



## Your Guide to Houston

Houston is the nation's fourth largest city, home to 2 million people and a hub of international businesses. Houston's diverse attractions and population make it a great place to live.

Greater Houston offers everything from breathtaking museum exhibits to vibrant downtown entertainment. Explore the wonder of space or spend the day shopping in The Galleria. Houston Texas is home to the world's largest concentration of medical professionals, world's largest rodeo, NASA, a thriving nightlife, Shell Houston Open, world-renowned museum and theater districts, Houston Rockets (NBA) Basketball, Houston Astros (MLB) baseball, Houston Texans (NFL) football and Houston Dynamo (MLS) soccer.

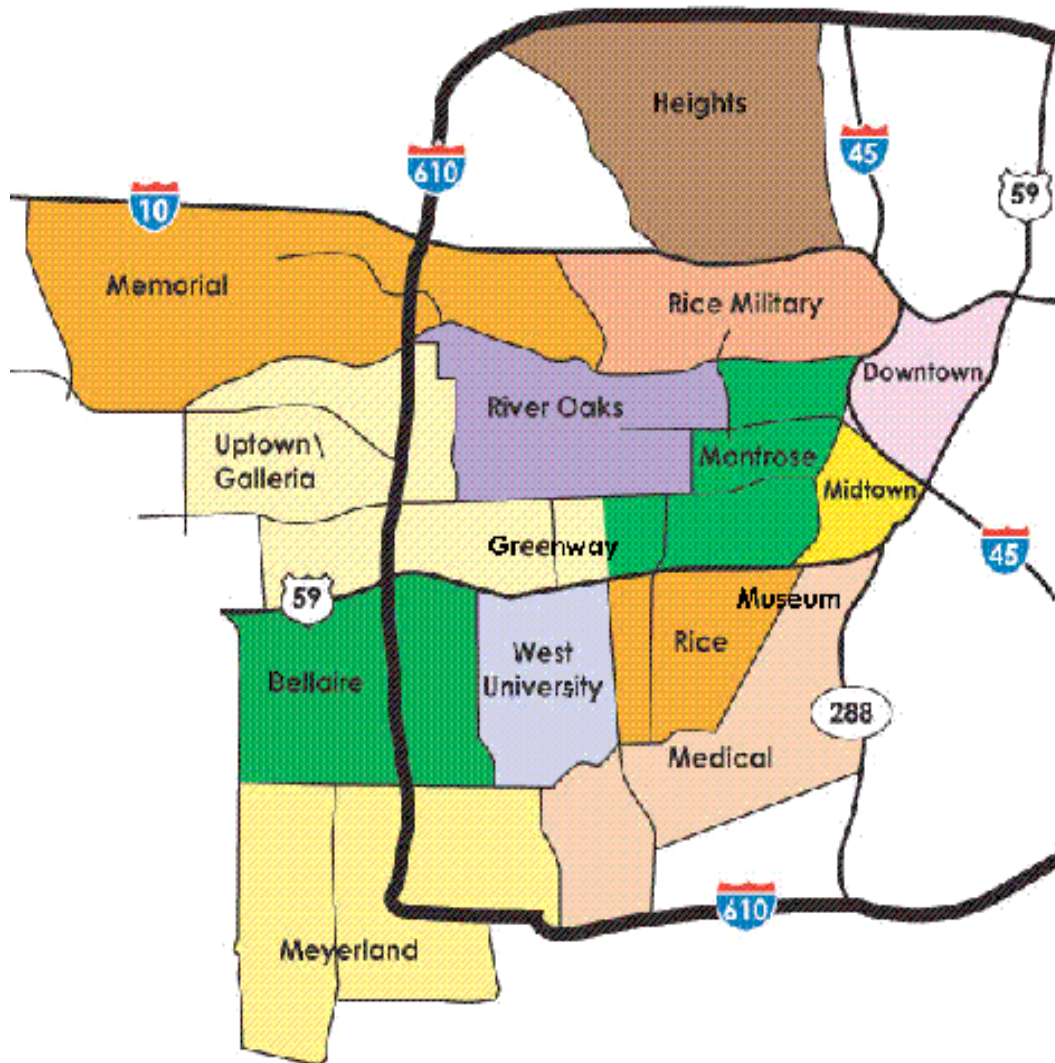
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## Houston and Surrounding Area Map



This map shows the major highways in Houston and the surrounding cities. This will aid you in locating attractions located outside of the center of Houston. There are many attractions, museums, and performing arts south of Houston in Galveston.

# Houston Area Map



This map represents major neighborhoods/ areas that are popular for theater, shopping, restaurants, museums, parks and recreation, and nightlife. The following attractions in this packet are separated according to the areas identified in the map. This should enable you to easily determine which part of town the attraction is located.

# Restaurants

## MIDTOWN

### Farrago's

New American/ European, Best Brunch Spot in town which includes \$7 bottomless mimosas and Cajun benedict to die for, Often filled with trendy crowd.  
318 Gray St (Cross Street: Baldwin Street)  
Houston, TX 77002-8526  
(713) 523-6404

### Mai's Restaurant

Vietnamese, "attracts a rabidly loyal following of students, artists, Vietnamese families and med-center folks," open until 4 am on the weekends, Specialties include spring rolls, traditional vietnamese chicken, beef, and pork dishes, and Vietnamese ice coffee.  
3403 Milam St (Cross Street: Francis Street)  
Houston, TX 77002  
(713) 520-7684

## MONTROSE

### Bibas

Greek Food, Casual Local Dinner, Big booths are great for groups or to spread out study material.

