

## DID YOU KNOW?

1. Since the 1990 census, Houston has been the 4<sup>th</sup> largest city in the US. It now has over 2.3 million people in the city and over 6.3 million in the metropolitan area. It is expected to surpass Chicago as the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest city in the US in the 2020s.
2. Houston is one of the 10 largest cities in landmass in the US. It has over 600 square miles/1,000 square kilometers. It is bigger than Vatican City, Monaco, Nauru, Tuvalu, San Marino, Liechtenstein, the Marshall Islands, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Maldives, Malta, and Grenada combined. It is more than twice the size of Singapore.
3. Texas is larger than France.
4. The second greatest battle fought on what is now US soil was just east of Houston on April 21, 1836.
5. Houston was the capital of the Republic of Texas on two occasions, from 1837 to 1839 and in 1842.
6. Houston had the first domed stadium in the world. The Astrodome opened in 1965.
7. "Houston" was the first word spoken from the moon on July 20, 1969.
8. Houston has been a musical mecca. Artists who have been born, lived, or recorded here include Destiny's Child, Beyoncé, Solange, Clint Black, Archie Bell, Ray Charles, Johnny Nash, BJ Thomas, ZZ Top, and more.
9. Houston has the 4th largest shopping mall in the US with over 375 stores.
10. Houston has the largest medical center in the world, employing over 106,000 people.
11. Houston arguably has the 2nd best skyline in the US.
12. Houston has one of the most diverse populations in the world. You can find almost anyone here.
13. Houston is an academic magnet with 6 major institutions of higher learning.
14. Houston has the second largest number of live theaters in a downtown of any city in the US.
15. Houston is the cheapest of the five largest cities in the US in which to live or visit.
16. Houston has been the home of many famous actors and actresses: The Allen sisters, the Quaid brothers, Farrah Fawcett, Jennifer Holiday, Larry Hovis, Jim Parsons, Jaclyn Smith, Patrick Swayze, Chandra Wilson, and more.
17. The Port of Houston is one of the two busiest ports in the US.

## TOUR COSTS

*The cost of all tours is based on a sliding scale for the number of individuals in a given party. The per person price continually shrinks. The cost for 1 person for a city tour has not changed since 2005, just \$25 per hour. Also, understand or ask about the difference between transport and a tour. Prices for tours where we do not have to provide transportation (known as step-on guides) are always cheaper. Check our website at [www.houstonhistoricaltours.com](http://www.houstonhistoricaltours.com) for the prices for our most popular tours. Write to us at [houstonhistory@aol.com](mailto:houstonhistory@aol.com) or call at (713) 392-0867 for all other prices.*

### 2.5 Hour Downtown Walking and Tunnel Tours

|              |         |                |         |
|--------------|---------|----------------|---------|
| 1 person     | \$70    | 10 – 19 people | \$20 ea |
| 2 people     | \$40 ea | 20 – 29 people | \$15 ea |
| 3 – 4 people | \$30 ea | 30 – 39 people | \$10 ea |
| 5 – 9 people | \$25 ea | 40 – 49 people | \$5 ea  |

*Chaperones can go on the tour for FREE. Tours with additional hours and Texas Medical Center Tours are more expensive.*

### Local Night (Haunted, Night Life, City, and Holiday Lights) Tours

- A. \$100 for 1 or 2 people or \$35 per person for 3 or more people for 3-hour night tours or a 3.5 hour local haunted tour. Haunted tours that go to the Katy area and Spring cost more.
- B. Walking Haunted Tours – An ideal size is less than 20 people. Larger groups tend to become rowdy with cliques forming and people talking who disrupt the tour for the other participants.

