

Review of McKinney Falls State Park, Texas

Just a short drive up I-35 from San Antonio and just inside Austin city limits is McKinney Falls State Park.

Getting to the park is very easy. Take exit 228-229 and turn right onto E. William Cannon Drive; continue a couple of miles through residential areas and then turn left on McKinney Falls Parkway. The park entrance will be a mile or so up on the left.



The park is rather small but very nice. It has about a hundred campsites most with RV connections including the standard water and power hookups. There is also a nice primitive camping area along the creek. The community restrooms are centrally located in the two loops and were kept clean and well stocked during our two trips about the norm for state parks. During our visit, our kids were able to participate in some kids activities put on by the Park Rangers by the Visitor Center which they really enjoyed. Most of the parks activities revolved around hiking, biking and swimming.

McKinney Falls State Park has several nice hiking and biking trails several of which follow along Onion Creek which runs through the park and over the falls. Don't miss a hike along the trails by the creek and be sure to continue from the upper falls to the lower ones. Neither one is tremendously high but they are rather picturesque. Be sure to bring your swim suit along to enjoy a refreshing dip below the falls in warmer weather. Along the creek, especially towards the lower falls you can explore a myriad of strange rock formations cut from the rock.



You can also try your hand at fishing in the deeper parts of the creek. Overall the park is very nice and I'll bet you won't believe how close you are to Austin given how quiet it is there!

By Jim Bray

Ref: http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/mckinney_falls/