

Thanks for registering for the 2008 US ARDF Championships in Bastrop, Texas!

Hopefully, the information contained here will help you plan your visit. In addition, the Texas ARDF web site contains lots of valuable information. Any last-minute changes to the schedule will be posted there, as well as mentioned at the competitor meeting.

<http://www.texasardf.org/usa2008/>

Schedule:

Thursday, May 8

12-4 PM Practice Event, Picnic Shelter
4-6 PM Mandatory Competitor Meeting, Picnic Shelter
6-6:30 PM Volunteer Meeting, Picnic Shelter

Friday, May 9

by 9 AM Equipment Impound, Group Dining Hall (Refectory)
9 AM Group Photo
10 AM First start 2m course, near Group Dining Hall
by 2 PM Last finish, Group Dining Hall
6 PM Dinner and 2m awards, Group Dining Hall

Saturday, May 10

by 7:45 AM Meet at picnic shelter for walk to start and impound.
(Quiet please, campground is still sleeping.)
8 AM Arrive at impound
9 AM First start 80m course
by 1 PM Last finish, near campsite 55
1:30 PM Awards ceremony, Picnic Shelter

We expect to see you at the Competitor Meeting on Thursday at 4 PM, but if something drastic (like a flight delay) comes up, call one of our cell phones (Ken 512-944-6443 or Jen 512-415-8703) and we'll work something out.

We suggest paying all three days of park entrance fees on Thursday to save time later. The park will be busy on Friday and Saturday, and the entrance station may not be open that early.

The start on Friday is only about 100m from the Group Dining Hall. On Saturday, the start and impound are about 700m walk from the Picnic Shelter (mostly uphill). Please be on time.

There will be water jugs at both start and finish, and Gatorade at the finish both days, as well as one water stop, marked on the map. Please consider bringing water with you on the course. Stay hydrated - Texas in May is usually warm!

On Friday, the finish and download is at the Group Dining Hall. On Saturday, the finish is about 200m from the Picnic Shelter. Once you've finished, we request that you head over to the Picnic Shelter and download. While we won't be providing lunch (feel free to bring a picnic lunch), there will be light snacks and sodas.

Restaurants in Bastrop:

Patio Cafe

109 S. Hasler Blvd #100

A small sandwich shop across the street from the hotel. It's tasty, but only seats about a dozen people. I'm not quite sure what their hours are - they may serve dinner, but I've only been there for lunch.

Deli Depot

1006 Main St

Small sandwich shop downtown that is only open for lunch on weekdays.

The Roadhouse

2804 Hwy. 21 E

A burger and beer shack near the park entrance that hits the spot after a day of orienteering. I like their chicken sandwich. They sometimes have a band playing music in the evenings.

Guadalajara

494 Hwy. 71 W

This Tex-Mex restaurant in the strip mall by the hotel has an all-you-can-eat lunch buffet. It's a good amount of food for the price, and they have a salad bar.

Cartwright's BBQ

490 Hwy. 71 W

Only mediocre for Texas BBQ, but probably the best place in town. A drive to Lockhart or Austin might be a better option.

Nancy's Steakhouse

696 Hwy. 71 W

A slightly finer dining establishment on the southwest side of town whose menu looks very good, but I haven't eaten there.

Cedars Mediterranean Grill

904 College St

Mostly Italian food, despite the name. It's really delicious, though the ambiance is a little lacking. On Highway 71 near downtown, but difficult to spot from the road - expect to do some u-turns.

Baxter's on Main

919 Main St

A fine dining restaurant downtown that people have been known to drive out from Austin to visit, but we haven't been yet.

Gracie's

706 Pine St

Also known as the Grace Miller, downtown. We also haven't been here, but the people eating on the patio were dressed relatively nicely.

Oaxacan Tamaleo

1634 Hwy. 71 W, Cedar Creek

A tamale place a few miles west of town on the north side of the highway. The tamales are great, the owner is an amazing woman, and it's worth the drive if you like spicy food.

Bastrop also has its share of chain restaurants - McDonalds, Subway, Chili's, Schlotzky's, Cold Stone Creamery, Taco Cabana, Pizza Hut, Whataburger, Dairy Queen, etc.

