





ST. LOUIS

**NASHVILLE** 

Nashville, Tennessee, to St. Louis, Missouri St. Louis, Missouri, to Kansas City, Missouri

St. Louis, Missouri, to Kansas City, Missouri, to Kansas City, Kansas

Kansas City, Kansas, and Kansas City, Missouri

Kansas City, Missouri, to Wichita, Kansas

Wichita, Kansas, to Tulsa, Oklahoma

Tulsa, Oklahoma, to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas

Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas, to Austin, Texas

4 hours and 31 minutes / 497 km

3 hours and 39 minutes / 400 km

10 minutes / 7 km

2 hours and 53 minutes / 315 km

2 hours and 39 minutes / 281 km

1 hour and 53 minutes / 170 km

3 hours and 40 minutes / 385 km

2 hours and 50 minutes / 304 km



## NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Day 1

Arrive in Nashville, a hugely influential hub for country music. Tour **Music Row** and explore the heart of Nashville's entertainment industry. Visit **Historic RCA Studio B**, where music legends like Willie Nelson, Elvis Presley and Dolly Parton recorded some of their biggest hits and created what's known as the "Nashville Sound." Columbia's historic **Quonset Hut Studio**, the predecessor to Studio B, is nearby and worth a visit. Opened in 1952, this humble structure was the first recording studio on Music Row, where

such great songs as Patsy Cline's "Crazy" were recorded. The area is also home to **Owen Bradley Park** and the famous bronze statue Musica, the centerpiece of the Music Row Roundabout, as well as many upscale restaurants and shops. Tonight, enjoy dinner at **Kayne Prime Steakhouse**, which offers fantastic city skyline views.

Accommodation: Nashville, Tennessee



## NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Day 2

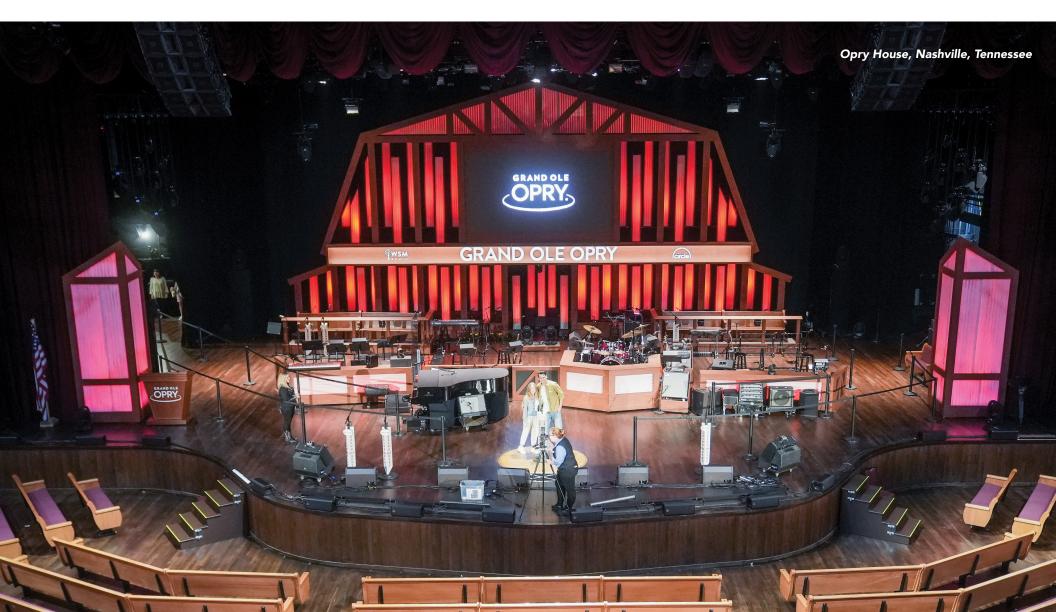
Take a second day to explore more Music City gems, like local favorite the **Opry House**. Groundbreaking music radio show The Grand Ole Opry started in 1925 and played a huge role in popularizing country music in the USA. Over time, the show's popularity outgrew its humble studio, and the production moved to the Opry House in 1974. You can catch live performances – including some by today's best-known country musicians – most nights of the week, or visit during the day to tour this iconic venue. Later, head to the popular **Broadway Historic District** for lunch and a visit to the **Country Music Hall of** 

**Fame and Museum**. Be sure to experience the "Sing Me Back Home" exhibit, which will guide you through the history of country music. As night falls, be mesmerized by the neon lights and live music of the **Honky Tonk Highway**, Nashville's most famous street. For dinner, try the fish and grits at the **Southern Steak & Oyster**, then head to **Bootleggers Inn**, Nashville's only moonshine bar, to enjoy great entertainment with a Prohibition-era vibe.

