

# **RESOURCES OF THE BIG BEND - BREWSTER COUNTY – BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK, BIG BEND RANCH STATE PARK, TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS, LA LINDA, STILLWELL RANCH STORE & TERLINGUA (STUDY BUTTE)**

*For information on Lajitas (Golf Resort & Spa), please see the “Lajitas” section.*

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## **BREWSTER COUNTY GENERAL INFORMATION**

*Brewster County, Texas' largest county at 6,183 square miles (the 39<sup>th</sup> largest county in the U.S.), has a population of fewer than 9,500, of which 6,000 are in the county seat in Alpine. The eighth largest National Park in the U.S., the Big Bend, resides in the southern portion of the county. Brewster County is home to the legendary [Chili Cookoffs](#) in the equally legendary Terlingua. The county is also home to the communities of Alpine, Marathon, Terlingua, Study Butte, Stillwell's Ranch, Lajitas, the [Big Bend National Park](#) and some of the Big Bend Ranch State Park.*

*The location possibilities range from flat multi-million year old ocean bottom desert ranches to magnificent craggy mountain ranges, championship golf courses, fabulous resorts and picturesque towns. Brewster County Texas is big, diverse, friendly and just waiting to frame your story. Come shoot 'em up!*

### **~COUNTY OFFICES AND COUNTY SERVICES~**

Brewster County Court House

201 West Avenue E

Alpine, Texas 79830

<http://www.brewstercountytexas.com/>

Kathy Killingsworth - County Judge  
432-837-2412

J. Steve Houston – County Attorney  
432-837-6209

Della Shackelford – County Treasurer  
432-837-6200, Fax 432-837-9249

Berta Rios Martinez – County Clerk  
432-837-3366, Fax 432-837-6217

Jo Ann Salgado – District Clerk  
432-837-6216, Fax 432-837-6217

Betse Esparza – Emergency Management  
Coordinator and Public Information Officer  
432-837-9876, Cell 432-386-8175

Gerald P. Sotello – Justice of the Peace,  
Precinct 1  
107 West Ave. E #9  
Alpine, Texas, 79830  
432-837-6214, Fax 432-837-6217

Jim Burr – Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2  
P.O. Box 496  
Terlingua, Texas, 79852  
432-371-2127

Susana Gonzales – Justice of the Peace,  
Precinct 3  
PO Box 401  
Marathon, Texas 79842  
432-386-4530

Frenchie Causey – Road & Bridge  
Superintendent  
2601 North Texas Highway 118  
Alpine, Texas, 79830  
432-837-2714

Betty Jo Rooney – Tax Assessor/Collector  
107 West Avenue E  
Alpine, Texas, 79830  
432-837-2214

Brewster County Tourism Council  
Old Library Building  
203 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
<http://visitbigbend.com/>

County Commissioners  
Cookie Stone – Precinct 1, Tom Williams -  
Precinct 2, Ruben Ortega - Precinct 3 - Mike  
Pallanez – Precinct 4

Alpine Fire Rescue (Volunteer Fire Department) of Brewster County  
North Brewster County Station  
208 East Holland Avenue – PO Box 911  
Alpine, Texas 79831-0911  
Non-Emergency 432-837-2366, Emergencies 911, Fax 432-837-9179  
<http://www.alpinefirerescue.com/>

Terlingua Fire & Emergency Services Station  
23250 FM 170  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-2536

Brewster County Sheriff's Office  
Ronny Dodson – County Sheriff  
201 West Avenue E (North side of Court House)  
Alpine, Texas 79830  
432-837-3488, Dial 911 for Emergencies  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Brewster-County-Sheriffs-Office/270335429657543>

Texas Judicial District 394  
Roy B. Ferguson – District Judge  
PO Box 1410  
Alpine, Texas, 79831  
432-837-5831, Fax 432-837-1241  
83<sup>rd</sup> District Attorney  
Rod Ponton – District Attorney  
PO Box 9710  
Alpine, Texas 79831  
432-837-0971

Big Bend Chamber Of Commerce  
PO Box 607  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-2320

*Serving Study Butte, Terlingua and Lajitas*  
<http://bigbendchamber.homestead.com/Index.html>, Email: [bbchamber1@yahoo.com](mailto:bbchamber1@yahoo.com)

#### **~COUNTY FACILITIES~**

##### **Alpine – SBB**

*Brewster County Courthouse Gazebo on the shady Courthouse lawn is available for concerts, weddings and events. Ratcliff Memorial Garden (behind the Brewster County Tax Office at 107 W. Ave. E #1) is a small public garden featuring exotic landscaping. For more details and reservations, contact the County Judge's office at 432-837-2412.*

##### **Marathon – SBB**

*Post Park is an old-fashioned County Park five miles south of Marathon, featuring cottonwoods, a spring-fed pond, picnic tables, dance slab and barbecue area with lots of parking. Usually open to the public 24-7 it may also be reserved for special events.*

*Marathon Community Center is a recently renovated, old-fashioned community hall on the Marathon Town Square. Suitable for dances, social events and meetings, it has a kitchen and updated HVAC. It can accommodate 150 people.*

*For reservations and details on either Marathon facility, contact Ruben Ortega, Commissioner Precinct 3 at 432-294-1096. (Please Note: For further information on Marathon, see the separate [Marathon Section](#)).*

##### **Study Butte**

*"The J.W. "Red" Pattillo Community Center in South Brewster County, built in 2000 and situated right before the intersection at 53633 State Highway 118, in Study Butte, is a ranch-style building with deep porches and a comfortable, modern meeting space for social and community events and conferences. It can accommodate up to 125 people. Please contact Commissioner Tom Williams, Precinct 2, for details and reservations."*

#### **~HOSPITAL, MEDICAL & HEALTH CLINICS~**

##### **[Big Bend Regional Medical Center](#) – SBB**

2600 North Highway 118  
Alpine, Texas 79830  
432-837-3447

*A 25-Bed Facility with complete Inpatient and Outpatient Services and an Accredited Acute Care Facility with a Level 4 Trauma and Designated Emergency Department – serves as the Big Bend areas only hospital*

