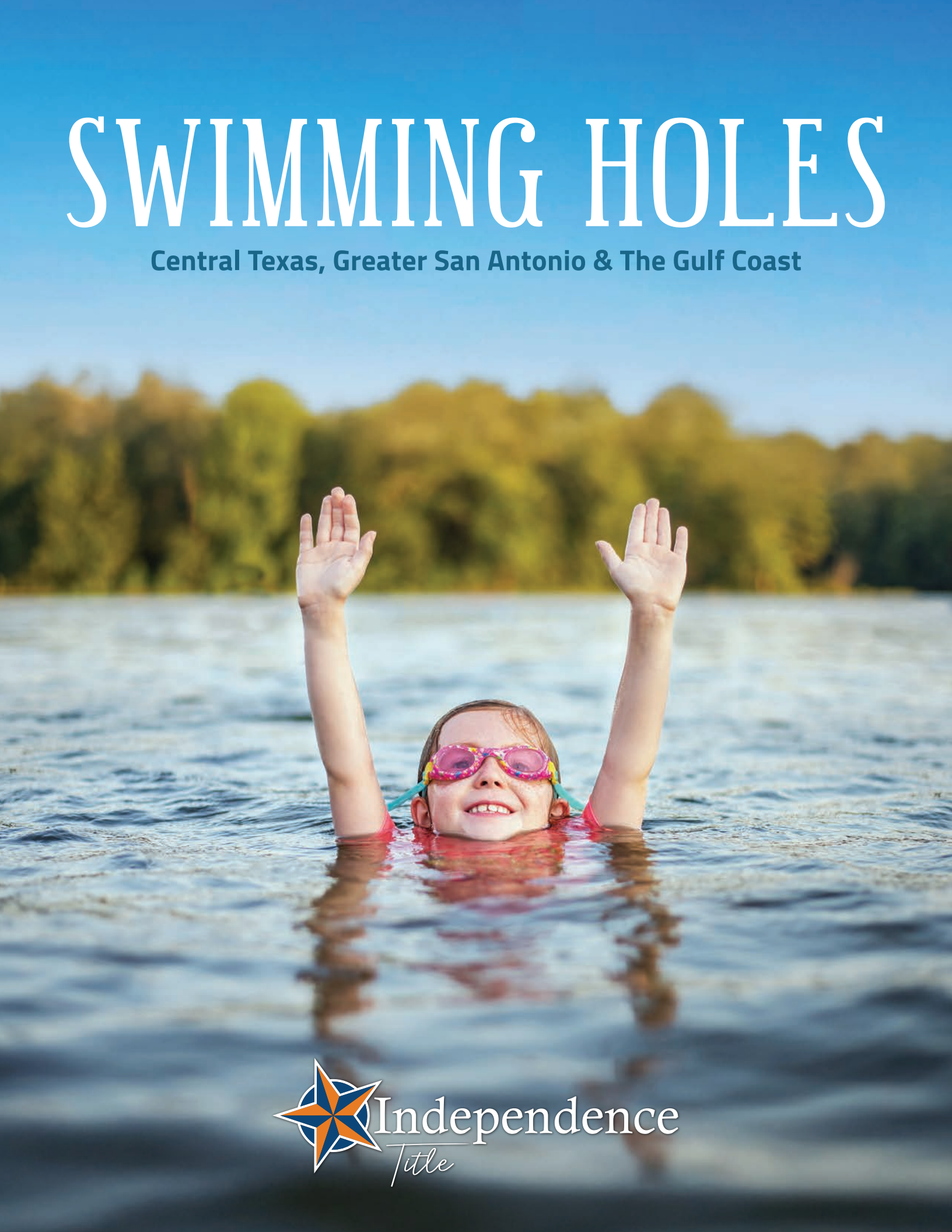
SWIMMING HOLES

Central Texas, Greater San Antonio & The Gulf Coast



Independence Title

SUMMER'S HERE!

And with it the urge to hit the water! Here in Texas, you'll find plenty of opportunities to cool off in the pools, lakes, rivers and ocean. Whether you want to relax in a spring-fed pool, frolic in the waves of the Gulf Coast, or drift lazily down the Guadalupe River, you'll be sure to find your swimming fix!

And why stop at swimming? There are plenty of opportunities for other aquatic activities! Take a boat out on Lake Travis, rent a kayak on one of the Texas Highland Lakes, or spend a day at Schlitterbahn, which was voted the #1 waterpark in the world! You'll find plenty of ways to get wet in Texas!

CENTRAL TEXAS

Barton Creek | Austin
Barton Creek is part of the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone and the most beautiful urban natural areas in the U.S. Greenbelt and parks are alcohol-free areas.

Barton Springs Pool | Austin
austintexas.gov
This gorgeous swimming hole is one of the top 10 tourist attractions in Austin. The spring-fed water is a consistent 68 degrees year-round. Showers, restrooms, a snack bar, playground, and picnic tables are available for guests.

Bull Creek District Park | Austin
austinparks.org
Bull Creek Foundation has 32 square miles of ecologically unique terrain to tend and protect. Bull Creek watershed includes limestone seeps, springs, and waterways; scenic cliffs and waterfalls; interesting archaeological and cultural features and more. An alcohol-free park.

Camp Ben McCulloch Park | Austin
campbenmcculloch.com
A beautiful, shaded park, and camping is allowed in unmarked sites along Onion Creek. The Salt Lick Barbecue is across the road from the park entrance.

