Beyond the Riverwalk
Welcome to Beyond the Riverwalk: High Yield Pearls of San Antonio!

This book is a compilation of responses from medical students at UT Health San Antonio of things to do here in San Antonio. Inside this book you’ll find recommendations of what students actually do with our free time! From fine dining to entertainment to the best hikes in the city, this guide provides a resource for current and future medical students and residents to explore our fine city. Here, there’s expert tips, photos, and advice to find places that are friendly to social distancing, budget, LGBTQ+ people, family and kids, pets, and more as well as a map of their general location in San Antonio. This guide is by no means comprehensive, but hopefully represents a large swath of things that make this city great. Go forth and explore!

Enjoy,

Jennifer Teague, Carmella DeSerto, and Nimmy Thomas
Class of 2021
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Map</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Spaces</td>
<td>5 - 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Dining</td>
<td>10 - 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authentic Ethnic Cuisine &amp; Grocery</td>
<td>19 - 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hole in the Wall</td>
<td>28 - 36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweet Tooth</td>
<td>37 - 42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Night Life</td>
<td>43 - 51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture &amp; Entertainment</td>
<td>52 - 56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports &amp; Exercise</td>
<td>57 - 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Spaces</td>
<td>61 - 67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith</td>
<td>68 - 72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geek Life</td>
<td>73 - 76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Do</td>
<td>77 - 85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives</td>
<td>86 - 87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Legend:

- **Most Nominated**
- **Editor's Pick**
- **Socially Distanced**
- **Dog-Friendly**
- **LGBTQ+ Friendly**
- **Family Friendly**
- **$0 - $15**
- **$16 - $40**
- **$40+**

*Legend based on editors’ experience and is not comprehensive. Information in guide is subject to change.*
*Artwork in guide courtesy of Carmella DeSerto*
San Antonio Public Library System (various locations)

For more information on the SAPL system, check out the Geek Life section! Some favorite libraries recommended by students are Maverick, Cody, and Landa. Many libraries in San Antonio have quiet public study areas and lots of resources. The libraries also allow you to request any books or media to be delivered to a closer library to you!

Summermoon Coffee (various: St. Mary’s, Culebra, Far North)

A central Texas favorite small chain of coffee shops throughout Austin and San Antonio areas. Three locations in San Antonio, the best for studying is the St. Mary’s location, with a large indoor common area outside the coffee shop itself.

Editor’s Pick: favorite coffee in San Antonio

Café Martinez (Medical Center)

Casual Argentinian café across from campus with lots of food and coffee options. Larger tables for studying and a great place to catch up with a friend.

Local/Merit Coffee (various)

A local San Antonio chain very popular with students. The closest to campus is across from Zone 3 parking on Louis Pasteur, but there are many locations throughout town for a boutique coffee shop feel with lots of study space.
**Commonwealth Coffee** (Trinity/UIW)

Small coffee shop with great coffee and an excellent bakery near UIW campus. There are both indoor and outdoor spaces, but limited parking.

---

**Olmos Perk** (Trinity/UIW)

Great small business that always has seating, including study-conducive workstations.

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**Philo Coffee** (Trinity/UIW)

A small, quiet French-inspired coffee shop with good pastries and a chill atmosphere. Small space with a few tables for studying, but better to grab a relaxing snack or chat with a friend.

---

**Rosella** (various)

A San Antonio favorite, in various locations including Methodist Hospital, downtown, and several grocery stores fronts in town. The downtown location is a great two-story coffee shop with a chill vibe, open late, with lots of food options.
**5 Points Local** (UIW/Trinity)

Local spot for clean food and yoga classes.

---

**PRESS coffee** (UIW/Trinity)

Coffee shop near UIW with amazing natural light. Small greenhouse-like space with interesting coffee options including herbal/floral syrups.

---

**Berry to Bean** (Alamo Heights)

Quiet coffee shop near downtown/Alamo Heights with coffee, juices, and snacks. Open late and lots of tables for studying. Tip: look for Groupon deals!

---

**Shotgun Roasters** (Downtown, Northwest)

Local specialty roaster on-site that offers specialty coffees and a regular full line-up of espresso, teas, breakfast tacos, and pastries.

---

**Central Market** (UIW/Trinity)

High-end grocery store near UIW with multiple places for a busier study space where you can stay all day and have access to lots of parking, coffee, and hot food.
**Revolucion Coffee and Juice** *(Alamo Heights and Downtown)*

Hipster coffee, smoothies, and food. The Alamo Heights locations is a casual large space, good for studying. Try their acai bowls or morning taco and coffee deal!

**The Pearl District**

A hot-spot for food and drink locations, the Pearl District makes for a relatively quiet study space with outdoor space during the weekdays if you’d like a change in scenery.

**Candlelight Coffee** *(UIW/Trinity)*

A funky San Antonio institution near St. Mary’s University. Coffee shop by day, bar by night, often with live local music.

**Campus Spaces in San Antonio** *(various)*

There are many secondary and post-secondary institutions in San Antonio with library options to study. The following were recommended by students.
UTHSCSA: Briscoe Library and ALT-C, classrooms on campus, full access with student badge
UTSA Main Campus Library
UIW Library
**Aldo’s Ristorante Italiano** (Leon Springs)

Upscale destination offering Italian fare & fine wines in a former farmhouse.

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**Barbaro** (Trinity & UIW)

Rustic wood-fired pizza & creative toppings served in a brick-walled space with a full bar. Happy hour 4:00-6:00 pm daily.

---

**Battalion** (Downtown)

“Shared plate italian food! It’s all incredible. make sure to get the meatballs as an appetizer + the tiramisu as a dessert!”

Stylish spot for classic Italian plates & cocktails served in a historic, restored firehouse.

---

**Bliss** (Downtown)

Inspired New American fare, charcuterie, wine & beer in a stylishly restored former filling station.

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**Botika** (Pearl)

A stylish option for inventive Peruvian-Asian fusion plates paired with traditional cocktails.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurant</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Location/Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boudro’s on the Riverwalk</strong> (Downtown)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hip New American bistro with wood-grilled steaks, seafood, tableside guacamole,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>cocktails &amp; a patio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cappy’s</strong> (Alamo Heights)</td>
<td></td>
<td>New American-Eclectic fine dining fare presented in an upscale casual space with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>warm wood tones.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chama Gaúcha Brazilian Steakhouse</strong> (Stone Oak)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Upscale all-you-can-eat churrascaria with grilled beef, pork, chicken &amp; lamb, plus a vast salad bar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cured</strong> (Pearl)</td>
<td></td>
<td>“A great spot for fancy charcuterie.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Buzzy, rustic-chic restaurant serving charcuterie-focused New American cuisine &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>craft cocktails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Dogfather</strong> (Trinity &amp; UIW)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Funky spot for inventive hot dog combinations (including vegan) with soft drinks &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>craft beer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dough Pizzeria Napoletana (Trinity & UIW)

Dough Pizzeria, an Authentic Neapolitan style pizza restaurant, creates delectable, delicious Italian dishes San Antonio, Texas and Dallas Texas.

El Jarro de Arturo (North)

Vibrant eatery offering Mexican favorites & margaritas, plus frequent live music on the patio.

El Mirasol (North)

Vibrant Mexican eatery provides creative dishes & margaritas in a colorful venue with patio seating.

Feast (Downtown)

Stylish New American eatery with an eclectic menu, unique cocktails, patio dining & a buzzy brunch.

Hot Joy (Downtown)

Happening locale with eclectic, colorful decor offers creative Asian dishes & cocktails.
**Mamacita's Restaurant** (Medical Center)

Outpost of a chain serving Tex-Mex & American fare in vibrant digs modeled after a Mexican village.

**MAX's Wine Dive** (Alamo Heights)

Comfort food, small plates & a broad wine list dished out in an industrial, brick-walled bistro.

**The Melting Pot** (North)

"Super fun to celebrate with a group over fondue."

Fondue restaurant chain offering heated pots of cheese, chocolate, or broth for dipping & cooking.

**Mi Tierra Cafe y Panaderia** (Downtown)

Landmark Mexican cafe & bakery with classic fare, margaritas & mariachis in festive digs open 24/7.

**Mixtli** (North)

"Good for special occasions. It is a tiny 12-seat space that requires advanced reservations and serves a ~10ish course meal of small fusion Mexican plates for $115 per person."

