

# Abilene



*The Friendly Frontier*



**A**bilene, home of 117,516 friendly people, welcomes you. Relax, explore our city and enjoy our mix of old West heritage, contemporary culture and traditional values.

## **FRONTIER TEXAS!**

625 North 1st • 437-2800

Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.;  
Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

\$8—Adults; \$6—Ages 60+  
& Military; \$5—Students &  
Teachers with ID; \$4—Ages  
3 to 12; Free—Under Age 3

Experience the big picture of the Texas frontier between 1780-1880. The story comes to life in this new, multi-media facility and is told by historical figures. You'll feel the terror of a wolf attack, the chaos of a buffalo stampede and the tension of a deadly card game shootout in the Beehive Saloon. Make plans to bring the entire family!



## **ABILENE & FORTS TRAIL VISITOR CENTER**

625 North 1st • 437-2800

Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.,  
Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

FREE – Located inside Frontier Texas!  
the visitor center offers complete  
visitor information and gift shop.



## **ABILENE ZOO (H4)**

Nelson Park, Hwy. 36 & Loop 322 • 676-6085

\$3—Ages 13-59; \$2—Ages 3 to 12 & Sr. Citizens  
Daily: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Memorial Day to Labor Day—  
Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.) Closed Thanksgiving,  
Christmas and New Years' Day

- Over 202 Species!  
*Jaguars, elephants, giraffes, black bears, monkeys, reptiles, amphibians, birds and butterfly gardens*
- Wetlands Exhibit
- Climate controlled Discovery Center
- Tropical Aviary
- River and lake comparative displays
- Children's programs and special events



## **THE GRACE MUSEUM (F4)**

102 Cypress • 673-4587

Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Thurs. closes at 8 p.m.)

Closed Sunday, Monday and Major Holidays

\$5—Adult; \$4—Sr. Citizen, Student, Military; \$3—Ages 4 to

For the full brochure click [here](#).



12; Free—Ages 3 and younger; Free on Thurs., 5 to 8 p.m.

The Grace boasts three outstanding museums in one location.

- Children's Museum: Hands-on art, science and technology
- Art Museum: Exhibits of the world's finest art
- History Museum: Life in Abilene from 1900 to 1950

## BUFFALO GAP HISTORIC VILLAGE

Buffalo Gap, TX • 572-3365

Travel through time from the 1870s to the 1920s.

- A rich collection of Indian artifacts and frontier firearms
- 21 buildings from the founding of the area: 1875 one-room log cabin, train depot, original Taylor County Courthouse and jail, 1926 service station, two-room school house and more! Interpretive film overview.
- Vintage baseball (call for schedule)

Summer Hours: Memorial Day to Labor Day: Mon. - Sat., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sun., Noon to 6 p.m.

Winter Hours: Mon. - Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sun., Noon to 5 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Day. \$5—Adults; \$4—Ages 65+ & military; \$2—Students (grades K-12 and college students with ID); Free—Children ages 5 and younger

## THE CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTS (F4)

220 Cypress • 677-8389

Free - Tuesday - Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday and Major Holidays  
This unique gallery is home to over 75 artist members and ten working studios.

Four galleries feature exhibits of painting, sculpture and photography by local, regional and national artists.

The Center also sponsors Artwalk on the 2nd Thursday of each month — 5 to 8:30 p.m.

*A fantastic, fun, family evening with art exhibits, entertainment, dining and shopping in historic downtown. Admission to most museums is free!*



## PARAMOUNT THEATRE (F4)

352 Cypress • 325-676-9620

Self-guided tours: Noon to 5 p.m., weekdays  
This fully restored 1930s theatre features:

- Concerts and live theater
- Touring shows
- Classic, art house and special event films
- Outstanding architecture: *Arched columns, two grand staircases, hand-blown glass chandeliers, Pueblo-Deco artwork ceilings and a 1,200 seat auditorium with twin-domed turrets, a velvet blue ceiling, drifting clouds and twinkling stars*



## 12TH ARMORED DIVISION MEMORIAL MUSEUM (F4)

1289 N. 2nd • 677-6515

In the short space of five months the 12th Armored Division became one of the most feared fighting machines of WWII.



### The Memorial Museum:

- Displays and interprets the Division's historical collection
- Serves as a teaching museum for the study of WWII and its impact on the American people
- Offers academic access to historical materials &

provides educational programs for children  
Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

\$3—Adults; \$1—Children ages 7 to 12; Free—Children ages 6 and younger

## NATIONAL CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED LITERATURE (F4)

102 Cedar • 673-4586

This one-of-a-kind museum exhibits and tours the best works of today's premier children's book illustrators. NCCIL (pronounced "nickel"):

- Opens three new exhibits a year, each traveling to venues across the U.S.
- Offers free children's art activities daily and numerous family events

Free! Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## ABILENE STATE PARK • FM 89, Buffalo Gap 325-572-3204 • Reservations: 512-389-8900

This scenic park covers 529.4 acres along Elm Creek. Once a resting place for the Comanche Indians, visitors now find:

- Modern camping and recreational facilities
- Buffalo and part of the official Texas Longhorn herd



