

[DEEP IN THE HEART]

The Eagle Has Landed

The passengers cruising on Lake Buchanan in Central Texas focus their binoculars on trees along the shore. They scan the sky overhead. Then, as a hush falls over the group, they spot it: a massive bald eagle commanding the sky with a snow-white head and broad, powerful wings. Sometimes passengers spot the birds soaring or perched on a branch, and sometimes they witness something even more dramatic, says Tim Mohan of **Vanishing Texas River Cruises**. “You don’t need binoculars to see an eagle 100 yards in front of you dive down and grab a fish and go to shore and eat it,” he says. “That’s pretty exciting.” Each winter, migrating eagles gather around the Highland Lakes region, where they breed and fish. From November through February, Vanishing Texas River Cruises offers two-, three-, and four-hour cruises in search of the eagles. Nearby, **Canyon of the Eagles** also runs boat trips for visitors. There’s no guarantee that passengers will spot an eagle, but during peak season, it’s not uncommon for visitors to see eight to 10 birds—an experience they won’t soon forget. —*Cynthia J. Drake*

IF YOU GO

Vanishing Texas River Cruises
(512) 756-6986;
vtrc.com.

Canyon of the Eagles
(512) 334-2070;
canyonoftheeagles.com.