

## Town and Country Life

From the landmarks and traditions that recall Stephen F. Austin's settlement in the area to the bright lights and active lifestyles of Greater Houston, the living possibilities in Fort Bend County are as vast as the Texas skies above them.

To get an idea of the city and country living in Fort Bend, just follow the Brazos River as it meanders through the county, along the scenic banks of Brazos Bend State Park and past the George Ranch, where cattle graze the 23,000 acres of this Texas ranching tradition. Chase the river through historic downtown Richmond, where the Fort Bend County Courthouse of 1909 stands as a nationally registered historic place. Then watch as the Brazos parallels new development along Highway 59, where premier master-planned communities of upscale homes, award-winning schools, and premier golf courses pave the way alongside hospitals, medical facilities, modern office buildings, and retail development. You will quickly discover that Fort Bend provides both city and country living right at your fingertips with a quality of life that is far superior.

## Cultural Activities

Hear the sounds of an award-winning symphony orchestra. Enjoy a holiday performance of the Nutcracker Ballet. Taste the flavors of the world in your own backyard. Fort Bend County boasts a variety of cultural entertainment opportunities and proximity to a plethora of worldly options.

- The Stafford Centre offers a 1,100-seat performing arts theater, 25,000 square feet of meeting, banquet and exposition space, including a 20,000 square foot ballroom, and over 28 acres of outdoor festival green space with ballet, symphony, theater and musical events year-round.



- As part of Greater Houston, Fort Bend is just minutes away from the heart of Houston's performing arts district with performances by internationally acclaimed companies such as the Houston Ballet, Houston Symphony Orchestra, and Houston Grand Opera.
- Enjoy close-to-home theater productions by the Fort Bend Theatre, watch a play by the innovative professional resident company at Alley Theatre in the city, and take in traveling Broadway productions at Houston's Theatre Under The Stars.
- Pamper your taste buds with food and flavors at restaurants in Fort Bend County that offer American, Mexican, Chinese, Italian, Latin, Indian, Japanese, and French cuisine, to name just a few of our international fare options.

## Entertainment

It's the weekend in Fort Bend County. Would you like to spend it flying a mission to the moon, sitting on the 50 yard-line at an NFL game, slipping on a pair of boots and going back in time, or taking a quick trip to the coast? Why not do it all?

- The George Observatory at Brazos Bend State Park along the Brazos River in Fort Bend houses the Challenger Learning Center. Participate in simulated space missions in either a spacecraft simulator or mission control center. Take a look in one of three state-of-the-art domed telescopes at the observatory and do some serious star-gazing.
- Visit nearby museums including: the Fort Bend Museum, Space Center Houston, Houston's Museum of Natural Science, the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, and the Children's Museum.



- Visit the past and discover some of the state's finest traditions at the George Ranch Historical Park, a 23,000-acre working ranch with authentic locations, historic homes and costumed presenters.
- Be a part of Houston's sports fans excitement with the NFL's Houston Texans, MLB's Houston Astros, NBA's Houston Rockets, WNBA's Houston Comets, IHL's Houston Aeros, and Houston's most recent team addition, the Major League Soccer team Dynamo.
- Shine up your boots and put on your hat for Houston's Annual Livestock Show and Rodeo.
- Take a short trip to the Gulf Coast and enjoy a day at Galveston Beach with fresh seafood, panoramic views, and the enchanting Moody Gardens.

## **Recreation**

Warm temperatures and sunny skies. Fort Bend County's subtropical climate allows outdoor activities year-round and promises fun on any day of the year.

- Play golf at one of over 21 facilities in Fort Bend and enjoy 450+ holes in one of the highest per capita golf areas in the nation.
- Hit the tennis courts at any of the county's abundant facilities.
- Get the kids involved in neighborhood baseball and soccer leagues, with numerous fields dispersed throughout Fort Bend.
- Go for a dip in one of many master planned community pool complexes, several of which feature Olympic-sized swimming pools, waterslides, and high-dives.

- For a cool change of pace, hit the ice at Sugar Land Ice and Sports Center, the county's premier indoor ice rink and official practice facility for the Houston Aeros.
- Take a camping trip or afternoon hike along the Brazos River and see the natural wildlife at Brazos Bend State Park.