

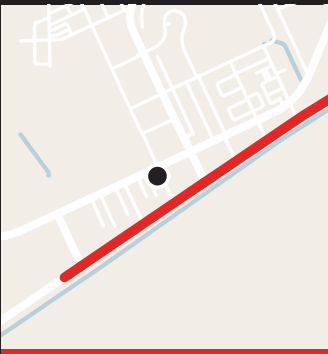
A NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT

Around 3613 83rd

The Seawall, Gulf seafood, beaches and island history in Galveston



DISTANCES FROM THE FRONT DOOR



0.1 MI

The Seawall at 83rd Street
PAGE 19



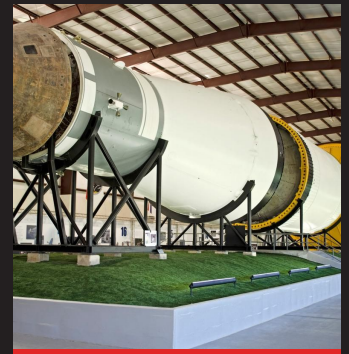
0.5 MI

Seafood on the fishing pier
PAGE 13



7.7 MI

Galveston Island State Park
PAGE 22



25.2 MI

Space Center Houston
PAGE 36

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

Life a block from the Seawall

Walk to the end of 83rd Street and you're on the Seawall! Jimmy's on the Pier is just down the wall, a brewery is close enough to walk to on Stewart Road and Moody Gardens is a quick drive for the weekend.

This booklet walks you out the front door the way I would on a tour. The first stop is always the Seawall, right at the end of the street. Groceries and errands come next, then places to eat, parks and beaches, island history, art, the bigger outings, a year of events, two easy days out and the move-in basics. Every distance in it is measured in a straight line from the house, so the actual drive runs a little longer.

Most entries have two codes. One opens the place's own page and the other usually pulls up directions on your phone. The small numbers point to sources in the back, and hours and dates change, so check with the place before you go.



Listing photo

NEAR THE FRONT DOOR

The Seawall	0.1 mi
Galveston Island Brewing	0.1 mi
Schreiber Park (Rocket Park)	0.4 mi
Jimmy's on the Pier	0.5 mi
Schlitterbahn Galveston	1.0 mi

IN THIS BOOKLET

02 Welcome	19 Parks and beaches	41 Two easy days
03 Start here	25 History	43 Settling in
04 Around you	30 Art and culture	46 Getting around
06 Groceries and errands	32 Bigger outings	47 Sources
12 Eat and drink	38 A year of events	51 Index of places

START HERE

Three ways into the neighborhood

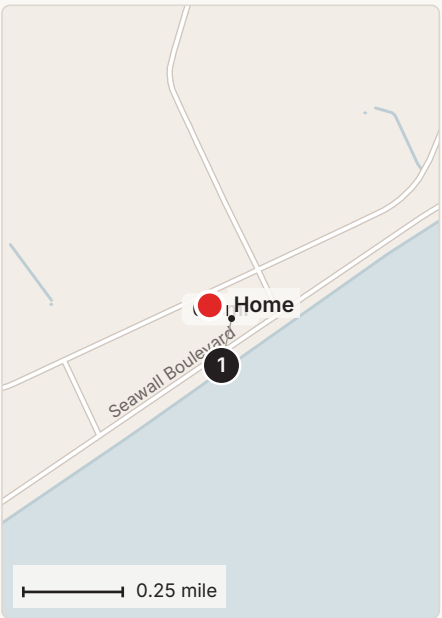
New to this end of the island? These three give you a quick feel for it, from the beach to a whole day out.

1 OUTDOORS

The Seawall

8228 Seawall Boulevard · under 0.1 mile

Walk it, ride it or just sit up top and watch the water.



Seawall info



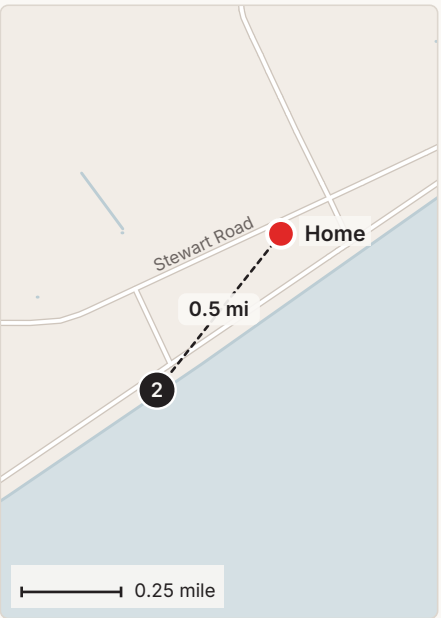
Directions

2 A WALK AWAY

Jimmy's on the Pier

9001 Seawall Boulevard · 0.5 miles

Jimmy's on the Pier is a walk west along the Seawall from the house. Go for fresh seafood, tacos and classic burgers on the Galveston Fishing Pier.



Hours and menu



Directions

3 WEEKEND

Moody Gardens

1 Hope Boulevard · 1.2 miles

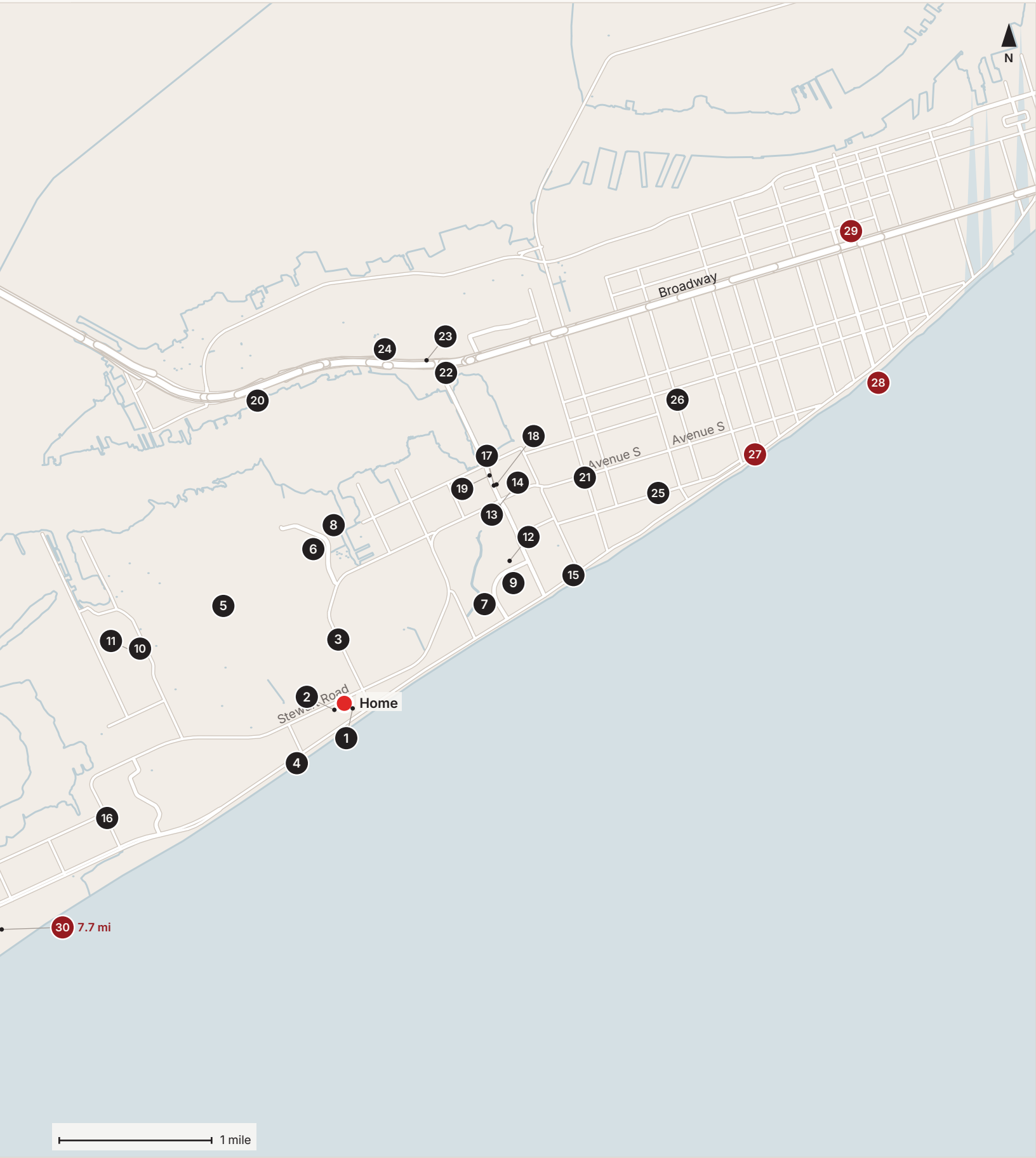
Moody Gardens is close enough for a spur-of-the-moment Saturday, and it is open every day of the year, with free parking.



Hours and pricing



Directions



AROUND YOU

What's close to the house

From the brewery on Stewart Road out to Galveston Island State Park, here is where the everyday places fall around the house.

1	Seawall at 83rd Street	under 0.1 mi	16	Sandhill Crane fields	1.7 mi
	PARKS AND BEACHES · PAGE 19			PARKS AND BEACHES · PAGE 20	
2	Galveston Island Brewing	under 0.1 mi	17	Cajun Creek	1.7 mi
	EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 13			EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 13	
3	Rocket Park	0.4 mi	18	Mario's Ristorante	1.7 mi
	PARKS AND BEACHES · PAGE 20			EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 14	
4	Jimmy's on the Pier	0.5 mi	19	Yamato	1.8 mi
	EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 13			EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 13	
5	Scholes airport	1.0 mi	20	Number 13	2.1 mi
	HISTORY · PAGE 27			EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 14	
6	Schlitterbahn	1.0 mi	21	Crockett Park	2.2 mi
	BIGGER OUTINGS · PAGE 32			PARKS AND BEACHES · PAGE 20	
7	Walmart	1.1 mi	22	Sherwin-Williams	2.3 mi
	GROCERIES · PAGE 6			ERRANDS · PAGE 11	
8	Moody Gardens	1.2 mi	23	Target	2.3 mi
	BIGGER OUTINGS · PAGE 32			GROCERIES · PAGE 6	
9	Rosewood Cemetery	1.4 mi	24	The Home Depot	2.3 mi
	HISTORY · PAGE 27			ERRANDS · PAGE 10	
10	Palmetto Osteria	1.4 mi	25	Fort Crockett	2.5 mi
	EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 14			HISTORY · PAGE 27	
11	Sugar Bean	1.4 mi	26	Lasker Pool	3.0 mi
	EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 12			PARKS AND BEACHES · PAGE 21	
12	Randalls	1.4 mi	27	Gaido's	3.2 mi
	GROCERIES · PAGE 6			EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 15	
13	Café Canela	1.6 mi	28	Pleasure Pier	4.1 mi
	EAT AND DRINK · PAGE 12			BIGGER OUTINGS · PAGE 33	
14	Walgreens	1.6 mi	29	Rosenberg Library	4.5 mi
	ERRANDS · PAGE 9			SETTLING IN · PAGE 45	
15	Kroger	1.7 mi	30	Galveston Island State Park	7.7 mi
	GROCERIES · PAGE 6			PARKS AND BEACHES · PAGE 22	

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

Streets and shoreline from OpenStreetMap contributors (ODbL). Places beyond the frame sit at its edge with their distance. Dark red markers are worth-the-drive outings.

