

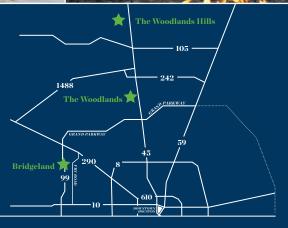






Surrounded by rich natural beauty, these celebrated communities provide residents with top-rated schools, acres of parks and lakes, miles of hike and bike trails, shopping, dining, entertainment and more, all conveniently located within the Greater Houston area.

Howard Hughes.



Homes within The Woodlands, Bridgeland and The Woodlands Hills are constructed and sold by builders not affiliated with The Howard Hughes Corporation ("HHC") or any of its affiliates, companies or partnerships. Neither HHC nor any of its affiliated companies or partnerships guarantees or warrants the obligations of, or construction by, such builders. No representation is made as to the availability or pricing of homes. Prices and specifications subject to change. The developer is pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of Equal Housing Opportunity in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin. Realtors welcome.

The Residences at

KIRB)

COLLECTION

A GLANCE AT OUR **FEATURES & AMENITIES**

- Sunbathing Pool with Poolside Cabanas
- Professional Valet & Concierge Services
- 24 HR Fitness Club with a Virtual Workout Room
- Pet Friendly with Bark Park Dog Run
- Street Level Shops, Boutiques, and Restaurants
- European Kitchen with Quartz Countertops and Wine Cooler
- Stainless Steel Appliance Package with Gas Range
- Floor to Ceiling Windows with Downtown/Galleria Views
- Spacious Private Balconies
- · Expansive Closets with Built-In Shelving





RECEIVE 2 MONTHS FREE* CALL FOR DETAILS



3333 Lake Street Houston, TX 77098



713-529-3200



TheResidencesAtKirbyCollection.com

RESIDENTIAL LEASING



HERE IS USTON

CONTENTS



22

8 Welcome Letters

17 All About Houston

Facts, figures, and information to help you navigate your new city

- 20 Metro Solutions
- 22 Airport & Highway Travel
- 24 Population Growth
- **26** Consulates

28 Neighborhoods & Communities

Find the Houston community that fits your lifestyle

- 29 Districts of Downtown Houston
- 38 Beyond Downtown
- 46 Harris County & Beyond
- 50 Drive Time Chart
- 58 Master-Planned Communities

60 Live. Work. Play

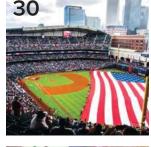
Food, drink, shopping, sports, museums, events, and more

61 Eat

GREETINGS!

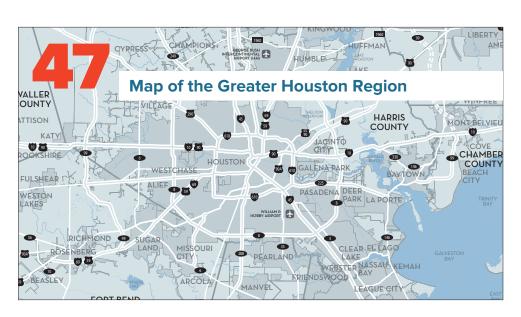
- 8 Texas Governor Greg Abbott
- 9 Greater Houston Partnership President and CEO Bob Harvey
- 10 Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner
- **11** Harris County Judge Ed Emmett
- 12 Houston Association of Realtors® Chair Cindy Hamann
- 14 Greater Houston Builders
 Association President
 Bo Butler
- **16** HR Houston President John Greer

ON THE COVER: HOUSTON SKYLINE. PHOTO BY BEE CREEK PHOTOGRAPHY











MOVING YOU.... TO THE FINEST NEIGHBORHOODS IN HOUSTON.

Also Serving:

Bay Area, Clear Lake, Conroe,
Cypress, Cy Fair, Fort Bend,
Friendswood, Galveston,
Katy, Kingwood, League City,
Magnolia, Pearland, Spring,
Sugar Land, Tomball,
The Woodlands



FINDING A HOME DOES NOT HAVE TO BE JUST A DREAM. WE'LL FIND THAT PERFECT HOME FOR YOU!

John Daugherty, Realtors' award-winning Relocation Team is well-known for their high level of service and commitment to helping you find the best home and neighborhood in the greater Houston area.

The client comes first, always. Excellent customer service is the core of what we do.

Let us show you how simple your move can be through our skilled and knowledgeable relocation sales associates.











If you're planning a move, contact Houston's Award-Winning Relocation Leader

JOHN DAUGHERTY, REALTORS

GLOBAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND RELOCATION 713.561.6829 johndaugherty.com







HEREISUSTON

CONTENTS

- 62 Shop
- 63 Get Fit
- 66 Sports
- **67** Performing Arts
- 68 Museums & Attractions
- 74 Major Events
- 78 Golf

84 **Education**

Your one-stop-shop for all things education in Houston

- 91 Colleges & Universities
- 97 Community Colleges
- 100 Medical Schools
- 102 Law Schools
- 103 Houston Independent School District
- 107 Private Schools & Preschools

118 At Home in Houston

Buying, renting, utilities, and more

- 119 Renting
- 121 Steps to Home Ownership







Area: 268,581 square miles

Capital: Austin

Nickname: Lone Star State

State Motto:





State Flower: Bluebonnet

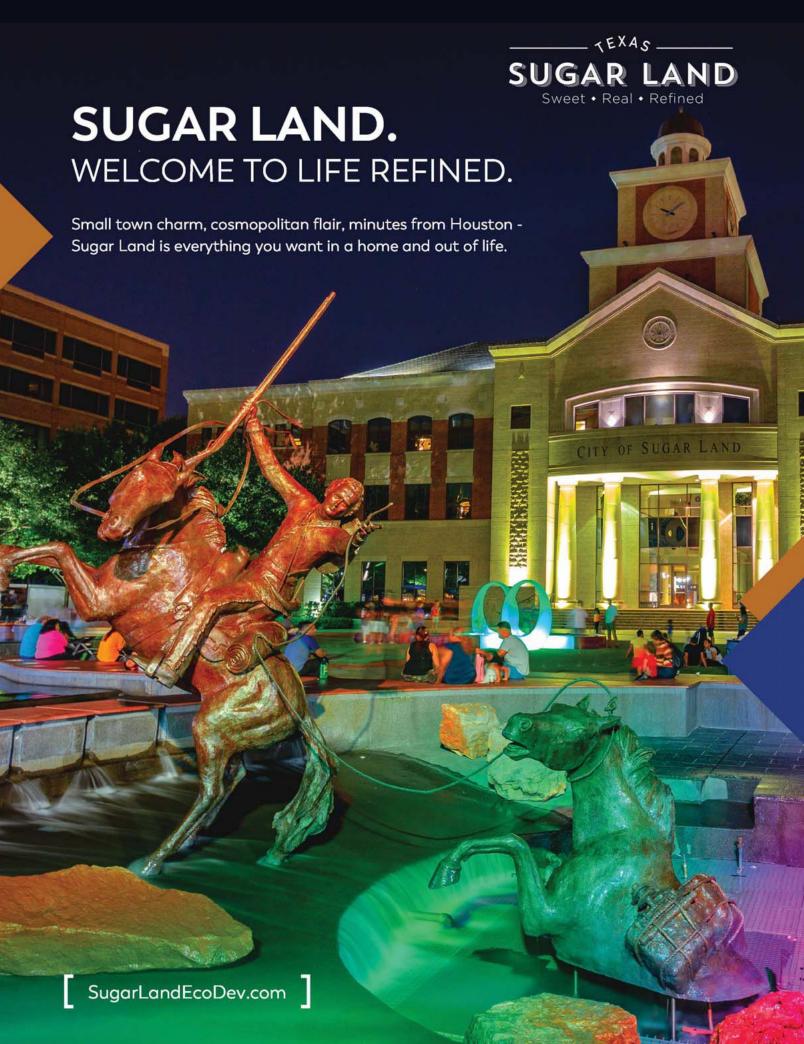
State Tree: Pecan

State Dish: Chili

Time Zone: Central

(Except the El Paso area of far West Texas, which is in the Mountain Time Zone)





Here IS USTON

CONTENTS

124 Services & Utilities

125 Helpful Websites

126 Department of Motor Vehicles

127 Financing Your Home

130 Health Care

Enjoy world-class health care close to home

131 Texas Medical Center

134 MD Anderson Cancer Center

143 Urgent Care Facilities

149 Job Opportunities

Resources and employment data to help you find your dream gig

150 Employment Data & Services

153 Economic Development Groups & Chambers of Commerce



PRODUCED BY

GREATER HOUSTON PARTNERSHIP CHAIR—Marc Watts; GREATER HOUSTON PARTNERSHIP VICE CHAIR—Scott McClelland; PRESIDENT AND CEO—BOB Harvey; SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, MEMBER ENGAGEMENT—Peter Beard; SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT—Peter Beard; SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS—Clint Pasche; SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND CFO, FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING—Gerrie Richards; SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, RESCARCH—Patrick Jankowski; SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, RESOURCES—Bonita Lockings; VICE PRESIDENT, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS—Cari Broderson; VICE PRESIDENT, DEVELOPMENT—Jason Ford; VICE PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AND TRADE—

Horacio Licon

For more information on GHP publications, contact **Ashley White**, Manager, Communications, 713-844-3640, or email: awhite@houston.org.

Copyright $\ensuremath{@}$ 2018 Greater Houston Partnership. All rights reserved.

Here is Houston is a registered trademark of the Greater Houston Partnership. To order additional copies, add your name to our mailing list, or submit a change of address, please call GREATER HOUSTON PARTNERSHIP, at 713-844-3600.

For more information on *Texas Monthly*, please visit texasmonthly.com or contact:

Julie Lee, VP, Sales at 512-320-6974, jlee@texasmonthly.com

ADVERTISING

Cindy Kerley, Account Director

713-553-3840

Ginny Ellsworth, Account Director

281-799-2524

Karen Burke, Sales Resource Manager

713-871-1643

DIRECTOR OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT, TM STUDIO

Page Parker

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR

Aaron Chamberlain

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

Vanessa Ramirez

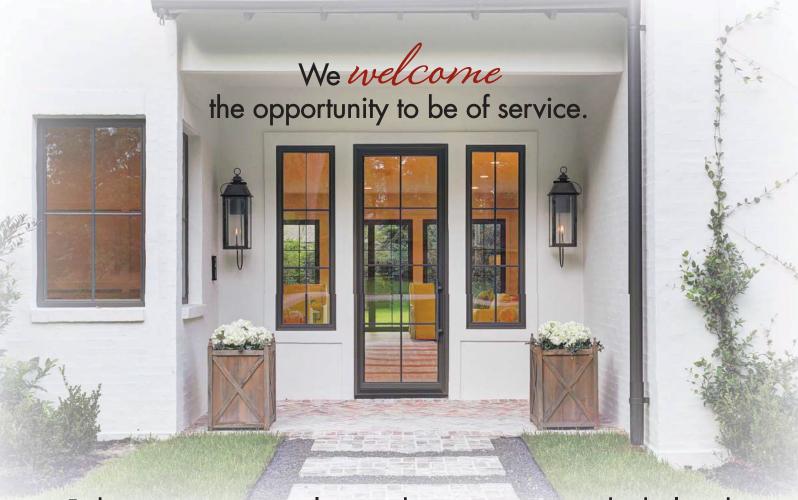
DESIGN

Simon Renwick

Texas Monthly



Making Houston Greater.



Each year, our corporate relocation department assists individuals and families make a smooth and successful move to or from Houston.

You are making your move. We are ready when you are!

Residential Sales
Residential Leasing
Apartment Locating

Property Management
Area Orientation Tours
Customized Relocation Packets

Broker Market Analysis
Temporary Lodging
New Construction



Mary Piper
Director of Relocation
mpiper@bernsteinrealty.com
Office: 713.932.1032 x191

Fax: 713.932.9238



713.932.1032 | www.BernsteinRealty.com











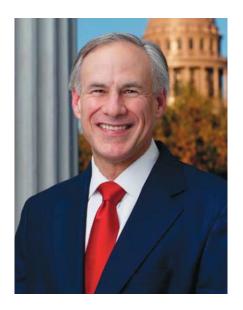
"GREETINGS

TO HERE IS HOUSTON READERS."



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT





AS GOVERNOR OF TEXAS, I am pleased to extend greetings to readers of *Here is Houston*. Whether you are relocating your business, planning a corporate gathering, or simply rediscovering the Bayou City, I invite you to explore all the possibilities this great Texas city has to offer.

With our business-friendly climate and spirit of innovation, Texas boasts the strongest economy in the United States and the 12th largest economy in the world. We are a state with low taxes and reasonable regulations and a nationwide leader in economic growth and job creation.

Houston is an essential component of our thriving economy. Home to a world-class workforce, cutting-edge medical research, premier art museums, thrilling professional sports, outstanding universities, and friendly and diverse neighbors, this dynamic city is one of the Lone Star State's finest. The Port of Houston and accessibility of the area's airport and highway systems also make the Houston area an undeniable leader in international trade opportunities.

As you may know, the road I traveled to become Texas' governor took me through Houston—my very first election was as a judge in the 129th District Court.

Whether you are moving here to grow your business, pursue career opportunities, attend school, or enjoy your retirement, I know Houston's legendary charm will provide a wonderful experience.

First Lady Cecilia Abbott joins me in sending best wishes and welcoming you to explore the great City of Houston.

Deg annay

GOVERNOR

"WELCOME TO A CITY OF ENDLESS OPPORTUNITY."

BOB HARVEY

President and CEO Greater Houston Partnership





FROM THE MOMENT HOUSTON was founded, the limits of what's possible here were forever defined. The first domed stadium, the first word heard from the moon, the first artificial heart transplant—all were achieved from that spirit of endless possibilities.

Houston offers limitless choices for neighborhoods, entertainment, dining, culture, sports, education, business, and more. The selection is as diverse as the culture itself. Houston is the most ethnically diverse major metro in the nation, with more than 100 languages spoken here. And Houston welcomes newcomers like no other large city.

Whether you're seeking urban charm or a family-friendly community, you'll no doubt find it in Houston. With a booming economy and highly affordable amenities, there's no end to the choices Houston offers for finding your perfect home in your ideal neighborhood.

Whether you're an entrepreneur, architect, C-level executive, or engineer, you'll find limitless opportunities here. Houston is not just the Energy Capital of the World, it is home to 20 Fortune 500 companies. Houston has created more than 1.25 million jobs over the last 30 years, and adults with a bachelor's degree earn 10 percent more in Houston, on average, than their colleagues elsewhere in the United States.

As you can see, there's no limit to what Houston has to offer for those who want the American dream and are willing to work hard for it.

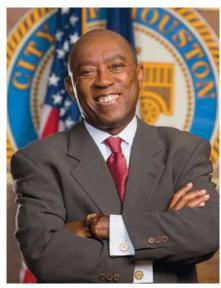
Welcome to Houston!

"I INVITE YOU TO EXPLORE **ALL THAT THIS GREAT CITY** HAS TO OFFER."



MAYOR SYLVESTER TURNER





GREETINGS. You are going to love living in Houston. We are the most diverse city in the nation—a city with an entrepreneurial spirit and a city where you can achieve your dreams.

Houston is still the Energy Capital of the World, but our economy has diversified over the years to include technology, medicine, and manufacturing and shipping.

Whether it's our world-class restaurants, theaters, museums, shopping, thrilling sports teams, or the new Independence Plaza at the Johnson Space Center which houses the world's first and only replica of the space shuttle/carrier, Houston has it all. Together, these qualities create the ideal city in which to live, work, and play.

Here is Houston can be an invaluable source of information as you prepare for your relocation. It showcases every aspect of living and working in the city of Houston.

We look forward to having you as a Houstonian!

Sincerely,

Dyluta Jum

"HELLO AND WELCOME HOME TO HARRIS COUNTY!"



ED EMMETT

County Judge, Harris County





YOU HAVE JOINED MORE than four million others in making Harris County your home, making us the third-most populous county in the nation, with more residents than 24 states. But we're not all skyscrapers, traffic, and shopping malls.

We have hundreds of square miles of gorgeous parks, the most modern libraries, fascinating museums, and exquisite restaurants that are the envy of the country. We also have the excitement of live theater, music, and some of the best sports teams-professional and college-you will see anywhere.

But it is our people who make Harris County the wonder that it is. Your new neighbors are friendly and genuine. You will soon find that we are quick to lend a helping hand and we are generous with the least fortunate among us. You will discover an inspiring can-do attitude here and a commitment to maintaining our quality of life. As Texans, we are, of course, proud of our home and our neighbors.

Harris County is a special place. All of us in county government are glad you are here.

Sincerely,



"WELCOME TO HOUSTON!"



KENYA BURRELL-VANWORMER

2018 Chair, Houston Association of REALTORS®





YOU'VE JUST ARRIVED AT ONE OF THE MOST VIBRANT

and culturally diverse cities in America, with a low cost of living, world-renowned Texas Medical Center, incredible cuisine, countless arts, entertainment, sports, and recreation destinations, and home to the World Champion Houston Astros.

As you familiarize yourself with the Houston area, you'll probably notice license plates from many different states, as the addition of thousands of new jobs over the past few years has drawn people here from all across the U.S.

The Houston real estate market has been one of the healthiest in the country, offering a wide selection of communities and properties to suit every lifestyle, whether you plan to buy or rent. The 37,000 members of the Houston Association of REALTORS® (HAR) help make the American Dream come true for individuals and families every day. HAR is the nation's second largest local REALTOR® organization and our members appreciate that a home is one of the greatest investments you will ever make.

More than a million consumers begin searching for their dream home every month on HAR's award-winning website, HAR.com, which actually showcases property listings for the entire state of Texas. Our site offers dozens of user-friendly tools to explore specific properties and their amenities as well as to find detailed information about neighborhoods, schools, businesses, and more.

Those same features are available through the free HAR.com app, making your property search convenient while on the go. HAR and the City of Houston also developed the free Houston Living app, which provides instant access to information about Houston's elected officials, city services and amenities, local events, neighborhood associations, and more.

On behalf of HAR, it's my great pleasure to welcome you to Houston. We hope you take advantage of everything our incredible community offers.

Keny Benell-Valloine

Texas is a Big State.

Fortunately HAR.com has it covered.



Visit HAR.com or download the HAR.com App today!

"OUR MISSION IS TO BE THE VOICE OF HOUSTON'S RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY, SERVING OUR MEMBERS AND THE COMMUNITY THROUGH EDUCATION AND ADVOCATING PROFESSIONALISM AND OUALITY HOUSING."



2018 President, Greater Houston Builders Association





THE GREATER HOUSTON BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

is a 76-year-old trade association that proudly represents all aspects of the residential building industry in the greater Houston area. The GHBA is the number 1 Homebuilders Association in Texas and the fourth largest builders association in the country. The GHBA has over 1,600 member companies representing more than 84,000 full-time jobs. The GHBA serves 11 counties, Harris, Montgomery, Fort Bend, Brazoria, Waller, Liberty, Wharton, Galveston, Matagorda, Austin and Colorado Counties.

Our mission is to be the voice of Houston's residential construction industry, serving our members and the community by education and advocating professionalism and quality housing. The association interacts with the government, community and general public to enhance the business climate for its members, and to provide quality obtainable housing to the community it serves.

In 2016, the 25,000 homes built in the Houston metro area, generated over \$7.4 billion into the local economy and created 83,577 jobs—plus Houston's residential housing market continues

to be one of the most affordable and stable in the nation. Buying a new home in the Houston area is one of the smartest investments you will ever make for yourself, your family and the local economy.

Sincerely,



Everyday Well provides expanded access to care and a host of innovative tools and services, making it easier than ever to get well and stay well.



CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

With so many locations, you'll find the right care nearby:

- Primary Care & Urgent Care for general treatment
- 24-Hour emergency rooms
- RediClinics bring quality care to the grocery store



PATIENT ONLINE SERVICES

Time-saving tools that put managing your health in your hands:

- Access our services on the Everyday Well App & Patient Portal
- Reduce your wait with Online Scheduling & Check-in



INSTANT CARE

Access care from the comfort of home:

- · Schedule Virtual Care on your time
- Call the Nurse Health Line for guidance
- Coming Soon: E-Visits with physicians



HEALTH AND WELLNESS CONTENT

Helpful information at your fingertips:

- · Stay in the know with our online resources
- Find tips and advice on the Everyday Well Blog



Learn more at EverydayWell.com or download the app today.



"WELCOME HOUSTON!"



SCOTT MARS

2018-19 President, HR Houston





WHETHER YOU ARE COMING to Houston because you accepted a job or because you're looking for work, you are likely to come in contact with one or more of our 2,200 members who work in Human Resource departments across the area.

Perhaps it was the recruiter who reviewed your resume and scheduled the interviews, or the benefits administrator who introduced your company's insurance plans, or the person who managed your onboarding with the company. HR Houston is the association that provides services to those professionals working in Human Resource Management. We offer educational meetings, workshops, conferences, and community volunteer opportunities that connect HR professionals to knowledge, relationships, and solutions.

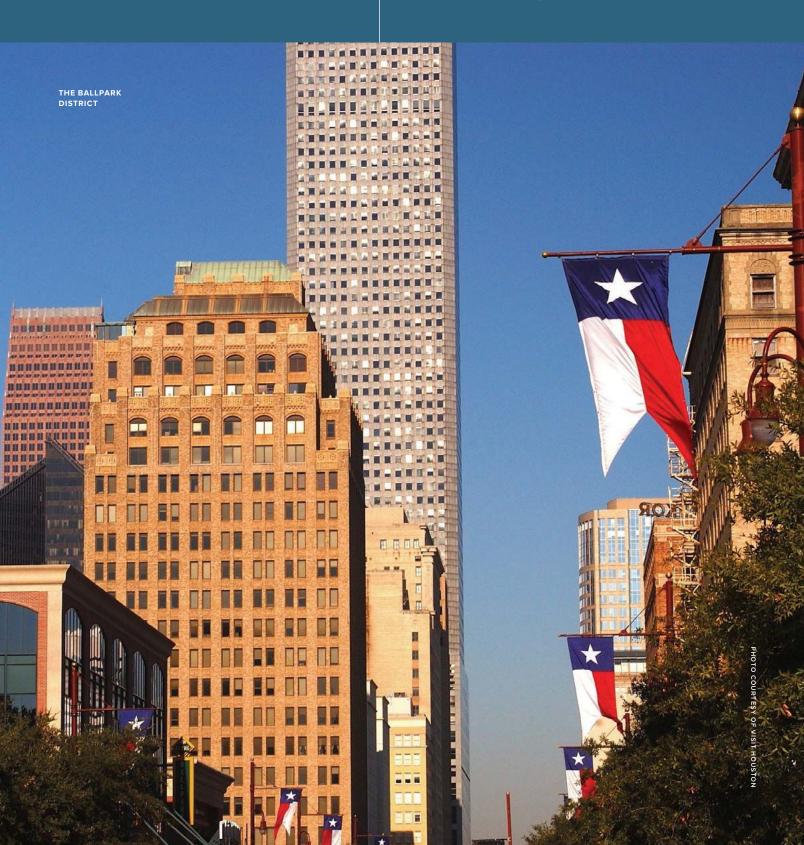
Congratulations on your decision to come to Houston! Our city continues to develop and prosper because of the diverse skills and talent of individuals and families like yours. We welcome you to the area. Work! Play! And Enjoy!

Best wishes,



ALL ABOUT HOUSTON

Everyone's heard the stereotype: it's all cowboys, cactus, and cattle. While those Texas roots are strong, Houston will surprise you with everything it has to offer. The nine-county Houston metro region is the largest not only in Texas, but in the whole southern United States. Here the grass is green, landscaping is lush, and the tree canopy is thick and widespread. Houston offers the perfect mix of Southern hospitality and urban sophistication. The fifth largest metro area in the nation, Houston earns its nickname, Bayou City, with a number of outlets, many of them flowing into Buffalo Bayou, the site of the city's birthplace now in the downtown area.



ounded in 1836, Houston is 182 years old, making it far younger than its counterparts like New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles, yet it is one of the fastest growing cities in the United States. Houston's population now ranks fourth in the nation, with more than 2.3 million people living within the city limits and more than 6.9 million living within the metro area. Why the accelerated growth in a relatively short period of time? Why do so many people want to become Houstonians?

Part of the answer lies in Houston's can-do entrepreneurial spirit. From the city's very start as an oil capital, Houston has valued and cultivated risk takers and big dreamers. It's no wonder this city has produced such extraordinary and influential tours de force as the Port of Houston (the nation's secondlargest in total tonnage), the Texas Medical Center (the world's largest medical complex and one of the most renowned) and the Johnson Space Center (home of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration).

Although Houston is famous for its oil and natural gas, you might be surprised that of the more than 135,000 business establishments that reside here, only about 4,800 are tied to the energy industry. In fact, energy, despite its extensive influence, accounts for less than half of the diverse employment found in Houston, Other notable industries are business services, medical

and biotechnology, aviation and aerospace, information technology, and manufacturing. There is room for all kinds of talent here! Today, 26 of the Fortune 500 companies have their headquarters in Houston, and more than half of the world's 100 largest foreign-based corporations operate here.

Another factor in Houston's success is its affordable cost of living, aided by the absence of city or state income tax. According to the Council for Community and Economic Research's Cost of Living Index for 2017, Houston has the fifth lowest cost of living among the nation's 20 most populous metropolitan areas-far less than the national average. Likewise, in 2017 Houston ranked as the second fastest-growing metro in America based on population growth. It's easy to see why so many can afford to call Houston home.

Because Houston opens its arms to all newcomers-after all, "Texas" originates from the Caddo Indian word for "friend"—the city is home to an amazingly diverse population from many countries and to more than 90 different spoken languages. A true cultural mosaic, Houston boasts restaurants, shops, neighborhoods, and festivals that reflect its many international influences.

Dynamic, prosperous, and always on the move, Houston prides itself on being on the cutting edge of new technologies and innovations in architecture, infrastructure, and design. It's home to the world's first air-conditioned domed stadium, to the

> NFL's first football stadium with a retractable roof, and now the 12-acre Discovery Green, the multi-use, ecofriendly downtown park and event venue situated in the middle of the city's soaring skyscrapers. In fact, Houston has been named one of the country's top 10 cities for green technology innovation. With more than 366 municipal parks and an additional 200 green spaces, the city ranks third in the nation in green space. Luckily, getting around this beautiful city has never been more efficient, with a sophisticated highway system, a powerful airport trifecta covering public, private, and military air travel needs, and an ongoing effort to make transportation upgrades including light rail, bus rapid transit, commuter rail, and improved suburban bus services.

> Whether you're coming to visit or making Houston your permanent home, we think you'll be delighted by what you find here in this bustling global hub. Read on and learn more about Houston's history, neighborhoods, housing options, cultural scene, schools, health services, shopping, and so much more.



EMERALD CITY

Newcomers to Houston are pleasantly surprised to discover the abundance of trees in the region. In addition to the extensive green space and parkland, a 2017 report from the USDA noted that the city has 33 million trees, with a replacement value of more than \$16.3 billion.

According to the USDA report, Houston trees store \$272 million worth of carbon and save \$54 million in residential energy costs and avoided power emissions each year. Houston's tree canopy covers roughly 18.4 percent of the city.

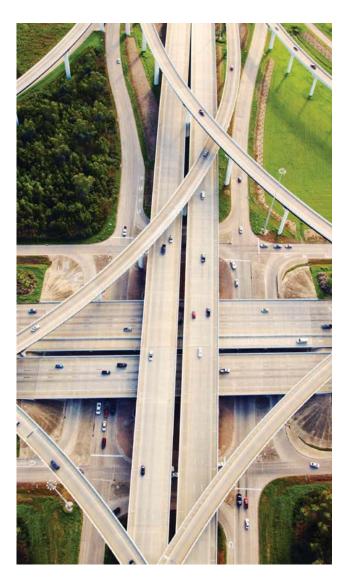
The region contains eight major and distinctly different ecosystems: the Big Thicket, the Sam Houston National Forest, coastal prairie and coastal marshes, the Columbia and Trinity bottomlands, the Galveston Bay estuary system, and the Gulf of Mexico. Over the course of the year, some 500 bird species can be seen in a 10-county area that includes Galveston. Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico are important economic, ecological, and recreational resources, and outdoor recreation is accessible year-round.

Thanks to the region's rich ecology, many of the colleges, universities, and graduate schools in the area offer environmental studies and research programs. Among these are the University of Houston's Environmental Institute of Houston, the Environmental Law and Justice Center at Texas Southern University's law school, and the Sealy Center for Environmental Health and Medicine at the nearby University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.

Harris County has numerous natural streams and humanmade channels that are referred to locally as bayous. A local initiative, the Buffalo Bayou Partnership—a nonprofit organization that oversees Buffalo Bayou improvements, preservation, and restoration—serves as a regional and national role model.

The Buffalo Bayou Partnership coordinates the integration of major amenities and restoration projects into the bayou greenbelt and seeks ways to increase community involvement through pedestrian, boating and biking amenities; educational, volunteer, and recreational activities and tours; permanent and temporary art installations; and other natural and manmade attractions. Among the partnership's notable successes is Buffalo Bayou Park, a 160-acre linear park just west of Downtown with dramatic lighting, hike-and-bike trails, lush landscaping, and public art, the park has been lauded as one of Houston's best-designed public spaces.

The Greater Houston Partnership is actively involved with public policy issues that enhance the nine-county region's quality of life. It is dedicated to creating a city that is clean, green, and prosperous, a place that is aesthetically appealing, and offers healthy recreational opportunities. To learn more about the Partnership's outreach efforts, visit Houston.org.



9,444
Square mileage of the
Houston metro area

6,982,427
Number of Houston
metro area residents

GETTING AROUND HOUSTON'S METRO SOLUTIONS

The Houston region's light rail service, METRORail, delivers safe, reliable, affordable, and convenient public transit. The Red Line—the line that most visitors find useful—runs between Downtown, Midtown, the Museum District, the Medical Center, and NRG Park. The Purple Line and Green Line primarily serve residential neighborhoods and the University of Houston.



METRORAIL

There's more to building a successful light-rail system than laying track and putting up stations. That's why METRORail made an early commitment to not only serve and connect Houston communities, but also to maintain their culture and integrity. METRORail has added more than 17 miles of new sidewalks and 45 miles of 12-foot traffic lanes. The expanded light-rail system is an essential element of the city's plans to meet the transportation and environmental challenges of today and tomorrow, easing our growing traffic congestion, improving our air quality and changing the way Houston moves.

METRORAIL SYSTEM PLAN

Houston is on the move, in a big way. The North Line was expanded in December 2013, and the East End and Southeast lines opened in Fall 2015. The three new lines triple light-rail's footprint in Houston, adding more than 15 miles to the former Main Street Line that went into service in 2004.

For more information and to purchase a METRO ${\bf Q}$ Fare Card, visit ridemetro.org.

FACTS & FIGURES

Line	Length (in miles)	Number of Stations
North	12.8	8
Southeast	6.6	10
East End	3.3	9

METRORAIL SYSTEM PLAN

Three light rail lines totaling 23 miles are serviced by 70 railcars. The North Line carries 58,000 passengers daily, making it one of the nation's most traveled lines.



METRO BUS SYSTEM

METRO has 1,230 buses. With an extensive network of bus routes and convenient park-and-ride facilities helping to ease rush-hour commutes, the METRO Bus System keeps the Houston region moving. METRO is paving the way for a cleaner Houston with 443 transit diesel-hybrid buses in operation. Since 2003, METRO has been actively working to improve the air we breathe with state-of-the-art technology that reduces nitrogen oxide emissions by more than 50 percent and offers substantial savings in fuel. Hybrid technology is METRO's current choice for vehicles, and each year, as part of its fleet replacement plan, METRO purchases 100 buses.

METRO SERVICES

METROLIF1

METROLift provides prescheduled, curb-to-curb, shared-ride transportation for persons with disabilities who cannot ride fixed-route bus service. Call METROLift customer service at 713-225-0119 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays to obtain eligibility materials or download from ridemetro.org.

HOV LANES

A High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane is a barrier-protected lane—usually in the median of a freeway—that is open to buses, vanpools/carpools, and motorcycles. The lanes, which are accessed via freeway or facility ramps, are reversible to accommodate commuters during peak periods of traffic flow. Users must observe the occupancy requirements, rules of the road, and hours of operation.

HOV lanes operate on the Southwest, Gulf, North, Eastex, and Northwest freeways.

HOV lanes are open 5 a.m. to 11 a.m. Monday through Friday for inbound traffic, and 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday for outbound traffic. A minimum occupancy of two people is required on the HOV lane system. (A minimum of three occupants is required during morning rush hours on the Northwest HOV lanes.)

Since 2001, METRO also has been operating concurrent-flow Diamond HOV Lanes, which are identified by diamond-shaped icons in a lane separated from main-lane traffic by double-solid white lines. Diamond HOV Lanes in the METRO service area are located on the Katy Freeway between Texas Highway 6 and Texas Highway 99 (Grand Parkway) in Katy.

HISTORY & FUTURE

The Texas State Legislature authorized the creation of local transit authorities in 1973. In 1978, Houston-area voters created METRO and approved a one-cent sales tax to support its operations. METRO opened for business in January 1979. The Authority has transformed a broken bus fleet into a regional multimodal transportation system.

Communities that are part of the METRO area include the cities of Houston, Bellaire, Bunker Hill Village, El Lago, Hedwig Village, Hilshire Village, Humble, Hunters Creek, Katy, Missouri City, Piney Point, Southside Place, Spring Valley, Taylor Lake Village, and West University Place. Major portions of unincorporated Harris County are also included.

PARK & RIDE LOTS

METRO has 29 park-and-ride lots with more than 33,000 available parking spaces. Direct nonstop service to Downtown, the Texas Medical Center, or other major employment centers in the METRO service area is available from park-and-ride lots. Park-and-ride facilities also serve as staging areas for vanpools and carpools.

TRANSIT CENTERS

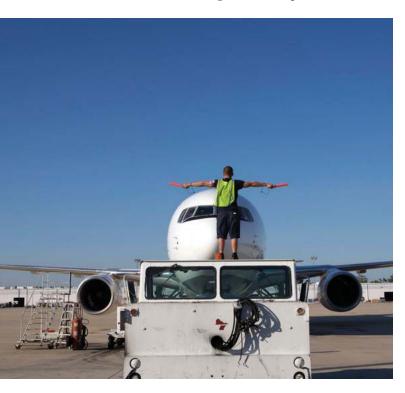
Transit Centers are sheltered waiting areas located where several bus routes and/or METRORail converge. METRO's 20 Transit Centers serve as efficient hubs to allow bus and/or METRORail riders from various locations to assemble at a central point to take advantage of express trips or other route-to-route transfers. Our clean, safe, and comfortable transit centers provide bus and/or METRORail patrons with a wider selection of destinations through greater transfer opportunities and offer their respective communities a permanent presence of transit service. Transit Centers feature a mixture of Park & Ride and Local bus service, as well as limited METRORail service. Limited parking—approximately 2,400 spaces—is available at select transit centers.

AIRPORT AND HIGHWAY TRAVEL

The Houston area is served by two major airports: George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) and William P. Hobby Airport (HOU). Houston's largest airport, IAH, is located approximately 23 miles north of downtown Houston, and currently ranks 15th among United States' busiest airports with scheduled nonstop domestic and international flights. More than 650 departures leave daily from IAH, which offers service to more Mexican destinations than any other U.S. airport, as well as 74 nonstop international cities, including Beijing. IAH was named the 8th best airport in the country in a 2017 ranking from aviation reviewer SkyTrax. Hobby Airport is located approximately seven miles south of downtown, and offers nonstop flights to more than 50 destinations throughout the United States. It's also a regional center for corporate and private aviation.

A third site, Ellington Airport (EFD), is a joint-use civil and military airport serving the needs of the U.S. military, NASA, and general aviation. Check individual airlines to see which airports serve a particular carrier.

Through a partnership with the City of Houston's Civic Art Program, the Houston Airport System houses one of the largest collections of public art in the state of Texas. The airport system has collected over 30 commissioned and donated works of art that are showcased throughout the airport facilities. The





artwork, which includes sculptures, photographs, lighting installations, and more, provides cultural value to the identity of Houston as a truly international city and welcomes visitors and residents upon arrival. For more information about flying to and from Houston, visit the Houston Airport System's website at fly2houston.com.

CONNECTING THE DOTS

Houston is the crossroads for interstate highways 10 and 45. Other major highways serving Houston are Interstate 610, U.S. 59, U.S. 90, U.S. 290, Texas 99, Texas 146, Texas 225, Texas 249, Texas 288, Hardy Toll Road, Westpark Tollway, and Beltway 8.

Houston TranStar is a lifesaver for anyone wanting to avoid congested roadways when driving throughout the city. TranStar uses state-of-the-art technologies to reduce congestion on major roadways. Monitoring traffic incidents with more than 730 regional closed-circuit cameras, TranStar dispatches vehicles to remove debris or hazardous materials, communicates with emergency vehicles about accident scenes, and sends tow trucks to stalled vehicles. Dynamic message signs and a robust website inform the public about expected travel times and traffic-related issues. Visit houstontranstar. org to see real-time traffic maps and choose the best routes to take to avoid traffic.





HOUSTON AIRPORT MOBILE Download GateGuru, the leading mobile airport travel app, to your smart phone to help you locate the best food and shopping at both IAH and HOU.

HIGHWAY **NICKNAMES**

Houston routes and freeways are designated by numbers, but natives refer to them by nicknames.

BEAUMONT HIGHWAY U.S. 90



SAM HOUSTON PARKWAY/THE BELTWAY



I-10 (EAST)

BELTWAY 8

EAST FREEWAY



U.S. 59

(north Houston to downtown)

EASTEX FREEWAY

TEXAS 99

GRAND PARKWAY



I-45 (south of downtown)

GULF FREEWAY



KATY FREEWAY I-10 (WEST)

THE LOOP



LOOP 610



I-45 (north of downtown)

NORTH FREEWAY

U.S. 290

NORTHWEST FREEWAY



TEXAS 288

SOUTH FREEWAY



U.S. 59 (southwest

Houston to downtown)

SOUTHWEST FREEWAY



AGE & ETHNICITY

THE FACE OF HOUSTON

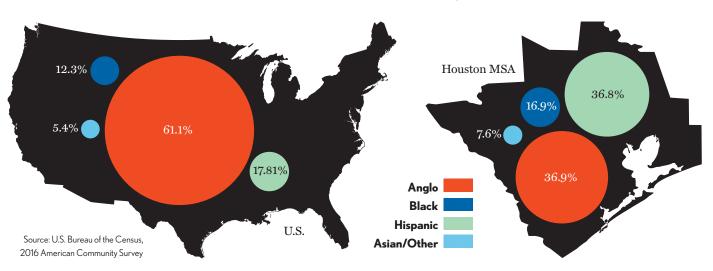
The 2016 American Community Survey estimates showed that no racial or ethnic group constitutes a majority of Houston MSA population.

The Houston MSA contains the nation's fourth-largest Hispanic population. Its Hispanic population of 2,490,600 in 2016 is larger than the total populations of 15 states and the District of Columbia.

The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA contains the nation's seventh-largest Asian population at 511,867—larger than the total population of the Lubbock, Amarillo, or Laredo MSAs.



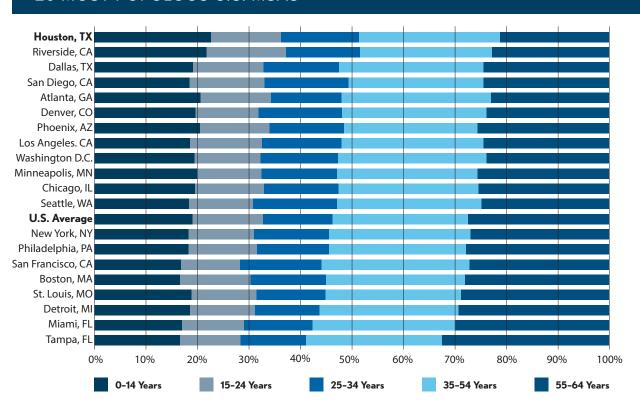
2016 HOUSTON MSA POPULATION BY RACE/ETHNICITY



Houston is more ethnically diverse than the rest of the nation.

2015 AGE DISTRIBUTION (AGE GROUPS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION)

20 MOST POPULOUS U.S. MSAS



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey

HOUSTON ANNUAL WEATHER

MONTH	HIGH	LOW	AVERAGE RAINFALL (in inches)
January	62°F	41°F	3.68
February	67°F	44°F	2.98
March	73°F	51°F	3.36
April	79°F	57°F	3.60
May	86°F	66°F	5.15
June	91°F	72°F	5.35
July	94°F	74°F	3.18
August	94°F	73°F	3.83
September	89°F	68°F	4.33
October	82°F	59°F	4.50
November	72°F	50°F	4.19
December	65°F	43°F	3.69

HOUSTON CONSULATES

Albania

281-548-4740

Angola

713-212-3840

Argentine Republic

713-871-8935

Australia

832-962-8420

Austria

713-723-9979

Bahamas

713-980-4381

Barbados

832-725-5566

Belarus

832-868-6392

Belgium

713-224-8000

Belize

832-868-6392

Bolivia

832-916-2000

Botswana

713-355-8614

Brazil

713-961-3063

Cameroon

713-686-4320

Canada

713-821-1440

Chile

713-621-5853

China

713-520-1462

Colombia

713-979-0844

Costa Rica

713-266-0484

Croatia

713-444-1442

Cyprus

713 - 630 - 0029

Denmark

713-622-9018

Ecuador

713-572-8731

Egypt

713-961-4915

El Salvador

713-270-6239

Equatorial Guinea 713-776-9900

Estonia

281-351-7610

Ethiopia

713-271-7567

Finland

281-778-6999

French Republic

713 - 572 - 2799

Germany 713-627-7770

/13-02/-//

Ghana

713-960-1950

Greece

713-840-7522

Guatemala 713-953-9531

Haiti

713-661-8275

Hellenic Republic

713-840-7522

Honduras

001.046.75

281 - 846 - 1521

Hungary

713-476-0497

Iceland

512-843-3820

India

713-629-1491

Indonesia

713-785-1691

Ireland

713-961-5263

Israel

832-301-3501

Italy

713-850-7520

Ivory Coast

713-410-0472

Jamaica

713-541-3333

Japan

713-652-2977

Korea

713-961-0186

Latvia

713-888-0404

Lebanon

713-268-1640

Lithuania

713 - 665 - 4218

Malta

713-654-7900

Mexico

713-271-6800

Mongolia

713-759-1922

Netherlands

713-785-2200

New Zealand

713 - 501 - 5418

Nicaragua

713-789-2762

Norway

713-620-4200

Pakistan

281-890-2223

Panama

713-622-4451

Papua New Guinea

713-966-2500

Paraguay

713-444-9887

Peru

713-355-9517

Poland

281-565-0499

Portugal

713-759-1188

Qatar

713-355-8221

Romania

713-629-1551

Russia 713-337-3300

Rwanda

832-687-0753

Saudi Arabia

713-785-5577

Spain

713-783-6200

Sri Lanka 832-818-0889

Sweden

713-953-1417

Swiss Confederation 713-467-9887

Syria

713-622-8860

Thailand 713-335-3995

Trinidad and Tobago

713-485-5453

Turkey 713-622-5849

Ukraine 281-242-6654

United Arab Emirates

832-831-4500

United Kingdom

713-659-6270

Uruguay 713-974-7855

Venezuela

713-974-0028

Vietnam 713-850-1233

HOUSTON FACTS & FIGURES

Houston is the th most

populous city in the nation (trailing only New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago), and Houston is the largest in the southern U.S. and Texas. The estimated population in 2017 was

2,303,482



The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land Metropolitan Statistical Area (Houston MSA) consists of nine counties:

Austin, Brazoria, Chambers,
Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris,
Liberty, Montgomery, and
Waller and covers 9,444 square
miles, an area slightly smaller
than Maryland but larger
than Massachusetts.

If Houston were an independent nation, it would rank as the world's





Welcome to Houston

and St. Joseph Medical Center

You found the perfect home, and now it's time to find the right hospital and physicians for you and your family.

