



'Staycation,' 'Daycation' Deals Abound In Austin For Summer Fun

Those unable to visit far-flung destination for summer vacation might consider local hotel lodging or pool passes for decadent fun.

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AUSTIN, TX — Those who have yet to take a summer vacation might want to consider a "staycation" instead or maybe a pool pass at a fancy hotel, both growing trends allowing for much-needed rest and relaxation in one's own backyard.

Austin happens to be a great town for staycations. In a recent WalletHub study on the nation's best and worst cities for staycations, the capital city ranked a not-too-shabby 15th among 182 studied cities. Austin was, by far, the highest-ranked Texas city — ahead of 56th ranked Amarillo, Houston (63) and San Antonio (64).

In assembling its list, the personal finance site compared the cities using a set of 43 key indicators "...of a fun-filled yet wallet-friendly staycation," researchers wrote. Read the [WalletHub study here](#).

But let's get back to those primo staycation sites and the best pool passes in town. There are a number of fine lodging sites providing affordable options through the use of appealing packages to enjoy every last bit of summer. Here are some of our picks:

STAYCATION OPTIONS

AT&T Hotel and Conference Center

1900 University Ave.

Located on the University of Texas at Austin campus, the AT&T Hotel and Conference Center is in close proximity to all the downtown Austin action. Whether you're kayaking at Lady Bird Lake, perusing the exhibits at the Blanton Museum of Art or just bar hopping in the central business district's entertainment corridors, AT&T Hotel and Conference Center is close to it all. Their weekend getaway package includes complimentary breakfast for two at [The Carillon](#), and late check-out of 2 p.m.

Hotel Ella

1900 Rio Grande St.

Through Aug. 30, guests can enjoy steeply discounted rates on select rooms at Hotel Ella, an elegant boutique hotel housed inside a Greek revival-style mansion called the Goodall Wooten House. The package also includes welcome amenities upon arrival and gift cards for guests to enjoy restaurants on property. Here are the details:

- \$169 Classic Queen room rate.
- \$20 gift card to Goodall's Kitchen, to be used during or after your stay.
- Welcome amenities including bottle of wine and welcome note.
- Must show local ID or proof of residency.
- Booking code: AUSTINITE.
- Reservations [HERE](#).



Courtesy photo by Jake Holt.

Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort & Spa

575 Hyatt Lost Pines Rd., Cedar Creek, TX

This 4-star hotel and resort just outside of Austin offers many luxurious amenities , not the least of which is perfect for summer: An on-site Crooked River Water Park that features a 1,000-foot lazy river, a two-story water slide, sandy beach, and an adults-only section with a relaxing pool and whirlpool. Just imagine yourself poolside. Sounds inviting, eh?



Photo courtesy of Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort & Spa.

Lone Star Court

10901 Domain Dr.

Located north of Austin within The Domain lies Lone Star Court, Austin's favorite retro-inspired boutique hotel. The property transports guests into the Texas Hill Country and

away from the hustle and bustle of the city. Guests can trade in their boots for flip-flops and cool off with their Summer of Poptails hotel package, which includes guest room accommodations for two, two Poptails from The Water Trough, and \$10 credit towards the Mini Bar food & beverage items per night.

East Austin Hotel

1108 E 6th St.

Nationally recognized with culinary openings that include Suerte and Sour Duck Market, East Austin has a distinct personality among the city's neighborhoods, and continues its growing appeal among travelers and locals alike. Explore all East Austin has to offer while staying at the city's newest hotel, East Austin Hotel — a 75 room boutique hotel with a luxe-to-less price range. Spend a night Poolside in a Room or Suite, or experience the hotel's cost-conscious Cabin rooms where chic Single Queen rooms (starting at \$99/night) share spa-like, private bathrooms down the hall. Take a dip in the courtyard pool and Sunday Funday during East Austin Hotel's Summer Swell pool parties.



Image (left to right): King Guestroom at AT&T Hotel and Conference Center, Poptails at Lone Star Court, Cabin Room at East Austin Hotel. Courtesy image.

South Congress Hotel

1603 S. Congress Ave.

Through Aug. 30, guests can enjoy steeply discounted rates on select rooms at the South Congress Hotel in the midst of its namesake entertainment and shopping corridor. The package also includes welcome amenities upon arrival and gift cards for guests to enjoy restaurants on property.

- Locals Promotion Package:
 - \$179 River City room rate.

- \$25 gift card to Central Standard, to be used during or after your stay.
- 2 complimentary frozen cocktails at the pool.
- Welcome amenities including welcome note and locals only gear.
- Must show local ID or proof of residency.
- Booking code: SCHSWIMCLUB.
- Reservations [HERE](#).



Photo of the poolside room at South Congress Hotel by Nick Simonite.