

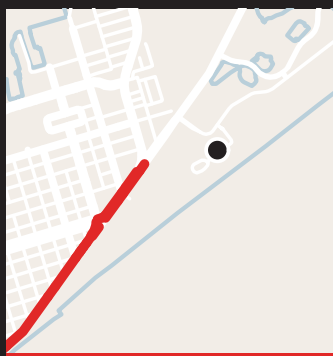
A NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT

Around 16 Grand Beach

Beaches, seafood, history and weekend plans on Galveston's East End



DISTANCES FROM THE LOT



0.5 MI

Stewart Beach and the Seawall
PAGE 19



3.2 MI

Gaido's on Seawall Boulevard
PAGE 14



14.0 MI

Galveston Island State Park
PAGE 22



22.6 MI

Kemah Boardwalk
PAGE 37

Groceries, food, beaches, history, art and a year of events inside. Straight-line miles.

Life on the East End

In The Preserve at Grand Beach, the community walkover leads to the beach across the street. The Seawall is close by, and The Strand is a short drive for dinner, a show or a walk through the old downtown!

This booklet walks you out from the lot the way I would on a tour. It starts with groceries, errands and hardware, moves on to seafood, beaches, history and the bigger island outings, and ends with the building, flood and windstorm notes and who to call once you move in. Every distance is a straight line from the lot, so the drive itself runs longer. The map two pages over puts the nearby stops in one view.

The small numbers point to sources in the back, and the codes on most pages open the place's own site or directions. Hours, fees and schedules change, so check with the place before you go. If you'd like to see any of these with me, the back cover has my number.



The walkover at The Preserve at Grand Beach

NEAR THE LOT

Walgreens (Seawall Boulevard)	0.5 mi
Stewart Beach	0.5 mi
Arlan's Market	0.6 mi
Lindale Park	0.7 mi
The Den (Hotel Lucine)	1.0 mi
The Fancy (Hotel Lucine)	1.0 mi
Adoue Park	1.0 mi
Benno's on the Beach	1.2 mi

IN THIS BOOKLET

02 Welcome	18 Parks and beaches	43 Settling in
03 Start here	24 History	46 Getting around
04 Around you	30 Art and culture	47 Sources
06 Groceries and errands	32 Bigger outings	51 Index of places
10 Hardware and building	38 A year of events	
12 Eat and drink	41 Two easy days	

START HERE

Three ways into the island

If you only have one weekend to get a feel for the island, start with these three.

1 OUTDOORS

Stewart Beach

401 Seawall Boulevard · 0.5 miles

Stewart Beach is a family beach park where Broadway meets the Seawall, watched over by lifeguards. Count on restrooms, showers, and chair and umbrella rentals when the weather allows, so a full beach day takes little more than towels and sunscreen.



Park page



Directions

2 EVERYDAY STOP

The Sunflower Bakery and Cafe

512 14th Street · 1.2 miles

The Sunflower Bakery and Cafe has been serving food made from scratch since 1999, and it began as a small bakery on 16th and Church known for its tomato basil soup. Ask whether the soup is on before you order.



Menus



Directions

3 WEEKEND AND CULTURE

The Grand 1894 Opera House

2020 Postoffice Street · 1.6 miles

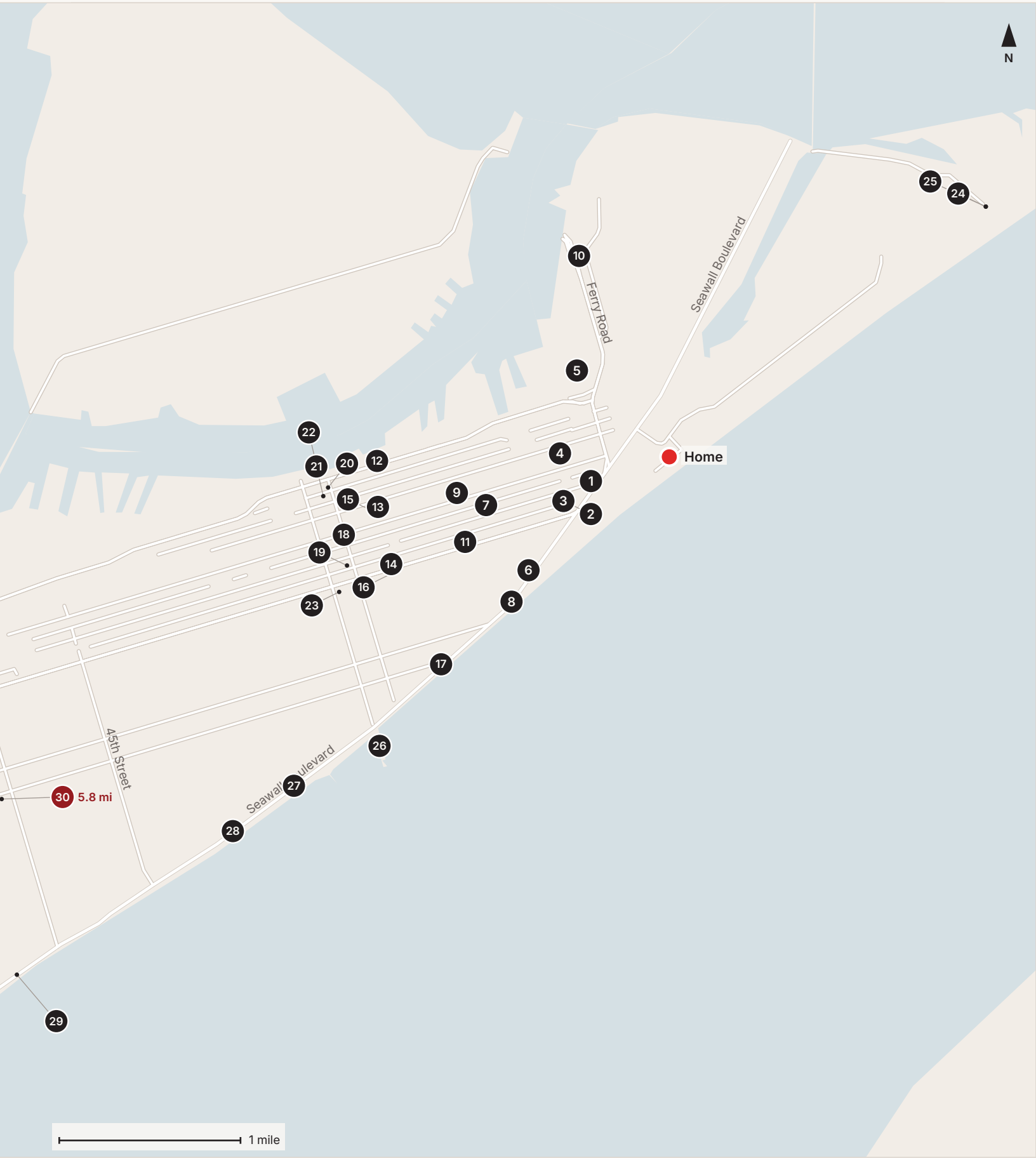
The Grand 1894 Opera House, a Romanesque Revival-style theater designed by architect Frank Cox, seats almost 1,100 guests. Catch a show, then walk a few blocks to The Strand for a late bite.



See shows



Directions



AROUND YOU

What's close to the lot

From the walkover across the street to the Seawall, downtown and the east tip of the island, here is what's around the lot. Each line gives the distance and the page with the full story.

1	Walgreens	0.5 mi	16	Reedy Chapel	1.7 mi
ERRANDS · PAGE 9			HISTORY · PAGE 27		
2	Stewart Beach	0.5 mi	17	Miller's Seawall Grill	1.7 mi
PARKS AND BEACHES · PAGE 19			EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 14		
3	The Seawall (east end)	0.5 mi	18	Post Office	1.8 mi
PARKS AND BEACHES · PAGE 18			ERRANDS · PAGE 9		
4	Arlan's Market	0.6 mi	19	Rosenberg Library	1.9 mi
GROCERIES · PAGE 6			GETTING AROUND · PAGE 46		
5	Lindale Park	0.7 mi	20	The Strand	1.9 mi
PARKS AND BEACHES · PAGE 20			HISTORY · PAGE 28		
6	The Den	1.0 mi	21	La King's	1.9 mi
EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 12			EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 16		
7	Adoue Park	1.0 mi	22	Elissa and the Seaport	1.9 mi
PARKS AND BEACHES · PAGE 20			BIGGER OUTINGS · PAGE 35		
8	Benno's	1.2 mi	23	CVS (Broadway)	2.0 mi
EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 14			ERRANDS · PAGE 9		
9	Sunflower Bakery	1.2 mi	24	East End Lagoon	2.2 mi
EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 12			PARKS AND BEACHES · PAGE 19		
10	Bolivar ferry landing	1.2 mi	25	East Beach	2.2 mi
BIGGER OUTINGS · PAGE 36			PARKS AND BEACHES · PAGE 19		
11	Bishop's Palace	1.2 mi	26	Pleasure Pier	2.3 mi
HISTORY · PAGE 27			BIGGER OUTINGS · PAGE 34		
12	Katie's Seafood Market	1.6 mi	27	The Spot	2.8 mi
GROCERIES · PAGE 7			EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 14		
13	Trattoria La Vigna	1.6 mi	28	Gaido's	3.2 mi
EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 15			EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 14		
14	Chalmers Ace	1.6 mi	29	Kroger	4.6 mi
ERRANDS · PAGE 11			GROCERIES · PAGE 6		
15	The Grand 1894 Opera House	1.6 mi	30	Moody Gardens	5.8 mi
ART AND CULTURE · PAGE 30			BIGGER OUTINGS · PAGE 34		

Shaded rows are within about a mile and a quarter of the lot.

Streets and water from U.S. Census Bureau TIGER data. Places beyond the frame sit at its edge with their distance. Dark red markers are worth-the-drive outings.

GROCERIES

Groceries on the island

Everyday groceries on the island, from the neighborhood grocery on the East End to full supermarkets and a Target out west.

Arlan's Market

WHERE 513 Market Street | **FROM HOME** 0.6 miles ¹⁰
HOURS open daily from 6 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Arlan's Market is the neighborhood grocery store on the East End, a quick drive from the lot for milk, bread, ice or whatever got left off the list. Call the store at 409-765-9355 to ask what's in stock.



Arlan's Market store page



Directions

Kroger (Seawall Boulevard)

WHERE 5730 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 4.6 miles ⁸⁸
HOURS open daily from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Out west on Seawall, this Kroger is a full supermarket with a seafood department, sushi, a Murray's Cheese counter, an olive bar, a Starbucks and a drive-thru pharmacy. Use it for the big stock-up trips.



Kroger store page



Directions

Randalls

WHERE 2931 Central City Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 4.9 miles ⁹⁵
HOURS open daily from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Randalls is a supermarket with a bakery that does custom cakes, a service deli, meat and seafood, floral and a Starbucks, so the birthday cake and the weekly groceries come from one stop.



Randalls store page



Directions

Target

WHERE 6128 Broadway Street | **FROM HOME** 4.8 miles ⁹⁶
HOURS open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Target has a CVS pharmacy and a Starbucks cafe inside, plus order pickup and Drive Up. Pick up a prescription and a coffee on the same run, or let them load the bags into the car.



