

Sites, Sounds and Fun Around Austin



Auditorium Shores

West Riverside Drive and South First Street

This south shore area of Town Lake hosts a plethora of special events, annual festivals, and concerts. Home of the Stevie Ray Vaughan statue, its open spaces and glistening waters invite kite flyers, picnickers, and sunbathers. Auditorium Shores also feeds into the Hike and Bike Trail encompassing Town Lake.

Austin Children's Museum

201 Colorado Street www.austinkids.org 472-2499
Shop in a kid-sized grocery store, sit in the driver's seat of a real ambulance, or climb the indoor playscape.

Austin Nature and Science Center

301 Nature Center Drive 327-8181
Explore the Eco-Detective Trail, enjoy hands-on learning activities, discover Texas habitat dioramas, and see live mammals, reptiles and birds.

Austin's Park 'n Pizza

16231 N IH-35 www.austinspark.com 670-9600
Pizza plus acres of family fun including miniature golf, batting cages, lazer tag, arcade, bumper cars, go-karts, climbing wall and kiddy attractions.

Barton Creek Greenbelt

Trail Conditions Hotline 472-1267
Beginning at the upper end of Zilker Park and stretching under Loop 360 to just shy of Lost Creek, this greenbelt preserves the rugged beauty of the Hill Country for intrepid hikers and mountain bikers.

Bat Watching

Bat Conservation International www.batcon.org 327-9721
Austin is home to North America's largest urban bat colony. Some 1.5 million Mexican free-tailed bats make their home, from mid March to early November, under the Congress Avenue Bridge spanning Town Lake. At dusk, the bats take flight in an impressive mass exit.

Crowe's Nest Farms

9501 Sprinkle Road 272-4418
This 35-acre farm has more than 100 animals. Fun, entertaining and educational for the whole family. Tour is approximately 90 minutes long.

Hill Country Flyer

..... www.austinsteamtrain.org 477-8468
With refurbished 1920s-era coaches, 1950s Pullman air-conditioned lounges, and a restored 1916 steam engine, the Flyer runs from Cedar Park to Burnet on weekends and also offers one-hour trips from downtown Austin as the River City Flyer.

Inner Space Caverns

4200 South I-35, Georgetown www.innerspace.com 863-5545
A 75-minute walking tour in this huge underground cavern features breathtaking stalactite and stalagmite formations, as well as the remains of mastodons, dire wolves, and other ice-age animals.



Lone Star Riverboat

S. First Street and Congress Avenue bridges 327-1388
This old-fashioned, double-decked paddle wheeler, docked on Town Lake, offers public sight-seeing tours from March through October, as well as private charters.

Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex

1156 Hargrave Street 472-6932
www.myec.net
Enjoy the 50,000-square-foot indoor center's 154-seat movie theatre, 16 bowling lanes, roller skating rink, video arcade area, children's soft-play area, and food court.

Moonlight Towers

These seven-story streetlights, erected in 1895, were advertised to provide "moonlight every night." Seventeen remain downtown today, and they can be located with a map from the Austin Visitor's Information Center.

Schlitterbahn Waterpark and Resorts

400 N. Liberty Street, New Braunfels www.schlitterbahn.com (830) 625-2351
This river-fed delight includes six activity areas ranging from gentle water wave pools and floats down the Comal River to breathtaking coaster-style rides and surfing the Boogie Bahn.



Texas Wildlife Expo

Texas Parks and Wildlife Headquarters, 4200 Smith School Rd. 389-4472
Free family fun features a wide range of hands-on sports and pastimes, from shooting sports and fishing to birding and mountain biking.

Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail

Enjoy this six-mile, continuous loop around Town Lake on foot or on bicycle. The loop, a 10.1-mile trail, travels east of I-35 to Longhorn Dam.

Volente Beach

16107 FM 2769, Leander, Texas 78641(512) 258-5109
A waterpark complete with two 40 ft. slides, kiddy pirate ship and play area, lighted volleyball & basketball courts, three acres of sandy beach, large swimming pools fed by Lake Travis, and a hot tub.

Wonder World

1000 Prospect, San Marcos(512) 392-3760
Wonder Cave, the centerpiece of this park, offers the best view of the geological activity along the 1,800-mile Balcones fault that divides Texas into its two most prominent geographical regions. The park is open March through October.

Westcave Preserve

24814 Hamilton Pool Rd.(830) 825-3442
This educational preserve focuses on ecology and Texas Hill Country history. Public and group tours travel from a live oak savanna overlooking the Pedernales River to a moss-and orchid filled canyon featuring a massive mineral formation with a double waterfall. Behind the waterfall is a series of terraced mineral pools and a small cave.

Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve

805 Capital of Texas Highway www.wildbasin.org 327-7622
Located 3.5 miles south of Lake Austin Bridge, this 227-acre preserve showcases 2.5 miles of trails through woodland, grassland, and streamside habitats. One-half mile is wheelchair and stroller accessible.



Classes Available for The Arts

Kids Acting Studio

5811-B Burnet Rd., www.kidsactingstudio.com
458-5437

Offers kids acting classes year-round with performances at the end of each semester.

Dougherty Arts Center

1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1458

The center offers a wide variety of visual and performing arts programs for all ages. The art school provides multi-disciplinary classes, which include painting and drawing, photography, silkscreen, pottery, acting and dance.

Art School at Laguna Gloria

3809 West 35th Street, www.amoa.org 323-6380

Recently renovated as shown on right, Laguna Gloria offers classes that appeal to children, adults and the child at heart. With a variety of programs and classes, Laguna Gloria has something for everyone.

Austin Sculpture Center

305 East 45th Street, www.tsos.org 371-7606

The center seasonally offers a variety of classes in medium, including clay, plaster, stone sculpture and drawing.

O. Henry Museum

409 East 5th Street, 472-1903

This award-winning, literary arts education program encourages students to improve writing skills and reading comprehension utilizing O. Henry's short stories.