



PLACES TO VACATION

across Texas

Your go-to guide for summer exploration! —



With Summer upon us, we know that means school vacations, trips, sun and fun. While you may be planning an out-of state getaway, there are plenty of vacation ideas right in our own backyard.

Our list of Places in Texas to Vacation has something for everyone to enjoy, from the youngest travelers to the solo explorer and everything in between. Filled with recommended activities, hotels, and places to explore this summer, we're certain you'll find your next trip, right in your own backyard.



experiences like Dolphin Swim or the Ultimate Animal Experience. For more bespoke experiences that can be exclusively enjoyed when the park is closed to the public, try the All-Swim Program or the Animal Adventure Tour.

SEAWORLD

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS

San Antonio, TX | SeaWorld.com

Take the family or a group of friends to enjoy the sea's hidden creatures at SeaWorld. Enjoy a variety of activities for all ages ranging from concerts and parades, to rides like the Texas Stingray for thrill-seekers or Super Grover's Box Car Derby for kid-friendly fun. There is also a wide selection of shows to see like Orca Encounter or Ocean Discovery where you can see dolphins, whales and other sea-friends put on a fun show for your little ones. Enjoy hands-on encounters by booking specialty animal

THE ALAMO

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS

San Antonio, TX | TheAlamo.org



the river. Finish off the day with either a cruise along the river on an open-boat tour, or be daring and take the nighttime Alamo Ghost Hunt Walking Tour that explores different places rumored to be haunted.

Breathe in Texas history at The Alamo. We recommend spending the day taking in all that the Alamo has to offer with guided tours or musket firing. Watch a movie in the Arbor or book the Young Texans Tour specially made for your kiddos. Make it special and reserve a private or after-hours tour just for you and your group. After finishing at the Alamo, head two blocks over to River Walk for a plethora of things to do ranging from shopping in specialty boutiques, to indulging in mouth-watering Mexican cuisine at some of the best restaurants the area has to offer; complete with seating overlooking

SOUTH PADRE

ISLAND

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS, COUPLES

South Padre, TX | SoPadre.com



lessons with Andy Hancock, or hunt for treasure on the Black Dragon Pirate Ship cruise. Ladies can enjoy relaxing spa treatments or indulge in shopping with the girls. Ocean view rooms make the destination idyllic for couples, with countless dining options along with a romantic visit to Port Isabel Lighthouse for a complete view of the island. Groups can end their day with a cold brew at Padre Island Brewing Company.

For families, we recommend South Padre. South Padre Island is its own little getaway with many options for activities and dining experiences. There are various excursions like dolphin watching and fishing for the active visitors. Thrill seekers can visit Schlitterbahn waterpark to surf man-made waves or go parasailing, surfing, kiteboarding and wakeboarding over the clear waters. Kids can enjoy Beach Park at Isla Blanca, sandcastle



GAYLORD TEXAN RESORT

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS
Grapevine, TX | [Marriott.com](https://www.marriott.com)

Located on the lush shores of Lake Grapevine, the Gaylord Texan Resort is a great stay! This resort gives you countless reasons to never leave. Starting with the expansive 10-acre Paradise Springs Water Park for families, ranging to the 4.5 acre Atriums, there's something for everyone. Indulge in any of the 4 award-winning restaurants. Treat your significant other to a relaxing and detoxifying treatment in the world-class Relâche Spa. The hotel is conveniently located near LEGOLAND® Discovery Center, Cowboys Golf Club, Historic Downtown Grapevine, and Lake Grapevine for water sport enthusiasts.



CANYON LAKE

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS, COUPLES

Canyon Lake, TX | CanyonLakeGuide.com

Try a unique group stay experience! Relax to the serene views of Canyon Lake. Spend the day in the water sailing, skiing, kayaking, fishing or even scuba diving. Take your littles for a tubing adventure on The Guadalupe River. Go for a special helicopter tour to enjoy the scenery from above or try parasailing. We also recommend renting an AirBnB for the weekend to enjoy wine tastings, shopping, and lunch at the famous Gristmill restaurant known for its stunning tiered patio along the Guadalupe River. Then make your way to Gruene Hall for dinner and live music.

