



PLANO, TEXAS FACT SHEET

- Overview:** Plano, Texas is truly the land of plenty. Blending historic charm with modern luxury, the city brims with attractions and amenities, and offers a wide variety of hotels and restaurants. With world class shopping, a lively arts and nightlife scene, abundant natural beauty, and four walkable districts, Plano is the perfect city for a leisurely family weekend trip, a romantic getaway, or for corporate travel. Plano's close proximity to Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport and Dallas Love Field Airport makes it easily accessible from most of the country.
- Honors:** Plano has earned numerous accolades, including:
- 2024**
- Top 20 Best Cities for Outdoor Recreation by [activelyplay.com](#).
 - One of the twelve Best Places to Live in Texas in 2024 by [WorldAtlas](#).
 - Ninth Best City to Find a Job by [WalletHub](#).
- 2023**
- Among the Best Places to Live in the U.S. by [MSN.com](#)
 - Happiest City in Texas and 29th Happiest City in the U.S. by [WalletHub](#)
- 2022**
- Top 100 (#29 in US; #2 in TX) Best Places to Live by [Livability](#)
 - Fourth Best Place to Raise a Family in the U.S. by [WalletHub](#)
- 2021**
- Safest City in Texas by [WalletHub](#)
 - Twentieth Most Pet-Friendly City by [WalletHub](#)
 - Seventh Best Places to Live in the U.S. by [niche.com](#)
- 2020**
- Best City in America for a Staycation by [WalletHub](#)
- 2019**
- Happiest City in America by [WalletHub](#)
 - Fourth Best City for Foodies by [Yelp](#)
 - Fifth Best City to Live in America by [Niche](#)
 - Third Safest City in America by [WalletHub](#)
- Population:** Plano has been one of the fastest-growing cities in the United States, especially over the last two decades. Currently, the city's estimated population is 292,066.

Time Zone: Central Standard Time

Miles to Plano:	Abilene, TX	197	Little Rock, AR	283
	Albuquerque, NM	674	Lubbock, TX	363
	Amarillo, TX	362	New Orleans, LA	533
	Austin, TX	215	Odessa, TX	370
	Baton Rouge, LA	376	Oklahoma City, OK	202
	Beaumont, TX	340	San Angelo, TX	296
	Brownsville, TX	564	San Antonio, TX	293
	El Paso, TX	652	Santa Fe, NM	634
	Fort Worth	50	Shreveport, LA	199
	Galveston, TX	307	Texarkana, TX	180
	Houston, TX	257	Tulsa, OK	240
	Laredo, TX	449	Tyler, TX	10

Transportation: **Air:** Plano has convenient access to two major airports – **Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport** (dfwairport.com) and **Dallas Love Field Airport** (dallas-lovefield.com). Several major airlines service these airports with daily nonstop flights, including American 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 Service/Ride Share: Travel to and from both airports and around the Dallas-Fort Worth area is available through several area transportation companies.

Climate: Located in the Sunbelt, Plano enjoys a temperate 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. July is the hottest month, with an average temperature of 86 degrees. (Source: Plano Economic Development Board)

History: The first settlers came to the Plano area in the 1840s. A sawmill, gristmill and a store helped the area grow. The city was officially incorporated in 1873, a year after the Houston and Texas Railroad was completed. In 1881, a fire destroyed most of the city’s business district, but it was quickly rebuilt. Plano grew steadily over the years, but its population “exploded” during the 1980s. During this time, many large corporations, such as JCPenney and The Frito-Lay

Company, moved their corporate headquarters to Plano. The city was recognized as an All-American City in 1994.

New and Notable: Visitors won't want to miss **Legacy West** (legacywest.com). Opened in June 2017, this "city within a city" is the largest mixed use destination in North Texas and the perfect place to play, shop, dine, and stay. Besides serving as office space for several high profile companies including Toyota Connected North America, Liberty Mutual, Boeing Global Services, JPMorgan and more, the 255-acre development boasts 415,000 dynamic square feet of open-air retail and restaurant space. Legacy West adds to Plano's already vibrant dining scene with restaurants that satisfy every craving, whether for steak or a good old-fashioned milk shake, French bistro fare or a red velvet cupcake.

For those who can't decide, **Legacy Hall** (legacyfoodhall.com) has it all. In this one-of-a-kind artisanal food hall at Legacy West, visitors can wander over 20 stalls and bars to meet local purveyors and sample everything from lobster rolls and sushi to old fashioned hamburgers and duck fat fried chicken. There is also has an on-site brewery and an outdoor live entertainment stage. Legacy Hall was named the #2 best new food hall in the nation by *USA Today* in 2019.

