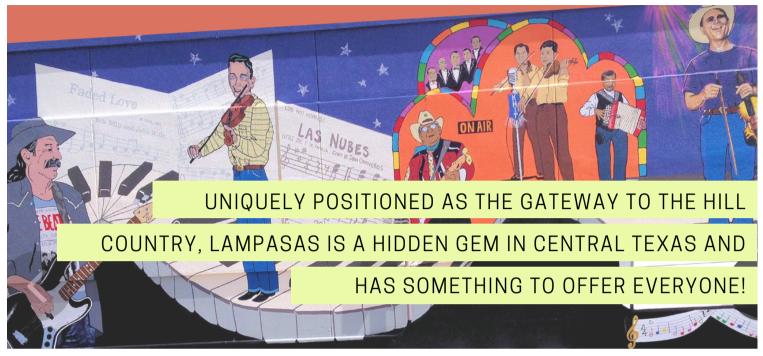
# Lampasas





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.