

Day 1: Arrive – Grapevine, Texas

Plan your arrival into **Dallas Fort Worth International Airport**, just minutes from the charming and historic town of Grapevine, Texas. After checking into your Grapevine hotel, plan a visit to the **Historic Main Street District** to explore the local boutiques, galleries, bistros, winery tasting rooms, craft breweries and heritage attractions.

Enjoy dinner at a local bistro in the Historic Main Street District, followed by an evening of live music and entertainment (available Tuesday through Saturday) at one of our Main Street restaurants or venues.

Day 2: Texas

Start your morning with a visit to historic **Nash Farm**, a real-life working 19th century farmstead. Experience first-hand what life was like on the Grapevine prairie for the early settlers, while visiting with the Nash Farm farmhands who care for the animals on-site and tend to the crops. Feel free to play one of the farm's 19th century games or stroll the grounds and take in the peaceful surroundings. If you're lucky, Miss Kimberly may be cooking something up on the wood-burning stove or teaching a fun craft.

Now that you've experienced the farm, it's time to experience Grapevine through a food tour! **Grapevine Food Tour** conducts a daily three-hour tour of the Historic Main Street District, highlighting all the unique and popular foods that Grapevine has to offer. Experience a margarita and fried avocado at Esparza's Restaurante Mexicano, enjoy a wine tasting at one of our winery tasting rooms, sample olive oils and balsamic vinegars at Grapevine Olive Oil Company, try Farina's Winery & Café's popular spaghetti pizza along with their sangria, and top that off with dessert! Plus, your tour guide will work in some interesting historical points about Grapevine along the way.

The Grapevine Food Tour ends at 2 p.m.—right on time to catch the **Grapevine Glockenspiel**, the only glockenspiel in the world featuring the **Would-Be Train Robbers**. These larger-than-life train robbers emerge multiple times per day arguing over who's going to rob the train and how to divide the money. It ends in a good old-fashioned Texas shoot-out. Place your bets on which one will win!

The viewing area for the Glockenspiel just so happens to be in **Grapevine's Artisan District**, so take some time to browse our many galleries including Holder Dane Gallery & Art Studio, Vetro Glass Blowing Studio & Gallery, Giddens Gallery of Fine Art and more. You may even see our artisans at work, as we have glass blowers, bronze sculptors, a blacksmith and tinsmith, as well as artists for painting, pottery, jewelry and more.

Just one block up from Grapevine's Artisan District you'll find **Grapevine Main Station**. Here you'll enjoy a tour of this 19th century-inspired grand train station featuring Harvest Hall, a European-style food hall and Grapevine Observation Tower. Experience a 360-degree view from the 12-story tower that includes both the Dallas and Fort Worth skylines, DFW International Airport and Lake Grapevine.

Before leaving, be sure to check out **Peace Circle**, a beautiful bronze sculpture on the plaza in front of Grapevine Main Station, which depicts the historic meeting between President of the Republic of Texas Sam Houston with 10 American Indian Chiefs / Leaders. This meeting established Grapevine as a place where peaceful trade and commerce could commence and is still intact today.

Now that you've learned all about the History of Grapevine, it's time to hit the shops! Browse the many local boutiques of the **Historic Main Street District**. You'll find all sorts of unique gifts for friends and

family, as well as yourself! While shopping, you can also enjoy a wine tasting with the **Grapevine Urban Wine Trail**. Texas is the fifth largest producer of wine in the United States, so you'll want to experience a glass of Texas wine before leaving town—and you'll find several winery tasting rooms within walking distance on Main Street.

Dinner can be enjoyed in the **Historic Main Street District**, as we have over 30 restaurants to choose from, including Texas popular cuisines such as Tex-Mex, BBQ and steaks. If it's a Friday or Saturday evening, you can enjoy a hilarious murder mystery dinner with the **Texas Star Dinner Theater**.

Day 3: Texas to Oklahoma

Start your day with breakfast at your host hotel or grab a croissant and coffee at the popular French restaurant **Main Street Bakery**. If hungrier, enjoy a hearty breakfast of pancakes or biscuits and gravy at **Old West Café** before departing for Oklahoma.

You'll arrive in Atoka for lunch at **Reba's Place**. Housed in a century-old building, the complex features a restaurant, bar, entertainment venue and store that celebrate the career of country music icon Reba McEntire, who grew up in the area. Enjoy a meal of classic Southern cooking and see a curated selection of memorabilia from McEntire's personal collection.

