



**nileGUIDE**

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



BruceTurner

# The Top 10 Breakfast Spots in Austin

## Austin, 1 Day

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# Guide Description



**AUTHOR NOTE:** Everyone knows that breakfast is the most important meal of the day and when you're traveling, it couldn't be truer. From greasy spoons to healthful plates, Austin's breakfast scene has got you covered. Local favorites (migas, breakfast tacos and kolaches--oh my!) abound in the capital city, as do more traditional morning dishes like pancakes, omelets and pastries. The biggest problem is often deciding which restaurant to try within moments of waking up. So rise, shine and try one of my favorite breakfast spots for hungry out-of-towners.

# Itinerary Overview

things to do  
restaurants  
hotels  
nightlife

## Day 1 - Austin



### Juan in a Million

Traditional Mexican food since 1981



### Star Seeds Cafe

Popular late-night hangout



### Kerbey Lane Cafe

Austin's favorite organic eatery



### Maudie's Cafe

Traditional Tex-Mex



### Taco Shack

Lots of food for a small price



### Cisco's Restaurant Bakery & Bar

Tex-Mex breakfast bar



### Magnolia Cafe

Home cooking round the clock



### Kolache Shoppe

Czech it out



### Omelettry (The)

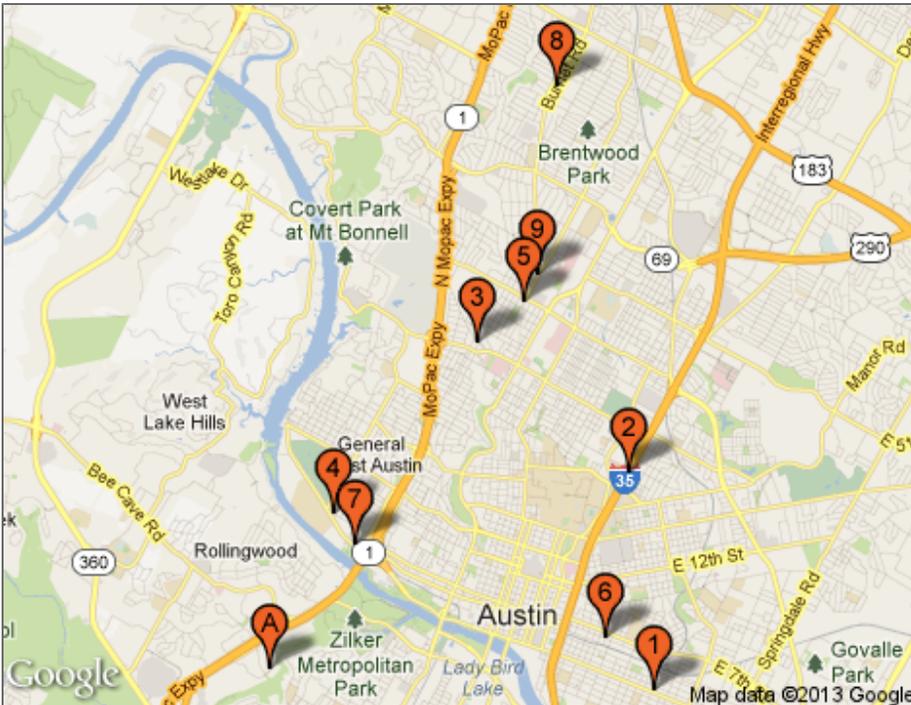
Classic, small diner



### Tacodeli

Perhaps the best taco in Austin

# Day 1 - Austin



## QUICK NOTE

**contact:**  
tel: +1 512 472 3872  
fax: +1 512 472 5626  
<http://www.juaninamillion.com>

**location:**  
2300 East Cesar Chavez  
Street  
Austin TX 78702

**hours:**  
M-Su 7a-3p

## 1 Juan in a Million

**DESCRIPTION:** Located on East Cesar Chavez is this little Mexican place painted all in pink. Diners are instantly captivated by the no-nonsense decor, the comforting bustle, and the warm greeting of its owner, Juan Meza. Family owned and operated since 1981, Austinites flock to Juan in a Million for the Don Juan—a gargantuan taco stuffed with eggs, potatoes, bacon, and cheese, as well as enchiladas and fajitas.



