

# Austin's Best Shopping Centers & Districts

Shopaholics will be pleased with what they find in the Austin shopping scene. The usual range of chain department stores and retailers are in evidence of course, but the city has notable independents as well. West Sixth Street is lined with antique dealers, art galleries and quirky gift shops. Or, for a more contemporary Austin shopping experience, check out the burgeoning SoCo area, where you'll find hip boutiques and fashionable cafes. -- Kim Goodin. 10Best Editor

## 1. Arboretum at Great Hills 10000 Research Blvd, Austin, TX 78759 • 512-338-4755

#### ARBORETUM

Arboretum at Great Hills is surely one of the most scenic shopping malls in Austin. Surrounded by an abundance of trees and foliage, this popular Austin shopping center includes Pottery Barn, Gap, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, the Cheesecake Factory and many more. What's more, the complex boasts fountains, a picnic area and signature Austin marble, cow sculptures, making this Austin open-air shopping center absolutely perfect for a lovely family outing or a relaxing day of people watching. Catch a movie at the Arboretum's 20-theater cinema as well!

# 2. Austin Farmers Market 4th St. and Guadalupe, Republic Square Park, Austin, TX • 512-236-0074

#### DOWNTOWN

The downtown Austin Farmer's Market is the perfect place to spend a leisurely Saturday. Sponsored by the Austin Sustainable Foods Center, the Austin Farmers' Market offers patrons fresh organic fruits and vegetables, choice meats, a variety of cheeses, delicious baked goods and various arts and crafts. A common locale for festivals, events and community outreach programs, the Austin Farmers' Market is ideal, not only for downtown Austin shopping, but for recreation and entertainment as well.

## 3. Barton Creek Square Mall 2901 S. Capital of Texas Hwy, Austin, TX 78746 • 512-327-7040

#### **WEST AUSTIN**

With over 180 stores, fast-food and sit-down restaurants and a convenient location just seven minutes from downtown, Barton Creek Square Mall is sure to have something for every member of the family. Stores include Dillards, Nordstrom, Macy's, Apple, Sephora and Coach, to name just a few. With quality retailers like these, shopping in Austin has never been easier (or more fun!) than at Barton Creek Square Mall in North Austin.

## 4. **Highland Mall** 6001 Airport Blvd., Austin, TX 78752 • 512-451-2920

#### **NORTH AUSTIN**

Home to more than 100 popular stores including Dillard's, Macy's, Foot Locker, Gap and Zales Jewelers, this North Austin mall is the zenith of Texas shopping. Enjoy a wide variety of retailers and massive food court that boasts delicious fare from Japanesse to Mexican, and everything in between. With so many options, shoppers have a convenient way to rev up their shopping engines for a full day of fun at the Highland Mall in Austin. Vroom!

## 5. **Lakeline Mall** 11200 Lakeline Mall Dr., Cedar Park, TX 78613 • 512-257-7467

#### **CEDAR PARK**

This stylish Austin shopping center is certain to keep your credit cards busy, thanks to its 150-plus stores. Located in Cedar Park, Lakeline Mall is especially convenient for folks looking for shopping in northwest Austin, and boasts anchors like Macy's, JCPenney, Sears, and Dillard's. Other top-notch stores at this Austin shopping mall include Victoria's Secret, T.J. Maxx, Old Navy and American Eagle Outfitters. With a nine-screen theater, plenty of dining options and close proximity to nearby Austin shopping districts, Lakeline Mall is a haven for devoted Austin shoppers.

# 6. Renaissance Market W. 23rd and Guadalupe St., Austin, TX 78705 • 512-397-1498

#### THE DRAG

The Austin Renaissance Market is one of the best shopping districts in Austin. Situated near the University of Texas, this downtown Austin market has a clientele of college students, tourists and locals that's as varied as its goods. With unique finds from jewelry and original art to leather goods and home-made arts and crafts, the Renaissance Market and its more than 90 vendors provide a unique and culturally enlightening experience. It's not your average Austin shopping mall!



