

**TOP TRIP TIPS: 10 RELAXING RETREATS • DOUBLE D RANCH
HILL COUNTRY RAMBLE • A SCENIC TOUR OF DALLAS • TH GOES TO JAIL!**

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Get Away From It All

10 Best Places

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A Hill Country Sojourn

By Howard Peacock

"You pick the place, sweetheart," Bob Foreman said to his wife, Lynn, as they planned their Valentine's Day celebration. "Just name it and we'll go." How many lovers smile and say those very words to their mates as special occasions approach? Ka-zillions, no doubt.

Lynn knew she could pick just about any place in the world. Their careers had taken them on assignments that spanned the globe, and together, they had enjoyed gourmet restaurants on the seven continents.

Bob and Lynn retired to their beautiful CAVU Canyon Ranch near Segovia, 10 miles east of Junction, about six years ago. But they stay plenty busy, having built three cozy cabins on the ranch to rent to photographers, artists, and other folks in need of relaxation and rejuvenation.

The couple's "Sugar Shack," "Cool Cabin," and "Lone Star Loft" offer various combinations of comfort, including screened porches, loft-style sleeping, or art supplies for the tinkering. There's a central fire ring for those who enjoy lounging around a crackling blaze and swapping tales. It's called the "Liar's Pit." From the cabins, a walking trail leads to Sycamore Creek, a running stream fed by live springs and stocked with bass.

The place is so peaceful, Lynn was tempted to not go anywhere at all for that celebratory meal—not Paris, not Venice, not Shanghai.

"What say we go to Santos over in Mason?" she proposed. "Let's stuff ourselves with shrimp and chicken quesadillas, visit with friends over a little wine, and listen to the stories." "Ah, yes," responded Bob. "And all the guacamole we want. I can handle that." Santos Taquería y Cantina was just the place, and only a pretty drive of about 50 miles through the hills at twilight. Could life get any better than this?

See full article in June 2007 issue