rock

1 IKEA Way, Round Rock
512-828-4532; www.ikea.com

Is it possible for a furniture store to have fans? The answer is a resounding YES, judging by the number of Central Texans who started camping out three days in advance of IKEA Round Rock's opening day. Wildly anticipated, the much-heralded debut of this Swedish retailer has been all the buzz among those who love their economically priced home furnishings that put the "fun" back in functional. The 252,000 square-foot store is located along I-35 at the University Boulevard exit, and features 10,000 exclusively designed home furnishings under one roof, a 300-seat IKEA restaurant and a supervised children's play area.

Round Rock Premium Outlets

4401 North IH-35, Round Rock
512-819-0002; www.premiumoutlets.com/outlet/round-rock

Get ready! Get set! Get shopping! Round Rock Premium Outlets features 125

“Austin’s inviting atmosphere encourages you to take your time, and enjoy shopping as an experience unto itself.”

designer and name-brand outlet stores, and savvy shoppers will appreciate the everyday savings of 25 to 65 percent on upscale goods. Conveniently located off Interstate 35 just 20 minutes north of Austin, this center's Hill Country architecture invites visitors to relax as they enjoy shopping in the boutique-style stores featuring Adidas, Ann Taylor Factory Store, Banana Republic Factory Store, Chico's, Burberry, Calvin Klein, Coach, Gap Outlet, J.Crew, Michael Kors, Nike Factory Store, Polo Ralph Lauren, Puma, Swarovski, White House Black Market and more.

San Marcos Premium Outlets

3939 IH-35 South, San Marcos
512-396-2200; www.premiumoutlets.com/outlet/san-marcos

Take a day or two or three for some serious shopping at this impressive collection of luxury and name-brand stores, conveniently located off Interstate 35 between San Antonio and Austin. This beautiful Venetian-inspired outdoor center features 140 stores including 7 For All Mankind, Banana Republic Factory Store, Betsey Johnson, Coach, Fendi, Gucci, Last Call by Neiman Marcus, Michael Kors, Nike Factory Store, Polo Ralph Lauren, Pottery Barn Outlet, Prada, Saks Fifth Avenue Off 5th, Tory Burch, Victoria's Secret and more, all at savings of 25 percent to 65 percent everyday.

The Shops at Arbor Walk

10515 North MoPac Expressway, Austin
512-338-4755; www.shopsatarborwalk.com

Located at the southeast corner of MoPac Expressway and Braker Lane, The Shops at Arbor Walk is part of the new shopping explosion that has hit the Austin area. Opened in the later part of 2006, the 450,000

square foot mall is home to such names as The Home Depot, Marshalls, JoAnn Fabrics, and DSW Shoe Warehouse. Shoppers looking for fun food options will find many at The Shops at Arbor Walk, including Mimi's Café, Chipotle, Lupe Tortilla, Mighty Fine Burgers and Chuck E. Cheese's.

Sunset Valley

5400 Brodie Lane, Austin
www.sunsetvalley.org

Once pristine farmland, there's still green that's being harvested on this property, but it's a cash crop of a different kind. Building these outdoor shopping centers has meant big property tax breaks for the Sunset Valley residents, while penny-wise shoppers know that dollars spent here means a slightly lower sales tax than shopping elsewhere in the Austin area. Shops include Bed Bath & Beyond, TJ Maxx, a 24-hour Home Depot, Barnes & Noble, Old Navy, Academy Sports & Outdoors, and much more.

Village at Westlake

701 S. Capital of Texas Highway, Austin
512-327-3628
www.shopvillageatwestlake.com

Tucked away around a bend, it's easy to miss the Village at Westlake at first glance. Entering the driveway reveals that looks from the highway are deceiving, as this shopping center encompasses shops, restaurants, and an HEB grocery store.

Wolf Ranch Town Center

1015 W University Ave, Georgetown
512-930-8008; www.wolf ranchtowncenter.com

Wolf Ranch Town Center is an open-air shopping center in Georgetown that also serves the residents of Round Rock,



Kileen and Austin. Some of the center's top retailers include Best Buy, James Avery, Kohl's, Sephora, Old Navy, T.J. Maxx and many others. Since shopping and dining often go hand-in-hand, there are many great restaurants to choose from, including Longhorn Steakhouse, Fish City Grill, and Buffalo Wild Wings.

STREET SHOPPING

“The Drag”

Guadalupe Street - MLK to 29th Street, Austin

Sure, some national chains such as Urban Outfitters have moved in, but the small, funky shops that the Drag is known for are still there. Hunt for a legal parking space (or use one of the paid parking lots as a last resort), and take the time to meander and discover the joys of street vendors at 23rd Street and other funky finds.

Kerbey Lane/Jefferson Square

38th Street from Lamar to MoPac, Austin

Running along the length of 38th Street, veering off to Kerbey Lane and culminating in Jefferson Square, this area offers quaint shops that invite exploration. Jefferson Square is the home to Anderson & Co. Coffee, where the smell of freshly roasted coffee beans lingers in the air. Other small businesses are just as eclectic-from a store

that sells dolls and doll accessories to a clock shop, a lamp shop, and a shop that sells only architectural antiques. The list goes on and on, and is best investigated during an afternoon with time to dawdle. Finish up with a good meal at Kerbey Lane Café-or begin your day there-it's open 24 hours.

Louis Shanks

2930 W. Anderson Lane, Austin
512-451-6501; 800-880-8484
www.louisshanksfurniture.com

Providing the finest in home furnishings since 1945, Louis Shanks features a huge inventory stocked with a wide selection of furniture, rugs, flooring, décor and more. A landmark of Anderson Lane, Texans have browsed their displays in search of the perfect piece to update a room, or a full ensemble to fill a new one. This location has so much to offer, it has been dubbed the Crown Jewel of the Southwest.

North Lamar Blvd.

Lamar from 12th Street to 6th Street and 6th Street, from Lamar to West Lynn, Austin

Walk along this intersection and you'll find every part of Austin represented. Hip, funky, cool, laidback with a touch of tradition, it's all here. Diversity abounds

on these two streets. Just a couple of the stores on North Lamar include Book-People, a much beloved locally-owned independent bookstore; and Waterloo Records, an independent record/CD/DVD/video store with deep roots in the Austin music scene. Going west on Sixth, look for Whit Hanks Antiques with its 70 antiques and arts dealers under one roof, Austin Wine Merchant with its large selection of fine wines, and Sweetish Hill Bakery with its delectable delights.

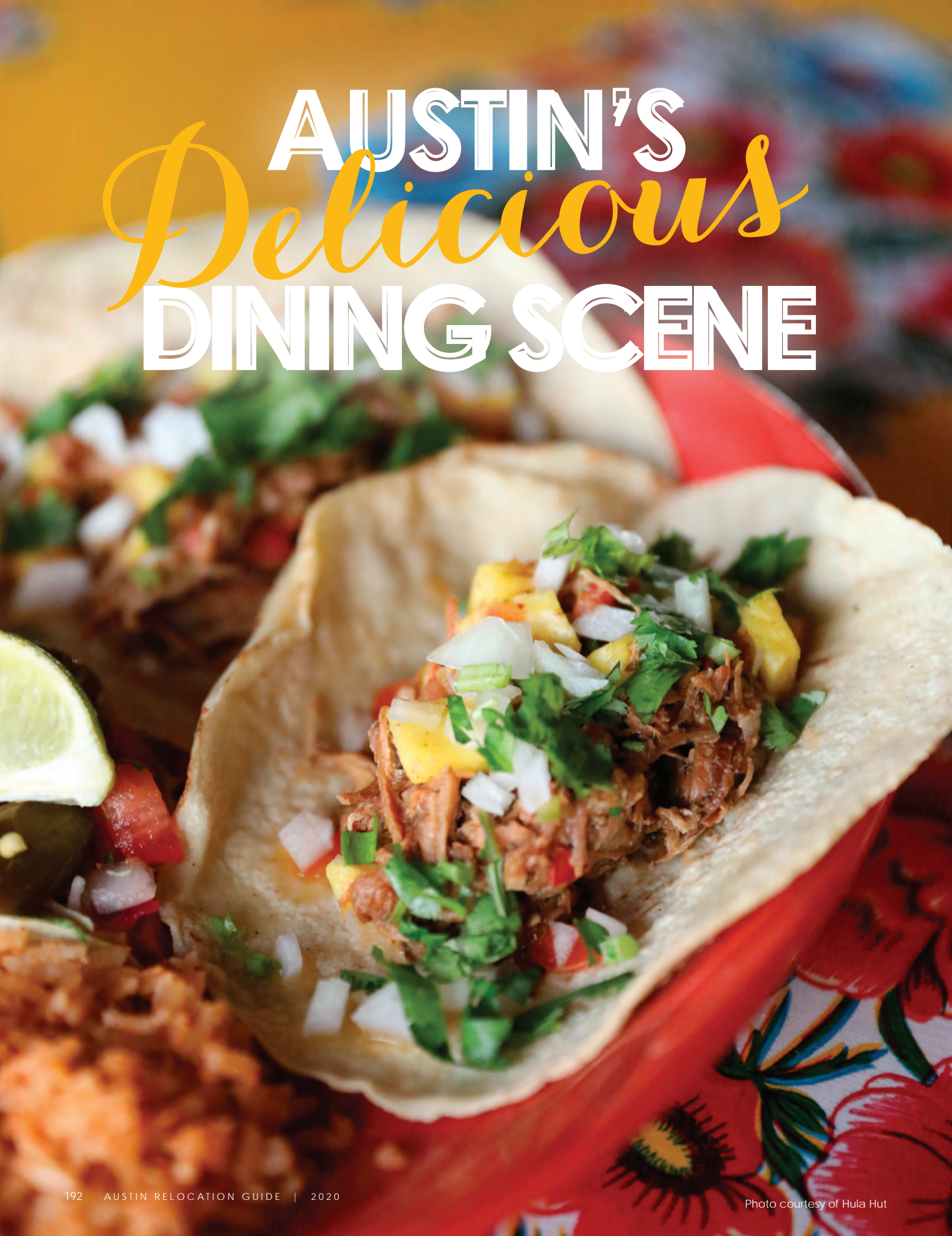
South Congress Avenue, or “So-Co”

Nellie Street to Mary Street

www.doingthestreets.com/southcongress

Reborn and rediscovered, the SoCo District is enjoying a renaissance. From the renovated Austin Motel and San Jose Motel, to Jo's Coffee, to newer places such as Wet Salon and old favorites like Monkey See Monkey Do this is the perfect strolling shopping experience. Parking is plentiful along South Congress, and shopping in the neighborhood is the perfect activity for one of those lazy Sunday afternoons. Be sure to come down for “First Thursday” where every First Thursday of the month stores, galleries and restaurants host an evening neighborhood block party. ●

AUSTIN'S *Delicious* DINING SCENE



Dining out in Austin is not reserved for a single special night out, but is considered a community pastime. Its global cuisine allows you to sip and sample the best of edible delights from around the world. Or, if your tastes runs closer to home, you'll find you have your pick of homey Texas fare. Whether it's TexMex, southwestern-style, barbecue, or home cooking, it's here, hot and ready and waiting for you. So, get out and see what all the fuss is about. You owe it to yourself and your taste buds to explore Austin's culinary delights.

24 Diner

600 N. Lamar Blvd., Ste 200
512-472-5400; www.24diner.com

24 Diner is anything but the typical greasy-spoon diner one may think about when they hear the word "diner". With the highly recognized points of a typical diner, such as classic American cuisine, good service and a great atmosphere, 24 Diner decided to take it to the next level creating an upscale diner for all to enjoy. They offer chef-inspired comfort foods, local and organic – plus a full bar, beer and wine list. They are open 24 hours and located in the heart of Central Austin.

ALC Steaks

1205 North Lamar Boulevard
512-472-1813; www.alcsteaks.com

Since 1993, Austin Land & Cattle has been serving sizzling, hand-cut, aged beef the way Austinites love. Truly remarkable steaks served with a generous helping of Austin hospitality, visit the Capitol city's only independent, family owned steakhouse. From their relaxing wine bar to their unpretentious atmosphere, everything about ALC says "Welcome."

Bangers Sausage House & Beer Garden

79 Rainey Street
512-386-1656; www.bangersaustin.com

Located on Rainey street Bangers is known for their Sunday brunch, live music, and picnic tables outside making it a great place to hang out and socialize. Every week their sausage makers crank out over 2,000 lbs of sausage in 30 varieties, all by hand. Select from the largest draft system in Texas with over 200+ beers on tap and another 50 in



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Downtown Austin
512.428.5796

Hill Country Galleria
512.366.5230

cafebluetx.com

cans and bottles. A popular brunch spot, be sure to check out their Big Band Brunch on Sundays from 10am. to 4pm.

Café Blue

On the Square in the Hill Country Galleria

12800 Hill Country Blvd., Suite G-115

Bee Cave; 512-366-5230

On the Corner of 2nd St. & Trinity

340 East 2nd Street, Austin; 512-428-5796

www.cafebluetx.com

The food at Café Blue is thoughtfully prepared and perfectly plated for a casual dining experience unlike any other. Enjoy oysters on the half shell at their state-of-the-art oyster bar, or savor a meal in the fabulous dining room or on their patio. From market-fresh seafood to unique burgers and sandwiches, shrimp tacos to perfectly seasoned rib-eye, guests can pair cuisine with their favorite bottle from the vast selection of wines. Join them for lunch, happy hour, dinner, and weekend brunch.

Chuy's

4301 W. William Cannon; 512-899-2489

1728 Barton Springs Road; 512-474-4452

11680 N. Research Blvd.; 512-342-0011

10520 N. Lamar; 512-836-3218

2320 N. IH-35, Round Rock; 512-255-2211

4911 183A Toll Rd., Cedar Park; 512-260-7775

www.chuys.com

It started in 1982 and hasn't stopped since. With a unique décor and a menu of some of the most savory and delectable Tex-Mex food around – to say nothing of the ubiquitous Elvis Shrine – the Chuy's cult following has garnered a reputation as a fun and friendly spot where a great time can be had at a great price.

Cover 2

13701 N US 183 Service Rd.

512-506-9935; www.cover-2.com

Cover 2 – Cover 3's "little brother" – has arrived in northwest Austin! Local Austinites and owners Matt Dodson and Doug Young wanted to open a smaller version of the popular sports bar and restaurant – hence the name Cover 2. The 5,500-square-foot Cover 2 opened in March 2012 and is true to the restaurant's goal of being a premier sports bar with 26 TVs, 80-inch flat screens, and a sound system to match. Restaurant goers can expect to enjoy the same great quality food they've always appreciated at Cover 3 in an upscale, casual dining setting, including such "pub grub" favorites as wings, flatbread sandwiches, and salads. Cover 2 also offers a full bar with a large selection of spirits, 25 draft beers, two chilled liquor taps, and a great selection of wines available by the half bottle.

Cover 3

2700 W. Anderson Lane; 512-374-1121;

1717 West Sixth St.; 512-982-1550

2800 N IH-35, Round Rock; 512-693-2393

www.cover-3.com

Is it a restaurant? Is it a sports bar? Who says it can't be both? Cover 3 strives to provide its clientele with its holy trinity of great nightlife—dining, spirits and sports—in an atmosphere that is friendly and caters to the diverse Austin community. Enjoy a fine drink from the premium bar or an elegant meal from the kitchen as you watch your favorite team ride the path to glory.

Eberly

615 S. Lamar; 512-916-9000

www.eberlyaustin.com

Eberly in Austin offers contemporary American cuisine, a welcoming study, a rooftop terrace and the historic Cedar Tavern Bar. Founded by a group of Austinites, Eberly strives to keep intact the original spirit of Austin, for locals as well as newcomers. Come and enjoy decadent eats from their robust menu, including: fresh oysters, grilled seafood and their Eberly banana pudding.

Eddie V's

301 E. 5th Street; 512-472-1860

9400-B Arboretum Boulevard

512-342-2642; www.eddiev.com

Bringing together an award-winning combination of the freshest seafood, prime steaks, and live music, Eddie V's is sure to please. Specializing in Gulf Coast Cuisine, Eddie V's is famous for their oysters, gulf snapper, fresh tuna, and lobster. Enjoy live music while you dine at the downtown location, while The Arboretum location offers breathtaking hill country views and patio dining.

Fareground at One Eleven

111 Congress Avenue

www.faregroundaustin.com

Fareground is a meeting place where everyone is able to pick and choose from a wide variety of cuisines, all under one roof and created by some of the city's most-loved chefs and restaurateurs. They feature



Antonelli's Cheese, Contigo, Dai Due Tauqeria, Easy Tiger, Henbit and Ni-Kome. The concept of the Fareground is the idea that all can come together, and that something for everyone can be found.

Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar

320 E. 2nd Street; 512-457-1500
11600 Century Oaks Terrace; 512-835-9463
www.flemingssteakhouse.com

Known for their cooked-to-perfection steaks, Fleming's also offers a superb wine list, boasting more than 100 wines available by the glass and another 100 available by the bottle. Wine lovers agree that an evening at Fleming's leaves them feeling a bit like kids in a candy store. The darkly elegant atmosphere makes Fleming's the perfect place to linger over dessert and order an after-dinner cappuccino.

Flix Brew House

2200 N. IH-35, Round Rock
512-244-3549; www.flixbrewhouse.com

Stop in for just a drink, or fill up with a fine food. While you're at it, if you're in the mood, check out the flix list and settle in for some entertainment. Looking for a one-stop shop for the perfect date? You've found it here! You can delight in the best of brewing, an amazing menu and catch a flick, without driving around town. Pick a movie and order your food, it all comes to you as you relax and unwind.

Fogo de Chão Brazilian Steakhouse

309 E. 3rd Street
512-472-0220; www.fogodechao.com

Quickly becoming Downtown Austin's most popular dining destination, recently opened Fogo de Chao, an authentic Southern Brazilian Steakhouse, offers a prix-fixe menu. The menu includes an unlimited selection of over 30 salads, vegetables and cheeses from around the world, several side dishes, as well as the main course... 15 cuts of meat served tableside by Brazilian Gaucho Chefs. In addition to exceptional food and service the elegant dining room and award winning wine list have helped make dining at Fogo de Chao an experience that can't be missed.



Photo courtesy of Hula Hut

Fonda San Miguel

2330 West North Loop
512-459-4121; www.fondasanmiguel.com

The lush atrium inside Fonda San Miguel's will remind you of a Diego Rivera painting. This gem is a local favorite because they serve some of the best Mexican food in the city. Brunch is recommended because of their enormous buffet of authentic, interior Mexican fare. Or enjoy happy hour with specials offered on their lovely patio bar Mondays through Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., with \$1 off their epic margaritas and half price select appetizers.

Gourdough's

2700 S. Lamar
1503 S 1st Street *walk up only*
512-912-9070; www.gourdoughs.com

As unique as their own name, Gourdough's is located in a vintage airstream off of South 1st Street in Austin. However, even in their little location, Gourdough's has become a household name to those in Austin, serving up some of the best eats and even better doughnuts. They do not deliver, but you can contact Gourdough's in advance and they would be happy to have any order ready on the fly.

Hula Hut

3825 Lake Austin Blvd.
512-476-4852; www.hulahut.com

Going to Hula Hut is like taking a mini-vacation to Hawaii. Visit and take in their unique "Mexican-Hawaiian" style cuisine.

A main-stay of Austin, Hula Hut has been serving the Austin area for 25 years. Stop in and enjoy their one-of-a-kind menu with everything from fajitas and tacos to luau dinners.

Iron Cactus

606 Trinity; 512-472-9240
www.ironcactus.com

Known for their variety of margaritas and tequila drinks, the Iron Cactus has been named one of the top ten tequila bars in the country, with over 80 selections of the best in Mexican tequila. All of their restaurants feature excellent Southwestern cuisine with influences from Southern Mexico to Southern Utah. Call or check the website for special events hosted weekly.

Jack Allen's Kitchen

7720 Highway 71 West; 512-852-8558
2500 Hoppe Trail, Round Rock; 512-215-0372
3600 N. Capital of TX Hwy.; 512-351-9399
3010 W Anderson Ln, Suite D; 512-428-6944
www.jackallenskitchen.com

This local favorite offers refined Southern-inspired flavors, crossed with the spice of southwestern cuisine, to invigorate any palate and comfort the soul. A fresh and vibrant menu, comprised primarily from Texas products, with three seasonal items that change nightly according to what farmers have that's especially tempting. Every dish is a culinary experience especially the Bacon-wrapped Texas quail with jalapeño jam, the 5-cheese macaroni



**Aloha
Y'all!**



AN AUSTIN GEM

Hula Hut has served locals and visitors in true island style for more than 25 years, with Tex-Mex food and tiki drinks, festive Polynesian décor and a waterfront spot to watch the sunset over Lake Austin.