### Cafe Adobe

Tex- Mex, Indoor/ Outdoor dining, Cozy interior and great patio, Popular happy hour spot with cheap margaritas and food, Serves tacos, fajitas, nachos and tortilla soup.  
2111 Westheimer Rd (Cross Street: Peckham Street)  
Houston, TX 77098  
(713) 528-1468

### Carrabba's

Italian, Menu offers grill specialties like steak Marsala and fire-roasted chicken and pasta dishes include fettuccini Alfredo and garlic-sautéed shrimp with linguine.  
3115 Kirby Dr (Cross Street: Branard Street)  
Houston, TX 77098-2152  
7135223131

### Gravita's

New American, Mid to Upscale dining, Cozy decor, Side Bar attached for pre- and post- dinner drinks, "The menu features classic hearty dishes, including pan-fried trout, grilled pork chops, and herb risotto."  
807 Taft St (Cross Street: West Dallas Street)  
Houston, TX 77019  
(713) 522-0995

### The Hobbit

Casual lunch and dinner spot, Indoor/ Outdoor (great patio!!), Specializes in both healthy/ vegan options and delicious burgers, Portions are huge.  
2243 Richmond Ave (Cross Street: Greenbriar Drive)  
Houston, TX 77098  
(713) 526-5460

### Lucio's BYOB and Grill

American/Creole Cuisine, BYOB(!). Small cozy place featuring local art, Menu includes crab cakes, pecan crusted chicken, pasta mixta, and soups/salads.  
905 Taft St  
Houston, TX 77019  
(713) 523-9958

### Niko Nikos

Greek, Casual Dining, Indoor/Outdoor, One of the most popular spots for locals, friendly environment.  
2520 Montrose Blvd (Cross Street: Hyde Park Road)  
Houston, TX 77006  
(713) 528-1308

### El Pueblito

Mexican, Amazing outdoor patio, Specializes in seafood and healthy Mexican as well as coca-ritas (margaritas served in a coconut!)  
1423 Richmond Ave (Cross Street: Loretto Drive)  
Houston, TX 77006  
(713) 520-6635

### Mockingbird Bistro

New American Cuisine, Upscale dining, Specializes in mouthwatering salads, meat, and seafood entrees. "This funky-gothic, lofty nest in a small, '30s-era building chirps with character and cheerful service."  
1985 Welch St (Cross Street: Hazard Street)  
Houston, TX 77019  
(713) 533-0200



## 5 Our Favorite Restaurants by Region

### Mo Mong

Vietnamese/Pan-Asian, Great pad-Thai, Chic and contemporary local hangout, Features art from local artist, Sip martinis with friends in the downstairs bar before moving upstairs to the sleek dining room.

1201 Westheimer Rd Ste B  
Houston, TX 77006-2701  
(713) 524-5664

### Pesce

Contemporary Asian/Mediterranean/Creole, Upscale dining in warm, understated environment, filled with River Oaks crowd, Specializes in seafood dishes.

3029 Kirby Dr (Cross Street: West Alabama Street)  
Houston, TX 77098-2101  
(713) 522-4858

### Zake

Sushi/Japanese Cuisine, Modern décor, Bar Scene, Great Happy Hour (4-7pm) spot with cheap sushi rolls (\$3), appetizers, and drinks.

2946 S Shepherd Dr (Cross Street: W Alabama Street)  
Houston, TX 77098  
(713) 526-6888

## RICE VILLAGE

### Goode Company BBQ

Casual Dining in funky old building, Indoor/Outdoor, Blue-collar BBQ fans and students, Specialties include brisket, sausage and pork platters.

5109 Kirby Dr (Cross Street: Bartlett Street)  
Houston, TX 77098-5011  
(713) 522-2530

### Houston's

American (traditional), Warm, wood stained decor, Specialties include burgers, prime rib and steaks.

4848 Kirby Dr  
Houston, TX 77098  
7135292385

### Nit Noi

Thai, Casual dining, "Known for its pad Thai, crispy spring rolls and noodle dishes."

2426 Bolsover St (Cross Street: Morningside Drive)  
Houston, TX 77005  
(713) 524-8114

## HEIGHTS

### Chatter's Café and Bistro

Mediterranean and Continental Cuisine, Romantic neighborhood-style restaurant, Indoor/Outdoor, Dine in or takeout, Specializes in chicken Marrakech, linguine Genovese, chicken St. George and kabobs.

140 S Heights Blvd (Cross Street: Raymond Street)  
Houston, TX 77007  
(713) 864-8080

## GALLERIA

### Andre's (Great cafe)

French style café specializing in pastries, quiche, salads, and sandwiches.

1101-11 Uptown Park Blvd  
Houston, TX 77056  
(713) 877-9401

### 2515 River Oaks Blvd (Cross Street: Locke Lane)

Houston, TX 77019  
(713) 524-3863  
Fax: (713) 524-2429

## RIVER OAKS

### Chuy's

Tex-Mex, Austin-born, Specializes in margarita's and typical tex-mex fare (burritos, tacos, and enchiladas).

2706 Westheimer Rd (Cross Street: Kirby Drive)  
Houston, TX 77098  
(713) 524-1700

## GREENWAY

### Thai Cottage

Thai, BYOB(!), Casual dining, Menu includes sizzling beef (a favorite), red-curry (voted best in Houston), and healthy options.

3995B Richmond Ave  
Houston, TX 77027  
(713) 623-0707

## 6 Our Favorite Restaurants by Region

### **BELLAIRE**

Escalante's

Tex-Mex, "Slightly more upscale than the average Houston Tex-Mex restaurant, expect fresh ingredients, authentic menu items and a festive atmosphere."

590 Meyerland Plz Mall (Cross Street: West Loop South)

Houston, TX 77096

7136637080

## Coffee Shops / Cafes

### MONTROSE

#### Agora

This is a European style coffee-shop/ wine bar is Greek owned, FREE WIRELESS, Great to read, play chess, study, or just relax. Nighttime can be busy with regulars. Belly dancers perform Wednesday nights.