Next, it's on to the **Choctaw Cultural Center** in Calera. Spanning more than 100,000 square feet, this massive facility tells the story of the Choctaw people through interactive, state-of-the-art exhibits. Outside is a living village with heirloom crops, a dance circle, a replica of a ceremonial mound and a stickball field where you can often watch demonstrations. Stop by Champuli Café to try traditional Choctaw fare or browse native-made crafts in the gift store.

Then head on to **downtown Durant** to shop and explore. This revitalized area is filled with public art and fun stores. Take time to stroll through Magnolia Mile Art Alley, browse the fun shops and gather for a photo with a statue that proclaims itself to be the world's largest peanut. The large legume has been around since 1974 and was created as a tribute to local peanut growers.

Afterward, it's time to check in at the **Choctaw Casino and Resort**. This sprawling complex features an AAA Four-Diamond hotel with three towers of luxury rooms. Head to one of the many restaurants for dinner, then take some time to unwind. You can get a spa treatment, do some shopping or relax in one of the swimming complexes, which come complete with waterslides, cabanas and swim-up bars. With 7,000-plus machines and more than 100 card games, the casino is a perfect place for a lively evening.

Day 4: Oklahoma

After breakfast, take the short trip northwest to Tishomingo, home of country music superstar and NBC's "The Voice" coach Blake Shelton. Enjoy lunch and shopping at **Ole Red**, Shelton's downtown restaurant, music venue and retail space. The menu features classic country favorites like fried catfish, chicken-fried steak, burgers and ice-cream-topped cobbler for dessert.

Then head north to Sulphur to the **Chickasaw Cultural Center**, where you'll learn about the history of the Chickasaw Nation through immersive exhibits like the Spirit Forest, which uses light and sound effects, running water and replicas of native plants and animals to immerse visitors in the forests of the tribe's southeastern homelands. Outside, a traditional Chickasaw village features cultural demonstrators. Make sure to spend some time browsing the fine art galleries and gift shops.

Next, you'll swing by **Arbuckle Mountain Fried Pies** in Davis for a snack. This old gas station is home to one of Oklahoma's most legendary treats. The half-moon-shaped fried pies come in sweet, cream and savory options.

Now it's time to travel west to Duncan's **Chisholm Trail Heritage Center**, where you'll get a taste of the Old West. The center offers lifelike exhibits, a 4D film and an audio-animatronic Jesse Chisholm who tells the story of his life and his namesake trail, which cowboys once used to drive cattle from Texas to the northern states.

Afterward, it's time to check into your hotel in Duncan and enjoy dinner at one of the city's many restaurants.

Day 5: Oklahoma

Today, it's time to head to the state's capital city. Your first stop is the **Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum**. This site is a moving tribute to the victims of the 1995 Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building bombing. Spend some time at the outdoor memorial, which resides on the spot where the building once stood. A reflecting pool and a field of 168 empty chairs represent each life taken. Then tour the museum, where video and audio recordings take you minute-by-minute through the morning so many lives changed forever. You'll see cases of artifacts from the bombing and key evidence from the investigation. A Gallery of Honor celebrates the life of each victim with pictures and personal stories.

Next, visit the **First Americans Museum**. Opened in 2021, this media-rich museum explores the collective histories of Oklahoma's 39 tribal nations. The complex's design is imbued with meaning. Outside sits a mound, a nod to the mound-building societies that once inhabited the area. The site's overall design is a cosmological clock that is aligned so that the winter solstice sun will set through a tunnel built into the mound. Inside the museum, you can hear historical accounts of the removal to Oklahoma, watch a beautifully animated video that retells four tribes' origin stories, and try virtual versions of the traditional games of Chunkey and Handgame. An exhibit showcases cultural items from the Smithsonian collection that represent each tribe; it also explores the complex relationship that native people have had with museums. Your visit will start with lunch in the museum's **Thirty Nine Restaurant**, which offers a modern take on indigenous cuisine. Make sure to leave time for the museum store, which offers art pieces, crafts and jewelry created by American Indian artists along with books and kids' items.

Your next stop is the **National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum**, America's premier institution of Western history, art and culture. It's known for its incredible collection of Western and Native American fine art pieces, but there's much more to see. Highlights include a gallery of firearms, a Western performers gallery with John Wayne memorabilia, and a gallery with artifacts from many tribes. You'll also find a large gift shop with a carefully curated selection of books, gift items and sterling silver jewelry. In 2020, the museum opened a \$15 million expansion. The 100,000-square-foot outdoor education experience is named **Liichokoshkomo'**. As you explore it, you'll see representations of seven native dwellings.