St. Joseph Medical Center has been caring for Houston area families for over 130 years. We offer a wide range of medical and surgical services including:

- 24-Hour ER Care
- Cancer Services
- Cardiac Services
- Corporate Health Care
- Diagnostic Imaging
- Orthopedics

- Plastic Surgery
- Sports Medicine & Therapy Services
- Weight Loss Surgery
- Women's Center for OB/GYN Services

To find a physician near you or to see a complete list of our services, call 713-757-7575 or visit simctx.org.

DOWNTOWN: 1401 St. Joseph Parkway, Houston, TX 77002 **HEIGHTS:** 1917 Ashland Street, Houston, TX 77008

St. Joseph Medical Center

Steward

n Partnership with Physician Owners.

NEIGHBORHOODS & COMMUNITIES

Now that you've chosen to call Houston home, you'll discover an extraordinarily large number of choices when it comes to housing. Here, you'll find it all: trendy downtown lofts, family-friendly suburban neighborhoods, near-town bungalows, and gated, master-planned communities. Choose from a wealth of living options in every style, location, and price range.





DISTRICTS OF DOWNTOWN HOUSTON

DOWNTOWN HOUSTON: 10 DISTRICTS OF BUSINESS, FOOD, **FUN, AND CULTURE**

More than 65,700 people live in and immediately surrounding Downtown Houston. It's also the center of the city's highway system, bordered by Interstate 45 to the south and west, U.S. 59 to the east, and Buffalo Bayou to the north. For more information, visit downtownhouston.org and downtowndistrict.org.

THE NUMBERS

7 miles of tunnels and sky bridges

performing arts

organizations

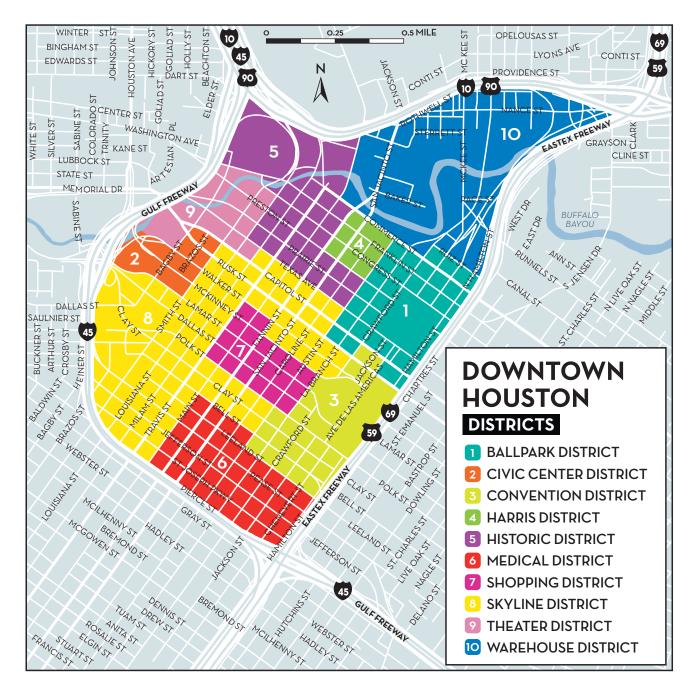
Fortune 500 headquarters

50,000,000 square feet of office space

outdoor fountains

parks

Source: Houston Downtown Management District





BALLPARK DISTRICT

Minute Maid Park, the home of the 2017 World Series Champion Houston Astros, anchors this section of downtown Houston. The state-of-the-art, retractableroof stadium is housed in a former train station and sits amid several modern loft and office buildings, as well as a smorgasbord of great restaurants like Irma's, one of Houston's Tex-Mex staples.

CIVIC CENTER DISTRICT

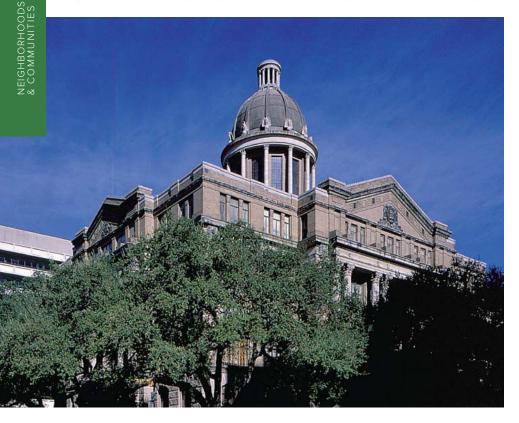
The Civic Center District has been the hub of Houston city government since 1939. It's home to City Hall, Hermann Square Park, and the historic Central Library, which underwent an extensive renovation in 2008. Hermann Square is frequently used for concerts, festivals, and other events. For a dose of Houston history, visit the Texas room at the Julia Ideson library.







Houston's 1.8 million-square-foot George R. Brown Convention Center-the GRB, as it's known by locals-hosts hundreds of thousands of visitors annually. A hefty makeover in 2016 brought restaurants, a 1,000-room Marriott Marquis hotel, and a grand pedestrian promenade connecting the GRB with Discovery Green Park. Dubbed Avenida Houston, the area is alive with activity including live music and special events. Rockets games at Toyota Center, shopping at Houston Pavilions, and easy access to the METRORail make the Convention District desirable to locals and visitors alike.



4 HARRIS DISTRICT

It's fitting for the most populous county in Texas—with more than four million residents—to have a namesake district that's home to the core of its government. Here, you'll find the Harris County courts complex and the core of the Harris County government.



A VIBRANT Downtown Scene

New office towers, entertainment venues, restaurants, retail outlets, and residential lofts are redesigning the Houston skyline, creating an exciting community atmosphere for those who work or live downtown, as well as for visitors. The 1,178-acre district is the center of the nine-county Houston metropolitan area.

BCYCLE

Need to make a short trip in or around the downtown area? Houston BCycle offers residents, commuters, and visitors a mode of transportation that results in fewer vehicles on the road, meaning less pollution and congestion, and improved mobility. Unlock a bike in seconds using a credit card or a B-card. The BCycle app allows riders to view the location of Houston's stations, as well as the number of bikes and docks available at each station. Learn more at houston.bcycle.com.

DISTRICT

Centuries-old architecture and tree-lined streets with shops, cafes, pubs, and lofts provide a unique mix of old and new. Market Square Park, the site of Houston's original city hall, and the University of Houston's downtown campus keep this area bustling day and night.



▶ HOUSTON'S 20 MOST EXPENSIVE NEIGHBORHOODS				
NEIGHBORHOOD	MEDIAN HOME SALE PRICE	MEDIAN SALE PRICE PER SQUARE FOOT	5-YEAR APPRECIATION	
River Oaks	\$2,695,000	\$496	72%	
Piney Point	\$2,242,500	\$381	71%	
Hunters Creek	\$2,097,500	\$406	73%	
Crestwood	\$2,095,000	\$413	11%	
Memorial Close In	\$2,075,000	\$369	67%	
Avalon Place	\$1,895,000	\$412	59%	
Hedwig Village	\$1,849,000	\$353	68%	
Bunker Hill	\$1,847,500	\$413	-12%	
Tanglewood	\$1,750,000	\$358	40%	
Glen Cove	\$1,750,000	\$366	30%	
Sunset Terrace	\$1,595,000	\$351	23%	
Rice Court	\$1,368,000	\$417	83%	
Southampton Place	\$1,349,500	\$371	50%	
Southside Place	\$1,347,000	\$354	61%	
West University	\$1,285,000	\$351	49%	
Boulevard Oaks	\$1,224,000	\$333	6%	
Spring Valley	\$1,125,000	\$298	84%	
Memorial Forest	\$1,072,500	\$371	29%	
Frostwood	\$1,029,000	\$316	33%	
Royden/Afton Oaks	\$952,500	\$310	62%	

SOURCE: HOUSTONPROPERTIES.COM, SEPTEMBER 2016



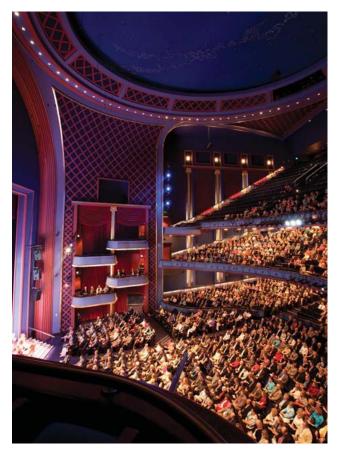
The southern quadrant of downtown Houston is home to St. Joseph Medical Center and the Sacred Heart Co-Cathedral campus, which serves as an ecclesiastical and civic center.

Houston has long been known as a shopping oasis, and GreenStreet and The Shops at Houston Center's wide array of retail, dining, and entertainment options, including Houston's House of Blues, don't disappoint. The area is easily accessible via the Main Street Square stop on the METRORail.



The hub of downtown Houston's workforce, 10 of Houston's 26 Fortune 500 companies call the Skyline District home. An extensive network of climate-controlled underground tunnels connects the vast skyscrapers. The JP Morgan Chase Tower is the tallest building west of the Mississippi, standing 75 stories tall.







Have a penchant for the performing arts? You'll feel right at home in the Theater District. Houston is one of few U.S. cities with permanent resident companies in opera, ballet, music, and theater. The 17-block area includes nine world-class performing arts venues, as well as Bayou Place and the Houston Aquarium. For more information about Houston's burgeoning performing arts scene, see p. 67.

WAREHOUSE DISTRICT

The Warehouse District is famous for its funky alternative art scene. Artists, architects, and photographers call this area home, where you'll find hip dining options, live music, art studios, lofts, and more.

LOFT LIVING

According to a new plan from the Houston Downtown Management District, downtown could see it's residential population grow from around 8,000 to 30,000 over the next 20 years. There are many options for urban dwellers who wish to live downtown. The following is only a partial list.



BALLPARK DISTRICT

Eller Wagon Works

101 Crawford/100 Jackson

Renovated in 2004, the Wagon Works building houses art studios, commercial studios, and residential lofts. The building itself dates back to 1910.

Lofts at the Ballpark

609 St. Emanuel, 713-224-7770

Residents here enjoy spectacular skyline views and the latest lifestyle conveniences. The Lofts at the Ballpark cover three city blocks and are located next to the home of the Astros—Minute Maid Park.

CONVENTION DISTRICT

One Park Place

1400 McKinney Street, 713-868-5933

Live in luxury at this 37-story high-rise. Residents have access to over 35,000 square feet of cabanas, a fire pit, walking path and a two-tiered swimming pool.

HISTORIC DISTRICT

Bayou Lofts

915 Franklin

Built in 1910 and located in the heart of downtown's historic district, this unique building was once home to the Southern Pacific Railroad. Lofts range from 700 to 2,000 square feet.



919 Prairie

This mixed-use development includes both residential and retail space. The loft condominiums are located on the second and third floors.

Franklin Lofts

201 Main

The Franklin Lofts are nestled within a historic neoclassical building whose exterior is virtually unchanged since it was built in 1904.

Hermann Lofts

204 Travis

Named after the great Houston philanthropist, George Henry Hermann, the converted building houses 32 residences. Built in 1917, the renovated building features a rooftop terrace, reserved parking and storage units.

Hogg Palace

401 Louisiana, 713-225-5638

With floor plans from 750 to 2,200 square feet, the eight-story art deco building retains much of its original architectural distinction.

Houston House Apartments

1617 Fannin, 713-659-4781

Live here and walk to the METRORail for easy access to the Museum District, Rice University, Hermann Park, NRG Stadium, and much more.

MEDICAL DISTRICT

Beaconsfield Condos

1700 Main

Old World charm meets New World amenities at Beaconsfield Condos. Listed on the U.S. Interior Department's National Register of Historic Places, this building is home to lofts outfitted with hardwood floors, large living rooms, and 2 or 3 bedrooms.

SHOPPING DISTRICT

Commerce Towers

914 Main, 713-650-3900

Featuring custom cabinetry, natural stone or wood floors, stainless steel appliances, and granite countertops, Commerce Towers is the definition of refinement.

Four Seasons Private Residences

1111 Caroline, 713-652-6290

Live atop the Four Seasons Hotel and gain access to its world-class facilities and staff—at your service around the clock. Residences occupy floors 21 through 25 and have a separate, secure entrance.

Humble Tower Apartments

1212 Main, 713-658-0305

The remodeled Humble Tower Apartments are a modern "multi-use" community. Immaculately outfitted with hardwood floors and granite countertops, the 82 luxury apartments are a perfect fit for those wishing to live the urban life.

Kirby Lofts on Main

917 Main

Kirby Lofts on Main are located just off of the METRORail and in close proximity to Discovery Green. Residents have direct access to the downtown underground tunnel system, valet parking, and a private fitness center.

SKYLINE DISTRICT

Capitol Lofts

711 Main

The Capitol Lofts were constructed in the early 1900s as the M.E. Foster building. Renovated in 1998, the building is now known for its quality finishes in bathrooms and kitchens and its imported wood floors from Brazil.

Keystone Lofts

1120 Texas

The 10-story Keystone building was originally designed by architect Joseph Finger and built in the early 1920's. The building features 34 units, with condos ranging from 1,350 sq. feet to 4,400 sq. feet.

Post Rice Lofts

909 Texas, 713-228-7423

The renovated historic Rice Hotel offers prime downtown living. Residents can choose from one, two and three bedroom floor plans and have access to the beautifully appointed lobby which exudes old world charm.

St. Germain Lofts & Condos

705 Main

Located in the heart of downtown, St. Germain Lofts & Condos is on the METRORail line. Building amenities include an exercise room, rooftop deck, private parking garage, billiard parlor, free laundry, theater room, guest quarters, and 24-hour valet parking.

THEATER DISTRICT

Sabine Street Lofts

106 Sabine, 713-221-3400

Between Allen Parkway and Memorial Drive, the Sabine Street Lofts boast some of the best views of Buffalo Bayou and downtown.

WAREHOUSE DISTRICT

Dakota Lofts

711 William, 713-224-5638

The Dakota Lofts are located in the heart of the Warehouse District. From wood floors and granite countertops to an art gallery in the lobby and funky restaurants and bars within walking distance, this residence has something for everyone.

San Jacinto Lofts

915 N. San Jacinto

This residential loft community was once a warehouse. All of the 15 units have private balconies, exposed brick walls, and open floor plans with fourteen-foot high concrete ceilings.

White Oak Lofts

1011 Wood

In its previous life, this nine-unit building was home to a furniture factory. Renovated for residential living in 1997, White Oak Lofts boasts hardwood floors, spacious floor plans, small community atmosphere, and an ideal downtown location.

For more information about downtown Houston, contact the Houston Downtown Management District at downtowndistrict. org or 713-650-3022.

BEYOND DOWNTOWN

LIKE MANY MAJOR CITIES, HOUSTON IS DEFINED BY ITS NEIGHBORHOODS. IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES, GET TO KNOW WHAT TO DO AND WHERE TO EAT, DRINK, PLAY, AND SHOP IN YOUR NEW CITY.

Unless otherwise noted, students in these communities are served by Houston Independent School District (houstonisd.org).

2 BELLAIRE

Bellaire is one of the city's original suburbs. Encompassed by Houston and West University Place, Bellaire is known for its quiet neighborhoods and highly ranked schools. Bellaire Zindler Park features a neighborhood pool, tennis courts, a children's playground, the Bellaire Recreation Center, and the Bellaire Civic Center. Nearby Meyerland is the center of Houston's Jewish community. For more information, visit bellairetx.gov and ci.bellaire.tx.us.



BRAEBURN/WESTBURY/WILLOW MEADOWS-WILLOWBEND/SOUTHWEST HOUSTON

The Braeburn area features tree-lined streets dotted with mid-century modern homes. The community sits along Brays Bayou, offering easy access to more than 15 miles of hike-and-bike trails, The Galleria, the Texas Medical Center, NRG Stadium, U.S. 59, the 610 Loop, and Beltway 8. Westbury, Willow Meadows-Willowbend, and Southwest Houston lie in close proximity to Braeburn and the Brays Oaks district.

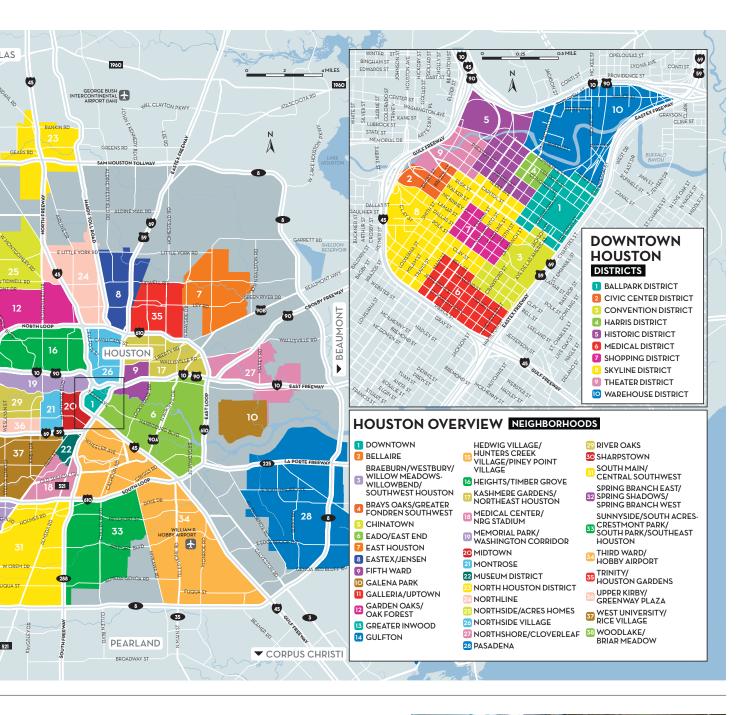




4

BRAYS OAKS/ GREATER FONDREN SOUTHWEST

Brays Oaks residents enjoy easy access to downtown Houston and concerts and events at nearby Levitt Pavilion. The area covers roughly 10 miles with an estimated population of more than 61,000, and much of the district includes the Greater Fondren Southwest community, which is home to many apartment complexes. For more information, visit braysoaksmd.org.



Houston is home to the largest Asian population in the southern United States. The city's original Chinatown, located just east of downtown, relocated in the early 1990s to the southwest area of the city. Today, Chinese shopping centers like Hong Kong City Mall, restaurants, bakeries, and more sit alongside markets dedicated to Indian, Pakistani, and Middle Eastern wares. The area is complete with street signs featuring Chinese characters.







East Downtown-or EaDo, as locals call it-is budding with a diverse mix of restaurants, bars, art galleries, and ethnic grocery marts. The area's close proximity to the heart of downtown Houston, the Texas Medical Center, and the Houston Ship Channel continues to attract new residents. Discovery Green, Minute Maid Park, Toyota Center, and the Houston Dynamo's BBVA Compass Stadium add to the area's walkable entertainment options. A new METRORail line is in the works to improve connectivity. For more information, visit eadohouston.com.



East Houston lies northeast of downtown Houston between the 610 Loop and Beltway 8. The area is home to the East Houston Regional Medical Center.



Eastex/Jensen is a primarily low-income area north of downtown Houston, directly across the 610 Loop.





North of downtown, the Fifth Ward has a rich musical, artistic, and cultural history, and boasts six churches that are over 100 years old. The community's Mount Vernon United Methodist Church was founded by former slave Rev. Toby Gregg in 1865. For more information, visit fifthwarderc.org.

Galena Park is located on the north bank of the Houston Ship Channel just east of the Houston city limits. With a population of 10,592, the city is home to an Olympicsize swimming pool, two recreational facilities, a public library, and numerous parks. Galena Park ISD (galenaparkisd. com) serves students here. For more information, visit cityofgalenapark-tx.gov.

Situated along Westheimer Road and Post Oak Boulevard, the Uptown area exudes urban sophistication, style, and cosmopolitan energy. Centrally located in the city's Uptown district, The Galleria is comprised of hundreds of upscale restaurants, retailers, and hotels, as well

as soaring high-rises that exceed more than 200,000 working professionals and visitors daily. The community features trendy shopping centers and upscale high-fashion boutiques. Turn to p. 62 to learn more about shopping in Houston. Uptown is also home to many of the city's largest hotels and boasts an array of housing options. For more information, visit uptown-houston.com.

GARDEN OAKS/ OAK FOREST

Known for pine trees, grand magnolias, and large lots, the Garden Oaks community is an architecturally unique area featuring quaint cottages, charming bungalows, and plantation, ranch, and traditional-style homes. Oak Forest is a more affordable option in the area, offering most everything you can find in Garden Oaks but at a slightly lower price point. For more information, visit gardenoaks.org.

GREATER INWOOD

The Greater Inwood area is accessible via the North 610 Loop, Interstate 45, State Highway 290, and the North Freeway. Many of the area's original homes were built for oil company executives, and many new homes now occupy land that once served as hunting grounds for Native Americans. Entry-level homes and new apartment complexes make the area attractive for first-time homebuyers and renters. Aldine ISD (aldine.k12.tx.us) serves students in this area. For more information, visit greaterinwood.com.

Located approximately 10 miles southwest of downtown Houston,

Gulfton is about two miles west of Bellaire between Beltway 8 and the 610 Loop, southeast of U.S. 59 and north of Bellaire Boulevard. Gulfton is a densely populated area with few sidewalks.

HEDWIG VILLAGE/HUNTERS CREEK

Hedwig Village is located west of downtown Houston adjacent to the Katy Freeway. The area primarily features ranch-style homes, and residents enjoy easy access to Hedwig Park and the Spring Branch Memorial Library. Spring Branch ISD (cms.springbranchisd.com) serves students in Hedwig Village. For more information, visit thecityofhedwigvillage. com.

HEIGHTS/TIMBER GROVE

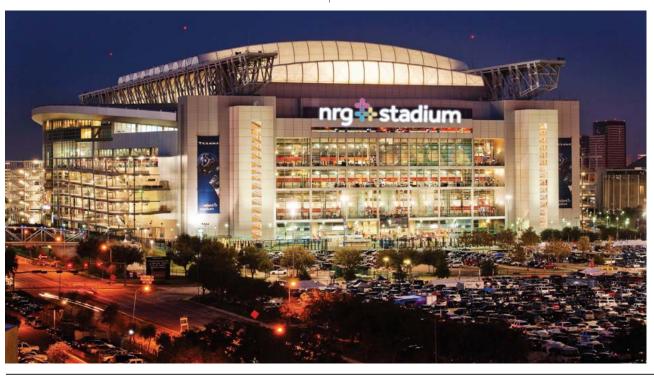
The Heights is Houston's oldest planned community, located northwest of downtown. The area is known for its diverse population and small-town quality of life while still being in the heart of the city. Tastefully updated turn-of-the-century homes stand next to newly constructed Victorian- and Charleston-style cottages with large, wrap-around porches. Numerous high-rise condos are currently being developed in response to the population growth that's predicted for the area. House hunters are drawn to the 19th Street Historic

Business district, which offers a unique variety of specialty boutiques, antique shops, and funky eateries. The First Saturday Arts Market features live music, crafts, art, and more. For more information, visit houstonheights.org.

This historically African-American community borders an industrial zone and railroad corridor.

MEDICAL CENTER/NRG

Houston has long been known for its burgeoning energy and aerospace industries, but it's also home to the world's largest concentration of researchers, physicians, and medical professionals. In addition to world-class medical facilities, the Texas Medical Center-which treats more than 10 million patients annually and employs more than 106,000 professionals—is comprised of educational icons like the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Memorial Hermann Hospital, and the Baylor College of Medicine. Nearby NRG Stadium hosts a myriad of events throughout the year, including Houston Texans football games and the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo.



Memorial is a wealthy area located along Buffalo Bayou on the 610 Loop west of downtown. The area is home to Memorial Park, one of the largest urban parks in the United States. It's popular for golf, running, and cycling, and reports nearly three million annual visitors. Popular attractions include the Houston Arboretum & Nature Center, Memorial City Mall, and Town & Country Village. A strip of popular restaurants, lounges, wine bars, and townhouses recently replaced a stretch of dilapidated properties. The Wave taxi-bus offers a fixed-route, fixed-rate shuttle within the Washington Avenue District, Midtown, and the Heights.

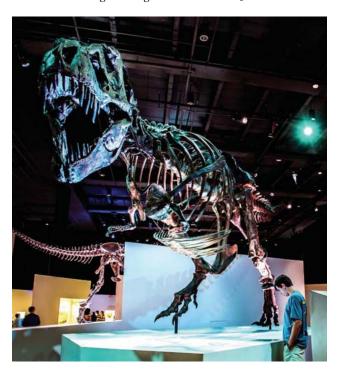
Sandwiched between downtown and the Museum District, the trendy Midtown neighborhood is a popular choice for young and middle-aged professionals. Midtown is one of the city's most pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods-it's packed with high-rise apartments, boutique shopping, art galleries, restaurants, and nightlife. Situated directly between downtown and the Texas Medical Center with three dedicated METRORail stations, location is a big attraction for prospective Midtown residents. For more information, visit houstonmidtown.com.



Established in 1911, Montrose is one of the most eclectic areas in all of Houston. It's home to music venues, vintage shopping,



and historic residential architecture. South Montrose is nestled near the Museum District, which encompasses more than 50 cultural institutions, museums, and art galleries. The American Planning Association named Montrose one of the United States' 10 great neighborhoods in 2009.





Culture runs deep in Houston's Museum District, which welcomes nearly nine million visitors a year. The area is home to 18 museums within a 1.5-mile radius of the Mecom Fountain, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Rice University Art Gallery, the Houston Museum of Natural Science, the Houston Children's Museum, and more. For more information about Houston museums, see p. 68.





The North Houston District, a 12-square-mile activity center at Interstate 45 and North Sam Houston Parkway, is home to 20 million square feet of office, retail, and industrial space, 72,000 employees, and approximately 112,000 residents. Two school districts serve the area: Aldine ISD (aldineisd.org) and Spring ISD (springisd.org). For more information, visit northhouston.org.

This historically Hispanic community lies north of downtown Houston across the 610 Loop.

Northside/Acres Homes is a predominantly African-American community that got its name when World War I-era landowners sold home sites that were divided by the acre, not by the plot. Aldine ISD (aldineisd.org) serves the western part of Acres Homes.

NORTHSIDE VILLAGE

The Northside Village area, also known as Near Northside, has historically been home to a primarily Hispanic population. The community has seen a recent revitalization due to the area's close proximity to downtown, skyline views, easy access to the North Freeway, and the METRORail's new red line.



NORTHSHORE/

Northshore/Cloverleaf is located east of downtown Houston along Interstate 10, just outside the 610 Loop. Galena Park ISD (galenaparkisd.com) serves Cloverleaf-area students.



PASADENA

The keys to Pasadena's economy are closely linked to the city's proximity to the Houston Ship Channel, NASA's Johnson Space Center, and the Bayport Industrial District. Pasadena is home to several museums, the Pasadena Philharmonic, a community theater, and a famous Strawberry Festival. The city and its old honkytonk, Gilley's, were made famous in Urban Cowboy. Pasadena ISD (pasadenaisd.org) serves students here. For more information, visit ci.pasadena. tx.us.



River Oaks is well known as one of Houston's oldest and most affluent neighborhoods. Located just three miles west of downtown in the Inner Loop, the area sports white-columned mansions dating from the 1920s, as well as Houston's oldest country club. The community is protected by high architectural standards and comprehensive building restrictions. The median home value in River Oaks is over \$1 million. For more information. visit riveroaksdistrict.com.

30

SHARPSTOWN

Sharpstown is a master-planned community southwest of downtown Houston. The area features post-World War II bungalows, as well as modern and traditional homes on large lots. The area's civic association estimates that more than 60 dialects are spoken here. Residents enjoy access to the Sharpstown Green Park, a community center, and the Sharpstown Golf Course. For more information, visit sharpstowncivic.org.



SOUTH MAIN/CENTRAL

Central Southwest Houston is a predominantly African-American neighborhood that offers easy access to The Galleria and Texas Medical Center. Homes and apartments tend to be affordable. High-end shopping and fine dining has yet to move into the area, but it's home to a large number of authentic ethnic restaurants.



SPRING BRANCH EAST/ SPRING SHADOWS/ SPRING BRANCH WEST

Spring Branch East is primarily a blue-collar area with bungalows, and Spring Branch West is home to 1960s ranch-style homes. Several parks and a golf course allow access to a swimming pool, tennis courts, a community center, an outdoor basketball pavilion, playgrounds, and a hike-and-bike trail. Spring Branch ISD (cms.springbranchisd.com) serves students here.

SUNNYSIDE/SOUTH ACRES-CRESTMONT PARK/SOUTH PARK/ SOUTHEAST HOUSTON

The Sunnyside area is located south of downtown Houston, outside the 610 Loop and inside Beltway 8, off State Highway 288. The area is predominantly African-American with suburban-style housing.



The Third Ward, home to Texas Southern University and the University of Houston, is rich in culture and history. The Third Ward is adjacent to Hobby Airport, southeast of downtown, and east of the Texas Medical Center.



TRINITY/HOUSTON GARDENS

Trinity/Houston Gardens is a primarily African-American neighborhood located northeast of downtown Houston, just outside Beltway 8.



Upper Kirby is a network of historic neighborhoods that are intermingling with redevelopment. The area is just minutes away from Greenway Plaza, downtown, The Galleria, and the Texas

Medical Center, offering residents easy access to the places they live, work, and play. West Ave is home to an assortment of top-notch restaurants, art galleries, and trendy boutiques. For more information, visit upperkirbydistrict.org.

WEST UNIVERSITY/RICE VILLAGE



The third-most expensive neighborhood in Houston, the tree-lined West University area— West U, as locals call it-is a community of upper-middle class families. On every block you'll find an abundance of

upscale housing options, including unique bungalows and newly remodeled homes. Home to Rice University and Rice Village Shopping Center, the neighborhood appeals to families and young professionals alike. Morningside Boulevard offers a good mix of lunch, dinner, and happy hour spots. For more information, visit westutx.gov.

WOODLAKE/BRIAR MEADOW

Woodlake/Briar Meadow is a vibrant and diverse community located approximately 12 miles southwest of downtown Houston, just west of The Galleria. Its location allows for lots of options when it comes to shopping, dining, and nightlife. Close proximity to Memorial Park allows easy access to hike-and-bike trails. For more information, visit briarmeadow. org.



HARRIS COUNTY & BEYOND

NORTH AI NINF

Aldine was built on the International-Great Northern Railroad. Located near George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH), the community is in central Harris County on the northern edge of Houston, off Farm-to-Market Road 525. Aldine's location offers easy access to the Hardy Toll Road. Aldine ISD (aldineisd.org) serves students in this area.

CHAMPIONS

The Champions-F.M. 1960 area has stylish neighborhoods, many tucked away and hidden among tall pine trees. Easy access to downtown Houston, as well as an abundance of golf courses and country clubs, makes this area a popular choice. Spring ISD (springisd.org) serves students in the area.

CHAMPIONS-AREA COMMUNITIES

FAIRFIELD,

visitfairfield.com

Farifield, a Friendswood Development Company community, offers eight lakes, six parks, six pools, and numerous

greenbelts, as well as a 15,000-square-foot athletic club with basketball courts, a fitness center, a special events room, classrooms, a competition-sized swimming pool, tennis courts, and a 20-acre sports park with baseball and soccer fields.

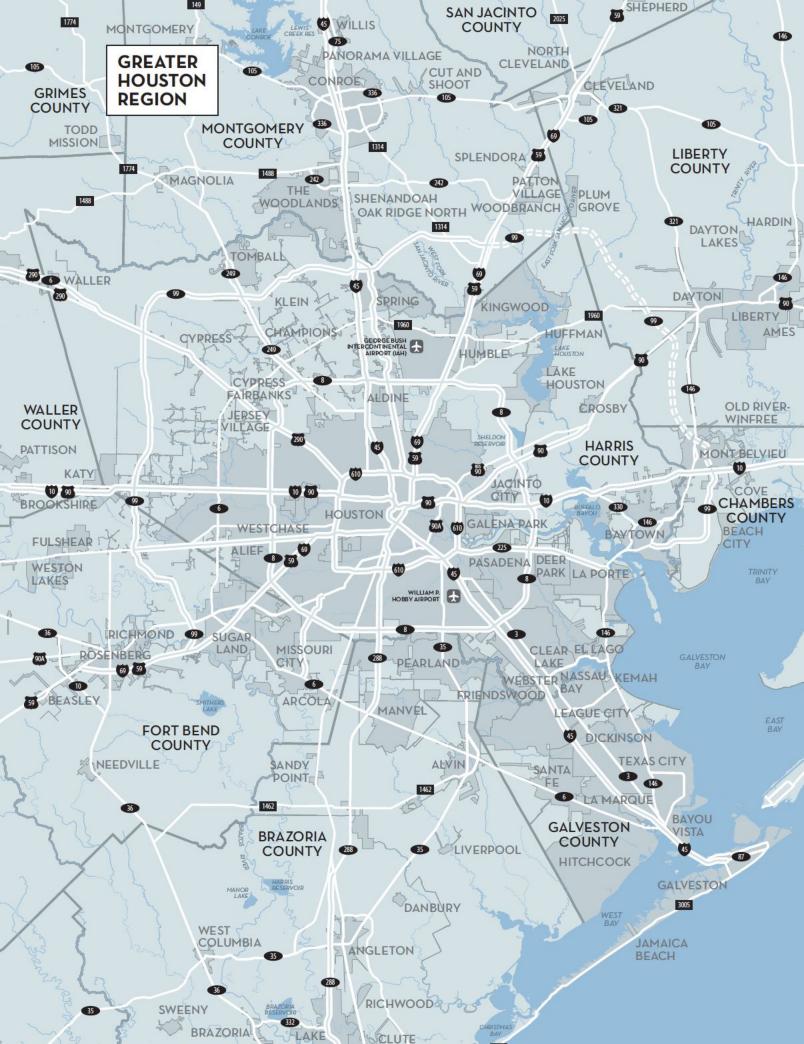
VINTAGE DI VITA,

pulte.com/houston

Vintage di Vita offers two- and three-story luxury townhomes within a gated community located immediately adjacent to Vintage Park Shopping Village. This allows residents to walk from their homes to several shopping and dining establishments, including Whole Foods Market and Alamo Drafthouse.

CONROE

Conroe was named after a Southern Cavalry officer who founded a sawmill there in 1881. Today, towering pine trees and lakeside living make the city an attractive option for outdoors and golf enthusiasts who also desire reasonably quick access to downtown Houston. Housing options range from traditional neighborhood homes to luxurious lakefront condos. Montgomery County is a recognized academic leader in the Gulf Coast area, and Conroe ISD (conroeisd.net) serves area students. For more information, visit cityofconroe.org and lakeconroecvb.org.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF VISIT HOUSTON AND CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE

CONROE-AREA COMMUNITIES

BENTWATER,

bentwater.com

GRAYSTONE HILLS,

graystonehills.com

CROSBY/HUFFFMAN

With 150 miles of pine forests and open grassland, Crosby and Huffman outline the east side of Lake Houston, about 35 minutes from downtown. State-of-the-art health care at the world-renowned Houston Medical Center is located nearby. Crosby ISD (crosbyisd.org) serves Crosby students and Huffman students attend Huffman ISD (huffmanisd.net) schools.

CYPRESS

More than 120,000 residents call this large suburb home. It's one of the most affluent ZIP codes in Harris county. The area has numerous golf courses and superior schools, and will soon be the trailhead of the planned Cypress Creek Greenway Project, which will feature hike-and-bike trails, horseback riding, canoeing, and more. Students are served by Cypress-Fairbanks ISD (cfisd.net).

CYPRESS-AREA COMMUNITIES

CANYON LAKES AT STONE GATE,

canyongate.com

HIDDEN CREEK,

bridgeland.com

With more than 3,000 acres dedicated to lakes, trails, and parks, Bridgeland's Hidden Creek is home to 1,000 home sites and 160 acres of lakes and waterways, as well as Lakeland Village Park, a 20-acre green space that features a dog park, basketball courts, canoe launch, and a skate park. Residents also have access to tennis courts, picnic areas, walking trails, and pavilions, as well as a splash pad, playground, and heated lap pool. Josey Lake, an expansive waterway

that runs along the neighborhood's perimeter, enables residents to canoe three miles from end to end or stop and explore the birding tower and boardwalk along the way.

STONE GATE,

stone-gate-houston.com

TOWNE LAKE.

townelaketexas.com

blending nature into residents' daily lives. In Bridgeland, parks and green space can be found no more than a quarter mile from each home site and are connected through the community's vast trail system. Other amenities include a resort-style pool, a disc-golf course, stocked lakes, and complimentary use of kayaks and paddleboats.



CYPRESS FAIRBANKS

The Cypress Fairbanks region—Cy-Fair, as it's known to locals—is approximately 20 miles from Houston's downtown business district. This largely unincorporated region of Harris County gains a strong sense of community from an association with the top-rated Cypress Fairbanks ISD (cfisd.net). The school district is a major attraction for new residents. For more information, visit cyfairchamber.com.

CYPRESS-FAIRBANKS AREA COMMUNITIES

BRIDGELAND,

bridgeland.com

This 11,400-acre community embraces a lifestyle within a peaceful, natural setting. With more than 3,000 acres dedicated to lakes, trails, and parks, Bridgeland offers tranquility and relaxation by seamlessly

COLES CROSSING,

colescrossing-hoa.com

Coles Crossing offers easy access to the Sam Houston Tollway, U.S. Highway 6, and F.M. 1960. The heavily wooded master-planned community is situated near Willowbrook Mall, restaurants, and nearby medical centers.

COPPERFIELD,

copperfield.org

FAIRFIELD,

visitfairfield.com

HUMBLE

Located in northeast Harris County, Humble covers approximately 10 square miles. Humble is named after one of the area's earliest settlers, Pleasant Smith "Plez" Humble. From his home, he opened and operated the city's first post office, and reportedly also served as an attorney, served as justice of the peace, operated a fruit stand, and was a wood dealer. Petroleum has been the basis of Humble's economy since its beginning. The city was the namesake for Humble Oil and Refining Company, which later merged with the Exxon Corporation. Humble ISD (humble.k12.tx.us) is nationally recognized by the Texas Education Agency for offering outstanding education, and is listed among the 25 fastest-growing school districts in Texas. For more information, visit cityofhumble.com or humbleareachamber.com.

HUMBLE-AREA COMMUNITIES

ATASCOCITA,

atascocita.com

EAGLE SPRINGS.

insideeaglesprings.com Eagle Springs, a wooded, masterplanned community by Newland Communities, offers a range of housing options, from low-maintenance townhomes to luxury move-up homes

and everything in between. The Eagle Springs Athletic Club, the Island Club, and the Valley Springs Spray Park & Clubhouse provide residents with a plethora of recreational opportunities.

FALL CREEK.

fallcreekhouston.com

Located 15 miles from downtown Houston and about eight minutes from IAH, Fall Creek is the only masterplanned golf community located within Beltway 8. Fall Creek residents enjoy a broad spectrum of amenities, including hike-and-bike trails, four stocked community lakes, a resort-style aquatic center and tennis courts, two recreation centers, and Redstone Golf Club's two 18-hole courses.

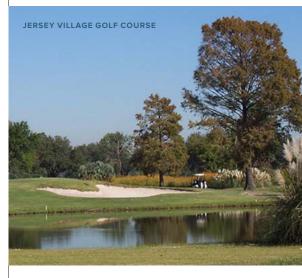
PARK LAKES,

canyongate.com/communities/park

JERSEY VILLAGE

Jersey Village is a town of approximately 8,000 residents located about 20

miles northwest of downtown Houston. Residents have access to a golf course, a public swimming pool, and a public park with playground facilities. Residents in homes on the shores of Jersey Village's small lake enjoy access to fishing there. Cypress-Fairbanks ISD (cfisd.net) serves area students. For more information, visit jerseyvillage.info.







DRIVE TIME CHART

NEIGHBORHOOD/ COMMUNITY	MINUTES TO DOWNTOWN	MINUTES TO BUSH AIRPORT	MINUTES TO HOBBY AIRPORT	NEIGHBORHOOD/ COMMUNITY	MINUTES TO DOWNTOWN	
Aldine	23	15	30	Humble	29	
Aliana	29	45	45	Imperial Oaks	35	
Alief	23	44	30	Imperial Sugar Land	28	
Alvin	39	62	30	Inwood Forest	26	
Atascocita	38	23	45	Katy	37	
Auburn Lakes	36	28	47	Kemah	41	
Baytown	34	49	31	Kingwood	42	
Bellaire	15	35	21	La Marque	46	
Bentwater	61	50	71	La Porte/Bayshore	30	
Braeswood Place	18	41	22	Lake Conroe	66	
Briargrove Park	23	37	30	Lake Houston Area	48	
Bridgeland	41	47	52	Lake Olympia	25	
Canyon Gate at the Brazos	28	45	38	Lakemont	26	
Canyon Lakes at Stone Gate	35	38	52	Lakes of Bella Terra	29	
Champoins	38	32	46	Lakes of Mission Grove	46	
Cinco Ranch	38	52	45	Lakes of Savannah	25	
Clear Lake City	33	55	24	League City	34	
Clear Lake Shores	46	64	38 48	Long Meadow Farms	<u>46</u> 25	
Coles Crossing	37 53	42	61	Memorial	10	
Conroe Copperfield	24	38	27	Midtown Montrose	11	
Crosby/Huffman	37	40	39	Nassau Bay	37	
Cross Creek Ranch	34	50	49	New Territory	29	
Crown Ranch	57	49	68	Old Braeswood	15	
Cypress Creek Lakes	37	35	55	Park Lakes	20	
Cypress Fairbanks	22	32	32	Porch Street on Adele	11	
Deer Park	25	44	22	Quail Valley	28	
Del Webb Sweetgrass	31	48	41	River Oaks	13	
Downtonwn	0	32	19	Riverpark West	29	
Eagle Springs	39	23	46	Riverstone	33	
El Lago	42	61	36	Rodeo Palms	23	
Fairfield	36	41	47	Seven Meadows	32	
Falcon Ranch	33	45	48	Shadow Creek Ranch	18	
Fall Creek	32	18	39	Sienna Plantation	33	
Falls at Imperial Oaks	37	25	50	Silver Lake	21	
Fieldstone	30	46	46	South Shore Harbour	35	
Fifth Ward	10	28	17	Southern Trails	21	
Firethrone	45	59	55	Spring	35	
First Colony	35	55	42	Spring Lakes	29	
Fort Bend Counry	46	65	52	Spring Trails	31	
Friendswood	34	56	25	Sterling Lakes	20	
Fulshear	43	63	49	Stone Gate	34	
Galleria/Uptown	15	34	22	Sugar Land	31	
Galveston Island	64	86	55	Summerwood	24	
Garden Oaks	19	30	27	Telfair	26	
Gleannloch Farms	46	40	54	Third Ward	11	
Grand Lakes	34	44	45	Towne Lake	39	
Grand Mission	26	42	41	Village at Tuscan Lakes	31	
Grayson Lakes	43	58	54	Vintage di Vita	29	
Graystone Hills	45	33	58	Waters Edge on Lake Houston	30	
Greater Fondren Southwest Greater Greenspoint	26 24	46 16	28 32	Webster West Ranch	32 34	
Greater Greenspoint Greatwood	37	56	43		15	
	14	37	20	West University Westheimer Lakes	32	
Greenway Plaza Gulfton	16	37	32	Westneimer Lakes Weston Lakes	43	
Harborwalk Yacht Club	46	63	40	Wimbledon Falls	43	
Harmony	30	20	41	WindRose	34	
Harrisburg/Manchester	16	33	13	WindRose WoodCreek Reserve	34	
Hayden Lakes	40	35	50	Woodforest	20	
Heights	10	30	22	The Woodlands	42	
Hidden Creek	39	37	52	Woodson's Reserve	35	

MINUTES TO BUSH AIRPORT	MINUTES TO HOBBY AIRPORT
14	36
24	49
45	38
31	34
52	48
60	39
27	49
68	38
49	27
57	74
31	51
46	30
42	41
45	44
55	54
42	29
56	26
49	47
40	36
33	18
35	22
59	29
46	39
38	21
11	32
20	21
48	33
36	24
46	39
50	38
40	27
47	47
34	21
54	38
12	32
50	29
38	25
24	42
17	42
20	44
11	34
32	52
50	38
15	30
43	36
33	15
37	57
47	25
21	40
21	36
54	23
50	27
38	22
48	47
58	58
30	55
27	45
43	52
28	23
33	50
33	50

KINGWOOD

Kingwood, known as the "livable forest," is best known for 75 miles of greenbelt trails where residents can hike and bike throughout the woods along the lake and into a nature reserve. The city is divided into 25 neighborhoods called villages. Each has its own distinct style, price point, private pools, and other amenities. The Clubs of Kingwood offers six championship golf courses and more than 1,000 acres of fairways. Humble ISD (humble.k12.tx.us) serves Kingwood students. For more information, visit kingwoodonline.com.