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**contact:**  
tel: +512 478 7107  
<http://www.starseedscafe.com>  
/

**location:**  
3101 North I H 35  
Austin TX 78722

**hours:**  
Daily 24 hours

## 2 Star Seeds Cafe

**DESCRIPTION:** This funky roadside restaurant, located on the grounds of Days Inn University along Interstate 35, provides a hip late-night hangout for all types. Musicians and music fans alike mingle over omelets, breakfast tacos and a full range of diner food. Students are drawn to it because of the late night hours, convenience to UT and affordable menu items. After 2 a.m. there is often a wait while the bar crowd trickles in. The walls are covered with artwork—not anything typical, usually very eclectic or raw pieces are shown. The atmosphere is laid back and casual with diner booths filling the small space. © wcities.com



wcities

**contact:**

tel: +1 512 451 1436  
http://www.kerbeylanecafe.com/

**location:**

3704 Kerbey Lane  
Austin TX 78731

**hours:**

Daily 24 hours

**3 Kerbey Lane Cafe**

**OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:**

Looking for a way to eat out with the family on a shoestring budget? Head to this Austin favorite on Tuesday, when kids can eat free with the purchase of an adult entree.

**DESCRIPTION:** It has been cloned now, three times, but the original location of this Austin icon is still the best place to eavesdrop in town. Its wonderfully diverse menu makes vegetarians and non-vegetarians go happy and healthy. The vegetables are homegrown and pesticide-free, and the beef and chicken are free-range. Breakfast features omelets, pancakes and great breakfast tacos. Prices are on the inexpensive side. The restaurant is open 24 hours, every day. No wonder it is an institution here. There are three other locations in the city: 2700 S Lamar Blvd, Austin, TX 78704 (+1 512 445 4451,) 13435 Hwy 183 N, Suite 415, Austin, TX 78750 (+1 512 258 7757) and 2606 Guadalupe St, Austin, TX 78705 (+1 512 477 5717.) © wcities.com



wcities

**contact:**

tel: +1 512 473 3740  
http://www.maudies.com

**location:**

2608 West 7th Street  
Austin TX 78703

**hours:**

Su-W 8a-9:30p, Th-Sa 8a-10p

**4 Maudie's Cafe**

**DESCRIPTION:** This restaurant offers traditional Tex-Mex fare all day long. Located in a mall, you generally wouldn't expect the food to be this good or the restaurant to be so popular. Other locations: 1212 S Lamar Blvd Austin, TX 78704 (+1 512 440 8088,) 10205 N Lamar Blvd Austin, TX 78753 (+1 512 832 0900,) 9911 W Brodie Ln Austin, TX 78748 (+1 512 280 8700) and 3801 N Capital of Texas Hwy Austin, TX 78746 (+1 512 306 8080.) © wcities.com



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**contact:**

tel: +512 300 2112  
fax: +512 300 2113  
http://www.tacoshack.com

**location:**

4412 Medical Parkway  
Austin TX 78756

**hours:**

M-F 6:30a-2:30p, Sa 7a-1p

**5 Taco Shack**

**DESCRIPTION:** A favorite of the locals on Saturday mornings, this tiny family-owned business is bursting with people willing to wait in a line that extends out the front door for a simple breakfast taco. But their food is anything but simple. The Taco Shack breakfast specialty, the Shack Taco, is filled with eggs, potatoes, cheese and chorizo. Although they can certainly prepare a basic breakfast taco with your choice of fillings, try the Burnet Road Burrito if you are extra hungry and want something to fill you up. For lunch, try the Shack Lunch Special. No matter what you order, you will not be disappointed. Other locations: 8201-B1 Crosspark Drive Austin, TX (+1 512 928 3534,) 4002 N Lamar Blvd Austin, TX (+1 512 467 8533,) 2825 Guadalupe St Austin, TX (+1 512 320 8889,) 3901-C Spicewood Springs Rd Austin, TX (+1 512 418 8900,) 12439 Metric Blvd Austin, TX (+1 512 873 7977) and 402 Brazos St Austin, TX (+1 512 473 0101.) © wcities.com



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**contact:**

tel: +1 512 478 2420  
[http://austin.citysearch.com/profile/10207711/austin\\_tx/cisco\\_s\\_restaurant\\_bakery.html](http://austin.citysearch.com/profile/10207711/austin_tx/cisco_s_restaurant_bakery.html)

**location:**

1511 East Sixth Street  
Austin TX 78702

**hours:**

M-Su 7 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**6 Cisco's Restaurant Bakery & Bar**