Afterward, it's time to check in to your Oklahoma City hotel. Spend the evening exploring the city's **Bricktown Entertainment District**. You can eat at one of the many restaurants and clubs, see the American Banjo Museum, ride through the Bricktown Canal on a water taxi or play a round of mini-golf or laser tag at Brickopolis Entertainment.

Day 6: Oklahoma

Start the day in **Historic Stockyards City**. This area of Oklahoma City is home to the largest stocker/feeder cattle market in the world. It's also filled with a variety of unique shops where you can buy all sorts of Western gear including hats, boots and custom Western furniture and home goods.

After a few hours of exploring, head north to spend some time cruising historic Route 66. Oklahoma has the most drivable miles of Mother Road in the nation, and along the way are some one-of-a-kind attractions.

First up is **POPS**, one of the state's more modern Route 66 stops. This gas station, diner and soda ranch is located in the Route 66 town of Arcadia. Out front sits a glowing, pop-bottle-shaped sign—it's 66 feet tall, naturally—that beckons travelers to pull in for a selfie and a soda. Inside, there are more than 600 varieties of soda and tons of fun Route 66 and Oklahoma souvenirs.

After shopping and selfie-snapping, you'll take the half-mile drive up Route 66 to the **Arcadia Round Barn**. This architectural wonder has stood for more than 100 years. You'll tour the barn, hearing the story of its building and how it was rescued and restored by local volunteers after falling into disrepair.

While in the area, it is on to **The Chicken Shack** for lunch. This spot is known for its perfectly crispy fried chicken, an effect that's created by roasting the chicken in a pressure cooker. You'll also find 10 tasty dipping sauces and a variety of Southern sides like fried okra and coleslaw.

Next, you'll cruise on to the **Chandler Route 66 Interpretive Center**. This attraction is as unique as the building it's housed in: a former National Guard armory that WPA workers build out of sandstone in the 1930s. You can watch videos and view Route 66 art while sitting in vintage car seats and beds that honor Route 66 motels of the past.

Afterward, you'll move on to Stroud for a shake from the **Rock Café**. This Route 66 stalwart's proprietor, Dawn Welch, has become a Mother Road legend. A Disney/Pixar team stopped at the café while doing research for what would become the movie "Cars," and they wound up using Welch as the inspiration for the character of Sally Carrera. Today, memorabilia from the movie lines the walls of the old rock building.

Now it's time to head to Tulsa, Oklahoma's second-largest city. After checking in at your hotel, you'll visit **Mother Road Market** for dinner. This food hall is also home to a full-service bar and retail spaces. You can dine inside or out on the massive patio.

After dinner, it's time to go cruising. You'll travel around Tulsa, taking in the city's best **Route 66 neon**, new and old. Favorites include the Meadow Gold sign, created in the 1930s, and the 1950s sign for El Rancho Grande Mexican Restaurant. Among newer favorites is the Route 66 Sign Park, which features replicas of three of the city's classic motel signs. Afterward, you'll return to your Tulsa hotel.

Day 7: Oklahoma

After breakfast, it's time for a day spent exploring Tulsa's rich musical and cultural history. You'll start the day with a tour of Tulsa's **Church Studio**. Housed in a former church, this legendary studio was once the epicenter of the Tulsa Sound. It was home to Leon Russell's Shelter Records, and artists like Tom Petty, JJ Cale and The GAP Band recorded there. The facility has been renovated and is now a state-of-the-art recording facility and museum that showcases a collection of Russell artifacts and memorabilia. Next, you'll visit **Greenwood Rising**. Opened in 2021—the centennial of the Tulsa Race Massacre—this state-of-the-art history center tells the story of the Greenwood District, the famed Black Wall Street. The district was a center for black commerce and a hotbed for jazz and blues before being burned to the ground in the 1921 massacre. The center's immersive exhibits use techniques like projection mapping and holographic effects to tell the story of the prosperous early days, the horrors of the 1921 massacre and the strength of the community as it worked to rebuild.

Now you'll head to the **Woody Guthrie Center**. This facility honors Oklahoma native Woody Guthrie, a folk singer whose works still resonate more than 50 years after his death. You can see the handwritten lyrics to “This Land Is Your Land” and the well-traveled fiddle that Guthrie carried with him on his World War II journeys. While you're there, listen to Guthrie's music at a listening station and trace his journey across the United States on a 9-foot interactive touchscreen map.