Set 20 miles north of downtown, near Spring, Klein residents enjoy close proximity to the city without having to venture far for enertainment, culture, shopping, and dining. Klein ISD (kleinisd.net) serves area students. For more information, visit springkleinchamber.org

LAKE HOUSTON

Located in the northeast quadrant of the city, just 21 miles from downtown on U.S. 59, the Greater Lake Houston area includes the cities of Humble, Kingwood, and Spring, all of which are currently experiencing robust population and economic growth. The area is largely forested, and due to its natural beauty, the recreation of Lake Houston and the San Jacinto River, the proximity of IAH and the Port of Houston, and the quality of its many subdivisions, the area has proved to be a strong attraction to newcomers.

LAKE HOUSTON-AREA COMMUNITIES

SUMMERWOOD.

summerwoodlife.com Located at Sam Houston Tollway and West Lake Houston Parkway, this Newland Communities neighborhood is located in the highly rated Humble ISD with on-site elementary and middle schools.

WATERS EDGE ON LAKE HOUSTON.

pulte.com/houston

Less than 15 minutes from downtown, the peaceful shores of Lake Houston are home to this master-planned community, which offers a collection of stylish single-family homes. Some lots are heavily wooded; others have beautiful lake and lagoon views. Residents enjoy the community recreation center, complete with a resort-style pool and splash pad, fitness facilities, indoor and outdoor kitchens, a stocked lake, private fishing pier, and miles of hike and bike trails.



MAGNOLIA



By the 1920s, Magnolia had become a shipping center for lumber, farm products, and cattle. Today, the original railroad depot sits in the heart of downtown, providing a link to the city's past. More than 138,000 people live in and around Magnolia, which is far enough away from the hustle and bustle of downtown Houston but provides the infrastructure its residents rely upon for day-to-day conveniences. Magnolia ISD (magnoliaisd.org), the second-fastest growing district in the state, serves area students. For more information, visit cityofmagnolia.com.

MAGNOLIA-AREA COMMUNITIES

CROWN RANCH,

crownranch.com

HIGH MEADOW ESTATES,

highmeadowtexas.com



SPRING



Located in North Harris County, Spring is located about 20 miles north of Houston just off Interstate 45. The area was originally inhabited by the Oroquiza Indians and later became a large farming community until it became an intersection for two railroad lines. Spring ISD (springisd.org) serves area students.

SPRING-AREA COMMUNITIES

GLEANNLOCH FARMS

Gleannloch Farms is home to over 40 acres of recreational lakes for canoeing and fishing, a 27-hold championship, daily-fee golf course, an equestrian center, playground, greenbelts, parks, and a state-of-the-art community recreation center.

HARMONY.

harmony-houston.com

IMPERIAL OAKS,

imperialoaks.com

SPRING LAKES,

springlakesahoa.org

SPRING TRAILS,

springtrails.com

FALLS AT IMPERIAL OAKS,

fall satimperia loaks.com

WINDROSE,

windroseca.org, windrose.springtx.info

WOODSON'S RESERVE,

woodsonsreserve.com

TOMBALL

In the 1930s, Humble Oil Company-now known as Exxon-and more than 20 other energy companies worked the fields around Tomball, producing large amounts of oil and natural gas. Since, Tomball has grown into a diverse and vibrant community near the big city wile retaining its small-town history and sensibility. Much of Tomball's charm comes from its award-winning festivals, shopping, eateries, and live music. Located approximately 28 miles northwest of Houston, the community is home to a smorgasbord of museums, historic homes and cemeteries, award-winning golf courses, craft breweries and wineries, hike-and-bike trails, parks, and more. Tomball ISD (tomballisd.net) serves students here. For more information, visit tomballtexas.com or ci.tomball.tx.us.

TOMBALL-AREA COMMUNITIES

CYPRESS CREEK LAKES,

cypresscreeklakes.com

HAYDEN LAKES,

haydenlakes.com

Conveniently located just minutes from the Grand Parkway, Hayden Lakes residents enjoy easy access to major employers, fine dining, and shopping centers in Tomball, The Woodlands, and Cypress. Resort-style amenities include a pool, playground, pocket parks, and a future recreation center. Morning jogs and evening strolls on the community trail system offer scenic views of the community's meandering lake system.

WIMBLEDON FALLS.

wimbledonfalls.com

Pulte Homes' Wimbledon Falls offers functional home designs, innovative features, quality construction methods, and a well-planned location. The community was designed for savoring the wooded ambiance of northwest Houston, with walking trails, greenbelts, and a scenic waterfall and reservoir. The community pool is fun for the whole family, and the fitness center offers challenging workouts. The community center is available for residents to use for private parties, events, and meetings.

THE WOODLANDS

Nestled in 28,000 acres of native forest, The Woodlands has been one of the best-selling master planned communities in Texas since 1990. Located 27 miles north of downtown Houston on Interstate 45, The Woodlands encompasses nine residential villages, commercial centers, a resort and conference center, a luxury hotel and convention center, hospitals, and health care facilities. You'll find exceptional shopping along Market Street and at The Woodlands Mall, dining along The Woodlands Waterway, and recreational amenities and entertainment, including the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion. The Woodlands is home to nearly 1,900 businesses and corporations. One of The Woodlands' newer developments in is Hughes Landing, a 200-acre development on Lake Woodlands that features 11 office buildings; shopping, dining and entertainment; a specialty grocer; an upscale hotel; a fitness center; and 800 multi-family residences. The Woodlands is a project of the Woodlands Development Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of The Howard Hughes Corporation. For more information, visit thewoodlands.com.

THE WOODLANDS-AREA COMMUNITIES

AUBURN LAKES,

auburnlakeshoa.org

WOODFOREST.

woodforesttx.com

SOUTH

Alvin—the hometown of baseball legend Nolan Ryan-is a community proud of its history and committed to preserving its heritage. The community embraces its past through historic structures, like the Alvin Depot, original neighborhoods, and a traditional downtown area. Alvin delivers value in transportation via two state highways, the BNSF and UP rail lines, and two airports. Alvin Community College and Alvin ISD (alvinisd.net) provide value in education, too—Alvin ISD boasts an exemplary rating from the Texas Education Agency. The second-largest school district in Brazoria County covers 250 square miles and serves Alvin, Manvel, Iowa Colony, Liverpool, Amsterdam, and parts of Rosharon, Arcola, and Pearland. For more information, visit alvintexas.org.

FORT BEND COUNTY

Fort Bend County has been named one of the country's safest communities and the regional leader in household income. The area's population is expected to exceed to more than one million by 2030. Besides shopping and 300 holes of championship golf, the community is home to the 23,000-acre George Ranch, the George Observatory, and the 1,100-seat Stafford Centre, home to great live performances. Fort Bend ISD (fortbend.k12.tx.us) and Katy ISD (katyisd.org) serve Fort Bend-area students.

FORT BEND-AREA COMMUNITIES

CANYON GATE AT THE BRAZOS,

canyongate.com

FIRST COLONY,

firstcolony.org.

With convenient access to the Southwest Freeway, First Colony is a masterplanned community less than 20 miles southwest of downtown. Amenities include a golf course, 10 pools, six lakes, tennis and volleyball courts, and a 40-acre aquatic center that features a playground, spray park, a 50-meter pool, two lighted volleyball courts, a disc golf course, picnic tables, a 23-acre stocked lake, and walking trails.

GREATWOOD,

mygreatwood.com

Greatwood is a master-planned community just south of Sugar Land. The community is home to the Carleton Gipson-designed Greatwood Golf Club. Featuring miles of paved hike-and-bike trails, acres of greenbelts, lakes, lighted tennis courts, three neighborhood recreation centers, two competition swimming pools, and one resort-style swimming pool, the community is located approximately 28 miles southwest of downtown Houston at the intersection of Grand Parkway and U.S. 59. Lamar Consolidated ISD (lcisd.org) serves students here.

LAKES OF BELLA TERRA,

lakesofbellaterra.com Conveniently situated in the nation's second-fastest-growing county, Lakes of Bella Terra is a premier master-planned community that offers excellent location, resort-style living, and exemplary schools in Lamar Consolidated ISD (lcisd.org). Fast access to downtown and the energy corridor via major highways and a tranquil neighborhood feel attract homebuyers to this award-winning community, which features tennis, volleyball, swimming pools, parks, lakes, trails, and fishing ponds. A 600,000-square-foot retail center is just up the street.

MISSOURI CITY



Missouri City's location minutes from downtown, The Galleria, the Texas Medical Center, both major airports, and the Port of Houston keeps residents close to Houston and all it has to offer. The city council has adopted a strategic plan that focuses on continuing inclusive, beautiful, and safe community growth. Fort Bend ISD (fortbend.k12.

tx.us) and Houston ISD (houstonisd. org) serve students here. For more information, visit missouricitytx.gov.

MISSOURI CITY-AREA COMMUNITIES

LAKE OLYMPIA,

lakeolympia.org

QUAIL VALLEY,

quailvalleyproud.com

SIENNA PLANTATION,

siennaplantation.com

PEARLAND

Pearland was recently named one of the fastest-growing cities in the Houston region and the fifth-safest city in Texas. A 20-minute drive to downtown Houston allows residents to enjoy short commutes and all the big city has to offer while taking advantage of the area's lower-than-average cost of living. The 1.1-million-square-foot Pearland Town Center features more than 140 shops. Students attend schools in Pearland ISD (pearlandisd.org) and Alvin ISD (alvinisd.net). For more information, visit pearlandtx.gov and visitpearland.com.

PEARLAND-AREA COMMUNITIES

LAKES OF SAVANNAH,

lakesofsavannah.com

SHADOW CREEK RANCH,

shadowcreekranch.net

SILVERLAKE,

silverlakehoa.com



SOUTHERN TRAILS.

southern-trails.com

STERLING LAKES,

sterlinglakestx.com

RICHMOND

Richmond is located about 15 miles southwest of downtown Houston on the Brazos River. Anticipating a growing population, the city's Richmond Trail Master Plan will create trails for recreation and commuting. Students attend Lamar Consolidated ISD (lcisd. org), an award-winning district. For more information, visit richmondtx.gov.

RICHMOND-AREA COMMUNITIES

DELL WEBB SWEETGRASS,

delwebb.com/sweetgrass

Hundreds of Baby Boomers thrive at Del Webb's newest community in Richmond. The 27,000-square-foot amenity center features indoor and outdoor pools, aerobics classes, and tennis and bocce ball. The community shares a boundary with the Fort Bend Country Club to the north and features 50 acres of water on site, including Rabb's Bayou. The rolling topography also creates beautiful, country-like views of the area with plenty of opportunities to view wildlife in its natural habitat.

GRAND MISSION ESTATES.

grandmissionestates.com

LAKEMONT,

lakemonthoa.com

LAKES OF MISSION GROVE,

lakes of mission grove.com

LONG MEADOW FARMS,

longmeadowfarms.net

RIVERPARK WEST,

riverparkwestonline.org

ROSENBERG

Rosenberg was founded in the late 1800s, when the Gulf, Colorado, and Santa Fe railroads chose the area as a railway stop. Today, the city offers unique leisure activities, family friendly festivals and events, and a growing list of recreational activities that contribute to the area's friendly, laid-back quality of life.

Rosenberg is located 35 miles southwest of Houston in Fort Bend County. Lamar Consolidated ISD (lcisd.org) serves students here. For more information, visit ci.rosenberg.tx.us.

SUGAR LAND

Sugar Land, located approximately 20 miles southwest of downtown Houston, is both one of the fastest-growing cities in Texas and one of the most economically strong suburbs of Houston. Master-planned communities featuring golf courses, country clubs, and lakes contribute to home values. The community offers exceptional schools, libraries, and civic organizations, and residents enjoy dining, shopping, and nightlife at Sugar Land Town Square. Sugar Land won the title of "Fittest City in Texas" four times in the state-run Texas Round-Up fitness initiative. Sugar Land students attend schools in Fort Bend ISD (fortbend.k12.tx.us). For more information, visit ci.sugerland.tx.us and sugarlandtx.gov.

SUGAR LAND-AREA COMMUNITIES:

ALIANA,

alianahouston.com

Aliana is located west of Houston on the Grand Parkway, convenient to The Galleria and downtown. Situated in the highly regarded Fort Bend ISD (fortbendisd.com), Aliana offers finely crafted new homes and access to The Club at Aliana, which provides exercise facilities, tennis courts, and a swim center.

IMPERIAL SUGAR LAND,

imperialsugarland.com

NEW TERRITORY,

newterritory.org

RIVERSTONE,

riverstone.com

TELFAIR,

telfairlife.com

EAST

BAYTOWN

Baytown lies 30 miles east of downtown Houston on the northern shore of Galveston Bay between the San Jacinto River to the west, the Trinity River to the east, and seated along both Interstate 10 and State Highway 146. Residents enjoy family fun at Pirate's Bay, and wildlife and birding enthusiasts flock to the Baytown Nature Center and Eddy Gray Wetlands Education & Recreation Center. The area's major employers include ExxonMobil Baytown Refinery, Exxon Chemical, Chevron Phillips, Bayer, and Amoco. The city is also home to major regional warehouse and distribution centers for Home Depot and Walmart. Goose Creek ISD (gccisd.net) serves Baytown students. For more information, visit baytown.org.

CLEAR LAKE

Known primarily as the home of NASA's Johnson Space Center, the Clear Lake area has grown into a robust and dynamic region. Nine distinct communities distinguish the area, which provides easy travel to Houston and Galveston. Residents enjoy an abundance of activities including shopping, dining, and boating on Clear Lake, a 2,000-acre inlet of Galveston Bay. Students attend Clear Creek ISD (ccisd. net). For more information, visit clearlakearea.com.

CLEAR LAKE-AREA COMMUNITIES

CLEAR LAKE CITY,

clcca.org

CLEAR LAKE SHORES,

clearlakeshores-tx.gov

DEER PARK

Deer Park is often referred to as the Birthplace of Texas. Here lies the site where initial treaty documents securing Texas' independence from Mexico were



drafted following the Battle of San Jacinto in 1836. In 2010, *Business Week* named Deer Park Texas' Best Affordable Suburb, and CNN named Deer Park among the 100 Best Places to Live. Deer Park provides easy access to the Houston region, the Clear Lake/Bay Area, and the sand and surf of Galveston Island. Students attend Deer Park ISD (dpisd.org). For more information, visit deerparktx.gov.

EL LAGO

The city of El Lago—the lake—gets its name because it is bounded by lakes on two sides. Once the home and hideout of pirate Jean Lafitte, the city would later become home to many astronauts, including Neil Armstrong and "Buzz" Aldrin. The city is small, at just 0.7 square miles. Clear Creek ISD (ccisd.net) serves the area. For more information, visit ellago-tx.com.

FRIENDSWOOD

Friendswood is conveniently located about 30 miles from downtown, between central Houston and Galveston. It offers easy access to Hobby Airport, Bush Airport, Ellington Field, and Clover Field. Friendswood has been named one of the country's Best, Most Affordable Suburbs by *Business Week*. Depending on location, students are served by Friendswood ISD (fisdk12.net) or Clear Creek ISD (ccisd.net). For more information, visit ci.friendswood.tx.us.

FRIENDSWOOD-AREA COMMUNITIES

WEST RANCH,

visitwestranch.com

GALVESTON ISLAND

Galveston is a historic beach town just 50 miles southeast of Houston on the Gulf of Mexico. The island is the most-visited beach destination in Texas, with 32 miles of shoreline, one of the country's largest collections of Victorian architecture, and the fourth-busiest cruise port in the nation. The island offers a variety of attractions, such as the historic Pleasure Pier, home to 16 rides, games, retail shops, and eateries, as well as Moody Gardens, Schlitterbahn Waterpark, historical sites, museums, and restaurants along the beachfront and within the historic downtown district. Students on Galveston Island and the neighboring Bolivar Peninsula attend Galveston ISD (gisd.org). Galveston is also home to the

University of Texas Medical Branch, which is the island's number-one economic driver. For more information, visit galveston.com.

KEMAH

Kemah is located on Galveston Bay, about 25 minutes south of Houston and 25 minutes north of Galveston.
Commercial fishing has remained a large part of Kemah's identity over the years, making it a long-standing destination for recreation and tourism. The Kemah Boardwalk offers an array of waterfront restaurants, shopping, attractions, and events throughout the year. Kemah is served by Clear Creek ISD (ccisd.net). For more information, visit kemah-tx.gov.

LA MARQUE

La Marque—also known as the Gateway to the Gulf—is an incorporated residential community about 12 miles northwest of Galveston. La Marque ISD (lmisd.net) serves most of La Marque, however Dickinson ISD (dickinsonisd. org), Hitchcock ISD (hitchcockisd.org), and Santa Fe ISD (sfisd.org) serve small portions of the area. For more information, visit ci.la-marque.tx.us.



LA MARQUE-AREA COMMUNITIES:

HARBORWALK YACHT CLUB,

harborwalk.com

LA PORTE

La Porte means "the door" or "gateway" in reference to what is now the Houston Ship Channel. Founded in 1889 by French settlers, La Porte prides itself on smalltown atmosphere, strong industry and economy, and numerous parks and recreational activities. Sylvan Beach Park offers 2,000 feet of sandy beaches, as well as a fishing pier and a boat launch. City parks include a wave pool and a park alongside Galveston Bay. La Porte ISD (sc. lpisd.org) serves students in the area. For more information, visit ci.laporte.tx.us.

LEAGUE CITY

League City has experienced tremendous growth through the years, and recently surpassed Galveston as Galveston County's largest city. Approximately 23 miles equidistant between Houston and Galveston, League City boasts the third-largest pleasure boat anchorage in the United States, with four marinas that host more than 7,000 boats. The city has

been designated as one of the 100 Best Small Cities in America by *Money* magazine, has more than 620 acres of public parks, three golf courses, and the Jonny Arolfo Civic Center. Depending on location, students are served by Clear Creek ISD (ccisd.net) or Dickinson ISD (dickinsonisd.org). For more information, visit leaguecity.com.

LEAGUE CITY-AREA COMMUNITIES

VILLAGE OF TUSCAN LAKES,

pulte.com/houston

Nassau Bay is a small suburban community whose history is deeply rooted in the space program. Nassau Bay sits directly across from the Johnson Space Center and is surrounded on three sides by water. With two marinas, three hotels, and several popular retail and entertainment establishments, the city receives nearly 3,000 visitors every day. Students attend schools within Clear Creek ISD (ccisd.net). For more information, visit nassaubay.com.

Despite its small size, Webster is mighty in terms of commercial vibrancy. The city is home to more than 2,200 businesses that have come to be known as the retail. dining, and entertainment capital of Bay Area Houston. Since NASA built the Johnson Space Center, Webster has served as home to several aerospace companies, and both the aerospace and medical fields continue to be two of the city's major growth industries. Webster's location, key industry sectors, super-regional market, and business-friendly credo contribute to the city's commercial vibrancy. Clear Creek ISD (ccisd.net) serves students in Webster. For more information, visit cityofwebster.com.

WEST

Alief is located in western Harris County along the Southern Pacific Railroad and Brays Bayou. Alief ISD (aliefisd.net) is the most ethnically diverse school district of its size in all of Texas and its 45,000 enrolled students speak more than 60 languages. The district offers a wide range of opportunities in academics, the arts, and career and technology education.

HARRIS COUNTY AND BEYOND



Fulshear is home to dynamic new developments for those who like the feel of country living with easy access to big-city amenities like major shopping, dining, and entertainment venues. Primarily a farm and ranch community, the city offers a beautiful landscape, ranging from rolling terrain dotted with centuries-old hardwoods, grassy prairies, and serene lowlands along the banks of the Brazos River. Lamar Consolidated ISD (lcisd.org) serves students in the area. For more information, visit fulsheartexas.gov.

FULSHEAR-AREA COMMUNITIES

CROSS CREEK RANCH,

crosscreektexas.com

WESTON LAKES,

wlakes.com



Located at the intersection of Harris, Fort Bend, and Waller counties, Katy offers the appeal of small-town suburbia and close distance to Houston-area businesses and recreation. Housing options range from apartments and condos to complete living communities with waterfront and golf-course properties. Katy ISD (katyisd. org) is nationally recognized for its educational programs. For more information, visit katytexas.com.

KATY-AREA COMMUNITIES:

BROOKSHIRE,

brookshiretexas.org

CINCO RANCH,

cincoranch.com

Cinco Ranch by Newland Communities sits roughly 10 miles southeast of Katy and approximately 32 miles west of downtown. The master-planned community features an 18-hole, par-71 daily fee course and lakefront parks.

FALCON RANCH,

falconranchhoa.com

FIELDSTONE.

visit-fieldstone.com

FIRETHORNE,

firethorne.info

GRAND LAKES,

grandlakeslife.com

GRAYSON LAKES,

graysonlakesliving.com Grayson Lakes by Newland Communities offers 30 acres of lakes, landscaped parks and trails, tennis courts, and a swimming pool.

THE LAKES ON ELDRIDGE,

lakesoneldridge.net

SEVEN MEADOWS,

sevenmeadowslive.com

WESTHEIMER LAKES,

canyongate.com/communities/west

WOODCREEK RESERVE,

woodcreekreserve.com

WESTCHASE

The Westchase District offers a unique suburban lifestyle coupled with the excitement and energy of living in the city. Housing options range from apartments and townhomes to single-family homes and multi-million dollar mansions. The district's proximity to The Galleria and Memorial City Mall, as well as nearby grocery stores and banks, allows residents to find all the necessities close to home. Two country clubs offer world-class golf, and well-maintained hike-and-bike trails lead to Storey Park and Hershey Park. Houston ISD (houstonisd.org) and Alief ISD (aliefisd.net) serve the Westchase District. For more information, visit westchasedistrict.com.

WESTCHASE-AREA COMMUNITIES

BRIARGROVE PARK,

briargrovepark.org





SELECT HOUSTON-AREA MASTER-PLANNED COMMUNITIES

COMMUNITY	SIZE (in acres)	PRICE RANGE	WEBSITE
BRAZORIA COUNTY			
Lakes of Savannah	1,425	\$140,000-\$300,000	lakesofsavannah.com
Rodeo Palms	600	\$120,000-\$250,000	c-rock.com
Shadow Creek Ranch	3,500	\$150,000-\$1,000,000+	shadowcreekranch.net
Silverlake	1,800	\$150,000-\$1,000,000	silverlakehoa.com
Southern Trails	523	\$150,000-\$500,000	southern-trails.com
Sterling Lakes	274	\$130,000-\$300,000	sterlinglakestx.com
FORT BEND COUNTY			
Aliana	2,000	\$180,000-\$1,000,000+	alianahouston.com
Canyon Gate at the Brazos	600	\$140,000-\$400,000	canyongate.com
Cross Creek Ranch	400	\$200,000+	crosscreektexas.com
Del Webb Sweetgrass		\$140,000-\$260,000	delwebb.com/sweetgra
Falcon Ranch	265	\$166,000-\$306,000	falconranchhoa.com
Fieldstone	390	\$170.000-\$210,000	visit-fieldstone.com
Firethorne	1,400	\$140,000-\$800,000	firethorne.info
First Colony	10,000	\$150,000-\$1,000,000+	firstcolony.org
Grand Mission Estates		\$130,000-\$340,000	grandmissionestates.co
Grayson Lakes		\$150,000-\$600,000	graysonlakesliving.con
Greatwood	2,050	\$200,000-\$500,000	mygreatwood.com
mperial Sugar Land	716	\$300,000-\$700,000+	imperial sugarland.com
Lake Olympia		\$150,000-\$1,000,000+	lakeolympia.org
Lakemont	900	\$150,000-\$400,000	lakemonthoa.com
Lakes of Bella Terra	670	\$160,000-\$1,000,000+	lakesofbellaterra.com
Lakes of Mission Grove	676		lakesofmissiongrove.co
Long Meadow Farms	1,400	\$140,000-\$500,000+	longmeadowfarms.ne
New Territory	3,200	\$150,000-\$500,000	newterritory.org
Quail Valley	2,350	\$100,000-\$350,000	quailvalleyproud.com
River Park	545	\$200,000-\$400,000	riverparkwestonline.or
Riverstone	3,700	\$200,000-\$1,000,000+	riverstone.com
Seven Meadows	1,050	\$200,000-\$600,000	sevenmeadowslive.cor
Sienna Plantation	10,560	\$160,000-\$1,000,000+	siennaplantation.com
Telfair en	2,000	\$250,000-\$1,000,000+	telfairlife.com
Westheimer Lakes	592	\$130,000-\$300,000	canyongate.com/commu ties/west
Weston Lakes	1,400	\$200,000-\$3,000,000	wlakes.com
GALVESTON COUNTY			
Harborwalk Yacht Club		\$500,000-\$1,000,000+	harborwalk.com
West Ranch	766	\$290,000-\$800,000	visitwestranch.com

\$140,000-\$190,000

pulte.com/houston

The Village at Tuscan Lakes

COMMUNITY	SIZE (in acres)	PRICE RANGE	WEBSITE
HARRIS COUNTY			
Bridgeland	11,400	\$250,000-\$1,000,000+	bridgeland.com
Canyon Lakes at Stone Gate	1,800	\$130,000-\$300,000	canyongate.com
Cinco Ranch	7,600	\$170,000-\$1,000,000+	cincoranch.com
Coles Crossing	1,500	\$250,000-\$1,000,000+	colescrossing-hoa.com
Copperfield	2,000	\$80.000-\$250.000	copperfield.org
Cypress Creek Lakes	1,600	\$190,000-\$600,000	cypresscreeklakes.com
Eagle Springs	1,300	\$140,000-\$500,000	insideeaglesprings.com
Fairfield	3,200	\$220,000-\$600,000	visitfairfield.com
Fall Creek	2,300	\$150,000-\$2,000,000	fallcreekhouston.com
Falls at Imperial Oaks	1,516	\$160,000-\$300,000	fallsatimperialoaks.com
Gleannloch Farms	2,100	\$150,000-\$1,000,000+	calatlantichomes.com
Grand Lakes	1,250	\$150,000-\$500,000	grandlakeslife.com
Hayden Lakes	200	\$240,000-\$470,000	haydenlakes.com
Park Lakes	1,500	\$100,000-\$400,000	canyongate.com/commur ties/park
Porch Street on Adele		\$499,000+	
South Shore Harbour	2,200	\$150,000-\$1,000,000+	
Stone Gate	1,800	\$130,000-\$400,000	stone-gate-houston.com
Summerwood	1,500	\$140,000+	summerwoodlife.com
Towne Lake	2,400	\$200,000-\$600,000	townelaketexas.com
The Woodlands	28,000	\$120,000-\$2,000,000+	thewoodlands.com
Vintage di Vita		\$210,000-\$280.000	pulte.com/houston
Waters Edge on Lake Houston		\$150,000-\$330,000	pulte.com/houston
Wimbledon Falls		\$180,000-\$260,000	pulte.com/houston
WindRose	1,121	\$150,000-\$700,000	windroseca.org
WoodCreek Reserve	500	\$250,000-\$1,000,000+	woodcreekreserve.com
MONTGOMERY COUNTY			
Auburn Lakes	500	\$190,000–\$1,000,000+	auburnlakeshoa.org
Bentwater	1,400	\$300,000-\$1,000,000+	bentwater.com

MONTGOMERY COUNTY			
Auburn Lakes	500	\$190,000-\$1,000,000+	auburnlakeshoa.org
Bentwater	1,400	\$300,000-\$1,000,000+	bentwater.com
Crown Ranch	7,100	\$300,000-\$1,000,000+	crownranch.com
Graystone Hills	331	\$190,000-\$600,000	graystonehills.com
Harmony	1,150	\$170,000-\$400,000	harmony-houston.com
Imperial Oaks	1,400	\$320,000+	imperialoaks.com
Kingwood	15,000	\$160,000-\$1,000,000+	kingwoodonline.com
Spring Lakes	250	\$130,000-\$270,000	springlakesahoa.org
Woodforest	3,000	\$200,000-\$1,000,000+	woodforesttx.com
The Woodlands	28,000	\$120,000-\$2,000,000+	thewoodlands.com
Woodson's Reserve	692		woodsonsreserve.com

Source: Houston Association of Realtors



DISCOVER COSMOPOLITAN LIVING ON WHATEVER SCALE YOU CHOOSE

Now that you're here, it's time to discover the things that make Houston so special. The city can be experienced on many different levels—large or small—depending on what you're looking for. One thing's for sure: there's no shortage of things to do, places to go, or events to experience, and the Houston lifestyle reflects just that.



HOUSTON-BASED RESTAURANT CHAINS

These are just a few of the major restaurant chains that began in Houston.

Carrabba's Italian Grill carrabbas.co



Berryhill Baja Grill

berryhillbajagrill.com



Kim-Son Vietnamese Restaurant kimson com



Landry's Seafood House landrysinc.com







Niko Niko's Greek & **American Café** nikonikos com



Pappas Restaurants pappas.com



Perry's Steakhouse & Grille perryssteakhouse.com



Shipley Do-Nuts shipleydonuts.com



EAT

With a population as ethnically diverse as Houston's, it stands to reason that an eclectic restaurant scene would emerge. And that's exactly what has happened. In fact, Houston has become a food lover's paradise. Name any country and most likely there is a restaurant in the Houston area that serves delectable dishes from "back home."

The great restaurants in Houston come in all price ranges and sizes, and are found all around town. With such a vast and varied assortment of eateries from which to choose, many Houstonians rely on word of mouth to make their selections. Reliable online restaurant guides from OpenTable, Zagat, and Yelp are also available to help newcomers get their culinary bearings. Local favorites for exceptional dining include Tony's, Uchi, & Provisions, Pappas Steakhouse, Coltivare, Caracol, Ouisie's Table, and Café Annie. Other local establishments feature Gulf Coast seafood, Chinese, Indian, French, Italian, Persian, Thai, Vietnamese, Japanese, Korean, Hunan, Puerto Rican, Brazilian, Peruvian, and Argentinean cuisine—a virtual smorgasbord of flavors you owe it to yourself to experience. A few more casual hotspots include Gatlin's Barbecue, Andes Café, Irma's Southwest and the Original Ninfa's on Navigation.

It seems that one word has been on the lips of foodies everywhere for a while now, and that word is, "brunch." Who doesn't love waking up after 11 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday and still getting a huge breakfast, not to mention mimosas and Bloody Marys? Hot spots for weekend brunch in Houston include Hugos, Piggy's Kitchen & Bar, Backstreet

Café, the Dunlavy and Common Bond. For those looking to get a little closer to their food, local farmers' markets spring up around Houston on the weekends, where vendors proudly display their homegrown fare and homemade product. The Urban Harvest Farmers Market (urbanharvest. org) is held Saturdays yearround and boasts more than 50 farmers and vendors selling everything from freshly harvested produce and artisan breads to grass-fed beef and emu eggs.

In the case you're not quite sure how to prepare your grocery store or farmers' market items, several cooking classes around the city will teach you to be the chef in your own five-star restaurant! Well Done Cooking Classes (1208 E. 29th 832-782-3518) offers hands-on cooking classes in a cozy, intimate kitchen area. Teachers provide one-onone, personalized lessons as well as group lessons, ranging from cooking basics to how to throw a dinner party. For large events, one of Houston's many catering companies may be the way to go. TJ's Catering (1100 W. Dallas St., 713-974-5442) has been regarded by the Houston Business Journal as one of Houston's largest and most established catering companies. Many of Houston's top restaurants also offer private dining spaces for large events such as business meetings and rehearsal dinners. State of Grace, Eddie V's, Flemings, III Forks, and Brennan's all offer large, private dining spaces.



SHOP

Houston is indeed a shopping mecca. From lavish malls like The Galleria and Memorial City to "storefront neighborhoods" like Post Oak, Highland Village, Uptown Park, River Oaks District, and Rice Village, Houston's shopping scene is as vibrant and diverse as the city itself.

The Galleria is the seventh-largest mall in the United States and is known worldwide for its vast array of shops. If you are looking for precious jewelry, The Galleria hosts Cartier, David Yurman, Kay Jewelers, Pandora, Swarovski Crystal, and Tiffany & Co., to name a few. Designer labels at The Galleria include Chanel, Burberry, Armani, Gucci, Louis Vuitton, St. John, and Versace. Department stores such as Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom, Macy's, and Saks Fifth Avenue all have stores here as well.

For everything you need to decorate your new Houston home, there's Crate & Barrel, Williams-Sonoma, Restoration Hardware, IKEA, Pottery Barn, and much more. GreenStreet, formerly Houston Pavilions, offers more than just shopping, with great dining, entertainment, and green space all in one convenient downtown spot. Go bargain hunting on Harwin Drive, or head to Dao Chloe Dao and Abejas in Rice Village for great local boutique shopping.

Visit Katy Mills Outlet Mall, on Interstate 10 in Katy, for

bargain shopping. Outlet stores include Nine West, Tommy Hilfiger, Nike, Juicy Couture, GAP, and Gymboree. Both Conroe and Cypress boast outlet malls with their own bargains.

For groceries, many Houstonians like Central Market, Whole Foods, H-E-B, Costco, Rice Epicurean, Fiesta Mart, and Phoenicia Specialty Foods.

Antique stores and art galleries abound in the Museum District along Bissonnet Street, the Upper Kirby area along Ferndale Street, the Montrose area along Hazard Street, and in the Heights along both Yale Street and Heights Boulevard. For those antiquing on a budget, the Thompson Antique Center of Texas on Hempstead Road is home to 190 dealer spaces within 108,000 square feet. Here, vintage boots, hats, clothing, and costume jewelry are well-priced.

Less than a two-hour drive out of the city, the little towns of Chappell Hill and Round Top host annual antique and flea markets that attract the most discriminating collectors.

Most anything you could ever want or need to purchase can be found within the Houston city limits. Whether it's exotic wine, the latest children's toys, rock climbing equipment, or a rare textile, no matter what you're looking for and no matter how much or how little you want to spend, you're bound to find it—and more—in Houston.

HOUSTON SHOPPING CENTERS

Almeda Mall

12200 Gulf Freeway Houston, TX 77034 713-944-1010 almedamall.com

Baybrook Mall

1132 Baybrook Mall Drive Friendswood, TX 77546 281-488-4627 baybrookmall.com

Brazos Mall

100 State Highway 332 West Lake Jackson, TX 77566 979-297-8002 shopbrazosmall.com

Brazos Town Center

U.S. Highway 59 at F.M. 762 (Thompson Road) Rosenberg, TX 77471 281-477-4324 brazostowncenter.com

City Centre

800 Town and Country Blvd. Houston, TX 77024 713-629-5200 citycentrehouston.com

Deerbrook Mall

20131 U.S. Highway 59 North Humble, TX 77338 281-446-5300 shopdeerbrookmall.com

First Colony Mall

16535 Southwest Freeway Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-265-6123 firstcolonymall.com

Fountains on the Lake

12520 Fountain Lake Circle Stafford, TX 77477 281-277-6700

Greenspoint Mall

12300 North Freeway Houston, TX 77060 281-875-6255 greenspointmall.com

Houston Premium Outlets

29300 Hempstead Road Cypress, TX 77433 281-304-5820 premiumoutlets.com

Katy Mills Mall

5000 Katy Mills Circle Katy, TX 77494 281-644-5015 katymills.com

Mall of the Mainland

10000 Emmett F. Lowry Expressway Texas City, TX 77591 409-986-7000

Memorial City Mall

303 Memorial City Way Houston, TX 77024 713-464-8640 memorialcitymall.com

Meyerland Plaza

4700 Beechnut St. Houston, TX 77096 713-664-1166

Northline Commons

4400 North Freeway Houston, TX 77022 713-692-6131 northlinecommons.com

Northwest Mall

9500 Hempstead Road Houston, TX 77092 713-681-1303 northwest-mall.com

Pearland Town Center

11200 Broadway St. Pearland, TX 77584 713-340-0704 pearlandtowncenter.com

Plaza Paseo

171 Pasadena Town Square Mall Pasadena, TX 77506 713-473-8500 plazapaseomall.com

PlazAmericas

7500 Bellaire Blvd. Houston, TX 77036 713-777-1111 plazamericas.com

San Jacinto Mall

16900 Garth Road Baytown, TX 77521 281-421-4533 sanjacintomall.com

Sugar Land Town Square

15958 City Walk Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-276-6000 sugarlandtownsquare.com

The Galleria

5085 Westheimer Road Houston, TX 77056 713-966-3500 galleriahouston.com

The Woodlands Mall

1201 Lake Woodlands Drive The Woodlands, TX 77380 281-363-3409 thewoodlandsmall.com

Town & Country Village

12850 Memorial Drive Houston, TX 77024 713-464-7353 townandcountryvillage.com

West Grand Promenade

23523 Grand Circle Blvd. Katy, TX 77449 281-574-3311

West Oaks Mall

1000 West Oaks Mall Houston, TX 77082 281-531-1332 shopwestoaksmall.com

Willowbrook Mall

2000 Willowbrook Drive Houston, TX 77070 281-890-8000 shopwillowbrookmall.com

GET FIT

Staying in shape just seems to be easier in Houston. Being a southern city, Houston enjoys mild winters that allow for outdoor activities year-round. To that end, there are hundreds of miles of hike-and-bike trails, and neighborhoods provide picturesque environments for early morning or evening walks, runs, or rides. Fitness centers abound, from exclusive private clubs like the Houstonian, the Houston City Club, and the Houston Racquet Club and nationally franchised centers like 24 Hour Fitness and Lifetime Fitness to local YMCAs and independent fitness facilities. Many of these facilities offer a wide range of options for fitness and exercise, including yoga, pilates, racquetball, karate, jazzercise, spinning, swimming, basketball, weight training, and more.

Two of the most popular jogging trails make their way around the outer perimeters of Memorial Park and Rice University. The Seymour Lieberman Exercise Trail at Memorial Park is a 2.93-mile crushed granite and packed-earth, lighted jogging trail with restrooms and water fountains along the way. The trail around Rice University is also approximately three miles in length and follows a picturesque, oak-tree-shaded path within the vibrant area in which the campus lies—adjacent to West University neighborhoods, the Texas Medical Center, and Hermann Park. The trail is not lighted and there are no restrooms or water fountains.

It can be easy to forget that Houston is only an hour by car from Galveston Island, and around five hours from any other



Texas beach. Along the Gulf of Mexico runs 624 miles of Texas shoreline, perfect for swimming, jogging, beach volleyball, surfing, and diving. Houston is also flourishing with public swimming pools, including Colonial Park, Dezavala, Love, Independence Heights, and Memorial.

For those who enjoy dancing to keep fit, Houston dance studios and workshops offer styles from salsa to ballroom, hip-hop to country western. Some, like the Beginners Only Social Ballroom on Westheimer Road, teach casual and social dancing with a partner. Others, like Dance Passion Dance Studio near Richmond Avenue, offer vigerous solo and partner lessons.

If tennis is your game, you'll find three major tennis centers and more than 200 neighborhood courts. The city's three main tennis centers are Homer Ford in MacGregor Park, Memorial, and Lee LeClear in southwest Houston. There is also an abundance of private and public golf courses and country clubs throughout Houston that maintain excellent greens and amenities. For a list of local courses, see p. 78.

Other private fitness and exercise facilities exist as resident amenities in many apartment complexes, high-rise condominiums, gated communities, and private neighborhoods. Ask your realtor for specific details in the areas of the city you may be interested in.

HOUSTON PARKS

Of all the things that make living in Houston so enjoyable, high on the list are the city and county parks. Whether you'd like to relax beside a tranquil lake, jog amid an urban forest of tall pines, kayak down a freshwater bayou with glistening skyscrapers as a backdrop, or take the family for a picnic and listen to live music, you can do it all in Houston-practically year-round.

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (houstontx. gov/parks) oversees 366 parks and more than 200 green spaces, along more than 125 miles of hike-and-bike trails. The Harris County Park System website (hctx.net/parks) provides detailed information and maps of parks as varied as the Armand Bayou Nature Center, Bear Creek Pioneers Park, George Bush Park, and Terry Hershey Park.

According to the Trust for Public Land, Houston was ranked first in the nation for total green space among cities of comparable density and fourth in the nation for total land devoted to parks. The watersheds that drain Harris County contain more than 800 miles of natural streams and 3,000 miles of human-made waterways.

Major city parks include the 445-acre Hermann Park nestled between the Museum District, the Texas Medical Center, and Rice University. Hermann Park is the home of a Sam Houston statue, the Houston Zoo, the Houston Museum of Natural Science, Lake McGovern, Miller Outdoor Theatre, a miniature train, the Houston Garden Center, an 18-hole golf course, and more.

Memorial Park, encompassing nearly 1,500 acres, is about four miles west of downtown. It features a three-mile tree-lined jogging trail, 18-hole golf course, driving range, an 18-court tennis center, fitness center, 33-meter swimming pool, playing fields, and picnic areas. The park area includes the Houston

Arboretum and Nature Center, a 155acre preserve with more than five miles of quiet, self-guided trails.

DISCOVERY GREEN

A 12-acre park in downtown Houston, Discovery Green opened to the public in 2008. With its proximity to the George R. Brown Convention Center, Minute Maid Park, and Toyota Center, Discovery Green is in an ideal location.

From the earliest stages of planning, Discovery Green was designed to use the latest technology in "green" building methods, energy conservation, and sustainable park operations. Among the features that make it so "green" are solar panels that have generated energy for the park since their installation in late 2007, and a high-efficiency irrigation system. Discovery Green has earned a Gold rating from the LEED Green Building Rating System, which is the national benchmark for the design, construction, and operations of high-performance green buildings.

"Discovery Green stands as a beaming example of environmental best practices applied to a public project that has become the centerpiece of Houston's downtown," said Mayor Sylvester Turner.

Prominent features include a children's playground, interactive water features, an amphitheater stage and slope, dog runs for large and small breeds, artwork, the HPL Express (a multipurpose Houston Public Library facility), open lawns, and great restaurants-the Grove and the Lake House—operated by Schiller Del Grande Restaurant Group. In addition to surface lot and park perimeter parking, the Convention District Garage, operated by the City of Houston, lies beneath the

The Andrea and Bill White Promenade forms the heart of the park and offers a 360-degree view of Houston's skyline. Kinder Lake, encompassing more than an acre of the park, features water gardens and a model-boat area, a shallow pool specifically designed to accommodate remote-controlled watercraft operated by parkgoers of all ages.

Overlooking the park's live oaks, Schiller Del Grande's restaurant, The Grove, and its rooftop bar, The Treehouse, offer patrons exceptional food, service, and views of the park. The Lake House offers fast, casual, family-friendly food, with views of Kinder Lake and the Jones Lawn.

The Anheuser-Busch stage hosts a variety of musical, theatrical, film, and dance performances, and is oriented toward a sloped lawn for audience seating. When the stage is not in use, it is open to all parkgoers as space for working, lounging or dining near The Lake House.

The Jones Lawn is the park's largest green space, providing ample area for major events or pickup sports. The Brown Foundation Promenade is shaded by hundred-year-old oak trees, the largest of which is the Nancy G. Kinder Oak near Avenida de las Americas, one of four large live oaks that were moved to the park.

