

# Community Profiles





















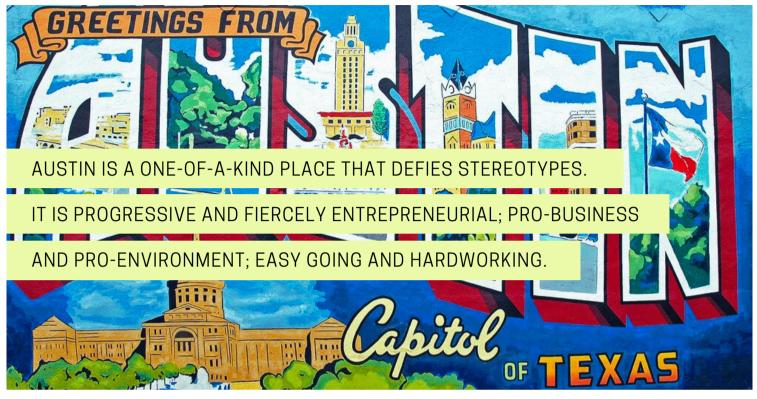






### Austin





### WHY THE AUSTIN REGION?

Austin is a one-of-a-kind place that defies stereotypes. It is progressive and fiercely entrepreneurial; pro-business and pro-environment; easy going and hardworking.

Austin's culture of innovation and creativity is on display every day in "the Live Music Capital of the World." Our international presence continues to grow, as visitors from all over the world convene in Austin to participate in events such as SXSW, Formula 1 United States Grand Prix, and Austin City Limits.

### QUALITY OF LIFE

As a gateway to Texas' famed Hill Country, our gorgeous natural setting offers abundant sunshine and plenty of opportunities to get outdoors for fitness, recreation and relaxation. The Austin region is home to miles of cycling and running trails, rock climbing, river rafting and kayaking, and top ranked golf courses. Why do so many smart, creative and successful people and companies call Austin home? It's more than a great place to work and do business. On top of our thriving economy, we offer unmatched quality of life – for all kinds of people. That unique and engaging Austin character is built on a solid foundation. We're a community that offers a safe environment, solid schools, healthy and charming neighborhoods, and big-city amenities at a small-town pace. It's no wonder so many people come to Austin "temporarily" ... and end up staying.

Our gorgeous natural setting, in one of America's most unique landscapes, offers plenty of opportunities to get outdoors for fitness, recreation and relaxation.

But if you're more the indoor type, we've also got a worldfamous live music scene and equally exciting happenings in the creative and performing arts. In Austin, it's easy to make a habit out of having fun. As Austin takes its place among the world's leading cities, our cultural vitality and lifestyle assets continue to grow. And you can always find your place in Austin – making friends and getting what you want out of life.

Among the region's strong assets is the Central Texas workforce, representing one of the most educated talent pools in the country. In the Austin metro, 46.6% of adults have at least a bachelor's degree, compared to 32.6% nationally, putting Austin in the top 10 among the largest metros. The region benefits from over 50 colleges and universities and 400,000 enrolled students within a 100-mile radius. Our growing workforce is young and eager, with a median age that is over four years younger than that of the rest of the nation.

### EDUCATION OVERVIEW

Highly rated elementary and secondary schools contribute to both quality of life and beginnings of exceptional labor pools to come. Austin area households enjoy diverse options in education, including 29 public school districts, 27 charter school districts, and over 100 private schools. The University of Texas and 26 other public and private universities and colleges with a combined enrollment of nearly 180,000 provide an ample supply of well-educated workers to area employers. Within 200 miles of Austin, an additional 95 four-year colleges and universities enroll over 422,000 students. Nearly 45% of Austin area residents age 25 and over hold a bachelor's degree.

### MUSIC

Live music, and music in many other forms, is everywhere in Austin. Musicians play in everything from grocery stores (Central Market, Whole Foods) to city council meetings. They play outdoors at the Blues on the Green series and at festivals: Austin City Limits and South by Southwest you've likely heard of, but there's also Urban Music Festival, Old Settler's Music Fest, the Pecan Street Festival and many more worth checking out. Mostly, you'll find Austin musicians at clubs, coffeehouses, bars, taquerias, auditoriums and concert halls - and with more than 250 live music venues, it can be intimidating knowing where to start.

### **ART, RECREATION & ENTERTAINMENT**

Our gorgeous natural setting, in one of America's most unique landscapes, offers plenty of opportunities to get outdoors for fitness, recreation and relaxation. But if you're more the indoor type, we've also got a worldfamous live music scene and equally exciting happenings in the creative and performing arts. In Austin, it's easy to make a habit out of having fun.As Austin takes its place among the world's leading cities, our cultural vitality and lifestyle assets continue to grow. Sure, the city is always changing, but it's usually changing for the better. And you can always find your place in Austin – making friends and getting what you want out of life.

### **BUSINESS & INDUSTRY OVERVIEW**

Austin hosts a major technology cluster, with industry giants like Dell, Advanced Micro Devices, Intel, 3M, IBM, Samsung, NXP Semiconductors, and National Instruments. Austin's growth is fueled by strong competitive advantages: a highly skilled workforce, modern infrastructure, and international connectivity.

The University of Texas at Austin, a world-class research institution and one of the largest universities in the nation, is a major contributor to Austin's highly educated workforce and creative sector, graduating 12,000 students annually. The city known for "weird" is wired as well, as Google Fiber and AT&T deploy Gigabit-speed internet in Austin. The Austin region, known as the "Human Capital," has developed a diverse, creative, and innovative ecosystem that has many different layers. We are home to entrepreneurs, startups, growing companies, and tech giants. It is impossible to convey everything that makes our region special and contributes to our unique way of life.

Our economy is thriving Texas consistently ranks as one of the nation's most favorable business climates based on its low tax burden and competitive regulatory environment. Texas features no personal income tax, and overall the state has one of the lowest state and local tax burdens in the nation, ranking 38th among the 50 states in taxes paid per \$1,000 of personal income. Texas consistently places as one of the best states for business in numerous rankings.

### COST OF LIVING

Texas consistently ranks as one of the nation's most favorable business climates based on its low tax burden and competitive regulatory environment. In Texas, aggregate costs for real estate, energy, wages and taxes are below most states in the country. Texas features no personal or corporate income tax, and overall the state has one of the lowest state and local tax burdens in the nation, ranking 30th among the 50 states in taxes paid per capita and ranking 36th in taxes paid per \$1,000 of personal income.

Compared to other major business centers, Austin is well known for offering affordable living. The <u>National</u> <u>Association of Realtors</u> reports that the median home price in Austin was \$488,600 in 2021 while the national median was \$353,400. The National Association of Home Builders, which also produces median home price estimates, has a narrower difference between Austin and the nation. Their first quarter 2022 estimate for Austin is \$449,000 and the national estimate is \$365,000. NAHB estimates that 46.9% of homes sold in Austin are affordable to households earning Austin's median family income, while the national affordability rate is 56.9%.

### TRANSPORTATION

Three of the nation's 10 largest cities – Houston, San Antonio and Dallas – are no more than three hours away. Laredo, major port of entry from Mexico is four hours away. State highway 130, is one of several recently completed roadway improvement projects speeding goods and traffic flow through Austin, connects to I-35 north of Georgetown and to I-10 east of San Antonio.

### Bastrop





### WELCOME TO IT ALL

Just 30 miles southeast of Austin along Highway 71 is one of the most historic small towns in Texas. Get an authentic Texas experience without the crowds. From charming downtown streets to epic outdoor adventures, live music to mouthwatering meals, historic buildings to a burgeoning art scene, everyone loves Bastrop.

Even today the lovely Texas town of Bastrop retains its historic charm. Attractions Bastrop attractions include everything from a historic downtown to the famous Lost Pines Forest. With a variety of art fairs, cultural festivals and epic adventures, Bastrop is the perfect place to live.

Bastrop also has some amazing festivals and events. Enjoy local food and drinks during Table on Main, dance the night away at the Bastrop Music Festival or celebrate the holiday season during Lost Pines Christmas. There's always something special happening in Bastrop.

### BASTROP LIVE MUSIC

The musical history of Texas is as wide and deep as the majestic Colorado River itself. And just like the town of Bastrop, the banjo-pickin' bluegrass, and heart-wrenching country and folk will leave you feeling restored and transported. No matter what time of year you visit you will easily find live music in Bastrop. Songwriters serenade by firelight at cozy <u>restaurants</u> and <u>bars</u> along the Colorado River and big bands and country singers make for festive foot-stomping events around town.

### DOWNTOWN BASTROP

Perfectly positioned along the banks of the Colorado River, cozy downtown Bastrop offers something for everyone. You can window-shop in any number of Bastrop's boutiques and shops before pausing for some much-needed comfort food. Marvel at stunning art in one of the city's many art galleries before admiring the city's 19th century architecture. Whatever your fancy, you'll be met with Bastrop's famous Texas hospitality wherever you go. From engaging history, charming shops, and sophisticated restaurants, downtown Bastrop is a remarkable retreat from the everyday.

### ARTS AND CULTURE

Spend some time in Bastrop's burgeoning art scene and you'll see why it's becoming a destination for art lovers. Easy going, creative and outdoorsy, Bastrop is known as one of Texas' most historic small towns. Enjoy historic Main Street, downtown and the dozens of distinguished historic homes and buildings. From live music to local theaters, Bastrop's arts and culture scene is anything but ordinary.

### **BASTROP DINING**

Key to that world-famous Texas hospitality is honest-togoodness, homemade comfort food. The quintessential town of Bastrop overflows with a sumptuous spread of Texas cookin' and so much more: American, Mexican, Chinese, Greek, and Italian cuisine round out the Bastrop food scene, all with that Texas warmth you've come to expect on a trip to the heart of the great state of Texas. One of the first things people notice when visiting charming Bastrop is its pioneering attitude and appreciation for highquality food and drinks. While Bastrop maintains its quintessential small Texas charm, it serves as a Texassized hub for artisanal goods. Its selection of wine, beer, and spirits is no exception.

Start your round of refreshments with a simple stroll to Bastrop's very first winery, the Colorado River Winery. Conveniently located near the banks of the Colorado in the heart of downtown Bastrop, Colorado River Winery offers a rotating collection of small batch wines in their Tuscan-style tasting room. After finishing your final tasting, saunter down the street to find Copper Shot Distillery, a small familyowned shop whipping up clever original liquors. Copper Shot Distillery handcrafts all of their American distilled spirits on-site and in small batches.

### OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

From hiking to fishing, biking to horseback riding, kayaking to zip lining, Bastrop offers an abundance of outdoor adventures. Explore natural history at Bastrop State Park, embrace your inner-child by trying water sports or relax along the river in a canoe at Fisherman's Park. Adventure awaits in Bastrop.

### BASTROP COUNTY MUSEUM AND VISITOR CENTER

Learn the fascinating story of Bastrop's beginnings as a German colony through artifacts and exhibits. Bastrop County Museum and Visitor Center is located inside an old fire and police station from the 1930s, making it a charming trip back in time.

### **BASTROP STATE PARK**

Bastrop State Park is home to the famous loblolly pine trees, or "Lost Pines." Explore a piece of natural history as these trees are thought to have originated during the Ice Age. The park covers nearly 6,000 total acres, so you can also enjoy swimming, canoeing, wildlife viewing, golfing and camping at one of the park's various campsites or historic cabins built in the 1930s.

### LOST PINES ART CENTER

Lost Pines Art Center is a 12,000-square-foot facility with a gallery in the main building, classrooms and art studios, four renovated silos and a meandering sculpture garden. With free admission seven days a week, this may be Bastrop's best-kept secret.

### **BASTROP OPERA HOUSE**

The historic 1889 Bastrop Opera House offers creative yearround stage performances of vaudeville, melodramas, musicals and comedies. Enjoy a dinner theater, musical, play, or date night at one of their award-winning shows.

### DEEP IN THE HEART ART FOUNDRY

Take a tour and gain unique insight to the inner workings of bronze casting. Deep in the Heart Art Foundry occasionally hosts oneof-a-kind night-pour events where you can watch artists pour liquefied bronze into molds for sculptures.

### **ZIP LOST PINES**

Enjoy breathtaking views of the Colorado River and local wildlife as you soar over pine forests and canyons. Zip Lost Pines is home to the longest side-by-side zip line tour in Texas and features six dual zip lines, three suspension bridges, and access to McKinney Roughs Nature Park.

### HYATT REGENCY LOST PINES

Adjacent to the 1,100-acre McKinney Roughs Nature Park, this resort offers activities that capture the character and history of the area. Meet Texas longhorns, pigs and goats, ride a tractor, enjoy shady trails, sunny pools, a luxurious spa, nightly s'mores, great dining and more.

### **DINOSAUR PARK**

While most museums have dinosaur skeletons, Dinosaur Park shows life-size dinosaur statues with skin and color variations in their natural habitat. As you walk through the trails, you'll spot a full range of these majestic creatures that used to rule the Earth for more than 150 million years.

### **COLORADO RIVER**

with Bastrop River Company or Rising Phoenix Adventures, conveniently located near downtown. Go kayaking, canoeing, paddle boarding or tubing with the local experts.

### LAKE BASTROP

Discover the popular 900-acre lake in the heart of Bastrop. From sailing and water skiing to fishing and camping, Lake Bastrop has something great for everyone in the family to enjoy. Just pull up your RV to one of the 32 campsites or 18 cabins and let the fun begin.

### **TEXAS REPTILE ZOO**

Designed as an exhibit, as well as an educational and behavioral research facility, the Texas Reptiles Zoo provides a unique insight into reptile species from around the world. Visitors can learn about more than 200 reptiles, from tropical to desert species, and maybe catch a feeding or two.

### GOLF

Bastrop's stunning natural environment creates a perfect backdrop for a round of golf. With a range of unique golf courses like Hyatt's award-winning Wolfdancer golf course (designed by Arthur Hills), ColoVista Golf Club and Pine Forest Golf Club, you're in for a one-of-a-kind golfing experience in Bastrop.

### Bertrum





The City of Bertram is a beautiful Hill County community full of friendly people. Bertram has a little of something for everyone and growing fast. Bertram offers parks, tennis courts, and walking paths. We are also home to a variety of events throughout the year including the Oatmeal Festival and Fourth of July fireworks.

Bertram is an agricultural based community with a rich history. It was founded in 1882 by Rudolph Bertram, a principal stockholder in the Austin and Northwestern Railroad. Bertram grew rapidly and became an important trade and shipping center for wool, sheep, cotton, hides and cattle. Bertram's many historic buildings afford a charming look into the past, and its friendly people make the visitors and newcomers feel at home. Burnet has many pleasant surprises served up by some of the friendliest folks you will find in one small quiet hill country city.

### **BURNET CISD**

Located in the heart of the Hill Country, Burnet CISD encompasses over 700 square miles and serves 3,200 students at six campuses. Burnet CISD has a rich history of excellence in academics and extracurricular activities and is committed to CRAFTING the FUTURE with students.

### COLLEGES

Numerous colleges within driving distance of Bertram.

- Central Texas College: www.ctcd.edu
- Texas Tech: www.ttu.edu
- Southwestern College: www.southwestern.edu
- Austin Community College: www.austincc.edu

### RECREATION

The city is well-known for its annual Oatmeal Festival every Labor Day weekend. The festival started as a way to rebuild the nearby community but over the years the Oatmeal festival has evolved into one of the wildest small-town festivals across the World. The festival is a great way to see Bertram residents pride and to literally feel oatmeal raining. Other community events in Burnet are the Easter Egg Hunt, Burnet County Livestock Show, and Santa's Workshop.

**Bertram City Pool, tennis courts and playground**: located adjacent to the Roadside Park at the west end of town – the park, courts and playground are free to all, and the park is an excellent picnic destination.

Johnnie Mae Wheeler Park: in the heart of downtown Bertram under the water tower – a beautifully maintained park with a lovely gazebo, just perfect for weddings, an Easter egg hunt or a noon lunch break During December the park is brilliantly decorated and is the 'jewel' of downtown.

Bertram Elementary Pavilion, walking track, volley ball courts and soccer field: our elementary school is dear to Bertram, and the school endeavors to accommodate the needs of our citizens and our children. The walking track is a quarter mile, and it winds around the volley ball court, next to a playscape and the soccer field. It is a perfect place for family recreation. The pavilion features a basketball court.

<u>Fishing</u>: Bertram is within 30 minutes of the 7 Highland Lakes. Visit www.lakesandhills.com for fishing information

### Buda



### FOUNDED IN 1881, BUDA IS KNOWN FOR QUALITY SCHOOLS, A QUAINT

### DOWNTOWN, AND CLOSE PROXIMITY TO FESTIVALS, WALKING TRAILS,



#### **OVERVIEW**

Originally known as Du Pre, Buda got its name in the late 1800s, but the origin remains a mystery. One legend says it comes from Budapest, Hungary, while another claims it evolved from the Spanish word for widow, viuda, honoring the women who cooked in a local hotel. Today the close-knit community retains small-town charm, particularly in the historic downtown district on Main Street. Because of Buda's laid-back feel, city leaders have adopted the motto "Breathe Easy Here."

In the past two decades, Buda has seen tremendous residential, commercial, and industrial growth as it becomes one of the premier locations to live, work and play in Central Texas. Close proximity to Downtown Austin, Austin Bergstrom International Airport, Interstate 35 and SH-45 have allowed Buda to undergo a rapid transformation from a small rural community to a thriving community. Buda has been fortunate and had the foresight to plan for growth while maintaining its history charm and small town feeling.

