



PLANO, TEXAS

MEETINGS & CONVENTIONS FACT SHEET

Overview: There's no place like Plano for meetings. And here is why.

Plano is one of the best places to live in the United States, according to *CNN Money Magazine*; America's safest city, according to a recent survey by *Forbes*; its happiest city, according to a 2019 Wallethub report, and arguably one of the best places to visit and do business.

Modern, state-of-the-art facilities of every size, description and budget are located throughout the city. Whether it's a convention, conference, trade show or board meeting, there are a variety of options from which to choose, including many that offer free parking and free wireless connectivity, as well as on-site tradeshow support.

Conveniently located near the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, Plano is within a 30-minute drive to most major attractions, sporting, adventure and entertainment venues throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Travelers to Plano can enjoy an All-American city that is safe, easy, clean, family-friendly and economical. That's why a number of high-profile companies, including HP Enterprise Services, JCPenney, The Frito-Lay Company, Boeing, FedEx Office, Toyota North America, Liberty Mutual and Hilti call Plano home. In addition, Plano offers everything corporate and business travelers are looking for, including fine dining, exceptional shopping, nearby sports venues, top-notch public golf courses, inviting day spas, a variety of interesting and entertaining attractions, and much more.

Transportation: **Air:** Plano has quick and convenient access to two major airports – **Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport** (dfwairport.com) and **Dallas Love Field** (dallas-lovefield.com). Several major airlines service these airports with daily nonstop flights, including

American Airlines, Continental Airlines, Delta Airlines and Southwest Airlines.

DART Rail (dart.org): Visitors to Plano can travel throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth area via the Dallas Area Rapid Transit System (DART) Rail Line from two locations in Plano: Parker Road Station and Downtown Plano Station.

Bus: Local bus service is also provided by DART. For schedules, visit dart.org or call (214) 979-1111.

Ground: Plano is easily accessible from any location in the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area. Major thoroughfares heading north and south include the Dallas North Tollway, State Highway 75 and Preston Road. East and west thoroughfares include State Highway 121, Highway 190 (President George Bush Turnpike) and Interstate 635.

Shuttle/Taxi/Ride Share Service: Travel to and from both airports and around the Dallas-Fort Worth area is available through several area transportation companies.

Climate: Plano enjoys a temperate Sunbelt climate with mild winters and hot summers. The average year-round temperature is 66 degrees. January is the coldest month, with an average temperature of 44 degrees, and July is the hottest month, with an average temperature of 86 degrees. (Source: Plano Economic Development Board)

Meeting Assistance: Visit Plano, named Best CVB by Texas Meetings + Events Magazine in 2018, offers a wide variety of convention and meeting facilities. The benefit of using one of them is access to the Visit Plano's friendly, experienced staff, which is passionate about the success of each meeting. From helping to select a facility to assisting with lodging requirements, transportation, logistics and catering services, the Visit Plano staff strives to make meetings hassle-free, fun and productive.

The following services are available to any group occupying more than 50 hotel rooms on any peak nights:

- Securing competitive bid proposals
- VIP site inspection arrangements
- Computerized housing coordination
- On-site registration assistance
- Computer-generated name badges
- Welcome packets and pre-printed name badges
- Tour/special event planning
- Spouse/youth programs
- Transportation coordination
- Promotional and publicity assistance

- Area information, maps and brochures

**Convention/
Meeting
Facilities:**

Plano offers first-rate convention and meeting facilities. In addition to the site offered by Visit Plano (Plano Event Center), there are a variety of hotels, and even a community college located in Plano, all offering exceptional meeting facilities for every size of group and for every budget:

- **Plano Event Center** (Planoeventcenter.org) was voted Best Meeting & Event Venue, Best Holiday Venue, Best Caterer and runner-up for Best AV Provider and Best Team Building Venue by Texas Meetings + Events in 2018. The beautifully landscaped and newly renovated Plano Event Center provides more than 86,400 square feet of flexible function space that comfortably accommodates up to 5,000 people. Other features include:

Features and Services

- Capacity for groups of five to 5,000
- Master stage and dressing rooms
- 21,600-square-foot carpeted, column-free exhibit hall
- Trade show booth furnishing packages
- Recreational vehicle parking and hookups
- Free parking
- 14 different breakout rooms
- In-house audiovisual equipment
- Experienced audio-visual technicians
- Free high-speed wireless Internet access
- Full-service business center

For a complete listing of Plano meeting facilities, please see visitplano.com/meeting-facilities.