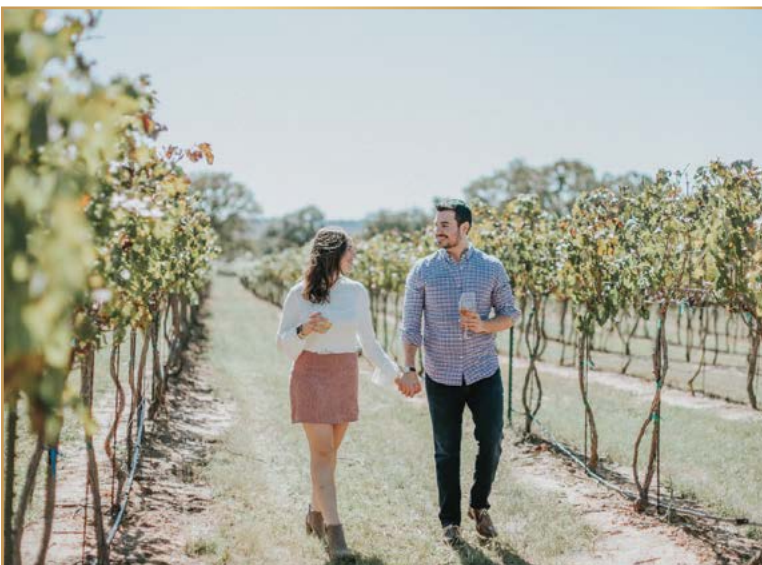


MARGARITAVILLE LAKE RESORT

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS, COUPLES

Montgomery, TX | MargaritavilleResorts.com

This Texan oasis will make any vacationers dreams come true with its views alone. The waterfront paradise brings island and lake vibes together, transporting you straight to the tropics with luxurious suites and waterfront cottages. With 6 dining outlets to choose from, there's no reason to leave. Let the tension go with an exquisite spa treatment at St. Somewhere Spa or enjoy activities on the lake with water sports. Golfers have a world-class course for tee-time and kids will love the on-site water park. Be sure to book early in this sought-after lake resort as their rooms book up fast.



FREDERICKSBURG

GOOD FOR: GROUPS, COUPLES

Fredericksburg, TX | VisitFredericksburgTX.com

For the outdoor and cultural enthusiasts, Fredericksburg is one not to miss. There is a multitude of activities to choose from, like The Enchanted Rock State Natural Area for hiking, picnics, or camping, or cultural explorations like museums, wineries and breweries. Fredericksburg offers plenty of options for groups and couples. Visit before the end of August to enjoy their famous and lush peaches before heading out to discover one of the 50+ wineries, vineyards and tasting rooms located in Fredericksburg's Gillespie County. Take a horseback sunset ride with your partner before ending the night at one of the many live music events or two-step your way to Luckenbach Texas.



CINNAMON SHORE

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS

Port Aransas, TX | CinnamonShore.com

Make lifetime memories with your favorite people at Cinnamon Shore. Advance your kiddos' sandcastle-making skills with lessons from The Sand Castle Guy before indulging in s'mores at the beach bonfire or a movie on the lawn. For some father-son time, or group gatherings, head out to sea for offshore fishing or bay fishing. Test your balance with Paddleboard Yoga before soaking in the sun on the white sandy beach. End the day with gastronomical explosions at Lisabella's for coastal cuisine or Dylan's Coal Oven Pizzeria for a New York slice. An alternative dining option would be to gather the group and dive into a shrimp boil right on the beach!



SUMMIT RESORT

GOOD FOR: GROUPS, COUPLES, LADIES

Canyon Lake, TX | SummitResortTexas.com

Take 'glamping' to the next level by renting one of Summit Resort's 30 log cabins by the Guadalupe River, just 4 miles from Canyon Lake. River front cabins come with a kitchenette, refrigerator, a full bathroom and room for 4 to dine. AC is included for those hot Texas summer nights. There are also larger cabins that can accommodate up to 8 people. Enjoy nature with life's little luxuries for a weekend.



ROCKPORT

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, COUPLES

Rockport, TX | Rockport-Fulton.org

Relax at Rockport. Rent a boat, hire a fishing guide and catch your own dinner. Bring your sea-prizes to any of the local restaurants who will cook your fresh caught fish just how you like it. You can also take a stroll through the seafood markets around town and bring your selections down to the beach for a seafood barbeque right on the sand. Youngsters can enjoy the Pirate playground at Rockport Beach or the whole family can head to the Community Aquatic Park. Younger visitors can splash in

the whale shaped zero-depth entry pool with slides, sprays and a bathhouse, while the grown-ups get a workout in the 8-lane, 25-yard pool and diving area. For active travelers, Little Bay offers Stand Up Paddle Boarding with board rental options. Geocaching is an exciting new 'digital scavenger hunt' that can be done by the whole family and is a fun alternative to an outdoor experience. End the day at any of the fine restaurants in the Coastal Bend at Fulton Harbor.



