

FAMILY FUN ABOUND ★ IN SOUTH TEXAS ★

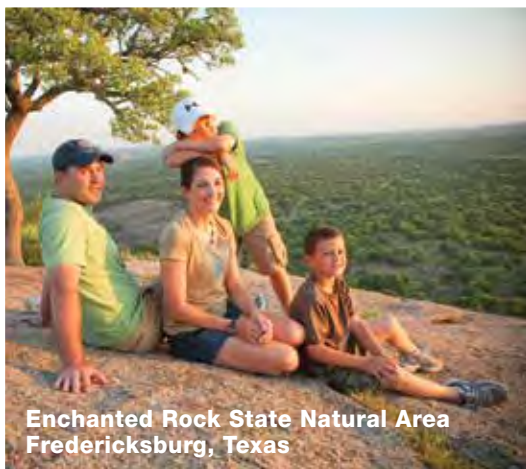
Entertainment for All in San Antonio, Fredericksburg, San Marcos and Boerne



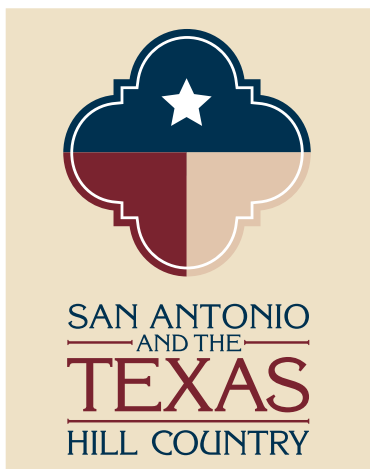
Botanical Gardens
San Antonio, Texas



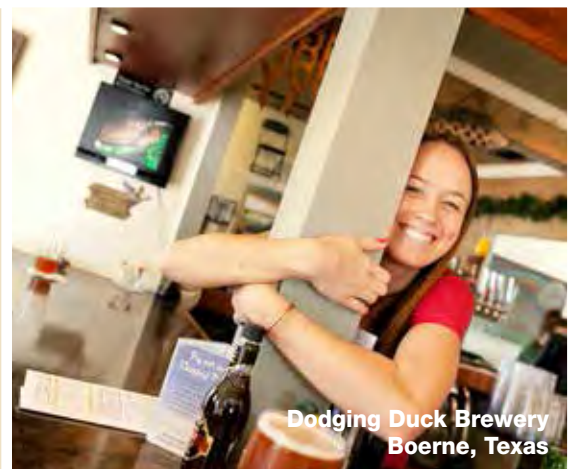
River Walk
San Antonio, Texas



Enchanted Rock State Natural Area
Fredericksburg, Texas



SAN ANTONIO
AND THE
TEXAS
HILL COUNTRY



Dodging Duck Brewery
Boerne, Texas



Cycling
Fredericksburg, Texas



San Marcos, Texas

★ SAN ANTONIO ★



Adventure into family-friendly territory when you visit San Antonio, Fredericksburg, San Marcos and Boerne. Thrill-a-minute rides await you at popular theme parks and water parks. Encounter animals large and small in city zoos and state natural areas. Go underground in area caverns or plunge into history with an interactive museum tour.

San Antonio's Unique Attractions Delight All Ages

Set your sights on action-packed days of exploration, both outdoors and in. Gear up for a wet and wild time at an amusement park or learn in a museum about the people who helped shape Texas. Whatever you choose, you'll find the perfect way for your family to spend your days in San Antonio.

