

SAN FELIPE DE AUSTIN

state historic site

Greetings – Welcome to San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site!

During this trying public health crisis, we have adjusted our operations and rules of engagement for our historic site, visitor center and exhibits. Thanks for your patience as help us navigate this new world of history and preservation stewardship.

Payment

If possible, we ask that you pay for your admission to the site by **credit card** and **by phone** before you leave your car. If you gave your cell number to our parking lot attendant, one of our staff will call you shortly to process this transaction. If this is not possible, proceed to the main entrance.

Base admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (65+) and \$5 for children (5-13); children under 5 are free. We also offer several discounts to the base admission (local residents, veterans, state park users, and family bundles). Active military personnel and their immediate families receive free admission. You should expect to be here at least 75-90 minutes for your visit.

Exhibit/Tours

Exhibit tours are offered on the hour each hour (on high-volume days there may be a brief closure from noon to 1 for cleaning and disinfecting). Tour times are capped at 30 attendees per hour (per the Governor's directive of operating at a 25% capacity threshold), and tour groups will be 5 or less (visitors from the same household can stay in one group). Please report to the **Old 300 Learning Hall** (the room to the left as you approach the main entrance) before your scheduled tour hour. We ask that you maintain appropriate social distancing in this space – household groups can sit together, but should be at least 6-8 feet from other attendees. If you need a restroom stop before the tour, those facilities are to the right as you approach the main entrance.

Tour Content

One of our staff or volunteers will facilitate your tour experience, taking you into the visitor center and explaining our story. The tour includes two short films, a main exhibit that includes multimedia interactives, a temporary exhibit gallery, and an outdoor plaza with map of the town. We also have interpretive grounds both near the visitor center and across FM 1458 with additional outdoor exhibits. You are free to visit the outdoor exhibits at your leisure following your tour. Your tour guide will demonstrate the multimedia interactives.

Retail/Museum Store

At the end of your exhibit tour, you will have the opportunity to visit our retail area if you desire. Groups of 5 or less will be allowed to shop one-at-a-time. We encourage you to shop with your eyes and ask questions rather than handling lots of merchandise. All visitors to the retail space should hand sanitize before entering the sales floor. We ask that you help us process your sales via credit card. Thanks for your patience. You can leave your purchases with us while you tour the grounds.

Thanks for your support; see reverse side for additional information about your visit today.

Basic Rules of Visitor Center Access

- **All staff/volunteers** participating in museum operations will be **wearing masks/facial coverings**
- **All visitors** over the age of 4 must also **wear masks** when inside the visitor center or other buildings to assist us in keeping our public history environment as safe as possible for all (if you have a respiratory ailment that prevents wearing a mask – please inform your guide); if you have arrived without a mask, we have limited supplies and will make one available to you if possible
- Part of maintaining a safe environment means that we can only offer structured tours as noted above; if you are not interested in a 60-75-minute Texas history experience today, we encourage you to visit our grounds at your leisure and plan for a full exhibit tour soon
- State of Texas facilities are non-smoking and tobacco products-free (including vaping devices); please complete your use of any tobacco or vaping product in the parking lot before you come up to the facility (and dispose of any waste appropriately)
- Only certified, trained service animals are allowed access to our indoor space (this guideline is intended to facilitate access for disabled persons that rely on animals for assistance; emotional-support animals are generally NOT classified as service)

Days and Hours of Operation

If you enjoyed your visit today and want to plan for your next one, or recommend this experience to friends or family, please note that we are currently open Wednesdays through Sundays, with first tours starting at 10:00 am. The last tour is an abbreviated one beginning at 4:00 pm. Days and hours of operation will change, as will the structure of the visitor experience, as our public health situation improves. Please stay in touch with us to best plan your next visitor experience (979.885.2181, ext. 0).

Area Sites/Attractions

If you are looking for additional experiences as part of your day out, consider:

- Stephen F. Austin State Park (approximately 1 mile west of this site); day-use only, hiking and outdoor recreation; pre-reservation may be required; **979.885.3613**
- Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site (approximately 1-hour north, between Brenham and Navasota); **936.878.2214**
- Kreische Brewery and Monument Hill State Historic Site (approximately 1-hour northwest of San Felipe, in La Grange); **979.968.5658**
- Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site (less than 1 hour south of San Felipe, in West Columbia); **979.345.4656** - note: there are other Stephen F. Austin-related stops in this area

*Let us help you with information about these sites and by inquiring about their capacity if you plan to travel directly from here today.

If you've enjoyed your experience here today, please consider making a donation to the Friends of the San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site – a local non-profit that supports our day-to-day operations and education mission. For continued information about the history of our site and Texas history in general, consider following our Facebook page (@SanFelipedeAustin). And if you were disappointed to miss out on San Jacinto Day this year, enjoy a short commemorative program that our site contributed to in partnership with the other Texas Revolution sites. The event was filmed live on San Jacinto Day and can be seen here: https://youtu.be/YVHCfjCeA_I