



The Tours

This document includes important tips on preparing for and debriefing a variety of City tours that we have been developed to give you a chance to explore new parts of Sugar Land! Five tours have been developed: one driving/walking tour and four biking tours. While the driving tour covers the whole City, we divided the biking tours to allow for a more manageable tour time and to keep them comfortable. We recommend that you budget between 1.5 and 2 hours for each tour.

Before the Tour

Learn the Route & Think about other Users

The best preparation is to learn your tour route. Knowing your route will help you stay on-course and identify key points to stop and make additional observations.

Read through the [Directions and Destinations page for your tour](#), then retrace the tour path using [Google Maps](#) to ensure you know it well.

As you trace your route on Google Maps, try to answer these questions:

- Would this route be comfortable for someone of any ability or experience? Would the experience be different if I were biking, walking, rolling a wheelchair, or driving? Would it be different as an eight year old? An eighty year old?
- If I could predict my post-tour observations now, what three things do I think I'll experience on this route?

Prepare with Safety in Mind

For the Driving Tour: If possible, ask another person in your household to drive while you navigate and make observations. If you are driving alone, consider planning stops along your route to take a break and reflect on what you observed. The driving tour includes walking breaks where you can explore certain parts of the City on foot. Make sure to use pedestrian buttons when crossing intersections.

For Bike Tours: Safety is important any time you ride a bike but is even more critical on these tours. Some of the tours are intentionally designed to take you across major barriers and along streets that are not well-designed for people walking and biking. The purpose is to better understand the City's full network of street typologies.

To stay safe, make sure you do the following things before you ride.

- Schedule your ride for a time of day with less traffic and comfortable temperatures.
- Budget about 1.5 to 2 hours for each tour.
- Let someone know when you plan to ride and when you plan to be back.
- If possible, bring another member of your household to ride with you.
- Make sure your bike is in working order. Check the air in your tires, make sure your brakes work well, and check to see if your chain is in good condition. Going on a test ride through your neighborhood is a great way to make sure all things are in working order.

During the Tour

Use the Tour Sheets & Stay Safe

Print and bring the tour direction and destination maps with you. You can also save them to your phone. The maps include a lot of detailed information. We understand it may be overwhelming, so please do not feel obligated to follow word-for-word. Use the map sheets and prompted questions however you choose. Our main goal is for you to experience the City's transportation network!

For the Driving Tour: Please follow the rules of the road and try to avoid distracted driving during the tour.

- Charge your phone before you leave.
- Bring water, caffeine, or any snacks you might want during the drive.
- Make sure to bring a mask in case you stop at any local businesses.

For Bike Tours:

Keep safety at the front of your mind during your ride:

