



Among out-of-state visitors, Galveston Island is the number one attraction in Texas. And why wouldn't it be? With 32 miles of newly replenished beaches, world class attractions, and a variety of restaurants and lodging, the 5 million visitors who flock to the Island each year know Galveston has a lot to offer.

★ Galveston Island welcomes five million visitors a year and has an \$800 million economic impact on tourism.

★ Galveston Island is located on the Gulf of Mexico, 50 miles south of Houston.

★ Galveston Island is a barrier reef island that averages 2 miles wide and offers 32 miles of Gulf Coast beaches.

★ Galveston Island offers temperate weather year-round, averaging 57°F in the winter months and 81°F in summer months.

★ A \$10 million beach nourishment project was completed March 31, 2010 from 14th Street to 61st Street along the Seawall. 580,000 cubic yards of sand was placed along the beach.

★ Galveston is home to many Texas' firsts including; the state's first post office, first opera house, first teaching hospital, first golf course, first electric lights and the list goes on.

★ Galveston has a population of nearly 50,000 residents but can triple in population on a busy weekend.

★ Galveston is home to the number one indoor water park in the U.S., Schlitterbahn Waterpark.

★ Moody Gardens, the three pyramid resort, including an aquarium, rainforest and museum, ranks as the number one attraction by tourists from Houston.

★ Galveston Island has four historic districts on the National Register of Historic Places, which includes The Strand Historic Downtown District, East End Historic District, Silk Stocking District and Central Business District.

★ Galveston Island is home to National Historic Landmarks including the Tall Ship ELISSA. Also the East End and The Strand has approximately 1,500 historic buildings on the National Register of Historic Places.

★ Galveston welcomed three new hotels in 2010, a Holiday Inn Express, The Country Inn & Suites and 4-Points by Sheraton.

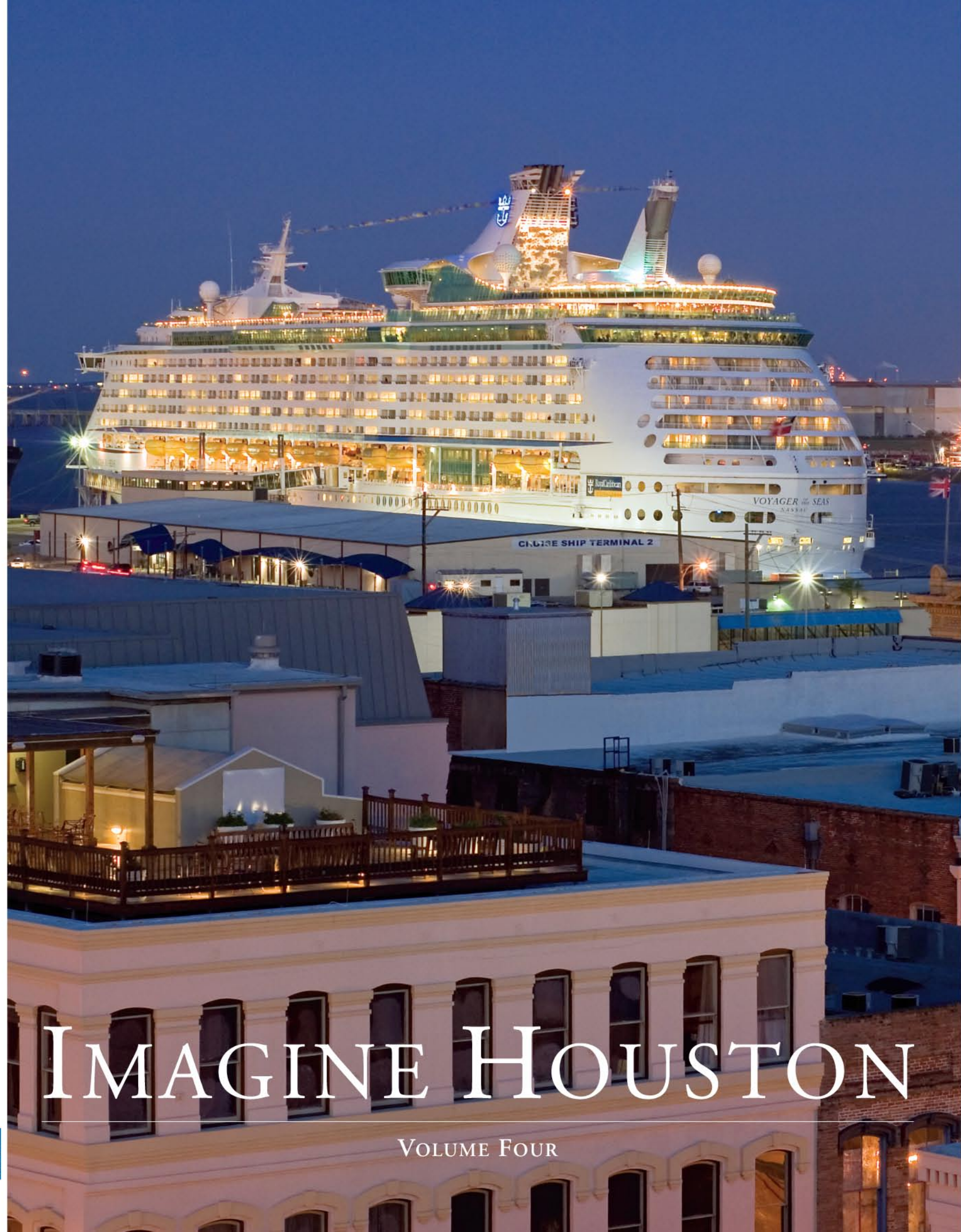
★ Galveston Island was second to Ellis Island as an immigration station.

★ Galveston Island is home to the University of Texas Medical Branch and Texas A&M University at Galveston.



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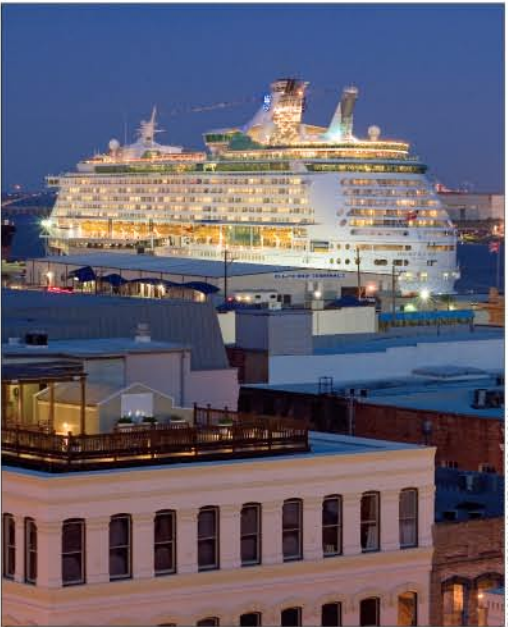
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Royal Caribbean International's Voyager of the Seas docked at Texas' only cruise port, the Port of Galveston on Galveston Island. From the decks of cruise ships passengers can easily see the charming Historic Downtown District just one block from the cruise ship terminals on Harborside Drive. The 36 block district offers more than 100 shops, restaurants, and galleries housed in beautiful Victorian iron-front buildings. Exploring Galveston Island is a natural addition to a cruise vacation.



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