

# Hondo, TX & The Dinosaur Tracks

Hondo's rich history is evident in its charming, old historic buildings, and in the much older dinosaur tracks in its creek bed. Hondo was first settled in 1881 and looks as though it was created out of a history book, from the beautiful old brick buildings to multiple homes and businesses flying the American flag. In 1891 Hondo started growing in population because of the railroad, which helped to transport local crops and livestock to markets elsewhere. Hondo is still a small town of just over 6,000 people, but it boasts historical attractions such as the Medina County Museum and the Dinosaur tracks exhibit.

The Medina County Museum is located in the Southern Pacific Railroad depot that was built in 1897. If you look out your window to the south you may be able to see the museum, located near Avenue M on highway 90. The museum features pioneer artifacts related to the history of the county, including a steam engine, a piano made of rosewood, a molasses press, a sewing machine that sews sideways, and many more unique exhibits.

Dinosaur enthusiasts and curious visitors are also attracted to Hondo to view dinosaur footprints that have been found in the creek bed. If you look to the north you may catch a glimpse of a creek bed that extends 67 miles. The Hondo Creek has no running water except during flash floods, because most of the water flows underground. Imagine a 15-ton plant-eating trachodon dinosaur, about 40 feet long, stomping through the creek bed – then come back for a visit to see these huge preserved stone footprints for yourself!

Hondo is also well known for its town sign located on Highway 90 that reads, "This is God's country. Please don't drive through it like Hell." First posted in 1930 by the Hondo Lion's Club to reduce speeding through town, the sign has gained fame on the cover of National Geographic magazine and in the music video of Little Texas' song "God Blessed Texas."

All of these attractions have made Hondo, Texas well worth a visit. From a sign telling you not to "Drive like Hell" through the town to the dinosaur footprints in the creek bed; this town is full of history and wonder.

## Source(s):

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