

## Insider's Guide to

# SAN ANTONIO

**The city of San Antonio** Remember the Alamo! But don't forget about everything else there is to see and do in San Antonio. The old mission/fortress in the center of town is the most visited site in Texas, but it's not the only destination here. From the towering Tower of the Americas to the city's famed River Walk, you'll find plenty of entertainment options in tony San Antonio.

For the upcoming trade show, we've put together the *Sonnhalter Insider's Guide to San Antonio*. It's our way of helping you cut through the clutter to find the city's best restaurants, shows and sights.

We asked some of our friends in the Lone Star state for their recommendations on the best places to sample some of the city's cuisine—and not just its delicioso Tex-Mex. We wanted those secret locales that only the locals know about. Because at Sonnhalter, we not only like to get our hands dirty...we also like to get them greasy.

So, when you're not convening at the convention center during the show, make sure you get out and get a real taste of San Antonio.

### Downtown/River Walk

#### Biga on the Banks

New American  
(210) 225-0722  
www.Biga.com

An elegant respite from the "tourist traps" downriver. Legendary chef-owner Bruce Auden lures "business" types and "out-of-towners" with artistic plates and pitch-perfect service.

#### Boudros

Texas Bistro  
(210) 224-8484  
www.Boudros.com

It's contemporary cuisine with a cutting edge featuring the flavor of its regional heritage with a distinctive menu of Texas and southwestern specialties.

#### Casa Rio

Mexican  
(210) 225-6718  
www.Casa-Rio.com

The first restaurant on The San Antonio River Walk—founded in 1946. Featuring great Mexican Food and one of the best River Walk locations in San Antonio.

#### The County Line

BBQ  
(210) 229-1941  
www.CountyLine.com

Beefy portions of Texas slow-smoked BBQ—succulent brisket, ribs, sausage, chicken and even peppered turkey breast—all served at ridiculously low prices.

#### Dick's Last Resort

Pub Food  
(210) 224-0026  
www.DicksLastResort.com

Hot food, cold beer & sassy service on the San Antonio River Walk. Located in the basement (and former morgue) of the Historic Nix Hospital. Live music every night.

#### Fig Tree

Continental, European  
(210) 224-1976  
www.FigTreeRestaurant.com

One of the most elegant entries along the River Walk (and costly), this restaurant resides in a 19th-century residence in historic La Villita.

#### Iron Cactus

Mexican  
(210) 224-9835  
www.IronCactus.com

The Iron Cactus blends integral Mexican attributes with a progressive technique to create unique and flavorful dishes. Named one of the top ten tequila bars in the country featuring over 80 selections of tequila from Mexico and specializes in a variety of margaritas and tequila drinks unique to Texas.

#### La Paloma

Mexican  
(210) 212-0566  
www.PalomaRiverWalk.com

Enjoy delicious Mexican Continental cuisine with a beautiful view of the River Walk. Located one block away from the Alamo in the heart of San Antonio.

#### Little Rhein Steak House

Steak House  
(210) 225-2111  
www.LittleRheinSteakhouse.com

Located in La Villita, the Little Rhein Steak House is recognized for its USDA steaks, expansive wine list and rustic charm. Renowned movie stars, musicians, athletes, political leaders and local celebrities have relished the Little Rhein dining experience since 1967.

#### Ristorante Paesanos

European, Italian  
(210) 227-2782  
www.PaesanosRiverwalk.com

Breaking the boundaries of traditional Italian cuisine to explore modern Mediterranean specialties. Legendary "Shrimp Paesano" is almost as famous as the Alamo.

#### Schilo's Delicatessen

Deli, Sandwiches  
(210) 223-6692  
www.Schilos.com

On the scene since 1917, this deli landmark is famous for overstuffed sandwiches, soups, strudels and other "German-style" delicacies. Famous homemade Root Beer, Split Pea Soup, Reubens and Hot Mustard.

#### Zuni Grill

American  
(210) 227-0864  
www.ZuniGrill.com

Zuni Grill features Southwest cuisine that's an eclectic blend of South Texas favorites, grilled specialties, the freshest ingredients, and award-winning chefs. The best Cactus Margarita in town!

## North

### Chris Madrid's

Greasy-Spoon Burger Joint  
(210) 735-3552  
www.ChrisMadrids.com

Huge, greasy burgers and fresh cut fries are the forte of this 30-plus-year-old San Antonio institution. Six varieties and two sizes, regular and Macho size. Closed Sundays.