Target store page



Directions

GROCERIES

Seafood and a Sunday market

Seafood straight off Pier 19, an old island spice house, a carniceria with its own taqueria and the island's farmers market.

Katie's Seafood Market

WHERE 1902 Wharf Road | **FROM HOME** 1.6 miles ^{29,30}
HOURS open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Katie's Seafood Market sells red snapper, grouper, golden tilefish, flounder, oysters, shrimp and blue crabs, mostly from local fishermen and shrimpers. Pick up dinner on the way back from downtown.



Katie's Seafood Market store page



Directions

Maceo Spice and Import Company

WHERE 2706 Market Street | **FROM HOME** 2.2 miles ^{97,98}
HOURS retail 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday; lunch 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday

Maceo Spice and Import Company sells spices and blends, coffee and tea, oils and vinegars, pasta and other imported pantry goods, with a lunch counter in the store.



Maceo Spice and Import Company store page



Directions

La Michoacana Meat Market

WHERE 3301 Broadway Street | **FROM HOME** 2.6 miles ⁹⁹
HOURS open daily from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

La Michoacana Meat Market is a Mexican market with a carniceria, a taqueria and a panaderia, plus produce and Central and South American products. Order tacos for lunch while you shop.



La Michoacana Meat Market store page



Directions

Galveston's Own Farmers Market

WHERE 3304 Market Street | **WHEN** every Sunday from 9 a.m. to noon, rain or shine, with skip dates posted on the market's page | **FROM HOME** 2.5 miles ¹⁰⁰

Vendors at Galveston's Own Farmers Market bring local produce, farm products, prepared foods and artisan goods, and the market accepts SNAP. Bring a bag and grab a bite as you walk the stalls.



Galveston's Own Farmers Market store page



Directions

GROCERIES

Mainland runs, plus restaurant supply

No H-E-B on the island, so these are the mainland runs worth a cooler, plus a restaurant supply store in town.

H-E-B (Texas City) WORTH THE DRIVE

WHERE 3502 Palmer Highway | **FROM HOME** 12.6 miles ¹⁰¹
HOURS open daily from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

This Texas City H-E-B is the run over the I-45 causeway, and it has a gas station, a car wash and a drive-thru pharmacy.



Texas City
H-E-B store
page



Directions

H Mart (Bellaire) WORTH THE DRIVE

WHERE 9896 Bellaire Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 54.9 miles ¹⁰²
HOURS open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

H Mart is a big Korean supermarket in southwest Houston, a long haul up I-45, so call 713-270-1110 to check on what you need before you go.



H Mart Houston
Bellaire store
page



Directions

99 Ranch Market (Sugar Land) WORTH THE DRIVE

WHERE 3430 Highway 6 | **FROM HOME** 53.9 miles ¹⁰³
HOURS open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday

99 Ranch Market is a big Asian supermarket southwest of Houston. Pair it with the H Mart trip and make one mainland day of it.



Store locator



Directions

Gordon Restaurant Market

WHERE 2402 45th Street | **FROM HOME** 3.6 miles ¹⁰⁴
HOURS open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday

Here on the island, Gordon Restaurant Market stocks produce, meat and seafood, deli, frozen foods, pantry goods, disposables and kitchenware, with walk-in coolers and rotisserie and hot foods.



Gordon
Restaurant
Market store
page



Directions

ERRANDS

Pharmacies, the post office and a bookshop

Two pharmacies, the downtown post office and a used bookshop in the Strand district, all a short drive from the lot.

Walgreens (Seawall Boulevard)

WHERE 308 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 0.5 miles ⁵

Walgreens on Seawall is the quick run from the lot for prescriptions, sunscreen and the phone charger nobody packed. Call the store at 409-763-3588 to check pharmacy hours.



Walgreens
(Seawall) store
page



Directions

CVS Pharmacy (Broadway)

WHERE 2425 Avenue J (Broadway) | **FROM HOME** 2.0 miles ⁶⁴

CVS Pharmacy on Broadway has a drive-thru pharmacy, so picking up a prescription doesn't mean parking and going in. It sits on Broadway, the main road on and off the island.



CVS Pharmacy
(Broadway at
25th) store
page



Directions

Galveston Post Office

WHERE 601 Tremont Street | **FROM HOME** 1.8 miles ⁵⁰
HOURS open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and closed weekends

The downtown Galveston Post Office offers passport services and has street parking. Bring the passport forms filled out and your photos in hand, then walk over to The Strand for lunch.



Galveston Post
Office store
page

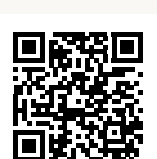


Directions

Galveston Bookshop

WHERE 317 23rd Street | **FROM HOME** 1.9 miles ¹⁰⁵
HOURS 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday

Galveston Bookshop carries more than 70,000 used books organized by category, and it has been in the Strand district since 1991. Plan on browsing a while, then walk the rest of downtown.



Store hours

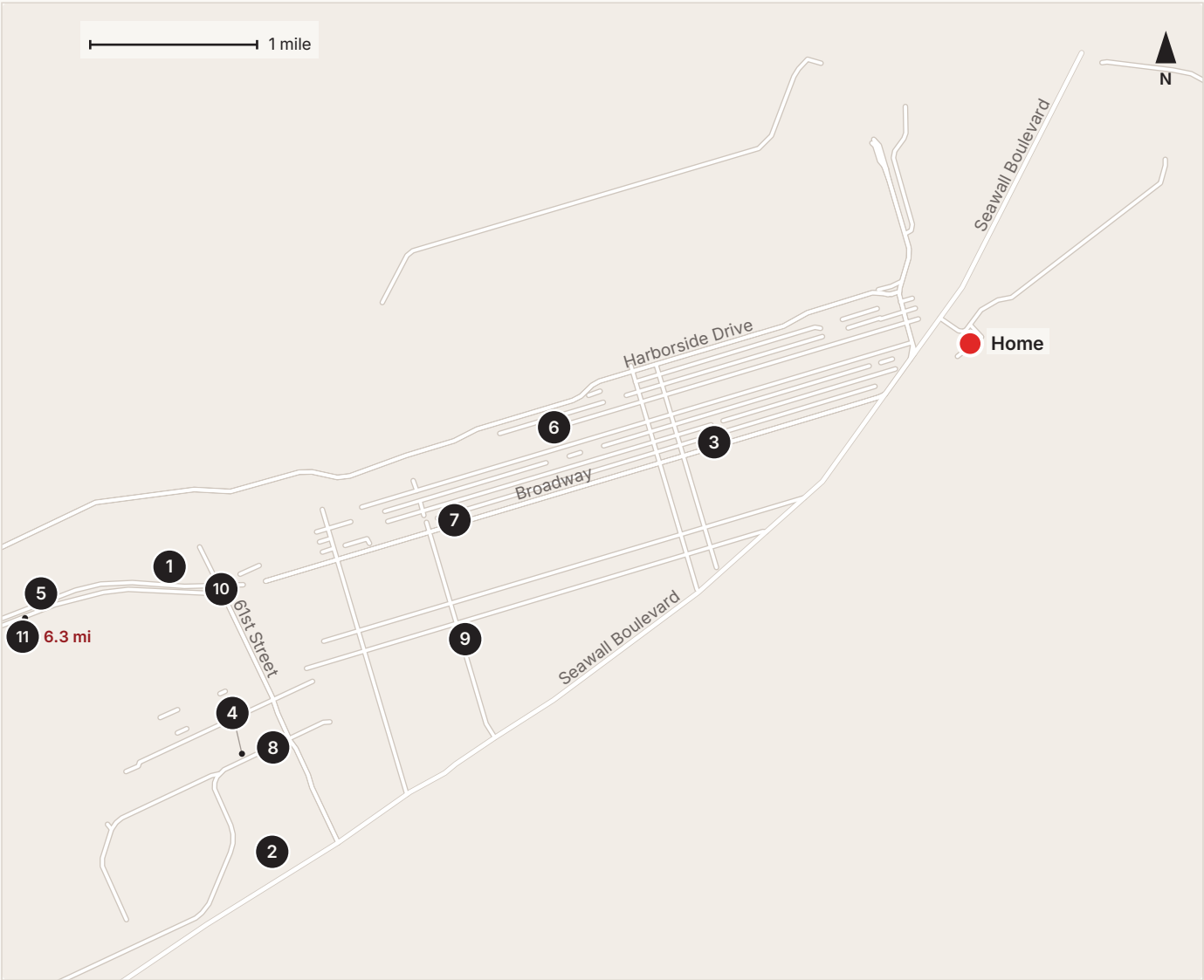


Directions

ERRANDS

Hardware, lumber and building supply

You can supply the whole build from the island, from framing lumber and impact-resistant windows to paint, flooring, landscape rock and the last bag of mulch.



Numbers match the list. Stores beyond the frame sit at its edge with their distance. Roads: U.S. Census Bureau TIGER data.

HOME CENTERS

1 The Home Depot (65th Street) ¹⁰⁶
702 65th Street · 5.0 miles
HOURS Monday through Saturday 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Big-box basics for the build, plus a garden center, a rental center with moving trucks, a kitchen showroom, key cutting and a Pro Desk.

2 Walmart Supercenter (Seawall) ¹⁰⁷
6702 Seawall Boulevard · 5.2 miles
HOURS daily, 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.
One stop for hardware and patio and garden departments, a garden center and an auto care center alongside groceries and a pharmacy.

HARDWARE AND LUMBER

3 Chalmers Hardware (Ace) ³⁴
2002 Broadway Street · 1.6 miles
HOURS Monday through Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
The Broadway Ace for plumbing, electrical, paint, lawn and garden and tools, plus key and glass cutting, screen repair and pipe threading.

4 Ideal Lumber ¹⁰⁸
6520 Stewart Road · 5.0 miles
HOURS call ahead at 409-744-7181
Grab fasteners and a few boards at a Do it Best store for lumber, hardware and building supplies.

5 McCoy's Building Supply ¹⁰⁹
7500 Broadway · 5.8 miles
HOURS Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Sunday
Price the framing package at a full-service lumberyard with a covered yard, plus doors, impact-resistant windows, paint and tools.

SALVAGE AND FINISHES

6 Architectural Salvage Warehouse ¹¹⁰
3304 Market Street · 2.5 miles
HOURS Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Historic doors, shutters, windows and hardware for a period look, sold by Galveston Historical Foundation.

7 Galveston Flooring Carpet One ¹¹¹
4222 Broadway · 3.3 miles
HOURS Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Sunday
Bring the floor plan in for carpet, hardwood, tile, luxury vinyl and laminate, with free estimates.

8 Southwestern Paint ^{112,113}
6211 Stewart Road · 4.8 miles
HOURS Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., closed Sunday
Pick exterior colors and rollers at a Benjamin Moore retailer carrying the brand's paints and stains plus painting supplies.

GARDEN CENTERS AND LANDSCAPE SUPPLY

9 Tom's Thumb by Cornelius Nursery ¹¹⁴
2014 45th Street · 3.5 miles
HOURS daily, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Finish the yard with shrubs, annual color, pottery, houseplants, soils and bird seed, plus Seaside Casual patio furniture.

10 Flamingo Gardens ¹¹⁵
814 61st Street · 4.7 miles
HOURS call ahead at 409-632-7329
A local nursery for plants and yard advice, worth a stop once the landscaping plan comes together.