<http://www.bigbendhealthcare.com/Big-Bend-Regional-Medical-Center/Home.aspx>

##### **Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend, Inc**

##### **[Terlingua Ghost Town](#)**

Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-3147, 24 Hour Hotline 800-834-0654

*24 Hour Emergency Shelter, Legal Advocacy, Counseling, Support Group, Community Education, Assistance with basic needs, Outreach Services*

<http://familycrisiscenter.homestead.com/Terlingua.html>

#### **~HOTELS, RESORTS & CAMPING~**

*Accommodations vary from the luxurious Lajitas Resort and el Rancho Escondido to the primitive campgrounds of the Black Gap Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and lots in between. Brewster County residents tend to think of the county as North County and South County. We have added "Southeastern" and "Western" County to better help you get a feel of the area – North County is primarily made up of Alpine and Marathon and there are separate sections covering these areas. There are maps of the area on this site under our main menu header - "[Maps: The Big Bend](#)."*

~SOUTH COUNTY~

[Big Bend Holiday Hotel](#) – SBB

[Terlingua Ghost Town](#)

100 Ivey Road

Terlingua, Texas 79852

432-201-1177 (Please leave a message.)

*“Sophisticated accommodations in a primitive setting. The [Holiday Hotel](#) is no franchise resort. It's perfect for raucous revelry or a romantic rendezvous, or both...” The rule of thumb in South County is to always have plenty of fuel for your vehicle and lots of extra water.*

<http://www.bigbendholidayhotel.com/>

There are three other BBHH accommodations – two in the [Ghost Town](#) and one west of Lajitas along the River Road – that are worth noting separately:

[Perry Mansion](#) – Legend says the mines original owner built the mansion to house his new bride who, as soon as she spied the town, turned around and left. Situated in the hill above the Ghost Town, it has two rooms renovated with a kitchen and will soon have more rooms. The views from the porch are very special.

Candililla House – “Terlingua chic, it is great for either couples or families. Perched on a hillside, it offers an ever changing view of sunsets, starlight, and thunderstorms. There is a patio outside the walls and another within.” Great production base or entertainment center.

Rock House – “Travel back in time... The Rock House is almost too good to be true. Built as a trading post at the turn of the last century -- long before the road existed -- it's literally on the fabled Rio Grande, overlooking the spectacular mountains of Mexico. It was the only spot of civilization on the long ride between Presidio and Lajitas, a way-station where trappers brought their furs and the locals traded their Candililla cactus to be made into women's makeup. Back then, if you made it this far, you would trade anything you had for something cool to drink.”

Big Bend Resort & Adventures

Texas Highway 118 at FM (Farm to Market) 170 just at the north end of Study Butte

Terlingua, Texas 79852

Reservations: 877-386-4383, Lodge Phone: 432-371-2218

*Big Bend Resort & Adventures is open year round and features two choices for lodging, just minutes from the west entrance of [Big Bend National Park](#). The Motor Inn has a total of 51 non-smoking rooms and the Mission Lodge, located across the street has 35 non-smoking motel style rooms in two buildings, and one small apartment. Wi-Fi is available in the Conference Center, Café, and Lobby area and a small golf course – sort of.*

<http://bigbendresort.com/lodging/>

Big Bend Vacation Rentals, LLC

PO Box 463

Terlingua Texas, 79852

855-224-4236

*Featuring Terlingua area vacation rentals from ranches to houses with lots of variety and varied scenery.*

<http://bigbendvacations.com/index.html>

Big Bend Casitas at Far Flung Outdoor Center

P.O. Box 377

Terlingua, Texas 79852

800-839-7238

*Delightful Casitas (little house) each with a small kitchenette just a few feet from the Far Flung offices between Study Butte and the Ghost Town.*

<http://bigbendfarflung.com/lodging/>, Email: [info@ffoc.net](mailto:info@ffoc.net)

Chisos Mining Company Motel - At Easter Egg Valley

23280 FM 170

Terlingua, Texas 79852

432 371-2254

*“Wonderful LODGING for active vacationers who need a place to sleep and shower up between adventures...”  
41 affordable units.*

<http://www.cmcm.cc/>, Email: [chisosmc@gmail.com](mailto:chisosmc@gmail.com)

Cowhead Ranch Lodging

132 E S. Texas Highway 118

Alpine, Texas 79830 (again with the Post Office)



Terlingua Ranch and Lodge  
16000 Terlingua Ranch Road  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-3146

*The Terlingua Ranch Lodge is 425 acres consisting of the headquarter offices, Cafe and 32 guest rooms. The entrances are south of Alpine along Texas Highway 118 and south of Marathon along US 385 and just north of the BBNP. The main entrance is off of 118. The Lodge is 16 miles from the 118 entrance.*

<http://terlinguaranch.com/>

Wild Horse Station  
53701 Texas Highway 118  
HC 65 Box 276 C

Alpine, Texas 79830 - *(it's really a long way from Alpine, but that's how the Post Office works out here)*  
432-371-2526

*Five miles north of Study Butte on the eastern side of Texas Highway 118. A series of mobile homes and cabins with shaded porches, full kitchens, satellite television and a good view.*

~**SOUTHEASTERN COUNTY**~ (Does not include Marathon. See the [Marathon](#) section)

Black Gap Wildlife Management Area (WMA)

Headquarters

Texas Farm to Market 2627 Road

432-376-2216

*There are a great number of primitive camping areas in Black Gap. This is a "pack everything in, pack everything out" area. You can get high-clearance vehicles in all areas, but large trucks may have trouble. Well worth the scout if rugged and primitive is your story.*

Stillwell Store & RV Park

HC 65 Box 430

Alpine, Texas 79830 (again with that funny zip)

432-376-2244

*Store, RV Park, Tent Camping, and the surprisingly nice Hallie Stillwell Museum are located across from the Stillwell Ranch entrance. A good "central" production location if you are shooting in this area. Black Gap WMA and La Linda are just down the "block."*

<http://stillwellstore.com/>, Email: [Kaypizzini@yahoo.com](mailto:Kaypizzini@yahoo.com)

