

SECTION D

ITINERARIES

A variety of itineraries are provided in this section to assist you with your group trip planning to Oklahoma City. They highlight the “must see” in Oklahoma City as well as a few uniquely Oklahoma attractions and restaurants.

One Day in Oklahoma City

Oklahoma City to the Extreme

Three Days in Oklahoma City

Opry to Opry

A Date with the Duke Flyer



ONE DAY IN OKLAHOMA CITY

Morning – Begin the morning at the **National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum** to experience the legacy of the American West. With More than 28,000 Western and American Indian art works and artifacts, it is home to one of the most comprehensive collections of Western art in the world with artists such as Charles Russell and Frederic Remington. The museum complex also contains Prosperity Junction, a turn-of-the-century western town reproduction, a gallery dedicated to western performers, American cowboy and rodeos. (1.5 hours)

Lunch – Enjoy lunch at an Oklahoma City favorite ... **Vast OKC** located on the 49th floor of the Devon Tower, feast on beautiful views and excellent food at the Daily Table or grab a box lunch from **Kamps 1910** and have lunch in the Myriad Gardens. For a hearty lunch of steaks and homemade yeast rolls, we have the historic **Cattlemen's Steakhouse** in the Stockyard City area.

Afternoon – Arrive at the **Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum**, which honors the 168 lives lost, and those that were changed forever, by the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building on April 19, 1995. Wander the Outdoor Symbolic Memorial with the Field of Empty Chairs, the Gates of Time, Reflecting Pool, and Survivor Tree. Enter the 50,000-square-foot interactive learning museum to hear the story of tragedy and its aftermath through the voices, images, and artifacts of survivors, family members and rescue workers. (Allow 2 hours)

Upon booking your tour with the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum, inquire about the “First Person” experience.

Evening – Before enjoying your dinner for the evening, jump on a *Bricktown Water Taxi*, and learn more about **Bricktown Entertainment district** -- this former warehouse district is now Oklahoma City's most popular entertainment and dining areas. Tour takes your group on the Bricktown Water Canal while a Water Taxi Ambassador narrates history and points of interest along the way – Don't miss the Centennial Land Run Monument Bronze Statues. (Allow 50 minutes for taxi ride).

After your ride, enjoy dinner in the **Bricktown Entertainment District** at local favorites such as **Charlestons**, **Toby Keith's I Love This Bar and Grill**, **Bricktown Brewery** or try many other Oklahoma City favorites not located in the Bricktown area (See Group Tour Planner for other ideas)

Other Considerations ...

Boathouse District

Oklahoma City Museum of Art

Remington Park



OKLAHOMA CITY TO THE EXTREME

(LAST WEEKEND IN APRIL)

Day 1 (Saturday)

Arrive in Oklahoma City in time for lunch and entertainment at the **American Banjo Museum**. This museum houses the largest collection of banjos on public display in the world with interpretive displays that present the history of the banjo from its humble African roots through its heyday during the roaring '20s to its present day voice in bluegrass, folk, jazz and world music. As the nation's only museum dedicated to America's instrument, the American Banjo Museum seeks to preserve the banjo's legacy and promote an appreciation of its history and heyday. After an enjoyable lunch, take a cruise in the **Bricktown Water Taxi**. This 40-minute trip is the perfect way to tour through the entertainment district. The narrated tour takes you from the eastern edge of downtown all the way to the northern edge of the Oklahoma River.

Next, we are off to the **Riversport Adventures Park** in the **Boathouse District**. Join in the tour of how the district transformed from a river that was mowed a couple of times a year to the most comprehensive water adventure park in the nation. Tour the Olympic training facilities of the US Canoe and Kayak teams or extend your visit and take on the white water rapids, kayak across the water or zip line across the river.