VALLEY MILLS

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS

Valley Mills, TX | vmtx.us/chamberofcommerce

Visit Valley Mills. Make a stop at Cameron Park Zoo, go on a horseback ride at Hearts of Texas Equestrian Academy, or take the whole family to the county fair for games, snacks and fun. Golfers can book a tee time at Golf Ranch or visit the infamous JDH Iron Designs location. Watch metal workers create beautiful, unique pieces of art from bare metal. Pick up a piece for yourself on your way out from their show room.



JW MARRIOTT HILL COUNTRY

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS, COUPLES

Lost Pines, TX | Hyatt.com

This majestic property has it all. 600-acres of oak-covered hills, the JW Marriott Hill Country is idyllic for a summer stay. Not only is the location nearby to some of Texas' most sought-after attractions like wineries, SeaWorld, Shops at La Cantera, Natural Bridge Caverns and Six Flags Fiesta Texas, but the resort in and of itself is a destination. Home to the thrilling RiverBluff Water Experience water park, attractions include a 1,100-foot lazy river, adult only, activity, kids only and sand beach pools, whirlpool spas, saunas and more. The destination also includes two 275 foot long, 35-foot high Acequia Tube Slides, The Canyon Oak Twister, and Hill Country Plunge

body slides that plunge you from 60 feet in the air. The waterpark encapsulates days' worth of fun. The resort also has a divine spa and a PGA tour-approved golf course that hosts the Valero Texas Open and offers hotel players the same treatment and exclusive amenities reserved for PGA Tour professionals. Guests can also enjoy a variety of gastronomically delicious fare with 7 restaurants including modern Texas cuisine at Cibolo Moon, or upscale steak dinners at 18 Oaks.

FRIO RIVER

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS, COUPLES

Uvalde, TX

VisitUvaldeCounty.com

Dip your toes into Frio River. The spring water river is shallow and crystal clear – making it ideal for fishing, canoeing, kayaking or tubing. For overnight stays, rent an RV and park it at El Rods – the newly renovated RV park right on Frio River. With 2 private access points to the river, you can swiftly run into Frio. Kids can safely swim in the near flat, shallow area of the El Rods shoreline or fish in the small pond. For adventurers, Rock Island offers deeper areas of the river.





TYLER

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS, COUPLES

Tyler, TX | VisitTyler.com

Tyler has so much to offer its visitors. Known as the Rose Capital of America, a trip to Tyler couldn't be complete without an immersion into the city's floral experiences, including a visit to the world-famous Rose Garden and a tea or coffee infused with Rose flavors from The Foundry Coffee House or Café 1948. For family visitors, a visit to Caldwell Zoo or a drive-thru safari at Cherokee Trace are both fun-tastic options. The Children's Park features life-

sized bronze statues, a children's story amphitheater, and a butterfly garden that would be great for an early play date. For aquatic fun, the family can head to Splash Kingdom Family Waterpark or the Waterpark at Villages Resort for indoor waterpark entertainment. There are also endless entertainment options for adults, too. Thrillers can try the New York, Texas Zipline, stretching more than 940ft. long and over 100ft. above the ground. In addition to the plethora of stay and dining options, Liberty Hall theater offers live music, comedy and revivals of classic films for the East Texas region.



LONGVIEW

GOOD FOR: GROUPS

Longview, TX | VisitLongviewTexas.com

Visit Longview for a summer trip with your friends. Zip line on the 750-foot-long trail over alligators at Gators and Friends Zipline Adventure, or challenge your friends to a round through the Texas Tough Water Obstacle Course at the Thomas Falls Zipline Challenge Course. Duel across the water on 600-foot zip lines, slide down the 100-foot-long waterfall and see who can make it to the finish line first! Adrenaline car junkies can head to G-Force's indoor

1/8th mile racetrack. For the more leisurely adventurer, take a Hot Air Balloon ride with Balloon Adventures USA or relieve your stress at Lumberjacks Axe Throwing. Go on the Thirsty Pine Tour – a curated collection of the best East Texas craft brews. Finish the night carving into surprising off-menu meats at Bodacious Bar-B-Q; one of the best barbeque joints in Texas (named by *Texas Monthly*).

GARNER STATE PARK CABINS

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS

Concan, TX | Tpwd.com



For quaint glamping, try renting a Cabin at Garner State Park on the Frio River. Cabins allow for up to 6 people per cabin. Features include a kitchen, bathroom, central air conditioning, and the option of a fireplace. In addition to enjoying miles of Frio River, summer nights allow for youngsters to gather at the park's concession building for jukebox dancing, a park tradition since the 1940's. Arrive early as parking fills up quickly and can close as early as 8:30 pm.