U.S. Highway 385

*There aren't any camp grounds per-se along the route from Marathon to the BBNP. There are, however, some very nice roadside parks and picnic areas, some are fairly large and would make a good "home base" or as locations with dramatic backgrounds. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) builds and maintains Roadside Parks and Rest Areas along Texas highways. Some of the newer ones are quite spectacular and even contain local museums.*

~**WESTERN COUNTY**~ (Does not include Alpine. See the [Alpine](#) section)

*Not counting Alpine, the Western side of Brewster County is sparsely populated and is the home to some beautiful ranches and perhaps lots of oil. It is also home to one of our most spectacular "guest ranches."*

el Rancho Escondido Guest Ranch

*Thought by some to be in Presidio County (and it is advertised as "Marfa"), the ranch is actually on the western edge of Brewster County well down the Nopal Road. It features elegant accommodations (even the Bunkhouse) and offers guided hikes, Skeet and Trap shooting, geology and guided dune buggy tours. It also features campfires on the rim of perhaps the most magnificent view in all the Big Bend from the top of Whirlwind Mesa. Very accommodating. Come self contained. Lots of parking.*

512-428-5425

<http://elranchoescondido.com/>

Paisano Baptist Encampment

*"Located in the beautiful Davis Mountains of West Texas, Paisano Baptist Encampment is a 10 minute drive from both Marfa and Alpine. Family Camp (general encampment) meets each summer, the last full week of July...Families from all over West Texas (now from many states) have been gathering for a week of renewal and inspiration since 1915. Old timers used to camp in tents and eat meals prepared on chuck wagons. Now families stay in cabins or church dorms, and hearty meals are shared together in a huge dining shed..." Actually located just inside Presidio County, but associated strongly with Brewster, it is a unique property with a large worship center and cottages dotting the encampment site. Interesting possibilities for the right script.*

**~TELECOMMUNICATIONS & INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER~**

Big Bend Telephone

808 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Alpine, Texas 79830

800) 592-4781

*The Rural Telephone and DSL Internet supplier serving Brewster County*

<http://www.bigbend.net/>

Big Canyon TV

610 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Alpine, Texas 79830

432-837-7484

*Dish TV Satellite Service, Dish-Net Internet, DTS Satellite Phones, Large Screen Televisions*

<http://bigcanyontv.com/>

**BREWSTER COUNTY MOUNTAINS, SPECIAL EVENTS & LANDMARKS**

**MOUNTAINS:** *Emory Peak* is the tallest mountain in Brewster County at 7,825'. It is located in the **Chisos Mountains** of the [Big Bend National Park](#) and helps form the famous **Chisos Basin**. The following are some of our better known and more dramatic peaks:

**Cathedral Mountain** at 6,868'

**Mount Ord** at 6,803'

**Cienega Mountain** at 6,562'

**Santiago Peak** at 6,524'

**Mitre Peak** at 6,190' – Home to the Girl Scouts Summer Camp.

*Many of the peaks in Brewster County tend to stand alone and offer the filmmaker some very dramatic backgrounds.*

**LANDMARKS & SPECIAL EVENTS:** *A visit to the Big Bend Area without having a beer on the Porch in the picturesque [Terlingua Ghost Town](#) may well be anti-Texan. That Texans revere the land along the **Rio Grande** (or **Rio Bravo** if you prefer) seems quite natural considering the history of the area and the great natural beauty. The view from **DOM Rock** into a bottomless Rio Grande canyon, the almost mystic nights in the Ghost Town, the **River Road** itself (FM 170), the sudden and elegant surprise of **Lajitas Golf Resort and Spa**, overnight stays at Ivey's **Rock House** and the two great parks, [Big Bend National Park](#) and the [Big Bend Ranch State Park](#), that anchor the bottom of the county, make this one of the most photogenic places in America. It's no wonder so many films have paid us a visit for so many years.*

*The following make for some of the great location opportunities in Brewster County:*

Terlingua Ranch

16000 Terlingua Ranch Road

Terlingua, Texas 79852

432-371-3146

*The Terlingua Property Association represents property owners who collectively own some 200,000 acres of private land in the Big Bend region and is located south of Alpine along Texas Highway 118 and south of Marathon along US 385 just north of the BBNP. Some of the most beautiful scenery in Brewster County exists deep within the ranch. Access is mostly by dirt roads and they can be rough during and after storms. The owners of many of the various homes and ranches within Terlingua Ranch are infamous for defending their privacy. Best if your shoot comes "self-contained" due to the distances to larger communities and lack of facilities.*

<http://terlinguaranch.com/>

[Terlingua Chili Cookoff\(s\)](#) – *During the first weekend in November the chili cookoffs become the largest "city" in Brewster County. As many as 10,000 people have been known to show up. To say there is a lot of color in these events is a very large understatement. – SBB*

Chili Appreciation Society International, Inc.

*This granddaddy of all chili cookoffs is held at Rancho CASI de los Chisos in Terlingua. Rancho CASI is located on the north side of Highway 170 just west of the Ghost Town.*

<https://www.chili.org/terlingua.html>

Original Terlingua International Frank X. Tolbert-Wick Fowler Memorial Championship Chili Cookoff, Inc.

1400 Mockingbird Drive

Grapevine, Texas 76051

*Held "Behind-the-Store" across from the [Terlingua Ghost Town](#) on Texas Highway FM 170.*

[Terlingua Ghost Town – SBB](#)

[Terlingua Trading Company](#)

PO Box 376  
100 Ivey Street  
Terlingua Ghost Town  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-2234

*Home of the legendary Porch and owned by the iconic Bill Ivey and his lovely wife Lisa, the Terlingua Ghost Town is the proud home of the historic Chisos Mining Company, the original [Chili Cookoff](#) (both of 'em), Carroll Shelby's Championship Terlingua Racing Team, the [Terlingua Cemetery](#), the world famous Terlingua Trading Company, the [Big Bend Holiday Hotel](#) and the [Starlight Theatre Restaurant](#). A must for its starry nights and a great location headquarters for the area.*

