

CHICKASAW COUNTRY CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS GUIDE

Immerse yourself in an authentic Native American experience at one of Chickasaw Country's many cultural attractions. Learn more about us online at ChickasawCountry.com.



One East Sheridan, Suite 100
Oklahoma City, OK 73104

ChickasawCountry.com
800-593-3356



HONOR AND PRESERVE OUR PAST IN ORDER TO ENHANCE OUR FUTURE

The Chickasaw Nation has a rich cultural history full of traditions passed down from one generation to the next. Native treasures and cultural landmarks have been recovered and restored, preserving pieces of both Chickasaw and Oklahoma history for generations to come. In Chickasaw Country, you can feel the passion of a traditional stomp dance, walk through a recreated tribal village and watch as Chickasaw artisans demonstrate their crafts with pride. Chickasaw Country is a destination full of art, history and culture, honoring the traditions of its people and ready to share with you.

You are invited to discover all that Chickasaw Country has to offer at ChickasawCountry.com.

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE



Map Point



Guided
Tour



Museum



Historical
Site



Outdoor
Activities



Dining/
Snacks



Concerts/Live
Entertainment



Theater



Retail/
Gift Shop



Private
Events



1

CHICKASAW CULTURAL CENTER



The Chickasaw Cultural Center is dedicated to sharing and celebrating Chickasaw history and culture, and is one of the largest tribal centers in the United States, spanning 184 acres adjacent to the Chickasaw National Recreation Area. Using state of the art technology, theatrical environments and interactive media stations, the center connects visitors to an unparalleled experience in Chickasaw culture.

The Chikasha Poya Exhibit Center is a state-of-the-art interactive exhibit gallery that houses the Council House Orientation Theater, Spirit Forest and Removal Corridor, as well as multiple “Language Learning Stations” and “Sit and Listen” video areas.

Walk through a 1700s replicated Chickasaw Village with cultural demonstrations, traditional arts and lifeways. Stroll through the Butterfly Garden, Three Sisters Garden and Spiral Garden to experience how traditional respect for the earth and the environment is observed.

Enjoy storytelling, lectures and films on the giant screen in the Anoli Theater and special performances in the Kochcha’ Aabinili’ Amphitheater. Dine in the Aaimpa’ Café, which features traditional Chickasaw foods, along with contemporary American cuisine.

Holisso: The Center for Study of Chickasaw History and Culture provides a wealth of archeological and family

research focusing on Chickasaw and Southeastern tribal ancestry, and features special exhibits. The Aapisa’ Art Gallery offers exciting exhibits of works, both traditional and contemporary, which showcase fine art and cultural artifacts.

As you stroll through the winding walkways of the campus, enjoy the outstanding sculptural works by renowned artists including Mike Larsen, Joanna Underwood, James Blackburn and Enoch Kelly Haney. Visit the inspiring Honor Garden with its unique circular water way, plants and the artistry of the walls that hold plaques of the exceptional Chickasaws who have been inducted into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame. Artworks and special gifts, including handmade jewelry, baskets, dolls, books, mugs and other special items are available in the gift shop, so you can take the experience home to share with your family and friends, and plan your next visit.

Hours: Monday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday, noon – 5 p.m.

Café: Monday – Friday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Saturday, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday, noon – 4 p.m.

chickasawculturalcenter.com • (580) 622-7130



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CHICKASAW NATIONAL CAPITOL



Located on Capitol grounds in Tishomingo, the Chickasaw National Capitol represents the “Unconquered and Unconquerable” spirit and history of the Chickasaw Nation.

During the late 1880s, former Chickasaw Governor R.M. Harris, noting the Nation’s brick council house was in need of some repair, requested that the structure be replaced by a new building to serve as the Capitol. Supported by the Chickasaw people and its leaders, the Gothic Romanesque Capitol was erected and dedicated in 1898. The imposing building was built of granite from the quarry nearby on Pennington Creek, and continues to persevere and stand proudly.