After lunch at one of Tulsa's many restaurants, you'll visit the **Bob Dylan Center**. Opened in 2022, the 29,000-square-foot center houses more than 100,000 artifacts from Dylan's personal collection, including handwritten manuscripts, videos, photos, artwork, memorabilia and previously unreleased recordings.

Next, it's on to **OKPOP**. Opening in 2023, this museum in the Tulsa Arts District serves as the state's headquarters for all things pop culture. It highlights Oklahomans' impact on music, movies, radio, theater and other types of entertainment.

Then you'll move on to the **Philbrook Museum of Art**. One of the state's cultural gems, this museum resides in a grand historical mansion set on 25 acres of exquisitely manicured, Italian-inspired gardens. The museum's permanent collection represents an incredible variety of different styles and time periods. You'll see items from its extensive collections of Native American, modern and contemporary art as you wander the three-story Villa Philbrook.

You'll spend the evening exploring more of Tulsa's stretch of Route 66. Stop at the Cyrus Avery Centennial Plaza for photos with the **East Meets West** statue, a stunning bronze piece that honors Route 66 founder Avery and shows the juxtaposition of old meeting new. The statue depicts Avery and his Model T frightening two horses pulling a wagon full of oil barrels.

Day 8: Oklahoma to Missouri

On your last day in Oklahoma, you'll head to Claremore to visit the **Will Rogers Memorial Museum**. Learn about the life of the American icon and beloved humorist at this museum built on land he once intended for his home. The wide collection of memorabilia from his career includes movie posters, pieces from his saddle collection and the typewriter he used to write his newspaper columns. You can also watch his movies in the theater and pay your respects at his tomb.

Your last stop in Oklahoma will be Miami. First, you'll tour the opulent **Coleman Theatre**. Built in 1929 as a vaudeville theater, it has a Spanish Mission Revival-style exterior with exquisite details carved into the terracotta. The stunning interior features a 2,000-pound restored chandelier, carved wooden staircases and the Mighty Wurlitzer pipe organ. The theater still hosts many events, including concerts, theatrical productions and silent movies with musical accompaniment from the Mighty Wurlitzer.

Next, you'll enjoy lunch—and some photo-taking—at **Waylan's Ku-Ku Burger**. With a massive neon sign, cuckoo clock-inspired building and bird mascot bedecked in a chef's hat, this burger joint is quite a visual treat. It's the last surviving location of the Ku-Ku Burger; the rest of the chain went extinct in the late 1960s. Made-to-order burgers, crispy fried pickle spears and cherry limeades make it a favorite stop of Route 66 travelers.

While traveling through Kansas en route to Kansas City, Mo., make a stop at Baxter Springs, Kan. The **Baxter Springs Heritage Center & Museum** is found along Kansas' Historic Route 66 Byway. This fun byway offers opportunities for visitors to enjoy a variety of experiences to "get their own kicks" while driving the original Kansas portion of Route 66, found in the "Ozark Plateau" or Southeast corner of the state. Drive over many of the original structures of "The Mother Road," including the only remaining Marsh Arch Bridge on Route 66, or stop at the Nelson's Old Riverton Store, known as one of the most authentic, still working 75+ year-old stores of its kind on all of Route 66. Take your picture with the tow truck that was the inspiration for the character "Mater" from the "Cars" movie or discover Schermerhorn Park and the Southeast Kansas Nature Center.

Tonight, you'll stay in Kansas City, Mo.

Day 9: Missouri to Nebraska

Welcome to Nebraska, the Home of Arbor Day and your first stop, **Arbor Day Farm**, in Nebraska City. This amazing working farm, orchard and forest encompasses 260 acres of natural beauty, exciting hands-on learning opportunities and world-class dining venues. While there, you can visit the 50-foot-high **Tree Adventure treehouse** for a birds-eye view of the farm and surrounding forest. Explore the forest canopy at Treetop Village and 11 different treehouses scattered across three acres connected by bridges and netted walkways. You won't even touch the ground.

