

# RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENT

The best part of life is the living, and no matter how you characterize it, Austin's got it. From sailing to cycling, theatre to shopping, team sports to running, the greater Austin area provides more opportunities to have fun than you can imagine. Let it never be said there is nothing to do in Austin, Texas.



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# THE ARTS

## OF AUSTIN

The fact that Austin boasts more artists per capita than any other Texas city speaks volumes about the city's thriving arts scene. The roots of the city's artistic talent run deep, tapping an artistic reservoir as bountiful as the aquifers that fill the Texas Hill Country's creeks, pools and rivers.

Austin's diverse visual and performing arts scene reverberates from the shores of Lake Austin and ethnic neighborhoods of East Austin to downtown avenues and the University of Texas campus. It is from that disparity and diversity that Austin's arts scene springs.

More than \$100 million in arts projects are on the drawing board in this cultural mecca where attendance at arts events is nearing one and a half million visits since 1993.

(Source: Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau in partnership with Austin360.com)

### *Theatre:*

#### **The Paramount Theatre & State Theatre Company**

713 Congress Avenue  
(512) 472-2901  
(866) 443-8849  
[www.gettix.net](http://www.gettix.net) for tickets

For over 90 years, the Paramount Theatre has been home to vaudeville, silent movies and "talkies", music, dance and Broadway shows. Today the Paramount offers something for all ages, including Broadway plays, musical groups of every type possible, dance companies, movies, comedy shows and a children's series.

#### **The University of Texas Performing Arts Center**

510 E. 23rd St.  
(512) 471-1444

One of the finest performing arts centers in the United States, The UT Performing Arts Complex includes the B. Iden Payne Theatre, Bass Concert Hall, Bates Recital Hall, Jessen Auditorium, Hogg Auditorium and McCullough Theatre.



#### **One World Theatre**

7701 Bee Caves Road  
(512) 330-9500  
(512) 469-7469 (Star Tickets)  
[www.startickets.com](http://www.startickets.com)

One World Theatre fills a gap in the Austin arts scene for a smaller sized world-class venue. This elegant cathedral-like theatre is versatile and beautiful and can be transformed for a variety of events.

#### **Zilker Hillside Theatre**

P. O. Box 685093, Austin, Texas 78768-5093  
(512) 479-9491

Zilker Hillside Theatre is located in Zilker Park across the parking lot from Barton Springs Pool. Since 1959, Central Texas audiences have enjoyed high quality Broadway musicals under the stars.

#### **Arts on Real**

2826 Real St.  
(512) 472-2787

One of Austin's newest & flexible performance spaces service the non-profit theatre and dance community. A variety of performances, open mike nights and independent film screenings are all featured. Available for booking your next performance event.

#### **Austin Playhouse**

Penn Field  
3601 S. Congress  
(512) 476-0084

Premier season was January, 2001.

Professional productions of class, contemporary and musical plays. Single tickets, subscriptions or group rates available.

#### **Zachary Scott Theatre**

1510 Toomey Road (Arena Stage)  
1421 W. Riverside Dr. (Kleberg Stage)  
512-476-0541

Zachary Scott Theatre goes back to 1933 when it was originally incorporated as the Austin Civic Theatre. That incorporation made it Central Texas' oldest resident theatre.

### *Dance:*

#### **Ballet Austin**

3002 Guadalupe St.  
(512) 476-9051

#### **Ballet East at Dougherty Arts Center**

3111 Garwood St.  
(512) 385-2838

#### **Sharir/Bustamante/Danceworks**

P. O. Box 339  
(512) 236-1296

#### **Tapestry Dance Company**

507-B Pressler St.  
(512) 474-9846

#### **Ballet Folklorico de Texas**

1928 Gaston Place Dr.  
(512) 928-1111



***Music:***

**Chorus Austin**

P. O. Box 204361, 78720  
(512) 719-3300

**Austin Lyric Opera**

901 Barton Springs Rd.  
(512) 472-5992

**Austin Symphony Orchestra**

1101 Red River St.  
(512) 476-6064

**Austin City Limits**

UT Austin Taping  
(512) 475-9077

**Blues on the Green**

Zilker Park Summer Series  
(512) 832-4000 or  
(512) 974-6200



***Museums:***

**Austin Museum of Art**

823 Congress Avenue (Downtown)  
512-495-9224  
3809 W. 35<sup>th</sup> St. (Laguna Gloria)  
(512) 458-8191

**Blanton Museum of Art**

MLK at Congress Ave.  
(512) 471-7324

**Mexic-Arte Museum**

419 Congress Avenue  
(512) 480-9373

**Elizabet Ney Museum**

304 E. 44<sup>th</sup> Street  
(512) 458-2255

**Umlauf Sculpture Garden**

605 Robert E. Lee Rd.  
(512) 445-5582



# AUSTIN PARKS

## AND RECREATION

As important to the success of Austin as it's strong economy and it's diverse real estate options is the beautiful park system with a wide range of opportunities and areas of interest. Central Texas residents have a number of quality parks for every kind of use within a reasonable drive.

Austin boasts nearly 200 city parks, hike and bike trails and greenbelts, plus several nature preserves encompassing more than 14,000 acres of scenic retreats. Listed below are a few of the local favorites.

### City Parks

#### Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARC)

200 S. Lamar Blvd.  
(512) 974-2000

For general information and contact numbers to all city parks, PARC are the definitive people in the know. They will direct you to all park information lines and give you the skinny on rules and regulations as well as hours of operation.



