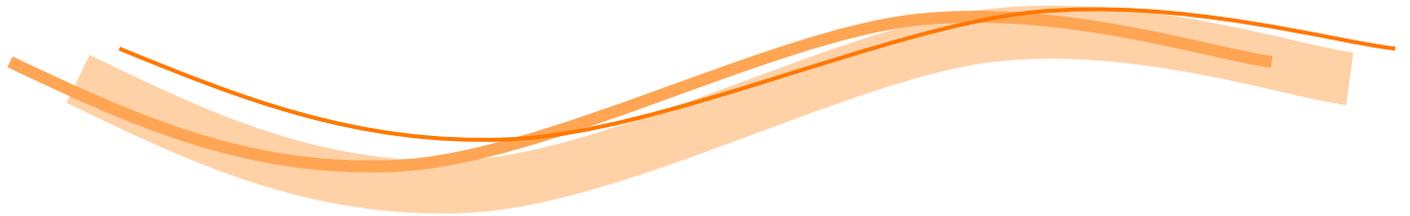




DALLAS





DALLAS

Big D is brash, stylish and cosmopolitan with soaring modern skyscrapers. As the fourth-largest metro area in the United States, and with more than \$20 billion in urban development underway, 20 square blocks of artistic and cultural destinations in the Arts District, a battalion of celebrity chefs, the Southwest's best shopping and a national sports spotlight year-round - no wonder they say "Big things happen here".

One of the most obvious results of the downtown revitalization is the transportation and infrastructure improvement. In Dallas the DART Orange Line now connects the airport to downtown – and it costs just \$2.50. The investment in the city centre is also generating stellar dining, shopping, arts, culture and entertainment options.

The city's many entertainment districts meet any visitor's needs. From family-friendly offerings and quaint settings to vibrant nightlife and exciting atmospheres, you can do and see it all in Dallas' various neighborhoods. Plus Dallas has the largest contiguous urban arts district in the United States with more than 160 museums, art galleries and artistic attractions. Explore world class exhibits at the Dallas Museum of Art, Nasher Sculpture Centre and the Crow Collection of Asian Art. The new Perot Museum of Nature and Science is state of the art, hands on and inspires curiosity in all ages.

As well as its top museums, performance halls and award-winning architectural designs - and the festivals, exhibitions, shows and performances featured in the city throughout the year are sure to enhance any trip to Dallas.

Dallas also has amazing facilities for sporting events and five major sports teams play in Dallas – and the great news is that the ticket prices are affordable. The Dallas Cowboys NFL team plays at the AT&T Stadium and the NHL hockey team is the exciting Dallas Stars.

Dallas has more than 6,000 restaurant options in the metropolitan area. Though you will find the Texan favorites of steak houses, barbecue and Tex Mex, Dallas restaurants offer much more than that. Food is a passion here and you'll be surprised by fresh seafood, eclectic bistros and fantastic worldly cuisines ranging from Brazilian to Indian to European. Just one example is Fearing's Restaurant which is found at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Dallas. It is home of the "Bold Flavors, No Borders" cuisine of celebrity chef Dean Fearing, who has been dubbed the "Father of Southwestern Cuisine". As an indication of the high standard of Dallas cuisine, the restaurant was voted #1 in Hotel Dining

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	<p>in the U.S. by the Zagat Survey amongst a host of other accolades.</p> <p>There are also numerous shopping venues - Dallas has something for everyone with boutiques, upscale fashion and International stores. Plus Duty Free Shopping makes it a Shopping Mecca - International shoppers can receive refunds on Texas sales tax.</p> <p>Named as one of the "7 Retail Wonders of the Modern World" by Shopping Centers Today, NorthPark Center in Dallas offers an unparalleled luxury shopping experience with over 235 unique retailers, restaurants and legendary department stores. NorthPark Center boasts a spectacular collection of stores and restaurants representing the finest in luxury and trendsetting retailers. In addition NorthPark Center features a magnificent backdrop of art, architecture and landscaping for the enjoyment of its discerning customers. You will discover works by Andy Warhol, Frank Stella, Joel Shapiro, Jim Dine, Jonathan Borofsky, James Rosenquist, Antony Gormley, Barry Flanagan, Beverly Pepper and Mark di Suvero among others.</p> <p>NorthPark Center also offers dozens of restaurant options from contemporary dining to gourmet on the run – and the state-of-the-art AMC NorthPark 15 is Dallas' premier movie-watching destination, with luxury finishes and premium formats.</p>
Location	<p>Dallas is located in North Central Texas in the United States.</p> <p>60 kms east of Fort Worth</p> <p>400 kms north/northwest of Houston</p> <p>500 kms north of the Gulf of Mexico, near the headwaters of the Trinity River.</p>
Geography	<p>Texas is larger than the countries of France, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland and Luxembourg combined</p> <p>The city of Dallas encompasses 384 square miles of rolling prairie, with native pecan, cottonwood and oak trees located along the Trinity River and the numerous creeks that feed it. The elevation ranges from 450 to 750 feet.</p>
Name	<p>The city was likely named after George Mifflin Dallas, Vice President to James Polk from 1845 – 1849...although there are some who dispute this.</p>
Population	<p>Dallas is the ninth-largest city in the United States. The current population breakdown:</p> <p>City of Dallas: 1,200,000</p> <p>Dallas Metro: 6,954,000</p>
Language	<p>English</p>
Currency	<p>US Dollars; the Canadian dollar is currently at 77 cents US as at August 2015</p>
Tipping	<p>The custom of tipping is a common practice in Dallas: 15% to 20% for</p>

