

YOUR GUIDE TO AUSTIN, TEXAS

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Long known as the “Live Music Capital of the World,” Austin, Texas is a great destination spot for families of all sizes. With so much to do and see in this bustling city, knowing what to expect when you arrive can make all the difference.

Whether you’re absorbing the cultural complexity of the city, or seeing the beauty of the natural surroundings, Austin Texas is a great destination vacation spot for people of all backgrounds. We’ve put together this guide so you can spend less time planning your trip, and more time getting to know the city and enjoying what it has to offer. Let’s get to it!

Top Attractions in Austin, Texas

Since Austin, Texas is one of the sunniest cities in all of America, the sky really is the limit in regards to how much there is to do throughout the city. From its food vendors and hiking paths to its fabulous night life and live music, there is something for everyone to experience.

With so much history and culture to experience, let’s take a look at the top three can’t miss attractions in Austin, Texas.

Live It Up at the [Moody Theater](#)

With its strong roots in live music, no trip to Austin, Texas would be complete without stopping in at Moody Theater. Originally found on the University of Texas campus, Moody Theater was moved to its new home right next to the W Austin hotel back in 2011.

With seating available for just over 2,700 people, there’s plenty to see including live entertainment, and even a Willie Nelson statue commemorating the artist. With live music playing such a massive role in the city’s history, you’ll always hear new sounds and shows going on any time of the day.

Grab a Drink at the [Broken Spoke](#)

Once considered a “hole-in-the-wall” dive bar, Broken Spoke prides itself in being one of last Texas dance halls that’s still in operation. Having opened its doors in the early seventies, the Broken Spoke has had 50 years’ worth of visitors from all walks of life.

Here, you can enjoy a bit of live music or put on your best dancing shoes and join in on the dancing fun; They even offer dance classes on certain days. Once you’ve tired yourself out, treat yourself to a beer and one of Broken Spoke’s classic chicken-fried steaks before hitting the old dusty trail.

[See the Sights on the Lake Travis Zip Lines](#)

Thrill seekers, this one's for you! Lake Travis Ziplines is an awesome way to see the city from a whole new angle, with a little bit of excitement on the side. With 5 different ziplines available, experience some of the longest, fastest ziplines Texas has to offer as you fly across the landscape and take in the view.

Lake Travis Zip Lines gives you everything you need including transportation and a place to relax in between zips. Lounge in one of their hammocks or even enjoy all day access to their own private lake front property, where you can enjoy some downtime with the family before you're ready to hit the lines again!

[The Experience Flying into Austin, Texas Airports](#)

If you plan on flying in to Austin Texas, chances are you'll be landing at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, which serves the Greater Austin Texas area. Downtown Austin is only 5 miles northwest of the airport, and currently resides on what used to be the Bergstrom Air Force Base.

Named after a former officer of the 19th bombardment group, Captain John August Earl Bergstrom, the airport is home to some of its own bit of history within the state. The state intends on adding a completely new terminal, with 32 available gates, so the already busy international import will only get busier in the coming years.

[Top 3 Tips to Fly Cheap to Austin, Texas](#)

Before you set out on your trip to Austin Texas, it's important to do your homework in order to save the most amount of money you can on your travel expenses. Here are our three best tips in regards to keeping the cost of your flight low:

Tip 1: Book your flight as early as you possibly can. If you can plan your trip further than 3 weeks out, chances are you'll get better pricing on your tickets, and save a significant amount of money compared to buying them the day or week of your trip.

Tip 2: Plan your trip in the summer or the fall, and stay away from the spring time trips. Right around March is Austin Texas's busiest time of the year, with flowers in bloom and concerts taking place, trips to Austin Texas can get pretty expensive pretty fast.

Tip 3: Don't settle for the first set of tickets you find, even if they look like a good deal. With so many resources available to you via the internet, take your time searching and comparing prices to make sure you get the best possible deal available to you.

Popular Areas of the City to Stay

Due to the size of Austin Texas, it can be a bit overwhelming trying to figure out where things are, or where you should stay during your visit. Here are a few of the areas in Austin many visitors choose to stay based on what each of the areas offer.

Just a short 5-mile drive from the airport, **downtown Austin** is a great option if you enjoy the hustle and bustle of big city living. While work is in session during the week, there's plenty of amenities within the city that visitors can use to quickly travers the city and see what it has to offer.