#### Barton Creek Greenbelt

Barton Springs Rd.  
3755-B Loop 360 (Capital of Texas Hwy.)  
(512) 472-1267

One of the city's most popular greenbelts, the

trail follows Barton Creek through the canyon that cuts across Southwest Austin and offers a retreat the Hill Country without leaving the city limits.

#### Bull Creek Park and Greenbelt

6701 Lakewood Drive  
(512) 974-6700

This 120-acre greenbelt attracts hikers and mountain bikers, as well as swimmers and waders during the spring when the rains fill the creek.

#### Emma Long Metropolitan Park (City Park)

1706 City Park Road  
512-346-1831

This is Austin's oldest city park with 3 miles of Lake Austin shoreline including boat ramps and picnic sites.

#### Lake Walter E. Long Park

6614 Blue Bluff Road  
512-926-5230

This 1,300-acre lake is well known for its fishing and water activities. There are campsites, hike and bike trails. The park roads are popular with runners and bicyclists.

#### Mount Bonnell Park

3800 Mount Bonnell Rd., off Scenic Rd.  
(512) 974-6700

Tourists have been coming to Mount Bonnell for 140 years and climbing the 99 steps (785 feet) to the peak to get a great view of Austin. It is a popular spot for young couples who want to watch the stars come out and a particularly romantic spot for University of Texas students who can get a clear view of the UT Tower, aglow in orange light when the Longhorn's athletic teams win.

#### Pease Park

1100 Kingsbury Street  
(512) 974-6700

Along Shoal Creek between 12<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> streets in Central Austin, this park is popular with lunchtime picnickers and joggers. There's a small leash free zone where well-behaved dogs can scamper about under the careful watch of their owners.

#### Shoal Creek Hike and Bike

Lamar Blvd., from 38<sup>th</sup> St. to Town Lake  
A wide, 3-mile-long greenbelt long the urban pathway of Shoal Creek, winding through Central Austin is popular among runners, walkers, kids and dogs.

#### Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail

S. First Street  
(512) 477-7273

Along the Colorado River from Tom Miller



Dam in West Austin to the U.S. Hwy 183 Bridge in East Austin, this park graces the Colorado River as it winds through the heart of downtown Austin. From dawn to dusk, the Hike and Bike Trail is filled with joggers, walkers, bicyclists, dog walkers and people just enjoying a stroll along the Colorado River. The southern shore of Town Lake is known as Auditorium Shores and is the site of outdoor concerts and various festivals. On the northern bank of Town Lake is Fiesta Gardens, a popular community concert and celebration spot.

#### Waller Creek Greenbelt

403 E. 15<sup>th</sup> Street

Stretching from 15<sup>th</sup> Street to Town Lake, the Waller Street greenbelt recently received bond approval from the Austin voters to improve the trail in order to create an urban river walk similar to San Antonio's famous riverside trail.

#### Waterloo Park

403 E. 15<sup>th</sup> Street

A quiet retreat in the heart of Austin, the park lies just east of the capitol.

## **Zilker Botanical Gardens**

2200 Barton Springs Road  
512-477-8672

There are several gardens within the grounds, including a rose garden, a cactus and succulent garden, fragrance and butterfly gardens, woodland trails, a xeriscape garden and the Taniguchi oriental garden.

## **Zilker Park**

2100 Barton Springs Road  
(512) 499-6700

The showpiece of Austin, it is the home of our famed Barton Springs Pool, the Zilker Playscape, the miniature train, the Zilker Hillside Theater and much more. The greenbelt hike and bike trail begins just beyond the pool. You can rent canoes and take a glide along Town Lake. And, at Christmas time, be sure to check out the Trail of Lights.

## **Area State Parks**

### **Bastrop State Park**

P. O. Box 518  
Bastrop, Texas 78602  
512-321-2101

### **Colorado Bend State Park**

Box 118  
Bend, Texas 76824  
915-628-3240

### **Enchanted Rock State Natural Area**

16710 RR 965  
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624  
915-247-3903

### **Inks Lake State Park**

3630 Park Road 4 West  
Burnet, Texas 78611  
512-793-2223

### **McKinney Falls State Park**

5808 McKinney Falls Parkway  
Austin, Texas 78744  
512-243-1643

### **Pedernales Falls State Park**

2585 Park Road 6026  
Johnson City, Texas 78636  
830-868-7304

## **Travis County Parks**

### **Arkansas Bend**

Sylvester Ford Road, off FM 1431  
512-267-4661

### **Ben Fisher**

FM 973 off US Hwy. 290 E

### **Bob Wentz Park**

On Lake Travis, access from Comanche Trail  
512-266-2544

### **Cypress Creek**

On Lake Travis, Anderson Mill Road at FM 2769

### **Dink Pearson Park**

Lohmans Ford Rd.  
On Lake Travis near Lago Vista

### **Fritz Hughes**

Fritz Hughes Park Rd.  
Lake Austin, near Mansfield Dam

### **Hippie Hollow**

Lake Travis, near Comanche Trail of RR 620  
512-266-1644

### **Mansfield Dam**

On Mansfield Dam Rd.  
RR 620

## **Pace Bend**

2701 FM 2322, 4.5 miles off Texas Hwy. 71  
(512) 264-1482

## **Sandy Creek**

On Lake Travis off Lime Creek Rd.

## **Selma Hughes Park**

Selma Hughes Rd.  
Lake Austin off Quinlin Park Rd.

## **Tom Hughes Park**

On Marshall Ford Dr. to Park Dr.  
Lake Travis on Tom Hughes Park Road, off RR 62

