

# SAN ANTONIO DOWNTOWN RUNS & WALKS



**Slip on your running or walking shoes and explore San Antonio** on one of the scenic routes we've created especially for you! Along the way, you'll see some of the city's most recognizable landmarks, both historic and contemporary. We've designed short courses as well as more ambitious routes to give you several options.

Be sure to dress appropriately for the weather, use sunscreen and take a water bottle. You'll find parks with shady spots for resting and you'll encounter plenty of restaurants should you need to stop and re-fuel.

The highlights you'll pass on each route are listed below. For more information about any of the sites, including maps and brochures, please visit the **San Antonio Visitor Center at 317 Alamo Plaza**.

For additional information, contact:

 San Antonio Parks & Recreation  
114 West Commerce, Suite 1006  
San Antonio, TX 78205  
(210) 207-6124  
[www.sanantonio.gov/sapar/](http://www.sanantonio.gov/sapar/)



San Antonio  
Convention & Visitors Bureau  
203 S. St. Mary's St., Suite 200  
San Antonio, TX 78205  
(210) 207-6700  
[visitsanantonio.com](http://visitsanantonio.com)

 **SAN ANTONIO BIKES**  
Office of Environmental Policy  
111 Soledad, Suite 725  
San Antonio, TX 78205  
(210) 207-6321  
[www.sanantonio.gov/sabikes](http://www.sanantonio.gov/sabikes)  
[www.gis.sanantonio.gov/oep/bike/index.html](http://www.gis.sanantonio.gov/oep/bike/index.html)

**SAN ANTONIO**  *cycle*  
San Antonio B-Cycle  
[www.sanantonio.bicycle.com](http://www.sanantonio.bicycle.com)


4.2 miles



# 1 Downtown/ Southtown Route

This route begins near the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, winds past the Alamo, and encompasses artsy Southtown and the tree-lined King William Historic District. It offers an intriguing blend of both urban and residential areas.

- **Rivercenter Mall**—Opened in 1988; features stores, restaurants, IMAX theater and more
- **The Alamo**—Spanish mission, construction began in 1724, site of the legendary 1836 battle
- **Emily Morgan Hotel**—Originally the Medical Arts Building, 1924
- **Historic Menger Hotel**—Built in 1859 by German beer maker William Menger
- **The Torch of Friendship**—65 ft. tall, enameled, bright red sculpture by Sebastián, given to the city by the government of Mexico
- **La Villita Historic Arts Village**—San Antonio's first settlement, early 1800s, shopping opportunities
- **HemisFair Park**—Public park created in 1968 for World's Fair, home of the Tower of the Americas
- **Blue Star Arts Complex**—Historic warehouse buildings featuring galleries, a bike shop, restaurants and more
- **Stevs Homestead Museum**—Three-story French Second Empire-style residence built in 1876
- **Villa Finale**—The first National Trust Historic Site in Texas, construction began in 1876 (opens Fall 2010)
- **King William Park**—Community park in the center of the neighborhood showcasing late 1800s mansions

 Public restrooms can be found in Rivercenter Mall and La Villita Historic Arts Village.



The Downtown/Southtown Route passes by the Steves Homestead Museum, a three-story residence built in 1876.

*DISCLAIMER* The City of San Antonio does not guarantee the accuracy, adequacy, completeness, or usefulness of any information. Individuals assume all risk and responsibility.


2.66 miles



## 2 River Walk Museum Reach Out & Back

Make your way along the newest section of the River Walk, an urban river park beginning at the Lexington Ave. Bridge and continuing 1.3 miles to the newly renovated Pearl Brewery complex. The new Museum Reach features native landscaping and dazzling public art installations.

- **Brooklyn Ave. Lock and Dam**—Two independent lock chambers for river barges, each holding 40,000 gallons of water when filled
- **San Antonio Museum of Art**—Housed in the historic 1892 Lone Star Brewery complex; renowned for superior collection of Latin American art and Greek, Roman and Egyptian antiquities
- **Pearl Brewery**—Established as a brewery in 1883, the complex is now an exciting culinary, commercial and residential development

 Public restrooms can be found at the Rio San Antonio Cruises Ticket Office near the Lock and Dam.



The new River Walk Museum Reach features native landscaping and dazzling public art.

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# 3 Metro Health to Lexington Out & Back

This easy, scenic run begins at San Antonio's Metropolitan Health District, 332 W. Commerce, passing:

- Spanish Governor's Palace, a National Historic Landmark built in the 18th century.
- San Fernando Cathedral, founded in 1731 and the oldest, continuously functioning religious community in Texas.



Newly renovated Main Plaza offers a public gathering place for cultural events (and provides public restrooms).

- From there, you'll enter the famed River Walk, where you'll enjoy the shade from the lush, tropical vegetation lining the river banks. The Lexington Ave. Bridge marks the end of your journey.



The Spanish Governor's Palace, reopened in 2010, once housed the officials of the Spanish Province of Texas.



San Fernando Cathedral overlooks Main Plaza in the heart of downtown San Antonio.



The River Walk winds along the San Antonio River downtown, one story below the bustling street level.



The River Walk Expansion links the downtown stretch to the San Antonio Museum of Art and the Pearl Brewery.

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2.1 miles



8 miles




**LEGEND**

→ One-Way Street

# 4 Brackenridge/Alamo Loop Out & Back

With the Alamo as your starting base, you'll venture through the heart of the downtown business district on Commerce St.

- Once you make a loop around Rivercenter Mall, head west on Commerce till you pass the Aztec Theater, which opened in 1926 and was recently renovated. Here you will turn right onto St. Mary's St.
- Stay on St. Mary's St. for quite some time. Eventually you will pass the Southwest School of Art which is housed in the former Ursuline Academy, San Antonio's first school for girls, built in 1851.
- As you pass the intersection of St. Mary's and Josephine, you will see a variety of diverse commercial areas including several blocks of popular restaurants, coffee shops and bars.
- Your destination is Brackenridge Park, home of the Japanese Tea Gardens and San Antonio Zoo as well as additional running/walking trails.

 Along the way, you'll find public restrooms at Rivercenter Mall and Brackenridge Park.



The San Antonio Zoo Eagle offers a nostalgic ride through Brackenridge Park.



Brackenridge Park encompasses the Japanese Tea Gardens (above) and the San Antonio Zoo.

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# 5 San Antonio Highlights Route

You will get to see a lot of downtown attractions on this loop. Begin at Main Plaza, in front of San Fernando Cathedral.

- Head north on Main Ave., right on Pecan towards Travis Park which was named for Alamo defender Col. William Barrett Travis.
- Head towards Houston Street where you will pass the **Buckhorn Saloon and Museum** plus run along the side of the **Alamo**.
- Following the route make your way pass **Rivercenter Mall** and the **Henry B. Gonzalez**

**Convention Center.** Enjoy the view of the Tower of the Americas as you run through HemisFair Park.

- After passing **La Villita Historic Arts Village**, head down to river level to enjoy a scenic stretch of the River Walk.
- Now you are heading into the **King William Historic District** where you can enjoy tree-shaded streets and Victorian mansions.
- Once you make your loop in King William, you will head back to **Main Plaza** to cool down and stretch.



Public restrooms are available at Main Plaza, Market Square, La Villita and Rivercenter Mall.

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HemisFair Park was built to host the 1968 World's Fair and is home to the famous Tower of the Americas.

5 miles

