Guide to Austin, Texas

LIVE MUSIC CAPITAL OF THE WORLD
Austin is renowned for its quality of life, music and cultural scene, moderate cost of living, warm climate, open green spaces, and laid-back lifestyle. Austin is a melting pot for individuals with a wide range of backgrounds and AOMA students both reflect and actively participate in this rich community.

**Hang out with the locals**

**BATS - SOUTH CONGRESS BRIDGE**  
March – November every evening around sunset

**FIRST THURSDAYS ON SOCO**  
Stores along South Congress stay open late for a monthly block party

**ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA**  
Local movie theatre serves food and drinks, events include sing-alongs & movie mocking

**BOOK PEOPLE**  
Leading independent bookstore since 1970, lots of events for adults and kids

**ZACH THEATRE**  
Oldest operating theatre in Texas; year-round season of more than 500 performances
Austin Eats

RESTAURANTS

KERBEY LANE CAFE
five locations, each serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner 24 hours a day

SHADY GROVE
Nestled under the shade of the tall pecan grove. Serving up Austin-inspired home-cooking and cocktails since 1992

THE SALT LICK BBQ
World-renowned Bar-B-Que with an extra portion of Texas Hill Country hospitality

MOTHER’S CAFE
A garden to table vegetarian restaurant with great food and comfortable spaces.

CASA DE LUZ
Austin’s only all-organic, macrobiotic dining & community center

TORCHY’S TACOS
Serving “Damn Good Tacos” in several locations throughout Austin

EAST SIDE SHOWROOM
Features multi-cultural, homegrown flavors with sourced local ingredients

UCHI + UCHIKO
Contemporary Japanese restaurants by “Top Chef, Texas” Paul Qui

MARKETS

WHEATSVILLE COOP
A full service, natural foods cooperative grocery store supplying high-quality food and non-doctrinaire information about food. Two locations.

WHOLE FOODS MARKET
Features cooking demonstrations, food sampling, sit-down dining and takeout areas, and thousands of fresh and all-natural ingredients in every department.

CENTRAL MARKET
Offers an unmatched selection of domestic and imported goods, cooking classes, and celebrations of different foods throughout the year.

BARTON CREEK FARMERS MARKET
Healthy food from local Texas farmers at two locations in south Austin.

SUSTAINABLE FOOD CENTER
FARMERS MARKETS
Cultivates a healthy community by strengthening the local food system and improving access to nutritious, affordable food.

MORE AUSTIN EATS
Life is better outside

HIKE & BIKE TRAILS @ LADY BIRD LAKE
Pleasant, mostly flat, 7.2 walk with several excellent views of downtown Austin and Lady Bird Lake

BARTON CREEK GREENBELT
Trails in central Austin for biking, running, rock climbing, swimming and hiking

ZILKER PARK
351-acre park in central Austin

LADY BIRD JOHNSON WILDFLOWER CENTER
Central Texas is known for its wildflowers, check out some of the unique local flora.

MORE GREAT OUTDOORS

With an average of 300 days of sunshine per year, Austin offers the perfect climate to enjoy its 16,500 acres of public parkland, 74 miles of hike and bike trails, and numerous spring-fed pools. Whether your passion is swimming, biking, rock climbing, or simply taking the dog for a walk, Austin offers many opportunities to enjoy the outdoors.
How to beat the heat

DRESS FOR THE HEAT
Flip-flops and tank tops are the official Austin wardrobe. Wear natural fibers like cotton and linen. Bring a layer with you – everywhere inside is air conditioned, so you need a cover-up. Get a hat with a wide brim.

HYDRATE
Drink lots of water; eat lots of melon and cucumbers!

PARK IN THE SHADE
Finding a shady spot to part your car is worth it even if you have to walk a little farther.

RELAX
Do less. Get out early, stay out late. Relax in the middle of the day.

GO SWIMMING
Cool your core temperature at a local swimming hole:

BARTON SPRINGS POOL
Natural, spring-fed, 68 degrees year-round

DEEP EDDY POOL
Spring and city water, 65-75 degrees

HAMILTON POOL PRESERVE
West of Austin (pictured below)

KRAUSE SPRINGS
West of Austin

BLUE HOLE
Wimberley, south of Austin
Live music capital

Austin boasts the largest number of live music venues per capita in the world and is home to the world-renowned SXSW and Austin City Limits music festivals. Find your groove to locally and nationally known musicians at these musical landmarks.

ACL LIVE @ THE MOODY THEATER
State-of-the-art live music venue that hosts the PBS series Austin City Limits

STUBB’S
Locally owned venue books national names

THE CONTINENTAL CLUB
Longtime local favorite

THE BROKEN SPOKE
Texas dance hall in south Austin

THE ELEPHANT ROOM
Cool jazz in the basement

THE MOHAWK
Big names in an intimate experience
Best places to study

NORTH

BENNU COFFEE
Coffee lounge with soft lighting and comfy chairs with a selection of light dishes and snacks. Open 24/7.

FLIGHTPATH COFFEEHOUSE
This neighborhood cafe is guaranteed to be a quiet place to come and study. Open until 11:00PM, 7 days.

MOZART’S
A European style atmosphere with extraordinary lake views overlooking the hills on Lake Austin.

CHERRYWOOD COFFEE
A casual and comfy neighborhood joint with a friendly, welcoming vibe. The sign outside proclaims “Real Food”- real good food; along with coffee, beer, and wine.

CENOTE
Selection of single origin coffees by the single cup that are always French pressed.

PACHA
Organic coffees, teas and espresso drinks. Also offering an array of organic and made from scratch baked goods, breakfast, and daily lunch specials.

SOUTH

BOULDN CREEK CAFE
Fairly priced, wholesome vegetarian (& vegan options) food. Open until midnight.

IRIE BEAN
Coffee shop with positive vibes on South Lamar. Coffee, espresso, beer and wine.

STRANGE BREW
Organic Fair Trade Espresso and coffee Bagels, paninis, pastries, and much more. Open 24/7.

SUMMERMOON
A unique locally owned Austin experience of wood-fired, organic, fair trade coffee on South 1st St.

THAI FRESH
A family owned restaurant, cooking school, and Thai market all in one. Café features coffee bar and gluten free bakery.

TRIANON
Offers more than 40 varieties of specially roasted coffee, including single-origin, decaffeinated, and flavored.

BARTON CREEK GREENBELT
See “Lifes better outside” section.
Visit Austin & AOMA

PLAN A TRIP TO AUSTIN
Austin is a vibrant and dynamic city with a host of entertainment options for visitors. Get helpful tips and information about travel, accommodations, and finding your way around the city to make planning your visit to Austin easy.

TOUR THE AOMA CAMPUS
Visiting the campus is a great way to get a personal sense of the graduate programs. While on campus visitors can speak with admissions staff, attend a class, and receive a complimentary acupuncture treatment in the student clinic.

CAMPUS INFO SESSIONS
Several times a year, AOMA hosts weekend information sessions designed to provide an overview of the graduate & doctoral degree programs, the application process, and financial aid options. During these two-hour events, guests have the opportunity to tour our campus, speak with our admissions staff, financial aid team, and academic advisors.

QUESTIONS?

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