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# A Visitor's Guide to Austin and The University of Texas



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## Shopping

As soon as you have found a place to live, you will need to furnish it with the basics for eating, sleeping, study, and relaxation.

### A Good Place to Start

Most students make an early trip to Wal-Mart or Target, which are general-purpose discount stores where you can get most of the things you need to set up housekeeping. They sell sheets, blankets, pillows, and towels; a great variety of cooking and eating supplies; appliances; cleaning supplies; office/school supplies; and many other things. The Super Wal-Mart stores also sell food; the regular Wal-Marts sell some sodas and snacks but not much for regular meals.

Wal-Mart Stores:

620 Lake Creek

1030 Norwood Park Blvd.

5017 W. Hwy 290

12900 N. I-35

Target Stores:

8601 Research Blvd.

2300 Ben White

5300 S. MoPac

6405 S. I-35

### Food Shopping: Major Supermarkets in Austin

**H-E-B:** Has a good selection of international foods and low prices. Located all around town, a great place to shop. The Hancock Center H-E-B on 41<sup>st</sup> St. is closest to UT.

**Central Market:** Has a great selection and variety of fresh produce, a wonderful fish selection, and many gourmet prepared foods. You can listen to

live music at the Central Market Café every Friday and Saturday from 6:30–9:00 P.M. at no charge.

**Fiesta:** Has low prices and many international items. There is just one store, on the I-35 eastside frontage road at 38-1/2 St., near the university.

**Whole Foods:** Has a great variety of organic fresh produce and prepared foods, but it is also more expensive. It was started in Austin and is very popular with local residents.

## Drugstore? Or Pharmacy?

American drugstores are “mini Wal-Marts.” They provide not only prescription medicines, but also over-the-counter medicines and health aides, personal hygiene products, household supplies, office supplies, toys, film, batteries, and even more food items. Popular drugstores (pharmacies) found throughout the Austin area are CVS and Walgreens. Many grocery stores, such as H-E-B and Randall’s, also have pharmacies. The pharmacist or chemist will be able to answer many questions about over-the-counter medicines and prescriptions—feel free to ask.

Prices vary widely for medicines. You can call ahead to check on prices before you buy your medicines. Asking for generic substitutes is a good way to save money on prescriptions.

## Convenience Stores

Many gas stations contain mini food markets. They are all over town, usually with names like Stop’N’Go, 7-Eleven, and Shopper’s Mart. They are easy places to pick up a few items such as fresh milk and ice, and many are open 24 hours. Their prices, however, are much higher than regular supermarkets, so you probably won’t want to do your major food shopping there.

## Mall Shopping

Barton Creek Square (south), 2901 S Capital of Texas Hwy, Austin 78746  
Highland Mall (central), 6001 Airport Blvd., Austin 78752 (closest to the UT campus)

Lakeline Mall (north), 11200 Lakeline Blvd, Austin 78613

Arboretum (north), 9607 Research Blvd, Austin 78759

The Domain (far north), 11410 Century Oaks Terrace, Suite 210, Austin 78758

## Banking

The following banks are located near the University of Texas. These banks do not require an SSN number to open an account; however, official identification in the form of a Texas State ID or Driver's License, Student ID, Passport, or Tax ID # is required.

University Federal Credit Union (ATMs located on campus)

[www.ufcu.org](http://www.ufcu.org), 467-8080, 2244 Guadalupe ("The Drag"), opposite west mall campus

UT students may open a savings account for a fee of \$6, or a checking account with a deposit of \$25.

