Woodlands TEXAS

QUARTERLY REPORT Q3 2024

SIXT

ABOUT US

The Woodlands Convention and Visitors Bureau (dba: Visit The Woodlands) is the official destination marketing organization responsible for promoting The Woodlands to drive demand for both hotel and retail tax collections. Visit The Woodlands is a 501 (c)(6) organization funded by The Woodlands Township Hotel Occupancy Tax.



Our Mission

Our mission is to establish The Woodlands, Texas, as a beautiful, lively, and welcoming destination recognized regionally, nationally, and internationally for first-class business, convention, and leisure travel.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE ABOUT US & VIEW REPORTS ONLINE



BOARD & STAFF



Visit The Woodlands Board of Directors and Officers (from left to right): President Nick Wolda, Cameron Klepac, Jennifer Gohagan, Vice Chairman Linda Nelson, Chairman Brad Bailey, Secretary/Treasurer Richard Franks, Kim Lowe, Jenny Taylor and Monique Sharp

VISIT THE WOODLANDS STAFF MEMBERS

Executive Leadership

Nick Wolda, President Elizabeth Eddins, Executive Director

Solez

Josie Lewis, Director of Sales Ashley Fenner, Senior Sales Specialist Ryan Greenwood, Senior Sales Specialist Julie Quinn, Servicing Specialist

Partnerships

Vacant, Tourism Specialist

Admin

Carla Twidell, Administrative Analyst

Marketing

Ashley White, Director of Marketing Amber George, Social Media Coordinator Andrea Day, Creative Media Coordinator Vacant, Content Coordinator

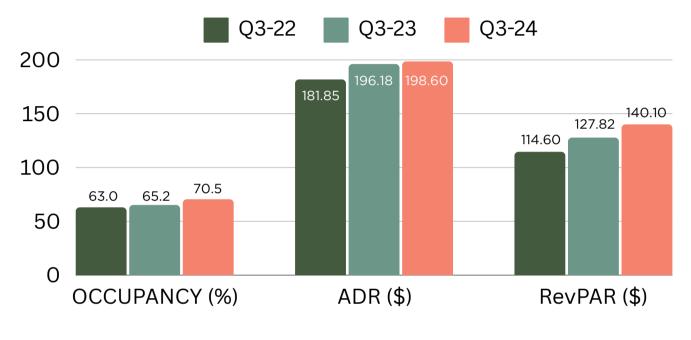
HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

Hotel tax collections were down 11.5% in July; however, it was followed by a strong recovery in August, which was up more than 11%. Collections are pacing up 7% for the year as of September. In Q4, Visit The Woodlands will continue to push sales and marketing initiatives in an effort to hit \$10M in hotel tax collections for 2024.

	ACTUAL 2022	ACTUAL 2023	BUDGET 2024	ACTUAL 2024	Y-O-Y CHANGE
JAN	\$536,360	\$557,492	\$581,656	\$591,541	6.1%
FEB	\$456,772	\$624,238	\$653,914	\$743,261	19.1%
MAR	\$594,014	\$786,891	\$793,662	\$818,181	4.0%
APR	\$781,476	\$872,412	\$887,215	\$913,478	4.7%
MAY	\$869,804	\$927,617	\$958,178	\$1,046,776	12.8%
JUN	\$887,820	\$833,639	\$880,866	\$959,067	15.0%
JUL	\$801,430	\$927,303	\$953,336	\$821,488	-11.5%
AUG	\$719,332	\$799,606	\$849,269	\$889,485	11.2%
SEP	\$615,238	\$763,890	\$812,471	\$806,939	5.6%
ост	\$734,973	\$761,341	\$815,483		
NOV	\$873,313	\$966,184	\$968,832		
DEC	\$739,439	\$817,150	\$728,272		
TOTAL	\$8,609,970	\$9,637,765	\$9,883,154		
Y-T-D	\$6,262,246	\$7,093,089	\$7,370,567	\$7,590,215	7.0%

MARKET RESEARCH STR DATA

Visit The Woodlands uses Smith Travel Research (STR) to measure occupancy, Average Daily Rate (ADR) and Revenue Per Available Room (RevPAR) for the 14 hotel properties in The Woodlands Township boundaries. Below is data for the past quarter, for the past three years.



Tax Collections

Visit The Woodlands uses Symphony by Tourism Economics to visualize hotel, sales and mixed beverage tax collections. Insights on visitor spending, airport checkpoint volume, overnight trip share and employment are also collected.