1712 Westheimer Rd (Cross Street: Park Street)

Houston, TX 77098-1612

(713) 526-7212

#### Brazil

Indoor/Outdoor diner, Menu includes sandwiches, Mediterranean dips, pizzas, coffees, and wine. Adorned with local art, Hosts a variety of local musicians most nights during the week.

2604 Dunlavy St (Cross Street: Westheimer Road)

Houston, TX 77006-3702

7135281993

#### Cafe Artiste

"Low-key café, which draws bohemians and laptop-toting students to study, sip or enjoy a leisurely Sunday paper," FREE WIRELESS, Menu includes breakfast, fresh baked pastries, and sandwiches.

1601 W Main St (Cross Street: Mandell Street)

Houston, TX 77006-4711

#### Empire Café

Great hip dinner/ coffeehouse, Indoor/Outdoor Seating, Menu includes omelets and fluffy frittatas which are served all day, as well as thin pizzas, paninis, fresh salads and pasta dishes.

1732 Westheimer Rd (Cross Street: Park Street)

Houston, TX 77098-1623

(713) 528-5282

# Nightlife

## MIDTOWN

### Front Porch Pub

Casual bar with outdoor patio/ Variety of beers both bottles and on tap/ Great happy hour venue.  
217 Gray St (Cross Street: Helena Street)  
Houston, TX 77002  
(713) 571-9571

### Pub Fiction

Upscale neighborhood pub/ Sports bar/ Bar food includes sandwiches, salads and burgers/ Live music.  
2303 Smith St Ste 100 (Cross Street: Hadley Street)  
Houston, TX 77006  
(713) 400-8400

## DOWNTOWN

### Rent @ the Meridian

Monthly party occurring the last Saturday of every month/ Great if you enjoy dancing/ Features Houston's local House DJ's, live percussion, and live art.  
[www.upsidedownhouse.com](http://www.upsidedownhouse.com)

## MONTROSE

### Davenport's

Specializes in strong martinis and cocktails/ 50's décor/ "A varied music selection, from Rat Pack-era crooners to in-house DJs, fuels the crowd of casual regulars and trendier Richmond Strip escapees."  
2115 Richmond Ave (Cross Street: S Shepherd Drive)  
Houston, TX 77098  
(713) 520-1140  
Fax: (713) 526-9997

### The Flat

A neighborhood bar/ club with casual atmosphere for hanging out with friends/ The specialty drink is a \$4 frozen mojito. Features different music each night of the week.  
1701 Commonwealth (Cross Street: Haddon Street)  
Houston, TX 77006  
(713) 521-3528

### West Alabama Ice House

Ultra Casual Outdoor Bar/ Picnic tables and bar stools/ Cheap beer/ Dogs welcome/ Free hot dogs on Fridays!  
1919 W Alabama St (Cross Street: Hazard Street)  
Houston, TX 77098-2705  
(713) 528-6874

## RICE MILITARY

### Doghouse Tavern

Neighborhood Bar/ Pub nestled in the historic Sixth Ward/ Great happy hours, killer jukebox and relaxed clientele/ Wednesday's happy hour is extended to 11 pm.  
2207 Washington Ave (Cross Street: Sawyer Street)  
Houston, TX 77007  
(713) 426-2442

### The Social Lounge and Patio

Neighborhood bar/ club/ Chic indoor lounge/ Great outdoor patio, Music varies from old school funk to electronica.  
3730 Washington Ave (Heights Boulevard)  
Houston, TX 77007  
(713) 426-5585

## VILLAGE

### Kay's

Indoor/Outdoor bar/ Beer and wine sold, but you can bring your own liquor/ "this self-described hole-in-the-wall is a haven for regular Joe's and low-maintenance gals."/ Sundays and Mondays happy hour lasts all day/ Local music hero John Evans strums his acoustic country and honky-tonk ballads every Wednesday night.  
2324 Bissonnet St (Cross Street: Greenbriar Drive)  
Houston, TX 77005-1512  
(713) 521-0010



## Our Favorite Nighttime Venues

### GREENWAY

#### LZs

Indoor and Outdoor bar/ "white walls and wood trim, fine-art prints, rustic adornments and fireplace transport drinkers from humid Houston to a cozy Aspen ski lodge" / "WASPy masses swarm the floor, transforming the journey from one nicely furnished room to the next"

2239 Richmond Ave (Cross Street: Revere Street)  
Houston, TX 77098  
(713) 522-7118

#### Ernie's on Banks

Neighborhood Bar/ Pub, TVs, pool tables and video game/ Upstairs bar and patio/ Diverse crowd of mostly students.

1010 Banks St (Cross Street: Montrose Boulevard)  
Houston, TX 77006  
(713) 526-4566

#### The Mucky Duck

Bar/ Pub, Live music with big-time Texas folkies/ Open mic on Monday and the Irish jam session on Wednesday.

2425 Norfolk St (Cross Street: Park Street)  
Houston, TX 77098  
(713) 528-5999

# Attractions in Houston

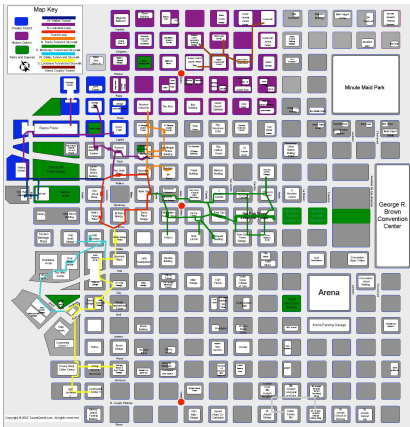
## DOWNTOWN

### Bayou Place



This trendy downtown entertainment complex includes the Verizon Wireless Theater, the Angelika Film Center and several restaurants under one roof. Corner of Smith and Texas Ave.; (713) 227-0957.