**DESCRIPTION:** Founded in the 1950s, Cisco is an Austin institution. This Tex-Mex eatery has served its famous breakfast migas to the who's who. The clientele may have changed but the recipe hasn't. Migas, meaning 'crumbs' in Spanish, is made from eggs, cheese, vegetables and tortillas with black beans, chorizo and avocado chile varieties. Many an egg-hater has been converted by Cisco's migas. Cisco is also a bar, and the Bloody Mary is best had to nurse a hangover, not something you'd want to begin your day with. Migas, fajitas and toasted biscuits--that's all you really need to know about Cisco. © wcities.com



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**contact:**

tel: +1 512 478 8645  
<http://themagnoliacafe.com/>

**location:**

2304 Lake Austin Boulevard  
Austin TX 78703-4546

**hours:**

Daily 24 hours

**7 Magnolia Cafe**

**DESCRIPTION:** This is comfort food to please adults and children alike, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You will wait for a table, especially on weekends, but the wait only serves to sharpen the appetite for breakfast tacos and gingerbread pancakes, fajitas and burgers, grilled chicken and vegetarian entrees. The kid's menu is vast, offering burgers, black bean and chicken tacos and breakfast items. The atmosphere is relaxed and homey. A second location can be found at 1920 S Congress Ave Austin, TX 78704 (+1 512 445 0000.) © wcities.com



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**contact:**

tel: +1 512 458 5542  
fax: +1 512 458 1473  
<http://www.kolacheshop.com/>

**location:**

7113 Burnet Rd  
Austin TX 78757-2216

**hours:**

M-F 7a-4p, Sa 7a-2p

**8 Kolache Shoppe**

**DESCRIPTION:** Located in the La Promenade Shopping Center, it's easier to spot the Kolache Shoppe with your nose, rather than your eyes. Look for the Dallas nightclub and let the smell of fresh baked dough guide you into this days-of-yore bakery. Of Czechoslovakian origin, the Kolache Shoppe prepares its 20 odd varieties of kolache, with an assortment of meat and cream cheese fillings, all from scratch. The kolaches are ideal for breakfast or lunch, given the hefty helpings. © wcities.com



citysearch

**contact:**

tel: +1 512 453 5062  
[http://austin.citysearch.com/profile/10236468/austin\\_tx/omelettry.html](http://austin.citysearch.com/profile/10236468/austin_tx/omelettry.html)

**location:**

4811 Burnet Road  
Austin TX 78756

**hours:**

**9 Omelettry (The)**

**DESCRIPTION:** Since 1978, this friendly little diner has served breakfast, lunch and dinner with a menu that pleases the vegetarian as well as the carnivore. Sit at a wooden table, a booth, or a barstool on the white-and-black-checkered floor and taste the famous gazpacho or vegetarian chili while waiting for your avocado BLT. If you prefer morning grub like eggs, fries, pancakes and bacon homestyle, you've come to the right place. The chili con queso omelette is loaded with cheese and



wcities

M-Su 7a-5p

covered with jalapenos and even more cheese. Pancakes filled with blueberries, bananas, chocolate chips, pecans or raisins are another specialty. The weekends are very busy, with standing room only a common practice. No credit cards, checks or phone-in orders are accepted. © wcities.com

**contact:**

tel: +512 732 0303  
http://www.tacodeli.com

**location:**

1500 Spyglass Road  
Austin TX 78746

**hours:**

M-F 7a-3p, Sa-Su 8a-3p

**A Tacodeli**

**DESCRIPTION:** Home of the frontera furtido - succulent grilled chicken or delicious marinated sirloin garnished with flash-sauteed poblano pepper and onion strips and finished off with a mouth watering glaze of Monterey Jack cheese. It's so tasty, you might think it's the best taco in Austin! Check out Tacodeli's second location at 12001 Burnet Road, Austin, TX (+1 512 339 1700.)



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# Austin Snapshot

## Local Info

With its perfect proportions of adventurous spirit and laid-back atmosphere, Austin wins visitors over time and time again. Nestled in the southern portion of the Lone Star State, the capital city doubles as the hub of serious government affairs and the supreme getaway for outdoor recreation and cultural escape.