SALES Overview

The Sales Team promotes The Woodlands as a premier destination for conferences, meetings, and events. This is accomplished by attending tradeshows & sales missions as well as hosting prospective clients in The Woodlands for FAM visits & site tours. Other sales initiatives include representing Visit The Woodlands at industry functions, servicing programs and special projects.



FAM VISITS & SITE TOURS

- Analyzer Technology Conference
- Connect Worldwide
- Furniture First
- TEEX Conference
- Texas Floodplain Management Association
- Texas Radiological Society
- United States Courts Fifth Judicial Circuit

TRADESHOWS & SALES MISSIONS

- Connect Marketplace
- IMEX America
- TSAE New Ideas Conference (hosted in The Woodlands, more on page 8)



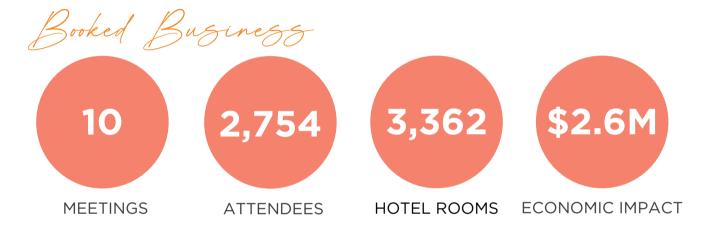


LEADS

- 108 leads
- 39,400+ hotel rooms represented
- \$27.4M potential economic impact

SERVICING

- 23 groups serviced
- 550+ welcome bags distributed
- 2 destination welcome booths
- 15 Meeting Planner Guides sent out



CELEBRATE SERVICES WEEK

Visit The Woodlands celebrated event servicing professionals during Celebrate Services Week, organized by Event Service Professionals Association (ESPA). During this week, Visit The Woodlands did partner pop-ins at several hotel properties in The Woodlands to show appreciation for servicing professionals and their impact on the local hospitality community. Learn more <u>here</u>.

SALES Highlights

TEXAS SOCIETY OF ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVES

After years of planning and preparation, The Woodlands welcomed more than 540 association professionals from across Texas to The Woodlands for the Texas Society of Association Executives (TSAE) New Ideas Annual Conference. Learn more about TSAE New Ideas <u>here</u>.

Match the Recop









TSAE BY THE NUMBERS

- 543 attendees
- 1,000+ hotel rooms
- \$740K estimated economic impact
- 8 destination excursions
- 150+ partners who helped make it happen

SALES Meetings

Q3 MEETINGS

- MPI Houston Area Chapter Board Meeting
- Destination Southwest Planning Call
- Located Worldwide Client Site Tour
- Parks and Recreation Sport Planning Meeting
- TSAE Market Street Planning Meeting
- Services Week Partner Pop In's
- Bowlero Partner Meeting
- Montgomery County Food Bank Tour
- Connect Worldwide Site Tour
- Q3 Sales and Marketing Committee Meeting
- Texas Travel Alliance Workforce Committee Meeting
- TFMA Site Tour with Selina Cooper
- Visit The Woodlands August Board of Directors Meeting
- TSAE Excursion Planning Meetings
- MPI HAC CAP'D Luncheon
- MedTech Site Tour
- Marriott Waterway #1 Ranking Celebration
- Leadership Montgomery County Leadership Summit
- Texas Library Association Site Visit
- The Woodlands Township Leadership Team Meeting
- TSAE Vendor Walk through at Market Street
- The Woodlands Financial Group Welcome Table
- 2026 Judicial Conference of the Fifth Circuit Site Tour
- TSAE Staff Pre-Conference
- TSAE Pre-Con with TSAE Team and Resort Staff
- TSAE Staff Welcome Dinner
- Partner meeting with Visit Conroe
- CNS Site Tour
- Amrina Tour and Partnership Lunch
- TSAE Thank you Partner Pop-ins
- Partnership Lunch with Pamela Bunn of Wolford Associates



MARKETING Overview

The Marketing team serves as the voice of Visit The Woodlands when marketing to leisure travelers and meeting planners. Along with overseeing brand strategy, the team manages a holistic approach to marketing that encompasses paid advertising, website, social media, email marketing, print collateral, photo and video production, content development, public relations and technology initiatives.

