

USA_Texas_Albany_Fort Griffin State Park

Trip Profile

Topic	Details
Trip Name	<i>Fort Griffin State Park for night Milky Way Photography</i>
Short Description	Holding command over the Southern Plains, Fort Griffin served as one in a line of western defensive forts from 1867 to 1881. Remnants of the fort remain today at Fort Griffin State Historic Site. These remnants are excellent foreground subjects for light painting with the dark sky. In the summer the Milky Way rises directly above one of the best structures on the site.
Web Site	https://www.thc.texas.gov/historic-sites/fortgriffin-state-historic-site
Contributor/email	Starflight_2000@yahoo.com
Travel Time	2 ½ hours west of Fort Worth. Turn north on HWY 283 from HWY180. Left on Park Rd 58 from HWY283.
Date trip taken	Summer time best for Milky Way.
Points of Interest	Historic Fort buildings as foreground subjects for night sky.
Address for Mapping Software	Search - Fort Griffin State Historic Site, TX-283, Albany, TX - in maps.google.com
Restrictions / Safety Issues	Arrive early as it is a busy location in the summer. Also arrive so you can scout the area while there is enough light to see and move in the high grasses, etc.
Entry Fee	Adults \$4 Seniors \$3 Age 6-18 \$3
Lodging Suggestions	We did not stay in the area. Early morning drive back to Fort Worth.
Dining Suggestions	Mineral Wells and Palo Pinto offer dining along HWY 180.
Best Shooting Time of Day	Sunset to Sunrise on moonless nights
Primary GPS Coordinate	32.927699, -99.230857

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Special notes

ID	Note
1	This is a popular location for camera club outings for night sky photography. My last visit was with the Cowtown Camera Club. We worked on light painting with the fort structure and shot the milky way as it rose through the night. We chose a weekday night and luckily it was not crowded.
2	There are a few structures on the site but one is the most popular. That's why you go early. There is a glow off to the southwest that messes with the dark sky so you have to work around that. Shooting north and east is the front view of the structure but that is the direction away from the milky way core.

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