Innovative modern restaurant presenting changing regional Mexican tasting menus with drink pairings.
NONNA Osteria (Downtown)

“Try the pasta that they spin in a cheese wheel. It is so great!”
Breezy restaurant offering rustic Northern Italian cuisine & wine inside The Fairmount Hotel.

Ocho (Downtown)

“Beautiful greenhouse setting overlooking the river.”
Ocho has created a menu rooted in the hotel’s pan-Latin cultural influences from Mexico, Cuba, and Texas.

Outlaw Kitchens (North)

“Small locally owned place that is only open for dinner on certain nights of the week. There is a set menu weekly for around $30/person.”

Paloma Blanca Mexican Cuisine (Alamo Heights)

Upmarket Mexican cuisine with gluten-free & paleo options served in a popular spot with a patio.

Perry’s Steakhouse and Grille (La Cantera)

Elegant venue offering steaks, seafood & fine wines, plus live music & a stylish bar.
**Rebelle (Downtown)**

A swanky, stylish spot pairing New American meat & seafood dishes with inventive cocktails.

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**Sapore's Pizza (Medical Center)**

New York-style pies, sandwiches & salads, plus other Italian bites, doled out in comfy quarters.

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**Signature (La Cantera)**

Seasonal fare with French & Texas tilt in a charming, freestanding space at La Cantera Resort & Spa.

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**Piatti (La Cantera)**

“Piatta is an Italian restaurant with two locations in San Antonio: The Quarry and Eilan. Their menu has a good variety and affordable options. The Eilan location has a unique elegant feeling with plenty of places for pictures. Great for birthdays and special occasions!”

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**Playland Pizza (Downtown)**

“Downtown casual pizza place with a rotating monthly menu and a variety of options for woodfired pizza, including vegetarian options.”
SILO Elevated Cuisine (North)

Elevated bistro with inspired New American fare, wine & brunch, plus a bar scene on the lower level.

Southerleigh (Pearl)

This eatery serving Texas cuisine in a historic space also offers a second-story microbrewery.

Stella Public House (Downtown)

Hip, rustic spot for locally sourced pizza, housemade cheese & a rotating selection of craft beer.

Supper (Pearl)

“Supper has amazing brussels sprouts!”

Contemporary all-day option offering elevated farm-to-table American plates in bright surrounds.

Tower of the Americas (Downtown)

750-ft. landmark with an observation deck, revolving eatery, stationary bar & a 4D adventure ride.
**Tre Trattoria (Downtown)**

Trendy Italian eatery serving pasta, pizzas & family-style mains in airy digs with a patio & bar.

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**Whiskey Cake (La Cantera)**

Sizable bar/eatery offering seasonal, locally sourced farm-to-kitchen dishes in a woodsy-chic space.

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**Zinc Bistro & Bar (Downtown)**

“A great place to go if you’re looking for a place with a variety of really good food downtown. Just a few blocks from the River Walk but be warned that parking can be pricy. Sit outside if the weather is nice: the restaurant has a cute courtyard in the back.”

Southwestern-inspired New American fare, champagne & cocktails in a chic space with a cozy patio.

COVID-19: temporarily closed
Authentic Ethnic Cuisine & Grocery
### Chinese

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurant</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mencius Hunan Chinese</strong></td>
<td>(Medical Center)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>“in the heart of the medical center, affordable Chinese food with great early bird and lunch specials”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sichuan House</strong></td>
<td>(Medical Center)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Humble eatery featuring Sichuan tapas, hot pots &amp; mains such as pork belly &amp; Kung Pao shrimp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sichuan Garden</strong></td>
<td>(North Central)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Bare-bones eatery offering an extensive menu of Sichuan classics, hot pots &amp; boba drinks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Li’s Sichuan Restaurant</strong></td>
<td>(Stone Oak)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Pan-Asian dishes, from inventive sushi to familiar Chinese fare, offered in this casual eatery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dim Sum Oriental Cuisine</strong></td>
<td>(North Central)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Traditional dim sum restaurant with a wide variety of choices including small plates and entrée dishes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kungfu Noodle</strong></td>
<td>(Leon Valley)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Hand-pulled noodles, dumplings &amp; steamed buns are the specialties at this modest Chinese restaurant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lucky Noodle</strong></td>
<td>(North Central)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Simple spot for Chinese noodles &amp; other classic fare including vegetarian dishes, dine-in or to-go.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tang Street</strong></td>
<td>(North Central)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Laid-back establishment with an extensive menu of Chinese standards, plus lunch specials.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Japanese**

**Sushi Express** (multiple)
Japanese and Korean fine dining restaurant with sushi bars.

**Koi Kawa Japanese Restaurant** (UIW/Trinity)
Low-key Japanese eatery serving sushi & hot dishes in bright, riverfront surrounds.

**Wasabi** (Medical Center)
Contemporary restaurant known for sushi & sake also has some Korean, Chinese & Japanese entrees. *Tip: great lunch bento boxes*

**Sushihanna** (North Central)
Contemporary spot offering an array of sushi & Asian fusion dishes in a serene setting with a patio.

**Niki’s Tokyo Inn** (UIW/Trinity)
Unassuming family-run mainstay with traditional sushi, Japanese entrees, sake & tatami-style dining.

**Nama Ramen** (Medical Center)
Lively sushi bar & Japanese ramen restaurant with offbeat wall art & many specialty rolls.

**Wild Goji** (North Central)
A modern, spacious dining room offering Asian street food plus sushi, ramen & more.

**Hon Machi Japanese & Korean BBQ** (multiple)
Japanese fare & Korean BBQ served in a warm, comfortable setting with table grills & wooden booths.
Thai

Thai Dee (North Central)
Unassuming, BYOB Thai eatery offering traditional fare & regional dishes in a quaint setting.

Thai Esan & Noodle House (Medical Center)
Easygoing strip-mall eatery serving Thai cuisine classics such BBQ dishes & noodle soups.

Baan Thai (Medical Center)
Serving traditional Thai food with the best quality and fresh ingredients every day. Often recommended by faculty and students for their authentic dishes.

Dahlia Thai (Medical Center)
Relaxed spot for spicy curries, noodles & other Thai classics, plus milk teas, imported beer & wine.

Thai Lao Orchid (multiple)
Thai food served in a casual, contemporary restaurant.

Thai Restaurant (Medical Center)
Quaint, family-owned spot serving classic fare (from pad Thai to panang curry) in a casual setting. Personable staff.

Tong’s Thai (Alamo Heights)
Pan-Asian spot serving Thai & Chinese fare, sushi & bubble tea in an eclectic setting with a patio.

Thai House 2 (Medical Center)
Bright, modest eatery with a familiar Thai menu including desserts, plus takeout options.
Vietnamese

Berni Vietnamese Restaurant (Medical Center)
Unassuming strip-mall Vietnamese restaurant serving pho, banh mi, rice dishes & more.

Pho Hong Phat (Medical Center)
Pho, spring rolls & a lineup of other classic Vietnamese dishes served in a mellow atmosphere.

Mediterranean

Jerusalem Grill (multiple)
Middle Eastern, Greek, Persian & Turkish classics (hummus, kebabs & more) in a mural-filled space.

Dallah Mediterranean Cuisine (Medical Center)
Warm sit-down place serving Mediterranean favorites like gyro plates, kebabs & shawarma.

Pasha (Medical Center)
Popular spot serving Eastern Mediterranean fare (gyros, kebabs, falafel & more) in a casual setting.

Afghan

Azro Authentic Afghan Cuisine (Northeast)
Classic Afghani & Mediterranean dishes in a casual, colorful restaurant with traditional decor.

Indian

Biriyani Pot (Medical Center)
Hyderabadi-Indian chain serving biryani, tandoori fare & other traditional dishes in a warm space.
Mexican Restaurant in San Antonio by locals and food critics alike.

India Oven (North Central)
Cheerful North Indian eatery featuring a popular lunch buffet, vegetarian fare, beer & wine. *Try the Kashmiri naan!*

Mexican

Gloria’s Latin Cuisine (The Rim)
Family-friendly chain featuring Salvadoran & Tex-Mex favorites, plus mojitos & margaritas.