The John P. McGovern Children's Playground is carved into an existing, treeshaded hill, which shields youngsters from the surrounding streets and integrates the theme of the major migratory bird flyway over Houston. Individual species are represented in the playscapes, and accompanying signs educate visitors. Overlooking the Gateway Fountain and the children's playground, the Alkek Building houses the park's staff offices, information center, and public restrooms. The fountain offers a visual entry to the park for visitors approaching from McKinney Street and is an extension of the playground area. Two systems of jets create a variety of water activity atop a gently sloping granite surface, with 14-foot-high arching jets serving as gateway landmarks and with smaller jets cycling on and off to invite visitors for a closer look or some fun in the spray.

Discovery Green features public art, too, such as works by artists Margo Sawyer and Doug Hollis. Great care was taken to ensure that the installations would be visually prominent, yet at home in the park's environment. In addition, Jean Dubuffet's Monument au Fantôme, an iconic sculpture by the world-renowned artist, has been relocated to the park.

But Discovery Green is more than a beautiful green space; it is an experience waiting to be enjoyed. The park comes to life with active programming during its spring/summer and fall/winter seasons. Regularly scheduled music, dance, and theater performances, as well as films, exercise classes, children's events, and an urban market, constitute the backbone of park programming. Park spaces also may be reserved for private and public events.

Discovery Green is open daily from 6 a.m. until 11 p.m. For more information and a list of events, visit discoverygreen.com.





HOUSTON SPORTS

Houston is a major-league sports town where fans can cheer for a variety of professional, semi-pro, and collegiate teams yearround. Get into the action with the 2005 National League Champion Houston Astros at Minute Maid Park or score a touchdown with the Texans at NRG Stadium, the world's first retractable-roof NFL stadium. Grab courtside seats to see the two-time world-champion Houston Rockets at Toyota Center.

BBVA Compass Stadium, home of the Dynamos and the Dash, hosts numerous soccer matches throughout the year.

Other annual professional sporting events include the Shell Houston Open and the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo-the world's largest.

PROFESSIONAL TEAMS

I HUI LUUIUNAL ILAINU	
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL HOUSTON ASTROS Minute Maid Park houston.astros.mlb.com	SOUS TOP
National Basketball Association HOUSTON ROCKETS Toyota Center nba.com/rockets	HOUSTON ROCKETS
NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE HOUSTON TEXANS NRG Stadium houstontexans.com	TEXANS
MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER HOUSTON DYNAMO BBVA Compass Stadium houstondynamo.com	DYNAMO
NATIONAL WOMEN'S SOCCER LEAGUE HOUSTON DASH BBVA Compass Stadium houstondynamo.com/houstondash	DASH

COLLEGIATE TEAMS

Houston sports don't stop at pro. The region's collegiate teams— Rice University, University of Houston, Texas Southern University, Houston Baptist University, and Prairie View A&M—round out the options, competing in most major sports. Rice won the baseball College World Series in 2003 and the Conference USA baseball Championship in 2006. University of Houston was the Conference USA football champion in 2006.

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON COUGARS American Athletic Conference	
RICE OWLS Conference USA	K
HOUSTON BAPTIST UNIVERSITY HUSKIES Southland Conference	Huskies
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY TIGERS Southwestern Athletic Conference	SI
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M PANTHERS Southwestern Athletic Conference	PVAMU

THE PERFORMING ARTS

Houston is one of a few cities in the United States that can boast major symphony, ballet, opera, and theater companies of worldwide acclaim. The downtown Theater District—which includes the Alley Theater, Jones Hall, the Hobby Center, and the Wortham Center—is the vibrant heart of the city's tremendous cultural assets. Thanks to the Society for the Performing Arts, Houstonians routinely have access to some of the world's best musical, dance, and theatrical talent.

HOUSTON BALLET

Cited by the *New York Times* as "one of the nation's best ballet companies," the Houston Ballet is the fourth-largest company in the United States. The ensemble of more than 50 dancers performs around the world and treats Houston's ballet aficionados to more than 100 performances a year in the Wortham Center.

HOUSTON SYMPHONY

An integral part of the local arts scene since 1913, the Houston Symphony performs more than 170 concerts a year at Jones Hall, Miller Outdoor Theatre in Hermann Park, and the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion in The Woodlands.

HOUSTON OPERA

One of the nation's largest opera companies, Houston Grand Opera is internationally recognized for its innovative repertoire that blends the classics with contemporary works and world premieres. Houston Grand Opera is the only opera company in the nation to win two Grammy awards, a Tony, and two Emmys.

DA CAMERA OF HOUSTON

Founded in 1987, Da Camera brings together leading American and

international musicians. It is nationally acclaimed for provocative chamber music, contemporary music and an annual jazz series that showcases renowned performers and emerging artists.

Other musical offerings in Houston are performed by such groups as the Houston Friends of Music, the Houston Masterworks Chorus, the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston, and the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University.

CENTER STAGE

Houston's rich theatrical tradition began in 1947 with the opening of the Alley Theatre in, literally, an alley. Today the Alley is one of only a few professional theaters in the country to employ its own resident company of actors. Performances are year-round in the Alley's two-theater complex—the 824-seat Hubbard Stage and the 310-seat Neuhaus Stage.

THEATRE UNDER THE STARS

Theatre Under the Stars (TUTS), one of the largest nonprofit producers of musical theater in the country, has cast more than 300 musicals in its 45-year history to national acclaim. TUTS stages Broadway classics, world premieres and new works at the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts downtown—also home to Broadway in Houston, featuring touring productions of Broadway hits.

Other local theater groups include Stages Repertory Theatre, A. D. Players, Main Street Theater, and the Ensemble Theatre, as well as the Rice Players at Rice University and the University of Houston's annual Houston Shakespeare Festival.

MUST-SEE MUSEUMS

Houston's renowned Museum District lies just south of downtown, near Hermann Park, the Texas Medical Center and Rice University. A dynamic testament to the



THE HOUSTON Piiri IC I Irrary

serves the area's two million-plus residents with 31 neighborhood branches, four regional libraries, three special collection libraries. the HPL Mobile Express, and the Children's Museum of Houston satellite library. To learn about reading programs and find the Houston Public Library closest to you, visit houstonlibrary.org.

city's commitment to the visual arts, the district offers something for everyone—with special touring exhibits throughout the year. Eighteen museums are located within the district. Learn more about Houston's burgeoning Museum District on p. 42.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, HOUSTON

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), which opened in 1924 as the first art museum in Texas, has a collection of more than 56,000 works. Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens, the restored mansion of Houston philanthropist Ima Hogg, houses decorative arts and contains one of the finest collections of American furniture, paintings, glass, and textiles from 1620 to 1870. Another home, Rienzi, donated to MFAH by Houston philanthropists Harris Masterson III and his wife, Carroll Sterling Masterson, holds the Southwest's most important collection of European decorative art, including ceramics, furniture, paintings, and sculpture.

HOUSTON MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCEINCE

The Houston Museum of Natural Science features more than a dozen permanent exhibit areas showcasing space science, Native Americans, paleontology, energy, chemistry, gems and minerals, seashells, Texas and African wildlife, and ancient Egyptian culture. Included within the museum are the Wortham IMAX Theatre, the Cockrell Butterfly Center and the Burke Baker Planetarium. The museum's satellite facility, the George Observatory, is located in Brazos Bend State Park, southwest of the city. It houses the largest telescope available for public viewing in the Houston area: a 36-

CONTEMPORARY ARTS MUSEUM

The Contemporary Arts Museum is a museum for visual arts focusing on international, national, and regional art of the last 40 years. And the Menil Collection displays an immensely significant private collection of nearly 16,000 works dating from the Paleolithic period to present day. Other museums in the district include Cy Twombly Gallery and the Byzantine Fresco Chapel, which are parts of the Menil Collection, as well as the Rothko Chapel, the Children's Museum of Houston, and the Health Museum.

SAN JACINTO MUSEUM OF HISTORY

Historical museums of interest include the San Jacinto Museum of History, within the San Jacinto Monument at San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site, featuring a wealth of artifacts and documents covering more than 400 years of early history. Within the Museum District are the Holocaust Museum, which tells the stories of Houston-area survivors of the Holocaust through film, photographs and exhibits, and the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum, which preserves the history, tradition, and contributions of African-American soldiers since 1866.

SPACE CENTER HOUSTON

South of Houston in Clear Lake is the Disney-designed Space Center Houston, the visitors' center for NASA's Johnson Space Center. It features Texas' largest IMAX Theatre, live demonstrations, space capsules, space suits, and the world's largest collection of moon rocks.



LIVE PERFORMANCE VENUES

A. D. Players

713-526-2721 adplayers.org

Alley Theatre

713-228-9341 alleytheatre.org

Arena Theatre

713-772-5900 arenahouston.com

Ars Lyrica Houston

713-315-2525 arslyricahouston.org

Bayou City Performing Arts

713-521-7464 gmch.org

Broadway Across America Houston

713-622-7469

broad way a cross a merica. com/Houston

Crighton Players

936-539-4090 crightonplayers.org

Cynthia Woods

Mitchell Pavilion 281-363-3300

woodlandscenter.org

Cypress Creek FACE

281-440-4850 cypresscreekface.org

Da Camera of Houston

 $713\text{-}524\text{-}7601\\ \text{dacamera.com}$

Ensemble Theatre

713-520-0055 ensemblehouston.com

Express Children's Theatre

713-682-5044 expresstheatre.com

Gente de Teatro

713-826-0445 gentedeteatro.org

Grand 1894 Opera House

409-765-1894 thegrand.com

HITS Theatre 713-861-7408 hitstheatre.org

Hobby Center for

the Performing Arts

713-315-2400 thehobbycenter.org

Houston Ballet

713-227-2787 houstonballet.org

Houston Children's Chorus

713-650-3800 houstonchildren.org

Houston Friends of Music

713-348-5400

houstonfriendsofmusic.org

Houston Grand Opera

713-546-0200 houstongrandopera.org

Houston Masterworks Chorus

713-529-8900

houstonmasterworkschorus.org

Houston Shakespeare Festival

713-743-3003

houstonfestivalscompany.com/hsf

Houston Symphony

713-224-4240 houstonsymphony.org

Houston Theater District

houstontheaterdistrict.org

Jesse H. Jones Hall for the Performing Arts

713-227-3974

houstontx.gov/joneshall

Kingwood Pops Orchestra

281-319-7677 kingwoodpops.org

Kuumba House Dance Theatre

713-524-1079

kuumbahoused ance the atre. org

Main Street Theater

713-524-6706 mainstreettheater.com

Masquerade Theatre

713-861-7045

masqueradetheatre.com

Mercury Baroque

713-533-0080 mercurybaroque.org

Miller Outdoor Theatre

281-FREE-FUN

milleroutdoortheatre.com

Moores School of Music

713-743-3009 music.uh.edu

Multicultural Education and Counseling

Through the Arts (MECA)

713-802-9370 meca-houston.org

Musiqa

713-524-5678 musiqahouston.org

Opera in the Heights

713-861-5303 operaintheheights.org

Queensbury Theatre

713-467-4497

queensburytheatre.org

Rice Players

713-348-7529 players.rice.edu/home

Shepherd School of Music

713-348-4854 music.rice.edu

Society for the Performing Arts

 $713\text{-}227\text{-}4772\\ \text{spahouston.org}$

Stages Repertory Theatre

713-527-0123 stagestheatre.com

Talento Bilingüe de Houston

713-222-1213 tbhcenter.org

Theater LaB Houston

713-868-7516

theaterlabhouston.com

Theatre Under the Stars (TUTS)

713-558-2600 tuts.com

Wortham Center

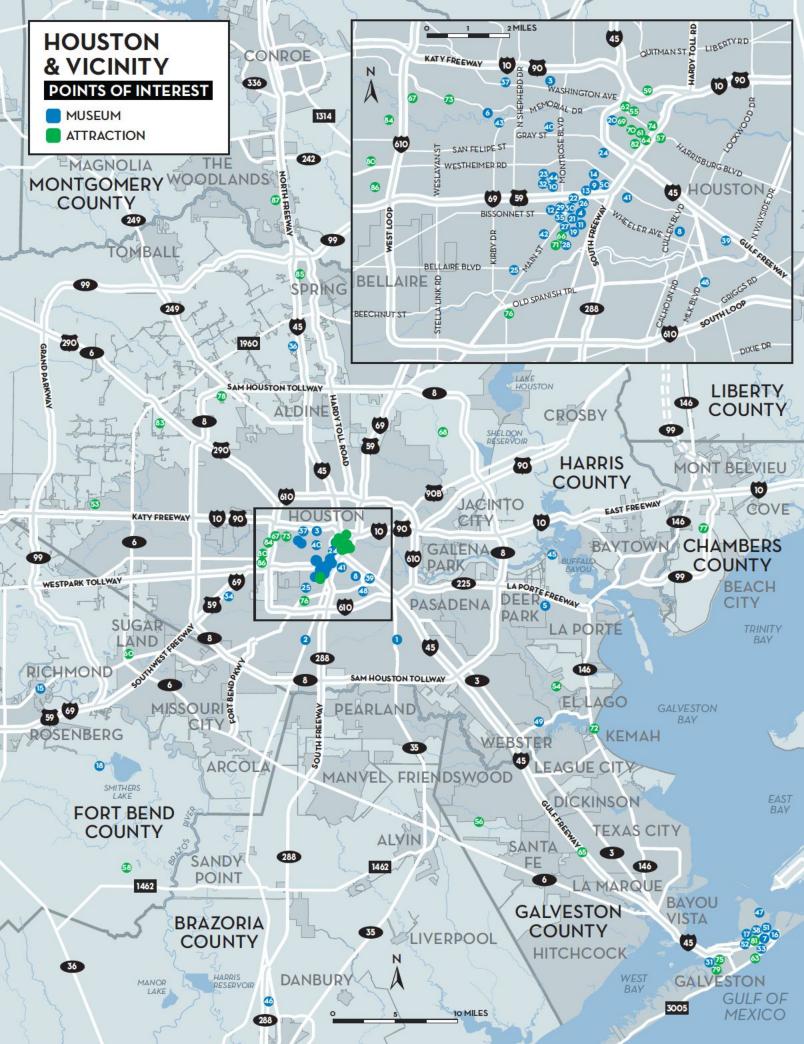
713 - 237 - 1439

houstontx.gov/worthamcenter



HOUSTON-AREA MUSEUMS, GALLERIES, AND CULTURAL CENTERS | NUMBERS CORRESPOND TO MAP ON PAGE 75

1	1940 Air Terminal Museum	Hobby Airport, 8325 Travelair Street	Houston, TX 77061	1940airterminal.org
2	American Cowboy Museum	11822 Almeda Road	Houston, TX 77045	
3	Art Car Museum	140 Heights Blvd.	Houston, TX 77007	artcarmuseum.com
4	Asia Society Texas Center	1370 Southmore Blvd.	Houston, TX 77004	asiasociety.org/texas
5	Battleship Texas State Historic Site	3523 Battleground Road	La Porte, TX 77571	
6	Bayou Bend Collection & Gardens	6003 Memorial Drive	Houston, TX 77265	mfah.org/bayoubend
7	Bishop's Palace	1402 Broadway Ave.	Galveston, TX 77550	galveston.com/bishopspalace
8	Blaffer Art Museum	University of Houston, 4800 Calhoun Road	Houston, TX 77004	blafferartmuseum.org
9	Buffalo Soldier National Museum	3816 Caroline St.	Houston, TX 77004	buffalosoldiermuseumtx.com
10	Byzantine Fresco Chapel Museum	4011 Yupon St.	Houston, TX 77006	byzantinefrescochapel.org
11	Children's Museum of Houston	1500 Binz St.	Houston, TX 77004	cmhouston.org
12	Contemporary Arts Musuem Houston	5216 Montrose Blvd.	Houston, TX 77006	camh.org
13	Czech Center Museum Houston	San Jacinto St.	Houston, TX 77004	czechcenter.org
14	DiverseWorks	3400 Main St., #292	Houston, TX 77002	diverseworks.org
15	Fort Bend Museum	500 Houston St.	Richmond, TX 77469	fortbendmuseum.org
16	Galveston County Historical Museum	2219 Market St.	Galveston, TX 77550	
17	Galveston Railroad Museum	2602 Santa Fe Place	Galveston, TX 77550	galvestonrrmuseum.com
18	George Ranch Historical Park	10205 FM 762	Richmond, TX 77469	georgeranch.org
19	Health Museum	1515 Hermann Drive	Houston, TX 77004	thehealthmuseum.org
20	Heritage Society	1100 Bagby St.	Houston, TX 77002	heritagesociety.org
21	Holocaust Museum Houston	5401 Caroline St.	Houston, TX 77004	hmh.org
22	Houston Center for Contemporary Craft	4848 Main St.	Houston, TX 77002	crafthouston.org
23	Houston Center for Photography	1441 W. Alabama St.	Houston, TX 77006	hcponline.org
24	Houston Fire Museum	2403 Milam St.	Houston, TX 77006	houstonfiremuseum.org
25	Houston Maritime Museum	2204 Dorrington St.	Houston, TX 77030	houstonmaritime.org
26	Houston Museum of African American Culture	4807 Caroline St.	Houston, TX 77004	hmaac.org
27	Houston Museum of Natural Science	5555 Hermann Park Drive	Houston, TX 77030	hmns.org
28	Houston Zoo	6200 Hermann Park Drive	Houston, TX 77030	houstonzoo.org
29	Jung Center	5200 Montrose Blvd.	Houston, TX 77006	junghouston.org
30	Lawndale Art Center	4912 Main St.	Houston, TX 77002	lawndaleartcenter.org
31	Lone Star Flight Museum	11551 Aerospace Avenue	Houston, TX 77034	lonestarflight.org
32	Menil Collection	1533 Sul Ross St.	Houston, TX 77006	menil.org
33	Moody Mansion Museum	2618 Broadway Avenue J	Galveston, TX 77550	moodymansion.org
34	Museum of American Architecture and Decorative Arts	Houston Baptist University, 7502 Fondren Road	Houston, TX 77074	hbu.edu
35	Museum of Fine Arts	1001 Bissonnet St.	Houston, TX 77005	mfah.org
36	National Museum of Funeral History	415 Barren Springs Drive	Houston, TX 77090	nmfh.org
37	New World Museum	5230 Center St.	Houston, TX 77007	newworldmuseum.org



V

HOUSTON-AREA MUSEUMS, GALLERIES, AND CULTURAL CENTERS (CONT.) | NUMBERS CORRESPOND TO MAP ON PAGE 75

38	Ocean Star Offshore Drilling Rig & Museum	2002 Wharf Road	Galveston, TX 77550	oceanstaroec.com
39	Orange Show Center for Visionary Art	2402 Munger St.	Houston, TX 77023	orangeshow.org
40	Printing Museum	1324 W. Clay St.	Houston, TX 77019	printingmuseum.org
41	Project Row Houses	2521 Holman St.	Houston, TX 77004	projectrowhouses.org
42	Rice Gallery	6100 Main St.	Houston, TX 77005	ricegallery.org
43	Rienzi	1406 Kirby Drive	Houston, TX 77019	mfah.org
44	Rothko Chapel	3900 Yupon St.	Houston, TX 77006	rothkochapel.org
45	San Jacinto Monument & Museum of History	One Monument Circle	La Porte, TX 77571	sanjacinto-museum.org
46	Sea Center Texas	302 Medical Drive	Lake Jackson, TX 77566	tpwd.texas.gov
47	Seawolf Park	100 Seawolf Parkway	Galveston, TX 77551	galveston.com/ seawolfpark
48	Shrine of The Black Madonna Cultural Center	5309 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.	Houston, TX 77021	theyearofrestoration.org
49	Space Center Houston	1601 NASA Road 1	Houston, TX 77058	spacecenter.org
50	Station Museum of Contemporary Art	1502 Alabama St.	Houston, TX 77004	stationmuseum.com
51	Texas Seaport Museum	2100 Harborside Drive	Galveston, TX 77550	galveston.com/ texasseaportmuseum
52	U.S. Custom House	502 20th St.	Galveston, TX 77550	galveston.com/ customhouse

HOUSTON-AREA ATTRACTIONS | NUMBERS CORRESPOND TO MAP ON PAGE 75

53	Alkek Velodrome	Cullen Park, 19008 Saums Road	Houston, TX 77084	houstoncycling.org
54	Armand Bayou Nature Center	8500 Bay Area Blvd.	Pasadena, TX 77507	abnc.org
55	Bayou Place	500 Texas Ave.	Houston, TX 77002	bayouplace.com
56	Bayou Wildlife Zoo	5050 FM 517	Alvin, TX 77511	bayouwildlifezoo.com
57	BBVA Compass Stadium	2200 Texas Ave.	Houston, TX 77003	bbvacompassstadium.com
58	Brazos Bend State Park	21901 FM 762	Needville, TX 77461	brazosbend.org
59	Buffalo Bayou	1113 Vine St.	Houston, TX 77002	buffalobayou.org
60	Constellation Field	1 Stadium Drive	Sugar Land, TX 77498	sugarlandskeeters.com
61	Discovery Green	1500 McKinney St.	Houston, TX 77010	discoverygreen.com
62	Downtown Aquarium	410 Bagby St.	Houston, TX 77002	aquariumrestaurants.com
63	Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier	2501 Seawall Blvd.	Galveston, TX 77550	pleasurepier.com
64	George R. Brown Convention Center	1001 Avenida De Las Americas	Houston, TX 77010	grbhouston.com
65	Gulf Greyhound Park	1000 FM 2004	La Marque, TX 77568	gulfgreyhound.com
66	Hermann Park	6001 Fannin St.	Houston, TX 77030	hermannpark.org
67	Houston Arboretum & Nature Center	4501 Woodway Drive	Houston, TX 77024	houstonarboretum.org
68	Houston Motorsports Park	11620 N. Lake Houston Parkway	Houston, TX 77044	houstonmotorsportspark. com
69	Houston Public Library	500 McKinney St.	Houston, TX 77002	houstonlibrary.org
70	Houston Visitors Center	1331 Lamar St., #700	Houston, TX 77010	visithoustontexas.com

71	Houston Zoo	6200 Hermann Park Drive	Houston, TX 77030	houstonzoo.org
72	Kemah Boardwalk	215 Kipp Ave.	Kemah, TX 77565	kemahboardwalk.com
73	Memorial Park	6501 Memorial Drive	Houston, TX 77007	memorialparkconservancy.org
74	Minute Maid Park	501 Crawford St.	Houston, TX 77002	astros.mlb.com
75	Moody Gardens	1 Hope Blvd	Galveston, TX 77554	moodygardens.com
76	NRG Stadium	One NRG Park, 8400 Kirby Drive	Houston, TX 770584	nrgpark.com
77	Royal Purple Raceway	2525 FM 565	Baytown, TX 77523	royalpurpleraceway.com
78	Sam Houston Race Park	7575 N. Sam Houston Parkway West	Houston, TX 77064	shrp.com
79	Schlitterbahn Galveston Island	2026 Lockheed Road	Galveston, TX 77554	schlitterbahn.com/galveston
80	The Galleria	5085 Westheimer Road	Houston, TX 77056	simon.com
81	The Strand Historic District	2228 Mechanic St.	Galveston, TX 77550	galveston.com/downtowntour
82	Toyota Center	1510 Polk St.	Houston, TX 77002	houstontoyotacenter.com
83	Traders Village	7979 N. Eldridge Parkway	Houston, TX 77041	tradersvillage.com/houston
84	Uptown Park	1121 Uptown Park Blvd.	Houston, TX 77056	uptownparkhouston.com
85	Wet 'n' Wild SplashTown	21300 N. Interstate 45	Spring, TX 77373	wetnwildsplashtown.com
86	Williams Tower Water Wall	2800 Post Oak Blvd.	Houston, TX 77056	
87	Woodlands Town Center	10001 Woodloch Forest Drive, Suite 600	The Woodlands, TX 77380	thewoodlandstx.com/towncenter

PARK FACTS

You'll find 366 developed city parks and more than 220 open spaces covering nearly 38,000 acres in the city of Houston, with many features to enjoy such as: For more detailed information on all city and county parks, go to houstontx.gov/park and harriscountytx.gov/parks/aspx

- 6 disc golf courses
- 7 golf courses
- **451** playgrounds
- **41** swimming pools
- 23 water spraygrounds
- **74** community centers
- **15** dog parks
- 219 tennis courts
- 213 baseball/softball fields
- **99** multipurpose sports fields
- 515 basketball hoops
- 8 skate parks



HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO™

Cultures from all over the world come together in Houston, and the city celebrates this diversity with exciting annual festivals and one dazzling rodeo.

Every March, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo comes to town at NRG Stadium. The largest livestock show and the richest regular-season Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association rodeo in the world, the event attracts more than 2.4 million visitors who come to view the animal exhibits, watch the cowboy competitions, and see their favorite music stars performing onstage. The Livestock Show and Rodeo provides millions of dollars in scholarships to area students. Each year a "Go Texan Day" and a spirited rodeo parade through downtown Houston kick off the main events.

What is the mission of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™?

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo was organized for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes to encourage and promote the breeding, raising, and marketing of better livestock and farm products at public fairs and to promote and maintain research and educational functions within the livestock industry. The funds of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo are used exclusively to meet necessary expenses for its upkeep and operation and in furtherance of the exempt purpose of the organization.

How does RODEOHOUSTON compare to other rodeos?

RODEOHOUSTON is the largest indoor rodeo in the world, offering a purse of more than \$2 million.

How does RODEOHOUSTON support the community?

RODEOHOUSTON committed more than \$26 million to education in 2015. Since the first scholarship was presented in 1957, RODEOHOUSTON has presented more than 17,000 scholarships.

For more information about the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, visit rodeohouston.com.

What are the dates for the upcoming Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo?

February 26-March 17, 2019

What makes RODEOHOUSTON special?

Only the top cowboys and cowgirls are invited to compete at RODEOHOUSTON.

More than \$2 million in prize money is awarded to the cowboys and cowgirls.

RODEOHOUSTON is the world's largest rodeo, with more than 2.4 million visitors in 2018.

RODEOHOUSTON features seven events:

bareback riding, barrel racing, bull riding, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, team roping, and tie-down roping.



MAJOR EVENTS IN HOUSTON



JANUARY

Chevron Houston Marathon

More than 200,000 spectators cheer on 20,000 runners as they hit the pavement for 26.2-, 13.1-, and 3.1-mile races. 713-957-3453 · chevronhoustonmarathon. com

Martin Luther King Jr. Grande Parade

More than 300,000 supporters march through the heart of Houston to celebrate the life and legacy of the civil rights leader. 713-953-1633 · mlkgrandeparade.org

The Sounds of Texas Music Series

Enjoy Texas country, swing, folk, and more at the Historic Creighton Theatre in Conroe. Runs through June. 936-441-7469 x 201 soundsoftexasmusicseries.com

FEBRUARY

Chinese Lunar New Year Festival

Join more than 15,000 visitors for a full day of performances, music, food, raffles, and more to celebrate the Lunar New Year. 713-271-6100 · ccchouston.org

Mardi Gras Galveston

Galveston's Mardi Gras celebration is one of the most popular annual events along the Texas Gulf Coast. 888-425-4753 · mardigrasgalveston.com

MARCH

Azalea Trail

The River Oaks Garden Club hosts an annual pilgrimage to pay homage to the

beautiful flowers that flourish during springtime in Houston.

713-523-2483 · riveroaksgardenclub.com

Buffalo Bayou Regatta

More than 200 paddlers take to Buffalo Bayou to participate in the state's largest canoe and kayak race.

713-752-0314 · buffalobayou.com

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™

NRG Stadium hosts one of the nation's largest rodeos featuring 20 championship rodeo competitions, the World's Championship Bar-B-Que Competition, parades, music, and more. 832-667-1000 · rodeohouston.com

Shell Houston Open

More than 150 of the world's best golfers compete in pursuit of a \$5-million-plus purse. 281-454-7000 · shellhoustonopen.com

South West International Boat Show

The Southwest's largest in-water boat show features freshwater and saltwater boats ready for boarding and viewing. 561-842-8808 · southwestinternational-boatshow.com

Tour de Houston

This annual bike ride offers riders a unique way to view the city with routes winding through Houston's historic and scenic neighborhoods and parks.

832-393-0868 · houstontx.gov/ tourdehouston

APRIL

Art Car Parade

Join 250,000 spectators to view the world's

largest parade of bizarre folk art on wheels. 713-926-6368 · thehoustonartcarparade.com

Houston Auto Show

See, touch, drive, and experience the industry's latest and greatest cars, trucks, SUVs, and more.

832-667-1400 · houstonautoshow.com

Houston Children's Festival

Enjoy a weekend of fun, educational entertainment in a family-friendly atmosphere. The festival features several stages, themed family adventures, and more than 300 activities.
713-529-1396 · houstonchildrensfestival.com

Japan Festival

Celebrate Japanese traditions in Hermann Park's beautiful Japanese Garden. Two stages showcase music, dance, martial arts, and other demonstrations. 713-963-0121 · houstonjapanfest.org

Sugar Land Wine & Food Affair

This five-day culinary festival attracts thousands of food and wine lovers to enjoy food tastings, vintner dinners, bartending battles, brunches, and more.
713-747-9463 · sugarlandwineandfoodaffair.com

WorldFest: Houston International Film Festival

WorldFest is the oldest independent film festival in the world. The 10-day event includes feature films, shorts, screenplays, TV commercials, music videos, and documentaries. 713-965-9955 · worldfest.org

MAY

Cinco de Mayo Celebration

MAJOR EVENTS IN HOUSTON



Head to Traders Village for an afternoon of live music, food, and family fun. tradersvillage.com

Galveston Historic Homes Tour

The Galveston Historical Foundation opens the doors to the city's architectural history with public tours of privately owned homes. $409\text{-}765\text{-}7834 \cdot galveston history.org$

Houston Barbecue Festival

Join 2,500 BBQ fans for a day of sampling some of the city's best smoked meat and more

832-454-6106 · houbbq.com

Houston Dragon Boat Festival

Enjoy the exciting tradition of dragon boat



competition and celebrate Asian culture with music and dance performances, diverse cuisine, educational workshops, and family-friendly games and activities. 713-524-3567 · texasdragonboat.com

Pasadena Strawberry Festival

Guests enjoy a parade, a barbecue cook-off, a beauty pageant, arts and crafts, live music, and the world's largest strawberry shortcake. 281-991-9500 · strawberryfest.org

JUNE

Carnival Houston Show & Parade

Music, cuisine, revelry, a carnival costume parade, and dance performances are just part of the celebration of Brazilian culture around the city.

832-614-9337 · carnivalhouston.com

Comicpalooza

The George R. Brown Convention Center hosts The Lone Star State's largest comic and pop culture event. comicpalooza.com

Free Press Summer Fest

Houston's biggest music festival kicks off the summer at Eleanor Tinsley Park with two days of some of the biggest names in music. 713-520-0155 · aiahouston.org

Houston World Series of Dog Shows

NRG Stadium hosts one of the country's best indoor dog shows, featuring breed judging, obedience, agility races, flyball competitions, and more. houstondogshows.com

Juneteenth Celebration

Head to Hermann Park to celebrate the day Texas learned of President Abraham Lincoln's signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. 832-429-4432 · juneteenthfest.com

Pride Houston

More than 1,000 participants entertain 350,000 spectators with a parade of light, color, and sound with floats, costumes, and performances to celebrate gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transsexual culture. 713-529-6979 · pridehouston.org

JULY

Freedom Over Texas Festival

Houston's official Fourth of July celebration takes place at Eleanor Tinsley Park and features live entertainment, food, drink, and a world-famous fireworks display. 713-247-3500 · houstontx.gov

Houston Shakespeare Festival

For more than 40 years, the University of Houston pays tribute to the famous playwright with free performances in Hermann Park. 713-743-2929

houstonfestivalscompany.com

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus

See the "Greatest Show on Earth," including elephants, acrobats, Arabian horses, and more.

832-667-1400 · ringling.com

Star Spangled Salute

The Houston Symphony performs at Hermann Park, followed by fireworks and a dramatic 16-cannon salute. 713-533-3276 · houstonparks.org

AUGUST

AIA Sandcastle Competition

More than 60 teams sculpt piles of sand to be judged on originality, artistic execution, technical difficulty, carving technique, and more. 713-520-0155 · aiahouston.org

Houston International Jazz Festival

See some of the biggest names in jazz perform in downtown Houston. 713-839-7000 · jazzeducation.org

Theater District Open House

Celebrate Houston's world-class Theater District with backstage tours, live performances, and set and costume displays. 713-658-8938 · theaterdistrictopenhouse.com

SEPTEMBER

Fiestas Patrias International Parade

Celebrate Mexican Independence day with dancers spinning down the streets to festive music and the crowning of Miss Fiestas Patrias. 281-890-5500 · hispanichouston.com

Houston Art Fair

See modern and contemporary art in a variety of media, including painting, photography, sculpture, and mixed media. 800-563-7632 · houstonartfair.com

OCTOBER

Bayou City Art Festival

The Bayou City Art Festival is a fun and interactive outdoor event that showcases the works of more than 300 fine artists and craftsmen.

713-521-0133 · artcolonyassociation.org

MAJOR EVENTS IN HOUSTON

Día de los Muertos

The Lawndale Art Center celebrates the art, music, and folklife of Mexico through an exhibition of artist-made retablos, student installations, workshops, and performances. 713-528-5858 · lawndaleartcenter.org

Festa Italiana

Celebrate Italian heritage with a weekend full of grape stomping, bocce ball, a car show, music, children's activities, a pasta-eating contest, and more. 713-524-4222, ext. 3 · houstonitalianfestival.

The Original Greek Festival

Festivalgoers gather at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral to celebrate Grecian culture with authentic food, wine, dancing, and artifacts. 713-526-5377 · greekfestival.org

Texas Renaissance Festival

The Texas Renaissance Festival is the nation's largest Renaissance-themed park. Over the course of eight themed weekends, more than 500,000 guests enjoy food, drink, magicians, jugglers, minstrels, troubadours, and comedians. 281-356-2178 · texrenfest.com

Texian Market Days

Discover more than 150 years of Texas history at the George Ranch Historical Park with hands-on activities, battle re-enactments, music and entertainment, historic home tours, cowboys, food, artisan vendors, and more

281-343-0218 · texianmarketdays.com

Untapped Music & Beer Festival

The craft beer and music festival series makes a stop in Houston with an extensive list of participating breweries and musical

untapped-festival.com

Wings Over Houston Airshow

The airshow showcases vintage World War II aircraft and the thrills of modern aviation. Onlookers enjoy aerial acrobatics by U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and the Navy's Blue Angels.

713-266-4492 · wingsoverhouston.com

NOVEMBER

International Quilt Festival

The George R. Brown Convention Center hosts the world's largest annual quilt show, sale, and quilt-making academy. In addition to the hundreds of quilts on display, guests can shop for quilts and supplies and take classes for all levels of quilters. 713-781-6864 · quilts.com

Turkish Festival

Celebrate the Turkish culture with authentic food, wine, coffee, dancing, arts and crafts, and family fun at Jones Plaza. houstonturkishfest.com

Native American Championship Pow Wow

Celebrate Native American culture and heritage at Traders Village with tribal dance contests, an arts-and-crafts show, tipis, honoring ceremonies, and singing. 281-890-5500 · tradersvillage.com

Veterans Day Celebration

The City of Houston salutes our Armed Forces with a parade, job fair, and more. houstontx.gov

H-E-B Thanksgiving Day Parade

More than 200,000 parade-goers line the streets to get a glimpse of floats, marching bands, and more.

houstontx.gov/thanksgivingparade



Festival of Lights

Get into the holiday spirit at Moody Gardens with more than one million lights, an outdoor ice rink, shopping, nightly live entertainment, and pictures with Santa. Runs through January.

800-582-4673 · moodygardens.com

DECEMBER

Candlelight Tour in the Park

Go back in time with historic decorations and costumed carolers celebrating the season at the historic homes around downtown's Sam Houston Park. 713-655-1912 · heritagesociety.org

Chanukah Fest

Head to City Hall to celebrate Chanukah with concerts, family friendly activities, food, fireworks, and more.

713-774-0300 · chabadoutreach.org

Dickens on the Strand

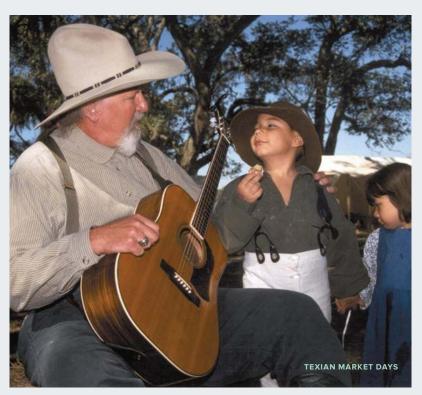
Galveston's annual holiday street festival, based on 19th-century Victorian London, features parades, six stages of entertainment, strolling carolers, roving musicians, bagpipers, jugglers, and costumed vendors peddling their wares.

409-765-7834 · galvestonhistory.org

Mayor's Holiday Celebration

Ring in the holiday season at Hermann Square Park with a celebration featuring fireworks, choirs, Santa, and a toy drive benefiting the Salvation Army. The event culminates with a tree-lighting ceremony outside City Hall.

houstontx.gov/mayorsholiday





GOLF COURSES

COURSE	PHONE	ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	HOLES	ACCESS	FEES
Alvin Golf and Country Club	281-331-4541	785 County Road 539	Alvin, 77511	9	Semi-private	\$
Hillcrest Golf Club	281-331-3505	3401 Fairway Drive	Alvin, 77511	9	Public	\$
Chambers County Golf Course	409-267-8235	1 Pinchback Drive	Anahuac, 77514	18	Semi-private	\$\$
Evergreen Point Golf Club	281-837-9000	1530 Evergreen Road	Baytown, 77523	18	Semi-private	\$\$
Bellville Golf Club	979-865-9058	2426 Highway 36 North	Bellville, 77418	18	Semi-private	\$\$
River Plantation Country Club	936-321-5833	550 Country Club Drive	Conroe, 77302	27	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Conroe Country Club	936-756-5222	3051 N. Loop 336 West	Conroe, 77304	9	Private	\$\$
Links at West Fork	936-441-6193	1 Golfridge Drive	Conroe, 77304	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Village Golf Club	936-856-5531	73 Greenbriar Drive	Conroe, 77304	27	Semi-private	\$\$
Indian Shores	281-324-2592	2141 White Feather Trail	Crosby, 77532	9	Public	\$
Newport Golf Club	281-328-3576	16401 Country Club Drive	Crosby, 77532	18	Public	\$\$
Cypress Lakes Golf Club	281-304-8515	18700 Cypresswood Drive	Cypress, 77429	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Longwood Golf Club	281-373-4100	13300 Longwood Trace Drive	Cypress, 77429	27	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Blackhorse Golf Club	281-304-1747	12205 Fry Road	Cypress, 77433	36	Semi-private	\$\$\$\$
Weston Lakes Country Club	281-346-1967	32611 FM 1093	Fulshear, 77441	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Galveston Country Club	409-737-9800	14228 Stewart Road	Galveston, 77554	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Moody Gardens Golf Course	409-683-4653	1700 Sydnor Lane	Galveston, 77554	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Faith Bridge Ranch Golf Course	979-826-2131	15120 FM 359	Hempstead, 77445	18	Public	\$\$
Legendary Oaks Golf Course	979-826-4001	43279 Urban Road	Hempstead, 77445	18	Semi-private	\$\$
Houston Oaks	713-888-0000	22602 Hegar Road	Hockley, 77447	18	Public	\$\$
Memorial Park Golf Course	713-862-4033	1001 E. Memorial Loop	Houston, 77007	18	Public	\$\$
Gus Wortham Park Golf Course	713-928-4260	7000 Capitol St.	Houston, 77011	18	Public	\$
Texaco Golf Club	713-453-7501	12800 Texaco Road	Houston, 77013	18	Semi-private	\$
Glenbrook Golf Course	713-649-8089	8205 N. Bayou Drive	Houston, 77017	18	Semi-private	\$
River Oaks Country Club	713-529-4321	1600 River Oaks Blvd.	Houston, 77019	18	Private	\$\$\$\$



COURSE	PHONE	ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	HOLES	ACCESS	FEES
Hermann Park Golf Course	713-526-0077	2155 N. MacGregor Drive	Houston, 77030	18	Public	\$\$
Pasadena Municipal Golf Course	281-481-0834	1000 Duffer Lane	Houston, 77034	18	Public	\$
Westwood Golf Club	713-774-2521	8888 Country Creek Drive	Houston, 77036	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
Sharpstown Municipal Golf Course	713-988-2099	6600 Harbor Town Drive	Houston, 77036-	18	Public	\$
Jersey Meadow Golf Course	713-896-0900	8502 Rio Grande St.	Houston, 77040	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Lakeside Country Club	281-497-2222	100 Wilcrest Drive	Houston, 77042	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
Brock Park Golf Course	281-458-1350	8201 John Ralston Road	Houston, 77044	18	Public	\$
Wildcat Golf Club	713-413-3400	12000 Almeda Road	Houston, 77045	36	Semi-private	\$\$\$\$
Clear Creek Golf Club	713-738-8000	3902 Fellows Road	Houston, 77047	18	Public	\$\$
The First Tee Junior Golf	713-264-2100	8400 Mykawa Road	Houston, 77048	9	Public	\$
River Terrace Golf Course	281-452-2183	16777 Wallisville Road	Houston, 77049	18	Public	\$\$
Houston Country Club	713-465-8381	1 Potomac Drive	Houston, 77057	18	Private	\$\$\$\$

GOLF COURSES



COURSE	PHONE	ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	HOLES	ACCESS	FEES
Bay Oaks Country Club	281-488-9753	14545 Bay Oaks Blvd.	Houston, 77059	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
Heron Lakes Golf Course	281-807-0207	7900 N. Sam Houston Parkway West	Houston, 77064	18	Public	\$\$
Northgate Country Club	281-440-1223	17110 Northgate Forest Drive	Houston, 77068	27	Private	\$\$\$\$
Champions Golf Club	281-444-6449	13722 Champions Drive	Houston, 77069	36	Private	\$\$\$\$
Mulligan's Par 3 Golf Course	281-890-6026	11010 Jones Road	Houston, 77070	9	Public	\$
Lochinvar Golf Club	281-821-0220	2000 Farrell Road	Houston, 77073	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
Braeburn Country Club	713-774-2586	8101 Bissonnet St.	Houston, 77074	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
Melrose Golf Course	281-931-4666	401 Canino Road	Houston, 77076	18	Public	\$
Pine Crest Golf Club	713-462-4914	3080 Gessner Drive	Houston, 77080	18	Public	\$\$
Royal Oaks Country Club	713-914-0014	2910 Royal Oaks Club Drive	Houston, 77082	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
Bear Creek Golf World	281-859-8188	16001 Clay Road	Houston, 77084	54	Semi-private	\$\$
Pine Forest Country Club	281-463-1234	18003 Clay Road	Houston, 77084	27	Private	\$\$\$\$
Hearthstone Country Club	281-463-2204	7615 Ameswood Road	Houston, 77095	27	Private	\$\$\$
Houston National Golf Club	281-304-1400	16500 Houston National Blvd.	Houston, 77095	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$

