State Fair of Texas
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State Fair of Texas Food, Hours, and Admission

For 24 days in the beginning of autumn, the city of Dallas turns into the honky-tonkin’, two-steppin’ capital of the Lone Star State when the State Fair of Texas kicks off. Say hello to Big Tex (he’s a huge deal around here), then take in one of the 75 concerts, enjoy the rides in the midway, and check out the car and livestock shows. Hang out here long enough and you’ll probably start hankering for something tasty, and you’ll find anything you can imagine – and some things you’ve never thought of – at the fair. Sink your teeth into a corn dog or a turkey leg, or take a chance and try something on the more creative side. No matter what you go with, your taste buds will thank you. Find out more about how you’ll indulge your inner foodie at the State Fair of Texas below.

Food at the State Fair of Texas

When you think about the State Fair of Texas, the first few things that come to mind are probably the rides, midway games, concerts, and (of course) Big Tex. Yet there’s another attraction at the fair that can’t be overlooked: the food. Walk around the midway and the alluring aromas of smoked turkey legs and sugary sweet funnel cakes will fill your nostrils. While these are traditional fair favorites, there’s much more to savor. New fair foods are debuted in the Big Tex Choice Awards cooking competition, a State Fair of Texas
staple. If you want a sneak peak of this year’s finalists, buy a ticket to the Big Tex Choice Awards Judging / Tasting event held in August. Otherwise, you can try all of this year’s finalists when you visit the fair.

The 2020 Big Tex Choice Award Winners Include:

- Best Taste – Savory: Ruth’s Stuffed Fried Taco Cone *(Ruth Hauntz)*
- Best Taste – Sweet: Big Red Chicken Bread *(Brent and Juan Reaves)*
- Most Creative: Fla’Mango Tango *(The Garza Family)*

Past Big Tex Choice Awards Finalists Include:

- Fernie’s Holy Moly Carrot Cake Roly
- Smoky Bacon Margarita
- Fernie’s Fried King Ranch Casserole
- Awesome Deep Fried Nutella

Beyond all the tasty treats, there are still even more ways to indulge at the State Fair of Texas. Head to the Competition Kitchen to see the best and brightest of the culinary world vie for the title in a range of events, such as cake and cookie baking and one-pot meals. If you want to learn a thing or two about the art of cooking, check out one of the demonstrations led by prominent Texas cuisiniers at the Celebrity Chef Kitchen. When the sun sets and you’d like a break from the crowds, find your way to the Magnolia Beer Garden, where you can kick back and relax as you sip on a craft beer from the Lone Star State. There’s also the State Fair Wine Garden, where you can sample reds and whites from more than 40 Texas wineries and take in a concert at the sound stage.

Regardless of your culinary preferences, you’ll find something that will make your mouth water at the State Fair of Texas.

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**State Fair of Texas Hours**

Gates Open Daily at 7 a.m.

**Exhibit Buildings, Outdoor Exhibits, and Food Vendors**

Sunday – Thursday: 10 AM – 9 PM  
Friday – Saturday: 10 AM – 10 PM

Midway and museum hours vary daily.

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**State Fair of Texas Admission Prices**

- Season Pass: $45  
- General Admission: $18 (at Gate) / $16.50 (Online)  
- Senior Ticket (60+)*: $14 (at Gate) / $12.50 (Online)  
- Child Ticket (Up to 48” in Height): $14 (at Gate) / $12.50 (Online)  
- Big Tex Choice Awards Judging/Tasting Event: $125 (Online Only)

*Prices and hours are subject to change. Please check the State Fair of Texas’ [website](https://www.statefairoftexas.com) for up-to-date information on rates and schedules before making plans.*