### Dough Pizzeria Napoletana

Italian  
(210) 979-6565  
www.DoughPizzeria.com

This husband/wife team went to Naples, Italy to really learn pizza. Wait is always 20-45 minutes, and worth it!

### La Fonda on Main

Mexican  
(210) 733-0621  
www.LaFondaOnMain.com

San Antonio's oldest Mexican restaurant (opened 1932). Great patio dining decorated with Christmas lights.

### Los Barrios

American (Regional)  
(210) 732-6017  
4223 Blanco Rd SAT 78212

The family traditions run deep at this authentic Tex-Mex restaurant. It's not fancy, but the solid service, reasonable prices and a fun atmosphere with roving "mariachis" make this place a must visit.

### Lulu's Bakery and Café

American Diner  
(210) 222-9422  
www.LulusCafeInSA.com

Spotlighted on Man vs. Food and home to the 3' 1/2-lb. cinnamon roll and a 48-oz. chicken-fried steak known as "The Police Chief Special."  
Open 24/7.

### The Lodge Restaurant of Castle Hills

American (New)  
(210) 349-8466  
www.TheLodgeRestaurant.com

Prepare to be blown away by this outstanding New American eatery tucked inside an old mansion where chef Jason Dady rolls out exceptional cuisine.

## Southtown/King William Historic District

### Rosario's

American (Regional)  
(210) 223-1806  
www.Rosariosa.com

The "loud and fun" atmosphere is a Rosario's trademark as is the unique Latino art collection, Tex-Mex specialties and live music on the weekends. Excellent margaritas and a beer drink called Michelada.

### Taco Haven

Mexican  
(210) 533-2171  
www.TacoHaven.info

Great casual taco place for lunch, dinner and even breakfast—a local hang out.

### The Guenther House

Breakfast/Lunch  
(210) 227-1061  
www.GuentherHouse.com

This Southtown café on the Pioneer Flour Mills estate whips up superb baked goods... huge cinnamon rolls and fresh biscuits.

### The Monterey

Pub Food  
(210) 745-2581  
www.TheMontereySA.com

This gastropub in Southtown, just blocks from the city center, opens in late afternoon, but holds its audience until after midnight with a quirky but well-executed menu.

## River Walk Museum Reach

### Il Sogno

European, Italian  
(210) 223-3900  
www.AtPearl.com

Superb Italian fare in "industrial-chic" digs at the historic Pearl Brewery. Voted tops for "service" in San Antonio.

### La Gloria

Mexican, Small Plates  
(210) 267-9040  
www.LaGlorialcehouse.com

Tasty, authentic Mexican street food is served in a casual, airy ambiance at the Pearl Brewery complex.

## Market Square

### Mi Tierra Café & Bakery

Mexican  
(210) 225-1262  
www.MiTierraCafe.com

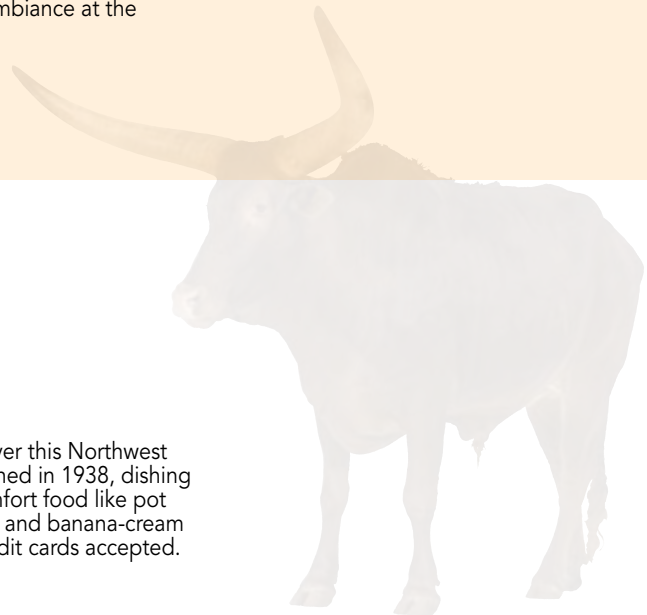
Open 24 hours-a-day and festooned with Christmas lights year-round, Mi Tierra is a little loco and a lot of fun. They've got strolling musicians, a huge selection of Tex-Mex dishes and the coldest beer in the Mercado.

