



# Austin

POP 820,611 / 📍 512

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Drinking & Nightlife..	80
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## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Franklin Barbecue (p77)
- ➔ Amy's Ice Creams (p80)
- ➔ Uchiko (p79)
- ➔ Dai Due (p78)
- ➔ Veracruz All Natural (p78)
- ➔ Hopdoddy Burger Bar (p76)

## Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Hotel Van Zandt (p71)
- ➔ Driskill Hotel (p71)
- ➔ Heywood Hotel (p73)
- ➔ Austin Motel (p73)
- ➔ Hotel San José (p73)

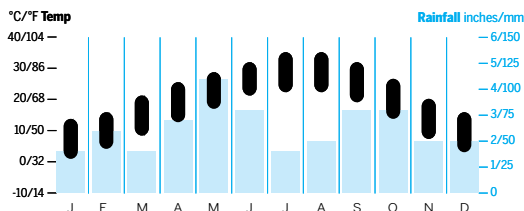
## Why Go?

A big city with a small-town heart, Austin earns the love through great music, fantastic parks, culinary prowess, cool murals, whip-smart locals and a sociable streak impossible to resist. Let's start with the music. The city easily earns its title of 'Live Music Capital of the World.' Two music festivals, South by Southwest (SXSW) and the Austin City Limits Festival, enjoy international acclaim, but quality live performances go down every single night in one of the countless clubs, bars and restaurants.

As for the outdoors, the parks here are thriving playgrounds packed with hikers, runners, cyclists and dog walkers. All reward themselves at world-class food trucks, innovative farm-to-table restaurants and delicious BBQ joints. But the best part? The communal spirit. Despite the rapid growth (and terrible traffic), Austin remains hospitable. Just join a food truck line and ask about the food Vscene. You'll kick-start a passionate conversation for sure.

## When to Go

### Austin



**Mar & Apr** Wildflowers and mild weather make this the perfect time of year to visit.

**May & Jun** The weather is hot but bearable, and everything is still green for the most part.

**Sep & Oct** You won't see any fall foliage, but temperatures will have cooled by now.



## Austin Highlights

- 1 Continental Club** (p83)  
Catching a band at this iconic club or one of Austin's hundreds of other music venues.
- 2 Bat Colony** (p56)  
Watching the nightly exodus of America's largest urban bat colony in summer.
- 3 Texas State Capitol** (p56)  
Gazing up at the Texas star 266ft above you!
- 4 Barton Springs Pool** (p68)  
Jumping into the icy waters for instant relief from the Texas heat.
- 5 Veracruz All Natural** (p78)  
Savoring tacos at what some say is the best food truck in the city.
- 6 Ginny's Little Longhorn Saloon** (p82)  
Honky-tonkin' and playing chicken shit bingo.
- 7 Ann & Roy Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail & Boardwalk** (p65)  
Pausing on your lakeside stroll on the boardwalk for awesome skyline views.
- 8 Amy's Ice Creams** (p80)  
Creating a perfect blend of ice cream and toppings.