

April 06, 2006 – First Day

We drove to Sky Harbor Airport at 6:30 AM. We flew from Phoenix to Dallas – Fort Worth (DFW) airport on American Airlines. The terminal we arrived at looked very different and much older from the one we passed through on our trip to Miami last December. We arrived around 1:25 PM, Dallas time, which is 2 hours ahead of AZ time. We got our baggage and waited about 10 minutes for the rental car shuttle. The shuttle was so full we could not put our luggage on the luggage place and Newton had to stand. Casy sat between 2 big guys. We picked up our rental car, a maroon, 4-door 2006 Chevrolet Impala. The guys that helped us gave us a bigger car than we requested. We were happy because we have more space and feel more comfortable but after that we realized the roads in Dallas are smaller than those in Phoenix.

Figure 1: High Way



Figure 2: President George Bush Turnpike



From there we drove to our hotel on Stemmons Freeway, which is actually beside the 35E highway and took us about 20 minutes. We checked in and ate our lunch; pizza we brought with us. After that, we drove to downtown Dallas.

Figure 3: Driving through downtown



Native Texan Robert Temple Summers II was commissioned by the Dallas Trees and Parks foundation in 1992 to sculpt three cowboys on horseback and 70 long-horn steers, each 130 percent of life-size. The bronze sculptures cover four acres of park in downtown Dallas, at Griffin and Young streets in front of the Convention Center. The sculptures are also known as the Pioneer Plaza Cattle Drive.

Figure 4: the cattle are crossing the Rio Grande



Figure 5: Dallas Convention Center

**Figure 6: his glass pyramid houses the entrance to the Dallas underground;
a series of shops and restaurants below street level**



Dallas Farmers market, and the Dallas and the surrounding suburbs cover a large area and the whole place is connected by freeways and roads.

The only mass transit we saw was the Dallas Area Regional Transport (Dart). This light rail system ran at ground level and only in downtown Dallas. We parked downtown and walked around. We took a horse and carriage tour of the city, which was not that nice seeing that the horse smelled. We had dinner at the Spaghetti Warehouse and drove home for the evening.

Figure 7: The DART (Dallas Area Regional Transport) runs around downtown and is free to use!



Figure 8: For such a rich city, why don't they spend the money to build proper traffic lights

