



SAN MARCOS RIVER PUB & GRILL

San Marcos, Texas

Not more than a hundred yards from me, the San Marcos River flows by, its crystal clear waters filled with tubers (or “toobers” in the local vernacular). It’s one of the best summer traditions in the Lone Star State: beating the heat by floating lazily down a river in an inflatable tube. The San Marcos River is one of the prettiest and cleanest to be found.

I can’t really say the same about the River Pub & Grill. I mean, it’s just fine, but it’s nothing special. It *should* be—considering the proximity of hundreds of sun-worshipping coeds from nearby Texas State University. But, in truth, it’s just O.K.

Like the river, San Marcos (the town) is a treasure. It’s been called “the next Austin” for decades, but my survey of the locals finds they’re happy that it’s never come to fruition. Being a big fan of both Austin and San Marcos, I order another Lone Star and contemplate the advantages and disadvantages of the situation.

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