GROCERIES

Groceries close to the house

Walmart and Kroger right on Seawall Boulevard, Randalls on Central City Boulevard and a Target on Broadway cover the weekly list.

Walmart Supercenter (Seawall)

WHERE 6702 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 1.1 miles ³⁰
HOURS open every day from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

The big one-stop run on Seawall Boulevard, where the weekly groceries come with a pharmacy, vision center, auto care center and a Murphy fuel station. It also keeps sensory-friendly shopping hours from 8 to 10 a.m. every day.



Store hours



Directions

Randalls (Central City Boulevard)

WHERE 2931 Central City Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 1.4 miles ⁴⁵
HOURS open every day from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

A full grocery store on Central City Boulevard with a pharmacy, bakery, deli, meat and seafood counter, floral, a Starbucks and DriveUp & Go pickup. Order ahead and grab it on the way home.



Store hours



Directions

Kroger (Seawall)

WHERE 5730 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 1.7 miles ⁵³
HOURS open every day from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

The Seawall Boulevard Kroger, a little farther toward downtown, has a pharmacy with drive-thru, a fuel center, a Starbucks, sushi, a seafood counter and a floral department.



Store hours



Directions

Target (Broadway)

WHERE 6128 Broadway Street | **FROM HOME** 2.3 miles ⁷²
HOURS open every day from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Target on Broadway covers the household side of the list, with a CVS pharmacy, a Starbucks cafe, wine and beer, and Drive Up and Order Pickup.



Store hours



Directions

GROCERIES

Seafood, butcher and bakery

Local Gulf seafood on the harbor, a butcher counter on Broadway, a small-batch bakery on Postoffice Street and a Sunday farmers market, all toward downtown.

Katie's Seafood Market

WHERE 1902 Wharf Road | **FROM HOME** 5.2 miles ^{103,104}
HOURS every day, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

A seafood market on the harbor, where most of the fish comes from local fishermen and shrimpers, including red snapper, grouper, flounder, oysters, shrimp and blue crabs.



Hours and location



Directions

La Michoacana Meat Market (Broadway)

WHERE 3301 Broadway Street | **FROM HOME** 3.9 miles ¹⁰⁵
HOURS open every day from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

A butcher counter and grocery on Broadway, part of a Houston-born chain started by a Mexican family in 1986, known for fresh meat and produce.



Store hours



Directions

Milk & Honey Baking Company

WHERE 2220 Postoffice Street | **FROM HOME** 4.7 miles ¹⁰⁶
HOURS Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Pastries, bread and custom cakes on Postoffice Street. Its founder Bethany Boedicker made desserts at Moody Gardens for more than a decade before opening this small-batch bakery.



Hours and menu



Directions

Galveston's Own Farmers Market

WHERE 3304 Market Street | **WHEN** Sundays, 9 a.m. to noon, rain or shine, except a few posted dates | **FROM HOME** 4.1 miles ¹⁰⁷

On Sunday mornings the market is held at Galveston Historical Foundation's The Depot on Market, with free street parking nearby. Expect locally grown produce, farm products, prepared foods and handmade goods, and the market accepts SNAP.



Market info



Directions

GROCERIES

Restaurant supply and two specialty markets

A restaurant-supply store anyone can shop, a Mexican supermarket on Broadway and a Filipino market in League City.

1 Gordon Restaurant Market

WHERE 2402 45th Street | **FROM HOME** 2.7 miles ^{108,109}
HOURS open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday

The stop for bulk runs, since Gordon Food Service's Texas stores are built for restaurants and open to the public. The Galveston store carries fresh meat and produce, fresh-squeezed juice and rotisserie and hot foods, with walk-in coolers.



Store hours



Directions

2 Supermercados Teloloapan (Broadway)

WHERE 5908 Broadway | **FROM HOME** 2.5 miles ^{110,111}

A Mexican supermarket on Broadway, from a chain the Ayala family started with its first store in 1994. Come on a Saturday, since Supermercados Teloloapan stores offer carnitas, chicharrones, barbacoa and Guerrero-style cabrito on weekends.



Store info



Directions

3 Pinoy Fiesta Asian Store WORTH THE DRIVE

WHERE 1101 West Main Street Suite D | **FROM HOME** 23.2 miles ^{112,113}

Over the causeway in League City, this is an Asian grocery with a strong focus on Filipino products. Plan on shopping in person, since frozen foods and produce are sold in the store only, and online orders can be picked up there.



Shop and visit



Directions

WHERE THESE ARE FROM THE HOUSE



ERRANDS

A pharmacy, the post office and two shops near the Strand

A pharmacy on 61st Street, the downtown post office, a bookshop and a curiosity shop near the Strand.

Walgreens (61st Street)

WHERE 2501 61st Street | **FROM HOME** 1.6 miles ⁵¹
HOURS open 24 hours

The Walgreens on 61st Street has pharmacy drive-thru, curbside pickup and vaccinations, so a refill never means getting out of the car.



Store hours



Directions

Galveston Post Office

WHERE 601 Tremont Street | **FROM HOME** 4.6 miles ¹¹⁴
HOURS open weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed weekends

The Galveston Post Office is downtown, so it fits into a Strand afternoon, and passport services are offered here.



Post office hours



Directions

Then & Now Bookshop

WHERE 2118 Postoffice Street | **FROM HOME** 4.8 miles ^{115,116}

Then and Now is a woman-owned independent bookshop downtown on Postoffice Street, and the shelves include a section of Galveston books and Galveston authors. Browse before lunch downtown.



Browse the shop



Directions

Hendley Market

WHERE 2010 Strand | **FROM HOME** 5.0 miles ¹¹⁷

Hendley Market is a curiosity shop stocked with children's books and toys, antiques, and handmade and fair-trade goods. The shop has been in the 1859 Hendley Buildings and on the Strand since 1979.



About the shop

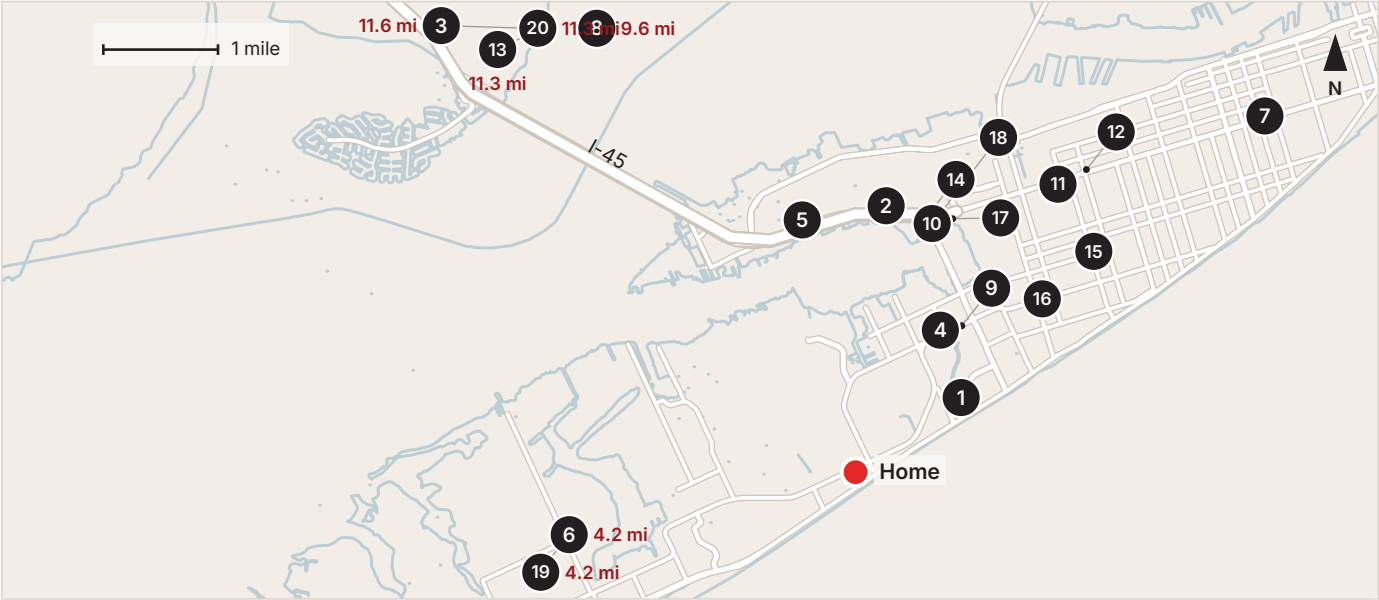


Directions

ERRANDS

Hardware and home projects

Home Depot and Walmart cover the big runs, with an island Ace downtown, paint on 61st Street, boat parts on Broadway and Harbor Freight across the causeway.



Numbers match the list. Stores beyond the frame sit at its edge with their distance. Roads: OpenStreetMap contributors (ODbL).

HOME CENTERS

- 1

Walmart Supercenter (Seawall)¹¹⁸
6702 Seawall Boulevard · 1.1 miles
HOURS daily 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Beyond the weekly groceries, this Walmart has hardware and patio and garden departments, plus a tire shop and auto care center.
- 2

The Home Depot (65th Street)⁷³
702 65th Street · 2.3 miles
HOURS Monday through Saturday 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
A full Home Depot with a garden center, a rental center with moving trucks, a kitchen showroom, key cutting and a Pro Desk.

- 3

Lowe's (Texas City)¹¹⁹
3620 Emmett F. Lowry Expressway · 11.6 miles
HOURS Monday through Saturday 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
The big-box run over the causeway, with a garden center, tool rental and a ProService desk, plus appliances, tools, paint and patio furniture.

HARDWARE AND LUMBER

- 4

Ideal Lumber Co.¹²⁰
6520 Stewart Road · 1.4 miles
On Stewart Road, a lumber and hardware store in the Do it Best co-op.

- 5

McCoy's Building Supply¹²¹
7500 Broadway · 2.2 miles
HOURS Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
On Broadway, a full-service lumberyard with a covered yard, from treated lumber and cedar to beams, plus doors.

- 6

Galveston Wholesale Building Materials¹²²
4807 Pean Street · 4.2 miles
HOURS Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. to noon
Out toward the west end, a building materials yard open to the public, with lumber, sheetrock, pilings and Jeld-Wen windows, and free delivery.

- 7

Chalmers Hardware (Ace)¹²³
2002 Broadway Street · 4.7 miles
HOURS Monday through Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Chalmers is an island hardware store with a fastener department, plus glass and key cutting, screen repair and pipe threading.

- 8

Bohn's Building Materials (Texas City)¹²⁴
1315 Texas Avenue · 9.6 miles
HOURS weekdays 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to noon
Over in Texas City, a family-owned, full-line lumber yard since 1977, with windows, doors, siding and local delivery.

PAINT, FLOORING AND TILE

- 9

Southwestern Paint (Benjamin Moore)^{125,126}
6211 Stewart Road · 1.6 miles
HOURS weekdays 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
On Stewart Road, a Benjamin Moore paint store with an in-store decorator.

