






SPACE SQUID

Austin Downtown Guide

-  Point of Interest
-  Space Squid Recommends
-  Coffee Shop
-  Restaurant
-  Bar
-  Pizza
-  Music Club
-  Breakfast Tacos

Gingerman
The jawdropping collection of draft beer must be seen to be believed. If you recognize the allusion of the name then you get three dork points.

Rainbow Cattle Company
This one could be a gay hangout. It's tough to say. Could be just metrosexual cowboys.

Halcyon
Not so much a coffeeshop as a reststop between cocktails.

Fado's
This Irish-themed pub has a pleasant patio that once hosted a Space Squid party.

Antones
You have to be over forty to both play and attend this venue.

Oilcan Harry's
This is one of the two officially sanctioned gay dance clubs in Austin. Go ahead, ask one of the patrons where they got the name.

Cozzoli's
Nowhere else in Austin will you find more varied or more delicious ways to package pepperoni and marinara.

Arthouse at the Jones Center
Not only is this museum free, but it actually supports new and avant garde forms of expression.

Hideout
Part coffeeshop, part performance space, like a lungfish, this business has somehow survived.

Congress Avenue Card shop
Here you will find all the Texicana you know you want to inflict on your friends.

The Onion
Not related to the newspaper, but still very good pizza.

Driskill Hotel
I worked with a guy who used to work in the Driskill kitchen. I asked him if he ever saw any ghosts. He said the only scary thing he ever saw was his paycheck.

Elephant Room
This basement jazz club might not disappoint people looking for a basement jazz club.

Buffalo Billiards
This bar rises above the typical sixth street lameness by giving its patrons something to do: Billiards.

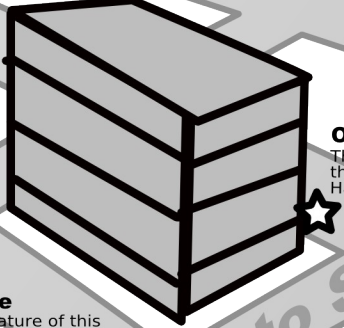
Mekong River
Nowhere in Austin is there a more out-of-place business. Why did the owners of this pretty decent Vietnamese restaurant decide to open shop here?

Las Manitas
Austin was given the choice between a condo skyscraper or this breakfast/lunch Salvadoran-Mex restaurant. We chose the option with the excellent migas plate.

Little City
During the day, bike couriers hang outside this coffeeshop, laughing at people who have brakes or more than one gear.

Marrakesh
The best place downtown to sit down with friends and eat some tasty mediterranean food.

Austin Museum of Art
In here you will find the community acceptable art.



Omni Hotel
This is probably the hotel in that "King of the Hill" episode where Hank moons Ann Richards.

Did you know?

- There is a joke in Austin that when you refer to the cross-dressing homeless man running for mayor that you need to specify which one. This is technically incorrect. Jennifer Gale is a transsexual and is therefore dressing to her gender.
- The North-South streets in downtown Austin are named after Texas rivers, and they appear in the rough East-West order that they appear on a map of Texas.
- The vast majority of police violence in Austin occurs in the downtown "entertainment district." Every year upwards of 100 people get Tasered.

Club DeVille
Part bar, part quarry, you might be fortunate enough to be there on a night that Space Squid regular, and brilliant illustrator, David Johnston works.

The Firehouse
The redeeming feature of this bar is a single piece of post-modern furniture.

B.D. Riley's
All the Irish pub you could want. Also the headquarters for the SPACE SQUID #5 release party. Sat, April 26th, 1pm

The Parish
This second-floor music venue changes ownership faster than you can say "trendy postmodern quartet."

Shakespeare's Pub
If Shakespeare was alive today he would serve drinks on the patio of an adequate bar.

Alamo Ritz
Sure, every town has a movie theater that serves booze and bar food at your seat. But do they also hold blacksploitation festivals with Jim Kelly live in person?

Best Wurst
The worst pun in town is also the best sausage cart.

Chez Nous
If you're a fine French food in an intimate setting sort of person, you will love this place. If you're like me, you will hate it.

Jackalope/Mooseknuckle Pub
The cooler locals know about the secret bar hidden between these two other bars, creating a bar sandwich.

Roppolos
Now expanded to two locations, this late-night pizza shop will pleasantly remind you of school cafeteria cuisine.

Flamingo Cantina
A perfect example of the rickety, half-assed construction common in Texas, this hipster music club appears to be just a space between two buildings roofed over with corrugated tin.