COURSE	PHONE	ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	HOLES	ACCESS	FEES
WindRose Golf Club	281-370-8900	6235 Pine Lakes Blvd.	Houston, 77379	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Red Wolf Golf Resort	281-324-1842	27350 Afton Way	Huffman, 77336	18	Semi-private	\$\$
Humble Oil Patch Golf Center	281-548-7273	2107 N. Houston Ave.	Humble, 77338	9	Public	\$
Tour 18 Houston	281-540-1818	3102 FM 1960 East	Humble, 77338	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$\$
Walden on Lake Houston	281-852-3551	18100 Walden Forest Drive	Humble, 77346	18	Private	\$\$\$
Golf Club of Houston	281-454-6590	5860 Wilson Road	Humble, 77396	36	Semi-private	\$\$\$\$
Golf Club at Cinco Ranch	281-395-4653	23030 Cinco Ranch Blvd.	Katy, 77450	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Willow Fork Country Club	281-579-6262	21055 Westheimer Parkway	Katy, 77450	18	Private	\$\$\$
Club at Falcon Point	281-392-7888	24503 Falcon Point Drive	Katy, 77494	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
Meadowbrook Farms Golf Club	281-693-4653	23230 Meadowbrook Farms Club Drive	Katy, 77494	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$\$
Clubs of Kingwood	281-358-2171	1700 Lake Kingwood Trail	Kingwood, 77339	72	Private	\$\$\$\$
Kingwood Cove Golf Club	281-358-1155	805 Hamblen Road	Kingwood, 77339	18	Public	\$
Deerwood Club of Kingwood	281-360-1065	1717 Forest Garden Drive	Kingwood, 77345	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
Bay Forest Golf Course	281-471-4653	201 Bay Forest Drive	La Porte, 77571	18	Semi-private	\$\$
Magnolia Creek Golf Club	281-557-0555	1501 W. Bay Area Blvd.	League City, 77573	9	Private	\$\$\$\$
South Shore Harbour Country Club	281-334-0525	4300 S. Shore Blvd.	League City, 77573	9	Private	\$\$\$\$
Magnolia Ridge Country Club	936-336-3551	100 Country Club Lane	Liberty, 77575	9	Semi-private	\$\$
Canongate at Lake Windcrest	281-259-2279	10941 Clubhouse Circle	Magnolia, 77354	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
High Meadow Ranch Golf Club	281-356-7700	37300 Golf Club Trail	Magnolia, 77355	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$\$
Quail Valley Golf Course	281-437-8277	2880 La Quinta Drive	Missouri City, 77459	36	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Sienna Plantation Golf Club	281-778-4653	1 Waters Lake Blvd.	Missouri City, 77459	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Eagle Pointe Golf Club	281-385-6666	12440 Eagle Pointe Drive	Mont Belvieu, 77580	18	Semi-private	\$\$
Grand Lake Golf Club	936-447-4653	8901 Grand Lake Estates Drive	Montgomery, 77316	18	Semi-private	\$\$
Woodforest Golf Club	936-588-8800	6201 Mulligan Drive	Montgomery, 77316	27	Semi-private	\$\$\$\$

GOLF COURSES



COURSE	PHONE	ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	HOLES	ACCESS	FEES
April Sound Golf Course	936-588-1101	1000 April Sound Blvd.	Montgomery, 77356	27	Private	\$\$
Bentwater Country Club	936-597-6224	800 Bentwater Drive	Montgomery, 77356	54	Private	\$\$\$\$
La Torretta Del Lago Resort	936-448-4400	500 La Costa Drive	Montgomery, 77356	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$\$
Walden on Lake Conroe Golf Club	936-448-4668	13101 Walden Road	Montgomery, 77356	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
Falls Resort and Club	979-992-3123	1750 N. Falls Drive	New Ulm, 78950	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$
San Jacinto College Golf Course	281-476-1880	1880 Spencer Highway	Pasadena, 77505	9	Public	\$
Chemlake Golf Club	281-474-6402	9502 Bayport Blvd.	Pasadena, 77507	9	Private	\$
Golfcrest Country Club	281-485-4593	2509 Country Club Drive	Pearland, 77581	18	Private	\$\$\$
Country Place Golf Club	713-436-1533	3123 Flower Field Lane	Pearland, 77584	18	Semi-private	\$\$
Southwyck Golf Club	713-436-9999	2901 Clubhouse Drive	Pearland, 77584	18	Semi-private	\$\$
Oakhurst Golf Club	281-354-4653	20700 Mills Branch Drive	Porter, 77365	18	Semi-private	\$\$
Pecan Grove Plantation Country Club	281-342-9940	3000 Plantation Drive	Richmond, 77406	27	Private	\$\$\$

COURSE	PHONE	ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	HOLES	ACCESS	FEES
Black Hawk Country Club	281-494-4244	12610 FM 1464	Richmond, 77407	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
Shadow Hawk Golf Club	281-340-7205	4100 Shadow Hawk Drive	Richmond, 77407	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
Fort Bend Country Club	281-342-8368	2627 FM 762	Richmond, 77469	Richmond, 77469 18		\$\$
Stephen F. Austin Country Club	979-885-2811	1130 Park Road 38	San Felipe, 77473	18	Semi-private	\$\$
River Ridge Golf Club	979-885-3333	3133 Brazos Oak Lane	Sealy, 77474	27	Public	\$\$\$\$
Cypresswood Golf Club	281-821-6300	21602 Cypresswood Drive	Spring, 77373	36	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Augusta Pines Golf Club	832-381-1000	18 Augusta Pines Drive	Spring, 77389	18	Semi-private	\$\$\$
Riverbend Country Club	281-491-2500	1214 Dulles Ave.	Sugar Land, 77478	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
Sugar Creek Country Club	281-494-9131	2400 Country Club Blvd.	Sugar Land, 77478	27	Private	\$\$\$
Greatwood Golf Club	888-343-4001	6767 Greatwood Parkway	Sugar Land, 77479	18	Public	\$\$\$
Sweetwater Country Club	281-980-4653	4400 Palm Royale Blvd.	Sugar Land, 77479	36	Private	\$\$\$\$
Bayou Golf Course	409-739-9622	2800 Ted Dudley Drive	Texas City, 77590	18	Public	\$\$
Canongate at The Woodlands	800-433-2624	2311 N. Millbend Drive	The Woodlands, 77380	36	Private	\$\$\$\$
The Woodlands Country Club Tournament Course	281-863-1540	1730 S. Millbend Drive	The Woodlands, 77380	18	Private	\$\$\$\$
The Woodlands Country Club Palmer Course	281-863-1440	100 Grand Fairway Drive	The Woodlands, 77381	27	Private	\$\$\$\$
Club at Carlton Woods	281-863-5820	1 Carlton Woods Drive	The Woodlands, 77382	36	Private	\$\$\$\$
The Woodlands Country Club Player Course	281-863-1490	8900 Sterling Ridge Drive	The Woodlands, 77382	The Woodlands,		\$\$\$\$
Tomball Country Club	281-351-5102	22303 Walden Way	Tomball, 77375 18		Private	\$\$\$\$
Waller Country Club Estates	936-931-3335	15357 Penick Road	Waller, 77484	Waller, 77484 9		\$
Texas National Golf Club	936-856-4233	8720 Clubhouse Drive	Willis, 77378	18	Semi-private	\$\$

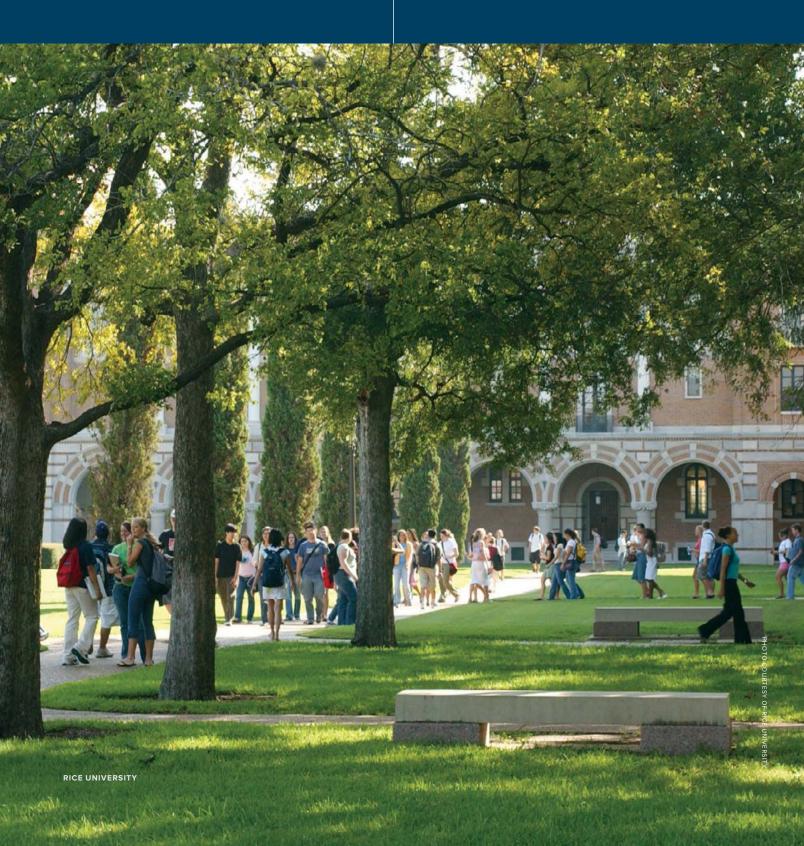
FEE KEY

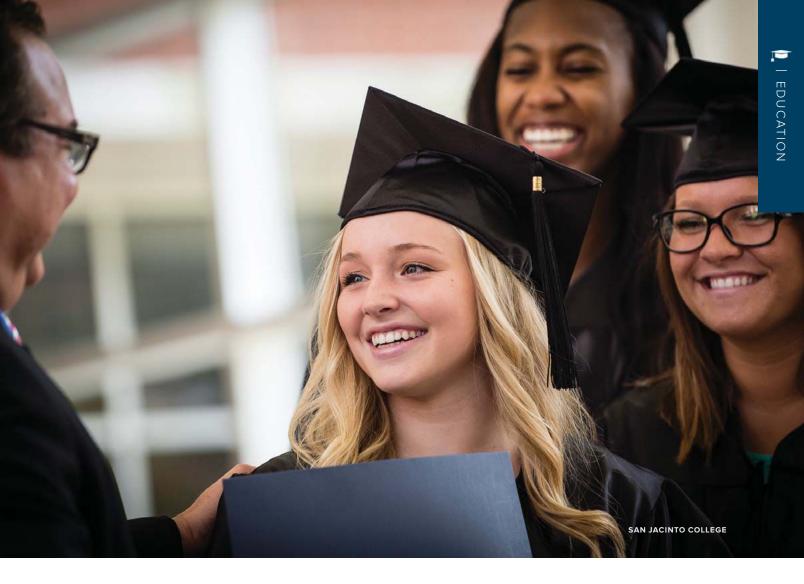
\$: \$0 to \$24 \$\$: \$25 to 49 \$\$\$: \$50 to \$74 \$\$\$: \$75 and higher



A PRIMER ON EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN HOUSTON

As you would expect in a city the size of Houston, educational opportunities and options are abundant and varied. Within the nine-county greater metropolitan area, there are more than 60 school districts, nearly 50 state-approved charter schools, and almost 200 private schools from which to choose. The Houston Independent School District (Houston ISD) is the largest public school district in Texas and the seventh largest in the nation.





EDUCATION

From day care and preschools to community colleges and nationally ranked universities, Houston possesses a full range of educational opportunities for all ages. For assistance in choosing a local day care, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services website at dfps.state.tx.us provides a search tool for child care centers and homes, and identifies important standards such as the state-mandated ratio of caregivers to children within each age group, as well as CPR certification requirements for caregivers.

A trusted resource for parents needing information on early education options is Collaborative for Children. Serving the Houston region for more than 25 years, Collaborative for Children partners with families, teachers, care providers, and community-based groups to build a strong educational foundation for young children to succeed in school and life. For more information on early education resources, visit collabforchildren.org.

To help you locate schools within a particular area, refer to the lists on the following pages. You'll find web addresses, phone numbers, and other details to help you become familiar with the educational options in the part of the metropolitan area you're interested in. For information about private schools and their websites, visit houstonprivateschools.org.

In general, Houston schools are divided into three levels: elementary schools for prekindergarten through fifth grade, middle schools for grades six through eight, and high schools for grades nine through 12. State law requires that schools maintain an average student-to-teacher ratio of no more than 30 to 1.

Included in the mix are charter schools and magnet schools. Charter schools are autonomous, open-enrollment institutions that use state funding to provide innovative learning opportunities with greater flexibility than traditional public schools. Magnet schools are designed to promote high achievement and cultural diversity and offer a choice of curricula through a variety of specialized programs. In Houston ISD, magnet programs are available for architecture and graphic design, aviation sciences, business administration, communications, computer technology, engineering,

HOUSTON EDUCATION FACTS

The Houston MSA contains 63 school districts and 49 charter schools with enrollment of 1,172,046 students, as well as a range of private and parochial schools. Houston Independent School District is the 7th-largest school district in the country, with enrollment of 215,627 students.

Houston ISD has a variety of programs to meet the area's educational needs including:

- Magnet programs and Vanguard/ SIGHTS (for gifted students) offer enrichment instruction in arts, math, science and physical development.
- Multilingual programs offer bilingual education and English as a second language for students not yet proficient in English.
- Early childhood programs help prepare children younger than age five for the school experience.
- Special education programs serve students with various physical, emotional and learning disabilities, beginning at age three.
- Career and vocational programs feature job-oriented instruction and experience in such fields as office education, culinary arts, printing and auto mechanics.
- Alternative programs use innovative instruction in non-traditional learning environments to help students who are in jeopardy of dropping out of school.

Private Schools

- More than 50,000 students attend 230 accredited private and parochial schools in the Houston area.
- The area's private schools are concentrated in Harris County, which has 185 private schools.

State of Texas

- The core curriculum taught in Texas public schools consists of classes in English language arts, reading, mathematics, science, and social studies. Additional courses are taught in foreign languages, fine arts, health, physical education, and technology applications.
- Career-oriented courses are also available in agricultural science, business, health sciences, home economics, industrial technology education and marketing.
- Statewide Initiatives include Master Teacher Programs, Technology Applications, Texas Math Initiative, Texas Reading Initiative, Texas Reading First Initiative, and Texas-Spain Initiative.

Higher Education

- More than a dozen community colleges educate 199,700+ Houston area students, along with 17 colleges and universities that educate more than 176,000 students.
- In addition, Houston boasts about 100 trade, vocational, business and secretarial schools.

For more information about education in the Houston region, visit Houston.org.

environmental science, foreign languages, health careers, and many other fields.

DO YOUR HOMEWORK

One way to learn more about a school is to contact the school district by phone visit its website, which is a valuable source of information offering district statistics and information on individual schools. A valuable but often overlooked way to locate a new school is old-fashioned word of mouth. Colleagues already established in Houston can be helpful, as can your real estate agent, future neighbors, relatives, and friends.

Part of your background research should include reading information on

prospective schools and talking to administrators over the phone.

PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS

If the school that you are investigating sounds promising, schedule a visit. Be prepared to follow up with more interviews and an evaluation for your child. If possible, try to visit a prospective school while the school term is still in session.

Bring a written list of questions and include questions about student-teacher ratios, computer availability, extracurricular activities, multilingual programs, and accelerated programs. Ask how students are tested and graded, how these results are reported, and the amount of

parental participation in the school.

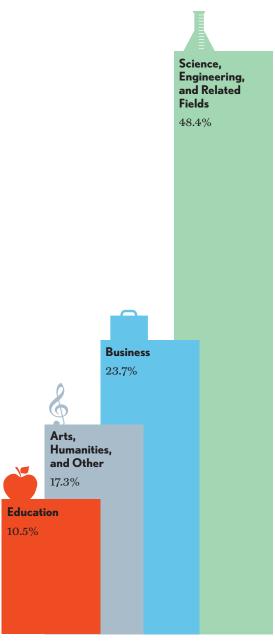
After all of your research, you still have to balance where you wish to live, the commuting distance from home to work, and your "gut feelings" about the schools you have seen. Your family's ability to readily adapt to a move and to find happiness in a new environment may depend, in part, on how happy your children are in their new school. For more advice on what questions to ask, see p. 114.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND BUSINESS GRADUATES/ DEGREES AWARDED

The Houston region's 31 percent of college graduates is on par with the U.S. average of 31 percent and significantly exceeds the state average of 27.8 percent.

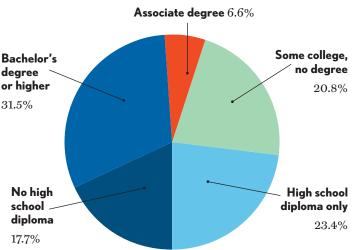
The Houston region contains an above average percentage of college graduates with degrees in science, engineering, and business. Houston has a welleducated workforce with strengths in science, engineering, and business fields of study.

FIELD OF STUDY FOR BACHELOR'S AND HIGHER DEGREES | HOUSTON MSA 2014



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2015 American Community Survey

HOUSTON REGION EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT: POPULATION 25 YEARS OR OLDER



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2015 American Community Survey





COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

- Houston Baptist University
- Our Lady of the Lake University-Houston
- Rice University
- University of St. Thomas

PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

- 5 Prairie View A&M University
- 6 Texas A&M University at Galveston
- Texas Southern University
- University of Houston
- University of Houston-Cinco Ranch
- 10 University of Houston-Clear Lake
- 11 University of Houston-Downtown
- 12 University of Houston-Sugar Land

MEDICAL SCHOOLS

- 13 Baylor College of Medicine
- 14 Texas A&M Health Science Center

- 15 Texas Women's University Institute of Health Science-Houston
- 16 University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Houston
- 17 University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
- 18 University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
- 19 University of Texas School of Public Health
- 20 University of Texas School of Nursing at Houston
- 21 University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston

LAW SCHOOLS

- 22 South Texas College of Law
- 23 Texas Southern University School of Law
- 24 University of Houston Law

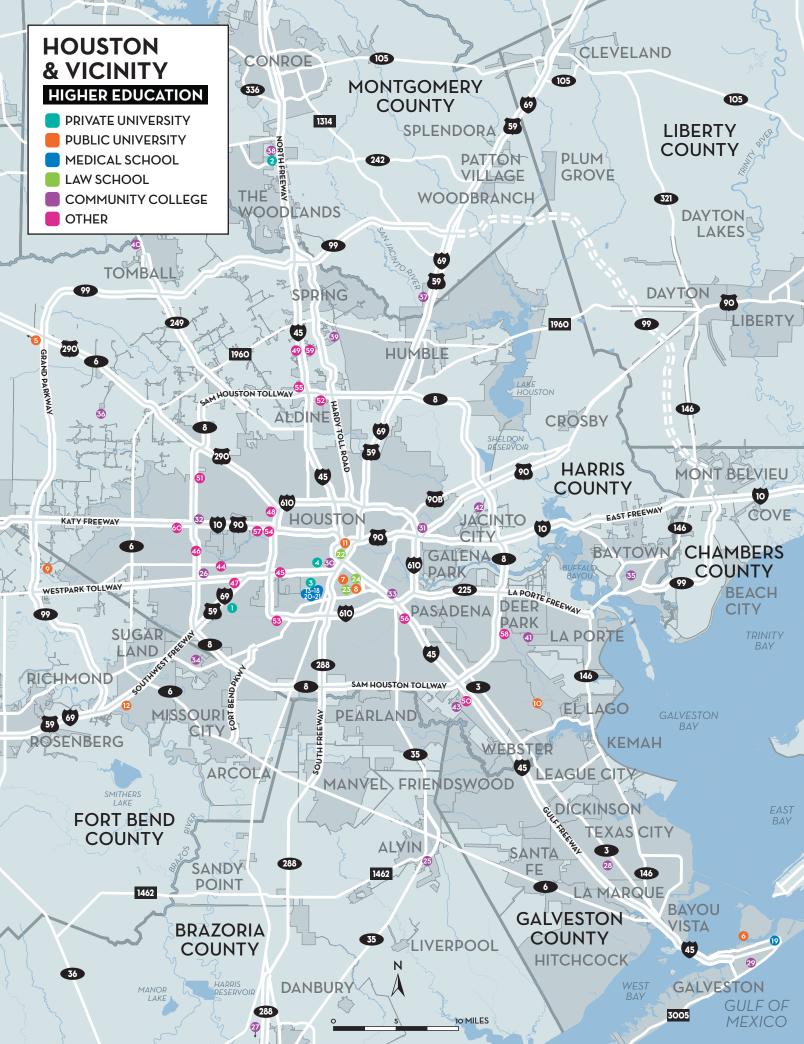
COMMUNITY **COLLEGES**

- 25 Alvin Community College
- 26 American Intercontinental University

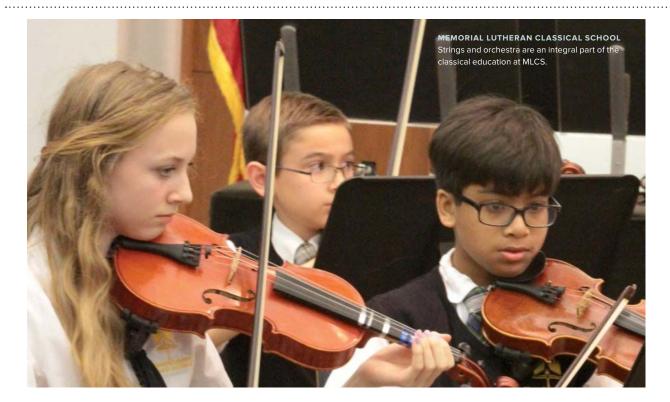
- 27 Brazosport College
- 28 College of the Mainland
- 29 Galveston College
- 30 Houston Community College-Central
- 31 Houston Community College-Northeast
- 32 Houston Community College-Northwest
- 33 Houston Community College-Southeast
- 34 Houston Community College-Southwest
- 35 Lee College
- 36 Lone Star College-Cy-Fair
- 37 Lone Star College-Kingwood
- 38 Lone Star College-North Harris
- 39 Lone Star College-Montgomery
- 40 Lone Star College-Tomball
- 41 San Jacinto College-Central
- 42 San Jacinto College-North
- 43 San Jacinto College-South

OTHER HIGHER-LEARNING INSTITUTIONS

- 44 American College of Acupunture & Oriental
- 45 Art Institute of Houston
- 46 Center for Advanced Legal
- 47 College of Biblical Studies
- 48 College of Health Care
- 49 Commonwealth Institute of Funeral Service
- 50 Concordia University
- 51 DeVry University
- 52 Fortis Institute
- 53 Houston Graduate School of Theology
- 54 LeTourneau University
- 55 Remington College
- 56 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
- 57 St. Mary's Seminary
- 58 Texas Chiropractic College
- 69 Universal Technical Institute
- 60 University of Phoenix



EDUCATION





SELECTING THE RIGHT SCHOOL

START BY VISITING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S WEBSITE. CHECK WEBSITES SUCH AS GREATSCHOOLS.NET AND TEXASTRIBUNE.ORG/PUBLIC-ED/EXPLORE. BE SURE TO VISIT THE SCHOOLS YOU ARE INTERESTED IN AND ASK IF THEY CAN CONNECT YOU WITH OTHER PARENTS WHO MIGHT BE WILLING TO TALK ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES.

KEY QUESTIONS TO ASK:

- What is the present enrollment? Is the district's enrollment growing, stabilizing, or declining?
- What are the district's educational philosophies, goals, and objectives?
- What type of parent involvement or community involvement is available?
- What is the pupil ratio to the number of instructional staff? (How are the ratios figured? Do they include classroom teachers only, or do they include other building-level instructional personnel?)
- 5 What is the per-student spending level?
- Have facilities been updated lately?
- What type of learning tools do the schools offer? (computers, iPads, etc.)
- What costs to parents are involved (for sports, arts, bussing, lunches, etc.)?

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM:

- Is there a curriculum document available that outlines the goals and objectives of courses?
- 2 Are there programs for remediation? For gifted education? For special education? For vocational/career education? For the specific needs/interests of your child/children?
- What are the different levels of educational programs?

- What types of co-curricular and extracurricular activities (including athletics) are available?
- Do students have access to libraries? Are there certified librarians available to assist students?

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS:

- 1 Which standardized tests are used?
- How well do their students score on the STARR (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness)? (The STARR program includes annual assessments for grades 3-8 in reading and mathematics; assessments in writing at grades 4 and 7; in science at grades 5 and 8; and in social studies at grade 8; and end-of-course assessments for English I, English II, Algebra I, biology and U.S. History.)
- What is the average SAT score? How does this compare to neighboring districts, the state average, and the national average?
- What is the dropout rate in the district?

STAFF:

- 1 Are there guidance counselors in each school?
- Are there school nurses available to assist with health services?
- What is the average number of years of teaching experience of
- Does the district offer staff development for its staff?

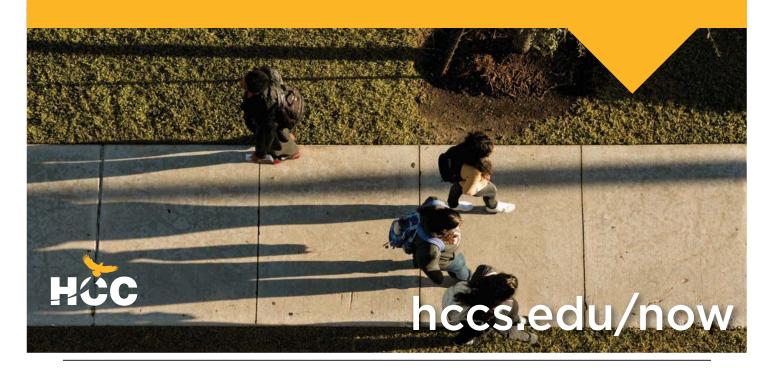


COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Each year, students come from around the world to attend the colleges and universities located within or just outside the Houston city limits. Undergraduate and postgraduate opportunities abound in the region. Houston's proximity to research partners in business and government makes the city an attractive home for ambitious students, talented professors, and their families. Whether you want to study the arts, medicine, literature, economics, engineering, fashion, communications, or business, you will have access to many educational options as a Houston resident.

More than a dozen community colleges educate 199,700+ Houston-area students, along with 17 colleges and universities that educate more than 176,000 students.

So Many Classes. So Little Tuition.



HOUSTON BAPTIST

IINIVERSITY



UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 2,332 MASCOT: HUSKIES

HOUSTON BAPTIST UNIVERSITY offers what few colleges can: a diverse academic community in a world-class city, devoted to excellence in knowledge and character through Christian principles. Students enjoy the benefits of a private education, but on a campus that offers a broad range of majors, NCAA Division I athletics, more than 70 student organizations, and all of the cultural and commercial amenities of Houston.

These are indeed exciting times at HBU. HBU joined the Southland Conference and added a football team to its intercollegiate athletics roster. In addition, HBU has attracted nationally acclaimed scholars, including best-selling author Lee Strobel, to its faculty. This is all part of HBU's vision to become a national standard-bearer among Christian universities.

Under the leadership of President Robert B. Sloan, Jr., HBU has taken several steps to modernize university facilities, expand the campus, and enhance the student experience. The most recent project has been the redevelopment of a

commercial area on the campus edge. The new development, known as the The Pillars at HBU, features several stores and restaurants. Students and guests enjoy being within walking distance of these additions since they opened in 2016.

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

No. 5 in campus ethnic diversity among regional universities in the West, according to U.S. News & World Report.

Rigorous academics, built on the classics and enriched by a Christian worldview.

A small community with a big game: HBU competes in NCAA Division I in football, soccer, baseball, basketball, and more.

100 percent of classes are taught by faculty—not teaching assistants.

A student-faculty ratio of 16:1 gives students valuable personal attention.

HBU programs and opportunities are designed to develop the whole person for a whole life—intellectual, spiritual, emotional, and interpersonal.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

AT GALVESTON



UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 2,100+ MASCOT: SEA AGGIES



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY at

Galveston, a branch campus of Texas A&M University, is the premier institution for maritime leadership and ocean and coastal studies on the Gulf Coast and offers

seamless research, scholarship and learning opportunities between the two campuses.

The institution incorporates diversity and inclusiveness as central tenets of its mission. The school's 2,324 students originate from 43 states and the District of Columbia. Science and engineering majors comprise 84 percent of the student body, while 38 percent are women and about 11 percent of incoming students were in the top 20 percent of their high school class. Many students plan to pursue a master's or doctoral degree, and 59 percent receive financial aid.

Texas A&M Galveston is home to the Texas A&M Maritime Academy and the academy's training ship, the General Rudder. One of only six U.S. maritime academies, it prepares graduates to be licensed as third mates as well as to earn a bachelor's degree. Jobs for these licensed graduates are plentiful and high paying. The academy also commissions those who want to serve as officers in the United States Merchant Marine, Navy, and Coast Guard.

Undergraduate degree programs are related to the sea, and courses are taught from a maritime and marine perspective. This ocean-related curriculum helps graduates in finding jobs in the marine and maritime professions. Nearly all Texas A&M Galveston graduates have job offers by graduation in high-paying positions with opportunities for advancement in major global corporations.

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

The school's Ocean and Coastal Studies Building is the largest and best-equipped marine research facility on the Gulf Coast.

The Texas Seafood Safety lab examines shellfish and seawater to protect consumers and the state's seafood industry.

The university's engineering program consistently excels in national rankings and now includes a degree in ocean engineering.

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M

IINIVFRSITV

RICE



UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 6,923 MASCOT: PANTHERS

IN 1876, THE 15th Legislature of the State of Texas created Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU), a landgrant university that's now the second oldest institution of higher learning in the state.

PVAMU began as an industrial school for African Americans but has evolved to meet changing needs. Dedicated to its mission of achieving excellence in teaching, research, and service, PVAMU enjoys an established reputation for producing engineers, corporate leaders, nurses, and architects.

PVAMU's eight colleges and schools boast more than 50 degree programs, including engineering, natural sciences, architecture, business, nursing, and criminal and juvenile justice. PVAMU prepares students not only to lead in their communities but also to succeed in a global marketplace. Expanded foreign language offerings now include Arabic and Mandarin Chinese, and study abroad programs focus on building global leaders through classroom instruction, cultural training, and arts and service-learning projects.

This year the university was included on *Money's and Essence's* lists of best colleges for African Americans, the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, and a Money best value ranking. PVAMU also received the

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

More African American

three-star flag officers, including seven Army generals and two Navy admirals, have attended PVAMU than any other school.

The Prairie View A&M Marching Storm has been selected to perform in the

selected to perform in the 2017 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade®, representing the State of Texas.

2016 marked 140 years of excellence for Prairie View A&M University.

designation of being an All-Steinway School.

The university prides itself on producing student-athletes who excel on and off the field. More than 100 PVAMU athletes received All-Academic Team honors, recognizing student athletes who have maintained a cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or better during the academic school year. The university's million-dollar sports complex opened in 2016 and includes a 15,000-seat football stadium, track, and soccer fields.





UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 3,910
MASCOT: OWLS

RANKED AS ONE OF the top 20 universities in the country, Rice University is an exceptional community offering students a world-class education. Rice's schools of architecture, engineering, business, music, humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences all rank among the top programs in their fields. Rice houses a variety of institutes and centers, including leading think tank James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy and the Richard E. Smalley Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology, the first nanotechnology research center in the world. The Susanne M. Glasscock School of Continuing Studies offers the prestigious master's of liberal studies program and one of the largest selections of noncredit arts and sciences courses in Texas.

Most of the 3,910 undergraduates live in one of 11 coed residential colleges. Based on similar models at Oxford and Cambridge, the residential college system encourages students to develop close relationships with one another and their faculty advisers. Each college sponsors its own intramural teams, and students participate in self-government and other social activities unique to their college. The

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

The Princeton Review ranks Rice no. 1 nationally for best quality of life and amount of race/class interaction, based on student feedback.

Rice is consistently ranked

as a "best value" because its tuition is lower than rates at peer research universities and its financial aid policy is designed to make education affordable to students from a variety of cultural and socio-economic backgrounds.

Undergraduate students

receive a "Passport to Houston" that provides free, unlimited use of the Houston bus and light-rail system and free or discounted admission to museums, the opera, symphony, ballet, and theater. 300-acre campus, which features neo-Byzantine architecture, is located next to the Texas Medical Center, and the Houston Museum District and is just a short light-rail train ride from downtown Houston.

Living in Houston puts an array of cultural, athletic, and entertainment opportunities at students' fingertips. The fourth most populous city in the U.S., Houston is home to numerous Fortune 500 companies that provide students with valuable internship and full-time employment opportunities.



TEXAS SOUTHERN

IINIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

MASCOT: COUGARS



UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 6,696
MASCOT: TIGERS

NESTLED UPON A sprawling 150-acre campus, Texas Southern University is one of the nation's largest historically black universities (HBCU). TSU provides academic and research programs that address critical urban issues and prepares an ethnically diverse student population to become a force of positive change in a global society.

TSU offers more than 120 undergraduate and graduate programs and concentrations, and 80-plus student organizations. The university provides quality instruction in a culture of innovative teaching and learning that is responsive to community issues and opportunities for public service that benefit the community and the world.

The university boasts seven degree programs plus two engineering degrees: sports management, maritime transportation, entertainment and music industry, aviation science, emergency management, urban planning and environmental

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

Jesse H. Jones School of Business was ranked among the U.S. business schools by The Princeton Review.

Victory Media has designated TSU as a Military Friendly School for the fifth consecutive year.

The Thurgood Marshall School of Law was rated by U.S. News & World Report as the most diverse law school in the U.S. for the fifth consecutive year.

TSU has the only maritime transportation degree

transportation degree program in the Houston area and the first at an HBCU in the U.S.

The flight-training

program at TSU is approved by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). policy, respiratory therapy, civil engineering, and electrical and computer engineering.

TSU's enrollment has grown to more than 9,000 undergraduate and graduate students from around the world. Although initially established to educate African Americans, TSU is becoming one of the most diverse institutions in Texas.

WELCOME TO THE POWERHOUSE. More than 42,700 students attend the University of Houston (UH), known for its groundbreaking research, acclaimed faculty, and expertise in energy, health, and the arts.

UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 34.716

UH's location in Houston's historic Third Ward neighborhood provides students close proximity to internship opportunities with Fortune 500 companies, law firms, and arts organizations. More than 4,000 companies worldwide are owned and/or led by UH alumni.

The 667-acre campus's \$800 million in new construction over the last nine years has included new student housing, research and classroom buildings, and athletic facilities. Recent additions include the state-of-the-art TDECU football stadium and the development of a biomedical district. More than 7,000 students live on campus in residence halls, apartments and townhouses.

Home to more than 300 degree programs, UH has the only space architecture graduate program and the nation's first subsea engineering program.

Reflecting the DNA of our city, UH's undergraduate entrepreneurship program is consistently ranked one of the top three in the nation, and intellectual property and health law are among the top 10 law programs.

Innovation is more than a buzzword at UH; it drives both researchers and our students. The university oversees more than

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

Designated as a Tier 1

public research university by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Designated as a Hispanic-Serving Institution by the U.S. Department of

Education.

Ranked no. 1 in the nation for highest royalty income among public universities without a medical school, according to the Association of University Technology Managers. \$150 million in annual research expenditures and has been recognized by the Association of Public and Landgrant Universities for its work to create an innovative ecosystem. The UH Innovation Center offers office space and a wet lab for start-up companies founded by UH faculty or students.





UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON CLEAR LAKE

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON DOWNTOWN



UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 5,386
MASCOT: HAWKS

NESTLED IN A 524-ACRE NATURE PRESERVE, University of Houston-Clear Lake is known for its close-knit community, attentive faculty and unique learning opportunities. Opportunities will grow as UH-Clear Lake prepares for several upcoming campus additions during the next few years: a recreation and wellness center, a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) classroom building and, at the UHCL Pearland Campus, a health sciences and classroom building.

The university offers more than 80 degree programs, including approximately 40 bachelor's degree programs in four colleges: business, education, human sciences and humanities, and science and engineering. Founded as an upper level and graduate university in 1974, UHCL welcomed freshman and sophomore students for the first time in 2014.

In close proximity to the Houston metropolitan area, the Texas Medical Center and NASA's Johnson Space Center, students can be involved by choosing from more than 70

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

UH-Clear Lake was named one of the Best Regional Universities in the West in the 2016 *U.S. News & World Report* rankings.

The 2015 Open Doors

Report on International Educational Exchange ranked UH-Clear Lake in its Top 40 Master's Colleges & Universities Enrolling International Students.

High school students

graduating during the 2017 academic year may qualify for New Hawk Scholarships that range from a \$1,000 to a full ride per academic year.

organizations, including honor societies, leadership groups and social clubs.

Privately owned and managed on campus apartment-style housing is available with amenities that include a pool, a volleyball court, and lounge areas. Campus recreation for students includes a state-of-theart fitness facility that includes cardiovascular and resistance training equipment. Nearby parks and waterways offer plenty of outdoor recreation as well.



UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 12,856
MASCOT: ED-U-GATORS

ONE OF THE MOST ETHNICALLY DIVERSE four-year colleges in the Southwest, the University of Houston-

colleges in the Southwest, the University of Houston–Downtown offers bachelor's degrees in 44 areas and master's degrees in eight across its five colleges. Ranked as the second largest university in Houston and the 15th largest in Texas, UHD draws students by offering a collaborative learning experience with small class sizes, flexible scheduling, undergraduate research opportunities, and faculty with industry experience. Competitively priced tuition and fees make learning affordable.

Located on the north side of Houston's central business district, UHD encourages students to complete internships at nearby Fortune 500 corporations. The city's light rail delivers students to the UHD front door; classes also are available at suburban locations and online. UHD offerings include graduate business certificates that align with the MBA program and an alternative teaching certification program that gives midcareer professionals real-time classroom experience while preparing for new careers in education. UHD graduates excel in fields ranging from medicine and business to science and the humanities.

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

Federally designated

Minority- and Hispanic-Serving Institution in the fourth largest city in the U.S.

Named a Military Friendly School for the sixth year—a designation that acknowledges the top institutions in the nation devoted to ensuring the success of military personnel transitioning into civilian life.

Innovative MBA program, convenient for working professionals, and ranked as the fourth largest in Texas.

UHD is recognized nationally for its community engagement programs that link classroom academics with opportunities to serve people and agencies in the greater Houston area. Resources include club sports teams, laptop checkout stations, an extensive library collection, a recreational center and some 68 student organizations, such as special-interest groups, honor societies, and Greek organizations.





UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON VICTORIA

UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS



UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 2,973
MASCOT: JAGUARS

FOR MORE THAN 40 YEARS. THE UNIVERSITY of Houston-

Victoria (UHV) has provided students with quality higher education opportunities at a great value. UHV offers 70 bachelor's and master's degree programs and concentrations in the schools of arts and sciences, business administration, education, health professions, and human development. Both face-to-face and online programs are taught by experienced faculty.

UHV's main campus is in the friendly town of Victoria, two hours from Houston, San Antonio, Austin, and Corpus Christi. Students are part of a vibrant community with support services and class sizes that guarantee personal attention. Tuition rates are among the lowest in the state, and students benefit from customized financial aid packages and access to the latest in education technology.

Plans are under way to construct a student center/learning commons and a new residence hall, with an anticipated opening in 2018. A new science, technology, engineering and math building is scheduled to open in 2019.

New degrees include a registered nurse to bachelor of science in

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

Affordable tuition rates compared with other state

universities

Degree programs are offered in Victoria and Katy,

as well as online. UHV is designated as a

Military Friendly School and a Hispanic-Serving Institution.

UHV University North, the university's new academic and economic development building, opened in 2015.

nursing; economics and international business concentrations for the bachelor of business administration; and art, music and theater concentrations for the bachelor of arts in humanities offered in partnership with Victoria College, a community college in Victoria.

Students enjoy a growing number of student organizations and a successful athletics program that competes in the Red River Athletic Conference. Study-abroad opportunities in China, England, and Mexico offer students an international perspective.





UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 1,814
MASCOT: CELTS

THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS educates leaders of faith and character through a Catholic liberal arts education that is both accessible and affordable. Founded in 1947 by the Basilian Fathers, St. Thomas awards merit scholarships and grants totalling more than \$16 million in 2015.

Students choose from 36 undergraduate majors, 19 graduate degree programs, and engineering, law, and health pre-professional programs. The most popular majors are biology, finance, psychology, accounting, and nursing.

More than 3,400 students attend Houston's only Catholic university, located in the heart of the historic Museum District, where world-class museums, art galleries, restau-

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

Sixty percent of UST pre-med applicants are granted a medical school admissions interview.

Seventy-three percent of UST graduates are employed within six months of graduation.

U.S. News & World Report named UST among America's Best Colleges in the West region; The

Princeton Review named UST among the Best Western Colleges.

The Cardinal Newman Society lists UST in the top 20 Catholic colleges and universities.

rants, and shops abound. The proximity to downtown and the Texas Medical Center enhances opportunities for research, internships, and networking experiences.

St. Thomas has a family feel, and students who live on campus in the Guinan Residence Hall enjoy a fun atmosphere. Campus life is enriched by more than 90 student organizations, a full slate of social events, ministry projects, and fitness opportunities. Intercollegiate athletics programs include women's volleyball, men's and women's soccer, basketball, and golf.



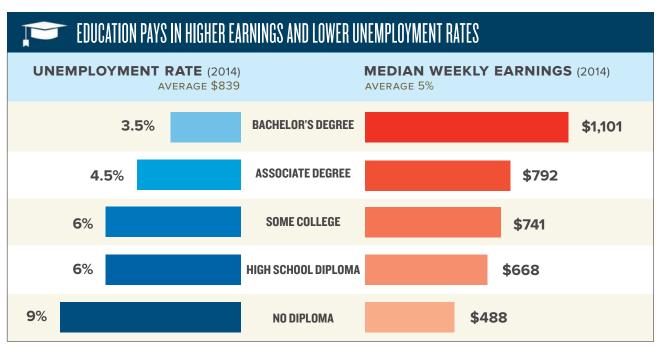


COMMUNITY COLLEGES

If a traditional four-year college isn't for you, Houston has many options by way of community colleges. Offering affordable yet exceptional educational options, Houston-area community colleges offer a wide variety of associate degrees and certificates and transfer programs to four-year institutions.

LONE STAR COLLEGE

Lone Star College offers a wide variety of degree programs designed to prepare you for employment in a specific career.



SOURCE: EDUCATION PAYS IN HIGHER EARNINGS AND LOWER UNEMPLOYMENT RATES 2014

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE (HCC) is the second-largest community college in the nation with the largest population of international students enrolling for courses annually. With 70,000 undergraduate students, HCC is an open admission, public institution of higher education offering a high quality, affordable education for academic advancement, workforce training, career and economic development, and lifelong learning to prepare individuals in our diverse communities for life and work in a global and technological society.

Since opening in 1971, HCC has educated and trained more than two million students who reflect Houston's rich diversity. HCC offers more than 300 programs and 2,000 courses, which provide transfers to four-year institutions, terminal degrees, and certificates in more than 70 fields of work, continuing education, and corporate training.

Coursework in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) is in high demand in the Houston region. Each of the six colleges and dozens of center locations provides a variety of coursework to set students on the path to exciting careers in engineering, oil and gas, construction, maritime industries, and the medical field. A unique partnership with the University of Texas at Tyler provides a two-year program at HCC that is fully transferable to the UT Tyler program in engineering. All coursework can be completed on the HCC campus. Other partnerships such as these have become the hallmark of Houston Community College.

The HCC Foundation provides scholarships to many students, providing them the assurance that they will be able to launch into their chosen career field. Due to the generous support of business and industry, foundations, individuals, and community organizations, students young and old are able to train, retrain, and continue learning.

Houston Community College supports the Greater Houston Partnership Initiative UpSkill Houston, which addresses the growing need for skilled workers in Houston and training them for tomorrow's jobs. For over four decades, HCC has been a leader in workforce training to help students gain practical skills for important jobs. Instructors of the highest caliber and advisers work to guide students on a career path that will result in good outcomes for them, their families and the greater Houston community.

For the 2012-2013 academic year, *Community College Week* ranked HCC number one among the 1,200 two-year institutions in granting associates degrees in liberal arts and number three in granting associates degrees in all disciplines. Tuition and fees are 75-80 percent lower at Houston Community College than at public universities in Texas, making HCC an obvious choice for Houston's growing workforce.

Houston Community College is composed of six colleges in and around the Houston metro area, supported by dozens of centers, Early College High School programs, dual credit programs, and a variety of options to fit the specific needs of employers. For more information on the programs and services of HCC, please visit hccs.edu.



From commercial truck driving to EKG technician, certified nursing assistant to welding technician, **HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE** offers classes and degree programs in marketable skills.

LONE STAR

COLLEGE

SAN JACINTO

COLLEGE

THE GREATER HOUSTON PARTNERSHIP estimates there are more than 74,000 annual job openings in middle-skills occupations—which require education beyond high school but not a four-year degree—available in Houston. Lone Star College is planning for the future with cutting-edge training programs to meet the need to fill the critical shortage of trained technical workers.

