

# Sports & Entertainment

**IRVING** CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU





#### PLAYING INTO OVERTIME

WELCOME

## HOTELS

Irving has 75+ hotels and more than 11,000 rooms. The city's hotels range from resort and luxury to all-suite and value properties, with rates to suit any budget. And with over 200,000 square feet of meeting space, Irving hotels include ample function space for events.

## TRANSPORTATION

Most Irving hotels offer complimentary shuttle transportation to and from DFW International Airport.

#### CONVENTION SERVICES

The ICVB goes the extra yard with event support, including registration help and volunteer coordination; welcome bags with lapel pins, name badges, pens, brochures, etc.; and facilitation in coordinating offsite activities. Located in the center of the Dallas/Fort Worth area and adjacent to DFW International Airport, Irving is most often known through its connections to professional sports. The city is home to the Dallas Cowboys' global headquarters and the annual home of the PGA Tour's AT&T Byron Nelson Championship.

A Place to Team Up. Sporting groups find it easy to team with Irving's central location and world-class facilities. Our sporting venues are not limited to the professional. Las Colinas, Irving's business district, has served as the site of the 2000 U.S. Olympic Team Trials for the Triathlon competition and more recently for the Pan American Triathlon Championships. Athletes swim the business district's unique adjacent lake before hitting the streets for the running and cycling portions. And baseball has always had a home in Irving, which served as the site of PONY Baseball's Mustang World Series for more than a decade. Irving is also the proud home of Miracle League Field, providing accessible venues to athletes of every age and ability.

## Score with Our New Center.

Irving's shining new convention facility, the Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas, can accommodate a variety of sporting events, such as judo, gymnastics, fencing, bodybuilding, weightlifting, and mixed martial arts competitions, as well as host walks and runs. Like Being Right on the 50-Yard-Line. In Irving, you can also catch a Texas Wild World TeamTennis match or attend the North Texas LPGA Shootout.

In addition, Irving's prime location provides quick access to all the major sports venues in the area. AT&T Stadium, home of the fivetime Super Bowl champion Dallas Cowboys and Globe Life Park in Arlington, home of the Texas Rangers, are 15 minutes south.

Lone Star Park, a world-class track for thoroughbred racing, is 10 minutes south and Texas Motor Speedway, Texas' only Sprint Cup racing facility, is 20 minutes west.

American Airlines Center, home court for the Dallas Mavericks and home ice for the Dallas Stars, is 15 minutes east.

When you combine outstanding sports venues and easy accessibility with Irving's 75+ hotels, Irving hits a home run as the site for any event.







## ICC Capacity for Sports Events

The multi-functional exhibit hall can accommodate a variety of sporting events including the following:

- Gymnastics set up is equivalent to 2 standard-sized gyms with all 4 rotations (vault, beam, floor and uneven bars).
- USA Judo (hosting 2-4 events per year) set up has 8 mats plus judging areas.
- MMA set up includes competition ring and bleacher/floor seating for 3,000.
- USA Wrestling regional competition set up is 10 floor mats and raised championship stage.
- Also sets up for 12 high school or 12 college wrestling areas, or 28 fencing strips.
- Cheerleading competitions have up to 50,000 square feet of column-free floor space.

There is retractable seating for 1,100, with seats folding away into built-in storage.

On Deck. Located on 40 acres of rolling hills in the Las Colinas Urban Center in Irving, Texas, the striking new Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas is a soaring 275,000-square-foot multifunctional building and the first phase of a mixed-use entertainment district that will comprise a convention center hotel, restaurants, retail space and a concert venue for 6,500.

A Hit. As the global headquarters of six Fortune 500 companies and home to thousands of corporations, Irving understands great customer service.

Safe! More than 75 hotels are literally within 10 minutes of the convention center. In fact, 18 properties are within a 2-mile radius. Home Run. Adjacent to Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, access to the Irving Convention Center is quick, efficient and easy. DART Light Rail's Orange Line connects Dallas with Las Colinas and with DFW Airport, making the Irving Convention Center even more accessible and convenient for travelers.

Taking a Shot. The building is divided into three main levels, with the 50,000-square-foot, column-free exhibition hall on the first floor, along with the concierge desk and several green rooms. The mezzanine level features a relaxing café and covered, outdoor terrace with access from both inside and outside the facility.