Casino el Camino
The multiple-facial-pierced fry cooks will take forever to make your order, but the giant burgers and hotdogs are worth the wait.

Esther's Follies
You have to have \$20 bucks to find out if this variety show is funny. Personally, I have no idea.

Habana
Cuban food or something.

The ARCH
The Austin Resource Center for the Homeless is where the guy who just broke into your car will be sleeping tonight.

Lovejoys
This refuge for blue-collar radicals and violent anarchists came on hard times after the smoking ban took effect. Now everyone ignores the ban and it's doing fine. Try to figure out which batch of their homebrew turned out the best before ordering.

710 Club
You have to wonder at the combination of egotism and imaginative failure that makes music venues name themselves after their street address. The music tends to be okay though.

Headhunters
This former tiki bar now hosts some of the dirtiest punk bands in town.

Stubb's
This is a BBQ, but people only come here for the noise-ordinance-bending outdoor shows.

Red Eyed Fly
Music club or something.

Beerland
The only trashy punkabilly club in the world that's recognized as a sovereign nation by Sealand.

Elysium
The closest thing Austin has to a goth club now that everyone denies being a goth.

Creekside Lounge
This relaxed bar has a back patio with a bike rack and a view of the creek and the cop shop parking ramp.

Waller Creek
There's a concrete walkway along this creek stretching from roughly Fifth St. to Sixteenth St. It was originally envisioned as an urban greenspace trail, not unlike San Antonio's riverwalk, but flashflooding and budget constraints put the kibosh on that.

How to use this Guide

On the whole, downtown Austin is appalling. It's a place of drunken violence, sleaze, and tourist traps. But there are nuggets of joy here and there. Hopefully this guide will help you find them.

Bars
There is a profusion of booze opportunities in downtown Austin. Particularly good establishments are marked with a squid badge.

Music
Most music venues of note are included here. Actual quality varies night to night, so check the listings.

Food
Austin is known for Tex Mex, BBQ, kolaches, and breakfast tacos. Very few examples of these culinary forms are within easy walking distance of downtown. With the exception of Las Manitas.

Recognizing Street Characters

- Leslie Cochran. Look for the bearded man with the pink thong, or possibly a school girl uniform. Habitual mayoral candidate. Has his own paper doll series.
- Gerry Van King. Unchallenged King of 6th St. Plays bass in front of Jazz. Recognizable by crown and despotic reign of terror.
- That newspaper guy. Looks and sounds reasonably normal except for compulsion to re-organize discarded newspapers with all sections in proper order. Refreshingly harmless for a crazy.
- Downtown Rangers. As if being fourth grade hallmonitor was the best thing that ever happened to them, these paramilitary thugs hassle homeless drunks so that rich drunks can spend their money without seeing anyone ugly.

Dragon's Lair 611 Burnett
Cats turned up mutilated one summer. The violence was denounced, and community action groups were organized. Turned out the villain was a coyote.

North Loop 43rd st
The 'Keep Austin Weird' campaign never mentions the State Mental Hospital.

Parlor Monkey Wrench 110 E. North Loop
Feral parrots, not to be confused with the feral parrots of Chicago's Hyde Park.

Shipe Park 44th & Ave G
People in this neighborhood think they can play guitar.

Flightpath 5011 Duval
Huff is the patron saint of Hyde Park. He spent the latter years of his life writing a poem a day (usually pretty rambling) which he would try to trade for free coffee at local businesses. He hadn't held a real job for years. Some call him a useless bum. For others (mostly forty-year-old bartenders who have spent decades of their lives sitting on the curb and drinking 40 ounce Lone Stars) Huff is a role model.

Quack's 411 E 43rd
Bruce's old house. We miss you, Bruce!

SpiderHouse 2908 Fruth St.
If you're a hipster working in food service, you can laugh openly at your customers.

Parlor 43rd & Guadalupe
Bruce's old house. We miss you, Bruce!

Ken's Donuts 2820 Guadalupe
Ken's Donuts

Oat Waffles 617 W 29th
Oat Waffles

Kerbey Lane 2606 Guadalupe
Kerbey Lane

Hole In the Wall 2538 Guadalupe
To the west of Austin the Hill Country is filled with cold springs. Everyone has a favorite, secret swimming hole. But they will never tell you where it is. In summer heat, cold water is worth its weight in gasoline.

