

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION • OCTOBER 21, 2016

# SITE 2017

**28<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE**

SOCIETY FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
AND TEACHER EDUCATION

**March 5-9, 2017  
Austin, Texas  
Sheraton Austin Hotel  
at the Capitol**

**AAACE**

Association for the Advancement  
of Computing in Education

[aace.org](http://aace.org)

**LearnTechLib**  
The Learning and Technology Library

[LearnTechLib.org](http://LearnTechLib.org)

Co-sponsored by:  
Journal of Technology  
& Teacher Education (JTATE)

[site.aace.org/conf](http://site.aace.org/conf)

**SITE 2017** is the annual conference of the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education. This society represents individual teacher educators and affiliated organizations of teacher educators in all disciplines, who are interested in the creation and dissemination of knowledge about the use of information technology in teacher education and faculty/staff development. SITE is a society of the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE).

SITE is unique as the only organization which has as its sole focus the integration of instructional technologies into teacher education programs. SITE promotes the development and dissemination of theoretical knowledge, conceptual research, and professional practice knowledge through conferences, books, projects, and the Journal of Technology and Teacher Education (JTATE).

You are invited to attend and participate in this annual international forum which offers numerous opportunities to share your ideas, explore the research, development, and applications, and to network with the leaders in this important field of teacher education and technology.

### **Over 1,500 presentations in 30 major topic areas!**

The Conference Review Policy requires that each proposal will be peer reviewed by three reviewers for inclusion in the conference program and Proceedings.

SITE is the premier international conference in this field and annually attracts more than 1,200 leaders in the field from over 60 countries.

## Scope

The Conference invites proposals from the introductory through advanced level on all topics related to:

- (1) the use of information technology in teacher education, and
- (2) instruction about information technology in

- Preservice
- Graduate Teacher Education
- Inservice
- Faculty & Staff Development

Proposals which address the theory, research and applications as well as describe innovative projects are encouraged.

## Presentation Categories

The Technical Program includes a wide range of interesting and useful activities designed to facilitate the exchange of ideas and information.

- Keynote Speakers
- Full & Brief Papers
- Best Practices Session
- Posters/Demonstrations
- Corporate Showcases
- Symposia
- Virtual Showcases
- Invited Panels/Speakers
- Panels
- Roundtables
- Corporate Demos/Literature
- Workshops
- Virtual Brief Papers
- Virtual Corporate Presentations

Proposals which address the theory, research and applications as well as describe innovative projects are encouraged.

## Corporate Participation

The SITE conference gives you the unique opportunity to present your company's Net related products to an international forum at a discounted rate. Within the special Industry track, SITE will allocate a 30 minute (Corporate Showcase) or 2 hour (Poster/Demo) period in the Program for your presentation.

## Information for Presenters

- All communication will be with the contact author and/or principal presenter who is responsible for communicating with co-presenters of that session.
- The conference will attempt to secure basic equipment needs for presenters, with the exception of poster/demonstration presenters. However, when equipment cannot be obtained, presenters will need to bring or rent equipment. The name of a rental firm can be provided if needed.
- Presenters must pay the registration fee.

## The SITE Conference is designed for

- Teacher educators in ALL disciplines
- Computer technology coordinators
- K-12 administrators
- Teachers
- Curriculum developers
- Principals
- All interested in improving education through technology

## Information Technology Topics

- Computational Thinking
- Digital Fabrication
- Digital Storytelling/Media
- Distance/Flexible Education
- Equity and Social Justice
- Games & Simulations
- Graduate Education and Faculty Development
- International Education
- K-12 Online Learning
- Mobile Learning
- Research & Evaluation
- Technology Leadership
- Wearable Technologies in Education
- Workforce Education

## Teacher Education Topics

- African Perspective
- Assessment and E-folios
- Assistive Technologies
- Creativity
- Early Childhood Education
- Engineering Education
- English Education
- Geospatial Education
- Information Literacy Education (Library & Media Science)
- Mathematics Education
- New Possibilities with Information Technologies
- Science Education
- Social Studies Education
- Special Education
- Teaching & Learning with Emerging Technologies (TLET)
- Technological, Pedagogical, And Content Knowledge (TPACK)
- Universal Design for Learning