### The Tunnel System



Rainy weather's perfect for a trip through downtown's subterranean tunnel system that connects 55 office buildings with numerous shops and services. Discover Houston conducts private walking tours of this awe-inspiring maze. (713) 222-9255.

### Downtown Aquarium



The Downtown Aquarium is a spectacular entertainment, dining and meeting complex located in downtown Houston. Dine on a variety of seafood specialties at the Aquarium Restaurant as you are seated around a 150,000-gallon centerpiece aquarium. Enjoy many of our fabulous attractions including the Aquarium Adventure Exhibit with 500,000 gallons of underwater tanks and more than 400 species of marine life and mammals including white tigers. Take a ride on Shark Voyage, where guests travel by train through the center of a shark tank. Enjoy the variety of amusements such as a Ferris wheel, carousel and many midway games. 410 Bagby St. at Memorial, Houston, Texas 77002, (713) 223-FISH

### Downtown Theater District

**Alley Theatre.** (713) 228-9341.

**Houston Ballet.** (713) 227-2787.

**Houston Grand Opera.** (713) 228-6737.

**Houston Symphony Orchestra.** (713) 224-7575.

**Society for the Performing Arts (SPA).** (713) 227-4772.

**Stages Repertory Theatre.** (713) 527-0123.

**Theatre Under The Stars.** (713) 558-8887.

## 11 Attractions

### MUSEUM DISTRICT/MEDICAL CENTER

#### Miller Outdoor Theatre



This famous open-air theater, with covered seating for 1,580 and a grassy hill for hundreds more, features live music, dance and theater and hosts numerous special events. The season runs March-Nov., and performances are free. 100 Concert Dr.; (713) 520-3290; (713) 284-8354.

#### Hermann Park



Celebrating 90 years and the winner of numerous awards, this stately park covers 388 acres near the Museum District and includes a miniature train ride, the zoo, themed gardens, an 18-hole golf course and an outdoor amphitheatre. Main St. at Outer Belt Dr., 2155 N. MacGregor Dr.; (713) 526-0077.

#### Houston Garden Center



Nestled within the green beauty of Hermann Park, the center's lovely grounds include a sculpture garden, fragrant rose and bulb gardens and seasonal flower shows. 1500 Hermann Dr.; (713) 529-3960.

#### Houston Zoo



An exciting educational and popular conservation resource, the zoo is set in a 55-acre lush, tropical landscape, and is home to more than 4,500 exotic animals. Special areas include the children's zoo, reptile house, tropical bird aviary, primate world and a komodo dragon display. Hermann Park, 1513 N. MacGregor Dr.; (713) 523-5888; (713) 533-6500.

#### Museum District

**Children's Museum of Houston (CMH).** (713) 522-1138.

**Contemporary Arts Museum (CAM).** (713) 284-8250.

**Holocaust Museum of Houston.** (713) 942-8000.

**Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH).** (713) 639-7300.

**Museum of Health and Medical Science.** (713) 521-1515.

**Museum of Natural Science (HMNS).** (713) 639-4600.

**Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum.** (713) 522-0396.

#### Reliant Park



The famed Astrodome, the world's first indoor stadium, known as "the eighth wonder of the world" 40 years ago, now shares its space with Reliant Stadium, home of the Houston Texans NFL team, Reliant Center and Arena, which hosts conferences, the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo and other events. Daily tours. Inside Loop 610, between Kirby and Fannin St.; (713) 799-9500.



## MONTROSE

### Museums

**Menil Collection.** (713) 525-9400.

**Rothko Chapel.** (713) 524-9839.

**Byzantine Fresco Chapel Museum.** (713) 521-3990.

## HEIGHTS

### Beer Can House.

This funky, folk art landmark is a private residence covered with beer cans and pull-tabs. During the day, drive by at 222 Malone St.; (713) 926-6368.

## MEMORIAL

### Houston Arboretum and Nature Center



Winding green trails, featuring plants native to the area, cover more than 150 acres. Guided tours, self-guided tours and wilderness education programs are available. 4501 Woodway Dr.; (713) 681-8433.

### Memorial Park



Houston's largest recreational area covers about 1,450 acres of coastal woodland just inside Loop 610. It includes wooded trails for joggers, walkers and cyclists, an 18-hole public golf course, facilities for tennis, softball, swimming, track, croquet, volleyball and inline skating as well as a lighted running course. Memorial Drive from Loop 610 to Wescott; (713) 845-1000.

### Houston Audubon Society



This large and active chapter of the National Audubon Society has its bird sanctuary system headquartered at the Edith L. Moore Nature Sanctuary. 440 Wilchester Blvd.; (713) 932-1639.

## WEST HOUSTON

### Mercer Arboretum and Botanical Gardens



A nationally recognized public garden, this natural haven in the northern part of the city has more than 250 acres of East Texas piney woods showcasing the region's largest collection of native and cultivated plants in two special areas. The Botanic Gardens, with more than 20 acres of developed gardens, include herb, ginger, fern, daylily, tropical, bamboo and endangered species collections, color displays and extensive walking trails. The arboretum includes an outdoor classroom, picnic area, a barbecue pavilion and three miles of trails that wind through woodlands. 22306 Aldine-Westfield Rd., north of FM 1960; (281) 443-8731.

## SOUTH HOUSTON

### Orange Show.

A monumental tribute to oranges, this found-objects folk art experience is no mere museum. 24021 Munger, (713) 926-6368.

## SOUTHWEST HOUSTON

### Nature Discovery Center



Housed in a restored 1920s home and nestled in Russ Pittman Park, this rural retreat offers ecological exhibits, science discovery, rambles and other fun activities. 7112 Newcastle, inside Loop 610, Bellaire; (713) 667-6550.

