

## **Pre-conference tour**

### **Sept. 9, 2009 • San Antonio**

A tour of San Antonio will capture your imagination just as it captures the Spirit of Texas. Yearly, millions of visitors delight in the history of this charming city.

Press Women of Texas will provide that spirit in the pre-conference tour scheduled for Sept. 9, 2009, the day before the 2009 National Conference begins in San Antonio.

With the blending of ancient and modern cultures and Southern hospitality, no other city in American can boast a more diverse heritage than San Antonio.

We will begin our day by leaving the El Tropicano Hotel at 9 a.m. First stop will be at Mission San Jose where you will find a beautiful example of Spanish Colonial architecture that has always been known as the Queen of the Missions. Established in 1720, it is the most beautiful, prosperous and best fortified of all Texas missions.

Next we will travel to San Fernando Cathedral, the oldest cathedral in the United States that has been the Spiritual Center of San Antonio for more than 200 years.

Every tour of San Antonio must include a stop at the Alamo, known as the Shrine of Texas. This religious village was established in 1718 as the city's first mission. The chapel is one of the most photographed facades in the nation. It is best remembered for the battle that was fought there, forever changing the lives and attitudes of Texans.

Press woman always love to shop and a stop at the Mexican Market is THE place in downtown San Antonio to find the perfect souvenirs of the city. This colorful marketplace is the oldest and largest Mercado outside of Mexico City. You will have an opportunity for lunch on you own, time to browse the many stalls and to shop.

The afternoon will take the tour to the Institute of Texan Cultures where exhibits showcase the many cultures that came to Texas and now call the state "home." From the early Native Americans to the Germans and the Italians who created our Cowboy Boot, you will enjoy learning about our multicultural heritage and find out who the Texans really are!!

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You'll even have an opportunity to see San Antonio from the sky in the Tower of the Americas, tallest observation tower in the state and the second tallest in the nation. You'll get a bird's eye view of San Antonio as glass elevators with floor to ceiling windows take you to the observation level.

No tour would be complete without a stop at the Riverwalk and we'll enjoy dinner at the Republic of Texas Restaurant located on the beautiful San Antonio Riverwalk. We'll dine on a Botana Platter, a sampling of South of the Border Appetizers, chicken or beef entrée and the dessert of the day.

We'll be back to the hotel by 7 p.m.

Cost for the entire day is \$95. Any questions can be directed to Donna Hunt, 903-465-8412 or [d.hunt\\_903@yahoo.com](mailto:d.hunt_903@yahoo.com).

**Now, just fill out the tour registration form and you'll be all set.**

**Remember, the deadline to sign up for the tour is July 13.**

**Space is limited. First come, first served.**