Campbell's Hole | Austin
This swimming hole is about a mile upstream from Barton Springs Pool on Barton Creek Greenbelt. It is also accessible from Spyglass Road. It's a wonderful location with a deep pool that has water most of the year and small rapids upstream when the creek is running.

Emma Long Metropolitan Park | Austin
austinparks.org
On the shores of Lake Austin, Emma Long Metropolitan Park consists of a total of 1150 acres. It's a great place, but crowded every weekend during swimming season, so make sure you go early. The park features camping, restrooms, cold showers, a playground, hike and bike trails, and boat ramp. Three miles of winding shoreline make it a popular place for fast boats.

Fritz Hughes Park | Austin
parks.traviscountytx.gov
Just below Mansfield Dam, Fritz Hughes is known for the playground, picnic, and fishing areas.

Gus Fruh Park | Austin
austinparks.org
One of the best parks and swimming holes on the Barton Creek Greenbelt, it has white water around big boulders and deep pools. It's accessible by a rough, steep climb from Barton Hills Drive or a long walk on the greenbelt hike and bike path.

Hamilton Pool Preserve | Austin
Acquired by Travis County in 1985, the site has been a popular spring-fed swimming hole since the early 1900s. The pool is in a box canyon fed by a 45-foot waterfall with a sandy beach and giant boulders. A nature trail follows Hamilton Creek about a mile to the Pedernales River.

Lake Austin | Austin
Lake Austin always stays at a constant level with colder than usual water. The 1,830-acre Lower Colorado River flows 20 miles up the Colorado River from Austin and Tom Miller Dam.

Mary Quinlan Park | Austin
parks.traviscountytx.gov
This small, moderately visited park offers 5.8 acres of rolling hills with 200 feet of shoreline access, including the only public boat ramp for several miles.

McKinney Falls State Park | Austin
tpwd.state.tx.us
This park has camping, hiking trails, and summer cabins for rent.

Milton Reimers Ranch Park | Austin
parks.traviscountytx.gov
A Beautiful private park with shallow rapids and deep pools, favored by fishermen.

NLand Powered by Wavegarden | Austin
nlandsurfpark.com
NLand is the only surfing destination of its kind in North America, creating long, consistent and barreling waves for novices, passionate travel surfers and world-class competitors alike. The Surf Park was engineered with a unique rainwater catchment system to ensure NLand would not use the region's precious water resources.

Pedernales Falls State Park | Austin
tpwd.state.tx.us
Pedernales contains white water over a gradual slope and deep, slow-moving pools at the bottom of the "falls." Access to the river from the parking lot is a rugged, steep climb. The park offers camping, showers, restrooms, hook-ups, and hiking trails.

Percy Pennybacker Bridge | Austin
(Loop 360 Bridge or Bull Creek Park) Located just under the Percy Pennybacker Bridge, there is a three-acre grassy area where picnicking is allowed. The boat ramp and park are for day use only, and restrooms are available.

Selma Hughes Park | Austin
parks.traviscountytx.gov
Selma Hughes Park has restrooms and picnic tables. It's a small park, but scenic, with a nice, sandy lake bottom and plenty of shade trees.

Westlake Beach | Austin
westlakebeach.com
This privately owned park has a shaded picnic area, marina, concession stand, diving platform, playground, showers, and beach and water volleyball.

Twin Falls | Austin
Two small waterfalls empty into a small pool.

North Shore Park | Bastrop
lcra.org
North Shore Park Lake Bastrop is great for campers, anglers and nature lovers. A boat ramp with a boat dock and fishing pier provides fishing and access for water- based recreation. There are also picnic areas that include tables, grills, a sand volleyball court, tetherball courts and a play area. Restrooms and showers are available for park visitors. The North Cove Group Area provides a partially shaded site for groups of up to 50, with a large grill, picnic tables, and a large serving table. During the peak seasons of spring and fall, and for all holidays, facilities book out early.

South Shore Park | Bastrop
lcra.org
There is a nice beach in the day use area with a playground, boat ramp, volleyball court, and hiking trail. Camping sites are semi-secluded, many on the water's edge.

Blanco State Park | Blanco
tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/blanco
Blanco State Park is 104.6 acres located along the Blanco River in Blanco County. Activities include camping, swimming, picnicking, hiking, nature study, boating (electric motors only), and fishing. Tube, canoe and kayak rentals are available at the park.

Marble Falls City Parks | Lake Marble Falls
ci.marble-falls.tx.us
The city operates three parks next to each other on the north shore of the lake west of US281. Lake Side Park has a swimming pool and picnic tables, but a steep bank into the water. Johnson Park has a playground, ball fields, an amphitheater, a horseshoe pitching club, and a picnic area with swimming near the boat ramp. Swimming is allowed in the creek next to the boat ramp.

Lake Marble Falls
Lake Marble Falls is a reservoir on the Colorado River in the Texas Hill Country in the United States. Popular for fishing and boating.

Inks Lake State Park | Inks Lake
tpwd.state.tx.us
"Devil's Hole," at the northeast corner of the lake where a creek empties into it, is one of the most scenic swimming holes in the state. The creek cascades over stair step levels to the lake where it empties into a small canyon walled in by pink granite cliffs. Don't overlook the other coves on the lake with gentler, sloping, granite banks. The park has shelters, camping, showers, restrooms, boat rental, a grocery store (seasonal), a boat ramp, and fishing piers.