Accommodation: Nashville, Tennessee







## NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, TO ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

4 hours and 31 minutes / 497 km

Day 3

Head northwest towards St. Louis, Missouri, making a stop for lunch along the way at **Eckert's Country Restaurant** in Belleville Farm, Illinois. Enjoy down-home cooking and country food, including their famous fried chicken. After lunch, take a short drive into St. Louis and tour the **National Blues Museum**. Music fans will relish the opportunity to explore the history of the blues and view the memorabilia collections – you can even create your own blues song! Next, see St. Louis' most famous monument, the **Gateway Arch**. Savor sweeping views in every direction from the top of this "Gateway

to the West," which is the tallest monument in the USA. St. Louis is also famous for its ribs, and a visit to **Pappy's Smokehouse** for dinner will not disappoint. Home to what Food Network awarded the Best Barbecue Ribs in America, Pappy's closes for the day when it sells out of ribs. Your best bet is to visit early in the day.

Accommodation: St. Louis, Missouri







#### ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, TO KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, TO KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

3 hours and 39 minutes / 400 km

Day 4

Just outside of St. Louis is the Historic Daniel Boone Home, located on a 120-hectare site in Defiance, Missouri. This reconstructed village depicts life

in the early 1800s and explores the legacy of frontiersman Daniel Boone. Continue west to the town of Independence to see Independence Square, which once marked the start of the Oregon Trail. Visit the 1859 Jail Museum, where famous outlaw Frank James was once imprisoned, then climb aboard a covered wagon to tour the square. Your guide will regale you with stories of the Old West and point out historic sites and buildings. Further west, Kansas City,

Missouri, and Kansas City, Kansas, are renowned for their barbecue, and both

offer many barbecue tasting tours. Sign up for one in either city to explore a selection of restaurants and historic neighborhoods, or explore on your own, as the two municipalities have plenty of great options to choose from. One iconic eatery is Joe's Kansas City BBQ, which thrills foodies and history buffs alike with its original gas station location. Split a Z-Man brisket sandwich with fries and a half rack of ribs with a friend.



#### KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, AND KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

10 minutes / 7 km

Day 5

Spend another day touring historic sites in the Kansas City area. At **Minor Park** in Kansas City, Missouri, peer across the river to see the deep depressions in the hillside known as **Red Bridge Crossing**. Head across the border to Kansas to see **Fort Leavenworth**, a critical post that housed soldiers whose duty was to protect the travelers going west along the Oregon Trail. Explore the historic sites and homes, the Buffalo Soldier monument and the museum. Enjoy breathtaking views across the Missouri

River as you pause for a picnic lunch on the fort's grounds. Return to Missouri to sightsee in Kansas City's historic **River Market** district, where you'll find unique shopping, community festivals and fresh produce at the year-round City Market. Dine at  $\bf Q39$  tonight for authentic Kansas City barbecue; the Mr. Burns sandwich and Mac and  $\bf Q$  are must-tries.

Accommodation: Kansas City, Missouri









#### KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, TO WICHITA, KANSAS

● • • • ● 2 h

2 hours and 53 minutes / 315 km

Day 6

Leave Kansas City and stop at the **Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop** and Farm in Olathe, Kansas, one of the only remaining stagecoach stops along the original Santa Fe Trail. The house has been converted into a museum highlighting frontier life and stagecoach travel. See the unique tallgrass prairies of the USA in the Flint Hills of Kansas, where **Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve** has been welcoming visitors since 1996. Be sure to look out for the herd of over 100 American bison that inhabits the preserve. Continuing through rural Kansas, arrive at the **Maxwell Wildlife Refuge** and take a guided tour of the 1,000-hectare preserve, where herds of elk and bison graze. When you arrive in Wichita, Kansas, take a step back in time and visit the **Old Cowtown Museum** to get a taste of what life was

like in the Wild West. This replica 1870s village encompasses over 50 historic and re-created old buildings, including a period-accurate general store, blacksmith shop and schoolhouse. This evening, explore **Old Town Wichita**, the city's historic center and entertainment district. Dine in one of the many cafés and restaurants that line its historic streets, shop in boutiques and souvenir shops and enjoy booming bars and live music venues. At sunset, visit the **Keeper of the Plains**, a 13-meter-high statue designed by Comanche artist Blackbear Bosin. An illuminated Ring of Fire at the statue's base blazes for 15 spectacular minutes daily.

