

WATERWAYS

THE INSIDER'S LIFESTYLE GUIDE TO WEST AUSTIN

Local Escapes

PLUS: HEAD FOR THE HILLS • STAYCATIONS
INTERNATIONAL CUISINE • AND MORE





DESTINATIONS NEAR + FAR

DREAMY LOCAL HOTEL STAYCATIONS > THE INTERNATIONAL CUISINE
SCENE IN AUSTIN > MUST-HAVE TRAVEL ITEMS FOR YOUR NEXT
GETAWAY > "HIDDEN GEM" HOTELS OF THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY



FOOD PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF JUSTINE'S BRASSERIE



STAYCATION ALL I EVER WANTED

DREAMY LOCAL HOTELS OFFER STAYCATIONS WITHOUT THE TRAVEL HASSLES

By Cindy Brzostowski

Antsy to get out of the house? Want to go somewhere to recharge for a bit? If you answered a wholehearted "yes" to both questions but felt like saying a big "no thanks" to planning a big trip, a staycation may be just what the concierge ordered. All you have to do is take your pick from the many hotels across Austin.

From a luxurious five-star stay to a more casual escape in the heart of downtown, here are some choice options for your in-town "get-away." These hotels are also recommended for any visiting friends or family who prefer lodging with a little more character than your standard chain hotel.



Otis Hotel

THIS PAGE: PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF THE OTIS HOTEL; OPPOSITE PAGE: ORIGIN HOTEL; NICK SIMONITE





Thompson Austin



THE OTIS HOTEL

Adjacent to the UT campus, The Otis Hotel is for those who love a bit of luxury without the pretentiousness. The comfortable, tastefully decorated rooms are the perfect place to rest your body, and each one has a vinyl record player. It's not just a gimmick, either, as the hotel has its own "vinyl ambassador" who can help you pick out a selection of records to enjoy during your stay, whether you want to bliss out or rock out.

Another big plus of being a guest here: easy access to the 21+ rooftop pool and lounge. One of the best times to visit is during the Golden Hour happy hour, extending from one hour before to one hour after sunset Monday through Thursday.

1901 San Antonio St. | otishotel.com

LONE STAR COURT

At Lone Star Court, a retro aesthetic meets modern comforts and convenience. You may be in the middle of The Domain, but it feels like you've left the city entirely thanks to the resort-style courtyard, dipping pool and fire pits. In true Austin fashion, you'll be treated to some live music every weekend, and there are even food trucks on the property. >>



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHLOE DAVENPORT; INTERIORS BY BENT BENSON; NIC WENIGMONT; ARTISTRY BY LONE STAR COURT; NIC WENIGMONT







Lone Star Court

Depending on which of the funky, colorful rooms you choose, you can expect some fun touches such as a SMEG retro refrigerator, clawfoot soaking tub and wraparound porch with rocking chairs. It's pet-friendly, too. [10901 Domain Dr. | lonestarcourt.com](http://10901DomainDr.com)

THOMPSON AUSTIN

Situated in the center of downtown, Thompson Austin opened its doors in January, beckoning those who love their staycations with a healthy dose of refinement. The rooms are chic with their sumptuous interior design, and the food is enticing with culinary experiences driven by James Beard Award-winning chef Mashama Bailey and business partner Johnno Morisano.

You'll be set for fitness, too. An expansive wellness center has a golf simulator and private workout rooms. And after workouts, you can settle into a private cabana with a refreshing cocktail in hand at the fourth-floor pool area.

506 San Jacinto Blvd.
thompsonhotels.com/hotels/texas/austin/thompson-austin

TOMMIE AUSTIN

Not to be confused with Thompson Austin, tommie Austin is located right next door. It's part of the same Hyatt hotel group but offers an entirely different experience. At the tommie, the rooms are smaller and more minimalist but also more affordable. You'll still get access to the amenities of Thompson Austin, including the pool, and enjoy the benefits of the prime downtown location.

If you're traveling alone or you like to spend most of your time exploring the area, the tommie is worth considering.

506 San Jacinto Blvd.
hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/texas/tommie-austin/auste



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