Robinson Park | Llano
llanotx.com
Llano's city park is on the riverbank with lots of shade and swimming spots. A low dam crosses the river, making for a great play area. The park also has fishing, a playground, a golf course, restrooms, showers, a swimming pool, and 100 RV spots.

Rock-A-Way Park | Inks Lake
RV sites on tranquil Inks Lake. Laundry facilities, bathroom/showers. Rental facility for family reunions or special events available onsite also. It has a dock and boat ramp. A large cliff shades the campground from the afternoon sun and it is possible to tie up a boat at the bank.

The Llano Slab | Llano
"The Slab" has plenty of sand for sunbathing, picnics, games, etc. The water is shallow and perfect for wading — a great place to bring the children. The lazy Llano River drifts over large outcroppings of granite, creating pools of cool, inviting water during the warm summer months. Near the bridge, currents begin to pick up speed to flow through narrow row siphons.

Cedar Breaks Park | Lake Georgetown
Cedar Breaks Park sits on the south side of Georgetown Lake. A boat ramp is provided for guests. Cedar Breaks Park has 59 reservable campsites and convenient amenities. Two picnic shelters are also available, allowing for large parties, cookouts and family trips.

Jim Hogg Park | Lake Georgetown
Jim Hogg Park sits on the north side of Georgetown Lake in the Hill Country of Texas, about 25 miles north of Austin. Visitors enjoy camping, fishing, boating, picnicking, and all nature has to share.

Russell Park | Georgetown
swf-wc.usace.army.mil/georgetown
Russell Park has the best beach of the three parks on the Corps of Engineers' lake, west of Georgetown. Day use only. It has restrooms, showers, a boat ramp, and drinking water. No pets in beach area.

Friendship Park | Lake Granger
On the northeast end of the lake, the small day use park has picnic tables and a swimming beach.

Wilson H. Fox Park | Lake Granger
On the south side of the lake. Fox allows camping and has fishing docks, a picnic area, and a swimming beach.

Cottonwood Resource Area | Lake LBJ
At Wirtz Dam, it is mainly a boat ramp and observation area. It is the only public boat ramp on the southeast side of lake.

Lake Travis
The most popular of the Highland Lakes that stair-step up the Colorado River from Austin. Formed by Mansfield Dam, it winds through steep, scenic hills for 65 miles with 270 miles of shoreline. More than a mile long with 24 floodgates, the dam is one of the largest masonry structures in the world. The Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) has eight primitive recreation areas on the upper end of Lake Travis. Four of the primitive parks require daily permits per day per vehicle and can be purchased at the honor boxes at the park entrance.

Arkansas Bend Park | Lago Vista
parks.traviscountytx.gov
One of the most isolated and untouched parks in Travis County, this peaceful 323-acre park lies on the north shore of Lake Travis near the community of Lago Vista and combines many of the best qualities of other Lake Travis parks. The parks' two miles of shoreline offer opportunities for hiking, fishing, camping, picnicking and lake access via an excellent boat ramp. Several inviting, shaded picnic and camping areas are situated along a bluff above a gently sloping, rocky waterfront.

Bob Wentz Park | Lake Travis
parks.traviscountytx.gov
Located in the basin area of Lake Travis in the scenic Hill Country of central Texas, Bob Wentz Park is a favorite location for water sports. The park's facilities and close proximity to Austin make it attractive for picnicking, swimming, windsurfing, sailing, and scuba diving. The shoreline areas (including a sandy peninsula known as "The Point") are heavily used, while an adjacent 150-acre tract is maintained as a natural area. The park includes two sand volleyball courts, a shoreline walking path, a boat ramp, and a pavilion available for rent.

Camp Chautauqua | Lake Travis
A former recreation area for Air Force personnel at Bergstrom. The entrance to Pace Bend Park is now leased to nonprofit groups by the county as a campground. Recreation facilities include a boat ramp, fishing pier, and meeting shelters. Swimming is available from the rocky shore.

Camp Creek Primitive Area | Lake Travis
This park covers a small area, but has good swimming spots. It also has a creek running through the campground. The park features a hiking trail, boat ramp, tables, grills, and restrooms.

Cypress Creek Park | Lake Travis
parks.traviscountytx.gov
Located on Lake Travis in the scenic Hill Country of central Texas. This small, easy-to-reach park is a favorite spot for boating, picnicking, and fishing. The main body of the park has a gently sloping waterfront. The boat ramp and cove provide easy access to the popular basin area of Lake Travis and other Travis County Parks on Lake Travis.

Dink Pearson Park | Lago Vista
parks.traviscountytx.gov
The park has picnic tables, a boat ramp, and restrooms. The last few miles of winding road to the park offer panoramic views of the lake.

Shore Club Volente Beach | Lake Travis
shoreclubtx.com
The perfect getaway for children and adults alike on a hot summer day. They have pools for children and an adult only pool with a swim up tiki bar. SCVB also has their own sandy beachfront and 3 volleyball courts (2 lighted, 1 not). Although SCVB offers an upscale casual restaurant specializing in hand-cut steaks, fresh seafood and a beach bar and grill with the best burgers on the lake, picnics are permitted. (No alcohol, no glass and no uncooked food are permitted).