- 10

Sherwin-Williams (61st Street)⁶⁸
1014 61st Street Suite 1 · 2.3 miles
HOURS weekdays 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Stop here for paint, stains and painting supplies, with Spanish spoken.

- 11

Chico Tile^{127,128}
4613 Broadway Street · 3.1 miles
HOURS weekdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday by appointment
On Broadway, a tile and flooring showroom with sales and installation.

- 12

Galveston Flooring Carpet One^{129,130}
4222 Broadway · 3.3 miles
HOURS weekdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
For new floors, a locally owned flooring store for hardwood, tile, carpet, luxury vinyl and laminate that also handles installation.

- 13

Sherwin-Williams (Texas City)¹³¹
3324 Palmer Highway · 11.3 miles
HOURS weekdays 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
A second Sherwin-Williams in Texas City, stocking paints, stains and painting supplies, with Spanish spoken.

GARDEN CENTERS

- 14

Flamingo Gardens¹³²
814 61st Street · 2.3 miles
A 61st Street nursery for hibiscus, perennials, evergreens and palms, plus full landscape services.

- 15

Tom's Thumb Nursery¹³³
2014 45th Street · 2.8 miles
HOURS daily 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Off Broadway, a garden center with plants from flowers to trees.

GLASS, PLUMBING, BOATS AND TOOLS

- 16

Binswanger Glass¹³⁴
5224 Avenue S · 2.2 miles
HOURS weekdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Call here for glass, window and shower-door repair and replacement, plus mirrors.

- 17

Coburn Supply¹³⁵
5915 Broadway · 2.4 miles
HOURS weekdays 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the counter
The trade counter for plumbing, HVAC, pipe, valves and fittings, and whole-house generators.

- 18

West Marine (Broadway)¹³⁶
5926 Broadway Street · 2.4 miles
HOURS Sunday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
The marine supply store on Broadway, stocking boat engine parts, boating accessories and hurricane preparation supplies.

- 19

West End Glass and Window¹³⁷
4820 Pean Street · 4.2 miles
HOURS weekdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Out west, for glass cutting, custom mirrors and tabletops, shower doors, window repair and hurricane impact glass.

- 20

Harbor Freight (Texas City)¹³⁸
3403 Palmer Highway · 11.3 miles
HOURS Monday through Saturday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Worth the drive over the causeway for thousands of low-priced tools for home projects and job sites.

Coffee and breakfast

Four places for the first cup of the day, from a coffee stop out on the pier to a bakery across the island near downtown.

Seabean

WHERE 9001 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 0.5 miles ¹³⁹

Seabean pours specialty coffees and lattes from a chalkboard menu, just below Jimmy's on the fishing pier. Grab a cup on your way out to watch the fishermen, or carry it down to the sand along the Seawall.



Hours and menu



Directions

Sugar Bean Coffee and Cream

WHERE 11 Evia Main | **FROM HOME** 1.4 miles ⁴³

HOURS Monday through Saturday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Sugar Bean Coffee and Cream serves espresso drinks, a Texas pecan cold brew and a case of seasonal Blue Bell ice cream. Stop in for coffee in the morning, then come back for a scoop after the beach.



Hours and menu



Directions

Café Canela

WHERE 6105 Stewart Road | **FROM HOME** 1.6 miles ^{47,48}

HOURS Monday through Saturday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sunday 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Café Canela, on Stewart Road, serves breakfast all day, house-made chorizo and birria tacos on weekends. Go on a Saturday morning when the tacos are on, and get there before the late sleepers do.



Hours and contact



Directions

The Sunflower Bakery & Cafe

WHERE 512 14th Street | **FROM HOME** 5.3 miles ¹⁴⁰

HOURS open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Monday and closed Tuesdays

The Sunflower Bakery has been in Galveston since 1999, turning out all-day breakfast and brunch, scratch-made lunch from 11 a.m. and fresh bakery favorites. Grab a table before a walk on the Strand.



Hours and menu



Directions

Close to the house

Four picks for a weeknight, starting with a brewery you can walk to on Stewart Road and ending with sushi and hibachi over on 61st Street.

Galveston Island Brewing

WHERE 8423 Stewart Road | **FROM HOME** under 0.1 mile ¹²

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

Galveston Island Brewing is over on Stewart Road, close enough to walk home. Come by for the free brewery tours every Saturday at 1 p.m., then stay for a pint in the taproom.



Hours and menu



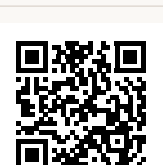
Directions

Jimmy's on the Pier

WHERE 9001 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 0.5 miles ²

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

Jimmy's is out on the fishing pier off the Seawall, so lunch comes with a view of the Gulf. Walk over when company comes to town and wants a first look at the beach.



Hours and menu



Directions

Cajun Greek

WHERE 2226 61st Street | **FROM HOME** 1.7 miles ⁵⁵

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

Cajun Greek serves Gulf shrimp, crab, oysters, snapper and seafood boils alongside gyros and Greek salads. It settles the debate when half the table wants Cajun and the rest are set on Greek.



Hours and menu



Directions

Yamato

WHERE 2104 61st Street | **FROM HOME** 1.8 miles ^{61,62}

HOURS dinner Sunday through Thursday 5 to 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday 5 to 10 p.m.

Yamato is family owned and operated, with sushi and hibachi prepared in front of guests. Save it for a birthday dinner, or keep it simple on a weeknight.



Hours and location



Directions

EAT AND DRINK

A night out

Four dinner spots for a night off from the kitchen, from a marina terrace to a lakeside dock bar out west.

Number 13 Prime Steak & Seafood

WHERE 7809 Broadway | **FROM HOME** 2.1 miles ^{63,64}
HOURS dining room Tuesday through Thursday 4 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., closed Monday; brunch Sunday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This steakhouse is set on Offatts Bayou in Pelican Rest Marina. Expect prime steaks and Gulf seafood, with craft cocktails and marina views on the terrace, so ask for a table outside when the weather is nice.



Hours and menu



Directions

Palmetto Osteria

WHERE 12 Evia Main | **FROM HOME** 1.4 miles ⁴²
HOURS Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 5 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 4 to 10 p.m., closed Tuesday

Palmetto Osteria cooks coastal Italian dishes from mussels in white wine and bruschetta to seafood, pasta and steak, with an extensive wine list. Save it for an anniversary, or any night that calls for a second bottle.



Hours and menu



Directions

Mario's Ristorante

WHERE 2202 61st Street | **FROM HOME** 1.7 miles ⁵⁷
HOURS Tuesday through Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., closed Monday

Mario's Ristorante serves Italian dishes and pizza for dine-in, takeout and delivery. Call ahead for takeout on a night nobody wants to cook.



Hours and menu



Directions

Waterman's

WORTH THE DRIVE

WHERE 14302 Stewart Road | **FROM HOME** 7.0 miles ¹⁴¹

Waterman's sits beside Galveston Island State Park on Lake Como, with views of the lake and Galveston Bay. You'll find a dock bar, marina store and bait shop alongside the dining rooms, so a day of fishing can end at the table.



Menu and info



Directions

EAT AND DRINK

Gulf seafood across town

Four places for Gulf seafood toward town, from an old Seawall dining room to an oyster bar and a po-boy counter.

Gaido's

WHERE 3828 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 3.2 miles ^{84,85}
HOURS open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday

Gaido's was opened by S.G. Gaido in 1911 and still peels Gulf shrimp, shucks Galveston Bay oysters and fillets fresh fish by hand. This is the classic Seawall seafood dinner.



Hours and history



Directions

The Black Pearl Oyster Bar

WHERE 327 23rd Street | **FROM HOME** 4.7 miles ¹⁴²

Downtown, The Black Pearl Oyster Bar serves seafood and steaks in huge portions. Split a plate, or plan on taking a box home.



Facebook page



Directions

Shrimp 'N Stuff

WHERE 3901 Avenue O | **FROM HOME** 3.3 miles ^{143,144}
HOURS open 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday

Shrimp 'N Stuff has been serving Galveston since 1976. The menu is shrimp po-boys, seafood platters, gumbo and tacos, so lunch after a morning on the beach is covered.



Hours and menu



Directions

BLVD Seafood

WHERE 2804 Avenue R 1/2 | **FROM HOME** 3.9 miles ¹⁴⁵
HOURS open every day from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

BLVD Seafood serves fresh seafood and steaks at 28th and Seawall. Walk off dinner on the wall while the breeze is up.



Hours and contact



Directions

EAT AND DRINK

Downtown treats and lunch

Four downtown stops near the Strand for candy, brunch, lunch and a dinner before a show.

La King's Confectionery

WHERE 2323 Strand Street | **FROM HOME** 4.7 miles ¹⁴⁶
HOURS open 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 is a confectionery and ice cream parlor styled after the 1920s, with more than fifty candies made from old-time recipes, including pralines, fudge and salt water taffy.



Hours and treats



Directions

Star Drug Store

WHERE 510 23rd Street | **FROM HOME** 4.7 miles ¹⁴⁷
HOURS open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Star Drug Store bills itself as the oldest drug store in Texas. Come for the daily island brunch and an old-fashioned soda fountain.



Hours and menus



Directions

Maceo Spice & Import

WHERE 2706 Market Street | **FROM HOME** 4.5 miles ^{148,149}
HOURS lunch is served 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, and the shop opens at 10:30 a.m.

Maceo Spice and Import has been in business since 1944. Look for shelves stocked with specialty import foods from around the world, with photos of yesteryear hung above them.



Menus and hours



Directions

Rudy & Paco

WHERE 2028 Postoffice Street | **FROM HOME** 4.8 miles ^{150,151}
HOURS lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday and dinner from 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday

This Postoffice Street restaurant serves grilled seafood and steak with a South and Central American savor. It sits next door to The Grand 1894 Opera House, with pre-show dinner specials, so book a table before curtain.



Hours and location



Directions

EAT AND DRINK

On the Seawall and downtown

Two grills on the Seawall, a taco spot in town and a cocktail bar on Market Street, for lunch, tacos or a drink after dark.

The Spot

WHERE 3204 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 3.6 miles ¹⁵²
HOURS open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

The Spot packs five beachfront venues in one spot on the Seawall. In the kitchen, nearly everything is made fresh daily, down to hand-dipped onion rings and Gulf shrimp breaded to order.



Hours and menus



Directions

Miller's Seawall Grill

WHERE 1824 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 4.6 miles ¹⁵³

Miller's is a Seawall grill popular with locals and visitors alike. Sleep in, because breakfast is served all day.



Menu and info



Directions

Fish Company Taco

WHERE 1914 23rd Street | **FROM HOME** 4.3 miles ^{154,155}
HOURS opens at 11 a.m. Tuesday through Sunday and is closed Mondays

Fish Company Taco is a taco spot on 23rd Street done up in bright and earthy colors. Stop in for lunch before an afternoon in the shops downtown.



Menu and hours



Directions

Daiquiri Time Out

WHERE 2701 Market Street | **FROM HOME** 4.4 miles ¹⁵⁶
HOURS open 4 p.m. to midnight Sunday through Thursday and 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday

On Market Street, Daiquiri Time Out has been pouring classic cocktails since July 2016. Make it the last stop of a night downtown, and let someone else drive.



Hours and menu



Directions

EAT AND DRINK

Coffee downtown and easy local spots

A downtown coffeehouse, two easygoing kitchens closer to home and a seafood house out on the channel.