### THE WIENER DOG CAPITAL OF TEXAS

This annual event and country fair has become so popular in recent years the Buda Wiener Dog Races now attract around 400 racers each year. Although Buda claims the trademarked status of "Wiener Dog Capital of Texas" a significant number of the K-9 racers are from out of town and out of state. The races are held in Buda's City Park where you can also enjoy food, arts and crafts vendors, live entertainment or compete in a Barbeque Cook-Off.

### DOWNTOWN BUDA

Downtown Buda is a short six blocks of preserved history packed with shopping, dining and evening entertainment. Downtown Buda has anything from home décor to local food to sweet treats and more. It has a unique retail mix that visitors will love and want to visit again and again.

Downtown Buda also hosts First Thursday, a monthly event where downtown businesses are Alive After Five and offers deals to those shopping. Whether it is getting donuts or having drinks a night, there is always something to do.

### HAYS CISD - DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

Located in North Central Hays County, the Hays Consolidated Independent School District reaches more than 221 square miles. The district's 26 campuses are located throughout northern Hays County, serving over 20,000 students. Hays CISD is a proud partner with all of the communities it serves, providing extraordinary educational services and opportunities for students.

3 comprehensive high schools, 6 middle schools (6-8 grade), 15 elementary schools, an alternative high school of choice and a disciplinary center comprise the district's campuses, which have tripled in number since 2000. The district also features a state-of-the-art Performing Arts Center.

Hays CISD schools are important to the quality of life in northern Hays County. The district works hard to ensure that children have the very best opportunities because they are the community's future.

### **BUDA WINS GOLD**

The City of Buda received a gold certification from the Scenic City Certification Program of Scenic Texas. 1,200 Texas cities and towns applied for certification and 16 were chosen. Buda received a gold certification for its parking lot landscaping; five special districts, including the historic district; strict dark sky regulations; and for meeting national standards of 10 acres of parkland for every 1,000 residents.

Buda's motto is "breathe easy here," and the city provides the places to do just that. If antiquing is your thing, there are a handful of shops downtown with all kinds of rare collectibles at bargain prices.

Taste locally made wine on an outdoor patio, listen to talented musicians from Texas and beyond at one-of-a-kind venues, and play classic arcade games until your thumbs fall off. These kinds of awesome experiences are just a taste of what awaits in Buda, a quaint charmer that punches above its weight in terms of unique things to see and do. Entertainment, live music, karaoke, arcade games, and world-class racing can all be found in and around town. If you just want to enjoy some good food and drink, Buda has you covered. The following are some of the top attractions in Buda.

#### SHOP, DINE AND RELAX IN DOWNTOWN BUDA

This shopping and dining district is the heart and soul of Buda. Ranging from unique shops or restaurants that will satisfy your inner foodie, all the way to a spa to get you rejuvenated after a long week.

### EXPLORE BUDA MILL & GRAIN CO.

A former cotton gin dating back to 1914, Buda Mill & Grain Co. is now a beautifully restored shopping and dining area where you can hang out all day. Stroll in the shade of historic silos, browse for the latest in women's fashion at Ellipsis Boutique, and work up a refreshing sweat at Willow Gardens Hot Yoga. Want to treat yourself? Get a slice of German chocolate cake or a red velvet cupcake at Sweet Cakes 4 U and a cup of coffee at Nate's Coffee & Cocktails. Once the sun sets, get a glass of wine or a cocktail and admire the view of downtown Buda from the patio.

### THE OUTDOOR CAPITAL OF TEXAS

Situated at the junction of the Edwards Plateau and the southern Backland Prairie, Buda has long offered citizens and visitors alike a strong sense of connection to the natural world. Native Americans once hunted buffalo, bear, deer, and wild turkey in the environs of Buda. The presence of wild game continues to draw modern professionals and weekend hunters; moreover, fishing, camping, canoeing, and hiking can be enjoyed in the area year-round.

### GET ARTSY

There are souvenirs, and then there's what you'll find at the art galleries in Buda. Assemblage Contemporary Craftsman Gallery, located in the Buda Mill & Grain Co., and Inspired Minds Art Center in the heart of downtown is a showcase of the works of living American artists, many of which live here in town or are born and raised in Buda. Check out the whimsical pottery of Buda's own Fraser Harris alongside an array of vibrant paintings, photographs, distinctive jewelry, and furniture. See something you like? Much of the collection at each gallery is available for sale, and the prices are as affordable as the art is eye-catching. Want to get your hands dirty? Inspired Minds Art Center offers an array of art class nights perfect for your visit to Buda.

### **PARKS & OUTDOOR SPACES**

Buda was named the "Outdoor Capital of Texas" by the State of Texas Legislature due to its high percentage of parkland. Enjoy nature as you go "off the beaten path" and explore Buda's hike and bike trails in one of our 13 our scenic parks and natural areas, including the 54-acre Historic Stagecoach Park. Choose from ADA accessible trails with benches or trails that have beautiful wildflower meadows. Enjoy the benefits of our parks with a range of amenities. Picnic areas, ball fields, basketball courts, playground equipment and many other recreational venues are offered at the park sites. See you on the trai!!

### RACING

Start your engines in Buda. Race fans attending events at Circuit of the Americas in Austin need to consider Buda for their lodging destination. Buda hotels are 15 minutes from the track and are a more affordable option. For FORMULA ONE, Buda offers transportation from your hotel to the track and back and to other Buda destinations.

#### BUSINESS

Businesses from across the State of Texas and nation are discovering that business is better in Buda. Buda is proud of the wide variety and diversity of our major employers. From cost advantages, proximity to talented employees, incentives, and the ease of doing business are just a few reasons to businesses have located in Buda. Buda is positioned for success and growth and by locating in Buda, your business will be in very good company.

Buda's Primary Trade Area population is estimated at 80,129 and is projected to grow to 90,270 by 2022. The PTA's average household income is \$85,379 and the median household income is \$73,073.

### Burnet



BURNET IS A PICTURESQUE CITY LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY NEAR THE HIGHLAND LAKES

### **Community of Burnet**

Nestled at the edge of the spectacular Texas Hill Country about 50 miles northwest of Austin, amidst the beautiful Highland Lakes, is the historic community of Burnet. Established first as a fort on the Texas frontier in the mid-1800s, Burnet has maintained its pioneer roots and rural charm while adapting to the modern age. We welcome you to one of the friendliest towns in central Texas.

Burnet's Historic town square offers visitors a unique shopping and dining experience. Gift, antique, and collectible shops surround the square. There are several cafes and full-service restaurants on or within easy walking distance of the square. Hotels/motels, resorts, bed and breakfasts, cabins & cottages, and Burnet's proximity to so many sights make it the ideal hub for travels into our region. So no matter what your interests you will find something to please you in Burnet!

The City of Burnet, the county seat of Burnet County, is a hub of industry, commerce, and trade in the Highland Lakes area. Its modern schools, hospital, airport, and retail centers provide all the essentials for today's society, while the scenic countryside and inviting parklands present a myriad of opportunities for those who want to get away from it all.

Throughout the year, the City of Burnet offers a vast array of events and activities for all ages. From Bluebonnet Festival to the winter wonderland of Bethlehem Village and Christmas on the Square to the summer frontier shoot-outs and vintage steam train tours, Burnet is alive with sights and sounds that make it one of the Hill Country's most popular destination spots in the state of Texas. In 1981, the Texas State Legislature office designated Burnet the "Bluebonnet Capital of Texas." A couple of years later, community leaders created the Bluebonnet Festival. Taking place the second weekend in April at the peak of bluebonnet season, this three-day festival draws crowds topping 30,000 each year.

### Best Places to See Bluebonnets in Burnet, TX

Haley Nelson Park (US Hwy 29 West) Burnet Municipal Airport (US Hwy 281 South) Wallace Riddell Park (US Hwy 29 East)

### **Attractions and Recreation**

Burnet offers a variety of outdoor activities and sightseeing opportunities. Climb aboard the historic Austin Steam Train for a leisurely trip through the Hill Country, embark upon the Vanishing Texas River Cruise to capture scenic views of Lake Buchanan and the Colorado River, or visit one of the area's outdoor parks such as Reveille Peak Ranch, Spider Mountain Bike Park, or Inks Lake State Park. Golfing enthusiasts will enjoy Delaware Springs Golf Course, some of the Hill Country's best golf.

Get a taste of Burnet's Historic Downtown Square has to offer. Immerse yourself in our town's vibrant heritage on a walking tour through historic downtown, and savor a meal at one of the area's many cafés or restaurants. Fine spirits, boutiques, unique antique finds and a warm cup of coffee abound. Feed your creative side at one of Burnet's art galleries, or take a trip back in time at one of our museums.

### 15 Fun Things to Do in Burnet

#### 1. Longhorn Cavern State Park

Longhorn Cavern State Park features Longhorn Cavern, a Texas Hill Country wonder created over thousands of years by the dissolving and cutting action of water on the limestone bedrock of the area. The 85-minute tour covers 1.25 miles of underground caverns. There are also picnic areas, short hiking trails, a gift shop, and a deli lunch counter.

### 2. Vanishing Texas River Cruise

Enjoy the premier ecological cruise of Texas. Departing from Lake Buchanan in the Central Texas Hill Country, the cruise provides spectacular views of Lake Buchanan, the Colorado River, native Texas wildlife, waterfalls, world-class bird watching, and wintering bald eagles.

### 3. Spider Mountain Bike Park

Spider Mountain Bike Park offers a variety of trails for all abilities. Bike and equipment rentals are available on a first come, first serve basis. Those who prefer hiking will soon have the option to ride to the top of the mountain and hike down a path reserved for pedestrians.

### 4. Austin Steam Trail Association – The Hill Country Flyer

The popular Hill Country Flyer runs on Saturdays from January – May and again in September and October. The train departs from the Cedar Park depot and travels to Burnet.

### 5. The Burnet Gunfighters

The Burnet Gunfighters present their popular gunfight before the train leaves Burnet for the return trip to Cedar Park.

### 6. Delaware Spring Golf Course

Delaware Springs Golf Course is one of 12 golf courses in the Burnet area. The course is an 18-hole championship public golf course and offers a pro shop, driving range, putting green, snack bar, and dining room. Its 17th hole is named one of the "1001 Golf Holes you Must Play Before You Die" by golf writer Jeff Barr. The course was also named one of Golf Digest's "Best Places to Play."

### 7. Inks Lake State Park

Inks Lake State Park features 1201 acres of recreational facilities adjacent to the Colorado River. Located in the High Lakes chain (7 lakes) surrounded by granite hills, it makes a great day trip or weekend getaway. The water level of Inks Lake is usually maintained at a constant level allowing for year-round swimming, boating, scuba diving, and fishing. Paddle boats, canoes, and kayaks can be rented at the park store. On land, you can camp, backpack, geocache, play volleyball, picnic, or enjoy 9 miles of hiking trails.

### 8. Canyon of the Eagles Nature Park

The 940-acre nature park features a stargazing observatory, beaches, camping, 14-mile hiking trail, a labyrinth, and a marina with canoes, kayaks, and sailboats. RV sites and cabins are available.

### 9. Fort Croghan Museum & Grounds

See pioneer log cabins built in the 1800's furnished authentically with items used during that era. Visit the working blacksmith shop, a one room schoolhouse, an original stagecoach stop, syrup mill, and a rock house built in the 1850's by a veteran of the Battle of San Jacinto. Also visit the two original buildings constructed by the U.S. Army when this site, Fort Croghan, was an active frontier fort (1849-1853). The museum is loaded with artifacts dating from Native American Indian era to the 1900's recording the history of Burnet County and Texas.

### **10. Hill Country Motorheads Museum**

With over 200 motorcycles in the collection, the museum regularly showcases more than 70 bikes of many brands from around the world. Interesting facts/ background information is shared for each motorcycle displayed. The museum additionally showcases an assortment of vintage posters and photos making it a nostalgic display of history. Those wanting to stay a bit longer can enjoy the man cave which includes a pool table, sofa, and TV.

### **11. Highland Lakes Squadron Commemorative Air Force** Museum

The museum houses historical artifacts as well as a "working" aircraft hanger where WWII era aircraft are brought back to life. Specific exhibits include the front turret from a B-24 bomber, a cutaway radial engine of the type used in the AT-6/SNJ, a WWII machine for making dog tags, a WWII instrument flying trainer, and an air-to-missile. The B-24 turret is accessible, especially for younger visitors.

### 12. Reveille Peak Ranch

The ranch is a 1,300-acre outdoor event, education, and adventure center in the heart of the Texas Hill Country. Whether you're looking for some of the best mountain bike/ running trails in Texas, camping, or water sports, Reveille Peak Ranch provides an experience like no other.

### 13. Downtown Shopping & Eating

Visit Burnet's Historic Business District with broad sidewalks that invite visitors to stroll the District. Immerse yourself in the town's vibrant heritage on a walking tour including numerous historical buildings housing modern businesses. The District, bound by Polk, Pierce, Jackson, and Water Streets, is home to four buildings on the National Register of Historic Places, and numerous places designated by the City of Burnet as historical properties.

### 14. Burnet Farmers Market & Crafts Market

Saturday mornings from 9am – 1pm from May 1-Nov 20 on the Courthouse Square. Organized by the Highland Lakes Master Gardeners, the market shares information on gardening as well as an opportunity to purchase farm fresh foods and handcrafted items.

### **15. Local Wineries**

There are multiple award winning wineries within a short drive. Wedding Oak Winery, located on the Burnet Square, is housed in a beautifully restored historic building. Torr Na Lochs Vineyard & Winery sits high above the Colorado River Valley, overlooking Inks and Buchanan Lakes. Down in Hoover's Valley, enjoy a view of the surrounding hills while visiting Perissos Vineyards.

### Cedar Park





Cedar Park is a vibrant community situated on the northern border of Austin just 17 miles from downtown. It is named for an actual park that was a rail stop in the late 1800's. True to our namesake Cedar Park now features 1,000 acres of Cityowned parkland and 31 miles of trails. Today's population is about 82,192 and is consistently ranked by the U.S. Census Bureau as one of the Fastest-Growing Cities in the Country. We're a bustling high-tech employer hub, too, with a median age of 34.74 years, 49.7 percent with a Bachelor's Degree or higher and a median household income of \$103,370.

Cedar Park is also home to two professional sports teams: the 2014 Calder Cup-winning AHL Hockey League Champion Texas Stars, affiliates of the NHL Dallas Stars; the 2012 and 2018 NBA G-League Champions, the Austin Spurs and affiliates of the five-time NBA World Champion San Antonio Spurs. The Stars and Spurs play at H-E-B Center, a Cityowned facility is a multi-purpose venue that holds up to 8,700 guests and hosts more than 130 events per year.

### BUSINESS

Cedar Park boasts an energetic and diverse mix of businesses in the software, biotech, advanced manufacturing and oil exploration industries. Fortune 500 company National Oilwell Varco is a major employer in Cedar Park. Cedar Park is also home and headquarters for several high tech employers including Firefly, Aerospace, Hyliion, ETS-Lindgren,

Additive Manufacturing Technologies, ABEO and Corvalent, along with industrial manufacturers such as Voltabox, Visual Lighting Technologies, BMC West Materials and BMC Millworks and James Avery Artisan Jewelry.

In addition, Cedar Park has a growing number of innovative high tech firms that have moved to the City such as Fallbrook Technologies, Corvalent, Dana Corporation's Cedar Park Technology Center, Voltabox, Firefly Aerospace and Seranova. These companies enjoy Cedar Park's probusiness climate, highly skilled workforce, low cost of doing business and easy access to Austin.

Cedar Park ranks among the best small cities for families based on small cities with the best combination of affordability, growth and prosperity, and family-friendliness.

### ACCOLADES

- Cedar Park named most affordable place to live in the U.S.
- · Cedar Park named 4th-most connected city in the country
- Cedar Park in Top 10 to places to live, work from home
- · Cedar Park named top city to do business
- Cedar Park ranked 3rd in nation: Americas Best Suburbs for Growing Families
- Cedar Park 9th Best Small City in America
- Cedar Park is the 7th fastest growing city in the U.S.
- Cedar Park, Nationally Recognized as One of the Most Budget-Friendly Cities For Renters
- · Cedar Park named 3rd most affordable city in Texas

Cedar Park is a city that truly espouses its core values of community, service, innovation, professionalism, integrity, leadership, and fiscal responsibility. These standards are at the heart of daily life for Cedar Park residents, City leaders, City staff, and business leaders. For several years Cedar Park has had one of the lowest crime rates for cities of its size in the State, according to the Texas Department of Public Safety's annual Crime in Texas Report. The Cedar Park Police Department's National Night Out has been awarded First Place in Texas for Cities of Similar Size.

### Education

Cedar Park is located in the exemplary-rated Leander Independent School District. Leander ISD teachers and support staff focus on engaging and inspiring students for achievement and lifelong success. We are a fast-growth district, adding 1,000 students every year, serving families in the cities of Austin, Cedar Park and Leander. LISD educates more than 42,000 students at its 44 campuses. The district encompasses nearly 200 square miles.

Cedar Park is home to the Austin Community College Cypress Creek campus. There are other institutions for higher learning located near Cedar Park including the University of Texas at Austin, Concordia University, Southwestern University Georgetown, Huston-Tillotson University, St. Edward's University, Texas A&M Health Sciences Center and Texas State University Round Rock Campus.

