



Austin is truly a city with heart and soul. It brims with both southern tradition and quirky eccentricity. The area is politically charged and culturally rich. A high-tech, big city meets a low-key, college town. A city far from ordinary, it's the kind of place where you check your worries at the city limits sign, trade in suits for something a bit more casual and prepare for experiences you'll find only in Austin. Below is a listing of recent acknowledgments and accolades that Austin has received from the news online and print media, recent studies, and public opinion polls.

ECONOMY

- **Forbes calls Austin America's Number 1 "boom town"**, based on recent U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics growth and demographic data. *Forbes Magazine* (July 2011)
- **Austin was ranked the 5th U.S. city with the most healthy employment outlook.** According to the survey, job prospects appear to be the strongest in financial activities, manufacturing, wholesale / retail, government, and professional / business services. *bizjournals.com* (Sept. 2011)
- **Austin placed among America's 20 Geekiest Cities**, based upon the high percentage of workers with jobs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. *Forbes Online* (Aug. 2011)
- **Austin was picked as the nation's most progressive and proactive entrepreneurial centers.** *Entrepreneur.com* (July 2011)
- **Austin is ranked number 10 among America's 20 Can-Do Capitals**, based on sustainability, livability, transportation, infrastructure, and business development. *Newsweek Online* (Sept. 2011)
- **Austin is being called the best place to start a career.** Offering the widest range of opportunities for men and women getting started in their careers. Researchers compiled the rankings from various U.S. Census Bureau data. *bizjournals.com* (June 2011)
- **Austin leads the nation in small-business vitality.** Austin is the U.S. market that is most conducive to the creation and development of small businesses, according to the latest rankings. *The Business Journals online* (April 2011)
- **Austin was named in the list of the 10 Most Popular Cities for College Grad migration**, based on 2010 Census information. *Yahoo Finance Online* (Jan. 2011)

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EDUCATION

- **The University of Texas ranks 45th in academic reputation among the top national universities and 13th among the public schools,** in the 2012 survey of undergraduate programs by *U.S. News & World Report magazine* (2012)
- **At the graduate level, 43 University of Texas programs rank in the top 10 nationally and 51 others rank in the top 25** in the 2012 survey of undergraduate programs by *U.S. News & World Report magazine* (2012)

FOOD / ENTERTAINMENT

- **Austin is a Cooking Light Best Cities Awards Winner** - Ranked among the top 20 American cities that best fit the Cooking Light philosophy to eat smart, be fit, and live well. *Cooking Light.com* (June 2011)
- **8th best vegetarian-friendly large city** with honorable mention to Austin as the birthplace of the first Whole Foods market and to many of the other vegan and vegetarian dining options available. www.helpinganimals.com/Travel-Vegcities.asp
- **Austin ranked number 2 among the Top 10 College Towns for Film Geeks: Movie Cities for Film Fans** due to the diverse filming locations, a huge pool of crew and talent, and rich Indie movie fan culture. *Campus Corner.com*
- **Voted among the 10 Best Golf Cities** by a reader's poll in combination with Golf Magazine and the National Golf Foundation. *Golf.com* (June 2011)
- **Austin is listed among Forbes' best weekend vacation cities.** The article references Austin's bustling live music performances as well as having "one of the country's hottest food scenes." *Forbes Magazine* (Oct. 2011)
- **Austin is number 7 among the top 10 emerging restaurant markets in the U.S,** according to a survey by *QSR magazine* and *Pitney Bowes Business Insight* (Jan. 2011)
- **Austin ranked number 10 among the Best Nightlife Scenes in the USA.** *USNews Online* (2011)
- **Austin ranked Number 4 on the 2011 Best Places for Military Retirement** with high scores for federal employment, military skill-based jobs, accessible housing, and no state tax on military retirement pay. *Military.com* (Nov. 2011)
- **Austin was named the second best place for dating in the nation** using data such as: available singles, fun things to do, and affordability. The publication called Austin a "hip oasis hidden in the heart of Texas". *Vavoom.com* (Feb. 2011)
- **Austin is officially a top pet vacation spot** according to a listing of cities with pet-accommodating transportation, parks, attractions, stores, and dining. *DogFriendly.com* (July 2011)
- **Austin was placed among the Top 10 Cities for Single Women.** Austin is profiled as a place for a high-energy lifestyle with countless professional and personal opportunities. *singlemindedwomen.com* (June 2011)
- **Austin placed among best U.S. cities for working mothers** due to positive scores in the following categories: women's earnings, cost of living, physicians, and low violent crime. *ForbesWoman* (Oct. 2011).
- **Austin ranked number 14 of the Fittest out of 100 in The Fittest and Fittest US Cities of 2011.** Ranks based on a survey of most and least active cities in America. *Menshealth.com* (July 2011)
- **Austin is ranked number 1 among RelocateAmerica's Top 100 Places to Live in 2011.** Factors such as employment, education, community leadership, overall quality of life, and economic stability are strongly considered for this category. relocateamerica.com (Aug. 2011)
- **Austin placed among the 10 Best Places to Buy a Home in 2011** based on positive indicators like job growth, affordability, dining, and overall beauty. *Walletpop, MSNBC.com* (Jan. 2011)
- According to a recent study, **Austin is the 4th most social media savvy city in the U.S.** Social networks studied include Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, LinkedIn, Friendster, Flickr, LiveJournal, hi5 and Flixster. *Huffington Post online* (May 2011)
- **Austin placed 3rd in the "Youngest Cities" ranking.** The list is based on how youthful residents feel, not their actual age. Cities where residents report lots of exercise and little smoking topped the list. *Real Age.com* (April 2011)

LIFESTYLE / ENVIRONMENT

- **Austin placed 2nd in the Top Eco-Friendly Cities in the United States** because of its solar power manufacturing and the park and greenspace dedication. *Wanderfly.com* (Aug. 2011)
- **Austin has earned its 11th place ranking among America's Best Bike cities** for its segregated bike lanes, municipal bike racks, bike boulevards, smart savvy bike shops, and support for a vibrant and diverse bike culture. *Bicycling.com* (2011)
- **Austin ranks 12th among the 50 best places to live in America.** Criteria included social and dining scenes, education stats, and overall quality of life. *Businessweek and Bloomberg* (Sept. 2011)

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