



SPITWAA O-YA GWYA DBP O-SIA-MO

74TH ANNUAL

CHEROKEE

NATIONAL HOLIDAY



MAP & SCHEDULE

2026 CHEROKEE NATIONAL HOLIDAY EVENT SCHEDULE

PRE/POST HOLIDAY EVENTS

		TIME	LOCATION	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 (Continued)	TIME	LOCATION
8/21	Little Cherokee Ambassadors Competition	6 pm	36	★ Cherokee National Holiday Parade	9:30 am	33
8/22	Jr. Miss Cherokee Leadership Competition	6 pm	36	Horseshoe Tournament (Traditional Game)	9:30 am	11
8/22	Miss Cherokee Leadership Competition	6 pm	36	Blowgun Tournament (Traditional Game)	10 am	11
8/28	Softball Fast Pitch & Co-Ed Tournament	8 pm	2	Cornstalk Shoot (Traditional Game)	10 am	10
8/28	Youth Livestock Jackpot Show	8 pm	37	Three-On-Three Adult Basketball Tournament	10 am	4
8/29	Softball Fast Pitch & Co-Ed Tournament	9 am	2	Cherokee Enrichment: Cultural Presentation	10 am – 2 pm	26
8/29	Blowgun Championship (Community Game)	10 am	11	Cherokee Homecoming Art Show	10 am – 4 pm	21
8/29	Cornstalk Shoot Championship (Community Game)	10 am	10	★ State of the Nation Address	11 am	31
8/29	Horseshoes Championship (Community Game)	10 am	11	Cherokee Culture, Plants & Symbology Garden Tour 2	11:30 am	42
8/29	Marbles Championship (Community Game)	10 am	11	Chunkey Tournament (Traditional Game)	12 pm	11
8/29	12 vs. 12 Co-Ed Stickball Tournament	10 am	6	Ross Family Reunion	12 – 4 pm	41
8/29	Youth Livestock Jackpot Show	10:30 am	37	Cherokee Talks: The Legacy of the Corn Husk Doll with Sarah (Seli) Stewart	1 pm	1
8/29	Chunkey Championship (Community Game)	12 pm	11	Hatchet Throw (Traditional Game)	1 pm	10
8/29	Hatchet Throw Championship (Community Game)	1 pm	10	Stickball Shootout Championship (Traditional Game)	1 pm	6
8/30	Softball Fast Pitch & Co-Ed Tournament	9 am	2	Fiddlers' Contest (RM 4 & 5)	1 – 5:30 pm	22
8/30	Youth Livestock Jackpot Show	10:30 am	37	Cherokee Culture, Plants & Symbology Garden Tour 3	1:30 pm	42
9/12	Cherokee National Holiday Bass Tournament	Safe Light	39	Cherokees Singing Together: A Community Gospel Gathering	2 pm	3

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Golf Tournament, 50 & Over, Two-Person Scramble	9 am	24
Cherokee Homecoming Art Show	10 am – 4 pm	21

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Golf Tournament, All Ages, Two-Person Scramble	9 am	24
Cherokee Homecoming Art Show	10 am – 4 pm	21
Veterans' Lunch	12 pm	4
Cherokee National Holiday Art Show (RM 1 & 6)	12 – 8 pm	22
Cherokee National Holiday Quilt Show (RM 2 & 3)	12 – 8 pm	22
Elders' Fun	3 – 7 pm	4
Arts, Crafts, Food & Entertainment	4 – 10 pm	11
Dalalalapooza Live Music Concert	4 – 10 pm	11
Inter-Tribal Powwow Marketplace	4 – 10 pm	9
The Free Fun Zone	4 – 10 pm	11
Cherokee National Youth Choir	6 pm	22
"Our Legacy in Song" Concert (RM 4 & 5)		
Doubles Cornament (Cornhole Tournament)	6:30 pm	5
Inter-Tribal Powwow Grand Entry	7 pm	9
Softball Slow Pitch Tournament	8 pm	2