- **Angelika Film Center** (angelikafilmcenter.com): The Angelika Plano is one of the city's most stylish venues. The theater's spacious auditoriums and polished, modern lobby provide the perfect backdrop for a variety of group meetings and events. State-of-the-art auditoriums feature wall-to-wall screens and digital surround sound, and provide a convenient and comfortable environment ideal for large presentations or private screenings. The Angelika Plano boasts a full-service concession stand stocked with traditional cinema snacks, and a lavish café/bar environment ideal for a reception, cocktail party or get-together.
- **Cambria Hotel & Suites Plano-Frisco** (cambriasuitesplano.com): Located just minutes from the

popular Shops at Legacy and 11 Fortune 1000 company offices and headquarters, the 129-room Cambria Suites Plano-Legacy features more than 2,400 square feet of state-of-the-art meeting and conference space and has oversized guest rooms that have separate living, working and sleeping spaces. All four meeting spaces are equipped with high-tech audio and visual equipment. Guests can enjoy a MediaHub™ plug-and-play station, which allows guests to connect their laptop, MP3 player, game console, digital camera, smartphone, or CD/DVD player hassle free.

- **Collin College** (collin.edu): Collin County Community College provides conferencing facilities, meeting rooms, lecture halls and classrooms for businesses and organizations. The college also provides professional catering and audio/visual services.

The Spring Creek Campus features the Living Legends Conference Center, a full-service facility that can accommodate up to 600 in theater-style seating or 400 for banquets. The center can also be divided into sections to accommodate smaller seating layouts for seminars, meetings and other events. Campus facilities are not available on Sundays.

- **Courtyard Theater** (planostages.com): Referred to as the “hidden jewel of Plano,” the beautiful Courtyard Theater, located in the Haggard Park Historic District in downtown Plano is a 321-seat, proscenium-style theater. With a large stage and spacious lobby, the venue is the perfect place for receptions, recitals, stage plays, musicals, concerts, meetings, and private parties.

- **Hilton Dallas/Plano Granite Park** (dallasplanogranitepark.hilton.com): The Hilton Dallas/Plano Granite Park Hotel provides the space, style and personalized service guests expect for meetings and events. The hotel can accommodate anything from grandiose galas and meticulous meetings to private parties and social soirees. The hotel features:

- 11 meeting rooms (largest room is 14,400 square feet)
- Two spacious ballrooms
- All meeting rooms equipped with A/V technology

- **Legacy Food Hall** (legacyfoodhall.com): This European-style food hall houses thirty artisanal food and beverage stalls, several bars serving wine, beer, and even tiki cocktails, a brewery and tap room, and a live music venue. The facility can host lunches, happy hours, and dinners for groups of 25 or

more, and offers a number of private event spaces, including the outdoor Box Garden which seats up to 1000.

