



# SAN MARCOS CITY GUIDE



## ▶ History & Overview

San Marcos is located on the IH-35 corridor, just 30 miles south of Austin and 40 miles north of San Antonio. The city was the site of several Spanish attempts at colonization before being established as an agricultural and ranching center. The city was chartered in 1877 and since that time has continued to experience economic prosperity.



## ▶ Education

San Marcos Consolidated ISD serves students in Hays County, Caldwell and Guadalupe counties. The district offers career and technical education that includes 13 career pathways and 20 programs of study. Higher education opportunities exist at Texas State and Austin Community College.



## ▶ Major Business Industries

San Marcos is ranked among the fastest growing cities in the U.S. Additionally, the Greater San Marcos Region is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. The major business sectors include accommodation and food, retail trade and education.



## ▶ Arts & Culture

The city is full of history and cultural experiences. Residents can enjoy art and culture everywhere they go in San Marcos, including places like Hispano de San Marcos, San Marcos Art Center, Commemorative Air Force Exhibit, Calaboose African American History Museum, Hays County Veterans Memorial and LBJ MLK Crossroads Memorial.



## ▶ Dining

San Marcos does not disappoint with its diverse menu selections and outdoor patio dining options. Some of the local favorites include Black's Barbecue San Marcos, Blue Dahlia Bistro, Café on the Square, Gumby's and Patio Dolcetto.



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### ▶ **Wineries, Breweries, & Pubs**

With Wimberley and New Braunfels nearby, residents can take a short trip and enjoy top-rated wineries. The city is home to several breweries such as Sean Patrick's Irish Pub & Grub, Middleton Brewing and Roughhouse Brewing.



### ▶ **Parks & Outdoors**

San Marcos has several amazing parks and outdoor activities waiting to be explored. Must see outdoor attractions include Purgatory Creek Natural Area, Spring Lake Natural Area, Wonder World Park, A.E. Wood Fish Hatchery, Blanco Shoals, Rio Vista Park and Texas Ski Ranch. Residents can rent tubes to float the scenic San Marcos River, visit The Meadows Center for Water and Environment, ride the Glass-Bottom Boat, kayak Rio Vista Falls and shop at the San Marcos Premium Outlets.



### ▶ **Festivals**

The city of San Marcos is full of energy and hosts several festivals and events throughout the year. Favorite celebrations include the MLK Celebration and March, Celtic Fest, Mardi Gras Parade, Martian Arts Festival, Mutt Strutt, Texas Water Safari, SummerFest, Sacred Spring Powwow and Sights and Sounds of Christmas.



### ▶ **Neighborhoods**

The college town vibe, beautiful landscape, riverside living and proximity to Austin and San Antonio make San Marcos an attractive place to live. Notable neighborhoods include Purgatory Creek, Hunters Hill, Heritage, Westover, Rio Vista, Blanco Gardens, Willow Creek and Tanglewood.



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