

# Texas Tourism News



Fall 2009



**Ah, finally, cooler weather is here in Canada and time to start thinking of the warmer, comfortable temperatures of Texas!** There is so

much to see and do in Texas this fall with special events, wine tours, shopping, golf and holiday happenings around every corner of the state. Simply kick back and enjoy!

## Put treats into your tricks this Fall in Historic Galveston!



Galveston is rich in history and your clients may be lucky enough to have a ghost-of-the-past sighting! Galveston has been home to cannibalistic

Indians, the Karankawas. It has been visited by Spanish and French explorers in the 1500's – 1700's. Pirate Jean Lafitte settled here in the early 1800's and used Galveston as his home base for years, long before Texas became a Republic. There were downtown fires, yellow fever epidemics, and of course, the

hurricanes. The Great Storm of 1900, the worst recorded hurricane in America killed over 6,000 people and essentially swept parts of the island clean of all structures. In the mid 1860's, Galveston's harbor was the site of one of the most poignant sea battles of the Civil War, the Battle of Galveston. So many people have lived and died here and some of the



dead still reside here. Would you like to visit the spirits first hand? Book overnight lodging online & receive up to \$500 worth of valuable Galveston Island coupons to use during your stay.

## Dare to stay in a haunted hotel?

If so, the Hotel Galvez and The Tremont House are two of the islands most popular haunted hot spots. Staff and guests have experienced many unexplained events, leading them to suspect that there are several ghostly residents. For more haunted happenings please go to: [www.galveston.com](http://www.galveston.com).

## AT&T Performing Arts Centre in Dallas Opens



The new AT&T Performing Arts Center in Dallas opens October 12th

and will serve as a multi-venue arts and entertainment center for music, opera, theatre, dance and more centre with cutting edge communications technology. The Center will be one of the most technologically advanced performing arts venues in the country, equipped with AT&T Wi-Fi service and complimentary internet access to patrons. The Center will mark its grand opening with a weeklong celebration featuring a variety of indoor and outdoor performances, concerts and architecture forums that are free and open to the public. The Center is expected to offer a variety of free performances and concerts appealing to a broad audience throughout its seasons. [www.attpac.org](http://www.attpac.org).

## Stand Taller in the Tall City of Midland, Texas



Your clients are invited to escape for a week or even a weekend in one of Midland's luxurious hotels and partake in the many unique

[www.texastraveltrade.ca](http://www.texastraveltrade.ca)

attractions, and savor the experience at a delicious restaurant. Packages include A Family Weekend, Mother & Daughter Get-Away, Father & Son Get-Away, Romantic Get-Away, Friday Night Lights, 50's Date Night, and a Golf Get-Away, among others. All packages include a special gift delivered to the hotel room. Packages are valid for travel through February 28, 2010 and based on availability. A full list of the travel packages and booking information can be found at [www.VisitMidlandTexas.com](http://www.VisitMidlandTexas.com).

## Treasure Hunt Through one of Fredericksburg's Antique Shops

Do your clients enjoy sifting through antique shops in search of that certain something? Now they'll have a handy guide to all of the antique shops just waiting for them to explore - with the new Antique Guide for Fredericksburg. Printed with a map showing where each of the eight stores are located, the guide includes the name, address, hours of operation (and in some cases, e-mail contact information), along with a brief description of the types of merchandise one is apt to find. For a copy of the guide please visit: [www.fredericksburg-texas.com](http://www.fredericksburg-texas.com) or call 1-888-997-3600.



## It's Not Just a Grape in Texas

Texas is one of the fastest-growing wine destinations in the USA with nearly 1 million visitors each year discovering the Texas wine industry. There is a new Texas wine trail website called Go Texan Wine that provides a list of the state's eight individual wine trails. Visitors will be able to obtain trail descriptions, maps, upcoming events and related links to the Cross Timbers Wine Trail, Dallas Wine Trail, Fredericksburg Wine Road 290, Grapevine Wine Trail, Munson Wine Trail, Texas Bluebonnet Wine Trail, Texas Hill Country Wine Trail and Way Out Wineries Road Trips.

Texas is the fifth-largest wine producing state in the nation. The Texas wine industry contributes nearly \$1.35 billion to the state's economy. [www.gotexanwine.org](http://www.gotexanwine.org)

## Did you know?

- Texas has over 900 golf courses – now that is every golfer's dream!
- South Padre Island combines the beauty of quiet pristine white beaches

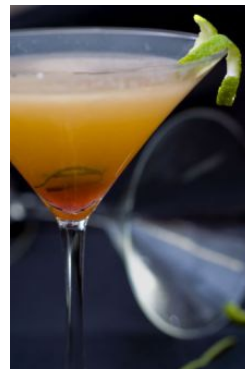


that one can walk for miles and the activity of shopping, dining, nightspots,

sightseeing and recreational activities and is a paradise with fly-fishing, surf-fishing, dolphin sighting and of course swimming in turquoise blue waters warmed by the Gulf of Mexico.

- Texas is a state with 700,000 square kilometers of land that encompasses sea, sand, valley and hills
- Texas is one of the biggest birding destinations in North America

## The Enlightened Austin Martini



won this year's Austin Cocktail Throwdown, an annual contest hosted by the Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau and presented by Tito's Handmade

Vodka, to decide the city's Official Drink. The recipe is as follows:

"The Enlightened Austin Martini"

- Tito's Vodka • St. Germain Elderflower Liqueur • Freshly juiced organic Texas watermelons • Organic agave nectar • A hint of lime
- Shake hard-pour "up" into a martini glass topped with an Elderflower Essence Cloud. Garnish with watermelon skewered "olives."

La Condesa, located in Austin's burgeoning 2nd Street District, offers upscale Interior Mexican cuisine in a beautiful and relaxing atmosphere. Themed after a Mexico City neighborhood, La Condesa is known for its south-of-the-border classics, made with local, organic ingredients, and its extreme drink menu, with some 80 different tequilas to choose from. For more information, visit [www.lacondesaaustin.com](http://www.lacondesaaustin.com).

## Let's Talk 'Texas'

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