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	waiters; 10% to 15% for taxi drivers; \$1 per bag for bellmen. Occasionally gratuities are automatically added to restaurant checks, but not usually.
Dress	Clothing styles in Dallas are as varied as any other major city in the world. Styles of dress ranging from comfortable and casual to elegant and stylish will be seen in all parts of the city. Air conditioning is a way of life during Texas summers, making all clothing comfortable indoors.
Documentation	Passports are required for all Canadian visitors
Time zone	Dallas is located in the Central Time Zone, one hour behind Ontario and Quebec.
Health	Dallas, a regional centre for medicine and healthcare, is home to world-class healthcare centres – Baylor Medical Center, Presbyterian, Methodist, Medical City, St. Paul Medical Center, Parkland Hospital and Children’s Medical Center – as well as The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, one of the nation’s leading medical and research institutions with four Nobel laureates. Dallas is a leading medical center with 60 hospitals, 13,000 licensed beds and 6,500 physicians in the Dallas area. Make sure you have current travel insurance as health care costs in the US are very high.
Safety tips	As a leading convention and visitor destination with more people visiting Dallas each year, you can rest assured that they have designed the most up-to-date safety and security procedures in case of an emergency. The safety and well-being of all Dallas tourists is the main concern at the Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau

CLIMATE	
General climate	Average minimum temperature is 12.6 degrees Celsius; average maximum temperature is 24.4 degrees Celsius. Dallas has an average annual rainfall of 33.70 inches (85.6 centimeters).
Today’s weather	39 degrees Centigrade and sunny as at 8 August 2015
Best time to visit	Any time is a good time to visit Dallas, although for Canadians perhaps winter and spring are the most favoured times

GETTING THERE	
Flying time	3 hours from Toronto and 3.5 hours from Montreal
Transportation	With its central location, the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport and a superior support system, Dallas enjoys great accessibility. DFW International Airport, one of the world's busiest, provides travel to any North American city in four hours or less. Dallas Love Field, in the heart of the city, provides regional service. Service from Dallas’ modern light rail system offers rapid and convenient travel – complementing a well-developed system of interstate and state highways. DFW Airport Station provides convenient access to DFW International