- **Marriott Dallas/Plano at Legacy Town Center**
(marriott.com/dalpt): When every detail must be perfect, the upscale, full-service and picturesque Dallas/Plano Marriott delivers with advanced facilities and expert meeting professionals. Located in Legacy Town Center, the hotel is within walking distance to more than 80 restaurants and various shops. Among the features of this property are:
 - A dedicated event manager assigned to each group.
 - An on-site audiovisual department to meet every need.
 - 35,000 square feet of meeting space that features 23 meeting rooms and a 115-seat amphitheater.
 - A 14,000 square-foot ballroom that divides into four sections and seats 1600 theater-style and 800 for banquets.
 - Wireless internet access throughout.
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- **Moxie's at Sandman Signature Plano – Frisco Hotel**
(us.moxies.com): Along with the dining room, lounge and patio, Moxie's Plano also offers five private event spaces with AV capabilities for up to 250 people.
- **Oak Point Park Nature & Retreat Center** (planorc.com) The 7,000 square foot Oak Point Park Nature & Retreat Center overlooks the majestic beauty of Oak Point Park & Nature Preserve. The center has 2,400 square feet of meeting/rental space as well as interactive nature exhibits, making it the most unique venue in Plano for special gatherings like outdoor education, weddings, parties, corporate retreats, business meetings and much more.
- **Renaissance Dallas at Plano Legacy West**
(Marriott.com/dalbp): As versatile as they are distinctive, the meeting spaces at Renaissance Dallas at Plano Legacy West Hotel offer fearless design and state-of-the-art technology. From seminars for 10 to receptions for 1200, the hotel's indoor and outdoor meeting spaces provide an extraordinary backdrop for virtually any event from small seminars to large corporate banquets.
 - 17 event rooms
 - 34,869 sq. ft. of total event space
 - 16 breakout rooms
 - Exceptional technical and planning support
 - As the anchor for the new multi-million dollar Legacy West development, offers exceptional access to top tier retail, restaurants and entertainment all within walking distance

- **Southfork Ranch** (southfork.com): Internationally renowned as the filming location for the “Dallas” television series, Southfork Ranch arguably America’s most famous ranch. Southfork features distinctive event options for groups of 10 to 10,000 and is a three-time winner of the “Facility of the Year” Award from the DFW Chapter of Meeting Professionals International. Among the legendary facility’s many group offerings are:
 - More than 63,000 square feet of indoor event space.
 - 10 ballrooms.
 - Acres of sprawling Texas ranchland for guided tours, private parties and special events.
 - Horseback riding

Accommodations: With more than 6,900 hotel rooms available, Plano has everything from economical alternatives for families on a budget to the ultimate in luxury accommodations. The Visit Plano website includes a complete list of hotel options (visitplano.com). A few of the most notable options include:

- **aloft Hotel** (aloftplano.com): The aloft Hotel is a much-anticipated lifestyle brand from Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide. The aloft Plano, which opened in October 2008, features 136 rooms that showcase loft-inspired design – high ceilings, oversized windows and more.
- **Cambria Hotel & Suites Plano-Frisco** (cambriasuitesplano.com): Located just minutes from the popular Shops at Legacy and 11 Fortune 1000 company offices and headquarters, the 129-room Cambria Hotel & Suites Plano-Frisco offer more than 2,400 square feet of state-of-the-art meeting and conference space and as well as oversized guest rooms that have separate living, working and sleeping spaces.
- **Hilton Dallas/Plano Granite Park** (dallasplanogranitepark.hilton.com): Situated in the prestigious Granite Park development in Plano, the full-service 299-room Hilton Dallas/Plano Granite Park conference hotel features a 30,000 square foot conference center with two ballrooms, Executive Lounge, 24-hour fitness center, resort-style outdoor swimming pool, and Carso Mediterranean Grill.
- **Marriott Dallas/Plano at Legacy Town Center** (marriott.com/dalpt): Surrounded by scenic parks and water features, this picturesque, upscale and full-service property is located in Legacy Town Center and is within walking distance to upscale shopping, fine dining and entertainment. Complete with 404 guest rooms and 32,000 square feet of

banquet/meeting space, the luxury hotel serves leisure and corporate travelers and provides an exquisite setting for weddings, events, and meetings of all sizes. Amenities include a beautiful outdoor heated pool and whirlpool, fitness center, and concierge service to arrange appointments such as spa treatments and golf outings.