<http://ghostowntexas.com/>

The Post at Marathon  
543 Post Road  
Marathon, Texas 79842

From the Visit Marathon, Texas Website: *"A beautiful secluded pond and County Park on the Pena Colorado River shaded by Cottonwood trees, and surrounded by Los Caballos Novaculite Mountains. Named after the old Cavalry Post in the mid-1800s known as Camp Pena Colorado." Locally famed for the annual Dance at the Post held every Fourth of July. The dance features great music and food - a real old fashioned Texas dance and BBQ. The Post is one of the lesser known terrific locations in Brewster County and is just South of Marathon.*

<http://www.marathontexas.com/index.php?pageid=17>

Los Caballos Road Side Stop and Historic Marker

*12 miles south of Marathon on the west side of US 385*

From the Historic Marker *"....The Del Norte-Santiago range, uplifted and folded 40 to 60 million years ago, is not half the age of the Ouachita Fold. This is a remarkable fusion of "old" and "young" mountains--and is unmatched at any other site in North America." It is situated along one of America's more beautiful highways and fraught with landscape and ranch locations.*

"The Road to La Linda" – Texas Ranch Road 2627

*Ranch to Market Road 2627 begins 38 miles south of Marathon on the east side of US 385 and is wholly contained in Brewster County. The Southern Terminus is at the presently closed border crossing bridge at the Mexican mining community of La Linda on the Rio Grande river. Along the route you will find the Stillwell Store and RV Park and the Black Gap WMA as well as some Black Gap primitive camping areas. The town of La Linda appears to quite picturesque. It is a shame the access is closed.*

Stillwell Store & RV Park  
HC 65 Box 430  
Alpine, Texas 79830 (again with that funny zip)  
432-376-2244

*Located 38 miles south of Marathon on US Highway 385 then 5.6 miles east on FM 2627. Store, RV Park, Tent Camping, and the surprisingly nice Hallie Stillwell Museum are located across from the Stillwell Ranch entrance. A good "central" production location if you are shooting in this area. Black Gap WMA and La Linda are just down the "block." The store takes the edge off "Self Contained."*

<http://stillwellstore.com/>, Email: [Kaypizzini@yahoo.com](mailto:Kaypizzini@yahoo.com)

Rio Grande River (Rio Bravo)

*Not to be forgotten is the river. It runs from the western edge of Brewster County to the eastern edge through the Big Bend Park (the river makes a 90 degree turn to the northeast in the middle of the park - thereby the name Big Bend). The river is accessible via any of the river guide services using canoes and rafts as well as riverside roads and trails.*

**[BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK – SBB](#)**

*Big Bend National Park is in the southern sector of Brewster County and is the 8th largest national park in the lower 48 states. The BBNP is the largest protected area of the Chihuahuan Desert with an area of 1,251 square miles (larger than the State of Rhode Island). The park is known as the most "re-visited" park in the National Park system. It has paved roads to most of the major attractions and decent dirt roads to many other sites. At most sites there is good parking for trucks and production vehicles. There are two main entrances to the park, southwest from Texas Highway 118 south of Alpine and Study Butte and the northeastern entrance at Persimmon Gap on US 385 south of Marathon. There is hardly a location without a dramatic mountain range in the background. The altitude ranges from approximately 1,800*

feet at the river to over 7,000 at the highest peak. The sunrises and sunsets can be spectacular. "Self-Contained" is once again the rule.

**~BBNP GENERAL INFORMATION~**

[Big Bend National Park](#) - Park Headquarters & Visitor Center

1 Panther Drive

Big Bend National Park, Texas 79834

432-477-2251

*A great contact for information is David Elkowitz the Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services. There are two gas stations within the park, Panther Junction and Rio Grande Village. The park distances are often farther than you think.*

<http://www.nps.gov/bibe/index.htm>

**~PARK LOCATION HIGHLIGHTS ~** (See the [Big Bend National Park](#) section by selecting the hyperlink)

Boquillas Canyon, Boquillas Overlook and the Boquillas Border Crossing (official US Port of Entry crossing)

Castolon Historic District

Chisos Basin and the Chisos Mountains Lodge (*pretty good restaurant and store*)

Cottonwood Campground

Rio Grande Village (RGV - *with small store and a Laundromat*) and the RGV Nature Trail (*over pontoon bridges on a Beaver lake in the middle of the desert!*)

Emory Peak and the Chisos Mountains (*the only complete mountain range in a National Park*)

Hot Springs (*the remnants of the Langford settlement and the secluded trees make for a great location – tough on big trucks*)

Persimmon Gap

Old Ore Road

Rabbit Ears

Santa Elena Canyon and Overlook (*magnificent canyon with a great overlook - not far off highway – be prepared for high heat May through August*)

Window and Window Trails in the Basin (*it is said you can freeze in the Basin and boil away along the river – all on the same day*)

Over 450 species of birds, more than any other National Park

*And a whole lot more!*

**~PARK SCHOOL ~**

San Vicente Independent School District

[Big Bend National Park](#)

195 Escuela Vista Drive

Big Bend National Park San Vicente, Texas 79834-0195

432-477-2220, Fax 432-477-2221

<http://www.svisd.com>

**BIG BEND RANCH STATE PARK – SBB**

From the Texas Parks and Wildlife Website: "*Welcome to the Other Side of Nowhere!*

*Big Bend Ranch State Park offers outdoor recreation for the truly adventurous. This remote park features rugged mountains, steep canyons, amazing views, unparalleled night skies, and solitude in a high desert setting. The park stretches along the Rio Grande in far west Texas, on the U.S.-Mexico border.*

*...The park has 238 miles of multiuse trails (for hiking, biking and horseback riding). Visitors can explore 70 miles of unmaintained dirt roads in high-clearance four-wheel-drive vehicles. The Rio Grande/Rio Bravo area offers great day-use access. Visitors can float, fish and hike, or drive the scenic Camino del Rio (FM 170). Each February, the park helps host the Chihuahuan Desert Bike Fest. Visit our Activities page to learn more."*

*The over 300,000 acres of the park (half the size of Rhode Island) resides across the southern portions of Brewster and Presidio County. It is filled with some of the more dramatic geological formations of the Big Bend like the famed **Solitario**, a dome like structure in the northeastern section of the park that was formed 35 million years ago. If a primitive, rugged setting is what your script calls for, this is the place.*

