

## **BIG BEND RESOURCES – MARATHON**



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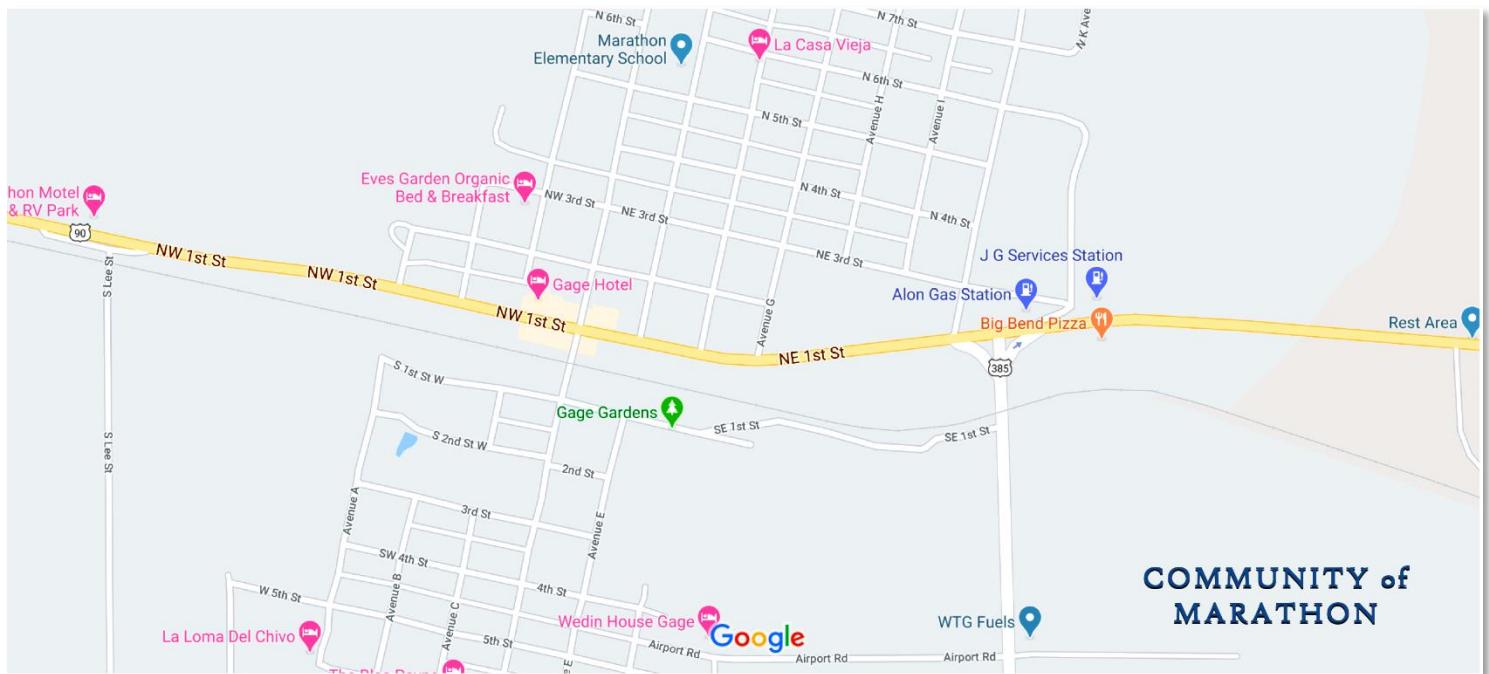
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## **MARATHON GENERAL INFORMATION**

*"Where There's Nothing "to do" ...a peaceful serene community, blessed with friendly people, beautiful surroundings and delightful climate, punctuated with vibrant, energetic events...."*

The unincorporated town of Marathon was founded in 1882 when the Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio Railway first laid tracks through the townsite (now the Union Pacific tracks). It is the second largest community in Brewster County with a population of 430, but don't let that fool you, Marathon is a very cool place. Dominated by the Trost & Trost designed Gage Hotel, the community is filled with wonderful locations from West Texas elegant to the bizarre. There are great interior and exterior spaces well worth spending the extra scouting time. Is this the next filmmakers dream location? Come see for yourself and Shoot 'em Up in Magical Marathon!