Accommodation: Wichita, Kansas





# WICHITA, KANSAS, TO TULSA, OKLAHOMA

2 hours and 39 minutes / 281 km

Day 7

From Wichita, head south, stopping for a fantastic brisket sandwich at Buck's BBQ on the outskirts of Sedan, Kansas. After lunch, cross the border into Bartlesville, Oklahoma, to visit the Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve, hidden in the rugged Osage Hills of northeastern Oklahoma. Established as a ranch in 1925, today Woolaroc is home to both native and exotic wildlife and a museum featuring the cultural heritage and lifestyles of early Western residents. See artifacts from over 40 Native American nations, including pieces that trace back to prehistoric civilizations. Before arriving in Tulsa, stop in Claremore, Oklahoma, to tour the Will Rogers Memorial Museum, a salute to world-famous personality Will Rogers. Uncover his story, from his Cherokee Nation roots to his days as a Hollywood actor and political activist. Tonight, explore the historic Blue Dome District, named for its distinctive 1924 Blue Dome building. The area is famous for its entertainment and sports, countless trendy restaurants and cool bars.





Accommodation: Tulsa, Oklahoma



## TULSA, OKLAHOMA, TO OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

1 hour and 53 minutes / 170 km

Day 8

Head east to visit Tahlequah, Oklahoma, home to the Cherokee National History Museum. Opened in 2019, this museum in the restored Cherokee National Capitol Building displays timeless art and artifacts from Cherokee heritage. In the heart of Tahlequah is the Cherokee National Prison Museum, where you'll tour a real prison built in 1875 and learn more about famous outlaws. Park Hill, Oklahoma, and the John Ross Museum are a short drive south. The museum tells the story of the eponymous Principal

Chief of the Cherokee Nation and spotlights notable events in Cherokee history. Finish up the day with a drive to Oklahoma City, famous for its barbecue restaurants. You'll find plenty of great eateries: One option, Iron **Star Urban BBQ**, offers a variety of flavors with their combo plates.



Accommodation: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



#### OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

Day 9

Today, experience everything that Oklahoma City has to offer. Start at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, a premier institution for Western art, history and culture. Start your tour at The End of the Trail, a statue depicting a lone Native American man on a weary horse. Wander through galleries that tell the history of the cowboy and rodeos through exhibits like Prosperity Junction, a replica of a frontier cattle town that includes a railroad station and blacksmith shop among other landmarks. Visit Stockyards City, a Western-themed shopping and entertainment district, for lunch and souvenir shopping. The Oklahoma National Stockyards still operates authentic cattle auctions here on Mondays and Tuesdays. Spoil yourself tonight with a visit to the Cattlemen's Steakhouse, Oklahoma's oldest restaurant. Afterward, head a short distance across the river to **Chisholm's Saloon**, an authentic country bar with live music and free dance lessons.

Accommodation: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



# OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA, TO DALLAS/FORT WORTH, TEXAS

3 hours and 40 minutes / 385 km

**Day 10** 

Travel south into Texas and stop in Duncan to see the **Chisholm Trail Heritage Center**. Marvel at a monumental outdoor bronze sculpture depicting a cattle drive, then venture inside to take a journey down the trail with immersive exhibits, galleries and displays. Continue south to Fort Worth to enjoy a fun evening tonight at **Billy Bob's Texas** in the historic

Stockyards District. Immerse yourself in great food, live music and even a bull ride if you feel adventurous!