Legacy West continued to add to its shopping offerings, which run the gamut from fashion to furnishings to cosmetics and even electric cars. Luxury retailers include: CHANEL Fragrance & Beauty, David Yurman, Golden Goose, Gucci, Louis Vuitton, Tiffany & Co. After a day of retail therapy, shoppers won't have to go very far to set down their spoils, since this urban village is anchored by the Renaissance Dallas at Plano Legacy West Hotel (see accommodations listing below).

Also new to Plano is the **Boardwalk at Granite Park** (boardwalkgranitepark.com) situated across from the luxurious patio of the 299-room Hilton at Granite Park, this 30,000 square foot expanse features a variety of restaurants with patios serving burgers, gourmet biscuits, southern California boardwalk-style cuisine, brew pub fare, and more. There are also beachy deck chairs that afford a great view of the park's inviting water feature and live music stage.

The newest addition to The Shops at Willow Bend is **The District at Willow Bend** (dineatthedistrict.com) transforming the mall into a shopping, dining, and entertainment destination. The District is an enclave of local chef-driven restaurants and also serves as a grand entrance to the property overall.

Accommodations: With nearly 60 hotels and 7,200 hotel rooms available, Plano has everything from economical alternatives for families on a budget to the ultimate in luxury accommodations. Visit Plano's 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-acclaimed lifestyle brand from Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide. The aloft Plano's 136 rooms showcase loft-inspired design – high ceilings, oversized windows and more.

- **Cambria Hotel Plano-Frisco** (cambriahotelplanotx.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, an Executive Lounge, 24-hour fitness center, resort-style outdoor swimming pool, fresh market, Prairie Fire bar, and Carso restaurant.
- **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 35,000 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, a full-service Starbucks, a signature restaurant, and a fitness center.
- **NYLO Dallas Plano Hotel, Tapestry Collection by Hilton** (nylotapestrydp.com): The NYLO Dallas Plano Hotel, Tapestry Collection by Hilton was the first NYLO hotel property. This hotel is a groundbreaking concept that redefines urban-style lodging with modern hospitality, high design, and industrial-chic décor, and loft-style rooms. The property also includes a chic outdoor pool, bar, restaurant, fitness center, and meeting space.
- **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 35,000 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 a pool and cabanas, a bar concierge lounge, fitness center and outdoor event space.
- **Sandman Signature Plano-Frisco Hotel** (sandmanhotels.com/signature-plano-frisco): 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. Guests can enjoy onsite restaurants, an indoor pool and fitness room, state-of-the-art meeting and conference facilities, and a business center.

Attractions:

All across Plano, visitors will discover a rich variety of attractions:

- **Baccus Plaza:** Located within The Shops at Legacy, Baccus Plaza houses a number of landmarks including **Baccus Cemetery**, which was established in 1847 and is one of the oldest cemeteries in Collin County, and the **Trails In Legacy Sculptures**, created by Texas native Robert Summers. The work depicts a cattle drive along the Shawnee Trail, one of the main Texas longhorn cattle drive routes before and after the Civil War.
- **Downtown Plano Arts District** (visitdowntownplano.com): Visit more than a dozen restored historic homes, the Interurban Railway Museum, and walk along authentic brick streets to discover an eclectic collection of antique shops, and boutiques selling everything from handmade jewelry to home décor and pottery. Catch a show/performance at Courtyard Theater, Cox Building Playhouse, or McCall Plaza, or see the artists in residence. Check the performance venue calendars for schedules and show times.
- **Fowling Warehouse** (fowlingwarehouse.com): Fowling is a unique and entertaining game that merges football with bowling and is perfect for small or large groups. It's as easy as throwing a football at ten bowling pins until someone knocks them all down. Fowling Warehouse's Plano location is the first in the south, their largest venue, and the first venue with full food & beverage options! This is a perfect indoor activity for adults, older kids and teens.
- **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 Museum** (heritagefarmstead.org): Set on four acres, this living history museum lets visitors step back into the late 1800s and early 1900s. The property's beautiful Victorian home and 12 outbuildings were once part 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 between 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 between Sherman and Dallas. The facility also includes an area that houses a colorful display of Plano history.
- **Southfork Ranch** (southfork.com): Revisit some memorable scenes 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 TV series. Horseback trail rides are also offered.