The median age in our community is 34.74 years, 49.7 percentExperience live, high-energy, professional sports action atwith a Bachelor's Degree or higher and a median householdH-E-B Center at Cedar Park. It's home to AHL hockey tearincome of \$103,370.the Austin Stars and the NBA G-League basketball team, t

Cedar Park is fun, fun, fun! With Cedar Park's close proximity to Austin and the Texas Hill Country, the beauty surrounding the Lower Colorado River Lake System, 1,000 acres of gorgeous park space and 31 miles of trails, there are plenty of ways to take in the great outdoors here. Add in professional hockey and basketball, children's entertainment and headliner concert performances and you've got the perfect recipe for Cedar Park Fun!

### **Local Attractions**

- Austin Spurs Basketball
- Cedar Park Fun
- Cedar Park Sculpture Garden
- H-E-B Center at Cedar Park
- Texas Stars Hockey
- Travel & Tourism Office
- Treasure of the Hills Senior Center

### - Veterans Memorial at Veterans Memorial Park

### **Live Music**

From large indoor concerts at H-E-B Center at Cedar Park, to beautiful outdoor venues, to intimate gathering spaces at our local bars, Cedar Park has just the right setting for everyone to enjoy. You'll find just as large a variety of musical genres: country, rock, pop, rap, heavy metal, jazz, easy listening, and everything

in-between.

### **Dining & Shopping**

Cedar Park features a wide variety of shopping and dining options – something that is truly for everyone – from restaurants that make you feel like you're in mom's kitchen to international cuisine. After dinner, enjoy a drink at one of our local breweries or wineries.

Shopping in Cedar Park is no different, we have your favorite shopping spots as well as boutiques with that one of a kind piece you have been searching for.

### **Outdoor Living**

Live an active lifestyle while taking in the great outdoors in Cedar Park! Enjoy the beauty of the Texas Hill Country and the Highland Lakes of the Lower Colorado River system. Plus, Cedar Park features 1000 acres of City-owned and maintained parkland for you to enjoy, along with 30 miles of trails for you to walk, run, hike and bike.

### Sports

Experience live, high-energy, professional sports action at H-E-B Center at Cedar Park. It's home to AHL hockey team the Austin Stars and the NBA G-League basketball team, the Austin Spurs. You can also catch Bellator/MMA matches and much more at this multi-sport complex. Cedar Park is also the ultimate choice for amateur, youth, and recreational athletes. From tennis and basketball, to cricket and volleyball, you'll find it all in Cedar Park.

# **Dripping Springs**





### **VISIT DRIPPING SPRINGS**

Dripping Springs is located in Central Texas approximately twenty-three miles west of Austin. Dripping Springs, is wellknown as the "Gateway to the Hill Country."

Located just 20 minutes west of Austin, Dripping Springs is home to spectacular natural wonders, historic treasures, unique shopping, eclectic live music venues, exciting rodeos, a plethora of wineries, craft breweries and local distilleries and legendary hospitality. Also, recognized as the official, "Wedding Capital of Texas®," Dripping Springs is a premiere destination location, as well as being a great base for exploring the rest of the Texas Hill Country. Dripping Springs, Texas offers the perfect blend of hill country beauty, heritage, and good old-fashioned hospitality.

### COME AND PLAY WITH US

The Hill Country beckons to you – and the gateway to that beautiful scenery begins in the small, slow-paced and welcoming city of Dripping Springs.

Stop, take a deep breath and stay around to enjoy the nice people, wonderful shops and good eats. The "dripping springs" which served as the catalyst for the name of the city, is located in the heart of Dripping Springs. Visitors from all over the globe come to enjoy the history of our city, shop in well-known establishments and enjoy world famous barbecue. Spend the day in Dripping Springs touring the olive orchard and area vineyards, sampling locally produced salsas and jellies or traveling just down the road to hike, swim or enjoy the scenery at Hamilton Pool, Pedernales Falls State Park and West Cave Preserve.

The City currently has 271.29 acres of parkland that serves approximately 23,350 residents in Dripping Springs. The Parks and Community Services Department facilitates quality of life programming and other community services. The park system inventory includes Dripping Springs' 110 acre Premier Ranch Park and Event Center venue and the popular Dripping Springs Farmers Market located at Veterans Memorial Park. Founders Memorial Park and Sports and Recreation Park feature park amenities such as athletic fields, walking and jogging trails, volleyball and basketball, play structures and the Founders Memorial Park Pool. Charro Ranch Park is a popular location to enjoy nature in an iconic Texas Hill Country setting while reflecting on its trails.

### LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

The Dripping Springs area is rich in wonderful attractions. Set at the threshold of the Texas Hill Country, Dripping Springs has an altitude of 550 feet (MSL), and is only minutes from Austin and Johnson City. The landscape is characterized by steppe prairies with sweeping views of rolling hills, and towering Live Oak woodlands.

• Hamilton Pool • Pound House Museum • Texas Parks and Wildlife • Lake Travis • Highland Lakes • Westcave Preserve • LBJ Historical Park • Texas Hill Country Guide

# Elgin



### HISTORIC SITES

Elgin is a small community 19 miles east of Austin. Our community was established in 1872 around cotton and the railroads. We have many things to see for those who are Train Enthusiast, History Buffs or if you just like to see how things are made. While you are here, be sure to visit to one of our many amazing restaurants. Elgin is the Sausage Capital of Texas after all!

Elgin is a community rich in history. It has been designated by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as a National Main Street Community. It offers many award winning examples of historic preservation.

The H&TC Freight Depot built in 1872, is the oldest building in Elgin. Currently it is the home of the Elgin Chamber of Commerce. The restoration of this building was a joint effort between the City of Elgin, Elgin Chamber of Commerce, Elgin Main Street Board and the Southside Merchants Association along with many grant providers.

The original passenger depot, Union Depot has recently been completely renovated by the City of Elgin. It now serves as a museum for the community. The Elgin Historical Association operates the museum.

The Nofsinger house, built in 1906, houses the Elgin City Hall. Historic murals, banks, pharmacies, barber shops and elegant old homes are all part of the historical scene in Elgin.

### WHY DO BUSINESS IN ELGIN?

There's the Proximity to Austin. Elgin is in the fastest growing region of the metro area. 20 miles from downtown Austin, 10 miles from the SH 130 corridor, and both new roads and future rail links to get from here to there.

There's the People of Elgin. They're smart but well-grounded and committed to seeing their town grow and change in the right way. They love and want to keep Elgin's character while adding new opportunities for progress that make life here better for everyone.

Elgin is prepared for what they want to achieve. They've been working hard on their vision for the community and the surrounding area. They've adopted a progressive comprehensive plan and are bringing it to life. And working with the economic development program to help firms and investors make the right choices.





### RECREATION

Parks: 5 / Area lakes: 3 / Tennis courts: Yes / Municipal pool Country Clubs: Cola Vista in Bastrop County Public Golf Courses 3 within 9-13 miles of Bastrop County

### PARKS, FACILITIES & TRAILS

Elgin is a city with a vision. We venture to improve the community's quality of life by providing parks and recreation activities. Through Elgin's historic charm, creative culture and special happenings, we are perfectly situated to serve our community. Each of our parks offer a wide variety of amenities for leisure, sports, gatherings and even classes.

### ELGIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Elgin Elementary
- Booker T. Washington Elementary
- Neidig Elementary
- Elgin Middle School
- Elgin High School
- Phoenix Learning Center

### AREA UNIVERSITIES/COLLEGES

- Austin Community College
- Blinn College
- Concordia University
- Houston-Tillotson College
- Texas State University
- Southwestern University
- St. Edward's University
- Temple Junior College
- Texas A&M University at College Station
- University of Texas at Austin
- State industrial training
- Vocational-technical education programs

### MAJOR EMPLOYERS

| Elgin ISD School District | 664 |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Acme Brick Company        | 162 |
| HEB Grocery               | 200 |
| Elgin-Butler Brick        | 60  |
| Hanson Brick Company      | 80  |
| City of Elgin             | 67  |
| Wal-Mart                  | 225 |
| Elgin Veterinary Hospital | 40  |
| Southside Market & BBQ    | 65  |
| Meyer's Sausage Company   | 25  |

### TOP 10 THINGS TO DO IN ELGIN

The Sausage Capital of Texas! The City of Elgin was created by the Houston and Texas Central Railroad in 1872 and named after Robert Morris Elgin, the railroad's land commissioner, as was the practice back then to name a new railroad town after an officer of the company. The city owes its existence to a major flood on the Colorado River in 1869. Originally, the railroad was to have run from McDade, ten miles east of Elgin, southwest to the Colorado River at a point somewhere between Bastrop and Webberville, then to Austin, following the river. Besides the history, and obviously the world-class BBQ, Elgin offers a big taste of small town Texas! **Meyer's Elgin Smokehouse – 188 US-290, Elgin, TX 78621** Known as 'Cuetopia, Texas, Meyer's has been rolling out worldclass BBQ since 1949. The Meyer family has been perfecting their family's secret sausage recipe, as well as mouthwatering brisket, ribs, and chicken for hungry Texans for almost seven decades.

### The Elgin Depot Museum – 14 Depot Street, Elgin, TX 78621

Upon arriving at the historic Union Depot, discover an extensive archive collection, providing a detailed look at the communication equipment since the town's founding. The museum features permanent and rotating exhibits as well as an extensive collection of historic photographs from the area.

### Elgin Antique Mall – 195 Hwy 290, Elgin, TX 78621

The Elgin Antique Mall provides over 8,000 square feet of yearround treasure shopping–collectibles, glassware, oak furniture, toys, advertising, and knives – plus more!

### Liberty Tree Tavern – 117 N. Main Street, Elgin, TX 78621

If you're looking for a refreshing beverage and some live music in a building that was once a funeral home, then the Liberty Tree Tavern is for you. Rumor has it there's a ghost or two keeping the taps cold!

### Down Home Ranch - 20250 FM 619, Elgin, TX 78621

A 410-acre working farm, empowering people's lives through residential, educational, social, and vocational programs such as residency, ranch camp, or respite opportunities.

### Hogeye Festival – 109 Depot Street, Elgin, TX 78621

Visit Elgin toward the end of October. The streets are closed down for an annual cook-off, arts and crafts, a Road Hog Car Show, live music, a carnival, talent show, a kids parade, and SO much more!

Thomas Memorial Park – 411 Madison Street, Elgin, TX 78621

It's a 12-acre park, featuring several ball fields, picnic tables, a nine-hole disc golf course, volleyball court, a playground, and trails.

### White Fences Equestrian Center – 10908 Jones Road, Manor, TX 78653

Lessons, boarding, training, and shows, as well as guided trail rides. The trail rides take you through miles of rolling hill country and forest trails. Suitable for all experience levels.

### Sip, Shop & Stroll – Main Street, Elgin, Texas 78621

Local retailers invite folks to sip, shop and stroll their way through downtown Elgin. You'll find live music, beer and wine tastings, store specials and more with extended store hours and specials throughout town.

### The Old Coupland Inn and Dancehall – 101 Hoxie Street, Coupland

Eat. Drink. Dance. Built in 1904, the building began as the Coupland Drug Company in 1911.The building now has a restaurant, dancehall with live music, and rooms to book in their unique 1800s wild west brothel-style Bed and Breakfast.

### Georgetown



### GEORGETOWN IS EXPERIENCING TREMENDOUS GROWTH IN BOTH

### RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL SECTORS



### Why?

A beautiful city nestled between the clear waters of the North and South San Gabriel Rivers, Georgetown is experiencing tremendous growth in both residential and commercial sectors. In fact, the US Census Bureau ranks Georgetown in the top five fastest-growing cities in the U.S. (with a population over 50,000) for the past several years. The city and county are well prepared for this growth and continue to provide services and implement programs to insure citizens continue to enjoy an exceptional quality of life.

The people of Georgetown are friendly and the culture is rich with diversity. Residents and visitors can shop at the unique retail outlets and restaurants on the historic downtown square or the outdoor malls along IH 35. A Main Street designated city, Georgetown cherishes its revitalized Courthouse and surrounding Victorian-era storefronts on "the Most Beautiful Town Square in Texas".

Georgetown also offers an extensive parks and recreation system and a variety of family-oriented festivals enjoyed by students at Southwestern University to the retirees at Sun City Texas.

### **Business Community**

Georgetown and the entire Austin metro area enjoy one of the healthiest business climates in the United States. Collaboration within the metro area is strong and has resulted in high ratings and rankings on an impressive number of national and global lists.

A diverse mix of successful businesses in Georgetown creates a strong and stable economic base making Georgetown a metro area leader. Georgetown businesses credit the community's entrepreneurial camaraderie, educated and motivated workforce, low tax, low utility rates, and exceptional quality-of-life as key factors to their success.

### **Major Employers**

Georgetowns workforce supports a diverse group of employers across industries including Manufacturing, Construction, Healthcare, Professional Services, Retail and Trade and Transportation. There are currently over 3,000 business in Georgetown. Of those, more than 73% are considered micro businesses, having ten employees or less. This positive growth among small businesses reflects a thriving economy and strong entrepreneurial spirit.

### Top 10 Employers:

Airborn, Inc. - 612 St. David's Hospital Georgetown - 486 Southwestern University - 440 Wesleyan Homes - 420 Caring Home Health - 310 Smile Doctors - 300 Lone Star Circle of Care - 256 Chatsworth Products Georgetown - 240 Rock Springs Hospital - 226 Georgetown Behavioral Health Hospital - 207

### **Family Friendly**

Georgetown is the perfect place to keep the kiddos (along with the adults) entertained with plenty of affordable and fun options to choose from.

<u>Blue Hole</u> – Located five blocks north of the downtown Square along N. Austin Avenue, limestone bluffs border this scenic lagoon and popular swimming hole along the South Fork of the San Gabriel River. The entrance to Blue Hole Park is at W. Second and Rock Streets. The park features picnic areas, restrooms and wading areas.

<u>Inner Space Cavern</u> – In 1963, the Texas Highway Department's core drilling team discovered over 7,000 square feet of cave while taking six-inch core samples to determine if the ground was stable enough to support a large highway overpass. As they were drilling one of the test holes, the bit suddenly dropped 26 feet, and the highway crew knew there was something down there besides rock. Inner Space cavern opened to the public in the summer of 1966 and has welcomed hundreds of thousands of visitors to its beautiful site since that time.

Lake Georgetown – This recreational spot offers a number of attractions from camping, boating and fishing to biking, hiking and horseback riding trails as well as swimming and picnic areas. Lake Georgetown has several group shelters at Russell Park, which may be rented for family reunions. There is also a large pavilion located in the Nature Center area, which may be rented from Georgetown Parks and Recreation. The park gates at Lake Georgetown open at 6 a.m. and close at 10 p.m.

<u>Splash Pads</u> – To cool off in the hot summer months, Georgetown has several splash pad locations for families to enjoy. One is located in San Jose Park and another in the downtown area, outside the Georgetown Art Center. All splash pads are free and open throughout the summer.

<u>Palace Theater</u> – The Palace Theatre in the historic downtown district is home to a year-round season of live theater productions including musicals, comedies, and dramas. This former movie house was renovated and in 2001 opened as a live theater venue. View upcoming shows at: http://www.georgetownpalace.com/calendar.php.

<u>The Williamson Museum</u> – Located in the town square, The Williamson Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and proceeds benefit the museum's educational programing. The Museum offers free and exciting hands-on educational programs to the public through innovative exhibits, tours and outreach.

#### Georgetown Independent School District

Georgetown Independent School District (ISD) serves students living in Georgetown, Texas, the county seat in Williamson County.

Georgetown ISD serves more than 12,600 students at ten elementary schools, four middle schools, three high schools, and two alternative campuses.

At GISD, students can explore approximately 80 career and technology education (CTE) courses, including but not limited to aerospace engineering, veterinary science, accounting, biotechnology, culinary arts, law enforcement, agriculture, game programming and design, audio/video production, and automotive technology. Through some of these CTE courses, students are also eligible to obtain certificates upon graduation, including Pharmacy Technician, Certified Nursing Assistant, and a variety of Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) courses.

### Tax Rate: \$1.231 - Reduced 7.6 cents since 2020 College Credit Hours: 5,897 - Nearly \$1M in tuition savings

Enrollment: 12,5579. - 7% increase since 2016/17

Those seeking an alternative to public school can choose from:

- \*Community Montessori School
- \*Grace Academy of Georgetown
- \*Grace Episcopal School
- \*Orenda Education
- \*St. Helen's Catholic School
- \*Georgetown Charter Academy

### HIGHER EDUCATION

Southwestern University, Texas' oldest liberal arts institution, is a highly selective college affiliated with the Methodist Church. Their 1,400 students have a passion for intellectual and personal growth; enjoy small classes and numerous collaborative undergraduate research opportunities. Living-Learning Communities and the Paideia Program offer exceptional opportunities to fully integrate one's experiences in and out of the classroom.

Georgetown, Williamson County, and the entire Austin Metro Area consistently rank at the top of lifestyle, economic, and business awards and recognition.

### Hutto





### **VISIT HUTTO**

This Eastern-Williamson County community is just a short 27-mile drive northeast of downtown Austin and offers many attractions for the entire family. Hutto is a full-service, homerule municipality operating under a Council-Manager form of government. Nearly 35,000 people call this fast-growing community home. Located in the strong Austin-area jobs market, Hutto has been recognized as one of the safest cities in Texas, a top place to raise a family, and appealing to young couples. From its agricultural roots to its progressive economic development, the City of Hutto is focused on providing a strong quality of life centered on these Core Values: collaboration, accountability, transparency, and resiliency.

### WHAT'S WITH THE HIPPOS?

Hutto is the only community in the United States to use the hippo as its mascot. There are several stories that explain how the hippopotamus became Hutto's official mascot. The most popular tells of a circus train that stopped at the depot in 1915, most likely to take on passengers, pick up mail and water and feed the animals. During this historic stop, it is said that a hippo escaped and made its way to nearby Cottonwood Creek. Farmers and merchants watched in amusement as unsuccessful efforts were made to extricate the troublesome hippo from the muddy waters. Soon after the incident, the Hutto School adopted the hippo as its mascot.

