

The San Antonio
**RIVER
WALK**



Independence Title



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A Brief History of the San Antonio River Walk

Robert Harvey Harold Hugman came up with his basic River Walk plan in 1929. Hotelier Jack White picked up the cause, got Hugman hired and started the process that led to the River Walk's completion in 1941. With pedestrian traffic assured by two new hotels, which opened along the River Walk for HemisFair '68, San Antonio's World's Fair, River Walk development increased to the point where the River Walk is now a top tourist destination in the State of Texas.

A concerted community effort to revitalize the river began in 1998 with the creation of the San Antonio River Oversight Committee and the San Antonio River Improvements Project. The comprehensive multi-year project is an investment by Bexar County, the City of San Antonio, the San Antonio River Authority, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the San Antonio River Foundation to restore and enhance 13 miles of the San Antonio River both north and south of downtown.



For more information about the origins of the San Antonio Riverwalk, visit www.hugmantour.com.



Things to Do at the San Antonio River Walk

Whether on foot, bicycle or boat, there is plenty to see and do along the San Antonio River Walk. The River Walk follows the San Antonio River as it meanders through the heart of the 7th largest city in the United States. From its northern to southern limits, the River Walk is over 15 miles in length and connects to over 2000 acres of public park land, making it one of the nation's finest linear, urban parks.

The entire 15 miles of the River Walk is pedestrian friendly and compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The historic downtown River Walk is lined with restaurants, shops, hotels and more. It connects the major tourist draws in the downtown area including the Alamo, Rivercenter Mall, Arneson River Theatre and La Villita. North of downtown, the Museum Reach links several downtown historic, commercial and cultural institutions, including VFW Post 76, which is the oldest VFW post in Texas, the San Antonio Museum of Art, The Pearl (a restored former brewery and stables) The Witte Museum, Brackenridge Park and the San Antonio Zoo.

South of downtown, improvements to aquatic and riparian habitat along Eagleland and the Mission Reach will bring an anticipated increase in the numbers of native wildlife species.

That means fishermen, birdwatchers and other nature enthusiasts will have increased opportunity to enjoy wildlife in the area. The Mission Reach also has Mission Portals that

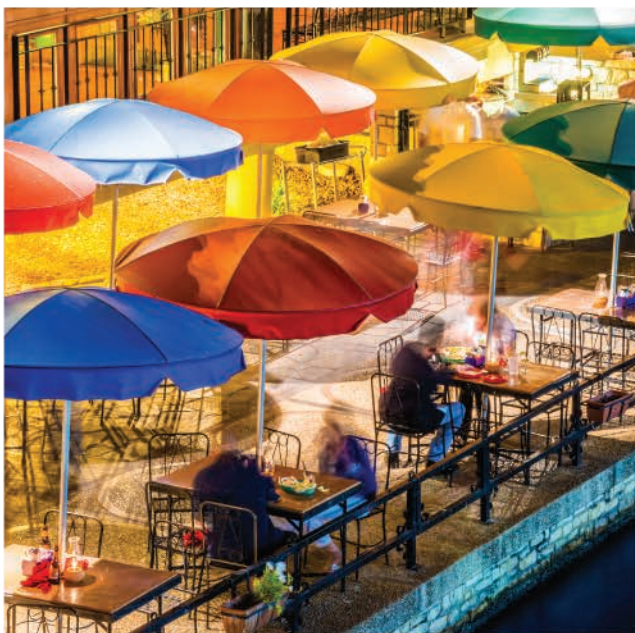


connect four of San Antonio's historic missions—Mission Concepción, Mission San José, Mission San Juan and Mission Espada—to the San Antonio River. These connections feature historic and artistic interpretations of the story of the missions and highlight their social and cultural importance to the area.

Bicycling is discouraged in the downtown Reach due to the narrower sidewalks of the original River Walk and heavy pedestrian traffic in this area; however, bicycling is a wonderful way to experience the rest of the River Walk. For those visitors to the River Walk who do not have their own bicycle, there are numerous San Antonio B-cycle Stations along the River Walk for quick and easy bicycle rental. For more information about San Antonio B-cycle, visit www.sanantonio.bcycle.com.

Visitors can also experience the River Walk by boat, either by barge in the downtown area and Museum Reach or by paddling a canoe or kayak south of downtown. Rio San Antonio Cruises offers guided river barge tours daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the downtown area. The Rio San Antonio Cruises Rio Taxi service travels continuously throughout the Downtown Reach and into the Museum Reach. For more information about San Antonio Cruises, visit www.RioSanAntonio.com.