Bank of America (ATMs located on campus)

[www.bankofamerica.com](http://www.bankofamerica.com), 397-2200, 501 Congress

Guaranty Federal

[www.bank.guarantygroup.com](http://www.bank.guarantygroup.com), 495-9411, 301 N. Congress

Wells Fargo

[www.wellsfargo.com](http://www.wellsfargo.com), 344-7000, 2104 Guadalupe

Bank One

[www.bankone.com](http://www.bankone.com), 479-5400, 504 Lavaca

Compass Bank  
321 W. 6<sup>th</sup> St. (at Guadalupe)  
421-5761  
[www.compass.web.com](http://www.compass.web.com)

## Conversion Measurements

### Length

1 centimeter	0.04 inches
1 meter	3.3 feet
1 meter	1.1 yards
1 kilometer	0.6 miles

### Weight

1 gram	0.035 ounces
1 kilogram	2.2 pounds

### Volume

1 milliliter	0.03 ounces
1 liter	1.06 quarts
1 liter	0.26 gallons

### Area

1 hectare	2.5 acres (10,000 m <sup>2</sup> )
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## Cooking Equivalents

### Dry Measure

¼ teaspoon	1.23 milliliters
½ teaspoon	2.46 milliliters
¾ teaspoon	3.7 milliliters
1 teaspoon	4.93 milliliters
1 tablespoon	14.79 milliliters
¼ cup	59.15 milliliters

½ cup	118.3 milliliters
1 cup	236.59 milliliters
2 cups or 1 pint	473.18 milliliters
4 cups or 1 quart	946.36 milliliters
4 quarts or 1 gallon	3.785 liters

### **Liquid Measure**

1 cup	0.236583 liter
1 pint	0.473167 liter
1 quart	0.946332 liter
1 gallon	3.785 liter

### **Food Equivalents**

Butter and margarine come in 1-pound boxes. There are usually 4 sticks in a box; each stick is 8 tablespoons, or 125 grams (1/4 pound).

1 cup all-purpose white flour is about 100 grams

1 cup granulated sugar is about 224 grams

### **Temperature Equivalents**

To convert Fahrenheit to Celsius, subtract 32 from the Fahrenheit number and take 5/9 of that number (or multiply by 0.555555).

Fahrenheit	Celsius	
32	0	Water Freezes
40	4.4	
50	10	
60	15.6	
70	21.1	
80	26.7	
90	32.2	
100	37.8	

110	43.3	
120	48.9	
130	54.4	
140	60	
150	65.6	
160	71.1	
170	76.7	
180	82.2	
190	87.8	
200	93.3	
212	100	Water Boils
250	121	
300	149	
350	177	
400	205	
450	233	
500	260	

## Some Basic Equivalents

The constant temperature of Barton Springs Pool is 68 degrees Fahrenheit, or 20 degrees Celsius. This is a comfortable air temperature, but a bit cool for swimming! However, Barton Springs is a true Austin experience if you are willing to try it.

Normal body temperature in Celsius is 37 degrees; in Fahrenheit it is 98.6 degrees.

## Phones

One of the cheapest ways to call your folks back home is to buy a calling card. There is a Web site where you can compare various phone cards:  
[www.iprepaidphonecards.com](http://www.iprepaidphonecards.com)

You can order a calling card online, using a credit card.

## Important Numbers to Remember

**911** Gets you immediate emergency assistance. Use only for real emergencies!

**311** Austin police non-emergencies (burglaries, vandalism, thefts), when the offender is no longer on the scene.

**1-411** Local directory assistance; 3 free calls per month, then you are charged for each one. If you press '1' to have the call completed to a given number, you will pay an additional charge.

**011** Must be dialed before the country code and number for overseas locations except Canada, unless you are using a phone card.

**900** If you dial a number that starts with 900 or 976, you will be charged an additional amount, depending on the business using that number. These are usually entertainment and information services; some of them may have adult content.

## Getting around Austin

### UT Shuttle Buses

The buses providing service for UT are called Shuttle Buses. They look like normal city buses but have a burnt orange stripe, a longhorn symbol on the front, and the routes are all letters, not numbers (FA = Forty Acres; IF = Intramural Field, etc.). Use of these buses is free for everyone. They do not run on as full a schedule as city buses, since they are available only when students are expected to need them; they do not run in-between semesters or on holidays.

