# Fun-tastic SPRING BREAK DESTINATIONS

Katyites can pack up the family vehicle and embark on a spring break adventure without ever leaving Texas

Written by Kennan Buckner

Make special memories with your kiddos as you make new friends, both human and animal, at these spring break hot spots. From cooling off by a lake to sipping drinks poolside, vacationers are sure to have fun they'll never forget at these Texas destinations.

## AUSTIN







#### **AUSTIN AQUARIUM**

#### austinaquarium.com

Visit the Austin Aquarium for a close-up with sharks, stingrays, corals, and a giant Pacific octopus. You might even see a mermaid on weekends. Buy tickets online and save \$3.

#### **BARTON SPRINGS POOL**

#### austintexas.gov

Inside Zilker Park, you'll find your own oasis at Barton Springs Pool, fed from underground springs with an average temperature of 70 degrees.

#### **LAKE TRAVIS**

#### ziplaketravis.com

Bring your fishing reels for shoreline fishing and a picnic basket for lunch beside beautiful Lake Travis. Thrill-seekers can visit Austin Outdoor Zipline Adventure to zip through the trees and over the water. Lodging is also offered.

# CORPUS CHRISTI





#### **HURRICANE ALLEY WATERPARK**

#### hurricanealleycc.com

After a day at the sandy beach, head over to the Hurricane Alley Waterpark which offers everything from a lazy river and water slides to a kid's cove with mini slides and a swimup bar offering kid-friendly beverages.

#### **USS LEXINGTON**

#### usslexington.com

Resting in Corpus Christi Bay is the USS Lexington, which served as a carrier during World War II. Take a self-guided tour of the ship or visit the museum, virtual battle stations, or the 3D mega theater.

#### **TEXAS STATE AQUARIUM**

#### texasstateaquarium.org

Touch and feed stingrays at the Texas State Aquarium or make friends with sea turtles at Tortuga Cay. Families will also enjoy the underwater view of a 125,000-gallon exhibit featuring an entire ecosystem. Save \$3 on weekday tickets online.

### **DALLAS**

#### **DALLAS ZOO**

#### dallaszoo.com

Trot the globe without ever leaving Texas at the Dallas Zoo. From elephants to penguins, visitors can embark on a fun day of discovery. The children's area features friendly goats, pigs, and other farm animals.

#### **GREAT WOLF LODGE**

#### greatwolf.com

Go from swimming and splashing back to your wolf denthemed room or premium suite without ever having to get in your car. The Great Wolf Lodge offers endless indoor water fun, character appearances, dining, shopping, spas, and more - all under one giant roof.

#### LEGOLAND DISCOVERY CENTER

#### dallasfw.legolanddiscoverycenter.com

A LEGO lover's dream, this one-of-a-kind experience offers a LEGO factory tour, 4D cinema, and adventures like the Merlin's apprentice and kingdom quest rides. Visitors can also build and test their own LEGO car or explore the Star Wars miniland model display.





### GALVESTON







#### **BOLIVAR PENINSULA**

#### bolivarpeninsulatexas.com

Ride the Galveston-Port Bolivar ferry from the mainland to Bolivar peninsula. The free trip, which sails 2.7 miles, lasts about 18 minutes. Then visit the peninsula's lighthouse built in 1852. It's survived the 1900 and 1915 storms and Hurricane Ike.

#### **MOODY GARDENS**

#### moodygardens.com

Have an educational adventure while exploring Moody Gardens. The Aquarium Pyramid, Rainforest Pyramid, Discovery Museum, and 3D and 4D theaters immerse visitors in a tropical paradise. Adventurers can also try the five-tier ropes course or zip line over Palm Beach.

#### **SCHLITTERBAHN**

#### schlitterbahn.com

Schlitterbahn Galveston Island Waterpark opens March 4 and features indoor family fun on the Boogie Bahn surf ride or amid the 70,000 square feet of slides, pools, kids' area, and secluded beaches. Open daily March 11 to 19 for spring break.

# SAN ANTONIO

#### THE ALAMO

#### thealamo.org

Visit the Lone Star State's historical landmark where the first stone for the Spanish mission was laid in 1744. It's open year-round and entrance is free. Last July, archaeologists discovered an adobe wall about 23 inches below the flagstone surface.

#### RIVERWALK

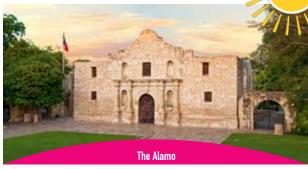
#### thesanantonioriverwalk.com

Shopping, dining, art, and river taxi rides await along the San Antonio Riverwalk. Visitors can walk the Riverwalk all the way from the hip Pearl District to the Shops at Rivercenter, Tower of Americas, and the Mission Reach.

#### **SEAWORLD**

#### seaworldparks.com

Meet Jack Hanna during the family favorite "Wild Days" taking place March 4 to 26 when SeaWorld brings you brand new shows, rides, and attractions. Or get up close with Atlantic bottlenose dolphins, beluga whales, and sea lions during an interactive swim at Discovery Point. KM









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