# 7. Round Rock Premium Outlets 4401 N. IH-35, Round Rock, TX 78664 • 512-863-6688

#### **ROUND ROCK**

Seasoned Austin shoppers find the promise of bargains intoxicating; as a result, they flock to these Austin outlets just north of town to score great deals on quality designer goods. With more than 125 high-end stores including Calvin Klein, Burberry, BCBG Max Azria, Cole Haan, Coach, Swarovski and Calphalon, Round Rock Premium Outlets in Austin is easily a top Austin outlet mall. Food vendors are situated in the center, and open-air pathways allow visitors to catch a breath of fresh air in the midst of all the dedicated shopping.

# 8. SoCo, or South Congress Avenue S. Congress Ave, Austin, TX • 512-474-5171

## **SOUTH CONGRESS**

Made newly trendy with an influx of hip boutiques, galleries and restaurants, South Congress Avenue is one of the best shopping districts in Austin, Texas. Once populated by more alternative, retro spots, "SoCo" is now drawing attention with chic independent establishments, celebrity traffic and fabulous downtown Austin shopping retailers. With a mix of bohemian shops and newly gentrified venues, Austin's SoCo shopping district offers thrift stores and music clubs, coffee shops and sushi joints, kitsch and culture.

# 9. Sunset Valley Farmers Market 200 Jones Rd, Austin, TX 78745 • 512-280-1976

#### **SOUTH AUSTIN**

Sunset Valley Farmers' Market in South Austin boasts a hard-to-beat reputation. Voted one of the top five farmers' markets in the country by Eating Well magazine, Sunset Valley Austin farmers' market features a plethora of fresh produce, cheeses, breads and tasty home-made creations. Open year round, this Austin shopping center also features flowers, plants, clothing, crafts, jewelry and more. Add live music and special holiday celebrations to the mix and you'll agree that the Sunset Valley Farmers Market in South Austin is one of the top Austin shopping destinations.

## 10. West Sixth Street W. 6th St, Austin, TX • 800-926-2282

#### **6TH STREET**

For downtown Austin shopping, nightlife and entertainment there's no better area than West Sixth Street. The western portion of this Austin, Texas shopping locale features art, antiques, specialty items and boutiques. What's more, the Austin shops on West Sixth Street are interspersed with enticing restaurants and outdoor cafes. Crowds are diverse in this Austin shopping district, so enjoy the people-watching as much as the shopping!

## 11. The Domain Burnett/Duval Exit of Loop 1, Austin, TX • 800-926-2282

#### NORTH WEST AUSTIN

Austin's second downtown. That's what many are calling The Domain and its 304-acre, thoughtfully planned community that's setting new standards in urban development. Located in the heart of Austin's northwest corridor. Thanks to incomparable cuisine, diverse local artists, and eclectic shopping, Austin is known as one of the most unique destinations in the country. The Domain is bringing the best of Austin to one single, urban location. The Domain is now open and offers impeccable restaurants and luxury shops anchored by Neiman Marcus and Macy's. And in keeping with the Austin spirit, you'll find it all in a pedestrian-friendly, open-air lifestyle center.

## 12. Wolf Ranch 1015 W. University Avenue, Suite 601, Georgetown, TX 78628 • (512) 930-8008

# **GEORGETOWN**

Wolf Ranch Town Center is designed to give customers a unique shopping experience. This open-air community center is home to 11 anchor stores, over 40 specialty retail stores and restaurants currently, with more to come! What makes Wolf Ranch truly special is that it has an interpretive nature trail, ponds, and scenic areas that reinforce the natural Central Texas elements of wind, water and shade.