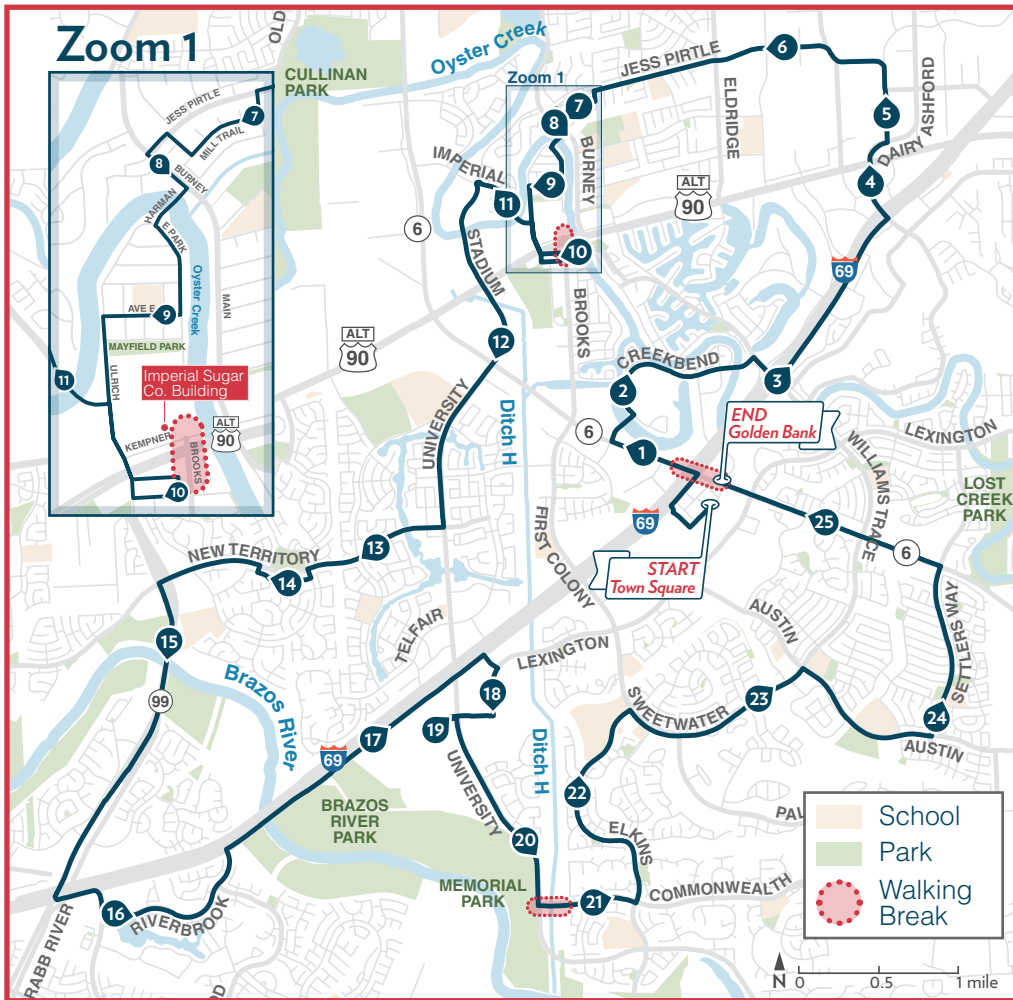
- Wear a helmet and sunscreen.
- Charge your phone before you leave.
- Bring plenty of water and stay hydrated.
- Make sure to bring a mask in case you stop at any local businesses.
- If you feel unsafe or fatigued during any part of the tour, do not hesitate to pull over and walk. It's okay to only do part of a tour, or to break a tour into segments over multiple days.

After the Tour

The following questions can be used to debrief your tour experience. Use these to chat with your tour companion or in a moment of reflection when back home.

1. Did you discover something on the tour that you have never seen before (e.g., a new destination, a barrier you did not realize existed, an new area of town)?
2. Would this route be comfortable for someone of any ability or experience? For example, if you were using a wheelchair, what would be your biggest barrier?
3. What parts of the tour were comfortable? What parts were uncomfortable?
4. Did you ever feel unsafe driving, biking, or walking on the tour? If so, where did you feel unsafe and why?
5. How would your experience on the route differ if it occurred during a peak travel period (rush hour)?
6. What is your overall perception of how streets are laid out in Sugar Land?
 - Were sidewalks present on the whole tour? Were they clear and wide enough for people to walk, use a wheelchair, or even bike?
 - Was there shade?
 - How did it feel to cross intersections on foot? Did certain design elements help an experience at an intersection?