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Veterans' Fun Run	7 am	13
Jason Christie Children's Fishing Day	7 – 9 am	23
Veterans' 5K Run	7:30 am	13
Tahlequah Farmers Market	8 am – 12 pm	44
Doubles Cornament (Cornhole Tournament)	9 am	5
Cherokee Culture, Plants & Symbology Garden Tour 1	9 am	42
Golf Tournament, All Ages, Four-Person Scramble	9 am	24
Marbles Tournament (Traditional Game)	9 am	17
Softball Slow Pitch Tournament	9 am	2
Cherokee Artisan Marketplace (Handmade Arts & Crafts)	9 am – 3 pm	32
Cherokee National Holiday Art Show (RM 1 & 6)	9 am – 5 pm	22
Cherokee National Holiday Quilt Show (RM 2 & 3)	9 am – 5 pm	22
Arts, Crafts, Food & Entertainment	9 am – 10 pm	11
The Free Fun Zone	9 am – 10 pm	11

9:30 am	33
9:30 am	11
10 am	11
10 am	10
10 am	4
10 am – 2 pm	26
10 am – 4 pm	21
11 am	31
11:30 am	42
12 pm	11
12 – 4 pm	41
1 pm	1
1 pm	10
1 pm	6
1 – 5:30 pm	22
1:30 pm	42
2 pm	3
2 pm	35
2 – 5 pm	9
3 pm	1
3 – 10 pm	9
4 – 10 pm	11
5 pm	1
5 pm	6
6 pm	6
6 pm	6
7 pm	6
8 pm	6
7 pm	9

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

9 am	24
9 am	2
9 am	4
9 am – 2 pm	22
9 am – 3 pm	32
10 am – 5 pm	11
10 am – 3 pm	22
10 am – 3 pm	22
10 am – 4 pm	21
11 am	1
11 am	8
12:30 – 3:30 pm	7
1 pm	1
3 pm	1

Events, times and locations are subject to change. Please check the website and individual event listings for more information closer to the event. Cherokee Nation and all Cherokee National Holiday events are smoke-free. Pets are not allowed at any events.

2026 CHEROKEE NATIONAL HOLIDAY POWWOW

September 4 – 5 | Cherokee Nation Cultural Grounds | West 810 Road, Tahlequah, Okla.

GRAND ENTRIES Dancer registration: Friday ONLY, 4 – 6:30 pm | Performances: Friday & Saturday, 7 pm
Perform two grand entries in full regalia to qualify for awards.
Both grand entries earn points.

GOURD DANCE Saturday, 2 – 5 pm

HOST DRUMS

Southern Drum Southern Thunder • Pawnee, Okla. | Invited Southern: Park Hill Singers • Tahlequah, Okla.
Northern Drum Big Soldier Creek • Mayetta, Kan. | Invited Northern: Ocese Band • Shawnee, Okla.

HEAD STAFF

Emcees Rob Daugherty, Cherokee • Jay, Okla.
Archie Mason, Cherokee and Osage • Tulsa, Okla.

Arena Directors Berbon Hamilton, Osage • Pawhuska, Okla.
Mark Wilson, Cherokee • Tulsa, Okla.

Color Guard Cherokee Nation Veterans Color Guard

Head Man Chris Cot'e, Osage • Pawhuska, Okla.

Head Lady Geneva Horsechief-Hamilton, Osage, Pawnee, Potawatomi & Blackfeet • Pawhuska, Okla.

Head Gourd Clan Cherokee Gourd Society

Head Dance Judge Zack Morris, Sac & Fox • McCloud, Okla.