Check in to your hotel before dinner and then a quick visit to one of Oklahoma City's newest attractions – the **Wheeler Ferris Wheel**. Originally hailing from California, the former Santa Monica Pier Ferris Wheel has been transplanted and lovingly reassembled just south of the Oklahoma River. The famous amusement ride, which has back dropped blockbuster movies like "Titanic" and "Forrest Gump," now comfortably bridges downtown OKC and the Capitol Hill district. Take in the refreshing view of the downtown and the river.

Return to hotel for the evening.

Day 2 (Sunday)

Begin your morning on the wild side at the **Oklahoma City Zoo and Botanical Garden**. Breakfast is sure to be an adventure as we explore zoo residents and engage in a special activity. We continue on our way to the **Lazy E Arena** for our next extreme location. Visit the largest covered arena in the nation that plays host to everything from cowboys to dirt bikes. We will enjoy lunch in the Catina and learn about some of the aspects of rodeo life.

Continuing on the coach, enjoy a scenic drive to the **American Pigeon Museum and Library**. Here we will discover the largest collection of racing and fancy pigeon memorabilia in North America. Visit the World of Wings Pigeon Museum to learn about a wide variety of pigeon breeds, racing and homing pigeons, and the interesting history associated with pigeons, including military service.

Extreme is what this tour is about and you will not be disappointed at our final stop for the day **Remington Park Racetrack and Casino**. Featuring camels, zebras and ostriches competing for their chance in the Winner's Circle, Extreme Racing will take place during live American Quarter Horse and Mixed Breed racing. Sit back and enjoy the show as jockeys wrangle these extreme creatures across the finish line. Take advantage of an opportunity to see them up close and join in for a group photo. Sit back and relax as we enjoy an incredible dinner before heading back to the hotel for the night.

Day 3 (Monday)

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before we depart for the **Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum**. One of the city's most notable destinations, the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum stands as a celebrated example of a living monument to honor those who were killed, those who survived and those changed forever by the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. Tour the outside memorial before gathering for a tour of the museum culminating with the ultimate story of extreme hope and healing from a first person experience.

We wrap up our time in Oklahoma City with a visit to the **Museum of Osteology**. This museum is extreme to the bone. Focusing on the form and function of the skeletal system, this 7,000 sq. ft. museum displays hundreds of skulls and skeletons from all corners of the world. Displays at the Museum of Osteology include adaptation, locomotion, classification and the diversity of the vertebrate kingdom. This museum features over 300 fully articulated skeletons, as well as hundreds of individual skulls on display.

Bid farewell to OKC as you start your journey home feeling extremely happy you didn't miss this amazing experience.



THREE DAYS IN OKLAHOMA CITY

Day 1

Morning - Arrive at the **Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum**, which honors the 168 lives lost, and those that were changed forever by the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building on April 19, 1995. Wander the Outdoor Symbolic Memorial with the Field of Empty Chairs, the Gates of Time, Reflecting Pool, and Survivor Tree. Enter the 50,000-square-foot interactive learning museum to hear the story of tragedy and its aftermath through the voices, images, and artifacts of survivors, family members and rescue workers. (Allow 2 hours)

Upon booking your tour with the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum, inquire about the “First Person” experience.

Afternoon - Explore Oklahoma’s inspiring and adventurous past at the Oklahoma History Center. On 18 acres of land and across from the Oklahoma State Capitol, the Oklahoma History Center offers a beautifully designed exploration of Oklahoma History. Learn about all 38 federally recognized American Indian Tribes, celebrate Oklahoma’s involvement with the motion picture industry, step back in time and experience what it was like for the brave souls who settled Oklahoma’s Great Plain Country, and experience significant events in Oklahoma History that have shaped it into what it is today – oil and gas, military, archaeological, and African American influences. (Allow 1.5-2 hours)

Evening -- Before enjoying your dinner for the evening, jump on a **Bricktown Water Taxi**, and learn more about **Bricktown Entertainment district** -- this former warehouse district is now Oklahoma City’s most popular entertainment and dining areas. Tour takes your group on the Bricktown Water Canal while a Water Taxi Ambassador narrates history and points of interest along the way. (Allow 50 minutes for taxi ride).