## OUTSIDE HOUSTON AREA

### Space Center Houston



For out-of-this-world fun, see actual spacecraft, including Mercury, Gemini and Apollo capsules; watch astronauts train for upcoming shuttle missions; touch a moon rock or walk in space through space simulators. 1601 NASA Rd. 1; (281) 244-2100. [Natural Encounters](#)

### Kemah Boardwalk.

Just 20 miles from downtown Houston, this fun-filled development on the Kemah channel to Galveston Bay is a great family destination. Kemah features a nostalgic amusement park, complete with a 65-foot Ferris wheel, miniature train, carousel and other rides, with many seafood eateries and other fine restaurants to round off your trip. #1 Kemah Waterfront Bradford and Second St., Kemah; (877) AT-KEMAH; (281) 334-9880.

### Port of Houston



The port offers a free 90-minute boat tour around the port and ship channel. Embarking from the Sam Houston Pavilion, enjoy views of international cargo vessels and operations at the Turning Basin Terminal. The tour is free; however, reservations are required in advance. Port security requires photo IDs for passengers 18 and older. 7300 Clinton Dr. Gate 8; (713) 670-2416.

### Armand Bayou Nature Center



This 2,500-acre preserve in Clear Lake features hiking trails, plants and animals and educational materials on Texas forest, marsh and prairie. 8500 Bay Area Blvd., Pasadena; (281) 474-2551.

### George Observatory



The hour's drive south to Brazos Bend State Park is worth the effort to check out the heavens on the gigantic 36-inch research telescope, but be sure to call for reservations. Smaller telescopes are available at any time. 21901 FM 762, Needville; (409) 553-3400; (281) 242-3055.

## 14 Attractions

### Traders Village



A 60-acre flea market with must-haves from more than 800 dealers as well as food stands and two special event venues. 7979 N. Eldridge Rd., off Hwy. 290; (281) 890-5500.

## GALVESTON

### Bolivar Peninsula Ferry



Take the free 20-minute ferry ride from Galveston to the Bolivar Peninsula. Visit the Bolivar Lighthouse, beaches, shops and attractions. Contact the Bolivar Peninsula Chamber of Commerce: (409) 684-5940; (800) 386-7863.

### Schlitterbahn Galveston Island Waterpark.

This new 15-acre park offers aquatic adventures. The Wasserfest area is a “convertible waterpark” with closeable sections for year-round fun. Water coasters, tube chutes, water slides, kiddie playgrounds, rapids, wave pool, the Boogie Bahn surf ride, and “Transportainment” river system give you a full day’s fun. 2026 Lockeed St., Galveston; (409) 770-WAVE.

### Moody Gardens



Galveston’s renowned attraction offers the Aquarium Pyramid, the Rainforest Pyramid, a stunning IMAX Theater and the Palm Beach Water Park. One Hope Blvd., Galveston; (800) 582-4673.



# Theater / Performing Arts

## Downtown

### **Alley Theatre.**

Specializes in diverse plays by contemporary dramatists. STUDENTS GET \$13 TICKETS ONE HOUR BEFORE THE SHOW. 615 Texas Ave., (713) 228-9341, tickets (713) 228-8421.

**Cirque Du Soleil:** Presenting Corteo in Houston. Corteo, which means "cortege" in Italian, is a joyous procession, a festive parade imagined by a clown. The show brings together the passion of the actor with the grace and power of the acrobat to plunge the audience into a theatrical world of fun, comedy and spontaneity situated in a mysterious space between heaven and earth. Sam Houston Race Park on March 22<sup>nd</sup> through April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007. 1-877-688-2699

### **Houston Ballet.**

This resident ballet company has won international acclaim. 1921 W. Bell St., (713) 523-6300, tickets: (713) 227-2787.

### **Houston Grand Opera.**

Award-winning company, founded in 1955. 510 Preston St., (713) 546-0200, tickets: (713) 228-6737.

### **Houston Symphony Orchestra.**

Started in 1913, the orchestra is popular both at home and abroad. 615 Louisiana St., (713) 224-4240, tickets: (713) 224-7575.

### **Main Street Theater.**

Since 1975 this company has produced high quality professional theater for audiences of all ages through its MainStage productions and Main Street Youth Theater. 2540 Times Blvd. and 4617 Montrose Blvd., (713) 524-3622. **A.D. Players.** Presents quality family programming. 2710 West Alabama St., (713) 526-2721.

### **Society for the Performing Arts (SPA).**

Brings a selection of performing artists and companies from around the world to complement Houston's own theater, dance and music offerings. 615 Louisiana St., (713) 227-4772.

### **Theatre Under The Stars.**

Hobby Center's resident company produces a variety of musicals. 800 Bagby St., Ste. 200, (713) 558-8887.

### **Uniquely Houston.**

Performances of local community programs, educational outreach and international artists. 800 Bagby St., Ste. 300, (713) 315-2400.

## Montrose Area

### **Da Camera of Houston.**

The group hosts jazz events and chamber music and blends visual arts with literature and social/political issues. 1427 Branard St., (713) 524-5050.

### **Stages Repertory Theatre.**

Performs off-Broadway shows. 3201 Allen Pkwy., (713) 527-8243, tickets: (713) 527-0123.

## Museum District/ Medical Center

### **Miller Outdoor Theatre: Outdoor Amphitheater**

This summer venue is popular for picnics at FREE concerts. 100 Concert Dr. in Hermann Park, (713) 284-8354.

# Houston Museums

## MUSEUM DISTRICT/MEDICAL CENTER

### **Children's Museum of Houston (CMH).**

Children learn through fun, hands-on exhibits, discovery garden and greenhouse covering arts, science, history and culture. 1500 Binz, (713) 522-1138.