The River Walk is home to numerous works of public art funded by the San Antonio River Foundation, a non-profit organization created by the San Antonio River Authority. The Museum Reach contains 11 works of public art created by local, national and internationally-known artists. Integrating artistic expression with the natural beauty of the river itself, the Museum Reach is a vibrant daytime stroll that becomes more magical at night as the spark of artistic genius reflects off the rippling surface. The Mission Reach has been enhanced by adding educational and recreational opportunities and artistic strokes to the environmental restoration including beautiful and inspiring public art to add attractive new appeal to the area. To learn more about the San Antonio River Foundation and how you can contribute to public art and education along the River Walk, visit www.sariverfoundation.org





River Walk Boating Rules & Safety Tips

Non-motorized water craft are allowed in three areas of the River Walk. Please note, these trails are not connected and users will need to use the proper access points to move between them over land.

- **Historic Downtown Section**
- **Eagleland Section**
- **Mission Reach**

Rivers are ever-changing, dynamic systems with inherent dangers, so please remember the following safety tips:

- **Inflatable boats or water craft, paddle boats and stand-up paddle boards are NOT allowed.**
- **Make sure your paddling skills are equal to the water conditions and proceed at your own risk.**
- **Paddle with at least one other person.**
- **Know your limits of swimmers' rescue and self-rescue on rivers.**
- **Tell someone not paddling with you of your paddling plan and stick to it.**
- **Make sure your equipment (canoe or kayak) is in proper working order.**
- **Check weather and river conditions prior to paddling.**
- **Always wear a properly adjusted, Coast Guard approved, personal flotation device and bring a whistle or other sound producing device for use in emergency situations.**
- **Reduce injuries by wearing protective footwear and carrying drinking water, sunscreen and insect repellent.**
- **Pack out your trash to help preserve the river; no glass or styrofoam containers.**
- **Please do not feed the wildlife and keep your pets on a leash.**



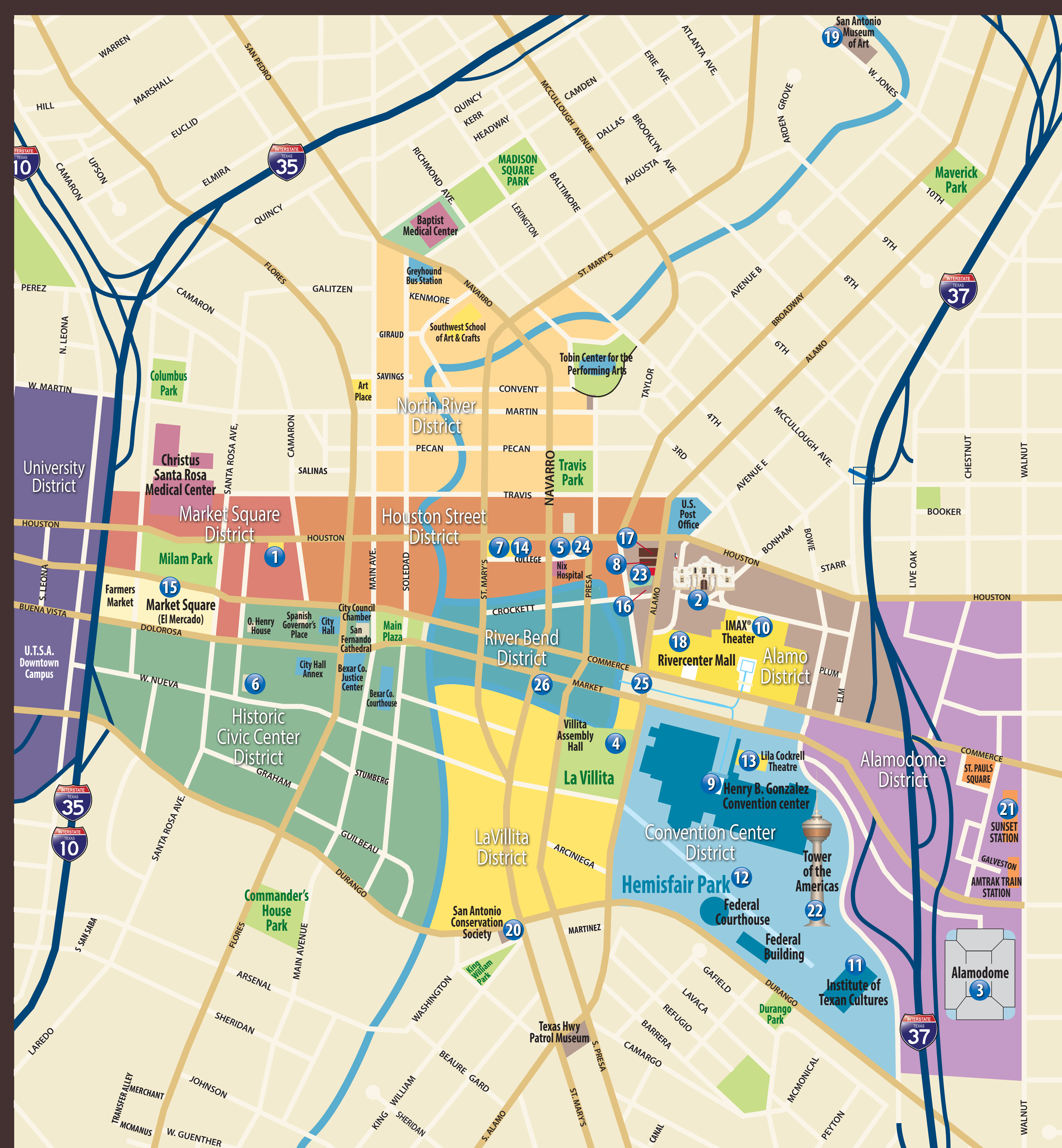
Please be mindful and help us preserve the environment!