Following the advent of Oklahoma statehood in 1907, the Chickasaw Nation was forced to vacate the Capitol. The building was sold to Johnston County in 1910 and was used as the Johnston County Courthouse for the next eight decades. Under the leadership of Governor Bill Anoatubby, the Chickasaw Nation purchased the historic Capitol from the Johnston County government in 1992.

The Capitol building and grounds provide a place of living history where one can stroll the beautifully landscaped grounds where ancient magnolia trees and crepe myrtles grace the lawn, and where one can gaze on the marvel of the 19th century architecture and construction.

On the National Register of Historic Places, the Capitol features exhibits of Indian Territory Years following

Chickasaw Removal, along with personal possessions from those who traveled on Removal. The replicated office of former Chickasaw Governor Douglas Johnston showcases items signed by this visionary leader, and a Hall of Governors features photographs and portraits of the Chickasaw Governors prior to and following Oklahoma statehood.

An original vault, specially replicated tin ceiling plates and a restored original staircase take you back to the historic time when the Chickasaw people established their new government in Indian Territory and the enduring legacy of an “Unconquered and Unconquerable” Chickasaw Nation.

Today, a majestic sculpture of revered Chickasaw leader Piominko stands guard. The sculpture, created by internationally renowned Seminole artist and Oklahoma statesman, Enoch Kelly Haney, shows the great leader’s steely-eyed determination to lead and protect his people and great nation.

Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Guided Tours: Tuesday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Large groups are required to make tour reservations in advance.

chickasawcountry.com • (580) 371-9835



3

CHICKASAW NATION WHITE HOUSE



The estate, once considered a mansion on the Indian Territory frontier, was built in 1895 and served as the home to Chickasaw Governor Douglas H. Johnston and his family from 1898 to 1971.

Although Mrs. Johnston named the estate “Breezy Meadows,” press articles of the day often referred to the home as “the Chickasaw White House.” The house was built in the Queen Anne Victorian style and contained extraordinary features for the era, including 16-foot ceilings, mahogany fireplace mantels, crystal chandeliers and a Victrola. The estate played host to many important social and political events. Oklahoma Governor William H. “Alfalfa Bill” Murray and Alice Hearrell, a niece of Governor Johnston, were married at the property on July 9, 1899. Three years later, their son, Johnston Murray, was born. He became Oklahoma’s 14th governor in 1951.

In 1998, the property was donated by the family to the Chickasaw Nation to be opened as a historic site. The original structure and furnishings were restored, giving visitors a glimpse of life during the Victorian period, circa 1900. The house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in the 1970s.

Governor Douglas H. Johnston provided 41 years of public service to the Chickasaw people, representing an important time in Chickasaw history. The unique combination of tribal, social and political influences gives greater understanding of the Chickasaw experience in the early 20th century.

Hours: Wednesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

chickasawcountry.com • (580) 235-7343



4

CHICKASAW NATIONAL RECREATION AREA



The Chickasaw National Recreation Area attracts more than 3 million visitors to Sulphur, Oklahoma each year. Encompassing the historic Platt National Park, this landmark is known for its picturesque landscapes, mineral springs and wildlife.

Many Chickasaw people settled in the Sulphur area following Removal from their Homeland in Mississippi. Recognizing the value of fresh water streams and the need to protect them, the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations met with United States government officials and negotiated an agreement to establish a national park that would protect the waters and the land for future generations.

Located in south-central Oklahoma, the area is a unique combination of eastern deciduous forest and western

prairie. The park includes Veterans Lake and Lake of the Arbuckles, creating a multitude of year-round activities for outdoor enthusiasts, including boating, skiing, sailing, fishing, swimming and scuba diving. The park also offers two creeks, six campgrounds with outdoor grills and electric hook-ups, seasonal hunting and more than 30 miles of trails suitable for novice or experienced hikers.

The Chickasaw National Recreation Area houses the Travertine Nature Center, featuring ranger-led tours and nature activities, exhibits, dioramas, an interactive learning area and live animals native to the region.