In 2003, the Texas Legislature recognized Hutto as the

"Official Hippo Capital of Texas." The Hutto Chamber of Commerce arranged for a seven-ton concrete hippo named "Henrietta" to be placed along East Street in 1986. The fastgrowing city of Hutto is also home to a herd of smaller concrete hippos which stand outside homes, businesses and public buildings as a symbol of community pride. Many are painted to reflect the unique character of the owner or business it represents.

### **Family Friendly**

Hutto has been recently recognized as the "Top Place in Texas to Raise a Family. With its low student-to-teacher ratios, low crime rate and short commute to Austin, Hutto is easily one of the best places to raise a family in Texas.

Hutto offers a wide range of residential living choices, including established neighborhoods and new developments by KB Homes, Gehan Homes, Pulte, Wilshire Homes and many others. Your family will find room to play at our newly renovated Fritz Park, and we have exciting plans for future park space as part of the Williamson County Regional Park plan, along with an amphitheater and sports fields.

### **Parks & Recreation**

Hutto Parks and Recreation is committed to increasing the quality of life and the well being of its citizens. Through our beautiful parks, trails, events, athletic leagues, and programs we hope to provide something for everyone.

### Hutto Facts:

-Part of the Austin/Round Rock Metro Statistical Area (MSA)

- -Low student-to-teacher ratios
- -Short commute to Austin's tech hub -Average household income is \$93,371
- -Home Value \$250K to \$400K
- -35K cars travel on HWY 79 every single day
- -Population within 15 miles: 581,027
- -High-performing Independent School District

### Hutto has been recognized as:

- Top Place in Texas to Raise a Family
- #1 Austin Suburb for Young Couples
- #7 in the 50 Safest Cities

### SCHOOLS

From pre-school through college, Hutto offers access to excellent educational opportunities.

### **Hutto Independent School District**

We are home to an award-winning independent school district, with more than 7,500 students at 9 campuses, with continuously growing enrollment. Hutto High School, home to the only hippo mascot in the country, boasts a Career and Technical Education program with numerous certifications including culinary arts, health sciences, business and veterinarian programs. We are proud of our award-winning and state-recognized art, band, music and athletic programs, a state-awarded and nationally recognized FCCLA program; and our facilities. We are also the only district in the area to offer a full-day Head Start Program.

### **Higher Education**

Hutto is also the home of the East Williamson County Higher Education Center, a multi-institutional teaching center. EWCHEC provides a wide array of educational opportunities and workforce readiness program with the convenience of going from a certificate to a graduate degree all in one location through a partnership with Temple College, Texas State Technical College, and Texas A&M University-Central Texas.

### **Downtown Tourism**

About Old Town. Old Town refers to Hutto's historic district, bound loosely by Park Street to the east, Orgain Street to the south, the Co-Op site to the west, and north just past the intersection of Church Street and FM 1660. With charming structures dating back to the 1800's, Old Town truly is the Heart of Hutto.

### **Downtown Commercial Historic District**

Downtown is home to a number of local businesses, shops and restaurants that attract Hutto residents and visitors alike. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Hutto Commercial Historic District consists of twelve buildings occupying approximately half of a city block in the heart of Hutto, Texas, approximately 27 miles northeast of Austin. Most of the buildings are good examples of the Late Victorian Italianate style of the 1890's, and the early 20th century Commercial Style, applied to one-part and two-part commercial blocks. Of the twelve buildings, ten are contributing resources and two are non-contributing. The district constitutes the entirety of the historic central business core of the once-small town, which has experienced meteoric population growth of over 1000% in the decade since 2000.

### A Great Place to Call Home

Hutto is consistently ranked as one of the fastest growing communities in Texas. When it comes to towns of the future, Hutto is one that's definitely on the rise. As Austin continues to grow at a rapid rate, the population in this small city is expected to double in size over the next few years. With a great location of 28 miles from the city center, Hutto gives you plenty of separation from the city while still allowing easy access to all of Austin's cool amenities.

### Hutto's ideal business climate...

With over 2000% growth since 2000 and a cost of living index that stands at 93% the national average, you can understand why businesses are moving to Hutto from around the country.

Hutto is "open for business," and aggressively and progressively pursues economic growth. Innovation Business Park will be the largest business park opened in Central Texas in the past several decades, and we look forward business growing here.

### Jarrell





### Where is Jarrell, TX?

Jarrell, Texas is located just off of the I-35 corridor, about 12 miles north of Georgetown. It's roughly an hour (traffic dependent, of course) north of Austin or south of Waco. Jarrell has a growing regional population of 12,500

Residing on edge of Williamson and Bell County, Jarrell, is rapidly becoming the community of choice for families in search of an escape from the challenges of urban living. Williamson County has been ranked as the 4th fastest growing county in Texas. With that migration, Jarrell has experienced 95% growth from 2018 to present. Subsequently, Jarrell is positioning itself to attract a highly skilled and diverse workforce.

With more than 1,000 square miles of land ripe for development in the county, Jarrell not only resides in one of the nation's hotspots for growth, but a region committed to health and quality of life.

Jarrell, TX has been growing for a few decades with housing developments breaking ground right along I-35 and the population explosion happening in Austin.

### Education

Jarrell ISD is a 4A public school district that covers 84 square miles in the heart of Central Texas, north of Austin, south of Waco, and east of Killeen on the 1-35 corridor. The district boundaries include the City of Jarrell, Sonterra, and even

parts of Sun City and the City of Georgetown. The district currently has more than 2,300 students enrolled across four campuses. More and more families are choosing Jarrell ISD to make Cougar Nation their home. Since August 2021, Jarrell ISD has grown 11 percent, adding over 260 students.

### Jarrell ISD currently has four campuses:

Igo Elementary (Pre-K - 5th) Jarrell Elementary (Pre-K - 5th) Jarrell Middle School (6 - 8th) Jarrell High School (9 - 12th)

Elementary #3, approved in the 2021 Bond, is scheduled to open in the fall of 2023. As of July 2021, its location has not been announced.

### District Achievements and Celebrations

• During the 2020-21 school year, Jarrell ISD, Jarrell Elementary, Igo Elementary, Jarrell Middle School, and Jarrell High School earned the distinction of being named "No Place for Hate" by the Anti-defamation League

• The Jarrell Education Foundation presented its first-ever innovative classroom grants to 18 staff members, totaling more than \$19,000

• Since November of 2020, JISD has saved taxpayers \$4.7 million through the refinancing of bonds

- The City of Jarrell and the Jarrell Police Department have generously donated \$45,000 worth of radios to enhance the district's communication with local first responders.
- ٠
- The district is partnering with the Texas A&M College of Nursing and Bluebonnet Community Services to establish a Family Health Center at Jarrell ISD. The clinic is scheduled to open in the fall of 2021.
- Jarrell ISD launched Paint Jarrell Blue an initiative designed to celebrate students, staff, parents, and community members.
- The Jarrell ISD Instructional Coaching Program was featured in the Texas Association of Community Schools magazine. The article addresses how the district's instructional coaches support teachers, develop curriculum, analyze data, facilitate instructional practices and more!

### **Quality of Living**

Compared to the rest of the country, Jarrell's cost of living is 9.2% lower than the U.S. average. The median home cost in 2021 in Jarrell was: \$259,480. The average median change in price from 2017 - 2021 was 10%.

Beyond the location and transportation benefits, there is an abundance of reasonably priced land with immediate access to I-35, favorable topography, the availability of a significant quality labor force, and a community that is focused on directing its growth in a positive manner. Incentives are available for the goal of expanding the economic base of Jarrell with a desire to bring in more who share the values of Jarrell.

### Healthcare

There are extensive medical facilities in Williamson and Bell Counties. Each boasts a thriving biomedical community as is home to a number of healthcare centers, advanced health education, and biomedical research.

For the residents of Jarrell, this places some of the finest healthcare available in the world to within a 30 minute drive, closer in proximity than populations in most metropolitan areas.

### Opportunity

As the economy in the State of Texas continues to be robust, entities from around the United States and internationally continue to investigate the opportunities available in our great state. I-35 is recognized as one of the key roadways that feed supply chains and connects 2/3 of the mega region known as the Texas Triangle. Along with our strategic location on I-35, we reside within 3 hours of the cornerstone cities of Dallas/Fort Worth, San Antonio, and Houston.

### **Business**

The MSAs of Austin and the Temple/Belton/Killeen area reside within a drive time of one hour to Jarrell. November 2021 data indicates the combined MSAs represent more than 1,465,000 employed with an unemployment rate of less than 3.5%.

Beyond the growing population of Jarrell, statistics of "Reverse Commuting" throughout the United States support the growing trend of residents commuting to suburban areas for their livelihood.

The completed expansion of I-35, Texas' major north-south corridor, ensures a timely and lower stress commute from the Austin and Temple/Belton communities and SH130 provides easy access for communities south of Austin to Georgetown. The ongoing expansion of SH 195 will also reduce the drive time from the Killeen/Bell County area.

As the I-35 Corridor continues to expand, businesses seeking commercial properties or land for development will find Jarrell to be a perfect location.

Building Permit Growth (2018-2021)

- 2018-2019: 21%
- 2019-2020: 15%
- 2020-2021: 39%

### **Utilities and Permitting**

Jarrell has the ability to provide "fast tracking" of permits in order to move your construction project from conception to certificate of occupancy. If applicable, this generally results in significant time and money savings.

### Rankings in Jarrell, Texas

Best Places ranks thousands of places to live based on analysis, data and key statistics from the U.S. Census and our Best Places To Live Expert Insights.

# Kingsland





Kingsland is one of the Texas escapes that is all about lake life! Here you can enjoy all that the Highland Lakes area of Central Texas has to offer.

Kingsland started with a few businesses and a cotton gin in the 1880s. With a population of just over 7,000, Kingsland, Texas meets the definition of a small Texas town. Don't let the population or size of Kingsland deter you from visiting. Kingsland, Texas, is big on charm, full of friendly people, and has a fabulous lake and several fun restaurants to enjoy. The location in the Hill Country was then "put on the map" in 1892 when the Austin and Northwestern Railroad connected to Llano through Kingsland, Texas. The railroad brought about a population increase that turned Kingsland into the tourism destination it is today. Now, that sounds like a great small town to us!

While visiting Kingsland, TX, you can enjoy boating or fishing on the beautiful Lake LBJ, exploring some of the histories of Llano County, visiting the many businesses around town, or just kicking back in a local café or restaurant while getting to know the locals!

It's easy to see why tourism is growing so quickly in Kingsland, TX. It is such a great place that you might find yourself staying put where the rivers flow and the bluebonnets grow in Central Texas!

### Things To Do In Kingsland...

• **Go Boating on Lake LBJ In Kingsland** - The convenient location on Lake LBJ, combined with the fact that it is a constantlevel lake, draws visitors not only from Austin but from all over Texas. To get an authentic feel for Kingsland, you can take a boat ride on Lake LBJ, the Colorado River, and the Llano River. Be sure to stop in at Buddies. Conveniently located in town, Buddies is like a marina/gas station combo. They have everything you need for a day on the water, including fishing supplies, sunscreen, and snacks. In addition to all of this, you can also grab some Krispy Krunchy Chicken during your visit. When you are ready to launch your boat, you can head to Kingsland Community Park and use their new public boat launch!

• Play a Round of Golf - The beautiful Texas Hill Country is the perfect place to tee off for a round of golf, and Kingsland, Texas, offers visitors two courses to choose from:

Legends on Lake LBJ is located in a beautiful lake-side community. Guest at Legends can enjoy playing on a course designed by Tom Kite, Roy Bechtol, and Randy Russell. Another great thing about Legends is that you can also stay on the property, thanks to The Legends Villas. These villas have everything you need to enjoy a peaceful retreat in Kingsland, Texas.

Golfers will also want to consider Lighthouse Country Club during their visit to Kingsland, TX. Nestled away in the beautiful Texas Hill Country, Lighthouse Country Club features an 18hole course on the shores of Lake LBJ. A highlight of this course in Kingsland, Texas, is the view of Packsaddle Mountain, a Texas state landmark commemorating the last major Native American battle in the area.

### Do Some Texas Fishing

One of the most popular things to do in Kingsland, is to spend the day fishing. Kingslands access to Lake LBJ, the Llano River, and the Colorado River means that visitors have several bodies of water to choose from. Anglers love casting under the many boat docks located on this Texas lake.

### Check Out The Fun Murals In Kingsland

You will find the perfect mural on the side of the Kingsland, Chamber of Commerce office. Here you will find a 'lake life' mural highlighting Lake LBJ and the Kingsland community that artist Crystal Nobles created. Another impressive mural in Kingsland, TX, is the map mural located at Prosperity Bank. This mural maps the Highland Lakes of the Texas Hill Country out of small tiles. There is also a great mural at Boat Town Burger Bar that is a tribute to the "Hill Country Riviera" (aka Lake LBJ and the Llano River).

### Try Wake Surfing

If you haven't tried wake surfing, then you are missing out! Kingsland, TX is the perfect place to give this one a go. Hanging on the lake is fun, but there is nothing like cruising on a wave behind the boat.

### Do Some Stand Up Paddle Boarding

Another fun lake activity to enjoy during your trip to Kingsland, is standup paddle boarding. Find a site on the lake that is out of the way of the main body of water. The lack of waves in these areas will help give you the confidence to stand up and enjoy being on the board. If you don't have a board of your own, you can check at the local marina and boat rentals to see about renting one.

### Grand Central Cafe Restaurant

Movie buffs flock to Grand Central Cafe in Kingsland! The Cafe is housed in the original. place where the 1970s movie *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* was filmed! Visitors can tour the house turned restaurant to see the original staircase and the infamous door from which Leatherface emerged. Of course, you will also find memorabilia, including signed photographs from the actors, throughout the site. During your visit, grab a meal and a cocktail in this piece of Texas history.

### • Town Burger Bar

This Kingsland hot spot serves up delicious pub-style food accompanied by yummy craft cocktails, all with a view of Lake LBJ! Locals and visitors flock to Boat Town on the weekends to enjoy the lively atmosphere accompanied by live music under the Texas stars. They also host events throughout the year.

### • Patio 2900

You will find Patio 2900, located right next to Boat Town Burger Bar. While both boast great lake views, Patio 2900 serves delicious pizza instead of burgers and pub food. After ordering head outside to enjoy their fabulous location on Lake LBJ.

### The Place Downtown

Right in the heart of Kingsland, visitors will find The Place Downtown. What started as a little coffee/breakfast shop for their church quickly became a thriving business. The Place Downtown also serves as a church.

### Lazy Heron Coffee Shop

You cannot visit Kingsland, Texas, without going to Lazy Heron Coffee Shop. This fun Highland Lakes coffee shop serves delicious coffee in a laid-back, cozy atmosphere.



https://www.thattexascouple.com/kingsland-texas/

# Kyle



### LOCATION

Kyle is a full-service city approaching 50,000 residents and extending over 9 miles along the I-35 corridor. Its incredible rate of growth makes it one of the fastest growing cities in the nation. Kyle is located 8 miles north of the outlet malls in San Marcos and 20 miles south of downtown Austin and the Austin-Bergstrom Int'l Airport. Kyle is proud to be the official Pie Capital of Texas.

Kyle is the fifth fastest growing city in the state of Texas. Historically tied and building our future, Kyle is striving to maintain the small Town Texas charm while positioning itself to be a vital part of the corridor economic development. You will find the City of Kyle to have a pro-business climate with a committed, progressive, and collaborative community.

Kyle has an affordable, available, and growing workforce, quality education base and the benefit of a strategic location in the heart of one of the fastest growing corridors in the nation. In addition, the city has ample acreage of available property, an affordable cost of doing business, a favorable tax structure, and is growing its utility and roadway infrastructure to support growth and future development.

### HAYS CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (HCISD)

Located in North Central Hays County, he HCISD serves more than 221 square miles. The district's 23 campuses are located throughout the Kyle and Buda communities, drawing just over 20,000 students.

HCISD features a state-of-the-art Performing Arts Center and many newly built campuses. In all, there are 23 campuses including: 13 Elementary Schools (K-5), 6 Middle Schools (6-8), 2 High Schools (9-12), 1 Alternative School of Choice, 1 Discipline Alternative Campus

### GROWTH

HCISD is the sixth fastest growing school district within the state. Ten years ago, the district served a total of 8,614 students. Ten years from now, the district is projected to serve a total of 24,210 students.

A gateway to the Hill Country, Kyle is just a few miles away from many natural attractions, shopping and historic landmarks.



### POPULATION

The City of Kyle is poised to be the largest city in Hays County. Our population multiplied seven times over since the 2000 Census from 5,000 citizens to just over 47,500 in 2019. We maintain a small town value system including dedication, integrity and creativity to our residents and business communities.

### BUSINESS

Kyle is strategically located along the I-35 corridor, between two Top Performing Cities in Texas. Just 7 miles south of Austin city limits and 39 miles north of San Antonio city limits, Kyle is in the enviable position along the booming corridor in the direct path of rapid growth.

Just a decade ago, if you would have stood on the corner of I-35 & FM 1626, you would have seen only cow pastures as far as the eye could see. Kyle did not even have a grocery store. Within an extremely short period of time, Kyle has seen massive growth, investment and commitment from commercial businesses and developers.