DOCKSIDE DINING

Hula Hut is easy to reach by land or lake, with plenty of parking for cars or boats. But if you'd rather pick up dockside, we'll deliver boat-side.

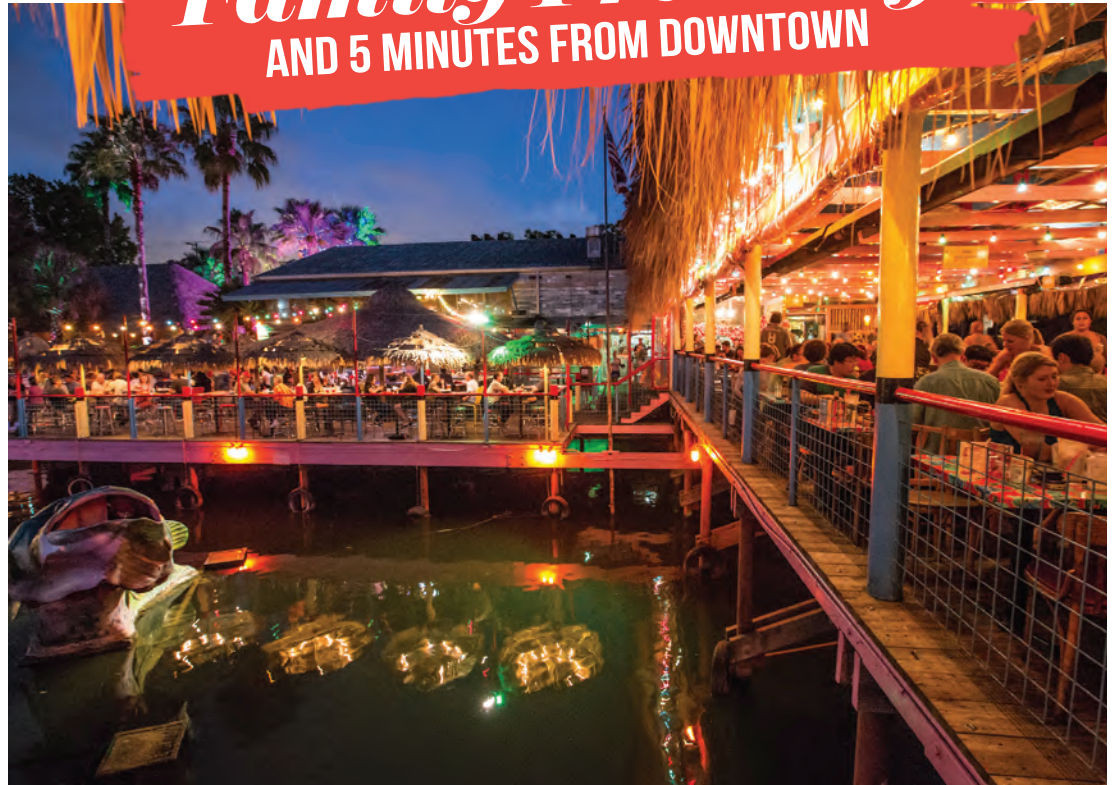


OUR BRAND IS FUN

Hula Hut gear celebrates our sun and fun brand every day. With a collection of T-shirts, tank tops, hats and accessories, you can take your tropical paradise home.

Family Friendly

AND 5 MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN



Your perfect Austin Destination

Hula Hut is your Hawaiian get-away without ever leaving town. From its welcoming "Aloha Y'All" laid-back vibe to its brightly colored lights and tropical ambiance, Hula Hut is festive and fun. Hula Hut beckons you to slow down and have a cool one while sampling an array of

traditional Tex-Mex fare with a Polynesian twist. Its handmade tortillas are prepared daily. From specialty cocktails, such as its Hu-La-La, to food that's fresh, plentiful and creative, Hula Hut offers a unique dining experience. With a varied menu that includes luau dinners and pu pu platters, along

with island fare, such as coconut shrimp or grilled Hawaiian chicken, there's something for everyone to enjoy. With its patio seating overlooking Lake Austin, Hula Hut offers just the right vantage point to watch the breathtaking views that only an Austin sunset can bring. Let your mind wander and drink

in the décor as you sip on a Blue Hawaii or Haleakalada and munch on Mexonesian Shrimp Flautas or Palm Tree Hugger Nachos. Hula Hut is iconic Austin. It's where you gather with friends or family or take out-of-towners to gaze at all the city has to offer. It's so close in--yet feels like a world away.







and chicken dish that eats like a meal, or the Chorizo-stuffed Pork Tenderloin.

Joann's Fine Foods

1224 S Congress Avenue
512-358-6054; www.joannsaustin.com

Joann's Fine Foods is a South Congress neighborhood spot, a new take on the American diner, and a vacation for locals and tourists alike. The menu is a tribute to diner culture featuring Tex-Mex favorites and California inspired healthy options. Classic breakfasts, milkshakes, enchiladas, fish tacos on house-made tortillas, colorful salads, daily juices, a pecan-burning grill, and an impressive mezcal collection all find a home here. There is something for everyone at Joann's Fine Foods.

Josephine House

1601 Waterston Avenue
512-477-5584; www.josphineofaustin.com

The sister restaurant to Austin fine dining institution Jeffrey's, offering breakfast, lunch, brunch, happy hour, dinner & Monday night steak frites. The Clarksville cottage features a small marble bar for coffee or cocktails, intimate tables in the dining room, shady nooks on the patio or front lawn for lounging. Serving an eclectic daily menu featuring the best locally sourced products. Reservations are recommended.

Justine's Brasserie

4710 E 5th Street
512-385-2900; www.justines1937.com

With French cuisine, Executive chef Taylor Chambers is sharing a slice of Europe with fellow Austinites. Come and enjoy cocktails and champagne with some delectable fine foods, or even splurge on the Blackboard menu and sample their fresh daily seasonal items.

Kerbey Lane Cafe

3704 Kerbey Lane; 512-451-1436
3003 South Lamar Blvd.; 512-445-4451
2200 Aldrich St., Ste. 100; 512-879-2818
13435 Hwy 183 N. #415; 512-258-7757
2606 Guadalupe St.; 512-477-5717
4301 W William Cannon; 512-899-1500
701 S. Capital of Texas Hwy.; 512-879-2820
2120 N. Mays St., Round Rock
512-879-2827; www.kerbeylanecafe.com

An Austin institution since 1980, Kerbey Lane Cafe serves great, healthy food 24 hours a day with an emphasis on fresh ingredients. From eclectic to traditional entrees, Kerbey Lane Cafe strives to deliver high quality thoughtful food for its guests.

KOBE Japanese Steakhouse

13492 Research #380
512-288-7333; www.kobeaustrin.com

Watch the thrilling display of talent as your cook tosses food in the air and then catches it

backwards with a spatula. Generous portions of seafood, steak, and chicken are grilled fresh. Savor delicious appetizers, soups, and a wide selection of sushi.

Lenoir

1807 South First Street; 512-215-9778
www.lenoirrestaurant.com

Husband and wife team, Todd Duplechan and Jessica Maher, opened Lenoir in 2012 with two big ideas: to help build a strong culinary community and to create a new style of dining in Austin. Lenoir sources almost exclusively from Texas' community of farmers and food artisans who provide incredible produce, meat and cheese. Texas seasonal menu changes season with a great wine selection to complement the food year round.

Loro Asian Smokehouse and Bar

2115 South Lamar Blvd.
512-916-4858; www.loroaustin.com

Loro is an Asian smokehouse and bar founded by James Beard and award-winning chef Tyson Cole of Uchi and Aaron Franklin of Franklin Barbecue. The menu features grilled and smoked meats, sides, craft beers and creative cocktails. Enjoy dining on the outdoor porch shaded by hundred-year old oak trees, and take a seat at the bar or indoor space. Dine in from 11:30 am until 9 pm Sunday through Thursday, or Friday through Saturday 11:30 a m until 10:00 pm.

Lucy's Fried Chicken

2218 College Avenue; 512-297-2423
5408 Burnet Road; 512-514-0664
2900 Ranch Rd 620 N; 512-297-2771
www.lucysfriedchicken.com

One of Austin's favorite homegrown restaurants, Lucy's Fried Chicken is helmed by local chef James Holmes. The offerings include fresh gulf oysters, an innovative take on comfort food classics, and fried chicken that's pretty dang perfect. Scratch-made pies plus freshly-made sides and salads round out the menu while the bar offers an extensive list of imaginative craft cocktails and plenty of cold beer. Open seven days a week – lunch, dinner, and weekend brunch.

Maudie's Tex-Mex

2608 W. 7th Street; 512-473-3740
1212 S. Lamar; 512-440-8088
10205 N. Lamar; 512-832-0900
9911 Brodie Lane; 512-280-8700
3801 N. Capital of TX Hwy; 512-306-8080
12506 Shops Pkwy, Bee Cave; 512-263-1116
4600 W Guadalupe; 512-381-5500
www.maudies.com

Maudie's Café has been a tradition in Austin since the early 50's serving the best home-style cooking around. Faithful clientele stand in long lines for breakfast and lunch. Maudie's has won numerous awards over the years for its Tex-Mex food and fresh-squeezed margaritas. With six successful city restaurants, Maudie's has become a true tradition in Austin.

Mellow Mushroom Pizza Bakers

2600 I-35 Frontage Road, Round Rock
512-291-7253
www.mellowmushroom.com

Mellow Mushroom is locally owned by Charles Lucenay and has quickly become a favorite hotspot for those in the area. Offering a laid back environment, gourmet pizza (plus other yummy menu options), 30 beers on tap, and a full bar, Mellow Mushroom is the perfect place for happy hours, football games, date night, or a family night out! They also offer easy online ordering, with delivery service through Grubhub, Uber Eats and Zulu Food.

Mighty Fine Burgers, Fries and Shakes

5601 Brodie Lane; 512-735-2800
10515 N Mopac Expwy.; 512-524-2400
6900 Ranch Rd 620 N; 512-528-5421
201 University Oaks Blvd.;
Round Rock; 512-381-3310
1335 E Whitestone Blvd.; Cedar Park
512-528-5421; www.mightyfineburgers.com

The name says it all! Quality is everything at Mighty Fine, where they serve up burgers, hot dogs, fries and shakes in the classic Texas style. All ingredients are fresh and carefully chosen to bring out that "bold" Texas taste. Burgers start with fresh, all-natural chuck ground on-site and hand-formed into classically thick patties right out in the open. Shakes are hand-dipped with Blue Bell ice

cream and lemonade is made every two hours from fresh lemons. There are burgers, and then there are Mighty Fine burgers. One taste and you will be hooked.

Mother's Café & Garden

4215 Duval Street; 512-451-3994
www.motherscafeaustin.com

Since 1980, Mother's Cafe & Garden has been serving-up great vegetarian and vegan food. They cook with purified water and use cold-pressed, non-GMO canola oil and non-GMO tofu. Along with a great dine in experience all items are available for takeout.

The Oasis Lake Travis

6550 Comanche Trail
512-266-2442; www.oasis-austin.com

"The Sunset Capital of Texas" is the claim made by The Oasis Restaurant, and after one visit, you'll see why. Many come to watch the sun go down from this fantastic vantage point on one of many decks perched 450 feet over Lake Travis, but the day time views are just as

spectacular. The Oasis Restaurant and Event Center is also a great venue to host private functions from weddings, corporate events, graduations, birthdays to celebrations of life. It also boasts two live music venues, featuring some of Austin's finest musicians. Go dance the summer nights away with a beautiful view, food and perfect margaritas. The Oasis is open year round with both indoor and outdoor panoramic views.

Odd Duck

1201 S. Lamar; 512-433-6521
www.oddduckaustin.com

Odd Duck in Austin has a unique spin on ensuring that their patrons receive the best food and drinks they can serve. The chefs pride themselves on using locally sourced foods to create their one-of-a-kind creative dishes. Odd Duck crafts their menu around the Texas seasons, making sure to showcase the local ingredients available during that time. Come enjoy dinner, lunch, brunch – or even just stop in to partake in their cocktail and specialty beers.





hour hangout! And don't forget to invite your best friend – Opal Divine's has an entire menu just for dogs!

Perla's

1400 S Congress Avenue; 512-291-7300
www.perlaaustin.com

Since 2009, Perla's has been serving the freshest fish and oysters flown in daily from both coasts with an emphasis on sourcing from the Gulf of Mexico. Perla's has a nice open dining area with bar, along with one of the prettiest oak-shaded patios in Austin. Enjoy lunch and dinner daily with brunch on Saturday and Sunday, and happy hour Monday through Friday.

Ramen Tatsu-Ya

8557 Research Blvd., #126; 512-893-5561
www.ramen-tatsuya.com

Ramen Tatsu-Ya is a Japanese restaurant located in Austin that is a collaboration between local chefs/DJs, Tatsu Aikawa and Takuya Matsumoto. In establishing this authentic restaurant, they have been able to bring the true taste of Japan to the people of Austin, offering up flavors and ingredients in their ramen soups that are sure to please all taste buds. Try the MI-So-Hot or even the Ol' Skool and get a taste of Japan, right in Austin area that will convert you into a regular.

Roaring Fork

701 Congress Avenue; 512-583-0000
10850 Stonelake Boulevard; 512-342-2700
www.roaringfork.com

A member of the Eddie V's family of restaurants, Roaring Fork offers its patrons outstanding American cuisine through wood-fired grilling, roasting or rotisserie cooking. Its impeccable selection of prime meats and fish, coupled with top-of-the-line service and atmosphere, makes the Roaring Fork dining experience unforgettable.

Second Bar & Kitchen

200 Congress Avenue; 512-827-2750
3121 Palm Way, Suite 101; 737-300-4800
www.secondbarkitchen.com

An elite cadre of outstanding chefs use seasonal ingredients and locally produced products

to bring the "Natural American" cuisine of Second City Bar and Kitchen to life, including rotisserie selections, salads, sandwiches, pizzas and desserts. The full-service bar offers a wide selection of hand-crafted beer, wine, cocktails and non-alcoholic selections.

Steiner Ranch Steakhouse

5425 Steiner Ranch Blvd.
512-381-0800; www.steinersteakhouse.com

With its gorgeous location overlooking the beautiful Lake Travis and the Texas Hill Country, the Steiner Ranch Steakhouse serves up more than just an evening of fine dining to its patrons. Established on land owned at one time by the Steiner family for which the steakhouse is named, the restaurant is the proud owner of a legacy as big and wide as the blue skies of Texas, and is known for its down home hospitality and excellent fare. USDA prime steaks top a menu that features seafood, poultry, venison and other items that offer the best of Texas and guaranteed to please the palate.

Suerte

1800 E 6th Street
512-953-0092; www.suerteatx.com

Suerte is an East Austin restaurant cooking food inspired by Mexico with ingredients from local farmers and housemade masa. Their space pays homage to artisans in East Austin and Mexico. They offer reservations, space for walk-ins, private events and a patio! Come enjoy Mexican dishes made especially by Executive chef Fermin Nunez.

Tiny Boxwoods

1503 W. 35th St; 512-220-0698
www.tinyboxwoods.com

What started as a nursery, soon emerged as a breathtaking space in the midst of lush surroundings in Houston, has now made its way to Austin. The mission of Tiny Boxwoods is to make each and every experience a memorable one. They do that by creating an experiential bond between food and environment that's contagious to all and forgotten by no one. Tiny Boxwoods offers breakfast, brunch, lunch and dinner, and a private event space.

Olamaie

1610 San Antonio Street; 512-474-2796
www.olamaieaustin.com

Olamaie in Austin serves up five generations of southern food. One of their main menu items they have become famous for are their mouth-watering biscuits. While Olamaie's biscuits are famous, the Southern restaurant keeps the popular item off the menu to avoid becoming a biscuit-only kitchen, only making a limited number daily. Stop in or make a reservation to enjoy their Dewberry Hills Farm Chicken or their delicious spiced custard. Their unique cocktail menu leaves patrons deciding between their creative cocktails such as La La Land, or Whisky A-Go-Go.

Opal Divine's

Marina: 12709 N Mopac Expy.; 512-733-5353
Austin Grill: 2200 S. I-35 & Oltorf; 512-443-6725
www.opaldivines.com

Opal Divine's is Austin, Texas' premier source for craft beer, whiskey, and all-natural food. In addition to their award-winning Char Grill Burgers, Opal Divine's offers a large selection for those with a gluten-free or vegetarian diet. Their kitchen uses fresh, natural ingredients from the finest local and national sources. With more than three dozen craft beers on tap, a selection of more than 60 whiskies, and a focus on craft cocktails made with Texas spirits, you need to make Opal Divine's your new happy

Truluck's

400 Colorado; 512-482-9000
10225 Research Boulevard; 512-794-8300
www.trulucks.com

Known for their famous stone crabs, Truluck's is the place to come for the best in steaks and seafood. With their attentive wait staff and excellent wine menu, Truluck's is a top notch dining experience.

Uchi

801 S. Lamar; 512-916-4808
www.uchiaustin.com

Named one of the "Top Ten Sushi Restaurants in the US" by TravelandLeisure.com, this restaurant is not to be missed. Award winning chef, Tyson Cole, combines the freshest, local, seasonal ingredients with an infinite spectrum of seafood, flown in fresh daily, from around the globe. Traditional Japanese offerings with new, refreshing flavors and textures and lots of options from hot to cold plates, sushi and salads. The wagyu beef on the hot stone is a fun table-side dish. Make your reservations

well in advance and arrive early for one of the most unique dining experiences in Austin.

Veracruz All Natural

Food trucks, No phone orders:
4209 Airport Blvd
1704 E. Cesar Chavez
4208 Manchaca Rd.
www.veracruzallnatural.com

Established in 2008, Veracruz All Natural got their start by serving smoothies, snow cones and natural drinks. Over the years, they have grown to a four-location Austin area restaurant, serving up Mexican food made from some of the freshest ingredients. Mostly highly in demand, their tacos, are what make this chain a mainstay in the Austin area.

Via313 Pizzeria

6705 Hwy. 290 No. 503; 512-584-8084
3016 Guadalupe, Ste. 100; 512-358-6193
1802 East 6th St.; 512-580-0999
61 Rainey St.; 512-609-9405
www.via313.com

Via313 Pizzeria is the place to go in Austin if you are craving some authentic and genuine Detroit style pizza. With multiple locations throughout the Austin area, including brick and mortar and also their pizza trailers, taking in some of their delicious pizza is typically within reach. They use the best quality cheeses available, plus source as many ingredients as possible from local farmers and butchers, so they can deliver to their customers the highest of quality when it comes to a competitive pizza market.

Vince Young Steakhouse

301 San Jacinto Blvd, 512-457-8325
www.vinceyoungsteakhouse.com

Named after the former Longhorn NCAA National Champion quarterback, the eponymous Vince Young Steakhouse makes every occasion a great one. Serving only the finest food—including its signature steaks—, drinks in the middle of Austin's lively downtown atmosphere, it strives to leave you with the memory of an exceptional dining experience. ●



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Relocation

FORKS UP

Barbecue in Central Texas

If there's one pastime in Austin, Texas that hasn't changed over the years, it's eating. From Tex-Mex to nationally known chefs and restaurants, there's no question that Austin is a foodie kind of town. After all, we were one of the first cities to have a "food trailer" subculture; those early beginnings have since spawned food trailer parks in at least three different areas of the city and inspired many more.



Food, Schmoed – What about Barbecue?

While Austinites certainly have an appreciation for all things edible, they're obsessive about barbecue. That's because in Texas, beef is king. And its rulers and subjects are mostly located right here in Central Texas.

In fact, the *brisket*, a cut that is the cornerstone of the Texas tradition, owes its status to the long cattle drives of that bygone era – and to the creative culinary genius of multiple Texas barbecue masters. Considered tough and almost worthless in the beginning, it's what was left over after the so-called prime cuts had been taken. Other meat staples in a true Texas barbecue include sausage (normally made from beef) and pork ribs, an import from the Midwest.