### **~CITY & CITY SERVICES INFORMATION~ Area Code 432, Zip Code 79842, Dial 911 for all Emergencies**

A lot of the following information is courtesy of the Marathon Chamber of Commerce's Website - a most thorough and informative site - perhaps the most informative of all the websites in the Big Bend! For Brewster County information, please see our [Brewster County section](#).

Marathon Chamber of Commerce  
PO Box 163  
432-386-4205

*The MCC website is filled with lots of history and information about the area and the community, a good reference tool.*  
Email: [visitmarathontexas@gmail.com](mailto:visitmarathontexas@gmail.com)  
<https://www.marathontexas.com/home>

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3  
Susana Gonzales  
432.386.4530  
432-837-6200 x-140

Commissioner, Precinct 3  
Ruben Ortega  
P.O. Box 338  
432-294-1096

Brewster County Sheriff's Department  
Ronny Dodson Sheriff  
801 North Avenue I  
432-386-4221  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Brewster-County-Sheriffs-Office/270335429657543>

Marathon Volunteer Fire Department  
109 NE 2nd Street  
Chief Brad Wilson 432-386-5414  
Assistant Chief Timothy Roberts: 432-210-9861  
Captain Tim Thayer  
Lieutenant Kalan Thomas  
[www.marathonvfd.org](http://www.marathonvfd.org)

Electricity  
*Local Electric Utility or a Transmission and Distribution Utility - AEP Texas, North Division, 877-373-4858.*  
Rio Grande Co-op TXU Electric  
877-373-4858 866-462-4192

Propane  
Mustang Propane  
300 South US Highway 385 #A  
432-386-4422

*"Propane sales, service, and appliances for the tri-county area including all Rinnai Continuous Water Heaters. Available 24-hours for emergency."*

Water & Sewer  
Marathon Water & Sewer  
432-386-4229



Marathon Community Center  
PO Box 421  
150 N 2nd St E

*"The 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 air conditioning and heating. Accommodates 150 people. For reservations and details, contact Ruben Ortega, Brewster County Commissioner, Precinct 3, at 432-294-1096."*

Marathon Public Library  
PO Box 177  
106 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street East  
432-386-4136  
*Internet, books and movie rentals - a very nice small library*

Marathon Independent School District  
PO BOX 416  
109 N 5<sup>th</sup>  
432-386-4431

*The school district is made up of two buildings, an Elementary School building and a Middle School/High School building.*  
<https://www.marathonisd.net/>

United States Post Office  
107 North 1<sup>st</sup> E  
432-386-4472

#### **~BANKS & TAX PREPARER~**

TransPecos Banks  
109 West Highway 90  
432-386-4500

*Full Banking Service and 24-Hour ATM – Branch in Alpine and Pecos, each with a Drive-Thru.*  
<https://www.transpecosbanks.com/>

#### **~CHURCHES~**

Marathon Baptist Church  
109 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
432-386-4396

*"...is a "congregational" church, where people from many different denominations come together..."*

St. Mary Catholic Church  
On NW 3rd Street at Ave C  
*St. Mary Catholic Church is a mission church of Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church in Alpine*

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

Big Bend Regional Medical Center  
2600 North Highway 118  
Alpine, Texas 79830  
432-837-3447

*US 90 West takes you to Alpine 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>

Marathon Rural Health Clinic  
South 1<sup>st</sup> at 101 South Post Road  
For appointments please call 432-386-4316 to be seen by: Dr. Boinpally, Family Practice, Laura Gesick, FNP-C  
432-386-4316  
*"Open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9am - 4pm. All patients are welcome, and we accept most insurance. Walk-ins are welcome but are based on the medical provider's schedule and availability." About 30 miles from Marathon.*

Pecos County Memorial Hospital  
PO Box 1648  
387 West I-10  
Fort Stockton, Texas 79735  
432-336-2004, Fax 432-336-4545  
*US 385 North takes you to Fort Stockton. The ride is a bit longer than the one to Alpine. It is a Trauma-4 Level (Basic Level) facility. PCMH hospital supports the Marathon Rural Health Clinic. About 60 miles from Marathon.*  
<http://www.pcmhfs.com/getpage.php?name=index>

## **~LANDMARKS & ATTRACTIONS~**

### **Bank Vault**

*"For many years, the local merchants acted as bankers for their customers. In 1907, the Marathon State Bank was organized. A fire destroyed the building owned by W. J. McIntyre and Sons in June 1920." It appears the vault still remains standing at the rear of what is now the Brick Vault BBQ and Brewery.*