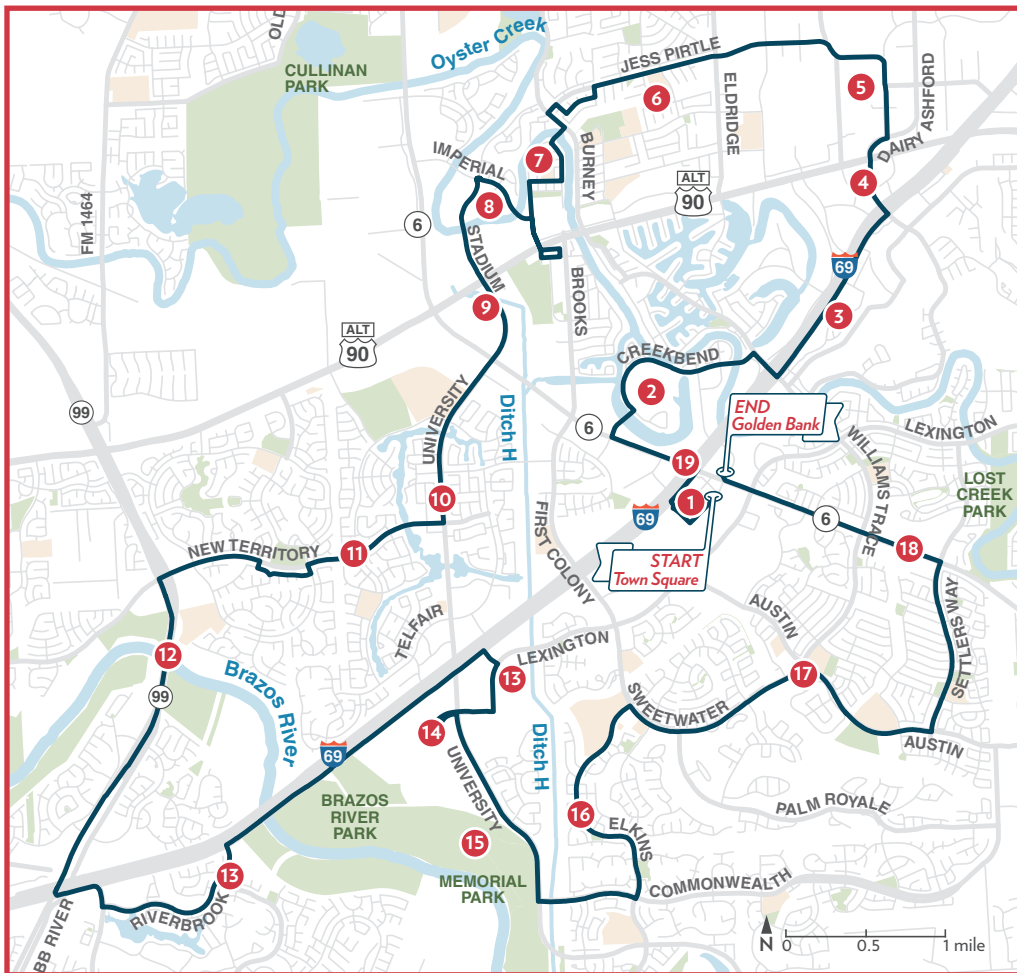
DIRECTIONS DRIVING TOUR 29 miles



DIRECTIONS

- 1 Walk around Town Square. Once you're finished exploring, exit northwest toward SH-6 and IH-69. Take a left to go west on SH-6.
- 2 Take a right on Fluor Daniel Dr. Take a left on Creekbend Dr.
- 3 Take a right onto Sugar Lakes Dr, cross under IH-69 and take a left onto the IH-69 northbound feeder Rd.
- 4 Take a left at Dairy Ashford Rd.
- 5 Take a left onto Julie Rivers Dr. At the fork, stay left to continue on Reed Rd.
- 6 Reed Rd will become Jess Pirtle Blvd. Continue straight.
- 7 Take a left on Mill Valley Dr. Take the first right onto Mill Trail Dr. Take a right on Mill Shadow Dr and a left to get back to Jess Pirtle Blvd.
- 8 Take a left from Jess Pirtle Blvd onto Burney Rd. Take the first right onto Harman St and cross the bridge.
- 9 Take a left onto E Park St and a right onto Ave E. Take a left onto Ulrich St.
- 10 **Walking Break!** Continue on Ulrich St, cross US-90A and take the first left on Guenther St. Park in the vacant parking lot on the north side of Guenther St. Spend time walking across US-90A at Brooks St. See how long it takes to cross all legs of the signalized intersection. If you are comfortable, cross the railroad tracks and explore the Imperial Sugar Company Building area.
- 11 Leave the parking lot and head west on Guenther St. Take a right onto Ulrich St and then a left onto Imperial Blvd.
- 12 Follow Imperial Blvd to the roundabout. Exit the roundabout onto Stadium Dr and continue as it turns into University Blvd.
- 13 Take a right onto New Territory Blvd. Make a small detour into the neighborhood by taking a left onto Homeward Way and the first right onto Adobe Trails. Take a right onto Cool Water Dr and another right onto Heatherton Way to return to New Territory Blvd.
- 15 Take a left onto the SH-99 feeder road. Continue along the feeder road until the IH-69 intersection. Turn left onto the northbound IH69 feeder road.
- 16 Take an immediate right onto Greatwood Pkwy, making sure to use caution as you change lanes. Take a left onto Riverbrook Dr.
- 17 Take a right onto the IH-69 feeder Rd.
- 18 Take a right onto Taborwood Ave and another right onto Lexington Blvd to enter the Smart Financial Centre complex.
- 19 Take a right to stay on Lexington Blvd. Cross University Blvd into the UH at Sugar Land campus. Find the Fort Bend County Transit Park & Ride lots.
- 20 Return to University Blvd and take a right.
- 21 **Walking Break!** Park at Memorial Park and explore the area. Time how long it takes to cross University Blvd and Commonwealth Blvd. Once you're finished exploring, head east on Commonwealth Blvd.
- 22 Take a left onto Elkins Rd.
- 23 Take a right onto Sweetwater Blvd and a right onto Austin Parkway.
- 24 Take a left onto Settlers Way Blvd.
- 25 **Walking Break!** Take a left onto SH-6. Instead of returning to Town Square, park in the Golden Bank parking lot and walk across IH-69 on the north side of SH-6 and then return.

