



WELCOME TO HOUSTON

A letter of invitation from Stephen Redding, General Chairman of the 2018 ASHRAE Annual Conference

The Houston Chapter and Region VIII cordially invite you to our dynamic city for education, networking and fun! The June 23-27, 2018 Annual Conference will be in the heart of downtown Houston – surrounded by parks, hotels, entertainment and dining venues, our convention center and professional sports venues.

Our technical tours will highlight HVAC systems in one of the world's most air-conditioned cities. In south Texas, we are particularly proud of how our industry has conquered “hot and humid” – in our buildings, transportation, industry, entertainment and daily life.

Our general tours will introduce you to Houston – the nation's 4th most populous city and home to:

- Space Center Houston: the official visitor center of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's center for human spaceflight activities
- World's largest medical center (52,000 employees, 21 million square feet, 4.8 million patients each year)
- World Series champion Astros (They will be playing in town that week!)
- World's first indoor sports stadium – the 50-year-old Astrodome, currently being re-purposed as an event space
- The Houston Theater District, a 17-block area downtown and home to nine professional performing arts organizations, Bayou Place entertainment complex, restaurants, movies, plazas, and parks
- The Houston Museum District: 19 museums, galleries, cultural centers and community organizations, dedicated to promoting art, science, history and culture.

Houston encompasses an area larger than New Jersey and has been cited as the most ethnically diverse city in the nation. You will find that reflected in our dining, culture and friendliness. You can hear more than 90 spoken languages and can check-in with any of 84 consular offices. In the mood for Fajitas? Pad Thai? Tikki Masala? Fish Sauce or Pho? Barbecue and Craft Beer? – we have you covered (and at reasonable prices)!

It will be a “Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight”– literally and figuratively. Heat is energy and you will feel that energy – in the ASHRAE sessions, in interactions with your colleagues and in the discovery of a vibrant, beautiful city.

We look forward to meeting you in Houston!
Steve Redding, General Chair / Houston Host Committee