

Trip 2 – Episode #15 – San Antonio Part 1 – New Year's Eve



(If you look closely, it says Greetings from San Antonio)

Finally, almost a week after we'd expected to be in San Antonio, we got there, in time to kick 2021 out and welcome (we hope) 2022 in.

We didn't know much about San Antonio. (Actually we should just have an automatic fill in the blank: We didn't know much about)

All we knew was that it's supposed to be beautiful, has a great river walk, and of course, it has The Alamo.

Also, we'd read on a few different RV sites that there were certain areas in town where we could park our RV right by the river overnight. For free. That sounded like a fun thing to do on New Year's Eve.

We found a place to park Charles for the day, not too far from the River Walk, and set out to see what there was to see. What a great walk!



The whole walk is designed to work with the city and the river. It's welcoming and peaceful and elegant.



A great mix of nature and architecture.

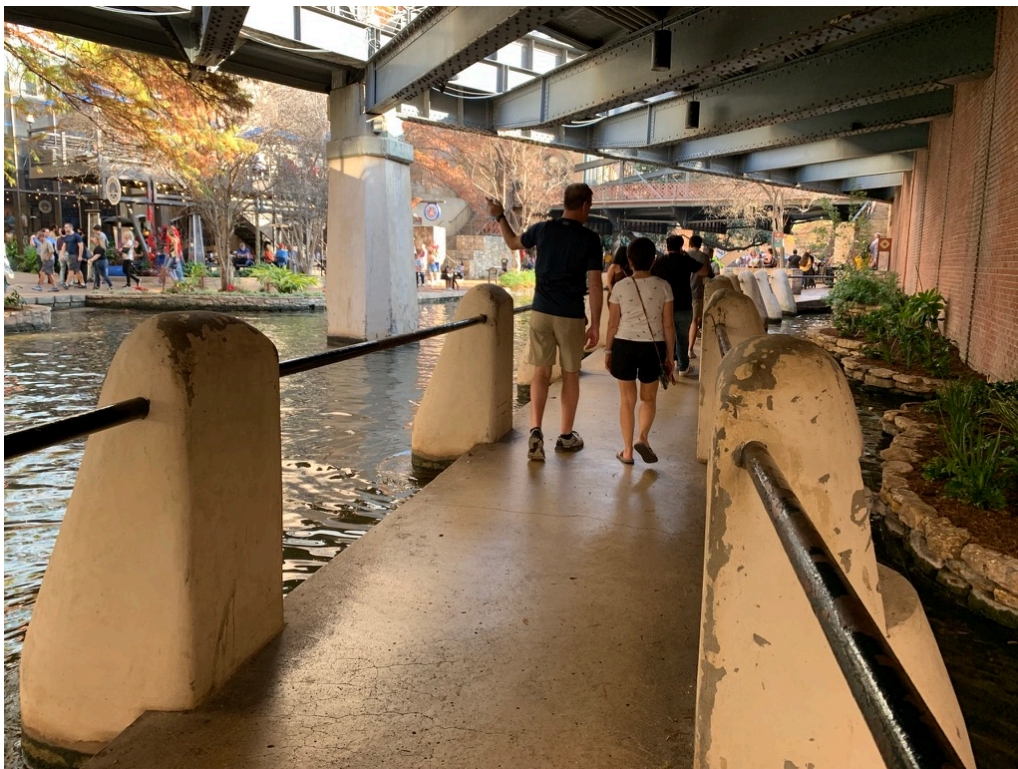


This is a hotel along the river. We don't know if the waterfall is "natural" or manmade, but it was beautiful. There were arches off the River Walk that allowed walkers as well as hotel guests to appreciate the waterfall.



(Soon to be part of an upcoming Jim video, no doubt.)

As we got further into the downtown area, there were shops and cafes and hotels, and it got a lot more crowded.



We decided we needed some refreshment and found a nice patio right on the river, with enough space that we felt comfortable. It seemed only right that we should send 2021 out with an Aperol Spritz. (Is there a time that isn't right for an Aperol spritz??)



Then we headed back toward Charles and saw more great views and some interesting art along the way. We were definitely in cowboy country!







What a brilliant way to design a city. If only Toronto had recognized the huge value of the waterfront and designed our city around it, instead of caving to condo and office developers. Okay, I'll step off the soapbox now.

We were kind of tired after our long walk, but eager to see if it was true that we could find a spot to park on a bridge after six o'clock. So we drove around a bit, and bingo! We got a lovely spot. With a great view, which got better and better as it got darker.





We decided we'd rest a bit and then find a nice restaurant. But two things happened.

First, we discovered that the bridge had a lot of traffic, including buses that roared by regularly. We got the sense that New Year's Eve might be very, very noisy.

And then, secondly, we heard ... beep beep beep. Not to be confused with the BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP of the propane alarm. This beeping was coming from the fridge. When we opened it, lights were flashing and it seemed to indicate that we were low on propane, which is what powers the fridge when we're not plugged in.

We had known we were low on propane, but we didn't think it was that urgent. And now, here it was, 6:30 on New Year's Eve and we didn't know if we'd be able to get propane that night. Or the next day, being New Year's Day. And we certainly didn't want to lose a fridge full of food.

So we made a quick decision, and called up the KOA campground just outside San Antonio, realizing that if we were plugged in, we wouldn't have a propane emergency. We reasoned we'd probably also get a quieter night's sleep.

We were relieved to discover that KOA had availability. So we said goodbye to our beautiful spot on the bridge, and drove to the nearby KOA. When we got there, we discovered that they were very well equipped. Not only could we fill up on propane, we also found out that we didn't have to go in search of a restaurant because they had an onsite pizza service! So we ordered a pizza and celebrated the end of 2021.

To our surprise we were still awake at midnight, at which time everything exploded with fireworks! This was a shot through the screen in our bedroom. They went on till at least 12:30. They do love their fireworks here!



Happy 2022.