Enjoy **Dinner** at a local favorite in the heart of Bricktown, **Charlestons Grill** offering private dining space while overlooking the Bricktown Canal.

Day 2

Morning – Start your morning with Olympic athletes as you enjoy behind-the-scene tours of the **Boathouse District** including the OKC National High Performance Center where Olympic hopefuls in rowing and canoe/kayak are training.

For the more adventurous – Challenge the Dragon ... Bring your group to the Oklahoma River to Challenge the Dragon and let the fun begin! Groups paddle to the beat of the drummer while learning what it takes to move the boat across the water as a team. After a quick land lesson, participants will don life jackets, grab their paddles and climb aboard. (Allow 1.5 hours – more if you participate in any of the district activities)

Afternoon – Explore the **Red Earth Museum and Art Center** through unique exhibitions focusing on the Native American way of life. Red Earth offers an extensive collection of American Indian artifacts and ever-changing exhibitions – home to a respected permanent collection of more than 1,400 items of traditional and contemporary fine art, pottery, basketry, textiles and beadwork.

If you are wanting to maintain the course of outdoor activities from your morning at the Boathouse district, visit the **Myriad Botanical Gardens and Crystal Bridge a Tropical Conservatory**. Private tours can be coordinated and depending on the time of year you come, you will find a variety of unique events to include Pumpkinville, live music, and stage performances.

Evening -- the **National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum** to experience the legacy of the American West. With More than 28,000 Western and American Indian art works and artifacts, it is home to one of the most comprehensive collections of Western art in the world with artists such as Charles Russell and Frederic Remington. The museum complex also contains Prosperity Junction, a turn-of-the-century western town reproduction, a gallery dedicated to western performers, American cowboy and rodeos. (Allow 1.5-2 hours)

Dinner – Date with the Duke at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Delight in a barbeque buffet and a private film screening of *The Cowboys* (1972) starring John Wayne in the Dub & Mozelle Richardson Theater.

Day 3

Morning – Spend the morning being creative with **Blue Sage Studio** where a demonstration of glass blowing shows you the process of transforming molten glass to a piece of art. (Allow 1.5 Hours)

To see world-class art, visit the **Oklahoma City Museum of Art** and view a comprehensive collection of glass sculptures by American Artist Dale Chihuly along with a 55 foot glass sculpture tower in the Museum's atrium. The **Oklahoma City Museum of Art**, is a 110, 000 square foot visual arts institution that originate special exhibitions, traveling exhibitions drawn from throughout the world, and permanent exhibits that span a period of several centuries as well as a growing collection of contemporary art. (Allow 1.5 hours)

Afternoon - Your next stop will be in **Bricktown Entertainment District** at the **American Banjo Museum**. The museum is a \$5 million, world-class 21,000 square foot facility honoring the rich history, vibrant spirit and unlimited future of the banjo. The museum contains more than 300 instruments, the largest collection on public display in the world. Examples include replicas of primitive banjos developed by African slaves in the Old South, Minstrel Age instruments from 19th century, post WWII instruments used in bluegrass, folk and world music, and museum's core collection of ornately decorated banjos made in America during the Jazz Age of the 1920's and 30s. While at the American Banjo Museum we will also enjoy a special performance just for your group (pre-arrangement for performance is required) (Allow 1.5 hours)

Evening -- Smoke-filled room and a lucky roll of the dice was all it took to move a little diner from Cowtown obscurity to annals of western folklore. Today, **Cattlemen's Steakhouse** is known not only for its unique history, but mainly for its terrific food - perfectly aged steaks, legendary breakfasts, and the best cup of coffee that Seattle couldn't touch. So stop by Cattlemen's Steakhouse, smack in the middle of Oklahoma City's **Stockyards City**, and soak in the rich atmosphere that has made them a favorite destination of anyone who's pulled on a pair of ropers!

