

# **CRYSTAL BRIDGES:**

# An Oasis of American Art & Architecture

April 27–May 1, 2023

411

## CRYSTAL BRIDGES

With the unveiling of the spectacular Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in 2011, Arkansas suddenly hit the map for culture lovers around the United States. Its excellent art collection built by Walmart heiress Alice Walton and its dynamic architecture by Moshe Safdie immediately made it one of the most important museums opened in America in the last 50 years. The museum continues to expand and diversify, including its exciting "Momentary" center for contemporary art that opened in 2020. Beyond Crystal Bridges' Bentonville campus, Arkansas has a beautiful cultural scene well worth exploring, from emerging young artists to soaring glassenclosed chapels. This one-of-a-kind tour introduces travelers to artistic and architectural masterpieces spread throughout Northwest Arkansas. Tour museums with experts, learn about ongoing preservation projects, and enjoy fine dining in a variety of restaurants.



#### THURSDAY, APRIL 27 Welcome to Bentonville

Arrive independently to the Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA) in the afternoon and take a group transfer to the four-star DoubleTree Suites by Hilton in Bentonville. Check into the hotel and get settled into your room. This evening, gather with fellow travelers and enjoy a lovely welcome dinner together at one of Bentonville's best restaurants. *(D)* 

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 28 Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art

Today is dedicated to the art haven that is the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. Drive to Crystal Bridges, the brainchild of Alice Walton, daughter of the founder of Walmart, and designed by renowned architect

Moshe Safdie. The impressive collection includes works by great American artists. Begin with a guided tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's Bachman Wilson House, which is emblematic of the Usonian style. Then an architectural tour of the museum itself, which incorporates the beauty of its surrounding natural elements. Break for lunch at Eleven, the on-site restaurant at Crystal Bridges. Next delve into collection highlights of the American Art galleries during a self-guided tour followed by free time to further explore the museum's collections and to see Yayoi Kusama's Infinity Mirror room. Return to the hotel in the mid-afternoon or linger at the museum longer to continue exploring its vast collection and extensive sculpture trail and to experience James Turrell's

The Way of Color skyspace installation for a breathtaking sunset experience. Gather for a casual dinner in Bentonville's best gastropub. (*B*,*L*,*D*)

#### saturday, april 29 Eureka Springs & Thorncrown Chapel

Drive an hour to the nearby town of Eureka Springs, a Victorian-era spa resort town that still preserves dozens of fine buildings from the 1870s through the 1930s. A special walking tour will focus on the town's most important architectural jewels. See Thorncrown Chapel, a beautiful, soaring chapel designed by E. Fay Jones before returning to Bentonville. Following a short break at the hotel, explore Crystal Bridges' newest museum, The Momentary,

an old cheese factory turned contemporary art and cultural space. Enjoy free time to see the contemporary exhibitions and to have an independent drink at The Momentary's Tower Bar. (*B*,*L*)

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 30 A Day in Fayetteville

Drive approximately 45 minutes south of Bentonville to Fayetteville to the E. Fay and Gus Jones house, the former residence of renowned architect Fay Jones. Completed in 1956, it was designed by Jones upon his return to Fayetteville after working in the office of Frank Lloyd Wright. Drive through the impressive campus of the University of Arkansas. After feasting on local barbecue, visit the Mildred B. Cooper Memorial Chapel, a beautiful chapel designed by Jones and Maurice Jennings and commissioned by John Cooper to commemorate his late wife. It makes for a fascinating comparison with Jones' more monumental Thorncrown Chapel seen the day before. Enjoy cookies and lemonade in a lovely Bella Vista home. After a break at the hotel, be treated to a memorable farewell dinner at one of the city's best restaurants. (B,L,D)

#### MONDAY, MAY 1 Departures

After breakfast, check out of the hotel and take a morning group

airport transfer to the Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA). *(B)* 

#### HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Bentonville

The DoubleTree Suites by Hilton is a top four-star hotel in Bentonville offering spacious, comfortable suites that were beautifully renovated in 2017. The hotel is surrounded by local dining and offers a free five-mile shuttle, which makes it a cinch to dine in downtown Bentonville on your free evening. The hotel's accommodating staff and stylish, contemporary rooms has earned the hotel a Travelers Choice Award and number two ranking on TripAdvisor.