There is approximately 2.5 million square feet of retail/mixed use space currently under development at the intersection of I-35 and FM 1626 alone. There is an additional 900,000 square feet at FM 1626 and Kohlers Crossing and an additional 800,000 square feet of retail/mixed use space adjacent to Home Depot at Exit 215 among several other smaller planned developments. This kind of development is unprecedented during these economic times.

The City of Kyle is poised to be the largest city in Hays County. Our population multiplied 6 times over since the 2000 census from 5,000 citizens to just over 40,000.

Several factors prove that the area is very progressive including transportation, utility and water plans, access, and construction. The City of Kyle is currently undergoing major highway and infrastructure improvements. We strongly encourage you to begin or continue your Central Texas search here in Kyle.

### TRANSPORTATION

Kyle is ideally located in the heart of the I-35 corridor between Austin and San Antonio where residents and commuters enjoy ease of access to the newly completed I-45 toll road as well as I-10, FM 150, FM 1626, SH 21, and SH 123.

Austin-Bergstrom International Airport is located 25 miles north of Kyle, the San Marcos Municipal Airport is located 12 miles to the City's south, and San Antonio International Airport is 52 miles to the south. The MoPAC rail line runs through the heart of downtown Kyle and the Amtrak Passenger Train has a nearby stop 10 miles south of Kyle in San Marcos.

### LOCAL RECREATION

- Steeplechase Disc Golf Course
- -Plum Creek Golf Course
- -Kyle Pool
- -Kyle Public Library
- -Katherine Anne Porter Literary Center
- -Claiborne Kyle Log House
- -Community Parks
- -Gregg-Clarke Community Park
- -Steeplechase Community Park
- -Waterleaf Community Park
- -Numerous neighborhood & pocket parks

### AREA RECREATION

San Marcos Premium Outlets
Tanger Outlets San Marcos
Wonder World Park
Five Mile Dam Parks Complex
Randall Wade Vetter Park
TDS Exotic Game Ranch

### KYLE TODAY

This once tiny town is now a thriving city of about 50,000. New development and businesses ushered in a new era of economic development for the City of Kyle. Recent additions to the city's business sector include HPI, Smile Direct Club, Majestic Realty, Alsco, and ENF. These businesses have invested more than \$200M in Kyle.

# Lago Vista/Jonestown



Lago Vista, Texas is a gorgeous city located on the Northern shores of Lake Travis. The city extends over 8.7 square miles of land and 0.6 square miles of water. Lago Vista is located on a peninsula jetting 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.

Residents and tourists absolutely love the abundant wildlife, scenery, and lake lifestyle that Lago Vista has to offer. Lago Vista is also home to several wineries, golf courses, marinas, and performing arts.

Jonestown, Texas is known as the "Gateway to the Hill Country" for good reason. Twenty miles Northwest of Austin, this town of just over 2,000 people ushers you in with its large oak trees and plenty of nearby water life at Lake Travis.

There are five private lakeside parks in Lago Vista that offer swimming, a marina, a clubhouse, and a fitness area and activity area. The two golf courses in the area are The Lago Vista Golf Course and The Highland Lakes Golf Course. Both courses have amazing views of Lake Travis and offer a course for all skill levels to be challenged.

### LAGO VISTA ISD

is located in Travis County on the north shore of Lake Travis and is part of the greater Austin metropolitan area. The District encompasses 35 square miles and serves the cities of Lago Vista, Point Venture, and South Jonestown Hills. Lago Vista ISD is a lakeside community in the Texas Hill Country located just 15 miles from the Austin city limits, making it a highly desired location.

- Student Enrollment: 1,500
- Student to Teacher Ratio: 15.4
- Campuses: Lago Vista High School (9-12)
- Lago Vista Middle School (6-8)
- Lago Vista Intermediate School (4-5)
- Lago Vista Elementary School (PK-3)
- Ranking: #5 in the Austin Area for Academic Achievement
- Average Years of Experience for Teachers: 14 years
- Average SAT Score: 1544 Average ACT Score: 23.4



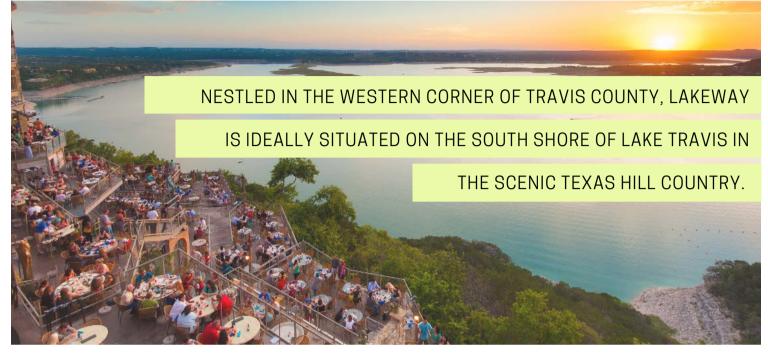


Lago Vista and Jonestown are experiencing increased popularity as more people become aware of the lifestyle on the lake, which includes boating, fishing, swimming and a 9-hole golf course.

Lago Vista regularly hosts a several annual events. In January, Jonestown & Lago Vista's Chamber hosts a Casino Nite. A golf tournament is held in October where residents can play Chamber members. The Jonestown annual Cajun Cook-Off takes place every march. The Cook-Off is full of appetizing cajun food, music, and festivities. The annual La Primavera Bike Race is held on the first weekend in March.

# Lakeway





Located about 25 miles west of downtown Austin, **Lakeway is a resort community** complete with golf courses, tennis courts, marinas, a private airport, a full-service hotel and spa, a 65-mile long lake, 100 acres of parkland and trails, and nearly 500 acres of greenbelts. It is considered one of the finest small cities in the Austin metro area.

Lakeway is a unique, prestigious, growth-managed community with a full-service city government. The City provides police, court, building and development, parks and recreation, streets and drainage, and solid waste management services. Lake Travis Fire Rescue (Travis Co. ESD #6) provides fire suppression and emergency medical response, and municipal utility districts provide water and wastewater services.

The City of Lakeway began as a retirement and second-home community. Active empty-nesters and young professionals are attracted to the city's natural beauty, proximity to Austin and endless recreational activities including tennis, golf, hiking, biking, picnicking and camping, fishing, boating, swimming, and scuba diving. Lakeway residents are active in their community and take great pride in the city and its unique history. Lakeway offers a relaxing **"lake lifestyle"** and the opportunity to live and work where you play.

This west Austin region has developed largely due to **Lake Travis ISD's excellent school performance**. Lake Travis ISD operates one high school, three middle schools, and six elementary schools. There are several colleges within 20 miles of Lakeway, including the University of Texas at Austin, Saint Edward's University, ACC, and Concordia University.

Lakeway residents enjoy **diversified employment opportunities**, tremendous recreation outlets, and a myriad of live music opportunities. The area is also home to a number of **exclusive restaurants and unique shopping experiences**. We are unmatched with the eclectic tastes and styles of our local business owners.

With sophisticated but casual dining, several nearby private and public golf courses and 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.

### **Golf and Country Club Living**

Lakeway is also a premiere golf destination and golf lover's dream, with four area golf courses; Yaupon, Live Oak, The Hills, and Flintrock Falls.

**The Lakeway Swim Center** offers a skate park, picnic tables, volleyball and basketball courts, a climbing wall, a terrace tanning area, and over sized chess and checkers.

Lake Travis is an exciting place to live and a popular destination for water and outdoor enthusiasts. This **gorgeous lake** area is surrounded with miles of abundant wildlife and picturesque views. Lakeway is a perfect location for swimming, canoeing, water skiing, paddle boarding, boating jet skiing, kayaking, fishing and so much more! Living by the lake provides endless activities and entertainment for all ages!

### Lampasas





Located in the Heart of Texas and known as the **"Gateway** to the Texas Hill Country", Lampasas is about 30 minutes from Fort Hood, and about an hour out of the state capital, Austin. The small city of Lampasas (about 7000 people) is replete with Southwest charm, from its limestone buildings and narrow alleys to its historic courthouse and square. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the city was a booming resort town known as the "Saratoga of the South," and people came from far and wide to "take the waters."

Lampasas today is a comfortable place to live, with good schools, attractive parks along the creeks, a variety of recreational opportunities, and a solid base of agricultural and commercial businesses. It has a modern hospital, excellent highway connections, railroad facilities, an airport capable of landing jets, and an up-to-date utility system.

### HISTORIC DOWNTOWN SQUARE

The Courtyard Square in Downtown Lampasas is anchored by the historic refurbished Lampasas County Courthouse. The Courthouse and area surrounding it are a Nationally Registered Historic District. All around town you can view murals that tell a story, visit one of many delicious eateries, shop in unique stores, take a dip in our natural free-flow spring pool or venture out to sip wine at a local award winning winery.

### LAMPASAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

The mission of the Lampasas Independent School District is to develop and encourage life-long learners and to share in the responsibility of educating the total child. The District strives to prepare the students physically, mentally, socially and morally toward the full realization of their highest potential.

### Schools include:

- Hanna Springs Elementary School
- Kline Whitis Elementary School
- Taylor Creek Elementary School
- Lampasas High School
- Lampasas Middle School

### ATTRACTIONS

### Shopping & Dining

Lampasas now has every kind of shop one could fancy - from boutiques to cool funky resale shops. There are galleries, jewelry, antiques, home decor, vintage items, clothing, accessories, gifts and so much more! And then there's the cuisine. From Tex-Mex to German, don't miss the hometown feel in historic downtown!

### **Mineral Springs**

Home to several mineral springs along the Sulphur Creek branch of the Lampasas River, the springs continue to be a main tourist attraction for locals and visitors from afar. History shows that in the mid-1850's, Moses Hughes brought his family and ailing wife to Lampasas to bathe in and drink the healing water of the springs, which restored her health. In the late 19th century, Lampasas became a popular tourist attraction and encampment when the town gained fame as a health resort. Visitors traveled from all over Texas to bathe in the healing waters, with many even getting baptized.

### Hancock Springs Free Flow Pool- the Oldest in the State!

No summertime visit to Lampasas is complete without a dip in the enormously refreshing spring-fed free-flow Hancock Pool. Open in the afternoon and early evening, Thursday through Sunday, in the summer only. Hancock Springs is said to be 72 degrees all year round and dates to 1911.

The sulfur springs in Lampasas, touted for their healing properties, were the main attraction for visitors to Lampasas in the latter part of the nineteenth century, and Hancock Pool is the only sulfur springs pool still open to the public. The springs are now part of a 109-acre park. Moonlight Swims take place on designated evenings in June, July, and August. Everyone attending is invited to bring food for the potluck supper. Live music is played and everyone wears glow-in-the-dark necklaces- a true FAMILY event! The pool drains into a nearby creek that runs through the park.

### <u>Hanna Springs Pool</u>

The swimming pool allows youngsters and adults a modern facility in which to spend those hot, summer days. The 7,000 plus square-foot swimming pool is but a part of the complex. A 2,300 square-foot bath house contain showers, men's and women's restrooms and dressing areas, office spaces, storage space, and a concession area. With a large friendly aquatic staff, Hanna Springs Pool is a good place for individuals and families to have a great time.

### Cooper Spring Nature Park

Named for the natural spring on the property, Cooper Spring Nature Park is a series of trails on approximately 25-acres dedicated to the preservation and encouragement of wildlife. Volunteers have cleared invasive plants and sowed native varieties to create a space welcoming to birds and butterflies as well as humans. This park is a labor of love that offers a beautiful slice of unspoiled nature in downtown Lampasas.

### Colorado Bend State Park

Located along 6 miles of Colorado River frontage, 5,328-acre Colorado Bend State Park boasts a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities, including: primitive camping, fishing, swimming, picnicking, and wildlife observation. Hikers and backpackers enjoy the park's 25.5 miles of trails, most of which are open to mountain bikers as well. One of the park's gems is 60-foot high Gorman Falls, now accessible to the public for day use activities via a 3-mile round trip hike. Approximately 150 wild caves are located on the park property, some of which are accessible via guided tour.

### WM Brook Park

The Riverwalk of Lampasas! Families will enjoy spending time along the river, where children can play on the playground, travel the pedestrian suspension bridge, fish the river and watch productions at the river-side Ruth Akin Outdoor Theater.

### Campbell Park & Hanna Springs Sculpture Garden

Hanna Springs Sculpture Garden is located in Campbell Park. LAFTA (Lampasas Association for the Arts) issues an annual call for sculpture (3 to 5 pieces) for annual exhibit. Sculptors who have participated in our annual exhibits have included: Tim Glover's "Whirlwind" and "2 Leaves Standing", Rolando Saenz's "Horse", Delbert Beckham's "Habitat", Joe Barrington's " The Elusive Red Heron", Jeff Turner's "Struggle And Embrace", Terry Jone's "What's for Breakfast", and Reven M. Sawnson's "Aspen's and Moon". Take a stroll through Hanna Springs Art Garden. Great photo opportunities abound- you'll be dazzled and inspired! The garden was inspired by local artist Nancy Gray. It is family and pet friendly and free to the public.

### Lampasas County Museum

Head over to the Lampasas County Museum for a look at objects related to Lampasas County history. The museum was founded in 1976, but moved to this site, a former plumbing and sheet metal shop, in 1982. The floorboards are original – they were turned over to hide the oil stains. Here you'll find a mural and diorama of a regional landscape and a model of the Park Hotel (1883-1895) at Hancock Springs, as well as other antiques collected by area residents, past and present, loosely telling the story of daily life in early Lampasas. Volunteers can tell you some Lampasas stories, and this is a good place to purchase books related to the history of the city and county.

### **Wineries**

Scattered throughout the Hill Country and all within a brief and breathtaking drive of Lampasas lies some 70 spectacular and visually stunning wineries. Each of these wineries have their own personality, style of making wine, and a passion for what they do.

### 580 Sports Complex

This 173-acre park is located off Farm-to-Market Road 580 West. This sports complex is large enough to accommodate large crowds of spectators and hosts many events to include youth baseball, youth softball, adult softball, and youth soccer. The city has a twenty-five year plan for the sports complex which means that it will continue to grow, develop, and offer more opportunities for Lampasas residents and visitors.

The Sports Complex Features 2 Regulation size soccer fields, 2 Regulation size softball fields, a playground, 300 parking spaces, 30 acres of dedicated open space land, an open-air basketball court, 3 acres of wetland with viewing platform, concession Stand, 900 feet of walking trails and wildlife viewing.

### Leander



### SCENIC LANDSCAPES, ABUNDANT WILDLIFE AND WATERWAYS ARE

### COMMON SIGHTS ENJOYED BY LEANDER RESIDENTS.



**Living Leander -** Leander offers a unique blend of Texas Hill Country living in the urban Austin metropolitan area with scenic landscapes, wildlife and waterways enjoyed by many of our community residents and visitors. Quality of life is very good in Leander and one of the many reasons people relocate here.

- Leander was recently named the fastest growing city in the state.
- Access to the Hill Country and proximity to Austin creates many opportunities for artistic, entertainment and recreational pursuits.
- The Leander Independent School District has an excellent academic reputation.
- The University of Texas and Austin Community College are the two largest (out of seven) institutions of higher education in the region, and Leander is home of its very own ACC campus.
- Leander is also served by a growing number of medical centers including Georgetown, St David's, Cedar Park Regional, Baylor Scott & White and North Austin.
- Capital MetroRail offers comfortable, friendly and reliable service Monday through Friday between Leander and downtown Austin.

Leander was ranked as the 5th best suburb to move to in the Nation in 2021 by Homes.com and has continued to rank highly on both national and state rankings of communities to live in and raise a family. Leander continues to rank among the fastest growing cities in America and has grown more than 149 percent from 2015 to 2021 alone. This record breaking pace of growth stems from high performing school districts, a strategic location just 25 miles from downtown Austin, high quality housing options, and a thriving business environment.

### Leander By the Numbers

Bachelor's Degree or Higher 47% Population 2020 - 63,000 Population 2021 - 82,000 Trade Area Population - 140,000 Median Household Income - \$101,872

### Leander Housing

A variety of housing options exist in Leander including single family homes, large estate homes, townhomes, condominiums, multifamily properties, and assisted living centers. Leander's economic growth, excellent quality of life, high performing school districts, and plentiful housing options continue to make the community one of the fastest growing cities in America.

Leander was named the fastest growing city in America by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2020 and has continued to rank highly on that list since 2016. The population of Leander has grown from 32,000 in 2015 to 82,000 in 2021 - an increase of more than 156%.

### Education

Leander ISD teachers and support staff focus on engaging and inspiring students for achievement and lifelong success. We are a fast-growth district, adding 1,000 students every year, serving families in the cities of Austin, Cedar Park and Leander. LISD educates more than 42,000 students at its 44 campuses. The district encompasses nearly 200 square miles.

### Workforce

Leander provides one of the most highly educated and talented workforces in the Austin region. More than 1 million workers live within a 30 minute drive time radius and over 1.2 million workers are located within a 45 minute drive.

Major industries in Leander and surrounding region include regional and national headquarters, life sciences, technology, professional and financial services, and advanced manufacturing. Leander has access to a large pool of highly talented workers who can meet the needs of any employer.

Leander's highly educated workforce is available primarily due to excellent K-12 school districts and post-secondary educational opportunities available. 48.3% of Leander's workforce, calculated by drive time radii, has earned a bachelor's degree or higher.

### Commuter Rail & Bus

The City of Leander is served by commuter rail service provided by Capital Metro. The 32-mile route connects Leander to downtown Austin. Riders are able to access other locations throughout the region by making connections at Capital Metro's additional 8 MetroRail stations.

Commuter bus service is provided by Capital Metro's MetroExpress service. The Leander Station includes a park and ride that allows customers to leave their cars at the station and utilize its mass transportation services.