Pipes Plus 2418 Guadalupe
Austin's Pizza

Austin's Pizza 2324 Guadalupe
Austin's Pizza

West Austin Park JN4
Magnolia 2304 Lake Austin
At the full moon, hippies gather under the MoJo arc overpass to play drums and smoke pot.

Book People 603 N Lamar
Book People

Barton Springs
Late at night, kids gather on the Lamar Street. Pedestrian bridge. They steal electricity for their amps and quizzers. The shows are seldom advertised.

South Lamar
I was arrested here, but the war continued.

South First
The city offices fill seven floors, all devoted to waterfished zoning issues.

La Mexicana 1924 S 1st
When you're in South Austin remember what they say, 'Amie, she don't go through, but Mary goes all the way.'

Cafe Caffeine 909 W. Mary
To keep the character of the neighborhood, all new construction must be a \$1.4 million McKimmon shaped like an aluminum shoebox.

Maria's Taco Xpress 2529 S. Lamar
Maria's Taco Xpress

Kerbey Lane 2700 S. Lamar
Kerbey Lane

Austin's Pizza 1817 S. Lamar
I know a guy who used to live in a cave in the Barton Creek Greenbelt. His body is covered in scars from brown recluse bites.

San Antonio
San Antonio is much larger than Austin, yet no one ever mentions it.

Omni
Omni

B.D. Riley's
B.D. Riley's

Beer Specialists!!
Beer Specialists!!

Improv Fiction Contest!!
Improv Fiction Contest!!

The Nerds Are Our Future
A Space Squid Charity Event

Free Appetizers!!
Free Appetizers!!

29th st.
Everybody hates John Aielli, public radio's morning DJ. He hables all morning about wassps nesting in the eaves of his house, drooling in his excuse for music you have ever heard. Yet it's better than commercial radio.

The Drag
Charles Whitman, the world's most famous sniper, killed 15 and wounded 31. Astrinities are very proud of this.

Beerland 711.5 Red River
A fountain with giant mer-horses.

Red Room 710 Red River
SpyKids2 was shot here! Oooooo!

EMO'S 603 Red River
The Civil War memorial does not mention slavery, it even suggests the South should have won!

Las Manitas 211 Congress
Entertainment district name for police violence.

River
People drive 15 miles to jog a mile along the lake.

EMO'S 603 Red River
The murals of East Austin are famous for their Mothra iconography. Behind the taco factory, Mothra shares space with Jesus. Nearby at the Resto, Mothra is serenaded by Madonna.

Manor Mi Madres 2201 Manor Rd
They say that San Antonio is the northernmost city in Mexico. East Austin is the northernmost outpost of San Antonio.

Starseeds E 31st St. AT 1-35 N
Starseeds

Los Altos 3301 N-135
Los Altos

Tame House 5003 Airport
Tame House

Mrs Johnson's 4909 Airport
Mrs Johnson's

Point of Interest
Space Squid Purveyor
Coffee Shop
Head shop
Public Pool
Donuts
Pizza
Music Club
Breakfast Tacos
24hr. Breakfast Tacos

Sixth Street
They call this a lake, even though it's long and narrow and the turbulent current routinely sucks people to their death.

Town Lake
Town Lake

Omni
Omni

B.D. Riley's
B.D. Riley's

Beer Specialists!!
Beer Specialists!!

Free Appetizers!!
Free Appetizers!!

Improv Fiction Contest!!
Improv Fiction Contest!!

Complete Austin Guide

Everything you wanted to know about the freakiest city in Texas from the people who make the freakiest zine in Austin.

www.spacesquid.com

In every issue of SPACE SQUID:

- THRILLING short fiction!!
- CUTTING EDGE cartoons!!
- INSIGHTFUL squid grrrl interviews!!
- MIND BENDING puzzles!!
- SENSUAL illustrations!!

www.spacesquid.com

Play Tic Tac Toe with a Squid!

Start here and pick a square!

A7	B4	A7	A1
B4	B4		
A7	B4	A7	
A2	A4	C8	
A3	C1		
A5	A6	A7	A6
	B2	C7	C4
	A5	B9	

B1	B2	B3
B4	B5	B6
B7	B8	B9
C1	C2	C3
C4	C5	C6
C7	C8	C9
B1	B3	
B2	A1	A2
B2	C6	A2
B7	C3	C9
	C2	B7

B1	B3
C6	
C5	
C4	
C7	
B1	B3
C6	
C5	
C4	
C7	

Connect the dots to reveal a sci-fi Grand Master!