



San Antonio, Texas



San Antonio, Texas, was originally a Coahuiltecan Indian village in which Franciscans constructed the San Antonio de Valero mission for the purpose of converting and educating the Indians. The mission was later secularized and became a Spanish military installation known as The Alamo, the site of a crucial battle during the Texas War of Independence.

Now a museum, The Alamo is located in the center of the city and has 2 remaining original structures: the Chapel and the Long Barracks. Fort Sam Houston Museum, U.S. Army Medical Department Museum, and Hangar 9/Edward H. White Museum are other local military museums. Art museums include the San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio Art League Museum, and Marion Koogler McNay Art Museum. Among the many history museums, the Museo Alameda relates the story of the Latino experience in America. Other historical museums are the Institute of Texan Cultures, Steves Homestead Museum, Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio, Villa Finale's Visitor Center, Witte Museum, Texas Air Museum, Texas Highway Patrol Museum, Texas Transportation Museum, Buckhorn Museum, Texas Ranger Museum, and Wooden Nickel Historical Museum. San Antonio Children's Museum, Ripley's Believe It or Not! & Louis Tussaud's Wax Works, and Scobee Planetarium at San Antonio College are other area attractions.

San Antonio offers performing arts of many cultures: Ballet Folklorico Boriken (Puerto Rican culture), Guadalupe Dance Company (Chicano/Latino/Native American), Ilé Bahia (Brazilian), Hula Halau Ohana Elikapeka (Hawaiian), Karavan Studios (Middle Eastern), Matsuri Japanese Dancers (Japanese), Nityanjali School for Indian Dance (Indian), SA Tangueros (Argentinean), Musical Bridges Around the World (cross-cultural), and Urban 15 (modern ethnic). Other cultural opportunities include the San Antonio Symphony, Ballet San Antonio, San Antonio Metropolitan Ballet, Alamo City Men's Chorale, San Antonio Choral Society, San Antonio Mastersingers, SOLI Chamber Ensemble, The Texas Bach Choir, San Antonio Vocal Arts Ensemble, Magik Children's Theatre, and the San Antonio Jazz Orchestra at the Blue Star Brewery. In April, San Antonio celebrates Fiesta San Antonio!, which is an 11-day multicultural celebration with more than 100 events. The San Antonio Summer Art & Jazz Festival and the Texas Folklife Festival are in June.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Downtown San Antonio has various residential options available, such as new condominiums, townhouses, apartment buildings, lofts, and apartments in converted historic buildings. San Antonio completely surrounds 10 smaller cities, including Alamo Heights. San Antonio has 27 locally designated historic districts. The King William Historic District was settled by German immigrants who named the area for the King of Prussia at the time. The neighborhood contains large houses designed in Greek Revival, Victorian, and Italianate styles. Covering 100 city blocks, the Monte Vista Historic District is characterized by large and modest homes from the early 20th century in Classical Revival, Tudor, Spanish Eclectic, Queen Anne, and Craftsman styles. Tobin Hill Historic District contains homes in Craftsman bungalow, Colonial Revival, English, Tudor, and foursquare styles. The architecture in Olmos Park Terrace, an early 20th century sub-division, consists primarily of English stone cottages and minimal traditional style homes.

Stone Oak is a master-planned community that contains offices, shopping areas, churches, schools, banks, restaurants, and health care facilities. Development began in the 1980s, and new construction is still available. Housing options include apartments and single-family homes.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Amenities at the 234 San Antonio parks include 52 community centers, 27 swimming pools, 155 playgrounds, 10 skate parks, 3 dog parks, and 3 disc golf courses, in addition to ball fields and courts. The San Antonio River Walk is a tree-lined linear park that winds along the banks of the San Antonio River, one story beneath downtown San Antonio.

Brackenridge Park is home to the San Antonio Zoo, the Brackenridge Eagle miniature train, Brackenridge Golf Course, Witte Museum, Kiddie Park, Sunken Garden Theatre, jogging trails, public art, and a recreation center. Highlights of the nearby San Antonio Botanical Gardens include the conservatory, formal and display gardens, and the Texas Native Trail.

San Antonio Missions National Historical Park contains the historic Concepción, San José, San Juan, and Espada missions; the historic Espada Dam and Aqueduct; acequia (irrigation) systems; and the Rancho de las Cabras.

Amusement parks include Six Flags Fiesta Texas; SeaWorld San Antonio; Schlitterbahn Waterpark Resort; Splashtown family water park; Kiddie Park; and Morgan's Wonderland, which is dedicated to individuals with special needs and their families.

Professional sports teams include the San Antonio Spurs (basketball), the San Antonio Silver Stars (women's basketball), the San Antonio Rampage (hockey), and the San Antonio Missions (baseball).

EDUCATION

San Antonio is served by 11 independent public school districts with 203 elementary schools, 72 middle schools, and 41 high schools. Some of these districts are completely within the municipal boundaries, such as the San Antonio Independent School District. Other school districts overlap the city and suburban areas, such as the Northside Independent School District. The city is also served by independent charter schools, as well as in-district charter schools. The military bases within the municipal boundaries have their own school districts.

Higher education is available at the University of Texas at San Antonio, which offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs. University of Texas Health Science Center includes a School of Medicine, as well as a dental school, School of Nursing, and School of Health Professions. Texas A&M University-San Antonio offers junior- and senior-level courses. Our Lady of the Lake University, St. Mary's University, and University of the Incarnate Word are private Catholic universities that offer bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs. Trinity University offers liberal arts and professional programs and awards bachelor's and master's degrees. DeVry University San Antonio Campus offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs in career-oriented fields. Wayland San Antonio, Career Point College, and Brown Mackie College focus on the adult learner. San Antonio College, Palo Alto College, St. Philip's College, and Northwest Vista College are public community colleges.

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, San Antonio offers language courses and courses on topics relevant to Mexico and the United States.

HEALTH CARE

San Antonio is served by over 7,000 acute care beds located in 18 facilities. The city also has 2 children's hospitals, 7 long-term acute care facilities, 7 physical rehabilitation facilities, and 4 behavioral health hospitals. In addition, Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston and Audie L. Murphy VA Hospital are affiliated with the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

CITY STATS

2009

City Population	1,373,668
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	2,072,128
Per Capita Personal Income, San Antonio-New Braunfels MSA	\$36,285