11 Earth Creations ^{116,117}
8425 Broadway · 6.3 miles
HOURS Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., closed Sunday
The landscape yard for mulch, topsoil, fill dirt, sand, gravel, pavers and flagstone, plus a nursery with seasonal color and shrubs.

Coffee and bakeries

A scratch bakery, a hotel lounge, a roaster and a bagel shop.

The Sunflower Bakery and Cafe

WHERE 512 14th Street | **FROM HOME** 1.2 miles ^{2,23}
HOURS open Wednesday through Monday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Tuesdays, with brunch served all day

The Sunflower Bakery and Cafe began as a small bakery on 16th and Church known for its tomato basil soup, and it has been serving food made from scratch since 1999. Start an East End morning here.



Menus



Directions

The Den (Hotel Lucine)

WHERE 1002 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 1.0 miles ¹⁵
HOURS open seven days a week for coffee, cocktails and light bites

The Den is the lounge inside Hotel Lucine, across Seawall Boulevard from the Gulf. Stop in for coffee before a morning walk on the Seawall.



Eat and drink



Directions

Red Light Coffee Roasters

WHERE 2728 Market Street | **WHEN** monthly coffee classes and events | **FROM HOME** 2.2 miles ^{118,119}
HOURS open every day from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Red Light Coffee Roasters is a specialty cafe and roastery in Galveston's historic red-light district, sourcing, roasting and brewing coffee since 2019. Try the seasonal single-origin coffees it roasts itself.



Hours and location



Directions

Galveston Bagel Company

WHERE 1110 23rd Street | **FROM HOME** 1.8 miles ^{120,121}
HOURS open daily from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Galveston Bagel Company is a family-owned shop hand-rolling New York-style bagels daily, with breakfast sandwiches, deli favorites, house-made schmears and locally roasted coffee. Grab a dozen for the beach.



Menu



Directions

Lunch downtown

Seafood tacos south of Broadway, a fish house on Pier 19, and brunch and pizza on The Strand.

Yaga's Cafe

WHERE 2314 Strand Street | **WHEN** live entertainment every weekend from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. | **FROM HOME** 1.9 miles ¹²²
HOURS open daily from 11 a.m. (10:30 a.m. on weekends) until 9 p.m., and until 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday

Yaga's Cafe is known for daily brunch, hot-from-the-oven pizzas and live weekend entertainment. Sit down here after a morning in the shops on The Strand.



Menu



Directions

Fish Company Taco

WHERE 1914 23rd Street | **FROM HOME** 2.0 miles ^{123,124}
HOURS open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., closed Mondays

Fish Company Taco makes inventive, globally inspired seafood tacos on corn tortillas made fresh daily. Order a few different ones and split them around the table, then head back toward the Seawall.



Menu



Directions

Hearsay on the Strand

WHERE 2410 Strand Street | **FROM HOME** 2.0 miles ^{125,126,127}
HOURS open daily for lunch and dinner

Hearsay on the Strand sits in the restored James Fadden Building, built in the 1890s. There are menus for brunch, lunch and dinner, desserts and coffee, and Thursday steak specials, so it fits any time of day.



Menus and hours



Directions

Katie's Seafood House

WHERE 2000 Wharf Road | **FROM HOME** 1.6 miles ^{128,129}
HOURS call ahead at 409-765-5688

Katie's Seafood House has been serving Gulf seafood straight from the source since 1998. Look for a crab and shrimp boil, snapper wings, seafood ceviche and a fried American red snapper sandwich on the menu.



Menu



Directions

EAT AND DRINK

Seafood on the Seawall

Seafood with the Gulf across the street, all along Seawall Boulevard west of the lot.

Benno's on the Beach

WHERE 1212 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 1.2 miles ^{18,19}

Benno's on the Beach serves grilled, fried and boiled seafood plus Cajun dishes such as gumbo, red beans and rice, crawfish étouffée and jambalaya. It's a casual place, so come straight from the beach. Call 409-762-4621 for hours.



Menu



Directions

Miller's Seawall Grill

WHERE 1824 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 1.7 miles ⁴⁵

Miller's Seawall Grill has all-day breakfast, so it works even after a late morning on the beach. Call 409-763-8777 for hours.



Menu



Directions

The Spot

WHERE 3204 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 2.8 miles ^{78,79}

HOURS 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

Get the hand-dipped onion rings and Gulf shrimp breaded to order at The Spot. After lunch, the Tiki Bar pours 29° draft beer, Texas craft beers and beachfront cocktails. It's a family place, so bring the kids.



Menu and hours



Directions

Gaido's

WHERE 3828 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 3.2 miles ^{84,85,130}

HOURS 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday

Gaido's is a James Beard Foundation America's Classics award winner, and the kitchen keeps to the old ways, with Gulf shrimp still peeled, Galveston Bay oysters shucked and fresh fish filleted by hand.



Menu



Directions

EAT AND DRINK

A night out

A hotel dining room on the Seawall, shrimp and grits, a dressy grill and a trattoria downtown, for a night off from cooking.

The Fancy (Hotel Lucine)

WHERE 1002 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 1.0 miles ¹⁵

HOURS dinner Wednesday through Sunday from 5 to 10 p.m., plus brunch Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Fancy is an American restaurant inside Hotel Lucine with a menu built around locally sourced ingredients. The Den is in the same hotel, so start there with a drink and walk over to dinner.



Eat and drink



Directions

Sugar and Rye

WHERE 2401 Church Street | **FROM HOME** 1.9 miles ^{131,132,133}

HOURS open from 4 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, from 10 a.m. Wednesday through Friday and from 9 a.m. on weekends, closing at 9 p.m. most nights and 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday

Sugar and Rye is a family-owned restaurant serving fresh Gulf seafood, steaks, burgers, chicken strips and house-made desserts with craft cocktails. Get the shrimp and grits with blackened shrimp, andouille sausage and poblano pepper jack grits.



Menu



Directions

Rudy and Paco

WHERE 2028 Postoffice Street | **FROM HOME** 1.7 miles ¹³⁴

Rudy and Paco serves grilled seafood and steak with a South and Central American savor. Leave the beach clothes at home for this one. There's a dinner dress code that calls for collared shirts for gentlemen, with reservations recommended.



Menus



Directions

Trattoria La Vigna

WHERE 412 20th Street | **FROM HOME** 1.6 miles ^{31,32}

HOURS lunch weekdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., dinner from 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, Saturday from noon to 10 p.m., closed Sundays

Trattoria La Vigna is a family-owned Italian trattoria with Chef Pina in the kitchen. Ask about the specials when you book at 409-497-4927.



Menu



Directions

EAT AND DRINK

Breweries, daiquiris and sweets

Two breweries on The Strand, a craft cocktail lounge and an old-fashioned candy shop for dessert.

Naked Iguana Brewery

WHERE 1828 Strand | **FROM HOME** 1.6 miles ¹³⁵

Naked Iguana Brewery pours beers and seltzers brewed in-house, plus wine, ciders and non-alcoholic drinks. Pack a picnic, since you're welcome to bring your own food, and food trucks come most Sundays in peak season.



About the brewery



Directions

Coastal Star Brewing

WHERE 2021 Strand Street | **FROM HOME** 1.7 miles ¹³⁶

HOURS call 409-539-5128

Coastal Star Brewing serves craft beer, bourbon and Texas barbecue on the historic Strand. Make it dinner, then walk three blocks west on The Strand to La King's Confectionery for dessert.



See the menu



Directions

Daiquiri Time Out

WHERE 2701 Market Street | **FROM HOME** 2.2 miles ¹³⁷

HOURS open daily from 4 p.m., until midnight Sunday through Thursday and until 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday

Daiquiri Time Out is a craft cocktail lounge with creative seasonal menus built on homemade ingredients and boutique spirits. Ask the bartender what they are pouring that night.



Menu and hours



Directions

La King's Confectionery

WHERE 2323 Strand Street | **FROM HOME** 1.9 miles ^{57,58}

HOURS open daily, 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday

La King's Confectionery has been on The Strand since 1976, when Jack King moved his family to Galveston to recreate an old-fashioned confectionery. Order at a working 1920s soda fountain serving malts, shakes, ice cream sodas, sundaes and floats.



Visit us



Directions

EAT AND DRINK

Farther down the island

A seafood house on the Seawall, a Stewart Road kitchen, a west end brewery and a steakhouse on the water.

BLVD Seafood

WHERE 2804 Avenue R 1/2 | **FROM HOME** 2.4 miles ^{138,139}

HOURS open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Head to BLVD Seafood for fresh seafood and steaks at 28th Street and the Seawall. Save it for a birthday or an anniversary dinner.



Dinner menu



Directions

Gypsy Joynt

WHERE 6105 Stewart Road | **FROM HOME** 4.8 miles ^{140,141}

HOURS 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, closed Tuesday, and 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday

Gypsy Joynt sits inland, away from the Seawall, on the drive down the island. Call 409-497-2069 to ask what the kitchen is cooking.



Hours



Directions

Galveston Island Brewing WORTH THE DRIVE

WHERE 8423 Stewart Road | **FROM HOME** 6.4 miles ^{142,143}

HOURS 2 to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, noon to 10 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday

Galveston Island Brewing is a local brewery on the west end of the island, a block from the beach, with a dog-friendly taproom and patio.



Taproom



Directions

Number 13 Prime Steak and Seafood

WORTH THE DRIVE

WHERE 7809 Broadway Street | **WHEN** Sunday brunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. | **FROM HOME** 5.9 miles ^{144,145}

HOURS 4 to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday, closed Monday

