

San Jacinto Monument closed Dec. 24 and 25 only. Keep in mind for holiday activities.

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The San Jacinto grounds, Museum and Monument are only closed December 24 and 25, so please keep this wonderful state park in mind for holiday activities. And yes, the museum and monument are open on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Located on the grounds of the 1,200-acre San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site, the Monument and Museum are open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., except for December 24 and 25.

There is plenty to do free on the grounds of this state park: free admission to the park; free parking; free to walk the San Jacinto Battleground and relive the famous battle for Texas Independence; free picnic tables, grills and water faucets; free to explore the 1,210-foot long marsh trail and boardwalk to see the native prairie, tidal marsh and bottomland forest as it appeared at the time of the historic 1836 Battle of San Jacinto.

For a minimal fee, visitors can purchase tickets for the elevator ride to the observation deck, the Texas Forever!! The Battle of San Jacinto video presentation, San Jacinto Museum of History and its exhibits.

The San Jacinto Monument is one of the tallest stone column monuments in the world. The nearly 500-foot elevator ride to the Observation Deck reaches the top, visitors can stand beneath the 220-ton, 34-foot Lone Star of Texas—and see the historic battleground of The Battle of San Jacinto, the marshland restoration and boardwalk, the Buffalo Bayou, the busy Houston Ship Channel, the Battleship TEXAS (closed December 24 – 25), and many square miles of surrounding area.

And don't forget the EarthCam: recently named one of EarthCam's 25 Most Interesting Webcams for 2014 (<http://www.earthcam.com/usa/texas/laporte/?cam=sanjacinto>). This fun feature should offer a great view of New Year's Eve fireworks.

The San Jacinto Monument and Museum are operated by the San Jacinto Museum of History Association—a non-profit organization—in association with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD).

The San Jacinto Monument and battlegrounds complex are located at One Monument Circle, La Porte, Texas 77571-9585; contact 281.479.2421 or visit www.sanjacinto-museum.org for more information. Follow the museum on Facebook for more specials, history trivia and news updates all year.

