



Caraway Ford Gonzales
405 E. Sarah DeWitt • Gonzales, TX 78629 • 830-672-9646

CONTACT THE EDITOR

Rockport's Big Blue Crab greets visitors to the beach

This is the beginning of a unique travel series where I'll show you all those weird, wacky and wonderful roadside attractions found around the state.

My love for odd and unique roadside attractions began when I was a wee four-year-old, but it didn't begin with a roadside attraction so much as a rolling advertisement. In southern California there is a pest control company called Hydrex. Attached to the side of some of their white trucks is a huge plastic black widow spider. As a little kid, I loved that big plastic spider. I wanted one of my own.



Juliana Mathews writes Roadside Texas.

Thus began my fascination of the weird, the wacky, and the wonderful. In fact, I still want one of those giant plastic black widows. (Bonus points to the person who finds me one.) I would proudly display it on the side of my RV. I may be older now, but I'm really a kid trapped in an adult's body.

There is a great deal to see in this big state, much of which is "Texas sized". Among the many things I'll take you to see: the world's largest armadillo, squirrels, pecans, spiders, and forks; the world's smallest churches; underground caverns; a two-headed goat; a giant jackelope (on which you can get a ride); painted water towers and pump jacks; a toilet seat museum; scrap metal art, etc. I could go on for miles... literally. I hope you'll join me in my travels!

Today we'll start at the coast in picturesque Rockport, midway between Galveston and Corpus Christi. The Texas coast is stunning, the water is warm, and the sand clean. Known for the abundant fishing and bird watching, Rockport is laid-back, as if everyone is on "island time". With more RV spots than homes, it is a popular vacation spot and "Winter Texan" destination.

Yeah, yeah, yeah, it's pretty. But who really cares about all that? Let's get to the good stuff...

The World's Largest Blue Crab

Rockport is once again home to the World's Largest Blue Crab sculpture, the original having been destroyed in one of the many large storms. Artist David Allgood matched the look of the original, but created this one out of sturdier materials. It measures 27 by 25 feet.

The World's Largest Blue Crab sits on Seabreeze Drive at the entrance to Rockport Beach Park. While you're there check out Rockport Beach, rated one of the cleanest beaches in Texas.

In my next adventures I'll take you to see the Big Tree, the World's Longest Fishing Pier, a Nessie sighting, giant sharks, mermaids on the half-shell, and possibly even buried treasure.

Know of a unique roadside attraction you'd like to see here? Feel free to submit your suggestion in the comments or by emailing me at TheGreatRVRollabout@yahoo.com.