### New Topic for K-12 Teachers & School Leaders

- Teaching with Technology: Classroom Applications for 21st Century Learning – A Forum for Teachers and School Leaders

## SITE Proceedings & LearnTechLib Digital Library

Accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings and internationally distributed via LearnTechLib — The Learning and Technology Library, ([LearnTechLib.org](http://LearnTechLib.org)). This Proceedings serves as a major source document indicating the current state of teacher education and information technology. Each conference registrant will receive permanent online access to the conference proceedings. Selected papers may be invited for publication in AACE's respected journals especially in the Journal of Technology and Teacher Education (JTATE). See: [aace.org/pubs](http://aace.org/pubs)

## Paper Awards

All presented papers will be considered for Best Paper Awards within several categories. Award winning papers may be invited for publication in the Journal of Technology and Teacher Education (JTATE) or Contemporary Issues in Technology & Teacher Education (CITE).

## Hotel & Travel Arrangements

Special hotel room rates will be available to conference attendees. Please see [site.aace.org/conf](http://site.aace.org/conf) for hotel information and rates.



## Teaching with Technology: A Forum for Teachers & School Leaders

Teachers and School Leaders are invited to participate in sessions on practical, effective ways to teach with technology in today's schools.

**Who Should Attend the Teaching with Technology Forum:** K-12 Teachers, School Administrators, School Technology Coordinators.

### Overview

- Classroom-related, practical sessions will be offered from most SITE Conference topics.
- Linking in-school learning with social media can make education more relevant, meaningful, and connected.
- Educational leaders will share practical ways to bridge conventional school practice with informal learning.
- Web 2.0 technologies and sites are becoming an integral part of youth culture.
- In an era of globalization and a world that is increasingly flat, effective use of social media is rapidly becoming a vital 21st Century skill.
- Educators can tap students' enthusiasm and creativity to shape and carry out their education agenda while preparing students for the workforce of the future.

**Many practical, classroom sessions will be offered including but not restricted to:**

- Mathematics, Science, English, and Social Studies Teaching
- Games & Simulations, Assessment, E-folios, Distance learning, and more
- Digital Video in Mathematics, Science, Language Arts, and Social Studies Classrooms and After-school Programs.
- Web 2.0 Sessions (blogging, podcasting, etc.)

**Registration:** The Teaching with Technology Forum will span two days within the larger SITE conference. A separate program will be provided for local teachers and technology coordinators who register for it. A discounted K-12 teacher registration rate offered for teachers includes the Forum and entire SITE conference.

**Continuing Education Credits:** SITE will provide upon request a Certificate of Participation to document your participation in the Teaching with Technology Forum and SITE Conference.



Visit the SITE Blog, for announcements, resources, and ideas from SITE and your colleagues in teacher education and technology.

<http://site.ace.org/blog/>

## SITE Electronic Journal citejournal.org



*Contemporary Issues in Technology and Teacher Education (CITE)* is an electronic publication of the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (SITE), established as a multimedia, interactive electronic counterpart of the *Journal of Technology and Teacher Education*. Funded by a U.S. Department of Education Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology (PT3) catalyst grant, *CITE* makes possible the inclusion of sound, animated images, and simulation, as well as allowing for ongoing, immediate dialog about theoretical issues.

**Subscriptions are at no cost due to a PT3 grant from the U.S. Dept. of Education**

Each professional society has sole responsibility for editorial review of articles in its discipline. This is the only joint venture of this kind in the field of teacher education.

**The CITE Journal includes three major categories of articles.**

- 1. Current Issues** include theoretical discussions of technology and teacher preparation. Articles address technology and teacher education, assessment, attitudes, beliefs, curriculum, equity, research, translating research into practice, learning theory, alternative concepts, sociocultural issues, special populations, and integration of subjects.
- 2. Current Practice** offers brief, up-to-the-minute snapshots of technology in practice.
- 3. Seminal Articles** republish classic works that are landmarks in technology and teacher education.

