



## Group Tour Information

Centrally located between Denver and Topeka, off I-70 at exits 70 and 76, and highways US 83 and US 40, Oakley is in the heart of northwest Kansas and a convenient stop whether you are going east or west, north or south. With almost 200 hotel/motels rooms and 2 RV/camping parks, we can also accommodate your overnight needs. Visit [www.DiscoverOakley.com](http://www.DiscoverOakley.com) for dining and lodging information.

Trip Planning: Oakley is 4 hours to Denver, 5 hours to Kansas City, 6 hours to Oklahoma City, 5 hours to Amarillo and 2 ½ hours to North Platte. The town of Oakley is located at the apex of Kansas' first designated historic byway. The Western Vistas Historic Byway covers 102 miles of history going west from Oakley on US 40 and south from Oakley on US Hwy 83. Maps and information about all the sites along the byway are available at [www.westernvistahistoricbyway.com](http://www.westernvistahistoricbyway.com).

Buses, organizations, clubs and groups, large and small, are welcome to stop and visit these sites along the way to your final destination. If Oakley is your final destination, we can assist you with your trip planning needs. We will work with you to create a tour itinerary for a half day, one day, or two or more days. We can also help arrange your overnight lodging and meal needs. Contact the Buffalo Bill Cultural & Visitor Center at 785-671-1000 or email [info@buffalobilloakley.org](mailto:info@buffalobilloakley.org).

## Tour Sites

**Buffalo Bill Sculpture** – US Hwy 83 & Second St, Oakley. **GPS: N 39° 07.609' W 100° 52.169'**

Stop for the legend! It was here in Logan County in 1868 that William F. Cody won his title of Buffalo Bill in a buffalo-hunting contest with William Comstock. Our twice life-sized bronze sculpture of Buffalo Bill on his horse in pursuit of a running buffalo, by local sculptor Charlie Norton, is one of the largest bronzes of its kind anywhere in the world and is one of the “8 Wonders of Kansas Art”. Enjoy the Buffalo Bill Cabin, outdoor storyboard, and picnic area.



Tour time: 15-30 minutes. Statue and Story board open to public 24 hours year round. Self-guided. No charge. Donations accepted. Visitor center and gift shop is open year round. Open Memorial Day-Labor Day, Monday – Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Sundays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Holidays. After hours, by appointment, call 785-671-1000 or email [info@buffalobilloakley.org](mailto:info@buffalobilloakley.org).

**Fick Fossil & History Museum** – 700 West Third Street, Oakley

Come explore a world of fossils! The Fick Fossil and History Museum is home to many world-class fossils including the bones of the oldest documented mosasaur skull in the world. Enjoy exhibits detailing the Smoky Hill Trail, Kansas Pacific Depot, and a real “soddie” house. One of America’s top 25 museums, according to the San Francisco Chronicle, makes this a must see attraction.

Tour time: 30 minutes to 1 hour. Self-guided. No charge. Donations accepted. Open Memorial Day-Labor Day, Monday – Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Sundays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Holidays. To schedule a guided tour, contact the curator of the museum at 785-671-4839 or email [fickmuseum@st.tel.net](mailto:fickmuseum@st.tel.net).



**Western Plains Energy** – 3022 County Rd 18, Oakley

See first-hand how ethanol is produced. WPE began producing fuel grade ethanol and distiller’s grain in 2004. As of September 30, 2011, WPE was producing at the rate of approximately 50,000,000 gallons of denatured ethanol annually.

Tour time: 30 minutes. No charge. Guided tours are available for small groups by appointment only. It is best to plan this tour a week or two in advance to ensure tour time availability. Call 785-672-8810 or email [wpe@wpellc.com](mailto:wpe@wpellc.com) to schedule.

**Monument Rocks & Keystone Gallery** – 25 miles south of Oakley

Monument Rocks - East on Jayhawk Rd **GPS: N 38° 44.578' W 100° 76.236'**

“Monument Rocks” and “the Kansas Pyramids” are names used interchangeably for this historic landmark. Formally called Monument Rocks, they were inducted as the first National Natural Landmark in Kansas by the Department of Interior on October 31, 1968. In 2006, Monument Rocks was voted by the public one of the “8 Wonders of Kansas”.

Tour time: 30 minutes. Self-guided drive. No charge. Access is available to the public year round, however the county roads can also be extremely muddy when it is wet. Please use caution during wet weather. There are no public restroom facilities or restaurants in the immediate Monument Rocks area. Please be respectful as this is private property.

**The Keystone Gallery & Museum** – 401 US 83, Scott City **GPS: N 38° 44.578' W 100° 52.116'**

Located at the south end of Monument Rocks at US 83 and Dakota Road.

The museum houses a permanent collection of local Kansas Cretaceous fossils, international fossils and a great gift shop.

Tour time: 30 minutes to 1 hour. Self-guided. No charge. Donations accepted. The Gallery is open most days in the summer from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Schedule varies in the winter. Call Barb or Chuck at 620-872-2762 or email [keystone@keystonegallery.com](mailto:keystone@keystonegallery.com).



**The Nature Conservancy GPS: N 38° 51.641' W 100° 58.960'**

Smoky Valley Ranch Hiking Trails. On this land, you'll see a sight that has almost vanished from America — bison roaming a short grass prairie as they did hundreds of years ago. But Smoky Valley Ranch is more than prairie. Dramatic chalk bluffs overlook large expanses of grassland, rocky ravines and Smoky Hill River. Breaks along the upper reaches of the river represent a transition zone between mixed grass and short grass prairie environments. Prairie vistas and chalk bluffs greet hikers as they wind their way around the two trail loops.

Tour time: Varies depending on route chosen. The first loop is one-mile hike. The second loop is five mile hike. Hiking trails are open year round. No charge. Because of the rough terrain, boots are recommended. Any items brought in like water bottles or food wrappers must be taken out. Direction and hiking trail maps available at the Buffalo Bill Cultural Center. 785-671-1000



**Butterfield Trail Museum – 515 Hilts Box 1, Russell Springs GPS: N 38° 54.750' W 101° 10.129'**

The museum preserves and displays the rich history of the Butterfield Overland Despatch stage line, as well as the human and natural history of this corner of the Great Plains.

Tour time: Approximately 1 hour. Self-guided. No charge. Donations accepted. Museum is open from the first Tuesday in May through Labor Day weekend. Hours: Tuesday through

Saturday 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The annual Butterfield Trail ride takes place the first weekend in June. Call 785-751-4242 for more information.



***Geocaching Tours – Self Guided* <http://www.geocaching.com>**

There are over 40 caches within a 30 mile radius of Oakley, including one of the oldest and most famous, in Mingo, Kansas, as well as many along the beautiful Western Vistas Historic Byway route. Plan a Geocaching Tour while in our area by entering our zip code **67748** or GPS location **N 39° 07.609' W 100° 52.169'**. Have fun!