Arts and Entertainment:

Plano is the place for indoor and outdoor live music and theater, galleries, street art, independent film and more:

- **Downtown Plano Arts District** (visitplano.com/blog/must-see-public-art-in-plano/): Plano is making a name for itself in the art community. With the recent additions of 10 public art pieces including several eye-popping murals in the Downtown Plano Arts District, Plano has a colorful new look.
- **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.
- **Courtyard Theater** (planostages.com): Plano’s beautiful Courtyard Theater is a 321 seat facility with a proscenium stage. The space was originally the gymnasium for Plano’s Cox High School, a historic building constructed as a 1938 Works Progress Administration (WPA) project.
- **Cox Building Playhouse** (planostages.com): Also located in the Heritage Park Historic District, the playhouse is a blackbox theater and hosts various theater companies and events.
- **Douglass Community Art Wall**: The Douglass Community Arts Advisory Committee’s “Tracks of Our Past and Future” is a mural depicting the rich history of this neighborhood on the east side of Plano. The mural consists of Italian tiles featuring many of the people and places that have made the Douglass community and the city great.
- **Legacy Hall Box Garden** (legacyfoodhall.com): Adjacent to Legacy Hall with its artisan food stalls, this is the ultimate outdoor beer garden and entertainment spot with a 600 square foot stage that is home to frequent live music shows.
- **Red Tail Pavilion at Oak Point Park** (<https://www.plano.gov/1078/Red-Tail-Pavilion>): Visitors can enjoy a variety of outdoor concerts and performances at this 1,000 seat amphitheater located on the western edge of Oak Point Park.
- **Angelika Film Center** (angelikafilmcenter.com): The Angelika plays an impressive and diverse mix of independent films, and is the definitive cinema of choice for filmmakers and film lovers alike.

Festivals:

Plano offers an eclectic mix of events throughout the year. Below are just a few of the highlights; for a complete listing, go to visitplano.com/events.

- **Plano Balloon Festival & Run** (planoballoonfest.org): Plano is known as the “Hot Air Balloon Capital of Texas,” thanks to its balloon festival, which attracts more than 90,000 people each year. During the four day festival, the skies over Plano are filled with colorful, whimsically shaped orbs. Spectators can also take in the breathtaking nightly “balloon glows,” along

with fireworks, live music concerts, and more. Tethered balloon rides can also be booked, weather permitting. 2024 marks 43 years of ballooning in Plano.

- **Plano International Festival** (planointernationalfestival.org): Plano invites visitors to experience the convergence of many world cultures each year at the Plano International Festival. The 20th annual event will be held October 19, 2024 at Haggard Park. The free, family-friendly event features art, music, food and fashion from around the world.
- **AsiaFest** (asianamericanheritage.org/asiafest): Held every May in Haggard Park, this free family-friendly event showcases the rich cultures of Asia with numerous cultural demonstrations, performances, and vendors.
- **Plano Food & Wine Festival** (planofoodandwinefestival.com): The festival features over 100 award-winning wines, food from delicious local restaurants, culinary demons from local chefs, and many local boutiques and shops. This sell-out ticketed event is held at Legacy West in the fall.
- **Texas Forever Fest** (plano.gov/2060/Texas-Forever-Fest): Celebrate the food, art and people of our great state at Texas Forever Fest. This free event is a party as big as Texas held in Haggard Park. The fourth annual event will be held in March 2025.
- **Rest in Plano Fest & Apparition Expedition** (plano.gov/1043/RIP-Apparition-Expedition): Held simultaneously in late October, Apparition Expedition is a ticketed guided ghost tour through downtown Plano. Rest in Plano Fest is free to attend and will include live performers, curated vendors, and plenty of photo ops.

Dining:

Plano offers almost 1,000 dining options and every type of cuisine for visitors to enjoy. For a complete list of restaurants in Plano, see visitplano.com.

A sampling of dining options in downtown Plano includes:

- **Café Gecko** (cafegecko.net)
- **EBESU Robata and Sushi** (ebesu-usa.com)
- **Jorg's Café Vienna** (jorgscafevienna.com)
- **Lockhart Smokehouse** (lockhartsmokehouse.com)
- **McNeal's Tavern & Eatery** (mcnealsplano.com)
- **The Fillmore Pub** (thefillmorepub.com)
- **Twisted Root Burger Co.** (twistedrootburgerco.com)
- **Urban Crust** (urbancrust.com)
- **Urban Rio** (urbanrio.com)
- **Urban Seafood** (urbanseafoodcompany.com)
- **Vickery Park** (vickeryparkbar.com)
- **Voodoo Brewing Co.** (plano.voodoobrewery.com)
- **Ye Ole Butcher Shop** (yeolebutchershop.com)

