OFF THE INTERSTATE

FLATONIA…Founded 1873 by the Southern Pacific Railroad

Settled by Czech, English, German and Italian immigrants

Best known for the Czech traditions and railroads.

Train cross rails run north and south and east and west

Sightseeing

1. Central Texas Rail History Center and Rail Park….104 South Main St. 713-524-1750 Open: Friday 1-3 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

A railroad switching tower and caboose across the street are open by appointment…979-743-5366

1. E. A. Arnim Archives and Museum…101 E. North Main St…361-865-3455 Historical artifacts, furniture, documents and a livery stable. Self-guided walking and driving tours of the city are available here.
2. Flatonia Railroad Photo Pavilion…602 W. North Main.
3. St. Mary’s Catholic Church…821 FM 1295…Located in the village of Praha. A frame church that is one of the oldest of the state’s famous “painted churches”. An Art Nouveau-style paintings and mock architectural details. (Take US 90 west from Schulenburg to FM 1295, then south 8 miles)

Dining

Joel’s BBQ……IH-10 and F.M. 609 361-865-2454

Josesitos Mexican Resturant…507 E. IH-10 Frontage 361-865-9010

Red Vault Bristro…124 East S. Main 361-865-3663 (Take out only)

Robert’s Steakhouse….1241 N. State Hwy. 95 361-865-3099

Cistern Country Store…12604 N. State Hwy. 95 361-865-3655

HALLETTSVILLE…Known as the “13” city, in 1913 it had 13 letters in its name,1300

in population, 13 churches, 13 newspapers, and 13 saloons

(Ripley’s Believe it or Not)

Sightseeing

* A bison sculpture in the city part commemorates the Old Hallet Oak.
* Lavaca County Courthouse…Main Street at East Third Street. Modeled after the courthouse in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
* Lavaca Historical Museum…1205 N. Texana Street…361-798-4113

Features Old-Timers Baseball Hall of Fame, historical artifact, restored structures, photos, etc.

* Texas Championship Domino Hall of Fame and Texas Fiddlers Hall of Fame

Highlights history of dominoes and Texas fiddler memorabilia.

Knights of Columbus Hall. U.S. Hwy 77 South 361-798-2311

* Vietnam Veterans Memorial...An AH-1 Cobra helicopter, flags and plaque commemorate Lavaca county men who died in the conflict.

1614 N. Texana Street 361-798-2662

Dining

Cabos San Lucas Mexican Grill…1636 N. Texana St. 361-798-9227

Jalisco Café…706 E. 4th Street 361-798-5999

Novosad’s BBQ & Sausage Market…105 S. La Grange St. 361-798-2770

Other

Janak Packing, Inc. 3116 Hwy. 90 West 361-798-2985 (Country Store)

Kountry Bakery Inc. 802 East 4th Street 361-798-4423

LA GRANGE…A Texas Main Street City, an 1891 Romanesque Revival Courthouse,

and over 30 preserved and restored historic buildings. City is known for its

bakeries featuring kolaches.

* Faison Home…822 S. Jefferson Street Home to Nathanial Faison, one of the earliest settlers of Fayette County. It is one of the few residences solely owned by an African American freedwoman, Louisiana Brown.
* Fayette Heritage Museum and Archives…855 S. Jefferson St. View photographs, genealogy files, newspapers, and maps. 979-968-6418
* Monument Hill and Kreische Brewery State Historic Sites 414 State Loop 92. Monument was dedicated to the 1842 Dawson and Mier Expeditions which was known for the “black bean death lottery”. A 48-foot stone bronze and polychrome monument is a tomb for the Republic of Texas patriots. Heinrich Kreische, a German immigrant started one of the state’s first commercial breweries here. Follow the nature trail along the bluff overlooking the Colorado River to the brewery site.
* Scenic Drive…Follow US 77 south from La Grange. Turn right onto FM 2436 towards Hostyn. Stop at the Queen of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church to see the Hostyn Grotto. The first Texas Highway roadside park is 10 miles west on SH 71. It includes a scenic overlook of the Colorado River Valley.
* Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center….250 W. Fairgrounds Road …Replica of a Czech village, names of Czech settlers of the city, walking trails and a gift center.
* Texas Heroes Museum at the Old Fayette County Jail 171 South Main

Fri. & Sat. 10:00-4:00 p.m. 361-210-7318 (Call to see if open)

* Texas Quilt Museum…140 W. Colorado Street…979-968-3104 Charges for admission. Changing exhibits.

Dining:

Las Fuentes Mexican 658 S. Jefferson St. 979-968-8957

Back Porch BBQ 1602 N. Jefferson 979-968-1580

Open Friday & Saturday only (5 p.m.)

Weikel Store and Bakery 2247 W. State Hwy 71 979-968-9413

Known for kolaches.

Other:

D & D Ace Hardware 3611 W. State Hwy. 71 979-242-5146

SCHULENBURG…Known for its historic buildings and historical markers.

1. Painted Churches Tour…Best done on Saturday. Sites include Dubina, Ammansville, Praha and High Hill. Churches have hand painted murals, frescoes and art depicting Old World beauty. Exit the RV Park onto IH-10 East, exit at Hwy 90 and go left. Turn left onto FM 1383 to Dubina\* (St. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church. Go left on FM 1383 to Ammansville (St. John the Baptist Church). Follow 1383 to US Hwy. 77 Turn left and follow it to High Hill Road (FM 956) (turn right) and turn left onto FM 2672 and St. Mary’s Church High Hill.
2. Schulenburg Museum…631 N. Main 979-743-2403

Exhibits depicting life in this community.

1. Stanzel Model Aircraft Museum…311 Baumgarten St….979-743-6559. Brothers Victor and Joe Stanzel have their story told. Exhibits such as the original Tiger Shark. Hands on exhibits.
2. Texas Polka Music Museum…625 N. Main St. 979-743-4752 History and legacy of polka and fold music brought to Texas by Czech, German and Polish immigrants.
3. Von Minden Hotel 607 Lyons Ave. 979-743-3717 (Haunted???)

Opened in 1927 as a theatre.

Dining:

Garden Company Marketplace and Café..217 Kessler 979-743-4648

Oakwood Smokehouse 712 N. US 77 979-743-3372

Sengelmann Hall 531 N. Main Street 979-743-2300

City Market 109 Kessler Avenue 979-743-3440

\*Dubina dates from 1856. It was the first Czech settlement in Texas.

WEIMAR…An agricultural community. Historical markers at St. Michael’s Catholic

Church, the town library in the old train depot, the Masonic Lodge on

Jackson Square and in front of the post office.

* Weimar Heritage Society Museum…125 E. Main Street...979-725-9511 Displays of turn of the century business memorabilia. A room is dedicated to World Wars I and II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.