"One of the biggest challenges is finding a workforce for these companies," said U.S. Rep. Kevin Brady. "Lone Star College is an incredibly nimble community college and we are fortunate that Lone Star College is so responsive to industry's needs. For us to reach our economic potential, we need this partnership."

As the largest higher education institution in the greater Houston area, LSC has a huge impact on the local economy, adding \$3.1 billion in annual economic benefit. The return on taxpayer's investment is an impressive \$7.80 for every dollar spent. That's due in large part to 91 percent of LSC students staying in the local community, where they spend money, pay taxes, and buy homes.

In addition to its strong workforce education programs, LSC academic transfer programs helps students "start here and transfer anywhere." LSC students complete lower level undergraduate courses with top notch faculty and an average class size of just 23 students for a fraction of the cost of a four-year university. "I think it's particularly exciting to see the collaboration between high schools and Lone Star College—and then our four-year colleges—and I hope it keeps more students in school. They're better off and we're better off for it," said U.S. Senator John Cornyn.

LSC was recognized in 2015 as a top 10 producer of associate degrees nationally by *Community College Week* magazine, ranking fifth among all community colleges for the second year in a row. LSC was also ranked third among community colleges for the number of its Hispanic students receiving associates degrees.

Stephen Head is the chancellor of LSC, which consists of: LSC-CyFair, LSC-Kingwood, LSC-Montgomery, LSC-North Harris, LSC-Tomball and LSC-University Park; seven centers; LSC-University Center at Montgomery and LSC-University Center at University Park; Lone Star Corporate College; and LSC-Online. For more information, visit LoneStar.edu.



FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS, San Jacinto College has served the residents of east Harris County, providing affordable and convenient options in higher education. The College has an annual enrollment of approximately 30,000 diverse students who study in more than 200 degree and certificate options.

San Jacinto College affords students the flexibility to take traditional classroom instruction, online courses, or classroom-online hybrid classes. You can also work on your degree in the evenings and on the weekends. Whether you're looking to pursue a career in IT, automotive technology, maritime, construction management, or a number of health care careers, San Jacinto College has a program for you.

The mission of San Jacinto College is to ensure student success, create seamless transitions, and enrich the quality of life. We want our students to graduate San Jacinto College with the certificate or degree they need to transfer to a four-year university, enter the workforce, or move up the ladder in their current career. Visit sanjac.edu.



The College has an annual enrollment of approximately 30,000 diverse students who study in more than 200 degree and certificate options.



MEDICAL SCHOOLS

It should come as no surprise that Houston, home of the Texas Medical Center, is also home to some of the most prestigious medical schools in the nation. If a career in medicine is in your future, you've definitely chosen the right city. Houston's medical schools benefit from their proximity to the Texas Medical Center and their ability to tap into the many physicians and researchers that call Houston home. Whether you're interested in practicing medicine or finding a cure for cancer, attending one of the following schools could be a big step in the right direction.

BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Named one of the top 25 medical schools for research in 2015 by *U.S. News & World Report*, Baylor College of Medicine is known for excellence in areas of education, research, and patient care, and is also the only private medical school in the greater Southwest. The college moved from Dallas to Houston in 1943 with just 131 students, and moved to its current location within the Roy and Lillie Cullen Building four years later, which was the first completed building in the new Texas Medical Center. The College boasts 25 departments and more than 90 research and patient care centers, as well as the second highest funding for research and development among all Texas colleges, universities, and medical schools. For more information about Baylor College of Medicine, visit bcm.edu.

TEXAS CHIROPRACTIC COLLEGE

Located in the greater Houston area, Texas Chiropractic College provides students with a comprehensive course of study leading to the Doctor of Chiropractic degree. TCC boasts an innovative program with the University of Houston-Clear Lake in which a student can earn a Bachelor's in Human Biology, Master's in Fitness and Human Performance, and a Doctor of Chiropractic degree in less than four years. Through the Moody Health Center, the oncampus chiropractic clinic, TCC also offers affordable preventative healthcare options for the community. TCC is committed to serving the needs of its students, the chiropractic profession, and the public through leadership, research, patient care, and service activities. To learn more about Texas Chiropractic College, visit txchiro.edu.



TEXAS WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF HEALTH SCIENCE—HOUSTON

The Texas Women's University Institute of Health Science—Houston is a medical education institute that offers programs in health care administration, nursing, nutrition and food sciences, occupational therapy, and physical therapy. These degree options include bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees, with some majors offering all three. Its occupational therapy program is the largest in the nation, with the health care administration program ranking fourth and the nursing program fifth. For more information about Texas Women's University Institute of Health Science—Houston, visit twu.edu/houston.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON

Located in the world-famous Texas Medical Center, the University Of Texas Health Science Center is the most comprehensive academic health center in the entire UT system. The university boasts 12 graduate programs, two professional and bachelor's programs, nine joint/dual degree programs, and nearly 100 clinical training sites, including degrees in biomedical science, dentistry, health informatics, medicine, nursing, and public health. Its mission is to educate health science professionals, discover and translate advances in the biomedical and social sciences, and model the best practices in clinical care and public health. For more information about the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, visit uthouston.edu.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER

The MD Anderson Cancer Center celebrated its 75th birthday in 2016. The facility is one of the world's most respected cancer centers, devoted exclusively to cancer patient care, research, education, and prevention. It offers eight undergraduate programs including molecular genetic technology and radiation therapy, nine graduate programs including immunology and human and molecular genetics, and four post-graduate programs including observer and clinical programs. The university also offers nursing and research training programs. For more information about the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, visit mdanderson.org.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Among the top 10 schools of public health, the University of Texas School of Public Health is highly ranked for its top-notch degree programs and low tuition. For the last 47 years, the university has been at the forefront of research, education, and prevention of local, state, and global public health issues, and more than 7,300 students have graduated with master's or doctoral degrees. Professional degrees include Master of Public Health (MPH), Doctor of Public Health (DrPH), Master of Science (MS), and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). For more information about the University of Texas School of Public Health, visit sph.uth.tmc.edu.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF NURSING AT HOUSTON

As part of the University of Texas Health Science Center, the School of Nursing is part of the most comprehensive academic health care center in Texas and is nationally recognized for developing innovative programs, including the first Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree in Texas. The School of Nursing is highly regarded by professionals in the health care industry for producing some of the best-qualified and most well trained nurses available anywhere. For more information about the University of Texas School of Nursing at Houston, visit son.uth. tmc.edu.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL BRANCH AT GALVESTON

Options abound at UTMB, where it offers degrees in the schools of health professions, medicine, and nursing, graduate schools of biomedical sciences and medical education, and MD and PhD programs. The campus prides itself as an inclusive community of forward-thinking educators, scientists, clinicians, staff, and students dedicated to one thing: improving health. The 84-acre campus includes four schools, three institutes for advanced study, a major medical library, a network of hospitals and clinics, and numerous research facilities. For more information about the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, visit utmb.edu.



LAW SCHOOLS

If your dream is to be a lawyer, there are many reputable law schools in the Houston area worth exploring. You can find both private and public options in Houston, as well as full- and part-time programs. Below are just a few of the many schools from which Houston residents can choose.

SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE OF LAW HOUSTON

Houston's oldest law school, South Texas College of Law, provides an excellent legal education to promising students focused on achieving a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree. South Texas admits students in the fall and spring for both full-time and part-time programs. Full-time students typically finish the program in three years, while part-time students may take up to five years to complete the 90 hours required for graduation. Both part-time and full-time students have access to extracurricular opportunities designed to enhance the core curriculum of a legal education. Although the majority of the students come from the Southwest and Texas, a profile of the college shows a diverse array of students, representing dozens of undergraduate schools and backgrounds from across the nation. For more information about South Texas College of Law, visit stcl.edu.

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY— THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW

Named after the distinguished former U.S. Supreme Court Justice, the Thurgood Marshall School of Law is an integral part of the Texas Southern University campus. Enriched by its culturally diverse faculty and students, the Thurgood Marshall School of Law ranks in the top 25 in the number of Mexican-American graduates. The law school's graduates have served in Congress, the state legislature and judiciary, and throughout the legal community in Texas and beyond. For more information about the Thurgood Marshall School of Law, visit tsulaw.edu.

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LAW CENTER

Established in 1974, the University of Houston Law Center enrolls more than 1,100 students in its degree programs each year, offering J.D., L.L.M., and concurrent degrees that allow students to obtain two degrees in less time than individual programs would require. The Law Center is a truly global school, with strong connections in the international legal and education communities. International activities of faculty include visiting professorships, publications in foreign journals, and participation in international symposia and conferences. The Law Center's tuition and fees compare favorably with peer schools in the region. Boasting more than 11,000 alumni, 56 percent of these graduates live in the Houston area. For more information about University of Houston Law Center, visit law.uh.edu.



HOUSTON AREA ISD DATA 2015-2016

ISD	WEBSITE	PHONE NUMBER	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	COMPLETION RATE (%)	AVERAGE SAT (2016)	COLLEGE AND CAREER- READY GRADUATES (%)	STAAR PASS RATE (%)			
AUSTIN COUNT	AUSTIN COUNTY									
Bellville	bellville.k12.tx.us	979-865-3133	2,234	97.8	1449	88.2	62			
Brazos	brazosisd.net	979-478-6551	779	95.1	1419	54	60			
Sealy	sealyisd.com	979-885-3516	2,813	92.4	1341	66.7	62			

BRAZORIA COUNTY									
Alvin	alvinisd.net	281-388-1130	23,466	96.6	1372	70.5	60		
Angleton	angletonisd.net	979-864-8000	6,752	97.3	1357	68.8	60		
Columbia- Brazoria	cbisd.com	979-345-5147	3,165	91.5	1390	85	56		
Danbury	danburyisd.org	979-922-1218	781	95.9	1392	100	58		
Pearland	pearlandisd.org	281-485-3203	21,516	99	1527	83.3	69		
Sweeny	sweenyisd.org	979-491-8000	2,037	97.6	1411	93.3	62		

CHAMBERS COUNTY								
Anahuac anahuac.isd.esc4.net 409-267-3600 1,310 96.7 1338 72.7 66								
Barbers Hill	bhisd.net	281-576-2221	5,254	99.4	1496	91.7	67	
East Chambers eastchambers.net 409-296-6100 1,473 99 1379 91.8 61								

FORT BEND COUNTY								
Fort Bend	fortbend.k12.tx.us	281-634-1000	73,750	94.4	1519	72.3	67	
Lamar Consolidated	lcisd.org	832-223-0000	30,744	92.8	1448	72.4	64	
Needville	needvilleisd.com	979-793-4308	3,167	94.2	1465	98.3	60	
Stafford MSD	stafford.msd.esc4.net	281-261-9200	3,537	89.5	1334	94.7	59	

SOURCE: TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY 2015-16 TEXAS ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE REPORT

(CONTINUED ON P. 104)

HOUSTON AREA ISD DATA 2015-2016 (CONTINUED)

ISD	WEBSITE	PHONE NUMBER	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	COMPLETION RATE (%)	AVERAGE SAT (2016)	COLLEGE AND CAREER- READY GRADUATES (%)	STAAR PASS RATE (%)
GALVESTON CO	UNTY						
Clear Creek	ccisd.net	281-284-0000	41,679	96.8	1564	88.2	65
Dickinson	dickinsonisd.org	281-229-6000	10,976	88.5	1339	70.2	62
Friendswood	fisdk12.net	281-482-1267	6,065	98.9	1623	92.5	71
Galveston	gisd.org	409-766-5100	6,884	93.3	1340	86	61
High Island	highislandisd.com	409-286-5317	150	100	1296	55.6	68
Hitchcock	hitchcockisd.org	409-316-6545	1,718	91.8	1164	51.9	57
Santa Fe	sfisd.org	409-925-3526	4,735	88.8	1396	74.4	58
Texas City	tcisd.org	409-942-2810	8,807	92	1292	62.6	56

HARRIS COUNT	Υ						
Aldine	aldineisd.org	281-449-1011	69,671	82.9	1133	76.9	58
Alief	aliefisd.net	281-498-8110	46,331	91.7	1188	49.5	58
Channelview	cvisd.org	281-452-8002	9,522	86.1	1295	61.6	60
Crosby	crosbyisd.org	281-328-9200	5,974	92.5	1364	61.4	59
Cypress- Fairbanks	cfisd.net	281-897-4000	114,633	92.7	1493	89.6	66
Deer Park	dpisd.org	832-668-7000	13,060	90.1	1434	58	64
Galena Park	galenaparkisd.com	832-386-1000	22,751	90.4	1318	66.2	62
Goose Creek	gccisd.net	281-420-4800	23,837	88.7	1269	58.5	59
Houston	houstonisd.org	713-556-6005	215,408	80.5	1251	68.1	59
Huffman	huffmanisd.net	281-324-1871	3,427	97.4	1451	79.1	60
Humble	humble.k12.tx.us	281-641-1000	41,125	95.2	1472	77.8	63
Katy	katyisd.org	281-396-6000	75,231	94	1584	73.3	69
Klein	kleinisd.net	832-249-4000	51,650	94.1	1482	72.8	62
La Porte	lpisd.org	281-604-7000	7,691	92.7	1406	93.7	60
Pasadena	pasadenaisd.org	713-740-0000	56,137	90.9	1298	58.8	58
Sheldon	sheldonisd.com	281-727-2000	8,862	88.6	1234	49.9	56
Spring	springisd.org	281-891-6000	36,654	85.7	1145	90.1	56
Spring Branch	springbranchisd.com	713-464-1511	35,016	89.9	1392	76.5	62
Tomball	tomballisd.net	281-357-3100	14,882	96.6	1553	77.9	70

LIBERTY COUNT	ſΥ						
Cleveland	clevelandisd.org	281-592-8717	4,716	82.2	1107	53.1	60
Dayton	daytonisd.net	936-258-2667	5,400	95.1	1332	83.6	58
Hardin	hardinisd.net	936-298-2112	1,483	100	1355	96.9	54
Hull-Daisetta	hdisd.net	936-536-6321	467	97.3	1281	94.4	57

SOURCE: TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY 2015-16 TEXAS ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE REPORT

ISD	WEBSITE	PHONE NUMBER	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	COMPLETION RATE (%)	AVERAGE SAT (2016)	COLLEGE AND CAREER- READY GRADUATES (%)	STAAR PASS RATE (%)
Liberty	libertyisd.net	936-336-7213	2,141	96.1	1367	86.8	56
Tarkington	tarkingtonisd.net	281-592-8781	1,847	94.7	1390	74.4	58

MONTGOMERY COUNTY								
Conroe	conroeisd.net	936-709-7751	59,489	94.3	1550	76.1	66	
Magnolia	magnoliaisd.org	281-356-3571	12,766	95.1	1468	69.7	62	
Montgomery	misd.org	936-58-1333	8,282	95.4	1530	99.3	65	
New Caney	newcaneyisd.org	281-298-2112	14,640	91	1354	52.1	59	
Splendora	splendoraisd.org	281-689-3128	3,884	96.3	1395	91	61	
Willis	willisisd.org	936-856-1200	7,295	90.6	1382	65	57	

WALLER COUNTY								
Hempstead	hempstead.isd.esc4.net	979-826-3304	1,626	90.6	1374	90.3	47	
Royal	royal-isd.com	281-934-2248	2,364	96.8	1227	94.4	53	
Waller	wallerisd.net	936-931-3685	6,839	97.4	1367	79.7	60	

SOURCE: TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY 2015-16 TEXAS ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE REPORT



From Curiosity to Wisdom

The John Cooper School is a PK-12 college preparatory school located on 43 acres in The Woodlands. A recognized leader in independent school education, Cooper is celebrating 30 years of providing a challenging education in a caring environment. Traditional educational practices combined with innovative new teaching methods enable students to become critical and creative thinkers, effective communicators, responsible citizens and leaders, and lifetime learners.

If we teach today as we taught yesterday, we rob our children of tomorrow.

PK-12 ANNUAL ADMISSION OPEN HOUSE
JANUARY 12, 2019 | GLENN PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
JOHNCOOPER.ORG



AREA HIGH SCHOOLS RECOGNIZED BY THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

EXEMPLARY HIGH SCHOOLS

To receive an "Exemplary" rating, a school must receive top recognition in several areas of community and student engagement, including fine arts, wellness and physical education, community and parent involvement, 21st-century workforce training, second-language programs, digital learning environment, dropout prevention, gifted and talented programs, and statutory compliance.

ALDINE ISD

Nimitz High School Victory Early College High School

ALIEF ISD

Alief Early College High School Alief Hastings High School Kerr High School

ALVIN ISD

Alvin High School

BARBERS HILL ISD

Barbers Hill High School

BRAZOS ISD

Brazos High School

CONROE ISD

Caney Creek High School **Conroe High School** Hauke Alternative High School Oak Ridge High School The Woodlands High School TW College Park High School

CYPRESS-FAIRBANKS ISD

Cy-Fair High School Cypress Creek High School Cypress Falls High School Cypress Lakes High School Cypress Park High School **Cypress Ranch High School** Cypress Ridge High School Cypress Springs High School Cypress Woods High School Jersey Village High School Langham Creek High School

DEER PARK ISD

Deer Park High School

EAST CHAMBERS ISD

East Chambers High School

FORT BEND ISD

Dulles High School Ridge Point High School Kempner High School

Stephen F. Austin High School Travis High School

FRIENDSWOOD ISD

Friendswood High School

GOOSE CREEK CISD

Impact Early College High School Lee High School **Memorial High School** Sterling High School

HOUSTON ISD

Bellaire High School

Debakey High School for Health Professions Heights High School

High School for the Performing & Visual Arts

Jones High School **Lamar High School**

Northside High School

Stephen F. Austin High School

Waltrip High School

Westbury High School

Westside High School

KATY ISD

Cinco Ranch High School Katy High School Mayde Creek High School **Morton Ranch High School** Raines High School Seven Lakes High School **Taylor High School Tompkins High School**

KLEIN ISD

Klein Collins High School Klein Forest High School Klein High School Klein Oak High School Vistas High School

MONTGOMERY ISD

Montgomery High School

NEEDVILLE ISD

Needville High School

PEARLAND ISD

Dawson High School Pearland High School **Turner College & Career High School**

SPRING BRANCH ISD

Memorial High School Spring Woods High School Stratford High School

SWEENY ISD

Sweeny High School

RECOGNIZED HIGH SCHOOLS

To receive a "Recognized" rating, a school must receive high recognition in several areas of community and student engagement, including fine arts, wellness and physical education, community and parent involvement, 21st-century workforce training, second-language programs, digital learning environment, dropout prevention, gifted and talented programs, and statutory compliance.

ALDINE ISD

Aldine High School Davis High School Eisenhower High School Macarthur High School

ALIEF ISD

Alief Taylor High School Elsik High School

ALVIN ISD

Assets Academy Manvel High School **Shadow Creek High School**

FORT BEND ISD

Clements High School Elkins High School George Bush High School **Hightower High School**

HOUSTON ISD

Barbara Jordan High School **Booker T. Washington High School Chavez High School Furr High School** Kashmere High School Madison High School Milby High School Scarborough High School **Sharpstown High School** Wheatley High School

LAMAR CISD

Wisdom High School

Yates High School

Foster High School Fulshear High School George Ranch High School Lamar Consolidated High School **Terry High School**

SPRING BRANCH ISD

Northbrook High School

Source: Texas Education Agency Consolidated School Rating Report (TCSR), September 2017

SELECT PRIVATE SCHOOLS & PRESCHOOLS

SCHOOL	ADDRESS	CITY/ZIP CODE	GRADES COVERED	WEBSITE
EARLY EDUCATION & F	HIGHER			
Ascension Episcopal School	2525 Seagler Road	Houston, TX 77042	Early Education-5	aeshouston.org
Crosspoint Christian School	700 S Westgreen Blvd.	Katy, TX 77449	Early Education	crosspt.org
The Goddard School of Katy	24025 Cinco Village Center Blvd.	Katy, TX 77494	Early Education	goddardschool.com
Good Shepherd Episcopal School	2929 Woodland Hills Drive	Kingwood, TX 77339	Early Education	goodshepherdschool.org
Holy Spirit Episcopal School	12535 Perthshire Road	Houston, TX 77024	Early Education–8	hses.org
Lutheran South Academy	12555 Ryewater Drive	Houston, TX 77089	Early Education–12	lutheransouth.org
Memorial Lutheran School	5800 Westheimer Road	Houston, TX 77057	Early Education–8	mlchouston.org
School of the Woods	1321 Wirt Road	Houston, TX 77055	Age 2-1/2-Grade 12	schoolofthewoods.org
St. Andrew's Episcopal School	1819 Heights Blvd.	Houston, TX 77008	Early Education	saesintheheights.org
St. Mark Lutheran Classical School	1515 Hillendahl Blvd.	Houston, Texas 77055	Early Education–5	gostmark.org
St. Mark's Episcopal School	3816 Bellaire Blvd.	Houston, TX 77025	Early Education–8	stmes.org
St. Stephen's Episcopal School	1800 Sul Ross St.	Houston, TX 77098	Early Education–12	school.ststephenshouston.org
Trinity Downtown Lutheran School	800 Houston Ave.	Houston, TX 77007	Infant-8	trinitydt.org
The Village School	13077 Westella Drive	Houston, TX 77077	Age 2–Grade 12	thevillageschool.com
Wesley Academy	10570 Westpark Drive	Houston, TX 77042	Early Education–6	wesleyacademy.net

PRE-KINDERGARTEN & HIGHER					
Adventist Christian Academy of Texas	3601 S. Loop 336 East	Conroe, TX 77301	Pre-K-12	990.862.myftpupload.com	
Al-Hadi School	2313 S. Voss Road	Houston, TX 77057	Pre-K–12	alhadi.com	
Angleton Christian School	3133 N. Valderas St.	Angleton, TX 77515	Pre-K-7	angletonchristian.org	
Annunciation Orthodox School	3600 Yoakum Blvd.	Houston, TX 77006	Pre-K-8	aoshouston.org	
Awty International School	7455 Awty School Lane	Houston, TX 77055	Pre-K-12	awty.org	
The Banff School	13726 Cutten Road	Houston, TX 77069	Pre-K-12	banffschool.org	
Bay Area Christian School	4800 W. Main St.	League City, TX 77573	Pre-K-12	bacschool.org	
Christ Community School	1488 Wellman Road	Conroe, TX 77384	Pre-K-8	christcommunityschool.org	
Clay Road Baptist School	9151 Clay Road	Houston, TX 77080	Pre-K–8	crbs.org	

(CONTINUED ON P. 108)

SELECT PRIVATE SCHOOLS & PRESCHOOLS (CONTINUED)

SCHOOL	ADDRESS	CITY/ZIP CODE	GRADES COVERED	WEBSITE
Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart	10202 Memorial Drive	Houston, TX 77024	Pre-K-12	duchesne.org
Esprit International School	4890 W. Panther Creek Drive	Spring, TX 77381	Pre-K-8	espritinternationalschool.com
Fort Bend Christian Academy Elementary School	1201 Lakeview Drive	Sugar Land, TX 77498	Pre-K–4	fortbendchristian.org
Holy Family Catholic School	2601 Ave. N	Galveston, TX 77550	Pre-K-8	hfcsgalv.org
Holy Ghost Catholic School	6920 Chimney Rock Road	Houston, TX 77081	Pre-K-8	holyghostschool.com
The Honor Roll School	4111 Sweetwater Blvd	Sugar Land, TX 77479	Pre-K-8	thehonorrollschool.com
The John Cooper School	One John Cooper Drive	The Woodlands, TX 77381	Pre-K-12	johncooper.org
John Paul II Catholic School	1400 Parkway Plaza Drive	Houston, TX 77077	Pre-K-8	jp2.org
The Kinkaid School	201 Kinkaid School Drive	Houston, TX 77024	Pre-K-12	kinkaid.org
Legacy Preparatory Christian Academy	9768 Research Forest Drive	Magnolia, TX 77354	Pre-K-10	legacypca.org
Lycée International de Houston	15950 Park Row Drive	Houston TX 77084	PK3-12	lihouston.org
Mission Bend Christian Academy	3710 Highway 6 South	Houston, TX 77082	Pre-K–8	mbcacademy.org

(CONTINUED ON P. 110)



HISD AT A GLANCE

287TOTAL SCHOOLS

10 EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOOLS

159 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

37
MIDDLE SCHOOLS

HIGH SCHOOLS

43
COMBINED/OTHER SCHOOLS

215,000 STUDENTS

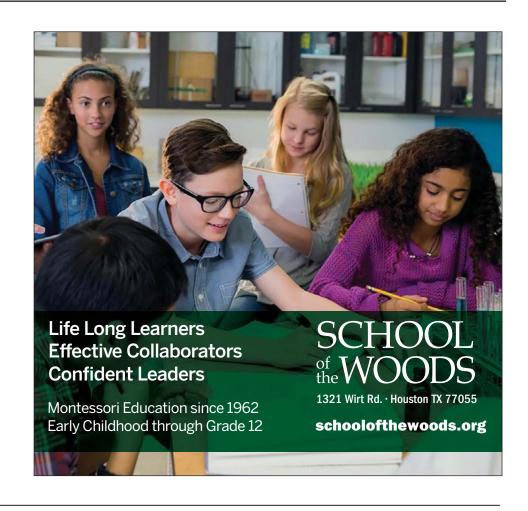
62.1% HISPANIC

24.5% AFRICAN AMERICAN

3.7% ASIAN

8.4%WHITE

ABOUT 100 LANGUAGES SPOKEN



SELECT PRIVATE SCHOOLS & PRESCHOOLS (CONTINUED)

SCHOOL	ADDRESS	CITY/ZIP CODE	GRADES COVERED	WEBSITE
The Monarch School	2815 Rosefield Drive	Houston, TX 77080	Pre-K-12	monarchschool.org
The Parish School	11001 Hammerly Blvd.	Houston, TX 77043	Pre-K-5	parishschool.org
The Rainard School for Gifted Students	11059 Timberline Road	Houston, TX 77043	Pre-K-12	rainard.org
River Oaks Baptist School	2300 Willowick Road	Houston, TX 77027	Pre-K-8	robs.org
Rosehill Christian School	19830 FM 2920	Tomball, TX 77377	Pre-K-12	rcseagles.org
Sacred Heart Catholic School	615 McDade St.	Conroe, TX 77301	Pre-K-8	shcstx.com
St. Anne Catholic School	2120 Westheimer Road	Houston, TX 77098	Pre-K-8	stannecs.org
St. Catherine's Montessori School	9821 Timberside Drive	Houston, TX 77025	Pre-K-9	stcathmont.org
Strake Jesuit College Preparatory	8900 Bellaire Blvd.	Houston, TX 77036	Pre-K-12	strakejesuit.org
The Woodlands Christian Academy	5800 Alden Woods Drive	The Woodlands, TX 77384	Pre-K-12	twca.net
The Woodlands Preparatory School	27440 Kuykendahl Road	Tomball, TX 77375	Pre-K-12	woodlandsprep.org

(CONTINUED ON P. 112)





EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT: HOUSTON MSA 2014 POPULATION 25 YEARS OR OLDER					
HIGHEST EDUCATION LEVEL ATTAINED	ESTIMATED POPULATION AGE 25 OR MORE	PERCENT OF POPULATION AGE 25 OR MORE			
Graduate Degree	461,210	11.2			
Bachelor's Degree	815,354	19.8			
Total Completing College	1,276,564	31.0			
Associate Degree	255,313	6.2			
Some College, No Degree	901,830	21.9			
High School Diploma Only	943,010	22.9			
Total Completing High School	3,376,716	82.0			
Grade 9-12, No Diploma	350,025	8.5			
Less Than Grade 9	391,205	9.5			
Total Population Age 25 or More	4,117,947	100.0			

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2014 American Community Survey $\,$

SELECT PRIVATE SCHOOLS & PRESCHOOLS (CONTINUED)

SCHOOL	ADDRESS	CITY/ZIP CODE	GRADES COVERED	WEBSITE
Clear Lake Christian School	14325 Crescent Landing Drive	Houston, TX 77062	K-12	clearlakechristianschool.com
Covenant Academy	11711 Telge Road	Cypress, TX 77429	K–12	covenantacademyhouston.org
Covenant Christian School	4503 Interstate 45 North	Conroe, TX 77304	K-12	covenantonline.com
Covenant Preparatory School	1711 Hamblen Road	Kingwood, TX 77339	K-12	covenantknights.org
Eagle Heights Christian Academy	3005 Pearland Parkway	Pearland, TX 77581	K-12	eagle-heights.org
Faith Christian Academy	3519 Burke Road	Pasadena, TX 77504	K-12	fcapasadena.org
Faith West Academy	2225 Porter Road	Katy, TX 77493	K–12	faithwest.org
First Baptist Christian Academy	7500 W. Fairmont Parkway	Pasadena, TX 77505	K–12	fbcapasadena.org
Lifestyle Christian School	3993 Interstate 45 North	Conroe, TX 77304	K-12	lifestyleconroe.org
River Oaks Academy for Special Needs Children	10600 Richmond Ave.	Houston, TX 77042	K–12	riveroaksacademy.com
Second Baptist School	6410 Woodway Drive	Houston, TX 77057	K–12	secondbaptistschool.org
St. John's School	2401 Claremont Lane	Houston, TX 77019	K-12	sjs.org
St. Thomas' Episcopal School	4900 Jackwood St.	Houston, TX 77096	K-12	stes.org
The Briarwood School	12207 Whittington Drive	Houston, TX 77077	K-12	briarwoodschool.org
Westbury Christian School	10420 Hillcroft St.	Houston, TX 77096	K-12	westburychristian.org
Abercrombie Academy	17102 Theiss Mail Road	Spring, TX 77379	K-8	abercrombieacademy.com
First Baptist Academy	7450 Memorial Woods Drive	Houston, TX 77024	K-8	fbahouston.org
Grace School	10219 Ella Lee Lane	Houston, TX 77042	K-8	graceschool.org
Katy Adventist Christian School	1913 East Ave.	Katy, TX 77493	K-8	katyadventistschool.com
The Joy School	One Chelsea Blvd.	Houston, TX 77006	K-8	thejoyschool.org
Veritas Christian Academy of Houston	7000 Ferris St.	Bellaire, TX 77401	K-8	veritasca.org
Western Academy	1511 Butlercrest St.	Houston, TX 77080	K-8	westernacademy.net
Christian School of Kingwood	2901 Woodland Hills Dive	Humble, TX 77339	K-9	kingwoodchristianschool.com

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL & HIGHER					
Assumption Catholic High School	801 Roselane St.	Houston, TX 77037	6–8	houstonassumption.org	
Baytown Christ Academy	5555 N. Main St.	Baytown, TX 77521	3–12	gobca.org	
The Emery/Weiner School	9825 Stella Link Road	Houston, TX 77025	6–12	emeryweiner.org	

SCHOOL	ADDRESS	CITY/ZIP CODE	GRADES COVERED	WEBSITE
Fort Bend Christian Academy	1201 Lakeview Drive	Sugar Land, TX 77498	5–8	fortbendchristian.org
Memorial Hall School	2501 Central Parkway, Suite A19	Houston, TX 77092	4–12	memorialhall.org

HIGH SCHOOL ONLY				
Alexander–Smith Academy	10255 Richmond Ave.	Houston, TX 77042	9–12	alexandersmith.com
Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory School	6700 Mt. Carmel Drive	Houston, TX 77087	9–12	cristoreyjesuit.org
Episcopal High School	4650 Bissonnet St.	Bellaire, TX 77401	9–12	ehshouston.org
Fort Bend Christian Academy High School	1250 Seventh St.	Sugar Land, TX 77478	9–12	fortbendchristian.org
Humble Christian School	16202 Old Humble Road	Humble, TX 77396	9–12	humblechristianschool. org
Incarnate World Academy	609 Crawford St.	Houston, TX 77002	9–12	incarnateword.org
Lutheran High North	1130 W. 34th St.	Houston, TX 77018	9–12	lutheranhighnorth.org
St. Agnes Academy	9000 Bellaire Blvd.	Houston, TX 77036	9–12	st-agnes.org
St. John XXIII High School	1800 N. Grand Parkway	Katy, TX 77449	9–12	sj23lions.org
St. Pius X High School	811 W. Donovan St.	Houston, TX 77091	9–12	stpiusx.org





PRIVATE SCHOOLS ARE DIFFERENT IN THAT...

- Students generally do more homework, watch less television, and read more than their public school counterparts (U.S. Department of Education study).
- A greater percentage of students participate in the arts, athletics, and other extracurricular activities.
- Achievement, hard work and study are typically valued by all members of the community.
- Teachers interact with students in all aspects of school life and not just in the classroom.
- They promote critical thinking and a love of learning.
- The schools emphasize ethical behavior and good citizenship.
- Students are expected to be well-mannered and disciplined.
- Emphasis is placed on communication between school and home
- Most are funded privately through tuition and charitable contributions.

PRIVATE SCHOOL FAQ

Private schools are unique in that each was founded by an individual or group with a clear and distinct approach to education—a mission. There are many different types of private schools, including early childhood schools, elementary schools, middle schools, secondary schools, PreK/K-12th grade programs, boys' schools, girls' schools, schools with religious affiliations, and schools with special programs. If you are considering sending your child to private school, the Houston region has plenty of wonderful options to choose from. Below are a few of the questions most frequently asked by families considering a private school education.

Why should I choose a private school for my child?

The National Public Opinion Poll of Perceptions of Independent Schools, commissioned by the National Association of Independent Schools, found that "independent schools are seen as the most different in offering a more personalized, customized education, and an environment that is civil and controlled. Small class sizes, individualized attention, values, manners, and

discipline are the most important factors describing differences between public and independent schools."

How do I decide which school is the right choice for my child?

As a parent, you know that all children are not alike. Each child has his or her own special talents, interests, developmental patterns, and emotional needs. A school that is right for one may not be the best choice for another.

Once you have heard from the schools that accepted your child, you will be given a certain amount of time to make your decision—usually two or three weeks. If you have not already visited the campus, you should schedule a visit immediately. Even if you have been on the campus before, you may want to visit again. Talking to other families in the school can also be helpful. Making the final decision is never easy, but listening to your instincts will help lead you to the right choice.

Whichever school you choose, be sure to inform all of the schools that accepted your child. Many schools have candidates on waiting lists, and these students are anxious to learn whether a space will become available. Once you return the enrollment contract with the tuition deposit, your family will be considered part of that school's community.

How do I afford the tuition at a private school?

Private education is not cheap, but it doesn't have to break your bank account. Try to plan ahead as much as possible so that you can keep the cost within reach. It is important to note that the family bears the primary responsibility for financing their child's education to the extent that they are able.

Contact each school directly so that you can learn about the full range of financial options available. Most private schools offer financial aid to families that demonstrate need. The money for these grants comes directly from the school's budget and demonstrates the school's commitment to having a diverse student population. Another common option is a monthly payment plan. These plans allow families to spread out their tuition payments over a period of eight to 10 months. Occasionally, schools offer a loan program. No matter which of these options you decide to pursue, following deadlines for submitting the necessary documentation is essential. Remember that the admissions officer is willing to help you navigate the process.

How do I find out what the admissions process is for each school?

Visit each school's website and read the information about the admissions process. Or, call the office directly and ask for the information. The process is usually laid out in a step-by-step

WHEN YOU ARE SELECTING A SCHOOL, ASK YOURSELF QUESTIONS SUCH AS THESE:

- Is the curriculum appropriate for my child's talents and goals?
- Will the school challenge without overwhelming?
- Will my child be comfortable in the school's environment? Will I?
- Are there opportunities for my child to pursue special interests?
- Will my child learn the values that are important to our family?

format. Most schools have a similar process, but you need to be responsible for paying attention to differing dates and requirements.

Will my child have to take a test to get into a private

Most private schools require some form of testing prior to admittance. Many schools share their testing results with one another. Consult each school website for details. Schools admitting younger students may administer age-appropriate assessments. Schools admitting older students may require the ISEE (independent school entrance exam) or some other standardized test. You can visit the ISEE website at iseetest.org for further information. You may also be required to schedule an interview with the admissions office. Each school has their own requirements and it is your responsibility to be sure all of them are done during the admissions process.

For more information about private schools in Houston, visit houstonprivateschools.org.



HOW TO BECOME A TEACHER IN TEXAS

The State of Texas is facing a major educational challenge—a growing shortage of qualified teachers. Whether you are a recent college graduate, a mid-career changer, a teacher from another state or country, or someone who does not yet have a college degree, the information below outlines how to become a teacher in Texas.

What are the basic requirements for becoming a teacher in Texas?

You must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. Every teacher must have an academic major, take teacher training courses, and complete the teacher certification tests for the subject and grade level he or she wishes to teach. The only exemption from the degree requirement is for individuals seeking Career and Technology certification.

If I am certified in another state or country, how do I become certified in Texas?

Teachers from other states or countries who hold acceptable credentials from their home state or country can gain certification in Texas by passing the appropriate Texas certification tests.

What types of teaching positions are open?

State Board for Educator Certification has compiled a list of various job bank websites that list school job vacancies in the state of Texas.

WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP ME PAY FOR A TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM?

The programs and grants listed below are specifically designed to help individuals become teachers.

- Teach for Texas offers conditional grants to help some future teachers with expenses if those individuals agree to teach in Texas public schools for a specified period of time.
- Certified Educational Aid Exemption Program offers tuition exemptions for some educational aides seeking to become certified teachers.
- Teach for America offers cash awards that can be applied to past student loans or future educational costs for recent college graduates who commit to teaching in urban and rural public schools for two years.
- Troops to Teachers offers guidance and support for military veterans who wish to make the transition from active duty into the teaching profession.
- G.I. Bill Benefits for preparation program costs/fees: Veterans Education Benefits (GI Bill) can be used for both university and alternative teacher certification
- programs. The program must request and receive approval from the Texas Workforce Commission Veterans Affairs Office in order for veterans to receive benefits while participating in a certification program. Once approved, the program will assign a staff person to process the required forms to request VA funding. The amount of money paid to eligible veterans will vary, depending on the type of GI Bill that they have and the type of program in which they are participating. If veterans have remaining GI Bill eligibility, they should ask the program director or university VA office for details on applying for benefits.
- Other financial aid: The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board administers a variety of grants for attending college. You may also qualify for other financial aid, student loans or scholarships. Contact the teacher training program you wish to attend for additional information.

Texas Workforce Commission: The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects teaching as one of the fastest growing occupations over the next five to 10 years and beyond, with demand and growth continuing to increase. The average teacher salary in Texas is \$38,857. Special programs and incentives are available to help people become and remain teachers.

Who may I contact for additional information?

For a full list of programs, benefits, training courses and testing material, you may contact the SBEC Information and Support Center at (512) 936-8400 or go to the website tea.state.tx.us. You can also contact a teacher training program or school district in your area.

Source: Texas Education Agency





BUYING, RENTING, UTILITIES, AND MORE

Houston offers a wide variety of choices when it comes to housing. Whether you're looking to buy or rent in the city or the suburbs, and if you see yourself in an apartment, townhome, high-rise, single-family home, or mansion, chances are that Houston has just the place for you. Here, you'll also find the resources you need to get settled in your new home.





RENTING IN HOUSTON

For those looking to rent or lease, Houston offers a variety of choices—from apartments, townhomes and lofts, to mid-rises, high-rises, condominiums, garage apartments, and single-family homes. Whether you prefer apartment living in the Galleria, Uptown Park, Downtown, or in the Museum District and beyond, Houston has a plethora of luxury high-rise rental properties featuring fabulous amenities and stunning views. For those looking for urban living with a bit of old-school flair, downtown Houston's creative restoration has transformed several old city landmarks into luxury loft buildings, with the convenience of proximity to Houston's burgeoning downtown nightlife scene and the central business district.

With the Houston economy continuing to grow, rental properties are in strong demand, particularly as you get closer to where the work is. Houstonians are deciding they'd like less time in their cars and more time with the people in their lives—so how close you prefer to live to work may have more effect on your rental savings than ever before. But no matter your geographic interest, there's still something for everyone.

Downtown is hopping and, according to Scott Weaver, broker for Urban Leasing & Realty, it has 4,000 to 6,000 units slated for creation in the next year or two—good news for those who want the high-level entertainment and culture which this burgeoning area of nightlife can offer. Of course, there are already top rental locations built up. For example, One Park Place, honored by the Urban Land Institute Houston in 2010 for best practices in real estate development, offers nearby bike trails, complimentary valet service, and the 28,000-square-foot Phoenicia Specialty Foods on the ground floor. The Post Rice Lofts feature studio-to-penthouse sized lofts and, like One Park Place, are just a short walk from Minute Maid Park, home of the Houston Astros.

For those who love Midtown, which caters to the 25-to-40 set and new families, there are definitely top choices to consider. One example is the Bel Air Allen Parkway. Once a grand hotel resort, it displays two pools and starts at one-bedroom lofts and ends at three-bedroom townhomes. Another is Camden Travis Street, offering its own lengthy pool, a dog run for your little

RENTING 101

buddy, and a convenient walk to the METRORail. For more on loft living, see p. 36.

Then there's the Galleria, the city's top tourist attraction, which brings in shoppers from all over the world. With high-rises offering Houston skyline views, this area has a large concentration of apartments to choose from. Weaver also points out the large international company presence in the area—such as Bechtel—and the new office spaces, making it a considerable slice into many commute times.

Next up, the Medical Center is the largest of its kind in the world. It gives more choice in rentals, many times has special rates for employees of the Center and often has shuttle service to and from work. Look to Equinox and Domain at Kirby as particular standouts for enjoying the easy life.

GO WEST

Of course CITYCENTRE—the dining, shopping, arts, and entertainment center—isn't exactly hard on a resident, either, so don't rule out West Houston. Located at I-10W and Beltway 8, you may find yourself rarely leaving the CENTRE for, well, anything. "It's based on a theory similar to New York—enjoy working, shopping and living all in one spot," says Amber Carrillo, broker at Atlantic & Pacific Real Estate. For both traditional and loft living, look to places such as Domain at CityCentre and THE LOFTS CITYCENTRE. The energy corridor also has a dozen communities and apartments, providing that soughtafter short commute so many crave. Apartment complex Newport on the Lake offers a private 15-acre lake and is near a velodrome—for bicycle racing enthusiasts—and tennis courts.

JUST OUTSIDE

If you want to take it outside of the city, The Woodlands continues to be a popular spot as one of America's first master-planned communities. "The schools have a good reputation and you get more house or apartment for your money," Weaver says. "We're also seeing more businesses have locations out there to help with the commute. It's becoming a standalone city in its way." The Boardwalk At Town Center provides gourmet kitchens and views of The Woodlands Waterway Boardwalk, along with complimentary kayaks and cruiser bikes. It's also walking distance from Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, Market Street and The Woodlands Mall. For the environmentally conscious, The Millennium, a LEED Silver Certified Green Property, offers strategic solar energy utilization and water reduction.

Another alternative is Bay Area Houston, sitting south of Downtown and just north of Galveston. Featuring desirable bedroom communities for families, League City has been one of the fastest growing cities in recent years. Known for having a large boating population and NASA's Johnson Space Center, the Bay Area houses many large industries, including high-tech and marine/boating. An apartment complex to keep on the radar is Voyager at The Space Center, offering a clubhouse with pool and spa, along with both grocery and the Space Center within walking distance.

3 REASONS TO RENT INSTEAD OF BUY

More flexible living. For one, you aren't tied down to a mortgage. Most leases are for one year, so if you want to move closer to work or just to a different apartment or house in your neighborhood, you can do that. Furthermore, you can afford apartments with more luxurious amenities when you rent and homes in neighborhoods in which you might not be able to afford to purchase.

Fewer surprises. When you own, there are hidden costs like homeowners insurance, large repairs like new roofs and washer/dryer units. When you rent, you know exactly how much you will be paying in rent each month, so its much easier to plan the rest of your monthly budget.

No repairs or maintenance. Pesky overgrown lawn? That's the landlord's department. Hot water issue? The building management will deal with it. Front door giving you trouble? You won't have to fix it yourself or pay someone to. That's the beauty of renting.



HOW DO I FIND AN APARTMENT?