- Hiking and nature trails
- Picnic sites, game area and children's playground
- Full-sized swimming pool and a children's pool open Memorial Day to Labor Day (Wed.-Sun, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.)
- Photo opportunities and wildlife observation
- Bicycle riding and fishing pond

Fees: \$4—Ages 13 and over; \$2—Ages 65+ Texas residents. 41-wheeled camper/tent site; 36-group trailer sites; 12-water only tent sites; 3 full hook-ups: \$15-\$18 per night; 8-screened shelters: \$18/night; 2-air conditioned recreation halls: \$80/day or \$160/night

## CAMPING GUIDE

**Abilene RV Park** • I-20 at Exit 292-B • **672-0657**

Full Hook-up: \$20/night. Each addl. person over 2 people: \$1

**Abilene State Park** • (See above)

**Buck Creek RV Park** • 12445 Buck Creek Rd. (I-20 at Exit 294) • **325-672-2825**

Full Hook-up: \$20 - \$25/night for 1 to 2 people

**KOA Kampground** • I-20 at Exit 282 • **672-3681**

Full Hook-up, Tents, Vans: \$25 - \$32/night.

Cabins: \$37-\$47/night

**Lake Ft. Phantom** • **676-6218**

Johnson Park (5-sites) and Seabee Park (4-sites)  
Primitive camping; flush toilets; no drinking water; fishing & boat ramp; no fee or reservations (48-hour limit)

**Tye RV Park** • I-20 at exit 278 • **691-0398**

Full Hookup: \$16 - \$28/night

## DYESS AIR FORCE BASE (B5)

**696-5609**, Public Affairs

Dyess houses an Air Combat Command wing with two B-1 Bomber and two C-130 Squadrons.

Visitors will enjoy:

- Dyess Visitor Center (an overview of the base and its history)
- Dyess Linear Air Park with its 32 planes from WWII, the Korean and Vietnam Conflicts, and Operation Desert Storm (contact Dyess Public Affairs to schedule tours)



## FORT PHANTOM HILL (G1)

Open Daily • Free

Visit the ghostly ruins of this 1851 Army post. As you walk among the dozen chimneys and three buildings you almost hear the soldiers going about their daily routine.

To explore the ruins, from Interstate 20, go north on FM 600 for 11 miles.



## APRIL

### 2nd Weekend **Rock Hound Roundup**

Central Texas Gem & Mineral Society show and sale

## MAY

### 1st Weekend **Cinco de Mayo Celebration**

Softball tournament, St. Vincent Ballet Folklorico Dancers, live music, dances, food booths and family fun

### 2nd Weekend **Western Heritage Classic**

Ranch Rodeo with real cowboys, parade, cowboy poetry & music, chuck wagon cook-off, sheep dog trials, cowboy matched horse races, world's largest bit and spur show, children's activities & nightly dance

## JUNE

### Last two Weekends **Fort Griffin Fandangle**

Frontier life recreated with song and dance in an outdoor theater. (Albany, 35 miles from Abilene)

## JULY

### 4th of July Weekend **68th Annual Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo**

Amateur rodeo nightly, parade, fiddling contest and Western Art Show (Stamford, 40 miles from Abilene)

## SEPTEMBER

### Labor Day Weekend **Chili Super Bowl**

Chili and brisket cook-off...two days of fun in Buffalo Gap  
**Starts Friday after Labor Day **West Texas Fair and Rodeo****  
Exhibits and competitions, PRCA rodeo, livestock and horse shows, entertainment carnival and midway

### 3rd Weekend **Altrusa Antique Show**

Dealers from across the U.S. exhibit at this outstanding show and sale

### 4th Weekend **West Texas Book & Author Festival**

Over 100 Texas authors sell and autograph books, writing and publishing workshops, theatrical production, luncheon and cookbook gala

### Last Weekend **Hot Air Balloon Festival**

Balloon glow Fri. & Sat. evenings, arts and crafts, games, food booths, contests and Hare & Hound Race on Sat. & Sun. mornings

## NOVEMBER

### 1st Weekend **Christmas Carousel**

Annual sale of Christmas gifts hosted by the Junior League of Abilene

### 2nd Weekend **Christmas in November**

Unique sale of arts, crafts and gifts

### 3rd Weekend **"The Nutcracker"**

Classic ballet is performed by Abilene's Regional Ballet Company "Ballet Abilene" and guest artists

