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A Special Invitation!

Welcome to Fort Worth!

The staff and associates at the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT) are thrilled to have you here, right in our own backyard. We offer the following suggestions for top sights to see while you're here. And of course, we'd love to have you come visit us at BRIT! We're just a short Uber or cab ride away at 1700 University Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76107. We have free tours scheduled for Tuesday through Friday at 1:30 pm, and you can check out our exhibit "The Hidden Gardens of BRIT: BRIT collections on display."



If you're searching for drinks and live music, the [Scat Lounge in Sundance Square](#) is pretty unique! Located in an alley along the square, you ride an elevator to the basement of the old Woolworth's building and emerge in a darkly lit but richly textured jazz club. No TVs. No beer signs. Just good music and great cocktails! See the website for hours and dress code (just a few rules; nothing crazy). One warning: smoking is still allowed there.



[Sundance Square and Downtown Fort Worth](#) have so much to offer! Other than great places to eat and drink, from cheap to fancy, be sure to devote a few hours to walking around and visiting the shops, the Sid Richardson Art Museum, Bass Hall, the Water Gardens, and more. Sundance Square especially is very safe; there are bike cops and mounted police there to assist you if needed. But really, anyone should feel comfortable roaming the area by themselves.



[Billy Bob's!](#) This is the largest honky tonk in the world! If you can make it out there one night, We promise you'll have a good time!



If you don't like walking, check out the [B-Cycle program](#). \$8 for a 24-hr pass. There's a station right across from the Omni Hotel. You just check out a bike, ride to another station (there are at least 8 other stations in downtown), then walk to your destination. Easy as pie! <https://fortworth.bcycle.com/>



[The Kimbell Art Museum](#) is worth a visit for its permanent collection alone, which boasts rare works by important artists, including Michaelangelo Buonarroti's earliest known painting and a Pablo Picasso portrait from before his experiments with Cubism. The Kimbell's permanent collection is open to the public, and there are free docent-guided tours twice a week. If you can't catch a tour, you can still get plenty of information about the works on display—the Kimbell has exceptionally interesting artwork labels as well as free audio tours. During the Botany conference, there will be two special exhibitions: "Louis Kahn: The Power of Architecture" and "A Modern Vision: European Masterworks from the Phillips Collection."



[The Fort Worth Cultural District](#) is home to several highly-regarded museums. The Kimbell Art Museum (free permanent collection), Amon Carter Museum of American Art (free), and the Modern Art Museum (\$10) are all very near each other. The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History (\$11) and National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame (\$10 regular; half-price with admission to the Museum of Science and History) are within walking distance from the other museums (around half a mile). The Kimbell has a large, free underground parking garage. lick the link above for a map of the District.



[National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame](#). It's quintessential Fort Worth—the city of “Cowboys and Culture.” You'll appreciate the courage and bravado of the women who helped shape the American West, many of whose stories have not before been told widely. Make sure you take a ride on the mechanical bull! <http://www.cowgirl.net/>



[Bird Café in Sundance Square](#) is the perfect spot to grab dinner with new or old friends. The menu features small sharable plates of locally sourced ingredients, some of which are very “inventive.” I love coming here with groups—it's a great way to get to know each other and taste a lot of different foods. I recommend the fried sweetbreads! They also have a great wine, beer, and cocktail menu (their old-fashioned is my favorite in the city).



[Molly the Trolley](#) runs through downtown Fort Worth 7 days a week from 10am-10pm. Best of all—it's free! Time between trolleys is 10 minutes, and there's a stop right outside the Omni hotel.

