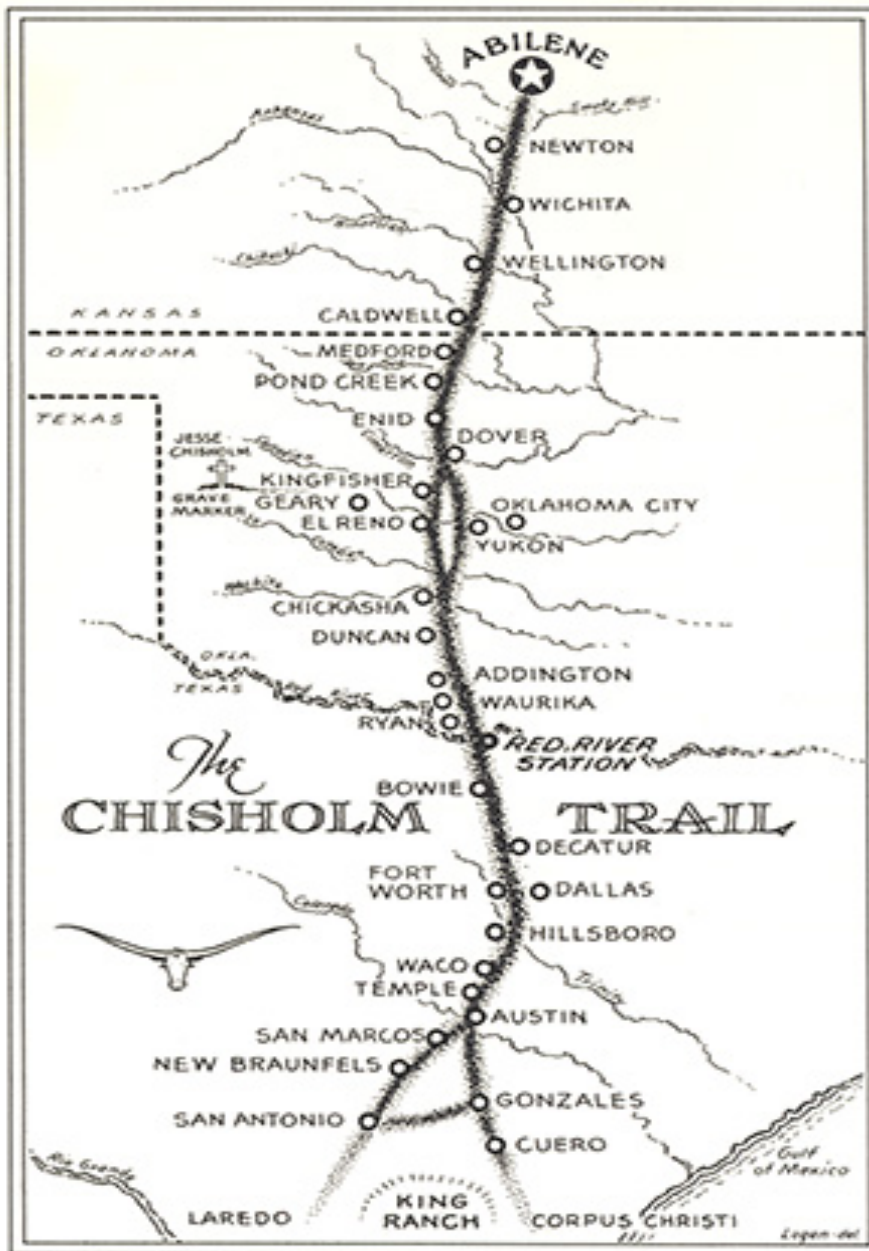


Chisholm Trail 150 Texas Holiday Travel Tour 2017



Texas Holiday Travel offers a complete Chisholm Trail itinerary. Begin your journey where it all started and explore major Texas cities along the way.

<http://www.texasholidaytravel.com/>

Day 1

Arrival Houston International

Overnight Houston *or connect to short flight to Corpus Christi and overnight there

Day 2

Pick up Rental Car and drive to Corpus Christi – 4 hours

*Starting point for Self Drive

Explore Corpus Christi

By the 1860s, with more than 56,000 head of cattle, the industry was flourishing in Nueces County. The area became a gathering place for area trail drivers, and in the early 1870s, 10 meat-packing plants operated in the county. Corpus Christi emerged as a prominent gulf port that shipped cattle to New Orleans. The Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History delights visitors with exhibits on natural history, Gulf Coast artifacts and wildlife dioramas, including a display dedicated to cattle and horses. After viewing the museum's horse exhibit, visitors can try their hand at riding one at Mustang Island State Park.