Rosario’s (multiple)
Offers traditional South-of-the-Border specialties in a contemporary setting. We are proud to have been consistently voted Best Mexican Restaurant in San Antonio by locals and food critics alike.

Taqueria Datapoint (Medical Center)
Basic yet cheery cafe serving homestyle Mexican standards like tacos, plus all-day breakfast.

Alamo Café (multiple)
“Tex-Mex spot for good tortillas and queso”
Fajitas, margaritas & homemade flour tortillas draw crowds to this established Tex-Mex destination.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurant</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tlahco Mexican Kitchen</strong></td>
<td>(North)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>“small kitchen off San Pedro for authentic Mexican food” Proud to be San Antonio’s new favorite spot for authentic Mexican cuisine that comes right from the heart of Mexico.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Taqueria El Rodeo de Jalisco</strong></td>
<td>(multiple)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Basic destination offering a range of classic Mexican eats in a casual environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tortas Ahogados el Chivito</strong></td>
<td>(Balcones Heights)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>El Chivito offers real Tortas Tacos Ahogadas Birria from Guadalajara, Jalisco México since November of 2013, our signature dish and fan favorites street foods in our hometown.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Taquitos West Avenue</strong></td>
<td>(North Central)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Mexican, counter-service pit stop turning out an array of tacos in easygoing surroundings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ro-Ho Pork &amp; Bread – Tortas Ahogadas</strong></td>
<td>(Northeast)</td>
<td>$♀♀</td>
<td>“very affordable small, personable space for authentic tortas with awesome kind staff. The chef and owner is always there.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Caribbean

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurant</th>
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<th>Price</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jerk Shack</strong></td>
<td>(Prospect Hill)</td>
<td>$♀♀</td>
<td>10-year combat veteran of the Army and graduate of the Culinary Institute of America serves up great food from her hometown in Jamaica.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jamaica Jamaica</strong></td>
<td>(multiple)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Jamaican restaurant serving jerk dishes with rice, peas &amp; plantain, with cocktails &amp; live music.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
African

Rohobeth Eritrean-Ethiopian Cuisine (Medical Center)

Unfussy strip-mall outlet serving traditional Ethiopian fare like injera flatbread & spicy stews.

Kobams Café & Grill: African Restaurant (West)

Traditional African meat pies, rice dishes & soups prepared in a modest strip-mall storefront.

Southern

Tony G’s Soul Food (Downtown)

Bright option for down-home Southern-style breakfasts & lunches, plus Sunday brunch & live jazz.

The South: Chicken & Waffles (Northeast)

Southern style cuisine made from scratch including a mixture of country breakfast items, cajun/creole, and soul food.

Grocery Stores

Tim’s Oriental & Seafood Market (Leon Valley)

Simple shop highlighting imported prepared foods, squid on ice & hard-to-find kitchen items.
Tip: credit card minimum $10

Asia Market (Leon Valley)

Asian grocery store with a variety of pre-packaged foods and fresh produce and seafood.

Chas Market & Kitchen (East)

No-nonsense neighborhood market with an eatery featuring Korean BBQ, plus American & Mexican food.
**Minnano Japanese Grocery** (Medical Center)
Compact grocery store importing dry goods, drinks & snacks, plus beauty products, cookware & gifts.

**Korean Market** (East, near BAMC)
Sizable market with a laid-back vibe presenting frozen seafood, bulk items, uncommon snacks & gifts.

**Sari Sari** (Leon Valley)
Asian grocery store with a rustic Filipino-Chinese eatery serving homestyle fare at simple tables.

**Manpasand International Food Market** (Medical Center)
Indian and Pakistani halal grocery store.

**Himalayan Bazar** (Medical Center)
We are a family owned, South Asia-oriented market. We offer a variety of goods, including sweets, prayer items, saris, spices, and fresh vegetables.
Boerne Brewery

A microbrewery nestled in the Texas Hill Country. We are small and intend to stay that way. We are from Boerne. We brew in Boerne. Our ale is for the people that live in, work in, and visit Boerne.

BurgerFi (Alamo Heights/Bandera)

Gourmet burgers made with 100% natural, certified Angus beef. Crispy fries & double battered onion rings are made fresh daily. Craft beer/wine available.

Cheesy Jane's (Alamo Heights)

Mom-&-pop spot doling out burgers, shakes & other classic American dishes in old-fashioned environs.

Cherrity Bar (East)

“Cherrity Bar has ramen and drinks and 100% of profits go to charity!”

Hip indoor-outdoor hangout offering drinks & Japanese bites, with profits going to charities.

Chester's Hamburgers

A San Antonio tradition, Chester’s Hamburgers has been serving old fashioned hamburgers for over 35 years.
Cullum's Attagirl Ice House (Trinity/UIW)

“Tiny fried chicken place with extensive drink list. Fried chicken sandwiches, wings, fries, beer, dessert. It’s a little expensive, but worth it for the atmosphere, company, and food of course!”

Datapoint Taco Truck (Medical Center)

Estamos en el área de los hospitales para ofrecer autentica comida mexicana como nuestra especialidad mini tacos menudo posole barbacoa y fajitas gracias.

First Watch (Medical Center)

First Watch is an award-winning Breakfast, Brunch and Lunch favorite that specializes in both traditional and innovative creations all freshly prepared to order.

Fralo’s (Leon Springs)

“A good spot to go with friends when the weather’s nice as you can sit outside.”

Relaxed spot with unique hand-tossed pizza, beer, wine, live music & outdoor dining under oak trees.

Gino’s Deli (North)

“A stop n’ buy that makes amazing sandwiches! Take your meal to go with some chips and a drink or stay in shop! Also, your first combo is free when you go there the first time, so all you pay for is the sandwich!”
Good Time Charlie’s (Alamo Heights)

Homemade burgers, Tex-Mex food & fried catfish, plus margaritas & beers, in casual & rustic setting.

Green Vegetarian Cuisine (Pearl)

Chill eatery doling out vegetarian & vegan versions of everyday dishes in funky, industrial digs.

The Guenther House (Downtown)

“Fancier brunch spot, good for taking the parents to.”

Art nouveau home at Pioneer Flour Mills with homey American & Tex-Mex fare, brunch & outdoor dining.

Holy Smoke BBQ & Taquitos (Downtown & Boerne)

One of the cities hottest food trucks in San Antonio with a growing fan base and the best barbecue in town. From our Mac and cheese to our famous award winning brisket, we have what you or your family are looking for.
Hopdoddy Burger Bar

Handmade burgers are our thing. We seek out the highest quality ingredients and do things the right way, whether you’re eating in or ordering curbside.

The Hoppy Monk (North)

“AMAZING brunch menu”

Upbeat bar with a huge selection of beers on tap, plus elevated pub food & outdoor seating.

Ida Claire (Alamo Heights)

South of Ordinary… an intriguing, southern-inspired destination for relaxing suppers, slow weekend brunching or a meeting hub for business lunches and happy hour.

Joey’s (Trinity & UIW)

Brewpub food & drink in a cozy, comfortable setting with outdoor seating & multiple pool tables.

John T. Floore’s Country Store (Old Bandera)

A real dose of country in the big city, Floore’s welcomes tons of amazing country music artists from mainstream country, Texas country, and folk. The outdoor venue is an incredible experience with to-die-for tamales.
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<th>Restaurant</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Bar</td>
<td>Downtown</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Serious Food made in house in the heart of Southtown, San Antonio. COVID-19: temporarily closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macho Libre</td>
<td>Medical Center</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>“Macho Libre Burritacos on Babcock is a microcosm of San Antonio fast food- think Chipotle but campier and with elote en vaso, chicharrones, jarritos, etc.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnolia Pancake Haus</td>
<td>Medical Center</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Popular mainstay known for its ample breakfast options, with a lunch menu, served in homey environs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max and Louie's New York Diner</td>
<td>North</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Spacious diner-style eatery &amp; bar serving all-day breakfast, sandwiches &amp; American comfort food.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papa's Burgers</td>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>“Nominated best burger in Texas by Yelp and 4th best in America by Money Magazine. Outdoor seating and fun wall paintings make for a place with tons of personality and great food. Cash only!”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pearl Farmers Market (Pearl)

Hip outdoor space hosting local produce, meat & cheese producers, live music & cooking demos.

Ricky’s Tacos (Bandera)

“Taco truck with good sauces located at Babcock/DeZavala intersection gas station. Open only at night.”

