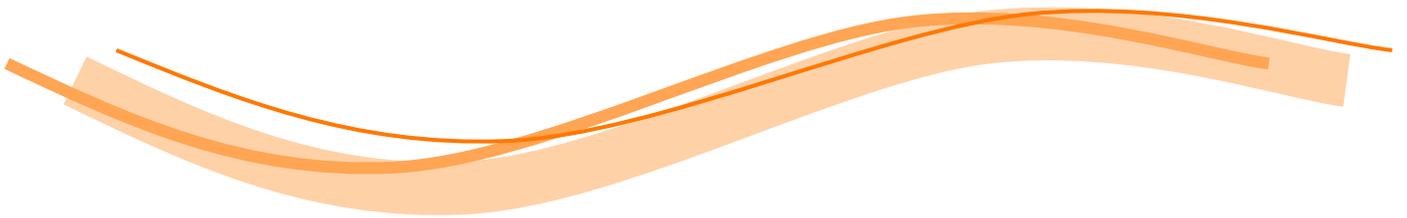




FORT WORTH TEXAS





FORT WORTH

You can be sure of a warm welcome in Fort Worth, the **“City of Cowboys and Culture.”** New hotel offerings, restaurants and exciting tourism venues are enhancing the city’s reputation as one of the premier travel destinations in the United States.

The 16th-largest city in the United States, Fort Worth boasts a mix of preserved Western heritage and unrivalled artistic offerings. It’s the only city in the world where you can study Michelangelo’s first painting, walk between five world-class museums and also see a twice-daily cattle drive.

Named the # 4 value friendly destination in the United States by Hotwire.com, Fort Worth attracts more than 5 million visitors each year. Visitors can explore the legendary Stockyards National Historic District, the world-class Cultural District, downtown’s Sundance Square entertainment district, Texas Motor Speedway, the top-ranked Fort Worth Zoo, and so much more. For more information, visit www.FortWorth.com .

No trip to Fort Worth is complete without sampling true cowboy cuisine. **Chef Jon Bonnell** - born and raised in Fort Worth - exemplifies the highest standards of Texas gourmet dining. He grew up hunting, fishing and cooking with his parents and family, and his childhood pastimes would soon become his culinary inspirations. Jon opened his own signature restaurant, Bonnell's Fine Texas Cuisine, in 2001. Tasting Chef Jon Bonnell's cuisine is an experience found nowhere else. Texas foods are transformed into fine cuisine that is enhanced with regional Creole, Southwestern and Mexican spices. Salivate at www.bonnellstexas.com

The 22nd edition of the **Red Steagall Cowboy Gathering & Western Swing Festival** will take place in the Fort Worth Stockyards, National Historic District, October 26-28, 2012. Celebrating the best of the west, the event brings the top in music, cowboys, chuck wagon cooks, poets and more. Enjoy the unique vendor and trappings show, catch a horsemanship clinic or grab a seat at one of the Ranch Rodeo performances. Listen to youth poetry and watch the youth fiddling contests. There’s a Cowboy Gospel Concert, Western Swing Dances and more! Check out www.redsteagallcowboygathering.com

“About Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition” runs from October 13, 2012 to March 24, 2013 at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History. Discover the compelling human stories told through authentic artifacts and recreations of the ship's interior. **“Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition”**

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	<p>features hundreds of artifacts and painstakingly recreated rooms and details. You will experience Titanic's voyage from launch to tragic ending, to modern-day recovery and restoration efforts. Your journey will be educational, emotional and appropriate for all ages. Visit www.fwmuseum.org</p> <p>Fly to Fort Worth on Air Canada. Air Canada offers three non-stop flights from Toronto to Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, with convenient connections from Montreal. When you choose Air Canada to Texas, you can enjoy Air Canada's award winning service, personal in-flight entertainment at every seat, and Air Canada's renowned Executive class. www.aircanada.com</p>
Location	<p>Fort Worth is situated in northeastern Texas, just west of Dallas. Texas is 267,000 square miles of the Lone Star State – far south as you can go in the USA, right in the middle, up against the Mexican border on the south west of the state and bordering the Gulf of Mexico on the south east side. It also borders Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.</p>
Geography	<p>Texas is larger than the countries of France, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland and Luxembourg combined</p>
Name	<p>Fort Worth is named after Major General William Jenkins Worth (1794–1849) who was second in command to General Zachary Taylor at the opening of the Mexican-American War in 1846. After the war Worth was placed in command of the Department of Texas in 1849. In January 1849 Worth proposed a line of ten forts to mark the Western Texas frontier from Eagle Pass to the confluence of the West Fork and Clear Fork of the Trinity River. One month later Worth died from cholera.</p> <p>The name "Texas" can be traced to Native American tribes: Tejas is the Spanish pronunciation of the Caddo word for "friend."</p>
Population	<p>Fort Worth has a population of around 750,000; the state of Texas has 23 million, of which 32% are Hispanic/Latino, 11% Black, and 0.6% American Indian.</p>
Language	<p>70% English, 27% Spanish, 3% other</p>
Currency	<p>US Dollars; the Canadian Dollar is a couple of cents above par against the US Dollar as at 10th Oct 2012</p>
Tipping	<p>The custom of tipping is a common practice in Texas: 15% to 20% for waiters; 10% to 15% for taxi drivers; \$1 per bag for bellmen. Occasionally gratuities are automatically added to restaurant checks, but not usually.</p>
Dress	<p>Clothing styles in Texas cities 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</p>

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	a way of life during Texas summers, making all clothing comfortable indoors.
Documentation	Passports are required for Canadian visitors arriving by both air and land, so make sure you apply well in advance of travel if you do not have a Passport currently.
Time zone	Fort Worth, Texas is located in the Central Time Zone, one hour behind Quebec and Ontario.
Health	Healthcare is excellent in Texas, but although it's not required of travelers, health insurance is highly recommended. Unlike many other countries, the United States does not usually offer free or low-cost medical care to its citizens or visitors. Doctors and hospitals are expensive, and in most cases will require advance payment or proof of coverage before they render their services.
Safety tips	Although tourist areas are generally safe, U.S. urban areas tend to be less safe than those in Canada. You should always stay alert. Fort Worth has been judged to be one of the top ten safest cities in the United States.