The adjacent **Arbor Lodge State Historical Park and Mansion** is the original home of the Morton family, where in 1872 the idea of Arbor Day, a way to encourage people to plant trees, first began. Built in 1855, the 52-room historic mansion is filled with authentic furnishings and displays capturing the life and times of this great Nebraska visionary. The park also includes an arboretum, Italian terraced garden, log cabin, carriage house, walking trails, more than 200 varieties of lilacs and a charming whispering

bench. Before ending your day in Nebraska City, don't miss **Kimmel Orchard and Vineyard**, one of the best places in Nebraska for fresh, locally grown produce and other homegrown products. If picking your own produce is more to your liking, head out into the field with your basket and pick until your heart is content.

Now it's time to head west to Lincoln, Nebraska's second largest and capital city, to check into your hotel before venturing out into the heart of downtown, the **Historic Haymarket District**, for a delicious dinner and drinks afterward. Explore its many great restaurants, unique shopping destinations and fun nightspots located among restored turn-of-the-century warehouses. Antique shops, art galleries, Pinnacle Bank Arena and Nebraska's first microbrewery also attract thousands of visitors day and night.

Day 10: Nebraska

"Free land!" was the cry when the Homestead Act of 1862 helped shape America's western settlement. Under this law, more than 270 million acres of land were turned over to individuals to cultivate and build a life on—which led to profound and lasting changes to the land, Native American Nations, immigration and migration patterns, and agriculture. **Homestead National Historical Park** west of Beatrice is an easy 45-minute drive south of Lincoln along the Homestead Expressway. The park commemorates the lives and accomplishments of all pioneers and the changes brought on by this act. Explore the Daniel Freeman site (first person to receive land), interactive museum exhibits and videos, historic structures, hiking trails through virgin prairie grasses, living history demonstration and many other activities.

Before departing Beatrice, don't forget to stop by downtown for lunch at **Black Crow Restaurant & Bar**. This is one of Nebraska's best restaurants, serving tasty international, American- and Mediterranean-inspired cuisine since 1993. The restaurant's gold leaf-adorned tin ceiling, exposed brick and 30-foot antique oak back bar provides an elegant dining atmosphere for hand-cut and trimmed Nebraska beef steaks, prime rib, fresh fish, seafood, roast duckling, gourmet pastas and pizzas, and fabulous in-house desserts.

It's time to return to Lincoln to visit Nebraska's unique **State Capitol Building**, one of only four skyscraper-style state capitol buildings in the country. It is the nation's second-tallest statehouse and offers a spectacular view of the city from the 14th floor observation deck. Constructed from 1922 to 1932 at a cost of \$10 million, architects and historians describe it as the nation's first truly vernacular state capitol. Seen from miles away, the building's majestic four-hundred-foot domed tower and low spreading base contain exterior and interior artwork representing the natural, social and political development of Nebraska.

Before departing Lincoln, stop by the **UNL Dairy Store** on University of Nebraska East Campus for a tasty ice cream treat and learn how the on-site plant produces delicious ice creams, cheeses and meats. Now it's time to head to west Omaha to check in at your hotel and enjoy a wonderful dinner in Nebraska's largest city. Locally owned **Brother Sebastian's Steak House & Winery** is one of the city's best restaurants. Enjoy a delicious Nebraska steak seared over an open flame while dining in cozy Old-World comfort of an early California-style monastery complete with friendly "monks" serving.

Day 11: Nebraska to South Dakota

No stop in Omaha is complete without a visit to world-renowned **Father Flanagan's Boys Town**. Established in 1917 by Flanagan, Boys Town is a national organization saving children and healing families across America. The village was made famous by the 1938 award-winning movie "Boys Town," starring Spencer Tracy and Mickey Rooney. The Hall of History features Tracy's Academy Award and presents an exciting review of Boys Town's founding and impact on the lives of children. The Father Flanagan House Museum is the renovated home of Boys Town's founder and features a glimpse at early life in the Village. Other attractions on the 640-acre site include Father Flanagan's Tomb, Dowd Memorial Chapel, Chambers Chapel, Garden of the Bible, the "Two Brothers" and "The Work Continues" statues, and the Leon Myers Stamp Center that houses the "World's Largest Ball of Postage Stamps." Before leaving for South Dakota, enjoy lunch at the **Boys Town Café**.

Kick off your South Dakota adventure in Vermillion with the newly renovated **National Music Museum**. This is home to renowned collections of fine and historic instruments from many different cultures and historical periods. More than 15,000 instruments span hundreds of years and value, ranging from priceless Italian violins to celebrity guitars, and even an Elvis exhibit.