Authentic-Style Mexican Tacos! Best in SA! Stop by and try our delicious street tacos, burritos, and more!

Royal Pizza (North)

Pizzeria doling out Swedish-style, thin-crust pies with a variety of toppings, plus salads & kebabs.

Señor Veggie (Downtown)

“Senor Veggie is my FAVORITE restaurant in all of San Antonio. It’s vegan Mexican food and it is so delicious. Plus the owner is a super nice guy.”
Schilo’s (Downtown)

Veteran German deli serving hearty sandwiches, soup & homemade root beer in a 19th-century building.

Smack’s Chicken Shack (Trinity & UIW)

GIANT chicken sandwiches loaded with flavor on a rotating menu. New restaurant location.

Smoke Shack BBQ + Southern Kitchen (Alamo Heights)

Hopping counter-service place with a rustic, retro feel offers BBQ sandwiches, platters & sides.

Snooze an A.M. Eatery

“Long wait times, but well loved.”

At Snooze, we believe that breakfast that makes a difference, is different. So we’re turning mornings upside down and turning our communities and planet the right-side up. SEE WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT.
**Suck-It Ramen** (Medical Center)

💰 $  

Relaxed, modern Asian restaurant serving small plates, sushi, pho, ramen & bubble tea.

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**Torchy’s**

💰  

At Torchy's, we’re serious about one thing. And one thing only. Our food. We source the highest quality ingredients around so we can serve up the best damn taco (or salad) you’ve ever tasted. Cooked to order—just the way you like it.

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**Wine 101** (Old Bandera)

“A more affordable version of High Street with a more relaxed atmosphere.”

Rustic wine bar/retail shop offering tapas, courtyard seats & weekly live music in circa-1928 digs.

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Location: Suck-It Ramen  
PC: Jennifer Teague
Art of Donut (UIW/Trinity)
Shop spun off from a well-known food truck serving unusual donuts & coffee in a hip, friendly space.

The Original Donut Shop (Medical Center)
A shared dining room & patio join these 2 relaxed eateries fixing up donuts & breakfast tacos.

Merit Coffee (previously known as Local Coffee) (various)
Buzzy coffeehouse offering a changing selection of brews in an intimate, industrial-chic setting.

Bakery Lorraine (various)
Bakeshop with a patio serving sandwiches & an array of cookies, tarts, muffins & more.

Honcho’s Churros Truck (Medical Center)
“small churro truck with additional brick-and-mortar location. Try their frozen churros and churro boxes!”

Snopioca (Medical Center)
“small cafe for boba and shaved ice as well as some food options. One of the options for more unique boba tea flavors, including matcha, lavender, and rose. Works as a study spot too.”
Tip: Open late!

Kung Fu Tea (various)
Bubble tea specialist with a selection of other hot & cold drinks, including coffee & slushes.

Crepeccino (Medical Center)
We offer delicious sweet & savory crepes, waffles, salads & more. We also serve a variety of drinks including coffee, tea & juice.
**Artea** (Medical Center)

Bringing together the form of Art and Tea to handcraft the most delicious Bubble tea.

**Kuma** (various)

San Antonio’s first Hong Kong egg waffle and Asian inspired ice cream shop.

**Zero Degrees** (Two locations: Medical Center, Northeast)

Asian-Hispanic inspired chain that specializes in signature smoothies, coffee & tea, hot snacks and more!

**Freshest Ice Cream** (Medical Center)

Real natural ice creams, slushies, milkshakes, fruit salads, and Gelatos made using natural ingredients and alkaline water, lactose-free milk or coconut milk.

**South Alamode** (Southtown)

Stylish, airy haunt featuring housemade gelato in unique flavors & specialty Italian sandwiches.

**Amy’s Ice Cream** (Alamo Heights)

Local chain serving inventive ice creams, milkshakes, ices & frozen yogurts with clever fixings.

**Lick Ice Creams** (Pearl)

“High-end ice cream at the Pearl district of San Antonio. Very popular and more expensive option with unique seasonal flavors that frequently rotate. Good options for vegan ice cream and funky flavors.”
**Magnolia Pancake Haus** (Medical Center)

Popular mainstay known for its ample breakfast options, with a lunch menu, served in homey environs.

Tip: get there early or use the app to get in line.

**Café Maiko** (Castle Hills)

San Antonio’s premier cafe for authentic Japanese matcha and desserts!

**Paleteria San Antonio** (Downtown)

“sweet treats in a nice park downtown”

Family-run pit stop for artisanal ice pops incorporating creative mix-ins like cookies & cereal.

**Bird Bakery** (various)

“cute bakery and cafe that specializes in cupcakes, with coffee options and good study space as well.”

**Brindles Ice Cream** (Medical Center)

Buzzy mom-&-pop shop crafting classic & creative flavors of ice cream & gelato, plus espresso.

**The Bread Box** (Northeast)

“cafe with sweets as well as lunch options in a cute outdoor shopping area.”

PC: Devin Morris

PC: Nimmy Thomas
Rise Up (Two locations: Stone Oak, Alamo Heights)
Acai bowls that are healthy and delicious!

Tea Time (Medical Center)
Café serving fresh smoothies, bubble tea, and coffees. Over 150 drink options on the menu.

Las Nieves (various)
Festive counter-serve shop offering fruit cups, shaved ice, ice cream & other sweet & savory treats.

Suck It (Medical Center)
Relaxed, modern Asian restaurant serving small plates, sushi, pho, ramen & bubble tea.

Los Trejos Fruteria (Medical Center)
We serve fruit bowls, mangonadas, aguas frescas, popsicles, nachos, corn on a cob, and corn in a cup.

Tiff’s Treats (various)
Fresh-baked cookies for pre-order & pickup, or delivery, with a limited selection for walk-ins.

Chocollazzo (Broadway)
Sweet combination of dessert restaurant, chocolate shop, ice cream parlor and candy emporium.

Brevity Coffee (Medical Center)
“drive-thru coffee cart to pick up a coffee to-go”
**Paciugo Gelato** (Alamo Heights)

Counter-serve chain for gelato made on-site daily, plus coffee & frappes.

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Honcho’s Churros Truck  
PC: Nimmy Thomas

Baklovah Bakery & Sweets  
PC: Nimmy Thomas
The Amp Room (Pearl) 

Vintage Rock n' Roll-themed bar/venue on the St. Mary's Strip.

Bar 1919 (Downtown) 

Revered as an ode to craftsmanship, American history, and whisk(e)y, 1919 takes you a step back in time to the era of prohibition. Hidden away in the Blue Star Complex of San Antonio, like most speakeasies of yesteryear, you wouldn’t see 1919 if you hadn’t already heard of it. Located down a dimly lit flight of stairs, those who discover our hidden entrance will find they’ve just been transported to another time and place, where expert mixology and history come together in perfect harmony.

Bonham Exchange (Downtown) 

THE LEGENDARY BONHAM EXCHANGE is San Antonio’s PREMIER Dance Club! The 25,000 square foot nightclub that awaits inside the historic building located at 411 Bonham Street in Downtown San Antonio, Texas.

COVID-19: Temporarily Closed

Brass Monkey (Pearl) 

Lively, rustic bar with themed music nights, cocktails & beer, plus a big patio strung with lights.
Cellar Mixology (Downtown)

A unique speak-easy concept with basement walls that date back to the 1920’s, Cellar Mixology is located in St. Paul’s Square in Downtown San Antonio. Come down, wind down, get inebriated with our libations and aperitifs and always remember: under the rose, anything goes.

Flying Saucer (North)

“Casual pub with dozens of beers on tap, casual dining, board and card games, and trivia.”

Proud to offer more than 240 beers with 100 different brewing styles to choose from.

The Friendly Spot (Downtown)

“Great place to grab a drink while you wait for a reservation at one of the nearby restaurants in South Town. It’s also a good ending point as a reward after a long bike ride or other work out.”

Pet & Kid Friendly Ice House in downtown San Antonio, Texas. Serving over 300 brews with 76 craft beers on tap. Friendly eats & specials all day.

High Street Wine Co (Pearl)

“For a nicer night out, try High Street wine bar at The Pearl! They have wine flights that you can split with another person, and it’s fun to try wines that you might not be able to find at HEB.”