CLIMATE	
General climate	As would be expected in a state as big as Texas, climate varies, sometimes dramatically, by location; it can be snowing in one area of the state, such as Amarillo, while people are swimming at South Padre Island. High temperatures in the summer average in the 30s Celsius in most of the state, while average winter temperatures drop - sometimes much lower than you might expect - as you travel north. Southern Texas is known for its muggy summers, which make it feel hotter than it really is, and contrasts with the dryness of the West Texas deserts. The state's few mountainous areas have more extremes of temperatures, hitting the upper 20s and 30s Celsius during the day only to lunge into the single digits Celsius at night. All areas of Texas get more sunshine than most other parts of the United States. In Fort Worth , the hottest month of the year is July, when the average high temperature is 36 °C, and overnight low temperatures average 23 °C, giving an average temperature of 29 °C. The coldest month of the year is January, when the average high temperature is 13 °C, and low temperatures average -1 °C. The average temperature in Jan is 6 °C.
Today's weather	28 degrees Centigrade and sun and showers in Fort Worth (13 th October 2012)
Best time to visit	Any time is a good time to visit Texas, although for Canadians perhaps winter and spring are the most favoured times.

GETTING THERE	
Flying	With convenient flights (including non-stops) from major cities across Canada, Fort Worth is ideal for a weekend getaway, multi-day vacation

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	<p>or long stay escape from Canadian winter.</p> <p>Air Canada offers the most non-stop flights per day between Canada and Dallas Fort Worth, with three non-stop flights from Toronto to Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, with convenient connections from Montreal. When you choose Air Canada to Texas, you can enjoy Air Canada's award winning service, personal in-flight entertainment at every seat, and Air Canada's renowned Executive class. Fort Worth is 2.5 flying hours from Toronto and 3.5 hours from Montreal</p>
<p>Fort Worth</p>	<p>Fort Worth is the sixteenth-largest city in the United States of America and the fifth-largest city in the state of Texas. Fort Worth lies just west of I-35, which runs north-south. Fort Worth for most visitors means three distinct districts, which the city calls the "Western Triangle": the Stockyards National Historic District, 3kms north of downtown; the historic downtown, which includes Sundance Square, just north of I-30, running east-west; and the Cultural District, 3kms west of downtown.</p> <p>Stockyards National Historic District This area was the focus of the old cattle-raising and livestock business of Fort Worth. Today the district retains its Old West feel and is where rodeos and Wild West shows take place, as well as daily cattle drives down Exchange Avenue. A handful of hotels and restaurants aimed at visitors are located here, but it's not overly touristy.</p> <p>Downtown Downtown is the centre of the Fort Worth business community and includes Sundance Square, where much of the city's restaurant, bar, and theatre nightlife and most business-oriented hotels are located. Staying in this area is best if you want to get around easily between the Cultural District, the Stockyards District, and downtown.</p> <p>Cultural District Fort Worth's outstanding museums, including the Kimbell, Modern, and Amon Carter, are clustered in the Cultural District. Just south are parks and gardens, including the Fort Worth Zoo and Botanic Garden. Art lovers will want to base themselves here, but the Stockyards District and downtown are better for families.</p>
<p>Distances</p>	<p>Texas is BIG! For instance: Fort Worth to Galveston is 460kms; Fort Worth to Houston 380kms; Brownsville to Amarillo is over 1,200kms – all in the same state of Texas!</p>
<p>Trains</p>	<p>The Trinity Railway Express (TRE) is the most convenient and hassle-free way to travel to Dallas without having to worry about traffic. It's an express commuter train connecting the two cities, travelling to</p>

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	DFW Airport, Irving, Dallas's American Airlines Center (for Mavericks and Stars games), and Dallas Union Station (\$5 round-trip). Pickup and drop-off points are the Texas & Pacific Station and the Intermodal Transportation Center downtown. Call tel. 877-215-8600 or visit www.the-t.com for route and schedule information.
Car Rental	Some of the national car-rental companies include Alamo (tel. 800/462-5266; www.alamo.com), Avis (tel. 800/230-4898; www.avis.com), Budget (tel. 800/527-0700; www.budget.com), Dollar (tel. 800/800-3665; www.dollar.com), Hertz (tel. 800/654-3131; www.hertz.com), National (tel. 800/227-7368; www.nationalcar.com), and Thrifty tel. 800/847-4389; www.thrifty.com
Buses	Within the city, the only public transportation most visitors will need are city buses (the T) that run every 20 minutes among the three major districts, from the Fort Worth Zoo all the way to the Stockyards, making stops downtown on the way. Buses run daily from 6:15am to 10:15pm. The regular one-way fare is \$1.50 for adults; 75¢ for seniors, travelers with disabilities, and students ages 6 to 16; and \$3 (\$1.50 students and seniors) for a Day Pass. Within the downtown area, service is free. Route 1 (brown) travels from North Main Street to the Stockyards; Route 2 (blue), from Camp Bowie to the Cultural District; and Route 7 (green), from University/Montgomery to the Cultural District. Trolley Route 15 travels Saturday only to the Stockyards from downtown hotels and the ITC rail station. A trolley also runs on Saturdays from the ITC rail station to the Fort Worth Zoo with stops in the Cultural District. Pick up a schedule at any visitor information center or obtain information on schedules by calling tel. 817-215-8600, or by visiting the website at www.the-t.com
Savings	To help make your Texas vacation even more affordable, take advantage of the Trip Savers coupons available on the www.TravelTex.com website. Simply click on Fort Worth in the cities listed to view all available coupons for the city, then print the coupons you would like to use and redeem them at the place of business listed on the coupon. Here's a shortcut: http://www.traveltex.com/plan-your-trip/packages-discounts

TARGET GROUPS	
Kids	Fort Worth is loaded with activities for children. The top choice among the options is the Fort Worth Zoo , one of the very finest in the country, with a splendid array of exotic animals in natural habitats. Recent births include a greater one-horned rhino and a baby giraffe. Kids can play and learn at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History , which has an Omni (IMAX) theater and hands-on science displays, including Dinodig, where they can play amateur

