## TRAVEL+ LEISURE

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## This Epic Texas Road Trip Visits Underrated Vineyards and Rolling Hills Blanketed in Bluebonnets

Texas Hill Country is one of the most beautiful stretches of the Lone Star State, and its impressive wine scene is only growing.

From early spring well into early winter, there is always a great time to take a weekend trip through Texas Hill Country — home to some of the most stunning landscapes in Texas.

This vast, rural region of south-central Texas is conveniently close to all major cities. Its rolling hills are only an hour-long drive from Austin and San Antonio and a four-hour jaunt from Dallas and Houston. You will not have an easier day trip in the largest continental state in the country.

The hills dotted with sprawling cypress and oak trees make for an idyllic <u>road</u> <u>trip</u> route that's especially picturesque in spring and fall. Some of the lushest fields of bluebonnets bloom in spring, and there's nothing more Texan than a bluebonnet photograph.

The main attraction of the region is no longer a secret — Texas Hill Country has become widely known as Texas Wine Country. In fact, Texas is the fifth-highest wine-producing state and is home to the fifth-highest number of wineries, according to data from <a href="WineAmerica.org">WineAmerica.org</a>. Texas wine isn't new, but it is rapidly growing, and the quality is only getting better as growers perfect the grapes that do best in the rocky Texas soil.

There are a few noteworthy towns along U.S. Route 280, better known as the Texas Wine Trail, where you will find numerous vacation rentals and historic hotels. Some newer and noteworthy rental accommodations to book are Honey Tree Farm for a real treehouse experience, A-Frame Ranch for tucked-away luxury cabins, and Blue Skies Retro Resort for incredibly fun vintage trailer stays. For a true luxury experience with zero hassle, book a stay at La Cantera Resort & Spa, a Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards winner outside of San Antonio, and their concierge will plan a wine country tour day trip for you.