

SELF GUIDED RIDE SUGGESTIONS

Texas Ranger Hall of Fame & Museum (Waco TX)

OUR LOCATION

Take I-35 to Waco; the museum is located adjacent at Exit 335-B (University Parks Drive). Follow the signs.

This is about 115 miles to the south of the Convention Center

Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum
The Official Historical Center
of the Texas Rangers™

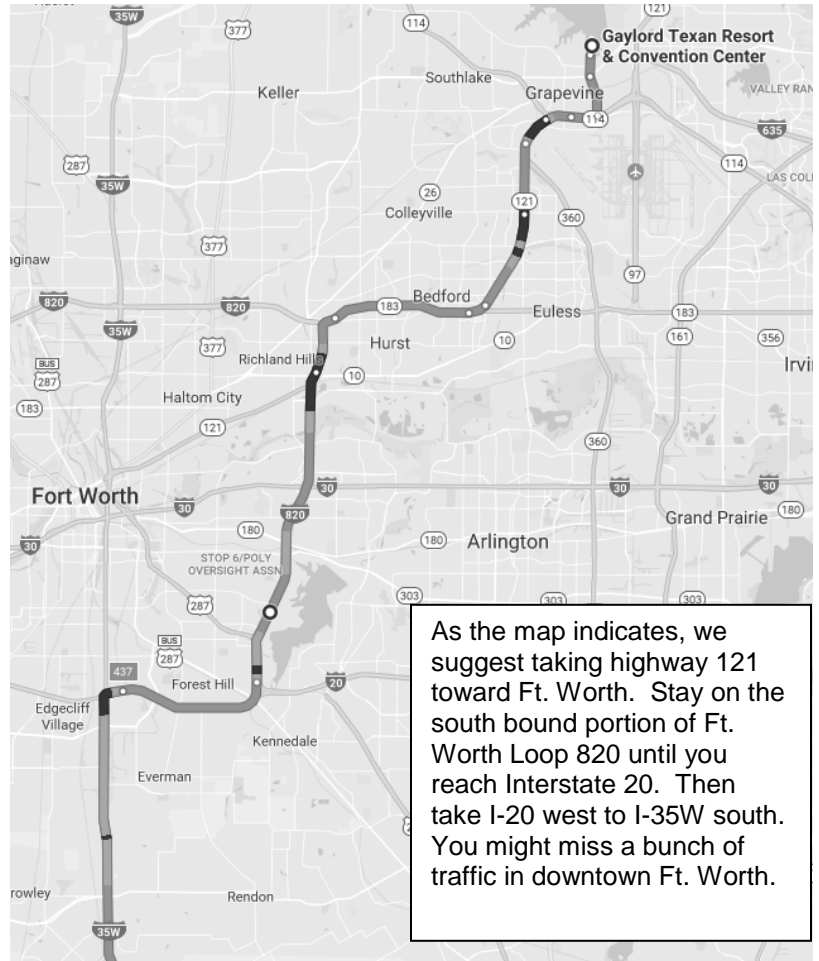
Museum Hours - Monday thru Sunday
Opens 9 am - Last Guest Admitted at 4:30 pm
Admissions & Reservations Info:254-750-8631

Admission Fees

Adults: \$7.00
Children (6-12): \$3.00
Children under 6 free
Seniors (60+): \$6.00
Military (with ID): \$6.00

Message from the Director

The Texas Ranger is one of the most cherished symbols of the Lone Star State, a positive and enduring icon of Texas and America. Many families take immense pride in having a relative who was, or is, a Texas Ranger. Past and present ranks include Texans of Hispanic, Anglo-European, African, American Indian and Asian ancestry.



We who serve at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum find our mission a source of inspiration. It is an opportunity to live daily with what I like to call the "Ranger Ideal." At its core, the Ranger Ideal is respect for what our conscience tells us is right, a dedication to the common good above self, and the belief that an individual "in the right" can succeed in the face of overwhelming odds.

Some Rangers died with glory at the Alamo while others were wounded or died in anonymity at now forgotten places. Many of their names and deeds have been lost to history, but Texas is their legacy. It would not exist without their sacrifice. The outstanding Rangers of the 20th century honored this code. Like the Lone Ranger of fiction, most avoided publicity and acclaim. They faced off against mobs and prison riots, gave their lives rescuing children, defused armed standoffs and trained those who would follow. In those few instances when political action degraded their ranks, or took away their right to use the title of Texas Ranger, many continued to serve the common good in the Ranger tradition.

True to tradition, their outfits include boots and cowboy hats, most own Colt pistols, and they still wear circle-star badges made from Mexican coins. Their strengths remain their exceptional skills, perseverance, honor and dedication. I've been privileged to meet many Texas Rangers and know a few well. They are unquestionably among the finest law enforcement officers in the world. They love their state and its people, respect its pioneering traditions, and work very long hours to protect the public. Their primary mission is to investigate major crimes and assist local law enforcement agencies. Like all officers of the law, Texas Rangers face individuals most of us would prefer didn't exist -- pedophiles, murderers, serial killers, rapists and corrupt public servants. The news that Texas Rangers are on a case sometimes brings a quick confession or surrender -- as in the recent case of the "Railroad Serial Killer." Like their colleagues, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, The Texas Rangers have a deserved reputation for bringing criminals to justice. When the cases are solved, and the media arrives, the Texas Rangers traditionally step back and give local officers the spotlight— remarkably like that other Ranger, the fictional masked man with the silver bullets. "Wannabe" Texas Rangers, dreaming of fame and acclaim, just don't get it.

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame was a regular stop for dignitaries visiting President Bush's ranch in nearby Crawford. Heads of state and Federal officials were visibly impressed when introduced to "a real Texas Ranger." They requested autographs and treasured Texas Ranger pins above far more expensive souvenirs of America.

The "Ranger Ideal" is alive and well in the 21st century. Preserving Texas Ranger history, and honoring distinguished Rangers is what the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum is all about.

We hope you will visit us when you are in the Waco area.