Currently offering online shopping, educational beverage courses, retail curbside, and bottle delivery services.
**Jazz, TX** (Pearl)

“A classy place at the Pearl to dress up and enjoy live jazz music for the night.”
“I highly recommend their happy hour shows for a more affordable experience.”

**Kuenstler Brewing** (Downtown)

“Nice brewery in Southtown for craft beer. They have a nice space, offering both a sports viewing hall with games and a new outdoor patio. It has a modern German vibe that is both fun and chill.”

Antonio’s first artisanal craft brewpub, re-inventing old beer styles into flavorful and innovative works of craft beer artistry.

**La Tuna** (Downtown)

“Outdoor bar with an attached restaurant and $3 deals on random beers every day. Really nice spot to go during good weather.”

Offers over 40 types of beer, alcoholic seltzer, and wine! Enjoy the patio or sit under the pecan trees and relax with friends.
**Little Woodrow's** (Medical Center)

“Little Woodrow's on Babcock has turtle racing on certain nights, bar games near the entrance, and karaoke rooms in the back that you can rent hourly.”

Your sports watching HQ. Enjoy dozens of beers on tap, a full bar, and dozens of HDTVs for watching live events/games.

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**The Modernist** (Pearl)

A 1960's Themed Cocktail Bar that is located on Grayson Street; walking distance from the Pearl Brewery. The Bar Features the era of the 60's with themed design, menu, and even a 60's outdoor trailer bar.

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**Monthly Themed Pub Run**

First Friday Pub Run is a free themed event on every First Friday of the month located in downtown San Antonio. We start at the first bar at a certain time and move to the next one after. We have 11 bars on our list which include free entry (till a certain time for some bars) when in theme attire! Not a runner? No worries, we mostly crawl to each spot now!

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**Paramour** (Downtown)

“Roof-top bar with expensive drinks.”

Paramour is a stunning rooftop space featuring a legendary indoor lounge and a striking outdoor patio overlooking the San Antonio Riverwalk and the historical Museum district.
Location: Paramour
PC: Jennifer Teague
**Pat O'Brien's** (Downtown)  
Replica of the New Orleans institution with Cajun fare, Hurricane cocktails & a dueling piano bar.

**Rumble** (Pearl)  
Easygoing industrial-style gas station spot pouring beer, wine & craft cocktails plus outdoor seats.

**The Rustic** (La Cantera)  
For years, we've kept our focus simple at The Rustic — Kitchen. Backyard. Bar. Live Music — and we wouldn't change it for anything. Enjoy home style meals made with farm-to-table ingredients, sip local craft beers and cocktails under the stars or catch a performance by local and national artists.

**Sangria on the Burg** (Medical Center)  
“My friends and I frequent Sangria on the Burg here in the Medical Center area for happy hour drinks and queso!”  
A craft house of smoked meats and signature cocktails from a San Antonio team of chefs and bartenders.
**Sternewirth: Hotel Emma Bar** *(Pearl)*

A dramatic 25-foot vaulted ceiling soars over intimate groupings of sofas, easy chairs and banquettes arranged to encourage conversation, celebration and business deals. Enjoy a restorative cocktail, a notable wine or sturdy craft beer. Come for the city bar authenticity, classic cocktails made without gimmicks, and hearty small plates that satisfy your appetite for flavor and substance.

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**St. Mary’s Strip** *(Trinity & UIW)*

The North St. Mary’s Strip is a bustling hub of culinary, retail and nightlife entertainment just north of downtown San Antonio. A variety of live music venues, dance clubs, cocktail bars, gift shops, food trucks and 5-star restaurants make up the family of businesses that call the North St. Mary's Strip home.

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**The Main Strip** *(Trinity & UIW)*

In a mile-long span of North Main Avenue called "the Strip," tucked behind San Antonio College, sits a string of gay bars and nightclubs: Essence, the Saint, Pegasus, Sparky's and Heat.

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**Who's Who:** *(Medical Center)*

"Very cheap dive karaoke bar near campus!"

A comfortable and inviting social gathering place & full service bar, with a special menu of hand crafted cocktails. Now hosting Karaoke 7 days a week!
Location: The Main Strip

PC: Jennifer
**Artpace (Downtown)**

“Rotating exhibits that support a local, national, and international artist and provide lodging during which artists create galleries to display in San Antonio.”

**Bexar Stage Improv Comedy Show (Downtown)**

Bexar Stage is San Antonio’s premier venue for comedy entertainment & education, offering shows 3 nights a week and a wide variety of comedy classes.

COVID-19: Currently on hiatus.

**Briscoe Western Art Museum (Downtown)**

Through the preservation of the art, history, and culture of the American West, the Briscoe Western Art Museum inspires and educates the public with engaging exhibitions, educational programs, and public events reflective of the region’s rich traditions and shared heritage.

**The DoSeum (Alamo Heights)**

“The Doseum is much more than a children’s museum. It’s a place where interactive fun and hands-on learning come together—a place where minds are always at play.”

“Adult Night is an event that happens several times a year allows you to relive your childhood in the best way imaginable. Alcohol, crafts, giveaways, food and after hours access to all the exhibits.”
Essex Modern City (East)

“Free event every 2nd Saturday with live music, food, and beer.”

An urban infill project with art, community, and unique and rad things that you cannot get anywhere else.

Laugh Out Loud Comedy Club (Trinity and UIW)

Bringing hot comedy to Rivercenter Comedy Club for nearly two decades. Venue showcasing well-known & emerging comics, with food & cocktail service (2-item minimum).

Majestic Theatre (Downtown)

Located in the heart of downtown San Antonio, Texas, the Majestic Theatre was built in 1929 and was designed in a Spanish Mediterranean style by John Eberson for Karl Hoblitzelle’s Interstate Theatres.

The McNay (Downtown)

“Free First Sundays of the Month and free from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. every Thursday!”

The McNay Art Museum is a modern art museum in San Antonio specializes in 19th- and 20th-century European and American art.
The Paper Tiger  (Trinity and UIW)

We book the bands we love, and we love it all: indie, punk, noise, hardcore, hip hop, electronic, country, and, hell, really everything. We have a best-in-class sound system, a cool bar program, and a great space to hang out right on the North Saint Mary’s Strip.

Rooftop Cinema Club  (North UTSA)

Drive-in movie theater. You bring your friends and loved ones, and we’ll bring you city skylines, sunsets, starlit evenings, awesome drinks, delicious food, and great movies on the big screen. Driven by our love of film, our Rooftops promise a handpicked curation of cults, classics, and new releases.

San Antonio Japanese Tea Garden  (Alamo Heights)

“Popular location for photoshoots. We took engagement photos here!”

The restored garden features a lush year-round garden and a floral display with shaded walkways, stone bridges, a 60-foot waterfall and ponds filled with Koi.

San Antonio Museum of Art  (Alamo Heights)

“Free during certain hours on Tuesdays and Sundays!”

The Museum offers important permanent collections of Egyptian, Greek and Roman antiquities, Asian art, Latin American art, contemporary art and American paintings. Bexar County residents enjoy free general admission every Tuesday from 4–9 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
San Antonio Symphony (Downtown)

“Student discount tickets before each show!”
Season runs from late September to early June. The orchestra is a resident organization of the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts in San Antonio.

Southtown First Friday Artwalk (Downtown)

“Showcase of fun artists and local museums.”
Southtown Culture is rooted in five adjacent neighborhoods. North to South: Cesá Chávez to I-90 and East to West I-37 to I-35. Artists create positive effects for neighbors, schools and the surrounding environment.

Tobin Center for Performing Arts (Downtown)

The mission of The Tobin Center, a local non-profit arts organization, is to provide a world-class venue that promotes a diverse range of cultural, educational, and artistic experiences that improve the quality of life in San Antonio.

Witte Museum (Alamo Heights)

“Interactive seasonal exhibits. Free on Tuesdays and great for kids!”
Where Nature, Science and Culture Meet! Dedicated to telling the stories of Texas, from prehistory to the present. Parking is always FREE in the Brackenridge Park Parking Garage.
SPORTS

EXERCISE
Yoga Studios

Black Swan Yoga (Trinity/UIW): donation based, affordable, heated.

House of RhythOM (Medical Center): Infrared heated, DJ curated, candlelit yoga.