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	<p>paleontologist. If the kids are restless and just need to get outside, take them to the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, with acres and acres of gardens, exotic plants, and tropical trees.</p> <p>The Grapevine Vintage Railroad: To jump into the turn of the 20th century Old West character of the Stockyards, don your best Western duds and hop aboard the Grapevine Vintage Railroad. The 100-year-old steam train of the Tarantula Railroad makes the Trinity River Run, a 1-hour trip from Stockyards Station to 8th Avenue in Fort Worth, and another route travels along the Chisholm Trail to the Cotton Belt Depot in historic Grapevine, Texas. The trip to Grapevine is more involved and interesting than the one that ends in Fort Worth. www.grapevinesteamrailroad.com</p>
Teens	<p>The Stockyards National Historic District should entertain the teenagers. Twice a day, a herd of longhorn cattle rumbles down brick-paved Exchange Avenue. Texas Town in Stockyards Station is a theme park of sorts: an Old West hotel, bar, outhouse, and jail, as well as a vintage ride park, with an antique merry-go-round. Actors in chaps and vests enact High Noon gun duels. Nearby, kids can try to find their way through the Cowtown Cattlepen Maze, designed to resemble the cattle pens of the Old West.</p> <p>An enjoyable excursion for families is the Grapevine Vintage Train, a steam locomotive that travels from Stockyards Station to 8th Avenue in Fort Worth and to historic Grapevine.</p> <p>Young cowboys and cowgirls will enjoy horseback trail rides at the Stockyard Station Livery and, if you're here in January, the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo.</p> <p>The gals may feel empowered by a visit to the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame, which has cool interactive exhibits (such as filming yourself on a bucking bronco). If the kids are hungry for more Old West adventures, trot them over to the Cattle Raisers Museum, in the Museum of Science and History, which depicts life on the range shown through talking ranchers and cattle and a theatre presentation.</p>
Romance	<p>Who can resist the romantic appeal of the Wild West combined with all the luxuries of first class hotels, dining, spas and theatre that make Fort worth such a special city?</p>
Seniors	<p>Fort Worth is an eminently civilized city. It's easy to reach with Air Canada's frequent flights. It has excellent hotels, great cultural attractions and it's easy to get around.</p>
UNIQUES	<p>The city of Fort Worth contains over 1000 natural gas wells (as at 2010) tapping the Barnett Shale. Each well site is a bare patch of gravel 2–5 acres (8,100–20,000 m²) in size. As city ordinances permit them in</p>

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	<p>all zoning categories, including residential, well sites can be found in a variety of locations.</p>
<p>Fort Worth Fun Facts</p>	<p>Here are some things about Fort Worth you maybe didn't know:</p> <p>60 percent of America's paper money is printed at the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing Western Currency Facility in Fort Worth (tours are available).</p> <p>The Texas Civil War Museum in Fort Worth houses the largest private Civil War collection west of the Mississippi River.</p> <p>The Modern Art Museum in Fort Worth is the oldest museum in Texas and is the second-largest museum gallery space for modern art in America, next to MoMA New York.</p> <p>Fort Worth is home to the oldest stock show and rodeo in the country – the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show.</p> <p>Fort Worth hosts the world's only twice-daily cattle drive in the Stockyards National Historic District.</p> <p>By the early 1870s, Fort Worth's collection of saloons, gaming houses and brothels had located on the south end of downtown in an area that came to be known as Hell's Half Acre. This red light district was legendary on the Chisholm Trail, drawing some of the West's most notorious criminals and bandits, among them Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, the Wild Bunch gang and Sam Bass.</p> <p>Following the 1900 holdup of the Winnemucca, Nevada, bank in which some \$37,000 in gold and a considerable but never-disclosed sum in bank notes was taken, five of the participants—Butch Cassidy, The Sundance Kid, Ben Kilpatrick, Kid Curry, and Bill Carver—went to Fort Worth, Texas. There the bank robbers posed for probably the most famous "outlaw photograph" in Western history. A copy of the photo was set in the photographer's show window, and a passing Pinkerton [detective] agent recognized one of the men.</p> <p>Bonnie and Clyde hid out from the law in Fort Worth's Stockyards Hotel.</p> <p>In 1909, the Fort Worth Zoo opened as the first zoo in Texas.</p> <p>In 1963, President John F. Kennedy delivered his last public speech in Fort Worth before leaving for Dallas.</p>

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	<p>The Stockyards Museum is home to the 1908 Palace Theater Light Bulb which began burning in on September 21, 1908 as a backstage light at the Old Byers Opera House. The light bulb has never been turned off, even through the rebuilding of the Opera House into the more modern Palace Theater in 1917. In 1977, the Palace Theater was demolished but the light bulb was kept illuminated and the Stockyards Museum was designated as the conservator of the light bulb. It is the second oldest antique light bulb still illuminated, as far as is known.</p>
<p>History – Fort Worth</p>	<p>In the mid-19th century, on the heels of the war between Texas and Mexico, Fort Worth began as a frontier army town in the Republic of Texas, assigned with protecting settlers from Native American attacks. The outpost grew into the last major stop along the Chisholm Trail, the major thoroughfare of the great Texas cattle drives that took ranchers and their livestock 500 miles north to the railheads and more lucrative markets of Dodge City and Abilene, Kansas. The trail's importance transformed Fort Worth into a busy trading post. By 1881, more than five million head of cattle had been driven through town on their way to market. Saloons, bordellos, and gambling houses staked out the rough-hewn area of town called "Hell's Half Acre.</p> <p>With the arrival of the railroad, the stampede of cattle north grew exponentially, and strategically positioned Fort Worth became a place for ranchers to keep their herds before moving them for sale. The Fort Worth Stockyards opened in 1890, followed by the arrival of major meatpacking plants, transforming Fort Worth into a major cattle shipping center and one of the country's top livestock markets. Fort Worth had become a wealthy city, a cow town to be reckoned with. The rise of the oil business in West Texas bolstered Fort Worth's commercial prospects, and oil fortunes replaced the cattle-ranching riches of the early 20th century.</p> <p>If in frontier days Fort Worth was where the East fizzled out and the West began, today the city is a place where cowboy culture meets high culture. It is probably the most authentically Texan city in the state.</p>
<p>History - Texas</p>	<p>10,000 B.C.-A.D. 1500 Prehistoric and Native American tribes occupy the territory between the Rio Grande in the south and the Red River in the north.</p> <p>1519 A Spanish explorer, Alonso Alvarez de Piñeda, explores and maps the Texas coastline.</p> <p>1528 Cabeza de Vaca shipwrecks on Galveston Island and spends the next few years exploring Texas.</p>

