

June 2007

Texas Monthly

"The 20 best beaches on the more than 350 miles of coastline in Texas"

By Suzy Banks

[Excerpt]

6. Indulge Your Thalassophobia Lake LBJ

Even those without a fear of the sea have their favorite Texas beaches secreted alongside lakes, rivers, and swimming holes. (Yeah, like I'm going to tell you mine.) Considering the state's drastic floods and droughts, the most consistently inviting inland beaches cozy up to a constant-level lake. As luck would have it, the 21-mile-long Lake LBJ, just southwest of Marble Falls, claims to be the largest such lake in the nation. Since most of its shoreline is privately owned and access is going to cost you anyway, why not splurge on privileged exclusivity at Horseshoe Bay Resort? Once the playground of members only, the resort now shares its goodies with guests of its hotel, which opened in 2004 and is managed by Marriott. Besides golf courses, restaurants, a quartet of pools, and the most hyperactive, phallically landscaped whirlpool I've ever seen, the resort also includes a small white-sand beach sprinkled with cabanas, concrete turtles, and teak lounge chairs. And this may be the only beach in the state where, without stirring from your prone position, you'll be served the likes of seared ahi tuna and cosmopolitans. Horseshoe Bay Resort Marriott (200 Hi Circle North, 866-799-5384 or horseshoebaymarriott.com): Rooms start at \$200 (hotel is not on the water).