Texas barbecue can even be broken down by region. In west Texas, the meat is cooked using direct heat with mesquite wood, an approach also seen in Arizona and New Mexico. In eastern Texas, beef is often slow-cooked over hickory after marinating in a tomato sauce. And here in Central Texas, meat is often dry-rubbed with spices and cooked using indirect heat over either oak, pecan or mesquite. The South Texas style features thick sauces, normally with a molasses base.

Who needs a plate? Order up!

When it comes to ordering barbecue, Texans have their own style there, too. Most places serve beef ribs, brisket, chicken and pork ribs by the pound, or by the link for sausage, and forgo plates – instead choosing to serve meats on plain white butcher paper.

Typical side dishes and drinks here in the Lone Star state include pinto beans, potato salad, coleslaw, creamed corn, pickles, onions, jalapenos, cold beer, iced tea, lemonade – and, of course, plenty of slices of plain white bread.



As for the sauce, it's generally an optional thing – and some Central Texas barbecue institutions don't offer sauce at all. That's because the emphasis is on the meat, not necessarily the sauce. Roll it up in a slice of white bread, add pickles, onions and maybe some coleslaw on top, and it's like heaven on earth.

You say tomato...

According to the National Barbecue Association, the three essential elements of barbecue are good meat; the process of slow cooking at a low temperature; and the fuel used for heat and flavor. This is not the backyard style barbecue where Mom or Dad fires up the gas or charcoal grill. At its heart, barbecue is slow cooking, using cuts of meat that, in the past, were considered inferior – until super slow cooking for hours at a time turned them into something worth savoring and craving.

The native peoples of the Caribbean, who used a combination of low heat, wood smoke and sun to preserve their meat, first practiced what we know as barbecue at the time Columbus discovered the New World. Known first as "barbacoa," it made its way to the mainland where it diversified, both in location and style.

Now? It's an art form – and it varies from state to state, region to region, and neighbor to neighbor. From the pulled pork of the Carolinas to the heavy sauciness of Kansas City to the sweetness of Memphis, barbecue – and the way it's cooked – is a varied culinary tradition whose rules are based mainly on location and what Grandpa did. Pork or pork sausage are a barbecue stalwart, especially in the southeastern United States. And it's not surprising to find very expensive smokers cooking up brisket, sausage, ham, turkey and more, for a crowd at a University of Texas tailgate party (and at every other college football game in Texas).

Road trip: No forks necessary

Clearly, the best way to experience this mouth-watering culinary experience is to take a road trip and try it all. Because we're famous for this stuff, especially here in Central Texas – and those who live here know all too well what a gift it is to experience it when the craving strikes. And it will. Over and over again.

The following is a guide to Central Texas barbecue Meccas – use our tips to take your own delicious, sticky fingers jaunt across barbecue heaven. Visit www.tourism-tools.com/texasbbq for more information. And don't forget the napkins!

AUSTIN

La Barbecue

2027 E. Cesar Chavez; 512-605-9696
www.labarbecue.com

Closed every Monday and Tuesday, but open every Wednesday through Sunday 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM (or until they sell out), La Barbecue has been serving up Central Texas barbecue since 2012. Famous for their combination of salty and savory rubs, with absolutely no sugar added to their coleslaw. Don't forget the pickles!

Black's Barbecue

3110 Guadalupe St; 512-524-0801
www.blacksbbq.com

Besides its reputation for great barbecue, Black's is also known as the oldest major barbecue restaurant in Texas continuously owned and operated by the same family. Founded in 1932 by Edgar Black, Sr., who was then joined by Edgar Black, Jr. and his wife, Norma Black in 1949, this barbecue institution has a slogan of "Open 8 Days a Week," and the sign out front says it, too. Even though Black's is open seven days a week, Norma Black says "if you're here as much as we are, you will find a few extra days in that time. It's easier to remember

when we're closed – Thanksgiving and Christmas – than when we're open." That dedication comes through in the barbecue – slow-smoked beef brisket, pork ribs, giant beef ribs, pork loin, turkey, homemade sausage, chicken, a range of sandwiches and classic sides like black-eyed peas, cole slaw, pinto beans, creamed corn and more.

Brown's BBQ

1901 S. Lamar; 512-445-9500
www.cornerbaratx.com

Brown's BBQ serves up "old school barbecue" from the bright red trailer parked outside of Corner Bar in South Austin. Enjoy delicious brisket, sausage, turkey, and pulled pork sandwiches with a side of beans, coleslaw, mac & cheese, cabbage or potato salad. Save room for the banana pudding and peach cobbler for dessert. They are worth the calories.

Cooper's Old Time Pit Bar-B-Que

217 Congress Ave; 512-474-4227
www.coopersbbq.com

The original location and still the most famous of all the Cooper's outlets (there's also one in New Braunfels and in Fort Worth), Cooper's Old Time Pit Bar-B-Que is usually tops on the list for obsessed barbecue fans. Known for its "Big Chop" – a 2-inch-thick, center cut juicy pork chop cooked over mesquite coals – the Llano institution that's "All About the Meat" invites guests to pick their favorite from a number of huge grills just outside the front door, whether it's ribs, brisket, pork, sausage or that famous chop. Walk inside to add beans, cole slaw, potato salad, pickles and all the fixins' inside, and then enjoy your feast at family-style tables.

The County Line

County Line on the Hill:
6500 W. Bee Cave Rd.; 512-327-1742
County Line on the Lake:
5204 FM 2222; 512-346-3664
www.countyline.com

Founded in 1975, The County Line is an Austin barbecue institution. The restaurant's barbecue philosophy has just four principles: Deliver the highest quality

smoked barbecue – ribs, brisket, sausage and chicken – with traditional sides of cole slaw, potato salad and beans;

Offers generous portions at reasonable prices; hire staff and offer friendly table service with linens and bar service; and serve it all in an authentic location that celebrates the heritage of Texas. It's no wonder that the restaurant's tagline is that it's so good, you'll want to "Get It All Over Ya!"

Franklin Barbecue

900 E. 11th; 512-653-1187
www.franklinbarbecue.com

Making good brisket came naturally to owner Aaron Franklin, growing up with parents who ran a barbecue stand in Bryan, TX. From small beginnings, Aaron and his wife share their love of barbecue, common to Texans, with plates, sandwiches, sides and pies. You can even take a pound of your favorite grillings home to share. They've got brisket, ribs, pulled pork and sausage; and to top it all off, pies that make you curl your toes in delight.

Freedmen's

2402 San Gabriel St; 512-220-0953
www.freedmensbar.com

Located in one of Austin's historic buildings, Freedman's is a beer garden, laid back whiskey lounge and smokehouse that serves up some delicious barbecue and retro-inspired cocktails. Freedmen's smokes button mushrooms, and of course brisket, pork spare ribs, house-made sausage, pulled pork and much more.

The Green Mesquite

1400 Barton Springs Road; 512-479-0485
9900 South IH-35; 512-282-7100
www.greenmesquite.net

Known for "BBQ, Blues & Bluegrass," the Green Mesquite is another Austin favorite with two locations – the original on Barton Springs and another in the Southpark Meadows shopping center off I-35 South. With a menu that includes such classic and delicious sides as fried okra, hush puppies, green beans, cole slaw, and potato salad, and

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barbecue plates with a choice of beef brisket, pork ribs, pulled pork, chicken, sausage, ham, smoked wings or turkey – plus live music – it’s a meat lover’s (and music lover’s!) paradise.

Hoover’s Cooking

2002 Manor Road; 512-479-5006

www.hooverscooking.com

Known more for its traditional Southern-style cooking and deep Texas roots of founder Hoover Alexander – a fifth-generation Texan whose food include elements of his mom’s home cooking, East Texas Cajun flavors, and the mouth-watering fare of barbecue pit bosses – Hoover’s isn’t your traditional barbecue restaurant. But Alexander’s ribs are out of this world, and the restaurant has become known equally for its barbecue offerings. Choose from chicken wings or halves, pork ribs, Elgin sausage and even jerk chicken – all come in giant portions with a deep-red-brown and spicy-sweet sauce. Sides include the decadent macaroni and cheese, jalapeño creamed spinach, cole slaw, and classic pork and

beans, among classic Southern specialties as mustard greens and fried okra.

Ironworks Barbecue

100 Red River; 512-478-4855

www.ironworksbbq.com

A family-owned ironworks before it became a barbecue favorite in 1978 (check out the Weigl family-crafted weathervane on the restaurant’s roof), Ironworks is not only an Austin favorite, but also counts among its many fans such visiting Austin celebs as Kevin Costner, Leonardo DiCaprio, Bob Dylan, and Jay Leno. Offering both barbecue plates and meat by the pound, specialties include sliced beef brisket, chopped beef, beef ribs, smoked pork loin, pork ribs, chicken, Ironworks hot sausage, ham and smoked turkey, plus classic sides that include beans and potato salad.

Kerlin BBQ

1700 E. Cesar Chavez; 512-412-5588

www.kerlinbbq.com

The secret is out! Kerlin was named “The #1 Barbecue Joint in Texas” by Business

Insider. Some of Kerlin’s mouthwatering specialties include brisket stuffed into kolaches, Prime Angus brisket, pork ribs, beef hot links, blue cheese coleslaw, jalapeño dill potato salad, and smoked corn on the cob with chipotle butter and queso fresco. Kerlin also specializes in catering and will craft the perfect menu for any event.

Micklethwait Craft Meats

1309 Rosewood Ave; 512-791-5961

www.craftmeatsaustin.com

Owner Tom Micklethwait turned to barbecue after a career in baking. He discovered that there was a common thread, which was the manipulation of primitive elements for different end results. He experimented with recipes while building out a vintage Comet trailer from scratch. In December 2012, Tom served his first plate of barbecue out of the window of the trailer, and has been serving up delicious dishes ever since. In 2017 Micklethwait Craft Meats was ranked as one of Texas Monthly’s Top 50 Barbecue Joints in Texas.

The Pit Barbeque

4707 Burnet Road; 512-453-6464

www.thepitbarbeque.com

Family-owned and operated since 1969, The Pit is another Austin favorite, with area residents flocking to this small, down-home restaurant to feast on juicy brisket, turkey, sausage, ribs, and chicken, plus the Pit’s signature peach cobbler and banana pudding. All meats are smoked in-house, and the Pit is known for its house-made sides – including potato salad and beans.

Rudy’s “Country Store” and Bar-B-Q

11570 Research Blvd.; 512-418-9898

2451 S. Capital of Texas Hwy.; 512-329-5554

3914 North Lamar; 512-838-3337

7709 Ranch Road 620; 512-250-8002

2400 N IH 35 Round Rock; 512-244-2936

www.rudysbbq.com

Rudy’s “Country Store” and Bar-B-Q had its early beginnings in Leon Springs – a small community founded just outside of San Antonio in the 1800s by Max Aue. Max’s son Rudolph later opened a one-stop



gas station, garage, and grocery store. It took a while, but barbecue was added to the operation in 1989, and Rudy's "Country Store" and Bar-B-Q was born. Rudy's uses 100 percent wood-fired pits with oak, a slower burning wood than mesquite, and cook brisket, sausage, turkey and more with a dry spice for unique flavors. Add Rudy's famous "Sause," dill pickles, onions and white bread, and a tasty meal is minutes away.

Stiles Switch BBQ & Brew

6610 N Lamar Blvd
512-380-9199; www.stilesswitchbbq.com

Named after the historic 1800s I. & G. N. railroad stop Stiles Switch and owner Shane Stiles, the inspiration for this barbeque is derived from Stiles' admiration of the Texas BBQ legends he was raised on while growing up in Central Texas. Daily specials that change every week keep customers guessing and coming back again and again. Enjoy a nice local craft beer to wash it all down.

Stubb's

801 Red River; 512-480-8341
www.stubbsaustin.com

"Stubb's is the delicious brainchild of Christopher B. Stubblefield of Navasota, Texas, who learned to cook in the 1930s when the family moved to Lubbock to pick cotton – and Stubb started working in local restaurants and hotels. Those skills translated into his own restaurant, which he opened in Lubbock in 1968 – cooking barbecue on a hickory pit behind his place and playing the blues on the jukebox. The Lubbock location closed – and an Austin location followed. It soon became as much known for good music as for good barbecue, with musicians like Joe Ely and Stevie Ray Vaughn, Muddy Waters, Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash, and others playing there regularly. Today, it's still about the food, music and cold beer – try the brisket, pork ribs, chicken, pork loin, turkey or sausage plate – and definitely add the sauce made in-house, and the beans, cole slaw and potato salad.



Schmidt Family Barbecue

Hill Country Galleria
12532 FM 2244; 512-263-4060
www.schmidtfamilybarbecue.com

Legendary Lockhart barbecue has come to Bee Cave, TX and folks are excited. Schmidt Family Barbecue is built on a 75 year family tradition of cooking methods and choice cuts of meat to achieve the flavor that so many have come to expect. Moist, tender, delicious barbecue runs in the family and is served up daily. Expect no glazes, just smoke and spice. They are passionate about two things in this world - family and barbecue! Customers can enjoy live music on the weekends, during the summer months. Catering and private room for parties are also available.

Valentinas Tex Mex BBQ

11500 Manchaca Rd; 512-221-4248
www.valentinastexmexbbq.com

Combining two Texas classics, Valentinas Tex Mex BBQ serves up favorites from

sliced brisket and pulled pork sandwiches with tangy slaw and mesquite smoked BBQ sauce, to smoked carnitas with caramelized onions and cilantro tomatillo habanero salsa. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner seven days a week.

DRIFTWOOD

The Salt Lick

18300 FM 1826; 512-858-4959
3350 E. Palm Valley Blvd.; 512-386-1044

Founded in Driftwood 1967 by the Roberts family, The Salt Lick has a long history of serving great barbecue. People drive from all over Central Texas and beyond to relax among the picnic tables at the rustic outdoor pavilion and enjoy juicy brisket, ribs, and more. Specialties include the family-style meal, which includes huge servings of beef, sausage, and pork ribs served with potato salad, cole slaw, beans, bread, pickles and onions. Homemade pecan pie and peach cobbler round out the simple and delicious menu – and those who have

cravings but who don't live in Central Texas can order complete meals online that are shipped directly to their door.

ELGIN

Southside Market & Barbecue

1212 U.S. 290 East; 512-281-4650

www.southsidemarket.com

This more-than-100-year-old sausage factory is one of the main reasons Elgin is known as the “sausage capital of Texas.” Great varieties of sausage and \$2 per pound brisket trimmings are a real treat, too. With such authentic Texas barbecue that includes beef brisket, signature sauce, a million awards and accolades and of course that sausage, it's a barbecue lover's must-stop destination – and an excellent reason to drive to Elgin.

Meyer's Elgin Sausage & Smokehouse

188 U.S. 290 East; 512-281-3331

www.cuetopiatexas.com

A family-owned business, Meyer's Elgin Sausage expanded the family business to a restaurant that serves smoked pork ribs, turkey breast, brisket, and that famous sausage. Try the three-meat combo with your choice of beef sausage, smoked turkey, pork ribs, lots of sauce, German-style potato salad, spicy beans, and a pickle. And definitely grab some sausage to take home so you can have it whenever you want.

LEXINGTON

(Located between Austin & College Station)

Snow's BBQ

516 Main Street; 979-773-4640

www.snowsbbq.com

One piece of advice about Snow's— Get there early. One of Central Texas' most famous barbecue pilgrimages, Snow's is only open on Saturdays from 8 a.m. until the meat is gone – and that's usually by noon. Why? Consider that the brisket at Snow's is cooked at low heat (250 to 300 degrees) for six hours, then wrapped in foil and put back into the smoker for however

long the pit experts at Snow's think it should be in there. Kind of like the Jedi masters of barbecue. The result is you-don't-need-teeth tender beef that's smoked to perfection. The menu here is small and simple; the folks at Snow's decided to focus only on doing a few things very well: brisket, sausage, chicken, pork, ribs, potato salad, cole slaw, and beans. After all, what else do you need?

LLANO

Laird's BBQ

1600 Ford Street; 325-247-5234

Located just south of town, Laird's is a Llano barbecue favorite founded by Ken and Esther Laird. Barbecue here is cooked in a pit using only mesquite wood, and the Laird's smoke their briskets for up to eight hours. Everything except the white bread is made here, too. The sausage is half-beef and half-pork with lots of garlic, and the pork ribs are usually gone pretty quickly, so it's always wise to get there early.

Cooper's Old Time Pit Bar-B-Que

505 W. Dallas; 325-247-5995

www.coopersbbq.com

The original location and still the most famous of all the Cooper's outlets (there's also one in New Braunfels and in Fort Worth), Cooper's Old Time Pit Bar-B-Que is usually tops on the list for obsessed barbeque fans. Known for its “Big Chop” – a 2-inch-thick, center cut juicy pork chop cooked over mesquite coals – the Llano institution that's “All About the Meat” invites guests to pick their favorite from a number of huge grills just outside the front door, whether it's ribs, brisket, pork, sausage or that famous chop. Walk inside to add beans, cole slaw, potato salad, pickles and all the fixins' inside, and then enjoy your feast at family-style tables.

Inman's Kitchen Pit Bar-B-Q & Catering

809 W. Young (*Hwy. 71 West*); 915-247-5257

www.inmanskitchen.com

Inman's has been “Smokin' the Good Stuff Since 1967,” and they're not kidding. The

Inman family recipe for turkey sausage is what made Inman's famous, and it still does. A caterer for everything from weddings, birthdays and anniversaries to Willie Nelson's annual Fourth of July Picnic and even Huntsville Prison Rodeos, Inman's meat specialties include the famous turkey sausage, jalapeno turkey sausage, beef brisket, ham, pork ribs, turkey breast, and chicken – plus all-you-can-eat pinto beans and fixins' and of course potato salad and cole slaw.

LOCKHART

Black's Barbecue

215 N. Main Street; 512-398-2712

www.blacksbbq.com

Besides its reputation for great barbecue, Black's is also known as the oldest major barbecue restaurant in Texas continuously owned and operated by the same family. Founded in 1932 by Edgar Black, Sr., who was then joined by Edgar Black, Jr. and his wife, Norma Black in 1949, this barbecue institution has a slogan of “Open 8 Days a Week,” and the sign out front says it, too. Even though Black's is open seven days a week, Norma Black says “if you're here as much as we are, you find a few extra days in that time. It's easier to remember when we're closed – Thanksgiving and Christmas – than when we're open.” That dedication comes through in the barbecue – slow-smoked beef brisket, pork ribs, giant beef ribs, pork loin, turkey, homemade sausage, chicken, a range of sandwiches and classic sides like black-eyed peas, cole slaw, pinto beans, creamed corn and more.

Kreuz Market

619 N. Colorado; 512-398-2361

www.kreuzmarket.com

Yet another famous Hill Country barbecue Mecca, Charles Kreuz opened Kreuz Market as a meat market and grocery store in 1900. Customers would buy slowsmoked barbecue and sausage wrapped in butcher paper, add some staples from the store to go with it – like crackers, bread, pickles, onions and cheese – and eat it off the butcher paper

with their hands, and without sauce. A family-owned business until Charles Kreuz sold it in 1948 to longtime employee Edgar Schmidt, and today it's Schmidt's sons who run Kreuz Market. And the same traditions are still alive and well – super-tender meat, no silverware, and still no sauce. Besides brisket and sausage, this German-inspired barbecue landmark also features such other favorites as pork spare ribs, beans, German potato salad, sauerkraut, and jalapeno-cheese sausage.

Smitty's Market

208 S. Commerce Street; 512-398-9344
www.smittysmarket.com

In Texas, good barbecue runs in the family – and Smitty's is just one example. Ina Schmidt Sells started Smitty's Market in 1999 in the building that was the home to her father Edgar Schmidt's Kreuz Market for more than 50 years – after he purchased the business from original owner Charles Kreuz. Sells' son is now the pit master at Smitty's, and the restaurant is known for its long-smoked brisket and juicy boneless prime rib – plus potato salad, beans, and coleslaw. And, just like at Kreuz's, there aren't any forks (though you can get a knife and spoon if you ask), and no sauce.

