

# BEHIND THE SCENES

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Climate map data adapted from Peel MC, Finlayson BL & McMahon TA (2007) 'Updated World Map of the Köppen-Geiger Climate Classification', *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences*, 11, pp1633–44.

Cover photographs: Front: Bluebonnets in bloom, Danita Delimont/Getty; Back: Musician David Harris performs in Luckenbach, Danita Delimont/AWL

## THIS BOOK

This 1st edition of *San Antonio, Austin & Texas Backcountry Road Trips* was researched and written by Amy C Balfour, Lisa Dunford, Mariella Krause, Regis St Louis and Ryan Ver Berkmoes. This guidebook was produced by the following:

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## OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Melbourne, London and Oakland, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

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# OUR WRITERS



## AMY C BALFOUR

Amy has hiked, biked, skied and gambled her way across the Southwest. She has authored or co-authored more than 15 books for Lonely Planet and has written

for *Backpacker*, *Every Day with Rachael Ray*, *Redbook*, *Southern Living* and *Women's Health*.



## LISA DUNFORD

Does living in a state for 22 years, marrying a native and learning to speak the language mean someone can become a naturalized Texan? Lisa

sure hopes so. Over the years she's logged tens of thousands of miles exploring her adopted home. She loves cruising the country roads seeing what there is to see – a cow in a bluebonnet field, or an old barnlike dance hall. She's bought boys drinks at the Continental Club in Austin, ridden the rides at the State Fair in Dallas and sailed on Corpus Christi Bay. Before becoming a freelance writer, Lisa was a restaurant reviewer and an editor in the features department at the Corpus Christi Caller-Times newspaper. Now no matter where she roams, she always returns to the patch of riverfront east of Houston that she, her husband and their dogs call home.



## MARIELLA KRAUSE

Mariella first fell in love with Austin when she checked out the UT campus during her junior year of high school. After college, she intended to live

'everywhere,' but felt so at home in Austin that she accidentally stayed for 15 years. Mariella will always consider Texas home, and she still sprinkles her language with Texanisms whenever possible, much to the amusement of those who don't consider 'y'all' a legitimate pronoun.



## REGIS ST LOUIS

A Hoosier by birth, Regis grew up in a sleepy riverside town where he dreamed of big-city intrigue. He's lived all over the US (including New York City,

San Francisco, Los Angeles and New Orleans), and has crossed the country by train, bus and car while visiting remote corners of America. Favorite memories from his most recent trip include crab feasting on Maryland's eastern shore, hiking through striking state parks in west Texas, catching music jams in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia and going eye-to-eye with wild horses on Assateague Island. Regis has contributed to more than 50 Lonely Planet titles, including New York City and Washington, DC.



## RYAN VER BERKMOES

Ryan grew up in Santa Cruz, California, the sort of goofball beachtown place that made him immediately love Port Aransas.

An inveterate wanderer, he

was most at home on the hundreds of miles of Texas backroads he traversed for research. Whether it was discovering a forgotten town on Texas Hwy 70 or driving to the literal end of the road to (happily!) check out still another empty Gulf Coast beach, he relished every click on the odometer.

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