South Dakota's largest city, Sioux Falls, is your next stop. In the downtown area you will get to enjoy the city's namesake, **Falls Park**. The 100-foot waterfall is the center of recreation and industry for the city since its founding in 1856. Some of the first buildings in Sioux Falls still stand serving as a café and overlook tower today.

Sioux Falls is known for its love of art. As you stroll the downtown area you will see the **Sculpture Walk**, the public art exhibit that features around 60 new sculptures from world class artists. The newest landmark sculpture in Sioux Falls can be seen spanning nearly a football field's length across the Big Sioux River downtown. **The Arc of Dreams** was created by South Dakota artist Dale Lamphere as a tribute to dreamers of the past and present, and inspiration to dreamers of the future.

Day 12: South Dakota

Your next stop in South Dakota is a one-of-a-kind building that has been "a-maize-ing" visitors for over 100 years. **The World's Only Corn Palace** is certainly a site to behold with each wall covered in intricate murals made up of natural grasses and 14 different colors of corn. Every year, these murals are stripped down to create a new mural according to the year's theme. Before departing from the Corn Palace, be sure to grab yourself an "ear-esistible" popcorn ball.

More than 1,000 years ago, along the shores of Mitchell, a thriving village existed. Even though the simple and unique culture disappeared centuries ago, a plethora of clues keep their traditions alive at the **Prehistoric Indian Village** in Mitchell. Visitors gather here from around the world to watch as archeologists unearth bones, arrowheads, pottery and other amazing relics from the Native American village. This dig site is the only active archeological site in South Dakota that is open to the public.

As your travels take you west to Chamberlain, you'll get to take in another Dale Lamphere creation in the **Dignity Statue**. Representing the rich Native American culture of South Dakota, the 50-foot Native American woman gracefully wears a dress patterned after a two-hide dress of the 1850s. She holds

outstretched a quilt featuring 128 stainless steel blue diamond shapes designed to flutter in the wind. During the day, her star quilt—a representation of respect, honor and admiration in Native American culture—glitters in the sun with color-changing pieces that move with the wind. At night, LED lights cause the diamond shapes to glow in the night sky, casting a peaceful presence easily visible from the interstate.

Across the interstate, the **Akta Lakota Museum and Cultural Center** will continue the education of the Lakota culture with interactive displays and an outdoor Medicine Wheel Garden, and offers a unique selection of Native American-made products. The museum is more than a traditional museum; it is an experience that provides visitors with a living lesson on the Native American way of life.

We hope you're hungry! Across the mighty Missouri River, you'll stop at **Al's Oasis** for lunch. This historically premier stop along Interstate 90 offers visitors an escape from their travels. The family-run business prides itself on being a fun, convenient and relaxing stop for families. Don't leave without a homemade slice of pie!

At the entry point to the beautifully changing landscape of the Badlands, the past and present of the indigenous culture comes alive at the **Ogalala Lakota Living History Village**. Hear Lakota stories of the battles and triumphs, told by Lakota people.

Some describe it as "unreal" or "otherworldly," but the Native Americans were the first to call it "mako sica" or "bad lands." **Badlands National Park** boasts a maze of buttes, canyons, pinnacles and spires. Skeletons of three-toed horses and saber-toothed cats are among the many fossilized species found here. Wildlife abounds in the park's 244,000 acres and can often be seen while hiking, camping and traveling the 39-mile Badlands Loop Scenic Byway.

Next stop is America's favorite roadside attraction! Since 1931, **Wall Drug** has evolved into a 76,000-square-foot wonderland of free attractions, including the Western Art Gallery Restaurant, a chapel, the Big Back Yard and of course, the Jackalope. The original price of a cup of coffee has not changed since it's inception. So grab a maple glazed donut and 5 cent coffee to enjoy!

Experience the Old West like never before with a hearty chuckwagon dinner and some old western tunes at the **Fort Hayes Chuckwagon Show**. You'll be tapping your toes and singing along before you know it. After dinner, visit the film set of "Dances with Wolves" or the **South Dakota Movie Museum**.

Located in the heart of Downtown Rapid City, **Main Street Square** is a fun-filled public space that features special events, arts and culture, live concerts, seasonal ice skating and interactive fountains. Surrounded by the **City of Presidents**, boutiques, eateries and galleries, Main Street Square is a destination the whole family can enjoy. It's fun-squared!