### Quality of life

Quality of Life is very good in Leander and one of the many reasons people relocate here. Access to the Hill Country and proximity to Austin creates many opportunities for artistic, entertainment, and recreational pursuits. The Leander Independent School District, the tenth fastest growing district in the U.S., has an excellent academic reputation.

Location, climate, population, strong government, economic development, excellent schools, transportation and low taxes, combined with sincere Texas hospitality, all contribute to the popularity Leander continues to enjoy in both residential and commercial growth. Leander is also a community dedicated to quality living. The city boasts access to a wide range of recreation and entertainment opportunities including a large network of parks, trails, civic spaces, and a quickly growing number of restaurants and live entertainment venues. Leander's location just 25 miles from downtown Austin also provides quick access to the region's large number of cultural and recreational amenities.

### Parks, Trails, and Civic Spaces

The City of Leander's Parks & Recreation Department manages approximately 400 acres of parkland comprised of 14 city-owned parks, a public library, and the publicly owned Crystal Falls Golf Course.

### **Crystal Falls Golf Club**

Crystal Falls Golf Club is in the picturesque Hill Country with a peaceful atmosphere and abundant wildlife. With water hazards that come into play on 12 of the 18 holes, this 6,654 yard golf course may be short, but it is still challenging. Crystal Falls Golf Club is home to the Hill Country Amateur which is one of the top amateur events in the area. Come out and play, and you'll find a unique golf course with a character all its own.

Gino's Vino Osteria on the Green offers lunch and dinner service, a full bar, and an assortment of snacks. Catering service for special events is available. Indoor and outdoor seating is available.

The Crystal Falls Golf Club is owned by the City of Leander and open to the public. The course and clubhouse are located at 3000 Crystal Falls Parkway.

### **Major Festivals & Events**

The City of Leander and its community partners offer a wide variety of community events throughout the year. These include:

- Leander Bluegrass Festival
- Old Town Street Festival
- Liberty Fest
- Movies in the Park
- Spring Egg-Stravaganza
- Deveine Lake Kite Festival

### **Old Town Leander**

Leander's charm is on full display in the Old Town district. Visitors to the area will find a growing variety of restaurants, bars, entertainment venues, and retail stores. Old Town serves as the location for multiple events and festivals including the weekly Leander Farmers Market and annual Old Town Street Festival and Christmas Festival and Parade.

# Liberty Hill





### ABOUT LIBERTY HILL

Positioned perfectly in the Texas Hill Country off State Highway 29 W. Liberty Hill offers the best of country living with strong community values. Residents also enjoy an excellent school district, hill country vistas, and easy access to area attractions. What was once a rural ranching community is now expanding its profile and developing new, upscale neighborhoods. Current residents are trying to preserve Liberty Hill's charm and history throughout all this growth. Downtown Liberty Hill still has many of their original buildings, a few of them restored.

The results of tremendous growth in Williamson County as a whole are especially easy to see in Liberty Hill. While growth and change are common buzzwords in present-day Liberty Hill, it's a deep-rooted connection to our historic past that makes us different from other cities in Central Texas. New residents come from all over to relate to those "simpler times" again.

Nestled between the North and South forks of the San Gabriel River, remnants of small ranching and farming villages have evolved over the past 175 years into one of the fastest growing communities in the Austin metro area. Families and businesses are locating to the Liberty Hill area today for the same reasons they did throughout history — the beauty of the rolling hills along the Shin Oak Ridge, good schools and plenty of opportunity!

### **ASTOUNDING GROWTH**

One of the fastest-growing cities and areas in Texas, our robust

economy is turning heads and improving lives. With a trade area population of over 38,000 and an average household income of almost \$125,000, the opportunities feel endless. Our city is filled with entrepreneurs who wanted to escape the big city lifestyle but still have the amenities their families and employees enjoy. Liberty Hill is home to many fantastic businesses that enrich our lives every day. From salons to fashion, it's easy to find what you are looking for on the hill.

It also means freedom to learn and appreciate arts and culture. From our acclaimed Whimsy and Wonder festival to our worldrenowned Liberty Hill International Sculpture Park, our residents have the opportunity to do this every day.

The Liberty Hill Independent, a local newspaper published weekly since 1987, has been recognized with numerous awards by The Texas Press Association. In addition to print media, Liberty Hill is poised for the film industry: in 2015, the Liberty Hill EDC initiated participation in the Texas Film Commission as a "film-friendly" city.

### PLAY

Liberty Hill residents are near art galleries, wineries, symphonies, museums, live theater and fine eateries. However, several activities and events in our city happen all year long. Festivals, civic events, wine tastings, art celebrations and more bring fun and excitement to our residents and visitors. New retail is also moving in along the 183 corridors in Leander, just a few short miles from Liberty Hill.

### Arts & Culture

containing some of the best work from Mel Fowler and international sculptors. Liberty Hill is also well known for the historic Fort Tumbleweed. For over 30 years, Len and Lynda Kubiak have collected 16-acres worth of old, historic buildings and relics. The buildings and relics date back to the 1850's. The Kubiak's hope to bring life to this historic place. Schedule a tour and see the 12 amazing buildings at the Fort Tumbleweed.

#### Healthcare

Comprehensive healthcare services are available at St. David's Georgetown Hospital, Cedar Park Regional Medical Center, Scott & White Hospital and Seton Hospitals.

#### **Events**

Liberty Hill hosts community events and festivals that are open and free to the public throughout the year. The city hosts three main festivals a year in addition to sponsoring the Liberty Hill Rodeo, Trunk-or-Treat, Water Tower Kickstart concert series, and more. Liberty Hill always offers something fun for you and your family to enjoy and grow closer as a community!

#### Whimsy & Wonder

At Whimsy & Wonder, expect the unexpected, as Liberty Hill's Main Street is transformed into an eclectic fusion of everything whimsical and wonderful, with surprise elements at every turn! Six live bands, eclectic live art demonstrations, wine tastings, artisan vendors, street performers, and a Children's Imagination Garden will allow visitors to interact with artists, while being dazzled with opportunities to create, enjoy, and be entertained!

### Halloween in the Hill

As Liberty Hill ghouls and gals get ready for the spookiest weekend of the year, the entertainment scene also is gearing up with a variety of festive events. From trunk or treats to a haunted house, there are plenty of ways to get in the mood for Halloween.

#### Trunk or Treat

The Liberty Hill Police Department hosts Trunk or Treat each October as a fun way for children and families to celebrate Halloween and trick or treat in a safe, controlled environment. Community members and local businesses decorate vehicles in spooky Halloween themes and pass out candy to trick-or-treaters.

#### Water Tower Kickstart

Kickstart your Liberty Hill weekends with live music at the Water Tower Parking Lot on select Thursday evenings from 6-9pm next summer!

Check out the variety of dining options on Main Street, purchase food and beverages from the onsite food vendors, or pack a picnic basket to enjoy the evening of fun and music! Bring a lawn chair or blanket and the entire family for live music and kid activities.

#### Independence Dav

One of the biggest attractions to Liberty Hill is a sculpture garden Neighbors and friends will gather at Liberty Hill Junior High to celebrate freedom in the most patriotic way. Residents engage in friendly competition for the coveted blue ribbon in challenges like the Homemade Apple Pie contest, Homemade Ice Cream contest, Watermelon Seed Spitting contest and the Hot Dog Eating contest. Children play in the Radical Run Obstacle Course, ride the trackless train and jump on the Velcro wall. The activities pause mid-evening for the Beach Ball Drop. Thousands of hands raise in the air as children try to catch one of the hundreds of beach balls that fall from the sky, just before the headliner band kicks off. Festivities conclude with fireworks.

#### **Christmas Festival**

In mid-December each year, the entire town gathers for the Christmas Festival in downtown LHTX. Guests can shop, eat, and enjoy music during the day, while the kids ice skate, play in real snow, visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, and so much more!

That same evening, the community gathers along Loop 332 for the lighted Christmas parade. Floats from the community provide the magic and sparkle, and the families stationed along the street provide the child-like wonder as everyone oohs and aahs as each float passes.

### Liberty Hill ISD

Liberty Hill ISD earns the state's highest fiscal accountability rating. Liberty Hill Independent School District officials announced that the district received a rating of "A" for "superior achievement" under Texas' school first financial accountability rating system. The "superior achievement" rating is the state's highest, demonstrating the guality of Liberty Hill's financial management and reporting system. This rating also shows that LHISD is accountable not only for student learning but also for achieving these results cost-effectively and efficiently."

The Texas Education Agency assigned one of four financial accountability ratings to Texas school districts, with the highest being "A" for "superior achievement," followed by "B" for "abovestandard achievement," "C" for "standard achievement" and "F" for "substandard achievement." Liberty Hill ISD has achieved the highest rating of "A" for "superior achievement" for five years.

#### **Continuing Education**

Universities, colleges, art and culinary teaching facilities are located within commuting distance from Liberty Hill - The University of Texas at Austin, St. Edward's University, Southwestern University, Central Texas College, Austin Community College, The Art Institute of Austin and Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Institute of Austin.

The old and the new are coming together here in Liberty Hill. A growing city's vision for greatness is taking shape with a collective goal of turning the area into a destination for business, retail, art, dining, and entertainment

### Llano





An hour west of Austin the asphalt turns to lush hills and sparkling waters. Llano is located in the beautiful Texas Hill Country only 72 miles northwest of Austin and 90 miles northwest of San Antonio. Once here, there is more to make you stop than the 4 traffic lights!

You will enjoy the relaxed pace of a welcoming small town community and the serenity the beautiful landscape brings. Whether living in town, on the river, or out in the country, Llano's cadence will lure you to take pleasure in the unique simplicity of the Hill Country life.

With one-fourth of the population residing in the city & threefourths in the county, Llano caters to very diverse living standards. Llano is a prime place to distance yourself from the city, raise a family, start a business, work some land, own a second home, or just retire.

### FUN THINGS TO DO IN LLANO, TEXAS

### Sample some of the best barbecue in Texas.

Llano is, unsurprisingly, home to some truly fantastic barbecue–and in the case of Cooper's Old Time Pit Bar-B-Que, it just may be the best in Texas! Just ask its many fans and long lines–in a near-impossible competition, Cooper's tends to rank near the top. However, its neighbor across the street, Inman's Kitchen Bar-B-Q, should not be overlooked.

### Check out Llano's historic Red Top Jail.

Dating to 1895, Llano's Red Top Jail has–what else–a distinctive red roof, and a well-preserved interior (which only

makes sense: it was a functioning jail until 1982).

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### Seek out Shakedown Street.

Part public art project and part local hangout, Shakedown Street is a collection of colorful murals and decor situated behind Charlie's Furniture in Llano. Located in the heart of town, it's easy to access Shakedown Street, but you may miss it unless you're specifically seeking it out. As an art project that clearly delights in its own whimsy.

### Pay a visit to the Llano Historical Museum.

Housed in the former Bruhl's Drugstore (you can still see the original soda fountain inside when you visit), the Llano Historical Museum explores the history of Llano County. The small museum is open from Wednesday to Saturday, Don't miss the Pioneer Garden out back!

### Follow the Llano Trail of Deer.

Uniquely painted deer statues are scattered throughout town, and they make excellent photo spots in Llano.

### Drive Highway 71 during bluebonnet season.

Highway 71 near Llano is home to some of the prettiest <u>bluebonnet patches in Texas</u> from roughly late March to mid-April each year. Be sure to add this scenic drive to your list of fun things to do in Llano, TX!

### Admire one of the most beautiful courthouses in Texas.

On any list of the most gorgeous Texas courthouses, you're virtually guaranteed to find the Llano Courthouse. Built in 1893, the courthouse and its distinctive clocktower are well worth checking out while visiting Llano.

### Stop by the Dabbs Railroad Hotel.

Built in 1907, this hotel overlooking the Llano River is one of the last remaining railroad hotels of its kind. Situated near the train station, in the early 20th century the Dabbs Railroad Hotel catered to visitors passing through Llano.

Though it features beautiful views and plenty of Texas history, the Dabbs Railroad Hotel is arguably best known for its two most (in)famous guests: Bonnie and Clyde.

### Seek out bald eagles.

Each winter, bald eagles call an area near Llano, Texas home. Without a doubt, this is one of the most unique things to do in Llano. November to March is generally the best time to spot the eagles, but their arrival date changes by the year.

### Grab a drink at the Fuel Coffee House.

Housed in a historic grocery store mere steps from the main square, Fuel Coffee House doesn't just serve up some of the best coffee in Llano--it also provides a busy and beautiful nonprofit community space.

Live music is common here, as are community meals, and of course plenty of casual studying and hanging out.

Be sure to add the charming Fuel Coffee House to your list of things to see in Llano!

### Check out the LanTex Theater.

Dating to 1927, the LanTex Theater's red-and-white marquee is bound to catch your eye when wandering the main square. Showing first-run movies 3 times a week, and, once a month, the Llano County Opry, the theater is a delightful piece of both Llano's past and present.

### Stroll along the Llano River.

Running through the center of town, it's impossible to miss the beautiful Llano River when visiting–and no trip to Llano is complete without a stroll alongside it!

Badu Park and Robinson City Park are both great places to visit and enjoy the river, but Badu Park is closer to the center of town.

### Stop by Baby Head Cemetery for an interesting piece of local history.

This small cemetery dating to the 19th century lies a short drive outside of Llano, and it is the last remaining link to a town that no longer stands here: where was there was a town called Baby Head, now there is only this cemetery.

### Head over to Enchanted Rock State Natural Area.

The fascinating and ever-popular Enchanted Rock lies only 25 minutes south of Llano! We recommend planning ahead: the park often fills to capacity, so booking reservations in advance is highly encouraged.

### The Llano River Golf & RV Resort.

This a challenging 18 hole course. Its natural beauty and wildlife, along the picturesque Llano River which provides a beautiful backdrop to your golf outing. The pro shop has a complete line of golf equipment and apparel.

### Inks Lake State Park.

The beautiful Inks Lake State Park is also only 25 minutes from Llano, this time due east. It's a popular place to combine with the best things to do in Llano, and for good reason: the lake is the perfect place to either hike or cool off in the water.

### Manor

The City of Manor, founded in 1872, was located on the Houston and Texas Central Railway, giving residents easy access to markets. The community grew rapidly and Manor continued to serve as a commercial center for area farmers, many of whom used the railroad to ship livestock and dairy products. Today, Manor's population exceeds an estimate of 8,500 residents.

The City of Manor is situated approximately 12 miles east of Austin on U.S. Highway 290, which links much of Central Texas to Houston. Manor is poised to see explosive growth as its proximity to Austin, its affordable land, and its location at an interchange of the SH130 toll-road set the stage for this growth. Many new subdivisions offer a variety of housing types for first-time home buyers to retirees.

In addition, the possibility that the still-active rail line might be used for commuter rail has increases Manor's growth prospects. In conjunction with the current boom in residential growth, commercial retail and service providers are discovering that the City of Manor has affordable land, along with streamlined development processes created to welcome new development.

### MANOR INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

The community has its own school district Manor Independent School District which serves the educational needs of more than 7000 students and there are plenty of affordable housing options for buyers. Because of the affordable housing Manor Texas 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.

### Major Employers

- Austin Regional Clinic
- Baylor Scott & White
- Bluebonnet Electric
- Riata Ford
- Samsung







The City of Manor Strives to promote Community spirit through the preservation of our unique character and heritage, while fostering a dynamic economic environment.



# Marble Falls





Find Your Place in Marble Falls - located in the heart of the Texas Hill Country - is a convergence of business, industry, adventure, and small-town charm. Whether you're looking for a multi-million dollar lakefront home, a ranchette, a golf course home in a pecan orchard, or an antique Victorian in the original township, there's no place like Marble Falls when it comes to putting down roots.

#### MARBLE FALLS IS THE HILL COUNTRY'S PLAYGROUND

Marble Falls is the gateway to the Highland Lakes region of the Texas Hill Country. The area features hunting, fishing, boating, golf, tennis and outdoor activities are plentiful. Working families and retirees enjoy these outdoor activities year round.

Marble Falls takes great pride in providing beautiful, clean parks for citizens and visitors alike. Whether it's boating, swimming, tennis, disc golf or skateboarding, you can find it at one of the City Parks. With 6,200 sq ft overlooking Lake Marble Falls, the Pavilion in Lakeside Park is the perfect place for a company meeting or a family wedding.

#### GOLF

Marble Falls, Horseshoe Bay and the Texas Hill Country offer amazing golf amenities and scenery on tracts that range from quite playable to extremely demanding. From Horseshoe Bay Resort's renowned Applerock, Ramrock and Slickrock courses to the brand-new Nicklaus course at Summit Rock, from Hidden Falls Country Club to Escondido and many more, the Highland Lakes area is a golfing mecca.

#### VINEYARDS AND WINERIES

Enjoy native Texan wines while taking in the scenic Hill Country.

Several area wineries offer distinctive wines and tasting tours including Fall Creek Vineyards, Perissos Vineyards, Spicewood Vineyards, Flat Creek Vineyards and many others.

#### MARBLE FALLS SCHOOLS

There are several independent school districts in the Marble Falls area. The largest is Marble Falls ISD, with over 4,000 students in grades K-12. There are also several private and parochial schools in the area offering pre-school through high school. Over 85% of the area's population are high school graduates, and over 24% of the region's adult population hold a bachelor's degree or higher.