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	<p>Airport's Terminal A. The station platform is located between International Parkway and the North Service Road near Terminal A. DFW Airport Station is served by DART Rail Orange Line trains. The fare is only \$2.50.</p>
City Layout	<p>Dallas is extremely spread out, covering nearly 400 square miles. Traditionally, most people have worked in the downtown central business district and commuted to their homes in residential districts primarily north and east (but also south and west) of the city. New business attracted to the city has resulted in many more offices in outlying areas, particularly the corridor from Richardson to Plano, north of Dallas along U.S. 75 (Central Expwy.) and west of the city in Carrollton and Irving/Las Colinas.</p> <p>The West End Historic District, financial centre, and Arts District are all downtown, just west of Central Expressway (though Deep Ellum, also part of downtown, is on the east side of U.S. 75). Central, in fact, divides east and west Dallas. LBJ Freeway, or I-635, runs through far north Dallas. It connects to I-20, which runs a loop south of the city. Irving, Grand Prairie, and Arlington are all due west, between Dallas and Fort Worth. I-30 leads directly west to Fort Worth.</p>
Trains	<p>The Dallas light rail system (DART) is one of the newest modern urban transportation systems in the United States.</p> <p>Trains operate daily from approximately 5 a.m. to midnight. Service every 7½-15 minutes during rush hours, 20 minutes during the midday and weekends, and 30 minutes late at night.</p> <p>The first Orange Line train arrives at DFW Airport Station each day of the week at 3:50 a.m. The last one arrives at 1:19 a.m.</p> <p>The first Orange Line train departs DFW Airport Station on weekdays at 4:18 a.m. with the last direct train to downtown Dallas departing at 1:12 a.m. On weekends, the first Orange Line train departs DFW Airport Station at 4:06 a.m. The last direct train to downtown Dallas departs at 11:42 a.m.</p> <p>62 stations, 170 kms, four lines: Red, Blue, Green, Orange. All lines serve downtown Dallas.</p> <p>Approximate travel times from DFW Airport Station to major Orange Line destinations and transfer points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belt Line Station – 8 minutes • Bachman Station (transfer point for Green Line) – 31 minutes • Southwestern Medical District/Parkland Station – 41 minutes • Victory Station (transfer point for Trinity Railway Express) – 46 minutes • West End Station (transfer point for Red and Blue lines) – 50 minutes
Car Rental	<p>The major car-rental agencies, which have outlets at DFW and Love Field Airports and at several addresses throughout the Metroplex, include Alamo (tel. 800/462-5266), Avis (tel. 800/230-4898), Budget (tel.</p>

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	<p>800/527-0700), Dollar (tel. 800/800-3665), Enterprise (tel. 800/736-8222), Hertz (tel. 800/654-3131), National (tel. 800/227-7368), and Thrifty (tel. 800/847-4389).</p>
<p>Streetcars</p>	<p>Of particular interest to visitors in the downtown area is the free McKinney Avenue Streetcar Service (also called the M-Line Trolley), which travels from the Arts District to Cityplace Station and the West Village (it goes along McKinney Ave. from Uptown's Allen St. to downtown's Ross Ave. and St. Paul Ave., next to the Dallas Museum of Art). The vintage trolleys are from 1906, 1913, and 1920. It operates 7 days a week between 7am and 10pm weekdays, 10am and 10pm Saturdays, and 12:30 to 10pm Sundays (every 15 min. during peak and lunch hours, every half-hour off-peak hours and weekends). The trolley is perfect for bar, gallery, and restaurant-shopping in Uptown, and a great way to get from hotels in the area to the Arts District downtown</p>
<p>Passes</p>	<p>CityPASS Dallas is the latest destination to partner with CityPASS, the company that packages discounted, prepaid admission to a city or region's top attractions. Travellers to Dallas can use a Dallas CityPASS ticket booklet to save 41 percent off admission to the Perot Museum of Nature and Science, Reunion Tower GeO-Deck, a choice between the Dallas Zoo and The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza, and a choice between the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum and the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden. Each 2015 Dallas CityPASS ticket booklet retails for \$44 for adults, \$30 for children, age 3-12. Passes, which can be purchased online at CityPASS.com or at any of the CityPASS partner attractions listed above, are valid for nine consecutive days, beginning with the first day of use. Visitors who use all of the booklet's tickets will save \$30.30 on combined admission to the included attractions. www.citypass.com 1-888-330-5008 Connect with CityPASS on facebook: www.facebook.com/citypass Follow CityPASS on Twitter: https://twitter.com/citypass</p> <p>DART Rail Passes: if you plan on doing a lot of hop-on, hop-off sightseeing and shopping, consider getting a day pass, good for all DART bus and light-rail travel. For local service, the 1-day pass is \$5; for premium routes (serving the suburbs), the 1-day pass is \$10. You can purchase single tickets and day passes from the new Ticket Vending Machines (TVMs) on all rail station platforms.</p>
<p>ACCOMMODATION</p>	<p>Dallas offers the finest in Southern hospitality and over 75,000 hotel rooms ranging from first-class luxury to budget-friendly pricing.</p>

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One of the big name hotels, and the one I stayed at on my last trip there, is the **Magnolia Hotel**, situated in the heart of downtown Dallas. Luxurious and peaceful, this is a unique hotel built in 1921, and was once the HQ of Mobil Oil. Now it's a glorious icon of Dallas, a boutique hotel, with many of the original building's features.