Day 13: South Dakota

Kick your day off with the World's Largest Reptile Collection, according to Guinness Book of World Records. Since 1937, guests have been making memories with the residents at **Reptile Gardens**. Don't

worry, if reptiles aren't your thing, the Botanical Gardens, Sky Dome and Prairie Dog Town offers something for everyone to enjoy.

Time to switch it up and see some mammals! **Bear Country USA** offers more than 20 species of mammals in large, natural habitats in the drive-thru wildlife park on more than 250 acres of Black Hills wilderness. In the spring time, stop in at the BabyLand to see the offspring.

Located in Rapid City, **Dinosaur Park** is one of the area's original tourist attractions. The park sits on a ridge of sandstone that encircles the Black Hills. Along this ridge, dinosaurs of the Late Jurassic and Early Cretaceous have been found. You can walk the park to view the seven life-sized, concrete replicas of monstrous prehistoric reptiles that inhabit the area. At the top with the Brontosaurus, you can experience spectacular 100-mile views—to the east the South Dakota Badlands, and to the west the beautiful Black Hills.

The Journey Museum & Learning Center near downtown Rapid City brings together five major prehistoric and historic collections to tell the complete story of the Western Great Plains—from the perspective of the Lakota people and their unique Native American history and the pioneers who shaped its past, to the scientists who now study it. The interactive learning experiences gives adults and children the chance to discover that arts, science and culture have no boundaries.

A visit to South Dakota wouldn't be complete without a stop at America's "Shrine of Democracy," **Mount Rushmore National Memorial**. You will be in awe of the 60-foot faces of the four great American presidents who represent the birth, growth, development and preservation of this country. Stop in at one of the gift shops for some swag and grab some of Thomas Jefferson's original recipe ice cream.

Only a few minutes down the road is the world's largest mountain carving in progress at **Crazy Horse Memorial**. It is a masterpiece in progress, a multi-generational undertaking unlike any other in the world. When completed, the Crazy Horse Memorial will be 641 feet long and 563 feet high, but there's no need to wait to experience this powerful tribute to the Lakota leader and his people. Through your visit today, you'll have a unique and powerful look at the artform and Native culture.

Few truly wild places remain in the United States, but **Custer State Park** is one of them. The park is home to a variety of wildlife and magnificent scenery spanning 71,000 acres. Nearly 1,300 bison roam the prairies and hills of the park, which they share with pronghorn, big horn sheep, elk and curious burros. Today, you'll encounter the buffalo herd up close and personal on the **Jeep Safari Tour** while the guides tell you of the history of the herd. Then you can relax by the crystal blue water of **Sylvan Lake**. Here visitors can enjoy the gorgeous rock formations while hiking around the lake, kayaking or swimming. A relaxing cruise, past forests and rock formations, is up next along **Needles Scenic Highway**. Once you stop at the top, there will be no question where this highway gets its name and why this spot has become one of the most popular in the park. Next turn in for the night at the famed State Game Lodge. This lodge once served as President Calvin Coolidge's summer home and is known for attracting some of the buffalo herd to its front lawn.

Day 14: South Dakota – Cheyenne, WY

After breakfast, it's time to explore beneath the surface. The first cave to be designated a national park, **Wind Cave National Park**, features the world's largest concentration of rare boxwork formations below ground and a 33,970-acre wildlife sanctuary on the surface. The cave is one of the longest and most complex caves in the world. A tour guide will show you at the entrance to the cave why it is so appropriately named Wind Cave due to its barometric winds.

Your last stop in South Dakota is home to the largest concentration of mammoth's in the world! **The Mammoth Site** boasts a count of 61 mammoths found to date and is still actively digging for fossils. Take a tour and see the still active paleontology dig site and stop in the gift shop for your last South Dakota souvenir!

Once you pass the border into the Cowboy State of Wyoming, take a trip back in time with a stop into **Fort Laramie National Historic Site**. You can visit the actual place emigrants, U.S. Army soldiers and Native Americans once traveled, worked and met. Fort Laramie National Historic Site preserves and interprets one of America's most important locations in the history of westward expansion — hosting emigrants from the Oregon, Mormon and California trails — and Native American resistance. Begin your tour at the visitor center located in the restored 1884 Commissary Storehouse with an 18-minute orientation film before entering the museum and browsing the bookstore. Transport yourself in time during the summer as you walk around the grounds and see staff members and volunteers in period dress bring history alive. You'll hear bugle calls while exploring 12 restored buildings from 1849 to the late 1880s, continuing across the fort to see more ruins. Your adventure can continue to a hike on a trail that leads from the Old Iron Bridge to the confluence of the Platte and Laramie Rivers, where spectacular views and a variety of birds and other wildlife are found.