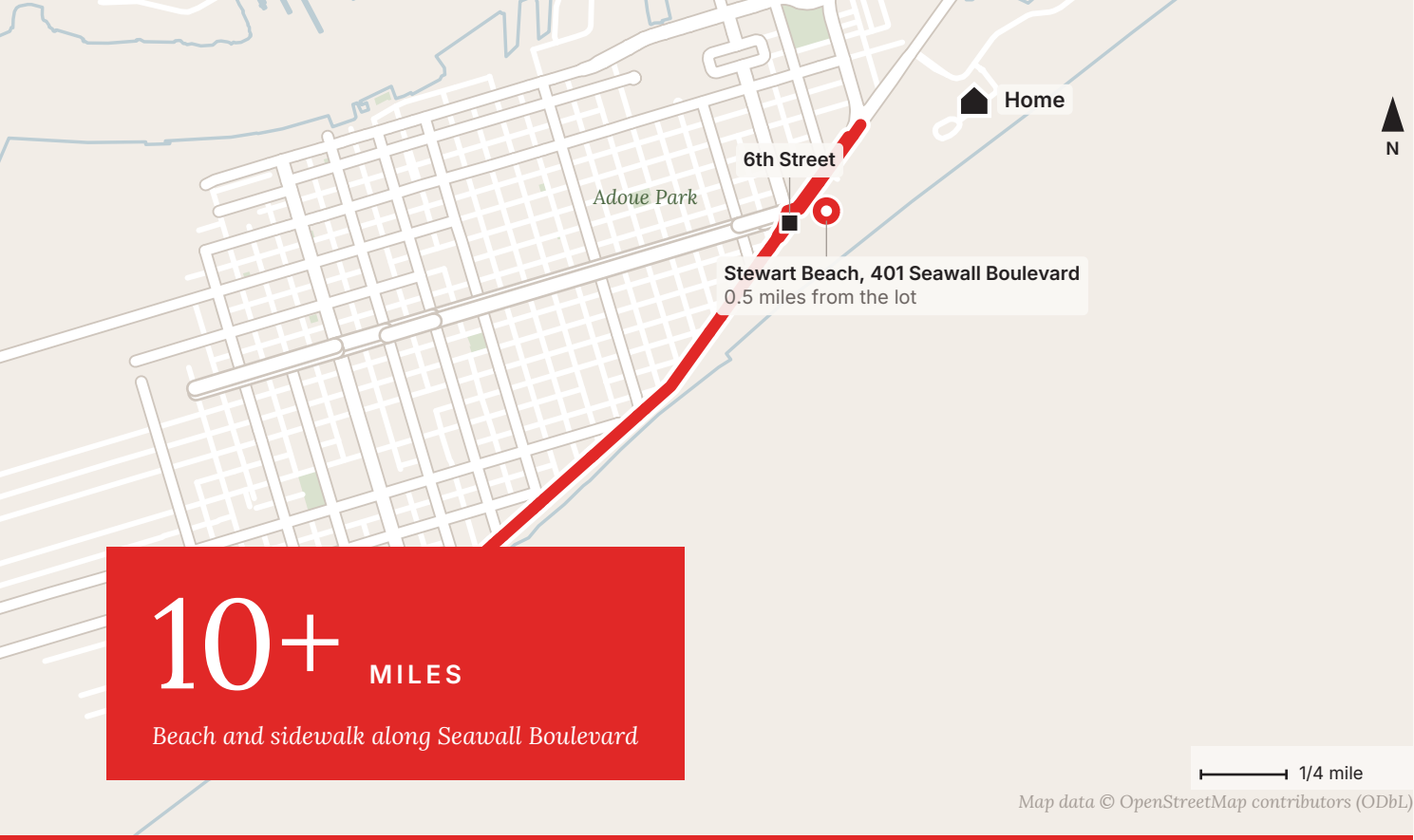
You'll find Number 13 set in Pelican Rest Marina, with steaks, wagyu, lobster and seafood. Book it for a night on the water.



Menu



Directions



PARKS AND BEACHES

The Seawall

The Seawall is the island's big walk, with more than 10 miles of beach along Seawall Boulevard with a continuous sidewalk for running, biking and people watching. The map above traces it west from 6th Street, past 25th Street and on down the island.

It is what the Park Board calls the nation's longest continuous sidewalk. Go a few blocks for a look at the water, or keep going for a real workout and turn around wherever you like.

From the lot, the Seawall is a short drive or an easy bike ride. Go early for a run, then come back late in the day to stroll the sidewalk and see the waves roll in before dinner.

WHERE
Seawall Boulevard, west from 6th Street

FROM HOME
0.5 miles

Sources ⁹

GOOD TO KNOW
Look for public restrooms with outdoor showers on the beach side of Seawall Boulevard at 19th, 29th, 39th, 45th and 61st Streets.



Park page



Directions



The Seawall and the Pleasure Pier

Photo: Patrick Feller, CC BY 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons (cropped)

PARKS AND BEACHES

Beaches and a lagoon on the east end

Two beach parks and a marsh preserve on the east end, with lifeguards at Stewart Beach and short trails at the lagoon.

Stewart Beach

WHERE 401 Seawall Boulevard | **COST** \$15 per vehicle, or \$50 for a year of unlimited entry here and at East Beach | **FROM HOME** 0.5 miles ¹

HOURS open daily from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.



Park page



Directions

Stewart Beach is a family beach park where Broadway meets the Seawall, watched over by lifeguards, and it has restrooms, showers, and chair and umbrella rentals when the weather allows. The rule here is no alcohol and no glass on the beach.

East Beach (R.A. Appfel Park)

WHERE 1923 Boddeker Road | **COST** \$15 per vehicle, good for one entry | **FROM HOME** 2.2 miles ^{72,73}

HOURS open daily from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.



Park page



Directions

East Beach is a beach park at the far eastern tip of the island, with views of the Gulf, the Galveston Bay shipping channel, East End Lagoon and Big Reef. It is the one Galveston public beach where alcohol is allowed, so bring the cooler.

East End Lagoon Nature Park and Preserve

WHERE 1919-1923 Boddeker Drive | **FROM HOME** 2.2 miles ^{65,66,67}

HOURS the trail is open from sunrise to sunset



Park page



Directions

East End Lagoon covers 684 acres of coastal prairie, salt marsh and lagoon, one of the few sizable undeveloped tracts left on the island. Bring the kayak. There's a launch for kayaks, paddleboards and other human-powered boats.

PARKS AND BEACHES

Parks close to the lot

Three city parks, from tennis and ball fields near the lot to big oaks and a historic pavilion across town.

1 Lindale Park

WHERE 400 Marine Drive | **FROM HOME** 0.7 miles ¹⁴
HOURS open from sunrise to sunset

Lindale Park has three tennis courts, a basketball court and the Leroy Naschke baseball fields, plus picnic areas and the Lindale Dog Park. It's a short bike ride from the lot for a match or a game of catch.



Park page



Directions

2 Adoue Park

WHERE 710 12th Street | **FROM HOME** 1.0 miles ¹⁷
HOURS open from sunrise to sunset

Adoue Park is in the East End Historic District and is commonly known as Rosenberg Park. Come for a playground, well-kept paths, picnic areas and carved wooden sculptures, then walk the surrounding blocks to see the old houses.



Park page



Directions

3 Kempner Park

WHERE 2704 Avenue O | **FROM HOME** 2.2 miles ¹⁴⁶
HOURS open from sunrise to sunset

Kempner Park is home to the Garten Verein Pavilion, a historic space often used for weddings and formal events. Between events, the grounds have walking paths, picnic benches, large oak trees and a stone fountain, so it's a shady place for a walk in summer.



Park page



Directions

WHERE THESE ARE FROM THE HOUSE



PARKS AND BEACHES

Rec centers and a pool

Two recreation centers, a city pool and a park built for youth baseball, all west of the lot in town.

Menard Park and McGuire-Dent Recreation Center

WHERE 2222 28th Street | **FROM HOME** 2.4 miles ¹⁴⁷
HOURS the center is open Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 7:45 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

The McGuire-Dent Recreation Center has a fitness center with cardio and strength equipment, free weights, a fitness studio, racquetball courts and a basketball court.



Center page



Directions

Wright Cuney Park and Recreation Center

WHERE 718 41st Street | **FROM HOME** 3.1 miles ^{148,149}
HOURS the center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and closed Sunday

Wright Cuney Park runs free programs for all ages at the recreation center, with a shaded playground, basketball courts and a splash pad outside.



Center page



Directions

Lasker Park and Pool

WHERE 2016 43rd Street | **FROM HOME** 3.4 miles ^{150,151}

Lasker Park and Pool has an eight-lane, 25-yard pool from 4 to 9 feet deep, plus a recreational pool with play structures and a waterslide.



Park page



Directions

Crockett Park

WHERE 2601 53rd Street | **FROM HOME** 4.2 miles ¹⁵²
HOURS open from sunrise to sunset

Crockett Park is a neighborhood ballpark, with a baseball-themed playground, a basketball court and three youth baseball fields.



Park page



Directions



PARKS AND BEACHES · WORTH THE DRIVE

Wild Galveston: marsh, birds and open beach

Galveston Island State Park Photo: Yinan Chen, public domain, via Wikimedia Commons (cropped)

The state park and two preserves on the west end, Seawolf Park on Pelican Island and, across the ferry, the shorebirds at Bolivar Flats.

1 Galveston Island State Park

WHERE 14901 FM 3005 | **FROM HOME** 14.0 miles ^{153,154,155,156}
HOURS open daily, and it often reaches capacity, so reserve day passes ahead, especially on March–October weekends



Park info and day passes



Directions

Galveston Island State Park covers 2,000 acres of upper Gulf Coast barrier island. The park has four miles of trails, and the nature center is open weekends from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Bring binoculars. There are more than 300 bird species recorded in the park. Pack a rod too, because you can fish from shore without a license.

Paddlers get three paddling trails on the bay side, Jenkins Bayou (3.3 miles round trip), Dana Cove (2.8) and Oak Bayou (5.4), and two observation towers look out over the marsh.

2 Lafitte's Cove Nature Preserve

WHERE 3503 Eckert Drive | **FROM HOME** 12.2 miles ¹⁵⁶
HOURS day use only



Birding trail guide



Directions

Lafitte's Cove is a west end preserve where sloughs and ponds on both sides of Eckert Drive draw flocks of waterfowl and shorebirds in winter, plus wading birds all year.

Walk a boardwalk and a raised ridge path through prairie and woods. In the woods, water drips pull in songbirds during spring and fall migration, and ladder-backed woodpeckers are often seen.



3 Artist Boat Coastal Heritage Preserve

WHERE 13330 Settegast Road | **FROM HOME** 11.5 miles ^{156,157,158}
HOURS the bird observatory is open daily from dawn until dusk



Bird observatory



Directions

Artist Boat's preserve takes in about 1,400 acres of coastal habitat on the west end of the island, including endangered coastal prairie and rare freshwater wetlands.

For a quick look, stop at the Edward and Helen Oppenheimer Bird Observatory, a public pull-off on Stewart Road with a walkway, signs and a kiosk with bird lists. The preserve's open land includes grassy fields that draw American golden-plovers, whimbrels, long-billed curlews and upland sandpipers.

4 Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary

WHERE Rettillon Road at the beach, Port Bolivar | **COST** a \$10 Bolivar beach parking sticker, sold locally | **FROM HOME** 5.2 miles ^{159,160,161}



Visit the sanctuary page



Directions

Bolivar Flats is a Globally Important Bird Area and a site in the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network, and hundreds of thousands of birds rest, feed or nest here each year.

To get there, take the ferry to Bolivar and follow Highway 87 for 3.7 miles to Rettillon Road. You park at the vehicle barrier and walk the beach to watch the birds. Stay on the beach. Walking in the vegetated dunes and marshes is discouraged because they hide nests and venomous snakes.

5 Seawolf Park

WHERE 100 Seawolf Park Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 2.1 miles ¹⁶²

Seawolf Park is a City of Galveston park on Pelican Island managed by the Galveston Park Board. Bring a picnic and a camera.



Park hours and fees



Directions

The Galveston Naval Museum's two ships are docked here too. Museum tickets don't include parking, which is \$10 per vehicle at Seawolf Park.

How the island's east end came to be

The island's east end has the natural harbor, so that's where Galveston grew up, from a big land deal to a busy cotton port.

The currents of Galveston Bay keep a natural harbor at the island's eastern end, where the city stands. Long before there was a city, the Karankawa people, a nomadic tribe, lived along the Texas coast from Galveston Bay to Corpus Christi Bay. Laffite's pirate camp on the island was called Campeachy. A few settlers from Maine made their homes on the east end of the island and named their settlement for Saccarappa, Maine.

In 1834 Michel B. Menard acquired about 4,600 acres on the island's east end, and the Republic of Texas Congress granted Menard the land on December 9, 1836. Menard, Thomas F. McKinney and other partners set up the Galveston City Company in 1838, and Galveston grew on its port, shipping cotton out and bringing farm supplies and immigrants in.

