

Mr. Sam

Sam Rayburn (1882-1961) was first elected to the Texas House of Representatives at age 24. Five years later, he was elected Speaker of the House — one of the youngest in the history of the Texas Legislature. During his long, distinguished career, Rayburn:

- ★ Served as a U.S. Congressman for 48 years.
- ★ Was elected Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives three times, serving for a total of 17 years.
- ★ Worked with eight presidents and countless world leaders.
- ★ Acted as a mentor to Lyndon B. Johnson.

A plain talker with a great love for people, “Mr. Sam” as he was commonly known, used his position to improve the lives of American people.

“I have always been a disciple of the doctrine that people are good folks, and I have great faith in them.”

— SAM RAYBURN



Known for his fairness, candor and mastery of the political process, Rayburn was also a man of great personal and political integrity. “I have found that people respect you if you tell them where you stand,” he said. Although his professional rewards were many, he rejuvenated himself at home, enjoying the simple pleasures of the country and family life on the farm.

The Sam Rayburn House Museum is located at 890 W. State Hwy. 56, approximately 1.5 miles west of Bonham, about a 90-minute drive from Dallas. Tours begin at the visitor center. Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday.



School groups and tour groups are welcome; please call ahead to make arrangements.



Additional attractions in the area include the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum, which features an exact replica of Mr. Sam’s congressional office, the Bonham State Park, Lake Bonham, the Bonham Creative Arts Center, the Fannin County Museum of History, Fort English Park, and downtown Bonham. The Sam Rayburn House Museum visitor center has information on these sites.

For more information, contact:
Sam Rayburn House Museum
P.O. Box 308, Bonham, TX 75418
903/583-5558



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SAM RAYBURN HOUSE MUSEUM BONHAM, TEXAS

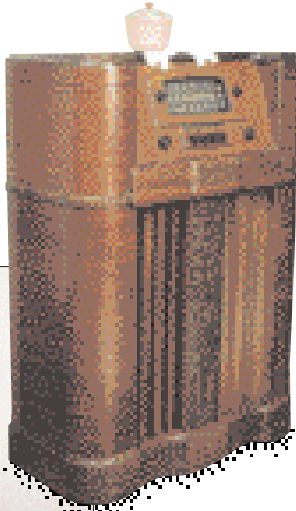


See an authentic time capsule.

★
Relax in a peaceful country setting

★
Experience history in the home
of a legendary statesman.

As you stroll through the historic rooms of the Sam Rayburn House Museum, you enter another era and get a first-hand glimpse into the life of a legendary statesman. Observe the 1930s radio, the photos of Franklin Roosevelt, or Mr. Sam's hat casually lying on his desk, and feel a connection with an American patriot. True to the personality of the man behind it, the home is unique yet familiar.



“When I get away from Washington, I don't want to go anywhere else in the world but home.” — SAM RAYBURN

Mr. Sam built the house in 1916 and remodeled it in 1934. All the furnishings are original and remain undisturbed from the days when the Rayburns called it home. The historic smokehouse, barn and garage are also on the grounds.



Your guide can explain the history of any items in the 12 rooms on the tour. The chandelier Mr. Sam bought in Dallas for his sister, the china, silver and drawings that were gifts from family, friends and associates, all have interesting stories behind them.



Standing in the hallway where Presidents Johnson and Truman once stood, you can glance at Mr. Sam's

address book. As if he were there yesterday, the book lies open, displaying the penciled phone numbers of President Johnson, numerous Supreme Court justices and congressmen.

At the Sam Rayburn House Museum, you feel a personal and powerful connection to history.

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“The one thing besides people that I claim to know is land.”

— SAM RAYBURN



See Mr. Sam's 1947 Cadillac, given to him by 142 congressmen at the end of his first term as Speaker of the House.