Golf

San Pedro Par 3 (Trinity/UIW)

TopGolf (Stone Oak)

Ice and Golf Center at Northwoods (North-east): mini-golf and indoor ice-skating

Cool Crest Miniature Golf Course (North-west): two fun 18-hole courses in a cool outdoor space

Disc Golf Courses

Nani Falcone (Bandera)
McClain (North-east)
Live Oak (North-east)
Pearsall (Lackland)
Holy Rocks (Boerne/New Braunfels area)
Fair Oaks Ranch (Far North)

Bowling

Oak Hill Lanes (Medical Center)

Bowlero (North-east): summer passes available, different specials every night
Cycling

Downtown: multiple city bike stands around downtown where you can rent bikes and drop them off when done

Joy Ride: fun, but more expensive

McAllister Park (North-east)

King William’s District (Downtown)

Hiking in Town

McAllister Park (North-east)
Espada Park (South Central)
Leon Creek Greenway Trails (various)
Friedrich Wilderness Park (Far North)
Phil Harderberger Park (North-east)

Rock Climbing/Bouldering

The District (Alamo Heights): affordable, relatively small and crowded but has its own type of challenge

Armadillo Boulders (Downtown): if you’re a beginner, the staff explains how to stay safe, wide variety of walls to try out regardless of level. Very spacious and clean.

Shooting Ranges

Bullet Hole Shooting Range (Far West): outdoor range with handful of private bays that you can rent out 2-10 people. $23 each for two-hour bay; bring whatever guns and targets you want and shoot in a private area by yourself

Nardis Gun Club (various): upscale indoor range up to 25 yards. A little more expensive but very nice for shooting in summer heat. You don’t need a membership to shoot here, but it is cheaper to have one.
River Walk Running Groups

Both groups are free and there are new faces all the time, so don’t be shy! You’ll find people of all speeds training for a variety of races from 5Ks to marathons, especially for the Rock ‘n’ Roll in the fall.

R-U-N: Social running group that meets for a Wednesday night run starting at La Gloria and then meet up afterwards at Pearl for snacks/drinks. Check out Meetup page for details.

Downtown Run Group: Training group of mid-level intensity. Also meets at the Pearl and is great for long weekend runs. Find them on Facebook or their website.

Miscellaneous

Chicken N Pickle (UTSA): a complex with a bar, restaurant, and large outdoor space with yard games and multiple indoor and outdoor pickle-ball courts.

Gold’s Gym: many locations around San Antonio. Student memberships allow access to most Gold’s Gyms around the nation.

K1 Speed (Bandera): Indoor Go-Karting track with competitive timing per lap.

Andretti Indoor Carting and Games (Stone Oak)

Sports Teams in San Antonio

The Spurs: A San Antonio institution and must-see. Go Spurs Go!

Minor Leagues in Town:
Rampage Hockey
Missions Baseball
SAFC Soccer
Parks are one of the best ways to be socially distant from others but still enjoy time with friends, family, and others. Luckily, San Antonio has a huge selection of parks, many of which have open, grassy spaces for picnics; sports facilities; extensive trails of varying difficulties; and shady spots to study outside. The following is a list of the nominated parks in San Antonio

Eisenhower Park (Stone Oak) – dogs allowed, great trails

McAllister Park (North-east) – good mountain biking, best dog park

Phil Hardberger (North) – Dog park, miles of trails and new wilderness bridge that connects both parts of the park over Wurzbach Parkway.

Brackenridge Park (Alamo Heights)

Friedrich Wilderness Park (Far North) – One of the highest nominated spots, known for its miles of scenic trails of varying difficulty level. A surprising jaunt into the hill country that's only 20 minutes north of medical center. Beautiful scenery and a great wildflower spot.

O.P. Schnabel Park (Bandera) – nice playground and access to Greenway trails

Olmos Park Basin Park (Alamo Heights)

Pearsall Park (Lackland AFB) – sports areas and disc golf course

Denman Estate Park (Medical Center) – Close to campus, a favorite for short jobs or walks with friends

Boerne City Lake Park (Boerne) – Awesome spot to go swimming. They also have kayak and paddle board rental. Picnic areas and charcoal grills available.

Buddy Calk Park (Medical Center/Bandera) – entry to Greenway trails
**San Antonio Mission Trail** (various)

This trail connects all the missions in San Antonio and is easy to walk, bike, or drive between locations. Plus, it’s free!

**San Antonio Botanical Garden** (Alamo Heights)

Beautiful and serene area with trails, water features, tons of different plant life and a glass conservatory and café. Tickets are typically around $15.

**Japanese Tea Garden** (Alamo Heights)

Historic park with scenic waterfalls, bridges, koi ponds, a café, and more. Located near lots of other museums and universities.
San Antonio Greenway Trails (various)

Extensive trail system throughout town with lots of trailheads in Medical Center, Bandera, and North neighborhoods. Leon Creek Greenway is the name of the portion of the greenway in the medical center area, but other popular trailheads include Salado, Medina River, Mission Reach. Various levels of trail, but most are paved and flat.

San Antonio Riverwalk (Downtown)

The Riverwalk extends for many portions, some of which are more heavily crowded than others, but many are a peaceful stroll and conveniently connects lots of downtown features, including the Pearl, the Alamo, The Blue Star Arts Complex, La Villita, and more.

Leon Valley Community Garden (Bandera)

Community garden at Raymond Rimkus Park. Highly recommended for anyone who likes to garden or wants to learn. It’s free and you usually apply online in January or reach out anytime during the year to see if a plot has been vacated.
State Parks near San Antonio

Within 2 hours of San Antonio, there are tons of state park options whether you are looking to hike, bike, swim, boat, fish, and more. If you purchase a Texas State Parks Pass, you get free day entry and 50% off campsites. For the frequent state park goer, it’s best to get an annual pass. The following is a list of recommended state parks around San Antonio and hill country area.

Government Canyon State Natural Area: there’s dinosaur tracks you can hike to see!

Pedernales Falls State Park

Garner State Park: about 1.5-hour drive, lots of hill country hiking trails, views of the Frio river, cabins and camping, dogs allowed. Can rent kayaks, tubes, paddle boats.

McKinney Falls State Park: nice spot for swimming

Hill Country State Natural Area: one of the most beautiful areas of Texas!

Guadalupe River State Park: 30-45-minute drive, hike along the river, go tubing, camping, but is very popular. Tip – Kayak the Guadalupe River from the canoe livery that drops you off at Nichols landing. There’s a cold spring tributary about halfway through the route and you can turn from the main river up it for beautiful scenery.

Enchanted Rock State Natural Area: about 1.5 hours from San Antonio near Fredericksburg. Famous for its natural, huge, pink granite dome. You can hike, camp, rock climb, stargaze. Dogs are not recommended and make sure you get a pass far ahead of time.

Lost Maples State Natural Area: about 1.5 hours out of town and famous for its beautiful fall foliage in November. Hiking, primitive camping, views and fishing on the Sabinal River, dogs allowed. Park books up quickly in the fall for day access and camping.

Colorado Bend State Park
Lost Maples State Park  
PC: Mikaela Miller

Brackenridge Park  
PC: Emily Sherry

Guadalupe State River Park  
PC: Rachel Zimmerman

Friedrich Wilderness Park  
PC: Kristin Hedtke
National Parks in Texas

Texas is home to two national parks: Big Bend and Guadalupe Mountains. Both are a long drive from San Antonio but are a must-see for national parks adventurers, the more popular and recommended of the two being Big Bend.

Big Bend National Park: About 6 hours from San Antonio, away from any major cities and not as crowded as other national parks. Tent camping and limited cabin rental or lodging nearby in Terlingua outside the park. Recommended hikes: Grapevine Hills to Balanced Rock, Emory Peak, Santa Elena Canyon, Lost Mine trail. Be sure to spend time on the Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive and stargaze at night: breathtaking!

Canyon Lake and Whitewater Amphitheater

Canyon Lake is a community and lake about 1-hour NW of San Antonio and is great for a day trip to go sit on the shore, boat, or do water sports. Near Canyon Lake is Whitewater Amphitheater, a hot spot for Texas summers that combines tube floating and live music.

Comal and Guadalupe Rivers

The Comal and Guadalupe Rivers are popular rivers outside of San Antonio for river rafting and tubing.

