

REMARKS BY FIRST LADY ANITA PERRY  
TEXAS TOURISM DINNER – Media  
LONDON, ENGLAND  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2007  
INTRODUCED BY: Bob Schumacher

---

Thank you, **Bob (Schumacher)**. Good evening.

## **Welcome to Texas Tourism at its best!**

We are honored that you have joined us and eager to talk about some fabulous Texas destinations and share some spicy Tex-Mex **tamales**.

This year, I am joined by an enthusiastic group of Texans from **Austin, Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, Grapevine and the Farmers Branch**.

As you can see from our map, they have traveled from far and wide across our state to visit you. *(Map/list of partners on stand next to podium)*

And once they finish telling you about their destinations, I'm betting you'll want to book a flight home with them!

But before you rush out to pack your suitcases, let me tell you a little about what Texas has to offer you and your readers. *(pause)*

Texas mixes the “old west” with Latin flavors, blue jeans and modern western influences.

It's a state where many call themselves cowboys -- not because they ride horses to work any more -- but because, like my husband, they still wear their boots with their suits to the office. And in our charming small towns, just beyond the city limits of some of America's largest metropolitan areas, our folks still wave to strangers.

We're just plain friendly in the Lone Star State.

Now before we mix, mingle and turn up the country music for some two-steppin', I want to share my thoughts on a few exciting locations you won't want to miss. *(pause)*

Texas is unique as it is large, and the travel possibilities are endless.

If your readers and viewers love the outdoors and activities like fishing and camping, they will want to explore our **Heritage Trail Regions**, shaped by the original cattle driving trail in Texas.

For a more pampered experience, fly into **Austin** for some live music then get spa treatments at the **Hyatt Lost Pines Resort and Spa**. Like the name sounds, the spa is nestled in the shade of towering pine trees just outside the city.

Or sail into our **cultural Mecca: Houston**. The **New Bayport Cruise Terminal** --set to open in 2008 -- will offer world-class services.

You can also visit San Antonio to see **America's largest Latino Museum**, Museo Alameda, and load your nachos with hot sauce before you cruise the RiverWalk.

In **Dallas**, you will see urban life at its best. I can personally tell you that you'll find some might fine fine shopping for western-wear in this shiny city.

So I invite you to join the 156,000 **British travelers** that discover Texas' famous destinations every year.

Come sail along the coastline on the Gulf of Mexico,  
Explore our scenic national parks,  
Discover the splendid shopping,  
Enjoy listening to our renowned musicians,

And be sure to taste some of our very fine wine. Yes, Texas is the fifth-largest wine producing state in the United States. -- I think it's because we get more than **200 days of sunshine** ever year! (pause)

And getting **to** Texas for vacation is a breeze because Texas serves as home base to three major airlines.

In fact, I'd like to thank our airline industry partners from **Continental Airlines** who are here with us **tonight**.

Thank you for helping us promote Texas and for serving our international visitors so well! *(pause)*

Like our airlines, Texas hospitality knows no bounds.

I hope your conversations with the Texas partners here tonight open new locations to you and your readers, and encourage you **to plan that once in a lifetime trip**.

**I can honestly say.... there is no better way to experience Texas..... than to see it in person.** *(pause)*

**Come visit Texas soon.**

Thank you for joining us tonight!

# # #