TARGET GROUPS	
Kids	<p>The Six Flags Over Texas theme park, next to Dallas, is larger than Disneyland</p> <p>Dallas Zoo: if the kids are clamoring for some wild animals, the recently renovated Dallas Zoo - the oldest zoo in Texas, founded in 1888 - isn't likely to disappoint (one feature, "Wilds of Africa," was named the top African zoo exhibit in the country). The 85-acre park also features a habitat for rare Sumatran tigers, a chimpanzee forest, and a monorail safari ride.</p>
Teens	<p>Science Place - Fair Park Address: 1318 Second Avenue, Dallas, TX 75210 Phone: 214-428-5555 Website: http://www.scienceplace.org An exciting science and technology museum featuring hands-on and participatory exhibits as well as the state-of-the art TI Founders IMAX Theater with a 79-foot domed screen.</p>
Honeymoons & Weddings	<p>Weddings are a speciality at the Fairmont Dallas. As a landmark of distinction and tradition for over 35 years, they have been home to the finest weddings ever to take place in Dallas. At the Fairmont Hotel Dallas, you'll find nearly everything you need to create your complete wedding experience. No matter where your imagination takes you, from a dramatic ceremony and sit-down banquet for 500, to an intimate afternoon reception, they will assist you in designing a seamless event. They are also happy to help in planning bridal showers, rehearsal dinners, and accommodations for visiting guests, including a memorable departure brunch.</p> <p>It all begins with a Fairmont Wedding Specialist to assist you, from the selection of an appropriate room, to orchestrating last minute details. Their professional representatives can also recommend bridal consultants, photographers and musicians. On hand to create the center piece of your celebration is our award-winning pastry chef, Thierry Marceaux. Your wedding cake will be custom-made from the finest and freshest ingredients. And on the hotel premises, or just a stroll away, you'll find a florist, fine jeweler, stationary store, and other wedding services.</p>
Zoomers	<p>This is a very civilized city break destination for Seniors in the cold Canadian winter months: luxury hotels, fine restaurants, over 200 golf courses, wonderful arts scene and of course tremendous shopping opportunities!</p>

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UNIQUES	
Surprising	The world's largest bronze monument , standing at the Dallas Convention Center, has more than forty bigger-than-life longhorn steers, horses and cowboys in a Texas cattle drive.
History	<p>While Dallas is relatively young when compared to many cities, its past is as colorful and eventful as any.</p> <p>In 1839, John Neely Bryan, a lawyer from Tennessee with a taste for adventure, wandered into the area. He was impressed with what he believed to be the perfect ingredients for a trading post and eventually a town: plenty of raw land, Indians with whom to do business, and the river. Bryan went to Tennessee to close out his affairs, and he returned to Dallas in 1841. He laid claim to 640 acres and sketched out a town, designating a courthouse square and 20 streets.</p> <p>Gradually and with some adversity, the young city grew. A "can-do" spirit helped bring: the railroads to the area in the 1870s, the Federal Reserve Bank in 1914, Southern Methodist University in 1915, Dallas Love Field Airport in 1927, the Texas Centennial Exposition in 1936, Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport in 1973 and the Republican National Convention in 1984 – to name just a few.</p> <p>For every one of these major public endeavors, there have been countless private enterprise initiatives that have helped put Dallas on the map.</p> <p>In 1907, fashion and elegant living were redefined when Neiman Marcus opened in downtown Dallas and J.S. Armstrong opened his exclusive Highland Park shopping development north of the city.</p> <p>In 1930, C.M. "Dad" Joiner struck oil 180 kms east of Dallas. With the discovery and development of the East Texas Oil Field – the largest petroleum deposit on earth at the time – Dallas became a center of oil-related activity. Although Dallas County has never had a working oil well, the region's role as the financial and technical centre for much of the state's drilling industry has been as good as gold. Commerce and industry have followed suit, adding to the city's success and progress.</p> <p>The 1960s was a time of turmoil in many U.S. cities, and Dallas had its share. The lowest point in Dallas history came on Nov. 22, 1963, when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated on a downtown street.</p> <p>In the 21st century, Dallas continues to build on its strengths: friendly people, entrepreneurial spirit, flare for style and innovation, mild climate, excellent accessibility, and outstanding quality of life. Visitors and residents alike enjoy exceptional opportunities.</p>
Books	Frommer's Texas
1000 Places to see before you die	<p>The Dallas Arts District</p> <p>The Deluxe Hotels of Dallas</p> <p>Sixth Floor Museum</p>