#### HIGHER EDUCATION

Central Texas College (CTC) and Texas Tech University at Highland Lakes (TTU) host a collaborative college campus in Marble Falls and Burnet leading to bachelor's and master's degrees in selected fields. CTC offers basic first-and second-year community college coursework, and TTU offers third- and fourthyear coursework leading to a bachelor's degree at the Marble Falls campus. TTU also offers graduate programs, primarily in educational disciplines. TTU-Highland Lakes in Marble Falls is part of the Texas Hill Country University Consortium that offers degrees through several universities at facilities in selected Hill Country Communities.

#### BUSINESS

Despite our proximity to large urban centers like Austin and San Antonio, Marble Falls is no bedroom community. It is a regional economic hub for the Highland Lakes area, with a trade area of 112,500 people who generate more than \$3 million every day in gross sales. More than 447,000 people live within a 30-mile radius of Marble Falls, including a workforce of over 163,800. The Marble Falls economy is a vibrant one with an unemployment rate of 2.8%. The Marble Falls EDC is committed to workforce initiatives, working with area employers and community stakeholders to ensure a talent pipeline to meet employers' needs.

#### NOT MARBLE, BUT GRANITE

When Visitors come to Marble Falls, they obviously assume the lakeside town sits on marble rock deposits, but they are actually known for their granite. Granite Mountain, located west of town on FM 1431, was created more than 4.5 billion years ago forming nature's hardest stone and at the time of its discovery, was 866 feet tall. On July 29, 1885, the town donated its granite to erect the now Texas State Capitol located in Austin, Texas in exchange for a railroad system and labor to mine the rock. 15,700 carloads of granite were transported to the site in Austin and at the time of its completion in 1888, the Texas State Capitol was said to be the seventh largest building in the world. It is the largest capitol state building in the United States today, and only second in size to the National Capitol in Washington D.C.

This granite from Granite Mountain has also been used in the construction of the Coca-Cola Building in Atlanta, Wyndham Hotel in Dallas, the Galveston Seawall, and the Crocker Building in San Francisco.

With Austin's eclectic vibe just down the road, and with a nod to cowboy influences from the west, Marble Falls exists at an artistic crossroads. Below are some of the venues and events that provide a rich array of culture and entertainment.

#### **BELÓVED GALLERY**

After Belóved Gallery's co-founders acquired Akiane Kramarik's world-renowned painting, Prince of Peace, they were compelled to create a space to both protect and exhibit the artwork for guests and amplify Akiane's message of unwavering faith, unconditional love, and eternal life to the world. Beloved Gallery exists to unearth untold stories of extraordinary artists and provide a venue where their art can be experienced.

#### HIGHLAND LAKES CREATIVE ARTS

"The Arts" is a nonprofit organization whose vision is to promote the arts by fostering collaboration between communities, creative professionals, businesses and schools. "The Arts" organizes events and performances readily available to the public, including Sculpture on Main in the fall and Paint the Town in the spring.

#### SCULPTURE ON MAIN

Sculpture on Main is a public art program of outdoor threedimensional artwork placed in highly visible and accessible places in Marble Falls. The purpose is to promote Marble Falls as a fine art destination by bringing gallery and museum art outdoors for everyone to enjoy. The program hopes to encourage tourism and art education by bringing people to the downtown area. This sculpture event was the first of its kind in the heart of the Texas Hill Country. Large outdoor sculptures were placed in the Historic Main Street area of Marble Falls. Sculptures from several countries are on loan and are displayed in landscaped areas along Main Street.

#### HARMONY SCHOOL OF CREATIVE ARTS

Centrally located in Marble Falls, the Harmony School of Creative Arts provides a variety of artistic enrichment experiences for the community, including music lessons (piano, guitar, strings, woodwinds, percussion and voice), dance classes (classic ballet, jazz, tap and ballroom), Kindermusik\* for the little ones, musical theater and ballet productions, and string orchestra concerts.

#### THE HIGHLAND ARTS GUILD

The Highland Arts Guild is a non-profit organization made up of 80 members using their talents to increase interest in arts and crafts by offering demonstrations and workshops to the public, conducting art classes for area children, contributing scholarships to help art students at the college level, and maintaining their Gallery.

#### HILL COUNTRY COMMUNITY THEATRE

Nationally recognized, this award-winning community theatre has an active year-round season for adults which includes musicals, comedies, and dramas. There are classes for both adults and children in acting, directing, and technical theatre. With over 650 patrons and 300 volunteers a year, the Hill Country Community Theatre has been a cultural icon for the area for over two decades.

#### MARBLE FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Marble Falls Public Library serves the population of Burnet County and the Highland Lakes area. Check out the selections of books in print, audio books, music CDs, DVDs and videos, reference and research materials, microfilm reader, high speed Internet computers as well as hot spots for laptop users, programs for children and adults and much more.

#### POGUE STUDIO AND FOUNDRY

To maintain quality, Dan Pogue started his own foundry operation. His wife Marti, his son Doug, and several other employees currently assist him. Dan, Marti and Doug all sculpt and cast sculpture of their own. All are expert in mold making, casting and foundry work. The foundry has grown and become so successful they had to expand in 1999.

#### MARTA STAFFORD FINE ART

A prestigious fine art collection in a welcoming Texas Hill Country gallery! The collection includes traditional fine art, sculpture and contemporary works housed in a historic pink granite old bank building. Works of art and artists from Marta Stafford Fine Art are acclaimed and collected far and wide.

#### **MUSEO BENINI**

Museo Benini was established in 2015 to showcase the evolution of Benini's paintings and three-dimensional works since the 1960's. The project includes 6500 sq.ft. galleries, a fine arts library and a sculpture trail featuring the Beninis' collection of sculpture by international artists.

#### THE FALLS ON THE COLORADO MUSEUM

The Falls on the Colorado Museum was created in 1999 as a 501(c) (3) non-profit corporation with a mission to preserve our history, to further our heritage, to protect artifacts, and to provide an ongoing history of Marble Falls and the surrounding communities. The Museum's annual Founder's Day Celebration is held at the Lakeside Pavilion the second Saturday of July.

# Pflugerville





### THE REGION OFFERS A VARIETY OF HOUSING, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

### AND TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR BUSINESSES AND EMPLOYEES.

#### THE 3RD FASTEST GROWTH CITY IN AMERICA!

A great location, plenty of skilled labor, growing infrastructure and abundant real estate are just some of the top reasons to consider Pflugerville, Texas as your new home! It's no wonder Money Magazine named Pflugerville as one of the Best Places to Live.

#### HISTORY OF PFLUGERVILLE

Located about fifteen miles north of the Colorado River on the eastern edge of the blackland prairies, Pflugerville was founded in 1860 when William Bohls established a general store and post office in his residence, and named the town in honor of Henry Pfluger.

#### YOU'RE IN GOOD COMPANY IN PFLUGERVILLE

Pflugerville is home to hundreds of fantastic companies. We enjoy a growing and diverse workforce, affordable housing, abundant land, improved access to major transportation routes and a pleasant living environment, particularly for families. We have a unique and inter-related mix of industries upon which Pflugerville will focus future business attraction, retention and small business/entrepreneurial development efforts.

Pflugerville has a total of 1,416 businesses. The leading industries in Pflugerville were Retail, Accommodation and Food Services, Education, and Construction. Pflugerville is the only community in Central Texas with both north-south and east-west highway access that includes major transport highways I-35, SH45 and SH130.

The highly skilled and educated workforce can connect with

local employers including Dell Technologies, Apple, Samsung Austin Semiconductor, IBM, NXP Semiconductors, Applied Materials, National Instruments and Advanced Micro Devices.

A close proximity to Austin and Round Rock provides a wealth of entertainment and recreation opportunities – from college sports to world-class performing arts to the Live Music Capital of the World. Simply put, it's fun to live here. With festivals throughout the year, parks and trails, a beautiful lake and plenty of places to shop, eat and visit, Pflugerville is the place for you.

The community provides the highest quality of living and affordable services to meet the needs of its citizens, offering welcoming neighborhoods, a municipal library and civic organizations.

#### SHOPPING

Pflugerville has a variety of places to shop. From the quaint downtown galleries, design and collectible boutiques to larger, more diverse shopping centers including Stone Hill Town Center, the fifth largest retail center in the Austin MSA.

#### **TYPHOON TEXAS WATERPARK**

Have Pfun zipping down water slides and having a dip in one of the many pools at Typhoon Texas. The 23-acre Typhoon Texas Waterpark offers pfun for all ages. The park is the perfect summertime family activity featuring a giant wave pool, a 10,000 sq.ft. activity pool with water features, a 1,000 ft long lazy river, and several multi-slide towers featuring speed slides, tube slides and a six-lane mat racer slide.

#### LAKE PFLUGERVILLE

Come walk or jog, fish, swim and play at Lake Pflugerville. With a 3.1 mile trail around the entire lake, fishing piers and a bathing beach, the Lake is a great place to cool off. On windy days, kite surfers are often seen flying over the lake. During summer months you can rent a paddleboard, canoe or kayak for extra fun on the water. The north shore amenities include the Pflug Fun boat rentals, playground, pavilion, picnic tables, fishing piers and restrooms. Take the trail to the south side for additional fishing piers and great kite flying shorelines!

Enjoy Pflugerville's more than 40 miles of connected trails, parkland and open space. With over 1500 acres of parks, open space and greenbelts, Pflugerville offers citizens numerous opportunities to get outdoors and enjoy the great Texas weather year-round.

A close proximity to Austin and Round Rock provides a wealth of entertainment and recreation opportunities – from college sports to world-class performing arts to the Live Music Capital of the World. Simply put, it's fun to live here.

#### AREA ATTRACTIONS

- University of Texas Austin
- Texas State Round Rock
- ACC Round Rock
- State Capital
- Lake Pflugerville
- Lady Bird Lake
- Fallen Warrior Memorial in Pfluger Park
- Dell Diamond
- Salt Lick BBQ Restaurant (near Dell Diamond)
- Round Rock Outlet Mall
- Stone Hill Center
- Typhoon Texas Waterpark

#### AUSTIN'S MUSIC SCENE

The world-famous music scene of Austin, Texas is a mere 16 miles from Pflugerville. It has grown beyond 6th Street and now includes areas such as Red River, the University of Texas, the Warehouse District and Downtown, South Lamar, South Austin, East Austin and the Market District, where bars and clubs of every kind can be found. Every night more than one hundred venues stage live music. Austin's official motto is the "Live Music Capital of the World."

#### EDUCATION

Through its passionate service mantra, PFLSD looks to provide an inspiring, engaging, and relevant education that empowers students to reach their full potential as productive members of a diverse global community. Diversity is a strength in Pflugerville ISD's schools, where a majority of the students are minorities. The District prides itself on providing daily opportunities for students of all backgrounds to learn from each other and their teachers about life in a world where our differences make us unique and stronger when we work together.

The District is moving ahead on two new elementary schools and a middle school to serve the growing population. Those schools are funded through the 2018 Bond program approved by the community. The District's 22nd elementary school and seventh middle school will open for students in the 2021-22 academic year.

#### PISD SERVES APPROXIMATELY 25,500 STUDENTS The District is home to:

- -23 Elementary Schools
- -7 Middle Schools
- -4 High Schools

#### HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- The University of Texas at Austin
- Texas State University
- Texas Health and Science University
- Texas A&M University
- St. Edwards University
- Baylor University
- Southwestern University
- Concordia University
- Huston-Tillotson University
- South University Austin
- Strayer University

#### **COMMUNITY COLLEGES & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS**

- Austin Community College
- East Williamson County Higher Education Center
- Temple College
- National American University
- The College of Healthcare Professions
- Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts Austin
- Auguste Escoffier School of Culinary Arts Texas
- Central Texas College
- The Art Institute of Austin

## Round Rock





Round Rock is a thriving city that has become a major center for economic development in Central Texas, while cultivating an excellent quality of life. We are home to global companies and thousands of innovative small businesses, but it is our award-winning schools, healthcare, and fine neighborhoods that really make Round Rock a great place to call home.

Just fifteen miles away from downtown Austin, residents enjoy all the conveniences of a big city plus the closeness and atmosphere of a small town. We are recognized for our awardwinning master plan, park system, and school district, while being one of the safest, most affordable cities in the country.

In terms of square mileage, Round Rock isn't very big, but you'll find that it has everything you need to succeed. Round Rock offers top talent, superior real estate, an unparalleled quality of life, and is home to world-class businesses.

Ideally situated along Interstate 35, just north of the state capitol in Austin and Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, Round Rock offers easy access to hospitals, colleges, worldclass shopping, hotels, museums, and more. Round Rock is one of the nation's most economically vibrant cities, and we are committed to supporting, encouraging, and fostering success in our community.

Need third-party proof of why Round Rock is such a great place to work and live? Check out this list of superlatives...

- Round Rock is the ninth most-livable mid-sized city in the U.S. according to a 2020 study by financial technology company Smart Asset.

- Leading the Way Award - ETC Institute awarded the City of Round Rock with its "Leading the Way Award" for its outstanding achievement in the delivery of services to residents in 2020.

- Most recession-resistant cities. The study, which lists Round Rock at No. 11, looked at cities across the country to determine which were best situated to weather an economic downtown taking into account employment, housing and social assistance. SmartAsset.

- Round Rock ranked #2 on the 2020 Money list of Best Places to Live. Round Rock's robust economy and excellent public school system were emphasized, along with a great support network for businesses large and small. The article also noted quality of life amenities like Old Settlers Park and the Dell Diamond.

- The Milken Institute ranked the Round Rock-Austin metro area third in the nation in its 2020 Best Performing Cities series, tracking the economic performance of metros across the country for more than two decades.

- Best city in America to buy a house in 2019 by Niche. The researchers considered multiple factors in determining the ranking, including a location's home values, taxes, crime rates, and the quality of local schools.

#### VIBRANT LIFESTYLE

Shop and stroll through our Downtown District and take in the historic architecture, art installations, and local eateries, or cheer for your team at one of the City's state-of-the-art sports facilities, including Dell Diamond, home of the Round Rock Express. Splash the day away all year round at America's Largest Indoor Waterpark at Round Rock's Kalahari Resorts & Conventions, or try your hand at arcade games and escape rooms at Tom Foolerys Adventure Park.

Round Rock has thirty-four developed parks and trail corridors gracing over 1,700 acres. Old Settlers Park is the crown jewel, offering a generous 570 acres of rolling countryside for local events and festivals. Round Rock offers specialized parks, too, including the Dog Depot Dog Park, the Play for All Abilities Park, Prete Main Street Plaza, Centennial Plaza, and the Shaylah Dame Skate Park.

#### THE CITY HAS TWO RECREATION CENTERS:

<u>Clay Madsen Recreation Center</u>, a 50,500-square-foot facility with two basketball courts, a weight room, aerobics classes, an indoor swimming pool, and more.

<u>Allen R. Baca Center for Senior and Community</u> <u>Activities</u> hosts programs for adults ages 50 and up and features an arts-and-crafts room, lunchroom, kitchen, computer lab, patio, workout room, and dance room.

#### SPORTS

The Sports Capital of Texas capitalizes on state-of-the-art facilities for youth, amateur and semi-professional sports to provide a perfect playground for a diverse offering of athletic events throughout the year. The 2020 sports calendar featured the Big 12 College Soccer Championships, US Lacrosse Women's Collegiate Lacrosse Associates (WCLA) Division I and Division II National Championships, NIRSA National Flag Football Championships.

#### LIVE MUSIC

Don't let all the fun in the sun fool you, Round Rock has just as much to enjoy once the moon comes up. Live music is synonymous with Central Texas. From large outdoor performances to intimate stage shows, Round Rock offers live music for every type of fan. Our homegrown music series and locally owned music venues feature the best in regional musicians from country to rock to Texas roots music.

#### DINING

The dining scene in Round Rock is constantly evolving into bigger and bolder flavors, and with the addition of Kalahari Resorts & Conventions, you can enjoy a variety of awardwinning dining options. From farm to table, fast-casual, and everything in between, Round Rock has your dining bases covered.

#### **ARTS & CULTURE**

Home to popular events such as Chalk Walk and SculptFest, Round Rock draws thousands of people each year to experience their unique creative community and thriving arts scene. From visual art fairs to a prolific theatre troupe to public art, Round Rock offers a rich cultural experience enjoyable to culture seekers of all ages.

#### **Round Rock ISD At-A-Glance**

Round Rock ISD is located in southern Williamson County and northwest Travis County and includes the City of Round Rock and portions of the City of Austin and the City of Cedar Park. The area covers 110 square miles encompassing high tech manufacturing and urban retail centers, suburban neighborhoods, and farm and ranch land.

#### Schools: 56

Students: 48,421 High Schools: 7 Middle Schools: 11 Elementary Schools: 35 Alternative Learning Centers: 3 Special Facilities: 14

#### **Academic Achievement**

Round Rock ISD's state ratings and scores are a reflection of the outstanding education students receive. Round Rock ISD has consecutively earned the highest possible rating of Met Standard in the Texas Education Agency (TEA) accountability system and students consistently outscore state averages in all categories of assessment. Our students, teachers and leadership are recognized throughout the state and nation for excellence.

#### HIGHER EDUCATION

Round Rock is home to several higher education institutions including:

- Art Institute of Austin
- Austin Community College (ACC)
- South University
- Texas A&M Health Science Center
- Texas State University Round Rock

In addition to these, Round Rock is in close proximity to many other top-ranked colleges, including The University of Texas. This equates to more than 100,000 students enrolled in nine universities and 50,000 in six community colleges in a fifty mile radius, which guarantees a pipeline of motivated, highly educated employees.

# Smithville



The City of Smithville is located in a still-rural section of eastern Bastrop County. Smithville is situated between Houston and Austin along the Highway 71 corridor and within two hours of San Antonio, San Marcos and College Station, making Smithville a very convenient location and an ideal place to live, work, and play.