MOD Coffeehouse

WHERE 2126 Postoffice Street | **FROM HOME** 4.8 miles ^{157,158}
HOURS open daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

MOD Coffeehouse was founded in 2001 by the Brown family and serves handcrafted drinks and treats in a Victorian building in the downtown Arts District. Bring a laptop and stay a while.



Hours and events



Directions

Gypsy Joynt

WHERE 6105 Stewart Road | **FROM HOME** 1.6 miles ¹⁵⁹
HOURS Monday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., closed Tuesday

Gypsy Joynt is a laid-back cafe on Stewart Road, an easy drive from the house. Keep it in mind for breakfast, or for dinner when nobody feels like cooking.



Hours and menu



Directions

Blake's Bistro

WHERE 5222 Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 2.1 miles ¹⁶⁰
HOURS Sunday through Thursday 7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

On the Seawall, Blake's Bistro serves sandwiches, Tex-Mex, burgers and traditional breakfast favorites, with a weekend breakfast buffet. Save the buffet for a Saturday with houseguests.



Hours and menu



Directions

Katie's Seafood House

WHERE 2000 Wharf Road | **FROM HOME** 5.0 miles ¹⁶¹
HOURS open every day from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Katie's Seafood House serves seafood sourced directly from local fishermen, served at Pier 19 on the Galveston Channel. The business was founded in 1998. Go at lunch and watch the working waterfront.



Hours and menu



Directions



PARKS AND BEACHES

The Seawall

From the front door it's about a block to the wall. Up top, the Seawall urban park stretches more than 10 miles, with what the Park Board calls the nation's longest continuous sidewalk, good for running, biking or people watching. Walk it in the morning, ride it after work or come back after dinner when the breeze picks up. Bring sunscreen and water, because there's not much shade up there.

Take a break along the way; Artist Boat's Project SIT turned 70 Seawall benches into educational works of art. Find one, sit down and watch the water before you head home.

The wall is a piece of engineering history as well; in 2001 the Seawall was named a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark. The history pages tell how it came to be.

WHERE
8228 Seawall Boulevard

FROM HOME
under 0.1 mile

Sources ^{8,11}

GOOD TO KNOW
When friends drive down for the day, parking is free on the north side of Seawall between 85th and 91st streets.



Seawall info



Directions

PARKS AND BEACHES

Parks close to home

Four parks on this end of the island: a rocket playground, ball fields, a soccer complex and a beach on the Seawall.

Schreiber Park (Rocket Park)

WHERE 3027 81st Street | **FROM HOME** 0.4 miles ¹⁷
HOURS open sunrise to sunset

Schreiber Park is known as Rocket Park, a space shuttle-themed park with a very large playground, public restrooms and a splash pad. It's an easy walk from the house, so it works for a quick morning outing or an hour before dinner.


Park info


Directions

Crockett Park

WHERE 2601 53rd Street | **FROM HOME** 2.2 miles ⁶⁷
HOURS open sunrise to sunset

Crockett Park has a baseball-themed playground, a basketball court and three youth baseball fields. Bring a glove and a ball, or shoot a few hoops on the court.


Park info


Directions

Babe's Beach

WHERE Seawall Boulevard west of 61st Street | **FROM HOME** 1.4 miles ¹⁶²

Babe's Beach is named for A.R. "Babe" Schwartz, who helped create the Texas Open Beaches Act guaranteeing free public access to Gulf beaches. Bring a chair and an umbrella.


Beach info


Directions

Sandhill Crane Soccer Complex

WHERE 3348 7 Mile Road | **FROM HOME** 1.7 miles ⁵⁴
HOURS open sunrise to sunset

The Sandhill Crane Soccer Complex has soccer fields and basketball courts, a walking and jogging trail and public restrooms. Lace up for a jog on the trail, or bring a ball and use the courts.


Park info


Directions

PARKS AND BEACHES

A pool, gyms and a dog park

Lap lanes and swim lessons at Lasker, plus two recreation centers with indoor gyms and parks right outside.

1 Lasker Park and Pool

WHERE 2016 43rd Street | **FROM HOME** 3.0 miles ⁷⁷

Lasker Park and Pool has an eight-lane, 25-yard pool 4 to 9 feet deep, plus a recreational pool with play structures and a slide. Sign up for swim lessons, youth swim teams, lifeguard and CPR courses and a youth lifeguard program.


Pool schedule


Directions

2 McGuire-Dent Recreation Center and Menard Park

WHERE 2222 28th Street | **FROM HOME** 3.9 miles ¹⁶³
HOURS Monday through Friday 6 a.m. to 7:45 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Work out inside McGuire-Dent Recreation Center, then head out to the park. Menard Park outside has an outdoor fitness court, playground, splash pad, dog park, tennis courts marked for pickleball, a community garden and a skatepark.


Hours and membership


Directions

3 Wright Cuney Recreation Center

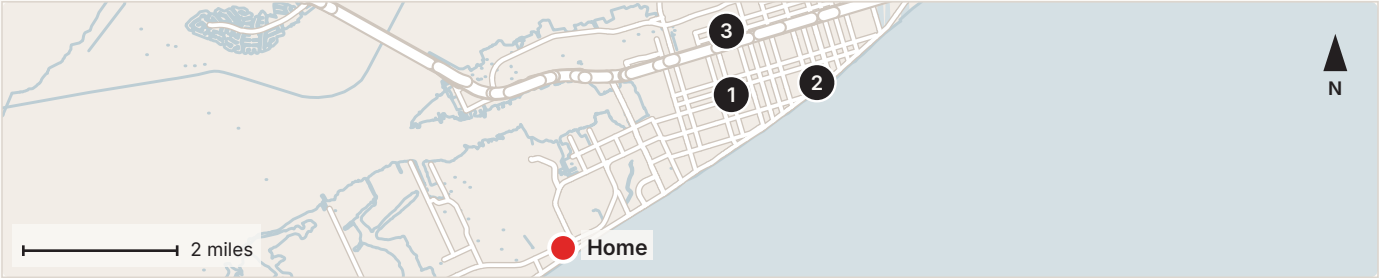
WHERE 718 41st Street | **FROM HOME** 3.5 miles ¹⁶⁴
HOURS Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Sunday

Wright Cuney Recreation Center has a full-size indoor basketball court, cardio equipment, a game room and a computer lab, with activities at no cost, and the park outside has a playground, splash pad and basketball courts.


Hours and programs


Directions

WHERE THESE ARE FROM THE HOUSE





PARKS AND BEACHES • WORTH THE DRIVE

Beaches, birds and the bay

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

Five ways out to the water: a state park, two beach parks, a coastal preserve on West Bay and the bird flats on Bolivar Peninsula.

1 Galveston Island State Park

WHERE 14901 FM 3005 | **COST** \$5 a day for adults, free for children 12 and under | **FROM HOME** 7.7 miles ^{95,96,102}
HOURS nature center open weekends from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Park info



Directions

Galveston Island State Park has both beach and bay sides, with swimming, fishing, picnicking, bird watching, hiking, mountain biking, paddling and camping. Before a hike, know that some boardwalks are closed due to flood damage, so watch for closure signs.

Out on the water, the park has paddling trails for kayaks and canoes, plus canoe and kayak launches and a fish cleaning station. Shore anglers get a break, too, with no fishing license needed to fish from shore in the park. Bring a cooler and plan on the whole day.

2 Stewart Beach

WHERE 401 Seawall Boulevard | **COST** \$15 per vehicle, one entry with no re-entry | **FROM HOME** 5.8 miles ¹⁶⁵
HOURS open daily from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.



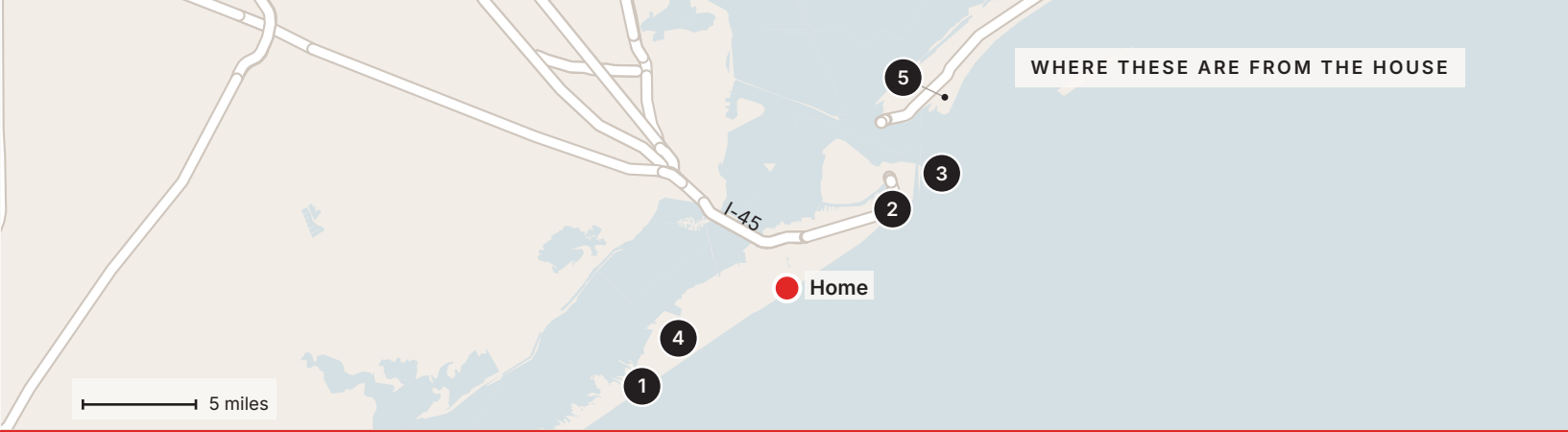
Park info



Directions

Stewart Beach is the island's main family beach park, with lifeguards on duty, where Broadway meets the Seawall. Pack light, because the park has restrooms, showers, seasonal chair and umbrella rentals, a food truck and concessions, and free beach wheelchairs.

Board riders get their own zone, with surfboards, kayaks and fishing allowed year round in the special use area. There are a few rules, too, with no alcohol or glass on the beach and leashed pets allowed.



3 East Beach

WHERE 1923 Boddeker Road | **COST** \$15 per vehicle, or the \$50 seasonal pass shared with Stewart Beach | **FROM HOME** 8.5 miles ¹⁶⁶
HOURS open daily from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.



Park info



Directions

East Beach sits at the far eastern tip of the island, away from the Seawall, with views of the Gulf, the shipping channel, East End Lagoon and Big Reef. Watch the big ships head in and out while you sit in the sand.

It has a pavilion, restrooms, showers, chair and umbrella rentals, sand volleyball courts and concessions. It's also one of the few Galveston beaches where alcohol is allowed, so the cooler can come along.

4 Artist Boat Coastal Heritage Preserve

WHERE 13330 Settegast Road | **FROM HOME** 5.3 miles ^{167,168}



Kayak trips



Directions

Artist Boat Coastal Heritage Preserve is a conservation project of about 1,400 acres of coastal habitat on West Galveston Island, beside West Bay, part of the Galveston Bay system. There is no beach setup here, so leave the umbrella at home.

See it from the water on one of the public kayak trips through restored and natural marshes, booked ahead. Wear clothes that can get wet and bring a hat.