The various service levels are:

### Full Service

Buses depart every 5–10 minutes on all routes from approximately 6:45 A.M.–7:00 P.M. and approximately every 35 minutes in the evening from 7:00–11:00 P.M.

### Sunday Service

Buses depart approximately every 20 to 70 minutes from 2:00–11:00 P.M.



### Registration Service (during registration period for students)

Buses depart approximately every 35 minutes on all routes from 6:45 A.M.–11:00 P.M.

### Finals and Summer Service

Buses depart approximately every 8–12 minutes on all routes from 6:45 A.M.–7:00 P.M.

and approximately every 35 minutes from 7:00–11:00 P.M.

### No School Service

Only Forty Acres, Disch Falk, and PRC buses run on a reduced schedule

### No Service

No UT Shuttle service

For more information go to:

<http://www.utexas.edu/parking/transportation/shuttle/> or call (512) 474 1200

Capital Metro buses operate to serve various areas in and around Austin. UT students and staff can ride free by showing a valid UT ID; however, their dependents need to pay 50 cents per ride or 25 cents with a bus pass. These bus pass booklets can be bought at the University Co-op, H-E-B, etc. Most routes are numbered as #1, #5, and #7.

Capital Metro also operates the Blue, Red, Gold, Silver, and Orange "Dillos" which are historic representations of trolley cars providing circular service to downtown Austin, the Capitol Complex, University of Texas campus, and free Park and Ride lots. The ride on the "Dillo" is free.

## Tips on Bus Travel:

- Always carry the exact change to pay for the bus ride, as the driver does not have the facility to make change
- The ride on Capital Metro is free on days marked as "Ozone days"
- Capital Metro buses are equipped with racks on the front to carry bicycles

## New Services Introduced by Capital Metro

**Texas Express** provides a chartered bus from UT Austin to Dallas (\$20 each way) and Houston (\$15 each way). It is available to all UT students, faculty, and staff.

- Outbound

Departure: Jester Center (21st & Speedway), Friday 4:00 P.M.

Arrival: Houston Metro Northwest Station Friday 7:00 P.M. and continues to

Arrival: Houston Downtown Greyhound Terminal 7:15 P.M.

Arrival: Dallas DART Mockingbird Station Friday 7:45 P.M. and continues to

Arrival: Dallas (Richardson) Greyhound Terminal 8:15 P.M.

- Inbound

Departure: Dallas DART Mockingbird Station Sunday 3:15 P.M.

Departure: Houston Metro Northwest Station Sunday 3:45 P.M.

Arrival: Jester Center Sunday 7:00 P.M.

- Tickets  
Tickets are available at the Jester Parking Garage (24/7), or at the PTS Office from 7:45 A.M.–4:45 P.M. until one hour before departure time on Friday. At that time, purchases may be made at Jester Center.
- Drop-off Locations

Houston — Metro Northwest  
Station  
18502 Hempstead Highway  
Houston, TX 77065

Dallas — Dart Mockingbird  
Station  
5465 E. Mockingbird Ln.  
Dallas, TX 75206

Houston — Downtown  
Greyhound Terminal  
2121 Main St.  
Houston, TX 77002

Dallas — Richardson Greyhound  
Terminal  
400 N. Greenville Ave.  
Richardson, TX 75081

## E-Bus

The Eating and Entertainment Bus (E-Bus) is a new service provided by Capital Metro in conjunction with PTS and the Austin Police Department. It is a late-night service that picks up passengers from the University of Texas at Austin, west campus, and Riverside areas and provides a safe alternative to driving to and from Austin's entertainment district during weekend evenings (Thursday-Saturday from 8:30 P.M.–3:30 A.M.). UT students, faculty, and staff may ride the E-Bus at no charge by presenting a UT ID upon entering the bus. Without a UT ID, the charge is 50 cents.

<http://www.utexas.edu/parking/transportation/ebus/>

Taxis usually cannot be hailed on the street, so one needs to call for pickup.