### **Crinoids Hills**

*"Located at the road cut 5 miles west of Marathon on Hwy 90, digging around in the dirt could turn up fossils of various types deposited when the Marathon Basin was an inland sea."*

### **Cemetery**

*"Located at the 1/2 mile mark on the Post Road, the Marathon cemetery is a cemetery enthusiast's dream. A lot can be gleaned about Marathon's colorful past by walking around and noticing the layout and arrangement of the graves, some dating back to the 1800s."*



### **The Gage Hotel**

*"Welcome to the Gage Experience." One of [Trost & Trost's](#) early 20<sup>th</sup> Century creations with wonderful grounds and great ambience. Not only a good place to stay, but a great location in and of itself. (See the Gage under Hotels below for more information.)*

### **Jail**

*"A windmill located in the middle of Marathon's North First Street served as an early jail for drunkenness and petty crimes. The offender being chained to a leg of the windmill. Other structures were used to serve as a jail, however, as a result of numerous colorful escapes, it became apparent to the citizens that a better 'Calaboose' was needed. Rocks were then dug from a ledge on the northwest part of town and a jail was built to the south of the old Ritchey store. Upon completion of the upgrades to the cells in Alpine, the old ones were sent to Marathon." (Except from the Magnificent Marathon Basin, Annejo P. Wedin 1989)*

### **Marathon Historical Museum**

#### **Next door to Marathon Public Library**

*"The Marathon Historical Museum is housed in an adobe building constructed about 1886 that was the first schoolhouse in the area that later became Brewster County. Exhibits within the museum cover Marathon's history through its settlers (Native American, Mexican and Anglo) and through specific artifacts and displays relating to railroads, ranching, mining, business, mercantile, industry, banking, the schools, the military, and geology.... The museum is operated by the Marathon Museum Society, chartered in 1977. Visitors may visit the museum by obtaining a key from the Marathon Public Library, located next door to the Museum."*

### **Post Road**

*"Starting at the center of town, the post road runs south for 5 miles to the Post Park. Marked in 1/2-mile increments, very little traffic, and fabulous views make this road ideal for running, walking and biking. Wildlife such as deer, javelinas, turkey, or even an occasional fox can be seen in the early mornings or late evenings." What makes this road so special is the lack of posts, poles, reflectors, mile markers, or basically any signage at all. Makes for that all too rare clean shot.*

### **Post Park (Camp Peña Colorado)**

*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. It is one of the few accessible sources of spring water in the Big Bend region. Lots of room and neat history.*

## **~TELECOMMUNICATIONS & INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER~**

Big Bend Telephone – 800- 592-4781

Mountain Zone TV and Internet – 432-837-2300

Big Canyon TV/Dish – 432-837-7484

Exede Satellite Internet – 877-782-4319

HughesNet – 800-794-1830

Russell Cellular – 432-837-7029

TDS Baja Broadband – 432-837-3637 or 800-996-8788

ATT – 800-288-2020

Direct TV – 855-463-7359

## **MARATHON ART GALLERIES**

Evans Gallery  
432-386-4366

*"James Evans has been photographing the people and landscapes of the Big Bend and across its border since 1988."*

<http://www.jameshevans.com/Home.html>



Klepper Gallery - Fine Art  
105 North Avenue D  
432-386-6789

*"E. Dan Klepper is an artist, writer and photographer based in west Texas. His work has been featured in numerous books and magazines, including "In Sight," the online photography magazine for The Washington Post. Klepper's art, exhibited at his Marathon studio Klepper Gallery, can be found in collections across the state."*

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

Wes Spears' Sonworks Gallery  
900 East US Hwy 90  
432-386-0329

*"Wood is good. The world of Wesley Spears has always been full of items that nail, glue or weld together."*

Bob Freeman Photography & Woodcrafting  
P.O. Box 288  
214-505-9390

*"Fine art photography and wood-crafting specializing in landscapes of the Big Bend and a variety of wood crafts - Native American flutes and writing instruments."*

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

Carol Townsend Photography  
103 E Hwy 90  
432-244-8432

*"Carol Townsend studied photography at Cambridge Community College in Cambridge, MN. Since moving to Marathon in 1995 she has had many photographs featured in the Big Bend Travel Guide, the Cenizo, and on postcards for the Marathon Chamber of Commerce. Local images and postcards are displayed at the Cactus Flower gift shop on Main Street in Marathon."*