### Current Issues Articles

The respective professional societies for each of the following disciplines have sole responsibility for editorial review of Current Issues articles in their discipline:

- **Science Education:** Association for the Education of Teachers in Science (AETS)
- **Mathematics Education:** Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE)
- **English Education:** Conference on English Education (CEE)
- **Social Studies Education:** National Council of Social Studies College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA)
- **General Technology:** Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (SITE)

**Complimentary subscriptions - Article submissions invited!**

**Author Guidelines:** [www.citejournal.org](http://www.citejournal.org)

**Search CITE Back Issues:** [www.citejournal/search](http://www.citejournal/search)

**Subscribe to Receive CITE via Email:** [www.citejournal/subscribe](http://www.citejournal/subscribe)

## Journal of Technology and Teacher Education [site.ace.org/pubs/](http://site.ace.org/pubs/)

This official journal of SITE serves as a forum for the exchange of knowledge about the use of information technology in teacher education.

### Journal content covers:

- preservice and inservice teacher education,
- graduate programs in areas such as curriculum and instruction,
- educational administration,
- instructional technology, and
- educational computing.

### Content categories include:

- Research Papers,
- Evaluations,
- Experimental Studies,
- Tutorials,
- Case Studies,
- Courseware Experiences,
- Opinions, and
- Qualitative Studies.

*A quarterly subscription to JTATE is included with SITE membership.*

# SUBMISSION INFORMATION

## FULL PAPERS

**Presentation time:** 25 minutes  
**Submission proposal length:** 3-8 pages (1,875-4,950 words); an abstract is not sufficient to be evaluated as a Full Paper.  
**Proceedings length:** 8 pages maximum  
**AV equipment provided:** PC, Projector, Wi-Fi

Papers present reports of significant work or integrative reviews in research, development, applications, and societal issues related to all aspects of the conference topics.

## FULL PAPERS (EDITED BOOK CANDIDATES)

*(Submit final completed version for review)*

**Presentation time:** 25 minutes  
**Submission proposal length:** 7-8 pages (4,950 words); the final version must be submitted initially.  
**Proceedings length:** 8 pages maximum  
**AV equipment provided:** PC, Projector, Wi-Fi

"Full Papers (Edited Book Candidates)" are Full Paper submissions initially submitted in their final form and reviewed for presentation, conference proceedings, and publication in a book of selected papers. This book, Research Highlights in Technology and Teacher Education, will be published after the March conference. If not accepted for the book, the submission still will be considered for proceedings publication and presentation as a Full Paper.

Full Papers (EBC) present reports of significant work or integrative reviews in research, development, applications, and societal issues related to all aspects of the conference topics.

## BRIEF PAPERS

**Presentation time:** 15 minutes  
**Submission proposal length:** 1-3 pages, (625-1,875 words)  
**Proceedings length:** 6 pages maximum  
**AV equipment provided:** PC, Projector, Wi-Fi

These papers are brief, more condensed presentations or work-in-progress projects.

The submission should clearly indicate:

- What is going to be shown or demonstrated or offered;
- The major aspects;
- The context or motivation; and
- Relevant URLs or literature references.

## BEST PRACTICES

**Presentation time:** 20 minutes  
**Submission proposal length:** 1-2 paragraphs  
**Proceedings length:** 6 pages (for proceedings) or 150 words (to be published only in Abstract Book)  
**AV equipment provided:** PC, Projector, Wi-Fi

Best Practices session presenters discuss and demonstrate their organization's online learning strategies, techniques, issues, solutions, and courseware. This is an opportunity to Inform attendees about the lessons learned and future plans from those who have designed, developed, and implemented online learning.