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	The State Fair of Texas
Must Sees	<p>Reunion Tower Geo-deck http://reuniontower.com/the-tower/geo-deck From 470 feet up, you'll experience breathtaking 360-degree views, high-definition zoom cameras, interactive touch screens, telescopes, photo ops and an indoor/outdoor observation deck that lets you see for miles in any direction. Day or night, make the iconic Reunion Tower your first stop to explore fun things to see and do in Dallas.</p> <p>Highlights Free high-definition telescopes on the outdoor deck or zoom cameras on the inner deck allow guests unobstructed close up views of favorite Dallas landmarks and sights. Interactive touch screens called the Halo allow you to create your own lightshow and view past shows You'll be amazed by the 360-degree day or night breathtaking views up to 32 miles – including Fort Worth. Free digital photo allows you to choose from six different backgrounds that you can email or post to your friends and family.</p>

SPORTS ACTIVITIES	Dallas is one of a few cities nationwide to have teams in all the big professional sports: the Dallas Cowboys football team (champions of 5 Super Bowls), the Dallas Mavericks basketball team, the Texas Rangers baseball team, the Dallas Stars hockey team. Suburban Mesquite hosts world championship professional rodeo.
Golf	Dallas is the perfect location for those looking to brush up on their golf swing or improve their handicap. With more than 200 courses of varied levels of play, the area has plenty to offer the golf enthusiast. Ample sunshine, gorgeous fairways and low green fees are just a few of the many reasons why Golf Digest ranked Dallas as the best golf city. And if that isn't convincing just ask famed golfers Lee Trevino, Justin Leonard and Mark Brooks who all hail from the area or any of the golf greats who visit the area each year for the HP Byron Nelson Championship.
Rodeo	One of the top rodeos in Texas, and a huge draw for out-of-towners and travelers from abroad, is the Mesquite Championship Rodeo , about 35 kms northeast of downtown at Resistol Arena, 1818 Rodeo Dr. (tel. 800/833-9339 or 972/285-8777; www.mesquiterodeo.com). You can check out some authentic professional rodeo action - bull riding, saddle and bareback riding, calf roping, and chuck wagon races - on Friday and Saturday nights at 8pm (reserved grandstand seating \$14; general admission \$10 adults, \$7 seniors, \$4 children under 12). There's a petting zoo for kids and a gift shop for Western duds just like the ones the cowboys and their fans will be sporting. Rodeo season is April through October.
Hiking	There are plenty of hiking opportunities in and around Dallas, especially

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	in the many parks and the Trinity River Greenbelt Park.
Cycling	Biking, In-Line Skating & Jogging: White Rock Lake , 8 kms east of downtown Dallas (off Loop 12), is the most popular area for cycling, skating, and running (and of course, walking). A 20 km loop traces the banks of the lake. Nearby bike and skate shops offer rentals.
Tennis	There are several public courts where visitors can play a few sets. The following are both city-owned but have privately run pro shops: Fair Oaks, 7501 Merriman Pkwy. (tel. 214/670-1495), near White Rock Creek (4 miles north of White Rock Lake), has 16 lighted courts; Fretz Park, 14700 Hillcrest (tel. 214/670-6622), has 15 lighted courts.

CULTURE	Each night in Dallas, there are more than 110 live performances. Dallas Arts District, a 60-acre development and the largest urban arts district in the country and home to the Dallas Museum of Art, Crow Collection of Asian Art, Nasher Sculpture Center and the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center.
Arts	Dallas has the largest urban arts district in America! Here's some highlights: - Trammell and Margaret Crow Collection of Asian Art : free entrance, contemporary and historic art, provides insight into Asian cultures; fabulous jade collection - Nasher Sculpture Center : features early modern works and art of the postwar period; indoor and outdoor sculptures; sculpture garden; child friendly museum; includes works by Moore, Matisse, Picasso and Rodin - Goss Gallery : always features exciting new and innovative travelling exhibitions (when I was there recently, John Lennon's piano was a star exhibit), changing monthly with contemporary artists - Dallas Museum of Art : a comprehensive collection often highlighted by major exhibitions and with activities for visitors to really experience and discover art
Music	The Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center, 2301 Flora St. at North Pearl (tel. 214/670-3600; www.dallassymphony.com), is home to the Dallas Symphony Orchestra . The DSO named Jaap van Zweden as its new music director in February 2007. The 2014-2015 season marks van Zweden's 7 th with the orchestra. In addition to his position with the Dallas Symphony, van Zweden is in his second season as Music Director of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra. The I. M. Pei-designed auditorium is equipped with excellent acoustics and a spectacular pipe organ. Tickets to events are as little as \$8, and free concerts are occasionally held. The Dallas Opera performs at Campbell Center #1, 8350 N. Central Expwy. (tel. 214/443-1043; www.dallasopera.org).
TV	Southfork Ranch - Event & Conference Center Address: 3700 Hogge Road, Parker, TX 75002