MARBLE FALLS

Wingman Brothers Smoke House

2407 Hwy. 281 N. ; 830-693-6531
www.peetemesquitebbq.com

Regularly voted the “Best Barbecue in Burnet County,” Wingman Brothers Smoke House is the perfect pick-up joint for those heading to the lake, or those who just have a craving for darn good barbecue. Owned by Wayne and Lanell Henderson and serving the Marble Falls area for the last 20 years, Peete Mesquite's menu includes Angus brisket, pork ribs, pork steak, smoked chicken, turkey breast and regular or jalapeno sausage. With your choice of seven side dishes, seven varieties of sandwiches, and homemade peach and blackberry cobbles and pecan pies, you can guarantee that no one's going home hungry.



ROUND ROCK

The Green Mesquite

2601 S Interstate 35 B100; 512-341-0200
www.greenmesquitebbq.com

Known for “BBQ, Blues & Bluegrass,” the Green Mesquite is another Austin favorite with two locations – the original on Barton Springs and another in the Southpark Meadows shopping center off I-35 South. With a menu that includes such classic and delicious sides as fried okra, hush puppies, green beans, cole slaw, and potato salad, and barbecue plates with a choice of beef brisket, pork ribs, pulled pork, chicken, sausage, ham, smoked wings or turkey – plus live music – it's a meat lover's (and music lover's!) paradise.

SPICEWOOD

It's All Good Bar-B-Q

22112 W. Hwy 71 West; 512-264-1744
www.itsallgoodbbq.com

Located in the scenic Texas Hill Country, It's All Good Bar-B-Q was born of a passion for barbecue that started with a homemade pit, led to competitions and barbecue cook-offs, and is now the

happy result of partnerships with friends passionate about barbecue – and who wanted to share that with others. With lunch plate specials and happy hour from 3-7 p.m. every Thursday and Friday, there's something for everyone. It's All Good BBQ offers brisket, pork ribs, chicken, pulled pork, beef ribs, sausage, turkey and baby back ribs by the pound, as well as tasty barbecue sandwiches (brisket, pulled pork, sausage, turkey and chopped beef).

TAYLOR

Louie Mueller Barbecue

206 W. Second; 512-352-6206
www.louiemuellerbarbecue.com

Founded in 1949, this is one restaurant of many in the Texas Hill Country that is well worth the drive. A no-frills kind of place that puts all the emphasis on the meat, the menu is written on butcher paper and there is always a line. Meats are sold by the pound and are mouth-wateringly tender. Try the famous brisket – made with a salt and pepper rub and then slow-cooked in 50 year-old horizontal brick and steel pits using post oak wood. Word to the wise: They often sell out, so if you're bringing out-of-town guests (or planning to go yourself), it's better to call and place your order in advance. ●

GRAB A GLASS

Austin-Made Beer + Spirits

Thirsty? You're in the right city. The Austin area has fast become known as much for its variety of breweries and distilleries as for its live music community, music festivals like ACL, and the University of Texas. With more than 25 local breweries and distilleries, the area is a veritable paradise for wine, beer, spirits and food lovers. Here's a listing of the area's offerings, so grab a glass and enjoy!



BREWERIES - AUSTIN

(512) Brewing Company

407 Radam Lane; 512-707-BEER (2337)

www.512brewing.com

Founded in 2008 by Kevin Brand, this Austin favorite offers its Core 4: (512) Wit, (512) IPA, (512) Pale, and (512) Pecan Porter year-round. The (512) ALT, (512) Cascabel Cream Stout, (512) Black IPA, (512) Bruin, and (512) Five Imperial Stout are seasonal *brews*. The brewery also boasts six specialty releases for you to wet your whistle in the Texas heat. On most Saturdays, two tours are available and tickets can be purchased on the website.

Adelbert's Brewery

2314 Rutland Drive, #100; 512-662-1462

www.adelbertsbeer.com

Founded in 2012, Adelbert's namesake is brewer Scott Hovey's deceased older brother, George Adelbert Hovey (1953-2000), who was known for his zest for life and passion for beer. The result is Austin's first all-Belgian style bottle and keg-conditioned brewery with each beer named after a story Adelbert loved to tell. The brewery's offerings include: Rambler Ale, Scratchin' Hippo, Tripel B, Flyin' Monks, Naked Nun, Philosophizer, Black Rhino, Traveler, and Dancin' Monks. Many of these fine brews are gold medal award winners. Flyin' Monks was named the 2014 Rockies/Southwest Regional Champion at the U.S. Beer Tasting Championship. Undoubtedly, all of these brews are worth getting bubbly about.

Austin Beerworks

3009 Industrial Terrace, Suite 150

512-821-2494 ; www.austinbeerworks.com

Founded in 2011 by four friends, Austin Beerworks has come a long way in a short time – the brewery's Peacemaker Extra Pale won a silver medal at the Great American Beer Festival that same year. Other offerings include the Fire Eagle American IPA and the Pearl-Snap German Pils, plus a selection of seasonal brews. The brewery offers Friday night happy hours where you can taste any of their new brews. Check the website for tours, tastings, and events at the brewery.

Black Star Co-op and Brewery

7020 Easy Wind Drive, Suite 100

512-452-2337; blackstar.coop

One of Austin's most unique breweries and self-styled brewpub, Black Star Co-op – founded in 2006 and then

opened in 2010 by Steven Yarak – is a community effort of member-owners dedicated to good beer and the principles of co-op ownership. You don't have to be a member to come visit and enjoy the brewery's offerings, but you might be tempted once you enter. Black Star offers house-crafted beers, plus local and non-local beers on tap. The pub food is reminiscent of Irish and English taverns and is homemade, locally sourced cuisine. Year-round beers include the Rational: High Esteem, Vulcan, Dark Moor Brew, and Irrational: Epsilon and Moebius. The internationally bottled beers, flights, and guest beers change constantly. Black Star also offers the occasional Pint Night, so check out their website for details.

Circle Brewing Co.

2340 West Braker Lane; 512-814-7599

www.circlebrewing.com

Founded in 2010 by longtime friends Ben Sabel and Judson Mulherin, Circle Brewing's philosophy can be summed up in one word - purity. The name Circle was inspired by their passion for simplicity and perfection. Circle offers the popular Blur Texas Hefe, Envy Amber Ale, 2014 World Beer Cup Silver award winner Alibi Blonde, Hop Overboard Pale Ale, summer seasonal Epic Hop Bock, and semi-seasonal Nightlight Dry Irish Stout. Circle opens its doors on Friday and Saturday for its Tasting Room, and has a quarterly Open House. Visit the website for information on both.

Guns & Oil Brewing Co.

www.gunsandoil.com

Brewed with grit and a passion for good beer, Guns & Oil brew for the bold at heart. New to the Austin market, they have experimented with several tastes and recipes to showcase their first offering of Maverick Lager, which is available in several retail locations around town and in most HEB, Spec's, and Whole Foods grocery stores. They announced the first sponsorship of a local country band - Waterloo Revival. Visit the website to find up-to-date venues and store locations, learn more about this brewer, or purchase their merch.



Hops & Grain

507 Calles Street; 512-537-9756
www.hopsandgrain.com

East Austin's coolest Brewery...Josh Hare established Hops & Grain in late 2011, offering the 2012 World Beer Cup Gold Medal winning Altbier – ALT-eration. They now serve Pale Dog, Zoe, Greenhouse IPA, and The Greenhouse – a rotating series of small-batch beers – as its year-round brews. A totally green operation, Hops & Grain uses malted barley from brewing to make natural (and wheat-free) dog biscuits called (what else?) Brew Biscuits. Woof-woof! Hops and Grain encourages visitors to drop by their east Austin Shangri-la to see what they do and how they do it. Free tours are available from Wednesday to Saturday at various times; food trucks are on site on Saturday. Check the website for a schedule.

Independence Brewing Company

3913 Todd Lane, #607; 512-707-0099
www.independencebrewing.com

Founded by Rob and Amy Cartwright in 2004, this brewery prides itself on hand-bottling, handcrafting tap handles, and handcrafted beer. They are the recipients of seven awards, including two Good Food Awards in 2012 and 2013 for their Convict Hill Stout. The year-round beers include: Austin Amber, Stash IPA, Convict Hill, Bootlegger Brown Ale, and Independence Pale Ale. Seasonal beers are: White Rabbit, Independence ESB, Jasperilla, and the popular Oklahoma Suks brand. The Breluminati's single draft and batch only beers include: Kolschish, Lemongrass Ginger, Muggles Double IPA, the Bombus, and a few others. The Independence Brewing company hosts a 1st Saturday event from 1-3pm each month and has tours, tastings, and in-store events throughout the year. If drinking their

brews isn't enough, check out their website for beer-infused brownie recipes and other treats.

Infamous Brewing Company

4602 Weletka Drive, #300; 512-487-8786
www.infamousbrewing.com

A shared passion for good beer is what fueled a group of friends to create Infamous Brewing. Over nine months, the brewery was hand-built, piece-by-piece, until it was ready to serve high quality, handmade craft brews. Infamous' year-round offerings are the Hijack (untraditional cream ale), IPA, and Buggy's (fire brush amber). The seasonals are: Infamy (olde ale), Massacre (pumpkin pecan), and Sweep the Leg (peanut butter stout). Tours and tastings are on Saturdays from 1-5 pm.

Jester King Craft Brewery

13005 Fitzhugh Road, Building B
512-537-5100; www.jesterkingbrewery.com

NEARBY TEXAS SUDS

8th Wonder Brewery | 2202 Dallas Street, Houston
713-229-0868; www.8thwonderbrew.com

Following the titular footsteps of the original "Eighth Wonder of the World," the Houston Astrodome, 8th Wonder Brewery opened its doors in 2013. This craft brewery has five beers in its starting line up, which include Hopston, Rocket Fuel, and Dome Faux'm. There are also several "imagin8ion" brews in production with the hope of releasing them in the near future. 8th Wonder currently does not host tours, but if you want a taste of its line up, check the website for a listing of stores and markets that carry its brews.

Buffalo Bayou Brewing Company | 5301 Nolda Street, Houston
713-750-9795; www.buffbrew.com

Buffalo Bayou opened its doors in fall 2011 as the first urban craft brewery opened its doors in Houston. It prides itself on "forward-thinking" brews that are offered year-round. Its Heritage Series – the 1836 and More Cowbell – is a line of beers made using classical brewing techniques and flavors that embody the city. The Secessionist Series – a more extensive offering – is a line made from pure inspiration, no recipes required. Buff Brew offers \$10 tours on Saturday from noon until 3 pm.

Karbach Brewing | 2032 Karbach Street, Houston
713-680-2739; www.karbachbrewing.com

German training is the key to this brewery located in a city that knows how refreshing a cold beer needs to be in the heat. Karbach is both the name of the street the brewery is located on and the name of a village in Bavaria where a lot of great beer is consumed. Come by for a tour and a taste of lager, IPA, Pale Ale, Wheat, a number of seasonal beers, and some bottled specialties that will quench what "ales" ya.

Rahr & Sons Brewing Company | 701 Galveston Avenue, Fort Worth
817-810-9266; www.rahrbrewing.com

The Rahr Family's brewing history dates back to 1847 after Emily and William Rahr left Germany and immigrated to Wisconsin. The Rahrs started Eagle Brewery, which was later renamed to William Rahr's Sons Co. A century and a half later, Rahr & Sons Brewing Co opened in Fort Worth in 2004, offering five year-round brews that are: Rahr's Blonde Lager, Texas Red (amber lager), Ugly Pug (black lager), Stormcloud (German-influenced IPA), and Buffalo Butt (amber lager). They also serve six seasonal beers and seven in its "To Thee Series." Rahr offers family friendly tours and tastings on Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons. There is a general \$10 admission fee for anyone 18 and older, but the brewery tour and pint glass are free.

Founded in 2010 and certified by the USDA's National Organic Program, Jester King is the first (and only) brewery in Texas authorized to label their beers as organic. Recipients of the F.X. Matt Defense of the Small Brewing Industry Award for 2014, this brewery has some of the most unique beers and beer names in Texas. Some, but not all, include: Gotlandsdricka, Funk Metal, Das Uber-kind, RU55, Omniscience & Proselytism Black Metal (farmhouse Imperial Stout); Le Petit Prince (farmhouse table beer), Mad Meg (provisional farmhouse ale), and Wytchmaker (farmhouse rye IPA). Tours are available Friday, Saturday and Sunday, but check the website for hours. Dogs and children are welcome provided that they are well behaved and on a leash, dogs too. (ha ha)

Live Oak Brewing Co.

3301 East 5th Street; 512-385-2299
www.liveoakbrewing.com

One of Austin's oldest brewery startups, it was hand-built by Chip McElroy and Brian Peters. The winner of the Beer Advocates Number One Beer in the Southwest (for Live Oak HefeWeizen), Live Oak Brewery has been an Austin's staple since 1997. Year-round beers include the HefeWeizen, Pils, Big Bark Amber Lager, and the Liberation Ale. Live Oak also offers a selection of seasonal brews to tempt your senses. Tours are \$10.00 plus a service fee and require a reservation in advance. Private tours, although rare, are available. Check the website for more information.

Resignation Brewery

www.resignationbrewery.com

"Keep Calm and Chive On"...Resignation Brewery (theCHIVE) is home to the KCCO line of beers. It currently only offers Black Lager, but future offerings will include Gold Lager, White Wheat, and Amber Ale. While

this brewery does focus on offering high quality beers, it also aims to connect people and build community. Check the website for details on tasting tours and other events featuring Resignation's brews.

Thirsty Planet Brewing Company

11160 Circle Drive; 512-579-0679
thirstyplanet.beer

Thirsty Planet is an environmentally savvy brewery that was founded in 1993 with the goal of combining beer, passion, purpose, and honor. Thus, part of their sales from Yellow Armadillo Wheat is donated to local cancer research groups and sales from Thirsty Goat Amber go towards purchasing farm animals for communities in third-world countries. Thirsty Planet's year-round beers include: Buckethead IPA, the popular Thirsty Goat Amber, and the Yellow Armadillo Wheat. Seasonal offerings are: Double Buckethead IPA, Doctor, Hacha'Dillo, and

WORTH MENTIONING

Ranger Creek Brewery & Distillery | 4834 Whirlwind Street
San Antonio; 210-775-2099; www.drinkrangercreek.com

Ranger Creek, in San Antonio, gives new meaning to the classic George Thorogood song "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer." It's the only combined brewery and distillery in Texas – producing both craft beer and bourbon – earning the name "brewstillery." Its Ranger Creek .44 won the 2014 Double Gold medal from the Fifty Best Rye judging competition. The brewstillery serves beverages that range from ales to porters, light to robust, as well as gold (.36 Texas Bourbon) and bronze medal winning (Rimfire Single Malt) whiskies. Ranger Creek has an Open House once a quarter and regular educational tours on Saturdays. You must visit the website to register for the available dates and times.

Saint Arnold Brewing Company | 2000 Lyons Avenue, Houston
713-686-9494; www.saintarnold.com

Texas' oldest craft brewery (founded in 1994) is a statewide favorite. Of Saint Arnold's many brews, nine are year-round. They include the Saint Arnold Amber Ale, Wagger Brown, Weedwacker (Bavarian hefeweizen), Fancy Lawnmower (German-style Kolsch), Elissa IPA (traditional IPA), Santo (black Kolsch), Endeavour (double IPA), Boiler Room Berliner Weisse (sour wheat) and – though it's not a beer with alcohol – the

Saint Arnold Root Beer. The \$10 tours are Monday-Friday at 3:30 pm and Saturday from noon until 2 pm.

Southern Star Brewery | 1207 N. FM 3083 E., Conroe
936-441-2739; www.southernstarbrewery.com

Founded in 2007, Southern Star Brewery was the first craft brewery to serve canned craft beers to Texans. Year-round brews include the immensely popular Bombshell Blonde, Buried Hatchet Stout, Pine Belt Pale Ale, and Valkyrie. The brewery offers six seasonal beers, like Pro-AM and Walloon, with a different one available every two months. Southern Star offers tours regularly every Saturday, but you must double check the website in case of sudden schedule changes.

Spoetzl Brewery | 603 East Brewery Street, Shiner
(between San Antonio & Houston); 361-594-3383; www.shiner.com

Texas' oldest brewery (established in 1909) is probably also one of its best known. Year-round brews include the classic Shiner Bock, plus Shiner Blonde and Shiner Light Blonde. The brewery serves highly lauded beer, with its brews winning awards nearly every year; Shiner Oktoberfest and Shiner Bock won Gold in the 2012 Great American Beer Festival. Brewery tours are offered Monday-Friday with a regular schedule provided on the website.



many others. Tours are available with tickets purchased from the website.

BLANCO

Real Ale Brewing

231 San Saba Court; 830-833-2534
www.realalebrewing.com

Another Austin stalwart, Real Ale has been around since 1996. Year-round favorites include Brewhouse Brown Ale, Full Moon Pale Rye Ale, Sisyphus, 4-squared, Devil's Backbone (named after the twisting, turning road in the Hill Country), the easy-drinking, Lost Gold IPA, Rio Blanco Pale Ale and the 2012 Great American Beer Festival Silver Medal winners – Hans Pils and Fireman's #4 Blonde Ale. They also have six different seasonal offerings, a variety of special offerings, and some mysterium verum for the Latin enthusiasts. No reservations are necessary for their Friday tours, but call ahead for large groups and check their website for the hours.

DRIPPING SPRINGS

Twisted X Brewing Company

23455 W. RR 150; 512-829-5323
www.twistedxbrewing.com

Another new Austin brewery (founded in 2011) and now in a brand new building in Dripping Springs, Twisted X not only has the best URL ever (texmexbeer.com), but it also offers year-round beers with decidedly creative names like: Cow Creek Premium Tex Mex Dark Lager, Fuego Jalapeno-Infused Tex Mex Pilsner, Senor Viejo Tex Mex Imperial Black Lager, Siesta Prickly Pear Lager, and the Twisted X Premium Tex Mex Lager. Its blend of flavorful, Mexican-style

lagers is what earned this brewery the title of “Official Beer of Tex-Mex” by Draft Magazine. Twisted X offers tastings Monday-Sunday, and tours Thursday-Sunday. Check the website for the hours.

FREDRICKSBURG

Pedernales Brewing Co.

97 Otto Eckhardt Road; 830-998-7486
www.pedernalesbrewing.com

Founded by a former Eagle Scout, wine maker, Rotarian, Ordained Elder, and oil industry salesman, Lee Hereford started Pedernales Brewing Co. in July of 2009 and began distribution in 2012. Pedernales Brewing makes Lobo Lito, Lobo Premium Texas Lager, Lobo Negro, Pedernales Classic Hefe-Weizen, and Pedernales Classic India Pale Ale. The brewery recently won a slew of awards to complement its fine brews. It placed Gold (Hefe-Weizen), Silver (India Pale Ale), and Bronze (Lobo Negro) at the 2014 Best Little Brew Fest in Texas. It was also named “Best New Brewery in Mexico” at the 2014 Cerveza Mexico Expo. Lee would love you to come tour and taste his award-winning brews on Friday or Saturday. Check out the website for some great YouTube videos and tour times.

NEW BRAUNFELS

Guadalupe Brewing Company

1580 Wald Road, Suite 1
512-878-9214; www.guadalupebrew.com

Opened in 2011, the Guadalupe Brewing Company states that they “provide the best quality beer available, adding local ingredients whenever possible such as the Honey

from an Amish community in Beeville and Wheat from Marion, Texas.” They donate portions of their proceeds to projects that impact Texas Wildlife and fund research at Texas A&M about local bees. Year-round brews include the Texas Honey Ale, Rye Ale, Scotch Ale, and the Americano Wheat Ale. Their seasonal brew is the Guadalupe IPA. Call for an appointment to tour the brewery, or check the website for retail outlets in Austin that carry their brews.

New Braunfels Brewing Company

180 W Mill Street, Suite 10
830-686-2739; www.nbbrewing.com

If you're heading a bit outside of Austin, NBBCo should be added to your list. A nano-brewery located in the heart of downtown New Braunfels since 2010, owners Kelly and Lindsey Meyer's motto is “Here's to Life.” According to their website, each of their beers are made from 85% wheat malt, fresh hops, house yeast, local water, and fierce individuality. They have five Elemental beers: Luft Weiss, Erde Weiss, Feuer Weiss, Himmel Weiss, and Wasser Weiss. You'll also be able to enjoy some of their experimental offerings, if you take the trip down IH35. Tours are open to the public, by reservation only, through the brew shop on their website.