Natural Bridge Caverns and Wildlife Ranch

On your way north to Austin, Natural Bridge Caverns is an underground spelunking adventure for easy tours, rope courses, and a maze. The Wildlife Ranch is a drive-thru safari, where the animals roam freely and may even walk up to your car.
Disclaimer: This is a guide created from voluntary student survey responses hence limited in representation of all the faiths that encompass our student community. UT Health San Antonio welcomes students of all faith backgrounds. We hope you will share your faith with us so that future iterations of this guide will be more reflective of the diversity of our student population.

Christianity

Non-denominational

The Park – Midtown Parish (Downtown)

The Park Community Church is a freely gathered, sacrificial people led by the Holy Spirit. We live in submission to one another under the headship of Christ, joining God in the renewal of all things. Services are on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM.

Cheryl Bible Chapel (West)

“If you are looking for a Bible Believing Church, this is an option. Not a lot of people know about this church but I have enjoyed worship and fellowship with the believers in this assembly every Sunday.”

We are an assembly of believers gathered to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to devote ourselves to the apostles’ doctrine, fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer.

Alamo Ranch Community Church (Westover Hills)

ARCC exists to be a church that glorifies God by making disciples whose identity and joy are found and rooted in the gospel of Jesus.

Vertical Church (Northwest)

The Bible is our final authority. At Vertical Church we are driven by a desire to make disciples – and make sure that everyone we encounter knows Jesus and accepts Him as Lord and Savior.

Baptist

Gracepoint (Medical Center)

We are an assembly of believers gathered to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to devote ourselves to the apostles’ doctrine, fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer.
### Anglican Communion

**Grace Northridge** (Northwest)

“Acts 29: contemporary worship with some more traditional elements, great community and strong life groups, more families/age diversity than exclusively young adults”

Grace is a Gospel community enjoying the presence of God making disciples and developing Kingdom leaders to live on mission.

### Unitarian Universalist

**First Unitarian Universalist Church** (Medical Center)

“awesome faith near school”

We welcome and celebrate all in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, responsibilities, blessings, and joys of church life. If you are seeking a community of radical love and acceptance with theological exploration, lifelong learning, and social justice at the core – you’ve found it!

### Presbyterian

**Oaks Hills Presbyterian Church** (Medical Center)

“This close-knit church family has their building only a five-minute drive from campus. The worship style is traditional, with a choir and great organ music, and the people are very welcoming and friendly.”

Oak Hills Presbyterian is a church that is rooted in tradition and rising in faith. Whether you’re completely new to church or just haven’t been for a while, we’d love to see you join us here at OHPC.

### The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints

**The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints** (Medical Center)

“This is the church my wife and I attend, it has really helped us to join a faith community here in San Antonio and to be able to network with other graduate students of our faith going through similar challenges that we face as medical students! Always happy to have guests come with us if people are interested in visiting or learning more!”

We’re imperfect people just trying to follow the perfect example of Jesus, who taught us to love God and love one another.
**Catholic**

**St. Luke's Catholic Church** *(Medical Center)*

"wonderful community with multiple mass times and welcoming people”

Shaping values and assisting people desiring to be formed in the likeness of Christ through generous and joyful service and vibrant liturgies of a caring community. Annual mass for healthcare professionals (white mass) held at this church.

**St. Matthew’s Catholic Church** *(Medical Center)*

"Wonderful community. Only church in the Med Center that has a Saturday morning daily mass”

The mission of St. Matthew’s Catholic Church is to be a welcoming community that encounters Christ and leads others to Christ through prayer, sacraments, and charitable service.

**St. Brigid’s Catholic Church** *(Medical Center)*

"smaller church community that is incredibly warm and welcoming. There’s a bilingual English-Spanish mass at 8am on Sundays with an amazing choir. Even if you are not a parishioner, I hope you come visit us during the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12th, it’s a beautiful mass worth attending at least once.”

There are no strangers at St. Brigid’s, only friends we have not yet met. There’s a small Grotto of our Lady of Lourdes at the front of the church. Because God has made a covenant with us to be a pilgrim people in this community, and so that our living of the Gospel may be continually renewed and deepened, we come together in our worship and community gatherings to celebrate.

**Basilica of the National Shrine of the Little Flower** *(Downtown)*

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Little Flower, the first National Shrine in the United States dedicated to St. Thérèse of Lisieux, the “Little Flower,” was completed in San Antonio in 1931. The Basilica is a San Antonio landmark of great historic and spiritual significance. Dedicated to serving the community by propagating a strong understanding of the value of spirituality to people of all faiths and functioning as a major apostolic center.

PC: Nimmy Thomas
Episcopal

Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit (Northwest)

"Nothing is happening in person right now but the church has a great sense of community and is still finding ways to keep people connected during COVID-19."

God's hope for our congregation is to restore all people to unity with God and each other through Christ. We live this out first through worship and then through Christ's example of serving others.

School Organization

Christian Medical and Dental Association (Medical Center)

CMDA educates, encourages, and equips Christian healthcare professionals to glorify God. Christian healthcare professionals glorify God by following Christ, serving with excellence and compassion, caring for all people, and advancing Biblical principles of healthcare within the Church and throughout the world.
**Knight Watch Games** (North)

Board game, tabletop roleplaying, and card game store. First stop for all things nerdy. They have game night events, renaissance fair clothing, D&D painting workshops and so much more. And adorable huskies to pet.

**TableTop Generals** (North)

Brick and mortar game store and tavern serving beer and wine, hosting play groups for TTRPGs and board games. Private game rooms and free wi-fi.

**Dragon’s Lair** (locations at Medical Center and Bandera)

Comic and game shop featuring ample graphic novel, manga picks, plus daily gaming events and leagues, including Adventurer’s League for D&D and an extensive Magic the Gathering community

**Magic Beans Cafe** (Trinity/UIW)

Café with board games, table top games, coffe, food, and fun for all ages.
**Court of Gamers** (North)

Inviting place to shop for board games, TTRPG books and accessories, dice, and other gaming items. They also have common space and two private rooms for rent for gaming. Conveniently located near coffee and food and they allow eating in the premises.

**San Antonio Public Library System** (various)

Get a SAPL card as soon as you move here! The library card gives free access for movies, books, music, study resources. Many libraries are also voting locations. Check out their website for your nearest location.
Tip: The SAPL system has a “Libby” app that is perfect for downloading audiobooks.

**Renaissance Faires and Conventions near San Antonio** (various)

Texas Renaissance Faires:
The Texas Renaissance Festival – Todd Mission, TX. Runs early October through Thanksgiving weekend. One of the largest in the country and offers camping on-site.
Sherwood Forest Faire – McDade, TX. Runs in spring, typically early April to May but may vary.
Scarborough Renaissance Festival – Waxahacie, TX. Runs in April and May.
Middlefaire – Hillsboro, TX. Small faire with different themes and festivals throughout the year, including the Texas Pirate Festival in June.

Popular Annual San Antonio Conventions:
San Japan – largest anime and gaming convention in South Texas.
PAX South – three day expo of comics, video and tabletop gaming, cosplay, tech.
Celebrity Fan Fest – meet famous film and TV actors, comic creators, illustrators, and artists.
Big Texas Comicon – pop culture convention of TV, film, comics, and more.
Texas Renaissance Festival
PC: Jennifer Teague, featuring Christina Nguyen

San Japan
PC: Katrina Youngblood
To Do......

- Activities
- Festivals & Events
- Sober Night Out
Activities

**Boerne Day Trip**

“My group of friends and I took a trip to Boerne (less than an hour away), had brunch at a local restaurant, explored some Caverns (Cave without a Name) there, went to a wine tasting and then returned back to San Antonio for dinner. While it was a packed day we had a lot of fun getting out of San Antonio and exploring on our free weekend.”

**Bullet Hole Shooting Range** (Far West)

“My favorite outdoor range in town, they have a handful of private bays that you can rent out with 2-10 people. They charge like $23 each for the two-hour bay time slot- bring whatever guns and targets you want and shoot in a private area by yourself.”

“~25 min drive west from med center area, outdoor range with affordable private bays as well as up to 100yd rifle range. Allows steel case, polite staff, low cost.”

**Class Axe Throwing** (East)

You and your best mates will spend 1 hour becoming intimate with a 1.5lb piece of whirling wood and metal as you learn, practice and then finally square off toe to toe in a group tournament that will result in the crowning of an Axe Throwing Champion.

