

Cultural Sites to Visit

The ChLA 2018 host city San Antonio is a vibrant city with many historic and cultural experiences to offer. There is a [list here](#) at the hotel's website that gives handy distances from the Gunter to many local attractions. Below is a list highlighting a few of the unique sites San Antonio has to offer attendees during the conference weekend.

Japanese Tea Garden

This unique garden features beautiful floral displays, a waterfall and a safe habitat for Koi and aquatic plants. It is an example of an old rock quarry which dates back to 1899 and remnants can still be seen in the garden's architecture.

Pricing: Free Admission

Garden Hours: Sunrise to Sunset, 7 days a week, 365 days a year

Address: 3853 N St Mary's St, San Antonio, TX 78212

[Visit their Website for more information.](#)

Also on site is a restaurant serving sandwiches, salads, Asian dishes and a variety of hot and cold teas. View the [Jingu House Cafe](#) hours and a complete menu.

Market Square - El Mercado

A three-block outdoor plaza lined with restaurants, shops and produce, the plazas of Market Square stand near San Antonio's city center. Also known as "El Mercado", it is the largest Mexican market in the U.S.

Hours: Open Daily, 10 AM - 6 PM

Address: 514 W. Commerce, San Antonio, TX 78207

[Visit their website](#) for more details.

La Villita Historic Arts Village

An arts community with a monumental history, La Villita was San Antonio's first neighborhood. These streets are lined with shops, working artists, restaurants, and a post office. The Old San Antonio Exhibit (located in Bolivar Hall) houses art collections and artifacts.

Hours: Monday-Saturday 10AM - 6PM, Sunday 11AM - 4PM

Address: 418 Villita Street, San Antonio, TX 78205

Their website has [more details](#) on the history of this area and the many attractions it holds.

Empire Theatre

Located in the heart of downtown the Majestic Theatre was built in 1929 and was designed in a Spanish Mediterranean style. The Magik Theatre is San Antonio's only professional children's theatre group. They have created a discount code for ChLA members to get 25% off. To buy tickets and learn more about this historic San Antonio theater, [visit their website](#).

Pricing: Use the Promo Code CHLA for a special price for conference attendees.

Hours: Friday and Saturday - 6:30 PM, Saturday and Sunday - 2 PM

Address: 226 N. St. Mary's St. San Antonio, Texas 78205

Culture Commons

Culture Commons is located in the Plaza de Armas Building. This space is managed by the Department of Arts & Culture and consists of a storefront gallery located on the first and second floors as well as a 1,500 sq. ft. exhibit hall that features visual art exhibits, performances, invited speakers, and workshops.

Pricing: Free and open to the public.

Hours: Monday - Friday from 8 AM - 5 PM

Address: 115 Plaza de Armas, San Antonio, TX 78205

In celebration of Pride month, the Culture Commons has a special exhibit called “We Are” featuring contemporary San Antonio artists with connected events. Friday, June 29 from 12 – 1 PM they are hosting a Lunch and Learn panel with LGBTQI+ Service Members discussing their experiences. [Learn more](#) about this exhibit from the website.

Portable Artwork

Since 2000, Public Art San Antonio, a division of the Department of Arts & Culture, has coordinated temporary exhibits of portable artwork created by San Antonio artists. The City of San Antonio’s Portable Artworks Collection consists of borrowed, donated and acquired artworks that represent emerging and established San Antonio artists working in all media. Find the map of these public art installations at [the city’s website](#).

East Side Cemeteries

For those wanting a little taste of the spooky history of San Antonio, the East side cemeteries are a popular tourist attraction. One of the most unique features of San Antonio’s east side is its collection of 31 elaborate cemeteries. With the first cemetery established in 1853, some of the plots are the final resting places of San Antonio’s most famous residents. You can walk among ornate sculptures and statuary, mausoleums and obelisks and take in nearly 200 fascinating years of San Antonio’s history.

Aztec Theatre

Located in the heart of downtown, the Aztec Theatre is one of the Alamo City's most cherished architectural and historical landmarks. Considered by many a Meso-American architectural work of art, the Aztec boasts a dramatic combination of authentic columns, reliefs and artifacts.

Going to see its stunning lobby and mezzanine to the glorious theatre and balcony, the Aztec Theatre is an experience unlike any other. During the conference weekend, they have some exciting performances attendees might check out!

Pricing: Varies by show. Many of their ticket sales go to charity.

Address: 104 N. St. Mary's, San Antonio, TX 78205

Thursday night at 7PM features the “Big Gay Burlesque Show” in celebration of Pride month. Check the [theatre’s event calendar](#) for more details.