MORE THAN \$35,000 IN CASH PRIZES

CATEGORIES

Golden Combined (Ages 62+)

Adult (Ages 18 – 61) Men: Southern Straight • Northern Traditional • Fancy • Grass • Chicken Dance
Women: Southern Buckskin • Cloth • Northern Traditional • Fancy • Jingle
Cherokee Tear Dress (must be Cherokee Nation, EBCI or UKB citizen for Tear Dress)
Adult Men's & Women's 1st Place - \$1,000

Teens (Ages 13 – 17) Boys: Southern Straight • Northern Traditional • Fancy • Grass
Girls: Cloth • Buckskin • Shawl • Jingle

Junior (Ages 7 – 12) Boys: Southern Straight • Northern Traditional • Fancy • Grass
Girls: Cloth • Buckskin • Shawl • Jingle

Tiny Tots (Ages 0 – 6) Open to all children dressed in dance regalia.

ALL DECISIONS ARE FINAL BY COMMITTEE | No camping allowed.
Bring your own seating.

All Holiday visitors agree that entry into any of the Cherokee National Holiday events constitutes for the Cherokee National Holiday office to use any film, photographs, video or reproduction of image and/or voice bearer for any purpose whatsoever without any payment to the visitor. We appreciate your observance of traditional rules; visitors shall not sell, dispense, or consume any form of illegal drugs or alcohol beverages during any Cherokee National Holiday related events. Pets are not allowed at any Cherokee National Holiday related events. Cherokee National Holiday is a smoke-free event. Thank you for your respect.