PFLUGERVILLE

Rogness Brewing Co.

2400 Patterson Industrial Drive
512-670-ALES (2537)
www.rognessbrewing.com

One of Austin's newest breweries, Rogness was established in spring 2012. Their beer is sold in both 22 oz. bottles and on draught. Recent releases include Beardy Guard (a biere de garde-style ale), Ost (porter), Rook (Scotch ale), Vinton (blonde ale), and Giganthia (Imperial IPA). Rogness also offers seven Seasonal and Limited Release beers for you to enjoy. Kids and dogs are welcome on Fridays from 4-9 pm and the second Saturday of every month from 1-4 pm on the outdoor biergarten. Check the website for trivia nights and tastings, and don't forget to bring your dog to Yappy Hour!

Whether you like your martinis with vodka or gin, or your margaritas frozen or on the rocks, Austin has you covered. Austin boasts a variety of distilleries with offerings that include gin, bourbon, tequila and Texas sweet tea vodka that is refreshingly different and perfect on a hot summer day. Get those cocktail shakers ready!



DISTILLERIES - AUSTIN

512 Tequila

www.tequila512.com

Based in Austin Texas and imported from Mexico, this gold medal award-winning tequila is available all over central and South Texas. Voted Austin's Favorite Tequila, it was also the 2013 Gold Medal winner at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition. Check the website for recipes, products, and some info on the founding of the tequila whose owners say has the heart of Mexico and the soul of Austin.

Deep Eddy Vodka Distillery

3601 S. Congress Avenue
512-579-0212; www.deepeddyvodka.com

Named after the oldest swimming hole in Texas, Deep Eddy Vodka is made in a small distillery with local ingredients and pure Texas water. It's column distilled ten times and coal filtered for a clean, pure taste that shows off its commitment to quality. Introduced in 2010, Deep Eddy Sweet Tea Vodka is a tea-infused vodka that was the brainchild of Sweet Leaf

Tea founder Clayton Christopher and Savvy Vodka founder Chad Auler. It now also offers Straight, Ruby Red, and Cranberry. Stop by the website to get Deep Eddy vodka-inspired recipes for delicious cocktails.

Dulce Vida Organic Tequila

11310 W. Hwy 290
512-697-4000; www.dulcevidaspirits.com

Launched in 2009, Dulce Vida tequila is Austin's first local tequila. While it's not made here (tequila must be made in Mexico to be called tequila), its operations are based here. Dulce Vida is 100-proof, 100% organic, made only from the distilled juice of organic agave plants from Mexico. As proof of its perfection, Dulce Vida's tequila has been winning awards since it was launched. Recently, the Dulce Vida Blanco won the Blanco Gold in 2012's "Fifty Best" category. All Dulce Vida tequilas (except for the blanco), which include the anejo and reposado, are aged in American whiskey barrels from Maker's Mark or Jim Beam.

Paula's Texas Spirits (Texacello)

5214 Burlison Road; 512-693-4332
www.paulatexaspirits.com

Founded in 2003, Paula's Texas Spirits is known for its Paula's Texas Orange and Paula's Texas Lemon liqueurs. These are great for cocktails and margaritas that need light, fresh, or zesty flavors. Both liqueurs were inspired by Italy's limoncello, but with a Texas twist. Paula lists several cocktail recipes on her website for those looking for the classics or a bit of adventure.

Pepe Zeveda Z Tequila International

855-983-7845; www.pepeztequila.com

Pepe Zeveda says, "Our award winning 100% pure Agave tequilas are among the best in the world and they only taste like you can't afford them." Z Tequila comes in three types: Blanco, Reposado, and Anejo. The Blanco certainly showed it was one of the best in the world, winning the Double-Gold medal in the 2012 San Francisco World Spirits Competition. Z Tequila has events and news constantly updated on their website so give them a try and see if you become a devotee.

Republic Tequila

www.republictequila.com

Republic Tequila is known for its ultra-premium, blue agave tequila, which is organic and hand crafted. The agave that Republic uses is estate-grown blue agave from the town of Arenal, Jalisco, Mexico, and is carefully cultivated and allowed to mature for 8 to 10 years. A careful harvest, aging process, and attention to detail have resulted in award-winning tequilas. The Plata, Reposado, and Anejo won double-gold, silver, and bronze medals in 2014 – respectively. Check their website for retailers that sell Republic's tequila.

Still Austin Whiskey Co.

440 East St. Elmo Road;
www.stillaustin.com

Still Austin Whiskey Co. was the first whiskey distillery in Austin city limits since Prohibition. As one of the rare birds of distilling, they're a 100% "grain to glass" distillery where everything is done in-house: milling, mashing, fermenting, distilling,

NEARBY SPIRITS

Balcones Distillery

Waco | balconesdistilling.com

Distillers of fine spirits and whisky the proprietors claim not to just make whisky in Texas, we make Texas whisky. This Texas whiskey is what earned Balcones the honor of 2014 Craft Distiller of the Year by Icons of Whiskey America. Seven offerings from corn whiskey to a special release bottles await your favorite mixer or to just have it neat. Tours are available Monday-Friday by appointment, so just give them a call and let them know you're coming by.

Garrison Brothers Distillery

Hye | garrisonbros.com

An artisan distillery dedicated to making only the finest Texas Bourbon and producing only a few hundred barrels each year, Garrison Brothers' flagship bourbon is its Texas Straight Bourbon Whiskey, Signature 2008 Vintage. Current bourbon offerings include vintages of The Flagship, The Young Gun, and The Cowboy, recipient of the 2014 Gold Medal "American Micro Whiskey of the Year." Future offerings include the Operation Cadillac, Hye Rye, Texas Opus, and Garrison Brothers' Reserve. Due to the small size of the distillery, tours are reservation-only on Monday-Sunday. Reservations must be made through the website.

Rebecca Creek Distillery

San Antonio | rebeccacreekdistillery.com

Rebecca Creek distillery creates three distinctive spirits: Enchanted Rock Vodka (Peach and Ultra-Premium) and Rebecca Creek Fine Texas Spirit Whiskey. Using water from the Trinity Aquifer, the vodka boasts an artisan production with a smooth finish inspired by its iconic Texas hill Country namesake. The Whiskey is distilled in San Antonio in a traditional copper pot and aged in a charred oak barrel. Free tours are available every Saturday from 12-5pm.

Yellow Rose Distilling

Houston | yellowrosedistilling.com

Founded in 2010, Yellow Rose Distilling is named in honor of Texas history and the role that the "Yellow Rose of Texas" played in the battle of San Jacinto. Officially introduced to the Texas market in 2012, Yellow Rose has already stunned its rivals with an award-winning distillery, including Yellow Rose Blended Whiskey, winner of the 2013 Double Gold Medal and "Best in Class." Yellow Roses' whiskeys include Outlaw, Straight Rye, Blended, and Double Barrel Bourbon. If you're interested in wettin' your whistle, tours are \$7 and run Tuesday-Saturday at various times. Check the website for tour times and other events.

barreling, and bottling — right here in the heart of Austin. Enjoy a tour or enjoy a sample in their tasting room.

Tito's Handmade Vodka

8119 Exchange Drive
512-243-2755; www.titosvodka.com

One of Austin's first vodka producers, Tito's Handmade Vodka is made at the company's Mockingbird Distillery in Austin. Distilled six times, Tito's is a perennial Austin favorite and, as with other spirits listed, is available at area bars and package stores. They don't host tours anymore, but visit their website for area events and recipes, or follow them on Titos Tweets.

Treaty Oak Distilling

www.treatyoakdistilling.com

Treaty Oak Distilling is named after the famous Treaty Oak, one of the oldest historical trees in Austin that survived a vicious poisoning in 1989. The tree survived, and Treaty Oak Distillery has embraced that same determination. Award-winning offerings include many distinct and successful brands: Treaty Oak Rum, Waterloo Gin, Red Handed Bourbon Whiskey, Grahams Texas Tea, and Starlite Vodka.

DRIPPING SPRINGS

Dripping Springs Vodka by San Luis Spirits

5330 Bell Springs Road; 512-858-1199
www.drippingspringsvodka.com

San Luis Spirits, a family-owned distillery in Dripping Springs, launched the company and their flagship product Dripping Springs Vodka in 2007. They were the second distiller in the state of Texas, and have since launched 5 additional products, including Dripping Springs Orange Vodka, Well No 1876 Vodka, Dripping Springs Artisan Gin, Dripping Springs Traditional Gin and most recently their 1876 Texas Straight Bourbon Whiskey in September 2017. The company distills their vodkas and gins in 50-gallon batches in copper pot stills and finished their Dripping Springs product line and 1876 Bourbon with

a signature, mineral-rich artesian Hill Country spring water. Dripping Springs Vodka is so smooth, that it is the only North American vodka to win the Vodka Purity Trophy from the International Wine & Spirits Competition in the 48 years since the competition's founding. For information on tours, tastings and special events, visit their website.

MANOR

White Hat Rum

16525 Decker Creek Drive
www.whitehatrum.com

White Hat Rum offers premium Texas rum that is hand crafted, made in small batches, and oak barreled in Manor, Texas. They use South Texas molasses and add natural spring water before they put their product to rest in good 'ol American Oak.

PFLUGERVILLE

Spirit of Texas Independent Distillery

1715 Dalshank Street Suite A
www.spiritoftx.com

The Spirit of Texas Independent Distillery is the newest entry to the Austin spirits scene, only offering two full-bodied rums: its signature Pecan Street Rum and Straight Silver Rum. The distillery posts an Elixir of the Day, a daily recipe featuring one of its two rums. Events and tours are currently available at the distillery.

SPICEWOOD

Crystal Creek Moonshine

804 Bee Creek Road, Suite F
512-825-8384
www.crystalcreekmoonshine.com

Inspired by the Roarin' 20s, Shane Berber and Sam Wakefield founded Crystal Creek Moonshine to distill liquors that were perfect for drinking, but had a unique taste and embodied the highest quality. Moved by the significant need of communities in Ethiopia, Crystal Creek donates a percentage of all of its profits to help build water wells and provide clean drinking water to communities in need. Check the website for info on upcoming events and available merchandise. ●



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DRIPPING SPRINGS



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www.drippingspringsvodka.com



Central Texas WINERIES

Although not widely known for its vineyards, Texas has a growing wine industry with over 220 bonded wineries across the state. Many of these are right here in the Austin area.



Photo by Charles Reagan Hackleman courtesy of Austin Food + Wine Festival

For centuries before the arrival of Europeans, native grapevines flourished in the area now known as Texas. When the Spanish missionaries arrived in the 1600s, they planted vineyards near El Paso. In the 1800s several settlers grew grapes in South and Central Texas. They were most successful with native varieties. In the 1880s, an insect pest devastated the French wine industry. T.V. Munson of Denison, Texas helped save France's wine industry by introducing hardy, pest resistant native Texan varieties. By hybridizing native Texas varieties of grapes with other varieties from around the world, Munson developed 300 disease-resistant new varieties suitable for Texas and the Southwestern United States.

There were twenty-five wineries in Texas by 1900, including Val Verde Winery in Del Rio, which was established in 1883. Texas wineries closed during Prohibition. Many reopened when Prohibition was repealed, but only Val Verde succeeded in remaining open. Today it is Texas' oldest winery still in operation. Beginning in the 1970s, the Austin area became the home for several new, successful vineyards. In 1975 Fall Creek Vineyards, in Tow about 61 miles northwest of Austin, was the first vineyard and winery to be established in the Hill Country. This award-winning winery is delightful to visit. Take a tour, taste the wines and have a picnic. You can even go for a boat cruise on Lake Buchanan.

Austin area wineries spread out across the Hill Country from Dripping Springs to Fredericksburg and Kerrville. Because many are clustered together you can easily plan a trip to see several in one day. Texas Wine Trails featured many events throughout the year. For a package price you receive entrance to several wineries within easy driving distance of each other. The packages include tasting and much more. Solara Estate is the winery closest to Austin. Located in Dripping Springs, this award winning vineyard features glorious views. Bell Springs Winery, also in Dripping Springs, was established in 2009 and features a friendly, down-home atmosphere.

From the small, down-home vineyards to wineries with Tuscan-style tasting rooms and splendid facilities, the Austin area has it all. Visit some Austin wineries and see for yourself.

BEND

Alamosa Wine Cellars

www.alamosawinecellars.com

Mediterranean style wines from Texas grapes. Enjoy the gift shop with gourmet items, the picnic area and veranda. *Established 1996*

BURNET

Perissos Vineyards and Winery

www.perissosvineyards.com

An hour's drive from Austin, Perissos is surrounded rolling granite hills. Enjoy the wonderful wines produced by this family-owned winery. *Established 2005*

COMFORT

Bending Branch Winery

www.bendingbranchwinery.com

This boutique winery uses sustainable practices and organic growing techniques. Tannat is their signature grape. Enjoy their beautiful grounds and their wines. *Established 2009*

Singing Water Vineyards

www.singingwatervineyards.com

Located on the banks of Bruins Creek, Singing Water Vineyards features a tasting room made from a re-modeled 100 year-old barn. Enjoy your wine with a picnic lunch. *Established 1993*

CYPRESS MILL

McReynolds Winery

www.mcreynoldswines.com

McReynolds' handcrafted Texas table wines have won awards. Come enjoy the winery and picnic area. *Established in 1995*

DRIFTWOOD

Driftwood Estate Winery

www.driftwoodwine.com

This winery features Mediterranean style wines with a gorgeous hilltop view of the vineyard. Weddings and private parties are welcome. Enjoy the gift shop and picnic area. *Established 2002*

Duchman Family Winery

www.duchmanwinery.com

Enjoy wines from Italian varietals grown in this slice of Hill Country heaven. Visitors

enjoy wonderful views of the vineyards, along with romantic gardens. Twenty-five miles from downtown Austin. *Established 2004*

Wimberley Valley Winery

www.wimberleyvalleywine.com

Wimberley Valley Winery is one of the older wineries in the Austin area and is between Austin and San Antonio. Enjoy a glass of wine by the cozy fireplace or a picnic among the oaks. *Established 1983*

DRIPPING SPRINGS

Bell Springs Winery

www.bellspringswinery.com

A laid back atmosphere includes the owners' two dogs which have run of the area. In addition to tasting the wines you are welcome to roam the tree-sheltered grounds, have a picnic, and bring your own dogs if they are animal-and people-friendly.

Solaro Estate

www.solaroestate.com

Award winning Solaro wines are produced in Dripping Springs, near Austin. Enjoy great wine and gorgeous views. *Established 2005*

FREDRICKSBURG

Chisholm Trail Winery

www.chisholmtrailwinery.com

This winery, nine miles west of Fredericksburg features a saloon-style tasting room, and The Oval Oven, a restaurant serving wood-fired gourmet pizza. *Established 2001*

Fiesta Winery Fredericksburg

www.fiestawinery.com

Enjoy Fiesta Winery's tasting room in historic downtown Fredericksburg. *Established 2012*

Fredericksburg Winery

www.fbgwinery.com

Offering dry, semi-dry, medium sweet, sweet, and dessert wines. *Established 1996*

Grape Creek Vineyards

www.grapecreek.com

Awarding winning wines and a beautiful Italian Villa tasting room with tree-shaded patios overlooking the vineyards. *Established 1983*

Rancho Ponte Vineyardwww.ranchoporte.com

The Ponte family is continuing five generations of winemaking which began in northern Italy. In 2009 the family moved their small, family-run winery from California to the Hill Country of Texas. Enjoy the lovely tasting room and hospitality. *Established 2009*

Santa Maria Cellarswww.santamariacellarswines.com

Santa Maria Cellars is owned by Martin Santamaria, who has a Masters Degree in Viticulture and Oenology from the University of Bologna and served as the winemaker at Dry Comal Creek for five years. His winery produces five varietals ranging from sweet to dry. *Established 2006*

HYE**Hye Meadow Winery**www.hyemeadow.com

One of Texas' newest wineries, Hye Meadow features a grove of majestic oaks on 62 acres. You can see how they make their wines. *Established 2013*

William Chris Vineyardswww.williamchriswines.com

Enjoy the tasting room in a century old farmhouse and explore the historic 1800 cemetery beside the oak grove. About



an hour's drive from either Austin or San Antonio, you are sure to enjoy this beautiful winery. Cheese platters and gourmet picnic lunches are available. *Established 2008*

JOHNSON CITY**Lewis Wines**www.lewiswines.com

Wines from 100% Texas grapes. Open by appointment only. *Established 2012*

Texas Hills Vineyardwww.texashillsvineyard.com

Italian-styled "Wines to Share with Friends" are featured at this fine vineyard. Picnic on the patio and enjoy local artisan cheeses and crackers in the tasting room. *Established 1995*

KERRVILLE**Kerrville Hills Winery**www.kerrvillehillswinery.com

Overlooking the Guadalupe River Valley, this winery's tasting room features many items from the property's original homestead.

LAMPASAS**Texas Legato Winery**www.texaslegatowinery.net

Texas Legato Winery ages its wines in a combination of French and American Oak barrels making them smooth with hints of vanilla and cherry. Enjoy a visit with the owner and winemaker. *Established 2002*

LOMETA**Fiesta Winery**www.fiestawinery.com

This relatively new winery is located on beautiful grounds that have been in the owners' family for six generations. *Established 2010*

ROUND MOUNTAIN**Westcave Cellars Winery**www.westcavecellars.com

Enjoy Westcave Cellars beautiful oak lined grounds while enjoying their fine wines. *Established 2010*

SAN SABA**Wedding Oak Winery**www.weddingoakwinery.com

Wedding Oak Winery's tasting room is located in a beautifully restored 1926 building in downtown San Saba. Enjoy warm weather varietals. *Established 2010*

SISTERDALE**Sister Creek Vineyards**www.sistercreekvineyards.com

Sister Creeks' barrel-aged, award winning wines are crafted in an 1885 cotton gin. *Established 1988*

SPICEWOOD**Spicewood Vineyards**www.spicewoodvineyards.com

Enjoy the tasting room, gift shop and gallery and a picnic on the veranda. Special event facilities are available.

STONEWALL**Becker Vineyards**www.BeckerVineyards.com

Features Bordeaux, Burgundian, and Rhone-style wines. Enjoy tours, tastings, and Lavender Haus Reception Hall, Custom Cellar, and Private Tasting Room. *Established 1992*

Perdernes Cellarswww.pedernalescellars.com

Producing premium Tepranillos and Viogniers, the Pedernales Cellars uses sustainable practices and offers Texas hospitality. Enjoy the tree-covered deck after touring the underground wine-making cellar. *Established 2006*

Woodrose Winerywww.woodrosewinery.com

Woodrose offers restaurant style tastings, with the wine brought to your table. Enjoy the multi-level deck. *Established 1999*

TOW**Fall Creek Vineyards**www.fcv.com

The oldest combination vineyard and winery in the Hill Country, Fall Creek Vineyards has won numerous awards for its fine wines. Enjoy the grounds, taste the wines, have a picnic and perhaps go for a boat cruise on Lake Buchanan. *Established 1975* ●

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ACTIVE ADULTS & SENIOR LIVING



Long gone are the days of mandatory retirement at age 65, and with it, the idea that one's golden years were to be spent simply sitting quietly on the front porch in a rocking chair as they watch life. To begin with, forget about that rocking chair – how does a morning spent working out in the gym or pedaling along the hike and bike trail sound?

in this section

- active adult communities
- retirement & assisted living
- resources for seniors
- area senior centers
- volunteer opportunities

As for the front porch, seniors in Austin, Texas find that they have a wide variety of housing options that can accommodate their budget, while enjoying their lifestyle in a community that encourages the development and pursuit of their personal interests, goals and activities.

With Austin ranking number one as the “Best Place to Live” by *US News and World Report*, anyone can bet that when it comes to finding a place to retire, Austin is second to none. In fact, even many Austin-area suburbs rank highly on the Niche.com Best Places to Retire in Texas list, such as Round Rock, Austin proper, just to name a few. Due to the warm weather and the solid economy in Texas, more and more seniors are enticed to move here, making Central Texas a prime place to settle down and retire to.

While aging is inevitable, medical advances, as well as healthy lifestyle choices, are responsible for increasing the number of years a person

“Austin offers a wide array of options to accommodate the different requirements and lifestyles of its seniors.”

may live, as well as improving that person's lifestyle. The result is that the demographics of seniors in Austin, Texas have undergone some significant changes: the term “senior” may describe an active person in his/her late 50's, or someone in his/her early 80's. Baby Boomers now entering the senior arena are faced with the responsibility of preparing not only for their own retirement, but with making retirement and housing plans for their elderly parents as well.

