

**Austin Entertainment** (compiled by Patricia Bobeck)

**Walks and Sites of Interest** — downtown, listed from nearest to most distant from hotel

Some basics:

Austin is divided into North and South Austin by the west-east-flowing Colorado River, now called Lady Bird Lake. The river was dammed upstream and downstream to control flooding and make a constant level lake.

The hotel address is 78 East Avenue, but if you look out the front of the hotel, you see Interstate 35. The highway department put I-35 on top of East Avenue and divided the city east-west more firmly than East Avenue ever did. (We have a West Avenue, which is still a city street, on the other side of town, of course.) East Austin was home to many Hispanics until the population boom and gentrification moved them out.

Congress Street Bridge Flying Bats. The bridge crosses Lady Bird Lake (the former Colorado River) at Congress Avenue. The bridge is close to Rainey Street and our hotel. Here is the site: <https://austinbatrefuge.org/congress-ave-bridge/>

## **SECTION 1. NORTH OF LADY BIRD LAKE**

**Rainey Street** (out the back of the hotel garage). Lots of bars and restaurants, food trailers.

**Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center**, 600 River Street, south on Rainey Street; you will see it.

The **Tejano Walking Trail** starts at the Mexican American Cultural Center. The trail crosses into the heart of East Austin and leads you past historic homes built by early merchants, bungalows, churches, and schools, remains from the 1870s railroad, and a fish hatchery.

**Ladybird Lake** is several blocks south of the hotel. It has a running/cycling path around the lake. Distance around the lake is 10 miles.

**Congress Avenue and East Sixth Street Historic Walking Tour.** Starts a few blocks northwest of Rainey Street.

**O. Henry Trail Historic Walking Tour.** House/museum is located at 409 East Fifth Street, 512-472-1903.

Mural/Wall Art tour

**French Legation**, 802 San Marcos Street, 512-463-7948, [French-legation@thc.texas.gov](mailto:French-legation@thc.texas.gov)

**Waller Creek.** Flows south through center of town, parallel to I-35, into Lady Bird Lake.

**Texas Capitol**, 12th and Congress Avenue. **Self-guided tour brochure**

**Texas Capitol Grounds**, 12th and Congress Avenue. **Self-guided tour brochure**

**Texas Capitol Visitors Center Museum.** 112 East 11th Street (on capitol grounds), <https://tspb.texas.gov/prop/tcvc/cvc/cvc.html>

**Governor's Mansion**, 1010 Colorado Street (near the capitol). Designed by Abner Cook.

**Bremond Block Historic Walking Tour.** Starts at Governor's Mansion, 1010 Colorado Street.

**Old Swedish Bakery and Emporium**, 1006 Congress Avenue. History and art exhibits, tourist information, historic building. <https://www.austintexas.gov/department/old-bakery-and-emporium>

**Texas State Cemetery**, 909 Navasota Street, Austin 78702. Free. [www.cemetery.state.tx.us](http://www.cemetery.state.tx.us), 512-463-0605

**Oakwood Cemetery Historic Walking Tour**, 1601 Navasota Street, [cemeteries@austintexas.gov](mailto:cemeteries@austintexas.gov), gates open daily 7 a.m.–7 p.m.

**West Austin Historic Walking Tour**. Starts at Fifth and Lamar.

**Bullock Museum** (Texas History), 1800 North Congress Avenue, 512-936-8746. Open daily, hours vary. [TheStoryofTexas.com](http://TheStoryofTexas.com).

### **University of Texas**

Landmarks Public Art Map for UT Campus

**Texas Memorial Museum**, 2400 Trinity Street. Dinosaurs, fossils, Texas wildlife, gems, minerals, and evolution. Free admission. Open daily. [www.TexasNaturalScienceCenter.org](http://www.TexasNaturalScienceCenter.org).

**Harry Ransom Center**, 300 West 21st Street. Gutenberg Bible, Niépce photograph. Free. 512-471-8944. [www.hrc.utexas.edu](http://www.hrc.utexas.edu). Open Tuesday through Sunday; hours vary.

**Blanton Museum of Art**. 200 East Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, [www.BlantonMuseum.org](http://www.BlantonMuseum.org), 512-471-5482. Open Tuesday through Sunday; hours vary. Free on Thursday.

**LBJ Presidential Library**, 2313 Red River Street. [www.lbjlibrary.org](http://www.lbjlibrary.org)

**Hyde Park Historic Walking Tour**. Austin's first subdivision. Starts at 39th Street north of university, between I-35 and Lamar.

### **TOO FAR TO WALK/NEED TRANSPORTATION**

**Laguna Gloria Art Museum — The Contemporary Austin**, 3809 West 35th Street

**Bureau of Economic Geology** (Geologic Survey of Texas), J. J. Pickle Research Center, 10000 Burnet Road.

### **SECTION 2. SOUTH OF LADY BIRD LAKE**

Continental Club — famous music venue; food and beer

1315 South Congress Avenue 78704

512-441-2444, <https://continentalclub.com>