A sampling of dining options throughout Plano includes:

- **Bulla Gastrobar** (bullagastrobar.com)

- **Bob's Steak & Chop House** (bobs-steakandchop.com)
- **Capital Grille** (capitalgrille.com)
- **Del Frisco's Double Eagle Steakhouse** (delfriscosgrille.com/plano)
- **Earls Kitchen and Bar** (earls.ca/locations/leg-west)
- **Eddie V's Prime Seafood** (eddiev.com)
- **Fleming's** (flemingssteakhouse.com)
- **Fogo de Chão** (fogodechao.com)
- **Ford's Garage** (fordsgarageusa.com)
- **Haywire** (haywirerestaurant.com)
- **Legacy Hall** (legacyfoodhall.com)
- **Love and War in Texas** (loveandwarintexas.com)
- **Mexican Sugar** (mexicansugarcocina.com)
- **Mignon** (mignonplano.com)
- **Pappas Delta Blues Smokehouse** (pappasdeltablues.com)
- **Seasons 52** (seasons52.com)
- **Sixty Vines** (sixtyvines.com)
- **Suburban Yacht Club** (suburbanyachtclub.com)
- **Taverna** (tavernabylombardi.com)
- **Taverna Rossa** (tavernarossa.com)
- **Toulouse** (toulousecafeandbar.com)
- **True Food Kitchen** (truefoodkitchen.com/plano)
- **Union Bear** (unionbear.com)
- **Whiskey Cake** (whiskey-cake.com)

Salons/Day Spas

Plano is home to several salons and day spas, including:

- **Bam Beauty Bar** (bambeautybar.com)
- **Drybar, The Shops at Legacy** (drybar.com)
- **Hiatus Spa & Retreat** (hiatusspa.com)
- **OVME** (ovme.com)
- **Spa Habitat Legacy** (spahabitat.com)
- **Taper + Tap** (taperandtap.com)
- **The Boardroom Salon for Men** (theboardroomsalon.com)
- **The Woodhouse Day Spa** (plano.woodhousespas.coms.com)
- **U Med Spa** (umedspa.com)

Shopping

Plano has more than 27 million square feet of retail space 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**: A decorator's dream with several home furnishing and décor stores all in one place.
- **Legacy West** (legacywest.com): A signature outdoor shopping destination offering top name brands of men's and women's clothing, jewelry,

eyewear, home furnishings, gifts, specialty confections, and even luxury cars (think Tesla.) The district also features luxury stores like CHANEL Fragrance & Beauty, Golden Goose, Gucci, Louis Vuitton, Tiffany & Co., and Tory Burch.

- **Preston Park Village:** A walkable expanse of 60-plus specialty shops with a movie theater and more than 15 restaurants.
- **The Shops at Legacy** (shopsatlegacy.com): This district is 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.
- **The Shops at Willow Bend** (shopwillowbend.com): This picturesque and upscale shopping center features more than 150 stores, anchored by Neiman Marcus and Macy's.

Family Fun:

Beyond the usual attractions that children and their families enjoy, Plano offers some notable venues that are well worth a visit:

- **Crayola Experience** (crayolaexperience.com): Plano's most colorful attraction is one of only five locations in the US. With 60,000 square feet of attractions, Crayola Experience is a favorite for interactive and 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.
- **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 with private VIP lanes, 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.
- **The Texas Pool** (texaspool.org): Swim across Texas at the historic Texas Pool, a 168,000 gallon saltwater pool shaped like the great State of Texas. This famous pool is a National Landmark listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The pool is open Memorial Day to Labor Day and features a diving board, two water slides, and an island with a shallow "South Texas" wading area for small children and parents.

**Outdoor:
Recreation:** Plano features more than 4,337 acres of public parks, offering more than 82 miles of recreation trails, six recreation centers, 133 public tennis courts including a 21-court tennis center, nine public swimming pools and more. Two standout locations are:

- **Arbor Hills Nature Preserve** (plano.gov): Located on the western border of Plano, Arbor Hills Nature Preserve is a 200-acre park featuring vast areas of natural beauty for walking, jogging, orienteering and other outdoor activity. Amenities include a playground, restrooms, approximately 2.3 miles of paved recreational trails, approximately two miles designated as an off-road cycling trail, an observation tower and three pavilions.
- **Oak Point Park & Nature Preserve** (plano.gov): Oak Point Park and Nature Preserve, Plano's largest park, is 800 acres and boasts nearly eight miles of concrete trails and five miles of soft surface trails located along Rowlett Creek.

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)

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