- **NYLO Dallas Plano Hotel, Tapestry Collection by Hilton** (tapestrycollection3.hilton.com/tc/nylo-dallas-plano/): A groundbreaking concept that redefines urban-style lodging with modern hospitality and high design, the NYLO Dallas Plano Hotel, Tapestry Collection by Hilton was the first NYLO hotel. Among its features are guest lofts, two lifestyle suites with a 600-square-foot terrace and 45 allergy-friendly rooms.
- **Renaissance Dallas at Plano Legacy West Hotel** (marriott.com/dalbp): The newest addition to Plano's vibrant hospitality scene, this luxury property serves as an anchor for the three billion dollar Legacy West urban mixed use project. The 15 story, 304-room hotel has more than 26,000 square feet of conference and meeting space. Special features include a high energy lobby and bar, an onsite Asian fusion restaurant, a third floor amenity deck with swimming pool, a bar concierge lounge, fitness center and outdoor event space.
- **Sandman Signature Plano-Frisco Hotel** (sandmanhotels.com): The Sandman Signature Plano-Frisco Hotel is the first Sandman property in the U.S. It boasts 233 beautifully appointed guestrooms including family, corporate and executive suites, The hotel is conveniently located near area sports venues, conference facilities, golf courses, shopping centers and restaurants. Guests will enjoy restaurants, an indoor pool and fitness room, state-of-the-art meeting and conference facilities and a business center.

Golf: Plano has three top-notch public golf courses:

- **The Courses at Watters Creek** (watterscreekgolf.com)
- **Pecan Hollow Golf Course** (pecanhollowgc.com)
- **Ridgeview Ranch** (ridgeviewgc.com)

Salons and Spas:

Plano is home to several salons and day spas that are perfect for a day or an afternoon of relaxation and pampering. An extensive list can be found on the Visit Plano website (visitplano.com). Favorites among visitors and locals include:

Drybar, The Shops at Legacy (drybar.com)
Elizabeth Arden Red Door (thereddoor.com)
Hiatus Spa & Retreat (hiatusspa.com)

Skin Care International Spa (skincareinternational.com)
Spa Habitat Legacy (spahabitat.com)
The Boardroom Salon for Men (theboardroomsalon.com)
The Woodhouse Day Spa (plano.woodhousespas.coms.com)

**The Shops
at Legacy:**

Legacy Park is a master-planned business, retail and residential community. The centerpiece of the development is **The Shops at Legacy** (shopsatlegacy.com). With a “Main Street” look and feel, the outdoor expanse brimming with creative boutiques, sidewalk cafes, and restaurants helmed by some of the area’s most acclaimed chefs.

Dining:

Plano has hundreds of dining options and just about every type of cuisine. In addition, many of these top-notch restaurants have private or semi-private dining/meeting space, including:

- **Abuelos’s Mexican Food Embassy** (abuelos.com)
- **Bulla Gastrobar** (bullagastrobar.com)
- **Blue Mesa Grill** (bluemesagrill.com)
- **Bob’s Steak & Chop House** (bobs-steakandchop.com)
- **Del Frisco’s Double Eagle Steakhouse** (delfriscos.com)
- **Earl’s Kitchen & Bar** (earls.ca)
- **Flemings** (flemingssteakhouse.com)
- **Fogo de Chao** (fogodechao.com)
- **Haywire** (haywirerestaurant.com)
- **Legacy Food Hall** (legacyfoodhall.com)
- **Love and War in Texas** (loveandwarintexas.com)
- **Mexican Sugar** (mexicansugarcocina.com)
- **Mignon** (mignonplano.com)
- **North Italia** (northitaliarestaurant.com)
- **Roy’s** (roysrestaurant.com)
- **Sixty Vines** (sixtyvines.com)
- **Steve Field’s Steak & Lobster Lounge**
(stevefieldsrestaurant.com)
- **Taverna Rossa** (tavernarossa.com)
- **The Keeper** (thekeeperplano.com)
- **True Food Kitchen** (truefoodkitchen.com)
- **Urban Crust** (urbancrust.com)
- **Urban Rio** (urbanrio.com)
- **Whiskey Cake** (whiskey-cake.com)
- **Yao Fuzi** (yaofuzi.com)

Shopping:

Plano has more than 70 shopping centers with goods to fit every taste and budget, as well as countless boutiques, specialty stores, antique stores and galleries. Some of Plano’s most notable shopping venues include:

