



# Christmas on the Riverwalk!

*Featuring San Antonio, The Alamo, LBJ Library and Museum, Historic Fredericksburg and More!*

Join TRIPS as you experience the amazing history of San Antonio and the Alamo during the holidays! Always beautiful, the Riverwalk is even more so bathed in thousands of Christmas lights for the holidays! You'll enjoy a River Cruise on the Paseo del Rio and have time to shop and explore on your own. You visit the beautifully restored Mission of San Jose in San Antonio and experience the hustle and bustle of its Mexican Marketplace. You tour of the LBJ Ranch and Museum will take you back to a most distinctive and demanding period in our country's history. Then, go even further back in time as you tour the Alamo and re-live the fierce battle that pitted 190 men against 5,000. All of this and more awaits as you step into history in San Antonio and the Alamo!

## **Day 1 - Welcome to Texas!**

Today you'll embark on your **Christmas in San Antonio** adventure! On arrival at the airport, you will be met and assisted with your transfer to your hotel located on the famous **Paseo del Rio - Riverwalk** winding along the banks of the San Antonio River. Here you'll find delightful shops and restaurants all decked out for the holidays. This evening, enjoy a delightful **Welcome-to-San Antonio dinner** featuring Texas specialties so be sure and bring an appetite as big as the state of Texas!

**Overnight:** Holiday Inn Riverwalk or Similar (D)

## **Day 2 - Everything's Bigger in Texas!**

After breakfast, you will be treated to a guided tour of the many historic sights of San Antonio. Visit the **Mission of San Jose**, the largest and best known of the Texas missions. Founded in 1720, the mission is now fully restored and boasts several unique features, including exquisite carvings and the famous Rose Window, one of the finest pieces of Spanish Colonial ornamentation in the country. After the Mission, continue your sightseeing tour of San Antonio before stopping for lunch at a restaurant located on the Riverwalk. Then, board your private barge for a **leisurely cruise on the San Antonio River** through the heart of downtown. Shaded by towering cypresses, oaks and willows and bordered by gardens of flowering ornamental foliage, you cruise one level below the hustle and bustle of the city streets. The next stop is **El Mercado** (the Market Square), an amazing and exciting experience! You may visit the famous **Mi Tierra**, a 24-hour restaurant and bakery and the century-old pharmacy. There are over 30 shops which make the area a great place to find extraordinary gifts and souvenirs! Or you may choose to just relax with a delightful pastry and cup of coffee. The remainder of the day is at your leisure to further explore the exciting Riverwalk area. With museums, boutiques and numerous restaurants and cafes, it's a delightful way to pass the time!

**Overnight:** Holiday Inn Riverwalk or Similar (B/L)

## **Day 3 - It's a Presidential Day!**

Today features a drive through the hills of Texas as you travel to **Austin**, the capitol of Texas. You tour of the city includes a visit to the **LBJ Library and Museum**. As he said at the dedication in 1971, "It is all here: the story of our time with the bark off...This library will show the facts, not just the joy and triumphs, but the sorrow and failures, too." Situated on the campus of the University of Texas, you'll find more than 54,000 objects donated by the President and Mrs. Johnson and their family and friends ranging from antiquities and coins to postage stamps and Oval Office furniture. Then depart for **Stonewall**, the birthplace of Lyndon Baines Johnson. The LBJ Ranch was where he was born, lived, died and was buried. From his boyhood home to the Johnson's ranch house known as the Texas White House, you'll discover what inspired and helped form

this complex man. Then, travel to historic **Fredericksburg** nestled in the beautiful Hill Country of Texas. Founded in 1846, by German Immigrants under the auspices of the Society for the of German Immigrants in Texas. Fredericksburg today is a beautifully preserved German village and the Historic District features over eighty points of historic interest and significance, with more than a 150 specialty shops lining downtown streets, all decorated in Holiday lights. You'll also find the National Museum of the Pacific War, dedicated to telling the story of the Pacific Theater battles of WWII. Later today, choose from a wide variety of restaurants and enjoy dinner at your leisure before returning to San Antonio for overnight.

**Overnight:** Holiday Inn Riverwalk or Similar

(B)

#### **Day 4 - Remember the Alamo!**

After breakfast, you depart for the **San Antonio IMAX** theatre where on arrival you'll watch a screening of the IMAX presentation of **The Price of Freedom**. The giant IMAX screen, along with state-of-the-art sound, takes you back to 1836 in the center of battle, as you relive history's unforgettable 13 days of glory. After the movie, you are escorted to the **Alamo**, one of the most famous spots in Texas! Here, Davy Crockett, Colonel William Barrett Travis, Jim Bowie and 186 others died fighting for independence on March 6, 1836, against an army of five thousand. Originally established in 1718 as the city's first mission, the Alamo is located in the heart of San Antonio, inside beautifully landscaped grounds. Then, step inside the Alamo and see where the brave defenders fought and died. Your visit to the **Long Barracks Museum** tells the story of Texas, its settlement and revolution through various exhibits. This afternoon is at your leisure – perhaps to purchase those last minute mementos for the folks back home! Tonight's special farewell dinner will be at a typical hill country ranch – a perfect ending to your San Antonio adventure!

**Overnight:** Holiday Inn Riverwalk or Similar

(B/D)

#### **Day 5 - Parting is Such Sweet Sorrow!**

After breakfast, you are assisted with your transfer to the airport and your flight home. Memories of **San Antonio and this special Christmas** will last a lifetime!

(B)



### **Inclusions**

- Round trip airport transfers
- Round trip airfare to San Antonio (checked baggage fees are not included)
- 4 nights hotel accommodation
- 4 breakfasts
- 2 dinners, including a Welcome-to-San Antonio dinner
- Admission on a river boat cruise along the Riverwalk
- All admissions, including the LBJ Library and Museum, LBJ Ranch, The Alamo, IMAX presentation and more
- Escorted tour of San Antonio
- Travel to Fredericksburg
- Private motor coach throughout the itinerary
- Porterage of one suitcase per person
- All government, airline and hotel taxes
- TRIPS document wallet and luggage tags

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