Food & Drink

Everyone knows about Texas BBQ, but that is just the start of the delicious food and drink available!

Franklin’s BBQ
Known as the best BBQ in Austin. So amazing, people wait hours in line before it opens just to ensure they get the delicious brisket and barbequed goodness.

Kome Sushi
Solid sushi option, with reasonably priced sushi. Lunch specials and great atmosphere.

Amy’s Ice Cream
Great Local Ice Cream and Shakes.

East Side King
Great bunch of food trucks owned by the Top Chef contestant, Paul Qui. Multiple locations all over town.

Torchy’s Tacos
Amazing Tacos (including breakfast tacos!) with locations all over town.

P. Terry’s
Upscale McDonalds: Local ingredients, grass-fed beef, and in-store hand cut fries!

Spiderhouse
Unique atmosphere with great food, and stationary food trucks – Thai, Japanese street food, and gyros. Fantastic bar as well.

Clay Pit
If you like Indian food, you have to try the Clay Pit restaurant. Tasty & affordable lunch buffet.

Arturo’s
Bakery with coffee, tea, breakfast and brunch! Great food with wonderful breakfast tacos!

Shoal Creek Saloon
Enjoy cajun/creole delights – chicken fried steak and po’boys – while overlooking the creek. One of the best places to get boiled crawfish in Austin.

Eastside Café
American, comfort food from fresh vegetables grown in their outback garden.

Justine’s
French-American restaurant, with a fabulous European atmosphere – a quaint bungalow and light-strung patio.

Coffee Bars to Study in:
Epoch
Flight Path
Blanton Cafe
Quacks
Cherrywood
Austin Java
Thunderbird
Café Medici
Brew & Brew
Halcyon
Dolce Vita

Great Spots to Grab a Drink:
Crown & Anchor
Jackalope
Yellow Jacket Social Club
Quacks
Brixton
Cheer Up Charlie’s!
Violet Crown Social Club
drink.well
Easy Tiger
The Draught House
Spiderhouse
They say there is always something to do in Austin, and its true – particularly after dark! Here is a small sample of great venues and hangouts for relaxing after hours.

**White Horse**
Regularly a bar, with FREE live county, polka, and blues music on the weekends.

**Elephant Room**
Underground bar with a cozy atmosphere and 10-16 member jazz bands for entertainment. Cheap, strong drinks!

**ACL Live at the Moody Theater**
The well-known Austin City Limits public television filming location. Get in line early to get tickets for filming.

**Alamo Drafthouse**
Movie theaters with food and drink service. Multiple locations around town.

**Emo’s**
**Mohawk**
**Continental Club**
**The Parish**
**Stubbs**
**Cactus Café**
**The Roost**
**Red 7**
**The North Door**
**Swan Dive**

The great thing about Austin, well one of the great things, is the weather! There are many things to do about and around Austin. Here are some of the top few we recommend.

**Mount Bonnell**
Drive or hike up to a spectacular view of the city of Austin!

**Schlitterbahn Waterpark**
Family-owned and operated waterpark resort in operation since 1979. Located in New Braunfels, less than an hour from Austin. Worth a visit for throwback family fun!

**Barton Springs Pool**
A great public pool that is welcome relief on hot summer days. It’s an offshoot of main Barton Spring and can be almost 18 feet deep in places. It has a year-round average temperature of 68°F. Super-cheap to visit and a really relaxing good time.

**Tubing in New Braunfels**
Tube (or float) down the Comal or Guadalupe River.

**Longhorn Cavern State Park**
Texas Hill Country wonder – Limestone caves, previous 1920s speakeasy, and a ton more rich history. Worth a visit!

**Zip Line on Lake Travis**
Guided tour zipping across incredible Canyons and Lake Travis. Adventurous views of Hill Country via Zip line!

**South Congress Bridge Bats**
At dusk the colony of bats that live underneath the bridge crossing the Colorado River on South Congress street fly out from under the bridge for their nightly feeding. Starts in June and they migrate south in October. At peak times, approximately 1.5 million bats are present.