- **Downtown Plano Arts District** (visitdowntownplano.com): Along authentic brick-lined streets, shoppers will discover an eclectic collection of independent boutiques selling everything from handmade jewelry to home décor to antiques and pottery.
- **Lakeside Market** (shoplakesidemarket.com): This is Plano's premier home decoration location with more than 14 home furnishing and décor stores all in one place.
- **Legacy West** (legacywest.com) Visitors won't want to miss this "city within a city" and the largest mixed use destination in North Texas. The 255-acre development boasts 415,000 dynamic square feet of open-air restaurant and retail space, where shopping offerings run the gamut from fashion to furnishings to cosmetics and even cars. (Think Tesla!)
- **Preston Park Village:** Where elegance meets style, Preston Park Village comprises more than 60 specialty shops, as well as a movie theater and more than 15 restaurants.
- **The Shops at Legacy** (shopsatlegacy.com): are part of a 168-acre master planned development of boutique retail, and best-in-class restaurants. Shoppers will discover an expansive selection of upscale stores, independent boutiques and high profile brands in an inviting outdoor setting at The Shops at Legacy.
- **The Shops at Willow Bend** (shopwillowbend.com): This picturesque and upscale shopping center boasts more than 150 stores, including Neiman Marcus and Macy's. The newest addition to The Shops at Willow Bend is **The District at Willow Bend** transforming the mall into a shopping, dining, and entertainment destination. The District is a new restaurant area that is home to local chef-driven restaurants, second-story terraces, and a grand entrance to the property.

Attractions:

Visitors will find that Plano has a surprising number of attractions right in its own backyard:

- **ArtCentre of Plano** (artcentrefplano.org): The ArtCentre of Plano showcases the work of local and national artists. The ArtCentre recently relocated to the renovated Saigling House, a historic downtown Plano landmark.
- **Go Ape! Treetop Adventure Course** (goape.com): Glide over the forest canopy at Plano's new Go Ape! Zip lines, Tarzan swings and suspended obstacles bring out your inner monkey

and provide a fun challenge amid 800 acres of natural beauty at Texas' only Go Ape location.

- **Heritage Farmstead** (heritagefarmstead.org): This four-acre museum preserves a way of life during the height of prosperity in the early 1900s. The beautiful Victorian home and 12 outbuildings was the hub of a 360-acre farm operated by colorful local resident Ammie Wilson.
- **Interurban Railway Museum** (planoconservancy.org): This museum brings Plano transportation history back to life. Once a vital part of the Texas Electric Railway that ran from Denison to Waco from 1908 to 1948, the Interurban is one of the original electric cars that ran on the tracks through Plano. Next to the station is car 360, one of the original cars that carried mail and passengers. This is the only station remaining from Sherman to Dallas. The facility also includes an area that houses a colorful display on Plano history.
- **PINSTACK** (pinstackbowl.com): Plano is home to North Texas' first state-of-the-art bowling and active entertainment destination. PINSTACK is a 50,000 square foot venue featuring a 28-lane bowling experience, ropes course suspended 20 feet above the gaming center, two-story laser tag, bumper cars, LED lit six-lane rock climbing walls, hundreds of interactive games and simulator technology. The facility also has a full-service restaurant, outside bar area, covered patio with fire pits, big screen TVs and ample seating. PINSTACK also offers a luxury VIP bowling area for private parties.
- **Southfork Ranch** (southfork.com): Relive some memorable moments from the television series "Dallas" at Southfork Ranch in nearby Parker. The "Dallas Legends: Fact To Fantasy" exhibit features such memorabilia as the gun that shot J.R., Lucy's wedding dress and video clips from the popular series. The ranch also offers trail rides, along with glimpses of the resident herd of Texas Longhorn cattle.
- **The Crayola Experience** (crayolaexperience.com) With 60,000 square feet of attractions, Crayola Experience is Texas' most colorful family destination for interactive, creative play. Families typically spend 3-4 hours exploring the 22 hands-on attractions. Kids of all ages can embark on a wonderful, whimsical adventure with such unique experiences as starring in their very own coloring pages, naming and wrapping their very own Crayola crayon, learning how crayons are made in a live manufacturing show and so much more.

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