

SELF GUIDED RIDE SUGGESTIONS

Ft Worth Water Gardens ----- 35 miles - 40 min

The Fort Worth Water Gardens, built in 1974, is located on the south end of downtown Fort Worth between Houston and Commerce Streets next to the Fort Worth Convention Center. The 4.3 acre Water Gardens were designed by noted New York architects Philip Johnson and John Burgee and were dedicated to the City of Fort Worth by the Amon G. Carter Foundation.

The urban park is frequently billed as a "cooling oasis in the concrete jungle" of downtown. Its focal points are three pools of water and a terraced knoll, which helps to shield the park from the rest of the City. Interstate 30 was relocated from its former site immediately adjacent to the Water Gardens, making the south end of the park quieter. The park now sits adjacent to Lancaster Avenue, recently landscaped and prepared for redevelopment.

The quiet, blue meditation pool is encircled with cypress trees and towering walls that are covered in thin plane of water that cascades almost 90 degrees down to the sunken blue water feature. The sound of the water on the walls evokes thoughts of a gentle rain shower.

The aerating pool features multiple illuminated spray fountains under a canopy of large oak trees. The main attraction of the Water Gardens is the active pool which has water cascading 38 feet down terraces and steps into a small pool at the bottom. The active pool experience was built for people to walk down the terraced steps and experience the power, sounds and motion of water crashing around them.

It was temporarily closed to the public after four people died there on June 16, 2004. Three children and one adult drowned after one of the children fell in the pool. The water was unusually deep due to a recirculation pump malfunction and heavy rains. The park was reopened on March 4, 2007 after being made safer by reducing the depth of the main pool from 9 ft to 2 ft.

Part of the film Logan's Run was filmed in the active pool at the Water Gardens in July 1975. The pool is also featured briefly at the end of the 1979 TV adaptation of The Lathe of Heaven.

Directions to the Water Gardens

From the convention center get on Hwy 121 headed south and west toward Ft Worth. When reaching Loop 820 stay on Loop 820 to Interstate 30. Travel West on I-30 and exit 15A to W. Lancaster Ave. The Water gardens are located between Commerce and Houston Streets, to the north of Lancaster St.



