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Fredericksburg Invites Visitors to Experience Year-Round Dark Skies in the Texas Hill Country

FREDERICKSBURG, TX – Fredericksburg invites visitors and astronomy enthusiasts alike to experience some of the clearest, most breathtaking night skies in Texas. As a designated International Dark Sky Community, Fredericksburg offers exceptional stargazing opportunities year-round at Enchanted Rock State Natural Area and Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park.

Named an International Dark Sky Community in 2020, Fredericksburg earned this distinction through a commitment to preserving natural night skies, including implementing a comprehensive lighting ordinance, promoting dark sky education and partnering with local and state organizations to reduce light pollution. [Enchanted Rock Natural State Area](#) played a key role in this designation, offering expansive, open landscapes that make it one of the best places in Texas for unobstructed celestial views.

Visitors can enjoy stargazing at Enchanted Rock and Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park any clear night of the year. For the best experience, guests are encouraged to plan ahead, reserving a day pass for Enchanted Rock, arriving before sunset and staying into the evening and considering weekday visits or off-peak seasons when the park is less likely to reach capacity. Even without specialized equipment, the Hill Country's low light pollution allows for incredible naked-eye viewing, with binoculars or telescopes enhancing the experience even further.

Throughout the year, a variety of organized programs offer deeper opportunities to connect with the night sky. Seasonal star parties at Enchanted Rock, often hosted in partnership with local astronomy groups, invite visitors to view celestial objects through telescopes and learn from knowledgeable guides. Ranger-led programs and night experiences, including guided hikes and educational talks, provide additional ways to explore the landscape after dark.

As part of these ongoing offerings, visitors this spring can enjoy special events that highlight the region's dark skies. On **April 18 from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.**, the University of Texas Astronomy Students Association will host a star party at Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, offering telescope viewing and expert insight under some of the darkest skies in Texas. Admission to the dark sky event is free with the purchase of a [park ticket](#). In addition to star gazing parties, Enchanted Rock is also famous for their

nighttime hikes, like the [Geology Night Hike](#), offering nature enthusiasts a unique way to experience the spectacular sights of the Texas Hill Country. April's full moon this year falls on the first day of the month, and visitors are invited for an exclusive [Pink Moon Viewing Party](#) from 7:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

Earlier in the season, on **March 21**, [Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park](#) hosted an evening that began with the Junior Ranger Night Explorer Program, followed by telescope viewing with members of the Hill Country Astronomers. These events are part of a broader lineup of recurring programs offered throughout the year.

The region's dedication to protecting its night skies continues to grow. Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park became the area's second International Dark Sky Park in 2021. Dark sky monitors installed throughout the region help track sky quality, ensuring optimal viewing conditions are maintained for generations to come.

With wide-open skies, minimal light pollution and a strong commitment to preservation, Fredericksburg offers a truly memorable stargazing experience.

Additional information about the upcoming spring star parties can be found [here](#).

For a complete calendar of events and travel planning resources, visit [VisitFredericksburgTX.com](#).

The mission of the Fredericksburg Convention and Visitor Bureau is to market Fredericksburg and Gillespie County as a premier travel destination on the regional, national and international stage thereby creating a positive impact on the local economy and the quality of life here.