



WRITING SAMPLE

Publication: MaxAvenue

Rob Roy: Where the Neighbors Work Hard and Play Hard

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Featuring resort-style amenities, sweeping Hill Country views, exceptional schools and gorgeous custom homes, Rob Roy is considered one of the Austin area's most prestigious neighborhoods. Situated in the heart of Westlake Hills, just west of downtown Austin, the neighborhood consists of several distinct areas, including Rob Roy on the Lake, Rob Roy on the Creek, Rob Roy West and the original section of Rob Roy.

Conveniently located, the drive from Rob Roy to downtown Austin is about 15 minutes and neighbors can be at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport in about 25 minutes.

"I've lived in Rob Roy long enough to make us a close-in suburb," Pete Winstead, former chairman of the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce and Rob Roy resident since 1987. "We used to be considered far out, but as Austin has grown, we're close-in now."

Construction of the custom, luxury homes in Rob Roy began in 1980 and continued through 2008. Homes in this neighborhood range from 2,340 square feet with prices in the high \$500,000s to luxury estates in gated sections of the neighborhood with over 9,000 square feet priced over \$5 million.

Each Rob Roy neighborhood is governed by a homeowner's association that works with residents to preserve the natural environment, promote a safe and healthy neighborhood, provide attentive service, and foster a sense of community. The associations plan several social events throughout the year.

Students living in Rob Roy attend highly rated schools in the Eanes Independent School District, including Bridge Point Elementary, Hill Country Middle School and Westlake High. The Texas Education Agency has rated Barton Creek and Westlake as "Exemplary" and West Ridge as "Recognized."

Another major draw is the natural setting. Homeowners here feel like they own a piece of nature's wonderland. "I moved to Rob Roy from Dallas, and the first thing that struck me was how beautiful it was. There was much less asphalt," says Winstead. "I like seeing all the deer and wildlife running around."

A Little of Everything: Shopping, Playing, Good Friends

It's Saturday afternoon at Barton Creek Square, and a mom and daughter are working their way through the stores on their list including Claire's and Nordstrom. Meanwhile, at the other end of the mall, dad and son are shopping at Foot Locker. The youngster needs new cleats for flag football and Dad's checking out basketball shoes — some of the neighborhood guys are coming over next weekend to play on his sport court and he wants to be ready.

Tomorrow the family will meet neighborhood friends at Austin Country Club. The dads will play golf, the moms will play tennis and the kids will swim in the pool. Whatever activities they do, the family is just happy to have so many great neighbors to share in the fun.

"Many of us are really close friends with our neighbors," says Taylor Watkins, who's lived in the area for eight years. "All the neighbors who live close to us, I know really well. We rely on each other."

Choice of Country Clubs, Abundant Shopping and International Cuisine

Rob Roy is close to two prestigious country clubs. Barton Creek Resort & Spa, a private country club, is about 10 minutes away and offers members the use of a tennis complex, four golf courses, swimming pool and a luxurious spa offering numerous treatments and therapies. Austin Country Club, also private, is slightly closer and offers its members golf, tennis and a boat dock.

Also near Rob Roy is the stunning 227-acre Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve, a research center that promotes the importance of environmental education. Meandering trails offer residents breathtaking encounters with nature, and a good opportunity to get some exercise. Other workout options near Rob Roy include Anytime Fitness, The Hills Health Club Gold's Gym and Body Business.

Rob Roy neighbors have plenty of nearby shopping opportunities. Just up the road, Davenport Village offers Copeland Jewelers and St. Thomas clothing boutique, among other retailers. The Village at Westlake is 10 minutes away; here, locals shop at more than 40 businesses, including Provençal Home and Tyler's Sports. Also 10 minutes away is regional mall Barton Creek Square, where neighbors find Nordstrom, Macy's, The Apple Store and many more among the 180 storefronts.

Dining options near Rob Roy are plentiful, too. In Davenport Village, neighbors find Maudie's Milagro, a family friendly Tex-Mex mecca, as well as Eleven Plates and Wine, a second-floor eatery that serves a delicious French dip sandwich. At The Village at Westlake, La Madeleine serves French crepes and quiches, while Izumi Sushi takes patrons on a Japanese culinary tour. Rob Roy foodies also enjoy The Grove, famous for its crispy oysters and spicy shrimp, not to mention the extensive wine list. Los Palomas, too, is popular with locals who enjoy its interior Mexican cuisine, such as enchiladas verdes.

Neighbors shop for groceries at H.E.B. at Village at Westlake or Whole Foods at The Hill Country Galleria, 15 minutes away.

Space to Enjoy the Finer Things in Life

Residents of Rob Roy appreciate the large, well-kept lots that afford them privacy and room to breathe, yet don't isolate them from the community of like-minded neighbors who share their passion for the good things in life.

"We enjoy living in Rob Roy for many reasons" says Max Yzaguirre, an energy industry consultant. "We like its location and proximity to many outdoor adventure areas. Whether you prefer privacy or camaraderie, Rob Roy offers plenty of both with ample spacing between homes and neighborhood parties and other activities."

Two country clubs near the neighborhood offer residents the opportunity to socialize with friends, as well as challenge each other to a friendly golf game or tennis match. Easy access to downtown Austin and the airport is also a big plus. And because their neighborhood is even closer to a wide variety of shopping and dining options, locals don't even have to leave their exquisite environs if they don't want to.

With some homes offering spectacular views of wooded ravines and canyons and others offering sparkling vistas of the lake, residents living in the luxurious and well-appointed homes of Rob Roy are appreciative of the natural beauty of their neighborhood.

"In this neighborhood, we have the gentle rolling hills. We have the nice view over the water. And some have view of the canyons," says 12- year resident Linda Gardner. "It's just beautiful here in Rob Roy."