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- 1682** Spanish missionaries establish the first two missions in present-day Texas, near El Paso.
- 1685** The Frenchman LaSalle establishes Fort St. Louis on the coast and lays claim to Texas for France.
- 1716-89** Spain establishes Catholic missions in Texas and the new towns San Antonio, Goliad, and Nacogdoches.
- 1821** Stephen F. Austin receives a grant from the Mexican government to begin colonization in Texas, and many thousands of Americans settle over the next 2 decades.
- 1835** Texans turn back Mexican troops at the Battle of Gonzales, instituting the Texas Revolution.
- 1836** The Texas Declaration of Independence is signed and an interim government for the Republic of Texas is formed. A small Texan army is overwhelmed by the Mexican army during a 2-week siege at San Antonio's Battle of the Alamo. Nearly 400 Texans are executed by the Mexicans at the Goliad Massacre, under order of Santa Anna. Texans decisively defeat Mexican forces at the Battle of San Jacinto and win independence.
- 1845** U.S. president James Polk annexes Texas and signs legislation making Texas the 28th state.
- 1846** The Mexican-American War erupts over boundary disputes, establishing Texas's southern boundary at the Rio Grande River.
- 1861** Texas secedes from the Federal Union and joins the Confederate States of America.
- 1870** The U.S. Congress readmits Texas into the Union.
- 1925** Texas becomes the second state to elect a woman governor, Miriam Ferguson.
- 1963** President John F. Kennedy is assassinated in Dallas. Texan Lyndon B. Johnson is sworn in as president.
- 1964** The Space Center in Houston (now named for Lyndon B. Johnson) becomes permanent home to NASA.

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	<p>1970s Unprecedented population growth as "Sun Belt" seekers flood the state; oil industry is catalyst behind booming economy.</p> <p>1994 Texas becomes the second-most-populous state in the nation.</p>
Books	Frommer's Texas is a concise and well written guide to all of Texas with a very useful section on Fort Worth.
1000 Places to see before you die	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stockyards National Historic District, Fort Worth - Cowtown's Cultural District, Fort Worth

SPORTS ACTIVITIES	Fort Worth served as the host city for the American Football Conference Champions for Super Bowl XLV in February 2011.
Golf	<p>Fort Worth has five public courses.</p> <p>Meadowbrooks Golf Course, 1815 Jenson Rd. (tel. 817-457-4616), just east of downtown, is one of the top 25 municipal golf courses in Texas. The popular par-71 course is set amid rolling terrain. Also at the top of the list is Pecan Valley Golf Course, 6400 Pecan Dr. (tel. 817-249-1845); it has two 18-hole golf courses: the "River" and the "Hills." Rockwood Golf Course, 1851 Jacksboro Hwy. (tel. 817-624-1771), has a short 18-hole course and an additional, fairly difficult 9 holes called the Blue Nine. Sycamore Creek Golf Course, Martin Luther King, Jr., Freeway (tel. 817-535-7241), is a 9-hole layout with narrow tree-lined fairways. And Z. Boaz Golf Course, 3200 Lackland Rd. (tel. 817-738-6287), west of downtown, is a pretty straightforward 18-hole course. Greens fees for all five public courses range from \$8 to \$22, depending on the day and time. For general information, visit www.fortworthgolf.org .</p> <p>Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial – In May 2011, Fort Worth welcomed the 65th Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial Golf Championship. The Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial golf tournament is the longest running event on the PGA Tour still being held at the original site (since 1946). The players of today know they are competing on the same hallowed ground as the great Ben Hogan won the championship five times in his hometown. His legacy permeates the event, and that's just part of the tradition that helps make the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial what it is, one of the most prestigious events on the PGA Tour. Colonial Country Club in Fort Worth, Texas features one of the country's, and the world's, highest ranked golf courses. Built in 1936, the traditional layout attracts pros from all over the world.</p>
Biking and Hiking	<p>Excellent for all outdoor activities are Trinity Park (near the Cultural District just north of I-30) and Forest Park (south of I-30). Depression-era Trinity Park encompasses the Botanic Garden and 13kms of cycling and jogging trails. Forest Park is the site of another</p>

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	well-known Fort Worth landmark, the Fort Worth Zoo. The scenic Trinity River Trails , which run 60kms along the Trinity River, are good for biking, hiking, and in-line skating. Pick up a map at a tourist information centre.
Rodeo	Fort Worth's famous Cowtown Coliseum , 121 E. Exchange Ave. (tel. 817-625-1025), is the top place to see professional rodeo. Rodeos are usually every Friday and Saturday night (tickets \$7.50-\$15). Popping up frequently on the Coliseum schedule is Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show , a reenactment of the original, which was once the largest Wild West show anywhere. Events range from trick roping to trick shooting and are accompanied by Western music and an arena full of buffaloes, longhorns, and horses. For tickets, visit www.stockyardsrodeo.com .
Dude Ranches	As one would expect in a major cattle-ranching state like Texas, there are ample opportunities for visitors to saddle up and hit the trail with genuine bow-legged cowboys. Close to 100 working ranches welcome guests. There are a number of ranches in the Fort Worth area, and of course the West Texas plains has more than its share. A complete list of ranches, with contact information and other details, is available on the Texas Tourism website at www.traveltex.com
Texas Motor Speedway	Each year, Texas Motor Speedway, known as "The Great American Speedway," welcomes two NASCAR events and one IndyCar event each year at the 1.5 mile oval-shaped racetrack. With an estimated seating capacity of more than 190,000, Texas Motor Speedway provides a unique opportunity for race fans to enjoy a track experience like no other in the nation. NASCAR races take place in April and November and IndyCar races take place in June. Other events at TMS include Texas Driving Experience where guests will experience the thrill of unlimited acceleration in a 405-horsepower Z06 Corvette at Texas Motor Speedway. Guests can drive the track or ride with a professional race car driver. Programs include public ride & drive, corporate programs, driving your own car on the race track, and teen skillz school.

