Barton Warnock Center, at the eastern entrance of Big Bend Ranch State Park, serves as a showcase of the Chihuahuan Desert. Named after Dr. Barton Warnock, a prominent pioneer botanist in the Big Bend, the center is home to a 2.5-acre botanical garden, as well as bilingual exhibits that explain the geological history of the region. In addition to being a regional information center, the park hosts a variety of programs and presentations on the natural and cultural resources of the Big Bend. Staff and volunteers provide information and resources for those planning to visit Big Bend Ranch State Park and Big Bend National Park.

Interpretive Exhibit: Una Tierra/ One Land – Explains the geologic time line and the geology and how it influences the natural history of the region.

Desert Gardens: 2.5 acres of desert gardens displaying and identifying the plants and their habitats that are common to the Northern Chihuahuan Desert.


Eastern Entrance: The Visitor Center provides hiking, boating, mountain biking, equestrian and camping permits for Big Bend Ranch State Park.

Volunteer and park host opportunities available.

Located in Brewster County, the Center is one mile east of Lajitas on FM 170. It’s open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. seven days a week.