

# **Dallas Entertainment Districts**

# ADDISON

Addison is one of the Dallas area's most popular destinations. It is unique in the amenities and customer service it provides to Dallas area visitors. With more than 170 restaurants and 22 hotels, Addison offers abundant opportunities for lodging, dining, and shopping, all within 4.35 square miles. Addison perfectly blends the diversity of a big city with the ambiance of a small town. For arts and entertainment, the WaterTower Theatre is one of the most innovative cultural facilities in the nation. The Cavanaugh Flight Museum features fully restored war birds from W.W.I and W.W.II. Plus, no one does Special Events like Addison, so don't miss the North Texas Jazz Festival, Taste Addison, Addison Kaboom Town!, or the Addison Oktoberfest.

# ARLINGTON

Arlington's Entertainment District is bound by Division Street on the south, Lamar Boulevard on the north, Stadium Drive on the east and Center Street on the west. Excitement is building throughout the district, which is home to Six Flags Over Texas, the Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, Hurricane Harbor, Lincoln Square and the new Cowboys Stadium. More economic development projects, utility and roadway improvements are under way throughout the area.

# **BISHOP ARTS DISTRICT**

The Bishop Arts District previously sold itself as Dallas' "best kept secret," but it's hard to call this busy district a secret any longer. This two-block, former warehouse area in South Dallas, or Oak Cliff, is now home to some of Dallas' most sought-after restaurants and its funkiest boutique shopping. The area is fueled by independent retailers and restaurateurs whose goal is to shop local, eat local and live local. Have a drink at Bolsa, eat Southern food at Tillman's Roadhouse and enjoy some live music at Eno's Pizza Tavern. If it's local, it's here.

# **DALLAS ARTS DISTRICT**

Dallas has one of the best art scenes in the country and the Dallas Arts District is in large part responsible for the city's reputation as an arts mecca. The Dallas Arts District is a 68-acre, 19-block area of art heaven, comprised of museums, concert halls, churches and restaurants. The Arts District is now home to four buildings designed by Pritzker-Prize winning architects: the Winspear Opera House, the Wyly Theater the Nasher Sculpture Center, and the Meyerson Symphony Center.

# **DEEP ELLUM**

A former industrial area immediately east of downtown, today Deep Ellum is the city's headquarters for live music, emerging visual and creative artists and the new Green Line of the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) system. Although known around town as the "birthplace of jazz and the blues," on a walk down Elm or Commerce Streets today visitors will hear everything from jazz to hip-hop to rock 'n' roll to alternative. Amidst the numerous clubs and restaurants are shops and galleries where

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clothing and jewelry double as original works of art. Just a few minutes walk from the easternmost portion of Deep Ellum is Fair Park, home to the annual State Fair of Texas.

# **DESIGN DISTRICT**

With cutting edge art galleries, world-famous interior design studios and showrooms, and a burgeoning restaurant and nightlife scene, the Dallas Design District is one of the city's newest and liveliest neighborhoods located steps from Uptown and Oaklawn. The Dallas Design District is the fourth largest concentration of luxury furnishing showrooms, art and antique galleries in the nation and is recognized as the go-to locale for interior designers in the Southwest.

#### **DOWNTOWN DALLAS**

The heart of every big city is its downtown and Dallas is no different. It wasn't all that long ago that downtown Dallas was frequented only by the people that worked in its impressive skyscrapers, but the now vibrant city center is in the midst of a true renaissance. Whether you want to check out an exciting nightclub, a 4-star restaurant or a dive bar for some live music, downtown has it all.

# **GREENVILLE AVENUE**

Greenville Avenue is one of the oldest and, to this day, most popular neighborhoods in the city. A trip from one end of the street to the other allows visitors to experience the family-friendly feel of upper Greenville with its grocery stores and restaurants in contrast to the eclectic and alternative lower Greenville area, full of bars, clubs and funky shops. Nestled in amongst the M Streets residential area, on Greenville you'll find yourself mingling with everyone from families out for dinner to hipsters hitting up a dive bar. A highlight of the area is the historic Granada Theater, a converted 1930s movie theater now host to some of the most in-demand musical touring acts in the city.