Day 1: Theme Park Thrills

- **Six Flags® Fiesta Texas** theme park serves up a good time with 200 acres of more fun than you can imagine, from memory-making musical shows to spectacular fireworks displays. Hop aboard **SkyScreamer**, the swing ride with aerial views, or experience the new hybrid **Iron Rattler** roller coaster with 70 mph speeds and a 171-foot drop. Cool off with a swim in the Texas-shaped pool at the **White Water Bay** water park.
- Just down the road to the West is **SeaWorld® San Antonio**. Applaud Shamu the orca at the multi-sensory show, "**One Ocean.**" Watch the chattering dolphins play, observe the water-loving penguins and interact with sea lions. Young children will love meeting Big Bird at the **Sesame Street Bay of Play**. Take your swimsuit for a visit to **Aquatica**, SeaWorld's 18-acre aquatic park with up-close animal experiences, high-speed thrills and relaxing, sandy beaches.



Day 2: Exploring Brackenridge Park and Nearby Areas

- **Brackenridge Park** sits near the headwaters of the San Antonio River with 343 acres of woodland, trails and a historic par-72 golf course. Kids will love riding a miniature train that circles the park.
- The beautifully restored **Japanese Tea Garden** offers a serene tea room, a lush oasis with floral displays, meandering walkways, stone bridges, and a 60-foot waterfall that ponds into a Koi-filled basin.
- The **San Antonio Zoo and Aquarium**, the nation's third oldest zoo, houses over 3,500 animals of 600 species and is the only zoo in the country with a designated area for children age 5 and younger.
- Visit the **San Antonio Botanical Garden** and discover the 38 acres of nature trails, Texas ecological areas, plant conservatories and manicured gardens, including one for the blind.
- Science and natural history exhibits star at the **Witte Museum**, featuring wonderful interactive displays for children and stellar traveling exhibits from around the world. The museum also boasts the best early Texas art collection in the state. The 20,000 sq. ft. **South Texas Heritage Center** tells the real-life stories of those who were integral to the history of South Texas.



Day 3: Wonderful, Wild and Wet

- Don't miss the fun at **Splashtown**, a water park with more than 50 rides, just minutes from downtown. Loop around the **Siesta Del Rio**, relax in the wave pool or shoot through the miles of tubing fun
- **Natural Bridge Caverns**, just north of San Antonio, is a vast limestone cavern carved over millions of years by underground water. During your below-the-surface tour, you'll be in awe of formations such as "soda straw" stalactites, waves of "cave ribbon" and hanging "chandeliers."
- The nearby **Natural Bridge Wildlife Ranch** offers a safari-like driving experience to view and photograph more than 500 animals from 40 species of native, exotic and endangered wildlife.
- Located on the banks of the spring-fed **Comal River** North of San Antonio, **Schlitterbahn® Waterpark** has tube chutes, water slides, uphill water coasters and more. Jump into **The Falls**, a continuous rushing river sporting the world's longest water tube ride.



★ FREDERICKSBURG ★



Outdoor and Old-time Family Fun in Fredericksburg

Fredericksburg is a picturesque Hill Country community settled in the mid-1800s by German immigrants, many of whom were farmers. Learn about their lives at a living history farm, spend some time in town, then head to the hills to enjoy the area's natural beauty.

Day 1: German Settlement in the Texas Hill Country

- The **Sauer-Beckmann Living History Farm** illustrates life as it was for many German families who immigrated to central Texas more than 150 years ago. The park features interpreters in period costume performing household chores as they were in the early 1900's. Blacksmithing, open-hearth cooking, farming, meat curing and quilting are just a few of the demonstrations taking place daily. The farm is located at **LBJ State Park** and **Historic Site** in **Stonewall**.
- Step back in time to 19th century settlement days at the **Pioneer Museum** in downtown Fredericksburg to learn how German immigrants worked and lived. The three-acre complex has a one-room schoolhouse, where kids can sit in desks used by children generations ago. See farm implements and other equipment from yesteryear, a Sunday House used during the weekends by German families coming to town from their farms and special events with living history demonstrations.
- In the heart of Fredericksburg's **Main Street** shopping district, the free **Marktplatz Public Playground** offers an ideal setting for children to burn off some energy on climbing and other playground structures.