Overnight Corpus Christi

Day 3

Drive to Kingsville, TX and King Ranch - 45 minute

The legendary King Ranch encompasses 825,000 acres across three coastal counties in an area larger than Rhode Island. Riverboat captain Richard King and Texas Ranger captain Gideon K. Lewis founded the ranch in 1853 along Santa Gertrudis Creek. The men purchased the Rincón de Santa Gertrudis land grant, established a “cow camp” and developed the land into one of the most influential, longstanding and sizable ranches in the world. The King Ranch, a National Historic Landmark, offers daily tours featuring the history of the ranch and its operations. Visitors can access the ranch from State Hwy. 141 West in Kingsville. After the tour, view an impressive collection of mementos from the well-known ranch at the King Ranch Museum, located in a renovated circa 1904 ice factory in downtown Kingsville. Special exhibit through May 14, 2017, Echoes in the Dust, Stories from the Cattle Trails.

Overnight Corpus Christi

Day 4

Road Trip Day

Drive Corpus Christi to Cuero – 1 hour 45 minutes

Visit the Chisholm Trail Museum, 302 N. Esplanade, Cuero. Explore cattle ranching in the Guadalupe Valley and the enduring folklore of the Texas cowboy.

Drive Cuero to Gonzales – 30 minutes

By 1870, 75,000 head of cattle roamed the open prairies of Gonzales County. Many local herds combined with cattle originating further south and east, and passed through on their trek north up the Chisholm Trail. In Gonzales, originally laid out with Spanish-style plazas, visitors can view a pre-Civil War college and homes built in the days of the Cattle Kingdom. At Pioneer Village Living History Center, experience pioneer life at a restored blacksmith shop, a broom factory, an 1830s log cabin and an 1870s cypress-sided church.

Drive Gonzales to Seguin – 40 minutes

Laid out in 1838 by a group of volunteers known as the Gonzales Rangers, Seguin is one of Texas' oldest towns. Stop in at the historic Moore House, whose original owner provided horses from the 27,000-acre El Capote Ranch for Theodore Roosevelt and his Rough Riders during the Spanish-American War.

Drive Seguin to San Antonio – 40 minutes

The River Walk, or Paseo del Rio, is the largest urban ecosystem in the nation. Tucked quietly below street level and only steps from the Alamo, it provides a serene and pleasant way to navigate the city. Ride a river cruiser, rent a bicycle or take your time seeing the sights on foot. With 15 miles of sidewalks and paths, the River Walk provides access to museums, the King William Historic District, 300-year-old Spanish missions, hotels, shops, restaurants and a new adventure around every turn.

Overnight San Antonio

Day 5

Tour San Antonio

Drivers herding South Texas cattle north on the Chisholm Trail, and later toward Dodge City on the Western Trail, gathered their herds near San Antonio before starting their long journey. San Antonio is home to the Trail Drivers Association, organized in 1915 under the leadership of George W. Saunders. This mecca for Chisholm Trail enthusiasts offers the Texas Pioneers, Trail Drivers and Rangers Museum. The museum's Trail Drivers room, housed in historic Memorial Hall, provides an impressive collection of photographs, spurs, branding irons, saddles and other memorabilia related to drovers and the long cattle drives. For a taste of the Old West and wildlife exhibits from all over the world, visit the 1881 Buckhorn Saloon and Museum. Sip a soda or a longneck as you stroll through 33,000 square feet of Texas history artifacts and thrilling wildlife exhibits.

Overnight San Antonio

Day 6

Drive to New Braunfels – 45 minutes

Pressing north past San Antonio, Longhorns on the Chisholm Trail journeyed toward New Braunfels and Austin on a route that roughly parallels I-H 35. The rolling hills and the Guadalupe River attract hundreds of thousands of visitors to New Braunfels every year. Rich in German heritage, this town takes history and culture seriously. Chisholm Trail trekkers can tour the Sophienburg Museum featuring exhibits on the history of the area.

Drive on to Austin – 1 hour

(Perhaps make a stop at San Marcos outlets shopping and take advantage of Texas' Tax Free Shopping)

Overnight Austin

Day 7

Tour Austin

Herds of Chisholm Trail cattle crossed the Colorado River near Austin. Prominent Texas cattleman Col. Jesse Driskill settled here in the 1870s and established the landmark Driskill Hotel a decade later. Visitors to Austin can stay at the restored historic hotel for a closer look at a bygone era. Nearby sits the Littlefield Building, constructed by George Littlefield, a prominent cattleman, banker and philanthropist who drove cattle on the trail. The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum features state-of-the-art exhibits and interactive experiences that trace Texas history, including extensive memorabilia dedicated to Texas' trail-driving days.