#### **HIGHLAND PARK**

Dallas residents often refer to Highland Park as the "Beverly Hills of Texas," and after a visit to this historic area of the city, you'll know why. From palatial residences and couture shopping to exquisite dining, all set amidst some of the most beautiful landscaping in the city, Highland Park is one of Dallas' most affluent neighborhoods. Visitors to the area won't want to miss Highland Park Village, a gorgeous, Spanish Mediterranean complex featuring some of the most revered boutiques in the world, along with fine dining. Other highlights include the campus of Southern Methodist University, home to the Meadows Museum, one of the largest collections of Spanish art outside of Spain.

#### **KNOX-HENDERSON**

Although we like to refer to Knox-Henderson as a single district, it's really two unique neighborhoods in one. Named for two streets crossing Central Expressway, Knox-Henderson is a study in contrasts. The West side is Knox; a picture-perfect city street of traditional home décor shops, al fresco dining, spas and salons. The Katy Trail, a 3.2-mile running trail, bookends the street to the west, making the neighborhood one of the most pedestrian friendly in the city. To the east visitors will find the funkier vibe of Henderson Avenue where vintage shops, gastro-pubs and popular patio bars dominate a street that not so long ago was underutilized.

#### **OAK LAWN**

Oak Lawn is one of the city's liveliest entertainment districts, known for its established restaurants. Oak Lawn is truly one of the most diverse districts in the city.

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#### **SOUTH SIDE**

The South Side/Cedars culture emerged from the area's beginnings as an artists' community in the lofts at Southside on Lamar. Just south of downtown the district has become a desirable place for many to live, but the influence of the eclectic nature of the artists, designers and other creatives that call this area home can be seen everywhere from the unique bars to the studios that still take up the first floor of the Southside complex. The area is also home to Gilley's, where visitors can learn to two-step, brave the mechanical bull or take in a show at one of three music venues in the Gilley's complex. Whether you're getting a drink at Cedar's Social, or visiting an art gallery, this is one area you're going to want to keep your eyes on.

#### **UPTOWN**

McKinney Avenue is the "main street" of this neighborhood, located just northeast of downtown. McKinney runs along the historic McKinney Avenue Trolley line where visitors can still take a free ride from the north end of Uptown, to the Dallas Arts District downtown. This area experienced a surge of residential growth and an influx of high-end hotels as it evolved into the place in Dallas to see and be seen. This chic but historic area (the State-Thomas neighborhood, part of the district, is 125 years old and home to numerous historic homes) is now Dallas' nightlife capital. Park your car and visit one of Uptown's dozens of high-end restaurants, trendy nightclubs and bars along with unique shopping, world-class spas and Dallas' most desirable residential living. Highlights include Dean Fearing's namesake restaurant, Fearing's, and Stanley Korshak, a Dallas-only high-end department store, all located within a beautifully walkable neighborhood. While you're in the area check out West Village, a shopping destination with trendsetting boutiques, vintage collections, art galleries, a wide variety of unique restaurants, popular nightlife and a Magnolia movie theater.

#### THE WEST END

The 55-acre West End Historic District is the center of Dallas' tourist activity. Just a couple of blocks away from the skyscrapers of the city, entering the West End is like taking a step back in time. Start your visit at the Visitor's Information Center in the Old Red Courthouse. You can get your bearings while wandering through the beautifully preserved building, which served as the original Dallas County courthouse and is now an interactive museum dedicated to the history of the city. A short walk across the street will land you at the Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza where you can discover the life, legacy and assassination of one of America's most beloved presidents. Don't stop there though, make sure to get your cowboy boots and hats at Wild Bill's Western Store and take a walk through the historic streets of the district while the aromas of grilled steaks, barbecue and Tex-Mex remind you that you are definitely in Texas.

# VICTORY PARK

If the West End is the historic heart of Dallas, Victory Park is its 21st century counterpart. A 75-acre master-planned development of trendy shops, exciting nightlife and high-end living, Victory Park is glamorous Dallas at its finest. The area's cornerstone is the American Airlines Center, home to the 2011 NBA Champion Dallas Mavericks and the NHL's Dallas Stars. AT&T Plaza provides the area with a central meeting place right across from the hip W-Dallas Victory Hotel. Other highlights include the House of Blues, Hard Rock Café and multiple fun and exciting new restaurants and nightclubs.

Sources: www.addisontexas.net; www.arlingtontx.gov/business/entertainmentdistrict.html; www.visitdallas.com/things-to-do/entertainment-districts/

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