During the Texas Revolution the harbor was the port for the Texas Navy and the last point of retreat for the Texas government. Confederate forces retook Galveston in the Battle of Galveston, which began on New Year's night, January 1, 1863, and the port stayed under Confederate control for the rest of the Civil War. Galveston was the largest city in Texas in 1870, with 13,818 people, and The Strand was known as the "Wall Street of the Southwest" throughout the 1800s.

TIMELINE

- **1834**
In 1834 Michel B. Menard acquired about 4,600 acres on the island's east end. ^{166,168}
- **1836**
The Republic of Texas Congress granted Menard the land on December 9, 1836. ¹⁶⁸
- **1838**
Michel B. Menard and his partners began selling town lots in Galveston on April 20, 1838. ¹⁶⁷
- **1839**
The Texas Legislature incorporated the city of Galveston in 1839. ¹⁶⁵
- **1865**
On June 19, 1865, Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger issued General Order No. 3 in Galveston. ^{163,164}

HISTORY

Jetties, a fort and the 1900 Storm

Stone jetties kept the harbor open, a fort went up on the east end, and then a deadly hurricane hit the city.

The Corps of Engineers worked to keep sand out of the Galveston Bay entrance from 1867 to 1897, and the answer was a pair of stone jetties. The finished south jetty, 35,603 feet of stone, starts on the bay side of the island's east end and runs out into the Gulf. Across the channel, the north jetty runs 24,907 feet from Bolivar Point, and the two jetties stand about 7,000 feet apart. Today East Beach sits at the far eastern tip of the island, with views of the Gulf, the ship channel, the East End Lagoon and Big Reef. Close by, the 684-acre East End Lagoon Nature Preserve is one of the few sizable tracts of undeveloped coastal prairie and salt marsh left on the island.

In 1898 the federal government set out to build Fort San Jacinto on the island's eastern end. Fort San Jacinto, named for the Texan victory over Mexican troops, became the first headquarters of Galveston's harbor defenses. Then the hurricane struck Galveston on September 8, 1900. The 1900 Storm killed at least 6,000 people on the island, and the storm destroyed 2,636 houses in Galveston. After the storm, a board of three engineers, Henry M. Robert, Alfred Noble and H. C. Ripley, drew up plans for a seawall and for raising the city.

TIMELINE

- **1867–1897**
The Corps of Engineers worked to keep sand out of the Galveston Bay entrance from 1867 to 1897. ¹⁷⁰
- **1885**
The 1885 fire burned hundreds of homes across 40 city blocks. ^{40,172}
- **1898**
In 1898 the federal government set out to build Fort San Jacinto on the island's eastern end. ^{168,171}
- **1900**
The 1900 Storm killed at least 6,000 people on the island. ^{173,174,175}
- **1901**
The Texas Legislature approved building a seawall for Galveston on September 7, 1901. ¹⁶⁹

HISTORY

The seawall and the raised city

After the storm, Galveston built a seawall along the Gulf and pumped in sand to raise the city behind it.

The Texas Legislature approved building a seawall for Galveston on September 7, 1901. Seawall work began in October 1902, and the first section was finished in July 1904. The wall's Gulf face curves outward to keep water from washing over the top, and you can see that curve from the beach below. A 1915 hurricane did far less damage than the 1900 Storm. In July 1916 Congress authorized a seawall extension east to Fort San Jacinto. The eastward extension of the seawall reached Fort San Jacinto in March 1921, and the newly paved East Seawall Boulevard opened out to the South Jetty on July 4, 1925.

Behind the wall came the grade raising. To raise the city, dredges loaded sand from between the jetties, steamed up a canal and pumped the sand in through a network of pipelines. More than 2,000 buildings had to be lifted before the fill went in. St. Patrick's Church, the largest structure raised, was lifted 5 feet with 700 jacks. Across town, the fill was deepest on the Gulf side by the seawall and shallowest along the bay. Afterward, the canal was dammed at intervals and refilled. The last area was filled in 1928.

TIMELINE

- **1902–1904**
Seawall work began in October 1902, and the first section was finished in July 1904. ^{169,176}
- **1915**
A 1915 hurricane did far less damage than the 1900 Storm. ^{174,175,180}
- **1918**
The Corps of Engineers began extending the seawall east to Fort San Jacinto in 1918. ^{171,178}
- **1925**
The newly paved East Seawall Boulevard opened out to the South Jetty on July 4, 1925. ¹⁶⁸
- **1928**
The grade raising ended when the last area was filled in 1928. ¹⁷⁹
- **1971**
City Council made the East End Historic District a locally zoned historic district in 1971. ¹⁷⁷

HISTORY

Where you can still see it

Four stops where history shows, from a bishop's palace and two old churches to the Juneteenth marker on The Strand.

1892 Bishop's Palace

WHERE 1402 Broadway | **COST** \$15 for adults, \$12 for ages 6 to 18 and free for children 5 and under | **FROM HOME** 1.2 miles ²⁸
HOURS self-guided tours run daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the last tickets sold at 4 p.m.

The palace is one of Galveston's showpieces, and architect Nicholas Clayton designed it. Basement to Attic tours open rooms that are usually off-limits, including Mrs. Gresham's studio, which makes a second visit worth it.



Tours and tickets



Directions

Reedy Chapel AME Church

WHERE 2015 Broadway | **WHEN** Sunday service starts at 11 a.m. | **FROM HOME** 1.7 miles ^{41,43,44}

Reedy Chapel goes back to when trustees bought the church lot in 1848 as a place of worship for enslaved people. The church holds a Juneteenth re-enactment march and family day each year.



Church history



Directions

St. Joseph's Church

WHERE 2202 Avenue K | **FROM HOME** 1.8 miles ^{181,182}

German immigrants built St. Joseph's in 1859 and 1860, and it is one of the few pre-Civil War buildings left on the island. Today it hosts the Live at St. Joseph's concert series, one of the island's favorite listening rooms.



Concerts at St. Joe's



Directions

Juneteenth marker and Absolute Equality mural

WHERE 2201 Strand | **FROM HOME** 1.8 miles ¹⁸³

The marker recalls how General Order No. 3 told Texans that "all slaves are free" and promised "an absolute equality of personal rights" between former masters and slaves. Freed people in Galveston observed Emancipation Day as early as 1866.



Juneteenth Legacy Project



Directions

HISTORY

More of old Galveston to see

Three more stops downtown take in a library, a grand old house on Broadway and The Strand.

1 Rosenberg Library and Museum

WHERE 2310 Sealy Avenue | **FROM HOME** 1.9 miles ^{184,185,186,187}

HOURS the library is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Friday and Saturday and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, with the fourth floor closing at 6 p.m., and is closed Sunday

Henry Rosenberg's bequest funded the library, and it opened to the public in June 1904. The museum and the Galveston and Texas History Center are on the fourth floor, so head upstairs for local history.



Museum



Directions

2 Ashton Villa

WHERE 2328 Broadway | **FROM HOME** 1.9 miles ^{182,188}

Ashton Villa was home to Galveston icon Bettie Brown. It has a place in Juneteenth history, too, since Galveston's 1980 Juneteenth kickoff was held at Ashton Villa.



GHF properties



Directions

3 The Strand Historic District

WHERE 2302 Strand | **FROM HOME** 1.9 miles ^{55,56}

This is Galveston's old downtown, and The Strand is a National Historic Landmark District. Saengerfest Park, a small square at Tremont and Strand, has a trolley stop with restaurants and bars around it, so you can ride in and walk to dinner.



Saengerfest Park



Directions

WHERE THESE ARE FROM THE HOUSE



HISTORY

A church, a house and the wall

A church changed by the grade raising, the Menard House and the Original Seawall marker.

1 Wesley Tabernacle United Methodist Church

WHERE Avenue I (Sealy) at 28th Street | **FROM HOME** 2.2 miles ¹⁸⁹

Wesley Tabernacle is worth a look from the street. Its facade changed in 1924, when the grade raising reached this neighborhood, and the red brick front with white stone trim dates from that 1924 work. Stop and read its historical marker, too.



Read the marker



Directions

2 1838 Michel B. Menard House

WHERE 1605 33rd Street | **FROM HOME** 2.7 miles ¹⁸²

Galveston Historical Foundation calls the 1838 Menard House Galveston's oldest residence, and it is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. It carries the name of the same Menard who set up the town company.



GHF properties



Directions

3 The Original Seawall marker

WHERE 4900 block Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 4.1 miles ^{175,180}

The wall had a famous name behind it, since its three engineers included Henry M. Robert, author of Robert's Rules of Order. Later, the seawall was extended west to 61st Street in 1927 and to 99th Street in 1963.



Read the marker



Directions

WHERE THESE ARE FROM THE HOUSE



1,100

SEATS, ALMOST

The Grand 1894 Opera House on Postoffice Street

05 · ART AND CULTURE

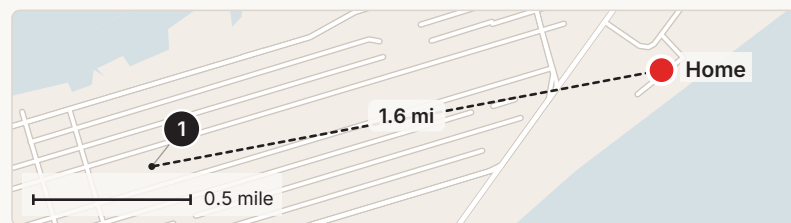
The Grand 1894 Opera House

The Grand 1894 Opera House is a Romanesque Revival-style theater designed by architect Frank Cox, and it officially opened on January 3, 1895, with a performance of the play The Daughters of Eve. Inside, the hall seats almost 1,100 guests.

The building was partly destroyed in the 1900 Storm, quickly rebuilt, and still standing after the 1915 storm. Decades later it was restored between 1974 and 1990 with more than \$8 million raised by the Galveston community, and the theater was named The Official Opera House of Texas by the 73rd Texas Legislature in 1993.

Pair a show with dinner downtown, or stop in on a quiet weekday to see the hall with the house lights up.

FROM THE FRONT DOOR



WHERE
2020 Postoffice Street

FROM HOME
1.6 miles

Sources ^{3,4}

GOOD TO KNOW
Come by for self-guided tours Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from noon to 4 p.m., except on performance and event days.



See shows



Directions

■ ART AND CULTURE

ART AND CULTURE

Galleries and ArtWalk

Four galleries downtown, plus the ArtWalk that strings them together.

Galveston Arts Center

WHERE 2127 Strand | **COST** free | **FROM HOME** 1.8 miles ^{190,191}

HOURS open Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 5 p.m., closed Monday, Tuesday and federal holidays



See exhibitions



Directions

The Galveston Arts Center is housed in the historic 1878 First National Bank building at the corner of 22nd and Strand. It runs exhibitions, art classes, the monthly ArtWalk and an Art Lending Library.

Nia Cultural Center

WHERE 2217 Strand | **FROM HOME** 1.8 miles ^{192,193}

HOURS open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m., closed Monday



Plan a visit



Directions

Nia Cultural Center is a nonprofit center honoring Black culture, history and community, with a gallery of rotating exhibits, including sculptures and paintings by local Black artists.

Affaire d'Art Gallery

WHERE 2227 Postoffice Street | **FROM HOME** 1.8 miles ¹⁹⁴

HOURS open Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 6 p.m.



Visit the gallery



Directions

Affaire d'Art Gallery is a fine art gallery showing painting, drawing, photography, mixed media and sculpture by local, national and international artists.