Fortunately, Austin offers a wide array of options to accommodate the different

requirements and lifestyles of its seniors. From upscale retirement communities offering residents a choice of social, cultural, travel and sporting opportunities to active seniors, to full-care facilities specializing in caring for the elderly with mental and physical disabilities, there is a senior citizen living solution to fit every need.

TAKING STOCK OF YOURSELF

When making retirement housing plans, there's no denying that the number and diversity of choices available might make the process feel overwhelming. Begin by taking

ACTIVE ADULT COMMUNITIES

AUSTIN

The Atria at the Arboretum	9306 Great Hills Trail	512-549-4218	www.atriaseniorliving.com
Longhorn Village	12501 Longhorn Parkway	512-266-5600	www.longhornvillage.com
Overture Arboretum	10600 Jollyville Rd.	512-201-2719	www.liveoverture.com/communities/austin-arboretum/
Overture Domain	3100 Kramer Ln.	512-271-5697	www.liveoverture.com/communities/austin-domain/
Overture Mueller	4818 Berkman Drive	512-271-6264	www.liveoverture.com/communities/austin-mueller/

GEORGETOWN

Heritage Oaks	4805 Big Bend	512-241-1300	www.heritageoaksgt.com
Mariposa Apartment Homes	121 River Bend Drive	512-930-4242	www.mariposaapartmenthomes.com/welcome-to-river-bend/
Sun City Texas by Del Webb	1501 Sun City Blvd.	512-729-1228	www.suncitytexas.com

HORSESHOE BAY

Tuscan Village	311 Mayapple Rd.	512-920-0395	www.tuscanvillage.com/location/horseshoe-bay
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LAKEWAY

Tuscan Village at Lakeway	106 Bella Toscana Ave #3108	512-327-1200	www.tuscanvillage.com/location/lakeway
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ROUND ROCK

Heritage at Vizcaya	5000 Pietra Lane	737-209-8650	www.heritageatvizcaya.com
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SAN MARCOS

Kissing Tree	201 Kissing Tree Lane	512-456-3787	www.kissingtree.com
Mariposa Apartment Homes	2600 Hunter Rd.	512-392-9588	www.mariposaapartmenthomes.com/hunter-road/

a personal inventory that takes into account personal living expenses, health, interests and expectations.

Budget Inventory: Make a list of monthly expenses, from rental or housing fees to day-to-day living expenses such as dry cleaning and energy bills to current or anticipated medical expenses. The point is to be realistic about everyday expenses now, so there are no rude surprises later.

Lifestyle Inventory: Active golf enthusiasts, for example, might want close proximity to a local golf course. Those who want to use this time for community involvement might want to live close to schools, churches or community centers, while others who want to continue developing and pursuing an active lifestyle might want easy access to hike and bike trails, fitness centers, etc. Again, being realistic on the front end helps determine smart choices that can only benefit later.

SHOULD YOU STAY OR SHOULD YOU GO?

Staying Put: Packing up and selling a loved home with so many memories is a difficult decision for many longtime Austin residents. One viable option open to senior homeowners is the reverse mortgage, which allows homeowners to turn the value of their home into cash without having to move or repay the loan each month. Guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD offers seniors a federally insured private loan as a means to provide financial security and supplement social security, meet unexpected medical expenses, make home improvements, and more.

The money from a reverse loan may be paid to the borrower in a variety of ways, from a lump sum to a regular monthly cash advance, as a credit line account or in any combination of the above. Typically, borrowers do not have to pay anything back until they permanently move out of the home, sell, or pass away. Eligibility for most reverse mortgages requires that the home should be owned outright by the applicant, and that the applicant is 62 years of age or older. (Visit AARP's website and use their Reverse Mortgage Calculator: (www.rmaarp.com).



A reverse mortgage offers retirees a distinct advantage. Since most lenders require that borrowers have some sort of income so they can determine a borrower's ability to pay back the loan, many retired seniors simply cannot qualify for a traditional home equity loan. But a reverse mortgage does not require monthly payments, and therefore no minimum amount of income is required for the loan application. Most reverse mortgages require no repayment as long as the owner, or any co-owner, lives in the home.

The best way to determine if a reverse mortgage is the best fit for one's retirement plan is to honestly assess the following:

- How much would the home sell for on today's market?
- What would the cost be to buy and maintain, or rent, a new home?
- Would there be any money left over from the purchase of a new home that could be safely invested?
- What are the options for downsizing into a less expensive home, renting an apartment, or moving into an assisted living or alternative senior housing situation?

Jumping into borrowing money for a reverse mortgage is not advised until looking into

all of these senior living options. By being honest about current needs and housing trends, and exploring all the options, seniors can rest easy that they have selected the best housing choice that custom fits their particular budget and lifestyle needs.

Pack It Up: Being realistic about your life, finances and longevity is a must if you decide to move to another community, says Calvin Chamness, real estate agent/ developer and builder with JW Development Inc. "You have to think about your health and your future," advises Chamness, "and expand your thinking beyond the average life expectation. Make sure that you're close to hospitals and doctors that can provide you with the best care. Do they accept your insurance? All of this needs to be considered when moving from your current circle of friends and community to a new area. This is where a real estate agent can really help a person or family trying to find a retirement situation for someone, as they have access to the most current facts and figures to help you make an informed decision."

"Many who are making these decisions for themselves need to learn to be a little bit selfish," says Chamness. "I mean, be selfish in a *good* way," he laughs. "Move to a community or area that *you* enjoy. Many of my senior-aged clients are downsizing their lifestyles and selling a home they've owned for 30 years.



They're trading down in price range, want to be in a good area and need to select a home that's a good investment for them. If your health is good, and you're reasonably active, you also want an area with residents of a similar age and situation – just like you, they've raised their kids, have a lot of interests and a lot to talk about, and can help each other.”

SENIOR HOUSING OPTIONS

The Department of Housing and Urban Development estimates that private senior care housing can range in cost from \$20,000 to \$200,000 per year, depending on the services and degree of care offered by a facility. Many senior care housing communities employ medically trained staff, and provide housekeeping and meal preparation services, as well as transportation for shopping, medical visits, and social outings. HUD also notes that as Baby Boomers approach their own retirement years, the trend toward creating active retirement communities where residents are involved and physically active will continue, and seniors are encouraged to live as independently as they are capable of handling.

“The time to begin thinking about a retirement community isn't when you have to have it,” advises Terry Martinez with Parmer Woods Retirement & Assisted Living. “The time to think about it is when you don't need it. There are not enough retirement communities to

keep up with the demand, and you want to be sure that you know your options and what's available beforehand.”

Martinez says that more than 60 percent of her facility's residents are not from Austin, but have moved here when their adult children have decided to relocate to Central Texas. Martinez also credits the Internet as a source for families to learn more about retirement communities, check on specific programs and associated costs.

“When you're trying to stay within a particular price range, you want to match your living requirements with services offered,” she says. “If someone's parents are very independent and don't need assistance – they just want a meal plan, for example – then the associated costs are much less than for someone's parents who require more care.”

“Remember”, says Martinez, “Medicare generally does not pay for long-term care, only for services deemed medically necessary that are provided by a skilled facility or home health care that meets certain conditions. Medicaid will pay for certain health services and nursing home care for older people with low incomes and limited assets. Optimally, the selected community should have someone on staff familiar with the requirements and criteria of both programs.”

ACTIVE SENIOR HOUSING COMMUNITIES

Many seniors find that they simply do not want to worry about the upkeep and maintenance of a home, preferring to spend their leisure time in other ways. Independent seniors in good health may find that they need nothing more than a community where they can fully enjoy pursuing their personal interests. For them, moving to an active independent living retirement community might be the best fit for their budget and lifestyle, where options include renting an apartment or the outright purchase of a property in a senior community.

Many active senior communities have information packets that may be requested in advance, and offer tours of the community itself. A personal visit will give valuable, first-hand information and an opportunity to visit

with current residents who can offer their own experiences and provide an insider's view on the community. Be sure to determine that personal interests and pursuits are offered, such as health and fitness programs, organized activities, sports, etc. Other day-to-day living arrangements should also be considered, such as shopping centers and grocery stores within easy walking distance, or are transportation services provided? Where is the community located in proximity to major health care providers? And, what security measures are in place for residents? For ultimate peace of mind, some seniors rent a home under a short-term agreement at first to make sure the community provides for their needs and lives up to their expectations.

CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

A Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) offers 360-degree care in residential community for seniors, with a full menu of services and living situations. Residents at a CCRC may move between independent living, assisted living and nursing home care, depending on their individual, changing needs. Seniors electing to live in a CCRC (also known as “Life-Care Facilities” and “Life-Care Communities”) contract with the community in advance for a lifetime commitment to provide care, regardless of their future health and needs. They then live in the residential community for the remainder of their lives, and are placed within a living situation appropriate to their needs and abilities.

Seniors or family members of seniors who are concerned about future security find CCRCs a safe bet, addressing any worries about future health problems down the road and alleviating any concerns about hidden costs along the way. A CCRC generally offers seniors a contract or contracts that provide a continuum of care that includes access to housing, services, and health care for more than one year, or the balance of their lives. Usually, it is a wise idea for seniors to move into a CCRC sooner rather than later, as most CCRCs require that new residents be capable of living independently when they first move in.

There are a number of contract options offered by CCRCs to seniors and their

RETIREMENT & ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITIES

(RET) RETIREMENT/
INDEPENDENT LIVING
(SMF) SKILLED
NURSING FACILITY
(AL) ASSISTED LIVING
(RSP) RESPITE CARE
(ALZ) ALZHEIMER'S
CARE

				(RET) RETIREMENT/ INDEPENDENT LIVING	(SMF) SKILLED NURSING FACILITY	(AL) ASSISTED LIVING	(RSP) RESPITE CARE	(ALZ) ALZHEIMER'S CARE
AUSTIN	Atria at the Arboretum	512-549-4218	www.atriaseniorliving.com	•				
	Brookdale Gaines Ranch	512-721-3100	www.brookdale.com	•		•		
	Brookdale Lohman's Crossing	512-261-6653	www.brookdale.com			•		
	Brookdale North Austin	512-387-6295	www.brookdale.com	•	•	•	•	•
	Brookdale Northwest Hills	512-454-5900	www.brookdale.com	•	•	•		
	Brookdale Spicewood Springs	512-387-6298	www.brookdale.com			•	•	
	Brookdale Westlake Hills	512-328-3775	www.brookdale.com	•	•	•		•
	Buckner Villas	512-836-1515	www.bucknervillas.org	•		•	•	•
	The Conservatory at North Austin	512-600-1532	www.conservatoryseniorliving.com	•				
	Elmcroft of Austin	512-537-6227	www.elmcroft.com	•		•	•	•
	The Heritage at Hunters Chase	512-336-4100	www.surpassliving.com	•				
	Lodge at Merriltown Apartment Homes	512-651-3555	www.thelodgeatmerrilltownapartments.com	•				
	Parsons House Austin	512-436-0432	www.parsonshouseaustin.com	•		•		
	Primrose of Shadow Creek Apartments	512-419-1525	www.primroseofshadowcreek.com	•				
	Westminster Manor	512-454-4711	www.westminstermanor.org	•	•	•		
CEDAR PARK	Lakeline Oaks Retirement Resort	512-782-0262	www.rlcommunities.com	•				
	Pointe at Cedar Park	512-259-6525	www.seniorlifestyle.com	•	•	•	•	•
GEORGETOWN	Wesleyan Retirement Center	512-869-5800	www.wesleyanhomes.org	•	•	•	•	•
LAKEWAY	Brookdale at Lakeway	512-261-3211	www.brookdale.com	•	•	•		•
LOCKHART	Golden Age Home Assisted Living	512-398-2421	www.goldenagehome.com			•	•	
ROUND ROCK	Brookdale Round Rock	512-238-7200	www.brookdale.com			•		•
	Court at Round Rock	512-953-7612	www.seniorlifestyle.com	•	•	•		•
SAN MARCOS	Brookdale San Marcos North	512-392-7200	www.brookdale.com			•		•

families. An extensive care contract is the most expensive, but affords the least risk, providing unlimited long-term nursing care at little or no additional cost for as long as nursing home services are needed by the client. A modified care contract comes with medium financial risk, and provides long-term health or nursing services for a specified period of time, after which, the senior or their guardian is responsible for the additional cost. A fee-for-service contract offers an a la carte approach, requiring that residents pay separately for all health and medical services provided by the facility, as well as long-term care. While a fee-for-service contract is the least expensive contract, it does have the highest risk, as costs can run very high for seniors who require unanticipated extensive care later in life.

The most common element in a CCRC contract is an entrance fee, where regardless of whether the contract is an extensive, modified

or fee-for-service contract, the resident pays a lump sum entrance fee, plus monthly fees thereafter. Another CCRC contract option may require an equity agreement where seniors purchase a condominium or co-op apartment on the property instead of paying an entrance fee. Less commonly found are CCRC contracts where residents pay monthly fees only. Seniors and their families are advised to be sure to read the fine print on the contract carefully to ensure that they are signing an agreement that guarantees the lifetime of services and support over an extended period of time that they are looking for. There are so-called copycat senior-care residences that claim to offer all the benefits of a CCRC, but in reality the services guaranteed by the actual contract fall far short of the claims made by management.

Before signing a contract with a CCRC, seniors should conduct a thorough review of the facility's services, operations and finances,

and determine that the CCRC is appropriate to their needs, lifestyle and expectations. It's also a good idea to ask a family attorney or accountant to review the contract as well. If the contract is found agreeable, ask to spend at least one night and two days at the facility, to test drive the community and make sure it is a good fit. Some points to consider include:

- Are pets allowed in your residence?
- What social, recreational and cultural activities are offered?
- Is food prepared onsite? If so, how is it?
- Are there fitness facilities onsite?
- Is the staff friendly and knowledgeable?
- What healthcare and personal care services are available?
- What preparations have been made for handling medical and evacuation emergency situations?

CENTRAL TEXAS SENIOR CENTERS

CENTRAL	Austin Recreation Center	1301 Shoal Creek	512-476-5662
	Hancock Recreation Center	811 East 41st	512-453-7765
	Hyde Park Senior Center	3901 Speedway	512-465-8382
	Senior Activity Center	2874 Shoal Crest	512-474-5921
EAST	Chalmers Court Senior Center	1801 East 4th	512-477-1643
	Conley-Guerrero Senior Center	808 Nile	512-478-7695
	Dottie Jordan Rec Center	2803 Loyola	512-926-3491
	East Rural Community Center	600 West Carrie	512-272-5561
	Salina Senior Center	1143 Salina	512-477-2414
NORTH	Allen R. Baca Center	301 Bagdad Ave., Bldg 2	512-255-4970
	Gaston Place Senior Center	1941 Gaston Pl	512-926-8955
	Georgian Manor	110 Bolles Cir	512-834-1504
	Northwest Recreation Center	2913 Northland	512-458-4107
	Stonehaven Senior Center	1704 Hart Hart, Georgetown	512-863-5141
	Travis County Community Center	15822 Foothills Farms Loop, Pflugerville	512-251-4168
	Treasure of the Hills Center	408 Ridgewood Drive, Cedar Park	512-331-6000
SOUTH	Montopolis Rec Center	1200 Montopolis	512-385-5931
	South Austin Senior Center	3911 Manchaca	512-448-0787
	South Rural Community Center	3518 FM 973 S, Del Valle	512-247-4407
	West Rural Community Center	8656 W. Hwy 71, Oak Hill	512-854-2130

HELPFUL NUMBERS

CCRCs are an excellent option for those who are independent and in good health, but might need some assistance with daily living needs or require skilled nursing care. The variety of housing offered by CCRCs is varied as well, ranging from ultra-urban high-rise apartment communities to cottages, townhouses, duplexes or even single-family homes located in a beautiful, natural setting.

ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITIES

An Assisted Living Community (ALC) bridges the gap for seniors who need assistance with daily activities as a nursing home might offer, but wish to live as independently as they are capable of living for as long as possible. Residents in an ALC are unable to live by themselves, but do not require constant supervision. An ALC offers its residents assistance with eating, bathing, dressing, laundry, house-keeping, and keeping track of medications. They often have centers for medical services, but typically do not offer the extensive medical services provided by a nursing home. An ALC is not a substitute for a nursing home, but rather is a stepping stone between complete independence and service provided by a nursing home.

Often, an ALC will create an individualized service plan for seniors upon admission, detailing personal services that will be provided to the resident. This plan is periodically reviewed and updated to provide the correct care each resident receives. Housing in an ALC may be studio or one-bedroom apartments with small kitchen facilities. Typically, ALC housing units have group dining facilities and common areas where residents gather to enjoy social and recreational activities.

An ALC may be licensed as a “Type A” or “Type B” facility, says Martinez. “A facility with a Type A licensing means that the residents are mentally and physically able to vacate the building without assistance within 15 minutes,” says Martinez. “A Type B certification means that residents require assistance to vacate the building within 15 minutes. Our facility is licensed for Type B, as we are also certified to care for residents with Alzheimer’s Disease.”

“Your first impression of an Assisted Living Community is the most important,” says

AAA Transportation.....	512-444-4757
AARP Chapter Services.....	866-227-9799
AARP Foundation	512-391-9299
AARP Homebound Tax Svc.....	800-368-5779
Abuse and Neglect	800-252-5400
Adult Daycare	800-989-8137
Adult Protective Services.....	800-252-5400
Al-Anon Family Group	512-441-8591
Alcoholics Anonymous	512-327-9927
Alzheimer’s Association.....	512-241-0420
American Cancer Society	512-973-9483
American Diabetes Assoc.....	512-472-9672
American Heart Assoc	888-433-7220
American Lung Assoc	512-467-6753
American Liver Foundation.....	602-953-1800
Arthritis Foundation	254-772-9303
Asthma Foundation.....	817-297-3132
Austin Council of the Blind.....	512-452-8244
Austin Recovery.....	512-697-8500
Austin, Social Security Admin	866-627-6991
Better Business Bureau.....	512-445-2911
Capital Area Food Bank.....	512-282-2111
Capital Metro Transportation Authority.....	512-389-7475
Care Planning Council	512-443-7653
Care Planning Council of Texas	800-989-8137
Community Action Programs	512-414-8203
Community Care for the Ages & Disabled	512-908-9529
Department of Human Services.....	512-424-6500
Elderly Care Options	877-434-8675
Employment/Training Admin.....	877-872-5627
Epilepsy Foundation of America	888-606-5353
Family Eldercare, Inc	512-450-0844
Foster Grandparents	512-374-6098
Gray Panthers of Austin	512-458-3738
In Home Services.....	512-623-7800
Home Care 4 Seniors.....	214-621-1969
Lupus Foundation.....	866-205-2369
Meals on Wheels.....	512-476-6325
Medicare.....	800-633-4273
Mental Health America.....	512-454-3706
National Council-Drug Dependence	214-634-2722
National Kidney Foundation–Texas.....	877-543-6397
National Osteoporosis Foundation	800-231-4222
National Social Security Admin.....	800-772-1213
Parkinson’s Foundation	800-327-4545
Report Medicaid Fraud	800-447-8477
Retired and Senior Volunteers (RSVP).....	512-854-7787
Senior Adult Services.....	512-592-3048
Senior Information Services	800-772-1213
Survivors of Suicide	512-560-6115
Texas Council on Family Violence.....	512-794-1133
Texas Civil Liberties Union	512-478-7300
Texas Dept of Aging & Disability Services	512-438-3011
United Ostomy Assoc	800-826-0826
United Way	512-472-6267

Martinez. “What do you see when you get out of the car? How do they take care of the lawn? What is your first impression of the staff? Are the residents properly dressed? How’s the lighting inside the buildings? What activities are available? Are staff members all in the same uniform? Scrubs are not appropriate for an Assisted Living Community, but nametags are important.

“I’m not bragging about our own facility,” says Martinez of her own community, Parmer

Woods Retirement & Assisted Living, “but people comment all the time about that first impression when they walk into my building, go on the tour, and acknowledge that they like what they see.”

