



Native American Heritage in GRAND CENTRAL USA!

Day 1 – Lawton OK – Sulphur OK - Oklahoma City OK

We begin our day with a tour of **Fort Sill National Historic Landmark & Museum**, a 19th century frontier army post. Geronimo, a great Apache warrior and members of his renegade tribe were brought to Ft Sill in 1894 where they lived in scattered villages on the post ranges. Geronimo died of pneumonia at Fort Sill in 1909 and was buried in the Apache cemetery near the Apaches' first winter encampment at Fort Sill. We depart Ft. Sill and travel to the **Chickasaw Cultural Center** in Sulphur. We'll begin the tour with lunch at Aaimpa Café where the group will enjoy some traditional Chickasaw dishes.

After lunch head to the Chikasha Poya Exhibit Center beginning with a short film in the Council House that tells of the Chickasaw people before entering the museum. From the



museum it is a short walk to a recreation of a traditional village with winter and summer homes as well as council house and ceremonial mound. Departing Sulphur we continue north to check into our hotel in Oklahoma City before enjoying dinner at one of the many restaurants in Bricktown. After dinner a special treat is in store as we arrive at the **Red Earth Museum** where a Native American dancer will entertain and educate with a presentation on his regalia, what each piece is made of and its symbolism.

Day 2 – Oklahoma City OK – Ponca City OK – Pawnee OK– Tulsa OK

This morning we begin our day with a tour of the **Oklahoma State Capitol** to view art work that features Oklahoma Native Americans plus see “The Guardian” that adorns the top of the capitol’s dome. The Guardian was designed by Enoch Kelly Haney. Haney has served terms in the Oklahoma House of Representatives and also the Senate and is the son of a full blood Seminole and Creek and his grandfather was chief of the Seminole Tribe in the 1940s. After touring the Capitol we’ll depart Oklahoma City and head north to Ponca City to visit the **Standing Bear Museum and Education Center**



which hosts a variety of traveling exhibits, artwork and educational material. The park features a bronze of Chief Standing Bear in a circular viewing court divided into eight quadrants honoring the eight Ponca tribal clans. This afternoon arrive in Pawhuska, OK to visit the



Osage Nation Museum which preserves the heritage of the Osage culture from the 1600s to present with artifacts, archives, and photo collections. Then tour the **Immaculate Conception Church** in which is also known as the “Cathedral of the Osage” with beautiful stained glass windows handcrafted in Germany after receiving special permission from the Vatican since the windows featured living tribal members. We depart Pawhuska and continue on to Tulsa, OK for our overnight this evening.

Day 3 – Tulsa OK – Tahlequah OK – Sallisaw OK



This morning we depart Tulsa and head to Tahlequah to visit the **Cherokee Heritage Center**. Here we will learn of the Cherokee history and culture as we visit the **Cherokee National Museum and Ancient Village**. After lunch we travel to Springdale, AR where we find original paintings, prints, dolls, jewelry, and pottery at **Vene’s Native American Art Gallery**. Our overnight this evening is in Sallisaw, OK.

Day 4 – Sallisaw OK – Little Rock AR

After breakfast we visit **Sequoyah’s Cabin**, the famous Cherokee teacher and scholar who gave the tribe literacy with his invention of the Cherokee Syllabary which eventually was adopted by the Five Civilized Tribes giving them the means to record their laws and preservation of Cherokee lore. Now, we cross into Arkansas and continue east to Scott, Arkansas for a visit to **Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park**, one of the largest archeological sites in the Lower Mississippi Valley. Toltec was built by people known as the Plum Bayou culture from A.D. 700 to 1050 and consisted primarily of the political and religious leaders of the community. Enjoy dinner and an overnight at one of Little Rock’s many restaurants and hotels.



Day 5 – Little Rock AR – Parkin AR – St Louis MO



After breakfast we depart Little Rock and head to Parkin, AR to visit the **Parkin Archeological State Park** located on the St. Francis River. This 17-acre Native American village was occupied as early as 1000 A.D. and is the best preserved village site in the region. Many scholars believe this site was visited by Hernando de Soto’s

expedition in the summer of 1541. Our overnight this evening is in St. Louis, MO.

Day 6 – St Louis MO – Lawrence KS

This morning we visit the **St Louis Museum of Westward Expansion** which preserves some of the rarest artifacts of Lewis and Clark. Watch “Lewis and Clark’s Great Journey West” produced by National Geographic on an enormous screen and take time to view the exhibits which explore the world of the American Indians and 19th century pioneers. We depart St. Louis and travel west crossing into Kansas for our overnight in Lawrence, KS.