Some of the taxi services in Austin are:

Yellow-Checker Cab  
Company 472-1111

Roy's Taxi	482-0000
Austin Cab Company	478-2222
American Cab Company	452-9999

## Driver's License

To drive a car, one must have a valid Texas driver's license, which can be obtained from the Texas State Department of Public Safety (DPS) at any of the locations below:

6121 North Lamar	424-2076
13730 Research Road	335-8131
4719 South Congress	444-5241

The DPS offices are open Monday–Friday, 8:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Basic requirements for a driver's license are access to a car, knowledge of Texas driving regulations, and testable driving skills. This process can be initiated with either a social security number (SSN) or a letter of denial if you are not eligible for a Social Security card (e.g., F2, H4 visa holders).

To obtain a license you must:

- Take the Texas Driver's Handbook, from the State Department of Public Safety (DPS) and study the traffic laws. To view this online go to:  
<http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/ftp/forms/DLhandbook.pdf>
- Take the written and driving examinations at any DPS office. A photo ID, such as a passport, is necessary. There is a

\$16.00 fee, valid for three opportunities to take the test within a 90-day period. (TIP: The written exam is offered in English, German, Korean, Chinese, Russian, and Arabic. Language dictionaries are permitted when taking the exam.)

For more information on obtaining a license go to:

<http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/>

## Distances to Nearby Cities

(Miles and driving times, based on driving the speed limit on popular routes leaving from downtown):

Dallas	195	3 hrs 25 minutes
Ft. Worth	189	3 hrs 15 minutes
Fredericksburg	80	1 hr 45 minutes
Galveston	215	4 hrs 5 minutes
Houston	162	3 hrs 10 minutes
New Orleans	509	9 hrs 10 minutes
San Antonio	79	1 hr 20 minutes
South Padre Is.	366	6 hrs 54 minutes

## Names of Local Roads

Austinites call many of their roads by two names. Here are some popular ones:

Guadalupe The Drag

Loop 1 Mo-Pac (named for the Missouri-Pacific Railroad, which used to run down the tracks in the middle of the highway; the state of Missouri is abbreviated "MO")

Loop 360 Capital of Texas Hwy

US 183 Research Blvd., Bell Blvd., Anderson Lane, Ed Bluestein Blvd.

RM 2222 Bull Creek Road, Northland Dr., Koenig Lane, US 290 East

RM 2244 Bee Caves Rd.  
Texas 71 Ben White Blvd., US 290 West  
Dean Keeton 26<sup>th</sup> St.  
Windsor Road 24<sup>th</sup> St.  
MLK (Martín Luther King) 19<sup>th</sup> St.  
Enfield Rd. 15<sup>th</sup> St.  
Cesar Chavez 1<sup>st</sup> St.

The north-south streets in downtown Austin are named for rivers in Texas: Río Grande, Nueces, San Antonio, Guadalupe, Lavaca, Colorado, Brazos, San Jacinto, Trinity, Neches, Red River, Sabine. To look up addresses and directions go to [maps.google.com](https://maps.google.com).

## Austin Weather

Below are the average high and low temperatures per month (in Fahrenheit) and the average monthly precipitation (in inches). Snow is very rare in Austin, so the precipitation is almost entirely rain.

If you are arriving in August, you can be reassured that you have seen Austin at the hottest, and conditions will gradually improve!

Month	Average High	Average Low	Precipitation
January	60	40	1.89
February	65	44	1.99
March	73	51	2.14
April	79	58	2.51
May	85	65	5.03
June	91	71	3.81
July	95	73	1.97
August	96	73	2.31
September	90	69	2.91
October	81	60	3.97
November	70	49	2.68
December	62	42	2.44

## Basic Facts about Austin

Population (2003)	687,708
Median Age in Years	31.1
Average Annual Household Income	\$80,873
Median Home Value	\$140,558

## Special Things You Should Know about Austin

**Bats:** Austin has the largest urban bat colony in North America. Every night, from March to November, about 1,500,000 Mexican free-tail bats take off in search of insects from under the Congress Avenue Bridge. There is a special bat-watching area, with information about the bats and a hillside to sit on, provided by the city's main newspaper, the *Austin American-Statesman*. You can park in the lot and go watch the bats emerge as it gets dark.

