

Ripley's Grand Prairie Turns 25

Discounted tickets, free games, food at July 5 event

By [Christine Lee](#) and NBC 5 News



Visitors can enjoy \$5 off admission, free games, prizes, food, etc. on Saturday, July 5th as Ripley's attractions in Grand Prairie celebrates its 25th anniversary. Located off of I-30 and Belt Line Road, this is the only Ripley's location that is not in a big tourist area. The venue's general manager said locals helped keep the place going and growing.

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Hurst Resident Hillary Ward visited Ripley's Grand Prairie for the first time since she was a little girl.

"It makes me feel old, because I remember coming here and getting scared. Now I'm 20 and it's so exciting," she said.

Ward said visiting the venue was a family tradition.

"I'd bring my nieces and nephews here and they would just love it. Whenever, if ever I have kids to bring, they'd love it too. It's just kind of letting it grow with the community. It's just a part of us," she said.

Local residents like Ward have kept Ripley's up and running during the past 25 years.

"All of our other locations are in walk-up tourist areas, so we're the only location in the company that you actually have to drive to get to," said Ripley's general manager Rachel Rotella. "Most of our business is our local business, so when we're celebrating this weekend it's kind of a thank you to our locals for keeping us around."

The venue features Ripley's Believe It or Not Odditorium, a palace of wax including more than 250 wax statues of celebrities, fictional characters, politicians and more.