### Downtown

The heart of Austin lays downtown, among the busy streets and inner workings of the state government. The Texas State Capitol--built of pink granite and native limestone and standing 14 feet taller than the nation's Capitol in Washington, D.C.--anchors the area's main thoroughfare, Congress Avenue. The street that once paved the way for horses and carriages now houses some of Austin's tallest buildings, including the futuristic-looking Frost Bank Tower--the first high-rise to be constructed in the U.S. following the September 11, 2001 attacks.

The downtown area juggles work and play with a handful of areas organized especially for after-hours fun. Comparable to New Orleans' famous Bourbon Street, Austin's East Sixth Street is often the first place rowdy tourists visit for a memorable night out. Within an eight-block stretch, more than 100 shot bars, live music venues, dance clubs, restaurants and souvenir shops line the street, which is cordoned off from vehicular traffic most nights of the week.

The post-collegiate crowd heads a few blocks west to one of three nearby areas: the Warehouse District, West Sixth Street or the Second Street District. Each neighborhood offers an array of trendy eateries alongside classy pubs, bars and clubs and is only a pedicab ride away from one another.

As the self-described "Live Music Capital of the World," Austin touts a constant schedule of bands and musicians throughout the city, though most

performances are concentrated in the downtown area. The Red River District, located one block west of IH-35 between Sixth and 10th Streets, attracts a mixture of punk, heavy metal and indie rock acts at venues like Emo's, Mohawk and Red-Eyed Fly, while Stubb's regularly schedules big-time touring acts of all genres at the barbecue joint's outdoor amphitheater.

Other popular downtown music venues include Antone's, Austin Music Hall, La Zona Rosa, the Elephant Room and Cedar Street Courtyard, among others. All of these locations and hundreds of other venues host musicians, film premieres and interactive parties during the South by Southwest Music, Film and Interactive Conference held each March.

### University of Texas/ The Drag

Part of Austin's draw is the highly ranked and centrally located University of Texas at Austin. The 40-acre campus sits right in the midst of the city's action, with more than 50,000 students enrolled each semester. The grounds also holds some of Austin's finest museums, including the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum, the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center and the Jack S. Blanton Museum of Art. The campus' western border--Guadalupe Street--is known as the Drag, a mile-long section of coffee shops, cafes and Longhorn-centric stores like the University Co-Op. The open-air Renaissance Market houses local artisans peddling their wares under shady tents, while the nearby Toy Joy stocks the largest array of random baubles fit for all ages.

### South Austin

Lady Bird Lake, formerly known as Town Lake, intersects the city just south of downtown, creating the unofficial divide between Central and South Austin. The Lady Bird Lake Hike and Bike Trail keeps Austinites and travelers alike in shape with nearly 10 miles of landscaped trails amid the hustle and bustle of downtown. Zilker Park, a 400-acre park along the southern shores of the lake, provides wide

open space for kite-flying, Frisbee and other outdoor activities, including dancing at the Austin City Limits Music Festival each October. Kayak and canoe rentals let people enjoy a view of the skyline from the water, while Barton Springs Pool, a natural spring-fed swimming hole, offers up a cool and refreshing respite from the infamous Texas heat. A handful of quirky restaurants--namely Chuy's, Shady Grove, Romeo's, Austin Java Co. and Uncle Billy's Brew & Que--line Barton Springs Road, offering quick and easy meal options for those enjoying the beautiful weather year-round.

Along with university students, musicians and outdoorsy-types, Austin also hosts the largest urban colony of Mexican free-tail bats in North America, which take up residence under the Ann Richards Congress Avenue Bridge from March to November. Their nightly flight for food occurs around dusk and attracts hundreds of visitors eager to see the throngs of insect-eating bats take to the skies.

Just a couple blocks south of the bat haven sits the hip and trendy South Congress Avenue, referred to locally as SoCo. This strip, only a mile or so away from St. Edward's University, houses some of the city's most unique shops (Uncommon Objects, Parts & Labour, Lucy in Disguise) alongside hip hotels (Hotel San Jose, Austin Motel, Hotel Saint Cecilia) and locally owned eateries (Zen Japanese Food Fast, Home Slice Pizza, Guero's Taco Bar). On the first Thursday of each month, area businesses keep late hours while hundreds mingle along the street, shopping and enjoying live music during the free event appropriately dubbed First Thursday. Another SoCo highlight: Airstream trailers-turned-food vendors, and not just of the sno-cone variety. From cupcakes to chicken cones (you have to try one to understand), the block of food trailers draws quite a crowd every night of the week.

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