

### **Northeast Oklahoma's VIP Route 66 Tour**

3-night/2 full days with hub out of Claremore

Highlights: *Will Rogers Memorial Museum, J.M. Davis Arms & Historical Museum, Miami's Coleman Theatre, Route 66 Vintage Iron Motorcycle Museum, Pop's and the Round Barn, Blue Whale, Totem Pole Park, great Oklahoma wines, and more.*

#### **Day 1; Arrive and guest check in at host hotel (Allow 1 hour)**

Depart for dinner and guided tour of the ***Will Rogers Memorial Museum***

Enjoy a catered dinner from a local favorite, and a guided tour by *Will Rogers* all in a private setting and after public hours. Oklahoma's favorite son called Claremore home and the Memorial hosts 12 galleries of artifacts, memorabilia, Will's saddle collection, Photographs and Manuscripts depicting careers as a Trick Roper, Vaudeville & Ziegfeld Follies performer, movie star, radio commentator, Syndicated Newspaper Columnist, Humorist, and proud citizen of the Cherokee Nation.  
(Allow 2.5 hours)

Depart for host hotel

#### **Day 2**

Today we drive on I-44 to Miami and begin our journey on *Historic Route 66* in northeast Oklahoma at the *Coleman Theatre*. We will tour this elegant theater from the 1920s and see the original pipe organ, "The Mighty Wurlitzer," which has been completely restored and refurbished to its original splendor (allow 1 hour). Then tour the *Route 66 Vintage Iron Motorcycle Museum* to see a large collection of Steve McQueen memorabilia which includes his personal racing Husqvarana. Also at the museum are over 40 vintage motorcycles and a collection of Evel Knievel memorabilia (allow 30 minutes).

Enjoy lunch at *Waylan's Ku-Ku Burger* the last of a fast food chain popular in the 60s (allow 1 hour). We depart Miami and travel west to Afton for a stop at the *Afton Station* a renovated 1930s D-X filling station filled with Route 66 memorabilia and a vintage car collection of Packards (allow 30 minutes). In Vinita we stop at *Summerside Winery* for some wine tasting before continuing on to Chelsea where the first *Sears and Roebuck House*, west of the Mississippi was delivered by train (drive by), and see a few historic murals in the hometown of Oklahoma's first non-commercial oil well (allow 30 minutes). Next we drive to Foyil to see *Ed Galloway's Totem Pole Park* to see the totem poles that Galloway spent his retirement years building as a monument to the American Indian. The centerpiece is a giant Totem Pole building which is supported by a concrete turtle (allow 30 minutes).

Dinner this evening will be at the ***J.M. Davis Arms & Historical Museum***

Dine in private (after hours from the public), catered by another local favorite eatery; afterwards a guided tour of the world's largest, privately owned gun collection. The museum hosts over 50,000 artifacts including a world class stein collection, statuary collection, World War I posters, and much, much more. See where the collection started (in the lobby of the Mason Hotel, special exhibit); have a group photo taken by the Tank (outside) or the Gatlin Gun (inside). (Allow 2 hour)

Depart for host hotel

### Day 3

Today we begin our journey with a classic *Route 66 icon, the Blue Whale*. Weather permitting, we will stop for a brief visit of the park; we encourage you to have your photo taken in the mouth of the whale, after all it is not every day you will be in a whale's mouth (allow 30 minutes). From here we will take I-44 to Arcadia (about 1 ½ hour drive). In Arcadia visit the *Round Barn*, one of the Mother Road's oldest landmarks. Built in 1898 and restored by volunteers, the barn is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places (allow 30 minutes). Arcadia is where we find one of Route 66 newest icons, *POPS*. Our first glimpse of this ultra-modern gas station, café and convenience store is the 66-foot soda bottle with straw that stands out front of the store. Inside, select from over 400 different kinds of soda to purchase then sit on the back patio to view the 66 red bud trees (allow 30 minutes).

Lunch will be at the *Rock Café* in Stroud (allow 20 minutes drive-time, east on Route 66). The Rock Café is another Route 66 icon, which has been feeding hungry travelers since 1936. When Pixar was traveling Route 66 for inspiration in writing the movie *Cars*, they met Dawn Welch, owner of the Rock Café, and patterned the character Sally Carrera after her (allow 1 hour). After lunch we visit the *Stableridge Vineyards & Winery* housed in an old Catholic Church, and enjoy more tasting of Oklahoma's great wines (allow 30 minutes).

Continuing on, we head east into Sapulpa, named for Chief Sapulpa, a Creek Indian from Alabama. Our first stop is at the world renowned *Frankoma Pottery*. Spend a few minutes shopping for that special piece of Frankoma before heading to the *Waite Phillips Filling Station* (allow 30 minutes at Frankoma). This filling station, restored by the Sapulpa Historical Society, was build in 1922 by Waite Phillips, and today is home to a collection of automobiles from the 1920's (allow 30 minutes).

In Tulsa drive 11<sup>th</sup> Street to Mingo Road, then to Admiral Place, to Lewis, to 2<sup>nd</sup>, then to Detroit to 7<sup>th</sup> to Cheyenne, then to 11<sup>th</sup> which was the original 66 alignment. 11<sup>th</sup> Street as a straight-shot began in 1933. Tulsa is home to the "*Father of Route 66*" *Cyrus Avery*. Mingo Circle marks the site of where Cyrus Avery had a service station and restaurant. Tulsa is home to Mother Road notables Michael Wallis, Marian Clark, and John Ackenhausen. (Allow 45 minutes drive time through the historical sites of the Mother Road)

We make our way back towards Claremore but stop off for dinner, entertainment and a little shopping at the *Nut House on Route 66*. The *Nut House* is a rustic log cabin made from real pecan logs that offers a variety of pecans, nuts, homemade fudge, jams and jellies for sale, along with great *Route 66 souvenirs*. The head “nut” fixes great casserole dishes with best of sides and desserts to end a perfect day. (Allow 1 ½ hours).

Day 4 depart for home

***For more information or pricing, contact:***

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***Complimentary policy for motor coach and group tours:***

Our local hoteliers offer two complimentary rooms (one for the driver, one for the escort) with 25 rooms booked. Attractions and local restaurants/catering also offer complimentary admissions, tours, and meals for the driver and escort with 20 or more in the group. All motor coach parking is free.