And Score! The meeting and junior ballroom level provides 20,000 square feet of meeting space in up to 20 different breakout rooms, each averaging about 1,000 square feet. The space is divided into 11 dedicated conference rooms, one dedicated board room and a junior ballroom that can be divided into a variety of flexible configurations, including up to 8 individual meeting rooms. The unique layout of the prefunction space on this level is also highly flexible and can accommodate multiple groups or provide several staging areas for the same group.

Celebration! An exceptionally well-appointed 20,000-square-foot grand ballroom and pre-function area is located on the top level of the convention center. This flexible space can be divided into an array of meeting rooms or smaller event rooms. The large kitchen that services the convention center is also located on this floor.



## AND LOCATION MATTERS!

Located "smack-dab" in the middle of Dallas and Fort Worth and adjacent to DFW International Airport, *Irving is the perfect city* to rest your hat while your group experiences Dallas/Fort Worth. As one of only a few places in the world where you can enjoy five-star dining one day and a chuck wagon cookout the next, we promise a truly unforgettable experience.

#### DRIVING DISTANCE TO IRVING FROM:

Dallas – 15 miles Fort Worth – 20 miles Grapevine – 5 miles Arlington – 10 miles While Irving and the Dallas/Fort Worth area offer tremendous options for sporting event venues, there are many additional reasons that make the area a perfect location for local, regional, national and international sports competitions. This is where east meets west, the weather is moderate, people are hospitable and a "can-do" spirit dominates.

Central Location. The Dallas/Fort Worth region is less than four hours by air from major cities in Canada, Mexico and the U.S. No other major destination offers that convenience.

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Moderate Weather. Mostly sunny skies, low rainfall and reasonable temperatures make the region a favorite for all sports, all year long.

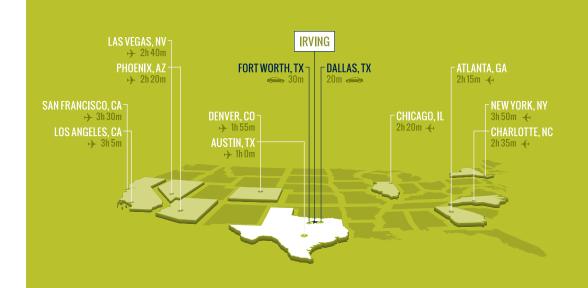
## Superior Transportation

System. DFW International Airport has more domestic non-stop flights than any other city, with about 2,300 daily flights, plus the area offers one of the most prominent urban, regional airports in the nation: Love Field. In addition, there's the newest light rail system in the U.S., train service between Fort Worth and Dallas and a network of bus routes, taxis and rental cars designed for convenience. Media. The Dallas/Fort Worth area is the nation's fifth-largest media market and consistently ranks among the top five sports cities nationwide by Sporting News. The media and the audience they serve take their sports seriously!

## Progressive Communities.

The "can-do" mentality that drives the region results in excellence in the region's facilities, parks, lakes, golf courses and other locations perfectly suited for athletic competition.

Hospitality. The friendly charm for which this region is known makes it one of the most popular destinations for business and leisure travel in America and the #1 visitor destination in Texas. The hospitality industry in the Dallas/Fort Worth region knows how to take care of its guests!







#### **IRVING FACTS**

Founded: 1903 Incorporated: 1914 Population: 225,427 Land Area: 693 sq. miles Elevation: 470 feet Area Codes: 214, 469, 972, 817

For more Irving statistics, please visit cityofirving.org

While Irving may be best known for big name sports, it is also a haven for recreational and amateur events. Here's why thousands come here to play.

Las Colinas Urban Center. As a sporting venue, the Urban Center offers a unique multi-use area on Lake Carolyn suitable to a variety of competitions. Previous events include: U.S. Olympic Team Trials for Triathlon, Iron Girl Texas triathlon, TexasMan triathlons, the inaugural TriAmerica triathlon, Playtri Festival ITU Pan American triathlon and Dragon Boat racing.