[www.catdat.blogspot.com](http://www.catdat.blogspot.com)

Maisie Lee Hand-Carved Wooden Doors  
Stop by Eve's Garden B&B at 200 NW 3rd Street to view her works  
432-386-4189

*"Hand carved doors for homes and churches. See the Marathon Catholic and Methodist churches in Marathon for examples. Maisie has also written a book about her life and adventures in the Big Bend dating back to her arrival here in the 1940's."*

## **MARATHON AUTOMOTIVE PARTS, FUEL & SERVICE**

Aguilar Fina  
801 Northeast 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
432-386-4364

Marathon Auto and Diesel, LLC.  
801 North H Street (by the Water Company)  
713-725-0825  
*Automotive and diesel repair and maintenance.*

Mustang Propane  
300 South US Highway 385 # A  
432-386-4422

*"Propane sales, service, and appliances for the tri-county area including all Rinnia Continuous Water Heaters - Available 24-hours for emergency"*

Sixto's Alon Services Station (also called J&Ds)  
901 East Highway 90  
432-386-4551

*Station was damaged in fire in early 2014 and has been renovated. "24 hour Pump Service, Lottery/Beer/Food, Breakdown Service & Repairs."*

## **MARATHON CONSTRUCTION & TRADES**

Marathon Construction

203 NE 1st Street

432-386-4271

*General Contractor in Marathon*

*The Plumbing and Electrical Trades are all listed as being in Alpine, 26 miles West.*

## **MARATHON GROCERY**

The French Company Grocer

206 North Avenue D

423-386-4522

*"Groceries, natural foods, beer/wine, hot pizzas, homemade sandwiches/bread/cookies, meat/fish, hardware, toys, camping stuff & Internet with picnic tables on the porch! Open 'til 9 pm every night." Well worth the stop.*

<http://www.frenchcogrocer.com/Home.html>

## **MARATHON HOTELS, MOTELS, GUEST HOUSES, RV PARKS & CAMPING**

### **~HOTELS~**

Eve's Garden Bed & Breakfast

PO Box 323

Avenue C and N 3<sup>rd</sup>

432-386-4165 or 432-386-3479

*"Organic Bed & Breakfast & Ecology Resource Center." This is a must-see hotel. Colorful does not do it justice. Not a straight line in the place and a great indoor garden with desert elegant style rooms and a terrific guest breakfast – with style!*

<http://www.evesgarden.org/>

The Gage Hotel

432-386-4205

102 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Street

Highway 90 West

*"Welcome to the Gage Experience." One of [Trost & Trost's](#) early 20<sup>th</sup> Century creations with wonderful grounds and great ambience. Not only a good place to stay but could work as a great location.*

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



Additional accommodations available through the Gage:

Celaya House

*"Located immediately behind the historic hotel, this house includes one bedroom with a king bed and one bedroom with 2 double beds, a large living area with TV, kitchen, one bath, which will comfortably accommodate a family of four. Also includes private fenced yard and covered parking."*

Captain Shepard's Inn

*"This exquisitely restored historic home, built in 1899, is located one block north of the historic hotel. Native landscaped garden and grounds provide walled private space ideal for larger group gatherings. The main house includes 5 bedrooms, 2 sitting rooms, TV room, dining room and butler's kitchen. The carriage house, with screened in porch, is located behind the main house and features two beautifully appointed rooms with king beds and private baths, and TV."*

Casa Jardin (Garden House)

*"This spacious one-room house has a king bed, twin day bed, TV and a kiva fireplace. Located adjacent to the Gage Gardens, across the street from the historic hotel. French doors open to a private patio with a view of the garden orchard. Also includes fenced yard and covered parking"*

Wilson House

*"Located next to the beautiful Gage Gardens, this property is across the street from the historic hotel. An open floor plan includes a sitting area with TV, fireplace, king bed and 2 twin beds in an open loft. A full kitchen and bath complete the amenities. The home also features a huge covered porch, private fenced yard and covered parking."*

*The [Trost & Trost](#) designed hotels in the Big Bend area are: [Holland Hotel](#) in Alpine, Gage Hotel here in Marathon, Paisano Hotel in Marfa and the El Capitan Hotel in Van Horn. All of them have undergone excellent renovations in the past few years and are well kept. There are historic hotel buff's that make a mini vacation by staying in each of the hotels on their way east or west.*