## PANELS

**Presentation time:** 1 hour  
**Submission proposal length:** 1-3 pages, (625-1,875 words)  
**Proceedings length:** 6 pages maximum for each paper  
**AV equipment provided:** PC, Projector, Wi-Fi

A Panel, consisting of 3-5 people (including the chair), present their views on a common theme, issue, or question, and then to discuss them with the audience.

## PANELS (continued)

The Panel must present an opportunity for the audience to hear well reasoned arguments and discussions about pertinent topics as seen from a variety of viewpoints. For example, 'on-line testing' could be a Panel discussion with panelists presenting arguments in support of, and in opposition to, testing.

Panels must include the audience. Thus, the panelists should take no more than 30, of the total 60 minutes, to make their case and then guide the audience through a discussion and series of questions and answers. In an effort to present differing viewpoints, it is a requirement that panelists can NOT all represent the same institution, research project, or association.

Panel selection will be based on the importance, originality, focus and timeliness of the topic; expertise of proposed panelists; as well as the potential for informative AND controversial discussion.

**Panels must allot at least 50% of the time for interaction and discussion with the audience.**

The Panel leader should provide an abstract describing the panel and a submission file with the following sections that describe the panel:

- 1) introduction that links the theme to the literature and its significance for the field of information technology and teacher education, around 150 word abstracts of each panelists' perspective,
- 2) list of panelists' perspective titles and authors, with their organizations, and countries in the order they will be presented, and
- 3) outline of how the panel will be organized. After acceptance, the Panel coordinator will be given the option to invite Panel authors to submit their papers to a specific website. Until then, authors should NOT submit their individual papers for the Panel. Contributing authors may choose to publish their papers in the Proceedings as a Full or Brief Paper. The Panel abstract will only appear in the conference Abstract book.

## ROUNDTABLES

**Presentation time:** 1 hour  
**Proposal submission length:** 1-3 pages (625-1,875 words)  
**Proceedings length:** 6 pages maximum  
**AV equipment provided:** Wi-Fi, round table, electricity

These sessions allow maximum interaction in informal, small-group discussions on a single topic. The format is appropriate for papers, projects, or work-in-progress that encourage discussion. Roundtables typically share a room with 3-5 other concurrently held Roundtables.

If you wish to bring a PC, you could demonstrate a new piece of software, illustrate the process of using it, show participants some of the complexities and tricks about it, and give them an opportunity to try it themselves.

Internet (via your wireless card) and electricity will be provided. A screen and projector will not be provided as this is an informal small group discussion environment not conducive for projecting images from a distance.

These sessions are also appropriate for discussion of instructional strategies, procedures, and evaluation procedures. The idea is not to give a definitive workshop on the topic but to provide participants with enough information to help them decide whether their needs can be met with the program or procedure.

If software is to be discussed, include a description of the software and the objectives of the session.

# SUBMISSION INFORMATION

## POSTER/DEMONSTRATIONS

**Presentation time:** 2 hours  
**Proposal submission length:** 2-3 pages (1,250-1,875 words)  
**Proceedings length:** 6 pages maximum  
**AV equipment provided:** 4'x8' poster board, 6' table, 2 chairs, electricity, Wi-Fi

Poster/Demonstration sessions enable researchers and non-commercial developers to demonstrate and discuss their latest results and developments in progress in order to gain feedback and to establish contact with similar projects.

### Poster/Demonstration proposals must include:

- Description of the planned Poster/Demonstration; should emphasize the problem, what was done, and why the work is important. Poster/Demonstration presenters will be required to arrange for their own systems software and hardware.

## CORPORATE DEMONSTRATIONS/LITERATURE

**Presentation time:** 2 hours  
**Proposal submission length:** 1-2 paragraphs  
**Proceedings length:** 150 words (to be published only in Abstracts Book)  
**AV equipment provided:** 4'x8' poster board, 6' table, 2 chairs, electricity, Wi-Fi

Demonstrate and discuss your company's products, services, developments, applications and research, inform the audience of your future directions, gain feedback, and establish contacts.