### **Contemporary Arts Museum (CAM).**

Diverse exhibitions of cutting-edge contemporary art in a variety of media. 5216 Montrose, (713) 284-8250.

### **Holocaust Museum of Houston.**

Exhibits of art, photography and artifacts are combined with an education center to pay tribute to those lost to the Holocaust. 5401 Caroline, (713) 942-8000.

### **Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH).**

A leading museum with Medieval art and works by American and European masters, as well as Asian and pre-Columbian art. The serene outdoor Cullen Sculpture Garden is nearby. 1001 Bissonnet, (713) 639-7300.

### **Houston Fire Museum.**

Traces the evolution of the city's fire departments from the turn-of-last-century to the present in an 1890s fire station. 2403 Milam at McIlhenny, (713) 524-2526.

### **Museum of Health and Medical Science.**

Featuring a tour through the enormous interior of the human body, the Amazing Body Pavilion offers interactive exhibits, science demonstrations and traveling exhibits. 1515 Hermann Dr., (713) 521-1515.

### **Museum of Natural Science (HMNS).**

Striking displays of dinosaurs, native Texas wildlife, outer space and a fabulous collection of gems and minerals are spotlighted here. The Cockrell Butterfly Center, Burke Baker Planetarium and Wortham IMAX Theater add to the entertainment. 1 Hermann Circle Dr., Hermann Park, (713) 639-4600.

### **Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum.**

This simple one-room structure offers a world of Texas history in the heart of the high-tech Texas Medical Center. 1510 N. McGregor Dr., (713) 522-0396.

## MONTROSE

### **Menil Collection.**

Features more than 15,000 works from the private collection of the late Jean and Dominique de Menil. 1515 Sul Ross, (713) 525-9400.

### **Byzantine Fresco Chapel Museum.**

Houses breathtaking 13th century Cypriot frescoes. 4011 Yupon, (713) 521-3990.

### **Cy Twombly Gallery**

Displays over 35 paintings and sculpture by the artist since 1954. 1501 Branard. (713) 525 9400

### **Rothko Chapel.**

This chapel displays 14 gigantic paintings by the late abstract expressionist, Mark Rothko. 1409 Sul Ross at Yupon, (713) 524-9839.

## 17 Museums

### HEIGHTS

#### [The Art Car Museum.](#)

Displays custom-decorated cars with wacky themes. 140 Heights Blvd., (713) 861-5526.

#### [Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens.](#)

The 28-room mansion features an extensive decorative arts collection and 14 acres of lush gardens. One Westcott, (713) 639-7750.

### SOUTH HOUSTON

#### [American Cowboy Museum.](#)

An exhibition of African-American cowboy heritage, complemented by Native American and Hispanic cowboy paraphernalia. Taylor-Stevenson Ranch, 11822 Almeda, (713) 433-4441.

### OUT OF TOWN

#### Galveston

##### [Galveston County Historical Museum.](#)

Learn the story of Galveston's past. 2219 Market St., (409) 766-2340.

##### [Galveston Railroad Museum.](#)

Takes visitors back to the days before the automobile when the railroad ruled commerce and tourism. The Strand at 25th St., Galveston, (409) 765-5700.

##### [Lone Star Flight Museum.](#)

Salutes the dreams and disasters of the sky with restored aircraft, historical photos and documentation. 2002 Terminal Dr., Galveston International Airport, (409) 740-7722.

##### [Texas Seaport Museum.](#)

A tribute to maritime history and the location to purchase tickets to the tall ship Elissa or the Great Storm Theater. Pier 21 #8, Galveston, (409) 763-1877.

#### La Porte

##### [Battleship Texas.](#)

At age 85, she is the last remaining dreadnought in the world. 3527 Battleground Rd., La Porte, (281) 479-4414.

##### [San Jacinto Monument and Museum of History.](#)

The 575-foot limestone monument is topped with a 220-ton star, the museum in the base tells the story of the state's fight for independence. 1 Monument Circle, La Porte, (281) 479-2421.

#### Richmond

##### [George Ranch Historical Park.](#)

Features costumed ranchers at the historical Davis Mansion complex, Oldenburg Blacksmith Shop and Cowboy Camp. 10215 F.M. 762, Richmond, (281) 343-0218.

# Shopping Centers

## The Galleria

The Galleria is the reigning mall champion of Houston. In addition to its upscale shops like Fendi, Chanel, Gucci, Coach and Louis Vuitton, it also has an enormous skating rink. The Galleria features large chains like Maci's and Nordstrom's and is also home to 70 additional merchants. The mall is located just West of Loop 610. (713) 622-0663

## Highland Village

This stylish shopping center is just east of the Galleria on Westheimer Road, and is full of charm. Stop by Crate & Barrel, Williams-Sonoma, [James Avery Craftsmen](#), Tootsies, and Restoration Hardware for starters. 4055 WESTHEIMER, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77027. TEL: 713.850.3100

## Rice Village

Located near Rice University, the Village as its known to most Houstonians is one of the city's oldest and most prized shopping districts. The Village is home to stores like Banana Republic, White House Black Market, Express and many more. This district exhibits an eclectic personality due to its amazing Thai restaurants, antique shops, and boutiques like Z. Bead.