GAR Gallery (Galveston Artist Residency)

WHERE 2521 Ships Mechanic Row | **FROM HOME** 2.0 miles ^{195,196}

HOURS gallery open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.



See the gallery



Directions

GAR Gallery belongs to an artist residency that gives artists extended studio time and opens its gallery and public events to the community. Look for rotating exhibitions by resident artists and curated shows, plus evening music events.



06 · BIGGER OUTINGS WORTH THE DRIVE

Mansions and museums

The Strand Photo: Ed Uthman, CC BY 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons (cropped)

Five stops downtown for a slow day, with a family mansion, Texas history in an old orphanage, the county's collection, a rail depot and a drilling rig.

1 1895 Moody Mansion

WHERE 2618 Broadway | **COST** \$15 for adults on the self-guided tour, and \$40 per person for the guided all-access tour | **FROM HOME** 2.1 miles ^{197,198,199}
HOURS open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the last ticket sold at 4 p.m.



Tours and hours



Directions

Moody Mansion is a 28,000-square-foot, four-story home completed in 1895. It stayed home to Moody family members until 1983, when Hurricane Alicia caused major damage.

Plan on a standard tour of the main living quarters that runs about 45 minutes. For more, book a guided all-access tour that takes a small group into parts of the house visitors don't normally see. There's free parking behind the mansion, with overflow lots just to the east. Look for the Galveston Children's Museum on the mansion's ground floor, too.

2 The Bryan Museum

WHERE 1315 21st Street | **COST** \$15 for adults, \$7 for children 6 to 12, and free under 6 | **FROM HOME** 1.8 miles ^{200,201,202}
HOURS 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Monday and Tuesday



Hours and admission



Directions

The Bryan Museum is housed in the 1895 Galveston Orphans Home, and it holds artifacts, documents and artwork of Texas and the American West spanning more than 12,000 years. Walk through permanent galleries that run from Spanish Colonial and Texas Frontier through Statehood and Beyond to the Rest of the West.

Save time for the cowboy gear, with three dozen saddles, more than 250 antique firearms, several hundred spurs and rare maps. The building has 20,000 square feet of exhibit space set in manicured grounds, so stroll the lawn before you leave.



3 Galveston County Museum

WHERE 722 Moody Avenue (21st Street) | **COST** free | **FROM HOME** 1.7 miles ^{203,204,205}
HOURS Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., closed on county holidays



Visiting FAQ



Directions

The Galveston County Museum sits inside the Galveston County Courthouse, with free parking around the building and a ramp entrance from the rear guest lot at 20th and Ball. It holds a collection of 20,000 artifacts and archives, plus the county historical commission's library.

The museum opened in 1976 and spent many years on Market Street before moving here. For a deeper look, call ahead about guided tours on Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment for a donation.

4 Galveston Railroad Museum

WHERE 2602 Santa Fe Place | **COST** \$14 for adults, \$10 for seniors 65 and up, \$8 for ages 3 to 12, and free for children 2 and under and active or retired military | **FROM HOME** 2.1 miles ^{206,207,208,209,210,211}
HOURS open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Hours and admission



Directions

The Galveston Railroad Museum fills a restored train depot whose historic waiting room holds life-size white statues of travelers. Out on the tracks you'll find historic railcars to tour, a caboose to ride and lunch in a historic dining car.

It has been open to the public since 1982. Inside, look for a collection of railroad porcelain china and silver. The depot sits at the west end of The Strand, so it fits right into a downtown afternoon.

5 Ocean Star Offshore Drilling Rig and Museum

WHERE Pier 19 | **FROM HOME** 1.6 miles ²¹²
HOURS Thursday through Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (last tickets 4 p.m.); closed Tuesday and Wednesday



Rig museum info



Directions

The Ocean Star is an actual retired jack-up drilling rig where you can see the offshore industry first-hand. Step aboard for a close look at the kind of work that goes on far out in the Gulf, without leaving the dock.

It sits on the harbor a few blocks from the Galveston Historic Seaport, so walk Harborside Drive between the two and make one long morning of it.



BIGGER OUTINGS · WORTH THE DRIVE

The island's big days out

Pleasure Pier Photo: Tony Webster, CC BY 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons (cropped)

Five big outings on the island, with the pyramids, rides over the Gulf, a tall ship, a harbor cruise and a submarine on Pelican Island.

1 Moody Gardens

WHERE 1 Hope Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 5.8 miles ^{89,90,91,93,94}
HOURS open 365 days a year (pyramid hours vary by day; see the daily hours page)



Today's hours



Directions

Moody Gardens is built around three glass pyramids: the Aquarium Pyramid, the Rainforest Pyramid and the Discovery Pyramid.

One of them holds a 1.5-million-gallon aquarium with penguins, seals, sharks, a jellyfish gallery and thousands of tropical fish. Plan on the whole day there. Parking is always free.

The rainforest pyramid holds a 10-story living rainforest with free-roaming exotic birds, giant river otters, a Komodo dragon and an ocelot. Warm months bring Palm Beach, a seasonal water park with a white sand beach, wave pool, lazy river and splash pad.

2 Pleasure Pier

WHERE 2501 Seawall Boulevard | **COST** walk-on passes (no rides), single ride tickets and all-day ride passes | **FROM HOME** 2.3 miles ^{74,75,76,77}
HOURS change with the season and sometimes week to week, so check the pier's calendar before you go



Pier hours

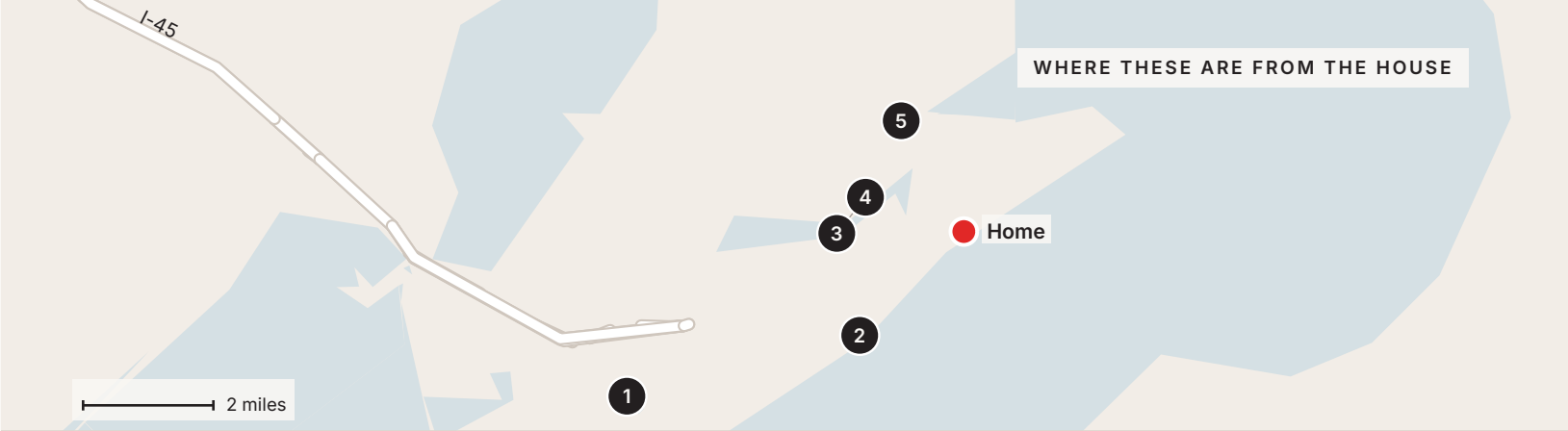


Directions

Pleasure Pier puts rides, midway games, food and shops on a pier over the Gulf. The headliner is the Iron Shark roller coaster, with a 100-foot vertical lift and a beyond-vertical drop.

There's paid parking in the lot across from the pier next to Fish Tales.

For a bird's-eye look at the Seawall and the Gulf, ride the Texas Star Flyer swing, which rises more than 230 feet above sea level. It's an easy add to an evening on the island.



3 Galveston Historic Seaport and Elissa

WHERE Pier 22 | **COST** \$18 adults, \$12 ages 6 to 18, free for 5 and under, including the Ship To Shore exhibit | **FROM HOME** 1.9 miles ^{59,60}
HOURS Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (last admission 4:30 p.m.)



Visit ELISSA



Directions

At the Historic Seaport, walk the decks of Elissa, an 1877 square-rigged iron barque and a National Historic Landmark. She is one of only three ships of her kind in the world that still actively sail.

Inside the museum, the Ship To Shore exhibit follows early immigrants from the long sea voyage to arriving in 1880s Galveston.

4 Historic Harbor Tour

WHERE Pier 22 | **COST** \$25 adults, \$18 ages 6 to 18, free for 5 and under | **FROM HOME** 1.9 miles ²¹³



Harbor tour times



Directions

The Historic Harbor Tour is a one-hour cruise of Galveston Harbor aboard Seagull II, a 50-foot twin-engine boat with a covered main deck and an open upper deck. Watch for big ships, dolphins and seabirds, plus Elissa, the grounded concrete ship Selma and Civil War Battle of Galveston sites.

It departs from the Galveston Historic Seaport at Pier 22, right by Elissa.

5 Galveston Naval Museum

WHERE 100 Seawolf Parkway | **COST** tickets run \$10 to \$14; under 5 and active-duty military with ID get in free | **FROM HOME** 2.0 miles ^{214,215,216,217}
HOURS open every day from 9 a.m., except Christmas



Plan your visit



Directions

Out on Pelican Island, the Galveston Naval Museum has self-guided tours of two World War II ships, the submarine USS Cavalla and the destroyer escort USS Stewart, nicknamed Predator and Protector.

The sail of USS Tautog and the conning tower of USS Carp are also on display. Wear good shoes, and know that the vessels aren't wheelchair accessible.



BIGGER OUTINGS • WORTH THE DRIVE

Day trips off the island

The Galveston–Port Bolivar ferry

Photo: GuavaTrain, CC0, via Wikimedia Commons (cropped)

Five trips off the island, with a ferry ride to Bolivar, an old fort, the Texas City Dike, Kemah and the space center by Clear Lake.

1 Galveston–Port Bolivar Ferry

WHERE 1000 Ferry Road | **FROM HOME** 1.2 miles ^{27,218}
HOURS the ferry runs 24 hours a day



Ferry info



Directions

The Galveston–Port Bolivar Ferry carries cars and walk-on riders to Bolivar Peninsula, and the ferry is free. Go early in the day, because in the high-traffic season, waits to cross can run two hours or more. On the Bolivar side, the Point Bolivar Lighthouse in Port Bolivar has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1977.