Scheduled with Poster/Demonstrations grouped together in open exhibition-style, usually all in one hall. This is an informal event with a circulating conference-wide audience. Sales are permitted. You may stock and sell your product at your table.

## CORPORATE SHOWCASES

**Presentation time:** 30 minutes  
**Proposal submission length:** 1-2 paragraphs  
**Proceedings length:** 150 words (to be published only in Abstracts Book)  
**AV equipment provided:** PC, Projector, Wi-Fi

Demonstrate and discuss your company's products, services, developments, applications and research, inform the audience of your future directions, gain feedback, and establish contacts.

Scheduled concurrently only with other Showcases. Presentation rooms generally accommodate 50-150 people, theatre-style. This is more of a formal presentation than the Corporate Demonstration.

## WORKSHOPS

**Presentation time:** 3.5 or 7 hours  
**Proposal submission length:** 1-3 pages (625-1,875 words)  
**Proceedings length:** no pages  
**AV equipment provided:** Instructor PC, Projector, Wi-Fi

Workshops are intended to enhance the skills and broaden the perspective of their attendees. They should be designed to introduce a rigorous framework for learning a new area or to provide advanced technical training in an area. Submissions will be selected on the basis of the instructors' qualifications for teaching the proposed Workshop and their contribution to the overall conference program.

**Note:** An instructor PC, projector, screen and WI-FI will be provided for the room. Due to the extra expense required, a lab of computers cannot be furnished. If your Workshop is hands-on, please state what equipment you will bring or that participants should BYOL-Bring Your Own Laptop.

Workshop proposals must include:

- Clear description of the objectives
- Intended audience (experience level and prerequisites)
- Proposed length (3 hours or 6 hours)
- 200-word abstract
- 1-page topical outline of the content
- Summary of the instructor's qualifications

## SYMPOSIA

**Presentation time:** 2 hours  
**Proposal submission length:** 1-3 pages (625-1,875 words)  
**Proceedings length:** 6 pages maximum for each paper  
**AV equipment provided:** PC, Projector, Wi-Fi

A Symposium is a collection of Full and/or Brief Papers on a theme that has been coordinated and led by the symposium's leader(s). Each Symposium that is accepted will be allocated two adjacent hour-long slots in the conference program.

The Symposium leader should provide an abstract briefly describing the symposium and a submission file with the following sections:

- 1) introduction that links the theme to the literature and its significance for the field of information technology and education, around 150 word abstracts of each paper,
- 2) list of paper titles and authors, with their organizations, and countries in the order they will be presented and indicating which will be presented the first and second hours, and
- 3) outline of how the symposium will be organized.

After acceptance, the Symposium coordinator will be asked to invite Symposium authors to submit their papers to a specific website. Until then, authors should NOT submit their individual papers for the Symposium.

Contributing authors may choose to publish their papers in the Proceedings as a Full or Brief Paper. The Symposium abstract will only appear in the conference Abstracts book.

## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

**Submit all proposals at:  
[site.aace.org/conf/](http://site.aace.org/conf/)**

All proposals must be submitted by uploading Rich Text Format (.RTF) or MS Word (.DOC) file formats using the Web form. No hard copy paper, faxed, or e-mail submissions will be accepted. Please send your proposal only ONE time.

Questions? Contact AACE Conference Services at:  
[conf@aace.org](mailto:conf@aace.org)



Formerly EdITLib—Education & Information Technology Digital Library

**LearnTechLib is the premier online resource for peer-reviewed research on the latest developments and applications in Learning and Technology. Encompassing 100,000+ journal articles, conference papers, e-books, and multimedia content from 200,000+ leading authors, LearnTechLib connects research and learning within one platform.**

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**[www.LearnTechLib.org](http://www.LearnTechLib.org)**





# PRESENTATIONS SUBMISSION INFORMATION

## Virtual Presentations

In consideration of presenters who may be unable to attend in person due to funding or time constraints, Virtual Presentations have been added to the program with the same validity (publication, certification, etc.) as the face-to-face (F2F) conference and with the capability to interact with session participants.