The park is open year-round. The nature center is closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

[nps.gov](https://www.nps.gov) • (580) 622-7234



5

CHICKASAW BANK MUSEUM



Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Chickasaw Bank Museum was established in 1902 and served as the official bank of the Chickasaw Nation until 1906.

The interior has been restored to its original appearance, including the bank's vaults. The museum also features historical exhibits from the area. Through the partnership of the Chickasaw Nation and the Johnston County Historical Society, the Chickasaw Bank Museum provides a glimpse of early life in this charming and thriving community of Tishomingo.

Open by appointment:

Tuesday - Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

chickasawcountry.com • (580) 371-3141



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FORT WASHITA



Fort Washita, located west of Durant, was built in 1842 with the intent to maintain peace for the Chickasaws and Choctaws from attacks by Texas militia, interference by unscrupulous intruders, the presence of traders and trappers in the area, along with unsettled scores with some of the plains tribes due to disputes concerning hunting grounds in the Homeland.

In 1962, the Oklahoma Historical Society acquired the fort and restored it to a historic site and museum. In 2017, the Chickasaw Nation partnered with the OHS to assume responsibility and management of the historic site.

Fort Washita takes visitors and history lovers to the past through restored structures, Civil War re-enactments and a yearly Fur Trade Era Rendezvous. New events including storytelling, outdoor movies and special seasonal and holiday events offer adventures and fun for the whole family.

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday, 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

okhistory.org • (580) 924-6502



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MCSWAIN THEATRE



The McSwain Theatre, built by Ada businessman Foster McSwain in 1920, served as a community icon, screening movies and hosting live events well into the 1980s. In 1992, the theatre transitioned into a country music and variety show venue, hosting local talent, as well as talent from Nashville and Branson. Ada native Blake Shelton was a regular performer for two years before moving to Nashville.

In 2002, the McSwain Theatre was purchased by the Chickasaw Nation and has undergone extensive renovations to restore its former glory. The theatre now features classic movie screenings, live music shows, family entertainment and events. Tickets are available for purchase online.

mcswaintheatre.com • (580) 332-8108



8

CHICKASAW COUNCIL HOUSE MUSEUM



The Chickasaw Council House pre-dates Oklahoma statehood and sheds light on the Chickasaw Nation following removal from their homeland and settlement into Indian Territory. The museum is home to more than 3,000 historic artifacts, archives and art works.

Within the museum, expansive exhibits showcase the unconquerable spirit of pivotal people and moments throughout Chickasaw history. Visitors will also find the original log Chickasaw Council House, where the 1856 Chickasaw Constitution was created, formally establishing their government in Indian Territory.

Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

chickasawcountry.com • (580) 371-3351



9

CHOKMA'SI GALLERY



Located in downtown Ada, Chokma'si Gallery is a Chickasaw Nation fine arts gallery featuring the works of renowned Chickasaw artists, as well as, emerging Chickasaw and tribal artists and local artists and artisans.

Design and function meet in this 1,554 square-foot gallery with a serpentine detailed ceiling, self-healing sisal walls and directional track lighting adding to the creative environment, while accommodating diverse art exhibits.

Home for a rotating Chickasaw Nation permanent art collection, the gallery offers new exhibits highlighting Chickasaw and other Southeastern Indian tribes.

The gallery hosts a fine retail area offering unique handmade gifts including jewelry, wood turned pens, pottery, sculpture, photography, original paintings, prints and textiles.

Adjacent to the Chokma'si Gallery are workshop and studio spaces offering a wide range of classes and workshops available to Ada, the surrounding community and visitors to the area.

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

chickasawcountry.com • (580) 272-5520



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CHICKASAW NATION INFORMATION CENTER



The Chickasaw Nation Information Center, located in Tishomingo, Oklahoma provides a unique selection of Native American artwork, books, jewelry, Chickasaw Country souvenirs and novelty items such as Tishomingo and Made-in-Oklahoma products. Brochure racks and knowledgeable employees are available to assist with questions and provide directions to local attractions, within and outside of Tishomingo. The Johnston County Historical Society and Chamber of Commerce office within this facility and serve as a great resource for additional information on things to do around the area.

