



About Enid

Take notes in a classroom set in 1903. Act out your own Western film. Throw on a ball cap and catch a college baseball game. Let your inner child run wild through an outdoor wooden castle. Climb aboard a train and be a conductor for the day. You'll find all of these experiences and more in Enid, Oklahoma. From concerts at the Stride Bank Center to exploring the historic downtown square, fun is waiting for you around every corner.

Just a hop, skip and a jump away from Tulsa, Oklahoma City and Wichita, Enid is the perfect getaway if you're looking for something new and exciting to enjoy with family or friends. Less than 2 hours away from multiple major metro areas, the trip to Enid is a quick drive that's sure to end in an experience you'll never forget.

On a dusty day in September 1893, more than 10,000 people staked their claim in Enid in the Cherokee Strip Land Run. Since that day, the town has continued to represent the adventurous spirit of Oklahoma and its unique culture and history. With more to do and see than ever before, it's time for you to stake your claim for adventure in Enid, too.

Fun Facts

- Lots of famous folks have called Enid home. You might know a few of them: Don Haskins, Hall of Fame coach featured in the movie "Glory Road"; Clyde Cessna, founder of the Cessna Aircraft Company; Oral Roberts, evangelist who founded Oral Roberts University in Tulsa; Marquis James, two-time Pulitzer prize winning author, and Leona Mitchell, Hall of Fame mezzo-soprano.
- A man claiming to be John Wilkes Booth died in what is now the Garfield Furniture building in downtown Enid in 1903.
- Millions of longhorns made the trek up the Chisholm Trail and across Indian Territory from 1867 to 1884 as the main cattle drive spanning Texas to Kansas. This path ran right through Enid and is marked with more than 400 concrete post markers across Oklahoma. The Chisholm Trail ran through what is now the location of the Enid Welcome Center.
- One-third of all Air Force pilots in the U.S. go through training at Enid's Vance Air Force Base.
- There's a pretty well-known bridge in Enid, famous for eating trucks.
- Enid lays claim to Oklahoma's tallest Christmas tree. The One: Bright Lights is 102 feet tall with a 20-foot Bethlehem Star on top. The tree is lit late November to early January and provides a light show choreographed to Christmas music.



Staff

Rob Houston is Enid's number one advocate. Rob serves as the director of Visit Enid and is passionate about telling Enid's stories. He has been with Visit Enid since its inception in 2010, bringing his nearly 25 years of media experience in radio and newspaper into his new job as Communications Coordinator, before being named Director in May 2021. Rob created VisitEnid.org, writes press releases and the yearly Enid Travel Guide as well as creating advertising materials for local and statewide media outlets such as Oklahoma Today and Discover Oklahoma. He is a featured guest on two weekly radio shows promoting Enid and works closely with the City of Enid Communications Department to create a monthly video promoting upcoming Enid events.

Rob earned the Tourism Marketing Professional designation from the Southeast Tourism Society. He is a graduate of the Oklahoma Arts Council's Leadership Arts program, as well as Leadership Greater Enid and Leadership Garden City (Kan.). He is an active member of Enid First, a group dedicated to determining and developing the city's identity, and was part of that group's efforts in rebranding Enid in 2012. He is President Elect of the Enid Rotary Club, and is a member of Enid AM Ambucs, where he has been named Project Manager of the Year four times. Rob currently serves on several boards, including Vice President of Red Carpet Country, Vice President of the Public Arts Commission of Enid, Treasurer of the Oklahoma Travel Industry Association, and board member of Enid Chautauqua in the Park, Tri-State Music Festival and the International Chisholm Trail Association.

When he's not touting Enid, Rob loves golf, photography, playing board games and card games, and enjoying his dogs, Molly and Eddie.

Jenna Spencer is the sales manager at Visit Enid. She's been with Visit Enid since 2016, first as its services manager before being promoted to Sales Manager in May 2021. Jenna is the contact person for group tour and meeting planners, working closely with local hotels and meeting space locations while actively recruiting new groups to hold their meetings in Enid.

Prior to her 2016 move to Enid, she earned her bachelor's degree in business administration from Oklahoma State University and began her career in community outreach at Community Care of Oklahoma in Tulsa, then at the Central Technology Center.

When she's not bringing new conferences and groups to Enid, Jenna can be found out and about as an ambassador for the Greater Enid Chamber of Commerce or as a member of the Junior Welfare League of Enid. She also has served on the City of Enid Parks Board.



Frequently Asked Questions

Where is Enid?

Sure, you could use Google Maps to find us, but it's so easy to get here you won't need it. Enid is less than 2 hours away from many major metro areas.

Jump on I-35 and head north from Oklahoma City or south from Wichita. Then take Exit 194-B and head west on US-412. You'll run right into us.

It's even easier if you're coming from Tulsa; Hop on US-412 and drive straight west!

What is there to do?

There's always an adventure waiting for you in Enid!

Visit a village set in 1903 at the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center or immerse yourself in the arts at the Gaslight Theatre. Enjoy a delicious meal at Napoli's Italian Restaurant or let the kids explore an outdoor, wooden castle at Leonardo's Children's Museum.

From browsing through boutiques in the downtown square to seeking out the city's many art murals painted on buildings throughout town, there's tons of fun to be had all over the city. Make sure to check our event calendar at VisitEnid.org to find even more fun things to do during your visit.

Tell me more about upcoming events.

From live music and theatrical performances to farmers markets and 5Ks, there's always an event to fit your fancy. In April, view hundreds of kites flying over the city during Kites over Enid, or catch a foul ball in May & June during the NJCAA Div. II World Series.

Not to mention our annual Christmas celebrations in November and December, Enid Lights Up the Plains, The One Enid and Holidays on Ice in Downtown Enid, when the city turns into a real-life storybook.

Check out our event calendar at VisitEnid.org to find an event during your stay and experience Enid a new way every time you visit.



Where should I stay?

With all the events and experiences you'll find in Enid, you'll need your sleep and we have over 1,200 rooms for you to lay your head!

Check out our list of hotels, bed & breakfasts, and RV parks at VisitEnid.org to find the perfect place to get some shuteye during your visit.

Where can I grab a bite to eat?

We have plenty of ideas for you! Whether it's fresh and local restaurants, fun food trucks, or a familiar franchise, there's a great variety of dining options in Enid. Check out our list at VisitEnid.org to find the perfect place to fill up.

With more than 100 restaurants in the city, we're sure you'll find some good grub. After all, Enid spelled backward is 'dine!'

What is 'Visit Enid'?

Visit Enid is a group of great folks dedicated to helping make your trip to the city fun and easy! We offer itineraries, special offers and information, and so much more. Check out our website to find all the resources and details you need for your next trip to Enid, or contact us for any requests or questions. You can also stop by and see us while you're in town! We have discount tickets to various activities, Enid souvenirs and the perfect "selfie" spot!

We look forward to helping you stake your claim for fun in Enid soon!