San Marcos River
The San Marcos River, selected by river guides as one of the most beautiful rivers in the state, originates in San Marcos at Aquarena Springs and joins the Blanco River east of town. Tubing on the river in town is often crowded, but exciting. A canoe is sometimes recommended because of the distance between access points, which are limited to two public sites and where the Farm-to-Market roads cross the river. The narrow river channel is often obstructed with small dams and old mills.

Cheatham Street Dam | San Marcos
The opposite bank from the dam in Rio Vista Park. There is an unloading zone at the curb, so park across the street or in Rio Vista Park. This is a great place to watch the Texas Water Safari canoes go over the dam, or to shoot it yourself in a tube.

The Falls | San Marcos
Swimming is permitted in this small park.

Five Mile Dam | Blanco River
Boating is available above the dam.

McAllister Park | San Marcos
The site of an old Girl Scout camp, McAllister has a nice, wooded area with the river winding through it, picnic areas, and muddy banks.

Leisure Resort | San Marcos
leisureresort.net
In an old pecan grove on the San Marcos River, it has fishing, RV hook-ups, camping, a playground, restrooms, showers, and a small store that stocks essentials. It also has a meeting room with a kitchen and group pavilion. Reservations are recommended during the summer months.

Rio Vista Park | San Marcos
toursanmarcos.com
Rio Vista Park is a great place to put your kayak in and paddle upstream or just swim in the deep watering hole. It's not uncommon to see recreationists surfing the rapids, sunbathers along the riverbanks and families barbecuing. The amenities include Restrooms, Tennis Courts, 1/2 basketball court, picnic Tables, BBQ grills, benches, a Pavilion, City Swimming Pool, Hike/Bike Trails and Trash Cans.

San Marcos City Park | San Marcos
A great place to start a tube trip on the San Marcos River, this park has tube rental and shuttle service.

Sewell Park | San Marcos
campusrecreation.txstate.edu
Sewell Park is one of the most inviting and relaxing spaces on the Texas State Campus. The spring-fed crystal clear San Marcos River runs through the park and remains 72 degrees year-round. You can relax outdoors while taking advantage of two sand volleyball courts, open spaces for frisbee, an outdoor basketball court, and grills and picnic tables great for cookouts. The park also offers ample open space for Frisbee, sunbathing, and picnicking. You'll also find the Outdoor Center here, nestled under the trees. Sewell Park is available for reservation by Texas State University organizations only.

Shady Grove Campgrounds & Spencer's Canoe Livery | San Marcos
spencercanoes.net
Amenities include riverfront camping, canoe and tube rental, showers, restrooms, and stores.

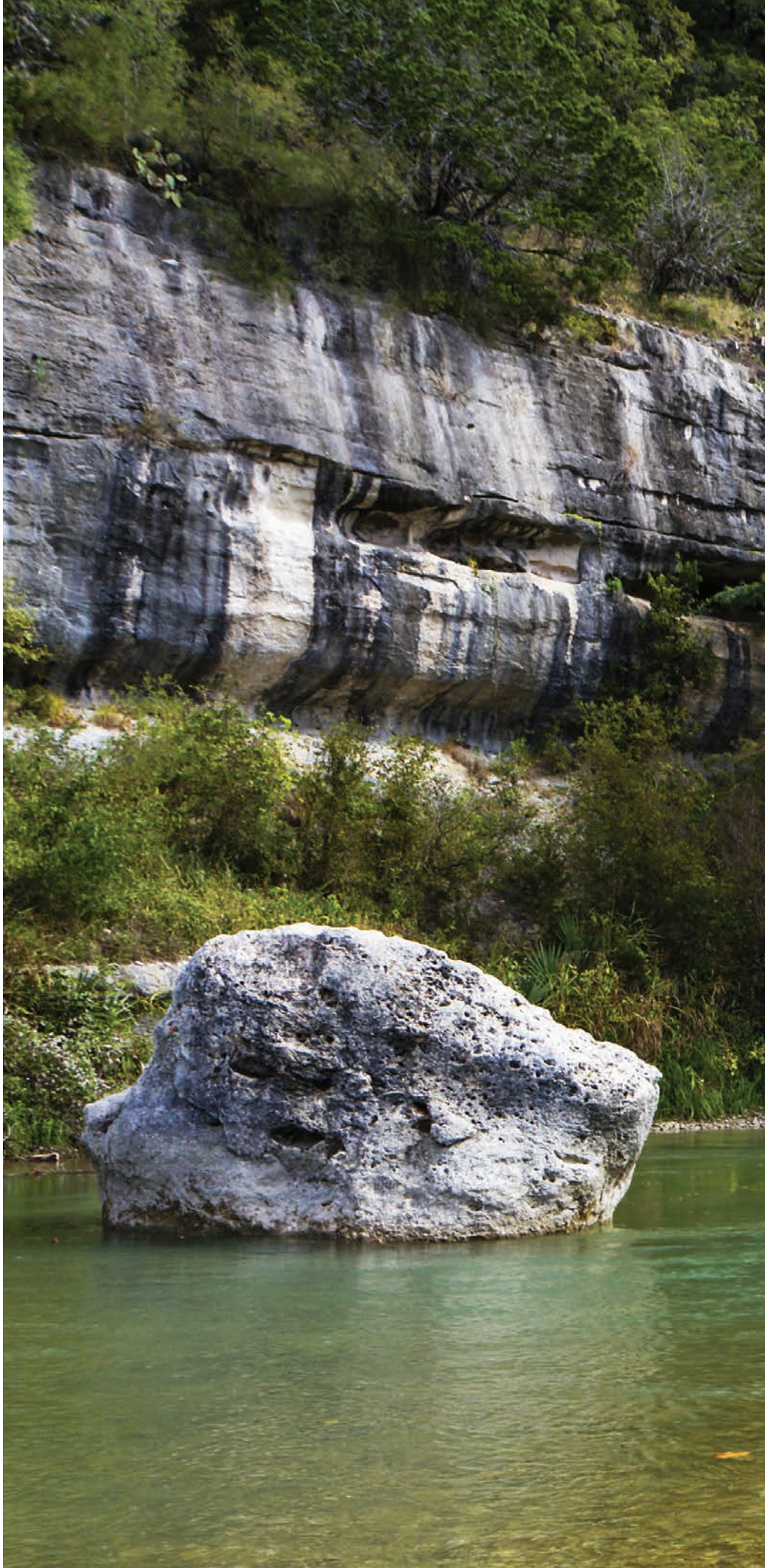
Blue Hole Park | San Gabriel River
parks.georgetown.org
Not to be confused with Blue Hole near Wimberley. The river's north bank is a sheer cliff, and the south bank is a park with picnic tables. The city has really spruced up this scenic area, changing it from a makeshift hangout to a first-rate community park. The one-way road through the park offers a peek at the conditions and a small unloading zone. Parking is at the lot at Third and Rock Streets. No camping and no glass beverage bottles larger than a quart are allowed in the park. The small dam makes a great waterfall.

