

ASSOCIATION OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXECUTIVES CONVENTION: **LOCAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Dallas Regional Chamber is thrilled to partner with the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE) to host you for the 2024 ACCE Convention in Dallas. While this is certainly not a comprehensive list of all the region has to offer, we hope this list of local recommendations helps make your stay in the Dallas Region wonderful. Visit

SayYestoDallas.com to learn more.

Addison

Addison has 118 acres of parks and enough restaurants to seat 20,000 people at a time. The area is a favorite of young, single people, who enjoy the abundant nightlife, the proximity to shopping, easy access to the Dallas North Tollway, and jobs galore. Addison is also a culture hub, with an active theater community, an incredible holiday lights display, and the popular Kaboom Town each July.

Places to Explore

- Addison Circle Park
- Bowlero
- Galleria Dallas

Restaurant Recommendations

- Gorji
- Ida Claire
- Loro

Arlington

Arlington is in the center of the Dallas Region, just ten miles east of Fort Worth and twenty miles west of Dallas. Arlington officials like to say that the city was built on two words: “We can.” Here you can see a Texas Rangers baseball game, attend a Dallas Cowboys football game, ride a roller coaster at Six Flags Over Texas, or shoot down a water flume at Hurricane Harbor. You can also enjoy River Legacy Park’s 1,300 acres of urban forests and greenbelts that follow the curves of the Trinity River.

Places to Explore

- Arlington Entertainment District
- Arlington Highlands
- Downtown Arlington

Carrollton

Carrollton is a vibrant corporate and residential community. The city's location and business cost advantages attract and support a diverse local economy with more than 9,000 businesses calling Carrollton home. The ever-growing community is connected by transit options such as light rail and major highways and easy access to both Dallas Love Field and DFW International Airport. Residents are drawn to the city for its high quality of life, abundant parks and sports complexes, excellent schools, safe neighborhoods and housing options, and outstanding medical facilities. Located minutes from everything, including shopping, restaurants, nightlife, and the urban amenities of the entire Dallas Region, Carrollton is a big city with a small-town feel.

Places to Explore

- 3 Nations Brewing
- Historic Downtown Carrollton
- Rosemeade Rainforest

Restaurant Recommendations

- Cuban Dulceria International Bakery
- Ddong Ggo Tx
- El Rumbero Taqueria

Cedar Hill

Cedar Hill has a distinctive character where families and businesses grow naturally in a safe and clean environment. As the Hill Country of the Dallas Region, Cedar Hill offers unique topography and enjoys many natural amenities such as Lake Joe Pool and beautiful, family-friendly parks. Successful retailers have made Cedar Hill a major shopping, dining, and entertainment center for southwest Dallas County and the surrounding areas.

Places to Explore

- Cedar Hill State Park
- Cedar Ridge Preserve
- Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center

Restaurant Recommendations

- Babe's Chicken Dinner House
- Sam's Pizza
- Vera Cruz Cafe

Dallas

Dallas' urban core is an exciting and diverse collection of environments, experiences, and neighborhoods- each with its own character, personality, and purpose. From historic buildings and museums to first-rate art facilities and an endless selection of amazing restaurants, Dallas' urban core provides a place for almost any taste.

Places to Explore

- Dallas Museum of Art
- Klyde Warren Park
- Perot Museum of Nature & Science

Denton

Denton is a vibrant and growing community with many opportunities, regardless of your interest or passion. You are free to be whomever you are in a friendly atmosphere with a small-town vibe that's just a short drive away from the big city. Denton's educated and creative residents value sustainability and collaboration, as evident in the city's innovative practices, vibrant art and music scene, and popular hot spots and events. With two universities and more than 50,000 students, two hospitals, an industrial district, and a lively downtown and entrepreneurial community, Denton is a hotspot in the Dallas Region.

Places to Explore

- Barley and Board
- Historic Downtown Denton
- Lake Ray Roberts State Park

DeSoto

DeSoto is a growing city of roughly 53,000 people located just south of Dallas. It draws families and young professionals who want to maintain affordability and quality of life and offers a range of housing options. It is known for its quality schools and strong community. With easy access to highways and Dallas Love Field, Desoto is an ideal place for commuters. It is also home to several locally owned shops and nationally recognized names.

