



# Lone Star Court

Story | JESSICA MEBANE

There's something magical, nostalgic and uniquely American about hitting the open road. Just watching the scenery rush by the car window awakens the nomadic spirit of adventure in all of us. And when it's time to stop for a while and cool the tires, what's more charming than a mom-and-pop style motor court hotel?

While many of these charming, kitschy outposts of traveler hospitality might have faded to flickering, neon-lit mirages of our childhood, one hotelier—with the help of Lauren Rottet of Rottet Studio—is trying to bring back the cool of motor court traveling with the sophistication of luxury boutique hotel amenities. So the next time you feel like getting the heck outta dodge, consider heading to Austin, where the Lone Star Court will welcome you with Texas Hill Country hospitality.

Upon opening the weathered white farmhouse doors to the lobby, you'll immediately feel as though you've re-entered the golden age of roadside Americana. Lone Star Court has 123 rooms that overlook a center court full of Texas Hill Country

native flora that seems to draw butterflies as easily as the elliptical pool draws in overheated travelers. Consider a short stroll over to the Lone Star Court food court, where you'll find a gleaming silver Airstream trailer with breakfast and lunch menu offerings. Try the chicken and waffles for breakfast or poblano mac 'n' cheese for lunch. But get there early; this food truck enjoys a steady stream of hotel guests, Domain Center shoppers as well as local IBM employees who regularly plop down at one of the outside tables to wait on their comfort food fix.

Don't mistake the retro feel here for a dead zone from technology. Lone Star Court provides "ranch tech" amenities such as free Internet connectivity as well as local libations that are stocked inside each room's sherbet-colored SMEG refrigerator. Each room is furnished with eclectic, mid-century style furnishings, featuring a sturdy iron frame bed slipped in cool, white monogrammed sheets, and a bathroom tucked behind a barn door that glides noiselessly on its rails to allow the weary traveler to wash off the trail dust in privacy.

Once refreshed, step across the Lone Star Court to the Water Trough bar and quench your thirst for adult beverages with their signature drink, the Chill Cowboy, while local artists soothe the soul with live music. [lonestarcourt.com](http://lonestarcourt.com)

## BOUCOUP BOUTIQUE HOTELS

Try these exquisitely unique and posh outposts across Texas to rejuvenate your intrepid traveler mojo.

### HOTEL HAVANA

This quiet Mediterranean Revival hotel on the North River Walk area of San Antonio is steeped in turn-of-the-century charm. Its signature drinks, curated by the attentive staff at the Havana Bar, bring an air of contemporary appeal, as do the award-winning menus available in-room or at restaurant Ocho. [havanasanantonio.com](http://havanasanantonio.com)

### THE HIGHLAND DALLAS

Unwind in the lobby each evening with complimentary wine from local wineries and hop on the DART to get downtown or to the convention center. SMU is just across the street. [thehighlanddallas.com](http://thehighlanddallas.com)

### MAGNOLIA HOTEL

Take in the exquisite view of Houston from the pool atop this swanky downtown establishment, or cruise the cookie and milk buffet at night for a sweet tooth fix. [magnoliahotels.com](http://magnoliahotels.com)



Find Lone Star Court's Famous "Chill Cowboy" cocktail recipe on [prime-living.com](http://prime-living.com)