### Step-on Guides

| Hours | Flat Rate | Hours | Flat Rate | Hours | Flat Rate |
|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| 1     | \$100     | 6     | \$360     | 11    | \$560     |
| 2     | \$200     | 7     | \$400     | 12    | \$600     |
| 3     | \$240     | 8     | \$440     | 13    | \$640     |
| 4     | \$280     | 9     | \$480     | 14    | \$680     |
| 5     | \$320     | 10    | \$520     | 15    | \$720     |

*For schools and camps, AT LEAST one responsible adult MUST accompany a maximum of 10 children. A 1 to 5 ratio is ideal.*

*As a service to our guests, we offer free pickup and drop-off service within the downtown corridor surrounded by I-45, I-10, and US 59. A group surcharge, not per person or one way, exists for pickups outside of downtown.*

| Number of Persons   | 1-5   | 6+    |
|---|-------|-------|
| Between Downtown & I-610  | \$10  | \$20  |
| Between I-610 & Beltway 8   | \$30  | \$60  |
| Between Beltway 8 & SH6/FM1960/SH146  | \$60  | \$120 |
| Between SH6/FM1960/SH146 & Grand Parkway/SH99   | \$90  | \$180 |
| Between the Grand Parkway/SH99 and within 50 miles of downtown exits #47 on I-45 and #769 on I-10 | \$120 | \$240 |

*We also provide pickup and drop-off transportation to Bush Intercontinental Airport Houston (IAH) and Hobby Airport (HOB).*

*Ask us about planning customized tours. • Inquire about discounts. The sales tax in Houston is 8.25%. • Prices subject to change without notice.*

## HOUSTON HISTORICAL TOURS TESTIMONIALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Included in the *AAA Texas Tour Book* since 2011, the most read tour books in the USA about Texas.
2. Recommended in the *USA Today* Walking Tours of Downtown Houston, Texas article in 2010.
3. Recommended in *The Recorder and Times* Brockville, Ontario's travel section on November 19, 2011.
4. Recommended by an Australian in the Finding Houston blog titled *Houston Downtown Walking Tour* at [findinghouston.com/2011/11/07/houston-downtown-walking-tour/](http://findinghouston.com/2011/11/07/houston-downtown-walking-tour/) on November 7, 2011.
5. Recommended in the Urban Sophistication article of *East Texas Travel Guide* in *Travels.com*.
6. 5 star rating at [www.yelp.com/biz/houston-historical-tours-houston](http://www.yelp.com/biz/houston-historical-tours-houston) on September 5, 2011.
7. Recommended in the *Montreal Gazette* on May 28, 2011.
8. Recommended in the Canadian newspapers *The Toronto Sun*, *The Sault Star*, *The Nugget*, *The Sudbury Star*, *The Observer* and *The Standard* in 2011.
9. Featured in the blog *Houston for Visitors's Tours of Houston* article.
10. Recommended at [www.texasexplorer.com/Houston](http://www.texasexplorer.com/Houston) sometime before 2009.
11. Featured in the local *Village Voice* and the *Southwest News*, each on January 8, 2008.
12. Keith was featured as a tour guide in the *Christian Science Monitor* on July 30, 2003.
13. Keith was featured as the city's master tour guide on pages 1D and 5D in the *Houston Chronicle* on July 15, 2003.
14. Featured in Barbara Burgower Hordern's book *A Parent Guide to Houston*, in 2003.
15. Keith was featured on the front page lead article as a tour guide in the local *Jewish Herald Voice* on April 25, 2001.
16. Featured as an area attraction by the Houston Marriott at [www.hotels-rates.com/hotels\\_reservations/property/24622/](http://www.hotels-rates.com/hotels_reservations/property/24622/)
17. Member of the Professional Tour Guide Association of Houston (PTGAH).
18. Keith has been interviewed about Houston by the former KROI and repeatedly by the active local NPR stations.
19. The first Certified Travel Ambassador (CTA) in Houston.

# HOUSTON HISTORICAL TOURS

*Educating and Entertaining Everyone*



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# HOUSTON HISTORICAL TOURS

Our mission is to help create a better society that is understanding, supportive, and respectful of all people.