5 Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary

WHERE Rettilon Road at the beach, Bolivar Peninsula | **COST** a parking sticker is required for every vehicle on Bolivar beaches, sold locally for \$10 | **FROM HOME** 11.0 miles ^{169,170}



Visitor info



Directions

Across on the ferry, Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary is a designated Globally Important Bird Area for shorebirds. Bring binoculars and a long lens.

Expect a vehicle barrier that protects ground-nesting birds; stay out of the vegetated dunes and marshes. Have the sticker on the car before you drive onto the sand.

PARKS AND BEACHES

West End beaches and a nature walk

Out past the end of the Seawall, the west end has beach parks where you can drive right onto the sand.

1 Pocket Park #1

WHERE 11102 Termini-San Luis Pass Road | **FROM HOME** 2.0 miles ¹⁷¹
HOURS daily, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The first of the west end beach parks: a beach where visitors can park directly on the sand; leashed pets are welcome. Bring the chairs and park where you set up.



Beach info



Directions

2 Dellanera RV Park

WHERE 10901 San Luis Pass Road | **COST** included in the Park Board's seasonal beach park pass (March to October) | **FROM HOME** 1.9 miles ^{172,173}
HOURS open sunrise to sunset; phone 409-797-5102

The city's own campground on the Gulf: a beachfront RV park with 65 full hook-up sites and restrooms, showers, laundry, a gift shop with food and beach supplies, a shaded pavilion, free Wi-Fi and beach wheelchairs.



Park info



Directions

3 Lafitte's Cove Nature Preserve

WORTH THE DRIVE

WHERE Eckert Drive off Stewart Road, Galveston | **FROM HOME** 5.9 miles ¹⁰⁰

A nature preserve on the bay side of the west end, good for an early walk with binoculars.

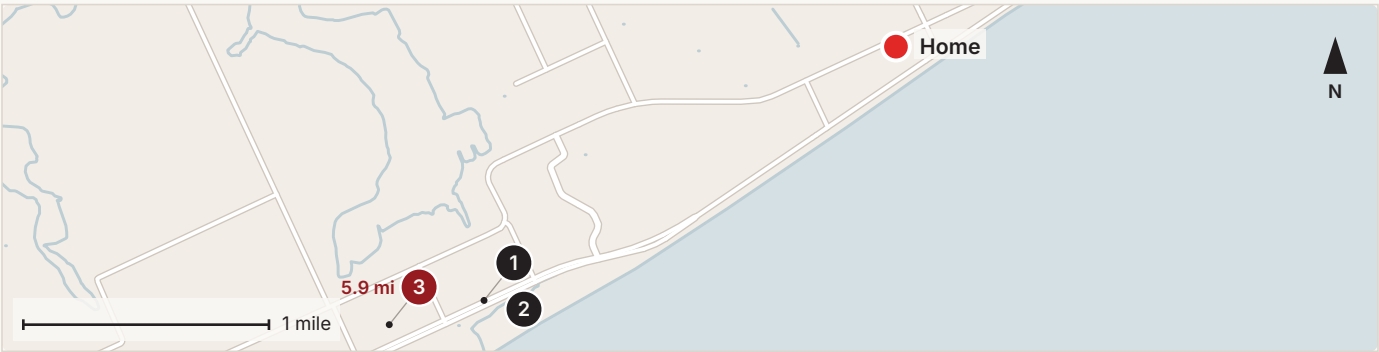


Birding trail



Directions

WHERE THESE ARE FROM THE HOUSE



04 · HISTORY

The storm, the wall and the raised city

The Seawall a block from the house and the raised streets downtown both go back to one storm and the work that followed it.

Nothing on the island was spared; the 1900 Storm brought winds of 120 miles an hour or more, and its storm surge put the entire city under water. Even now, in lives lost, the 1900 Storm remains the worst natural disaster the United States has experienced. Galveston answered with two huge projects at the same time, a wall against the Gulf and a whole town raised up behind it. Both are still out there, and once you know the story, you'll spot them all over the island.

Along the Gulf, the first section ran more than 3 miles. Behind it, the town got taller; after the storm, about 2,000 buildings were jacked up so sand could be pumped beneath them to raise the city. Day to day, dredges brought sand through a canal cut across the city, and families kept living in their raised houses, walking on boardwalks along the fence tops. Drive Seawall Boulevard east toward downtown, and the last part of the drive runs along that original wall.

TIMELINE

- **1900**
It began when the hurricane of September 8, 1900, killed at least 6,000 people in Galveston. ^{174,175,179,180}
- **1902**
After the storm, work on a concrete seawall began in 1902, built to plans by a board of three engineers that included Henry Martyn Robert. ^{174,177,178}
- **1904**
Then the first section of the Seawall was finished on July 29, 1904. ^{174,176,178}
- **1915**
The wall was tested soon enough; when the 1915 hurricane struck, only 11 people died inside the city limits. ^{175,177}

HISTORY

Juneteenth, a port and the west end

Long before anyone built out here, Galveston made its money at the docks and on the Strand. It is also where Juneteenth began.

Galveston's money came in by ship; the city grew on the strength of its port, shipping cotton out and bringing farm supplies and immigrants in. It paid off; at times in the 1800s Galveston ranked as the largest city in Texas. Business ran through the Strand, which is why in the 1800s the Strand was known as the Wall Street of the Southwest. Freedom for Texas came through here as well; on June 19, 1865, Union general Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston and issued General Order Number 3, which told the people of Texas that all slaves are free. Galveston has marked the day ever since; freed African Americans in Galveston observed “Emancipation Day,” as it was first known, as early as 1866.

The wall grew in stages. First, in the 1920s the Seawall was extended west to 61st Street. Past the end of it, after World War II, Galveston and Houston families built fishing camps on the “near West End” along Teichman Road, Offatts Bayou and Galveston Bay, the first real push to build homes past 61st Street. Then the last section, which carried the Seawall west of 61st Street, was finished in the early 1960s. That is the part of the wall a block from the house, and it came at a cost to Rosewood Cemetery; building the Seawall extension blocked the natural outlet of Greens Bayou and flooded the cemetery.

TIMELINE

- **1897**
Fort Crockett dates to 1897, when the federal government bought beachfront land for a coast artillery post. ^{181,182}
- **1951**
The next stretch needed land; in 1951 the city began acquiring undeveloped parts of Rosewood Cemetery to extend the Seawall west of 61st Street. ^{39,40}
- **1980**
Statewide, the first state-sponsored Juneteenth celebration took place in 1980. ¹⁸³
- **2021**
Galveston's 2021 Juneteenth celebration included the dedication of the Absolute Equality mural by Houston artist Reginald C. Adams, its title taken from General Order Number 3. ¹⁸³

HISTORY

Where you can still see it: near the house

Four places on this side of the island where the past still shows, all an easy drive from the house. Please be respectful at the cemeteries.

Rosewood Cemetery

WHERE Off 63rd Street near Seawall Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 1.4 miles ^{39,40,41}

African American Galvestonians formed the Rosewood Cemetery Association on January 30, 1911, and bought more than eight acres near the beach, at a time when they were barred from most of the city's cemeteries. Today about one acre survives, donated to the Galveston Historical Foundation in 2006, and the cemetery was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2024.



Cemetery history



Directions

Oppermann Mausoleum, Calvary Cemetery

WHERE 2506 65th Street | **FROM HOME** 1.4 miles ¹⁸⁴

Look for the dome among the graves; finished in 1885, the domed stone vault was designed by Nicholas J. Clayton, the architect of the Bishop's Palace, in his favored Italian Renaissance style. Rosewood Cemetery is nearby, so see both on one trip.



Vault story



Directions

Fort Crockett

WHERE 4700 Avenue U | **FROM HOME** 2.5 miles ⁷⁴

NOAA Fisheries' Galveston Laboratory was established in 1950 at the historic Fort Crockett and today fills 10 buildings on the old post. It is a working lab, so take in the old post grounds from Seawall Boulevard.



Fort Crockett timeline



Directions

Scholes International Airport

WHERE 2115 Terminal Drive | **FROM HOME** 1.0 miles ²²

The runways go back to the war; the field was officially activated as an Army airfield in January 1943. When the fighting ended, the city kept the land, and its municipal airport has run at the site since the base closed in 1945.



Airport info



Directions

HISTORY

Where you can still see it: downtown

Four stops in the old city where its early years and the Juneteenth story are still out in the open. Please be respectful at the church.

1859 Ashton Villa

WHERE 2328 Broadway | **FROM HOME** 4.5 miles ^{185,186}

Ashton Villa stands on Broadway; built in 1859, it was home to Galveston icon Bettie Brown. The grounds have their own history; since 1979 Galveston's annual Juneteenth celebration has been held on the lawn of Ashton Villa.



GHF sites



Directions

Reedy Chapel A.M.E. Church

WHERE 2013 Broadway | **FROM HOME** 4.7 miles ¹⁸⁷

Methodist trustees bought the lot in 1848 as a worship site for enslaved people, and at the end of the Civil War in 1865 freed African Americans took ownership and organized the first African Methodist Episcopal church in Texas. The building is best seen from Broadway.



Church history



Directions

Juneteenth marker and Absolute Equality mural

WHERE 2201 Strand | **FROM HOME** 4.8 miles ^{185,188}

Juneteenth started on this corner. General Gordon Granger read General Order Number 3 on June 19, 1865, from his headquarters in the Osterman Building at Strand and 22nd Street. Today a state marker and the Absolute Equality mural hold the corner.



Read the marker



Directions

1838 Menard House

WHERE 1605 33rd Street | **FROM HOME** 3.7 miles ^{180,186}

The house carries the name of an early Galvestonian; Menard helped found the town, and he and his associates began selling lots in 1838. Today the 1838 house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



GHF sites



Directions

HISTORY

Where you can still see it: more of the old city

Three more downtown stops for history buffs: the old business district, an early wooden church and the storm exhibit.

1 The Strand Historic District

WHERE 2028 Strand | **FROM HOME** 4.9 miles ¹⁸⁹

The Strand was the city's money street. Today the Strand's historic core is the five-block business district between 20th and 25th Streets, and two buildings in Hendley Row date to 1855 and 1859.



Hendley Green



Directions

2 1859 St. Joseph's Church

WHERE 2202 Avenue K | **FROM HOME** 4.6 miles ¹⁸⁶

One block south of Broadway, the wooden church was built in 1859, and it is still standing.



GHF sites



Directions

3 Rosenberg Library Museum

WHERE 2310 Sealy Avenue | **FROM HOME** 4.5 miles ¹⁹⁰

Upstairs at the Rosenberg Library, the museum's Great Storm of 1900 exhibition is on the library's 4th floor. See it before a walk on the Seawall and the wall makes more sense.

