Welcome to Houston!

As the nation’s fourth largest city, Houston captivates individuals of all ages and walks of life. With the largest mall in Texas, a booming culinary scene, a thriving commercial real estate market, several outdoor attractions, and first-rate museums, there is plenty of action to make any visitor want to stay a little longer.

Whether you are staying for a few days or a few weeks, discover why Houston’s mix of multicultural appeal and Southern charm captivates travelers the world over. Please enjoy this guide of our wonderful city to see which attractions suit you!
From highly acclaimed brands to trendy boutiques, Houston offers something for everyone.

Searching for something in particular or simply perusing? Chances are it’s available in Houston. From department stores in the Galleria to locally owned boutiques at Rice Village, Houston’s retail offerings are heaven for any shopper.

The Galleria

With 3 million total square feet, 375-plus stores, and an ice rink located on the first floor, the Galleria is the largest mall in Texas. Displaying nationally recognized designers, every day brands, or trendy boutiques, the grand mall meets any shopaholic’s expectations. Looking for a place to take the kids? The first floor is home to a public ice rink where they can skate as long as they like!

Highland Village

Enjoy a first-class shopping experience right inside the Loop. With over 60 retailers and entertainment at your fingertips, Highland Village is the place for every member of the family.

Rice Village

Just a few blocks from the beautiful Rice University campus, Rice Village is a collection of shops, restaurants, and pubs. Find the latest looks and discover the finest selection of shopping with a quaint, small-town feeling.
River Oaks Shopping Center

Built in 1927, this Art Deco-style center is located between Houston’s prestigious River Oaks and Upper Kirby neighborhoods. The first of its kind in the city, River Oaks Shopping Center is home to over 75 nationally recognized stores and stylish boutiques, as well as notable restaurants and complimentary valet parking.

Uptown Park

This elegant Italian-style piazza is unlike any other. Experience world-class specialty shops, boutiques, and national retailers for him, her, and the children. With lush fountains, detailed architecture, and over 50 places to shop, dine, and enjoy, Uptown Park is where European sophistication meets Texas style.

Westheimer Curve

Brimming with thrift stores and small boutiques, Montrose’s popular Westheimer Curve showcases the eclectic side of Houston. Located between Dunlavy Street and Montrose Boulevard, this diverse stretch of shops is a consignment hotspot. Westheimer Curve is a winding road of offbeat and enjoyable shopping.
Get the dish on Houston’s diverse restaurant scene.

With more than 10,000 restaurants in the area, Houston has mastered the culinary scene. Whether you are looking for a great date night destination or a family friendly spot, this city has it all.

**American Cuisine**

For a city known for its delicious ethnic fare, it should come as no surprise that Houston delivers top-notch American cuisine, too. Try one of these delicious American fares.

- Restaurant RDG + Bar Annie
- Coltivare
- Frank’s Americana Revival
- Just Dinner
- Hearsay Gastro Lounge
- Roost
- Shade
- Zelko Bistro
- Mark’s American Cuisine
- Max’s Wine Dive
- Backstreet Cafe
- Local Foods
- Punk’s Simple Southern Food

**Not Vegetarian**

Craving filet mignon or down home Texas BBQ? These top spots will satisfy your craving.

- Brenner’s on the Bayou
- Goode Company Barbeque
- Jackson Street BBQ
- Pappas Bros. Steakhouse
- Pizzitola’s BBQ
- Ray’s Real Pit BBQ Shack
- Taste of Texas
Tex-Mex Lovers
From gourmet Mexico City-style fare to mobile vendors, Houston has its famous Tex-Mex style cuisine covered. To satisfy your spicier cravings try one of these first-rate destinations.

- Armandos
- El Tiempo Cantina
- Hugo’s
- Little Pappasito’s
- Molina’s Cantina
- The Original Ninfa’s on Navigation
- Sylvia’s Enchilada Kitchen
- Teotihuacan

Seafood Central
Interested in tasting some of Houston’s Gulf Coast classics? These top-notch restaurants will not disappoint!

- Brasserie 19
- Caracol
- Danton’s
- Peska
- Reef
- Tony Mandola’s
- Truluck’s

Houston has its famous Tex-Mex style cuisine covered.
Explore Houston’s unique offerings that make it shine.

Iconic sites and clandestine treasures with a Houston flare, give the city a unique look and feel.

**Buffalo Bayou Kayak Tours**

Paddle through Houston on a two-person kayak tour. You will be able to spot some of the local wildlife like loggerhead turtles, blue herons, and even an occasional alligator sunning along the banks during the four-hour expedition.

**Bayou Bend Collection & Gardens**

Located in the River Oaks community, the former home of famed Houston philanthropist, Ima Hogg, now serves as the Museum of Fine Arts’ collection of 4,700 pieces, including decorative art, paintings, and furniture that reflect historic and stylistic periods from 1620 to 1870. The property’s 14-acre garden, including eight formal gardens, is the largest organic historic garden in Texas.