Day 7 – Lawrence KS – Republic KS – Wichita KS



This morning we visit the **Haskell Cultural Center and Museum** on the campus of Haskell Indian Nations University. The Haskell Cultural Center looks at the history of Haskell and celebrates what Haskell has become. The center also exhibits student artwork and a replica of Haskell’s Medicine Wheel, which was an earthwork where students went to worship and use the sweat lodge. Next stop is in Republic, KS where the Pawnee Nation was dominant

in the Central Plains for hundreds of years. The **Pawnee Indian Museum** of Republic, Kansas tells the story of what it was like in a 1820s Pawnee village as you walk the perimeter of an earth lodge and hear stories of their heritage. It’s now time to head south to Wichita which will be our home for the night.

Day 8 – Wichita KS – Scott City KS

This morning we begin with a tour of the **Mid-American All-Indian Center** in Wichita, Kansas which showcases the Native American Tribes of North America. Exhibits of



traditional artifacts and contemporary art depict the Native American cultures of the past and present. The “Gallery of Nations” is a permanent exhibit that exhibits the flags of the officially recognized tribes in the United States. After lunch we will depart Wichita and travel to Scott City, Kansas to visit the **El Cuartelejo Pueblo Ruins**, the only known Indian Pueblo in Kansas. The remains of a seven-room pueblo that was identified as El

Cuartelejo have been reconstructed on this site. According to records there were two groups of Pueblo Indians that fled New Mexico and came to the Plains to escape the Spanish rule. Our last overnight on this adventure thru Grand Central USA! exploring its Native American Heritage is in Scott City, KS.



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Day 1 – Lawton OK – Sulphur OK - Oklahoma City OK

9:30 am – Ft Sill – Geronimo

11:00 am – Depart

12:30 pm - Chickasaw Cultural Center – Sulphur OK

4:00 pm – Depart

5:30 pm – Check into hotel – Oklahoma City

Dinner on own or included

7:00 pm – Red Earth Museum – Oklahoma City, OK

Day 2 – Oklahoma City OK – Ponca City OK – Pawnee OK– Tulsa OK

8:00 am – Depart hotel

8:30 am – Oklahoma State Capitol – Oklahoma City

9:30 am – Depart

11:30 am – Arrive Ponca City – Standing Bear Museum & Memorial

12:45 pm – Lunch in Ponca City

1:45 pm – Depart

2:45 pm – Osage Nation Museum – Pawnee OK

4:00 pm – Cathedral of the Osage – Pawnee OK

4:45 pm – Depart

6:00 pm – Arrive Tulsa for O/N

Day 3 – Tulsa OK – Tahlequah OK – Sallisaw OK

8:00 am – Depart

9:30 am – Cherokee Heritage Center – Tahlequah OK

11:30 am – Depart

Lunch enroute

2:00 pm – Vene’s Native American Art Gallery – Springdale AR

3:00 pm – Depart

4:30 pm – Arrive Sallisaw for O/N

Day 4 – Sallisaw OK – Little Rock AR

9:00 am – Sequoyah’s Cabin - Sallisaw, OK

10:00 am – Depart

Lunch enroute
2:00 pm – Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park – Scott AR
4:00 pm – Depart
O/N Little Rock

Day 5 – Little Rock AR – Parkin AR – St Louis MO

8:00 am – Depart
10:00 am – Parkin Archeological State Park
11:30 am – Depart
Lunch enroute
5:30 pm – Arrive St Louis for O/N

Day 6 – St Louis MO – Lawrence KS

9:00 am – St Louis Museum of Westward Expansion
10:30 am – Depart
Lunch enroute
4:30 pm – Arrive Lawrence KS for O/N

Day 7 – Lawrence KS – Republic KS - Wichita KS

9:00 am – Haskell Cultural Center and Museum – Lawrence KS
10:00 am – Depart
Lunch enroute
2:30 pm – Pawnee Indian Museum State – Republic KS
3:30 pm- Depart
6:30 pm – Arrive Wichita KS for O/N

Day 8 – Wichita KS – Scott City KS

10:00 am – Mid-American All-Indian Center – Wichita KS
11:00 am – Depart
Lunch on own in Wichita
12:30 pm – Depart Wichita
4:30 pm – El Cuartelejo Pueblo Ruins – Scott City, KS
5:30 pm – Depart
O/N Scott City KS