**Cool Pools:** Austin has two spring-fed swimming pools, Barton Springs and Deep Eddy, which have a year-round temperature of 68 degrees Fahrenheit. Barton Springs is located in Zilker Park, and Deep Eddy is located just east of the UT Married Student Apartments on Lake Austin Blvd. There is a fee to use the pools, and passes are available for frequent swimmers.

**Sixth Street:** In downtown Austin, from Congress Avenue east to I-35, Sixth Street is the nighttime hotspot for students in Austin. There are many clubs and bars and most have live music, for which Austin has earned the nickname "Live Music Capital of the U.S." Graduate students usually find more of their entertainment on Fourth Street ("the Warehouse District"), which is home to many restaurants and bars.

**Is It a River or a Lake?** What appears to be a river in downtown Austin is called Lady Bird Lake or Town Lake. Like the many lakes north of Austin known as the Highland Lakes (Lakes Austin, Travis, LBJ, and Buchanan), it is a part of the Colorado River (not to be confused with the Colorado River that runs

through the state of Colorado). It is often referred to as the “Lower Colorado River”; it originates and ends all within Texas. The lakes have many recreational facilities. You can rent canoes, paddleboats, and kayaks on Town Lake and enjoy the downtown area from the water.

**Footbridge:** It is somewhat dangerous to cross the lake on a bridge designed for cars. To make biking, walking, and running safer in Austin, the city built a footbridge that runs parallel to Lamar Blvd. from Riverside Drive to the northern shore of Lady Bird Lake.

**The UT Tower:** No ordinary tower, this one. It houses many upper administration offices and is a beacon to the city signaling when great things have happened at UT, such as victories in major sports events. Look at the tower after a football game, for example, and you can see instantly from anywhere in the city whether the Longhorns have won—if the tower is burnt orange, you know that UT has won a major sporting event. For a tour schedule go to: [www.utexas.edu/tower](http://www.utexas.edu/tower).

**Star Watching:** The big star-watching spot for the university, McDonald Observatory, is way out in West Texas, where there are no city lights to interfere. There is also an observatory run by the Astronomy Department in the middle of campus (Painter Hall) that you can go to on Friday and Saturday nights. Viewing times change throughout the year, so call the Skywatcher’s Report at 471-5007 for current times. There is no charge and no reservations are needed.

### **Keep Austin Weird**

Austin has many stores that are not part of national chains. Because it has so many small businesses run by local people, the Chamber of Commerce has adopted the slogan “Keep Austin Weird.” There is even a Web site devoted to Austin’s weirdness: [www.keeptaustinweird.com](http://www.keeptaustinweird.com). It is fun to shop in places that are one-of-a-kind, such as:

**Book People:** Located north of Whole Foods at Lamar & 6<sup>th</sup>, Book People has the largest selection of books in Texas.



**The Drag:** The shopping area on Guadalupe, on the western edge of campus, has many unique shops.

**Toy Joy:** Located at 2900 Guadalupe, it is a toy shop with books, puppets, miniatures, and many good learning toys.

**First Thursday:** The first Thursday of each month, merchants of the historic pedestrian-friendly South Congress Avenue (SoCo) keep their doors open until 10 P.M., playing host to an array of events and activities.

Other unique Austin features include Leslie Cochran, a frequent candidate for mayor who dresses in outrageous women's clothing. He can often be seen on the streets downtown.

## Fun on the Street

Austin has many outdoor festivals, ranging from South by Southwest in March to the Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo, Eeyore's Birthday Party (April), the Austin City Limits Festival (September), the Pecan Street Festival, the Trail of Lights at Christmastime, and the Spamarama (celebrating the potted meat). Help Keep Austin Weird—buy a T-shirt, attend some festivals, and have a good time! Information on festivals can be found at [www.austin360.com/calendar](http://www.austin360.com/calendar).