**Cooking classes**

“Sur La Table and Central market have super fun cooking classes to do for a fun date night or with family.”
**Foster dogs/cats**

“SA ACS Shelter Paws Program allows you to take a shelter dog out for the day on a doggie date— you can go to a park, hike, run, or just hang out at home with the pup.”

- SNIPSA
- San Antonio Animal Care Services Shelter Paw Program

**Fredericksburg Day Trip**

“Camp at Enchanted Rock State Park or stay at a local bed and breakfast, depending on your preference/ budget. Enchanted Rock is a cool park, the historic downtown is fun to explore, and the WWII in the Pacific Museum is really interesting for history buffs. Well worth a trip (or several)”

“Das Peach Haus, Becker Vineyard, etc. Make sure to stop by Luckenbach, too!”
**Gruene Historic District**

Fun, shopping and entertainment in a historic district of New Braunfels and the Texas Hill Country.

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**San Antonio Panic Room** (Bandera)

The idea is simple. You and your friends, coworkers, or family are locked in a room, and you have 60 minutes to escape.

How? By solving a series of puzzles using your deduction skills and clues found throughout the room! With four unique and challenging scenarios, there is always an opportunity for you and your team to have fun.

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**Schlitterbahn Waterpark** (New Braunfels)

“A must-visit place in the summer. The rides are amazing, and some of them even empty into the river, where the water is always nice and cool on a hot summer day. Go early to get good parking and make sure to visit both the East and West parts of the park. Plan for an all day visit!”

Tips: Bring your own cooler of food into the park to save on food costs. There are locker rental areas all over the park, so choose one as a home base and leave pretty much everything there except your shoes.

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**Festivals and Events**

**Austin City Limits**

The Austin City Limits Music Festival is an annual music festival held in Zilker Park in Austin, Texas on two consecutive three-day weekends.
Asian Festival (Downtown)

An annual event hosted by the UTSA Institute of Texan Cultures with tons of vendors, performances, and most importantly, lots of different foods to sample.

Christmas Events

“Walking the River Walk with the Christmas lights up is really nice, it’s cool to see the place transformed!”

“If you crave Christmas lights around the holiday season, head over to the Windcrest area and drive around- the neighborhood goes all out and they even have a dedicated map of all the houses that participate.”

PC: Jennifer Teague

Día de los Muertos

Showcasing its rich heritage, the city commemorates with more than 10 unique events during October and November. From traditional dressed altars, to virtual festivals, to live music and a floating procession, there’s something for everyone.

PC: Nimmy Thomas
**Sober Night Out**

**Fiesta (Downtown)**

“Lots of fun! Tons of people. Lots of good unhealthy food.”

NIOSA, Fiesta Flambeau Parade, Battle of the Flowers Parade, St. Mary's Oyster Bake

**San Antonio Restaurant Week**

“Culinaria puts on Restaurant Week in January and August, where a bunch of local restaurants have preset $15 lunch menus and $35 or $45 dinner menus. The restaurants range from chains to super fancy places, so for $45 you could end up eating dinner somewhere that would normally be much more expensive. I really recommend the $15 lunch menus; it is a great way to try a bunch of new places without spending a ton on food.”

**Alamo Drafthouse**

“The Alamo Drafthouse Theater is good food, good beer and good film, all at the same place!” That’s how we described ourselves in 1997, and that mission hasn’t changed and will never, ever change. For over two decades we’ve worked to make the Alamo Drafthouse experience the best cinematic experience in the world.
Board and Brush (Alamo Heights)

“Similar to Painting with a Twist, but with wooden boards.”

Our DIY workshops teach you how to make custom wood signs that you can use for creating décor pieces for your home.

Chicken and Pickle (Alamo Heights)

“Chicken N Pickle has a funny name and is new to San Antonio, but it is a complex with a bar, restaurant, and a large outdoor space complete with yard games and multiple indoor and outdoor pickle ball courts.”

Orange Leaf Frozen Yogurt

Orange Leaf offers freedom from average every day options. From flavors, cups, and cones, to smoothies, shakes, and cakes, we give our guest the freedom to create whatever sweet treat they can come up with next. Each flavor recipe is uniquely ours and you can’t get it anywhere else!

Painting with a Twist

Fun! Plain and simple. No creative or artistic skills are needed. Painting with a Twist is all about connecting with friends over a glass of wine, your favorite snacks and a night of laughs.
The Pearl

“A great place to hang out with shopping, lots of dinner options, and often live outdoor music.”

Local flavor since 1883. Celebrating San Antonio history with food, fun and local retail at 303 Pearl Parkway.

San Antonio River Walk (Downtown)

“The River Walk is very pretty to walk along at night, with plenty of dinner options and occasional events (including parades, live music performances) scattered throughout the year.”

The San Antonio River Walk is the heart of the city. As the #1 attraction in Texas, the River Walk is full of dining, shopping, and cultural experiences.

San Antonio Aquarium (Bandera)

San Antonio Aquarium invites you and your family to visit thousands of fish, mammals, reptiles & birds in our interactive exhibits. Family fun at its best!

San Antonio Zoo (Alamo Heights)

Located in the city’s Brackenridge Park, the 35-acre zoo has a collection of over 3,500 animals representing 750 species.
Slab Cinemas

“Slab Cinemas hosts free outdoor movie nights all around town. Bring your own chairs, blankets, and food/drinks!”

We show outdoor movies in public venues throughout San Antonio. We've shown hundreds of free outdoor films and have numerous screens available for rent.

Stars and Stripes Drive-In (New Braunfels)

Classic movies are shown with the latest Hollywood releases at this classic drive-in theater.
“Check out Food Network and Guy Fieri’s list of restaurants on “Diners, Drive In’s, and Dives!” There are some really neat and yummy places they explore around San Antonio!! If you are looking for good restaurants, look for ones that Greg Popovich has visited and reviewed.”

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurant</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>TIP TOP CAFE</td>
<td>2814 Fredericksburg Rd.</td>
<td>210-732-0191</td>
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<td></td>
<td>San Antonio, TX 78201</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOUGH PIZZERIA NAPOLETANA</td>
<td>6989 Blanco Rd.</td>
<td>210-979-6565</td>
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<td></td>
<td>San Antonio, TX 78213</td>
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<tr>
<td>THE COVE</td>
<td>606 W. Cypress St.</td>
<td>210-227-2683</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOROCCAN BITES</td>
<td>5714 Evers Rd.</td>
<td>210-706-9700</td>
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<tr>
<td>BUN 'N' BARREL</td>
<td>1150 Austin Highway</td>
<td>210-828-2829</td>
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<tr>
<td>BETO'S COMIDA LATINA</td>
<td>8142 Broadway St.</td>
<td>210-930-9393</td>
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<td>TACO TACO CAFE</td>
<td>145 E Hildebrand Ave.</td>
<td>210-822-9533</td>
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<td>EL BOHIO</td>
<td>1127 Harry Wurzbach</td>
<td>210-822-8075</td>
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<td>MAGNOLIA PANCAKE HAUS</td>
<td>606 Embassy Oaks, San Antonio, TX 78216</td>
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<td>LA PANADERIA</td>
<td>8305 Broadway St, San Antonio, TX 78209</td>
<td>210-375-6746</td>
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<td>SMOKE SHACK</td>
<td>3714 Broadway St, San Antonio, TX 78209</td>
<td>210-957-1430</td>
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<td>WIGLEYVILLE GRILL</td>
<td>602 Northwest Loop 410 #146, San Antonio, TX 78216</td>
<td>210-369-9833</td>
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<tr>
<td>FAT TUMMY EMPANADAS</td>
<td>2922 W Commerce St, San Antonio, TX 78207</td>
<td>210-383-6415</td>
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<tr>
<td>MA HARPER'S CREOLE KITCHEN</td>
<td>1816 N New Braunfels Ave, San Antonio, TX 78208</td>
<td>210-226-2200</td>
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<tr>
<td>LUNA ROSA PUERTO RICAN GRILL Y TAPAS</td>
<td>2603 SE Military Dr #106, San Antonio, TX 78223</td>
<td>210-314-3111</td>
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<td>DIGNOWITY MEATS</td>
<td>1701 E Houston St, San Antonio, TX 78202</td>
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