



Presented by First National Bank of Waterloo Classic 55 Club



San Antonio Christmas

December 13-17, 2023

Featuring a riverboat cruise through thousands of luminaria decorating the Riverwalk, visit to Fredericksburg in the Texas Hill Country, the Japanese Sunken Tea Gardens, the Institute of Texas Culture, San Fernando Cathedral and the Alamo!

San Antonio is famous for its Riverwalk, and there is no better time to see it than when the luminarias line the San Antonio River for the holidays. We stay on the Riverwalk to give you the best location to enjoy this magical wonderland. Plus, we will explore the highlights of the area, such as the Japanese Sunken Tea Gardens, located in an abandoned rock quarry and the incomparable Villa Finale!

Wednesday, December 13 – Texas here we come!

We will depart Waterloo and Columbia on our private airport shuttle for Lambert Airport for our flight to San Antonio!

We will collect our bags and kick off our tour with a drive to Fredericksburg, Texas, famous for its blend of German and Texan styles. Our first stop is at [Wildseed Farms](#), the nation's largest working wildflower farm. The farm also sells seeds, wonderful garden and home goods, and now has a lovely winery and tasting room added onto the garden center. You can even taste their jams, salsa and other goodies or enjoy some homemade peach ice cream! Then we head into [Fredericksburg](#), where German and Texan cultures combine. Enjoy a choice of German and American style restaurants for lunch on your own while walking among the quaint shops and boutiques. Fredericksburg is one of the Lone Star State's most charming towns & the Hill Country's unofficial capital of food & wine. ***Did you know that the mariachi band originated from the German Oom Pah Pah Bands?***

We check in to our hotel, the [Drury Inn & Suites San Antonio Riverwalk](#). It's our home for all 3 nights, so settle in and enjoy the cocktails and heavy appetizers each night, or venture out and try some of the wonderful restaurants in the area. **(Hot Apps and Cocktails)**

Thursday, December 14 – San Antonio Claims to Fame

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before our guided tour of this amazing city. We start in the **King William Historic District**, a sprawling 25 blocks of downtown San Antonio that made the list of the prettiest neighborhoods in America last year. The first historic district in Texas, many of the 19th century residences have been beautifully maintained, either as private residences or locally owned businesses or museums. We will get the chance to tour one of these homes, [Villa Finale: Museum & Gardens](#). The Norton-Polk-Mathis House, also known as *Villa Finale*, was built by local merchant Russel C. Norton. Construction began in 1876. After experiencing a flood in the neighborhood in 1921, then a transformation into a boarding house, it was purchased by Walter Nold Mathis in 1967 and lovingly restored. The house was designated a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 1971. Our next stop is the [San Fernando Cathedral](#), with the original section dating back to the 1730s. The dome of the cathedral is the geographical center of San Antonio, and the cathedral features amazing stained-glass windows and stone carved Stations of the Cross. Our final stop on the tour is the **San Antonio Shoe Company**, featuring vintage western buildings and a peak into the factory to see how these American made shoes come together. Next is the festive **Mexican Market** for lunch on your own and maybe a bit of shopping if you feel inclined. Enjoy the sights and flavors of old Mexico at Historic Market Square, a favorite of locals and tourists for generations. Explore over 100 locally owned shops and stalls, all at a festive indoor mall famously described as the largest Mexican market outside Mexico. Enjoy Drury's **Happy Hour! (B, Hot Apps and Cocktails)**



Friday, December 15 – Lunch at Tower of the Americas

After breakfast at the hotel, we explore some of the area's gems, starting with the [Mission San Jose](#). One of the best preserved missions, the Mission San Jose was founded in 1720, and the oldest church dates to 1768. Learn about how the missions impacted the region, as well as the Tejano population that arose. Next we head to the [Japanese Sunken Tea Gardens](#). Set in an abandoned stone quarry, you will be transported to the *Land of the Rising Sun*, as you walk along the paths, bridges and gazebos, taking in the water features, flowers, and statues. Our last stop before lunch is the [Institute of Texan Cultures](#). This Smithsonian Affiliate museum is located in an 182,000 square-foot complex and features 65,000 square-feet of interactive exhibits and displays, with sections on



how the many waves of settlers and native people have influenced the state. Our included lunch today is at the top of the [Tower of the Americas](#). This revolving restaurant provides amazing views of the city while you dine on an incredible buffet.



This afternoon we head to the most iconic of attractions in San Antonio – [The Alamo](#)! The most visited tourist site in Texas, our visit will help distinguish between the history of this amazing mission and the popular myths and legends that surround the site. Stroll back to the hotel on your own or return via coach. The rest of the afternoon is yours to enjoy. Stroll along the banks of the [Riverwalk](#), indulge in the free cocktails and snacks at the hotel, or try one of the great restaurants nearby! Tonight we enjoy our **private riverboat ride** after dark through the thousands of luminarias that line the Riverwalk! **(B, L, Hot Apps and Cocktails)**

Saturday, December 16 – FREE TIME!

Today is a completely free day! Maybe you will explore the network of pedestrian paths that follow the Riverwalk to discover restaurants, bars, shops, galleries and museums or you might revisit sites from our previous tours. There will be lots of action and activity on Saturday night. **(B)**

Sunday, December 17

We depart this morning for the airport for our direct flight home. Thank you for traveling with us! **(B)**

The itinerary is subject to change, for the good!

Double Occupancy—\$1,583

Single Occupancy—\$2,158

Triple & Quad Occupancy - \$1,402

Pricing is per person

Tour price includes:

- ✓ Round trip air transportation on Southwest Airlines (Currently non-stop and direct!)
- ✓ Stay 4 nights at the Drury Hotel on the Riverwalk – only unpack once!
- ✓ Private riverboat cruise through the luminaria lined banks **Subject to change based on boat availability*
- ✓ 5 Meals (4 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch), plus Hot Apps and Cocktails at the Drury 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.!
- ✓ Tours of the King Williams Historic District, Villa Finale, San Fernando Cathedral, The Alamo, Mission San Jose, Japanese Sunken Tea Gardens, and SAS shoes
- ✓ Admission to the Institute of Texan Cultures
- ✓ Visit to Wildseed Farm and the Texas Hill Country town of Fredericksburg
- ✓ All other Activities as indicated
- ✓ Airport Shuttle from Waterloo and Columbia
- ✓ Bank Escort and 2 Professional Tour Directors
- ✓ All gratuities including meals, step-on guides, drivers and directors
- ✓ Trip Protection

Please note: Any notice of fuel surcharges imposed by carriers, increase in travel protection premium and/or attractions will be disclosed at least 30 days prior to tour departure.

***Single Deposit - \$643, *Double/Triple/Quad Deposit - \$613 per person** (paid by check or authorize a debit from an FNB account) and Booking Form are required to secure your reservation. Once this tour fills, a wait list will be formed. Please include any dietary, walking restrictions & accommodation requests on booking form. ***Deposit amount now includes the non-refundable travel protection premium.**

Final payment is due no later than **October 1, 2023** and no refunds will be given after that time. If you need to cancel for a covered reason after the final payment is received, you may file a claim with proper documentation to request refund.

If you have **purchased TSA Pre-Check or Global Entry** and have a Known Traveler Number, please provide the name associated with TSA Precheck and your number to add to your reservation. Please also provide your **Southwest Rapid Rewards** number, if you have one, at time of booking.

Note: REAL ID enforcement does not begin until May 7, 2025. If you do not have a REAL ID driver's license, which must be requested at the time you renew your license or you will not automatically receive a REAL ID compliant license, then you must use a passport, passport card, military ID or other forms that the TSA says are approved forms of ID.



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