## Newspapers

The daily newspaper for the city is the *Austin American-Statesman* ([www.statesman.com](http://www.statesman.com)). Ask for the student rate! The University of Texas newspaper, the *Daily Texan* ([www.dailytexanonline.com](http://www.dailytexanonline.com)) is distributed free Monday through Friday on campus, no paper on the weekends. The *Austin Chronicle* ([www.austinchronicle.com](http://www.austinchronicle.com)) is distributed weekly each Thursday and is also free to the public. This publication can be found in the foyer of most restaurants and at the Main Building and Texas Union on campus, in addition to locations throughout Austin. Although it does not cover much in the way of daily news, it does serve as a good guide to Austin issues and politics, music, films, weekend events, and the arts scene.

## Considerations When Looking for a Place to Live

Because parking is difficult for those who don't get up at the crack of dawn, we recommend that you get an apartment that is on a UT shuttle bus route or on the city bus route (see [www.capmetro.org](http://www.capmetro.org) for a map and schedule). Although this may mean higher rent, it does save you the hassle of driving in traffic and trying to find a place to park. Most apartment complexes require you to sign a TAA (Texas Apartment Association) lease. Get to know this lease and pay close attention to the sections that the leasing agents fill in themselves. There is also a standard lease for duplexes and condominiums. You should definitely arrange a visit to Austin as early as possible to look for an apartment, and for the best possible selection.

## Neighborhoods

This section will provide you with a realistic view of the areas that are serviced by shuttles.

**Far West** is located in the hills of Northwest Austin and is most accessible by MoPac. However, the UT shuttles that service this area are often overcrowded in the morning, and MoPac traffic is especially bad from 7:30–9:00 A.M. If you can afford the rent, this area is a good first choice for an apartment, at least until you get to know the city better.

**Enfield Road** and **Lake Austin** areas are located about a mile west of campus. Grad students heavily populate the Lake Austin area, which is near Lady Bird Lake. The Enfield area offers a mix of architectural styles and rental ranges, but is considered one of the nicer neighborhoods, bordering upscale Tarrytown, which is farther west. Some apartments are older, but others have been renovated and therefore charge higher rents. Parking is limited at most complexes. Access to campus from this area is quite easy. The crime rate in this area is fairly low, and, if you are lucky, you may find a place with extremely low rent. The Lake Austin shuttle also services the Married Student Housing, which is operated by UT. These apartments offer fairly low rents and are inhabited

mostly by international students and couples with children; however, waiting lists for this location are prohibitively long.

**West Campus** is the area directly west of UT. Although a shuttle runs through this area,

it is literally just two blocks from campus. This area is inhabited predominantly by social fraternities and, as a consequence, is known for its many parties on the weekends. In addition, because of its close proximity to campus, the rent here is generally high and parking is difficult. This area is great for someone who doesn't have a car but does have some extra cash. This area also has smaller houses located outside of the "Greek area" which are quite pleasant and financially reasonable for two or more roommates.

**Hyde Park** is a nice neighborhood north of campus and is serviced by the **Intramural Fields** and **Red River** shuttles. There are lots of apartments and houses here to rent. The prices vary widely because some of the apartments are old and some are brand new. Many students live in this area due to its campus access via walking or biking. The neighborhood is quiet, with many beautiful trees, and most students find good deals here. There are also many coffee shops and restaurants (most of them locally owned) within walking distance.

The **Cameron Road** area, located on the northeast side of town, is also a mixture of old and new. Some consider crime here to be higher than in the previously mentioned neighborhoods. There are many apartments in this area, but also some houses in the residential areas. Grocery accessibility is not the best, but the Capital Plaza shopping center (Target, Ross, Office Max) is located on Cameron Rd., and the Highland Mall is just across I-35. Shuttle service can be interrupted by accidents on I-35. Many students live here because rent is cheaper, but first-timers may want to live closer to campus.