BRAND LAUNCH

- Advertising
- Social
- Bus Wraps
- Pathways Magazine
- Rack Cards
- & More Coming Soon











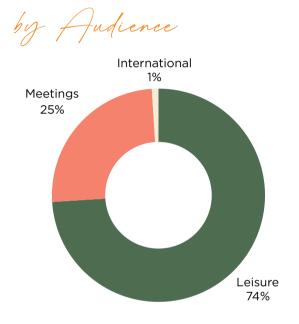
BUS WRAPS

Visit The Woodlands is advertising the back of The Woodlands Township Park & ride buses, encouraging Houstonians to spend the weekend in The Woodlands.

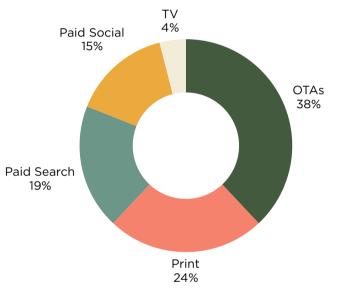
MARKETING Advertising

The Marketing Department oversees advertising on behalf of Visit The Woodlands targeting both leisure travelers and meetings planners. Emphasis is placed on peak planning times, market research, strategic media buys & trackable campaigns. Below are a few key placements in Q3. Others not featured below include: Texas Monthly, Meeting Professionals International (MPI) & Texas Society of Association Executives.

ADVERTISING SPEND



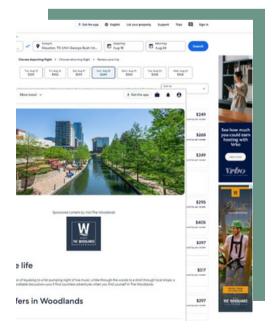
by Channel



640% Return

ONLINE TRAVEL AGENCY (OTA)

Visit The Woodlands continued advertising placements with Expedia, achieving a 639.6% return on advertisement. This was directly attributable to confirmed hotel bookings with over than 1,000 rooms booked in Q3, a 42.3% increase from Q2.



MARKETING Advertising

PAID SEARCH / engure

- 4.090 clicks
- 33,107 impressions
- 12.35% click through rate
- 7% conversion

PAID SEARCH Meetings

• 2,777 clicks

- 6.8% click through rate
- 3 RFP requests
- 8 Meeting Planner Guide Requests

Sponsored

- www.visitthewoodlands.com/2024/thingstodo
- Visit The Woodlands Events In The Woodlands

Discover what's happening in The Woodlands this weekend. Book a hotel, find a restaurant, or explore things to do with us as your guide.

Sponsored

www.visitthewoodlands.com/conference/spaces

Company Conference Venues - The Woodlands Conference Space Planning a conference in The Woodlands? Our team will help you find the perfect venue. The Woodlands is perfect for your next conference. Top-tier venues and activities





visithewoodlands Una escapada segura y relajada Descubre el encanto de The Woodlands, alta co... more





Book now > OOV visithewoodlands Looking for the perfect family getaway in Texas? Here's your ultimate two-day itinerary... more

PAID SOCIAL Pampaigns

- Family Fun
- Summer Getaway
- Restaurant Weeks
- Pavilion Concerts
- Dining
- Staycations



visithewoodlands 🛷 Fall Fun in The Woodlands 🎯 Here there's something for EVERYONE to enjoy... more

- Houston
- Austin
- DFW

QQA

- Chicago
- Orlando
- Louisiana
- International (Mexico)

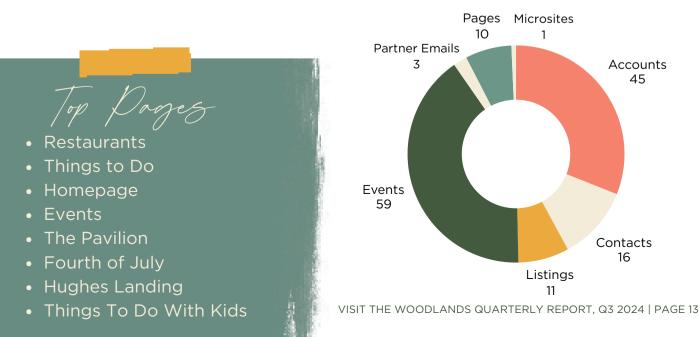


MARKETING Website

The website is an integral piece of Visit The Woodlands marketing efforts with all paid advertising, social content and print collateral directing traffic to the website. Below is an overview of the past quarter's analytics and insights.