## Uptown Park

Spas, restaurants and neat boutiques make Uptown Park a distinctive shopping experience to discover. Uptown Park is making a name for itself with its unique European style villages. Try Andre's Pastry Shop after a full day of shopping excellence. Post Oak Blvd. @ Loop 610. 713.850.1400

## River Oaks Shopping Center

The shopping center is one of the oldest in Texas. It features the upscale resale shop Twice New, and the do-it-yourself pottery shop The Mad Potter. Shepherd Drive @ West Gray. Houston, Texas 77019

## Katy Mills Mall

This mall is a must-see for serious shoppers. It includes tons of outlet stores like Off 5th - Saks Fifth Avenue Outlet, Bose Factory Outlet, The Children's Place Outlet, and ever-so-popular The Gap Outlet. 5000 Katy Mills Circle. Katy, TX 77494

## First Colony Mall

Located in Fort Bend County, this mall features over 100 different stores, including Dillard's and J.C. Penny. 16535 Southwest Freeway, Suite 1. Sugar Land, Texas 77479. (281) 265-6123

## The Shops at Houston Center

Work and play can mix and mingle in this downtown shopping area located in the Houston Center. With shops like Jos. A. Bank, Walden Books and two Starbucks locations, lunch breaks will never be the same! Houston, Texas 77010

## Sporting Teams and Events

### Alkek Velodrome



Track cyclists are familiar with this Olympic-worthy venue, but special sessions are also open to skaters, as long as they wear the proper safety equipment. 19008 Saums Rd.; (281) 578-0693.

### Gulf Greyhound Park



Just south of the city is the world's largest greyhound racing operation, with pari-mutuel wagering every day. It's also the site of the Horizon Clubhouse, allegedly the largest restaurant in Texas. Exit 15, I-45 S., (800) 275-2946.

### Houston Aeros.

The American Hockey League's Houston Aeros call Toyota Center home from October-April. The Aeros have won two championships since 1999 and are always one of the top teams in the AHL. See tomorrow's National Hockey League stars, today! Toyota Center, 11510 Polk St.; (713) 974-7825.

### Houston Comets.

Entering its ninth season, Houston's first Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) team rocks the court. Toyota Center, 11510 Polk St., (713) 627-9622.

### Houston Rockets.

In Houston, basketball is known as Rocketball. These NBA Champions wow their devoted fans with far-out moves on the court. Toyota Center, 11510 Polk St.; (713) 627-3865.

### Houston Astros.

The 1995 and 2005 National League Champions thrilled the nation in its first run for the World Series in the club's history. The never-say-die Astros and their fans are pumping up the downtown renaissance. Union Station at Minute Maid Park, 501 Crawford, Suite 400; (713) 627-8767.

### Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo.

(Feb.-Mar.)

This huge rodeo, with more than a million spectators, only invites the best cowboys and cowgirls in the sport to compete at this celebration of all things western. Calf scrambles, chuck wagon races, bareback bronco riding, barrel racing, bull riding, steer wrestling, team roping, educational displays, restaurants and shopping as well as major musical entertainers are part of the show, while livestock auctions and a Texas-sized carnival complete the festivities. Reliant Park, 8701 Kirby; (713) 791-9000; (832) 667-1000.

### Houston Texans.

The newest NFL franchise plays in Reliant Stadium, a 69,000-seat, retractable roof football facility to the roar of fans. One Reliant Park; (713) 336-7700; (832) 667-2000.

### Sam Houston Race Park.

Live thoroughbred and quarter horse races, October through April and simulcast wagering every day, except Christmas. 7575 N. Sam Houston Pkwy. W., between Hwy. 290 and I-45; (281) 807-8700

# Great Golf Courses

## **Bay Forest Golf Club,**

18 holes, south of Houston,

201 Bay Forest Dr., La Porte, (281) 471-4653.

## **Bear Creek Golf World,**

54 holes, 16001 Clay Rd., Houston, (281) 859-8188.

## **Blackhorse Golf Club,**

36 holes, west of Houston, 12205 Fry Rd., Cypress, (281) 304-1747.

## **Brock Park Municipal Golf Course,**

18 holes, 8201 John Ralston Rd., Houston, (281) 458-1350.

## **Champions Golf Club,**

18 holes, 13722 Champions Dr., Houston, (281) 444-6262.

## **Clear Lake Golf Club,**

18 holes, south of Houston, 1202 Reseda Dr., Clear Lake, (281) 488-0252.

## **Cypresswood Golf Club,**

54 holes, north of Houston, 21602 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, (281) 821-6300.

## **Glenbrook Golf Course,**

18 holes, 8205 N. Bayou Dr., Houston, (713) 649-8089.

## **Golf Club at Cinco Ranch,**

18 holes, west of Houston, 23030 Cinco Ranch Blvd., Katy, (281) 395-4653.

## **Greatwood Golf Club,**

18 holes, west of Houston, 6767 Greatwood Pkwy., Sugar Land, (281) 343-9999.

## **Gus Wortham Park Golf Course,**

18 holes, 7000 Capital, Houston, (713) 921-3227.

## **Hermann Park Golf Course,**

18 holes, 2155 N. MacGregor, Houston, (713) 526-0077.

## **Herron Lake Golf Course,**

18 holes, 7910 N. Sam Houston Pkwy., Houston, (281) 807-4653.

## **Houston National Golf Club,**

27 holes, 16500 Houston National Blvd., Houston,

(281) 304-1400.

This links-style course features 27 championship holes, playable in three 18-hole combinations. Designed by Von Hagge, Smelek and Baril, and located in northwest Houston, facilities include a full-service bar/grill and UpLink GPS systems carts.

## **Jersey Meadow Courses,**

27 holes, 8602 Jones Rd., Houston, (713) 896-0900.

## **Lake Windcrest Golf Club,**

18 holes, 10941 Clubhouse Circle, Magnolia, (281) 259-2279.

All within minutes of Houston, The Woodlands, Tomball and Conroe, Lake Windcrest is a golfer's delight. This stunning course in Magnolia boasts dense vegetation of pine and oak trees, sneaky creeks and challenging greens. A full-service club and unrestricted public access make Lake Windcrest a relaxing haven for all enthusiasts.

