New #TexasToDo's Fall 2017

Newly opened hotels, highly anticipated restaurants and cooler weather make the perfect combination for you to **fall** in love with the Lone Star State this season! Here are a handful of new places to add to your #TexasToDo list.

New Flights

San Antonio International Airport and <u>Volaris</u> introduced a new route to Mexico City offered seven days a week to meet the high demand of travel to and from Mexico effective in September 2017. Additionally, <u>Frontier Airlines</u> added new direct flights from San Antonio to both Washington, D.C. and Ontario, Canada.

Norwegian announced nonstop service from Austin-Bergstrom International Airport to London Gatwick Airport to begin in March 2018. The route will operate three times per week. In April 2018, Southwest Airlines will begin nonstop flights from Indianapolis to Austin and Frontier Airlines will start flying from Cleveland to Austin. Icelandair announced a new service from Dallas Fort Worth International Airport to Reykjavik's Keflavik International in Scandinavia to begin in May 2018.

New Hotels

<u>Native Hostel of Austin</u> opened in Spring 2017, and has become a local favorite with the onsite Native Kitchen and Bar. The experiential hostel brings the house party and hospitality under one roof for travelers to enjoy music, arts, food and spirits.

<u>Aloft Austin Downtown</u> opened in July 2017 within the 6th Street Entertainment District and features the Coffeehouse at Caroline and Upstairs at Caroline. Look out for the location's <u>special offers</u> including discounts, free drinks and food.

<u>Le Méridien Houston Downtown</u> opened on September 20, 2017. The hotel, which has taken over the long-abandoned Melrose building on 1121 Walker Street, has 225 rooms with skyline views and is within close proximity to corporate office space, performance and sports venues and the George R. Brown Convention center.

In October 2017, <u>Hotel Alessandra</u> will open its 223-room building in downtown Houston's pedestrian oriented GreenStreet development. The hotel blends cultural influence of European lifestyle with the pioneering spirit of the Texas wildcatter for a uniquely Houston experience.

<u>Fairmont Austin</u> is set to open in late Fall 2017 on Red River Street in downtown Austin, featuring 1,048 guest rooms and suites overlooking Lady Bird Lake, Austin's cityscape and the State Capitol.

Reservations are now open to experience exquisite dining, a pampering spa, a seasonally heated pool on the 7th floor terrace, five distinct restaurant and bar experiences and state-of-the-art meeting facilities.

New Eats

<u>Batch Craft Beer and Kolaches</u> in Austin opened its doors in August 2017. The menu features the best of local, domestic and import beers and classic Central Texas Czech pastries, made with Micklethwait Craft

Meats and local Austin fruit vendors. Additionally, downtown Austin diner, <u>Holy Roller</u> opened in July 2017. The punk rock inspired establishment is open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Holy Roller offers brunch and after dark menus, complete with cocktails, craft beers and wine on the weekends.

In August, San Antonio roof top bar <u>Paramour</u> introduced a brand-new food menu from Iron Chef Gauntlet's Chef Jason Dady featuring a grilled cheese sandwich, duck confit tacos, a popcorn-based twist on Mexican street corn and many other offerings.

The Houston Heights restaurant formerly known as Shade officially became Alice Blue in June 2017. The European-inspired bistro serves dinner seven days a week, Friday lunch, Saturday and Sunday brunch as well as Happy Hour in the bar every day.

City Hall Bistro at the Adolphus Hotel opened in July 2017 with a menu of southern European-inspired cuisine. The restaurant offers breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch in a picturesque setting adorned with white subway tiles and pretty brass accents.

New Exhibitions

Fort Worth's Kimbell Art Museum opened <u>Casanova: The Seduction of Europe</u> exploring 18th century Europe through the eyes of artist Giacomo Casanova. The exhibit is open from August 27 - December 31, 2017.

The Nasher Sculpture Center in Dallas is exhibiting <u>Tom Sachs: Tea Ceremony</u>, a reworking of chanoyu, or traditional Japanese tea ceremony. The exhibit is open from September 16, 2017 - January 7, 2018.

In October, The Museum of Fine Arts in Houston will open the <u>Oscar de la Renta Retrospective</u> exhibit and the Dallas Museum of Art will open <u>Truth: 24 frames per second The Museum's First Major</u> Exhibition Dedicated to Time-Based Media. Both will run through January 2018.

Fall Event Highlights

- Texas State Forest Festival (Sept. 20-24) Lufkin, TX
- Big Country Balloon Fest (Sept. 29-Oct. 1) Abilene, TX
- Texas Renaissance Festival (Sept. 30 Nov. 26) Todd Mission, TX
- Austin City Limits Music Festival (Oct. 6-8 and Oct. 13-15) Austin, TX
- Texas Rose Festival (Oct. 19-22) Tyler, TX
- Formula 1 United States Grand Prix (Oct. 20-22) Austin, TX
- Wurstfest (Nov. 3-12) New Braunfels, TX
- <u>Texas Monthly Barbecue Festival</u> (Nov. 5) Austin, TX
- Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival (Nov. 8-12) Harlingen, TX
- <u>Dickens on The Strand</u> (Dec. 1-3) Galveston, TX

Looking for even more fun fall inspiration? Check out www.TravelTexas.com and find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Visitors can share their experiences from across the Lone Star State with #TexasToDo for a chance to be featured in our gallery.