

Travel Information:

The two closest airports are in Midland (~ a 4-hour drive) and El Paso (~a 4.5-hour drive); participants may want to coordinate arrival times and airports with each other and share rental vehicles.

NOTE: McDonald Observatory is on Central Time; El Paso is on Mountain Time - one hour earlier than the McDonald Observatory

NOTE: McDonald Observatory is an extremely remote location and there is little traffic on the roads; also CELL PHONES WILL NOT WORK at the observatory

AIRPORTS:

Midland International Airport, Midland, TX Website:

<http://www.flymaf.com/>

Driving Directions:

The following driving information is provided by Yahoo Maps: (164 miles/4-hr)

1. Start at **AIRPORT RD, MIDLAND** - go **0.5** mi
2. Make a hard right turn on **W WALL ST[I-20 BUS]** - go **0.2** mi
3. Continue to follow **I-20 BUS** - go **3.1** mi
4. Take ramp onto **UNNAMED STREET** - go **0.5** mi
5. Turn left on **FM 1788** - go **0.6** mi
6. Turn right on **W INTERSTATE 20** - go **0.1** mi
7. Turn left onto **I-20** - go **74.0** mi
8. Take ramp onto **I-20 BUS** - go **11.5** mi
9. Turn left on **CALIFORNIA AVE[TX-17]** - go **2.1** mi
10. Continue to follow **TX-17** - go **29.4** mi
11. Take ramp onto **FRONTAGE RD** - go **0.2** mi
12. Take left ramp onto **I-10** - go **2.1** mi
13. Take ramp onto **FRONTAGE RD[US-290]** - go **0.3** mi
14. Turn left to follow **US-290** - go **7.3** mi
15. Turn left on **BALMORHEA[TX-17]** - go **2.9** mi
16. Continue to follow **TX-17** - go ~**30** mi
16. Follow signs to McDonald Observatory - the road takes you past the Prude Guest Ranch

El Paso International Airport, El Paso, TX Website: (196 miles/4.5-hr)

<http://www.elpasointernationalairport.com/>

Driving Directions:

The following driving information is provided by Yahoo Maps:

1. Start at **[6501-6515] AIRPORT RD, EL PASO** - go **0.1** mi
2. Turn left on **AIRWAY BLVD** - go **1.8** mi
3. Turn left on **GATEWAY BLVD E** - go **0.2** mi
4. Take left ramp onto **I-10 EAST** - go **113.7** mi

5. Take exit #**140A** onto **I-10 E** toward **MARFA/VAN HORN DR** - go **0.4** mi
6. Turn right on **VAN HORN ST[US-90]** - go **0.3** mi
7. Continue to follow **US-90** - go **44.9** mi
8. Turn left on **FM-505** - go **8.9** mi
9. Bear right on **TX-166** - go **22.8** mi
10. Turn left on **TX-17** - go **2.4** mi
11. Turn right on **COURT AVE** - go **< 0.1** mi
12. Turn right on **LIMPIA ST** - go **0.1** mi
13. Arrive at the center of **FORT DAVIS, TX**
14. Keep going through Fort Davis until you get to the sign for the observatory on the left

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Astronomer's Lodge at the McDonald Observatory and the Historic Prude Guest Ranch - participants will have breakfast where they are placed - either at the ranch or at the observatory. **NOTE:** This is a major research facility, and those staying at the Astronomer's Lodge will be living with research astronomers who sleep during the day and work during the night

<http://www.prude-ranch.com/>, Ft Davis, TX Website:

McDONALD OBSERVATORY:

Information about the observatory: The workshop will take place at the Visitor's Center part way down the mountain; the evening meal will take place at the Astronomer's Lodge at the top of the mountain; evening observations will take place at the .8meter telescope at the top of the mountain; some participants will be staying at either the Astronomer's Lodge at the Observatory or at the Prude Guest Ranch at the bottom of the mountain.

The two URL's below will give you information about the Observatory, weather conditions, and the appropriate clothing.

<http://mcdonaldobservatory.org/>

<http://www.as.utexas.edu/mcdonald/mcdonald.html>