## Why a Virtual Presentation?

- Saves money. No travel, accommodation, and restaurant costs
- Saves time. No travel or away time required.
- Allows you to participate on your own schedule.
- Same validity as the face-to-face (F2F) conference (publication, certification, etc.).
- Paper published in LearnTechLib Digital Library Proceedings.
- Publish and share all supporting media (PPT, video, etc.) with all attendees and in the Digital Library proceedings.
- Capability to interact with your session's participants (async) prior to, during and after the event.
- Participate in all conference session discussions (async).
- Viewing of keynote and invited speaker talks.
- Virtual presentations are green and reduce your carbon footprint.
- And more...

## Virtual Registration Includes

- Paper published in LearnTechLib Digital Library Proceedings.
- Capability to interact with your session's participants (async) prior to, during and after the event.
- Technical support for online presentation platform.
- Access to Keynote & Invited Speaker talks, papers, and PPTs.
- Access to all conference session discussions (async).
- Viewing of keynote and invited speaker talks.
- Free, Permanent online access to Conference Proceedings via LearnTechLib ([www.LearnTechLib.org](http://www.LearnTechLib.org)).

## VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

**Submit all proposals at:  
[site.aace.org/conf/](http://site.aace.org/conf/)**

All proposals must be submitted by uploading Rich Text Format (.RTF) or MS Word (.DOC) file formats using the Web form. No hard copy paper, faxed, or e-mail submissions will be accepted.

Please send your proposal only ONE time.

After submitting your proposal, use the menu at [conf.aace.org/site/submission](http://conf.aace.org/site/submission) and select "Add Files to Submission" to upload supporting media i.e., PowerPoint and video files. Also, at least one author must confirm by registering by the advance registration deadline.

Questions? Contact AACE Conference Services at:  
[conf@aace.org](mailto:conf@aace.org)

## VIRTUAL BRIEF PAPERS

**Presentation time:** 30 minutes

**Proposal submission length:** At least 4 pages, properly formatted as per the guidelines; maximum of 6 pages. An abstract is not sufficient to be evaluated as a Brief Paper.

**Proceedings length:** 6 pages maximum

Virtual Brief Paper sessions enable researchers, developers, and practitioners to present and asynchronously discuss, via the conference website and online Discussion board, their latest results and developments in progress in order to gain feedback and to establish contact with similar projects.

These papers are brief, more condensed presentations or work-in-progress projects. These sessions also may be new extensions to existing projects, newly initiated projects, and/or projects underway that include opportunities for additional partners.

**Virtual Paper proposals must include:**

- Description of the planned Brief Paper and should emphasize the problem, what was done, and why the work is important

The submission should clearly indicate:

- What is going to be shown or demonstrated or offered;
- The major aspects;
- The context or motivation;
- Relevant URLs or literature references.

**To be included in the Final Program, accepted Virtual Brief Paper presenters will be need to register by the confirmation deadline and also submit their presentation in one or more of the following file formats: PowerPoint (PPT, with audio preferred), Video (FLV, WMV,MPEG, AVI ), Audio (MP3, MIDI). All presentation files also will be reviewed.**

## VIRTUAL POSTERS

**Presentation time:** 30 minutes

**Proposal submission length:** 2-6 pages (1,250-3,750 words)

**Proceedings length:** 6 pages maximum

Virtual Poster sessions enable research, developers, and practitioners to present and asynchronously discuss, via the conference website and online Discussion board, their latest results and developments in progress in order to gain feedback and to establish contact with similar projects.

**Virtual Poster proposals must include:**

- Description of the planned Poster/Demonstration; should emphasize the problem, what was done, and why the work is important.