## Our Most Popular Tours

### 8 Different City Tours from 2 to 9 Hours

The most popular city tours are 5 and 6-hour tour options that include downtown, City Hall, the Theater District, former banking district, downtown stadiums, Discovery Green Park, Sam Houston Park, historic homes and cemeteries, famous buildings, Freedmen's Town, the Montrose area, River Oaks, Rice Village, Rice University, the Museum District, Hermann Park, the Texas Medical Center, south side stadiums, the Galleria area, Folk Art, Memorial Park, Beer Can House, Box Springs House, Gargoyle House, and an art car studio or museum. On weekdays, it can also include an observation deck and brief walk through pedestrian tunnels.

### Space Center Houston (SCH) (NASA)

8 hours – Sliding Scale. Any day.

This includes:

- Riding a tram
- Visiting Historic Mission Control
- Seeing a Saturn V rocket
- Seeing a Mercury rocket
- Touching a moon rock
- Watching a 6-story IMAX film
- A space briefing
- Living in Space show
- The Starship Gallery museum
- Seeing Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo capsules
- Watching the movie “On Human Destiny”
- Walking through a mockup of Skylab
- Visiting Independence Plaza
- Walking through a 747 and a training shuttle
- Time for lunch and shopping

This is a guided tour with narratives. If you want to save money and only want transport to and from NASA, with or without a ticket, or want less than an 8-hour tour, ask us about these options.

### Over 25 Walking Tours

1.5, 2.5, 3.5, and 4.5 hours – Sliding Scale. Any day.

We offer:

- 3 totally different downtown tunnel tours (only available Monday through Friday),
- 3 downtown outside tours,
- 3 totally different Texas Medical Center (TMC) tunnel and skybridge tours, and
- Over 15 other walking tours around the city.

Most tours are 2.5 hours and longer tours have a stop for lunch.

## 9 Different Haunted Tours

Sliding Scale. Any night, beginning at twilight.

We offer:

- 6 geographically different driving tours of 3.5 hours and
- 3 downtown walking tours of 2, 3, and 4 hours

Driving tours will take you to abandoned cemeteries, haunted bars, sites where people were murdered or committed suicide, and more. Three tours are designed to be appropriate for teenagers.

| Tour        | W         | X         | Y         |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Total Hours | 3.1 – 4.0 | 2.1 – 3.0 | 0.1 – 2.0 |
| # of People | Price     | Price     | Price     |
| 1           | \$100     | \$75      | \$50      |
| 2           | \$65 each | \$50 each | \$35 each |
| 3 – 4       | \$50 each | \$40 each | \$30 each |
| 5 – 9       | \$40 each | \$30 each | \$25 each |
| 10 – 19     | \$30 each | \$25 each | \$20 each |
| 20 – 29     | \$25 each | \$20 each | \$15 each |
| 30 – 39     | \$20 each | \$15 each | \$10 each |
| 40+         | \$15 each | \$10 each | \$5 each  |

### Galveston Tours from 5 to 12 Hours

Sliding Scale. Any day.

These can include:

- Shopping on the historic Strand
- Boat ride to see dolphins and a “haunted sunken cement ship”
- 1, 2, or 3 movies about “The Great Storm,” “The Pirate Island of Jean Lafitte,” and/or “Galveston: Gateway to the Gulf”
- 1 or 2 1890 Victorian stone and brick mansions
- 1 to 5 museums including the Ocean Star Oil Rig, Railroad Museum, Bryan Museum, Texas Seaport Museum and the 1877 Tall Ship Elissa, and more.
- Beautiful houses of worship
- Tree sculptures
- 1 winery
- Silk Stocking District
- 1 or 2 breweries

## ABOUT THE OWNER AND YOUR GUIDES

Keith Rosen, a researcher and historian, has led tours of Houston since 1985. In 2003, the city of Houston chose Keith to be its Master Tour Guide for multicultural tours. From 2007 to 2013, Keith served on the Harris County Historical Commission. In 2009, Keith researched and co-wrote a narrative to enable an African American church to obtain a state historical marker. Keith taught from 1981 until he retired from teaching history for 14 years with Houston Community College in 2015. He shares his love of the city and dry humor with all who are interested. Keith conducts the majority of the tours. He has a crew of about 3 other tour guides. All are either members of the PTGAH, members of the HCHC, active or retired professors of history, or have passed tests to be tour guides. Keith attempts to provide you with the best tours possible by professionals with the highest standards and skills.

