



PRESS RELEASE
Embargoed until March 31, 2023, 11am CDT

***Contact details appear below

***Website: eclipseovertexas2024.com

***ECLIPSE OVER TEXAS: LIVE FROM WACO* DETAILS RELEASED**

Waco, Tx - The Great American Eclipse of 2024 is now just a year away, and Waco, Texas, will be a prime location for experiencing this wondrous phenomenon. *Eclipse Over Texas 2024: Live from Waco* will celebrate this event with a full day's worth of activities on the grounds of McLane Stadium.

This all-day event centers around the last total solar eclipse to cross the United States for the next 20 years. As seen from Waco, the celestial event starts at 12:20 pm CDT, when the Moon begins to gradually pass in front of the Sun. Totality begins at 1:38 pm CDT, when the Moon obscures all of the Sun's disk, revealing the ethereal structure of the solar corona. This sight is visible only during the brief period of totality, which in Waco will last for four minutes and 13 seconds, until 1:42 pm CDT. As the Moon continues to move, the Sun will gradually return to visibility until it is completely unobscured again.

Why Waco?

Waco is an ideal place to experience the 2024 total solar eclipse because it is among the first cities located near the centerline of the eclipse path after the shadow enters the United States. This produces a relatively long period of totality visible from a location that is easily accessible and provides all the amenities that a city offers. In addition, historical climate data indicate that the eclipse path through Texas has the greatest likelihood for clear skies in April of 2024.

The eclipse itself occurs on Monday, April 8, but the City of Waco will host a variety of related activities throughout the weekend leading up to it.

“The City of Waco looks forward to welcoming our residents and visitors from across the world to *Eclipse Over Texas 2024: Live from Waco*. This total eclipse is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and we invite everyone to join us in experiencing this historic event,” says Dillon Meek, Mayor of the City of Waco.

Eclipse Over Texas 2024: Live from Waco activities will take place on the South Plaza and Touchdown Alley areas of Baylor University’s McLane Stadium, located on the banks of the Brazos River, where attendees will have an unobstructed view of the sky. This event is a collaborative effort of the City of Waco, Baylor University, Lowell Observatory, and Warner Brothers Discovery.

"This may be the only eclipse many of our guests experience in their lifetime, and we are honored they will gather for this moment on Baylor University’s campus”, says Dr. Jeremy Vickers, Associate Vice President for External Affairs at Baylor University. “We look forward to showcasing the expertise of our physics department, Mayborn Museum, and student groups through educational activities as part of *Eclipse Over Texas 2024: Live from Waco*."

Ticketing Opens on March 31, 2023, at 12 pm CDT

Two ticket options are available. The general admission ticket includes access to:

- Guided eclipse viewing by expert solar astronomers
- Telescopes for public viewing
- Science presentations and STEAM Zones (interactive activities for all ages)
- One pair of solar glasses (ISO certified) that may be used for viewing the Sun before and after it is totally eclipsed
- Memorabilia and souvenir vendors
- Food trucks

The VIP experience provides a more comfortable and intimate total solar eclipse viewing opportunity. In addition to the benefits of general admission, the VIP experience includes:

- Dedicated telescopes for solar viewing
- Exclusive STEAM activities and science presentations for all ages in the VIP area
- Direct access to astronomers in the VIP area, and easy access from the main gate.
- VIP hospitality bag
- Access to shade tents and designated seating
- Food and refreshments

Tickets may be purchased at eclipseovertexas2024.com.

How Unusual is a Total Solar Eclipse?

A total solar eclipse occurs when the Moon passes between Earth and the Sun. The phenomenon only lasts a few minutes but is a life-changing experience for so many people because it is so

surreal; even in its partial phase, the eclipse of the Sun results in environmental changes like sharper shadows, cooler temperatures, and the sounds of animals that usually come out only at nighttime. However, the experience of totality is even more breathtaking, with a 360-degree sunset, the wisps of the solar corona, and bright stars and planets that can be seen in the middle of the day.

”The visceral experience of totality is why people will travel across the country and around the world to see this event in Waco,” said Dr. Danielle Adams, Chief Marketing and Revenue Officer at Lowell Observatory. “It is only when the Moon has completely covered the Sun that you are left with a velvet hole in the sky, surrounded by the luminous streamers of the solar corona, themselves shining as brilliant as the Full Moon in the darkened light of a silvery sky.”

On average, total solar eclipses occur somewhere in the world once every 18 months. However, the path from which totality is visible during such events is narrow and varies with each eclipse, so total solar eclipses cross the same geographical area on Earth just once every 375 years on average.

The total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024, will be the last one visible from anywhere in the continental United States until August 23, 2044. It will also be the first one visible from Waco since July 29, 1878, and the last of this millennium—no total solar eclipse will be visible from Waco until after the year 3000.

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About Lowell Observatory

Lowell Observatory is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) research institution, founded in 1894 by Percival Lowell atop Mars Hill in Flagstaff, Arizona. The observatory has been the site of many important discoveries, including the first detection of large recessional velocities (redshift) of galaxies by Vesto Slipher in 1912-1914 and Clyde Tombaugh's discovery of Pluto in 1930. Today, the observatory's 17 astronomers use ground-based telescopes around the world, telescopes in space, and NASA planetary spacecraft to conduct research in diverse areas of astronomy and planetary science. Lowell Observatory currently operates multiple research instruments at its Anderson Mesa station, east of Flagstaff, and the 4.3-meter Lowell Discovery Telescope near Happy Jack, Arizona. The observatory also welcomes more than 100,000 guests per year to its Mars Hill campus in Flagstaff, Arizona, for a variety of educational experiences, including historical tours, science presentations, and telescope viewing. For more information, see lowell.edu.

About the City of Waco

Known for being a great place to live and work, the City of Waco provides many economic opportunities and cultural experiences. A city centrally located in the heart of Texas on the I-35 corridor midway between Dallas-Fort Worth and Austin, Waco is a progressive and diverse city with a vibrant community spirit offering major attractions, museums, recreation, and shopping. The 25th largest city in Texas and the county seat of McLennan County, Waco is also the birthplace of Dr Pepper, the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, and the Texas Sports Hall of Fame. A highlight of the community is the iconic Waco Suspension Bridge, spanning the beautiful Brazos River. The bridge is near the entrance to Cameron Park, over 480 acres of a unique municipal park located in the heart of the city. The City of Waco also boasts the award-winning Cameron Park Zoo and Waco Mammoth National Monument and hosts numerous annual events. Waco is home to two of Waco's most highly visited sites in the Magnolia Market at the Silos and Magnolia Table. For more information, see waco-texas.com.

About Baylor University

Baylor University is a private Christian University and a nationally ranked Research 1 institution. The University provides a vibrant campus community for more than 20,000 students by blending interdisciplinary research with an international reputation for educational excellence and a faculty commitment to teaching and scholarship. Chartered in 1845 by the Republic of Texas through the efforts of Baptist pioneers, Baylor is the oldest continually operating University in Texas. Located in Waco, Baylor welcomes students from all 50 states and more than 90 countries to study a broad range of degrees among its 12 nationally recognized academic divisions. For more information, see baylor.edu.

About Discovery

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