

# FORT WORTH FACTS SHEET 2016-17



# **FUN FACTS**

- 16th-largest city in the United States
- · Part of the #1 Tourist Destination in Texas
- Fort Worth is home to the longest running stock show and rodeo in the country, the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo
- The Kimbell Art Museum is home to the only Michelangelo in the Americas, his first painting The Torment of Saint Anthony.
- Fort Worth hosts the world's only twice-daily cattle drive and year round rodeo in the Stockyards National Historic District.
- In 1963, President John F. Kennedy delivered his last public speech in Fort Worth before leaving for Dallas.
- Fort Worth's **Texas Motor Speedway** is one of the largest racing facilities in the nation, with seating for nearly 155,000 spectators.
- One of Bonnie and Clyde's hideouts from the law was the historic Stockyards Hotel in Fort Worth.
- In 1909, the Fort Worth Zoo opened as the first zoo in Texas.

- The **Stockyards Museum** houses the 1908 Palace Theater Light Bulb which began burning on September 21, 1908, as a backstage light at the Old Byers Opera House and continues to burn today.
- 60 percent of America's paper money is printed at the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing Western Currency Facility in Fort Worth (free tours are available).
- The Texas Civil War Museum in Fort Worth houses the largest private Civil War collection west of the Mississippi River.
- The 70+ lanes of bicycle and horseback riding trails along the Trinity
  Trails allow visitors and locals to access the entire city alongside the
  Trinity River.
- Coyote Drive-In Movie Theater is equipped with hitching posts for moviegoers who choose to ride horseback.
- Panther Island Pavilion is the only downtown waterfront music venue in Texas.
- Fort Worthians can often be seen wearing the Shady Oaks Hat, a hat made famous by Amon G. Carter who gifted the hats to celebrities and dignitaries in the 1950s.

# **HISTORY**

Originally settled in 1849 as an army outpost at the Trinity River, Fort Worth was one of eight forts assigned to protect settlers from Indian attacks on the advancing frontier. Progress helped the growing settlement survive long after other such towns had blown away with the dust of departing pioneers.

#### **POPULATION**

City of Fort Worth Population: 812,238 (2015 estimate) Youngest city in Texas (average age 31.5)

# **HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM**

- Estimated number of out-of-town visitors to Fort Worth: 8.5 million annually
- Economic impact of visitors to Fort Worth: \$1.9 billion annually
- Tourism employs over 19,350 hospitality and tourism industry workers
- · Total Hotel rooms: 13,477
- · Total rooms downtown: 2,622
- Hotel tax: 15%; breaks down to 6% state, 9% city
- Sales tax: 8.25%
- Top international visitor markets to Fort Worth include: Mexico, Canada, UK, Australia, Germany and China.

#### **ACCOLADES**

- Top city for job seekers (#2, Forbes 2015)
- · One of the fastest-growing economies in a large city (#3, WalletHub 2015)
- · America's Favorite Cities (Travel + Leisure 2016 Readers' Choice Awards)
- · America's Friendliest Cities (Travel + Leisure 2016)

#### FORT WORTH BUSINESS

Fort Worth has six major industry clusters: Aviation/Aerospace, Life Sciences/Health Care, Logistics, Manufacturing, Corporate/Professional and Energy (oil and gas).

# **Headquartered in Fort Worth**

- · Acme Brick
- · Williamson Dickie
- · AMR/ American Airlines
- Ben E. Keith
- BNSF Railway
- Allied Electronics
- · D.R. Horton, Inc.
- Justin Brands

- · Pier 1 Imports RadioShack
- · TTI

# Major Corporations in Fort Worth (not HQ)

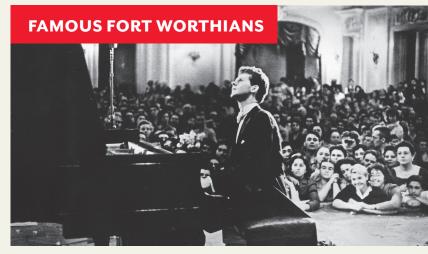
Facebook

- · Bell Helicopter Textron
- GE Manufacturing Solutions
- · Alcon Laboratories
- · Lockheed Martin Aeronautics
- · JPMorgan Chase
- XTO Energy (ExxonMobil)
- AT&T
- · GM Financial (formerly AmeriCredit) · Motorola