NURSING CARE FACILITIES

A Nursing Care Facility (NCF) is a state licensed, private-care facility that provides 24-hour skilled hospital care for residents who do not require hospitalization but cannot be cared for at home. Also called

Long Term Care Facilities, the majority of nursing homes are staffed by caring, trained persons who provide an excellent level of service for their residents.

It pays to shop around when selecting a NCF. Seniors should consult with a trusted doctor or health care practitioner for recommendations of nearby facilities. Plan on visiting at least four or five area facilities, and make an appointment with the administrator or director of nursing. Check to make

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR SENIORS

Austin Groups for the Elderly / Elderhave Adult Day Care	512-451-4611	www.ageofaustin.org
Aging Services Council of Central Texas (ASCCT)	512-414-0323	www.agingervicescouncil.org
Accountable Aging, Inc.	512-342-9800	www.accountableaging.com
Alzheimer's Association, Capital of Texas Chapter	800-272-3900	www.alz.org/texascapital
Area Agency on Aging of the Capital Area	888-622-9111	www.aacap.org
Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services	512-974-2000	www.austintexas.gov/department/health
Capital Metro	800-474-1201	www.capmetro.org
The Care Communities	512-459-5883	www.interfaithcarealliance.org
Catholic Charities of Central Texas	512-651-6100	www.catholiccharities.org/tag/senior-services/
Faith in Action Caregivers		www.faithinactioncaregivers.org
Family Eldercare	512-450-0844	www.familyeldercare.org
Gray Panther of Austin	512-458-3738	www.graypanthersaustin.org
Greater Austin CARES	512-825-1868	www.greataustincares.org
Helping the Aging, Needy and Disabled / H.A.N.D.	512-477-3796	www.handaustin.org
Jewish Family Services	512-250-1043	www.jcaaonline.org
Meals on Wheels and More	512-476-6325	www.mealsonwheelsandmore.org
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program	512-854-7787	www.rsvpaustin.org
St. David's Community Health Foundation	512-879-6600	www.stdavidsfoundation.org
Texas Department of Family and Protective Services Adult Protective Services	800-252-5400	www.dfps.state.tx.us/Adult_Protection/
Travis County Health and Human Services & Veteran Services	512-854-4100	www.traviscountytexas.gov/health-human-services/
United Way Capital Area	512-472-6267	www.unitedwaycapitalarea.org

sure that information provided is consistent with information gathered during the facility tour. Discrepancies between provided information and your own observations indicate possible problems later on. A nursing care facility should have clean floors, and a clean smell. Facilities with dirty floors and a sour smell do not put a high priority on cleanliness, and should not be considered.

Ask to see the compliance survey report prepared by the State of Texas on the considered facility. The report will list deficiencies found in resident care during routine inspections, and the facility's effort to correct the problem. Under Texas law, nursing homes must make this and other survey compliance reports available upon request, as well as provide an accessible and well-lit place for review.

Another option available is to call the Texas Department of Human Services at 800-458-9858. While state law prohibits agency employees from recommending one facility over another, they can answer the following TDHS recommended questions about any such facility:

- Have there been any proposed license terminations in the past two years?
- How many complaints have been filed in the past year?
- How many complaints in the past year have been found to be valid?
- How many deficiencies have been cited in the past two years?
- How many "quality of care" violations have been cited in the past two years?
- When did TDHS last visit the facility, and what was the purpose of the visit?
- Has the owner of this facility had other facilities recommended for license termination?

The answers to these questions, combined with observations and impressions made during facility tours and staff interviews will ease the task of selecting the right nursing care facility.

ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA CARE FACILITIES

Residents diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or another form of dementia need specialized care. Assisted Living Facilities offer services and separate facilities for residents with early onset symptoms, but because of the progressive nature of the disease, it may become necessary to transfer the resident to another facility that can provide more appropriate care.

Facilities specializing in the treatment of Alzheimer's and dementia should provide

a treatment plan that takes into account not only the resident's medical needs, but also the needs of the entire family with social services and professional consultations and individualized treatment reviews. Emphasis within the facility should be placed on providing a calming, soothing environment that is sensitive to the needs of the patient.

Please visit the Area Agency on Aging of The Capital Area at www.aaacap.org for additional information on care for the elderly. ●

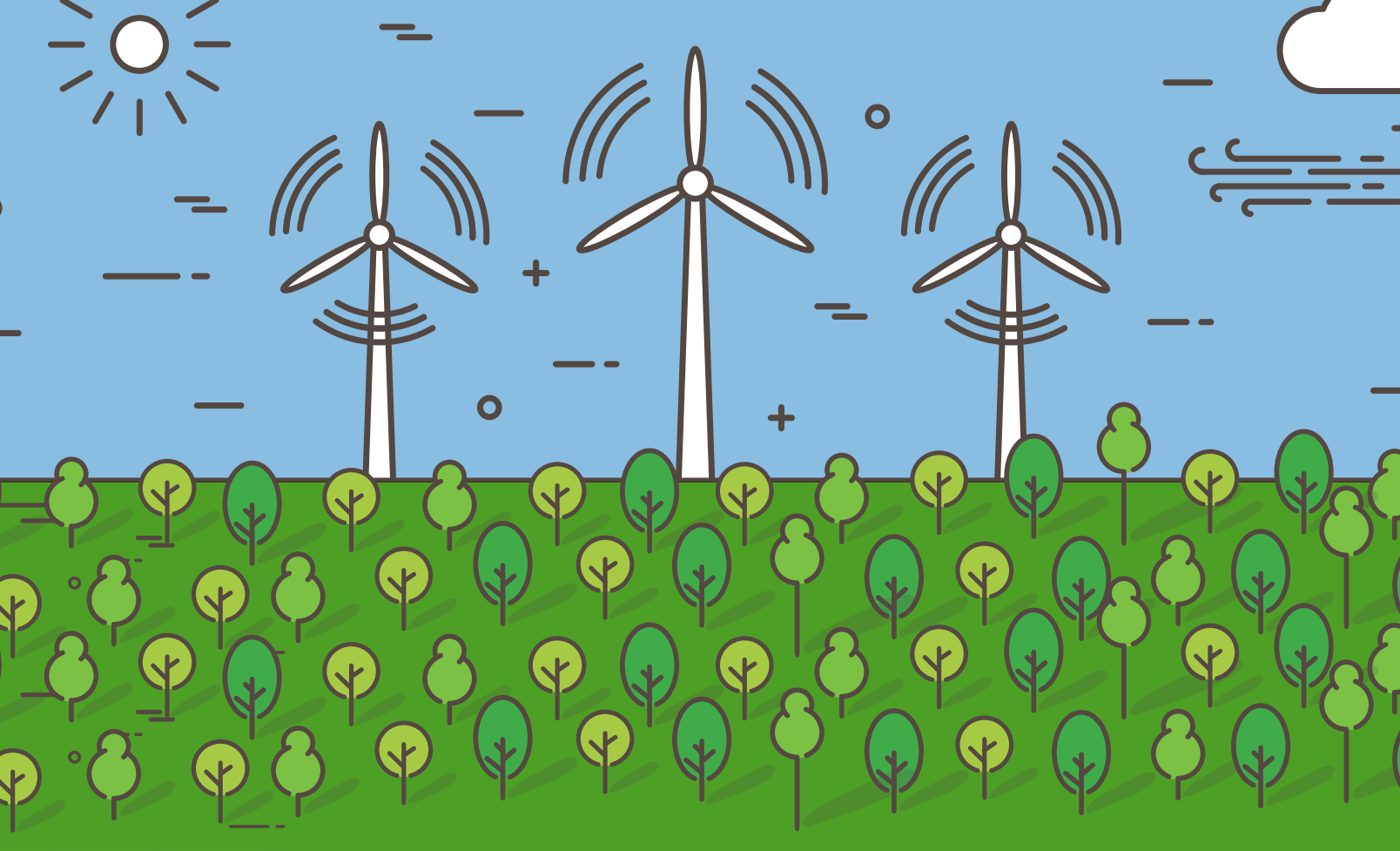
SENIOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Retirees across Central Texas continue to give back to the community through business and volunteer work. Some serve as corporate board members; others contribute their time to church, art and human services. Austin deeply appreciates the work of its generous seniors and welcomes senior volunteers in a host of senior service organizations, including:

Elgin Caregivers:	512-661-8294
Georgetown Caregivers:	512-868-9544
North Central Caregivers:	512-453-2273
Northeast Austin Caregivers:	512-459-1122
Pflugerville Caregivers:	512-538-1152
Round Rock Caregivers:	512-310-1060
South Austin Caregivers:	512-445-5552
Southwest Austin Caregivers:	512-364-6501
West Austin Caregivers:	512-472-6339

Faith In Action Caregivers are volunteers that provide transportation to people who are living at home; the association also has visitation and telephone programs. For more information, visit www.faithinactioncaregivers.org.

Family Eldercare	512-450-0844
Foster Grandparents Program	512-374-6098
Meals on Wheels and More	512-476-6325
United Way/Capital Area's First Call for Help Information and Referral	512-324-1899



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It's kinda like planting 6 million trees.

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708 million kWh of Texas wind.

Make an impact.

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austinenergy.com/go/greenchoice

GETTING SETTLED

The *Austin Relocation Guide* is designed to provide those new to the Austin area with a wealth of information. And, as excited as you may be with your relocation decision, it is still a challenge to settle into any new community. In this article, you'll find relocation tips, based on more than thirty books and extensive personal experience, to smooth your adjustment into the Austin area.

in this section

tips for settling in
utilities & recycling
driver's license &
car registration

LEARN ABOUT AUSTIN, TEXAS

You may find yourself lodged in a hotel or temporary housing until your belongings arrive, and that's a nice opportunity to become familiar with Austin. Austin Relocation Guide is the perfect place to start learning about what this wonderful city has to offer. You can also find additional information at the Austin Visitor's Center, hotels/motels, the airport, and real estate offices (see the Helpful Websites sidebar below).

A walking or bus tour, while fun for the whole family, actually serves to help you become acclimated and learn about the city. You can also visit local points of interest such as museums, parks and exhibits; enjoy a concert; and try out restaurants featuring local cuisine. Check out any services, activities or organizations that are of particular interest to your family.

SPOUSE CAREER CONSIDERATIONS

One of the biggest challenges of moving is relocating a "second" career. If you, as a spouse, are transferring your job to a home office, then a computer, telephone, e-mail account and fax machine may be all that you will need to get started. However, if your job was not "portable," you might consider a new career, part-time or temporary employment, or perhaps even start your own business.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

American Medical Association	www.ama-assn.org
Monster.com	www.monster.com
American School Directory	www.asd.com
National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies	www.naccrra.org
Elder Care Locator	www.eldercare.gov
American Animal Hospital Association Hospital Locator	www.healthypet.com
Advice for Volunteers	www.serviceleader.org
Parents Without Partners, Inc.	www.parentswithoutpartners.org

Evaluate your skills, accomplishments and greatest strengths when you are planning your next endeavor. A few resources to tap are your spouse's employer, local organizations, real estate offices with "Partner Career Assistance Programs," independent career counselors, your university/college alma mater and, of course, the Sunday edition of the local papers. If you are searching for a job, start networking by telling those you meet that you are looking.

If you have chosen to take a break from your career, consider volunteering your time and

talent. Volunteering to a charitable organization is a wonderful effort as well as a way to meet new people and learn more about the community. Volunteer activities add depth to résumés, but the experience needs to be documented so that the service equates to business expertise. Before you again become fully employed, use any free time to enjoy your new community. Refer to the Advice for Volunteers website for guidance in selecting a volunteer position and Monster.com for spouse assistance in the *Helpful Websites* sidebar.

SUCCESSFULLY RELOCATING YOUR SMALLEST MOVERS

The majority of relocating families have dependent children. If you are moving with children, you probably researched schools before moving; however, personal school visits will transform the unknown into reality. Visits to new schools to survey the classrooms and meet teachers will go a long way to allay your, and your children's, worries about the new environment.

Listen carefully to each child's concerns—every move can bring new issues to the surface. Encourage your children to maintain contact with former friends, even while trying to make new friends. Exchanging photos, having e-mail access and possibly a cell phone with a camera feature can help bridge the gap between old and new friends during the early weeks in a new location.



DEALING WITH CHALLENGES

Keep in mind that every stage and every age can bring new challenges. Children who sailed through the last move could be in an entirely different place emotionally and physically for this move, so parents cannot assume that a child will ease into the current move. Routinely share accomplishments and challenges with each other and talk about ways to overcome difficulties. Children need to know that even though the parents are responsible for uprooting them, you both have challenges to face, and you need to work together as a family to solve them.

The following signs may indicate that children are struggling with the adjustment: sudden reading difficulties, changes in attention span or study habits, weight loss or gain, altered enthusiasm or energy levels, strained relationships with you or their siblings, or disturbed sleep patterns. Stay closely involved with your children during the early months in a new location so you know how they are feeling, what they are thinking and who their new friends are.

Consider volunteering or get involved with the school so that you can see for yourself how your children are managing. Both adults and children need the stability and comfort of established routines, so keep the same rules, bedtimes, mealtimes, allowances and expectations that you had before moving. Refer to the *Tips for Settling In* sidebar for more great info to help both you and the kids.

CHILDREN AND SAFETY

When children are in an unfamiliar environment, they can easily forget basic safety rules. The following are always a good reminder:

- Keep close to a parent, and take an adult's hand in crowded areas.
- Carry personal identification and phone numbers to contact parents at all times.
- Know where to meet in case families become separated.
- Review street crossing safety guidelines.
- Make sure children understand how to get help safely if they get lost.

TIPS FOR SETTLING IN

- Write down three or four goals to achieve in your new city.
- Continue all your special family celebrations and traditions.
- Share some of your family's special recipes and cultural aspects with new acquaintances and neighbors.
- Keep a log of new experiences and accomplishments.
- Give everyone in the family manageable moving chores (*taking care of practical matters will take the edge off homesickness*).
- Join an athletic or special interest group.
- Get involved in community and/or religious organizations, especially those that sponsor activities, volunteer efforts and programs for newcomers.
- Learn about the local government, issues and politics.
- Most importantly, be patient and take one day at a time.



TIPS FOR RELOCATING A HAPPY PET

Relocating is tough enough without having Fido or Fluffy out of sorts, but there are some things you can do as a pet owner to make sure their transition is as seamless as yours.

First and foremost is getting your pet to your new home safely – and happily. Whether you’re traveling by plane, train or automobile, make sure you pack the basics for your pet – just like you’d pack an overnight bag for yourself and your family – that includes food, water, medicine, and any special toys or blankets,

If you’re going by car, plan for frequent stops for food, water and bathroom breaks – for your pet and for yourself. Resist the temptation to feed Fido or Fluffy while you’re in the car – otherwise you might have an unpleasant accident to deal with somewhere between Weatherford and Waco.

According to PetTravelCenter.com, an online community resource with tips, tricks and resources for “happy pet relocation,” good-to-have items while traveling include a portable kennel, pet travel bowls and any special feeders. They also recommend that your pet’s vaccinations are current before you travel – it’s one less thing you have to worry about when you get to your destination.

Next, it’s absolutely imperative that your pet has proper identification. If your pet doesn’t have a tag or a collar and happens to get out, it could be difficult to get he or she back home. But what happens if your dog or cat won’t wear a collar? Petland of Georgetown, recommends having a microchip surgically implanted as the best way to identify a lost pet. Even after your pet gets used to your new neighborhood, a microchip is still the best way to avoid losing your pet. The microchip is your best chance to get your pet home safely, since animal shelters and other pet centers always scan stray pets to see if there’s a microchip.

Finding a new veterinarian for your pet should also be at the top of the list; city relocation guides are a good resource, as are local pet stores, Humane Societies and animal shelters, such as the Town Lake Animal Shelter www.austintexas.gov/department/aac. It’s also a great excuse to get to know your new neighbors. Neighbors with pets are a great resource and can also give you valuable pet tips specific to your neighborhood.

If you’re looking for assistance in transporting your pet to your new home, try www.petrelocation.com, which provides “worldwide door-to-door transportation services” of all kinds for you and your pet(s).

MEDICAL AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

It is a fact that moving places additional stress on individuals and consequently, they are more vulnerable to accidents or illness, not to mention unexpected flare-ups of chronic health conditions. If an emergency occurs, every second counts; therefore, as a precaution, locate hospitals, pharmacies and physicians that will meet your family’s needs *before an emergency arises*.

Learn the procedures, telephone numbers and access codes for emergency care and always carry medical identification with you. Also, in an emergency, you may forget your new telephone number and/or address so before an emergency arises, program them into your cell phone and place written notes near each telephone in your home, as well as basic directions to your residence. Directions will not only be useful for family members in the early days at your new home, but they will also assist babysitters and visiting relatives.

EMBRACE THE MOVE

Whether or not you have children, or you are married, single or retired, relocating to a new community can ultimately become a wonderful and enriching experience. The suggestions in this article have worked for many relocating families, and they can also help your family become comfortable in your new home.

As an aside, when people learn that I’ve moved 19 times, the response is often “What place did you like best?” My answer is always the same: “Where my family was.” I wish you all the best! ●



About the Author

Beverly D. Roman founded BR Anchor Publishing in 1990 and has written more than 30 international and domestic relocation books. Two of her books won the Employee Relocation Council’s Achievement Award for Special Purpose Programs. Her international newsletter has supported corporations and the military in over 140 countries for more than 18 years. Beverly served from 2002-2004 as founding chairperson for Families in Global Transition, Inc. (FIGT) an organization that focuses on the most critical issues associated with international cultural transitions. Contact her at broman@branchor.com, 904-641-1140 or visit www.branchor.com.

A Moving Timeline

Looks like you've made the big decision to relocate and move to Austin. Before you pack up and head out, there are just a few hints and tips you should be aware of, to make your move to Central Texas a smooth one.



“Organization is the key to having a great moving experience,” says Charlie Morse, General Manager of Ward North American Van Lines. “Any move is stressful, but being prepared makes all the difference in whether you look back later on your move as a wonderful introduction to your new home, or as a very traumatic time.” Morse says that the best moves are the ones that are planned well in advance before moving day. Using an experienced, professional moving service can help you maximize the most of your time, and alleviate your moving anxieties by helping you anticipate potentially tricky situations.

In addition to their expert packing services, professional moving companies often offer additional care protection up front before the big move. “Check with your homeowner’s policy to make sure your items are covered in case something unforeseen happens,” advises Morse. “If they aren’t, you can often buy additional coverage from your insurance company, or moving insurance from us. That way, your goods are insured against anything that could happen during transit – including road accidents, tornadoes, lightning and even van fires.”

Remember that a packer’s job is to do exactly that: pack. “The packing team doesn’t pick and choose what goes, they just pack everything,” explains Morse. “They don’t have any bias on what you want to take or not. Often when people do their own packing, they spend valuable time thinking, ‘Do I need this or not?’ It takes our people less time because they don’t worry about that. So, unless you tell them otherwise, everything goes.

As a result of the “everything goes” philosophy of packing, be sure to keep your personal items that you want to take with you on your trip in a “safety zone.” Tell the packers and the movers that these items are going with you, and not to pack them.

As for making sure your possessions arrive on time, Morse says worried soon-to-be Texans should relax. “Many of our trucks are equipped with GPS tracking systems, so all they have to do is plug in your new address and they’ll find you. And, the driver will give you his phone number so you can keep in touch with him in transit along the journey. We do our best to get your possessions from Point A to Point B safely.”

ON YOUR MARK: A FEW WEEKS BEFORE YOU MOVE

Get Rid of It: Once you’ve decided to go for it, make a major purge of all your unnecessary goods and possessions. Have a yard sale, donate your unwanted items for a tax write-off, advertise them in the newspaper or on Craigslist.com. Getting rid of extra things you don’t need makes for a cleaner move, and drops the shipping weight and bulk.