**Golf Courses**. As home to the PGA Tour's annual AT&T Byron Nelson Championship since 1983, Irving is serious about golf. In addition to the two courses, TPC and Cottonwood Valley, utilized for the Nelson, Irving also boasts several top-flight public courses nearby, including L.B. Houston Municipal Golf Course, Twin Wells Golf Course and Riverchase Golf Course. Additionally, Irving has two private courses, Las Colinas Country Club, home to the North Texas LPGA Shootout, and Hackberry Creek Country Club, both ClubCorp properties.

Las Colinas Equestrian Center. One of the finest equestrian facilities in the Southwest, the beautiful Las Colinas Equestrian Center is host to all levels of hunter/jumper competitions, horse trials, gaited horse events and individual breed shows. The Center boasts the largest private covered riding arena in the area, a smaller covered schooling arena attached and four additional outdoor arenas complete with all-weather footing. The Equestrian Center is situated along the scenic canals of Las Colinas and adjoins sixty-two beautiful acres of woods and grasslands set aside by the city for parks and equestrian use.

Lone Star Park. Located near Irving's city limits and home of the 2004 Breeders' Cup, Lone Star Park offers Class 1 horse racing facilities. With a capacity of 8,000, the venue has 280,000 square feet of space spread among seven levels, including suites and a penthouse.

Alliance Skate Park. Nearby, the Alliance Skate Park features a competitive skate park for in-line skating and hockey, biking and skateboarding. The skate park includes intermediate and advanced courses, a beginner's course, world-class vert ramp and an in-line hockey rink.

University of Dallas. A private university campus situated in Irving's Las Colinas area, the University of Dallas offers a multitude of venues for collegiate and amateur events. Campus facilities include: Braniff Field, an all-purpose field for rugby, soccer or football; Maher Center, an indoor facility for basketball or volleyball with cross courts and seating capacity for more than 800; Crusader Field for baseball, softball and lacrosse; an eight-court tennis facility; and three soccer fields. The U.S. Collegiate Athletic Association Championship and the Gold Blade Open Fencing Tournament are among the competitions previously hosted on the University of Dallas campus. **Irving Parks & Recreation**. Irving boasts an extensive park system with 43 parks and recreation centers. The wide variety of sports facilities includes basketball and tennis courts, football and soccer fields, multi-use sport and racquetball courts, baseball, softball and volleyball facilities, cricket and horseshoe areas, sandlot fields, in-line hockey rinks and disc golf courses. Other activities include picnicking, hiking, bike trails, fishing, swimming, canoeing and boating.

- Trinity View Park Three football fields, two baseball fields, eleven soccer fields, four adult softball fields, lights, restrooms, bleachers, scoreboards and PA system. The facility has hosted the PONY Baseball Mustang World Series and several USSSA Softball tournaments.
- Irving Soccer Complex Thirteen soccer fields, concession stand, bleachers, playground and restrooms. This venue has hosted the Spikefest Volleyball Tournament and a variety of amateur soccer tournaments.
- Lively Point Skate Park Approximately 20,000 square feet of street skating elements such as stairs, railings, pyramids, radial edges, grind edges, manual pads, quarter pipes and hubba ledges. It is constructed out of concrete with steel coping railing to accommodate BMX bikes. The park also includes an in-ground bowl with a 3/4 pipe, flow bowl, volcano and an oververt pocket. The free-use facility contains security lighting for night usage, a security fence and shade structures.
- Miracle League Field This fully accessible facility features safety ramps and wider play platforms, as well as a rubber surface to provide access to all parts of the playground and field. It is the home field for the Miracle League of Irving.
- Southwest Park Four softball fields, lights, bleachers and restrooms. This site has hosted NCAA Lone Star Conference and American Southwest Conference women's softball tournaments.

**Lighted Athletic Fields** Fritz Park (2 softball) Miracle League Field (1 softball) Cottonwood Creek Park (1 soccer) Lively Park (1 baseball) Twin Wells Park (2 softball)

**Irving Independent School District**. Sports and Texas public schools are longtime partners and Irving is no exception. With four high schools, eight middle schools, twenty elementary schools and all the sports facilities that accompany them, including Irving Schools Stadium, which supports seating for 11,500, the Irving Independent School District offers a range of venues for amateur and recreational events. From gymnasiums and football fields to facilities for track and field to softball, volleyball and baseball complexes, the Irving ISD has a site for every sport.

