











RITCHEY BROTHERS







Marathon was founded in 1882 by Captain Albion E. Shepard who worked as a surveyor for the Galveston, Harrisburg, and San Antonio Railway. Shepard, a former ship captain, named the town Marathon because the surrounding mountainous terrain reminded him of Marathon, Greece. As large cattle ranches began to emerge, the newly built railroad turned the town into a main shipping point for Brewster Co ranchers and a supply point for Fort Pena Colorado. The fort, located around the Pena Colorado Springs was established in 1879, to counter Comanche and Apache raids on early settlers. Located five miles south of Marathon, Post Park offers visitors a pastoral park known to nature lovers for birding and area wildlife.

Although ranching is still an important part of the local economy, Marathon is best known to travelers as the "Gateway to the Big Bend" and is located 42 miles from the northern entrance into the 801,200 acre Big Bend National Park. Also, Marathon has earned the rare distinction of a "Class I Dark Sky" community which offers amateur astronomers the opportunity to gaze into mesmerizing starry skies.



MARATHON HEALTH CENTER