There are a number of apartment communities and apartment providers in Houston. Many communities offer a variety of amenities such as swimming pools, business centers with Internet access, cable TV and other things to make your stay as enjoyable as possible. Many apartment companies have websites that will allow you to find out more about the company, a particular community, amenities, unit size and availability.



WHAT WILL I HAVE TO DO TO QUALIFY?

Apartment communities will have a set of rental criteria that states the guidelines for acceptance. The rental criteria may ask for your credit history, employment history, rental history and criminal history. You should review the rental criteria before applying to rent. This will give you an idea of whether you will qualify. Keep in mind that many apartment communities restrict rental to persons who have not been convicted of certain types of crime and who have an acceptable rental history.



HOW DO I APPLY?

Most apartment communities will require that you sign a rental application providing certain information. The questions asked will be used to determine whether you are eligible for rental. Remember that the rental application is a contract between you and the owner of the property. The application contract will tell you what fees and deposits must be paid and whether or not they will be refundable. Many owners require that you pay a nonrefundable application fee, a nonrefundable administrative fee and an application deposit that may or may not be refundable. Read your application closely so that you will know what fees and deposits must be paid and whether you can get them back if you change your mind and decide not to rent.



STEPS TO HOME OWNERSHIP

One of the keys to making the home-buying process easier and more understandable is planning. In doing so, you'll be able to anticipate requests from lenders, lawyers and a host of other professionals. Furthermore, planning will help you discover valuable shortcuts in the home-buying process.

1 DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WANT?

Are you planning to move to a new community due to a lifestyle change or is buying an option and not a requirement? What would you like in terms of real estate that you do not now have? Do you have a purchasing timeframe?

2 DO YOU HAVE THE MONEY?

Homes and financing are closely intertwined. The good news is that over the years new and innovative loan programs have evolved which require a five percent down payment or less. In addition to a down payment, purchasers also need cash for closing costs.

3 SELECT A REALTOR®

Buying and selling real estate is a complex matter. In this maze of forms, financing, inspections, marketing, pricing, and negotiating, it makes sense to work with professionals who know the community and much more. Those professionals are the local REALTORS® who serve the Houston area.

4 FINDING A REALTOR®

You can find agents at open houses, through local advertising, websites, referrals from other REALTORS®, recommendations from neighbors, and suggestions from lenders, attorneys, financial planners, and CPAs. The experiences and recommendations of past clients can be invaluable.

GET LOAN PREAPPROVAL

REALTORS® routinely suggest that consumers start the mortgage process well before bidding on a home. Purchase forms often require buyers to apply for financing within a given time period; in many cases, seven to 10 days.

6 LOOK AT HOMES

A home is more than just a collection of bedrooms and bathrooms. Several similarly sized properties may well represent radically different designs, commuting distances, lot sizes, tax costs, interior dimensions, and exterior finishes. Consider such things as pricing, location, size, amenities, and design. Decide what features are most important and adjust your search accordingly.

7 CHOOSE A HOME

How do you know if a house is THE one? The best approach is to look at as many homes as possible. Narrow down your choices, then collaborate with your REALTOR® to go over specifics and options.

8 GET FUNDING

There are thousands of loans available out there from a variety of lenders, but in general, the mortgage you choose will likely be determined by at least several factors. The amount you put down makes a difference. Putting less than 20 percent down will cause lenders to ask for a guaranteed mortgage from an outside third party. Your credit score will be a determining factor on your future interest rate. First-time home buyers can be assisted through statebacked first-timer programs which often feature smaller down payments and below-market interest rates.

9 HOW DO YOU GET A LOAN?

To obtain a loan you must complete a written loan application and provide supporting documentation including: recent pay stubs, rental checks and tax returns for the past two or three years if you are self-employed. During the prequalification procedure, the loan officer will describe the type of paperwork required.

10 WHERE DO YOU GET A LOAN?

Mortgage financing can be obtained from mortgage bankers, mortgage brokers, savings and loan associations, mutual savings banks, commercial banks, credit unions, insurance companies, and the growing number of REALTORS®.

11 MAKE AN OFFER

In a typical situation, you will complete an offer that the REALTOR® will present to the owner and the owner's representative. The owner, in turn, may accept the offer, reject it, or make a counter-offer.

12 INSPECTIONS

A number of inspections are common in residential realty transactions. They include checks for termites, surveys to determine boundaries, appraisals to determine value for lenders, title reviews, and structural inspections. During these examinations, an inspector comes to the property to determine if there are material physical defects and whether expensive repairs and replacements are likely to be required in the next few years. It's recommended that the buyer be present.

13 GET INSURANCE

The essential idea behind various forms of real estate

insurance is to protect owners in the event of catastrophe. There are various forms of insurance associated with home ownership.

14 CLOSING

The closing process, also known as "settlement" or "escrow," is increasingly computerized and automated. In many cases, buyers and sellers don't need to attend a specific event; signed paperwork can be sent to the closing agent via overnight delivery.

15 SETTLEMENT

This is a brief process where all of the necessary paperwork needed to complete the transaction is signed. The buyer receives the keys and the seller receives payment for the home. From the amount credited to the seller, the closing agent subtracts money to pay off the existing mortgage and other transaction costs. Deeds, loan papers, and other documents are prepared, signed, and filed with local property record offices.

Source: National Association of Realtors® realtor.com/home-finance/buyers-basics/home-buyers-basics.aspx?source=web

ACU OF TEXAS

ACU OF TEXAS is a member-owned community credit union with a dedication to convenience. Through its credit union service organization, CU Financial Group, ACU of Texas offers real estate (Keystone Realty Group, LLC), insurance (ACU Insurance Services, LLC) and banking services, all under one roof. Keystone Realty Group is a full-service real estate agency that does more than just buy and sell homes. With more than 100 years of real estate experience, Keystone Realty Group's mission is to take the credit unions philosophy of providing uncompromising service, and apply it to the home buying and selling process. In the same way, ACU Insurance services is dedicated to helping families and individuals customize auto, home, life, and health insurance policies at the best rate possible. ACU Insurance Services prides itself on providing high levels of customer satisfaction through highly rated, reliable insurance carriers.

ACU of Texas also offers free banking, financial planning, and education tools, loan options, online services, and much more. ACU of Texas offers membership to anyone who lives or works in Galveston, Brazoria or Harris Counties.

Relocating can be a lot of work. ACU of Texas makes it easy by offering services under one roof.

FAMILY TAX RURDENS

The graphic below compares the state and local tax burdens of hypothetical households in the largest city in each state. Therefore, large cities ranking second or third in their state's populations, like Dallas or San Francisco, are not compared in the study. The study includes taxes only on personal income, property, sales, and automobiles.

The average tax burden for a family of three with \$75,000 annual income living in the U.S. is \$7,719, which is 10.3 percent of household income.

The personal tax burden in the Houston area consistently ranks among the lowest in the nation.

TAX BURDEN FOR A FAMILY OF THREE WITH \$75,000 ANNUAL INCOME (2017) STATE, LOCAL AND PROPERTY



SERVICES & UTILITIES

In Texas, residential consumers can shop around for the electrical service provider of their choice. The largest providers are Reliant Energy and TXU Energy. The Texas Public Utility Commission provides information about choosing an electric provider, rate comparisons, and much more at powertochoose.org, and the City of Houston offers an informative website that can help with shopping for electrical service providers in the region at houstonconsumerchoice.com/home.asp.

In Houston, CenterPoint Energy supplies natural gas. For more information and to set up service, call 713-659-2111 or visit its website at centerpointenergy.com.

CABLE SERVICES

The City of Houston Public Works & Engineering Department provides water and sewer service for residents of Houston proper. Other incorporated municipalities in the Houston area provide their own water and sewer services to their residents. Contact your local governing body for full information. The primary cable service provider in Houston is Comcast Xfinity, which offers high-speed Internet, cable TV, and phone service. Another option is AT&T U-verse, with digital TV, Internet, and phone options. Satellite dish services are available in Houston through Dish Network and DIRECTV.

TELEPHONE SERVICES

The primary telephone service provider is AT&T, but there are more than three dozen local service providers, as well as most major brands of cell phone service providers.

The City of Houston and the immediate surrounding area have three area codes: 281, 713, and 832. When calling from one of these area codes, 10-digit dialing is required for local calls. Three other area codes-409, 936, and 979are part of the larger 10-county Houston metropolitan area.



TEXAS DRIVER'S LICENSES

New residents must obtain a Texas driver's license within 30 days of establishing Texas residency. New residents with a valid out-of-state driver's license who own a vehicle and would like to obtain a Texas driver's license will need to provide proof of Texas registration, proof of liability insurance, a Social Security number, and an out-of-state license. The only examination required is a vision test. If the out-of-state license has expired, a new resident must take a written examination, a behind-the-wheel examination, and a vision test. Those who do not own a vehicle do not have to show proof of insurance but are required to complete an affidavit of non-ownership. At the time of application, new residents are required to surrender their valid or expired out-ofstate driver's license.

All original applicants for a driver's license or identification certificate must present proof of identity satisfactory to the Texas Department of Public Safety, as well as take the written, driving, and vision tests. For information about documents that may be presented as acceptable proof of identity, go to the Texas Department of Public Safety's website at txdps.state.tx.us. First-time foreign applicants must prove legal U.S. residency before obtaining a Texas driver's license.

A beginning driver of age 15 or older can apply for an instruction permit, which

ESTABLISHING UTILITY SERVICE

- Address of former utility company and letter of credit
- Name and identification of person with whom you live
- Place of employment
- Driver's license number
- Social security number
- Home phone number and daytime phone number where you may be reached

For electrical service, ask about average billing plans, online payment options, and the hours of customer service. Also, inquire if a contract is required and for how long, what happens if your power goes out, and whether there are fees for switching to another electric company or canceling your service.

enables the holder of the permit to drive with a licensed driver who is 18 years of age or older in the front seat. To obtain an instruction permit, a beginning driver must pass the written portion of the driving test, and those under the age of 18 must also take the classroom portion of an approved driver's education course.

For more information and locations of Texas driver's license offices, visit the Texas Department of Public Safety website at txdps.state.tx.us.

AUTO REGISTRATION/TAGS

Newcomers must register vehicles in Texas within 30 days of establishing residency. In Harris County, registration is done with the Harris County tax assessor-collector. Call 713-368-2000 for full information, office locations, and associated fees. Residents of other counties

must register at their county tax office. The following information is necessary to register a vehicle: an out-of-state title or registration; a sales or use tax affidavit; a current Texas driver's license; a Vehicle Identification Certificate (Form VI-30-A), indicating the vehicle has passed a safety inspection; a current odometer reading; customs documentation if from a foreign country; and proof of insurance. Members of the U.S. armed forces and nonresident students attending accredited Texas schools on a full-time basis are not considered state residents.

Registration and license tags must be renewed every 12 months by mail, in person or online. In addition, all Texas vehicles must pass a safety inspection every 12 months at a state-regulated inspection station. A vehicle that passes inspection must display a current state inspection sticker in the lower left-hand corner of the front windshield.

Texas has a mandatory driver's liability insurance law. All drivers are required to carry proof of liability insurance in their vehicles at all times.

The minimum drinking age in Texas is 21. Drivers are prohibited from consuming alcoholic beverages while operating a vehicle. Driving while intoxicated (DWI) laws are strictly enforced and can carry a sentence of jail time, even for first-time offenders. Texas also has a driving under the influence (DUI) law that penalizes those who are under 21 and have any detectable amount of alcohol in their system when driving a motor vehicle.

PET REQUIREMENTS

In Texas, all cats and dogs must be vaccinated against rabies by the time they are four months old and must receive a booster one year after the initial vaccination. After the first two vaccinations, cats and dogs can be vaccinated at either one-vear or three-year intervals. Additionally, cats and dogs in Houston must be licensed. Any veterinarian can vaccinate your pet and provide license tags.

The City of Houston Bureau of Animal Regulation and Control (BARC) may impound any dog or cat not restrained on a leash or without proper tags. For more information, contact BARC at 713-229-7300.

In Harris County outside the Houston city limits, contact the Harris County Veterinary Public Health Division at 281-999-3191 or countypets.com.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

City of Houston

houstontx.org

Harris County co.harris.tx.us

Harris County Appraisal District

hcad.org

Houston Association of Realtors

har.com

Houston Chronicle

houstonchronicle.com

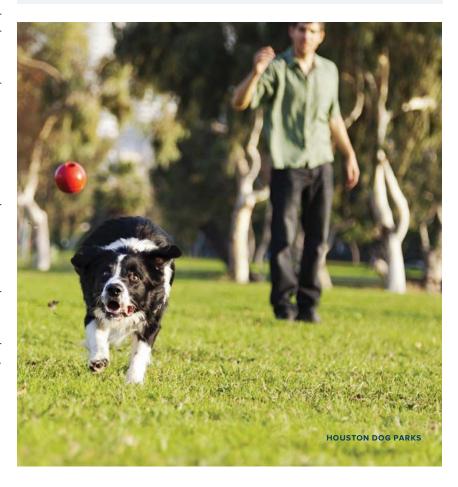
Houston Independent School District

houstonisd.org

State of Texas

state.tx.us

Texas Department of Insurance tdi.state.tx.us









DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Austin County

417 N. Chelsey Austin County Sheriff's Office Bellville, TX 77418 979-865-3111

Sealy

1000 Main Street W. E. Hill Center Sealy, TX 77474 979-885-0128

Brazoria County

109 W. Coombs Alvin, TX 77511-2440 281-585-4525

Angleton

501 S. Velasco Angleton, TX 77515-6017 979-849-5711

Chambers

County

20906 I-10 East Wallisville, TX 77597 409-389-2491

Fort Bend County

5505 Avenue N Rosenberg, TX 77471-5640 281-633-5400

Galveston County

1325 Amburn Road Texas City, TX 77591-2469 409-933-1130

Woodville

1001 W. Bluff Woodville, TX 75979-4735 409-283-7757

Harris County

5420 Decker Drive Baytown, TX 77520-1448 281-424-1339

Houston/

Gessner

12220 S. Gessner Houston, TX 77071-2831 713-219-4100

Houston/ Grant Road

10503 Grant Road Houston, TX 77070-4407 281-890-5440

Houston/Tidwell

8825 Tidwell Houston, TX 77078-3300 713-633-9872

Houston/Townhurst

1601 Townhurst Houston, TX 77043-3226 713-465-8462

Houston/Vantage

Parkway E. 15403 Vantage Parkway E., Suite 300 Houston, TX 77032 281-449-2685

Houston/

Winkler 9206 Winkler Houston, TX 77017 713-943-0631

Humble

7710 Will Clayton Parkway Humble, TX 77338-5801 281-446-3391

Katy

6202 George Bush Drive Katy, TX 77493-1806 281-391-4874

Pasadena

2813A Red Bluff Pasadena, TX 77503-2915 713-473-3232

Webster

111 Tristar Webster, TX 77598 281-486-8242

Liberty County

304 Campbell Street, Room 123 Cleveland, TX 77327-9737 281-592-5983

Liberty

2103 Cos Liberty, TX 77575-4957 936-336-7343

Montgomery County

2 Hilbig Street Conroe, TX 77301-1406 936-442-2810

Waller County

523 State Highway 75 North Huntsville, TX 77320-8419 936-295-1578 281-486-8242



FINANCING YOUR HOME

MAKE A SMOOTH TRANSITION TO THE HOUSTON AREA

Relocating to a new city is an exciting time for families and singles alike, but without proper planning and time management, the move can become very stressful. Houston is home to a variety of neighborhoods and communities in every price range, giving you the confidence that you will find just what you are looking for. Whether you are moving from across town or from across the country, formulating a plan and following certain steps can mean the difference between a smooth move and an overwhelming fiasco. Buying a home in a new city can present some challenges, from finding a reputable Realtor® to hiring dependable movers. It is important to remember that you will probably be living in this home for a while, so you will want to take all of the necessary steps to ensure the smoothest transition possible in the present, and in the future. This section will provide you with resources that will help you make good decisions and give you comfort and confidence in calling Houston home.

Deciding which part of the city you want to live in is one of the most important decisions in the relocation process. The first step is getting to know the city you're relocating to. Spend some time just driving around the city; this will help you get a feel for the size, layout and atmosphere of your new town. Decide which criteria mean the most to you. Is it the performance of the schools in an area? The commute to work? Perhaps you want to be in the thick of a particular social scene, or have always dreamt of a home on the beach. Whatever the case may be, exploring every option will help ensure that you have made the right decision for you and your family.

It may help to make notes of the restaurants, shops, and other attractions in each area, all tasks that will make it easier to narrow down which part of the city is best for you. Deciding whether to buy or rent in your new city will change the scope of your search, so making that decision early on will help you greatly in the long run.

For more information about area specific characteristics of Houston neighborhoods, turn to p. 28.

Once you have decided where to live, the next crucial step is formulating a loan that best meets your lending needs. It is important to begin this process before bidding on a home, because if you bid on a home before the financing is cleared and are denied the loan, you run the risk of losing the home—which can result in more work for you and, above all, disappointment. There are several factors to consider when deciding how much to borrow. How much can you afford to pay each month? How much can you afford to put down up front? How good is your credit? How fast would you like to pay off your mortgage? These questions can all be answered with the help of one of Houston's many credible lenders.

Do some research to find the outlet that best suits your needs before deciding on a lender. Once you have chosen a lender and scheduled a meeting, you will want to gather the necessary paperwork, including recent pay stubs, any rental checks, and tax returns from the last few years. Your loan officer will provide you with a list of required documents.

The formalities of financing a home, which are detailed in the surrounding pages, can be daunting—especially for first-time buyers. Decisions about realtors, loans, offers, counter-offers, insurance, and the like are often challenging, and the options can be overwhelming. It is important to keep reminding yourself that it will all be worth the time and planning once you are approved and can refocus your energy into finding your dream home, or at least the pre-dream home, dream home. There is no reason to not take full advantage of the plethora of home buying experts here in Houston. From financing to decorating, there are teams of people waiting to assist you. Soon, you will get to the best part: living your life in your new home.



HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE

- Start shopping immediately.
- Use an insurance agent to help you shop. Some agents represent only a single company or company group. Independent agents may represent several companies. Including independent agents in your search can help you get quotes from multiple companies with a single call.
- Make sure your agent and company are licensed. Check agents' and companies' license status and buy only from licensed agents and companies.
- Understand homeowners policy types and coverages. Insurance companies may sell several types of homeowners policies in Texas, each with a different level of coverage. When comparing policies, make sure you compare policies with similar coverages.
- HO-A policies provide limited actual cash value coverage of your home and its contents. Only the types of damage specifically listed in the policy are covered. The HO-A is a standardized Texas policy. This means the coverages in the policy, unless endorsed otherwise, will be identical, regardless of the company selling it. Keep in mind that even though the coverages are identical in a standardized policy, the price can vary by company.

- HO-A amended policies provide more extensive coverage than the base HO-A policy but less coverage than an HO-B. Coverage provided by these policies may differ by company.
- HO-B policies provide replacement cost coverage for most types of damage, except those specifically excluded in the policy. The HO-B is a standardized Texas policy.
- Approved alternative policies offer varying levels of coverage. Companies may only sell alternative policies approved by the Commissioner of Insurance. Coverage may differ considerably from one company to another. In general, HO-B policies provide the most coverage for the price, but not all companies sell them.
- Named peril policies (also known as specified perils coverage) provide limited protection and cover only those perils specifically named in the policy. A policy that offers named perils coverage will also contain exclusions to perils named in the policy.
- All risk policies (also known as a comprehensive coverage or open perils coverage) provide broad protection and cover all perils unless they are specifically excluded by the policy. You should always carefully review the

excluded causes of loss section of your policy. Even the most comprehensive policy will exclude certain types of

loss (damage caused by flood, for example).

- Decide whether you need wind/hail or flood coverage. Homeowners policies sold in Texas' 14 coastal counties and in certain parts of Harris County might not cover wind and hail damage. You may need to buy these coverages separately from the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA). Visit the TWIA website, twia.org, for more information. Homeowners policies do not cover damage caused by rising waters. You can buy a separate policy to cover most types of flooding from the National Flood Insurance Program. Call NFIP at 800-427-4661 or visit its website, floodsmart.gov.
- Consider factors other than price. A company's complaint history and financial rating can indicate the level of service you will receive.
- Get quotes from several companies. Rates can vary significantly among companies, so shop around.
- Ask about payment options. Some insurance companies
 offer payment plans that allow you to pay your premium in
 installments. However, TWIA and some insurance
 companies require you to pay your full annual premium in
 a lump sum in advance. If you cannot afford to pay the
 entire premium at once, ask your agent about premium
 finance companies.
- Ask about discounts. Some companies offer discounts.
 The discounts offered and their amounts vary by company.
- Answer questions truthfully. Giving incorrect information
 when you apply for insurance could lead to an incorrect rate
 quote or a denial or cancellation of coverage. An insurance
 company may cancel your policy within the first 60 days if it
 gives you 30 days' notice.
- Choose the highest deductible you can afford. Higher deductibles will lower your premium, but you'll have to pay more out of pocket if you have a claim.
- Know how your credit score affects you. Insurance
 companies may consider your credit score when deciding
 whether to sell you a policy and the price to charge you.
 They cannot deny you coverage or refuse to renew your
 policy solely because of your credit score, however.

FACTORS THAT AFFECT YOUR PREMIUM

YOUR PREMIUM WILL BE BASED ON SEVERAL FACTORS, INCLUDING:

- Where you live
- Availability of local fire protection
- Age and condition of your home
- Construction materials used in your home (brick or frame)
- Your claims history
- Your credit score
- The type of policy you purchase
- The amount of coverage you buy.

REPLACEMENT COST VS, ACTUAL CASH VALUE COVERAGE

 Replacement cost is what you would pay to rebuild or repair your home, based on current construction costs.
 Replacement cost does not include the value of your land or landscaping features. If you are not sure of the amount it would cost to rebuild your home, your company or agent usually has construction cost tables to help you determine the cost. Construction costs change, so you should(update your coverage amounts annually.

To receive full payment (minus your deductible) for a partial loss, such as a hail-damaged roof, most companies require you to insure your house for at least 80 percent of its replacement cost. If you insure your house for less, the insurance company will only pay a portion of the loss.

 Actual cash value is the replacement cost of your property minus depreciation. If your home is destroyed and you only have actual cash value coverage, you may not be able to completely rebuild. Read your policy carefully to know whether it offers replacement cost coverage or actual cash value coverage.

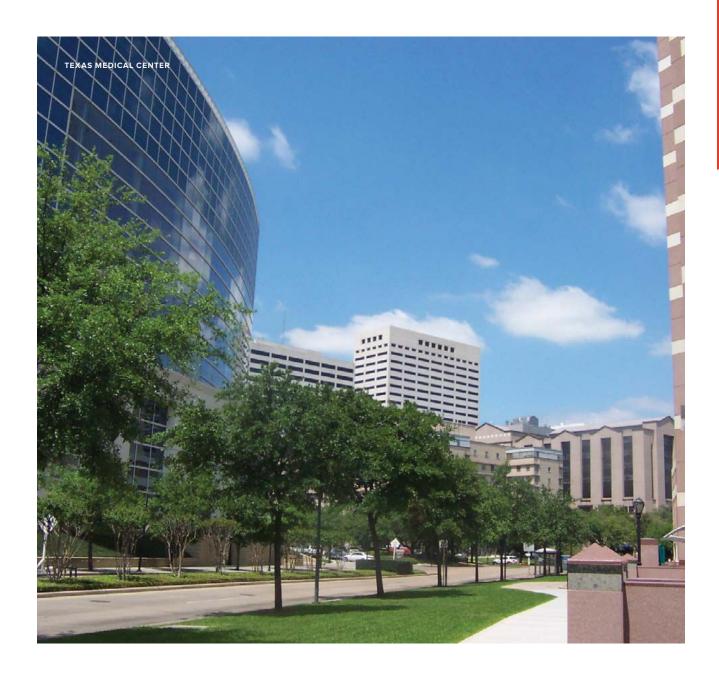
Source: Texas Department of Insurance tdi.state.tx.us



LIVE WITHIN MINUTES OF WORLD-CLASS CARE

From the world-renowned Texas Medical Center south of downtown to fine community hospitals in outlying areas, Houston is home to medical facilities and expertise that are second to none. The city's hospitals are routinely ranked among the top in the nation, and many of Houston's doctors and surgeons are considered number one in their fields.





TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER

With more than 10 million patient visits last year and more square footage than downtown Dallas, the Texas Medical Center is the largest medical center in the world. It includes 54 member institutions that provide patient care, cutting-edge research, and education for medical and nursing students. Included in these are 17 hospitals, four medical schools, and five schools of nursing. Beyond its impact on health care, the Texas Medical Center is Houston's largest single-site employer, with more than 106,000 employees. The Medical Center is home to hospitals that specialize in many different areas, including cardiac care, cancer treatment, organ transplants, and more.

While the Texas Medical Center is on the forefront of research and groundbreaking discoveries today, it also has a noteworthy past. According to the center's website, Memorial Hermann began using Life Flight®, the first air ambulance of its kind, in 1976. By 2006, the Texas Heart Institute had completed over 1,000 heart transplants and The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center began using proton therapy to avoid damaging the healthy tissue that surrounds tumors.

The Medical Center occupies more than 1,300 acres and currently has more than \$3 billion in construction projects underway.

PATIENT CARE INSTITUTIONS IN THE TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER

BAYLOR CLINIC

6620 Main St. Houston, Texas 77030 713-798-1000 baylorclinic.com

BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE MEDICAL CENTER

7200 Cambridge Houston, Texas 77030

Baylor Clinic, an adult outpatient health care system, applies the research and advances made by the Baylor College of Medicine in a clinical setting.

The Baylor College of Medicine joined the Texas Medical Center in 1943, by invitation of the M.D. Anderson Foundation.

HARRIS COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

hchdonline.com

According to the American Hospital Association, Harris County Hospital District ranks fifth in the nation for the size of the metropolitan health care system they provide in Houston. The Harris County Hospital District provides a tax-supported health care system, providing service to the Harris County community. The district includes hospitals, community health care fairs, school district medical aid, and more.

Ben Taub, a hospital with full medical services, is an integral part of the Harris County Hospital District. Ben Taub's services include inpatient and outpatient surgical operations, specialty health care, and an emergency center. The emergency center is a Level I trauma unit, with more than 100,000 visits each year.

The Harris County Hospital District (HCHD) consists of three hospitals, 11 community health centers, five schoolbased clinics, and three specialty centers.

THE HOUSTON HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE SYSTEMS

1905 Holcombe Blvd. Houston, TX 77030 713-467-7423 houstonhospice.org

Houston Hospice was founded in 1980 to provide end-of-life care to Houston patients and their families. Houston Hospice is a community-supported nonprofit. It provides both resident and in-home

care. The Houston Hospice also offers bereavement counseling to family members and loved ones coping with loss. These services reinforce its mission to provide uncompromising and compassionate end-of-life care to patients and families in the community.

MEMORIAL HERMANN-TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER

6411 Fannin St. Houston, Texas 77030 713-704-4000 memorialhermann.org

The Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center Campus includes the primary teaching hospital for McGovern Medical School at UTHealth and the Red Duke Trauma Institute, a Level I trauma center, with more than 300,000 visits annually. The hospital was the first to open in the medical center, in 1925, and is part of the Memorial Hermann Health System, the largest not-for-profit health system in Southeast Texas. The system owns and operates 15 hospitals and has joint ventures with four other hospital facilities. The Memorial Hermann network includes four hospitals in the Texas Medical Center with others in Cypress, Katy, Sugar Land, The Woodlands, Pearland and the northwest, southeast, and southwest areas of Houston, as well as numerous specialty institutes, programs, and services. Memorial Hermann continues to receive national recognition and awards for quality and patient safety.

THE METHODIST HOSPITAL

6565 Fannin St. Houston, Texas 77030 713-790-3333 methodisthealth.com

The Methodist Hospital was once the home of internationally acclaimed heart surgeon Michael DeBakey, and it continues to have an acclaimed cardiac center today. The health care system is among the country's top centers for cancer, diabetes, and endocrinology, ear, nose, and throat, gastroenterology, geriatrics, gynecology, heart and heart surgery, kidney disorders, neurology, orthopedics, pulmonology, and urology.

The Methodist Hospital system has branches in Sugar Land, West Houston, Willlowbrook, and San Jacinto.

CHI ST, LUKE'S HEALTH BAYLOR ST, LUKE'S MEDICAL CENTER

6720 Bertner Ave. Houston, Texas 77030 832-355-1000 stlukeshouston.com

Home to one of the top 10 heart centers in the nation, the Texas Heart® Institute at CHI St. Luke's Health Baylor St. Luke's



Medical Center is where the first heart transplant in the United States was performed, thanks to the pioneering work of Dr. Denton A. Cooley, THI Founder, Surgeon-in-Chief, and President Emeritus. Caring for more than a half million patients each year as an academic medical center, Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center was the first in the Southwest designated a magnet hospital for nursing excellence, and the first to receive the designation three times, in 2001, 2005, and 2009.

SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN®

6977 Main St.

Houston, Texas 77030
713-797-1616
shrinershospitalsforchildren.org
Shriners Hospitals for Children serves as a pediatric orthopedic hospital with specific care for reconstructive surgeries

after an injury. Also known for its burn unit, Shriners Hospitals for Children began treating burn victims in the 1960s and is known for its progress in skin grafts and engineered skin. Shriners Hospitals for Children was founded in 1922 and now has the largest number of pediatric orthopedic surgeons in the United States.

ST. DOMINIC VILLAGE

2401 Holcombe Blvd. Houston, Texas 77021 713-741-8700 stdominicvillage.org

St. Dominic Village in the Texas Medical Center is the mission of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, providing senior care with the values and traditions of the Roman Catholic Church. St. Dominic Village provides world-renowned care to its resi-

dents through the neighboring medical center.

With 27 acres, the St. Dominic Village provides activities, dining, health care, and a sense of community to residents.

TEXAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

6621 Fannin St., # A165 Houston, Texas 77030-2399 832-824-1000

texas children sho spit al. com

Texas Children's Hospital is internationally recognized for exceptional comprehensive care and trailblazing research. Consistently ranked among the nation's top 10 pediatric hospitals, Texas Children's, in affiliation with Houston's renowned Baylor College of Medicine, ranks first in National Institute of Health (NIH) research funding for pediatric hospitals, participating in more than 400 groundbreaking research projects.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER

1515 Holcombe Blvd. Houston, Texas 77030 800-392-1611 mdanderson.org

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center is ranked as the nation's top cancer hospital in *U.S. News & World Report*'s 2008 list of "America's Best Hospitals" and has ranked as one of the top two hospitals for cancer care for 19 years. MD Anderson's vision for cancer treatment and research states, "We shall be the premier cancer center in the world, based on the excellence of our people, our research-driven patient care, and our science. We are making cancer history."

TIRR MEMORIAL HERMANN REHABILITATION AND RESEARCH

1333 Moursund St. Houston, Texas 77030 713-799-5000 TIRR.memorialhermann.org

TIRR Memorial Hermann is a 119-bed nonprofit rehabilitation hospital located in the Texas Medical Center. Founded in 1959, TIRR Memorial Hermann has been named one of "America's Best Hospitals" by *U.S. News & World Report* for 28 consecutive years. TIRR Memorial Hermann provides rehabilitation services for individuals with spinal cord injuries, brain injuries, strokes, amputations, and neuromuscular disorders. TIRR is a registered trademark of TIRR Foundation.

ST. JOSEPH MEDICAL CENTER DOWNTOWN

1401 St. Joseph Parkway Houston, TX 77002 713-757-1000 sjmctx.com

No other Houston hospital can claim over 125 years of caring for area residents. With such a legacy, it's no surprise that St. Joseph Medical Center has provided many of Texas' and Houston's firsts, including becoming the first teaching facility, the first hospital to offer maternity care, emergency medicine, X-ray imaging, and many other cutting-edge technologies over the years. Today, St. Joseph Medical Center continues to offer a wide range of services from comprehensive cardiac care, emergency services, obstetrics and robotic surgery to oncology, orthopedics, plastic surgery, mental health services, and much more.

ST. JOSEPH MEDICAL CENTER IN THE HEIGHTS

1917 Ashland Street Houston, TX 77008 713-969-5400 sjmcheights.com

St. Joseph Medical Center in the Heights opened as an extension of the downtown location. The facility features a 24-hour physician-staffed emergency department, diagnostic imaging, 48 private rooms for inpatient care, surgical services, and a non-invasive outpatient cardiology clinic.

MICHAEL E. DEBAKEY VETERAN'S AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER IN HOUSTON (MEDVAMC)

2002 Holcombe Blvd. Houston, Texas 77030 713-791-1414 houston.va.gov

The Michael E. DeBakey Veteran's Affairs hospital joined the Texas Medical Center in 1985. The hospital serves as a teaching hospital through its major affiliate, Baylor College of Medicine. It is the primary source of health care for more than 120,000 veterans today. Additionally, the MEDVAMC funds research and has been recognized for its outstanding service and health care for homeless veterans and vocational rehabilitation programs.

SPECIALTY HEALTH CARE

With Houston's diverse medical field, it is easy to find renowned health care in each discipline. Surgical centers are a strong facet of the medical community in Houston, providing specialized care to patients.



FOUNDATION SURGICAL HOSPITAL

5410 West Loop South Bellaire, Texas 77401 713-314-4444

surgical hospital.com

Foundation Surgical Hospital, a physician-owned specialty hospital, focuses on orthopedics and neuro-spine care. The hospital has been awarded for its performance in various types of joint replacement surgeries numerous times. Foundation Surgical Hospital also caters to international patients, providing a concierge service to ease the stress involved with traveling to another country for medical care. The concierge service will assist with travel plans, international insurance communication, and accommodations.

KELSEY-SEYBOLD CLINIC

713-442-0427

kelsey-seybold.com

Kelsey-Seybold Clinic's 20 locations in Houston provide care to patients in varying fields. Kelsey-Seybold physicians offer specialty care in more than 50 specialties and sub-specialties. Houston's largest and most renowned private multi-specialty physician group was founded by Dr. Mavis Kelsey in 1949. With its network of 20 clinics, Kelsey-Seybold Clinic cares for local families as well as international patients.

HEALTH CARE OUTREACH

Health Care for the Homeless-Houston (homeless-healthcare. org) serves the homeless community in Houston through comprehensive health care. According to its website, the organization's purpose is to provide long-term care for those who are



unable to navigate a larger system of care; provide interim care for those who can transition into the public healthcare system; and provide medical street outreach to those who live on the streets and in single-night shelters. Health Care for the Homeless-Houston serves more than 10,000 patients through clinics and outreach services. The most common ailments treated by Healthcare for the Homeless-Houston include mental disorders, dental-related disease, diabetes, substance-related disorders, and upper respiratory infection. Dr. David Buck founded Health Care for the Homeless after serving with Mother Theresa and completing medical school at the Baylor College of Medicine. His desire was to provide the homeless with care in a dignified and compassionate way. Today, programs include shelter clinics, dental

clinics, jail in-reach projects, and medical research. For information on volunteering, call 713-276-3058.

WOMEN'S CARE

From labor and delivery to women's comprehensive care, Houston offers nationally recognized health care to women of all ages. Women's health care can be divided into specific categories, such as gynecology, fertility, labor and delivery, and breast care. Houston offers specialized clinics in each individual category, as well as a few centers for women's comprehensive care.

For comprehensive care, Woman's Hospital of Texas (womanshospital.com), located in the Texas Medical Center, has been providing Houston women with primary care since 1976. Woman's

Hospital of Texas offers gynecological surgery and other services including postpartum, infertility, breast care, radiation, and gynecology.

St. Joseph Medical Center (sjmctx. com) has specialized in women's healthcare since opening its doors as "the first freestanding women's hospital west of the Mississippi," in 1887. Today, St. Joseph Medical Center prides itself on offering health care to women during each stage of life. These services include pregnancy-planning and maternity services, nutritional consultations, breast care, weight reduction, gynecological surgery, urology, and more. Additionally, St. Joseph Medical Center provides a neonatal care intensive care unit, cosmetic surgery, and inpatient and outpatient surgical services.

Specialized women's health care is

available in many avenues. The benefit to individual clinics with specialization is the independent focus patients receive regarding their treatment.

The Center for Reproduction and Women's Health Care (houstonfertilityspecialist.com) provides fertility treatment to patients. The staff of the fertility clinic is educated to specifically address the inability to become pregnant and offers multiple forms of treatment. Specifically, the Center for Reproduction and Women's Health Care provides first-line fertility medication, in-vitro fertilization (IVF), donation services, and more.

For breast care, Houston's Lester & Sue Smith Breast Center (bcm.edu/ breastcenter) provides breast cancer treatment and research. As a part of the Baylor College of Medicine, the Lester & Sue Smith Breast Center provides comprehensive care for patients undergoing treatment for breast cancer and disease.

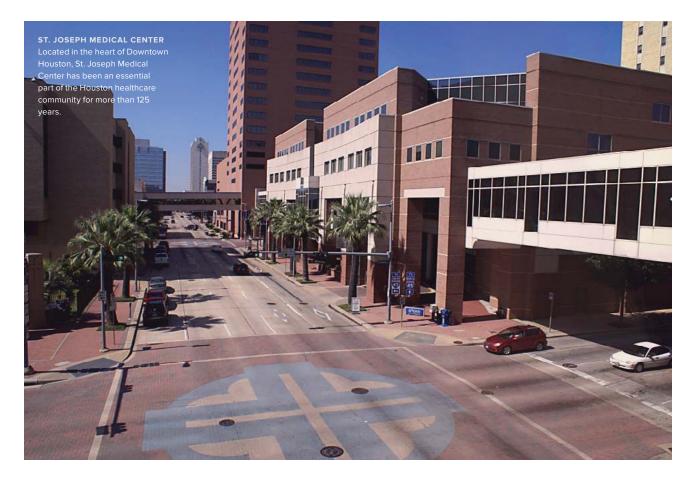
It provides surgeons, reconstructive surgical procedures, specialized oncologists, and counselors to patients of the center.

CHILDREN'S CARE

Houston is home to some of the world's best children's hospitals. It is stocked with surgeons, specialists, and educators in each field. There are a handful of top children's hospitals, however the number of pediatricians and children's physicians in the area can be overwhelming. To find a family pediatrician in your area, using a directory that provides ratings and be helpful. comments may HealthGrades pediatric directory has more than 1,400 listings within 25 miles of Houston (healthgrades.com/pediatrics-directory/tx-texas).

Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital (childrens.memorialhermann. org) has been caring for women and children under one roof longer than any other Houston hospital. It boasts the Gulf Coast region's leading Level I pediatric trauma center, Levels III and IV neonatal intensive care units (NICUs), and The Fetal Center, to ensure mothers with high-risk pregnancies and their babies receive comprehensive care using the latest treatments. Additionally, the hospital hosts specialty programs including neurosciences, orthopedics and sports medicine, cardiac care, transplantation, and general and specialty surgery. The hospital is affiliated with McGovern Medical School at UTHealth.

Children's Cancer Hospital at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (mdanderson.org) is in the top 15 hospitals in the world for children's cancer treatment. Doctors at MD Anderson and the Children's Cancer Hospital are familiar with rare types of cancer because of the number of patients seen at each hospital. They believe in family-centered care, and the Anderson Network offers parents the connection to a network of adults going through similar situations for one-on-one emotional support. There is a specific program for young adults with cancer, which provides psychosocial counseling. The Children's Cancer Hospital also offers clinical trials, about which patients and doctors may discuss, with hopes of finding the best route to a cure.





Texas Children's Hospital (texaschildrens.org), which is affiliated with the Baylor College of Medicine, is a world-renowned pediatric comprehensive care center. The hospital has garnered widespread recognition for its expertise and breakthrough developments in the treatment of cancer, diabetes, asthma, HIV, premature babies, and cardiogenic and attention-related disorders. Texas Children's Hospital was named as one of U.S. News & World Report's Honor Roll Hospitals in the 2011-2012 Best Children's Hospital category. Texas Children's Hospital excelled in nine categories and was nationally ranked in all 10. According to the U.S. News ♂ World Report, the Texas Children's Hospital's emergency room had 88,725 visits and the general facility recorded 21,681 admissions.

SENIOR CARE

The Houston area has an abundance of services for the elderly, including more than 280 assisted-living facilities, 80 skilled-care facilities, and approximately independent-living communities. Some of the notable facilities are the Buckingham (buckinghamhouston.com), Treemont (treemont.com), Clarewood House (clarewoodhouse.com), Terrace at West University (terraceliving.com), and Parkway Place (bucknerretirement.org/ houston-home.shtml). Additionally, home health care is provided through a number of organizations, such as Sheltering Arms (shelteringarms.org).

CANCER CARE

Patients come from all over the world to seek cancer treatment in Houston, where the facilities are consistently ranked the best in the nation. Cancer patients are ensured the most groundbreaking research results and recent discoveries in clinical trials when they seek treatment in Houston.

University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (mdanderson.org) has a main campus in the Texas Medical Center. MD Anderson focuses on patient care, education, research, and prevention as doctors work toward eliminating cancer. The facility is consistently ranked as the numberone hospital for cancer care in the nation. U.S. News & World Report also regularly ranks the hospital nationally in five other fields.



MD Anderson's Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Sciences researches ways to prevent cancer. Research plays an integral role in fighting cancer at MD Anderson. MD Anderson is dedicated to eradicating cancer through pioneering research in the roles that biologic, genetic, environmental, behavioral, and social factors play in cancer development and investigations of behavioral, surgical, medical, and social interventions to prevent or reduce cancer risk.

Branches of M.D. Anderson's local affiliates can be found in Bay Area, Bellaire, Fort Bend, Katy, Sugar Land, and The Woodlands.

Memorial Hermann offers the entire continuum of cancer care—prevention, education, screening, diagnosis, treatment, survivorship, and rehabilitation. By doing more than provide trusted medical care, Memorial Hermann is

helping patients navigate their entire cancer journey by providing care for their physical, social, emotional, and spiritual needs. Patients can take advantage of cancer services in their own neighborhood through Memorial Hermann's convenient network, which includes Cancer Centers, Breast Care Centers, acute care hospitals, and dozens of other affiliated programs.

volunteer opportunities Memorial Hermann, please call or visit the website below.

PET CARE

Houstonians take to pets in a big way, so it's no surprise that you can find every pet service and activity imaginable, from doggie day spas to pet training, pet get-togethers ("yappy hour"), and dedicated rescue groups for countless breeds and all types of four-footed friends. Regardless of where they live, Houston

pet lovers are never far from exceptional veterinary care. Many of Houston's veterinarians are graduates of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A&M University, one of the top veterinary schools in the country.

TEXAS CHILDREN'S NATIONAL RANKINGS BY SPECIALTY 2014-2015

#2 in Neonatology

 $\sharp 2$ in Cardiology & Heart Surgery

#4 in Pulmonology

#4 in Cancer

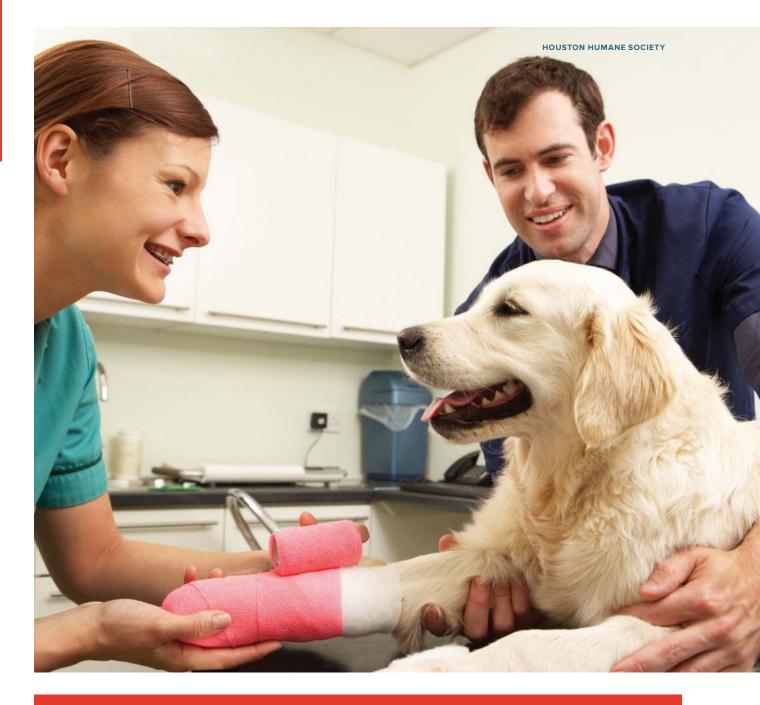
#4 in Nephrology

 $\sharp 5$ in Gastroenterology & GI Surgery

#7 in Urology

#8 in Diabetes & Endocrinology

#34 in Orthopedics



→ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER

Memorial Hermann

713-222-CARE (2273) memorialhermann.org/volunteer

Shriners Hospitals for Children

713-793-3709

shrinershospitalsforchildren.org

CHI St. Luke's Health Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center

832-355-2102 stlukeshouston.com

Texas Children's Hospital

832-824-2945

waystogive.texaschildrens.org

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

713-792-JOIN (5646) mdanderson.org/howyou-can-help/index.html

Methodist Hospital

713-441-3290 methodisthealth.com



→ TRAVELING TO MD ANDERSON

TRANSPORTATION



MD Anderson ground shuttles:

Available for visitors

traveling between the Main Building, Mays Clinic, Proton Therapy Center, and Radiation Outpatient Center. The shuttles operate Monday-

Friday, 5:30 a.m.-6 p.m.



