

## Rice Village

Rice Village is a shopping district in Houston, Texas. Rice Village is a collection of shops, restaurants and pubs, situated about a half-mile west of the center of Rice University's 300-acre (1.2 km<sup>2</sup>) campus. The core "Rice Village" extends over 10 city blocks, defined by University Boulevard, Kirby Drive, Rice Boulevard, and Morningside Drive, though spillover has expanded the retail area to a total of 16 blocks, including northward extensions along Kirby and into the present mixed-use blocks between Morningside and Greenbriar.

## History

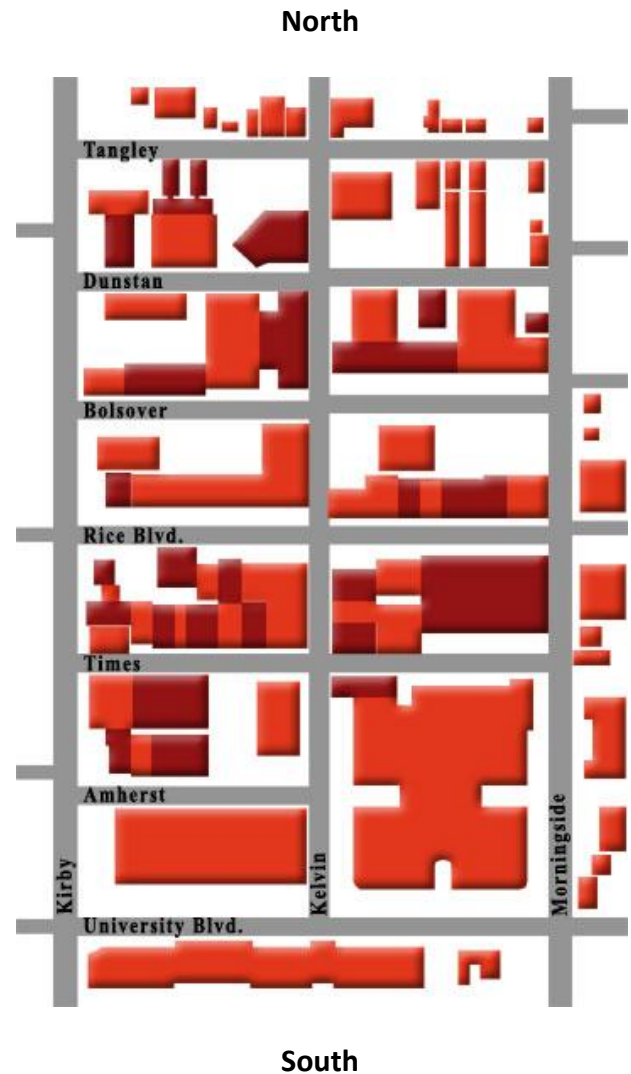
Rice Village has been one of Houston's oldest shopping destinations since the 1930s. It is an unplanned, high density hodge-podge of old and new retail store. The first minutes of the 1994 film *The Chase* were filmed in the Rice Village.

## Shopping

From its origins in the 1930s an ad hoc cluster of retail stores, the Rice Village has grown to become one of Houston's more interesting and variable shopping destinations. Host to over 300 shops in a 16-block area, Rice Village has something for everyone and is known for its multitudes of small and eclectic shops and boutiques. Recent expansion in the area has also brought in high-end clothing stores and the nation-wide retail venues. As Village retail became denser in the 1990s, limited parking finally led to the closure of Rice Food Market, the last surviving Rice Village grocery store.

## Food

The Village is host to dozens of restaurants. Along with traditional North American eateries there are restaurants specializing in food from all over the world. As of 2012, Rice Village has French, Japanese, Chinese, Italian, Turkish, Mexican, Spanish, Mediterranean, Vietnamese, Indian, and Thai restaurants as well as sandwich shops, delicatessens, and specialty food and beverage stores.



## Directions from University of Houston:

Take University Oaks Blvd south and turn right headed west on N MacGregor Way for 3.2 miles. Turn right onto Cambridge St (0.6 miles) passing Houston Zoo. Turn left onto Fannin St (0.3 miles) then take 1<sup>st</sup> right onto John Freeman Blvd (374ft). Turn left onto Main St (0.1 mile) then turn right onto University Blvd. Drive 1 mile passing Rice University and Rice Village will be on the right.