**To be included in the Final Program, accepted Virtual Poster presenters will be need to register by the confirmation deadline and also submit their presentation in one or more of the following file formats: PowerPoint (PPT, with audio preferred), Video (FLV, WMV,MPEG, AVI ), Audio (MP3, MIDI). All presentation files also will be reviewed.**

## VIRTUAL CORPORATE SHOWCASES

**Presentation time:** 30 minutes

**Submission length:** 1-2 paragraphs

**Proceedings length:** 150 words (to be published only in Abstract Book)

Demonstrate and discuss your company's products, services, developments, applications and research, inform the audience of your future directions, gain feedback, and establish contacts.

**To be included in the Final Program, accepted Corporate Showcase presenters will be need to register by the confirmation deadline and also submit their presentation in one or more of the following file formats: PowerPoint (PPT, with audio preferred), Video (FLV, WMV,MPEG, AVI ), Audio (MP3, MIDI). All presentation files also will be reviewed.**

**Accepted virtual submission authors will be able to record optional audio for their PPT. This recording is encouraged but not required.**





# Austin

## WEIRD, WESTERN, & WONDERFUL

Live music capital of the world, an artists mecca, a bat haven, a culinary hot spot, and a place where cowboys and proudly self-proclaimed weirdos live side-by-side. You might think we're talking about several different cities, but you only need one ticket to experience it all. Austin, Texas, has for many years now experienced a boom of music, entertainment, culture, and world renown cuisine. This Texas town has a huge personality and is set on the stunning outdoor backdrop of the American Southwest.

From the minute you set foot in this town there is one thing you can't help but notice – Austin is a little weird – and in a good way! Known not only for its very eclectic array of residents, from cowboys to creative types, Austinites also pride themselves on supporting locally owned businesses, area artists, and the quirky culture and home-grown history of the city. People from all walks of life call Austin home, and they celebrate all things weird and off-the-beaten-path, creating a local community spirit of fun and authenticity.

You might be surprised to hear live music playing as you step off your plane at Austin's airport. But you shouldn't be. Live music is everywhere in Austin. As home to the longest-running music program in television history, Austin City Limits, and the annual host of the mega-festival South by Southwest, music plays a huge part in the story of Austin. Musicians play everywhere from grocery stores to city council meetings. Mostly, you'll find Austin's musicians in any of the 250+ live music venues around town.

Nowhere is Austin's melting pot persona more visible than Downtown. Just as busy and exciting during the week as it is on the weekends, this bustling area merges commerce with creative spirit and Southern-rooted cuisine with modern and innovative cocktails. It's also home to the Texas state Capitol.

Finance and fun, philanthropic conservation and culture all brush elbows in the center of the city. You'll find grand historic hotels, ultramodern homes, cute boutiques packed with local treasures and an arts scene that is very alive and well with galleries and museums at nearly every corner.

Austin isn't just home to 880,000+ people. Starting in late March, Austin also welcomes nearly 1.5 million Mexican free-tailed bats – North America's largest urban bat population – which roost under the Congress Avenue Bridge. When the bridge was built in the 1980s, folks didn't realize the structure was a perfect model of the bats' natural roosting nooks. Locals have adopted the beloved creatures as neighbors who happily handle the city's bug mitigation and provide an amazing nightly show.

If you've come to Austin hungry, you're in luck! The city's menus are memorable thanks to celebrated staples like breakfast tacos and other genius Tex-Mex concoctions. The range of styles in Austin's food scene is wide and varied. Austin has everything from modern and sophisticated restaurants of every kind, to down-home and award-winning barbecue joints. And no trip to Austin is complete without a park-and-eat experience at any of the many food trucks and trailer venues. From gourmet donuts to upscale savory sensations the city's ongoing culinary conversation now has an accent that is so much more flavored than a predictable Texas twang. Bring your appetite for food and fun!

**There is truly something for everyone in Austin!  
Join us at SITE 2017 and find out for yourself!**



Fly in to Austin-Bergstrom  
International Airport  
[www.austintexas.gov/airport](http://www.austintexas.gov/airport)



March Weather  
72°/51° F  
Typically sunny,  
windy at times.

Photos and information provided by Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau.  
For more information, see [austintexas.org](http://austintexas.org).



