



## OKLAHOMA CITY, OK AREA INFORMATION

A little more than a century ago, the site of Oklahoma City was a grass-and-timbered land of gently rolling hills flattening out into prairie. Today, Oklahoma City sprawls across 625 square miles of America's heartland. Its metro population numbers over a million.

Oklahoma City was settled by the historic Land Run of 1889. The city's population grew to more than 10,000 in a single day. In 1928, oil was discovered in Oklahoma City, creating the city's most important financial resource and making Oklahoma City the world's newest boom town. Today, the state capitol building is the only capitol in the nation with a working oil well on its grounds, and oil continues to be one the most important players in the city's economy.

### Overview

- [Official website](#)
- [Visitors website](#)
- [Public Library](#)
- [Weather](#)
- [Parks and Recreation](#)
- [Area Hospitals](#)
- [Public Safety](#)
- Population was 579,999 as of the 2010 Census



## Transportation

### By Car

Most residents have a car, especially for weekend road trips. Oklahoma City is well served by many major highway systems, and is traversed from border to border by Route 66.



### By Bike

Bicycling is green and it's stress-free! Oklahoma City now has a downtown bicycle-sharing service with [Spokies](#).

- [Bike Trails](#) in the area

### Public Transportation

[EMBARC](#) (formerly Metro Transit) provides bus, ferry transit and downtown parking solutions in the Oklahoma City metro area.

### By Air

- [Will Rogers World Airport](#), 10 miles southwest of OKC, offers regular flights nationwide.

### By Train

[Amtrak's](#) Heartland Flyer connects Oklahoma City to Fort Worth, TX daily.

## Schools

Generally, to register your child for school you will need to have a passport and/or birth certificate, proof of immunizations, any applicable past school records and proof of residency. Most public schools have boundary areas, and you must show proof (i.e. copy of lease or home purchase agreement) to be allowed to register in that particular school. Please always confirm requirements with the school you are interested in before assuming that your child will be able to attend that school.

Grade level in the US public-school system is determined by the age of the child. School districts are usually very strict about the age requirement, but inquire with the school district you are interested in to determine if there are any exemptions for foreign students who are ahead in grade level. You may also want to ask about any gifted or advanced programs as well as their English as a Second Language (ESL) Programs. Some elementary schools also offer a pre-Kindergarten program for children who miss the deadline requirement. You may inquire at the school districts for availability, and contact your IOR Destination Services Consultant for more assistance with schooling questions.

### Public Schools

Public schools in Oklahoma City are operated by the [Oklahoma City Public Schools](#). [Classen Public School of Advanced Studies](#) offers an IB Program and [Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics](#) is a state-funded, residential high school for students with ability and interest in science and math who plan to pursue careers in STEM-related fields. In addition, [Le Monde International School](#) is a public charter full-immersion language school in nearby Norman, Oklahoma.

### Private Schools

There are 47 [top private schools](#) in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, serving 9,744 students. 70% of schools are religiously affiliated (most commonly [Roman Catholic](#) and [Christian](#)). [Casady School](#) and [Heritage Hall School](#) are included in the top OKC private schools.

### Additional Resources

- [www.greatschools.org](http://www.greatschools.org)
- [www.eschoolprofile.com](http://www.eschoolprofile.com)
- [www.schooltree.org](http://www.schooltree.org)

### Colleges/Universities in the area

- [Oklahoma City University](#)
- [University of Oklahoma](#)



Oklahoma City University

## Area Recreation

From treasure-filled museums to fun and funky festivals, outdoor recreation to loads of shopping and so much more, come discover all there is to do in Oklahoma City.

### Culture and Museums

Oklahoma City's [art scene](#) runs year round, so depending on your preference, there are options in visual and performing arts every day. From [museums and art galleries](#), to [ballet and Broadway](#), there is something for everyone.



*Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum*

### Festivals

Oklahoma City's amazing growth over the past several years has led to a renaissance in older neighborhoods and business districts throughout the city's core. The renewal of these neighborhoods has led to a happy byproduct: [monthly festivals](#) that highlight the flavors and features of these historic areas.

### The Great Outdoors

From climbing to hiking to watersports, OKC has plenty of ways to play outside for casual fun or serious enthusiasts.

- The [Boathouse District](#) along the Oklahoma River is a hot spot for urban river recreation
- Visit [Stinchcomb Wildlife Refuge](#) at Lake Overholser

### Area Sports

- [Oklahoma City Thunder Basketball](#)
- [United Soccer League of OKC](#)
- Oklahoma City hosts top national and world championship [horse shows](#).



*Stinchcomb Wildlife Refuge*

## Registration

### **Obtaining a Driver's License**

In the US, a driver's license or ID card is issued by each individual state and not by the federal government. Since there is no national identity card in the USA, and many Americans don't have a passport or carry around a birth certificate, a driver's license issued by your state is often the only official piece of identification for many citizens. Since 9/11, you will need to show a valid driver's license or State ID card to enter many big office buildings.

If you have an out-of-state or out-of-country license, you may use it for as long as you maintain your residency in the state where it was issued. Drivers with an out-of-state license must apply for an Oklahoma Driver License at the time they establish residency.

To change to an Oklahoma license, bring your Social Security card, another form of ID, and two utility or phone bills verifying that you are a resident to a motor vehicle facility. You'll have to pass written and eye exams, and usually a road test.

For general information and instructions on how to obtain an official state ID card or driver's license, visit the [Oklahoma Driver's License Information](#).

**Your IOR Destination Services Consultant will also assist you with the proper procedure.**