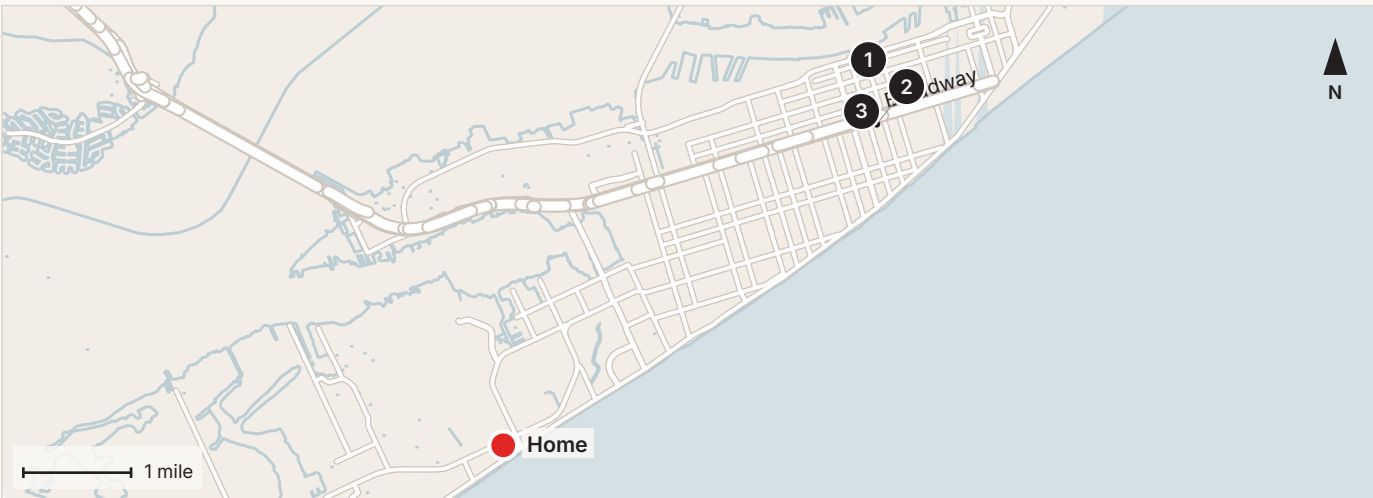


Museum visit



Directions

WHERE THESE ARE FROM THE HOUSE



A stage, a gallery and Juneteenth history

An opera house, an art center and a Juneteenth gallery on and around the Strand, a short walk from each other downtown.

The Grand 1894 Opera House

WHERE 2020 Postoffice Street | **COST** self-guided tours are \$5 a person with no reservation needed | **WHEN** no tours on performance and special event days, so calling ahead is a good idea | **FROM HOME** 4.9 miles ^{191,192,193}
HOURS box office open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from noon to 5 p.m., and two hours before every performance

The Grand was named the Official Opera House of Texas by the Texas Legislature in 1993. Catch an evening show here, or come by during the day for a self-guided tour.



Shows and tickets



Directions

Galveston Arts Center

WHERE 2127 Strand | **COST** free admission | **FROM HOME** 4.8 miles ¹⁹⁴
HOURS open Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.; closed Monday, Tuesday and federal holidays
Galveston Arts Center is a free contemporary art center whose exhibitions feature the work of professional artists.



Exhibits and hours



Directions

Nia Cultural Center

WHERE 2217 Strand | **FROM HOME** 4.8 miles ^{195,196}
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
Nia Cultural Center is a gallery of sculptures and paintings by local Black artists that is also headquarters of the Juneteenth Legacy Project. Give it time, because inside, the gallery traces African American history from the 1800s to the present.



Visit info



Directions

Four more galleries near the Strand

Texas Coastal Artists, Affaire d' Art, René Wiley and the Galveston Artist Residency, all within a few blocks of each other near the Strand.

Texas Coastal Artists

WHERE 2217 Strand | **WHEN** a different Spotlight Artist is featured every month | **FROM HOME** 4.8 miles ¹⁹⁷
Texas Coastal Artists is a gallery of one-of-a-kind work by more than 20 local artists in Old Galveston Square.



Gallery info



Directions

Affaire d' Art Gallery

WHERE 2227 Postoffice Street | **FROM HOME** 4.7 miles ¹⁹⁸
Affaire d' Art Gallery is a fine art gallery at the corner of 23rd and Postoffice showing painting, drawing, photography, mixed media and sculpture, with original art from local, national and international artists.



Gallery and artists



Directions

René Wiley Gallery

WHERE 2128 Postoffice Street | **WHEN** opens new shows on ArtWalk nights | **FROM HOME** 4.8 miles ¹⁹⁹
René Wiley Gallery is a fine art family gallery showing René Wiley, Samantha Wiley Kuhn, Rachel Wiley-Janota and Sarah Wiley Thomas, with oil paintings, wood sculptures, textiles, glass work and giclée prints on display.



Current show



Directions

Galveston Artist Residency

WHERE 2521 Ships Mechanic Row | **FROM HOME** 4.6 miles ²⁰⁰
Galveston Artist Residency is a nonprofit artist residency set in a pair of rebuilt industrial buildings on the edge of downtown. Check the calendar, since its gallery and courtyards host exhibitions, film screenings, performances, open studios and lectures.



Gallery and events



Directions



06 · BIGGER OUTINGS · WORTH THE DRIVE

Moody Gardens and the Seawall rides

The pyramids at Moody Gardens

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

Two big parks close to the house, then the Seawall rides, a duck boat and an old offshore drilling rig farther east.

1 Moody Gardens

WHERE 1 Hope Boulevard | **COST** general admission to the Aquarium and Rainforest pyramids is \$60 for adults and \$49 for children and seniors when bought online ahead, or \$65 and \$55 on site | **FROM HOME** 1.2 miles ^{3,33,34,36,37}

HOURS change by day and by attraction, so check the weekly hours sheet before you go

Moody Gardens fills a whole day! Start indoors, where the Aquarium Pyramid holds 1.5 million gallons, with penguins, seals, sharks and a jellyfish gallery.

Across the grounds, the Rainforest Pyramid is a 10-story living rainforest where free-roaming birds fly overhead and a waterfall runs beside the path. It holds plants and animals from the rainforests of Asia, Africa and the Americas, including giant river otters, a Komodo dragon and an ocelot.

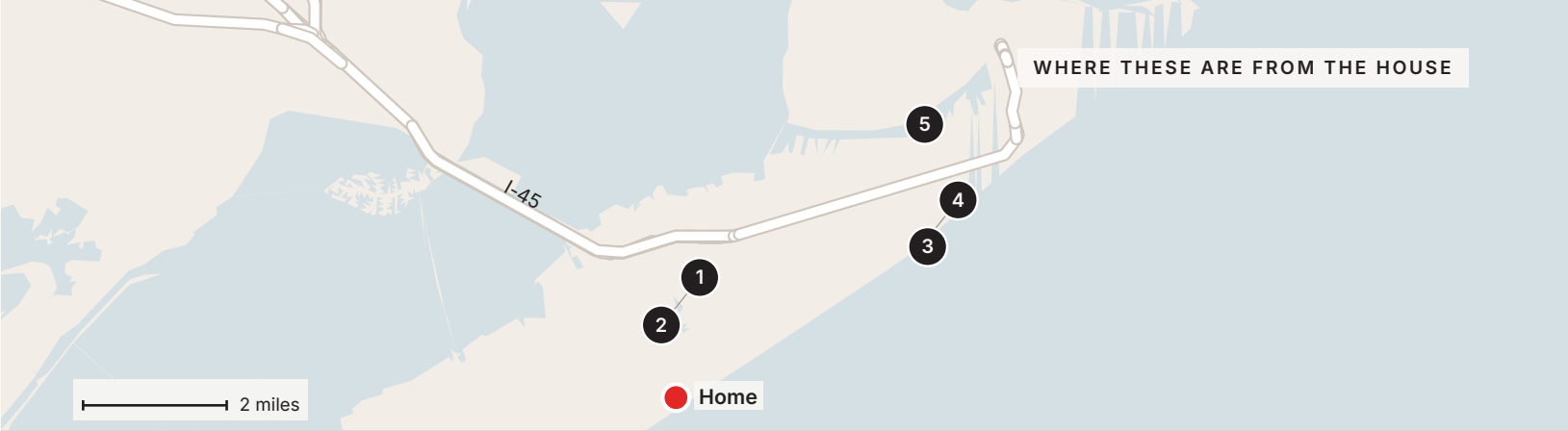
2 Schlitterbahn Galveston

WHERE 2109 Gene Lucas Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 1.0 miles ^{24,25,26}

HOURS closed in the off-season; the park calendar posts each summer's operating days

Schlitterbahn Galveston is an outdoor summer waterpark on the island, and it's made for floating, since rivers link about a mile of rides through three park sections.

Thrill riders head for water coasters such as the MASSIV Monster Blaster and Dragon Blaster, plus the Wave Lagoon and the Kristal, Torrent and Whitewater rivers. Little ones have kids' areas including the Treasure Island Kids Pool and Torrent Beach Kids Area.



3 Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier

WHERE 2501 Seawall Boulevard | **COST** an all-day ride pass is \$30.99 (\$24.99 under 48 inches); a walk-on pass is \$12.50 (\$11.50 under 48 inches, \$10.50 for seniors) | **FROM HOME** 4.1 miles ^{87,88,89,90}

HOURS change with the season, and in fall the pier opens mainly on weekends



Hours calendar



Directions

The Pleasure Pier packs rides, midway games, food stands and shops on a pier over the Gulf off Seawall Boulevard. For the brave, the Iron Shark roller coaster climbs a 100-foot vertical lift into a beyond-vertical drop, and the Texas Star Flyer swing lifts riders more than 230 feet above sea level.

At the end of the day, the Galaxy Wheel Ferris wheel looks out over the whole pier.

4 Galveston Duck Tours

WHERE 2415 Seawall Boulevard | **COST** tickets are \$30 for adults, \$20 for ages 3 to 12 and \$10 for ages 2 and under, with tickets sold in person only | **WHEN** tours leave at 10 and 11 a.m., 12:30, 2, 4 and 6 p.m. | **FROM HOME** 4.2 miles ²⁰¹



Tour times and prices



Directions

Galveston Duck Tours is a narrated tour on restored World War II-era DUKW amphibious vehicles that runs on the streets and then into the water. Bring a sense of humor, since each tour lasts about an hour and mixes local history with light comedy.

It's been a family-run business since 1998, and it boards on Seawall Boulevard beside the Pleasure Pier, across from Chick-fil-A.

5 Ocean Star Offshore Drilling Rig & Museum

WHERE 2002 Wharf Road | **COST** admission is \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and military with ID, \$10 for ages 7 to 12, and free for ages 6 and under | **FROM HOME** 5.1 miles ²⁰²



Hours and admission



Directions

HOURS open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with tickets sold until 4 p.m.

Down by the harbor sits a retired jack-up drilling rig that worked in the Gulf of Mexico from 1969 to 1984 and drilled over 200 wells. It was refurbished and opened as a museum in 1997.

Inside is a self-guided tour with videos and interactive exhibits on three levels of the rig; most visitors take about an hour and a half. Leave a little extra time to park, because there's no museum lot; the Pier 21 lot and hourly street parking off Harborside Drive are close by.



BIGGER OUTINGS · WORTH THE DRIVE

Mansions, a tall ship and the railroad

1892 Bishop's Palace Photo: Michael Barera, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons (cropped)

Two Broadway mansions, a tall ship, a railroad museum and a Texas history collection, all on the east side of the island.

1 1892 Bishop's Palace

WHERE 1402 Broadway | **COST** adults \$15, youth 6 to 18 \$12, children 5 and under free | **FROM HOME** 5.1 miles ²⁰³
HOURS self-guided tours daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., last ticket sold at 4 p.m.