Marathon Motel & RV Park –  
PO Box 141  
West Highway 90  
866-386-4241

*"Sunsets, stargazing and storm chasing, we've got the sky for you!" Wonderful little park and southwest style walls frames this picturesque motel and RV park.*

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

#### **~GUEST HOUSES~**

*As we've noted previously the following list can be volatile so you should check in with Airbnb and VRBO. Also see Additional Accommodations under the Gage Hotel.*

Adobe Hacienda Lodges  
Marathon, Texas  
432-386-4200

*"The Friendliest Places to Stay in West Texas." Adobe Hacienda Lodges offers the following homes for over-night and short stay accommodations: Garcia House and the Ortega House*

<http://www.adobehaciendas.com>

Blas Payne House  
101 S.E. 6th Street  
817-938-4498

*"Lovingly restored historic adobe home originally built by Blas Payne"*

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Blas-Payne/207496199291122>

Casa La Vista  
645 Dickson  
432-386-2222  
*"A Simple Getaway. Naturally."*  
<http://www.casalavistababy.com/>

Eighth Street Rock House  
503 North 8th Street

*"The 8th Street Rock House is a one bedroom, one bath house with a large eat in kitchen. It sleeps four."*

<https://8thstreetrockhouse.com/>

J & G's Hideaway  
201 East South 5<sup>th</sup>  
432-386-7827 or 432-386-3939  
*"Newly renovated house located in a quiet neighborhood on the south side of town, walking distance to restaurants and other attractions"*

La Esmeralda  
858-395-3850  
*"As seen in Southern Living Magazine."*  
<http://www.vrbo.com/145463>

Marathon Vacation Homes  
432-386-4439  
*"The best family lodging values in Marathon, Texas." Marathon Vacation Homes offers the following homes for over-night and short stay accommodations: Blue-Green House, Red House, Third Street & Avenue B and Tina's Mountain Vista*

<http://www.marathonvacationhomes.com/red-house>

McGonagill House  
505 NE 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
432-935-9755 or 432-395-2454  
*"We try to meet all the needs of our guests with old fashioned southern hospitality."*

<http://www.vrbo.com/382522>

Rancho Villa Guest House  
512-423-2695  
*"Where your biggest problem is not wanting to leave."*

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

## **~HOSTEL~**

La Loma Del Chivo Hostel  
401 SW 6th Street  
432-244-7144

*"Hostel with numerous offerings for those who get the joke. Various alternative buildings are made out of recycled material, cans, bottles, and paper. You will experience dust - we are a step up from camping, not a Hilton. Bathroom and hot shower is available in the next building. Outdoor kitchenette. If you have some flexibility and half a 'hippie bone' left in your body, this might be the place for you to expand. Come see us, share some travel stories and relax under our amazing Milky Way. We pay tribute to the Dalai Lama's three Rs: Respect for self. Respect for others. Responsibility for all of your actions."*

## **MARATHON RESTAURANTS, SALOONS & LIQUOR STORES**

### **~RESTAURANTS~**

12 Gage Restaurant at the Gage Hotel  
102 North West 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
West Highway 90  
432-386-4205, Fax: 432-386-4510  
[http://www.gagehotel.com/dining\\_12\\_gage.html](http://www.gagehotel.com/dining_12_gage.html)

Big Bend Pizza  
Highway 90 across form the Visitor Center  
432-386-8883  
*"If Pizza is your thing, Big Bend Pizza is your place! Vegetarian or meat, homemade crusts and sauces!"*

Brick Vault Brewery and Barbecue  
102 Northwest 1<sup>st</sup> Street Highway 90W  
432-386-7538  
*"Brick vault serves up barbecue and beer worth going out of your way for." Daniel Vaughn, Texas Monthly. In the top 25 of BBQ Joints in Texas!*  
[www.brickvaultbreweryandbbq.com](http://www.brickvaultbreweryandbbq.com)

French Company Grocer + Deli  
206 North Avenue D  
432-386-4522  
*Local "General Store" stocks classic grocery staples, natural/organic foods, beer and wine, as well as camping supplies, bicycle repair, basic hardware, first-aid, gifts and artisan wares. The deli offers homemade sandwiches, salads, bread, cookies, and coffee for eating on the patio or taking to-go. Free WiFi.*