**~BBRSP GENERAL INFORMATION~**

Headquarters

Mailing Address

HCR 67, Box 33

Marfa, Texas 79843

Physical Address

1900 Saucedo Ranch Road

Presidio, Texas 79845

Lodging at the Saucedo Ranch House and Saucedo Bunkhouse (Meal Service is available if arranged in advanced)

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/big-bend-ranch/fees-facilities/lodging>

Campsites

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/big-bend-ranch/fees-facilities/campsites>

*The following are some of the activities that can be arranged thru the park:*

- Ranger Tours
- Hiking and Mountain Biking
- Horseback Riding
- 4X4 Touring
- River Access
- Nature Viewing
- Stargazing

Barton Warnock Visitor Center

FM 170 just east of Lajitas

HC 70, P.O. Box 375

Terlingua, Texas 79852

432-424-3327

*“Barton Warnock Visitor Center serves as the eastern visitor center for Big Bend Ranch State Park and is located near Lajitas. Permits for backpacking and camping (no hookups) at Big Bend Ranch State Park can be obtained at Barton Warnock or at Fort Leaton State Historic Site, the western visitor center for the park. Visitors can also purchase river-use permits, licenses, and information about the Big Bend region.” Well worth the visit to give you a geological, historical, flora and fauna overview of the area. Fascinating.*

Contrabando Movie Set & Ghost Town

*“A ghost town within the Big Bend Ranch State Park, 9.5 miles west of Lajitas, Texas on the Texas State Highway 170. The Contrabando consists of an original adobe building called 'La Casita' and several later additions that became part of the Contrabando during its use as a movie set. The movie set was constructed in 1985 for the Roy Clark film **Uphill all the Way**. The site has been used as a set for nine movies including John Sayles' 1996 movie **Lone Star**; as well as **Dead Man's Walk** and **Streets of Laredo**, which were part of the **Lonesome Dove** miniseries*

## **BLACK GAP WILDERNESS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA – SBB**

From the Texas Parks and Wildlife Website: *“The Black Gap WMA borders [Big Bend National Park](#) on the northwestern boundary. The management area shares 25 miles of the Rio Grande with the Mexican State of Coahuila on the southern and eastern boundaries. The property contains approximately 103,000 acres where the Sierranias del Burro and Sierra del Carmen Mountain Ranges enter into Texas. The management area is also located in some of the lowest elevations of the Chihuahuan Desert found in the United States. The property serves as a facility where research and demonstration projects can be implemented to aid private land management of natural resources.”*

*The Black Gap area can be reached in about an hour to an hour and a half south of Marathon on US 385, southeast along Texas Farm to Market Road 2627 then take the turn-off to headquarters on the left. The Black Gap WMA is made up mostly of dirt roads, some pretty rough, and some in good shape – high clearance vehicles are recommended. These locations should be thought of as very remote “come fully self-contained and take it all back out with you” – well worth it to a company looking for this kind of location. There are lots of camping sites and plenty of rugged scenery. One of the more primitive areas in the US.*

### **~BLACK GAP GENERAL INFORMATION~**

Black Gap Wildlife Management Area  
Texas Parks and Wildlife Alpine Office  
109 S. Cockrell  
Alpine, Texas 79830  
432-364-2228

Black Gap WMA Headquarters  
FM 2627  
432-376-2216

## **ELEPHANT MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA**

From the Texas Parks and Wildlife Website: *“Elephant Mountain WMA consists of 23,147 acres within the Trans-Pecos Ecological Region of west Texas. The WMA is located along the east side of SH 118, approximately 26 miles south of Alpine, in Brewster County. Elephant Mountain WMA was acquired through private donation in 1985 for the purpose of conservation and development of desert bighorn and large game animals, wildlife-oriented research, and other compatible recreational uses including public hunting. Desert bighorn have been established on the area. Other*

*wildlife species present include desert mule deer, pronghorn antelope, coyotes, scaled quail, rattlesnakes, whiptail lizards, and spadefoot toads."*

*Rising 2,000' from the desert floor like some giant ship, Elephant Mountain is in the midst of some very imposing uplifts and mesas. Some have called Elephant Mountain WMA our last chance to save the Bighorn Sheep. The immediate area has great backgrounds for scenes or, as the History Channel found, great views from the top of a grand mesa (and incredibly dramatic for the actors just getting to the top!).*

**~ELEPHANT MOUNTAIN GENERAL INFORMATION~**

Elephant Mountain WMA

Texas Parks and Wildlife Alpine Office

109 S. Cockrell

Alpine, Texas 79830

432-364-2228

*Primitive camping is available year round.*

Elephant Mountain WMA Headquarters & Education Center

26 miles south of Alpine on Texas Highway 118 on east side of highway

**BREWSTER COUNTY AUTO, MOTORCYCLE, SERVICE & RENTAL**

**~REPAIR, PARTS & SERVICE & RENTAL~**

Beechie's Auto Service

Located on Terlingua Ranch

PO Box 44

Contact: Robert & Nola Beauchamp

432-371-2392 or 432-294-2080

*"If You're Hung Up Call Us" - Car and Truck Repair, Towing, State Safety Inspections, Flat Tires, Batteries, etc.*

Email: [beechie@bigbend.net](mailto:beechie@bigbend.net)

Diesel Mechanic (at Becoming Fine Art)

23240 FM 170

Terlingua, Texas 79852

432-371-2694

Far Flung Adventures

PO Box 377

Terlingua, Texas 79852

800-839-7238

*They only have one Jeep for rent. Check the website for info.*

<http://bigbendfarflung.com/lodging/>, Email: [info@ffoc.net](mailto:info@ffoc.net)

GSM Motorcycle Rental LLC

8459 State HWY 73

Townsend, TN. 37882

Contact: Dan & Debbie Dickie

865-448-6090

*Why Tennessee? Because they winter in Terlingua.*

<http://gsmmotorent.com/>, Email: [ldan@gsmmotorent.com](mailto:ldan@gsmmotorent.com)

