



Cultural Experiences

This list is to help visitors form an idea of what a trip to Oaks could look like. It will also be helpful in planning your schedule. Please read through the descriptions of the different experiences available. Should you have any questions, please contact Grant by phone or email.

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Arts & Crafts

- **Basket weaving**
- **Beadwork**
- **Small drums**

Cherokee artisans from in and around the community will give groups a hands-on tutorial on how to create, and take home, traditional Cherokee artwork.

Honorarium from your group: \$250.00

(2-3 hours)

Cherokee Storytelling & Games

- **Storytelling**

*Storytellers and friends of Oaks Indian Mission tell stories that have been passed down through generation after generation. Stories are enjoyable for all ages. **Honorarium from your group: \$100.00***

(2 hours)

- **Games**

☐ **Stickball/a ne jo di (Recreational sport similar to lacrosse)** and/or

☐ **Marbles/di ga da yo s di (a complex game of skill and strategy)**

Rules, demonstrations and participation will be a part of learning these games that are still played today.

Honorarium from your group: \$50.00

(2-3 hours)

Off-Campus Sites

- **Visit the buffalo/ya-na-sa**

Cherokee Nation raises and cares for over 100 buffalo about 15 miles from Oaks Indian Mission. Visit is free of charge.

- **Swimming**

Want to cool off while you're here? About three miles from the Mission is the Blue Hole, a local swimming spot of clear, cool and fresh water. Enjoy "nature's swimming pool."

- **Cherokee Heritage Center** | 21192 S. Keeler Dr. Parkhill, OK

There are three experiences to see. 1) *Diligwa*. *Diligwa* is a guided exhibit through a Cherokee village set in 1710. 2) *Trail of Tears Exhibit*. This exhibit is "at your own pace." Groups will experience six galleries, learning about life before, during and after our ancestor's forced removal. 3) *Adam's Corner*. This village is "at your own pace." Walk through the 1890s and experience Cherokee life before Oklahoma statehood.

Admission is as follows:

Adults-\$8.50

Youth (5-18)-\$5

Seniors (55+)-\$7.50

College students (with ID)-\$7.50

Children under 5 (with paid adult)-FREE

Note: There is a gift shop onsite should you wish to purchase souvenirs.

- **Cherokee National Supreme Court Museum** | 122 E. Keetoowah St. Tahlequah, OK

Built in 1844, this building housed the Cherokee Nation Supreme Court though both Supreme Court and District Courts held sessions there. Also, the 'Cherokee Advocate' was printed in this building, which was the first newspaper in Oklahoma. This is the oldest government building in the state of Oklahoma.

Admission is as follows:

Adults \$5

Seniors \$3

Student \$3

Under 5 Free

- **Cherokee National Prison Museum** | 124 E. Choctaw St. Tahlequah, OK

From visitcherokeeanation.com, "The Cherokee National Prison was the only penitentiary building in the entire Indian Territory from 1875 to 1901. It housed sentenced or accused prisoners from throughout the territory. It was built in 1875 and was created for the purpose of reformation as well as for punishment for offenders."

Admission is as follows:

Adults \$5

Seniors \$3

Student \$3

Under 5 Free

- **John Ross Museum** | 22366 S. 530 Road Park Hill, OK 74451

Experience the highlights of the life of 38+ years of principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, John Ross. This museum contains exhibits on the Trail of Tears, Civil War, the Golden Age and education of Cherokee people. The building was once a rural school, educating Cherokee and non-Cherokee people from 1913 to the 1950s.

Admission is as follows:

Adults \$3
Seniors \$2
Student \$2
Under 5 Free

- **Gilcrease Museum** | 1400 Gilcrease Museum Rd. Tulsa, OK

From visitcherokeemuseum.com, "Gilcrease Museum houses the world's largest, most comprehensive collection of art and artifacts of the American West. The museum also offers an unparalleled collection of Native American art and artifacts, as well as historical manuscripts, documents and maps." Admission is as follows:

Adults \$8
Seniors (62+) \$6
Active Duty Members \$6
Per person for groups of 10 or more \$6
College Students w/ID \$5
OSU Tulsa, OU Tulsa, TU, TCC Students w/ID FREE
Children 18 and under FREE

****Please note**** If your group is interested in visiting any of the Cherokee Museums, there is an activity kit provided by the Cherokee Nation and gives access to four museums—Cherokee Heritage Center, Cherokee National Prison Museum, Cherokee National Supreme Court Museum and the John Ross Museum, called the Cherokee Compass. This kit is \$15.00 and more information can be found at <http://www.cherokeegiftshop.com/cherokee-compass>.