Jacob's Well | Wimberley
jacobswellspring.org
Jacob's Well is one of the most significant natural geologic treasures in the Texas Hill Country. It is one of the longest underwater caves in Texas and an artesian spring. Jacob's Well has been integral to the cultural and historical character of the Wimberley Valley. The location has been a beloved swimming hole for generations.

Little Arkansas | Blanco River
A beautiful stretch of the Blanco River, Little Arkansas is isolated by steep hills, canyon bluffs and guarded by vertical canyon walls.

7A Ranch | Wimberley
7aresort.com
7A is nestled along the banks of the Blanco River and is the perfect vacation destination for families, friends or just yourself. In addition to the beautiful river, you can enjoy a dip in the pool, hike around the property, hit the arcade and gaze at the stars.

Blue Hole | Wimberley
blueholeregionalpark.com
Blue Hole is one of the best-loved natural swimming holes in Texas. Located in Wimberley, it is surrounded by 126 acres of natural forests and native grass fields that have escaped the developers' touch.



SAN ANTONIO AREA

Canyon Lake
swf-wc.usace.army.mil/canyon
This 8,240-acre lake northwest of New Braunfels offers seven parks. They are well-maintained and offer showers, water, restrooms, picnicking, a marina, camping, hookups, boat ramps, and other amenities furnished by local concessionaires.

Canyon Park | Canyon Lake
wildtexas.com
This park has a swimming beach at the entrance, as well as camping, a marina, restaurant, boat ramp, and a dump station.

Jacob's Creek Park | Canyon Lake
The park has a large swimming beach and good water access from the rest of the park, restrooms, a boat ramp, tables, and a sailing area.

North Park | Canyon Lake
Located at the north end of the dam. For the best swimming, head to the banks area.

Potter's Creek Park | Canyon Lake
wildtexas.com
This is a swimming beach on a small peninsula with covered picnic tables. The park also has camping and a boat ramp.

Comal Park | Canyon Lake
wildtexas.com
This park has a beach, boat ramps, a playground, and restrooms.

Cranes Mill Park | Canyon Lake
This is a primitive camping park with an adjacent marina, fishing pier and good swimming spots from the low bank.

Guadalupe River State Park | Guadalupe River
tpwd.state.tx.us
With just over a mile of river frontage, the park is not only a great place to swim, canoe, and tube, but is also uncommonly beautiful even for this scenic area of the Hill Country. The park has three camping areas, trails, and an area with great swimming. The park includes the Honey Creek Natural Area which is open only for guided tours.

Overlook Park | Canyon Lake
wildtexas.com
There is a great view of the dam. Access to the water is by rough trails, but a nice swimming area is at the end of the dam. In addition, there is a walking path across the top of the dam.

Comal River | New Braunfels
The Comal River is completely contained within the city limits and is on record as the 2nd shortest river in the world. The Comal is perfect for a relaxing trip!

Cypress Bend Park | New Braunfels
This is a nice, shaded park with picnicking, swimming areas, and playgrounds.

Hinman Island | New Braunfels
A beautiful, tree-shaded place to enjoy the Comal River! Perfect for scuba, snorkeling, swimming, tubing and fishing! Facilities include a playground, restrooms, picnic tables and easy river access.

Landa Falls | New Braunfels
landafalls.com
Landa Falls is New Braunfels' premier Comal River access area, offering the longest float on the Comal River. They have everything from tube rentals to ample picnic facilities, all nestled in a beautiful riverfront setting.

Prince Solms Park | New Braunfels
This is the city's main swimming spot, named for the town's founding father. It is a popular destination for people looking to take a water ride on the Comal River, as this park features the City Tube Chute. Also on the grounds are picnic areas, tube rental facilities, showers and other recreational areas.