# WORTH CHEFS to watch in 2017



Chef Marcus Paslay, Clay Pigeon Food & Drink Emma & Travis Heim, Heim BBQ Chef Felipe Armenta, Press Café, Cork & Pig Tavern, Pacific Table Grady Spears "the Cowboy Chef," Horseshoe Hill Chef Jon Bonnell, Bonnell's Fine Texas Cuisine and Waters Bonnell's Coastal Cuisine



- · Leon Bridges, Grammy nominated singer/songwriter
- · T-Bone Burnett, Singer/songwriter, producer
- · Van Cliburn, acclaimed pianist
- · John Denver, Singer/songwriter
- · Ornette Coleman, Jazz legend
- · Kelly Clarkson, Singer/songwriter
- · Pat Green, Singer/songwriter
- · Bill Paxton, Actor
- · Ginger Rogers, Singer/songwriter
- · Luke Wade, Singer/songwriter



- · Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW), located 17.5 miles from Fort Worth, is one of the busiest airports in the world with an average of 1,900 daily departures and arrivals and service to more than 201 destinations worldwide.
- · 4 hours or less from 149 U.S. destinations through DFW International Airport
- Fort Worth is home to 40+ B-Cycle bike share stations and access to 70+ miles of bicycle trails
- · Trinity Railway Express (DFW International Airport to downtown Fort Worth): \$2.50
- · Cab from DFW International Airport to downtown Fort Worth: \$52 (approx.)
- Yellow Checker Shuttle (Airporter) from DFW Airport to downtown Fort Worth: \$17\*
- Super Shuttle from DFW International Airport to downtown Fort Worth: \$25\*

# **ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS**

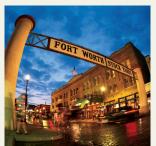
Fort Worth is home to five main entertainment districts, all within three miles of each other:



# **SUNDANCE SQUARE**

Downtown Fort Worth is a glittering urban oasis—one of the most exciting and pedestrian-friendly downtown areas in the nation. The 35-block Sundance Square entertainment and shopping district is where both locals and visitors go for food, fun, live theater, shopping and big events such as the Main Street

Arts Festival. Nestled inside the heart of one of the most premier and walkable downtown settings in the United States is the newly developed 55,000-square foot Sundance Square Plaza. The European-style plaza features a permanent stage for concerts and movies; stunning water features; four 32-foot tall Teflon umbrellas, the first ever in the United States; restaurants, a high-end cigar bar, shopping and much more.



# STOCKYARDS NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

Stockyards National Historic District is filled with sites from the Old West, great Texas-themed shopping and cuisine, a year-round rodeo, authentic Western saloons, Billy Bob's Texas—the world's largest honky-tonk, the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame, and the world's only

twice-daily cattle drive. See beautifully preserved historic structures such as the Livestock Exchange Building and Cowtown Coliseum, the location of the world's first indoor rodeo. Shoppers can fill their bags with custom steamed cowboy hats, handmade boots, and other Western gear. Stockyards Station offers over 25 shops including art galleries, a wine tasting room, and a record store.



#### **CULTURAL DISTRICT**

Located a few miles west of downtown is one of the largest arts districts in the nation. The Fort Worth Cultural District features five internationally recognized museums in a beautiful park-like setting. The museums are acclaimed for their architecture,

quality collections and programs. This remarkable collection of museums in a single location has made Fort Worth a major destination for art lovers. Museums in the Cultural District include the Kimbell Art Museum; the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth; the Amon Carter Museum of American Art; the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame and the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History. The Kimbell Art Museum recently underwent a \$135 million expansion designed by famed architect Renzo Piano. The new Renzo Piano Pavilion showcases masterpieces from the Kimbell's Asian, African/Oceanic and Pre-Columbian collections, as well as special exhibitions.



