



Seaports | Houston



Ahoy there!

Did you know that more than 17 million people live within 300 miles of the city, and approximately 60 million live within 700 miles?

A dynamic port helped fuel the Houston area's development as a center of international business and trade.

But companies that do business internationally also find Houston attractive because of its well-developed financial infrastructure, skilled work force and diverse population. Ample space and favorable conditions for industrial development, as well as for cargo handling, make Houston a choice location for industry.

Houston's geographic location has proven to be one of its best assets. Centrally located on the Gulf Coast, Houston is a strategic gateway for cargo originating in or destined for the U.S. West and Midwest. Houston lies within close reach of one of the nation's largest concentrations of consumers. Ample truck, rail and air connections allow shippers to economically transport their goods between Houston and inland points.

Tourism:

Fun in the Bayou City is easy to find. Houston's downtown has been revitalized with numerous clubs, professional sports facilities and musical entertainment that has helped bring nightlife back to downtown. And that's in addition to the rest of the City's attractions, shopping and restaurants to fit all budgets.

Don't know where to begin? Start at the City of Houston Visitors Center at City Hall for hundreds of ideas on enjoying your time in Houston. The staff can help you plan your visit, suggest new things to do with your evenings and weekends (even to City residents) or help you bring your convention or meeting to this exciting city.



Port of Houston



Rodeo, March 2 to March 21



Houston downtown

Restaurant tips:

- German Restaurant*****
Rudi Lechners , 2503 S Gesner Rd*
- Asian Restaurant*****
Café Malay , 10234 Westheimer Rd*



The Port of Houston

is a 25-mile-long complex of diversified public and private facilities located just a few hours' sailing time from the Gulf of Mexico. The port is ranked first in the United States in foreign waterborne tonnage and second in the U.S. in total tonnage.

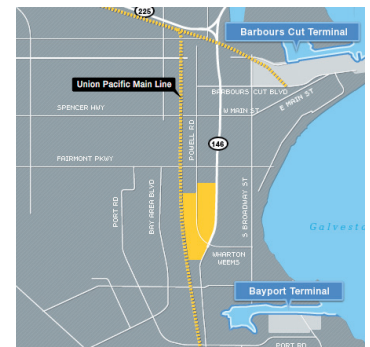
The Port of Houston is made up of the Port of Houston Authority and the 150-plus private industrial companies along the Houston Ship Channel. All together, the port authority and its neighbours along the ship channel are a large and vibrant component to our regional economy.

More than 225 million tons of cargo moved through the Port of Houston in 2007. A total of 8,053 vessel calls were recorded at the Port of Houston during the year 2008. The navigate each vessel through the Houston Ship Channel.

The Port of Houston has an impressive listing of firsts, from unloading the world's first container ship to becoming the country's first port to receive ISO 14001 compliance.

The Houston Ship Channel

The Houston Ship Channel has been a catalyst for growth in Harris County since the first journey of a steamship up Buffalo Bayou in 1837. The ship channel plays a critical role in today's community as well. It generates jobs and opportunities that allow businesses to flourish. A 2007 study by Martin Associates says ship channel-related businesses support more than 785,000 jobs throughout Texas while generating nearly \$118 billion of statewide economic impact. Additionally, more than \$3.7 billion in state and local tax revenues are generated by business activities related to the port. It is projected that the Port of Houston will continue to be an important factor as north-south trade expands.



Links:

www.portofhouston.com