CULTURE	Building on its western heritage and a history of strong local arts patronage, Fort Worth is known as the " City of Cowboys and Culture " and is home to one of the country's most celebrated cultural scenes. Cultural cognoscenti call it the Museum Capital of the Southwest . Local oil-rich philanthropists have endowed the city with superlative collections of art and hired some of the world's most prestigious architects - Philip Johnson, Louis Kahn, and Tadao Ando - to build the esteemed Kimbell , newly expanded Amon Carter , and spectacular new Museum of Modern Art . Fort Worth is also home to a symphony orchestra, an impressive botanic garden, several theater companies, and the Van Cliburn
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	International Piano Competition. It turns out that this cowboy town with a rough-and-tumble past has a remarkably sophisticated and arts-minded soul.
Arts	Downtown Fort Worth is mainly known for its Art Deco-style buildings. The Tarrant County Courthouse was created in the American Beaux Arts Design, which was modeled after the Texas State Capitol building. Most of the structures about Sundance Square have preserved their early 20th-century facades. Theatres include the Bass Performance Hall, Casa Mañana, Kids Who Care Inc., Jubilee Theater, Circle Theatre, Hip Pocket Theatre.
Kimbell Art Museum	One of the country's (if not the world's) top small museums is this remarkable and gracious place, the jewel in Cowtown's crown. In 1972, the great American architect Louis Kahn created perhaps his finest building to house the art collection of local philanthropist Kay Kimbell. His modern, natural concrete structure, a masterpiece of light, symmetry, and geometry, is a reference work in worldwide architectural studies. Its cycloid-shaped vaults are suffused with natural light entering discreetly through slatted skylights. The building is essentially a shell; it has no real interior walls, which allows curators total creativity to use movable walls to design exhibits. The TV art evangelist Sister Wendy Beckett calls the Kimbell "probably the nearest such an institution can come to perfection . . . one of the greatest achievements in the world." It is widely held to be the greatest museum building of the late 20th century . The permanent collection matches the grace and drama of the building. Though small, it contains several superlative works, ranging from prehistoric Asian and pre-Columbian pieces to European old masters (Velázquez, El Greco, Rubens, Rembrandt) and the Impressionist and modern masters (van Gogh, Monet, Cézanne, and Picasso). Outdoors is a Zen-like, sunken sculpture garden by Isamu Noguchi. With its reputation as such an outstanding place to display and view art, the Kimbell receives some of the finest national and international shows that virtually every top-notch museum vies for. Past major exhibits have included "Portraiture in the Age of Picasso" and "Gauguin and Impressionism." It currently features " The Kimbell at 40 " celebrating the museum's 40 th anniversary until December 30 th 2012. Next year, 2013, there is a Bernini exhibit from Feb to April, and "Wari – Lords of the Ancient Andes" from June to Sept. Website: www.kimbellart.org
Music	Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, Billy Bob's, Texas Ballet Theater, Van Cliburn International Piano Competition (Bass Hall), Fort Worth Opera (Scott Theater), Live Eclectic Music (Ridglea Theater).

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	<p>Bass Performance Hall www.basshall.com is one of the top places in the country to see a musical or theatre performance. Home to the distinguished Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, its stage has welcomed an eclectic range of productions including The Nutcracker, Handel's Messiah, Madame Butterfly, Broadway shows (such as Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk), and pop, jazz, and country concerts by the likes of Tony Bennett, k.d. lang, Nanci Griffith, and Pink Martini, as well as dance/theatre performances such as Stomp.</p>
<p>Films</p>	<p>Fort Worth has been the backdrop of innumerable films, especially Westerns of course.</p>
<p>Museums</p>	<p>Fort Worth's reputation as a City of Culture rests firmly on the impressive array of museums in the city:</p> <p>Fort Worth Zoo's Museum of Living Art – In 2010, the Fort Worth Zoo unveiled its \$19 million, 30,000 square-foot, indoor/outdoor herpetological facility, which houses more than 260 amphibian and reptile species, representing about 4,000 animals. The new Herpetarium, dubbed the Museum of Living Art (MOLA), represents the only one of its kind in the world—impressive not only for the diverse and rare animal collection it houses, but also for its rare architecture and building design. The new facility replaced the Zoo's previous Herpetarium built in 1960, which witnessed many first-time breedings.</p> <p>Fort Worth Museum of Science and History – Fort Worth Museum of Science and History opened its new \$80 million facility in 2009. Adding to the rich architectural legacy of Fort Worth's Cultural District, the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History is dazzling with its bright colours, geometric forms, and abundant natural light. To strengthen the museum's presentation of history, the expansion incorporates a major new centre for the Cattle Raisers Museum. Exhibits also include DinoLabs; Paluxysaurus jonesi, the official dinosaur of Texas; the Noble Planetarium; the Fort Worth Children's Museum; Innovation Studios; six glass-walled spaces near the main entrance offering hands-on demonstrations; and the Omni Imax Theater. The new facility was designed by internationally renowned architects Legorreta + Legorreta. http://www.fwmuseum.org</p> <p>“About Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition” runs from October 13, 2012 to March 24, 2013 at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History. Discover the compelling human stories told through authentic artifacts and recreations of the ship's interior. “Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition” features hundreds of artifacts and painstakingly recreated rooms and</p>

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details. You will experience Titanic's voyage from launch to tragic ending, to modern-day recovery and restoration efforts. Your journey will be educational, emotional and appropriate for all ages. Over the past 15 years, more than 25 million people have seen this powerful exhibition in major museums worldwide - from Chicago to Los Angeles and Paris to London. The Exhibition has been designed with a focus on the legendary RMS Titanic's compelling human stories as best told through 250 authentic artifacts and extensive room re-creations. RMS Titanic, Inc. is the only company permitted by law to recover objects from the wreck of Titanic.