### 1st Tuesday After Thanksgiving **City Sidewalks**

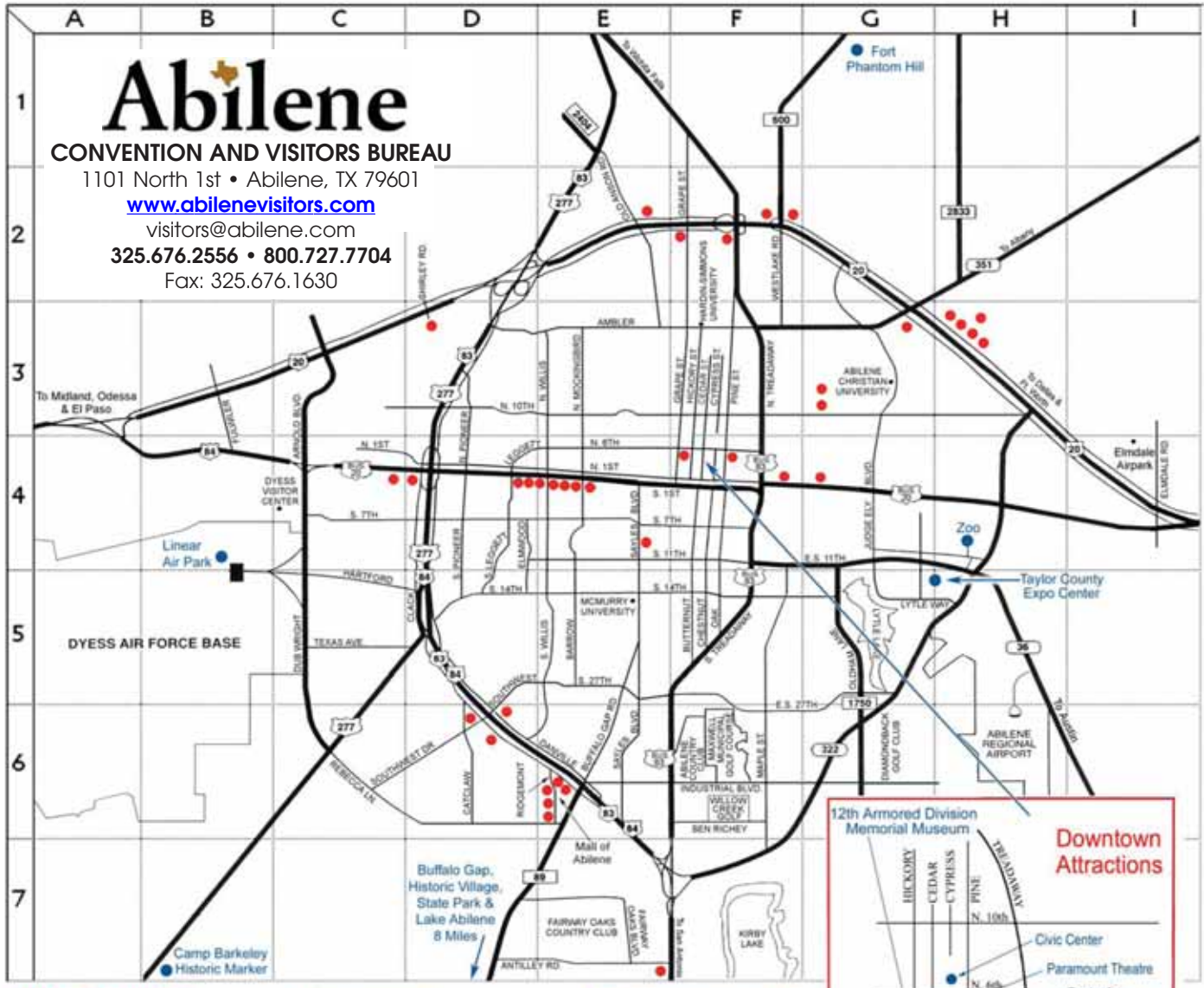
Downtown merchants host an evening of holiday fun... parade, shopping, entertainment and tree lighting

**For a complete listing of events visit our web site:**

[www.abilene.com/visitors](http://www.abilene.com/visitors)

# Abilene

**CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU**  
 1101 North 1st • Abilene, TX 79601  
[www.abilenevisitors.com](http://www.abilenevisitors.com)  
 visitors@abilene.com  
**325.676.2556 • 800.727.7704**  
 Fax: 325.676.1630



### ACCOMMODATIONS

- Abilene Western Inn (F4)
- Abilene Whitten Inn, Expo (G4)
- Abilene Whitten Inn, University (H3)
- Alamo Motel (E4)
- Antilley Inn (E7)
- Best Budget Inn (E4)
- Best Western Abilene Inn & Suites (F2)
- Best Western South Mall (E6)
- Blue Willow (G3)
- Budget Host Colonial Inn (F2)
- Century Lodge (D4)
- Civic Plaza Hotel (F4)

- Comfort Inn (H3)
- Comfort Suites (D6)
- Courtyard by Marriott (E6)
- Days Inn (H3)
- EconoLodge (F2)
- Executive Inn (H3)
- Fairfield Inn by Marriott (E6)
- Hampton Inn (E6)
- Hashknife (G3)
- Holiday Inn Express (H3)
- Holiday Inn Express, South (D6)
- Howard Johnson (D4)
- LaQuinta (F2)

- MCM Elegante Suites (E6)
- Motel 6 (D3)
- Ponca Motel (D3)
- Regency Inn & Suites (D6)
- Royal Inn (C4)
- Sayles Ranch (E4)
- Sparkhawks (D4)
- Super 8 (G3)
- Travel Inn (E2)
- Tower Motel (E4)
- Vintage House (F4)
- Western Motel (E4)