TOP COUNTRIES TRAFFIC OVERVIEW United States Mexico Canada 455K 142K 1:25 United Kingdom Japan USERS PAGE VIEWS ENGAGEMENT TIME Mhere do New Azers originate from? Organic Search Direct Paid Social Referral **Organic Social** 20000 40000 60000 80000 100000 120000 140000 Ο

CONTENT DEVELOPMENT



MARKETING Social

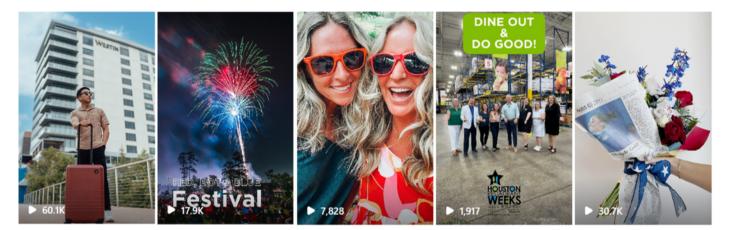
Visit The Woodlands uses social outlets to help visitors explore The Woodlands & drive traffic to the website. Connect with Visit The Woodlands on social: <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>X</u>, <u>YouTube</u>, <u>Pinterest</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>.

PROFILE PERFORMANCE



TOP CONTENT

- Jon Pardi
- Fourth of July
- Hurricane Beryl
- Original ChopShop
- Labor Day Celebration



View more collaborations here.

Collaborations

Audience Growth by Channel

IG

GIVEAWAYS

- Jon Pardi
- 30 Seconds to Mars
- Third Eye Blind
- Koe Wetzel
- Back to School

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FB

MARKETING Public Relations

COMMUNICATOR AWARDS

- Distinction: Influencer Marketing | Ambassador Program
- Excellence: Print Content Magazine | #SoWoodlands (now named Pathways)
- Excellence: Conference Activation Branded Experiences | Connect Texas
- Excellence: Collateral Special Event | The 9 Wanders of The Woodlands

TELLY AWARDS

• Silver: Travel & Tourism - Social Video | The Woodlands Waterway Arts Festival



Editorial Coverage

- Eater Houston
- <u>Traveling With Adeina</u>

FAM TRIPS

- Adeina Anderson, Freelance Writer
- Bao Ong, Houston Chronicle

PRESS RELEASES

- 4 Partner Press Releases
- 5 Visit The Woodlands Press Releases



PARTNERSHIPS Advocage



HOUSTON STATE OF THE CITY

Hosted by Houston First Corporation and the Greater Houston Partnership, the signature event brings together local officials and business leaders across industries for a special luncheon and fireside chat with Mayor Whitmire. The discussion will highlight recent milestones, new projects, and priorities including the administration's commitment to the community and economic growth.

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF CVBS WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The Texas Tourism Women's Conference, presented by TACVB, is an interactive series of impactful workshops, expert presentations, and collaborative conversations.





TEXAS TRAVEL SUMMIT

Hosted by the Texas Travel Alliance, Texas Travel Summit stands as the premier conference for the Texas travel industry. It presents a unique blend of networking opportunities, cutting-edge insights, and best practices. Executive Director, Elizabeth Eddins serves on TTA's Executive Board, representing destination marketing organizations (DMOs) across Texas.

PARTNERSHIPS Highlights



LOCAL AWARENESS

- Athena Leadership Award Luncheon
- The Woodlands Area Chamber Chairman's Ball
- Montgomery County Food Bank Tour
- Texas Society of Association Executives





EVENT PARTICIPATION

- Red, Hot & Blue Festival
- Concert in the Park

MEETINGS

- Visit Houston Around Houston
- Market Street Visitor Services
- The Woodlands Area Chamber
- The Strong Firm
- The Woodlands Township Board of Directors
- Visit The Woodlands Board of Directors



TEAM MEMBERS





NICK WOLDA President



ELIZABETH EDDINS Executive Director





CARLA TWIDELL Administrative Analyst



JOSIE LEWIS Director of Sales



ASHLEY FENNER Senior Sales Specialist



RYAN GREENWOOD Senior Sales Specialist



JULIE QUINN **Servicing Specialist**





ASHLEY WHITE Director of Marketing

lourism



AMBER GEORGE



ANDREA DAY Social Media Coordinator Creative Media Coordinator



VACANT **Content Coordinator**

VACANT **Tourism Specialist**



Connect With Ms

VISITTHEWOODLANDS.COM



