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Osiyo®

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CHEROKEE NATION TOURS

Embrace the Cherokee Spirit



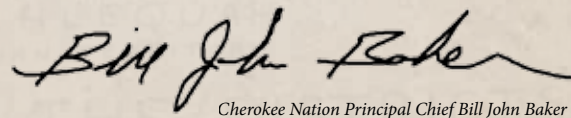
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Whether you are just visiting our great state or call it your home, we invite you to explore the Cherokee Nation's rich history throughout northeast Oklahoma.

The Cherokee people come from one fire. By sharing our collective narrative, we continue to preserve the Cherokee heritage and educate future generations.

Experience our historical sites and attractions. Follow in the footsteps of our Cherokee ancestors and walk the paths they traveled more than a century ago. With each step, you are celebrating their legacies and keeping the Cherokee spirit alive.

WADO,



Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker



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CHEROKEE NATIONAL CAPITOL

The Cherokee National Capitol currently houses the judicial branch of the Cherokee Nation. The building was completed in 1869 and held the executive and legislative offices until 1906, when the Five Civilized Tribes began to abolish their tribal governments in accordance with the Curtis Act of 1898. The capitol building underwent an extensive exterior historic restoration in 2013, and the cupola that was destroyed by fire in 1928 was replaced on top of the building.



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JOHN ROSS MUSEUM

When you visit the John Ross Museum in historic Park Hill, also known as Rural School 51, you will get a close-up look into the life and leadership of the great Cherokee, John Ross. He was principal chief of the Cherokee Nation for more than 30 years during some of the tribe's most trying times.



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CHEROKEE NATIONAL PRISON MUSEUM

At the Cherokee National Prison Museum, you will learn the history of Cherokee law and order. Situated in the middle of historic Tahlequah, the prison was built in 1875 to hold the most hardened criminals in Indian Territory.



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CHEROKEE NATIONAL SUPREME COURT MUSEUM

The Cherokee National Supreme Court Museum, built in 1844, is the oldest government building still standing in Oklahoma. The museum houses an original printing press of the Cherokee Advocate, the official newspaper of the Cherokee Nation and the first newspaper in Oklahoma.



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CHEROKEE HERITAGE CENTER

Established in 1967, the Cherokee Heritage Center is located on the grounds of the first Cherokee National Seminary. The center was designed to preserve and promote Cherokee culture. You will experience dynamic exhibits, visit the Cherokee Family Research Center, which was established to aid individuals in search of their Cherokee ancestry, and take a tour of Diligwa, a living exhibit providing the most authentic Cherokee experience in the world based on life in the early 1700s.



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MURRELL HOME

The Murrell Home was built in 1845 by George M. Murrell who was married to Minerva Ross in 1834. Minerva was the niece of Chief John Ross. The Murrell Home is the only remaining plantation home in modern day Oklahoma and is a reminder of the wealthy life style practiced by a few within the Cherokee Nation before the Civil War. The grounds include a reproduction George Murrell Mercantile Store from the 1850s, as well as nature trails.



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FORT GIBSON HISTORIC SITE

Built in 1824, Fort Gibson was a staging area for several military expeditions seeking peace between native tribes. Visitors can see the reconstruction of early log forts, as well as original buildings from the 1840s through the 1870s.



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MAP AND MILEAGE CHART



	TULSA	TAHLEQUAH
AMARILLO	364	427
DALLAS	256	263
FAYETTEVILLE	117	57
FORT SMITH	118	71
JOPLIN	114	123
KANSAS CITY, MO	241	353
LITTLE ROCK	274	215
OKC	107	169
SPRINGFIELD	182	181
ST. LOUIS	396	404
TAHLEQUAH	73	*
TULSA	*	73
WICHITA	176	250
WICHITA FALLS	244	301

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NAMED 2013 TRIBAL DESTINATION OF THE YEAR

by the American Indian and Alaskan Native Tourism Association

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S P I D E R S T O R Y

Long ago, the world was getting colder. The animals needed fire to warm their homes and the homes of the people. When a Sycamore tree was struck by lightning and caught fire, the animals gathered around and decided they needed to get the fire and bring it back. The tree stood in the center of a great river. Many animals tried to get the fire but did not succeed. The water spider spoke up and said, "I will go get the fire." She started weaving a little special basket to put the fire in. She called it tusti bowl, which she fastened on her back. She started off across the water to the base of the tree. She placed one coal from the fire inside the tusti bowl, safely bringing it back where we are, providing fire for everyone to use.

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