Terlingua Auto

23341 FM 170

PO BOX 323

Terlingua Texas. 79852

432-371-2223

*Service for all makes and models, light trucks, cars, motor homes, driveline service and tires and tire repairs*

**~FUEL, GROCERY & CONVENIENCE STORES~**

Cottonwood General Store

531710 Texas Highway 118

Terlingua, Texas 79852

432-371-3315

*Terrific grocery, good wine, well stocked with a great attitude.*

Needful Things Country Store

Terlingua Ranch Entrance

100 Terlingua Ranch Road

Alpine, Texas 79830 (*there is that pesky US Post Office again – they really are a long way south of Alpine*)  
432-371-3353

*“...a variety of groceries, health foods, produce, beer & wine, ice, water, tobacco, propane, outdoor & tactical items and other essentials for daily life in the desert.”*

<http://www.theneedfulthingscountrystore.com/>

Panther Junction

*Gas Station just west of Headquarters*

[Big Bend National Park](#)

Highway 118 & Us 385

Big Bend National Park, Texas 79834

*Not always open – when you come to the park, bring plenty of water and food and fill the tank with gas.*

Study Butte Store at the Big Bend Motor Inn

Texas Highway 118 & FM 170

Terlingua, Texas 79852

*Fuel, restaurant and convenience store*

Terlingua Store

FM-170 & South County Rd

Terlingua, Texas

432-371-2487

*Close to the Ghost Town and has ice when you really need it.*

## **BREWSTER COUNTY BANKS**

West Texas National Bank

Quicksilver Branch

53610 State Highway 118

Terlingua, Texas 79852

432.371.2211 (phone), 432.371.2285 (fax)

## **BREWSTER COUNTY CHURCHES**

Church of Christ

Texas Highway 118

Study Butte-Terlingua, Texas

432-371-2292

<http://www.church-of-christ.com/info/tx-terlingua.htm>

Big Bend Baptist Church

Texas Highway 118

Study Butte, Texas

432- 371-2243

Terlingua Ranch Community Mission Church

Near Lodge just off main road

St. Agnes

[Terlingua Ghost Town](#)

*The church is available for appropriate events. You can have a wedding here, or a christening, or a funeral, or other like ceremonies and activities – contact the [Terlingua Trading Company](#). The local Justice of the Peace does a right fine wedding.*

## **BIG BEND GUIDES, GUIDED TOURS & EXPEDITIONS**

Angell Expeditions

Contact Charlie Angell

HC63 Box 51

Marfa Tx. 79843

432-229-3713 or 305-336-2787

*Don't let the Marfa address fool you – it's that Post Office thing again. Charlie has over 12 years' experience guiding in the Big Bend, is a Registered Guide with the Big Bend Ranch State Park and the [Big Bend National Park](#) and is certified with Wilderness Advanced First Aid Training – handy person to have on a location. He can give you a private Jeep tour of any area – perfect for serious location scouting. "We can take you to areas only accessible by 4WD vehicles and on properties that have access granted only to Angell Expeditions."*

<http://angellepeditions.com/>, EMAIL: [charles@angellepeditions.com](mailto:charles@angellepeditions.com)

Big Bend Expeditions  
6000 North County Road  
PO Box 293  
Terlingua, Texas 79852

Contact: Jennifer

432-371-2265 or 888-408-2945

*"Big Bend Expeditions offers one of a kind 4x4 SUV tours, [Big Bend National Park](#) tours, local area tours, hiking tours, and camping expeditions. We specialize in the archeology, geology, birding, flora, fauna and history of Big Bend National Park and the Terlingua/Study Butte area. River Tours are through our partner Big Bend River Tours."*

<http://www.bigbendexpeditions.com/> Email: [bigbendexpeditions@bigbend.net](mailto:bigbendexpeditions@bigbend.net)

Big Bend Overland Tours

Texas Highway 118 at the junction with FM 170

Box 336

Terlingua, Texas 79852

Contact: Larry Staton

432-371-2218

Big Bend River Tours

P.O. Box 317

Terlingua, Texas 79852

432-371-3033, 800-545-4240, FAX 432-371-3034

Email: [rapids317@hotmail.com](mailto:rapids317@hotmail.com)

*The oldest river outfitter running the Rio Grande in the Big Bend area of Texas!*

<http://www.bigbendriversortours.com/contactus.html>, Email: [rapids317@hotmail.com](mailto:rapids317@hotmail.com)

Big Bend Stables Study Butte and Lajitas Stables –SBB

Texas Highway 118 South of Big Bend Motor Inn

Contact Linda Walker

Box 6, Terlingua, Texas 79852

432-371-3064, 800 887 4331

*Stables, Horseback Rides, Guided Trips*

<http://lajitasstables.com/> Email: [lajitasstables@bigbend.net](mailto:lajitasstables@bigbend.net)

Big Bend Resorts/Chisos Mt. Lodge

Basin Rural Station

Big Bend National Park Texas 79834

Contact: Danny Ferguson

432-477-2291, 800 839 7238, Fax 432 371 2993

Email: [bigbendgm@bigbend.net](mailto:bigbendgm@bigbend.net)

Far Flung Outdoor Center

River Trips, Jeep & ATV Tours, Canoe Rentals, Outfitter

FM 170 and Highway 118 Terlingua/ Study Butte

Contact: Greg Henington

Box 377, Terlingua, Texas 79852

*"...the widest, most complete offering of outdoor experiences available in West Texas"- and don't forget they have a Jeep for rent. Specializes in river tours but offers complete guided tours of all types.*

<http://ffoc.net/>, Email: [info@ffoc.net](mailto:info@ffoc.net)

## **BREWSTER COUNTY HARDWARE, GALLERIES, STORES & SHOPS**

Becoming Fine Art

23240 FM 170

Terlingua, Texas 79852

432-371-2694

<https://www.facebook.com/BecomingFineArt>

Bee Mountain Hardware  
101 Bee Mountain Road  
Suite A  
PO Box 635  
Terlingua Texas 79852  
432-371-3113

