

Suggested Itinerary:

Dallas & Fort Worth, Texas to Oklahoma

Launch a road trip to explore the Southwestern USA with a visit to Dallas, a cosmopolitan city in north Texas. From there, enjoy the Old West vibe in Fort Worth, learn about Native American culture, and take a fun road trip on Route 66 in Oklahoma to experience a slice of Americana.

Dallas

Suggested: 3 days

Get your bearings in the city with a trip 470 feet (143 m) up in the Reunion Tower GeO-Deck to enjoy 360-degree views of Dallas. Stay for dinner in the elegant Five Sixty restaurant that is 50 stories up. See the city with a free ride on one of the vintage M-Line trolleys – available at 38 stops around Dallas – that run through Uptown and Downtown (watch for the vintage advertisements on the trolley). Set aside time to explore the Dallas Museum of Art, one of America's largest art museums, featuring some 23,000 works from around the globe. Expand your cultural adventure with a stroll through the Bishop Arts District, home to more than 60 small stores, galleries, restaurants, bars and coffee shops. Bring out your inner daredevil with a day at Six Flags Over Texas, a massive amusement park packed with jaw-dropping roller coasters as well as milder thrills.

Fort Worth

Suggested: 2 days

From Dallas, make the easy 30-minute drive west to Fort Worth, a modern city that honours its cowboy roots. Start at the always-bustling Stockyards National Historic District for Old West shops selling cowboy boots and hats, many saloons offering live entertainment, and lots of barbecue and other dining options. Learn about the strong women who shaped the American West with a visit to the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame, which is packed with artwork and stories from women such as artist Georgia O'Keeffe and singer Patsy Cline. Go metropolitan with a walk around the 35 blocks of Sundance Square downtown, a large shopping, dining and entertainment district.

Chickasaw Nation to Oklahoma City

Suggested: 3 days

Two hours north of Fort Worth is the serene and unspoiled Chickasaw National Recreation Area in Sulphur, Oklahoma. The area draws nature lovers and fishermen who enjoy outdoor recreation in the streams, springs and lakes there. Nearby, at the Chickasaw Cultural Center, learn about Native American culture and history in an expansive, interactive museum dedicated to Chickasaw life. The café there serves traditional foods such as grape dumplings and fry bread. From Sulphur, head about 90 minutes north to Oklahoma City to browse the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum filled with Old West artefacts. Or, go modern with a trip to the Oklahoma City Museum of Art, home to one of the largest collections of Chihuly glass sculptures in the world. In spring, grab a seat at the Dodge National Circuit Finals Rodeo, one of the biggest events of the professional rodeo season.

Route 66: Oklahoma City to Tulsa

Suggested: 3 - 5 days

Historic Route 66 winds right past the majestic capitol building in Oklahoma City, where you can take a guided tour or explore the building on your own. Worthy of note: this is the only capitol building in the world that's surrounded by working oil wells. Stop for a home-style lunch of chicken-fried steak, Oklahoma's signature dish, at Ann's Chicken Fry House (look for the pink Cadillac and vintage police car parked outside). Stay on Route 66 for about 111 miles (179 km) and you'll be in Tulsa, Oklahoma's second-largest city. Here, check out the Philbrook Museum of Art, housed partially in a 1920s villa, before travelling 50 minutes north to the Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve in Bartlesville. At Woolaroc, see Western artefacts as well as plentiful wildlife such as buffalo and elk. Continue north for about three hours to Strong City, Kansas to visit the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, one of the last remaining areas of tallgrass prairie in the USA.

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