## Northwest

### DeWese's Tip Top Café

American  
(210) 732-0191  
www.TipTopCafe.com

Sentimentalists swoon over this Northwest "step-back-in-time" opened in 1938, dishing out classic American comfort food like pot roast, chicken-fried steak and banana-cream pie. Closed Mon. No credit cards accepted.



## Nightlife and Bars

### **Bombay Bicycle Club**

[www.bombaybicycleclubs.com](http://www.bombaybicycleclubs.com)

### **Boudro's** (Prickly Pear Margaritas)

[www.boudros.com](http://www.boudros.com)

### **Drink Texas Bar**

[www.drinktexas.com](http://www.drinktexas.com)

### **The Esquire Tavern and Bar** (oldest bar in San Antonio)

[www.esquiretavern-sa.com](http://www.esquiretavern-sa.com)

### **Howl at the Moon** (known for their dueling pianos)

[www.howlatthemoon.com](http://www.howlatthemoon.com)

### **Jim Cullum's Landing** (one of the oldest jazz clubs in the US)

[www.landing.com](http://www.landing.com)

### **La Tuna**

[www.latunagrill.com](http://www.latunagrill.com)

### **Laugh Out Loud Comedy Club**

[www.lolsanantonio.com](http://www.lolsanantonio.com)

### **Liberty Bar**

[www.liberty-bar.com](http://www.liberty-bar.com)

### **Menger Hotel Bar** (historic, possibly haunted hotel)

[www.mengerhotel.com/san-antonio-dining](http://www.mengerhotel.com/san-antonio-dining)

### **Ocho Lounge at Hotel Havana** (known for great décor)

[www.havanasanantonio.com/ocho.shtml](http://www.havanasanantonio.com/ocho.shtml)

### **On the Half Shell**

[www.onthehalfshell.net](http://www.onthehalfshell.net)

### **VBar at the Hotel Valencia**

[www.hotelvalencia-riverwalk.com/dining/vbar.php](http://www.hotelvalencia-riverwalk.com/dining/vbar.php)

### **Waxy O'Connor's Irish Pub**

[www.waxyconnors.com](http://www.waxyconnors.com)

### **Zinc Bistro and Wine Bar** (Extensive wine and the Zinc Burger)

[www.zincwine.com](http://www.zincwine.com)

## San Antonio Sightseeing

### **Blue Star Contemporary Art Center**

[www.bluestarart.org](http://www.bluestarart.org)

### **Buckhorn Museum & Saloon**

[www.buckhornmuseum.com](http://www.buckhornmuseum.com)

### **La Villita Historic Arts Village**

[www.lavillita.com](http://www.lavillita.com)

### **Market Square**

[www.marketsquaresa.com](http://www.marketsquaresa.com)

### **Mission Trail**

[www.nps.gov/saan](http://www.nps.gov/saan)

### **Natural Bridge Caverns**

[www.naturalbridgecaverns.com](http://www.naturalbridgecaverns.com)

### **Rio San Antonio Cruises**

[www.riosanantonio.com](http://www.riosanantonio.com)

### **San Antonio Botanical Gardens**

[www.sabot.org](http://www.sabot.org)

### **San Antonio Museum of Art**

[www.samuseum.org](http://www.samuseum.org)

### **San Antonio River Walk**

[www.thesanantonioriverwalk.com](http://www.thesanantonioriverwalk.com)

### **The Alamo**

[www.thealamo.org](http://www.thealamo.org)

### **The Alamodome**

[www.alamodome.com](http://www.alamodome.com)

### **Tower of the Americas**

[www.toweroftheamericas.com](http://www.toweroftheamericas.com)

### **Witte Museum**

[www.wittemuseum.org](http://www.wittemuseum.org)

## Taxis

### **Mac Trans Inc**

(210) 670-8855

### **National Cab**

(210) 434-4444

### **Star Cab Co**

(210) 444-1111

### **United Cab**

(210) 444-2222

### **Yellow Cab**

(210) 222-2222

## Limousine Services

### **A-1 Limousine & Sedan**

(210) 979-2922

### **Concert Limousine Service**

(210) 432-8855

### **Elegant Limo and Charter**

(210) 222-2991

### **VIP Limousine**

(210) 359-1115

**s nnhalter**  
Not Afraid To Get Our Hands Dirty™