Accommodation: Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas





#### FORT WORTH, TEXAS

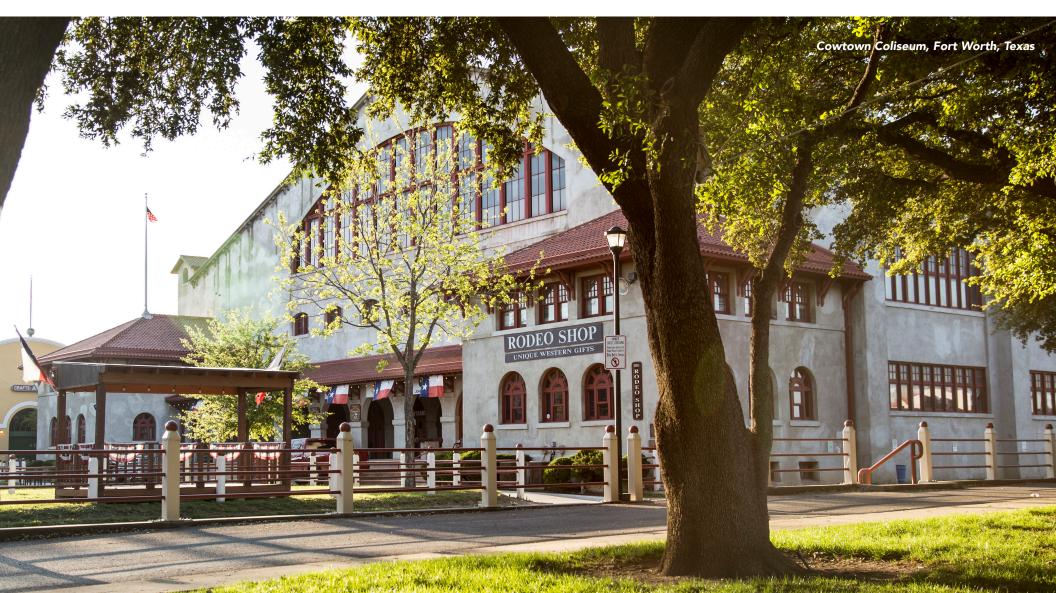
**Day 11** 

Step into the West today at **Fort Worth Stockyards National Historic District**, which embodies Texas heritage from the original brick walkways to the wooden corrals. Visit the **Texas Rodeo Cowboy Hall of Fame**, a gallery honoring the sport of rodeo and the people and livestock that champion this Western lifestyle. Enjoy lunch at one of the Stockyards' many restaurants, like the casual, fun atmosphere of **Hunter Brothers' H3 Ranch**. Visit the Fort Worth Herd, the city's bovine celebrities, in their pens behind the Livestock Exchange Building and even take selfies with the drovers, then watch the Longhorns parade through the streets during the daily

cattle drive. Plan your visit for Friday or Saturday night and visit the Stockyards Championship Rodeo at **Cowtown Coliseum**, the world's only year-round rodeo. For barbecue with a twist tonight, visit **Lonesome Dove Western Bistro** to try the rabbit and rattlesnake sausage and wild boar ribs. After dinner, explore the kitschy indoor-outdoor space at **Second Rodeo Brewing**, where colorful retro patio chairs and tables styled on top of pickup truck beds are the vibe. Great beers and great music await you.

Accommodation: Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas







# DALLAS/FORT WORTH, TEXAS, TO AUSTIN, TEXAS

• • • • • 2 hours and 50 minutes / 304 km

Day 12

Today, make your way south to the state capital of Texas, Austin. On the way, stop in Waco for lunch at **Tony DeMaria's BBQ**, a community institution serving up crowd-pleasing brisket since 1946. Arrive in Austin and visit the **Bullock Texas State History Museum**, right next to the state capitol building. The museum offers a vast collection of Texas artifacts, from photos and films to rare documents and re-creations that tell the state's story from the early 1800s as a territory of Spain and Mexico to its 1845 admission to statehood. If you still need to purchase some cowboy boots, then a visit to **Allens Boots** should be on your list. You can't miss the

giant red boot on its roof! Austin's selection of restaurants is nearly limitless, but for a classic barbecue, try **Micklethwaite Craft Meats**, where brisket and sausage with a side of lemon poppy slaw make for a hearty meal. Tonight, it's time to party in Austin style. With its diverse array of bustling bars and entertainment venues, there's something for everyone on **Sixth Street**, the city's vibrant heart.



# **AUSTIN, TEXAS**

Day 13

Relax in Austin today. For those enthusiastic barbecue lovers, a visit to **Franklin BBQ** should not be missed. Voted one of the best barbecue joints in the USA, this local hot spot attracts quite the crowd; make plans to arrive early, because the brisket and beef ribs are worth the wait! If you're looking for something more off the beaten path, the colorful, walkable **South Congress** neighborhood sports eclectic eateries, boutiques and galleries. Known locally as SoCo, it's home to some of Austin's most celebrated street art, including the Mr. Rogers Portrait and I Love You So Much mural.

As sunset arrives, ensure you are at **Congress Avenue Bridge**; each evening, the 1.5 million Brazilian free-tailed bats who live under the bridge take to the skies, creating a surreal black cloud. Head to **The Broken Spoke** to dance the night away at one of Austin's signature honky-tonks. It's hosted stars like Dolly Parton and Garth Brooks and thrilled millions of visitors with nightly two-step dance lessons.

**Accommodation: Austin, Texas** 