River Road | Guadalupe River
This 20-mile stretch of scenic, winding country road following the Guadalupe River is probably the most popular tubing and canoeing area in the state. There are ample free places to launch tubes, canoes, or just swim, but parking is at a premium and beware of private property. Concessionaires along the river will rent or sell almost anything.

Schlitterbahn | New Braunfels
schlitterbahn.net
Voted the Number #1 Waterpark in the World. This water amusement park is fed by the Comal River with two areas and includes tube chutes, hot tubs, refreshments, and swimming pools. Bring picnic baskets and ice chests.

Son's Island | Seguin
sonsisland.com
Son's Island is an actual hidden island in Seguin, Texas, where you can rent lakeside Cabanas by the day, go Kayaking & Paddleboarding as well as stay overnight in an All-Inclusive Tent Camping setup!

Medina Lake | San Antonio
edwardsaquifer.net
Medina Lake is a popular retreat for fishing, boating, picnicking and water sports. Facilities include a boat ramp, swimming area and restrooms. There are also a number of private guest cabins, guest ranches and private campgrounds in the vicinity of the lake.

San Antonio Springs | San Antonio
edwardsaquifer.net
Historically the state's 6th largest spring, San Antonio Springs emerge on the campus of Incarnate Word College in downtown San Antonio and flow through Brackenridge Park.

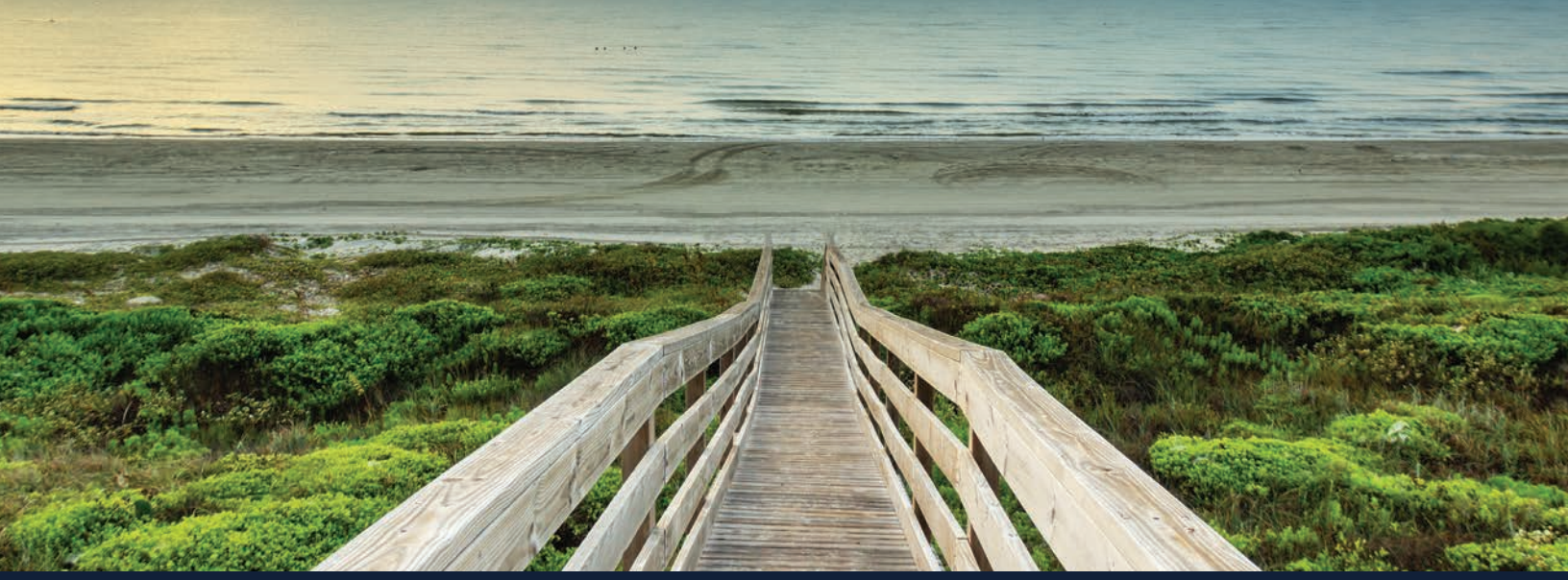
San Pedro Springs | San Antonio
edwardsaquifer.net
The oldest park in Texas, comprising forty-six acres.

Woodlawn Lake Park | San Antonio
sanantonio.gov
Woodlawn Lake Park is available for fishing and non-motorized boating. Rentals at the park include the party house, pavilion, gym and softball fields.

Lake Dunlap
There is a free public access boat ramp under IH-35 in New Braunfels, allowing for water skiing, jet skiing and fishing.

Lake Placid
Formed in 1928 by the construction of a dam, Lake Placid is a venue for outdoor recreation, including fishing, boating, and swimming.

Wave Pool | Seguin
seguintexas.gov
The Seguin Aquatic Center features a 15,000 square foot wave pool with a zero-depth beach type entry, a splash pool, raindrop mushroom. It is also available to rent for private parties.



THE GULF COAST

Boca Chica | Cameron County

Located north of Mexico across the Rio Grande, Boca Chica is a serene and laid-back Texas beach destination. Boca Chica may lack the bells and whistles of other beach towns, but it makes up for its lack of extravagant activities with its tried-and-true classic beach offerings. You can pass the time fishing, swimming, surfing, snorkeling and more – just remember to bring your own equipment. Boca Chica's stretch of sand is also the perfect spot to set up a beach chair and read a good book or admire the sea.