Before returning to your hotel make a quick visit to one of Oklahoma City's newest attractions – the **Wheeler Ferris Wheel**. Originally hailing from California, the former Santa Monica Pier Ferris Wheel has been transplanted and lovingly reassembled just south of the Oklahoma River. The famous amusement ride, which has back dropped blockbuster movies like "Titanic" and "Forrest Gump," now comfortably bridges downtown OKC and the Capitol Hill district. Take in the refreshing view of the downtown and the river

If in town on a Saturday evening...

The **Centennial Rodeo Opry**, Oklahoma's official country music show, has been providing the best in spectacular, family-friendly entertainment every Saturday night for nearly four decades. **The Centennial Rodeo Opry** in Oklahoma City is where country music stars Bryan White, Katrina Elam and Cody Canada of Cross-Canadian Ragweed got their start and legends Wanda Jackson, Byron Berline, Reba McEntire, Kitty Wells and Jim Ed Brown have performed. You never know who you'll catch at the Rodeo Opry, but you can always count on it being a top-notch, quality show with the best musicians, artists and stars of tomorrow. (Starts at 7:30pm – approximately 2 hour show)

OPRY TO OPRY

Oklahoma City > Memphis > Nashville





ITINERARY

SATURDAY

- Arrive Oklahoma City by noon
- Check-in hotel
- City Tour of Oklahoma City
- Dinner, either American Banjo Museum with performance, Toby Keith's "I Love This Bar" & Grill or Cattlemen's Steakhouse
- Centennial Rodeo Opry
- Overnight Oklahoma City

SUNDAY

- Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum
- Water Taxi with lunch option in Bricktown
- National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum
- Remington Park Racing Casino
- Myriad Botanical Gardens
- Overnight Oklahoma City

MONDAY

- Depart Oklahoma City
- Arrive Memphis
- Check-In Hotel
- Beale Street
- Dinner at Jerry Lee Lewis Honky Tonk Café
- Overnight Memphis

TUESDAY

- Graceland
- Depart for Nashville
- Lunch en-route at Casey Jones in Jackson, TN
- Check-in Nashville hotel
- Dinner
- Grand Ole Opry performance
- Overnight Nashville

WEDNESDAY

- Country Music Hall of Fame
- Ryman Auditorium
- Lunch
- City Tour of Nashville
- Backstage tour of Opry
- Dinner
- Overnight Nashville

THURSDAY

- Depart for home



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"A Date with the Duke"



The National Cowboy Western & Heritage Museum is America's premier institution of Western history, art, and culture. Founded in 1955, the Museum collects, preserves, and exhibits an internationally renowned collection of Western art and artifacts while sponsoring dynamic educational programs to stimulate interest in the enduring legacy of our American West. More than 10 million visitors from around the world have gained a better understanding of the West – a region and a history that permeates our national culture. The Museum features a superb collection of classic and contemporary Western art, including works by Frederic Remington and Charles M. Russell, as well as sculptor James Earle Fraser's magnificent work, *The End of the Trail*. The exhibition wing houses a turn-of-the-century town and interactive history galleries that focus on the American cowboy, rodeos, Native American culture, Victorian firearms, and frontier military and Western performers. Outside, beautifully landscaped gardens flank the Children's Cowboy Corral, an interactive children's space. From fine art, pop culture, and firearms to Native American objects, historical cowboy gear, shopping, and dining, the Museum tells America's story as it unfolds across the West.

Include the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in your plans!

Combine a visit to the Western Performers Gallery with a cash bar, BBQ buffet, and a private film screening of *The Cowboys* (1972) in the Museum's Dub & Mozelle Richardson Theater. \$40 per person/ **minimum group size of 35. Reserve your space by calling (405) 478-2250 ext. 241.**

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www.nationalcowboymuseum.org