2 Fort Travis Seashore Park

WHERE 900 State Highway 87 | **FROM HOME** 3.6 miles ^{219,220,221}
HOURS 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and the gate closes automatically



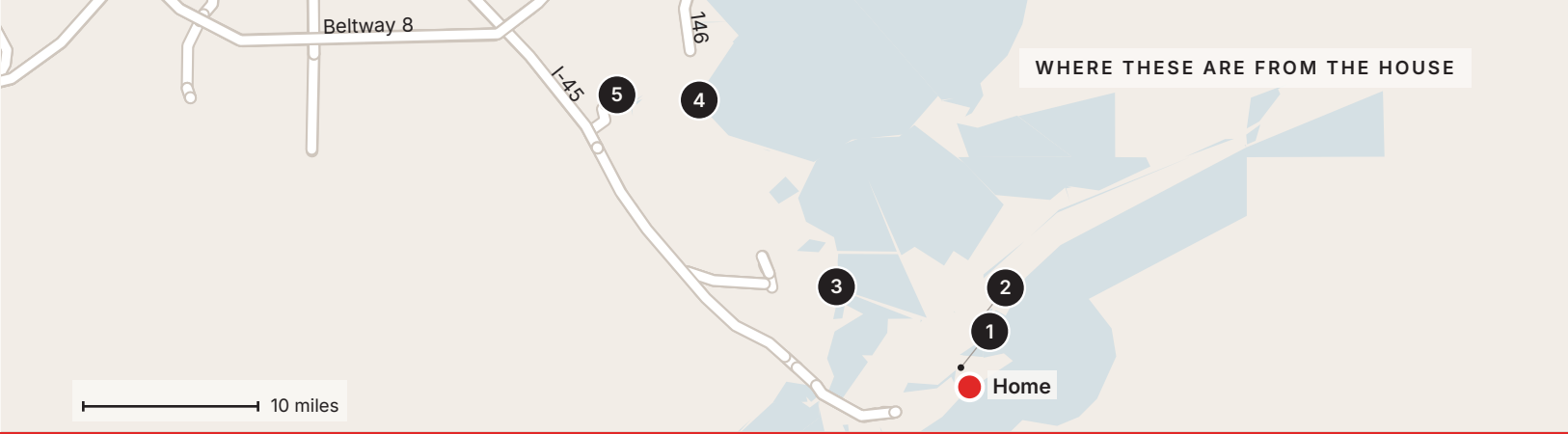
Park hours



Directions

A short drive from the ferry landing, Fort Travis Seashore Park has historic bunkers and batteries, fishing spots and a 360-degree view of the Gulf of Mexico. Fort Travis is a State Antiquities Landmark, and Galveston County bought the fort in 1973 for use as a public park. Pack a picnic and a rod, then watch the ships work through the channel.

Pair it with the ferry ride over for an easy morning off the island. Bring sunscreen, a hat and plenty of water.



3 Texas City Dike

WHERE Dike Road, Texas City | **FROM HOME** 9.5 miles ²²²
HOURS the dike is open 24 hours



Dike info



Directions

Cross the I-45 causeway and go up the bay shore, where the dike stretches 5.3 miles into Galveston Bay. Out along it you'll find Dike Beach, restrooms, fish cleaning stations and picnic shelters. Back on land, you'll find more to do at the base, a large playground, hike and bike trails, bike rentals and an 18-hole disc golf course.

4 Kemah Boardwalk

WHERE 8 Kemah Boardwalk | **COST** entry to the boardwalk is free; ride tickets are sold at the on-site booth or online | **FROM HOME** 22.6 miles ^{223,224,225,226}
HOURS change with the season, so check the visitor info page before you go



Visitor info



Directions

Up the bay, Kemah Boardwalk has waterfront restaurants, rides, shops, festivals and seaside shows on Galveston Bay. At Stingray Reef you can touch and feed live stingrays, then walk through a rainforest exhibit with piranhas, snakes and turtles. Go on a weekday, since parking is free Monday through Friday with some exclusions, and lots take credit cards only.

5 Space Center Houston

WHERE 1601 East NASA Parkway | **COST** the Historic Mission Control tram tour costs extra and isn't included in general admission | **FROM HOME** 26.2 miles ^{227,228,229,230}
HOURS change through the year, so check the online calendar before you go



Hours



Directions

Space Center Houston is the official visitor center of NASA Johnson Space Center and a Smithsonian Affiliate. Out front, Independence Plaza, eight stories tall, shows a shuttle replica mounted on its carrier aircraft. Inside, the Starship Gallery holds the Apollo 17 command module and a moon rock you can touch.



Moody Gardens

Photo: Larry D. Moore, CC BY 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons (cropped)

07 • EVENTS

A year of big events: winter

Winter brings three big ones, with Dickens on The Strand, a holiday light trail you walk through and Mardi Gras. Check each organizer's site for exact dates.

Winter

- FIRST WEEKEND IN DECEMBER
- Dickens on The Strand ²³¹
- The Strand turns back the clock with costumed vendors, holiday food and drink, street stalls and parades.
- EVERY HOLIDAY SEASON
- Holiday in the Gardens at Moody Gardens ²³²
- After dark, a mile-long trail with more than two million lights and lighted scenes loops around the Moody Gardens grounds.
- THE WEEKS BEFORE LENT
- Mardi Gras! Galveston ^{233,234}
- Parades roll through downtown's Mardi Gras Entertainment District and along Seawall Boulevard, so plan errands around the parade routes.



See dates and details
galvestonhistory.org/events/...



See dates and details
mardigrasgalveston.com/...



Shorebirds at Bolivar Flats

Photo: Bettina Arrigoni, CC BY 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons (cropped)

EVENTS

Spring and summer

Spring and early summer bring birding, historic home tours, a crab festival across the water and Juneteenth in the city where it began.

Spring

- EACH SPRING MIGRATION
- FeatherFest (Galveston Birding and Nature Photo Festival) ²³⁵
- More than 200 bird species are typical during the festival, from year-round residents to spring migrants.
- EVERY SPRING
- Galveston Historic Homes Tour ²³⁶
- The Galveston Historical Foundation opens privately owned historic homes for public tours.
- MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND
- Texas Crab Festival ²³⁷
- The festival is run by Bolivar Peninsula Charities, with proceeds going to scholarships and volunteer fire departments, and it's worth the ferry ride.

Summer

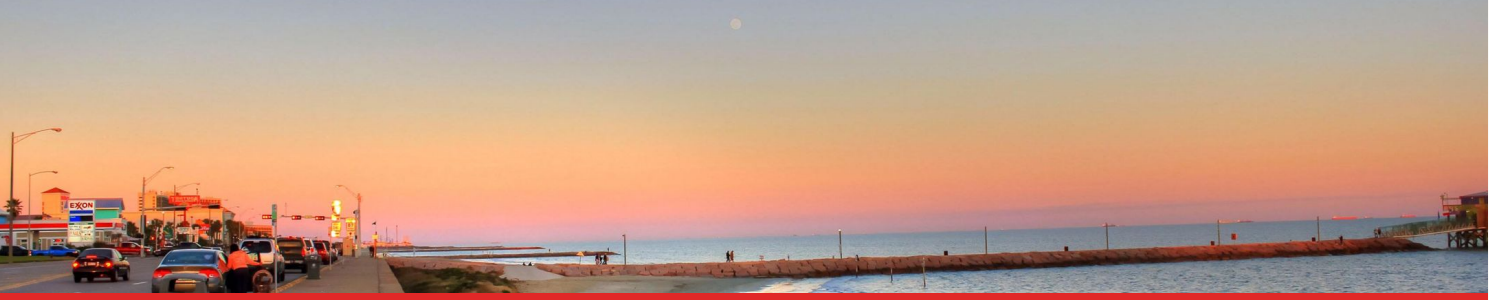
- EVERY JUNE 19
- Juneteenth in Galveston ²³⁸
- The holiday traces back to this island. An annual Juneteenth celebration began on the lawn of Ashton Villa at 2328 Broadway.



See dates and details
galvestonfeatherfest.com/...



Juneteenth in Galveston
galvestonhistory.org/news/...



Seawall Boulevard

Photo: Yinan Chen, public domain, via Wikimedia Commons (cropped)

EVENTS

Fall and every month

Fall brings shrimp gumbo and motorcycles to The Strand, the ArtWalk comes around every month, and the symphony plays Sunday afternoons from fall into early summer.

Fall

- EVERY FALL
-
- Galveston Island Shrimp Festival ²³⁹
- Expect a shrimp gumbo cook-off, the Shrimp Scamper 5K, vendor exhibits and live music in the Strand district.
- EVERY FALL
-
- Lone Star Rally ²⁴⁰
- Plenty of chrome rolls in for a motorcycle rally with bike and car shows, rodeo games, tattoo and sound contests and concerts on The Strand and the Seawall.

All year

- SECOND SATURDAYS
-
- Galveston ArtWalk ¹⁹¹
- The evening is free and open to everyone, inside downtown galleries, artist studios, nonprofits and local businesses along Postoffice Street and The Strand.
- SUNDAYS IN SEASON
-
- Galveston Symphony Orchestra: Sundays at the Symphony ²⁴¹
- The orchestra brings together musicians from the island and the greater Houston area for an afternoon of live music downtown.



See dates and details
galvestonislandshrimpfestival.com/...



ArtWalk
galvestonartscenter.org/...

08 · A DAY OUT

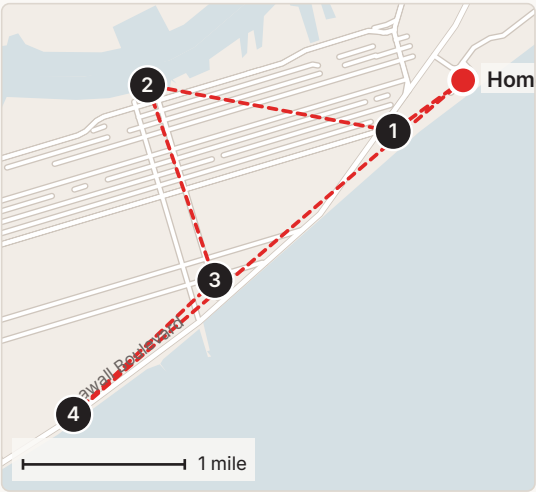
Two easy days: Saturday

A Saturday on the Seawall and downtown, with a morning walk, a tall ship, seafood tacos and shrimp and oysters at Gaido's.

Saturday

- MORNING
- 1
- The Seawall ⁹
- Seawall Boulevard, west from 6th Street · 0.5 miles
- Walk or bike the Seawall sidewalk while it's cool.
- MIDMORNING
- 2
- Galveston Historic Seaport and Elissa ^{59,60}
- Pier 22 · 1.9 miles
- Climb aboard the Elissa and walk through the museum.
- LUNCH
- 3
- Fish Company Taco ^{123,124}
- 1914 23rd Street · 2.0 miles
- Tacos at Fish Company Taco, on corn tortillas made fresh daily.
- DINNER
- 4
- Gaido's ^{84,130}
- 3828 Seawall Boulevard · 3.2 miles
- Gulf shrimp and Galveston Bay oysters on the Seawall at Gaido's.

Then home to Grand Beach.



Numbers follow the day in order. The dashed line shows the order of stops, not a driving route.

DIRECTIONS TO EACH STOP



1 · Seawall
Google Maps



2 · Elissa
Google Maps



3 · Fish Company Taco
Google Maps



4 · Gaido's
Google Maps

A DAY OUT

Two easy days: Sunday

A Sunday with the farmers market on Market Street, a ferry ride to Bolivar and back, a walk at East End Lagoon and Cajun seafood on the Seawall.

