

# **EXPLORE THE HISTORIC** SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS WORLD HERITAGE SITE

# **DRIVE, BIKE, BUS**

SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS

WORLD HERITAGE TRAIL







## MISSION LOCATIONS **MISSION SAN ANTONIO DE VALERO, THE ALAMO**

300 Alamo Plaza

**MISSION CONCEPCIÓN** 🛜 807 Mission Road

**MISSION SAN JOSÉ & VISITOR CENTER** 🛜 6701 San Jose Drive

**MISSION SAN JUAN** 🛜 9101 Graf Road

**MISSION ESPADA** 🛜 10040 Espada Road 🛜 Free Wi-Fi available at Mission Locations

# **FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**THE ALAMO** 300 Alamo Plaza - San Antonio, Texas 78205 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Daily Last entry 15 minutes prior to closing thealamo.org for the latest information

Closed Christmas Dav

### SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Mission Concepción & Mission San José: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Daily Mission San Juan & Mission Espada: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Daily nps.gov/saan

Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day & New Year's Day

# **SPECIAL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES**

There are a broad range of events happening at each of the San Antonio Missions all year. Go to WORLDHERITAGESA.COM

San Antonio's missions symbolize an era when the world was expanding, cultures were intertwining, and the global landscape was forever changed. Today they remain a thriving religious center for many San Antonians and a historic destination for the entire world to enjoy.

## **HISTORY OF THE MISSIONS**

**MISSION SAN JOS** 

San Antonio's five Spanish colonial missions (Concepción, San José, San Juan, Espada and Valero, also known as The Alamo) are the largest collection of Spanish colonial architecture in the world. In partnership with the Catholic Church the missions were established in the early 1700s by the Spanish crown as it expanded its empire in the Americas. Through mission life the local indigenous people were taught the ideals of Spanish citizenship which included conversion to Catholicism. The missions, along with Rancho de Las Cabras - a Spanish colonial ranch that supported Mission Espada and is one of the first ranches in Texas - comprise the only UNESCO World Heritage Site in Texas.

Straddling either side of the spring-fed San Antonio River, the five missions are uniquely close to one another, each approximately three miles from the next. They proved critical to Texas' history and heritage, shaping the San Antonio landscape with their acequias, farm fields, ranchlands, and mission communities. Indigenous people and people from around the empire of New Spain were brought together to claim this land. Their blended technology, art and lifeways form the South Texas culture that we have today.

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## WHAT YOU CAN EXPERIENCE

RIVER WALK MISSION REACH: The River Walk Mission Reach connects four of the missions, providing a great opportunity to hike or bike from mission to mission. The river is also open for kayaking. Learn more at www.sariverauthority.org.

TOURS - 300 YEARS IN THE MAKING: All missions are open to the public and free of charge. Self-guided, guided and audio tours allow visitors to walk the historic grounds and explore 18th century architecture. Daily at Mission San José: 10 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Mission Concepción-Saturdays at 10 a.m. & Sundays at 1:30 p.m.

MUSEUM & AWARD-WINNING FILM: San Antonio Missions National Historical Park's Visitor Center offers a gift shop and a museum with artifacts that explain life within the Spanish missions. An on-site theater shows the award-winning film Gente de Razón, which tells the story of the native people of 18th century South Texas, their role in colonizing New Spain and the impact of the San Antonio missions.

EXPERIENCE A STORY BIGGER THAN TEXAS AT THE ALAMO: In its 300 years, the Alamo has shaped the city of San Antonio, ignited the battle for Texas independence, and influenced American history. Experience the heroes and events that have made the story of the Alamo captivating for generations of Texans and visitors. Entrance to the Church, Long Barrack Museum, Living History Encampment, and special exhibits is free; multiple language audio tours and guided tours are available for purchase.



