



# 15 CRAZY, WEIRD, AND UNUSUAL THINGS TO SEE IN MINERAL WELLS

When your downtown boasts a massive sign that says, “Home of Crazy”, you have to expect to see some truly weird and quirky things. You’d be in luck because Mineral Wells definitely has them.

We didn’t want this download to be a bajillion pages so we abbreviated the descriptions. But you’ll want to make sure you check out the whole stories at [VisitMineralWells.org/crazy-things-to-see-in-mineral-wells](http://VisitMineralWells.org/crazy-things-to-see-in-mineral-wells). The website includes fun tidbits we couldn’t fit here.



*This symbol indicates the point of interest is on private property.*

*It will be easily visible from the road, so please remember to respect the owner’s by not trespassing.*

## 1. BIG BOBBER

Number 1 on our tour takes us to Trophy Bait and Tackle. Find yourself heading to Possum Kingdom Lake for some fishing and you’ll surely want to make a stop here for some bait. And maybe a little photo op. They’ve even put the “big catch” on display for inspiration.

## 2. YOGI BEAR

Bear sightings in Mineral Wells are rare. Okay, let’s be honest. We don’t have bears here at all. So having Yogi Bear take up residence in town certainly counts as unusual.

The stories abound as to his origin and we finally got to the bottom of the pic-a-nic basket...er uh...story. But you will never guess who told us how Yogi Bear first came to Mineral Wells. Go ahead, guess. SANTA!!! Yes, really.

## 3. LAUMDRONAT WASHING MACHINE MUSEUM

Number 3 on our list is The Laumdronat. No, we didn’t misspell that. But the strange spelling of the name is only part of what makes this an unusual stop.

What makes The Laumdronat worth a stop on our tour of crazy, weird, and unusual things to see? Well, let’s just say that doing your laundry here should count as extra credit for your history class because it’s packed with sudsy history. You’ll find antique washing machines, wash boards, wash tubs and a few other finds from days gone by.

## 4. GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORDS: WORLD’S LARGEST CEDAR ROCKING CHAIR

Just south of I-20 on Hwy 281 in the middle of almost nowhere, you’ll see a huge-o-mongus rocking chair that stands 25-feet, 10.5-inches tall. The Star of Texas Rocker is quite a sight to see and standing in front of it will quickly make you feel very small.

## 5. PRONTO-LAX TO THE RESCUE

It isn’t often you see a laxative memorialized in a 10-foot statue. In fact, this may be the only one. Anywhere. Ever.

## 6. CRAZY WOMAN’S WELL

Admittedly, there isn’t much to see here, but you can’t talk about crazy things to see in Mineral Wells without talking about where it all began. This stop brings you to the Crazy Well.

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## 7. CRAZY SMALL ART GALLERY

Mineral Wells is home to some crazy art and artists. From building-sized murals to teeny-tiny prints. While there are murals all over town, there's only one place you can find teeny-tiny prints. And they're free!

## 8. GOODNIGHT-LOVING MURAL

8 & 9 on our tour are both murals. And not just any murals. They're interactive.

When creating the concept for the Goodnight-Loving mural, artist Joelle Bolt designed it to appear as if the famous cattlemen were riding in from the hills to a watering hole in downtown Mineral Wells. The trick is to stand in just the right spot so the mural lines up with the mountain behind it.

## 9. KOKOPELLI MURAL

Kokopelli meets Van Gogh at the Baker Hotel. Just a couple blocks down the road, you'll find our next interactive mural. If you look at the top of the mural, the artist left off the top of the Baker's bell tower. But if you walk around the parking lot a bit, you'll be able to line the mural up with the actual Baker Hotel bell tower in the background.

## 10. FLYING PIGS

You've probably seen flying pigs before, so what's the big deal? Well, they mean something to locals. You see, for years people said, "The Baker Hotel will be reopened when pigs fly." A local group, Leadership Mineral Wells, was raising funds to restore another piece of Mineral Wells history. They purchased a large flying pig and charged \$5 to sign it. Though the signatures are fading, the pig remains at Coffee & Cocktails @ 76067 as a bit of a "told ya so" to those who didn't think the Baker would ever be saved.

## 11. MAGICAL TREE IN PENITENTIARY HOLLOW

You'll need your hiking shoes and plenty of drinking water for this one.

Among the narrow canyon openings of Penitentiary Hollow stands a cedar elm tree reaching above the tops of the sandstone canyon walls. What makes it unusual is how it stands on exposed roots as if on its tippy toes to get as high in the air as possible.

\*There's another fun find in the hollow. Check out our webpage to see it. Visit [MineralWells.org/crazy-things-to-see-in-mineral-wells](http://MineralWells.org/crazy-things-to-see-in-mineral-wells)

## 12. SAVE THE BAKER CACTI

Part of the Baker Hotel Renovation meant removing some cacti that had taken up residence in the terracotta roof tiles. Locals worried about the fate of the cacti. On May 27, 2021, a team from Clark Gardens Botanical Park carefully removed the cacti and gave them a new home.

## 13. BIG BOBBERS

No, these aren't the same as in #1. These big ol' bobbbers have drawn the attention of many passersby who just couldn't resist taking a selfie.

## 14. BIG ROCKING CHAIR

It probably seems like we're just repeating #2 too, but there is another big rocking chair. It's not nearly as big as the record winning rocker in Lipan, but you can actually sit in this one.

## 15. WORLD'S LARGEST WHEELBARROW

When you see this one, you know you've almost made it to Possum Kingdom Lake State Park. It's a fun little roadside stop that even has a mention on TripAdvisor.

It can be a bit tricky to find, so here are the GPS coordinates: 32.843746, -98.581883

