

Posted in [Oklahoma](#) January 28, 2017 by [Catherine Armstrong](#)

Everyone Should Explore These 10 Stunning Places In Oklahoma At Least Once

Oklahoma is full of beautiful places to visit, but some merit more exploration than others. Take a look at these 10 stunning places around the Sooner State that are perfect for an afternoon or a whole weekend of hiking, photography and discovery.

We're aware that these uncertain times are limiting many aspects of life as we all practice social and physical distancing. While we're continuing to feature destinations that make our state wonderful, we don't expect or encourage you to go check them out immediately. We believe that supporting local attractions is important now more than ever and we hope our articles inspire your future adventures! And on that note, please nominate your favorite local business that could use some love right now: <https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/nominate/>

1. Talimena Scenic Drive



[Alex Butterfield/flickr](#)

This 54-mile long scenic drive along Oklahoma State Highway 1 takes you through the gorgeous Ouachita National Forest. Panoramic Vista (shown here) is truly spectacular. If you've never taken this scenic drive, now is the time!

2. The Oklahoma City Memorial



[Terry Robinson/flickr](#)

The Oklahoma City Memorial sits on the former site of the Alfred P. Murrah Building. The grounds, with its Reflecting Pool, Field of Empty Chairs, Memorial Wall and Survivor Tree is a calm, quiet place for reflection and remembrance.

3. Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge



[Larry Smith/flickr](#)

No matter what time of year, the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge is just stunning. The 59,020-acre refuge provides plenty of recreation and exploration, from hiking to photography to nature viewing.

4. Chicasaw National Recreation Area



[Jonathan C. Wheeler/flickr](#)

Of the nearly 10,000 acres at Chicasaw National Recreation Area, almost 2,500 are covered in water. Travertine Creek, shown here, is a pretty spot for a picnic or some exploration.

5. Robbers Cave State Park



[Granger Meador/flickr](#)

Robbers Cave State Park is the perfect place to take a hike next weekend. Explore Robbers Cave, where Jesse James once hid from law enforcement, watch rock climbers and rappeller, or catch a fish.

6. Beavers Bend State Park



[Joe Vig/flickr](#)

Watch for eagles during winter months, fly fish on the river or take a guided horseback ride to explore this gorgeous slice of nature.

7. Grand Lake O' The Cherokees



[Curtis Simmons/flickr](#)

You'll find Grand Lake O' The Cherokees, or simply "Grand Lake" in the foothills of the Ozarks. You could spend a whole week exploring the 46,500 surface acres of this gorgeous lake - water ski, fish, or simply stroll along the coast.

8. Little Sahara State Park



[Becky McKay/flickr](#)

Explore the 1,600 acres of dunes at Little Sahara State Park. Take your ATV, or simply take a walk.

9. Natural Falls State Park



[Doug Wertman/Wikimedia](#)

The 77-foot waterfall at Natural Falls State Park is truly spectacular and truly photogenic from the viewing platform. You can stay overnight at the campground here, and you'll definitely want to hike through the beautiful forest.

10. Glover River



[Robert Nunnally/flickr](#)

The best way to explore Glover River is by canoe. Go for a relaxing paddle and enjoy a picnic lunch.