Gilda's J&G Grill  
901 East Hwy 90 West  
432-386-4238  
*"Located inside the J&G Alon convenience store on the east side of Marathon. Grab a burger to-go while getting gas on your way to Big Bend! Breakfast burritos, hamburgers, Mexican food, chicken sandwiches, fries, grilled cheese, cold drinks, and beer."*

Marathon Coffee Shop  
301 North West 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
432-386-4352  
*"A truly unforgettable Marathon experience! Listen to banjo player Billy Faire, hang out with the locals and just maybe, get caught up on the local gossip.... Full Breakfast and lunch menu Specialty coffees, fresh baked goods by our 'Guest bakers'. 'Home of the Green Chili Hash Browns' Open 7 am – 3 pm for breakfast and lunch. Full breakfast menu featuring our popular breakfast enchiladas. Fresh baked goods, gourmet coffees. WiFi. Across the street from the Gage Hotel" And oh so friendly!*

Oasis Cafe  
103 NE 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
432-386-4233  
*Homemade Texan and Mexican deliciousness. Breakfast and lunch. Eggs, pancakes, hamburgers, enchiladas, real milkshakes.*  
<https://oasiscafe.business.site/>

V6 Coffee Bar  
109 NE 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
432-386-4205 "  
*A casual cafe located just east of the Gage Hotel on Main Street. Guests can enjoy a hearty breakfast, bistro-style lunch,*

*homemade soups, fresh smoothies, locally roasted coffee, plus beer and wine - all in a laid-back ambience. Full espresso menu. WiFi available."*

**~SALOONS~**

White Buffalo Bar at the Gage Hotel

102 North West 1<sup>st</sup> Street

West Highway 90

432-386-4205

*"The best margaritas in Texas"*

[http://www.gagehotel.com/dining\\_white\\_buffalo.html](http://www.gagehotel.com/dining_white_buffalo.html)

**MARATHON SHOPS, STORES, BUSINESSES & MISCELLANEOUS ENTITIES**

Casa La Vista Retreat Center

645 Dickson

432-386-2222

*"Casa La Vista Retreat Center offers a unique, quiet, and serene environment for your next retreat and/or workshop, complete with an unobstructed view of the Glass Mountains by day and the Milky Way by night. We can comfortably accommodate 5 - 30 people and will provide healthy and organic (as much as possible) meals, spa services, and make arrangements for lodging, as well as any other special arrangements you may have. All in the beautiful natural setting of the northern Chihuahuan Desert."*

Epic Escape Game

103 East Hwy 90

*"Challenge yourself and your friends, family, or coworkers to an interactive adventure. Teams have 60 minutes to use clues and teamwork to solve puzzles and escape the room."*

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

Desert Critter Wear

PO Box 477

*Visit us in the Evans Gallery*

432-386-4414

*"Desert Fashions Featuring Your Desert Critters - Order Online!"*

<http://desertcritterwear.com/>

Friends of the Marathon Public Library

*Located at the Community Center Complex*

PO Box 177

432-386-4136

*Books, DVDs, Computers and internet available*

Email: [marathonopl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marathonopl@sbcglobal.net)

Gage Spa

102 NW 1st Street

432-386-4205

*"When relaxation and pampering are in order, the Spa at the Gage offers luxurious services including massage therapy, facials, body treatments and extensive day packages. Before your treatment, unwind in the hydrating Eucalyptus steam room, or enjoy a relaxing dip outdoors in the Gage Hotel's heated pool."*

Marathon Basin Wool

50340 N Hwy 385

432-395-2283

*"Fine fiber and wool milling - we are proud to continue a long family tradition of ranching and wool-milling in the Big Bend region of far West Texas. Our wool is locally raised and sheared, then milled on our ranch near Marathon, Texas."*

Maravillas Ranch

US Highway 385 South

432-376-2204 or 432-295-0081

*"Hunters on the Maravillas Ranch have access to the abundant amount of game as well as some of the most breathtaking scenery in Texas"*

V6 Collection

On Main Street next to the V6 Coffee Bar

432-386-4205

*"The V6 Collection is the Gage Hotel's hand-curated collection of one-of-a-kind items from the Southwest United States and Mexico."*

## **MARATHON TRANSPORTATION**

*See Alpine Transportation*

**Come Shoot ‘Em Up in Colorful and Unique Marathon!**