Rental cars:

MD Anderson patients and their travel companions are eligible for auto rental discounts from Enterprise Car Rental (in Houston only). Reservations may be made through Patient Travel Services by calling 1-888-848-9992 (5-2303 if calling from within MD Anderson). Enterprise can be reached directly by calling 800-593-0505 or 713-520-5558. Mention reference ID #06C2863.



Airport shuttle:

Supershuttle offers service to both Houston airports from the Jesse Jones Rotary House International Hotel. From MD Anderson, approximate one-way cost to Bush Intercontinental Airport is \$24 per person. Cost to Hobby Airport is \$20 per person. Reservations must be made. Call toll free 800-258-3826 or, in Houston, call 713-523-8888. Visit an information center or concierge desk for assistance.

HOUSING



Jesse H. Jones Rotary **House International:**

The center features

full-service hotel owned by MD Anderson Cancer Center and managed by Marriott International. The hotel is dedicated to serving the needs of MD Anderson patients and their families while in Houston.

Source: mdanderson.org/patientand-cancer-information/guide-tomd-anderson/index.html

HOSPITAL RANKINGS

Houston's hospitals consistently rank among the nation's top institutions. To qualify for *U.S. News & World Report*'s rankings, a hospital has to be affiliated with a medical school, belong to the Council of Teaching Hospitals, or offer a wide array of advanced services, such as robotic surgery and image-guided radiation therapy.

The Texas Heart® Institute at CHI St. Luke's Health Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center has been listed as one of *U.S. News & World Report*'s top heart centers for 24 consecutive years. Additionally, TIRR Memorial Hermann has been ranked in the top 5 for rehabilitation hospitals for 27 consecutive years.

These institutions and others make up the Texas Medical Center, which remains the largest medical center in the world, with 54 highly lauded research and treatment institutions.

CANCER

- University of Texas MD Anderson
 Cancer Center
- 44 Houston Methodist Hospital

CARDIOLOGY & HEART SURGERY

- 21 Houston Methodist Hospital
- 29 Memorial Hermann —Texas Medical Center
- 38 Texas Heart® Institute at Chi St. Luke's Health Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center

DIABETES & ENDOCRINOLOGY

- 8 Houston Methodist Hospital
- 26 CHI St. Luke's Health Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center

EAR, NOSE & THROAT

9 University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

GASTROENTEROLOGY

11 Houston Methodist Hospital

GERIATRICS

19 Houston Methodist Hospital

GYNECOLOGY

9 University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

NEPHROLOGY

37 Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital

38 Houston Methodist Hospital

NEUROLOGY & NEUROSURGERY

- 17 Houston Methodist Hospital
- **48** Memorial Hermann —Texas Medical Center

ORTHOPEDICS

23 Houston Methodist Hospital

PSYCHIATRY

5 The Menninger Clinic

PULMONOLOGY

17 Houston Methodist Hospital

REHABILITATION

2 TIRR Memorial Hermann

UROLOGY

- 32 Houston Methodist Hospital
- **36** University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

- PHYSICIAN REFERRAL SERVICE

Baylor Family Medicine Clinic

baylorfamilymedicine.org 713-798-7700

Baylor-Methodist Primary Care

Associations methodisthealth.com 713-790-3333

CHI St. Luke's Health

Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center stlukeshouston.com 832-355-4343

HCA Houston

hcahouston.com 713-852-1500

Kelsey-Seybold Clinic

kelsey-seybold.com 713-442-0000

Memorial Hermann Health System

memorialhermann.org 713-222-CARE (2273)

The Methodist Hospital System

methodisthealth.com 713-790-3333

St. Joseph Medical Center

sjmctx.com 713-757-7575

Tenet Health

tenethealth.com 800-743-6333

Texas Children's Hospital

texaschildrenshospital.org/ findadoctor/default.asp 832-824-1111

Texas Children's Pediatric Associates

texaschildrenspediatrics.org 832-824-2999

TIRR Memorial Hermann

tirr.memorialhermann.org 713-799-5000

University of Texas MD

Anderson Cancer Center mdanderson.org/patients_public 800-392-1611

UT Physicians

utphysicians.com 888-4UT-DOCS

UTMB Hospitals

utmbhealthcare.org/directory 409-772-1011

Source: U.S. News & World Report, 2015-2016

■ URGENT CARE & WALK-IN PATIENT SERVICES

Katy Urgent Care Center

21700 Kingsland Blvd., Suite 104 Katy, TX 77450 281-829-6570

Memorial Hermann Urgent Care— Clear Lake

19419 Gulf Freeway, Suite 3, Department 100 Webster, TX 77598 281-316-0885

Memorial Hermann Urgent Care— Friendswood

1505 E. Winding Way Drive, Suite 112 Friendswood, TX 77546 281-993-3860

Memorial Hermann Urgent Care-

5102 FM 1463, Suite 1200 Katy, TX 77494 281-574-1104

Memorial Hermann Urgent Care— **Spring**

19711 Stuebner Airline Road, Suite 1 Spring, TX 77379 832-658-5450

Memorial Hermann Urgent Care— **Tanalewood**

5885 San Felipe St., Suite 325 Houston, TX 77057 832-658-3110

Memorial Hermann Urgent Care—Telfair

1227 Museum Square Drive, Suite A Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-265-8125

Memorial Hermann Urgent Care— Washington

4500 Washington Avenue, Suite 300 Houston, TX 77007 713-861-6490

River Oaks Emergency Center

2320 South Shepherd Drive Houston, TX 77019 713-526-2320

St. Luke's Community **Emergency Center—Holcombe**

2727 West Holcombe Blvd. Houston, TX 77025 832-355-7525

St. Luke's Community **Emergency Center—San Felipe**

6363 San Felipe St. (at Winrock) Houston, TX 77057

713-972-8300

St. Michael's 24-**Hour Emergency Room**

9000 Westheimer Road Houston, TX 77063 713-343-0911

St. Luke's Community **Emergency Center—Pearland**

11713 Shadow Creek Parkway Pearland, TX 77584 713-793-4600

St. Michael's 24-**Hour Emergency Room**

16062 SW Freeway at Highway 6 Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-980-4357

St. Michael's 24-**Hour Emergency Room**

26226 I-45 N Spring, TX 77386 281-419-2911

RESTAURANTS & ATTRACTIONS IN THE TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Houston Museum District

houstonmuseumdistrict.org 4200 Montrose, Suite 425 Houston, TX 77006 713-715-1939

The Houston Zoo

houstonzoo.org 6200 Hermann Park Drive Houston, TX 77030 713-533-6500

IMAX Theatre

hmns.org 5555 Hermann Park Drive Houston, TX 77030 713-639-4629

NRG Stadium

NRGpark.com One NRG Parkway Houston, TX 77054

PARKS AND OUTDOOR **ACTIVITIES**

Rice Campus Running Trail

6100 Main St. Houston, TX 77030 713-313-1515

Hermann Park

hermannpark.org 6001 Fannin St. Houston, TX 77030 713-284-8555

Hermann Park Golf Course

hermannparkgc.com 2155 North MacGregor Drive Houston, TX 77030-1717 713-526-0077RESTAURANTS & **SHOPPING**

Alonti Café

alonti.com 6550 Fannin St. Houston, TX 77030 713-796-8487

Au Bon Pain

aubonpainhouston.com 6400 Fannin St.

Houston, TX 77030 713-795-0144

Cliff's Grill

cliffsmedcenter.com 6605 Main St Houston, TX 77030 713-383-0900

Le Donut

2803 Old Spanish Trail Houston, TX 77054 713-741-7170

Miller's Café

6630 Main St. Houston, TX 77030 713-528-7437

Murphy's DeliZ—Scurlock Tower

6560 Fannin St., Suite 250 Houston, TX 77030 713-794-0300

Rice Village Shopping Center

ricevillageonline.com



HOSPITALS | NUMBERS CORRESPOND TO MAP ON PAGE 152

1	Alvin Diagnostic & Urgent Care Center	301 Medic Lane	Alvin, TX 77511	281-331-6141	
2	Angleton Danbury Medical Center	132 E. Hospital Drive	Angleton, TX 77515	979-849-7721	admc.org
3	Apex Hospital-Katy	25660 Kingsland Blvd.	Katy, TX 77494	281-392-5700	
4	Bayshore Medical Center	4000 Spencer Highway	Pasadena, TX 77504	713-359-2000	bayshoremedical.com
5	Bayside Community Hospital	200 Hospital Drive	Anahuac, TX 77514	409-267-3143	chambershealth.org
6	Behavioral Hospital of Bellaire	5314 Dashwood Drive	Houston, TX 77081	713-600-9500	bhbhospital.com
7	Bellville General Hospital	44 N. Cummings Road	Bellville, TX 77418	979-413-7400	st-joseph.org/bellville
8	Ben Taub Hospital	1504 Ben Taub Loop	Houston, TX 77030	713-873-2000	harrishealth.org
9	Brazosport Regional Health System	100 Medical Drive	Lake Jackson, TX 77566	979-297-4411	brazosportregional.org
10	CHI St. Luke's Health Baylor St.Luke's Medical Center	6720 Bertner Ave.	Houston, TX 77030	832-355-1000	chistlukeshealth.org
11	CHI St. Luke's Health The Woodlands Hospital	17200 St. Luke's Way	The Woodlands, TX 77384	936-266-2000	chistlukeshealth.org
12	CHI St. Luke's Health— Baylor St.Luke's Medical Center	6720 Bertner Ave.	Houston, TX 77030	832-355-1000	chistlukeshealth.org/ baylorstlukes
13	CHI St. Luke's Health–The Vintage Hospital	20171 Chasewood Park Drive	Houston TX 77070	832-534-5000	chistlukeshealth.org/ thevintagehospital
14	CHI St. Luke's Health–The Woodlands Hospital	17200 St. Luke's Way	The Woodlands, TX 77384	936-266-2000	chistlukeshealth.org/ thewoodlandshospital
15	CHI St. Luke's Hospital at The Vintage	20171 Chasewood Park Drive	Houston TX 77070	832-534-5000	chistlukeshealth.org
16	CHI St. Luke's Lakeside Hospital	17400 St. Luke's Way	The Woodlands, TX 77384	936-266-9000	chistlukeshealth.org/lakesid
17	CHI St. Luke's Lakeside Hospital	17400 St. Luke's Way	The Woodlands, TX 77384	936-266-9000	chistlukeshealth.org
18	CHI St. Luke's Patients Medical Center	4600 E. Sam Houston Parkway South	Pasadena, TX 77505	713-948-7000	chistlukeshealth.org
19	CHI St. Luke's Sugar Land Hospital	1317 Lake Pointe Parkway	Sugar Land, TX 77478	281-637-7000	chistlukeshealth.org/ sugarlandhospital
20	CHI St. Luke's Sugar Land Hospital	1317 Lake Pointe Parkway	Sugar Land, TX 77478	281-637-7000	chistlukeshealth.org
21	Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital	6411 Fannin St.	Houston, TX 77030	713-704-5437	childrens.memorialhermanr org
22	CHRISTUS Dubuis Hospital of Houston	1919 La Branch St., #7	Houston, TX 77002	713-756-8660	christusdubuis.org
23	Clear Lake Regional Medical Center	500 W. Medical Center Blvd.	Webster, TX 77598	281-332-2511	clearlakermc.com
24	Conroe Regional Medical Center	504 Medical Center Blvd.	Conroe, TX 77304	936-539-1111	conroeregional.com
25	Cornerstone Hospital of Houston–Bellaire	5314 Dashwood Drive	Houston, TX 77081	713-295-5300	chghospitals.com/ houston-bellaire
26	Cornerstone Hospital of Houston–Clear Lake	709 W. Medical Center Blvd.	Webster, TX 77598	281-332-3322	chghospitals.com/webster
27	Cypress Creek Hospital	17750 Cali Drive	Houston, TX 77090	281-586-7600	cypresscreekhospital.com
28	Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center	10655 Steepletop Drive	Houston, TX 77065	281-890-4285	cyfairhospital.com
29	Devereux Texas Treatment Network	1150 Devereux Drive	League City, TX 77573	281-335-1000	leaguecity.devereuxtx.org
30	East Houston Regional Medical Center	13111 East Freeway	Houston, TX 77015	713-393-2000	easthoustonrmc.com
31	First Street Hospital	4801 Bissonnet St.	Bellaire, TX 77401	713-275-1111	firststreethospital.com
32	Foundation Surgical Hospital of Houston	7501 Fannin Street	Houston, TX 77054	713-375-7000	fdnh.com

33	Healthbridge Children's Hospital	2929 Woodland Park Drive	Houston, TX 77082	281-293-7774	healthbridgehouston.com
34	HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Cypress	13031 Wortham Center Drive	Houston, TX 77065	832-280-2500	healthsouthcypress.com
35	HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Humble	19002 McKay Blvd.	Humble, TX 77338	281-446-6148	healthsouthhumble.com
36	HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of The Woodlands	18550 I-45 South	Conroe, TX 77384	281-364-2000	healthsouthnorthhouston.com
37	HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital-Vision Park	117 Vision Park Blvd.	Shenandoah, TX 77384	936-444-1700	healthsouthvisionpark.com
38	HealthSouth Sugar Land Rehabilitation Hospital	1325 State Highway 6	Sugar Land, TX 77478	281-276-7574	healthsouthsugarland.com
39	Hospital for Surgical Excellence of Oak Bend	1211 Highway 6	Sugar Land, TX 77478	281-238-3900	oakbendmedcenter.org
40	Houston Methodist Hospital	6565 Fannin St.	Houston, TX 77030	713-790-3311	houstonmethodist.org
41	Houston Methodist St. John Hospital	18300 St. John Drive	Nassau Bay, TX 77058	281-333-5503	houstonmethodist.org/ locations/st-john
42	Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital	16655 Southwest Freeway	Sugar Land, TX 77479	281-274-7000	houstonmethodist.org/ locations/sugar-land
43	Houston Methodist Willowbrook Hospital	18220 Tomball Parkway	Houston, TX 77070	281-737-1000	houstonmethodist.org/ locations/willowbrook
44	Houston Northwest Medical Center	710 F.M. 1960 West	Houston, TX 77090	281-440-1000	hnmc.com
45	Houston Physicians' Hospital	333 N. Texas Ave.	Webster, TX 77598	281-557-5620	houstonphysicianshospital. com
46	ICON Hospital	19211 McKay Drive	Humble, TX 77338	281-883-5500	iconhospitalonline.com
47	Intracare North Hospital	1120 Cypress Station Drive	Houston, TX 77090	281-893-7200	intracare.org
48	Jennie Sealy Hospital	600 Texas Ave.	Galveston, TX 77550	409-772-1011	utmb.edu/jennie-sealy
49	John Sealy Hospital	301 Eighth St.	Galveston, TX 77550	409-772-1011	utmbhealth.com
50	Kindred Hospital Tomball	505 Graham Drive	Tomball, TX 77375	281-255-5600	khtomball.com
51	Kindred Hospital Town and Country	1120 Business Center Drive	Houston, TX 77043	713-932-2700	khtownandcountry.com
52	Kindred Hospital—Bay Area	4801 E. Sam Houston Parkway S.	Pasadena, TX 77505	281-991-5463	khbayareahouston.com
53	Kindred Hospital-Baytown	1700 James Bowie Drive	Baytown, TX 77520	281-420-7800	khbaytown.com
54	Kindred Hospital-Clear Lake	350 Blossom St.	Webster, TX 77598	281-316-7800	khclearlake.com
55	Kindred Hospital–Houston Medical Center	6441 S. Main St.	Houston, TX 77030	713-790-0500	khhouston.com
56	Kindred Hospital-Houston Northwest	11297 Fallbrook Drive	Houston, TX 77065	281-517-1000	khhoustonnw.com
57	Kindred Hospital-Spring	205 Hollow Tree Lane	Houston, TX 77090	832-249-2700	kindredspring.com
58	Kindred Hospital-Sugar Land	1550 First Colony Blvd.	Sugar Land, TX 77479	281-275-6000	khsugarland.com
59	Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital–Clear Lake	655 E. Medical Center Blvd.	Webster, TX 77598	281-286-1500	khrehabclearlake.com
60	Kingwood Medical Center	22999 U.S. Highway 59 N.	Kingwood, TX 77339	281-348-8000	kingwoodmedical.com
61	Kingwood Pines Hospital	2001 Ladbrook Drive	Kingwood, TX 77339	281-404-1001	kingwoodpines.com
62	Liberty-Dayton Community Hospital	1353 N. Travis St.	Liberty, TX 77575	936-336-7316	libertydaytonrmc.com
63	Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital	5656 Kelley St.	Houston, TX 77026	713-566-5000	harrishealth.org
64	Mainland Medical Center	6801 Emmett F. Lowry Expressway	Texas City, TX 77591	409-938-5000	mainlandmedical.com
65	Memorial Hermann Cypress Hospital	27800 Northwest Freeway	Cypress, TX 77433	346-231-4000	memorialhermann.org/ locations/cypress
65a	Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital	1635 North Loop W.	Houston, TX 77008	713-867-2000	memorialhermann.org/ locations/northwest

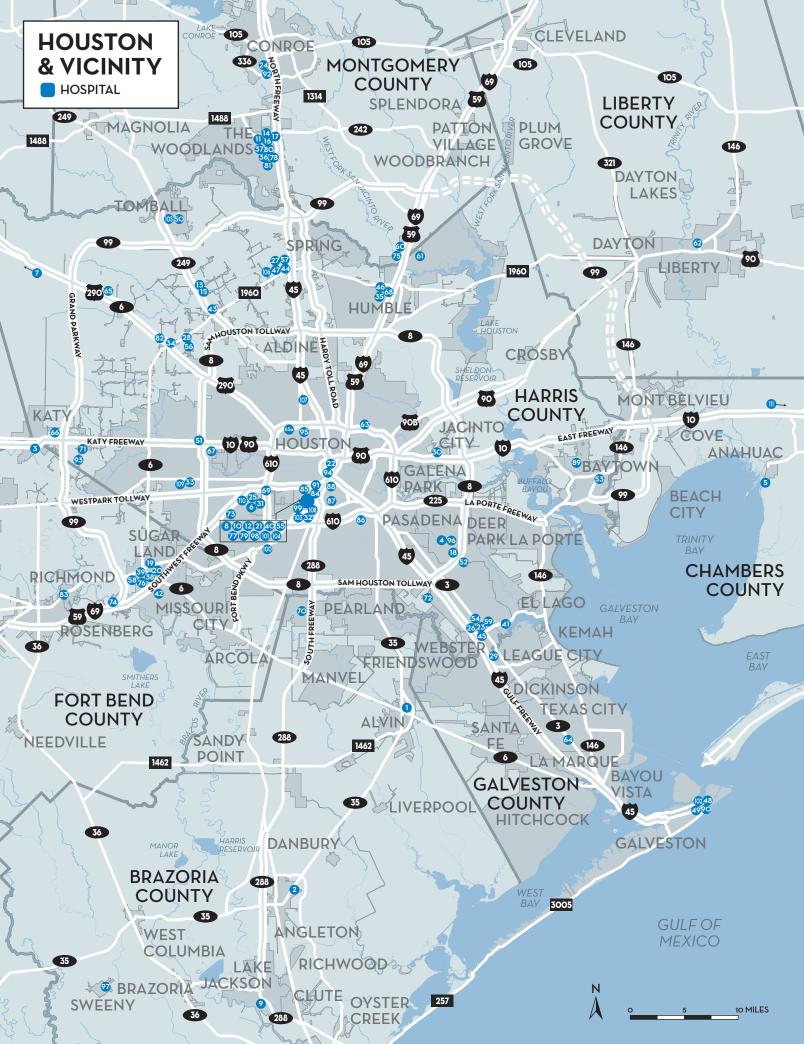
$\textbf{HOSPITALS} \mid \textbf{NUMBERS CORRESPOND TO MAP ON PAGE } 152$

66	Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital	23900 Katy Freeway	Katy, TX 77494	281-644-7000	memorialhermann.org/ locations/katy
67	Memorial Hermann Memorial City Medical Center	921 Gessner Road	Houston, TX 77024	713-242-3000	memorialhermann.org/ locations/memorial-city
68	Memorial Hermann Northeast Hospital	18951 N. Memorial Drive	Humble, TX 77338	281-540-7700	memorialhermann.org/ locations/northeast
69	Memorial Hermann Orthopedic & Spine Hospital	5410 West Loop South	Bellaire, TX 77401	713-314-4444	memorialhermann.org/ locations/ orthopedic-and-spine-hospital
70	Memorial Hermann Pearland Hospital	16100 South Freeway	Pearland, TX 77584	713-413-5000	memorialhermann.org/ locations/pearland
71	Memorial Hermann Rehabilitation Hospital Katy	21720 Kingsland Blvd.	Katy, TX 77450	281-579-5555	memorialhermann.org/ locations/katy-rehab
72	Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital	11800 Astoria Blvd.	Houston, TX 77089	281-929-6100	memorialhermann.org/ locations/southeast
73	Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital	7600 Beechnut St.	Houston, TX 77074	713-456-5000	memorialhermann.org/ locations/southwest
74	Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital	17500 W. Grand Parkway South	Sugar Land, TX 77479	281-725-5000	memorialhermann.org/ locations/sugar-land
75	Memorial Hermann Surgical Hospital Kingwood	300 Kingwood Medical Drive	Humble, TX 77339	281-312-4000	memorialhermannkingwood. com
76	Memorial Hermann Surgical Hospital Sugar Land	16906 Southwest Freeway	Sugar Land, TX 77479	281-243-1000	memorialhermann.org/ locations/ sugar-land-surgical-hospital
77	Memorial Hermann Texas Medical Center	6411 Fannin St.	Houston, TX 77030	713-704-4000	memorialhermann.org/ locations/texas-medical-center
78	Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Hospital	9250 Pinecroft Drive	The Woodlands, TX 77380	713-897-2300	memorialhermann.org/ locations/the-woodlands
79	Methodist West Pavillion Hospital	6447 Main St.	Houston, TX 77030	713-790-3311	houstonmethodist.org
80	Nexus Specialty Hospital— Shenandoah Campus	123 Vision Park Blvd.	Shenandoah, TX 77384	281-364-0317	nexusspecialty.com/ shenandoah-campus
81	Nexus Specialty Hospital— The Woodlands Campus	9182 Six Pines Drive	The Woodlands, TX 77380	281-364-0317	nexusspecialty.com/ the-woodlands-campus
82	North Cypress Medical Center	21214 Northwest Freeway	Cypress, TX 77429	832-912-3773	ncmc-hospital.com
83	OakBend Medical Center	1705 Jackson St.	Richmond, TX 77469	281-341-3000	oakbendmedcenter.org
84	Park Plaza Hospital	1313 Hermann Drive	Houston, TX 77004	713-527-5000	parkplazahospital.com
85	Plaza Specialty Hospital	1313 Hermann Drive	Houston, TX 77004	713-285-1000	plazaspecialtyhospital.com
86	Promise Hospital of Houston	6160 South Loop E.	Houston, TX 77087	713-640-2400	promise-houston.com
87	Quentin Mease Community Hospital	3601 N. MacGregor Way	Houston, TX 77004	713-873-3700	harrishealth.org
88	Riverside General Hospital	3204 Ennis St.	Houston, TX 77004	713-526-2441	riversidegeneralhospital.org
89	San Jacinto Methodist Hospital	4401 Garth Road	Baytown, TX 77521	281-420-8600	houstonmethodist.org
90	Shriners Burns Hospital–Galveston	711 Seventh St.	Galveston, TX 77550	409-466-7361	shrinershospitalsforchildren. org
91	Shriners Hospital for Children	6977 Main St.	Houston, TX 77030	713-797-1616	shrinershospitalsforchildren. org
92	Solara Hospital Conroe	1500 Grand Lake Drive	Conroe, TX 77034	936-523-1800	chghospitals.com
93	SPHIER Emergency Room	1560 S. Mason Road, Suite E	Katy, TX 77450	832-321-1000	sphier.com
94	St. Joseph Medical Center	1401 St. Joseph Parkway	Houston, TX 77002	713-757-1000	sjmctx.com
95	St. Joseph Medical Center in the Heights	1917 Ashland St.	Houston, TX 77008	713-969-5400	sjmctx.com
96	Surgery Specialty Hospitals of America	4301-B Vista Road	Pasadena, TX 77504	713-378-3000	ssha.us.com
97	Sweeny Community Hospital	305 N. McKinney St.	Sweeny, TX 77480	979-548-1500	sweenyhospital.org

			I	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	I
99	Texas Orthopedic Hospital	7401 S. Main St.	Houston, TX 77030	713-799-8600	texasorthopedic.com
100	The Menninger Clinic	12301 S. Main St.	Houston, TX 77035	713-275-5000	menningerclinic.com
101	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	1515 Holcombe Blvd.	Houston, TX 77030	713-792-2121	mdanderson.org
102	The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston	301 University Blvd.	Galveston, TX 77555	409-772-1011	utmb.edu
103	The Woman's Hospital of Texas	7600 Fannin St.	Houston, TX 77054	713-790-1234	womanshospital.com
104	TIRR Memorial Hermann	1333 Moursund St.	Houston, TX 77030	713-797-5942	tirr.memorialhermann.org
105	Tomball Regional Hospital	605 Holderrieth Blvd.	Tomball, TX 77375	281-401-7500	tomballregionalmedicalcenter. com
106	TOPS Surgical Specialty Hospital	17080 Red Oak Drive	Houston, TX 77090	281-539-2900	tops-hospital.com
107	United Memorial Medical Center–Tidwell	510 W. Tidwell Road	Houston, TX 77091	281-618-8500	ummc.care
108	Veterans Affairs Medical Center	2002 Holcombe Blvd.	Houston, TX 77030	713-791-1414	houston.va.gov
109	West Houston Medical Center	12141 Richmond Ave.	Houston. TX 77082	281-558-3444	westhoustonmedical.com
110	West Oaks Hospital	6500 Hornwood Drive	Houston, TX 77074	713-995-0909	westoakshospital.com
111	Winnie Community Hospital	538 Broadway	Winnie, TX 77665	409-296-6000	ricelandhealthcare.com

When you move, so should your medical records. Yet one of the hardest parts of moving is often finding, and getting established with, a new medical team for yourself and your family. Here are some tips:

- 1 Call all current medical and dental care providers and let them know of your impending move. Ask for local referrals and let the offices know you would like to have your medical records transferred. Make sure you have plenty of your prescription medications on hand to tide you over until you establish your new medical team.
- 2 Finding new medical care providers. Transferees can ask their office relocation specialist or fellow employees for referrals, or ask new neighbors. You might be able to find new medical providers for your family using your insurance provider's website. An online search for physicians, dentists, and specialists in Houston can help you turn up several names of viable medical practitioners. Websites such as healthgrades. com and healthfinder.gov are good places to begin. Using the names of the most promising prospects and then searching for patient reviews and recommendations can also assist in narrowing down your choices. Make a list of several names of doctors from which to choose in case your first choice is not taking new patients or does not participate in your health insurance plan. Meeting the health care provider is the best way to make your final decision and most will offer
- a "meet the doctor" opportunity to let you discuss your medical history and needs, appointment policies, insurance, and other concerns.
- 3 Transfer your medical records to your new health care team. Medical records transfer requests need to be made by phone or in writing. You may need to sign a medical record release form. It is common for a previous medical provider to charge a fee when sending your records directly to you, but they are not permitted to charge a fee for sending your records to a new healthcare provider.
- 4 Keep copies of all important medical records with you in the move. Keep your records with you at all times in case of emergency. Never put your medical records in the moving van—they could be lost.
- 5 Childrens' medical and immunization records should be obtained before you move. When enrolling children in their new schools you must have these records handy, as well as certified copies of birth certificates and address and contact information from previous schools.





JOB OPPORTUNITIES

JOBS, JOBS, JOBS



EMPLOYMENT

The Greater Houston Partnership and Workforce Solutions implemented an innovative approach to meet employers' skill shortages through an initiative to align the region's education and training offerings with employers' immediate needs.

One major element of this initiative has focused on the shortage of registered nurses in the Gulf Coast region. The coalition's Health Services Steering Committee was recognized with a national award in 2001 as an exemplary partnership.

Also, the Texas Workforce Commission awarded the Workforce Solutions a grant to expand the model program at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston for upgrading staff to registered nurse positions, including six area hospitals that chose to participate. That initiative resulted in a 20-percent increase in local nursing school enrollment and a corresponding increase in the number of nursing school facilities.



JOB SEARCH

To help find the job that's right for you, try these resources:

Workforce Solutions

This network of 29 career centers located throughout the Gulf Coast region provides free job services. Locations and a variety of information can be found at wrksolutions com

Texas Workforce Commission

This state-sponsored coalition of 28 local workforce development boards can be reached at twc.state.tx.us.

Greater Houston Partnership

The Partnershp provides links to the career pages of many of the city's largest companies at Houston.org/greater-houston-partnership/employers.

Texas Workforce

One of the state's most comprehensive online job resources can be found at workintexas.com.

Houston Chronicle

The city's morning newspaper features an online listing of jobs at chroniclejobs.com.

A

LARGEST HOUSTON AREA EMPLOYERS

- Memorial Hermann Health System*
 24,000 employees
- 2. The University of Texas MD Anderson* 20,000 employees
- 3. United Airlines
- 15,000 employees
- The Methodist Hospital System* 14,985 employees
- 5. Exxon Mobil
 Corporation*
 13,000 employees
- 6. UTMB Health* 12,448 employees
- Kroger Company*
 12,000 employees
- 8. Shell Oil Company* 11,892 employees
- National Oilwell Varco
 11,563 employees
- 10. Schlumberger Limited*
 10,000 employees
- 11. **Chevron*** 9,000 employees
- 12. Baylor College of Medicine*
 8,924 employees
- 8,924 employees
- 13. ARAMARK Corp.* 8,500 employees
- 14. Haliburton8,000 employees
- 15. Pappas Restaurants, Inc.*
 8,000 employees

- 16. HCA* 7,855 employees
- 17. Hewlett Packard Enterprise7,500 employees
- 18. The Dow Chemical Company* 7,000 employees
- 19. **AT&T*** 6,900 employees
- 20. CHI St. Luke's Health* 6,800 employees
- 21. Jacobs* 6,220 employees
- **22. H.E.B.*** 6,000 employees
- 23. Texas Children's Hospital* 6,000 employees
- 24. BP America, Inc.* 5,500 employees
- **25. KBR** 5,089 employees

Note: Ranked by number of employees. The list does not include casual dining establishments, municipalities, school districts, community colleges, public universities (except UTMB Health and The University of Texas MD Anderson) and governmental agencies.

*Denotes member of the Greater Houston Partnership.

Source: Greater Houston Partnership Database, June 2016

COMPANIES That Call Houston Home

SELECTED ASIAN COMPANIES WITH A HOUSTON PRESENCE































SELECTED EUROPEAN COMPANIES WITH A HOUSTON PRESENCE







































Source: Greater Houston Partnership Database

OB OPPORTUNITIE

EMPLOYMENT Ry Industry

The Houston Metropolitan Statistical Area is home to three million jobs, the highest level of employment in the region's history.

Service industries account for 2.4 million Houston-area jobs, or eight out of 10 workers in the region. The largest service industries are trade, transportation, and utilities (20.2 percent of jobs), professional and business services (15.8 percent), and educational and health services (12.5 percent).

The goods-producing sector employs more than half a million Houstonians, and accounts for nearly one in five of the region's jobs. Manufacturing is the largest goods-producing industry, with 8.0 percent of total jobs, followed by construction (7.2 percent), and energy (3.7 percent). Two-thirds of Houston's manufacturing jobs involve the production of durable goods, items with a useful life of three years or more. In Houston, this includes items such as oil field equipment, structural steel, and computers.

According to the U.S.

Bureau of Labor

Statistics, if Houston

were a state, it would

employ more people than

Tennessee, Wisconsin,

or Minnesota.

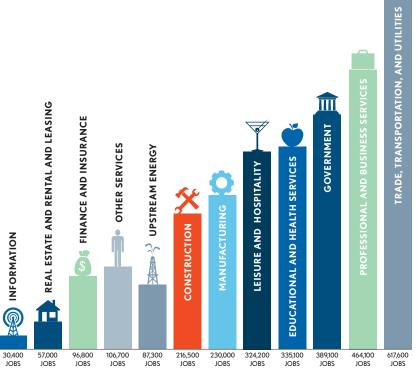
3.1 MILLION:

Number of jobs in the Houston MSA

Number of
Houston
entrepreneurs per
100,000 people

—Source: Kauffman foundation of Entrepreneurship, 2015

HOUSTON MSA EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY SEPTEMBER 2017



Note: Job numbers are not seasonally adjusted. Source: Texas Workforce Commission, September 2017

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUPS & CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Acres Homes Citizen Chamber of Commerce

281-820-2620

Alvin-Manvel Area Chamber of Commerce

alvinmanvelchamber.org

Anahuac Area Chamber of Commerce

anahuacchamber.com

Angleton Chamber of Commerce

angletonchamber.org

Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership

bayareahouston.com

Bay City Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture

baycitychamber.org

Baytown/West Chambers County Economic Development Foundation

281-420-2961

Beaumont Chamber of Commerce

bmtcoc.org

Bethel's Place Black Chamber of Commerce

bpbcc.us

Bolivar Chamber of Commerce

bolivarchamber.com

Brazoria Chamber

of Commerce

brazoriachamber.net

Brazosport Area Chamber

of Commerce

brazosport.org

Central Fort Bend

Chamber Alliance

cfbca.org

Central Houston, Inc.

centralhouston.org

Clear Lake Area Chamber

of Commerce

clearlakearea.com

Cleveland Economic

Development Corporation

clevelandtexas.com

Coldspring-San Jacinto County

Chamber of Commerce

coldspringtexas.org

Community Chamber of Commerce of East Montgomery County

communitychamber.com

Crosby/Huffman Chamber

of Commerce

crosbyhuffmancc.org

Cy-Fair Houston Chamber

of Commerce

cyfairchamber.com

Dayton Area Chamber

of Commerce

daytonchamber.org

Dayton Community

Development Corp. daytontx.retail360.us

Deer Park Chamber

of Commerce deerpark.org

Economic Alliance Houston

Port Region

allianceportregion.com

The Woodlands Area Economic **Development Partnership**

edpartnership.net

Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce

fortbendchamber.com

Fort Bend County

Community Development

fortbendcountytx.gov

Friendswood Chamber

of Commerce

friendswoodchamber.com

Galveston Chamber

of Commerce

galvestonchamber.org

Galveston Economic

Development Partnership

gedp.org

Greater Conroe Economic Development

Council

gcedc.org

Greater Conroe/Lake Conroe Area

Chamber of Commerce

conroe.org

Greater Fort Bend Economic

Development Council

fortbendcounty.org

Greater Heights Area Chamber

of Commerce

heightschamber.com

Greater Houston Women's

Chamber of Commerce

ghwcc.org

Greater Shepherd Chamber

of Commerce

greatershepherdchamberofcommerce.org

Greater Tomball Area Chamber

of Commerce

tomballchamber.org

Hempstead Chamber of Commerce

hempsteadtxchamber.com

Hempstead Economic

Development Corp.

Hitchcock Chamber

of Commerce

979-826-2900

hitchcocktexaschamber.com

Houston Citizens Chamber

of Commerce

713-522-9745

Houston East End Chamber of

Commerce

eecoc.org

Houston Hispanic Chamber

of Commerce

houstonhispanicchamber.com

Houston Intercontinental

Chamber of Commerce

houstonicc.org

Houston Intown Chamber

of Commerce

713-524-1739

Houston Metropolitan Chamber

of Commerce

houstonmetropolitanchamber.biz

Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce

houstonnwchamber.org

Houston Technology Center

houstontech.org

Houston West Chamber

of Commerce

hwcoc.org



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUPS & CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE (CONTINUED)

Katy Area Chamber of Commerce katychamber.com

Katy Area Economic Development Council katyedc.com

Kingwood Chamber of Commerce kwchamber.org

La Marque Economic **Development Corporation** ci.la-marque.tx.us

La Porte-Bayshore Chamber of Commerce laportechamber.org

La Marque Chamber of Commerce texascitychamber.com

League City Chamber of Commerce leaguecitychamber.com

League City Economic Development Corporation leaguecityedc.com

Liberty-Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce libertydaytonchamber.com

Magnolia Area Chamber of Commerce

magnoliatexas.org

Matagorda County Economic Development Corporation

mcedc.net

Missouri City missouricitytx.gov

Needville Area Chamber of Commerce cityofneedville.com

North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce

northchannelarea.com

North Galveston County Chamber of Commerce

northgalvestoncountychamber.com

NuLight Economic Development 281-872-9594

Oak Ridge North Economic **Development Corporation** oakridgenorthedc.com

Pasadena Chamber of Commerce pasadenachamber.org

Pearland Chamber of Commerce pearlandchamber.org

Pearland Economic Development Corporation pearlandedc.com

Prairie View Chamber of Commerce

prairieviewchamber.com

Seabrook Economic **Development Corporation** seabrooktx.gov

Sealy Chamber of Commerce sealychamber.com

Sealy Economic Development Corporation sealyedc.com

Shepherd Economic Development Corporation 936-628-1271

South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce

southbeltchamber.com

South Houston Chamber of Commerce

southhoustonchamber.org

South Montgomery County Woodlands Chamber of Commerce

woodlandschamber.org

Stafford Economic Development Corporation staffordtxedc.com

Sugar Land **Economic Development** sugarlandecodev.com

Sweeny Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Corporation

ci.sweeny.tx.us

The Economic Development Alliance for Brazoria County eda-bc.com

The Lake Houston Area **Chamber of Commerce** humbleareachamber.org

Tomball Economic Development Corporation tomballtxedc.org

Tri-County Black Chamber of Commerce tcbcc.org

Waller County Economic Development Partnership wallercounty.org

Waller Economic Development Corporation wallertexas.com/business

West Chambers County Chamber of Commerce westchamberscoc.com

West Columbia Chamber of Commerce westcolumbiachamber.com

West I-10 Chamber of Commerce westi10chamber.org

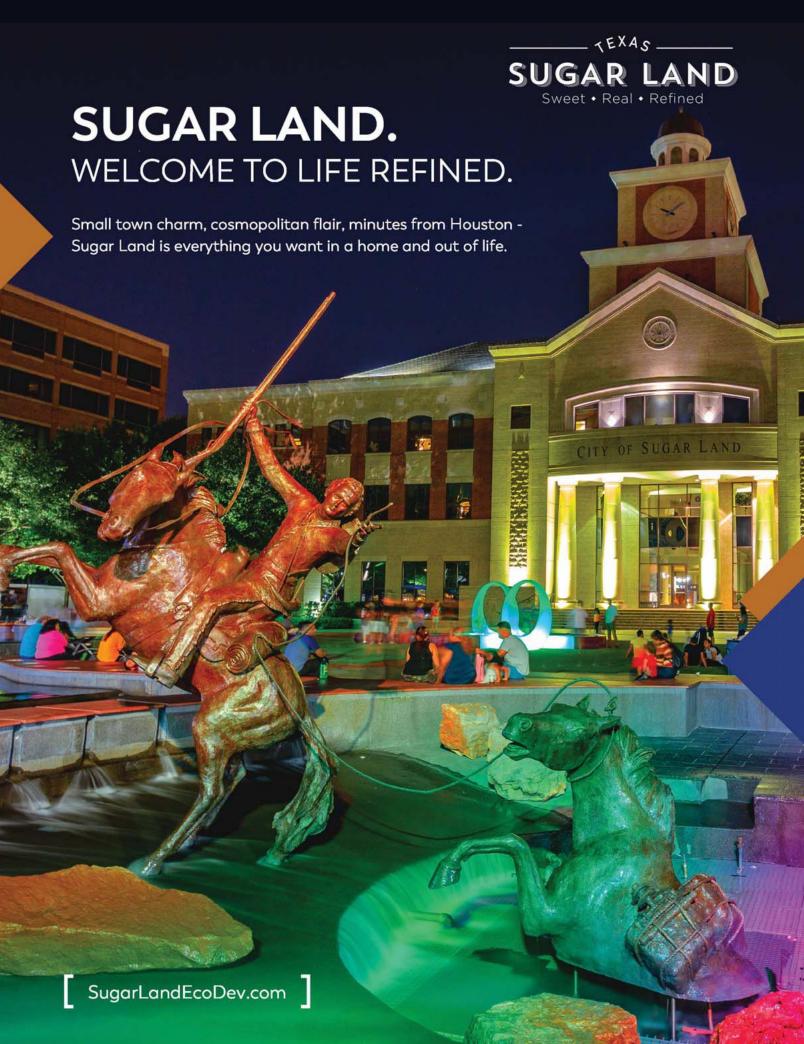
Wharton Chamber of Commerce whartontexas.com

Wharton Economic Development Corporation whartonedc.com

Winnie Area Chamber of Commerce winnietexas.com

ADVERTISER INDEX		
ADVERTISER	WEB ADDRESS	PAGE
EDUCATION		
Houston Community College	hccs.edu	91
John Cooper School	johncooper.org	105
School of the Woods	schoolofthewoods.org	109
HEALTHCARE		
Memorial Hermann Healthcare System	memorialhermann.org	15
St. Joseph Medical Center	simety oraf	27
ot. soseph medical octives	JIICKA O I GI	
NEIGHBORHOODS & COMMUNITIES		
Bridgeland	bridgeland.com	Inside Front Cover
	•	
First Colony	firstcolony.org	49
Kirby Collection Apartments	greystar.com	1
Sugar Land Economic Development	sugarlandecodev.comsugarlandecodev.com	5, Inside Back Cover

ADVERTISER INDEX			
ADVERTISER	WEB ADDRESS	PAGE	
REALTORS			
Bernstein Realty	bernsteinrealty.com	7	
Houston Association of Realtors	har.com	13	
John Daugherty Realtors	johndaugherty.comjohndaugherty.com	3	
Martha Turner Sotheby's	marthaturner.com	Back Cover	
marana rumer sourcesy summer sources	mar tracarrer.com	Back Cover	





Thousands of people move to Houston every year...and for good reasons. It ranks among the top U.S. cities in job creation, and has one of the nation's most dynamic economies. Our vibrant community of arts, culture, food and commerce has the world's attention.

The Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty **award-winning** relocation team has achieved **extraordinary results** by holding the highest standards of **customer service** and consistently exceeding them. We have **established relationships** with relocation management companies, corporations and other real estate brokers across the globe to help transferees buy or sell a home.

If you're planning a move, let us be YOUR REALTOR®.

Tess Chaney, CRP, GMS 800-927-2774 houston.relocation@sothebyshomes.com relocationmtsir.com

Martha Sotheby's
Turner International Realty
sothebyshomes.com