Field Trips:

Chestnut Square Family Entertainment Center

1600 Chestnut St, Bastrop

Bastrop's movie theater, bowling, indoor mini-golf. Near Bastrop State Park.

Golf

Bastrop has several golf courses, and the Austin area has plenty of courses open to the public.

McKinney Roughs

1884 State Hwy 71 West, Cedar Creek

A nature preserve and hiking trails just west of Bastrop that's more typical of this area of Texas, scenery-wise. They charge a small admission fee.

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

4801 La Crosse Ave, Austin

A great place to learn about Texas wildflowers, and maybe still see some in bloom (though April is when they're at their peak). They also charge an admission fee.

Southpark Meadows

SW corner of I-35 and Slaughter Lane, Austin

A gigantic shopping center with just about every big-box store, and a huge movie theater. Also, they have an Amy's ice cream store – the best ice cream in Austin!

San Marcos Outlet Malls

3939 IH-35 South (exit 200), San Marcos

Two large outlet malls right next door to each other make this a great day trip for those who like to shop.

Quilt stores:

The Quilt Store

2700 W. Anderson Lane #301, Austin

The largest quilt fabric store around, with over 5000 bolts of fabric. A good selection of batiks, kid's fabrics, and modern-art fabrics. Has a store cat. In the middle of the shopping center.

Ginger's Needle Arts (NE Austin)

5322 Cameron Rd, Austin

Mostly cross-stitch, but has some fabrics you can't get elsewhere in town.

Yarn stores:

Hill Country Weavers

1701 S Congress Ave, Austin

The best yarn store in the area, on trendy South Congress Avenue.

The Knitting Nest (far S Austin)

160 West Slaughter Lane #200, Austin

Outdoor supplies:

Cabela's

15570 I-35, Buda

Hunting and fishing heaven.

REI

9901 N Capitol of Texas Hwy, Austin

For when you lose your compass! Also has a smaller store at 601 N. Lamar (next to Bookpeople).

Austin downtown:

Capital Metro (public transportation in Austin) has several trolleys called Dillos that run free throughout the downtown area during the day. Depending on where you're going, it may be less of a hassle to park at one of the park-n-rides and take the Dillo around town than to keep moving the car. There's also the "Tour the Town" bus (#470) that goes to most of the sights in town, and a day pass is just \$1. See capmetro.org for more details.

Bookpeople

603 N. Lamar Blvd, Austin

One of the best independent bookstores in the country.

Whole Foods

525 N. Lamar Blvd, Austin

The flagship store of the empire, and well worth a visit if you're into food. Has several small cafes scattered throughout the store, which make a good lunch or light supper.

Waterloo Records

600A N. Lamar Blvd, Austin

A great locally owned music store. They have the hard-to-find stuff, and a good used selection. Another Amy's ice cream store is just around the corner.

Texas State History Museum

1800 N. Congress Ave, Austin

Austin's only IMAX theater, and some interesting exhibits, too. Parking in the garage is not cheap.

State Capitol Buildings

Visitor Center: 112 E. 11th St, Austin

Parking Garage: 1201 San Jacinto

Take a tour if you're interested in politics, history, or just large pink buildings.

Zilker Park and Botanical Garden

2220 Barton Springs Rd, Austin

Zilker Park charges a parking fee on weekends. Austin Shakespeare is putting on free performances of Much Ado About Nothing at Zilker's Hillside Theater Thursday-Saturday at 8 PM. Bring a blanket to sit on, and expect them to pass the hat for donations.

University of Texas Blanton Museum of Art

Martin Luther King Blvd at Congress Ave, Austin

University of Texas LBJ Presidential Library and Museum

2313 Red River St, Austin

Congress Avenue Bridge Bats

Every summer evening at sunset, the bats that live under the Congress Avenue Bridge come out for their nightly feeding (they eat mosquitoes and other bugs). The swarm is quite a sight! Parking is available in the Austin American-Statesman parking lot (SE corner of Congress and the river).

Nightlife

Bars and clubs are mostly centered around 6th St between Congress and Red River, with a second (more upscale) area starting to form around 2nd St and Lavaca. Don't stay out too late...

Map of Bastrop - hotel area and downtown



Map of Bastrop State Park

