

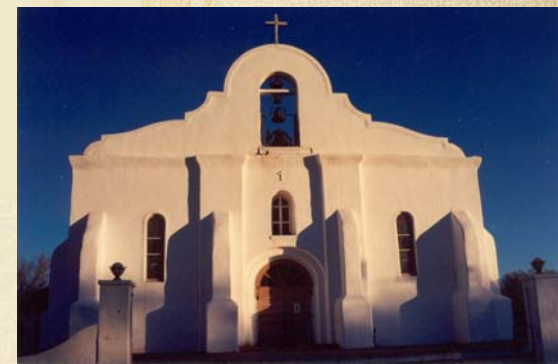


Presented by Leesy McCorgary, Tourism Marketing Manager

El Paso Convention and Visitors Bureau

HISTORY OF EL PASO

- 1581:** First Europeans traveled through the Pass of the North
- 1598:** The Juan de Onate expedition celebrated the first Thanksgiving on the banks of the Rio Grande.
- 1680:** Spanish settlers founded the Ysleta, Socorro and San Elizario Missions. El Paso became a critical stop along the Camino Real (agriculture, mining, transportation).
- 1845:** El Paso officially became part of the United States when Texas joined the Union.
- 1846:** The Mexican War assured the settlements on the north side of the Rio Grande to be part of the United States.
- 1849:** The first military post was established along the Rio Grande.
- 1881:** The Railroad arrived.
- 1913:** The College of Mines, now UTEP was chartered by the State of Texas.
- 1967:** The Chamizal Agreement verified the boundary and the exact course of the Rio Grande through the city was signed.
- 1979:** Franklin Mountains State Park, the largest urban park in the United States was established.



FACTS & STATS

- Located on the western most tip of Texas where New Mexico and Mexico meet.
- 6th largest city in Texas
- Population is estimated at 600,000
- Ranked 3rd safest city in the country (Morgan Quinto)
- Mountain time Zone at an altitude of 3,762 ft.
- Average number of days with sunshine: 310
- Average mean high temperature: 76.8 degrees
- Average mean low temperature: 50.6 degrees



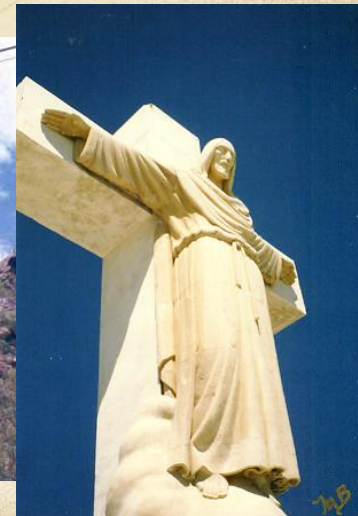
HISTORICAL & CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS

- **El Paso Mission Trail:** Oldest working missions in the region and home to over 400 years of history. (Ysleta, Tigua Cultural Center, Socorro, San Elizario, and Los Portales Museum)
- **Historic Plaza Theatre:** Opened in 1930 and renovated in 2002, the Theatre provides free tours every Tuesday at noon.
- **Concordia Cemetery:** Dating back to the 1840's, over 60,000 individuals are buried here (John Wesley Hardin, Buffalo Soldiers, etc.).



THE GREAT OUTDOORS

- **Franklin Mountains State Park:** Hiking/walking, camping, mountain biking, rock climbing, Aztec Caves, and guided tours.
- **Hueco Tanks:** This large natural rock basin is world renowned for rock climbing and is home to over 200 ancient pictographs (tours provided).
- **Keystone Heritage Park:** Desert Botanical Garden, Chihuahuan Desert Experience, and Wetlands Site.
- **Mount Cristo Rey:** Four-story-tall statue of Christ tops the mountain at 4,576 ft.
- **Wyler Aerial Tramway:** 7,000 square mile panoramic view of two countries and three states from an elevation of 5,632 ft.
- **El Paso Zoo:** One of the largest on the Southwest's border with over 36 acres of exhibits.
- **Golf:** Over 10 golf courses to choose from, newest addition-Butterfield Trail Golf Club.



AREA MUSUEMS

Eastside, Northeast & Central

- Chamizal National Memorial
- Firefighters Museum
- Fort Bliss Museum
- International Museum of Art
- Magoffin Home
- Medical Heritage Collection
- Museum of Archaeology
- McCall Neighborhood Center
- National Border Patrol Museum
- U.S. Army of the Noncommissioned Officer

Downtown

- Holocaust Museum
- Insights Science Museum
- Lynx Exhibits
- Museum of Art
- Museum of History
- Railroad Museum

Westside & New Mexico

- Centennial Museum @ UTEP
- County Historical Society
- Heritage House @ UTEP
- Stanlee & Gerald Rubin Center @ UTEP
- War Eagles Museum



SHOP TILL YOU DROP!