Places to Explore

- DeSoto BMX
- Thorntree Golf Club
- Windmill Hill Nature Preserve

Duncanville

Duncanville, just south of Dallas, is known as the "City of Champions." Positioned along Interstate 20 and Highway 67, Duncanville is known for its leadership, high-performing schools, nationally recognized sports programs, diverse community, safe neighborhoods, and scenic parks and landscaping. The Duncanville Independent School District is well-respected and has

produced student athletes who have gone on to compete at the collegiate, professional, and Olympic levels.

Places to Explore

- Armstrong Park
- Redbird Skateland

Restaurant Recommendations

- Roma's

Fort Worth

Fort Worth began in 1849 as an army outpost protecting settlers from Indians. It grew rapidly after the Civil War due to its location on the Chisholm Trail, on which cattle were driven to Kansas to be transported via train—earning it the nickname “Cowtown.” The name stuck, and the now cosmopolitan city still uses a longhorn steer as part of its official logo and maintains the Fort Worth Stockyards as a historic district and tourist destination. But people who call the area home know this city's present encompasses more than its past.

In the last decade, it has been one of the fastest-growing areas in the country, and Fort Worth is continually recognized by *Money*, *Fortune*, and other magazines as one of the best places to live and work in the United States. A healthy job market, affordable housing, and the energy associated with several colleges and universities contribute to its vibrancy. And then you have the cultural offerings: Fort Worth has exceptional museums (including Kimbell Art Museum, Amon Carter Museum of American Art, and The Modern) and galleries, as well as the gorgeous Bass Performance Hall in Sundance Square. The general vibe of Fort Worth is different from that of Dallas, and though outsiders usually tie together the cities, they are distinct in many ways.

Places to Explore

- Botanic Garden
- Fort Worth Zoo
- Kimbell Art Museum

Restaurant Recommendations

- GameTheory
- Lili's on Magnolia
- Lucile's

Frisco

Frisco is a modern metropolitan city at the top of its game, leading the way in population growth, business innovation, and an extraordinary quality of life, attracting a diverse array of businesses and their highly skilled workers and families from across the country. Frisco

provides a lifestyle that is affordable with a host of quality amenities. It is where you can explore all that life has to offer and still find something new to surprise you—including professional sports, an abundance of recreational opportunities, unique and culturally diverse dining and retail experiences, and a tapestry of arts and entertainment options. For a list of events, attractions, restaurants and more, see Visit Frisco's website at VisitFrisco.com.

Places to Explore

- The Dallas Cowboys World Headquarters at The Star
- The National Soccer Hall of Fame at Toyota Stadium
- The National Video Game Museum

Restaurant Recommendations

- The Heritage Table
- J. Theodore
- Lombardi Cucina Italiana

Grapevine

The City of Grapevine is a go-to destination, providing a convenient escape from the big city. One can explore the city's historic downtown, discovering more than 80 locally owned shops, boutiques, wine tasting rooms, restaurants, and art galleries. One can also play 81 holes of golf or take advantage of more than 8,000 acres of recreation on Lake Grapevine. Grapevine is home to Grapevine Mills, Bass Pro Shops, and an abundance of antiques, arts and crafts, galleries, wines from around the world, and handcrafted items such as Vetro Glass Blowing. One can find entertainment in places like Legoland, SeaLife Aquarium, Meow Wolf, Main Event, and several other family-friendly entertainment venues. And if you do not have a car, you can ride the DART from Dallas or TexRail from Fort Worth, directly into not just Grapevine but also the DFW Airport! Both trains go to Harvest Hall at the Hotel Vin right at the intersection of Main Street and Dallas Road, providing a leisurely walk to enjoy Grapevine.

Places to Explore

- Cowboy's or Grapevine Golf Clubs
- Grapevine Main Street
- Meow Wolf

Restaurant Recommendations

- Esparza's Restaurante Mexicano
- Grapevine EpiCenter restaurants
- Harvest Hall

Irving/Las Colinas

Irving is known for its convenience in getting anywhere in the region. The central location makes it an easy commute to almost anywhere in the area, especially DFW Airport—which is one reason so many companies have opted to headquarter there. Irving was founded in 1903 and still retains some of its historical charm. The Mayberry-like downtown even has a drugstore with a rare operating soda fountain.