North Lake College & Natatorium. North Lake College offers a variety of sports venues in a scenic campus setting. North Lake's natatorium is equipped with a removable roof and serves as both an indoor and outdoor facility. The 50-meter pool is temperature-controlled and fully equipped with a teaching pool, chair lift and handicapped entry/exit ramps. The natatorium has previously hosted the National Governing Bodies' U.S. Synchronized Swimming, USA Water Polo and USA Swimming competitions. The campus also offers baseball fields (one college, two youth), soccer fields (one college, one youth) and a gymnasium for basketball.

## ADDITIONAL FACILITIES

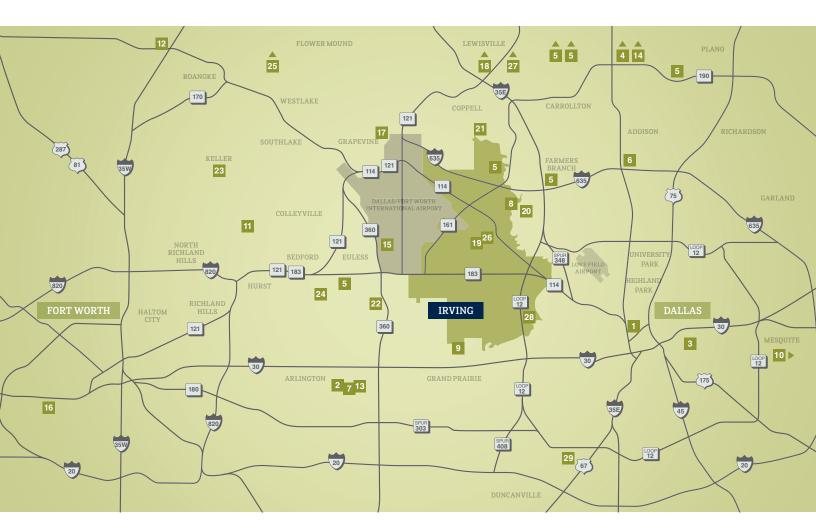
#### ADVANTAGE SPORTS COMPLEX

Home of Texas Advantage Volleyball, a registered junior affiliate of USA Volleyball, this complex features eight indoor volleyball courts, concessions and a meeting room.

#### FENCING INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

A member of the United States Fencing Association, the facility world-class has five practice strips and one private lesson area. Showcases a parquet room and observation deck with two practice strips and one lesson strip. A fullservice facility, the Institute has a full-time armorer on staff to support the fencers' equipment needs.





## **Professional Sports**

Allen Americans

AT&T Byron Nelson Championship (26)

- Crowne Plaza Invitational
- at Colonial (16)
- Dallas Cowboys (2)
- Dallas Mavericks (1)
- Dallas Stars (1)
- FC Dallas (14)
- Frisco RoughRiders (4)
- Grand Prairie AirHogs
- Lone Star Brahmas (11)
- North Texas LPGA
- Texas Legends
- Texas Rangers (7) Texas Wild

## Sports Venues

- 1. American Airlines Center
- 2. AT&T Stadium
- 3. Cotton Bowl Stadium
- 4. Dr Pepper Ballpark
- 5. Dr Pepper StarCenter (6 locations)
- 6. Galleria Ice Skating Center
- 7. Globe Life Park in Arlington
- 8. Las Colinas Equestrian Center
- 9. Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie
- 10. Mesquite ProRodeo at Mesquite Arena
- 11. NYTEX Sports Centre
- 12. Texas Motor Speedway
- 13. Texas Rangers Youth Ballpark
- 14. Toyota Stadium

## Golf Courses

- 15. Bear Creek Golf Club
- 16. Colonial Country Club
- 17. Cottonwood Valley Golf Course
- 18. Cowboys Golf Club
- 19. The Lakes at Castle Hills
- 20. Luna Vista Golf Course
- 21. Riverchase Golf Club
- 22. Riverside Golf Course
- 23. Sky Creek Ranch Golf Club
- 24. Texas Star Golf Course
- 25. Tour 18 Dallas
- 26. TPC Four Seasons Las Colinas
- 27. The Tribute at The Colony
- 28. Twin Wells Golf Course

## **IRVING** CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas 500 W Las Colinas Boulevard Irving, Texas 75039

Hours: Monday to Friday 8 am to 5 pm CST



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