

Guymon Tour Guide Summary



Tourism

A bus tour to Black Mesa is always a favorite of guests to the Panhandle. This is a full day tour that is paired well with one of our 5 annual events:

- Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame Guymon Pioneer Days the first week of May;
- Five State Motorcycle Run and Motorcycle Rodeo the second weekend in May;
- The Blue Def Velocity Professional Bull Riders' Tour the end of July;
- Azuma African Celebration the first of August;
- Guymon Fiesta Day the third Sunday in Sept.

Additional bus tour stops in Guymon include our historic downtown Main Street with its arts center and gallery, an historic cowboy bar, the community theatre, a variety of cultural retail ranging from Western wear to Hispanic owned dress shops and a market, and a handful of restaurants. (Guymon itself has over 20 restaurants and 400+ hotel rooms.)

***For pre-planned tours, arrangements can be made for a chuck wagon dinner, and award winning Hispanic Folklorica dancers at Draper's Ranch Headquarters (home to over 10,000 square feet of historical and entertainment collections).*

Black Mesa-

Black Mesa is located in Oklahoma's panhandle along the tri-state borders of Colorado, New Mexico, and Oklahoma. Visitors will enjoy the same untouched panoramic views of mesas black with volcanic rock that pioneer settlers and Santa Fe Trail travelers observed. One can hike to the top of the state's highest point in the Black Mesa Nature Preserve, which consists of approximately 1,600 acres and 23 rare plants and eight rare animal species. This area is a unique landscape marking where the Rocky Mountains meet the short grass prairies. The dinosaur quarry located northeast of the mesa, along petrified dinosaur tracks, has produced fossils from the Triassic and Jurassic strata.

The Black Mesa trip features a tour of the dinosaur quarry, Coronado and the Santa Fe Trail's Signature Rock, Petrified Trees, the tri-state monument, a Sod House, and more. Please request our map and tour guide for more information.

Economic Development: Agriculture, Renewable Energy, Revitalization & Growth

The Oklahoma Panhandle sits at the top of Ag production on state and national levels. Oklahoma's Ag production of cattle and hogs ranks in the top 5 nationwide, with Texas County at no. 1 in the state for cattle & calf, hogs, and sorghum bushels (USDA 2013 Report). Additionally, the Panhandle produces 21,000,000 of the state's 32,000,000 bushels of corn. These numbers make Ag the Panhandle's economic base. In addition to this, renewable energy and wind farm development recently diversified our economy. Seaboard's new biodiesel plant in Guymon uses fat from the hog plant to generate 35 million gallons of biodiesel annually for distribution across the nation, including Oklahoma's Love's Country Store. Several wind farms are in operation and provide power to the OG&E transmission line that runs from Texas County to Tulsa. Texas County is now farming wind to produce renewable energy across the state. A project for a new transmission line is also proposed that will travel 800 miles to Tennessee. Texas County is also known for production of Oil & Natural Gas, as it sits on top of one of the largest fields in the USA, the Guymon-Hugoton Field and ranks in the top 10 counties in the state. Guymon welcomed SPF America in 2012, a global leader for pet food flavors for the pet food industry. SPF owns over a dozen flavor facilities around the world including Brazil, Thailand, England, and now Guymon. New retail developments of \$3 billion are now complete with a new shopping center. Additionally five new developments are under construction for a new shopping center, housing, downtown condos, and a beautification project of Main Street's Hwy 64. The new *library and arts center also houses one of the top genealogy collections in the state and a conference center. We also are home to a state-of-the-art Fire Station, and a new Animal Shelter.*