#### **WEST 7TH DISTRICT**

This trendy new urban development links downtown, the Will Rogers Memorial Center and the Cultural District. Discover a sophisticated blend of pedestrianfriendly urban elements. Indulge in high-

concept eateries, splurge in boutique shops and enjoy vibrant nightlife.



#### **NEAR SOUTHSIDE/MAGNOLIA**

Historic architecture, enchanting restaurants, music venues and art galleries line the streets of this off-the-beaten-path neighborhood just south of downtown. Dine on local farm-to-table cuisine, tour

a working brewery or whiskey distillery, shop for distinctive art, or catch a show by the region's best emerging artists.



#### **PANTHER ISLAND**

Located north of downtown Fort Worth, Panther Island is thriving with entertainment, activities and outdoor recreation. You can also find Panther Island Pavilion - the only waterfront

stage in Texas - Panther Island Brewing, Coyote Drive-In Movie Theater, Backwoods Paddlesports, plus exciting events year-round.



#### **CAMP BOWIE DISTRICT**

This is one of the most historic neighborhoods in Fort Worth. A 30-block strip of restaurants and stores includes some of the finest specialty boutiques in the city. Once a World War II military training camp, Camp Bowie today is a welcoming, tree-lined thoroughfare with

charming pocket parks, trendy shops and casual dining spots.



# TEXAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY/ ALLIANCE

This growing area just north of downtown offers high-speed thrills at Texas Motor Speedway, shopping fun at one of the largest sports and outdoors stores in North Texas and an ideal golf getaway at

the DFW Marriott Hotel and Golf Club at Champions Circle.



#### **UNIVERSITY/TCU AREA**

You're certain to find thousands of Horned Frogs in Fort Worth. Not the lizards, but the graduates and fans of Texas Christian University, who proudly display their school pride through purple signs, t-shirts and banners across the city.

Established in 1910, TCU has become one of the most picturesque and prominent small universities in the nation. It's located just five miles from downtown/Sundance Square and a half-mile from the Fort Worth Zoo.

# **WEATHER**

Climate	Month	Avg. High	Avg. Low
Coldest month	January	54	34
Hottest month	July	95	75



- Fort Worth is home to Texas Motor Speedway and located 20 minutes from AT&T Stadium, home to the Dallas Cowboys, and Globe Life Park where the Texas Rangers baseball team play.
- Tri Fort Worth, a new full 140.6 and 70.3 half triathlon, will be held May 21, 2017.
- Equestrian events are held year-round at Will Rogers Memorial Center, one of the top equestrian venues in the nation. A sample of events include: Extreme Mustang Makeover, World Championship Appaloosa Show, NCHA Super Stakes and Super Stakes Classic and many more.
- Fort Worth is home to the Dean and Deluca PGA Invitational held annually in May.
- Fort Worth is home to Texas Christian University and the Horned Frogs BIG 12 football team.

# **MEETING SPACE**



#### **FORT WORTH CONVENTION CENTER (FWCC)**

- The FWCC offers 253,226 square-feet of exhibit space; 41 breakout rooms for maximum flexibility (with a total of 58,849 square feet of meeting room space); a 28,160 square-foot ballroom; 13,500-seat arena and expanded dock facilities.
- A Public events plaza for outdoor gatherings links the Fort Worth Water Gardens to the Convention Center's new grand entrance.



#### **WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL CENTER**

- 100,000 square feet of exhibit space
- · 6,000-seat coliseum
- 3,000-seat theater
- Equestrian center with 2,000-seat arena; 1,000 all-metal stalls
- 170,000-square-foot livestock facility with 1,000-seat show arena
- NEW in 2012-\$32 million Equestrian Multi-Purpose building featuring 1,100 premium stalls

#### **COWTOWN COLISEUM**

• 2,300-seat arena located in Stockyards National Historic District







# FORTWORTH.COM

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION



Jessica Christopherson
Director of Public Relations &
Film Marketing
817.698.7842
JessicaDowdy@FortWorth.com



Sarah Covington Public Relations Manager 817.730.5022 SarahCovington@FortWorth.com