**Memorial Park**

Are you an exercise-a-holic or simply looking for a place to stroll outdoors? Situated off of Memorial Drive and Loop 610, Memorial Park offers a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities. Facilities for jogging, tennis, hiking, biking, and picnicking are all readily available.
We Love Houston Sign
Take a quick snapshot with David Adickes’ “We Love Houston” sign, the Bayou City’s newest and most public display of affection, and beloved Houston landmark. Located on the south side of I-10, the 28-foot tall sculpture is a source of local pride.

Downtown Aquarium
Part restaurant, part exhibit, the aquarium is a 6-acre dining and entertainment complex that any age would enjoy. The 500,000-gallon aquatic world is home to over 200 species of aquatic life and themed habitats. With restaurants, bars, exhibits, and shopping, the Downtown Aquarium has it all!

Discovery Green
Developed in 2008, Discovery Green is a public park in Downtown Houston. The 11.78-acre urban park includes delicious restaurants, public art, a lake, a children’s area, venues for public performances, two dog runs, and multiple recreational areas.

Sesquicentennial Park
Established to commemorate Houston’s 150th birthday in 1986, the 10.5-acre park features cascading waterfalls, a gazebo and promenade, several sculptures by renowned artists and Mel Chin’s seven 70-foot tall pillars that pay tribute to Houston’s past and present. The park also offers visitors green space, hiking and biking trails, and boat launches.

Children’s Museum of Houston
Voted America’s Number 1 Children’s Museum by Parents Magazine and listed among Forbes “Best Children’s Museums in the U.S.” The Children’s Museum of Houston provides innovative, child-centered learning in a fun and unique environment. Bring the kids to enjoy all 90,000 square feet of fun!
The Houston Zoo

Visit over 900 species of wildlife from around the world at Houston’s 55-acre zoological park located within Hermann Park. As the tenth most visited zoo in the U.S., The Houston Zoo provides a fun, unique experience for all. You can even tour the zoo on a miniature train or paddle through the duck pond in a pedal boat.

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

Considered as the anchor of the museum district, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH) is one of the largest museums in the U.S. The museum’s extensive collection spans more than 6,000 years of history with 64,000 works from six continents, housed in seven facilities. Opened to the public in 1924, the MFAH is the oldest art museum in Texas.

Houston Museum of Natural Science

Located on the northern border of Hermann Park, the Houston Museum of Natural Science (HMNS) is one of the most popular in the U.S. due to its large number of special or guest exhibits. The museum complex consists of a central facility with four floors of natural science halls and exhibits, the Burke Baker Planetarium, the Cockrell Butterfly Center, and the Wortham Giant Screen Theatre (formerly known as the Wortham IMAX Theatre).

The Menil Collection

Housed in a landmark of modern architecture, the Menil Collection is a museum dedicated to preserving and exhibiting the art collection of Houston philanthropists John and Dominique de Menil. A local treasure and a global destination, this museum is open free of charge to all.

Williams Waterwall

Located across from the Galleria, the 2.77-acre Gerald D. Hines Waterwall Park features a 64-foot semi-circular architectural fountain that re-circulates 11,000 gallons of water per minute. The Hines Waterwall Park continues to be the community centerpiece for Uptown Houston.
Visit Houston’s nightlife scene to unwind after a long day.

Houston awakens at night with live music, relaxing lounges, and lively bars, providing any and every type of scene you are seeking.

**Downtown and Midtown**

Houston’s central business district is booming. You can find the professional crowd near Market Square at spots like Char Bar, Molly’s Pub, The Nightingale Room, and Prohibition Supperclub & Bar. Looking for an energetic scene? Midtown offers a wide array of venues such as the Continental Club, Third Floor, and Howl at the Moon Piano Bar.

**Montrose**

The scene along the Westheimer Curve defines the eclectic Montrose neighborhood. Explore craft beer at the Hay Merchant or relax at Boheme Café & Wine Bar’s laid-back patio. Don’t miss other neighborhood favorites like Anvil, Stone’s Throw, Royal Oak, Firkin & Phoenix Pub, Cecil’s Pub, and West Alabama Ice House.

**River Oaks**

Looking for an upscale atmosphere among the city’s best locations? Enjoy the Oak Bar, one of the newest and nicest additions to the River Oaks scene. Then travel next door to sip on wine or specially curated cocktails at 1919 Wine & Mixology. Looking for more of a neighborhood bar? Try The Railyard.

**Washington Avenue**

Minutes from Downtown, Washington Avenue draws young professionals for happy hour entertainment. Enjoy a mojito at Benjy’s, sip vino at Max’s Wine Dive, or enjoy the outdoor atmosphere of Hughes Hangar.