*"We are full line hardware - If we don't have it we can get it!"*

Big Bend Stone & West Texas Plants  
Stone Planters & Native Plants  
Texas Highway 110 & FM 170 Study Butte  
PO Box 6  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-3156, 800 887 4331  
Email: [lico@stoneplanters.com](mailto:lico@stoneplanters.com)

Burr Rabbit Curios  
100 Easter Egg Valley  
23278 FM 170  
Box 228  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
*Gifts & Curios, Rocks, Minerals, Jewelry*  
432 371 2254

Painted Feather Studio & Gallery  
999-A Ghost Town Road  
PO Box 109  
Terlingua Texas 79852  
*Fine Arts & Collectables Gallery*  
405-795-3905  
Email: [danileab@yahoo.com](mailto:danileab@yahoo.com)

Quilts Ect.  
Bee Mountain Plaza Texas Highway 118  
PO Box 142  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-2292  
*Handmade Quilts and Handicrafts*

Stillwell Store & RV Park  
*Located 40 miles south of Marathon down US Highway 385 then a left for 5.6 miles on FM 2627 – often called the Stillwell Road or sometimes the La Linda road.*  
HC 65 Box 430  
Alpine, Texas 79830  
432-376-2244  
*A welcome respite for a cold pop and some ice. A good "central" production location if you are shooting in this area. Black Gap WMA and La Linda are just down the "block."*  
<http://stillwellstore.com/>, Email: [Kaypizzini@yahoo.com](mailto:Kaypizzini@yahoo.com)

## **BREWSTER COUNTY MEDIA**

Alpine Daily Planet  
*Online-Only Newspaper covering the Big Bend*  
[www.alpinedailyplanet.typepad.com](http://www.alpinedailyplanet.typepad.com)

Big Bend Gazette  
PO Box 466  
Terlingua Texas 79852  
432-837-5755  
*Monthly Newspaper covering the Big Bend Region focusing on Brewster County with state-wide readership..*  
[www.bigbendgazette.com](http://www.bigbendgazette.com)

KALP 92.7 FM Radio Station – SBB

Alpine's Country Music Station

432-837-2144

*Online Streaming available for scheduled News, Sports and Special Events*

[www.bigbendradio.com](http://www.bigbendradio.com)

KVLF 1240 AM Radio Station – SBB

Ray Hendryx Station Manager and Owner

Voice of the Last Frontier Since 1949

432-837-2144

*Online Streaming available of the stations scheduled News, Sports and Special Events. If you want publicity in the local area, schedule an interview or record an ad.*

[www.bigbendradio.com](http://www.bigbendradio.com)

## **BREWSTER COUNTY RANCHES**

*These are by no means all the ranches in Brewster County just a representation for your fine edification. You will notice some of the names are familiar and some are listed in more than one county. It's Texas. The ranches in this area were once among the largest, if not the largest, ranches in the world (the Big Bend Ranch State Park came from one ranch and in the day the owner Robert O. Anderson of the Diamond A Cattle Company was the largest land owner in the US). Death and grandkids have dictated today's ranch size.*

02 Ranch (*we pronounce this "Oh Two"*)

LOCATION Brewster

06 Ranch – SBB (*and this is pronounced "Ought Six"*)

*The 06 Flats and the 06 Willow Springs Ranches*

LOCATION Brewster and Jeff Davis counties

Briscoe Ranches

LOCATION Brewster, Culberson, Dimmit, La Salle, Maverick, McMullen, Uvalde, Webb, and Zavala counties

Combs

LOCATION Brewster

El Rancho Escondido

LOCATION Brewster

La Escalera Ranches

LOCATION Brewster, Pecos, and Reeves counties

A. S. Gage Ranch

LOCATION Brewster and Presidio counties

Larremore Ranch –SBB

LOCATION Brewster

Ten Bits Guest Ranch

LOCATION Brewster

Clayton Williams Ranches

LOCATION Borden, Brewster, Jeff Davis, Pecos, and Presidio counties

## **BREWSTER COUNTY RESTAURANTS, SALOONS & LIQUOR STORES**

Bad Rabbit Cafe

Terlingua Ranch Lodge

PO Box 638

Terlingua, Texas 79852

432-371-3389

*"In" the Terlingua Ranch Lodge – 16 miles from the entrance on 118 – chips made fresh.*

Big Bend Resort & Adventures

100 Main Street  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-2483  
*Blue Bell Ice Cream! On a warm day – oh yah.*

Chili Pepper Cafe  
100 Texas Highway 118  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-2233

High Sierra Bar & Grill  
100 Ghost Town Road  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-3282

Long Draw Pizza  
West of the Ghost Town  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-2608  
*Good pizza along the river.*

Ocotillo  
100 Main Street  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432- 424-5035

Restaurant Rio Bravo  
Highway FM 170  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-2101

[Starlight Theatre Restaurant](#)  
[Terlingua Ghost Town](#) on the Porch  
631 Ivey Road  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-3400  
*Consistently the best food in South County with terrific live entertainment.*  
<http://www.thestarlighttheatre.com/>

Tivo's Restaurant  
Longhorn Ranch Motel Texas Highway 118  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-2133  
*Only open in the cooler months.*

**~LIQUOR, WINE & BEER~**  
Gloria's Last Chance Liquor Store  
Study Butte Mall  
432-371-2270

Shot Time Liquors N Artz  
101 Medics Lane  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-3155

Study Butte Store  
Highway 118  
Terlingua, Texas 79852  
432-371-2231

## **BREWSTER COUNTY ROADS & HIGHWAYS – SBB**

*Did we say roads? Oh boy do we have roads! Roads of every kind just waiting for a camera car.*

There are two paved highways that dissect the county running north to south – **Texas Highway 118** in the west and **US Highway 385** in the east. Once a major artery of America, **US Highway 90** crosses the northern part of the county through Marathon and Alpine. It comes from Jacksonville Beach, Florida and ends in Van Horn, Texas. On the bottom of the county runs the legendary **River Road – Farm to Market 170**, sacred to motorcycles and fast cars as well as magnificent scenery. And don't forget our dirt roads that run rampant through the [Big Bend National Park](#), the Big Bend Ranch State Park, through Terlingua Ranch, and most of the county. It may well be said that the true beauty of the Big Bend country may be found on its dirt roads. See the section "[Roads of the Big Bend](#)" under the sites main menu header.