Day 15: Cheyenne, Wyoming

Start the day on **Cheyenne's Railway Trolley Tours** with a narrated experience through the state capitol with tours that capture the lively character of days gone by. All tours highlight Cheyenne's top attractions, including the **Wyoming State Museum**.

From the dinosaurs to the frontier, from mining to fishing, visitors will experience Wyoming's culture at the state museum. Founded in 1895, this is the only museum dedicated to the entire history of Wyoming. Permanent exhibits include artifacts that tell Wyoming's history, regional wildlife, coal mining, dinosaurs, Native Americans in Wyoming, pioneers, and the USS Wyoming. Other temporary displays take a closer look at various facets of life in the state.

After the museum, you won't want to miss the **Wyoming State Capitol building**. Home of the Wyoming legislature and the offices of top elected officials, the building also houses displays on the state's wildlife and culture. The governor maintains an open-door policy, so visitors may just see him walking through the halls or at work in his office.

The building's cornerstone was laid on May 18, 1887. Maps, a roster of territorial officers and other papers were placed in the cornerstone. The first two courses of the building are made from sandstone from the quarries of Fort Collins, Colo. The remainder of the building was made of sandstone from the quarries in Rawlins, Wyo.

The dome of the capitol is covered in just one ounce of real gold leaf. The dome is periodically regilded as damage occurs. The process has been done fewer than 10 times. A highly skilled person is needed to put this leaf in place because, if handled incorrectly, it will disintegrate. The peak of the dome is 146 feet high, and the base is 50 feet in diameter. In 2019 they finished a four-year, \$300 million refurbishment project—stunning to see, and worth the visit.

Next, get a real taste of farm life with the **Homesteading Experience in Pine Ranch's** homestead packages. This incredible opportunity offers travelers a chance to take a step back in time, even if only for a little while. Slow down and experience a simpler lifestyle while you enjoy rustic enlightenment. The rural, small-footprint homesteading lifestyle can offer an idyllic escape—and this homesteading experience has it.

To help close out the day, Laramie County's first licensed distillery is located in Pine Bluffs, Wyoming at none other than **Pine Bluffs Distilling**. The distillery is family owned and operated and all grains are locally grown and malted on site. Spirits are distilled and bottled on site and can be tasted in the tasting room, along with a variety of cocktails. Free tours are available during open hours, so be sure to stop in and visit.

Day 16: Cheyenne, Wyoming to Denver, Colorado

Begin the day at the **Quebec 01 Missile Alert Facility**. The site is significant as the only accessible Peacekeeper Missile Alert Facility in the world and strives to preserve and interpret the Cold War history of the late 20th and early 21st centuries, fostering an understanding of the mission and duties of the personnel and crews assigned to work there. Quebec 01 Missile Alert Facility State Historic Site offers the visitor the opportunity to see a military installation that was “hidden in plain sight” and controlled one of the most destructive nuclear weapons ever built by the United States.

Afterwards, stop into the **Southeast Welcome Center**. As the first points of contact, Wyoming Office of Tourism's welcome centers greet over 450,000 visitors annually to the Cowboy State. Certified information specialists assist visitors with their travel needs and vacation plans as they travel throughout the state. The Southeast Welcome Center is a quick exit off the highway and has restrooms, informative displays, friendly staff and plenty of guides, brochures and resources from around the state. This is not your ordinary rest stop; there is a wonderful museum that teaches all about Wyoming with a giant Mastadon skeleton to learn about Wyoming's inhabitants before us.

A local favorite, **Terry Bison Ranch** is home to America's only Bison Train Tour. It's a 50-minute tour on a custom-built train that takes you on both the Wyoming and Colorado sides of the property. You'll learn a bit of ranch history and stop in the middle of the herd to feed the bison. They also offer guided horseback trail rides, two-hour guided breakfast and dinner rides, ATV tours, and—May through September—a Sunday lunch train. You can walk the property and see some original buildings as well as animals like chickens, turkeys and peacocks. Whether it's a family picnic, a wedding, catered event or just a night's stay, the Terry Bison Ranch staff is ready to accommodate your needs. Guests will find the ranch's own brand of western hospitality extends to the RV park, the restaurant, Trading Post and throughout the unique property.

Head to Denver International Airport for Flight (optional Denver stay)