Corpus Christi, Texas

visitcorpuschristitx.org

You'll find much more than swimming and sunbathing on the shores of Corpus Christi. The shores vary and each beach has its own unique appeal: for some, the gentle waves creating a tranquil atmosphere, and for others, an offshore wind lends the beach appeal to surfers and wakeboarders. Some beaches even have jetties and piers to appeal to those interested in fishing!

Crystal Beach, Texas

bolivarpeninsulatexas.com

Crystal Beach sits on the Bolivar Peninsula, which separates Galveston Bay from the Gulf of Mexico. The beach's secluded location (accessible by ferry from Galveston) means that its ratio of hermit crabs to beachgoers is often quite distinct. When travelers are not searching for hermit crabs, they can go fishing or birdwatching. More than 100 species of migratory birds visit the peninsula every year. Crystal Beach also welcomes campers and permits building campfires directly on the sand.

Galveston, Texas

galveston.com

Go to the beaches, Stewart and Apffel, along Seawall Boulevard, for lots of company. There are also beaches and camping at Galveston Island State Park.

Lighthouse Beach | Port Lavaca

portlavaca.org

Enjoy the 2,200-foot board walk, along with picnic and play areas, a sandy beach, covered pavilion, recreation center, and more!

Matagorda Island | Calhoun County

matagordaisland.com

Want a primitive and secluded beach experience? The only way to get to this island is by ferry from Pt. O'Connor. Administered by the state parks department, the island has no electricity, concessions, telephone, or drinking water.

Mustang Island | Corpus Christi

tpwd.texas.gov

A barrier island located just east of Corpus Christi, Mustang Island is a favorite beach destination for families and active travelers. Surfing and camping are popular things to do at this beach, while the Mustang Island State Park Paddling Trail offers opportunities to kayak, canoe and paddleboard.

Port Aransas, Texas

portaransas.org

At the northern tip of Mustang Island, there are 18 miles of beaches going south toward Padre Island. To avoid the crowds, try the undeveloped beaches across the harbor channel on St. Jo's Island. Catch the Jetty Boat ferries at Woody's Sports Center.

Padre Island National Seashore

nps.gov

Situated about 30 miles southeast of Corpus Christi, Padre Island National Seashore stretches across 70 miles of beaches, dunes and tidal flats. Visitors can camp, kayak, windsurf and swim in this protected area. The soft and wide shoreline – the longest stretch of undeveloped barrier island in the world – is ideal for long walks. Plus, budding naturalists can learn more about local wildlife and conservation efforts from park rangers during interpretive programs and public sea turtle hatchling releases.

Rockport, Texas

cityofrockport.com

This small town is well-known for its fishing, sailing, birding , and sightseeing. The largest public beach is Rockport Beach Park which offers playgrounds and two pavilions.

San Jose Island | Port Aransas

portaransas.org/san-jose-island

The chance to immerse yourself in unruffled Texas nature is just a short ferry ride away from Port Aransas, Texas. This island, set in the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico, is home to some of the best birding and saltwater fishing in the south. Boasting 21 miles of undisturbed golden sand, vehicles are prohibited on this particular Texas shoreline. San José Island is a collector's resource for beautiful and unique seashells, including lightning whelks, shark eyes, sand dollars, starfish, angel wings, and more. In an area known as the "Fishing Capital of Texas" some of the best angling can be done from the rocky edges of the North Jetty. Locals and visitors catch the passenger ferry daily from Fisherman's Wharf in Port 'A' on Mustang Island to cast their lines for Speckled Trout, Redfish, Flounder and more.

Schlitterbahn | Galveston & South Padre Island

schlitterbahn.net

Galveston Park

Experience daring slides, endless rivers, kid-friendly play pools and a giant surfing wave. Your family will be thrilled!

South Padre Island Park

Schlitterbahn Beach Waterpark on beautiful South Padre Island is a tropical destination for family fun! This park has interconnecting water rides and slides, a huge 5-story tall Sandcastle, thrilling uphill water coasters, a man-made surfing wave, and direct access to the Gulf of Mexico!

South Padre Island

sopadre.com

Life is a beach. What used to be a little resort town has become a huge resort town with high-rise hotels lining the beach. Still, it has 34 miles of some of the best beaches in the state.

Surfside Beach

surfsidetx.org

This tiny seaside community and its neighbor across the bay inlet, Quintana, used to be the resort destinations of the Gulf Coast. Now they're nearly forgotten seaports that retain the charm of less-crowded beaches. Check out the beaches and cottages on Follets Island or San Luis Pass County Park.

TEXAS WATER PARKS

Aquatica | San Antonio
aquatica.com/san-antonio
Aquatica San Antonio is owned by SeaWorld, so it's the perfect choice for anyone who wants to visit both attractions. The rides range from sedate lazy rivers to thrilling waterslides, and unlike most other waterparks in the world, Aquatica has a number of rides that allow visitors to get up close and personal with animals like stingrays and tropical fish. It is possible to visit both SeaWorld and Aquatica in one day, but visitors who have a bit more time to spare would be well advised to purchase a 2-day pass that allows access to both parks.