Tours and tickets



Directions

Start at Bishop's Palace on Broadway; the 1892 house is also known as Gresham House. The house is a contributing building in the East End Historic District, a National Historic Landmark. It's also listed in the National Register of Historic Places at the national level of significance in architecture.

For a closer look, Basement to Attic Tours open parts of the house that are usually off-limits. Pair it with Moody Mansion, a little farther west on Broadway, for a full morning of old houses.

2 Moody Mansion

WHERE 2618 Broadway | **COST** self-guided audio tour, adults 18 and older \$15 | **FROM HOME** 4.3 miles ²⁰⁴
HOURS open daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., last ticket sold at 4 p.m.



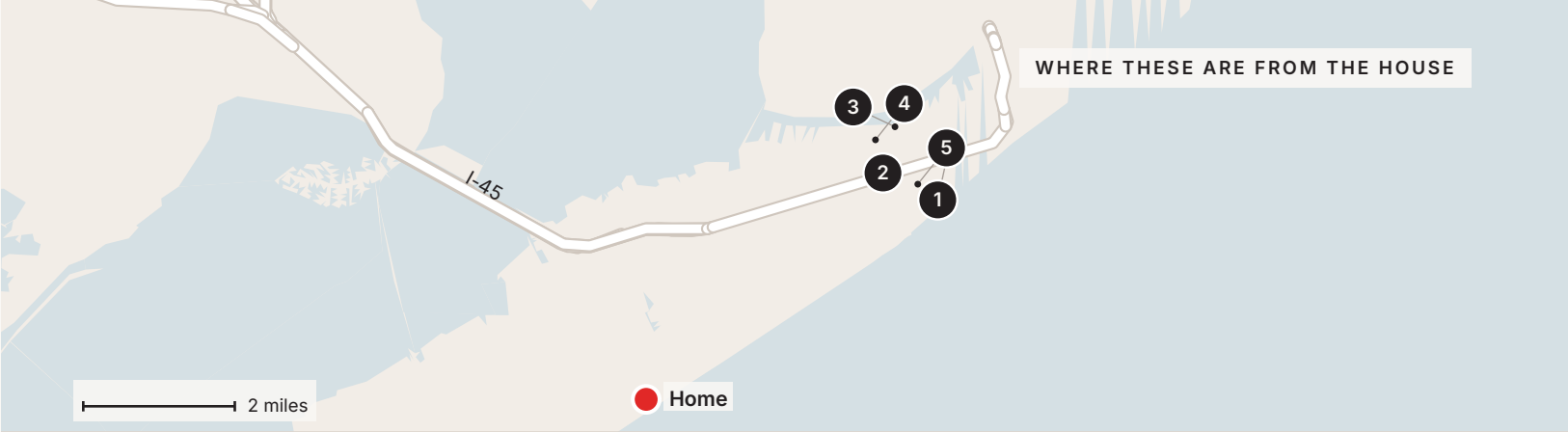
Hours and tours



Directions

Moody Mansion is a 28,000-square-foot, four-story home completed in 1895, designed by British architect William H. Tyndall and decorated by Pottier & Stymus of New York. W.L. Moody Jr. bought the house soon after the Great Galveston Storm of September 8, 1900, and Moody family members lived here until 1983, when Hurricane Alicia caused major damage.

Then, after repairs and restoration, it opened as a house museum in 1991. Today the tour covers 20 rooms and shows the home life of a powerful Texas family. To see more of it, book the guided All-Access 2-Hour Tour, \$40 per person, all ages.



3 Texas Seaport Museum and ELISSA

WHERE Pier 22 | **COST** adults \$18, youth 6 to 18 \$12, children 5 and under free | **FROM HOME** 4.9 miles ²⁰⁵
HOURS open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., last admission at 4:30 p.m.



Visit ELISSA



Directions

ELISSA is an 1877 square-rigged iron barque that Galveston Historical Foundation brought from a scrapyards in Piraeus, Greece, in 1978. She was restored by 1982 into a floating museum that still sails, and she is the Official Tall Ship of Texas and a National Historic Landmark.

Walk her deck, then head into the Texas Seaport Museum, where admission includes Ship to Shore, which follows early immigrants from the sea voyage to arrival at Galveston in the 1880s.

4 Galveston Railroad Museum

WHERE 2602 Santa Fe Place | **COST** adults \$14 | **FROM HOME** 4.6 miles ^{206,207}
HOURS open daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Hours and admission



Directions

The Galveston Railroad Museum is at the west end of the Strand, and it lets you tour the railcars, ride a caboose and have lunch in a historic dining car. Plan the visit around midday.

Beyond the railcars, the museum runs educational and interactive programs that support railroading and transportation.

5 The Bryan Museum

WHERE 1315 21st Street | **COST** adults \$15, children under 6 free | **FROM HOME** 4.6 miles ²⁰⁸
HOURS fall and winter (September through February), 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 inside is a collection of historical artifacts, documents and artwork relating to Texas and the American West.

It covers a lot of ground; the collection spans more than 12,000 years, from ancient Native American artifacts to twenty-first-century objects.



BIGGER OUTINGS · WORTH THE DRIVE

Day trips off the island

The Galveston–Port Bolivar ferry Photo: Daniel Schwen, edited by Jim Evans, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons (cropped)

Five trips off the island: the ferry to Bolivar, the space center, Kemah Boardwalk, a bayou preserve and Sea Center Texas.

1 The Bolivar ferry

WHERE 1000 Ferry Road | **FROM HOME** 6.7 miles ²⁰⁹



Ferry info



Directions

A Bolivar Peninsula day starts on the water, since the free TxDOT ferry runs 24 hours a day across Galveston Bay. Once you roll off in Port Bolivar, the beach road runs up the peninsula.

Stand at the rail for the ride across; the crossing is 2.7 miles long. Go early on a holiday weekend, because in the busy season the wait to board can top two hours.

2 Space Center Houston

WHERE 1601 East NASA Parkway | **FROM HOME** 25.2 miles ^{210,211,212}
HOURS change by day, so check the hours calendar before you go



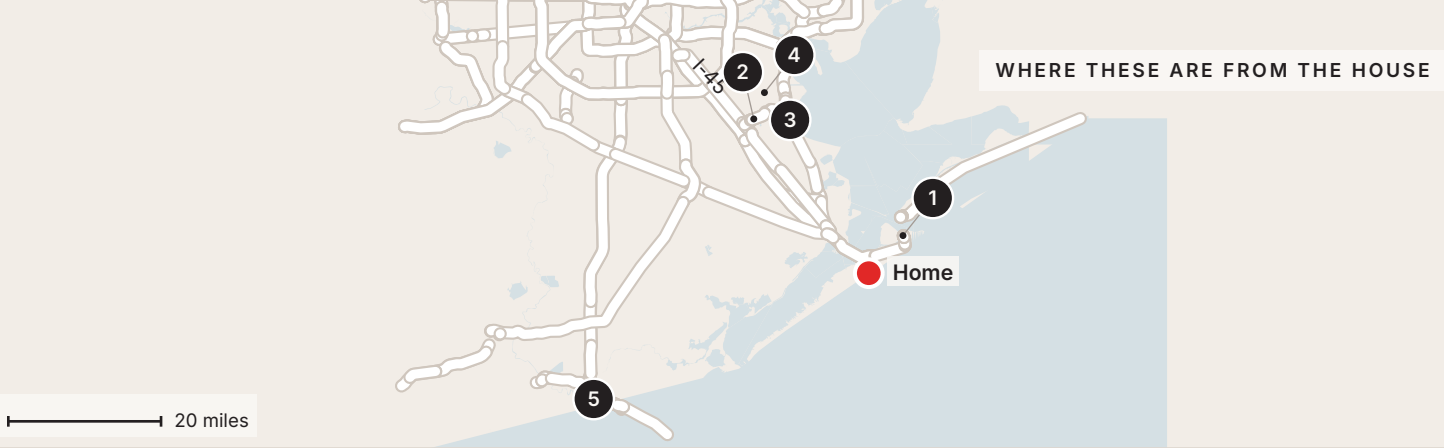
Hours and tickets



Directions

Space Center Houston is the official visitor center of NASA Johnson Space Center, run by a nonprofit and a Smithsonian Affiliate. Inside are more than 400 artifacts, exhibits and experiences in a 250,000-square-foot complex.

Save time for the tram, because the NASA Tram Tour goes out to Rocket Park, where one of only three remaining actual Saturn V rockets is displayed. This Rocket Park is NASA's; the one with the playground is Schreiber Park, back near the house.



3 Kemah Boardwalk

WHERE 215 Kipp Avenue | **FROM HOME** 22.6 miles ²¹³
HOURS vary for rides by season and month, so check the visitor page before you go



Visitor info



Directions

Kemah Boardwalk is a waterfront amusement park on the bay. Out on the boards, rides include the Boardwalk Bullet, the Boardwalk Beast speedboat and the Aviator Ferris wheel.

When you get hungry, restaurants include Landry's Seafood House, Saltgrass Steak House, Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. and the Aquarium Restaurant.

4 Armand Bayou Nature Center

WHERE 8500 Bay Area Boulevard | **COST** \$7 ages 13 to 59, \$5 ages 4 to 12 and 60 and up, free for 3 and under | **FROM HOME** 27.3 miles ^{214,215,216}
HOURS Wednesday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday noon to 5 p.m. (last entry 4 p.m.); closed Monday and Tuesday



Hours and admission



Directions

Armand Bayou Nature Center is home to over 370 species of birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. The land mixes prairie grasses, forested wetlands and bayous, where three Gulf Coast ecosystems meet.

On foot, you get 5 miles of walking trails, including a boardwalk loop and a bison viewing platform. For time on the water, sign up for pontoon cruises, guided kayak tours and owl prowls. Leave the dog at home, since there are no pets, for their safety and the wildlife's.

5 Sea Center Texas

WHERE 302 Medical Drive | **FROM HOME** 39.7 miles ²¹⁷
HOURS Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday 1 to 4 p.m.



Hours and admission



Directions

Head down to Lake Jackson for Sea Center Texas, where admission is free, and donations are welcome.

Plan around the calendar, since it is closed Mondays and on several holidays, including Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. It's a long drive, so call 979-292-0100 to confirm hours before you go.

A year of big events: winter and spring

Galveston's big weekends come back every year! Dates shift a little, so check each organizer's calendar before you plan.

Winter

FIRST WEEKEND IN DECEMBER

● **Dickens on The Strand** ²¹⁸

Downtown hosts a festival based on 19th-century Victorian London, with parades and entertainment on four stages along the Strand.

HOLIDAY SEASON

● **Holiday in the Gardens** ²¹⁹

Moody Gardens strings more than two million lights along a mile-long holiday lights trail.

TWO WEEKS BEFORE LENT

● **Mardi Gras! Galveston** ^{220,221}

The island's Mardi Gras packs in more than 20 parades and more than 20 concerts. The party is centered on the downtown entertainment district between 20th and 25th Streets, with more parades along Seawall Boulevard.

Spring

EACH APRIL

● **FeatherFest** ²²²

FeatherFest runs four days of birding and nature photography field trips during spring migration. Bring binoculars.

FIRST TWO MAY WEEKENDS

● **Galveston Historic Homes Tour** ^{223,224}

Plan on two weekends of public tours of privately owned historic homes, run by Galveston Historical Foundation.