THINGS TO SEE DRIVING TOUR



DESTINATIONS

- 1 Town Square has a mix of land uses, including civic, residential, commercial, and office. The streets are laid out in a grid and include design elements like wide sidewalks. How do you feel walking around Town Square?
- 2 Creekbend Dr has a delineated bike lane in one direction and “sharrows” (indicating that bikes and cars share the road) in the other direction. Notice how the bike lane is offset from the curb 7 feet. Which bike lane would be easier to use?
- 3 IH-69 is one of the City’s major north-south mobility barriers with limited crossing points from north to south. This puts a lot of pressure on a few key roadways. What are your experiences crossing IH-69? Is it different during peak hour traffic?
- 4 The Sugar Creek Triangle is one of the City’s major employment centers. Notice how left turns are prohibited from Parklane Blvd onto Dairy Ashford Rd. Why do you think that might be?

- 5 This section of Sugar Land is home to the City’s light industrial land uses and most of its streets are older. There are a lot of businesses based here. Look around and see which businesses call Sugar Land home. Why do you think they chose this location?
- 6 Sugar Mill Elementary School has one of the highest percentage of students walking to school. Why do you think that is?
- 7 This part of the City was originally built as a company town by the Imperial Sugar Company. How are its Streets different than newer developments?
- 8 The Imperial Development includes some of the newest streets and homes in the City. The housing types are very diverse, including small lot townhomes. Note the roundabout, sidewalk widths, and crosswalk design.
- 9 Ditch H is a major barrier to east-west connectivity. The City is in the process of designing a trail along Ditch H that will cross underneath IH-69 and SH-6, stretching from Clements High School to just south of US-90A.
- 10 The design of University Blvd is similar to many of the City’s major Streets. It has a wide median with multiple vehicle travel lanes.
- 11 Like University Blvd, New Territory Blvd is also similar to many of the City’s major Streets. How do University Blvd and New Territory Blvd differ?
- 12 The Brazos River is a major barrier to connectivity. Only SH-99 and IH-69 cross the river, limiting mobility for all road users. Without sidewalks or other routes, biking and walking across the river is dangerous and illegal.
- 13 Lexington Blvd west of Ditch H is one of the City’s newest streets and serves the Smart Financial Centre. Notice the wide sidewalks and crosswalk treatments. These large tracts of land will be developed over time. What would you like to see here and what should it look like? What do you think their transportation network should include?
- 14 The UH at Sugar Land campus houses one of the two Fort Bend County Transit Park & Ride stations in its parking lot. Feel free to explore the campus to find where the bus picks up and drops off passengers.
- 15 A levee maintenance road connects Brazos River Park and Memorial Park and currently acts as an informal trail for people to walk and bike between the two parks.
- 16 Elkins Rd has a standard bike lane. How does this bike lane compare to the one on Creekbend Dr? Would you bike here?
- 17 Sweetwater Blvd, Austin Pkwy, and Settlers Way Blvd all have similar designs. Do you notice any differences? How does it feel to drive these Streets? What would it feel like to bike or walk on these streets?
- 18 SH-6 is a major commercial corridor. Is it easy to access stores along SH-6? How does accessing these stores compare to other areas in the City? How would it feel to walk along SH-6? Are its sidewalks continuous?
- 19 Both IH-69 and SH-6 are major vehicular corridors but barriers if you are walking. What does it feel like to walk across this intersection? Stand and observe operations of the intersection for a bit. What do you see?