## **Magnolia Creek Golf Links,**

27 holes, 1501 W. Bay Area Blvd., League City,

(281) 557-0555.

If only the rolling hills of Scotland were not so far away! Play Magnolia Creek and remind yourself of those challenges of golf's homeland. This Bay Area links-style course features 27 holes of rolling hills, deep bunkers and native grasses for golfers who appreciate the finer points of this noble sport.

## **Melrose Golf Course,**

18 holes, 401 Canino Rd., Houston, (281) 931-4666.

## **Memorial Park Golf Club,**

18 holes, 1001 Memorial Loop E., Memorial Park, Houston, (713) 862-4033.

## **Royal Oaks Golf Course,**

18 holes, 3039 Rosemary Park Ln., (713) 914-0600.

## **Tour 18 Houston,**

18 holes, north of Houston, 3102 F.M. 1960 E., Humble, (281) 540-1818.

## **Wedgewood Golf Club,**

18 holes, north of Houston, 5454 Hwy 105 West, Conroe, (936) 441-4653.

## **Wildcat Golf Club,**

36 holes, 12000 Almeda Rd., Houston, (713) 413-3400.

## **Woodlands Country Club East Course,**

18 holes, north of Houston, 1730 S. Millbend Dr., The Woodlands, (281) 364-6320.

## **Woodlands North & West Courses,**

18 holes each, north of Houston, 2301 N. Millbend Dr., The Woodlands, (281) 364-6320.

## **World Houston American Golf Club,**

18 holes, 4000 Greens Rd., Houston, (281) 449-7891.



# Important Phone Number and Other Information

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Police/Fire/Medical - 911  
Houston Fire Department - (713) 884-3144  
Houston Police Department - (713) 222-3131

## HOSPITALS

Houston Ambulance Service - (713) 222-3434  
West  
Memorial Hermann Hospital - (713) 704-4000  
Northeast  
Northeast Medical Center Hospital - (281) 540-7700  
Medical Center  
MD Anderson Cancer Center - (713) 792-6161  
The Methodist Hospital - (713) 790-3311  
St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital - (713) 785-8537 or (832) 355-1000  
Downtown  
Christus St. Joseph Hospital - (713) 757-1000  
Northwest  
Houston Northwest Medical Center - (281) 440-2320  
Southeast/Clear Lake  
Clear Lake Regional Medical Center - (281) 332-2511

## NON-EMERGENCY

City Services - 311

## SERVICE AGENCIES

Greater Houston American Red Cross - (713) 526-8300  
Night number - (713) 526-0636

## TRANSPORTATION

Airports  
Bush Intercontinental Airport - (281) 230-3100  
William P. Hobby Airport - (713) 640-3000  
Airlines  
Aeromexico - (800) 237-6639  
Air Canada - (888) 247-2262  
Air France - (800) 237-2747  
Air Jamaica - (800) 523-5585  
America West - (800) 235-9292  
American Airlines - (800) 433-7300  
American Trans Air - (800) 435-9282  
Atlantic Southeast - (800) 221-1212  
Aviacsa - (800) 237-6396  
British Airways - (800) 247-9297  
Cayman Airways - (800) 422-9626  
Comair - (800) 354-9822  
Continental Airlines - (800) 523-3273  
Continental Express - (800) 523-3273  
Delta - (800) 221-1212  
Frontier Airlines - (800) 432-1359  
KLM - (800) 374-7747  
Lufthansa - (800) 645-3880  
Northwest Airlines - (800) 225-2525  
Southwest - (800) 435-9792  
Skywest Airlines - (800) 221-1212

Southwest Airlines - (800) 435-9792  
TACA - (800) 535-8780  
United - (800) 241-6522  
US Airways - (800) 428-4322 / Reservations - (800) 435-9792  
/ Baggage Service - (713) 845-2117 / Freight/Cargo - (713) 641-0674  
Airport Parking - The Parking Spot - (713) 910-0200

## AIRPORT SHUTTLES

Shuttle services operate to and from Bush IAH and Hobby airports, and most Houston hotels. Service runs early morning until late evening. Uniformed, professional independent contractor drivers will assist with loading luggage. You may purchase tickets online, from shuttle drivers outside baggage claim or from the ticket counter near baggage claim at the airports.  
Express Shuttle - [www.airportexpresshouston.com](http://www.airportexpresshouston.com) - (713) 523-8888, (877) 615-4577  
Texans Super Shuttle - [www.texansshuttle.com](http://www.texansshuttle.com) - (713) 781-6660, (877) 770-1655  
\*Numerous private limousine and bus services provide shuttle service as well.

## VISITOR INFORMATION

Greater Houston Convention & Visitors Bureau - (713) 227-3100  
Visitor Center: City Hall, 901 Bagby - (713) 437-5200, (800) 4HOUSTON  
Greater Houston Chamber of Commerce/Greater Houston Partnership - (713) 844-3600  
Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce - (713) 644-7070  
WEATHER  
National Weather Station - [www.nws.noaa.gov](http://www.nws.noaa.gov) - (281) 337-5074  
Local Weather Forecast - (713) 529-4444  
Average Temperatures  
Winter - 53°F  
Spring - 68°F  
Summer - 82°F  
Fall - 70°F

## TICKETS

Ticket Connection - [www.ticketconnection.com](http://www.ticketconnection.com) - (713) 524-3687, (800) 468-8587;  
Ticket Stop - [www.ticket-stop.com](http://www.ticket-stop.com) - (713) 526-8889, (800) 666-4849

## PARKS, RECREATION, WILDLIFE

Houston Parks & Recreation Department - [www.houstontx.gov/parks](http://www.houstontx.gov/parks), (713) 845-1000  
Texas Parks and Wildlife - [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us) - (800) 792-1112