

HOLLY, AUSTIN

LADYBIRD

LAKE HOUSE

A very good
corner of Austin.

A house to linger in.

A field guide to Holly.

Holly, East Austin

01 / GET YOUR BEARINGS

Holly, at walking pace.

Explore Holly, East Austin, near Lady Bird Lake. Let the neighborhood set the scale of the day.

There is no need to cross town for every meal. Begin with local cafes and restaurants, make room for the lake, and save a separate outing for places farther away. Holly is a lived-in neighborhood: homes, families and everyday routines come first.

THE BRIDGE

Wishbone Bridge connects the lake shores for pedestrians and cyclists. Make the public bridge a starting point for a lake outing.

THE LAKE & CITY

The lake trail opens up the city: follow the north shore toward Rainey Street, downtown and Congress Avenue. For a longer outing, cross at Pfluger Pedestrian Bridge and continue along the south shore toward Zilker.

FOOD & DRINK

Neighborhood streets lead to local cafes and restaurants. Several have East Cesar Chavez addresses; use marked crossings for the last approach.

The lake trail continues through I-35 toward Rainey Street and downtown. Follow the signed route through the construction area. Place labels give orientation, not measured walking times.

[Official trail map & city connections](#)

02 / A LAKE WALK

The Wishbone Bridge.



Wishbone Bridge, Austin. Photograph by Larry D. Moore.
Image cropped to fit. Source and license on page 13.

Spend some unhurried time at Wishbone Bridge. The public pedestrian and bicycle bridge opened in February 2026, creating a new way to experience this end of the lake and connect its shores.

The lake trail continues through I-35 toward Rainey Street and downtown. Follow the signed route through the construction area.

[City bridge access & project information](#)

[Current trail routes](#)

03 / MORNING

Coffee, corn, a slow start.

01 / EAST AUSTIN COFFEE

Mercado Sin Nombre

408 N Pleasant Valley Road

Make this your introduction to the neighborhood: Mexican coffee and baking built around heirloom corn. Start with a coffee, then let the current food and pastry selection decide the rest. It is a good first stop when you want breakfast to feel like part of the trip.

02 / EAST CESAR CHAVEZ

Juan in a Million

2300 E Cesar Chavez Street

A long-running East Austin breakfast institution, open since 1980. The Don Juan taco is the signature order; come with an appetite and choose your own pace. A hearty Tex-Mex start for a day that will involve more walking than scheduling.

03 / VIA NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS

Flat Track Coffee

1619 E Cesar Chavez Street

A coffee destination for a longer neighborhood walk. Use residential streets for the walk, then approach the cafe at its Cesar Chavez address. Check the cafe page before setting out, especially if you are pairing coffee with another stop.

04 / LUNCH

Lunch with a plan.

Two East Austin destinations; choose an outing for the day.

04 / EAST CESAR CHAVEZ

la Barbecue

2401 E Cesar Chavez Street

An East Austin barbecue outing worth planning ahead. Decide whether to queue or use the current preorder option before you go. Order a few meats and sides for the table, then share. Demand and availability vary: leave time for the line, and keep your order flexible.

[Menu, hours & details](#)

05 / SEPARATE OUTING / MLK

Sour Duck Market

1814 E Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard

For a bakery-and-sandwich detour, put Sour Duck on a separate outing north. Its baked goods and changing savory menu make a flexible lunch plan. Browse the current menu first, then build the afternoon around the trip instead of folding it into a quick Holly walk.

[Menu, hours & details](#)

A USEFUL RHYTHM

Choose one food anchor for the day, with time around it for a walk, a browse or an unhurried break.

05 / DINNER

Stay for dinner.

06 / EAST CESAR CHAVEZ

Intero

2612 E Cesar Chavez Street

Seasonal Italian cooking with a reason to save room: house-made chocolates. Let the current pasta menu lead your order. Reserve for a dinner you care about; bar seats and walk-ins depend on availability.

07 / EAST CESAR CHAVEZ

Bufalina

2215 E Cesar Chavez Street

Neapolitan pizza and natural wine make an easy brief for the evening. This East Austin location is mainly walk-in, with reservations for groups of six to eight. Check current details and leave time for a wait.

08 / EAST CESAR CHAVEZ

Austin Oyster Co.

2502 E Cesar Chavez Street

A new neighborhood option for oysters and a coastal turn at dinner, opened in spring 2026. Check the current menu and reserve when the evening needs certainty. A table on a particular day or deck should never be assumed.

09 / HOLLY STREET

Launderette

2115 Holly Street

Global small plates in a converted laundromat give this Holly Street stop its particular character. Choose it for dinner or a brunch occasion, then let the shared plates set the pace. Check service days and book ahead.

06 / AFTER DARK

One more, then home.

10 / EAST CESAR CHAVEZ

Blue Owl Brewing

2400 E Cesar Chavez Street, #300

A sour-beer specialist with other styles in the mix. Look at the current tap list if the group has mixed tastes. An easy place to make the drink itself the activity, without building a whole night around it.

11 / VIA NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS

Drinks Lounge

2001 E Cesar Chavez Street

A neighborhood bar with burgers and a record shop inside. Come for a drink and leave time to browse. This is the record-shopping stop in the guide; use the venue calendar for any specific event plans.

12 / EAST CESAR CHAVEZ

Lovebirds

2337 E Cesar Chavez Street

Cocktails, velvet and a patio: a good change of texture after dinner. Its Cesar Chavez address makes it a natural pairing with a nearby meal. Check current hours before treating it as the last stop of the night.