Prior to Entering the Exhibition

Each visitor will receive a replica boarding pass that has the name of an actual passenger that would have been traveling on Titanic. In addition to a name, the boarding pass will have the passenger's age, class of service, where they were traveling to and a little bit of information about them if available. The idea is the visitor will essentially assume the identity of this passenger as they travel through the exhibition. In the final gallery, the Memorial Gallery, they will take their boarding pass to the Memorial Wall where we have the Ship's manifest printed, broken down between First Class, Second Class, Third Class and Crew, survived and perished, and they find out the fate of their passenger and those they were traveling with.

Construction/Departure

Visitors are then transported back in time to the ship yards of Harland and Wolfe in Belfast, Ireland. The story of Titanic's design and construction is told in this gallery using the sights and sounds that are remnant of the docks where the vessel was constructed. Objects in this gallery show impressive share of the infrastructure of Titanic. The images from the day of departure are also presented here. In this section of the Exhibition, visitors learn about Captain Edward J. Smith, Commander of the White Star Line. Smith had planned to retire in 1911 but was persuaded by J. Bruce Ismay, owner of White Star Line, to stay until the arrival of Titanic to New York Harbour.

Life On Board

Recreations of the cabins for first and third class passengers detail the differences in comfort for the very rich and the poor. The Gallery is full of objects removed from the wreckage of Titanic, including pots and dishes from the different classes, as well as many personal belongings of passengers. Stories of some of Titanic's most notable passengers are highlighted in this gallery, and accompanying period music sets the tone to make visitors feel as if they are on board the greatest Ship in the

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world, Titanic.

Iceberg/ Rescue

The climax takes place in the Exhibition Gallery Iceberg, where visitors pass by the warnings of icebergs ahead, received throughout the day of the sinking. Meet face to face with a wall of ice, designed after a sketch drawn by the Ship's lookout, Frederick Fleet. This wall attracts moisture from the cooled air to create real ice and allows people to touch the iceberg with their hands, replicating the freezing temperatures of the North Atlantic on the night of the sinking.

While Titanic was sinking, its operator telegraph sent distress messages repeatedly, indicating their location and condition. Only one boat was close enough to answer the call. Although four hours away, with a field of icebergs ahead, Carpathia began to accelerate towards Titanic, when he received the call, Captain Arthur Rostron sailed into treacherous waters at full speed in order to reach the ship and rescue the wounded. When the Carpathia reached Titanic, all that remained of the Ship were 20 lifeboats with 705 passengers and crew, scattered across the sea ice.

Discovery/Recovery

Visitors are then transported to present day, seeing Titanic how she currently rests, 100 years after her tragic sinking. The content in this gallery is newly released outputs from the most recent dive to Titanic, "Expedition 2010." This includes some of the most complete and intimate photo mosaics, maps, images and video ever seen of the most famous wreck.

The RMS Titanic sank at 2:20 a.m. on 15 April 1912. Titanic lies in two separate sections at 4 km depth in the North Atlantic and is surrounded by debris filled with personal items and pieces of the actual Ship. For 73 years Titanic was alone and lost. Since the wreck was discovered in 1985, RMS Titanic, Inc. has made eight expeditions to recover more than 5,500 objects, which were carefully cataloged and preserved. The Recovery gallery takes visitors to the wreck site, giving them a sense of adverse conditions and silence surrounding the resting place of the Ship.

Memorial

Few days after the sinking of Titanic, the world learned the tragic news, 1523 lives were lost and 705 rescued. The world mourned the loss, while funds were collected to help needy survivors. In the Memorial Gallery, visitors discover the fate of the passengers corresponding to the boarding pass they receive at the beginning of the Exhibition. The Memorial Wall displays all of the passengers and crew aboard Titanic,

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	<p>their class and whether they lived or perished. This gallery also highlights the artifacts that we have recovered that we can directly link the provenance of them to a particular passenger from Titanic. We highlight these artifacts and tell the story of their owner, which gives a haunting emotional connection to the artifacts, the people and the story of Titanic.</p> <p>Other museums of note in the Fort Worth area include: Kimbell Art Museum, Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Sid Richardson Collection of Western Art, National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame, Military Museum of Fort Worth, Texas Civil War Museum, Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame, Fort Worth Stockyards Museum</p>
<p>Festivals</p>	<p>Red Steagall 22nd Anniversary Cowboy Gathering Join in the fun at Fort Worth Stockyards, National Historic District to celebrate the 22nd edition of this premiere celebration of the West, October 26-28, 2012. Visitors can enjoy: Wagon Train and Trail Ride from Jacksboro, Exciting Ranch Rodeo Action, Chuck Wagon Camp and Competition, Trappings Show, Cowboy Poetry and Cowboy Music, Ranch Cutting Horse Assn. Rodeo Finals, Youth Poetry Contest, Youth Fiddle Contest, Youth Chuck Wagon Cook-off, Texas Trail of Fame, Cowboy Church, Cowboy Gospel Concert and Western Swing Dances. The event brings the top in music, cowboys, chuck wagon cooks, poets and more. Enjoy the unique vendor and trappings show, catch a horsemanship clinic or grab a seat at one of the Ranch Rodeo performances. Listen to youth poetry and watch the youth fiddling contests. http://www.redsteagallcowboygathering.com</p> <p>Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo – In January 2013, the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo, also known as the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock show, returns to the Will Rogers Memorial Center for its 117th year. Events include Best of the West Ranch Rodeo, livestock events, Western shopping, family-friendly events, Best of Mexico Celebracion, Stock Show Goes Pink and more. Events take place in the heart of Fort Worth’s Cultural District.</p>

<p>ATTRACTIONS</p>	
<p>Wildlife</p>	<p>Fort Worth Zoo is home to over 5000 animals and has been named as a top zoo in the nation by Family Life magazine, the Los Angeles Times and USA Today and one of the top zoos in the South by Southern Living Reader's Choice Awards; it has been placed in the top 10 zoos in the United States.</p>
<p>Parks</p>	<p>Excellent for all outdoor activities are Trinity Park (near the Cultural</p>

