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## Fall food festivals

It's a foodie's favorite season, with festivals from around the world. Also: Five stars for Abacus.

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# A foodie's favorite time of year

Fall festivals celebrate cuisine from around the globe



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Somewhere in the passage of summer to winter is a delightful time to celebrate food and its associated thrills, a time when it's not too hot or too cold, at least in Texas. Take a look at our roundup of festivals that make the fall season a foodie's delight.

## FOODIE ROAD TRIPS

*Ideas for getaways around Texas*

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### The Great Hill Country Pumpkin Patch and Harvest Celebration

If you're looking for a country getaway, head to Love Creek Orchards in Medina and let the kids go looking for fun at its Great Hill Country Pumpkin Patch and Harvest Celebration, featuring hayrides, haystacks and activities such as building scarecrows. Love Creek grows several varieties of apples, including Jonathan, Fuji and Granny Smith. Soft-serve apple ice cream should add to the enjoyment of the outdoors. Shop for apples, apple butters, homemade apple pies, candied apples, cookies, jams and jellies, and other items. Medina is about an hour and a half northwest of San Antonio.

Oct. 6-30 (Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays and Tuesdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.) at Love Creek Orchards, 13558 State Highway 16 North, Medina. 1-800-449-0882.

www.lovecreekorchards.com.  
► \$5, discounts for children.

### Medina Lake Cajun Festival and Great Gumbo Cook-Off, Bandera County

Expect to find plenty to do at the 27th annual Medina Lake Cajun Festival and Great Gumbo Cook-Off. The celebration of Cajun cuisine and music features food such as jambalaya, red beans and rice, boudin, crawfish pies and crawfish étouffée; a gumbo cook-off; live entertainment (bands from Louisiana); and arts and crafts. Texas vittles will also find a place in the predominantly Cajun showcase. The festival is in Lakehills, about an hour northwest of San Antonio.

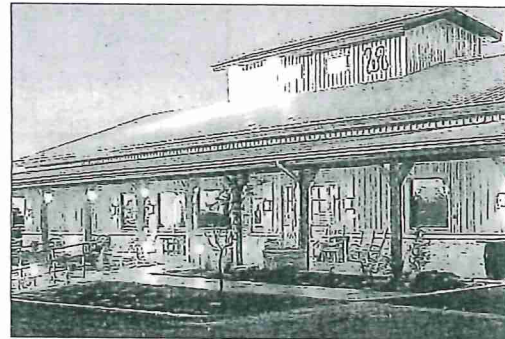
Sept. 22 from about noon to 10 p.m. at Lakehills Civic Center, two miles west of FM1283 on Park Road 37 in Lakehills, Bandera County. 210-473-5192. www.cajunfestival-medinalake.com.  
► \$8, free for children under 10.

### Patio party at Wildcatter Steakhouse, near Graham

If you're heading to Graham, stop at the steakhouse at Wildcatter Ranch and Resort. The ranch, billed as a resort ranch on the Texas range, is about 90 minutes northwest of Fort Worth. The Wildcatter Steakhouse will host a patio party Saturday featuring area band LoneStar Junkies. While you're there, check out a menu of barbecue ribs, steaks and more. If you plan to spend the weekend at the ranch, ask about activities such as fossil hunting, bird watching, sand volleyball and hiking.

Saturday at 8 p.m. on the patio at Wildcatter Steakhouse, Wildcatter Ranch and Resort, 6062 State Highway 16 South, six miles south of Graham. 940-549-3500. wildcatterranch.com. Reservations are recommended for restaurant dining.

► Free admission.



The Wildcatter Steakhouse is part of a resort ranch about 90 minutes northwest of Fort Worth.