



- ★ **Texas** is popularly known as The Lone Star State.
- ★ The Alamo is located in San Antonio. It is where **Texas** defenders fell to Mexican General Santa Anna and the phrase Remember the Alamo originated. The Alamo is considered the cradle of **Texas** liberty and the state's most popular historic site.
- ★ **Texas** is the only state to have the flags of 6 different nations fly over it. They are: Spain, France, Mexico, Republic of **Texas**, Confederate States, and the United States.
- ★ Although six flags have flown over **Texas**, there have been eight changes of government: Spanish 1519-1685, French 1685-90, Spanish 1690-1821, Mexican 1821-36, Republic of **Texas** 1836-45, United States 1845-61, Confederate States 1861-65, United States 1865-present.
- ★ The King Ranch in **Texas** is bigger than the state of Rhode Island.
- ★ More wool comes from the state of **Texas** than any other state in the United States.
- ★ Edwards Plateau in west central **Texas** is the top sheep growing area in the country.
- ★ **Texas** is the only state to enter the United States by treaty instead of territorial annexation.
- ★ The state was an independent nation from 1836 to 1845.
- ★ A coastal live oak located near Fulton is the oldest tree in the state. The tree has an estimated age of more than 1,500 years.
- ★ Sam Houston, arguably the most famous Texan, was actually born in Virginia. Houston served as governor of Tennessee before coming to **Texas**.
- ★ Caddo Lake is the only natural lake in the state.
- ★ The first offensive action of the **Texas** Revolution occurred in Goliad on October 9, 1835 when local colonists captured the fort and town.
- ★ On December 20, 1835 the first Declaration of **Texas** Independence was signed in Goliad and the first flag of **Texas** Independence was hoisted.
- ★ The capital city of Austin is located on the Colorado River in south-central **Texas**. The capitol building is made from **Texas** pink granite.
- ★ Austin is considered the live music capital of the world.
- ★ The first word spoken from the moon on July 20, 1969 was Houston.

- ✪ Dr Pepper was invented in Waco in 1885. The Dublin Dr Pepper, 85 miles west of Waco, still uses pure imperial cane sugar in its product. There is no period after the Dr in Dr Pepper.
- ✪ The first suspension bridge in the United States was the Waco Bridge. Built in 1870 and still in use today as a pedestrian crossing of the Brazos River.
- ✪ In 1836 five sites served as temporary capitals of **Texas**: Washington-on-the-Brazos: Harrisburg: Galveston: Velasco: and Columbia. Sam Houston moved the capital to Houston in 1837. In 1839 the capital was moved to the new town of Austin.
- ✪ The capitol in Austin opened May 16, 1888. The dome of the building stands seven feet higher than that of the nation's Capitol in Washington, D.C.
- ✪ **Texas** comes from the Hasinai Indian word tejas meaning friends or allies.
- ✪ The armadillo is the official state mammal.
- ✪ The worst natural disaster in United States history was caused by a hurricane that hit Galveston in 1900. Over 8000 deaths were recorded.
- ✪ **Texas** possesses three of the top ten most populous cities in the United States. These towns are Houston, Dallas, and San Antonio.
- ✪ El Paso is closer to Needles, California than it is to Dallas.
- ✪ **Texas** includes 267,339 square miles, or 7.4% of the nation's total area.
- ✪ The state's cattle population is estimated to be near 16 million.
- ✪ More land is farmed in **Texas** than in any other state.
- ✪ More species of bats live in **Texas** than in any other part of the United States.
- ✪ The Tyler Municipal Rose Garden is the world's largest rose garden. It contains 38,000 rose bushes representing 500 varieties of roses set in a 22-acre garden.
- ✪ The world's first rodeo was held in Pecos on July 4, 1883.
- ✪ The Flagship Hotel on Seawall Boulevard in Galveston is the only hotel in North America built entirely over the water.
- ✪ The Heisman trophy is named for John William Heisman the first full-time coach and athletic director at Rice University in Houston.
- ✪ The Aransas Wildlife Refuge is the winter home of North America's only remaining flock of whooping cranes.
- ✪ Jalapeno pepper jelly originated in Lake Jackson and was first marketed in 1978.