**Graffiti Park at Castle Hills**
The HOPE outdoor gallery is a legal graffiti gallery positioned on a three-story-tall abandoned construction site. Worth a visit and revisit – changes made every day.
Austin is a very eclectic city where every neighborhood has a different personality. These are overviews of some of the well-known neighborhoods. We recommend you get out there and explore all Austin has to offer.

**UT**
Campus living in west and north UT areas. The college drag has some sweet spots, but primarily inhabited by undergraduates. Lots of student housing, and prices vary depending on distance. Ideal if you want to be a short commute to campus.

**Hyde Park**
Historic neighborhood with graduate student housing, turn of the century homes and cozy bungalows. Easy ride north to friendly quiet neighborhood close to campus with great neighborhood parks and sense of community.

**North Loop**
Eclectic northern neighborhood with housing for students, young families and older residents in colorful single family homes, duplexes and condos. Indie shops for vintage goodies, unique furniture, music, and tattoos.

**Downtown Austin**
Vibrant, active downtown area with lots of restaurants, hangouts, and shopping. Housing is a bit more expensive in this area, but you pay for the access to downtown.

**Historic 6th Street**
Locally known as Dirty Sixth, the party street of Austin usually full of those who want to be seen. Hosts a wide variety of events, including music and seasonal festivals, so you’ll likely end up there at some point.

**West 6th Street**
Newly developed area with antique stores, art galleries, hair salons, restaurants, and even some larger chain stores like Whole Foods. Rumored to be a good hang out for graduate students.

**East 6th Street**
Great area to spend an evening. Home to a great selection of venues, bars, restaurants, unique nighttime hangouts. Check out the many food trucks – including East Side Kings.

**Barton Hills/Zilker Park**
Nature-friendly neighborhood home to Barton Creek Greenbelt nature preserve, 351 acre Zilker park and natural spring-fed Barton Springs Pool. Setting for the famous Austin City Limits (ACL) festival and many other festivals.

**South Congress**
Shopping destination, with clothing, antique, and home goods boutiques. It gets busy on the weekends for drivers, and is quite the hill to climb on a bike, but it’s a wonderful place to stroll around, window shop and people watch.

**Rainey Street**
Street of bars and restaurants (and food truck park), usually inhabited by affluent mid-20s to early 40s professionals.

**Great Hills/Domain**
Northwest neighborhood with upscale shopping and food.
Places to Visit on Campus
Here is a list of places right on campus that are worth a visit.

**Darrell K Royal – Texas Memorial Stadium**
Home to the UT-Austin Texas Longhorns this massive stadium can seat an excess of 100,000 spectators. Even if you aren’t a football fan, the stadium is an architectural giant that you literally can’t miss.

**Skyspace**
Landmarks public art program presents *The Color Inside*, a skyspace created by James Turrell. Located on the rooftop garden of the Student Activity Center, this naked-eye observatory where visitors can view the sunrise and sunset through an opening in the ceiling. Contrasting colored light shows on the wall creates a unique viewing experience.

**Gregory Gym Aquatic Complex**
The UT-Austin Recreational Center at Gregory Gym has first-class aquatic facilities. Two indoor pools, and three outdoor pools including a leisure area akin to five-star hotel and resort.

**Turtle Pond**
Located behind the Tower, the turtle pond is home to several different species of turtles. It’s a nice spot to relax, eat lunch, or do some reading in between classes.

**Blanton Museum**
Considered one of the university gems, this beautiful museum is located right next to the CoE building. It is one of the largest university art museums in the US. The Blanton Café is a favorite among CoE graduate students for a quick snack, lunch, and of course coffee.

**Harry Ransom Center**
Archive, library and museum housing 5 million photographs and 1 million rare books, including the Gutenberg Bible. Great special exhibits and temporary exhibitions.