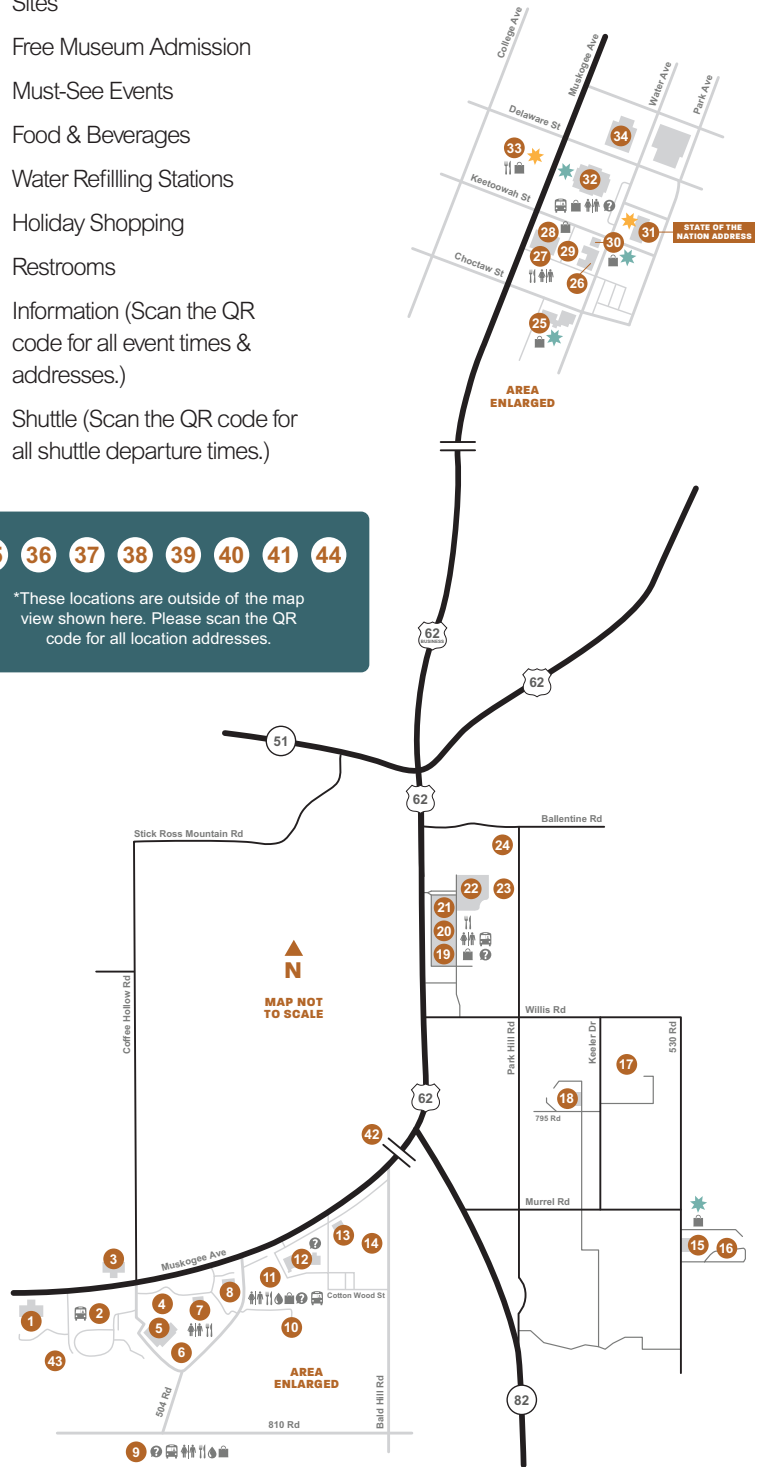
SITES

- 1 Durbin Feeling Language Center
- 2 Cherokee Nation Softball Complex
- 3 New Life Worship Center
- 4 Sequoyah High School | The Place Where They Play
- 5 Sequoyah High School | Old Gym
- 6 Sequoyah High School | Track Field
- 7 Sequoyah High School | Cafeteria
- 8 Sequoyah High School | Chapel
- 9 Cherokee Nation Cultural Grounds
- 10 Joe Thornton Archery Range
- 11 One Fire Field
- 12 Cherokee Nation W.W. Keeler Tribal Complex
- 13 Cherokee Nation Veterans Center | Warrior Memorial
- 14 Cherokee Nation Heirloom Garden
- 15 John Ross Museum
- 16 Ross Cemetery
- 17 Cherokee Heritage Center
- 18 Park Hill Presbyterian Church
- 19 Cherokee Nation Gift Shop
- 20 Cherokee National Research Center
- 21 Cherokee Springs Plaza
- 22 Cherokee Casino Tahlequah | Chota Conference Center
- 23 Cherokee Casino Tahlequah | Pond
- 24 Cherokee Springs Golf Club
- 25 Cherokee National Prison Museum
- 26 Cherokee Arts Center
- 27 Kawi Café
- 28 Spider Gallery
- 29 Cherokee Cultural Pathway
- 30 Cherokee National Supreme Court Museum
- 31 Cherokee National Peace Pavilion
- 32 Cherokee National History Museum | Capitol Square
- 33 Downtown Tahlequah
- 34 Tahlequah Chamber & Visitor Center
- 35 Northeastern State University Ballroom*
- 36 Cornerstone Fellowship*
- 37 Cherokee County Livestock Arena*
- 38 1839 Cherokee Meat Co.*
- 39 Lake Tenkiller | Chicken Creek Boat Ramp*
- 40 Tahlequah First United Methodist Church *
- 41 Cherokee Nation Outpatient Health Center*
- 42 Wilma P. Mankiller Capitol Park
- 43 Tahlequah Wellness Center
- 44 Norris Park*

- 1 Sites
- ★ Free Museum Admission
- ★ Must-See Events
- 🍴 Food & Beverages
- 💧 Water Refilling Stations
- 🛍️ Holiday Shopping
- 🚻 Restrooms
- ❓ Information (Scan the QR code for all event times & addresses.)
- 🚌 Shuttle (Scan the QR code for all shuttle departure times.)

35 36 37 38 39 40 41 44

*These locations are outside of the map view shown here. Please scan the QR code for all location addresses.



GWX3 D3P
CHEROKEE NATION®

STAY IN THE KNOW

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATED
EVENTS, LOCATIONS & MORE



Use Your Phone's
Camera to Scan
the QR Code