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	District just north of I-30) and Forest Park (south of I-30). Depression-era Trinity Park encompasses the Botanic Garden and 13kms of cycling and jogging trails. Forest Park is the site of another well-known Fort Worth landmark, the Fort Worth Zoo.
Gardens	<p>Fort Worth Botanic Garden: Created during the Great Depression, this spacious showcase of more than 2,500 native and exotic species of plants in 109 acres of attractive gardens and natural settings is the oldest botanical garden in Texas. Its highlights include the Texas Rose Garden, 3,500 roses that bloom in late April and October; a serene, 7-acre Japanese Garden, which features waterfalls, a teahouse and meditation space, and colorful koi-stocked ponds; and a 10,000-square-foot conservatory of exotic plants and tropical trees from around the world.</p> <p>The Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT), an international cultural and scientific centre for conservation (www.brit.org), has opened on its \$48 million, 69,000-square-foot facility, located at 1800 University Drive in the heart of the Fort Worth Cultural District.</p>

OTHER ACTIVITIES	
Shopping	<p>Western Chic Shopping – You can't visit Fort Worth without checking out some of the best Western shopping in the nation. In the Stockyards, M.L. Leddy's customers find a welcome respite from the rest of the world's hurried and impersonal pace. Place your trust in an 85-year-old establishment that is still family owned, still stands behind its' products and never, ever compromises on quality. For four generations the name Leddy has stood for unparalleled quality and impeccable service.</p> <p>Stop in to Maverick Fine Western Wear for cool cowboy boots, stylish western wear for the whole family, and some of the finest hand-made cowboy hats that money can buy. Maverick also offers a nice place to sit down and relax while drinking an ice cold beer. And don't miss Fincher's White Front Western Wear for a full line of western wear including hats, boots, jeans, shirts, blouses, dresses, and suits for infants to adults as well as cowboy souvenirs, western gifts and rough stock riding equipment.</p> <p>Make sure to see Stockyards Station, home to all sorts of shops and restaurants featuring a Western flair. And if you're looking for a great deal on a pair of boots, make sure to stop by the Justin Boot Outlet, located south of downtown on Vickery.</p>
Markets	The Downtown Fort Worth Rail Market , a European-style market that's known as "Texas's First True Public Market," is located in the historic Santa Fe Warehouse, 1401 Jones St. (tel. 817-335-6758). It has a good farmers' market and a couple dozen permanent merchants.

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<p>Nightlife</p>	<p>Exchange Avenue in the Stockyards is where you want to be on weekends for some hot Western swing, Texas shuffle, and honky-tonk tunes. The street becomes a cruising strip of souped-up trucks, guys and dolls in cowboy and cowgirl finery strutting their stuff, and dancers ducking into honky-tonks and cowboy discos. Meanwhile, Sundance Square is full of bars, restaurants, cafes, and movie theatres, and is mobbed on weekend nights. City Streets, 425 Commerce St. (tel. 817/335-5400), is a one-stop-shopping entertainment complex, generic and mild-mannered but popular with visitors for its range of bars, lounges, and pool halls.</p> <p>The one place that's practically a required stop in Fort Worth is Billy Bob's Texas, 2520 Rodeo Plaza www.billybobstexas.com. A cavernous barn for prize cattle in a former life, this absurdly large honky-tonk, a symbol of Texas for many people, has it all. With 40 bar stations, a monster dance floor for hard-core boot-scootin', a rodeo arena, video games, pool tables, mechanical bulls, and pro bull riding, it's 125,000 square feet (or, 7 acres) of country-and-western heaven. Open for over 20 years, Billy Bob's continues to draw the biggest names in country music, including George Jones, LeAnn Rimes, Willie Nelson, and Jerry Jeff Walker.</p>
<p>Cattle Drive</p>	<p>Longhorn Express: Fort Worth Herd - Amazingly, the Fort Worth Stockyards still look the part of the Old West. To enhance the atmosphere even more, a twice-daily "cattle drive," the Fort Worth Herd, takes place on the main drag, Exchange Avenue (at N. Main St.), at 11:30am and again at 4pm. About 15 head of 1-ton longhorn steers, led by cowhands dressed the part in 19th-century duds, rumble down the redbrick street past the Stockyards, on their way to grazing near the West Fork of the Trinity River and back again to the Stockyards. Claimed to be the world's only daily longhorn cattle drive, it's perfect for photo ops. The best places to view the longhorns are the front lawn of the Livestock Exchange building and from the catwalk above the cattle pens. For more information, call 817-336-4373).</p>
<p>CUISINE</p>	<p>Chef Jon Bonnell is a leader in the Fort Worth culinary explosion. Born and raised in Fort Worth, Texas, Chef Jon Bonnell grew up hunting, fishing and cooking with his parents and family — his childhood pastimes would soon become his culinary inspirations. After graduating from Vanderbilt University in 1994, Jon taught science and math for two years before pursuing his love for cooking and enrolling in the New England Culinary Institute (NECI) in Montpelier, Vermont. During his tenure at NECI, Jon completed a six-month culinary internship at Mr. B's Bistro in the historic New Orleans French Quarter. In 1997, Jon graduated from NECI and returned to Fort Worth where he</p>