- **Cielo Vista Mall:** Located on the Eastside of town and home to over 140 retail stores.
- **Sunland Park Mall:** 2 level shopping mall located on the Westside of town.
- **Basset Place Mall:** Costco, Marshalls, Ross, Target, Kohls, etc., located in Central El Paso.
- **Outlet Shoppes at El Paso:** Shop over 60 name brand outlets.
- **Boots:** Rocketbuster, Tony Lama, Luchesse, Caboots, Cowtown, etc.
- **Homegrown:** Saddleblanket Co., EP Chile Co., Galeria San Ysidro, Café Mayapan, EP Imports, etc.



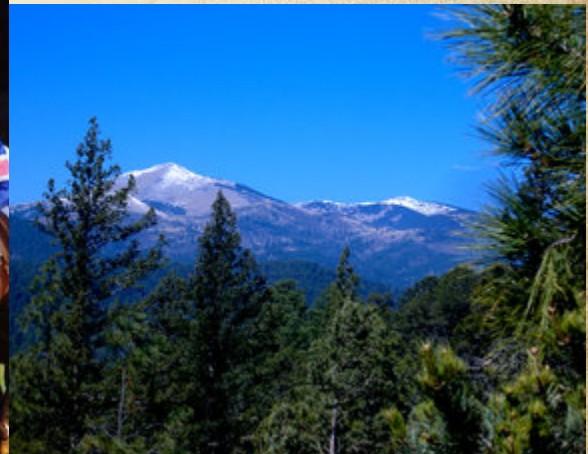
REGIONAL EXCURSIONS

- **Big Bend National Park:** 328 miles southeast, park provides hiking, climbing, birding, mountain biking, cycling, guided tours, annual events, etc.
- **Carlsbad Caverns National Park:** 155 miles east, park provides self guided tour of the cave, evening bat flight, hiking, camping, and guided tours for large groups.
- **Cloudcroft, NM:** 90 miles north, enjoy horseback riding, biking, ATV's, hunting, golf, camping etc.
- **Guadalupe Mountains National Park:** 110 miles east, park provides hiking, camping, birding, wildlife viewing, star gazing, and horseback riding.
- **Las Cruces/Old Mesilla, NM:** 38 miles north, shopping, Gadsden Museum, San Albino Church, historic walking tours, Stahman Farms, etc.



REGIONAL EXCURSIONS CONTINUED...

- **Ruidoso, NM:** 132 miles north, area provides skiing, hunting & fishing, golf, camping, horseback riding, biking, sleigh & carriage rides, shopping, dining, etc.
- **Roswell, NM:** 207 miles northeast, UFO Museum, golf, shopping, Spring River Park & Zoo, etc.
- **Sunland Park Racetrack & Casino:** Sunland Park, NM, provides a casino, live horseracing, 4 dining options, and live entertainment.
- **White Sands National Monument:** 95 miles north, park provides 275 miles of white gypsum sand dunes, camping, bicycling, picnicking, star gazing, and guided tours.
- **Wineries:** La Vina (La Union, NM), St. Claire (Deming, NM), Star Canyon (El Paso, TX), and Zin Valle (Canutillo, TX).



ANNUAL EVENTS

www.eventsel Paso.com or www.visitel Paso.com

Fall

- Amigo Airsho
- SW PRCA Rodeo
- Concordia Walk Through History
- Celebration of our Mountains
- Bi-national Dia de los Muertos

Winter

- Brut Sun Bowl
- Pro-Musica Chamber Festival
- TX vs. The Nation
- Luminarias by the Lake

Spring

- Siglo de Oro
- El Paso Marathon
- First Thanksgiving Celebration
- KLAQ Balloonfest

Summer

- Alfresco Fridays
- Viva! El Paso
- Music Under the Stars
- Jazz on the Rocks
- Downtown Street Fest



SCHEDULED CITY TOURS

Discover El Paso! Enjoy a day of sightseeing and exploration.

Tours include visits to: Historic Mission Trail, Scenic Drive, Transmountain Road, Outlet Shoppes at El Paso, El Paso Zoo, and the Historic Plaza Theatre

*Breakfast and lunch will be provided

*Please note dates and times are subject to change



VISITOR INFORMATION CENTERS

- Airport

El Paso International Airport

915.534.0658

- Fort Bliss

Inside PX

915.534.0657

- Downtown

Civic Center Plaza

915.534.0600 or 800.351.6024

www.visitelpaso.com

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The background is a faded, golden-hued illustration of a traditional Middle Eastern courtyard. It features a central fountain with a tiered base and a small structure on top. The courtyard is surrounded by buildings with arched windows and doorways. The overall style is reminiscent of a watercolor or a soft-focus photograph. The text "QUESTIONS???" is centered over the image in a bold, black, serif font.

QUESTIONS???