Las Colinas, however, mixes high-rise office buildings with apartments and family homes set around golf courses and lakes. Residents can explore the Mandalay Canals on gondolas, view the realistic sculpture Mustangs of Las Colinas, and check the time on the huge flower clock. The Toyota Music Factory complex offers global dining and concerts at the Pavilion. The Champion Trails greenbelt passes through one of the area parks and is great for walking and biking.

Places to Explore

- Champion Trails
- Mandalay Canal
- Toyota Music Factory

McKinney

In a sea of new builds, McKinney is an island of character. The authentic, refreshed Town Square, dotted with quirky shops and inventive eateries kept bustling with events, plus a large, well-persevered Historic District, and inventive concept new neighborhoods set it apart from the surrounding suburbs. The progressive-minded city worked with planners to create a city that brought to life all the glory of its past and natural attributes with modern sensibilities to build a community that will thrive well into the future.

Places to Explore

- Adriatica Croatian Village
- Historic Downtown McKinney
- Tupp's Brewery

Restaurant Recommendations

- Bob's Steak & Chop House
- Harvest at the Masonic
- Rick's Chophouse

Mesquite

Mesquite is the 20th largest city in Texas, with over 150,000 residents and 76 parks. It is also the Rodeo Capital of Texas! Rodeo season is from June through August and features some of the best rodeo riders in the world. Mesquite is also a retail hub. Town East Mall provides more than 1.2 million square feet of shopping for our residents and visitors.

Places to Explore

- Mesquite Arts Center
- Mesquite Rodeo
- Town East Mall

Restaurant Recommendations

- Alejandro's
- Mesquite BBQ
- Shell Shack

Plano

Plano is positioned to meet the growing needs of its residents and businesses and offer a quality of life second to none. With award-winning schools, world-class recreation, diverse residential neighborhoods, and a resounding hometown spirit among community members, it is easy to see why 290,000 people call Plano home. But more importantly, a diverse economy is why thousands of businesses, from start-ups and solopreneurs to corporate campuses and Fortune 100 companies, call Plano the best place to do business in America.

Places to Explore

- The Historic Texas Pool
- Legacy West Mixed-Use Shopping Center
- Southfork Ranch

Restaurant Recommendations

- Haywire
- Mexican Bar Company
- Urban Crust

Richardson

Richardson is a fast commute to anywhere in the Dallas Region, with many affordable single-family homes, good schools, and a diverse population. DFW's Chinatown is also there, and there is a large Asian Indian immigrant community. The desire for community and culture is behind several popular festivals, as well as the Eisemann Center for Performing Arts. The city has been lauded for being a "best workplace for commuters" (location is everything) and for excellence in recreation and parks management.

Places to Explore

- DFW Chinatown
- Free Play Arcade
- Lockwood Distilling Co.

Restaurant Recommendations

- Jeng Chi
- Sueno Modern Mex-Tex
- Texas Restaurant

Additional Recommendations

BROWNWOOD

Brownwood is located at the top of the Hill Country about three hours southwest of Dallas. It is the country seat with a population of 18,862.

Places to Explore

- Downtown Brownwood
- The Hideout Golf Course & Resorts
- Wine tasting at 10 Mile Productions or Skies Over Texas Winery

Restaurant Recommendations

- Lucielle & Mabel
- Underwood's BBQ
- Up in Smoke

NORTH TEXAS LGBT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Dallas has one of the most vibrant and active LGBTQ+ communities in the nation. The gayborhood stretches along Cedar Springs Road between Oak Lawn and Wycliff, anchored by the historic Warwick Melrose Hotel on one end and the not-so-historic Kroger at the other. Although this area is the geographic center of the LGBTQ+ community, everyone is welcome.

Places to Explore

- The Rose Room
- Round-Up Saloon
- Shopping at Skivies or Outlines Menswear

Restaurant Recommendations

- Hunky's Old Fashioned Hamburgers
- Roy G's
- Street's Fine Chicken