It is important to remember that the River Walk is part of the San Antonio River Watershed. Please help keep the San Antonio River enjoyable for everyone by properly disposing of your litter or even picking up litter you may see on the trails.

Be a responsible pet owner and pick up after your pet. Being so close to the river means that everything left behind goes straight into the river. This is not only unsightly, but can also be a health hazard to those using the river for contact recreation.

And please do not feed the wildlife!





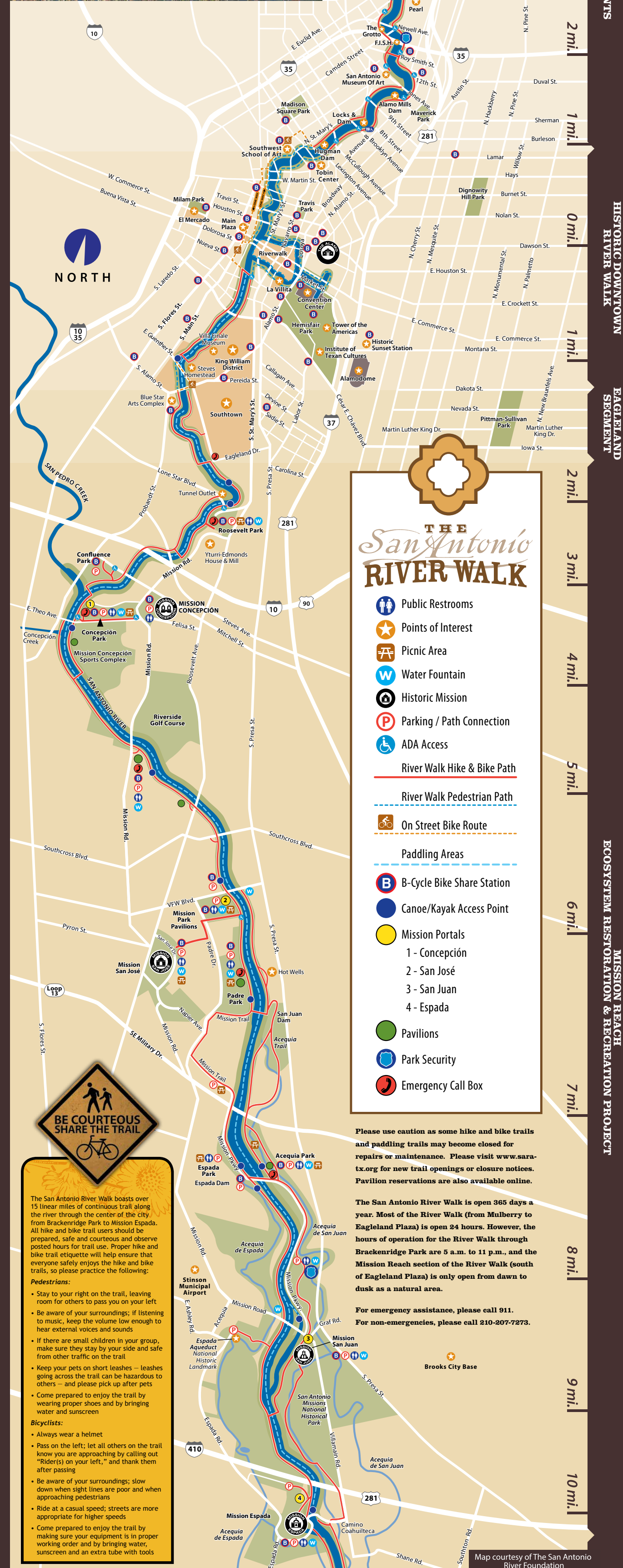
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|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 Alameda Theatre | 8 Guinness Book of Records Museum | 15 Market Square | 22 Tower of the Americas |
| 2 Alamo | 9 Henry B. Gonzales Convention Ctr | 16 Ripley's Believe it or not!/WaxWorks | 23 Visitor Center Info |
| 3 AlamoDome | 10 IMAX - Rivercenter | 17 Ripley's Haunted Adv/Tomb Rider 3D | 24 The Texas Ranger Museum |
| 4 Arneson River Theatre | 11 Institute of Texan Cultures | 18 Rivercenter Mall | 25 The Torch of Friendship |
| 5 Buckhorn Saloon & Museum | 12 Instituto de Mexico | 19 San Antonio Museum of Art | 26 Briscoe Western Art Museum |
| 6 Casa Navarro State Historical Park | 13 Lila Cockrell Theater | 20 Steves Homestead Museum | |
| 7 Charline McCombs Empire Theatre | 14 Majestic Theatre | 21 Sunset Station | |