#### More Options...

- 12th Street and Lamar Boulevard. Includes boutiques such as Kick Pleat, Underwear and Hem.
- 26 Doors/Jefferson Square. Five blocks of shops surrounding the original Kerby Lane Cafe. Includes boutiques and specialty stores such as the Menagerie, Capra & Cavelli and the Garden Room. Kerbey Lane and 38th Street.
- Austin Market District. Whole Foods Market anchors the retail area along 6th Street and Lamar Boulevard. It is joined on the northside by Anthropologie, REI, the homegrown BookPeople and the shops at Fifth Street and Lamar Boulevard, including Waterloo Records, By George, Zanzibar and Chico's.
- Brodie Oaks, Retail stores including Toys 'R' Us and Tuesday Morning, and restaurants such as Freebirds, Texican Cafe and Chili's, South Lamar Boulevard and U.S. 290.
- Burnet Road. Home furnishing stores and thrift shops. Between U.S. 183 and 45th Street.
- · Central Park. Stores such as Origins, Scarbroughs, Francesca's and Blue Elephant surround Central Market. 40th Street and Lamar Boulevard.
- Davenport Village. Center with a great view of the Hill Country houses boutiques and restaurants such as Maudie's Milagro and 360 Uno. Cap. of Tx Hwy. and Westlake Dr.
- The Drag. Popular college hangout bordering the University of Texas campus includes retail stores such as C. Jane, Wish and Urban Outfitters, as well as restaurants and coffee shops. Guadalupe Street between Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and 26th Street.
- Gateway Market. Includes Whole Foods Market, Crate & Barrel, Ulta and the Container Store. U.S. 183 and Capital of Texas Highway (Loop 360).
- Hill Country Galleria. 152 acres of expansive natural beauty mixed with eclectic shopping, dining and entertainment, anchored by Dillard's, Barnes & Noble and Cinemark Theater. 12700 Hill Country Blvd., Bee Cave. 263-0001, www.hillcountrygalleria.com.
- Mueller Austin. Shops such as Old Navy, Best Buy and Bed Bath & Beyond, and restaurants including Chipotle, Papa John's and Jamba Juice. North Interstate 35 and 51st Street. www.muelleraustin.com/retail.
- San Marcos Prime Outlet Center. Contains 140 stores, including Benneton, Gap, Guess, Saks Off 5th and Puma. 3939 S. Interstate 35. 512-396-2200, www.primeoutlets.com.
- Second Street District. Growing district near Austin City Hall includes retail shops such as Estilo; home furnishing stores such as Kirk, IF+D and Design Within Reach; and restaurants such as Málaga, Crú and Cantina Laredo. Second Street between Colorado and Guadalupe streets. www.2ndstreetdistrict.com.
- Shops at Arbor Trails. Anchored by Costco, this retail development includes 40 acres of green space with hike-and-bike trails. Southwest corner of MoPac Boulevard and William Cannon Drive. www.shopsatarbortrails.com.
- Shops at Arbor Walk. Anchored by Home Depot, Marshalls and DSW Shoe Warehouse, this development also houses eateries including Mimi's Café, Mighty Fine Burgers and Potbelly's. Southeast corner of MoPac Boulevard (Loop 1) and Braker Lane.
- South First Street. Funky vintage shops such as Happiness, Amelia's and record store End of an Ear.
- South Lamar. An eclectic mix of shops including Strut, SoLa and Bows + Arrows. S. Lamar Blvd. between Riverside Drive and Oltorf Street.
- Southpark Meadows. 425-acre mixed use community. Complex features stores such as Wal-Mart, J.C. Penney, SuperTarget and more, as well as eateries such as Amy's Ice Creams, Serrano's and Texas Roadhouse. 9300 S. Interstate 35. www.southpark-meadows.com.
- Tanger Outlet Center. More than 100 stores including Banana Republic Factory, Calvin Klein and Old Navy Outlet. 4015 S. Interstate 35 in San Marcos. 512-396-7446, 800-408-8424, www.tangeroutlet.com/sanmarcos.