



TWO MVPs REDISCOVERING AMERICA'S BACKYARD



Join Jenn and Kat on their journey as they tour (virtually) our US National Parks

WHAT THIS ISSUE CONTAINS:

Texas

Wilson's Pove on Padre Island
/Unsplash/Joshua Cotten



Field of Texas
Bluebonnets/Pexels/



TEXAS

Created by Kat & Jenn

Texas...the second largest U.S. state by both area and population bountiful of the US histories past to present. The Lone Star State rich in cultures - Native Americans, German, Hispanic, African American, Czech, Asian, Polish, and French - each providing culinary greatness, music, architecture and plenty of festivals for all year round. In this virtual itinerary, let's begin the new year with no limits and a state big enough for all. Outdoor and indoor adventures settled here for you to explore.

TEXAS SIZED ADVENTURES LAY AHEAD

Millions of years of developing seas, volcanos, other geological factors help create the rich land of Texas. Add in a bit of spice of the various cultures that settled here for you to discover on this next adventure.

Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument

Gain a sense of how integral this site, in the Texas Panhandle, was to the survival, commerce and culture of the High Plains.

Amistad National Recreation Area

This site, Amistad, whose name comes from the Spanish word meaning friendship, is best known for excellent water-based recreation, camping, hiking, rock art viewing, and its rich cultural history.

Big Bend National Park

Birders paradise, hundreds of bird species take refuge in a solitary mountain range surrounded by weather-beaten desert.

Big Thicket National Preserve

This national preserve protects the incredible diversity of life found where multiple habitats converge in southeast Texas. Hiking trails and waterways meander through nine different ecosystems, from longleaf pine forests to cypress-lined bayous. It is a place of discovery, a place to wander and explore, a place to marvel at the richness of nature.

Chamizal National Memorial

These grounds are a reminder of the harmonious settlement of a 100-year boundary dispute between the United States and Mexico.

El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail

This site, Spanish struggle to missionize American Indian nations, the growth of cattle ranching in the Mexican period, and the movement for Texan independence and statehood.

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail

This site served a variety of purposes, is recognized throughout the United States of America and Los Estados Unidos de México as a timeless route of trade and cultural exchange



Alamo/Unsplash/
Eric Francis

Fort Davis National Historic Site

Fort Davis is one of the best surviving examples of an Indian Wars' frontier military post in the Southwest.

Guadalupe Mountains National Parks

Over 80 miles of hiking trails offer easy nature walks through desert flora; more moderate hikes follow canyons and reach riparian oases, and strenuous all day hikes can take you into high country forest. Guadalupe Mountains National Park protects the world's most extensive Permian fossil reef, the four highest peaks in Texas, an environmentally diverse collection of flora and fauna, and the stories of lives shaped through conflict, cooperation and survival.

Lake Meredith National Recreation Area

Through this plain, the Canadian River has cut dramatic 200-foot canyons, or breaks, where humans lived 13,000 years ago. Lake Meredith occupies these hidden coves and is a haven for migratory birds and other wildlife.

Lyndon B Johnson National Historical Park

This entire "circle of life" gives the visitor a unique perspective into one of America's most noteworthy citizens by providing the most complete picture of any American president.

Padre Island National Seashore

It is a safe nesting ground for the Kemp's ridley sea turtle and a haven for over 380 bird species. It also has a rich history, including the Spanish shipwrecks of 1554.

Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park

the site of this notable battle and provides an understanding of the causes, events, and consequences of the U.S.-Mexican War.

Rio Grande Wild & Scenic River

Below the chasm, the canyon's raw beauty dances across mirrored water. The Rio Grande is open for private and commercial float trips.

San Antonio National Historical Park

Survival lay in the missions. The people of South Texas found their cultures, their very lives under attack. In the early 1700s Apache raided from the north, deadly diseases traveled from Mexico, and drought lingered.

Waco Mammoth National Monument

Columbian mammoths roamed across what is present-day Texas thousands of years ago.

In summary, Texas being the big state that it is, will need more than just visit. With some major cultures that settled in this state, you can experience it at any time of year and truly get a feel why Texans call it home. Be ready for outdoor adventures and plenty of indoor as well. The cities are big and diverse with rich culture of past and present. And yes, those bluebonnets of Texas are absolutely worth seeing off the highway, just leave them just they way you came to see them, untouched. There is more to Texas, you just have to experience it for yourself.

- Follow up on openings & announcements •
- US National Parks Service: Official Site •

Lady Bird Lake Austin
Texas/Unsplash/Max Miner



Downtown Art District Dallas
Texas/Unsplash/Gabriel Tovar



Lyndon B Johnson Grassland/
Unsplash/Jared Evans



“

SO SHUT UP, LIVE, TRAVEL,
ADVENTURE, BLESS, AND DON'T
BE SORRY.

— JACK KEROUAC

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Rio Grande Big Bend National
Park/Pixaby/David Mark