13 / COMAL STREET / RIDE AT NIGHT

The White Horse

500 Comal Street

The honky-tonk outing: live music, dancing and a reason to check the calendar. This is a 21-and-over venue. Verify the evening's lineup and lesson schedule, and arrange the trip home as part of the plan.

07 / ART & OBJECTS

Art, at walking pace.

The lake trail is also an art walk. These temporary works are part of the TEMPO 2025-26 exhibition.

Cenotaphs / TJ Lemanski

At Holly Fishing Pier, concrete columns preserve fallen local tree limbs and plant material, carbonized inside the forms. A memorial to the landscape growing around them.

Ghost Harps / J.C. King

At Holly Overlook, six wind-activated harps combine sound with heron forms. Pause and listen as part of the walk.

[2026 exhibition & art map](#)

14 / SEPARATE OUTING / EAST 11TH

take heart

1211 E 11th Street, #100

A shop for useful, beautiful objects, including Japanese makers. Browse cups, textiles and small things worth bringing home. Check store hours, then give yourself time to look.

[Store hours & details](#)

A HOUSE TO LINGER IN

Soft seating and an antique carved walnut record chest. Leave time between outings: an hour at home belongs in the itinerary, too.

08 / LAKE DAYS

The water, wisely.

A quieter shoreline stop

The Holly fishing pier is near the lagoon and baseball fields, south of the Camacho Activity Center at 35 Robert T. Martinez Jr. Street.

[Holly shoreline & fishing pier](#)

Fly fishing, just downriver

Below Longhorn Dam, the Colorado River draws fly fishers along the Roy G. Guerrero Park stretch. River fishing, with the city close by. Check river conditions, public access and Texas fishing requirements before casting.

[Local fishing report](#) / [Texas fishing requirements](#)

A little time on the water

EpicSUP rents on the opposite shore at 2200 S Lakeshore Boulevard. Festival Beach has a public launch at the end of Nash Hernandez Sr. Road. Check rental arrangements before you go.

[EpicSUP details](#)

Look at the lake; do not swim

Swimming in Lady Bird Lake is prohibited. Check the city's algae guidance before water activities, avoid visible algae, and keep pets away from it.

[City water & algae guidance](#)

09 / OUT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Room to play.

Parks, courts, fields and running on the east side.

Metz: shade & splash

At 2407 Canterbury, Metz has a new playscape with increased shade and a seasonal splash pad. Free water play runs May through October; check current hours.

[Metz splash-pad schedule](#)

Bring a basketball

Metz also has a covered basketball court. Bring a ball and check whether the court is available when you arrive.

[Metz park & playscape](#)

Baseball beside Camacho

Roy Velasquez Sr. Park has baseball diamonds, including a full-size field. Check with Austin Athletics before planning a game or reserving a field.

[Austin Athletics & field reservations](#)

Make the lake your running route

Include Wishbone Bridge in a lake run, or follow the north shore through I-35 toward Rainey Street, downtown and Congress Avenue. Follow the signed route through construction and choose your distance.

[Official running & walking trail map](#)

10 / THREE SMALL ITINERARIES

A few ways to spend a day.

Choose a thread. Leave the rest open.

01 A morning along the water

Start with coffee at Mercado Sin Nombre, then follow the north-shore trail through I-35 toward Rainey Street and downtown. Continue toward Congress Avenue, or cross Pfluger Pedestrian Bridge for the longer outing toward Zilker. Follow the signed route through construction.

02 A small-object afternoon

Browse take heart on East 11th Street. Give the browsing time to breathe, then return to Holly. Book Intero for dinner if seasonal pasta and chocolates fit the mood. Lovebirds is a nearby option afterward; check each stop's hours before linking them.

03 Metz, then Launderette

Start at Metz for playground time and, in season, splash-pad water play. Pause between outings. Choose an early Launderette meal if the menu works for your group, then a short evening bridge walk.

These are flexible sequences, not timed routes. Check opening days, reservations and trail conditions before you go.

11 / BEFORE YOU HEAD OUT

A few useful things.

CHOOSE A WALK THAT FITS THE DAY.

Use neighborhood streets for westward cafe and bar walks, with the final approach to each venue from there. The lake trail continues through I-35 toward Rainey Street, downtown and Congress Avenue. Follow the signed route and choose the length that suits your day.

MAKE THE EVENING PLAN BEFORE DINNER.

Reservations, age restrictions, music calendars and kitchen hours differ. Use each place's official page, and arrange a ride home from farther stops if needed. A bar seat is an option to ask about, not a guaranteed reservation substitute.

LET CONDITIONS CHANGE THE PLAN.

Carry water and sun protection. Prefer cooler parts of the day for a longer walk, and take a break when the heat calls for it.

TREAT THE BLOCK LIKE SOMEONE'S HOME.

It is. Keep conversations and music considerate near homes, use marked crossings, and leave driveways and paths clear. The pleasure of this location depends on the neighborhood continuing its everyday life.

Leave room for a discovery.

12 / POCKET INDEX

Keep this page handy.

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Place names and detail links open the official websites.
Details checked September 5-6, 2026.

Useful official pages

[Current trail routes](#)

[Trail map / Rainey, Congress & Zilker](#)

[Festival Beach public launch / paddling trail](#)

[Lady Bird Lake fishing rules](#)

Photo, p. 3: Wishbone Bridge 3, Austin, Texas, 2026
Larry D. Moore / [CC BY 4.0](#). Cropped to fit. The photograph
shows the public bridge, not Ladybird Lake House.