Sunday

- MORNING

1

Galveston's Own Farmers Market¹⁰⁰

3304 Market Street · 2.5 miles

Local produce, prepared food and artisan goods at the Sunday market on Market Street.
- FERRY RIDE

2

Galveston–Port Bolivar Ferry^{27,218}

1000 Ferry Road · 1.2 miles

Drive aboard for a round trip to Bolivar. The ferry is free.
- AFTERNOON

3

East End Lagoon Nature Park and Preserve^{65,66}

1919-1923 Boddeker Drive · 2.2 miles

At East End Lagoon, walk a short half-mile nature trail with three loops and interpretive signs.
- DINNER

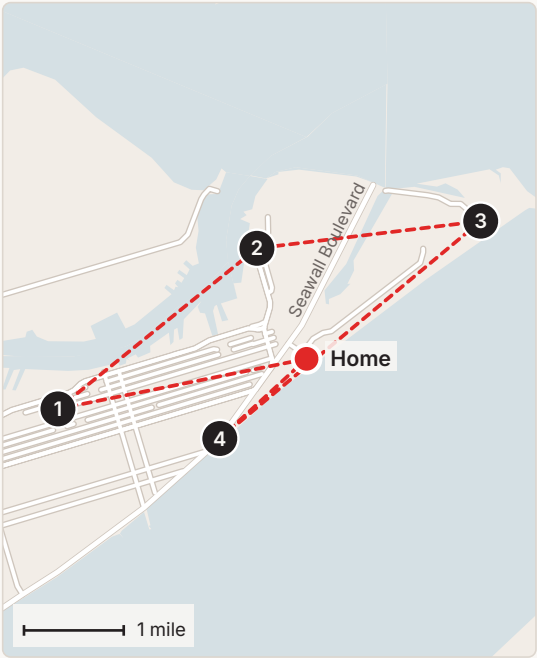
4

Benno's on the Beach^{18,19}

1212 Seawall Boulevard · 1.2 miles

Gumbo, red beans and rice or crawfish étouffée at Benno's, across from the Gulf.

Then back to the beach for the last light.



Numbers follow the day in order. The dashed line shows the order of stops, not a driving route.

DIRECTIONS TO EACH STOP



1 · Farmers market
Google Maps



2 · Ferry
Google Maps



3 · East End Lagoon
Google Maps



4 · Benno's
Google Maps

09 · SETTLING IN

Building on the lot

Before anything goes up on the lot, the City's permit, the flood zone and windstorm certification set the rules.

Building permits

WHERE 3015 Market Street^{242,243,244}

In the City of Galveston, all development in the floodplain, including new construction, grading and paving, needs a permit. All new construction must be built at least 18 inches above the base flood elevation. Pre-development meetings walk you through the City's development process, codes, applications and fees, so book one first. After that, building permit applications, contractor registrations and inspection requests are submitted online through the City's ePortal.



Building permits



Building Division

Flood insurance and floodplain rules²⁴²

Development Services will tell you your flood zone at 409-797-3814 or at 3015 Market Street. Plan on a separate flood policy. The City advises flood insurance in every flood zone, since basic homeowner's insurance does not cover flood damage. Buy it early, since a new flood policy has a 30-day waiting period before it takes effect. Galveston's part in the Community Rating System brings discounts on flood insurance premiums for eligible policyholders.



Flood info



Flood insurance

Windstorm insurance (TWIA)^{245,246}

TWIA is a not-for-profit insurer that offers windstorm and hail coverage to coastal owners who can't get it in the regular market. Eligibility comes down to how you build. A WPI-8 Certificate of Compliance acknowledges eligibility for windstorm and hail coverage through the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA). TWIA policies are bought through your insurance agent.



Windstorm coverage



City windstorm

SETTLING IN

House and utilities

Who to call and what to file as the house you build comes together and you move in.

Galveston Central Appraisal District

WHERE 9850 Emmett F. Lowry Expressway | **WHEN** the general filing deadline is before May 1 ²⁴⁷

File once the house is built and you live there, since the general residence homestead exemption is for a home you own and use as your principal residence.



File homestead



Exemption rules

Electricity ²⁴⁸

CenterPoint Energy delivers electricity on Galveston Island no matter which provider you pick, and you compare plans through Power to Choose.



Pick a provider



Electricity guide

City of Galveston Utility Billing

WHERE 823 Rosenberg Avenue | **FROM HOME** 2.0 miles ^{249,250}

HOURS the office is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and takes new-service requests until 4:30 p.m.

New water service starts with an application at City of Galveston Utility Billing in City Hall, though the same form can also go in by fax or email.



Start water



Water FAQs

Trash and recycling

WHEN garbage is picked up once a week on an assigned day that depends on which part of the island you live in ^{251,252}

Big items need no special trip, because bulk trash goes out next to your cart on your regular trash day. Public Works answers trash and recycling questions at 409-797-3630.



Trash days



Recycle center

SETTLING IN

License, plates and voting

Plates, a Texas license and voter registration, plus the city's main line for everything else.

Galveston County Tax Office

WHERE 722 Moody Avenue (21st Street) | **FROM HOME** 1.7 miles ^{253,254,255}

HOURS the Galveston courthouse office is open Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Friday, 8 a.m. to noon

The car comes before the license, and new residents have 30 days to register a vehicle in Texas. At the counter, bring proof of insurance, proof of ownership, a Texas inspection report, your driver license and a completed Form 130-U.



Register a vehicle



New to Texas

Texas DPS Driver License Office

WORTH THE DRIVE

WHERE 6812 Broadway Street | **FROM HOME** 5.2 miles ^{256,257,258}

Coming from another state, you can drive on a valid out-of-state license for up to 90 days after moving to Texas. Driver license offices serve customers by appointment only.



Moving to Texas



DL offices

Voter registration ²⁵⁵

Voter Registration is on the first floor of the county's Galveston office, at 409-766-2280. Skip the stamp if you like, because the yellow drop boxes at each full-time county tax office accept voter registration applications.



Register to vote



County tax office

City of Galveston

WHERE 823 Rosenberg Avenue ²⁵⁹

For anything that doesn't fit elsewhere, start with the City of Galveston. City Hall's main number is 409-797-3500.



City of Galveston



New residents

GETTING AROUND

Buses, beach parking and a library card

City buses and trolleys, the beach pass, a library card and the island's own airport.

Island Transit

WHERE 3115 Market Street | **WHEN** weekday bus routes run from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday routes from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. ^{260,261,262}

Island Transit runs weekday and Saturday city bus routes, trolley buses on the Seawall and downtown, and a historic rail trolley. For a city bus into town, Route 4 connects the east end south of Broadway to downtown.

Beach parking pass

COST East Beach charges \$15 per vehicle per visit ^{263,264}

For days away from the walkover, a \$50 Seasonal Beach Parking Pass gives a year of unlimited entry to East Beach and Stewart Beach. Buy it at the East Beach or Stewart Beach entry booth. The pass is a sticker, much like a vehicle registration sticker.

Rosenberg Library card

WHERE 2310 Sealy Avenue | **FROM HOME** 1.9 miles ^{51,52,53}

HOURS the library is open Monday, Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and is closed Sunday

Signing up is quick, since Texas residents get a card at the first-floor circulation desk with a current state-issued ID. The library also runs a museum and the Galveston and Texas History Center.

Scholes International Airport

WORTH THE DRIVE

WHERE 2115 Terminal Drive | **FROM HOME** 6.4 miles ²⁶⁵

Scholes International Airport is the City of Galveston's general aviation airport, so airline trips still start in Houston.

SOURCES

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Each small number points to a source below. Hours, dates and prices change, so confirm with each place before you go.

PHOTOS, MAPS AND TYPE

Listing photos (cover, page 2, back cover): the listing's own photo set.

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Maps: U.S. Census Bureau TIGER streets and water (public domain); the Seawall map and cover map use OpenStreetMap data (ODbL).

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INDEX

Places and topics, A to Z

- #

1838 Michel B. Menard House 29

1892 Bishop's Palace 27

1895 Moody Mansion 32

99 Ranch Market (Sugar Land) 8
- A

Adoue Park 20

Affaire d'Art Gallery 31

Architectural Salvage Warehouse 11

Arlan's Market 6

Artist Boat Coastal Heritage Preserve 23

Ashton Villa 28
- B

Beach parking pass 46

Benno's on the Beach 14

BLVD Seafood 17

Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary 23

The Bryan Museum 32

Building permits 43
- C

Chalmers Hardware (Ace) 11

City of Galveston 45

City of Galveston Utility Billing 44

Coastal Star Brewing 16

Crockett Park 21

CVS Pharmacy (Broadway) 9
- D

Daiquiri Time Out 16

The Den (Hotel Lucine) 12
- E

Earth Creations 11

East Beach (R.A. Apffel Park) 19

East End Lagoon Nature Park and Preserve 19

Electricity 44
- F

The Fancy (Hotel Lucine) 15

Fish Company Taco 13

Flamingo Gardens 11

Flood insurance and floodplain rules 43

Fort Travis Seashore Park 36
- G

Gaido's 14

Galveston Arts Center 31
- Galveston Bagel Company 12

Galveston Bookshop 9

Galveston Central Appraisal District 44

Galveston County Museum 33

Galveston County Tax Office 45

Galveston Flooring Carpet One 11

Galveston Historic Seaport and Elissa 35

Galveston Island Brewing 17

Galveston Island State Park 22

Galveston Naval Museum 35

Galveston Post Office 9

Galveston Railroad Museum 33

Galveston's Own Farmers Market 7

Galveston–Port Bolivar Ferry 36

GAR Gallery (Galveston Artist Residency) 31

Gordon Restaurant Market 8

The Grand 1894 Opera House 30

Gypsy Joynt 17
- H

H Mart (Bellaire) 8

H-E-B (Texas City) 8

Hearsay on the Strand 13

Historic Harbor Tour 35

The Home Depot (65th Street) 11
- I

Ideal Lumber 11

Island Transit 46
- J

Juneteenth marker and Absolute Equality mural 27
- K

Katie's Seafood House 13

Katie's Seafood Market 7

Kemah Boardwalk 37

Kempner Park 20

Kroger (Seawall Boulevard) 6
- L

La King's Confectionery 16

La Michoacana Meat Market 7

Lafitte's Cove Nature Preserve 22

Lasker Park and Pool 21

Lindale Park 20
- M

Maceo Spice and Import Company 7

McCoy's Building Supply 11

Menard Park and McGuire-Dent Recreation Center 21

Miller's Seawall Grill 14

Moody Gardens 34
- N

Naked Iguana Brewery 16

Nia Cultural Center 31

Number 13 Prime Steak and Seafood 17
- O

Ocean Star Offshore Drilling Rig and Museum 33

The Original Seawall marker 29
- P

Pleasure Pier 34
- R

Randalls 6

Red Light Coffee Roasters 12

Reedy Chapel AME Church 27

Rosenberg Library and Museum 28

Rosenberg Library card 46

Rudy and Paco 15
- S

Scholes International Airport 46

The Seawall 18

Seawolf Park 23

Southwestern Paint 11

Space Center Houston 37

The Spot 14

St. Joseph's Church 27

Stewart Beach 19

The Strand Historic District 28

Sugar and Rye 15

The Sunflower Bakery and Cafe 12
- T

Target 6

Texas City Dike 37

Texas DPS Driver License Office 45

Tom's Thumb by Cornelius Nursery 11

Trash and recycling 44

Trattoria La Vigna 15
- V

Voter registration 45
- W

Walgreens (Seawall Boulevard) 9

Walmart Supercenter (Seawall) 11

Wesley Tabernacle United Methodist Church 29

Windstorm insurance (TWIA) 43

Wright Cuney Park and Recreation Center 21
- Y

Yaga's Cafe 13



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