EL PASO BOUTIQUE HOTELS

GOOD FOR: GROUPS, COUPLES

El Paso, TX | VisitElPaso.com

El Paso alone is a great destination to spend some time in and explore. We suggest booking a stay in one of the areas boutique hotels for a superb experience. For an uber-modern stay, try the Stanton House El Paso. Priding itself on its guests being both spectators of art and art itself, the decor and clean lines alone will clear any mind and transport you to a contemporary modern escape, right in the heart of El Paso. We also recommend staying at the Hotel Indigo El Paso Downtown. The mid-century architecture meets contemporary

design in central El Paso gives not only bright pops of color with its fun artistic décor, but also gorgeous views of El Paso from its rooftop.

SCHLITTERBAHN

GOOD FOR: FAMILY

Galveston & New Braunfels, TX
Schlitterbahn.com

Schlitterbahn has locations at Galveston Island or New Braunfels. For one-day fun, head to Galveston Island where the rides are there to thrill. There are also plenty of rides for little ones too, as well as rivers and wave pools for a more relaxed experience. The Galveston Island location hosts "the largest collection of heart-pounding, fast, tall, and thrilling attractions in the Schlitterbahn family of water parks." For an overnight stay, visit the New Braunfels resort with seven different lodging experiences ranging from newly renovated vacation homes to hotel rooms and cottages. In addition to thriller rides and several water playgrounds for kids, the resort also offers heated pools, movie nights, hiking, fishing, as well as barbeque pits and picnic areas. Nearby are additional local attractions to make the most of your stay, including river trips with water activities like tubing and kayaking, horseback riding, winery tours, scuba diving or even sky diving for the adventurers.





Wonder World Cave. See the anti-gravity house at Adventure Park or visit the Wildlife Petting Park. Mature travellers can visit the town and take in the city's lively nightlife full of live music, breweries, and hidden hangouts. There are also endless shopping options for retail enthusiasts.

SAN MARCOS

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS, COUPLES

San Marcos, TX | visitsanmarcos.com

Spend a few days in San Marcos. Escape the heat with a dip in the San Marcos River. Enjoy tubing, kayaking, or watch the sunset on an LED illuminated paddle board with Paddle SMTX's Glow Tour. Take the Glass-Bottom-Boat Tour of Spring Lake with the Meadows Center. The glass panel flooring provides a breathtaking view of the lake's water life flourishing with flora and fauna as well as the popular springs. For nature seekers, hikes are abundant, but you can also explore the earthquake-formed cave at

LAKE TRAVIS

GOOD FOR: GROUPS

Austin, TX | LakeTravis.com



"The crown jewel" of central Texas highland lakes, this is THE most visited freshwater recreational vacation destination in Texas." While there are plenty of lakeside parks along the massive lake that are great for exploring, the lakes waters are the true attraction. Boat rentals are plenty and the best way to enjoy this destination. Rentals are available for houseboats, party barges, skis, wakeboards, wake surf boats, pontoon boats, jet skis and wave runners, sailboats, kayaks and stand-up paddle boards, as well as flyboarding. There are 2 ziplining operators and 4 waterparks to choose from, including Waterloo Adventures which sits right on the water. Like boat rentals, restaurant options are endless, and

come with a divine view and direct boat access. Noteworthy are The OASIS, the largest outdoor restaurant in Texas sitting on a 450-foot-high cliff with breathtaking sunset views and livemusic on 3 stages. Also to highlight is Beachside Billy's Restaurant & Waterpark at Volente Beach Resort; a boat accessible destination, specializing in steaks and fresh seafood along with mouthwatering burgers on the lake. If you want to take a bite of all the lake has to offer, try Lake Travis' Ultimate On-The-Water Pub Crawl for great food, drinks and live music on water.

HYATT REGENCY LOST PINES

GOOD FOR: FAMILY, GROUPS

Lost Pines, TX | Hyatt.com



Go for a stay at the Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort. The resort sits on 405 acres lining the Lower Colorado River and is home to the award winning 18-hole Wolfdancer Golf Club course, perfect for early morning tee times. Rejuvenate your soul with an invigorating treatment at Spa Django, or dive into one of the two outdoor pools, while the kids hang out in the arcade/game room. Children ages 5 and up can also practice their aim and learn how to use bow-and-throw tomahawks with professional tomahawk & archery. End an evening in any one of the five restaurants or relax under the stars and take in some live music with Live at Lost Pines.



PattenTitle.com

