BBQ, Beaches & Bayou.



Enjoy this short 10-day trip through the heart of the great state of Texas. Everything is big here, from the cities, the friendly smiles of the locals to the portions of the greatest BBQ to be had anywhere in the country. Spend time learning about how history shaped this state and the rest of the country at the Battle of the Alamo, enjoy your own piece of beach paradise down on the Gulf coast and learn how we put a man on the moon over 50 years ago at the famous Johnson Space Center.

Day 1/2

After enjoying some sightseeing in Dallas, please make your way to the Cruise America depot to collect your motorhome. Head down Interstate 35 to spend 2 nights in supercool Austin and enjoy everything the 'Live Music Capital of the World' and all-round great city has to offer. The accommodation we suggest is a full-service resort just a few miles from downtown.

199 miles to Austin. Stop at Fort Worth and see the legendary Stockyards National Historic District the city is famous for. Spend time in Austin with its unrivalled live music options, over 300 parks, some of the best BBQ in the country and its friendly and laidback attitude.

https://www.sunrvresorts.com/resorts/southwest/texas/austin-lone-star/

Day 3/4

Leave Austin and take the short drive into the famous Texas Hill Country region. Known for its stunning wildflowers in Spring, this area is full of rolling hills, flowing creeks & rivers with numerous small family-run wineries dotting the landscape. Spend 2 nights at the gorgeous Camp Huaco Springs nestled along the banks of the Guadalupe River in New Braunfels. Families can enjoy the setting and spend time on the river with swimming and raft rentals available. You are also only 45 minutes' drive from the centre of San Antonio allowing you to spend time exploring the famous Battle of the Alamo, one of the most important historical events in the history of the nation.

60 miles to New Braunfels. Visit picturesque Fredericksburg in the heart of Hill Country founded by German immigrants. Stop in Bandera, with its feel of an old Western movie scene and self-proclaimed Cowboy Capital of the World. Go for a hike in Lost Maples State Natural Area to see the only maple forest in Texas especially in the fall with its stunning vibrant colours. Enjoy all the water-based theme rides at the Schlitterbahn Waterpark.

https://camphuacosprings.com/

Day 5/6

After a few days exploring some of the states fascinating cities, it's time for something very different as you head south towards to the Gulf Coast. Stop in the town of Corpus Christi for some supplies as you head off to the beach. The Padre Island National Seashore and longest stretch of undeveloped barrier island in the world to be precise. Spend a few days down here and find your own little piece of paradise on the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico. You can choose to pay and stay in one of the primitive campgrounds which offers toilets, showers and picnic sites which are just a few minutes' walk to the beach or you can choose to camp literally on over 60 miles of deserted beach for free at either North or South Beach.

197 miles North Padre Island. Join the park rangers at sunrise to watch baby sea turtles being released back into the sea (20 to 25 public hatchling releases happen each summer). Rent a canoe or kayak and explore the ocean and the saltwater Laguna Madre.

https://www.nps.gov/pais/planyourvisit/south_beach.htm

Day 7

Follow the Gulf coast north as you head back into civilisation. Stop at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge to see a host of birds and other fantastic wildlife such as alligators, armadillos amongst many others. Once in Galveston experience this part historic southern town with its gorgeous Victorian homes and mansions and part beach town with its array of activities to keep families entertained for days.

260 miles to Galveston. Visit Moody Gardens which is part theme park and part pleasure garden with its very popular aquarium. Indulge in some retail therapy at Pier 21 with its shops and restaurants.

https://www.jbrv.net/

Day 8

Time to head north away from the coastline and towards the largest city in Texas and one of the biggest in the country, Houston. South of the city stop at NASA's Johnson Space Center to learn about human spaceflight. Whilst the rockets are launched from Florida, all the training and planning goes on here. Stop in Houston itself to enjoy its diverse neighbourhoods and eclectic mix of restaurants and luxurious shops. Head north along Interstate 45 for some time back in the woods at Sam Houston National Forest with its many hiking and boating opportunities.

115 miles to Sam Houston National Forest. Stop at Johnson Space Center with its fun zero-gravity labs and its Rocket Park displaying some awesome space hardware. To cool off in the summer heat, head to Six Flags Hurricane Harbor Splashtown with its also endless options for water rides and wave pools.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/texas/recreation/camping-cabins/recarea/?recid=30274&actid=31

Day 9

Continue to travel north into a region that is quite different than the other areas you have so far visited and not the Texas you may have imagined. This part of east Texas known as the Piney Woods region is where the forests meets the bayou with its charming little towns, rich history, outstanding natural scenery, and fascinating and diverse ecosystems. Stop in Tyler, known as the Rose Capital of America with its stunning municipal garden.

149 miles to Tyler. Visit the historic Southern Belle towns such as Jefferson and Nacogdoches. See the big cats at the Tiger Creek Wildlife Refuge.

https://www.tyleroaksrvresort.com/

Day 10

It is just 95 miles back to the Cruise America depot in Dallas and the end of your Texan RV Adventure.

Depart: Dallas, Houston or Austin.

Duration: 10 days

Distance: 1077 miles