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	<p>honed his cooking skills at local, upscale restaurants. Established as one of the foremost experts in fine wild game, Jon can win over even the biggest skeptic by dispelling myths and serving the best-prepared and most flavorful wild game. Widely known for his dynamic, authentic personality, Jon is an approachable guy-next-door that shares every recipe, technique or ingredient that is requested. http://www.bonnellstexas.com</p>
<p>Food</p>	<p>Enjoy the newest foodie experience in Fort Worth with Texas Toast Culinary Tours, a place for cuisine-savvy people who want to discover more about the food and wine originating in Texas. With guidance from well-known dining critic, cookbook author and food/travel journalist June Naylor and Cynthia Wahl, a longtime colleague of June's from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and a graphic designer, food lovers will find where the taste-thrills await as well as who makes food and wine around here downright artful. Fort Worth's Ellerbe's Fine Foods has been selected as one of Bon Appetit Magazine's 10 Best New Restaurants in America. Ellerbe's is the only Texas restaurant to make the list.</p>
<p>Wine</p>	<p>Texas has a surprisingly robust roster of wineries, many in the Central Texas Hill Country around Fredericksburg and the High Plains near Lubbock. Llano Estacado and Pheasant Ridge are national award winners. There are more than 100 in total and for a unique weekend getaway, visitors are invited to follow the Texas Hill Country Wine Trail and stop to explore some of the 21 wineries en route.</p>
<p>Restaurants</p>	<p>Bonnell's Fine Texas Cuisine - In his hometown of Fort Worth, Jon opened his own signature restaurant, Bonnell's Fine Texas Cuisine, in 2001. Tasting Chef Jon Bonnell's cuisine is an experience found nowhere else. Texas foods are transformed into fine cuisine that is enhanced with regional Creole, Southwestern and Mexican spices. Chef Bonnell's recipes are authentic and impressive, and he uses his knowledge and understanding of food to conceive amazing dishes that surprise and delight fine diners. http://www.bonnellstexas.com</p> <p>Some other Fort Worth recommendations from our friends at Frommer's for families:</p> <p>Cattlemen's Steakhouse -- No slick banker's steakhouse, this homey, well-worn place in the heart of the Stockyards has several separate rooms, and kids get place mats adorned with barnyard animal stickers, a kiddie menu, and a lollipop treat. And parents get what they come for: a good-value steak.</p>

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Ferré Ristorante e Bar -- Kids love the views of the Bass Hall angels. Parents love the attractive and spacious dining area and the good Tuscan fare.

Joe T. Garcia's Mexican Dishes -- No menus? No problem. This Tex-Mex institution serves up two dishes daily, so you can spend less time deciding what to order and more time sipping margaritas. Parents and kids will both enjoy the delightful outdoor patio.

Kinkaid's Grocery Market -- Burger heaven in Fort Worth is an old-time 1940s grocery store that makes some of the best burgers in Texas. Kids are sure to be entertained by the protocol: You place your order at the open kitchen in back, get a white paper bag with your name scrawled on it, pay at the register, and then pick out a spot at a communal table beneath a jungle of inflatable toys hanging from the ceiling.

Love Shack -- Gourmet burgers (and dogs, fries, and rings) by a celebrity chef, but the price is right, the meat is fresh-ground daily, there are different special milkshakes each day, and there's outdoor seating, all just a stone's throw from the daily cattle herd run in the Stockyards.

Railhead Smokehouse -- A Fort Worth barbecue fave that draws families every night of the week for its tasty barbecue and relaxed atmosphere. The place is noisy without rising to the levels of a Chuck E. Cheese's, and excellent-value children's plates will keep the kids happy.

Sardines Ristorante Italiano -- The good vibes and generous helpings keep folks coming back. The pasta dishes, inexpensive wines, and nightly jazz make this a destination for the whole family.

And a suggestion for adults:

Lonesome Dove Western Bistro -- A wildly successful little restaurant, this cozy venture riding a wave of cowboy cool is decorated in the style of an old saloon, with a long bar, high-backed Mexican iron bar stools, copper-toned tin ceiling, bold paintings with Western themes, and a kitchen staff donning cowboy hats. Appetizers include chile-rubbed foie gras brûlée (on Texas toast) and seared sweet lobster cakes with corn/black-bean salsa and cilantro-orange butter sauce. The main courses opt for unique touches, such as the pancetta-wrapped Texas red fish or the grilled New Zealand deer chops with truffled mac and cheese and morels. Straight-up meat eaters will delight in the hand-cut prime steaks. For lunch, check out the fresh buffalo burger or quail

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	quesadillas; the daily \$9 "Stockyard Special" is always a great deal. Website: www.lonesomedovebistro.com
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MORE INFO	
Brochures	Besides the DFW Airport Visitor Information, the Fort Worth Convention & Visitors Bureau (tel. 800-433-5747) maintains tourist information centres downtown on Sundance Square at 415 Throckmorton St. (tel. 817-336-8791); in the Stockyards National Historic District at 130 E. Exchange Ave. (tel. 817-624-4741); and in the Cultural District at 3401 W. Lancaster Ave. (tel. 817-882-8588). The city's events hot line is tel. 817-332-2000.
Websites	www.FortWorth.com

HOTEL PRIZE PARTNER	Hilton Garden Inn-Medical Center Hotel Address: 912 Northton Street, Fort Worth, Texas, 76104, USA Tel: 1-817-921-0788 Website: http://hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/texas/hilton-garden-inn-fort-worth-medical-center-FTWMDGI/index.html
Location	Minutes from downtown Fort Worth and conveniently located near the Fort Worth Stockyards, the Fort Worth Botanical Gardens, and Fort Worth Zoo.
Facilities	There is both a fitness room and an indoor swimming pool.
Accommodation	Guestrooms are warm and inviting, yet elegant and functional with the option of one or two beds. Features include: The Serta Perfect Sleeper Bed ; Oversized work desk with ergonomic chair ; Desk level outlets; Phone featuring and speaker phone; Complimentary wired and wireless internet service; 42-inch LCD HDTV ; Secure in-room printing to the business centre; Microwave; Refrigerator; Laundry services.
Restaurants	A freshly prepared breakfast is offered daily in the Great American Grill restaurant, and lunch and dinner are also available. The Pavilion Pantry convenience mart offers sundries, an assortment of beverages and ready-to-cook meals bound for the in-room microwave oven or refrigerator. Beverages are served in the cozy Pavilion Lounge and select properties also offer a full bar. The Garden Grille and Bar, along with the Pavilion Lounge, offers guests a great dining option for all occasions. Enjoy a relaxed, comfortable experience with friendly, efficient service. In-room delivery available for guests.

AIRLINE PRIZE PARTNER	Fly to Fort Worth on Air Canada . Air Canada offers three non-stop flights from Toronto to Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, with convenient connections from Montreal.
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	<p>When you choose Air Canada to Texas, you can enjoy Air Canada's award winning service, personal in-flight entertainment at every seat, and Air Canada's renowned Executive class.</p> <p>Leave Montreal on their morning flight and arrive in Fort Worth for a late lunch!</p> <p>Website: www.aircanada.com</p>
Flight details	<p>Air Canada currently (October 2012) has one way fares from Montreal to Dallas Fort Worth return for just \$809 including taxes departing in December 2012.</p>

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