Overnight Austin

Day 8

Drive to Fort Worth – 4 hours

Stopping at Waco – 1 hour 45 minutes

Large numbers of cattle moving along the Chisholm Trail crossed the Brazos River in Waco. The city's historic suspension bridge, completed in 1870, provided — for a toll — a convenient means for cattlemen to move herds across the wide river. The Waco Suspension Bridge, a National Historic Landmark, remains a centerpiece of the city. The Riverwalk, extending from the bridge to Fort Fisher Park and the popular Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, offers picnic spots and beautiful views of the Brazos River. (And some artifacts of Bonnie and Clyde) The Mayborn Museum Complex at Baylor University amazes visitors with its extensive historical and cultural collections. The complex encompasses the Strecker Museum, an archive dedicated to geological, biological and anthropological collections; the Gov. Bill and Vera Daniel Historic Village, a turn-of-the-century Texas village with more than 20 buildings; and the Ollie Mae Moen Discovery Center, a hands-on activity center for children of all ages

Overnight Fort Worth

Day 9

Tour Fort Worth

In just a few days, you can enjoy an enormous range of experiences including: See priceless masterpieces in the world-renowned Cultural District, Explore the true American West in the Stockyards National Historic District, Shop and dine in the 35-block Sundance Square or catch a show at Bass Performance Hall, Dine in one of many Fort Worth restaurants offering everything from Tex-Mex and BBQ to world-class cuisine, Stroll through the Museum of Living Art at the top-ranked Fort Worth Zoo

Overnight Fort Worth

Day 10

Tour Fort Worth

Fort Worth is easy to navigate by bicycle. With over 60 miles of bicycle lanes and trails and a robust bike share program, Fort Worth is a favorite for bike riders of all skill levels and ages.

Perhaps you will want to check out the Stockyards Hotel, originally constructed in 1907 as the Stockyard Club where Bonnie and Clyde once hid out from the law. In 1933, The fugitives checked into room 305 where they had a perfect view of East Exchange Avenue and North Main Street. A gun belonging to Bonnie is there to view. The hotel has been restored with Old West décor. (There are many sites relating to Bonnie and Clyde in North Texas. They are both buried in Dallas but in separate cemeteries.)

Overnight Fort Worth

Day 11

Road Trip Day

Drive Fort Worth to Decatur – 45 minutes

In the late 1860s, merchants provided local ranchers with supplies and a market for their products. The Waggoner Mansion, or “El Castile,” was built by cattle baron Dan Waggoner and overlooks the historic downtown.

Drive Decatur to Bowie – 30 minutes

At Red River Station and Spanish Fort, Texas cattle heading to Abilene and other Kansas shipping points crossed the Red River into Oklahoma. Here, the Chisholm Trail Memorial Park pays tribute to the trail-driving era. A herd of nine life-size Longhorns and two roving cowboys recall those early cattle drives. Bowie also pays tribute to its ranching heritage through festivals and events including the Bowie Championship Pro Rodeo in May and Jim Bowie Days in June.

Drive Bowie to Nocona – 20 minutes

Nocona is internationally recognized for its high-quality saddles, boots and other leather goods. In June, the city hosts Western Swing Weekend. In September, the annual Chisholm Trail Ranch Rodeo is held at the Chisholm Trail Rodeo Arena, which highlights local cowboys demonstrating their horseback skills and talents in competition with other area ranch teams.

*Drive up to Red River Crossing and back to Nocona -1 hour round trip

Drive Nocona to Saint Jo – 15 minutes

Visit the Stonewall Saloon, 100 Main St., Saint Jo. The Stonewall was the first permanent structure built in Saint Jo in 1873 to accommodate thirsty trail drovers moving cattle along the Chisholm Trail. It maintained a boarding house upstairs. It is now a museum depicting the history of Saint Jo and the Chisholm Trail.

Drive Saint Jo to Fort Worth -1 hour 30 minutes

Overnight Fort Worth

Day 12

Departure

**Thanks to the Texas Historical Commission for descriptions of the stops along the trail

1 night Houston

2 nights Corpus Christi

(or 3 nights Corpus Christi)

2 nights San Antonio

2 nights Austin

4 nights Fort Worth

+FIT price per person based on Double Occupancy

+Or we could provide a rental car and rooms for international guests

+For Groups add coach transfers and guide fee per person (guide in groups' language)