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	<p>Phone: 972-442-7800 WebsiteL: http://www.southforkranch.com Experience television history and Texas hospitality! Tour the Ewing Mansion and ranch grounds, re-live memories in the "Dallas Legends" memorabilia exhibit, eat at Miss Ellie's Deli, shop at two unique retail stores and more. Open daily year round</p>
<p>Museums</p>	<p>Perot Museum of Nature and Science http://www.perotmuseum.org/ Rev up your curiosity and put your brain into overdrive at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science! Where else can you race against a virtual T. rex, touch a tornado or do battle in a remote-control robot arena? With 11 hands-on exhibit halls to explore and a cutting-edge 3D theater, the Perot Museum offers a full day of discovery. Highlights Explore 11 permanent exhibit halls, featuring everything from prehistoric fossil specimens to futuristic technologies. Get hands-on with exhibits that challenge you to launch a ping-pong ball with your brain waves, make music with technology, try to outrun a virtual cheetah, or shoot a hockey puck like a champion. Enjoy the view of downtown while you ride the Museum's 150-foot glass-enclosed escalator to Level 4 — and get ready to amaze your brain on your journey back down. Take in an awe-inspiring film in the state-of-the-art 3D theatre. Take a virtual tour behind the scenes of the Perot Museum and enhance your visit with the interactive visitor's guide when you check out a Samsung tablet or download an app on Google Play.</p> <p>The Sixth Floor Museum http://www.jfk.org/ The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza presents an exhibition exploring the life of President John F. Kennedy, his presidency, his tragic death in Dallas and the aftermath of his assassination, all within the context of presidential and contemporary history. Highlights The Museum's permanent exhibit is located on the sixth floor of the former Texas School Book Depository where significant evidence of a sniper was found. The exhibit presents hundreds of historic television and radio broadcasts, films, photographs and artifacts to tell the story of President Kennedy's assassination. The sniper's perch and the area where a rifle was found remain preserved as they appeared on November 22, 1963. Also on display is a scale model of Dealey Plaza created by the FBI, and interactive touchscreens show the motorcade route in Dealey Plaza.</p>