# HOUSTON HISTORICAL TOURS OFFERS MORE THAN 100 TOURS

## Local + Day Tours

- Religious Sites - Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Taoist
- Christian Unique Sites Tours
- 5 Lives of the Rich and Infamous
- 1 Celebrity Homes Past and Present
- 9 Holiday Lights Tours
- 5 African American Tours: Wards, Cemeteries, School, Acres Homes, Kashmere Gardens, Ranches, Plantation
- 5 Asian American Tours: East, the Subcontinent, and Southwest
- 3 Hispanic Heritage Tours
- 1 Jewish History Tour
- Over 15 Cemetery Tours
- 5 Presidential Tours
- 4 Folk Art Tours
- Dozens of Breweries, Wineries, and Distillery Tours
- Kemah
- Customized Girl Scout Tours for Badges
- Houston Houses of Mansions and Historic Homes
- Night Life Tours
- 2 Port of Houston/Houston Ship Channel Tours
- San Jacinto State Park with the monument and battleship
- Shopping Tours – local and metropolitan
- Miniature Train Sets, Trains, and Railroad Museum Tours
- Quilting Tour
- 9 Bakery Tours
- Chocolate Tours
- Chocolate Chip Cookie Tours
- Ice Cream Tours
- Mexican Restaurant Tours
- Garden Tours
- Celebrity Tour of the Life of Beyoncé
- Poverty Tours
- 3 Psychos, Killers, and Victims Tours
- Texas Medical Center Tours
- Several Unique Neighborhood Tours including the Wards, Heights, East End and Southwest
- Monthly Special Tours. The flat rate will be reduced by \$50.00 for senior groups



## Out-of-Town Tours of Less than One Week

- Austin – 1 to 6 days
- Beaumont and /or Port Arthur – 1 to 3 days
- Bellville – 1 day
- Brazos Bend State Park in Needville – 1 day
- 3 Brenham, Burton, Chappell Hill, and or Washington-on-the-Brazos Tours – 1 day each
- Corpus Christi, Kingsville, the King Ranch, and Padre Island – 2 to 6 days
- Corsicana and Dallas – 3 to 6 days
- Fort Worth – 3 days
- Fredericksburg, Johnson City, and Stonewall – 3 days
- George Ranch Historical Park in Richmond – 1 day
- German Culture and Heritage in New Braunfels
- Hill Country
- Huntsville – 1 day
- 4 La Grange and Round Top Tours – quilting, music, art, antiques – 1 day each
- New Orleans – general and ethnic tours – 4 to 12 days
- Orange – 1 day
- 5 Painted and Historical Churches in the Greater Schulenburg area – 1 day each
- 7 Quilting Tours – 1 day each in different cities
- 2 Rural Trains – 1 day each
- San Antonio – 1 to 9 days
- San Marcos – shopping and or site-seeing – 1 to 3 days
- Texas City – 1 day
- Varner-Hogg Plantation and historic West and East Columbia – 1 day
- Celebrity Tours of the Lives of Janis Joplin in Port Arthur and Selina in Corpus Christi

## One Week and Longer Out-of-Town Tours

- Arkansas Tours
- Branson, Missouri Tours
- Chicago, Illinois and St. Louis, Missouri Tours
- Northwest and North Texas Tours
- Savannah, Georgia and Charleston, South Carolina Tours
- Shreveport, Louisiana and Little Rock, Arkansas Tours
- West Texas and Big Bend Tours