Meet and Greet: If you’re using a moving company, an agent will meet with you at your home and conduct a survey of the items you want to move to your new home. Some of the points your moving agent will review with you include the items you want to move and the items you will leave behind, items that will go into storage, care and handling of items of exceptional value, and

THE 9 MOST FORGOTTEN ITEMS

- 1. Medical Records:** Obtaining copies of your medical records including your dentist, veterinarian and vaccine-immunization information can often be overlooked. In some cases, a notarized letter is required to receive the official documentation.
- 2. School Records:** Your child’s permanent school records are usually required when registering your child at a new school. Often, copies will not be sufficient, and records with a raised seal will be necessary.
- 3. Garage Door Opener:** Many people often forget to take the electric garage door opener out of their car before leaving. Remember to leave the opener for the new tenants or owners.
- 4. Safe Deposit Box Items:** Many people forget to retrieve important documents from their safe deposit box.
- 5. Local Business Errands:** Remember to complete transactions with local businesses (for example, picking up your dry cleaning).
- 6. Your New Address:** In the flurry of preparing for the move, you may often forget your forwarding address – important information when forwarding periodicals and credit card bills, as well as keeping in touch with old friends.
- 7. Spare House Keys:** The collection of spare house keys can often be forgotten. Whether it means getting them from neighbors who kept them, or retrieving them from under the rock next to the front door, don’t forget to gather all sets before you depart.
- 8. Don’t Forget the Pets!** In most cases, moving companies cannot transport animals or plants. Remember to make arrangements for their transfer.
- 9. Cleaning:** Although your focus will be on your new home or apartment, you can’t forget about preparing the old residence for your exit. Remember to leave out cleaning supplies for the final “once over” before closing the door for good, or make arrangements in advance for a service to clean it for you.



items that will need to be disassembled because of size or access out of your residence.

GET SET: A FEW DAYS BEFORE YOU MOVE

Big Ticket Items: Disconnect, defrost and clean refrigerators and freezers, empty the evaporation pan and drain the water reservoir of the automatic icemaker. Leave the door of your fridge, freezer or washing machine open at least 24 hours before loading to allow all moisture to evaporate. Make sure that your stove has been cleaned, and all pots and pans have been removed.

Electric Boogaloo: Electronic equipment requires a little extra tender loving care. If possible, pack your electronics in their original cartons and packing material. If not available, make sure your mover provides professional packing materials. Disconnect your wiring and code it with colored tape to make reinstallation easier at your new location. Back up important files on your computer's hard drive, and if it has a CD-ROM drive, make sure it's disc-free.

Precious Car Go! If your moving company is transporting your vehicle, make sure your car has no obvious fluid leaks, and secure your battery in the mounting bracket. Have your car cleaned so that movers can perform a valid quality inspection on moving day (a dirty car might limit your ability to file a claim on major damage). Make sure that your gas tank has at least 1/8 tank of fuel, and disconnect, disable or turn off all alarm systems. Remove all non-permanent luggage racks, bike racks or ski racks on the exterior of your car, and take out any personal items from your car's interior. And last, but certainly not least, have an extra set of car keys and alarm remote ready to hand over to the moving team, as well as a working phone number where you may be contacted.

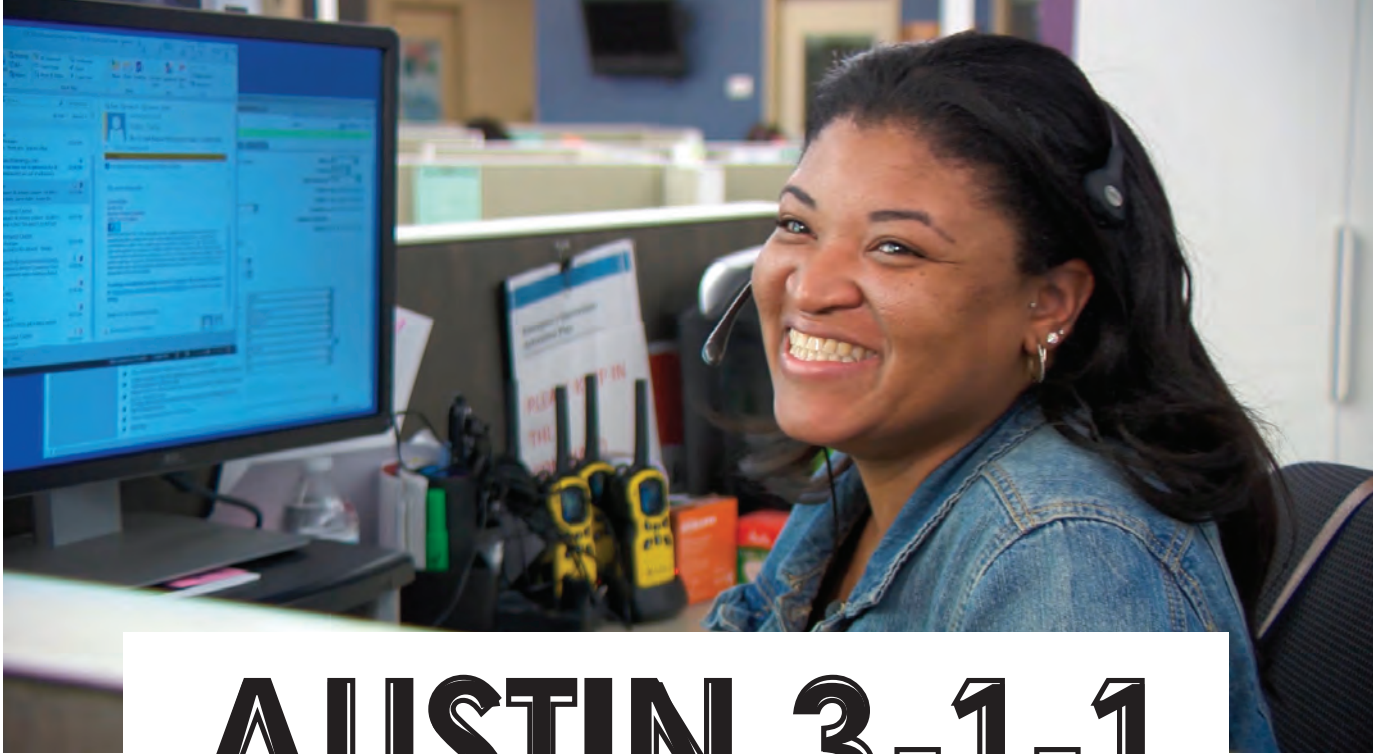
Make Advance Reservations: Depending on where you live, you might need to obtain a parking permit for the moving truck or van. Also, if you live in a high-rise building, you should check to see if you need to reserve use of the elevator.

Smile and File: Gather and organize your important documents in advance and have them ready to go, you never know if you might need access to them in your new home. Never place these items in the trunk of your car. A short list of documents to take with you includes birth certificates, life insurance policies, medical and dental records, real estate documents and school records. Other helpful items include an address book, appliance manuals, appraisals for high-value items, and your copy of the household goods descriptive inventory.

GET GOING! THE DAY OF THE MOVE

Get in the Zone: The safety zone, that is. Anything that you wish to take with you and NOT have packed should be placed within an area that you identify to the movers as the "Do Not Pack – Do Not Move Zone." This would include anything from your important papers and documents, luggage, medications, travel clothing and toiletries, and favorite toys for the kids.

Create a First Night Care Kit: Separate the items you will need the most when you first arrive in your new home and have the movers pack and load them separately so they will be the first to unload in your new home. If you are putting items into storage and you need special items for a temporary living situation, clearly mark and separate these items before the mover arrives. Some items to consider for your First Night Care Kit include alarm clocks, a can opener, first-aid items, clean sheets and pillow cases, toiletries, a flashlight, extension cords, basic tools and hardware from disassembled furniture. ●



AUSTIN 3-1-1

Your First Point of Contact with the City of Austin

Austin 3-1-1 is the city's call center, providing citizens with uncomplicated access to citywide services and information. It all starts by dialing 3-1-1 or 512-974-2000. The goal – provide the best customer service, make Austin a safer community, and the most livable city in the country.

Austin 3-1-1, Your All Day, Any Day, Information Center

24-hours, 7-days a week, Austin 3-1-1 ambassadors are standing by to take citizen calls. Each year, ambassadors handle over one million calls ranging from non-emergency situations to general city information. What can you report? Here's a few examples:

- Police Non-Emergency Issues
- Loose Dogs
- Noise Complaints
- Vehicle Abatement
- Graffiti Removal
- Pothole/Sidewalk Repair
- Illegal Dumping
- Food Complaints
- Water Waste
- Missed Garbage
- Code Violation
- Weeds/Grass Over 12 Inches

Ambassadors are also trained to identify emergency calls that need to be transferred immediately to 9-1-1. No matter the situation, these ambassadors are the first point of contact for residents.

What happens next? After Austin 3-1-1 ambassadors take in all the information needed for the Service Request, it's immediately sent over to the appropriate city department, where staff there will review, investigate and work on taking care of the problem or situation.

If a caller does not speak English, no problem, Austin 3-1-1 is able to engage with an interpretation service that has access to over 200 languages.

Report Via Austin 3-1-1 Mobile App

Don't have time to call Austin 3-1-1? Submit your service request fast and easy with the Austin 3-1-1 mobile app. You'll find the service request you're looking for and fill out the information. The smart phone app is equipped with several features helping citizens report concerns within the City of Austin. One feature allows you to upload pictures of the situation that will be included with the report. This information is then immediately sent to the appropriate city department to review, investigate and work the issue.

Updates were recently made to the mobile app and new Services Requests were added for citizens to choose from. The app, available for Android and iOS, averages 800 downloads monthly. Users can download the app from the Google Play Store or iTunes Store. Download the app today!

Other Ways to Report

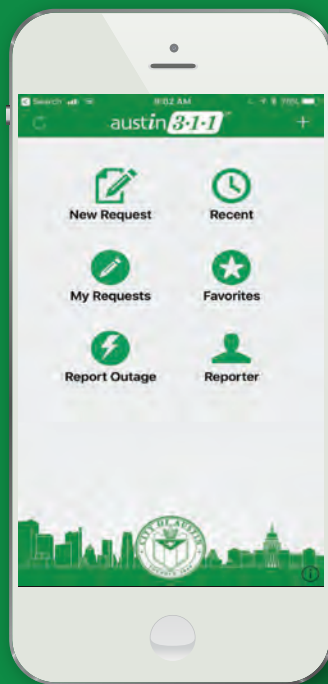
Online Service Request: Dialing 3-1-1 or using the mobile app are just a few ways to contact them and submit a complaint. You can also complete a Service Request online for many City of Austin services. You can also check the status of any 3-1-1 Service Request.

Email: You may also share your concerns, comments or compliments by sending an email at austin311@austintexas.gov

Give Them A Call!

What started as police non-emergency line for the City of Austin in 2001 has grown with the city's population and today serves the thousands of citizens and visitors of Austin year-round. Austin 3-1-1 strives to make Austin safer and more livable, but they can't do it without your concerns and feedback. Call them, email them, or use the Austin 3-1-1 mobile app today and make Austin better together! ●

From Reporting Potholes to Loose Dogs to Noise Complaints.



austin **3-1-1**SM

CALL 3-1-1 OR USE THE APP

newcomer INFORMATION

So you're moving to Austin. Don't worry, we got you. Here is some information such as local utility providers, vehicle registration locations and area transportation that will help the moving process go smoothly.

SETTING UP UTILITIES

Call ahead to have utilities connected at your new home the day before or the day of your scheduled move-in (resources for phone, Internet, cable, gas, electric and other utilities are listed below.) Check to make sure the utilities have been connected, and follow up on any delays. Make sure your phone is connected. Ideally, you should have the phone company hook it up the day before you move in.

Most moving companies advise, that to prevent possible damage, televisions, stereos, computers, other electronic equipment and major appliances should not be used for 24 hours after delivery, allowing them time to adjust to room temperature.

Make sure you have payment on hand for your moving charges. Unless other billing arrangements were made in advance (like with a new company if you're relocating in a corporate move), most moving companies require payment upon delivery in cash, traveler's checks, money order or cashier's check. Personal checks are usually not accepted.

GETTING AROUND AUSTIN

Moving, be it across town or to another state, is a detail-oriented process that is further complicated by the fact that laws and regulations are, more often than not, different in a resident's new home than one's old home. This fact is particularly true when it comes to getting a new driver's license, vehicle registration and vehicle titling. Another of the most important challenges when moving to a new city is learning how to get around learning how to get around, learning how to navigate around new streets, and the location of important landmarks such as the airport. See the following pages for resources to get you all set up and feeling like a local in no time.



ELECTRIC AND/OR GAS SERVICES

Atmos Energy	888-286-6700, Customer Service 866-322-8667, Gas Emergency	www.atmosenergy.com
Austin Energy	512- 494-9400; 888-340-6465	www.austinenergy.com
Bluebonnet Electric	512- 272-8721; 800-842-7708	www.bluebonnetelectric.coop
CenterPoint Energy	512-472-6950	www.centerpointenergy.com
Chevron Corp. (formerly Atlas Energy)		www.chevron.com
Cielo Wind Power	512-440-0305	www.cielowind.com
Entergy	512- 487-3900; 800-368-3749	www.energy.com
Green Mountain Energy	866-301-3120	www.greenmountainenergy.com
Meridian Solar	512-448-0055	www.meridiansolar.com
Pedernales Electric Cooperative	512-219-2602; 888-554-4732	www.pec.coop
TXU Electric	888-399-5501	www.txu.com
Texas Gas Service	800-700-2443	www.texasgasservice.com
Texas Solar Power Company	512-459-9494; 866-459-9494	www.txspc.com

RESIDENTIAL TRASH AND RECYCLING

Austin Resource Recovery	Set up new service: 512-494-9400; General inquiries: 3-1-1; 512-974-2000	www.austinrecycles.com
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RESIDENTIAL TELEPHONE SERVICE

AT&T	800-288-2020	www.att.com
Grande Communications	512-220-4600	www.grandecom.com
MCI Worldcom	800-950-5555	www.mci.com
Time Warner Cable	512-485-5555	www.timewarneraustin.com

INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS

AT&T	800-288-2020	www.att.com
Cox Communications	866-298-1514	www.connectutilities.com
Grande Communications	512-220-4600	www.grandecom.com
Onramp Access	512-322-9200	www.onr.com
PrismNet, Inc.	512-821-2991; 877-803-5634	www.prismnet.com
Texas Networking, Inc.	512-684-9000	www.texas.net
Time Warner Cable	512-485-6000; 800-418-8848	www.timewarneraustin.com

CABLE PROVIDERS

AT&T UVerse	800-288-2020	www.att.com/uverse
DirecTV	800-543-1549	www.directv.com
Dish Network	512-870-8221	www.dishnetwork.com
Grande Communications	512-220-4600	www.grandecom.com
Time Warner Cable	512-485-5555	www.timewarneraustin.com

AIRPORT

Austin-Bergstrom Intl. Airport	3600 Presidential Blvd., 78719 (Located near Texas 71 and 183 South)	512-530-ABIA	www.austintexas.gov/airport
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COMMUNITY TRANSIT

Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Capital Metro)	Serves the cities of Austin, Leander, Lago Vista, Pflugerville, Jonestown and Manor.	512-474-1200	www.capmetro.org
Capital MetroRail	Serves Downtown Austin and its northern suburbs.	512-389-7400	www.capmetro.org/metrorail
Capital Area Rural Transportation System (CARTS)	Serves Round Rock, Pflugerville, Manor, San Marcos, Smithville and others.	800-456-RIDE	www.ridecarts.com
Greyhound Station 916	916. E. Koenig Lane (West of IH-35 and near Highland Mall)	800-231-2222	www.greyhound.com

TAXI SERVICES

American Yellow Checker Cab Company	10315 McKalla Place, Austin	512-452-9999	www.yellowcabaustin.com
Austin Cab Company	1135 Gunter Street, Austin	512-929-3344	www.austincab.com
Ace Taxi	2023 N. Mays Street, Round Rock	512-244-1133	www.acetaxiroundrock.com
Around Austin Inc.	6836 Austin Center Blvd # 250, Austin	512-371-9111	www.around-austin.com
Cabs Agent	4131 Spicewood Springs Road, Austin	512-338-0017	www.cabsagent.com
Hill Country Charter & Limousine	Dripping Springs	512-656-8299	www.hillcountryshuttleservice.com
Lone Star Cab Company	208 W. Powell Lane, Austin	512-836-4900	www.lonestarcabaustin.com
North Austin Taxi and Shuttle Service	1401 AW Grimes Blvd., Round Rock	512-533-7777	www.taxisvc.com
Star Shuttle & Charter	1135 Gunter, Suite 102, Austin	512-479-8100	www.starshuttle.com
SuperShuttle Austin	3600 Presidential Blvd., Austin	512-929-3900	www.supershuttle.com

TRAIN SERVICE

Amtrak	250 N. Lamar Blvd. (5th & Lamar)	800-872-7245	www.amtrak.com
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VEHICLE REGISTRATION OFFICES (BY COUNTY)

Bastrop	803 Pine Street	512-332-7261
	310 Ramona Street, Smithville	512-237-3630
	704 U.S. 290 Suite 100, Elgin	512-285-2282
Caldwell	100 E. Market Street	512-398-1830
	505 E. Fannin Street, Luling	830-875-9207
Hays	102 N. LBJ Dr., San Marcos	512-393-5545
	Mercer Street & Old Fitzhugh Road, Dripping Springs	512-858-5105
Travis	5501 Airport Blvd, Austin	512-854-9473
Williamson	8th and Main, Georgetown	512-943-1601
	211 Commerce Blvd., Round Rock	512-248-3222
	350 Discovery Blvd., Cedar Park	512-943-1602
	412 Vance Street, Taylor	512-238-2140

DRIVER'S LICENSE OFFICES

AUSTIN NORTH:	
216 E. Wells Branch Pkwy., Pflugerville	512-486-2800
AUSTIN SOUTH:	
6425 South Interstate 35, Ste. 180	512-444-5241
BASTROP:	
305 Eskew Street	512-581-7152
GEORGETOWN:	
515 S. Pine Street	512-863-5816
SAN MARCOS:	
1400 N. IH-35	512-353-2770
TAYLOR:	
412 Vance Street #1	512-238-2140

THE OL' IRON HORSE

Vehicle Inspection & Registration



New Texans need a new driver's license within 90 days of arrival. Car inspection, registration, and proof of insurance are all required before a license can be issued. Full-time college students can continue to use the license issued in your home state. Fees for licenses are \$25 and are good for six years. Motorcycle licenses are \$15, and commercial licenses are \$61. Renewals are \$25 for basic and \$8 for motorcycle. Duplicate licenses or change-of-address are \$10 each.

First off, new Texas residents must get their vehicle safety inspected by a Texas Department of Public Safety-accredited local inspection station, which can be found online at www.txdps.state.tx.us/vi/inspection/new_locator.asp.

Depending on the county in which they live, new residents may also have to get an emissions test. Counties around the Greater Austin area that require emissions testing are Williamson and Travis. Testing consists of one of two methods, On-Board Diagnostics (OBDII), which handles 1996 and newer vehicles, and TSI. Should the vehicle fail emissions, motorists can find a local accredited repair facility by visiting www.dps.texas.gov/RSD/VI/consumerinfo/emissionTesting.htm

Upon passing inspection and, if necessary, emissions, motorists must then go to their local county tax office (txdmv.gov/tax-assessor-collectors/county-tax-offices) to register and title their vehicle. Both inspection/emissions and registration/titling must be completed within 30 days of the new residents' arrival. In either case, vehicle owners must present proof of financial responsibility for the vehicle at the time of

testing. In addition, motorists need to bring the following other items with them to the tax office:

- The inspection certification,
- Proof of liability insurance,
- Completed Form 130-U
- The vehicle's odometer reading if it is less than 10 years old,
- An original out-of-state title, proof of registration, proof of sales tax payment or current foreign/military ownership document
- If you do not possess the title to the car because it has a lien, you must also complete Form VTR-272

Motorists should also expect to pay the following fees:

- Registration fee,
- Title application fee of \$28 or \$33, depending on the county
- New resident sales tax of \$90.

Additional fees may be due at the time of registration. In addition, new Texas residents need to be aware that, for their

vehicles to be legal, they must have both a front and back license plate. This is of particular importance to anyone moving from a state that only requires a rear license plate. For more information, contact your county tax office. For information about the new resident tax, contact the Comptroller of Public Accounts.

EXCEPTIONS TO THE RULE

There are two exceptions to the inspection and registration process, however. Active duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces and non-resident, full-time students attending a Texas college or university are not required title or register their vehicles in the state.

BY THE WAY...

It goes without saying that new Texas residents must get a Texas drivers license upon moving to the state. In this case, however, there is a little more breathing room in which to work in that one must attain said license within 90 days of moving to the Lone Star State. For more information, go to www.txdps.state.tx.us/DriverLicense/index.htm.

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