## **BREWSTER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION – AIRPORTS & AIR SERVICE**

Please see the Alpine Transportation section for complete information and commercial flights.

### **~AIRPORTS~**

There are a great many private ranch airfields of which most are gravel or dirt. It is important to remember that flying in this area is "border" flying. Permission to land at these private airport/fields should be obtained well in advance.

C Fulcher Ranch Airport (also known as the Terlingua Airport  
Terlingua /Alpine/, Texas, USA

FAA INFORMATION EFFECTIVE 29 MAY 2014

Location

FAA Identifier: 3TE8

Lat/Long: 29-19-09.7100N / 103-35-00.6660W

29-19.161833N / 103-35.011100W

29.3193639 / -103.5835183

(estimated)

Elevation: 2717 ft. / 828.1 m (surveyed)

Variation: 09E (1985)

From city: 2 miles E of central business district of the associated city

Time zone: UTC -5 (UTC -6 during Standard Time)

Zip code: 79852

Airport use: Private use. Permission required prior to landing

Activation date: 06/1941

Sectional chart: EL PASO

Control tower: no

Wind indicator: yes

Airport Services

Airframe service: NONE

Powerplant service: NONE

Bottled oxygen: NONE

Bulk oxygen: NONE

Runway Information

Runway 13/31

Dimensions: 3600 x 120 ft. / 1097 x 37 m

Surface: gravel

Operational restrictions: NORTHEAST SIDE OF RWY IS ALSO PUBLIC ROAD.

RUNWAY 13 RUNWAY 31

Traffic pattern: left left

Obstructions: road

ROAD AND +4 FT FENCE AT THLD. brush

+5 FT BRUSH AT THLD.

Manager: ALEX WHITMORE

P.O. BOX 215

TERLINGUA, TX 79852

Phone 940-367-3547

OFFICE - 432-371-3336

Lajitas International Airport

As of July 2014 the airport will be closed until August 2014 while undergoing a restoration. There is some conversation about starting charter service flights between Dallas Love field and Lajitas as RJR Airlines several times a week.

FAA INFORMATION EFFECTIVE 29 MAY 2014

FAA Identifier: 89TE

Lat/Long: 29-16-40.5000N / 103-41-15.5000W

29-16.675000N / 103-41.258333W

29.2779167 / -103.6876389 (estimated)

Elevation: 2637.8 ft. / 804 m (estimated)  
Variation: 09E (2000)  
From city: 4 miles E of LAJITAS, TX  
Time zone: UTC -5 (UTC -6 during Standard Time)  
Zip code: 79852

#### Airport Operations

Airport use: Private use. Permission required prior to landing  
Activation date: 10/2001  
Sectional chart: EL PASO  
Control tower: no  
ARTCC: ALBUQUERQUE CENTER  
FSS: SAN ANGELO FLIGHT SERVICE STATION  
Attendance: 0800-1700  
FOR SVC CALL 432-424-5000.  
Wind indicator: yes  
Segmented circle: no  
Lights: FOR NIGHT LNDGS PLEASE CALL 432-424-5000.  
Landing fee: yes

Airport Services - Fuel available: 100LL, JET-A

#### Runway Information

Runway 7/25  
Dimensions: 7505 x 100 ft. / 2288 x 30 m  
Surface: asphalt  
Runway edge lights: medium intensity  
RUNWAY 7 RUNWAY 25  
Latitude: 29-16.550000N 29-16.800000N  
Longitude: 103-41.950000W 103-40.566667W  
Elevation: 2600.0 ft. 2630.4 ft.  
Traffic pattern: left left  
Touchdown point: yes, no lights yes, no lights

Airport Ownership and Management from official FAA records

Ownership: Privately-owned  
Owner: LAJITAS CAPITAL PARTNERS LLC  
HC 70 BOX 400  
LAJITAS, TX 79852  
Phone 432-424-5000  
Manager: AL BLAINE  
HC 70 BOX 400  
LAJITAS, TX 79852  
Phone 432-424-5000

#### Terlingua Ranch Airport

At the Terlingua Ranch Lodge  
Alpine, Texas, 79830 (*Once again, hardly Alpine*)  
FAA Identifier: 1E2  
Elevation: 3769 ft. / 1148.8 m (surveyed)  
From city: 57 miles SE of ALPINE, TX  
Zip code: 79830

Open to the public  
Activation date: 02/1972  
Sectional chart: EL PASO

Control tower: no

#### Airport Services

Parking: hangars and tiedowns  
Airframe service: NONE  
Powerplant service: NONE  
Bottled oxygen: NONE  
Bulk oxygen: NONE

#### Runway Information

Runway 2/20  
Dimensions: 4700 x 80 ft. / 1433 x 24 m  
Surface: gravel, in poor condition - VERY LOOSE.  
Elevation: 3769.0 ft. 3638.0 ft.  
Gradient: 2.8% UP

Airport Ownership and Management from official FAA records

Ownership: Privately-owned  
Owner: TERLINGUA RANCH INC  
BOX 638  
TERLINGUA, TX 79852  
Phone 432-371-2416  
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF  
Manager: JOHN GRAY  
BOX 638  
TERLINGUA, TX 79852  
Phone 432-371-3146  
Additional Remarks AIRPORT SURROUNDED BY +500'- 600' MOUNTAINS.

**~AIR SERVICE~**

Air Tours Terlingua

Located at C Fulcher Ranch Airport

*“Rio Aviation Inc. was started by retired Big Bend Ranger Marcos Paredes, ...specializes in offering scenic flights...Rio Aviation is authorized to conduct scenic flights over the Big Bend and is certified by the FAA as a part 91 Air Tour Operation.”*

**~GROUND~**

TRAX (Big Bend Community Action Committee, Inc.)

*Transportation via large vans is available to the public and can be used for various reasons: shopping, work place, visiting friends and family, airports, and/or medical appointments*

432-837-9139, 855-TRY-TRAX, (855-879-8729)

[www.bbcac.org/index.cfm](http://www.bbcac.org/index.cfm)