

Favorite Family Things to do in San Antonio

What makes San Antonio one of the top family vacation destinations in all of Texas? Well, the second largest city in the Lone Star State has historic neighborhoods, national parks and family-friendly attractions that are loaded with the spirit of adventure of the American Southwest.

Rich in history and loaded with culture, San Antonio is also just plain fun. This is a town where the people are as warm as the Texas sun, and like them, we're happy to tell you all about this great place we call home. Here are a few of our favorite places to send folks looking for fun things to do in San Antonio for families.

San Antonio River Walk Family Attractions

The [River Walk](#) along the San Antonio River belongs on everyone's list of best things to do in San Antonio for families. Known for its waterfront shopping, dining, hotels and nightlife, many people are surprised to learn that the San Antonio River Walk is actually a public park.

The San Antonio River is the heartbeat of this great city we call home. And a favorite way for families to explore this vibrant area built to celebrate it is, of course, by boat.

Be sure to check out the River Walk's Events Calendar before you visit, too. With lively festivals throughout the year and a beautiful holiday lights display from around Thanksgiving through the first of the new year, you'll find some of the most popular family-favorite things to do here in the heart of San Antonio.

Outdoor Adventures for Families with Kids

When you're ready to take a break from the Texas sun, check out [The Natural Bridge Caverns](#). Young adventurers and nature lovers alike will have fun exploring hidden passages, rappelling down cavern walls, panning for jewels or gazing in awe at these ancient underground formations.

Of course, if you're travelling with young cowboys or cowgirls, poke on over to places like [Enchanted Springs Ranch](#), less than 30 minutes outside of town. This old West theme park even made Oprah's list of best "family attractions." Enchanted Springs is a real working ranch, as well as a popular movie set for westerns.

At SeaWorld, we have a passion for wildlife and wild places. If that's a passion you share, check out one of our local favorites, the 100-acre [Cibolo Nature Center](#). This beautiful nature center is a great place to get away from the big city and get a taste of Texas Hill Country.

Favorite Historic Sites in San Antonio

San Antonio is one of those great towns whose past is so intertwined with our nation's history that, for many people, just saying the name conjures up visions of the old west. [The Alamo](#) is one of the main reasons, drawing more than 2.5 million visitors from around the world every year. Being just a short distance from the River Walk and with free admission, it's must-see addition to your list of things to do in San Antonio.

Many people only visit the Alamo, yet miss so much by not visiting the city's other missions, where people often get a more complete picture of the history of this great city.

One of the most popular historic sites in San Antonio is [Mission San José](#), built in 1720. Known as "Queen of the Missions," today this National Historic Park is one of the largest and best restored missions in all of Texas. On Sundays, this mission even offers a mariachi service.

San Antonio [Missions National Park](#) is a nine-mile historical area that is home to the city's other four important missions. Their beautiful architectures hold the secrets to a tumultuous past, where invasions, drought and

disease changed the course of history for natives to this region. It's a part of America's story not to be missed. Admission is free, and buses downtown offer a great way to get there.

SeaWorld® San Antonio & Aquatica, SeaWorld's Waterpark™

Where do you think you'd find the largest marine-life park in the world? Yep, Texas! And the biggest Shamu Stadium? Right again. But like the sea itself, what's incredible about its size is just how much there is here to explore, with something fun for everyone.

Some favorite things to do if you're an animal lover? Shows like Shamu's [One Ocean](#) really celebrate the human/animal connection, but the most fun is in the water right along side a beluga whale or sea lion during one of our in-water [Animal Interaction programs](#). Be sure to sign up ahead of time since only a few places are available each day.

Coaster lovers and thrill seekers can test their courage on two of the best roller coasters in Texas: [Steel Eel](#), the tallest roller coaster of any of our SeaWorld parks and a legend among coaster enthusiasts, and [The Great White](#), a floorless B&M inverted coaster that keeps riders coming back for more, year after year.

Be sure to check our [Events Calendar](#) to see if you can catch one of our music festivals, concerts or seasonal events during your visit. Many are included free with your admission, so be sure to look for the [best prices on tickets](#) on our website.

SeaWorld partners with many great hotels to bring you an affordable family vacation. So be sure to check out our [Vacation Packages](#) when planning your trip to San Antonio.

Next door you'll find [Aquatica](#), the kind of water park only SeaWorld could create. Inspired by the carefree vibe of the South Seas, this popular South Texas water park is the perfect place to quench the heat of the warm San Antonio sun.