Beautiful artwork crafted by Native American artisans are on display within the facility and available for purchase. Guests can enjoy a complimentary cup of coffee and relax outside under the covered patio while planning their day's journey in Chickasaw Country.

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Chickasawcountry.com • 580-387-2762



BEDRÉ FINE CHOCOLATE



Experience the latest confectionery delicacies at Bedré Fine Chocolate in Davis. The 34,000-square-foot facility includes a retail shop stocked with a wide variety of delicious gourmet chocolates and unique Bedré gifts. Shop for bite-sized Meltaways, salty-sweet Crisps and Twists, several unique flavors of chocolate bars, chocolate soda, chocolate coffee and an assortment of handcrafted chocolates. Guests with a sweet tooth can sample several forms of chocolate or watch the chocolate-making process.

Hours: Monday – Sunday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

bedrechocolates.com • (800) 367-5390



CHICKASAW NATION WELCOME CENTER



The Welcome Center provides travel information about Chickasaw Country through knowledgeable team members, informational kiosks, and printed brochures highlighting recreational, historic and cultural tourism destinations. The 5,500-square-foot Welcome Center features original Chickasaw and other Native American artwork as well as Made-in-Oklahoma retail and gift items. The facility offer a children’s playground, indoor lounge, public restrooms, dog park, complimentary coffee service, penny press machine and RV/Bus parking!

Hours: Monday – Sunday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

chickasawcountry.com • (580) 369-4222



13 CHICKASAW VISITOR CENTER



The Chickasaw Visitor Center, located in Sulphur, Oklahoma, is an information hub and gateway to Chickasaw National Recreation Area, the only National Park established at the request of a Native American tribe. The 8,500-square-foot facility houses the National Park Service and includes an information desk, two informational kiosks, a multi-purpose gallery, gift shop, media room, a pergola-style patio area, public restrooms, a bike share program and complimentary coffee service. RV and bus parking is available on site.

Hours: Monday – Sunday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

chickasawcountry.com • (580) 622-8050

14 THE ARTESIAN GALLERY & STUDIOS



Located in the heart of downtown Sulphur, the ARTesian Gallery & Studios is a space for creating, appreciating and sharing fine art. Designed to assist and promote Chickasaw and other artists, the facility features an art gallery and reception area, classes for beginners and professionals, a pottery studio and up to five separate studio spaces for artists to rent. Art supplies, traditional and contemporary jewelry, books, music and more created by Chickasaw and Native American artists are also available in the retail shop.

Hours: Monday – Saturday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

chickasawcountry.com • (580) 622-8040

1. CHICKASAW CULTURAL CENTER

867 Cooper Memorial Drive
Sulphur, OK 73086

2. CHICKASAW NATIONAL CAPITOL

411 West 9th Street
Tishomingo, OK 73460

3. CHICKASAW NATION WHITE HOUSE

6379 East Mansion Road
Milburn, OK 73450

4. CHICKASAW NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

1008 West Second Street
Sulphur, OK 73086

5. CHICKASAW BANK MUSEUM

413 East Main Street
Tishomingo, OK 73460

6. FORT WASHITA

3348 State Road 199
Durant, OK 74701

7. MCSWAIN THEATRE

130 West Main Street
Ada, OK 74820

8. CHICKASAW COUNCIL HOUSE MUSEUM

209 North Fisher Avenue
Tishomingo, OK 73460

9. CHOKMA'SI GALLERY

201 North Broadway
Ada, OK 74820

10. CHICKASAW NATION INFORMATION CENTER

504 West Main Street
Tishomingo, OK 73460

11. BEDRÉ FINE CHOCOLATE

37 North Colbert Road
Davis, OK 73030

12. CHICKASAW NATION WELCOME CENTER

35 North Colbert Road
Davis, OK 73030

13. CHICKASAW VISITOR CENTER

901 West 1st Street
Sulphur, OK 73086

14. ARTESIAN GALLERY & STUDIOS

100 West Muskogee Street
Sulphur, OK 73086