One of the greatest areas of attraction for tourists both near and far is **South Congress**. Located close to the Texas State Capitol building, there's plenty of access to redone shopping centers and restaurants scattered through the area. South Congress is the perfect area to stay if you're looking to take in some culture of the city, and want access to plenty of activities.

If you want to be close to the outdoor recreational activities, then look no further than **South Lamar**. While South Lamar is small, this growing neighborhood also has plenty of access to shops and bars, meaning you'll never run out of something to experience.

Popular Hotels in those Areas

Let's take a look at some of the top choice hotels in the areas, so you know what to expect for potential lodging.

Hotels Available in Downtown Austin

[The Westin Austin Downtown](#): Perfect blend of quiet vacation mixed with inner city living. A top choice for those looking to stay smack dab in the city.

[JW Marriot Austin](#): A more affordable hotel option that doesn't skimp out on the feel of premium. Fairly priced, with access to city amenities, what more could you ask for?

Hotels Available in South Congress

[Austin Proper Hotel](#): Access to the best shopping and entertainment, with lodging arrangements that are flush with class.

[The Driskill](#): Considered the pinnacle of Texan Hospitality, you'll have access to some of Austin's richest cultural areas available.

Hotels Available in South Lamar

[The Line Austin](#): If you're looking for the perfect amount of quiet life, with just a pinch of city living then The Line Austin is the perfect place to stay.

[La Quinta Inn & Suites](#): Located just off the highway, you'll be able to circumnavigate your travel during your stay pretty easy staying at La Quinta Inn.

Popular Airbnb Places in Those Areas

If you're not big on hotels, there are plenty of hot Airbnb rentals available in each of the areas. We picked a few based on reviews and recommendations; Let's take a look!

Best Airbnbs Available in Downtown Austin

[House Rental](#): This 4-guest stay is a whole house rental within downtown that's perfect for the whole family.

[Apartment](#): This 2-guest apartment is located within the downtown limits, and has access to everything you'd need during your stay.

Best Airbnbs Available in South Congress

[Guest Suite](#): Once garage, this guest suite has all the amenities needed to comfortably host 4 guests easily. Plus, it's totally private from the main house!

[Townhouse](#): If you don't need much space, then this 2-guest townhouse makes a great stay for your trip to Austin, Texas.

Best Airbnbs Available in South Lamar

[Apartment](#): Complete with a gym, this is a great option for small families with plenty of privacy to go around.

[Apartment](#): Spice up your stay with this cute Japanese Tea House styled apartment available on the edge of South Lamar.

Top Things to do in Austin, Texas

Now that you know the different areas available to stay, let's take a look at some of the different entertainment and events you can enjoy during your stay in Austin, Texas.

Take a Trip Up [Mount Bonnell](#)

If you're looking to experience the natural side of Austin, Texas, look no further than Mount Bonnell. Home to a massive 775-foot outcrop, you'll be able to see just about everything in the surrounding areas. If you find yourself at the top of Mount Bonnell's outcrop on a clear day, you'll be able to see the city in all of its glory.

Get Lost in the [Blanton Museum of Art](#)

If you find yourself by the University of Texas, Austin, it's worth taking a trip through the Blanton Museum of Art. Packed to the brim with over 18,000 pieces of art, it's considered to be one of the largest university-based art museums available in all of the United States. With so much art, you'll find beautiful works from every corner and time period around the globe.

[Dance Down on Sixth Street](#)

If you're looking for less mainstream, Sixth Street is the perfect place for you to experience in Austin, Texas. Known as the Dirty Sixth to locals, Sixth Street is home to many different shops and restaurants, and it's where up-and-coming musical talent comes to showcase what they've got!

[Go for a Swim in the Barton Springs Pool](#)

The Barton Springs Pool is located within Zilker Park, and is a must visit if you ask any of the locals. This beautiful swimming spot was formed from the underground springs, which help to keep the water temperature perfect in any weather. For the educational enthusiasts, there's even an exhibit where you can learn all about the science and history behind the Barton Springs Pool.

[Now Get Out There and Enjoy](#)

Whether it's your first time visiting, or you're experiencing the charm of Austin Texas for the hundredth time, you'll always find something to experience. Whether you're crawling the bars downtown enjoying the nightlife, or walking the art and museum halls soaking in the culture and heritage, you'll enjoy every bit of your stay in the city.

As you prepare for your trip, we hope this guide can act as a flashlight, showing you the best way to experience what the city has to offer. Be sure to do as much research about peak times and what to see when before you go, so you can focus less on where it is you're going, and spend more time enjoying yourself. Happy traveling!