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### **TOUR INFORMATION**



Inlay: Mildred B. Cooper Memorial Chapel, Bella Vista, Arkansas

Dates: April 27-May 1, 2023

#### **Tour Cost:**

Land Package: \$2,795 Single Supplement: \$450

Tour price is per person based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 15 paying participants.

**Registration Deadline and Final Payment:** Register by November 4, 2022 with a \$1,000 deposit per person. Final payment will be invoiced and is due on January 9, 2023. Payments may be made to the Arts Council of Moore County (ACMC) by check or by Visa, MasterCard, or American Express.

**Flights:** Airfare is not included in the tour price. Participants are responsible for their own air arrangements. Please do not purchase airline tickets until the operation of the tour is confirmed by ACMC.

**Cancellation Policy:** 35% of the total cost, to cover administrative/planning fees, will be withheld for cancellation after the registration deadline on **ALL** *ART*ours. **NO** refunds will be made after advertised "Final payment" date unless substitute traveler is found—at which time transfer fees, if applicable, will be withheld. After the tour has commenced, no refunds will be issued for any reason including, but not limited to, unused portions of tour. If the tour is cancelled by ISDI or ACMC due to low enrollment, active registrants will receive a full refund of all tour payments.

**Travel Insurance:** Travel Insurance is not included in the tour cost, but participants are strongly encouraged to purchase a travel protection plan in conjunction with this tour, including coverage of trip cancellation, trip interruption, emergency evacuation/repatriation, medical expenses, lost or damaged baggage, and other expenses and/or losses incurred due to unexpected situations, as well as Cancel for Any Reason. Should a participant cancel at any time after registering for the tour, ACMC and ISDI must strictly abide by the cancellation policy outlined herein. Participants may sign up for travel insurance at the time of registration or travel insurance information can be sent upon request. For additional information, please contact ACMC at 910-692-2787. **Activity Level:** Good overall mobility required. You should be in good physical condition to fully enjoy our tours. ACMC cannot provide individual assistance during the tours and therefore reserves the right to decline to accept anyone on a tour who has a physical condition that could create a hazard to him/herself or could impact the enjoyment of other travelers on the tour.

**Terms and Conditions**: All tour participants are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and have a booster shot to participate on the tour. By registering and paying the deposit for this tour, registrant acknowledges that he/she has carefully read and understands all information contained in the tour brochure, recognizes and accepts any risks therein, and agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions outlined herein. Upon receipt of registration, registrants will received a Participant Tour Agreement detailing the full terms and conditions for this tour. This document must be signed and returned to ACMC before participant's registration is considered complete and any arrangements can be confirmed.

**Tour Inclusions:** 4 nights at the DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Bentonville; breakfast daily, 3 lunches, 3 dinners, 2 glasses of wine or beer at included dinners; land transportation by private motor coach; 1 group transfer from Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA) to the hotel upon arrival; 1 group transfer from the hotel to XNA upon departure; entrance fees to sites and visits listed in the itinerary; services of an ISDI Tour Manager; expert local on-site guides; gratuities for local guides and drivers and at included meals; bottled water on coach; service charges and taxes.

**Tour Exclusions:** Airline tickets, airline taxes and surcharges, and baggage fees; airport porterage; individual transfers between the airport and the hotel for those not using the scheduled group transfers; meals other than those specified in the itinerary; gratuities for hotel housekeeping; personal items such as telephone calls, room service, valet service, à-la-carte orders, specialty wines and liquors, laundry charges, travel extensions, or tour deviations; travel insurance; any other items not specifically included in the itinerary.

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TO REGISTER OR FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT: Art Council of Moore County at 910-692-ARTS (2787) or by email at katherine@mooreart.org