



November 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.

Wineries in the Texas Hill Country only getting better with age

Seven spots to check out during Texas Wine Month

Posted: 12:00 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015
By [Arianna Auber](#) - American-Statesman Staff



Many Texas Hill Country winemakers agree that the state's sometimes scorching temperatures can actually produce a fine harvest of warm-weather grapes — but which type defines Texas as a wine destination in its own right? Is it Tempranillo? Tannat? Aglianico? Each winery swears by a particular varietal or two, and each one has figured out how to turn them into stellar wines that are starting to earn global buzz.

It's a great time to explore wineries — it is, after all, Texas Wine Month. With 46 wineries scattered along the Texas Wine Trail in the Hill Country, there is no shortage to choose from, but make sure to include these seven on your day trip travels. They're some of the best, with revolutionary ideas about how to take Texas wine to the next level and plenty of award-winning wines that can compete with France, California and other leading wine regions.

You heard it through the grapevine: No Texas wine guide is worth its salt without mention of Becker Vineyards, which helped pioneer Texas' start as a wine region in 1992 with owners Richard and Bunny Becker's first planting of grapes. Since their first vintages in 1995, they've been instrumental in making the industry into the respectable wine destination it is today. The couple and their winemakers have been adventurous, putting their green thumbs to work growing all sorts of grapes, from viognier to syrah to cabernet sauvignon. Richard Becker seemed to recognize, even in the mid-1990s, that grapes from warmer Mediterranean regions would fare better here, even though the popularity of California wines — like cabernet — suggested following our Pacific coast neighbor's lead.

Read more > <http://www.mystatesman.com/news/lifestyles/wine/wineries-in-the-texas-hill-country-only-getting-be/nnys4/>

Featured November Events in the Texas Hill Country

Kerrville

TEXAS FURNITURE MAKERS' SHOW

Nov 03 - Nov 07, 2015

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

[Kerr Arts & Cultural Center](#)

A juried exhibit and sale featuring the best furniture makers in Texas.
Reception Nov. 7th, 5:30-8pm.

Address: 228 Earl Garrett St, Kerrville, TX 78028

Phone: 830-895-2911

Website: www.kackkerrville.com



San Antonio

21st Annual Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza / \$29-\$200

Sunday, Nov 15, 2015 - Saturday, Nov 21, 2015

Lila Cockrell Theater 200 E Market St, San Antonio, Texas 78205 210-225-3353

The Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza is among the most prominent and largest mariachi music festivals in the world. The seven day music celebration takes place with a holiday spirit November 15-21 in the charming city of San Antonio. This week-long celebration presents the greatest in mariachi music and is jam-packed with unique events, including a world class concert featuring Mariachi Vargas and winners of the largest, longest running and most competitive mariachi group and vocal competitions in the world. More than a dozen entertaining, culturally enriching and unique events resonate cultural pride and appreciation with nearly 15,000 attendees.



<http://visitsanantonio.com/Browse-Book/Events/21st-ANNUAL-MARIACHI-VARGAS-EXTRAVAGANZA>

Fredericksburg

The Sentimental Journey Orchestra at Fredericksburg Theater Company

Nov 21 2015 to Nov 22 2015

Back by popular demand – “Stage Door Canteen”! Ted Conerly and his big band orchestra will play the greatest hits from the Greatest Generation. The theater will be decked out as a 1940’s USO canteen!

Saturday at 2:30 and 8 pm; Sunday at 2 pm. \$29 adults; \$12 youth 17 and under.

Address: 1668 S US Hwy 87 **Phone:** (830) 997-3588

<http://www.fredericksburgtheater.org>



HILL COUNTRY HAPPENINGS....



The Texas Hill Country Trail Passports were delivered to 24 locations the first week of October with 14 counties out of our 19 county region represented! Visitors are having fun traveling about the Texas Hill Country and collecting their stamps along the way.

A microsite promoting the Texas Hill Country Trail Passport will be launched next week at txhillcountrypassport.com to further promote this fun and interactive project!

Prizes for our visitors who acquire 18 or more stamps will now be collected. Prizes are donated by our partners and should have a \$50 value or more and an expiration date of December 31, 2017. Please let me know if you are interested in donating a prize for our visitors that complete the passport and give them another reason to come back and visit again!

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT MEETING....



Texas Hill Country Trail

November Meeting

Thursday, November 19, 2015

1:00 p.m.

Meeting Location:

The Llano News Office

813 Berry Street

Llano, TX 78643

SAVE THE DATE!

For those of you that would like to come early, The Llano News will be providing lunch for us at 12:00! Please RSVP to hctrail@verizon.net so we know how many there will be!

Texas Historical Commission

Websites:

We've kicked off a project to integrate the THC State Historic Site websites into the main agency website. No THTP web projects are currently scheduled.

HT Product Development Projects:

Hispanic Heritage Travel Guide

The Spanish version of Hispanic Texans has been printed and is available for distribution. If you would like any, please contact Mae Perkins in PIE as you do for other print materials.

Thematic Mobile Tours

Published and available: African Americans in Texas, Red River War, Historic Bankhead Highway, La Salle Odyssey, and World War II on the Texas Home Front. Links to access and download can be found on the TTT website under Get the Guides and Apps tab.

Hispanic Texans launched September 15 to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. The HT team has been promoting several of the videos produced for the mobile app. If you have not seen them or promoted them to your regions, please take a look at the films on topics such as the Del Rio School District Battles, Dallas' Little Mexico, Sheep Shearers in Eola, Club Victoria in Menard: Military Service, and the 1966 Starr County Farm Worker Strike. They have been well received bringing attention to the sites/stories and the app and guide. Find them on THC's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/TxHist/videos>



WHAT'S COOKING IN THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY?

Hunt Recipe

Yield: 6 Servings

TEXAS HILL COUNTRY COWBOY SOUP

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 pkg Bear Creek Minestrone Soup Mix | 1 can Corn |
| 1 can Tomatoes and Chiles (Rotel) | 2 lbs Ground Beef or Turkey |
| 1 can Tomatoes Diced | 1 medium onion chopped |
| 1 can Green Chiles | Salt, Pepper and Garlic to taste |
| 2 cans Pinto Beans or Ranch Style w/jalapenos | |

Brown meat in skillet or Dutch oven with onions, salt, pepper, and garlic. Prepare Minestrone Soup Mix according to directions. Add Soup and rest of ingredients to meat in Dutch oven. Simmer for 1 hour. (Be careful not to cook too long or the pasta will fall apart.)

Note - This recipe can also be made in a large crock-pot. If using a crock-pot, heat Minestrone Soup Mix to boiling and add to crock-pot. Simmer 3-4 hours on low.



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