**Pleasant Valley, North Riverside, Parker Lane, and Wickersham Lane** shuttles service the area directly south of the river on the east side of I-35. Many UT undergraduates and students from other colleges live in this area. The neighborhood is populated almost entirely by apartment dwellers. In general, the areas next to the river and south of Oltorf have a higher incidence of crime, but most of the crime is limited to theft. Shuttle service here can be delayed by traffic on I-35. In addition, due to the large volume of students living here, the shuttle

buses fill up fast. Many new complexes have been erected here in the past few years, and the area's reputation has improved substantially.

**French Place/Manor Road** is located directly east of campus. Rent along Manor Road is about as cheap as you will find anywhere in Austin, and several apartment complexes that have been renovated to attract students. The closest grocery stores are H-E-B on Red River and Fiesta on 38 1/2 Street. Many LLILAS students enjoy living here and appreciate the short walk from the Benson.

As you can see, you have several options for housing in Austin. There are plenty of apartments to fit most price ranges, as well as houses for rent. Many Austinites rent out rooms in their homes. There are also a few housing cooperatives in town. Finally, for those who have the means, there is the option of buying a house.

## Rental Costs

Rentals range from \$395 to \$1,500 depending on whether you want to live alone or with roommates, how close you want to be to campus, and how nice a neighborhood or apartment you desire. Most neighborhoods are as safe as those in any large city. The housing market is very tight in Austin, and the situation is unlikely to improve in the near future. Recently, occupancy rates have been very high, and rent is always rising. It is not uncommon to have rent increases of \$30 to \$60 every year. Security deposits are required to hold an apartment. Deposits range from \$150 to \$250 for a one bedroom and \$200 to \$400 for two bedrooms. In some cases, an application fee of \$35 to \$50 is also charged to run a credit history. If you decide to rent a house or condo, deposits of one month's rent are usually charged; however, some small-scale landlords may not require an application. If you have a pet, you also may have to pay a pet deposit.

## Helpful Websites

The University Division of Housing and Food Services Web site (<http://www.utexas.edu/student/housing>) offers helpful information on housing in Austin, near campus, and on-campus. In addition, they offer a link to a housing search engine Longhorn Living (<http://www.longhornliving.org>).

No UT affiliation:

<http://www.ausapt.com/>

<http://www.aptsforrent.com/>

<http://www.austin360.com/>

<http://www.statesman.com/>

<http://www.austinapartmentfinder.com/>

<http://www.austinchronicle.com/class>

<http://www.craigslist.org/>

## Parking on Campus

Several options exist for parking on campus. You can buy a "C" permit, which gives you a license to hunt for a parking space in designated "C" lots. The current cost is \$110 per year.

You can also buy a C+ parking permit, which allows you access to all university garages between 5 P.M. and 4 A.M. weekly and all day on weekends (Friday 5 P.M. to Monday 4 A.M.). You can find C parking in the Benson Library lot but should arrive before 8:30 A.M. to find a parking place. Of course, if you don't mind the hike, many graduate students who come to school after 10 A.M. park in the residential areas immediately northeast and west of campus. For more information on parking, see the UT Parking and Transportation Web site:

<http://www.utexas.edu/parking/>.

Parking is also disrupted during football games and special events, so it's a good idea to keep track of campus events.

There are a few parking garages on campus for daily parking. They charge by the hour with a daily maximum of \$8.

## Biking

Many students find that it is more convenient to bike to school rather than try to find a parking place. This is especially easy if you live north of campus because many of the roads in this area have designated bike lanes. Capital Metro also has bike racks on many of its buses. Be sure to register your bike with the parking and transportation office ([www.utexas.edu/parking/transportation/biking](http://www.utexas.edu/parking/transportation/biking)) on campus and use a secure lock because theft is common.

For more information on biking, check the following page on Austin360.com:  
<http://www.austin360.com/search/content/recreation/guides/bike/bikingindex.html>