



February 2015 - Newsletter

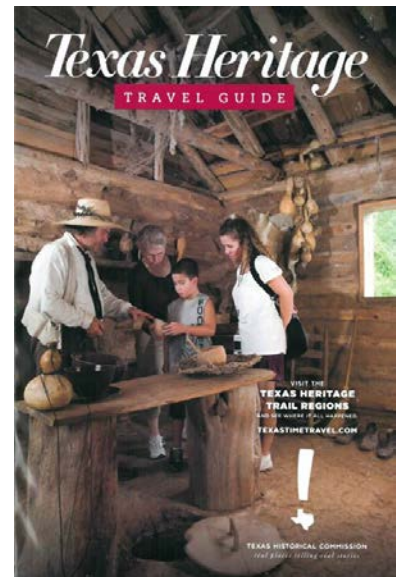
## MISSION

The Texas Hill Country Trail Region will preserve, protect and promote the cultural, historic and natural resources of its 19 counties.

## VISION

The Texas Hill Country Trail Region will develop partnerships to protect our heritage and sustain our natural and cultural resources through promotion, preservation, education and tourism.

## Explore Texas' History and Heritage with the THC's New Statewide Travel Guide



**TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
*real places telling real stories*

AUSTIN, Texas —Experience the vastness and wonder of the Lone Star State with the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) new *Texas Heritage Travel Guide*. Encompassing all 10 Texas Heritage Trail Regions, the free statewide guide highlights historic destinations that tell the real stories of Texas.

From beautifully restored courthouses to historic frontier forts, the guide offers a comprehensive starting point for your next adventure. Travel to communities large and small to discover the tales of Texas' rich cast of characters ranging from Spanish missionaries to rugged cowboys to heroes of the Texas Revolution. With 167 pages of visitor information, images, and maps, heritage travelers can immerse themselves in the captivating story of Texas.

The guide is free and available for [download](http://www.thc.state.tx.us/explore) at [www.thc.state.tx.us/explore](http://www.thc.state.tx.us/explore). Print copies may be requested through our online order form ([www.thc.state.tx.us/orderguides](http://www.thc.state.tx.us/orderguides)) or by calling 866.276.6219.

The *Texas Heritage Travel Guide* is a product of the THC's award-winning heritage tourism initiative, the Texas Heritage Trails Program, which encourages people to get out and rediscover the state's historic and cultural treasures. For more information, contact the THC's Community Heritage Development Division at 512.463.6092.

## Featured February Events in the Texas Hill Country

### Bandera

#### 10th Annual 11th Street Cowboy Mardi Gras

Thu - Sat 02/05 - 02/07/15

Come out and enjoy live Cajun & Country music, Cajun food, gumbo cook off, costume contest, canine costume contest. Saturday at noon, stake your claim to a spot on Main Street for the Cowboy Mardi Gras Parade, floats, horses, cowboys, feathers, masks, & plenty of beads!

To participate in the parade contact the 11th Street Cowboy Bar.  
307 11th Street  
Bandera, TX 78003  
830-796-4849

See more at: <http://www.banderacowboycapital.com>



### Fredericksburg

#### Country Schools and Texas Vineyards Tour

Saturday, February 14, 2015

#### OPEN HOUSE

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

#### Cave Creek School

470 Cave Creek Road, Fredericksburg, Texas

<http://www.HistoricSchools.org>

Combine a scenic driving tour with stops along the way to visit Historic Country Schools and Texas Wineries.



### Uvalde

#### Sahawe Indian Winter Ceremonials

February 27 & 28 and March 6 & 7 at 7 pm

The Sahawe Indian Dancers are members of Boy Scout Troop and Venture Crew 181 in Uvalde. The Ceremonials feature dances of the Southwest Pueblos in a 2-hour program. Dances from the Taos, Hopi, Santa Clara and San Juan Pueblos are presented. The elaborate costumes, songs, dances, history and folklore are enjoyed by audiences of all ages. They will perform 3 times each weekend, the last weekend of February and the first weekend of March.

Winter Ceremonials are held inside the Weston Hall at Uvalde's First United Methodist Church.  
301 North High Street.

Fees/Admission

Adults \$6. Children 4-11 & seniors \$3.

Children under 4 and uniformed boy or girl scouts free.

Contact

830-261-9568.



## HILL COUNTRY HAPPENINGS....

The Texas Hill Country Trail Region partners met in January at Natural Bridge Caverns located at 26495 Natural Bridge Caverns Road in San Antonio. Our partners were able to take an amazing site tour to hear the history and to see all of the many offerings Natural Bridge Caverns has available to their visitors. A delicious lunch was provided for us prior to our meeting and those daring enough to stay afterwards experienced zip lining, the canopy challenge and shopping before heading home. Natural Bridge Caverns Discovery Tour was developed with two main goals in mind: preservation of the caverns' environment and comfort of its guests. The result is one of the world premier show caverns, and one of the most popular attractions in Texas.



## JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT MEETING....

Texas Hill Country Trail

March Meeting

Thursday, March 19, 2015

1:00 p.m.

Hosted by the

San Antonio Convention and  
Visitors Bureau

Meeting Location:

McNay Art Museum

6000 North New Braunfels

San Antonio, TX 78209

210-824-5368

Lunch and a tour will be  
provided! Details to come!



## Texas Historical Commission

### Texas Heritage Trails Program Update

Agency and Program updates and Issues related to THC Partners:

Our Legislative Appropriations Request, or LAR has been submitted and all the hearings we anticipate prior to the session have taken place.

The economic impact study is underway with The University of Texas and Rutgers. We should start seeing drafts shortly.

Google has approached us about integrating Texas Time Travel data into their Field Trip app. We would still own and control that data but it would get the information about sites out before a far larger audience. We have just begun discussions and due diligence.

Landmark Inn in Castroville is currently closed for preservation work and expected to reopen in summer 2015.

Total visitation for THC Historic Sites was 313,088 for fiscal year 2014. This is the first decline since THC took over the operations but that is partly due to site closures for capital projects. This is still higher than 2012 and all prior years. (198K in 2009)

#### WHAT'S COOKING IN THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY?

Blanco Recipe

#### GINGER-MOLASSES COOKIES

3 cups butter, softened	2 tablespoons plus 2 teaspoons baking soda
4 cups firmly packed light brown sugar	2 teaspoons salt
3/4 cup molasses	2 teaspoons ground ginger
4 eggs, well beaten	2 teaspoons ground cloves
9 cups all-purpose flour	Granulated sugar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly grease 3 or 4 large baking sheets and set aside. Combine the softened butter, brown sugar, molasses, and eggs in a bowl of electric mixer. Beginning on low speed and increasing to medium-high speed when ingredients are blended, beat the mixture for about 5 minutes, or until fluffy and light. In a separate bowl mix together the dry ingredients, whisking to blend well. Add the dry ingredients to the egg mixture and beat until well blended. Roll the dough into balls about the size of a large egg, or 3 ounces each. Flatten each ball and coat with granulated sugar. Place on prepared baking sheets, allowing 1 1/3 inches between cookies. Bake in preheated oven for 14 minutes. Cool on wire racks. Yield: 4 1/2 dozen cookies.



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[www.txhillcountrytrail.com](http://www.txhillcountrytrail.com)