Non-motorized water craft are allowed in three areas of the River Walk. Please note, these trails are not connected and users will need to use the proper access points to move between them over land.

- Historic Downtown Section, near the King William District, between Nueva and South Alamo Street, with the access point off of East Guenther Street.
- England Section between South Alamo Street and the railroad bridge north of Lone Star Boulevard, with the access point just north of the railroad bridge.
- Mission Reach from Lone Star Boulevard to south of Loop 410 near Mission Espada.

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- Make sure your paddling skills are equal to the water conditions and proceed at your own risk.
- Paddle with at least one other person.
- Know your limits of swimmers rescue and self-rescue on rivers.
- Tell someone not paddling with you of your paddling plan and stick to your plan.
- Make sure your equipment is in proper working order.
- Check weather and river conditions prior to paddling.
- Always wear a properly adjusted, Coast Guard approved personal flotation device and bring a whistle or other sound producing device for use in emergency situations.
- Reduce injuries by wearing protective footwear and carrying drinking water, sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Pack out your trash to help preserve the river; no glass or styrofoam containers.
- Please do not feed the wildlife and keep your pets on a leash.



THE San Antonio RIVER WALK

- Public Restrooms
- Points of Interest
- Picnic Area
- Water Fountain
- Historic Mission
- Parking / Path Connection
- ADA Access
- River Walk Hike & Bike Path
- River Walk Pedestrian Path
- On Street Bike Route

Paddling Areas

- B-Cycle Bike Share Station
- Canoe/Kayak Access Point
- Mission Portals
- 1 - Concepción
- 2 - San José
- 3 - San Juan
- 4 - Espada
- Pavilions
- Park Security
- Emergency Call Box

Please use caution as some hike and bike trails and paddling trails may be closed for repairs or maintenance. Please visit www.sar-tx.org for new trail openings or closure notices. Pavilion reservations are also available online.

The San Antonio River Walk is open 365 days a year. Most of the River Walk (from Mulberry to England Plaza) is open 24 hours. However, the hours of operation for the River Walk through Brackenridge Park are 5 a.m. to 11 p.m., and the Mission Reach section of the River Walk (south of England Plaza) is only open from dawn to dusk as a natural area.

For emergency assistance, please call 911. For non-emergencies, please call 210-207-7273.

Pedestrians:

- Stay to your right on the trail, leaving room for others to pass you on your left.
- Be aware of your surroundings; if listening to music, keep the volume low enough to hear external voices and sounds.
- If there are small children in your group, make sure they stay by your side and safe from other traffic on the trail.
- Keep your pets on short leashes - leashes going across the trail can be hazardous to others - and please pick up after pets.
- Come prepared to enjoy the trail by wearing proper shoes and by bringing water and sunscreen.

Bicyclists:

- Always wear a helmet.
- Pass on the left; let all others on the trail know you are approaching by calling out "Bicyclist on your left," and thank them after passing.
- Be aware of your surroundings; slow down when sight lines are poor and when approaching pedestrians.
- Ride at a casual speed; streets are more appropriate for higher speeds.
- Come prepared to enjoy the trail by making sure your equipment is in proper working order and by bringing water, sunscreen and an extra tube with tools.

MUSEUM REACH
PARK & URBAN SEGMENTS
HISTORIC DOWNTOWN
RIVER WALK
SEGMENT
EAGLELAND
SEGMENT
MISSION REACH
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION & RECREATION PROJECT