



WELCOME TO BENTSEN-
RIO GRANDE VALLEY STATE
PARK! ONE OF THE ONLY
PLACES YOU CAN IMMERSE
YOURSELF IN THE WILD
FOREST OF THE RIVER DELTA
ON A WALK, CYCLE, OR
SHUTTLE RIDE. DON'T MISS
OUT ON DISCOVERING
WHAT'S NEW AND CHECK-IN
AT THE HEADQUARTERS
WITH THE RANGERS THAT
CALL THIS PLACE HOME.



THANK YOU FOR VISITING!

Bentsen is a haven for wildlife and plants so take only memories and photographs. It is prohibited to collect plants, animals, and artifacts or to play bird calls within the park. Irresponsible behavior can have a negative impact. Make sure you leave what you find so the next visitor gets to experience the park in its full beauty. If you want to learn how to transform your backyard into a haven for wildlife, ask a park ranger for pointers!

Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park
2800 S. Bentsen Palm Drive (FM 2062)
Mission, TX 78572
(956) 584-9156

www.tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/bentsen-rio-grande-valley

Other parks in the area:

Estero Llano Grande State Park – Mercedes, TX
Resaca de la Palma State Park – Brownsville, TX
Falcon State Park – Falcon Heights, TX



Life's better outside.®



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INTERPRETIVE GUIDE

BENTSEN- RIO GRANDE VALLEY

STATE PARK





Ebony Grove

SHAPED BY THE RIVER

Life in the delta was shaped over thousands of years by the Rio Grande as it weaved in and out of the land creating dense forests of ash, elm, and ebony. These same forests inspired the Bentsen family to preserve the rich wildlife diversity that would become the legacy of the park. Ebony Grove is a living testament to that decision and offers a beautiful escape through picnics, camping, and wildlife viewing. Only tiny bits of habitat like this area remain since the introduction of agriculture and the taming of the river, making this a true wildlife haven.

THE LOCALS

Hundreds of birds, butterflies, dragonflies, and other wildlife species are seen here annually. "Valley specialties" like the Altamira Oriole, Gray Hawk, and Mexican Bluewing butterfly attract people from across the United States and even across the globe. This delta provides not only for local wildlife, but also occasional rare species from Mexico, and even new species that have yet to be studied. Wildlife observation is for everyone at Bentsen. There are wheelchair accessible shuttles, bathrooms, and photo blinds. Don't forget to bring cameras and binoculars! You never know what's just around the bend.



Chachalaca



Gray Hawk

A FUNNEL FOR MIGRATION



Yellow Warbler

This area is a funnel for migrating birds with the Gulf of Mexico to the east and mountains to the west. The Bentsen hawk tower is a great place to see raptors like Broad-winged Hawks and Turkey Vultures soaring overhead. Smaller songbirds such as Scarlet Tanagers, Painted Buntings and Yellow Warblers are just a few of the dozens of species moving through the area every spring and fall along two major bird migration paths.

Scarlet Tanager

