

6 Summer Day Trips to Take From Abilene, TX

With summer officially upon us, many Abilene residents are looking forward to getting outside and enjoying all of the beautiful sights that the great state of Texas has to offer. Yet, with gas prices on the rise, you're not alone if you're trying to avoid long road trips. The good news for Abilene residents is that there are plenty of fun and exciting destinations to explore within a short drive of the city that can make for the perfect summer day trip. Whether you're new to Abilene and you're not sure what there is to do nearby, or you're simply looking for new ideas for things to do this summer, keep reading as we explore some of the best day trips to take from Abilene, TX.

Visit Abilene State Park

Are you looking to spend the day enjoying the beauty of nature but you don't want to venture far from home? If so, a day trip to [Abilene State Park](#) may be a good fit. Founded in 1934 and located less than 30 minutes from the heart of Abilene, this hidden gem state park makes for the perfect day trip from Abilene. With close to 600 acres of fishing spots, lake views, and easy hiking trails, there is something here for everyone. For a staycation close to home, Abilene State Park also has a great campground, complete with 41 camper/tent sites, as well as cozy yurts for rent.

Experience Art and Culture in Lubbock

If you're willing to take a slightly longer road trip down Highway 84, Lubbock, TX, makes a great day trip for those with an interest in music history. Known for being the birthplace of famed rock 'n' roll legend Buddy Holly, the 2.5-hour drive from Abilene to Lubbock is worth it just for a visit to the [Buddy Holly Center](#). Not only does the Buddy Holly Center feature memorabilia highlighting this icon's legacy, but it also showcases the city's rich musical history. After exploring the Buddy Holly Center, music lovers will also enjoy the nearby West Texas Walk of Fame, which features a statue of Buddy Holly as well as plaques honoring other musicians from the region. Before heading home, you should also make sure to stop by [Lubbock Memorial Arboretum](#), which features 93 acres of walking paths amidst pristinely manicured gardens.

Take a Trip to The Fort Worth Zoo

Another great option for a day trip from Abilene is to take in the sights of the big city by visiting the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) metroplex. One of the most populous urban centers in Texas (second only to Houston), the DFW metro area offers plenty to see and do, including the historic [Fort Worth Zoo](#). Opened in 1909 and home to over 7,000 native and exotic animals, you'll quickly discover why the Fort Worth Zoo is consistently ranked one of the best in the nation, making it worth the 3-hour road trip from Abilene. While in town, make sure to stop by other must-see spots in the area, including the stunning Fort Worth Water Gardens, or [The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza](#), which chronicles the life and assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Enjoy a Day in The Water at Possum Kingdom State Park

If your perfect summer day involves swimming, boating, and taking in pristine lake views, consider taking a 90-minute drive northeast of Abilene to visit [Possum Kingdom State Park](#). With crystal clear blue waters perfect for swimming, boating, fishing, and scuba diving, as well as hundreds of miles of hiking and biking trails, this 1,500-acre state park has something to offer everyone. While Possum Kingdom is close enough to Abilene for a day trip, consider making a weekend of it by staying overnight in one of their [air-conditioned cabins](#), as this will give you more time to explore Possum Kingdom Lake's 300 miles of shoreline.

Take a Drive Across Regency Bridge

Another fun day trip option would be to visit Texas's only suspension bridge open to automobile traffic, just two hours southeast of Abilene. Regency Bridge in Mills County, Texas, known locally as the "Swinging Bridge," is a one-lane, 400-foot suspension bridge over the Colorado River. Crossing this bridge is a truly one-of-a-kind, exhilarating experience, but it's not for the faint of heart, as you will quickly discover how it got its nickname.

Stargaze at Fort Griffin State Historic Site

For something a little closer to home, consider spending the night stargazing at [Fort Griffin State Historic Site](#). Located just under an hour away from Abilene, Fort Griffin offers one of the best places in the region to take in the night sky, far from the light pollution of the city. Bring your

friends (and maybe a telescope), and you'll be blown away by everything you'll be able to see, including some of our closest celestial neighbors. Given the right conditions, you may even be able to get a glimpse of the Milky Way. If you arrive during the day, make sure you check out the historic 19th-century ruins located at Fort Griffin, as well as the state's official longhorn herd.

While there is [plenty for Abilene residents to explore](#) in their own city, Abilene is also centrally located near a variety of state parks, urban centers, and famous landmarks, making it easy to take day trips to explore some of the best cultural icons in Texas.

Of course, if you're new to Abilene, you may be unsure where the best places to live are. For some of the finest apartment homes in West Texas, consider checking out [redacted] Apartments. Not only is our community conveniently located just fifteen minutes from downtown, but our apartments also feature the high-end amenities you're looking for, including in-unit washer and dryer connections, plush carpeting, energy-efficient appliances, and granite countertops. Feel free to contact us today to learn more about our community and availability, as well as to schedule a tour.