Epic Waters Indoor Waterpark | Grand Prairie
epicwatersgp.com
Offering 80,000 square feet of indoor rides, slides, and pools, Epic Waters Indoor Waterpark allows families to have fun in the water throughout the year. The outdoor wave pool is only open in the summer, but the rest of the park is located under a retractable roof. There are eleven exciting waterslides to choose from, three of which hold the honor of being the first of their kind in the world. Exclusive cabanas can be rented by groups of up to eight people, and the park also offers a gift shop, a state-of-the-art arcade, a grill, and a bar.

Great Wolf Lodge | Grapevine
greatwolf.com/grapevine
Great Wolf Lodge offers indoor water park fun and dry-land adventures for the entire family. Featuring kid-friendly activities, cabanas, a range of dining options, an adult-friendly wine down service, and more all under one roof. Your stay includes access to the 80,000-sq. ft. water park, kept comfy at 84-degrees year-round. Book now and go for the moment today.

Kalahari Resorts & Conventions | Round Rock
kalahariresorts.com/texas
America's largest indoor Waterparks with the magic of Africa. Kalahari Resorts & Conventions' innovative Waterparks, family entertainment centers, luxury spas, adventurous restaurants, and convention centers deliver beyond expectations, all under one roof. Whether you're 3, 83 or anything in-between, there is something for everyone!

NRH2O | North Richland Hills
nrh2o.com
North Texas' favorite family water park, conveniently located between Dallas and Fort Worth. The park offers a full day of fun for everyone in your family! Whether you want to ride the waves in the wave pool, brave our thrilling water slides, or just relax in the Endless River, we have something for everyone! Be sure to check for events including Dive-In Movies, fireworks, and much more! NRH2O offers free tubes, life jackets, and parking. Coolers are welcome.

Pirate's Bay | Baytown
baytown.org
As you might have guessed from the name, Pirate's Bay Water Park is an elaborate pirate-themed waterpark complete with pirate ships, parrots, and rope ladders. The highlight of the park is an exciting surfing machine that allows children to practice riding the waves in front of an audience, but other features include two waterslide towers, a climbing wall, a lazy river, and a splash park with a pirate's head dumping bucket.

Schlitterbahn | New Braunfels & Galveston
schlitterbahn.com

New Braunfels: Voted "Best Waterpark in the World" year after year, this is undeniably the best waterpark in the state. It's got over 3 miles of both lazy, calm rivers and rushing rivers full of rapids, 17 speed slides, and plenty of pools and beaches for the family.

Galveston: The Schlitterbahn on Galveston Island has some of the fastest, most thrilling speed slides in the state, and they just opened a new ride: Screaming Serpents! They also have a lazy river for the young kids or adults who just want to relax. Definitely a great place to spend a summer day!

Six Flags Hurricane Harbor | Arlington
sixflags.com/hurricaneharbortexas
With 24 rides spread out over 50 acres, Six Flags Hurricane Harbor is the largest waterpark in North Texas. Visitors who want to try all the slides should plan to spend more than one day here, which is easy to do if you take advantage of the park's overnight accommodation. Family-friendly options include a scenic lazy river and a million-gallon wave pool, but visitors can also opt for heart-racing slides like a 72-foot freefall slide and a giant funnel raft ride.

Six Flags Hurricane Harbor Splashtown | Houston
sixflags.com/splashtown
Wet & Wild Splashtown, Houston's largest waterpark, was rebranded Six Flags Hurricane Harbor Splashtown in 2019. The park debuted the Wahoo Wave—an innovative, new six-story water slide. This adrenaline-packed attraction sends four riders into near-vertical motion as they experience extended hang times and zero g-forces. Riders plunge 30 feet straight down before sweeping across the top of a massive waterfall, then descending into a refreshing pool below. The expansive waterpark will also debut a new Caribbean theme and major improvements throughout. Hurricane Harbor Splashtown features more than 48 lush acres and a wide selection of thrilling water slides and attractions including two children's areas.

Typhoon Texas | Pflugerville & Katy
typhoontexas.com

Pflugerville: Have fun zipping down water slides and having a dip in one of the many pools at Typhoon Texas. The 23-acre waterpark offers activities for all ages. The park is the perfect summertime family activity featuring a giant wave pool, a 1,000-foot-long lazy river, and several multi-slide towers featuring speed slides, tube slides, and a six-lane mat racer slide. Recently added is the gully washer, a dream-play-land for children with seven slides, more than 100 spray areas, a splash pad playground, and a massive 800-gallon water bucket that douses the entire play area.

Katy: Covering 25 acres and 30 waterslides, a huge wave pool, a lazy river, and an elaborate four-story children's play structure, there are more than enough thrilling slides to keep your adrenaline pumping the whole time you're in the park. Some of the highlights include a slide with a seven-story freefall drop, an interactive video game and waterslide combo ride, and an eight-lane tube slide that allows guests to race their friends to the bottom.

White Water Bay | San Antonio
sixflags.com/fiestatexas
Part of the Six Flags Fiesta Texas amusement park, White Water Bay is an exciting waterpark with 15 different slides and attractions for visitors to enjoy. One of the major highlights in the park is a unique waterslide/roller coaster hybrid opened in 2017, but other attractions include a giant funnel tube ride, a six-lane mat racer, a Texas-shaped wave pool, and the Bahama Blaster, the steepest waterslide in the world.

Hours and rules may vary. Some fees may apply. Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

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