

If you go

Hyatt Lost Pines
(512) 308-1234
www.visitlost
pines.com

**Four Seasons
Austin**
(512) 478-4500
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GET AWAY

Austin-area resorts
can help make
Mother's Day and
Father's Day special
for the whole family



STORY AND PHOTOS BY RONA DISTENFELD/
SPECIAL TO THE EXPRESS-NEWS

What better reason to get away for a little romance or a lot of family togetherness than Mother's Day? Except, of course, for Father's Day! You can make the day (or the whole weekend) really special without having to travel far.

Thirteen miles east of Austin's airport, just 10 miles from Bastrop, the Hyatt Lost Pines Resort was designed to give families the perfect place to have fun together — or spend time doing their own things. Kids are everywhere, and so are smiles.

From the water park, with its beach, water slide, fountains and Crooked River layout, to bicycling, hiking and bird-watching, there is no shortage of activities for kids and parents to share. Need some adult time? Camp Hyatt will entertain your kids with nature hikes, water sports, crafts and more while you play golf or tennis or pamper each other at Spa Django with a Django massage that incorporates music into the experience.

There's always something going on: Lower Colorado River Authority staffers bring snakes, alligators and turtles over for kids to touch and learn about; an American Indian drumming ceremony fascinates parents and kids with rhythmic chanting and costumes; live music in the LBJ Pavilion gets everyone dancing; and new activities are added all the time.

RIGHT: Nightly fire pits and cowboy singers are at the Hyatt Lost Pines.

FAR RIGHT: Enjoy McKinney Roughs, near Hyatt Lost Pines, from horseback.

INSET: A water slide, fountains, floats and sand beach make the Hyatt's pool area fun for the entire family.

A wine-lover's dream: TRIO, at the Four Seasons, features more than 800 wines in its wine wall, and sommelier Mark Sayre was voted Texas State Sommelier for 2007.



ABOVE: Dining at The Four Seasons' TRIO will make any mom or dad feel special. **RIGHT:** Sommelier Mark Sayre is always ready to share his wine knowledge.

If you want more adventure, check in with the Cardinal Point Interpretive Center just off the lobby. The resort works with local outfitters and the guides at LCRA's McKinney Roughs to offer private and group horseback rides, easy sunset river floats, kayaking and more.

Austin is famous for its nightlife. Live music, excellent restaurants, wine bars and theater; whatever makes for a special night out, it's here. You don't have to limit yourself to what happens after dark, however. You can treat your special spouse to a whole weekend of pampered appreciation just blocks from the best of it all at the Four Seasons Austin.

The Four Seasons takes full advantage of its location on the shores of Lady Bird Lake (formerly Town Lake). You can relax for hours watching the view from your room, the lobby bar or the patio at TRIO, the hotel's fine-dining restaurant and wine bar. Or get a foot massage while lounging by the saltwater pool.

The Spa at Four Seasons will help you shed that parental stress with sig-



nature treatments that feature native flowers and a steam room with a touch of eucalyptus. Continue to unwind on TRIO's patio. You can dine al fresco here, or just kick back on one of the couches with a glass of wine and some starters. You can also do wine flights here, and sommelier Mark Sayre is always happy to share his knowledge with you.

Kids are also given special treatment with cookies and bath sponges spelling out their names when they check in, special activities and even child-size bathrobes. Baby-sitting services are available by advance arrangement so you can enjoy your special night out without worries.

Both the Hyatt Lost Pines and the Four Seasons Austin also do a special Mother's Day brunch. These are held in their ballrooms like a party, and reservations are recommended.



American Indian drumming is among the regular activities at the Hyatt Lost Pines that honor the area's history and traditions.

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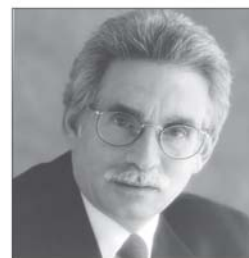
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