Festival info

galvestonhistory.org/events/...



Parade schedule

mardigrasgalveston.com/...



Tour info

galvestonhistory.org/events/...



The Gulf beach, from the listing photos

Listing photo

EVENTS

Summer and two big weekends

Summer brings Juneteenth at Ashton Villa, and once a year the sandcastle builders and a big motorcycle rally come to town.

Summer

EACH JUNETEENTH

● **Juneteenth Celebration at Ashton Villa** ²²⁵

The celebration on the lawn marks the reading of General Order Number 3 with prayer and reflection. While you are there, look for a statue at Ashton Villa depicting the reading of the order, put up in 2006.

Once a year

ONCE A YEAR

● **AIA Sandcastle Competition** ²²⁶

Watch architecture-firm teams sculpting sand for five hours, judged for the Gold Bucket Award. Bring sunscreen, plenty of water and a chair.

ONCE A YEAR

● **Lone Star Rally** ^{227,228}

Bikes fill the island for a weekend centered on the historic downtown and Seawall Boulevard. Plan your errands around that weekend.



Juneteenth history

galvestonhistory.org/news/...



Festival info

architecturehouston.org/...



Rally info

lonestarrally.com



Dunes and beach, from the listing photos

Listing photo

EVENTS

All year on the island

Not everything waits for a holiday. The market comes back every Sunday, ArtWalk most months and the symphony through its season.



ArtWalk dates
galvestonartscenter.org/...

Every week

EVERY SUNDAY MORNING

Galveston's Own Farmers Market ¹⁰⁷
Local growers and makers set up downtown at the market every Sunday morning, rain or shine. Get there early for the best of the produce.

All year

SECOND SATURDAYS

Galveston ArtWalk ²²⁹
ArtWalk is free and open to everyone, inside downtown galleries, artist studios, nonprofits and local businesses. Doors stay open 6 to 9 p.m. that night.

Concert season

SEASON SUNDAYS

Sundays at the Symphony ²³⁰
Downtown, the island's community-supported orchestra plays its Sundays at the Symphony series at The Grand 1894 Opera House. In a smaller setting, Masterworks soloists also play recitals at Moody Mansion in the Moody Mansion Music series.

EACH SEASON'S FINALE

Juneteenth Celebration concert ²³⁰
Stay for the finale, since each season ends with a Juneteenth Celebration concert of music by Black and African American composers.

08 · A DAY OUT

Two easy days: Saturday

Saturday stays close to the house, from the Seawall to Moody Gardens and the brewery.

Saturday

MORNING

1 The Seawall ^{9,11}
8228 Seawall Boulevard · under 0.1 mile
Start with a walk on the Seawall while it is still cool out.

BREAKFAST

2 Café Canela ^{47,48}
6105 Stewart Road · 1.6 miles
Breakfast on Stewart Road after the walk.

AFTERNOON

3 Moody Gardens ^{33,34}
1 Hope Boulevard · 1.2 miles
Give the hottest part of the day to Moody Gardens.

EVENING

4 Galveston Island Brewing ¹²
8423 Stewart Road · under 0.1 mile
End the day at the brewery, then walk home.

Then home to 83rd Street.



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 · Café Canela
Google Maps



3 · Moody Gardens
Google Maps



4 · Brewery
Google Maps

A DAY OUT

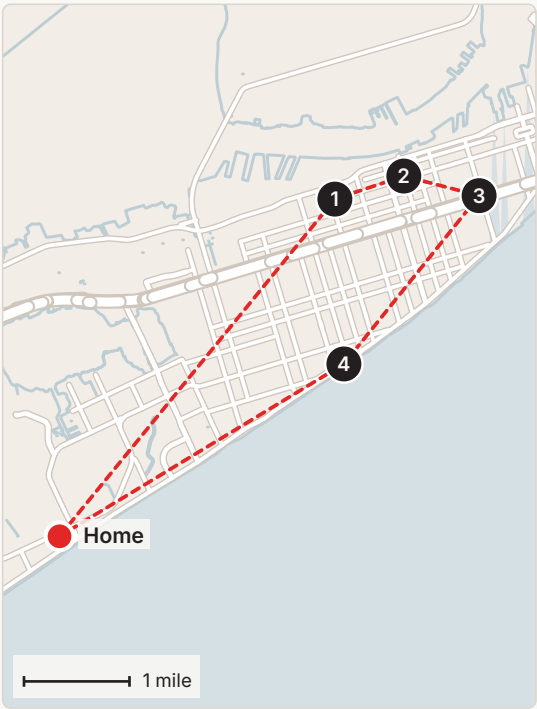
Two easy days: Sunday

Sunday heads downtown for the market, oysters and Bishop's Palace, with dinner on the Seawall.

Sunday

- MORNING
- 1 Galveston's Own Farmers Market ¹⁰⁷
3304 Market Street · 4.1 miles
Sunday morning means the farmers market downtown. Go early for the best pick.
- LUNCH
- 2 The Black Pearl Oyster Bar ¹⁴²
327 23rd Street · 4.7 miles
An oyster bar lunch downtown, then walk it off.
- AFTERNOON
- 3 1892 Bishop's Palace ²⁰³
1402 Broadway · 5.1 miles
Spend the afternoon on a self-guided tour of Bishop's Palace on Broadway.
- DINNER
- 4 Gaido's ^{84,85}
3828 Seawall Boulevard · 3.2 miles
Dinner at Gaido's on Seawall Boulevard, then the drive west to home.

Home in time for the week ahead.



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 · Black Pearl
Google Maps



3 · Bishop's Palace
Google Maps



4 · Gaido's
Google Maps

09 · SETTLING IN

The first weeks: house and utilities

Four calls for the first weeks after closing: the homestead exemption, water, trash pickup and your electric plan.

Galveston Central Appraisal District

WORTH THE DRIVE

WHERE 9850 Emmett F. Lowry Expressway | FROM HOME 14.4 miles ^{231,232}

Once you close, file for your homestead exemption; applications can go in by mail, online or in person at the district office. Questions go to 409-935-1980.



Homestead exemption



File online

City water, sewer and trash account

WHERE 823 Rosenberg Avenue | FROM HOME 4.4 miles ^{233,234}

HOURS new service is handled Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Set up an account with the City first, since garbage pickup is included when you sign up for water service. Keep in mind applications are not taken by phone; send yours by fax or email, or bring it to City Hall. Billing answers at 409-797-3550.



Start water service



Water service FAQ

Trash and recycling pickup ²³⁵

Call 409-797-3630 to learn your route day. Move-in week gets easier because bulk items such as appliances, furniture and brush piles are picked up on your regular trash day.



Trash day and rules



Recycling

Picking an electricity plan ²³⁶

Line up power before move-in day. For side-by-side shopping, the Public Utility Commission's Power to Choose website compares plans and rates from retail electric providers. Complaints go to the PUC Office of Consumer Assistance, 1-888-782-8477.



Choosing a power plan



Compare plans

SETTLING IN

Storm season, flood insurance, plates and a license

Hurricane season and storm and flood coverage come first, then plates for the car and a Texas driver license.

Hurricane season and city alerts ^{237,238}

Atlantic hurricane season begins June 1 and ends November 30. Sign up early, since the county and its cities send emergency alerts by phone, text or email to residents who register.



Island Alert sign-up



Hurricane evacuation

Flood and windstorm insurance ^{239,240}

Buy early; most homeowners and renters insurance doesn't cover flood damage, so flood takes a separate National Flood Insurance Program policy, and a new policy usually takes effect 30 days after purchase. Wind is its own policy on the coast, and TWIA is a last-resort source of wind and hail insurance for property owners turned down for that coverage in the private market.



About TWIA



Insurance checklist

Vehicle registration (Galveston County Tax Office)

WHERE 722 Moody Avenue (21st Street) | **FROM HOME** 4.8 miles ^{241,242}

HOURS Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. to noon

Plates come in two steps. First, vehicles new to Texas need a vehicle inspection report from a Texas DPS inspection station. Then bring proof of insurance and ownership, the inspection report, a current driver license and a completed Form 130-U.



Register your vehicle



Office hours

A Texas driver license ²⁴³

No rush on day one, because you can drive on a valid license from another state for up to 90 days after moving to Texas. Register the car first, since the state asks you to register your vehicles in Texas before you apply for a Texas license.



New to Texas



Book an appointment

SETTLING IN

Recycling, voting, the City's main line and a library card

Where the extra recycling goes, how to register to vote, the City's main line and a library card.

Galveston Recycle Center

WHERE 702 61st Street | **FROM HOME** 2.4 miles ²⁴⁴

HOURS takes recyclables around the clock, with staff on hand from 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Take recycling to the City's drop-off center, where used cooking oil and grease are accepted too. For some loads, bring proof of residency, such as a driver license, to drop off tires or oils. Call 409-797-3958 with questions.



Recycle Center info



Sanitation

Registering to vote **WORTH THE DRIVE**

WHERE 10000 Emmett F. Lowry Expressway | **FROM HOME** 14.5 miles ²⁴⁵

Register to vote at your new address through the county, since the County Clerk serves as voter registrar for Galveston County. Call the office at 409-766-2280 with questions about registering.



Voter registration



Application form

City of Galveston main line ²⁴⁶

Save the City's main number, 409-797-3500, in your phone. It is the place to start when you are not sure which department handles a question about the house or the street.



City of Galveston



City departments

Rosenberg Library

WHERE 2310 Sealy Avenue | **FROM HOME** 4.5 miles ^{91,93}

HOURS Monday, Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., closed Sunday

Sign up in the first month; cards go to Texas residents and Galveston County property owners who bring a state photo ID and proof of address, such as a lease or utility mail.



Hours and location



Directions

GETTING AROUND

Buses, the trolley and the Houston airports

Island Transit buses, the island trolley and the two Houston airports, for errands in town and flights out.

Island Transit

WHERE 3115 Market Street | **FROM HOME** 4.2 miles ^{247,248,249,250}
HOURS buses run Monday through Friday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Island Transit runs weekday and Saturday fixed-route buses, plus door-to-door ADA paratransit. For this side of the island, Route 5 connects the area west of 61st Street to downtown along Avenue S.

Galveston Island Trolley

WHEN the trolleys run Friday through Sunday September through February, add Thursdays and spring break March through May, and run Wednesday through Sunday Memorial Day through Labor Day ^{247,251}
HOURS the trolleys run 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on operating days

Leave the car at home for a night out; the Seawall trolley meets the downtown rail car or trolley bus at 21st Street and Seawall. Check the running days before you go.

William P. Hobby Airport

WORTH THE DRIVE

WHERE 7800 Airport Boulevard | **FROM HOME** 37.3 miles ²⁵²
William P. Hobby Airport is about 11 miles southeast of downtown Houston, so it's the shorter of the two airport runs from the island. Leave extra time for Houston traffic.

George Bush Intercontinental Airport

WORTH THE DRIVE

WHERE 2800 North Terminal Road | **FROM HOME** 57.9 miles ²⁵³
George Bush Intercontinental Airport is about 22 miles north of downtown Houston, on the far side of Houston from the island. Give yourself a big cushion for the drive.



Route maps



Fares



Trolley routes



Island Transit



Airport info



Directions



Airport info



Directions

SOURCES

Sources and credits

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, Welcome page, the events pages and back cover): the listing's own photo set.

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