Smithville offers a wide variety of local attractions and amenities with convenient access to the Colorado River and Buescher State Park. Our downtown historic district contains many eclectic shops and eateries for residents and visitors alike.

Smithville boasts an airport, a recreation center, multiple city parks, and some of the friendliest people on the planet. Smithville was designated a Texas Commission on the Arts Cultural District in 2013 due to its focus on history, culture, arts, entertainment (music and theater), and artisan crafts.

With railroad artifacts dating from 1886, Smithville's Railroad Museum is fun for visitors of all ages. Smithville has a rich music history with many legendary blues musicians—BB King, Etta James, T-Bone Walker, Sonny Rhodes and Hannibal Lokumbe—who played at West End Park, one of the last standing venues on the Texas Chitlin' Circuit. Satchel Paige of the Kanas City Monarchs pitched a baseball game at this historic site.

Smithville is undergoing an economic resurgence and is poised for explosive growth. More and more people are buying property, renovating, and opening businesses within our downtown historic district. The City helps encourage this growth through an expedited plan review and permitting process for entrepreneurs and developers. "It's Possible in Smithville" is the rallying cry of the Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce, because dedicated citizens take full advantage of partnerships among local organizations, available programs, and potential sources of outside funding in an effort to maximize our own resources, which include the time and effort many volunteers are willing to contribute to make things happen—and great things are happening in Smithville. Stop by for a visit—you'll be glad you did!





Smithville offers beauty and recreation, a centralized location that's perfect for commerce of all types and a community atmosphere that invites you to visit for awhile. From our easy access to the Colorado River to our rich railroad history, our eclectic, charming Main Street to our modern conveniences and lovely B&B's, Smithville invites visitors to come and relax.

Our central location, between Austin, San Antonio and Houston, makes doing business in Smithville a great alternative for your business.

#### RECREATION

#### GOLFING

Smithville is in the middle of seven golf courses within 25 miles – four 18 hole courses and 3 nine hole courses.

The famous ColoVista Golf Course winds through the surrounding residential community amid majestic vistas, providing golfers with challenging terrain, subtle turns and treacherous optical illusions. The first nine holes are situated in the valley and gradually ascend to higher ground. The signature par-3, No. 15, features a 100-foot elevation change from tee to green, requiring golfers to be mindful of club selection. The view of the Colorado River from the raised tee box is jaw-dropping and starts a string of stunning finishing holes rivaling all others in Texas.

Bastrop State Park has an 18-hole golf course which is very popular, especially among the senior group who told regular tournaments.

Pine Forest Golf Club is an 18-hole course lying along the Colorado River in Tahitian Village. Several tees are overlooked by the cliffs of the Colorado. Approximately 12 miles west of Smithville, take Tahitian down to Riverside Drive.

Wolfdancer Golf Club, an 18 hole course about 25 miles west of Smithville, is owned and operated by the Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort. There is also a 13-acre driving range.

The nine hole golf courses are at Frish Auf Country Club in LaGrange to the east, Giddings Country Club in Giddings to the north and the Flatonia Golf Course in Flatonia to the south.

#### SMITHVILLE INDOOR RECREATION CENTER

The pride of Smithville, the Smithville Recreation Center has a large gym with basketball courts for Little Dribblers basketball games and Little Bumpers volleyball. A room with free-to-use public access computers, a weight room, two dance studios and a racquetball court round out the activities. The Rec Center has activities for children and adults throughout the year.

Smithville was the first Film Friendly Community designated by the Texas Film Commission. Nearly 70 film productions have been made in our community since 2008. Movie locations from Hope Floats, The Tree of Life, and Bernie can be seen on self-guided tours.

### WHY SMITHVILLE IS A HOTSPOT FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

Interstate Access: Interstate 71 has two easy access points into Smithville as well as long frontage along the HWY 71 corridor. Also access to State Highway 95 throughout the community.

- Access to a major railway within Smithville as well as throughout the county.

- Utility Providers: Electric, Water, Sanitation, and Sewer services provided by the city of Smithville. Telephone, gas, cable television, and internet all provided by multiple providers including LiveAir Networks, AT&T, Dish Network, Centerpoint Energy and Time Warner Cable.

- SCT Broadband:Smithville is home to Central Texas's first High Speed Fiber network. LiveAir is proud to bring state-ofthe-art video, Internet, and phone services to the community via a 100% fiber optic system capable of providing the utmost in entertainment needs.

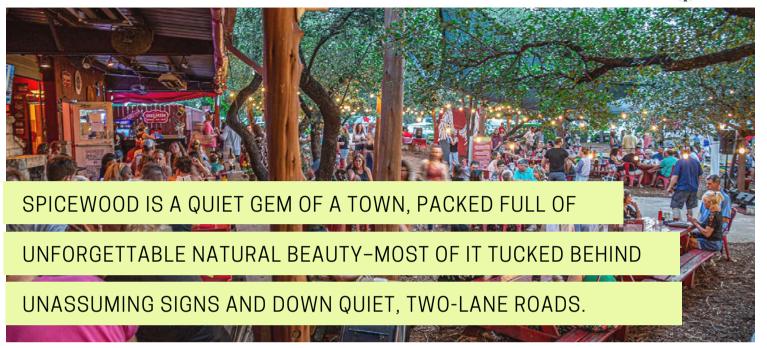
- Express and Motor Freight:At least ten motor freight companies service Smithville on an as needed basis - United Parcel Service (UPS) and FedEx are among those that service our community.

- Retail Sales - Smithville has experienced tremendous growth in retail sales over the past five years with sales tax revenues increasing each month in the past twelve months.

-Smithville offers local healthcare in a cost-effective manner. Seton Smithville Regional Hospital boasts a busy emergency room, family physicians, outpatient surgical services and much more! Smithville has the ONLY hospital in Bastrop County.

# Spicewood





Located less than an hour from Austin, Spicewood, Texas is a charming unincorporated town in Burnet County. It is home to Music Legend Willie Nelson. Even though it is not a big city, Spicewood has tremendous activities and impressive sites to see. Located less than an hour from Austin,

Students living in this area fall under the **Marble Falls** Independent School District.

#### ATTRACTIONS:

<u>Muleshoe Bend Recreation Area</u> is known best for one thing: bluebonnets. Rolling fields of bluebonnets pop up in the spring and it's truly an awesome sight to behold.

<u>Krause Springs</u> is definitely a top five natural water destination in the area. There are jump off points, a rope swing, waterfalls, and a hidden grotto spread among the 32 springs and the man made natural pool. Plan to spend the day here hiking around or sunbathing on the giant rocks. If you'd like to stay overnight, there are 24 RV sites with hookups.

**<u>Cypress Canopy</u>** tours are an exciting zip line experience through cypress trees. This is a great opportunity to see the nature of Texas Hill Country. One unique thing about the Cypress Canopy Tours is that they offer night rides, where the trees are lined with paper lanterns and twinkle lights. After your tour, you can take a dip in their small private lake, have a picnic, or even stay overnight at their contemporary treehouses.

#### SPICEWOOD FOOD AND DRINK

Spicewood has become a culinary destination for people with all different types of palates. If you're a barbecue snob, then

**Opie's** is definitely a must. It's in competition for the best barbecue in Texas. When you walk in, you're greeted by a huge pit smoking any kind of meat you could desire. Barbecue is not all Spicewood has to offer. There are also plenty of other options including fine dining.

Another don't miss venue is **Poodie's Hilltop Bar & Grill**. This legendary venue is the watering hole for all kinds of famous Texans, likely because the original owner, Poodie Locke, was Willie Nelson's stage manager. Memorabilia of all kinds, shuffleboard, pool table, an outdoor deck, cheap beer, and a lot of fried stuff on that menu.

If you are a wine lover head to **Spicewood Vineyards** for a tour and tasting. This quaint winery was founded 20 years ago and continues its tradition of crafting delicious wines in the Hill Country.

#### **GOLF & TENNIS**

Natural water is abundant in this area of the state but Lakecliff Country Club took it up a notch. They created twelve man-made lakes to complement their views of the hill country. You can play both tennis on US Open style hard courts and play some rounds on the Arnold Palmer designed golf course. Have a bite and a bloody mary at onsite Briarcliff Bistro. Nearby, <u>Willie Nelson's Pedernales Cut-N-Putt</u> is exactly the opposite of that country club scene. It's golf the Willie Way and that means fun. Loud music, no dress code, and rules like "when another player is shooting, no player should talk, whistle, hum, click coins, or pass gas!" No need to be a member to play.

# Taylor



### COZY SMALL-TOWN ATMOSPHERE WITH A REPUTATION FOR LIVE MUSIC,

### ARTISAN CRAFTS, AND DELICIOUS BARBEQUE.



#### **VISIT TAYLOR**

Nestled on the edge of Austin, the City of Taylor offers a cozy small-town atmosphere with a reputation for live music, artisan crafts, and delicious barbeque. The past decade has brought tremendous growth to Taylor.

If live music is your fancy, you can catch some of the best musicians on one of Taylor's stages every weekend. You can soak up the sun at one of the abundant outdoor spaces such as the City's five major parks, a hike and bike trail, fishing pier, basketball and tennis courts, two pools, splash pads, and even a state-of-the-art skate park. Or if a leisurely stroll is more your speed, explore the beautiful buildings on our architectural walking tour through the historic downtown area.

**Taylor ISD** is home to 3,200 students with six schools. In addition to a comprehensive high school, middle school, and three elementary schools, Taylor ISD has an Early College High School where students earn up to 60 hours of college credit. Located in one of the fastest growing counties in the nation, students can earn workplace certifications, college credit, and participate in multiple extracurricular activities.

#### **VISIT FILM SITES**

Test your film knowledge and see if you can recognize these famous film locations. Tour through Taylor and pick out scenes from movies such as Transformers: Age of Extinction, Varsity Blues, or, for a more chilling effect, the new Texas Chainsaw Massacre series.

#### DINING

Whether you're here for a tour of Texas' best barbecue or are looking to expand your taste buds at one of our unique restaurants, we're sure you'll find a great bite in Taylor. You can expect to be treated like family at any one of our locally owned diners or cafes for breakfast, lunch or dinner. If you're looking for something fresh and unique, you can enjoy world-class flavors from Poland, Peru, Latin America, Czechoslovakia, Asia and beyond at our local bistros, bakeries and eateries.

#### BARBECUE

For the hungry traveler, Taylor claims a few of the best barbecue spots on the infamous Texas BBQ Trail. BBQ Trail. Taylor is known for its world-famous barbecue and is in the Heart of the Texas BBQ Trail. We offer four locations in town that are champions of their craft – whether it's brisket, sausage, ribs or chicken – and all four restaurants are featured on the Texas BBQ Trail. Some have even made their name known on popular television shows and at BBQ cook-off events.

#### SHOPPING

If you're looking for an eclectic or treasured find, we've got you covered with our mix of antique, boutique and specialty stores in Taylor. Our downtown shopping district features more than 20 stores catering to your needs for home décor, vintage treasures, the latest fashions or spectacular jewelry and gifts with local artisan flair. You can find it all in Taylor Made Texas!

#### **Parks & Recreation**

The City of Taylor takes great pride in its lush, green areas which include over eight miles of hike and bike trails in five major parks: Bull Branch, Murphy, Heritage Square, Fannie Robinson and Taylor Regional. Wi-Fi is available in all of our public parks as well as other fantastic amenities such as public swimming pools, a fishing pier, basketball courts, tennis courts, playscapes, botanical gardens and covered pavilions.

#### **Bull Branch Park**

Bull Branch park is located at Lynn and Davis Street and boasts more than 65 acres of beautiful park area that includes recreational amenities and a hike and bike trail. Amenities include 2 baseball fields, 1 softball field, 1 basketball court, 1 pond with fishing pier, 1 pavilion, 5 picnic tables, 2 park benches, 1 playground and 1 restroom.

#### **Murphy Park**

This 120-acre park includes athletic facilities, playgrounds, swimming pools, a lake and ample picnic sites. Located at 1600 Veterans Drive, Murphy Park offers various recreation amenities, including 2 baseball fields, 2 practice fields, 10 tennis courts, 1 tennis hitting wall, 1 football field, 1 pavilion, 2 swimming pools, 1 lake, 1 bandstand, 42 picnic tables, 2 playgrounds, sand volleyball courts and 3 restrooms.

#### **Heritage Square Park**

Heritage Square Park is located in Historic Downtown Taylor at 400 N. Main Street and serves as homage to our rich cultural history. This historical park includes 15 park benches, 1 flagpole, and 1 gazebo. Heritage Square Park is open for public use free of charge. Please check with the Parks and Recreation Department for special event planning. Heritage Square Park houses an elaborate Christmas "Lights of the Blackland" display during the holidays.

#### Mustang Creek Golf Course

Mustang Creek Golf Course is a staple in Taylor history, having recently celebrated their 100th year in operation. This lush, challenging 9-hole course offers stunning views of Taylor and a friendly atmosphere that is welcoming for the whole family. Mustang Creek Golf Course has been lauded by Golf USA Tour as one of the finest and most challenging courses in the USA.

#### **Taylor Regional Park & Sports Complex**

This 75-acre park and sports complex is located near the Williamson County Expo Center and hosts 10 baseball and softball fields, 2 soccer fields and 1 football field. Additionally, the park boasts a 6-acre lake and nature preserve and connected hike and bike trails.

#### Music

Taylor welcomes the best musicians in Texas to its stages almost every weekend. From country to rock, our stages are filled with the sounds and spirits of local residents and travelers alike.

#### Lake Granger

Located just 8 miles from Taylor, Lake Granger offers fishing, camping, swimming and boating activities for the whole family.

#### **Pierce Park**

Pierce Park, Taylor's new skatepark is located at 200 East 4th Street. The name was chosen to honor the late Lt. Commander Thomas Floyd Pierce, the father of Chisum Pierce who donated the land downtown for the skate park. This is a great place for kids and adults alike to break out their boards and bikes and be active! See how things came together and watch skaters test out the bowls at Pierce Park.

#### **Taylor Station**

Taylor Station is not just a bar and music venue... it's a true destination. Located in the heart of downtown Taylor, it is just around the corner from other popular sights and shops in the town. Where past meets the present, this unique bar offers a place to relax and enjoy beer, wine and music with your friends.

#### **Black Sparrow Music Parlor**

The Black Sparrow Music Parlor has taken flight! Built in an old bookstore, the venue is the perfect mix of historic resonance with updated features. The venue offers a huge stage, variety of beverages and a friendly staff to make your concert-going experience remarkable.

#### Arts

The artist culture is strong in Taylor. From always-changing exhibits in our museum and gallery, to hands-on experiences and learning opportunities, Taylor welcomes the creative expressions of artists from all over Texas.

#### Moody Museum

The Moody Museum shares the story of Governor Dan Moody's passion for justice, his family and the Taylor community that helped shape his legacy as Texas' youngest governor.

#### **Howard Theatre**

Enjoy an evening watching the newest big screen films in one of Taylor's most historic buildings. The Howard Theatre has been renovated to meet the needs of today's cinema experience while maintaining its historical charm and charisma.

## Westlake





### JUST SIX MILES FROM DOWNTOWN, WEST LAKE HILLS IS ONE OF THE

### MOST EXCLUSIVE AREAS IN ALL OF AUSTIN.

Incorporated as a village in 1953, homes in Westlake are prized as much for their location along winding, hilly roads as for their proximity to both downtown and Lake Austin. West Lake Hills is unique in many ways. The citizens, along with their elected and appointed officials, are dedicated to preserving the rural environment and maintaining the natural beauty of the area.

Westlake is close to shopping, major roadways, golf courses and hike and bike trails while still maintaining the private secluded ambiance of this luxury community. The hills west of the city include more than 7,566 public acres. Residents of Westlake have access to boating, waterskiing, sailing, windsurfing, rowing, canoeing, fishing and swimming in some of Texas' most beautiful surroundings.

Many locals take advantage of their close proximity to the natural wonders of Barton Springs, located right at their proverbial backyards. This greenbelt area is a popular destination for recreation and relaxation, with over eight hundred acres of protected parkland. There are plenty of bicycling and hiking trails located here, as well as stunning old trees and sheer rock walls. But the highlight of the area is certainly the natural cold springs themselves. Long considered an ideal spot for rejuvenation, Barton Springs is the ideal place to spend a warm summer day.

Eanes ISD serves approximately 8,000 students at nine schools: six elementary schools (grades K-5), two middle schools (grades 6-8), and one high school (grades 9-12).

Westlake consistently receives recognition at all levels, including its rank among the 100 best high schools in the country by Newsweek and US News magazines. Our students consistently exceed the state and national averages on the SAT and ACT. The District and all nine campuses achieved the highest rating, "Met Standard" by the Texas Education Agency

Westlake students excel academically, as well as in music, arts and athletics. WHS consistently boasts impressive numbers in the National Merit competition and Presidential Scholars program. Traditionally, about 99 percent of students are accepted directly to college. On average, more than \$20 million in scholarships is offered to WHS grads annually.

Westlake High School offers a full slate of Advanced Placement courses, a Career and Technical Education program, an acclaimed Performing Arts department, as well as special support programs such as the TLC and Adult Transition Services.

The Austin Country Club, located in the Westlake neighborhood of Davenport Ranch, offers a 180-acre, 18-hole golf course designed by renowned architect Pete Dye, 10 lighted tennis courts (of which two are clay), a heated, 50-meter pool, a 57-slip marina and boat club, and a clubhouse with dining and meeting rooms and a large ballroom. For this reason m.any families, and professionals of all types, are attracted to West Lake Hills