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	<p>Audio guides are in English, Spanish, French, German, Mandarin, Japanese, Brazilian Portuguese, a Youth version (English only) and American Sign Language. The seventh floor plays host to a variety of special programs and exhibits that complement the Museum's permanent collection.</p> <p>George W Bush Presidential Library & Museum https://www.georgewbushlibrary.smu.edu/ America's 13th Presidential Library and Museum is located in Dallas. With its state-of-the-art interactive exhibits, the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum gives visitors an in-depth look at eight years of Presidential history. Highlights Experience the interactive Decision Points Theater that takes visitors "inside" the President's decision-making process during major crises. See steel from the World Trade Center, a full-sized replica Oval Office with a Resolute Desk, and a Texas Rose Garden. At 67 feet tall, Freedom Hall encases a one-of-a-kind, 360-degree, high definition video wall that orients visitors and depicts a montage of the 44 U.S. Presidents. Take a walk through the 15-acre park filled with native Texas prairie grasses and wildflowers.</p>
<p>Festivals</p>	<p>Dallas International Festival at St.Mark's School of Dallas: Nov Music and dance festival showcasing hundreds of cultural traditions that thrive in North Texas. (972) 661-2764</p> <p>Texas Stampede at American Airlines Center: Nov Heart-pounding championship rodeo collides with country music's biggest stars. (214) 520-8874</p> <p>2015 State Fair of Texas: Sept. 25 - Oct. 18 http://bigtex.com/ Fair Park, a 277-acre entertainment and recreation complex owned by the City of Dallas, is located two miles east of downtown. The park is the year-round home of the Music Hall, Cotton Bowl and eight museums. Fair Park is a National Historic Landmark and boasts the largest collection of art deco exposition buildings in the United States.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amusement rides: 70-75. • 212-ft. Texas Star is the tallest Ferris wheel in North America. • Livestock entries: approximately 8,000. • Creative Arts entries: approximately 7,000. • The Texas-OU football game has been played during the Fair every year since 1929. • Big Tex made his first State Fair appearance in 1952.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corny dogs were invented in 1942 by State Fair concessionaires Carl and Neil Fletcher.
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ATTRACTIONS	
Wildlife	<p>Dallas Zoo http://www.dallaszoo.com/ The Dallas Zoo is the largest zoological experience in Texas. With 106 acres to explore, thousands of animals to visit, a huge variety of family activities, and an unwavering commitment to wildlife conservation, the Dallas Zoo is enormously entertaining. Go on an urban safari where you can feed giraffes and watch elephants and other animals interact in a natural savanna setting. Discover the only koalas in Texas. Explore hands-on activities with your little ones in the Lacerte Family Children's Zoo. Enjoy wildlife shows and close encounters with a variety of animals. Their goal is to make your visit an exciting adventure with opportunities to learn about interesting wildlife, engage in interactive fun, and support worldwide conservation and research to protect and preserve endangered species. Highlights The Dallas Zoo was founded in 1888, making it the first zoological park in the Southwest region of the United States. The park covers 106 developed acres. In terms of landmass, it's the largest zoological park in Texas. The giant giraffe sculpture marking the Zoo's entrance is 67½ feet tall! The Zoo provides care for a wide variety of animals and is involved in conservation and breeding programs for numerous endangered species. The Dallas Zoo is widely recognized for the Giants of the Savanna exhibit, the Lacerte Family Children's Zoo, the Wilds of Africa with the Monorail Safari, and the Jake L. Hamon Gorilla Conservation Research Center.</p>
Parks	<p>Dallas over 400 public parks and more than 60 lakes and reservoirs within 200 kms of Dallas and seven state parks within an hour's drive of Dallas. Dallas provides many recreational and athletic facilities for youth, adults and senior adults at 518 recreational and athletic facilities. Dallas also has many neighborhood and recreation department tennis courts, bike and jogging trails, as well as 39 private and 34 municipal golf courses.</p>
Gardens	<p>Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden http://www.dallasarboretum.org/ Just minutes from downtown Dallas, the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden is a world-class, 66-acre urban oasis that attracts over 978,000 visitors annually. Featuring 19 finely manicured gardens,</p>

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	<p>seasonal festivals and activities, a robust plant trials program, adult and youth education programs, and a new 8-acre Children’s Adventure Garden, there is truly something for everyone at the Arboretum.</p> <p>Highlights</p> <p>The Rory Meyers Children’s Adventure Garden is an 8-acre, hands-on, interactive children’s learning garden with more than 150 exhibits designed to increase learning and education in youth.</p> <p>The Lay Family Garden is a newly redesigned 2.2-acre garden on the north end of the property. Featuring Texas limestone waterfalls, a grotto with a 12-foot waterfall and a Koi pond, this popular garden was one of the first named gardens of the Arboretum.</p> <p>Crape Myrtle Allee is one of the most photographed gardens – it’s a popular spot for family photos and engagement/wedding photos and leads to Toad Corners, a popular water feature.</p> <p>A Woman’s Garden features a reflecting pool that overlooks White Rock Lake, terraced walkways and exceptional views.</p> <p>The Trial Gardens were created for the purpose of expanding research efforts and providing information to the public. Between 3,000 and 5,000 plants are trialed yearly from over 150 plant breeding companies.</p>
<p>Historical Sites</p>	<p>Old City Park: Dallas' Old West heritage is on self-conscious display in this downtown 13-acre park of three dozen historic buildings. The complex re-creates a late-19th-century village, complete with a redbrick Main Street, Victorian homes, a log cabin dating from 1847, and Old West standards like a train depot, general store, one-room church, schoolhouse, bank (said to have been robbed by Bonnie and Clyde in the 1930s), and law offices. All have been transported from their original locations in and around Dallas, immaculately restored and reconstructed on the attractive grounds, which have the glittering city skyline as a backdrop. Guided tours escort visitors inside several of the buildings, including a "Living Farmstead," a re-creation of a North Texas farm (ca. 1860).</p>

<p>OTHER ACTIVITIES</p>	
<p>Shopping</p>	<p>Here are some of the most popular shopping attractions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NorthPark Centre: is one of the top 5 shopping malls in the USA and the largest shopping centre in North Texas. It’s built around a 1.4 acre landscape gardens and has over 35 restaurants and dining options. There’s even art work on display here! - Galleria Dallas: has over 200 great shops on three levels. At Xmas there are over 200,000 lights and a 95 foot Christmas tree, surrounded by an ice skating rink! From Gucci to GAP, kids to grown-ups – it attracts over 60 million visitors a year.