Day 2: The Splendor of Country Air

- **Enchanted Rock State Natural Area**, just 17 miles north of Fredericksburg, is a favorite spot for campers, hikers, rappellers and picnickers. Thousands climb to the top of the gigantic granite dome for its spectacular Hill Country views. A loop trail around the rock is ideal for spotting deer and birds.
- **Old Tunnel State Park**, just 10 miles southeast of Fredericksburg, is a former railroad tunnel that serves as the summer home to a seasonal colony of nearly three million Mexican free-tailed bats. The bats emerge nightly at dusk, starting as a trickle then billowing into the Hill Country sky like a plume of smoke, as they begin their quest for insects and water. Nightly viewing is provided at two separate areas. The upper area is free of charge. An admission fee is required for the lower viewing area where bat interpretation is offered Thursdays through Sundays, May through October, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Day 3: Return to the 1940s

- From the **Hangar Hotel's Airport Diner**, watch airplanes and aircraft of all makes and models arrive and depart from the **Gillespie County Airport**. Wednesdays through Sundays, the 1940s-style diner serves lunch overlooking the landing strip (breakfast, too on Saturdays and Sundays). Planes tip their wings to guests watching below as they rise into the Hill Country sky.
- The **National Museum of the Pacific War** is a world-class, 6.5-acre museum complex focused on inspiring youth while honoring the military heroes who served during World War II. New exhibits in the expanded **George H.W. Bush Gallery** offer interaction with state-of-the-art displays and videos, a kid-friendly periscope, full-size planes and other artifacts. An interesting gift shop with games appeals to a younger audience.
- Continuing your trip back in time, try **Dooley's 5-10-25 Store** on Main Street for kid-friendly souvenirs of your Fredericksburg visit. This authentic five-and-dime store has been delighting locals and visitors alike since 1923.

★ SAN MARCOS ★



San Marcos Springs to Life with Outdoor Play

Celebrate the area's natural beauty with the abundance of outdoor activities available in and around San Marcos. The spring-fed San Marcos River is the center of most popular recreational past-times.

Day 1: Boats, Planes and Automobiles

- Marvel at underwater marine life and watch hundreds of springs bubble up to form the headwaters of the **San Marcos River** as you ride a glass bottom boat at **Aquarena/Meadows Center**. Want a more personal experience? Glass bottom kayak tours are also available on **Spring Lake**.
- **The Commemorative Air Force** is dedicated to preserving a complete collection of combat aircrafts flown by Allies during World War II. **The Centex Wing**, located in a 1943 vintage wooden hangar, offers visitors a WW II Artifacts Exhibit and a display dedicated to the Doolittle Raiders. Aircrafts on site include a very rare flying P-39 Bell Airacobra, P-40 Warhawk, Lockheed T-33 jet trainer, PT-17 Stearman WWII trainer, two WW II Liaison spotter planes, and a T-34 Mentor trainer. Replicas include a CAF Japanese "Kate" torpedo bomber and a Japanese Zero, built for the movie Tora, Tora, Tora.
- **Dick's Classic Garage Car Museum** contains three decades of the finest cars ever made in the U.S. With pristine models dating back to 1929, the collection is a tribute to the American passion with the automobile, each one a work of art in itself.

Day 2: Refreshing Waters and Scenic Hikes

- Shaded by giant cypress trees and a refreshing 72 degrees year-round, the crystal clear San Marcos River is the perfect place to cool off. **Rio Vista Falls** has three amazingly fun drop-offs of easy, whitewater rapids.
- Rent a tube at **Lions Club Tube Rental** and go for a float. Try your hand at stand-up paddle at **SUP Adventures** and navigate the river's length. Put on your snorkel and discover its depth. Or just kick back on the banks and relax with family and friends.
- Bring your binoculars. Bring your backpack. Native wildlife and migratory birds abound in the more than 950 acres of natural areas in San Marcos' city limits. Start with **Purgatory Creek Natural Area**, one of our premier parks. Take it easy on the attractive ADA accessible trails featuring information kiosks and benches, or explore the many miles of natural trails for a more challenging adventure.