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	<p>- Highland Park Village: was the first shopping mall in the US, created in 1931 and includes Harry Winston, the famous jewelers. Spanish red tiled roofs and up-market stores create a luxurious village life-style ambience. You can also drive up and park outside the stores. It's open, airy and punctuated by great restaurants. It's even a National historic Landmark!</p> <p>- Main Street District: The world-famous Neiman Marcus flagship store is now complemented by other retailers including: Kül Designs, a lifestyle store, art gallery and design studio; Swirl, a downtown winery and wine accessories store; Crimson In The City, a men and women's apparel boutique; Benjis Collezioni, a men and women's Italian clothier; Footgear, a hip, urban athletic shoe store; Dallas Fashion Incubator, unique apparel by Dallas-based designers; and UrbanMarket, a downtown grocer with a wide selection of essentials, gourmet items, prepared foods, café and bar.</p> <p>International shoppers can receive refunds on Texas sales tax at TaxFree Shopping, Ltd. Shoppers must present original receipts and items purchased with sales tags still attached from participating retail stores in Texas within 30 days of departing the United States. International visitors' passports, I-94s, visas (if issued) and flight information (if flying) are required for processing. Visit www.TaxFreeTexas.com</p>
Markets	<p>Dallas Farmers Market and Resource Center Address: 1010 South Pearl Expressway, Dallas, TX 75201 Phone: 214-939-2808 Website: http://www.dallasfarmersmarket.org One of the largest open-air markets in the country, the Dallas Farmers market was established in 1941 and is recognized nationally as a true farmer's market where farmers sell their crops directly to the customers. Open 7 days a week 7:00am - 6:00pm.</p>
Nightlife	<p>Dallas has a lively nightlife scene, with enough in the way of performing arts and theater to entertain highbrows and more than enough bars and clubs to satisfy the young and the restless. In fact, in recent years the live music scene claims to have outpaced that of rival Austin. If you've come to North Texas to wrangle a mechanical bull, you can strap on your boots and your best Stetson and do some two-steppin' and Western swing dancing.</p>
CUISINE	<p>Dallas has more restaurants per person than New York City - and at last count, offers over 7,000 restaurants to enjoy.</p>
Food	<p>The ingredients that make Dallas cuisine so unique include the region's rich variety of peppers, dried chilies, jicama, cilantro, tomatillos, fruits</p>

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	and vegetables, cheeses, Gulf seafood and Hill Country wild game. The Chicken Fajita was invented in Dallas. A Tex-Mex specialty made of distinctively marinated meats, tomatoes, chili peppers, avocados, flour tortillas and sour cream.
Wine	Margaritas and tequila are favoured drinks here, and the best restaurants have impressive wine lists that would make any Parisian restaurateur envious!
Restaurants	<p>Some personal favourites from the 7,000 in town:</p> <p>Fearing's Restaurant with Dean Fearing, celebrity chef, Creator and author of The Texas Food Bible. Chef Dean Fearing is known as a "Father of Southwestern Cuisine" and has spent his life cooking for people who love good food. Fearings Restaurant has a prime location in the Dallas Ritz-Carlton where it has been named number one in the US in hotel dining by the Zagat Survey. His tortilla soup is unbeatable! www.fearingsrestaurant.com</p> <p>- Dragonfly Restaurant in the Hotel ZaZa: an unusual, eclectic restaurant that is one of the stars of the culinary scene in Dallas at present. Everything is over-the-top and a sense of fun exudes from the kitchen. The menu has been described as "collision cuisine": dishes from all over the world that work together well.</p> <p>- Trece Restaurant: Tex-Mex at its finest! Guacamole made at the tableside is divine and a house speciality. Amador's lobster nachos are divine and the Alambre a la Mexicana (a grilled beef tenderloin) is wonderful. There is also a huge range of 120 varieties of tequila available in the Tequila Lounge.</p> <p>Also try Barbecue from Pecan Lodge; fried chicken from Sissy's Southern Kitchen; and Steak from Del Frisco's</p>

MORE INFO	
Brochures	Phone 1-800-232-5527 for brochures and further information
Contact Info	<p>Website: www.visitdallas.com</p> <p>Connect with Dallas on facebook: http://www.facebook.com/visitdallas</p> <p>Follow Dallas on Twitter: https://twitter.com/visit_dallas</p>

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