★ BOERNE ★



BOERNE BEAUTIFULLY BLENDS PAST AND PRESENT

Boerne offers a variety of exciting and unique activities for families. A treasure nestled in the wonderfully scenic setting of the Texas Hill Country, Boerne (pronounced “Bur-nee”) is only minutes north of San Antonio, via Interstate 10.

Day 1: Specialty Shops and a Working Ranch

- Start your morning by fueling up at one of Boerne's unique coffee stops; you're going to need plenty of energy for shopping along **Main Street**. The beautiful and nostalgic streets of historic Boerne are lined with specialty shops, including antiques, boutiques, art galleries, collectibles, home accessories, books, jewelry, and much more. **Boerne Market Days** is a great shopping event that occurs on the second weekend of every month.
- At lunch, visit one of the many fine eateries in the town. Or get food to go and have a picnic at one of the area parks.
- Spend the afternoon at **Enchanted Springs Ranch**. This 86-acre working ranch excites visitors from all over the world with its rugged, natural beauty, collection of exotic animals, and authentic time warp—a Western town right out of the 1800s. Numerous options are available to customize your visit, including a tractor wagon ride through the ranch, old time photos, gunfighters and stuntmen, line dancing instruction, saloon girls and much more. A Chuck Wagon dinner can be arranged at Enchanted Springs Ranch, complete with live entertainment.

Day 2: Nature Walk, Wine Tasting and a Trip to Luckenbach

- Spend the morning discovering the beauty of four distinct ecosystems at the **Cibolo Nature Center**. Dip your toes in the clear waters of the Cibolo Creek under the abundant shade of the Cypress-lined banks. Or stroll along the boardwalk over the marshlands. Tall grass prairies and forest trails make for great hikes. Workshops and education programs can also be arranged.
- Enjoy lunch at one of the local cafés, restaurants, or brewpub. Or lunch can be catered at the **Cibolo Nature Center**.
- This afternoon, head north and visit **Sisterdale** and **Luckenbach**. Sisterdale is home of the **Sister Creek Vineyard**, located in an 1885 cotton gin where Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Bordeaux, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Merlot wines are produced. Winery tours and tastings are available seven days a week.
- After about a 20-minute ride along a back road through the breathtaking Hill Country, stop in **Luckenbach** where “Everybody is Somebody”! Established in 1849 as a trading post, and made famous by Willie Nelson and Waylon Jennings’ hit song, Luckenbach is 10 acres with a General Store, dance hall, and a beer joint, all surrounded by huge oaks and two creeks. Dances held monthly with performers that include Jerry Jeff Walker, Pat Green, Gary P. Nunn, and Ray Wylie Hubbard.

Day 3: Viewing Historical Landmarks and Going Underground

- History is the subject of the morning. Boerne boasts over 140 historical structures, many of which are accessible to the public. Start at the **Ye Kendall Inn**, an 1859 Stagecoach stop that is now one of the city's premier lodging destinations. Grab a cup of joe at the bar located inside and take a tour of the grounds. One block down is the historic Dienger building, and cross over Main Street to see the old school, the old jail, and the old courthouse. If you like to combine your history with shopping and dining, head south on Main Street; most of the shops, cafes, and restaurants are in historic buildings.
- Hungry for some local flavor? Try some Texas BBQ, or spice it up at one of the Mexican restaurants.
- Next, beat the Texas heat by exploring down under at the **Cave Without a Name**. About 10 minutes outside of Boerne is one of the area's best kept secrets—a natural living cavern—some say the most beautiful in Texas. The cave's six rooms are filled with spectacular formations and are a soothing 66° year round. Round out your day by visiting a wine bar or listen to live music at one of the many establishments that frequently showcase local talent.

★ Texas Hill Country Area Map ★

