

ARKANSAS MEETING PLANNER GUIDE

MEET US IN THE NATURAL STATE



WILLIAM E. CLARK PRESIDENTIAL
PARK WETLANDS, LITTLE ROCK

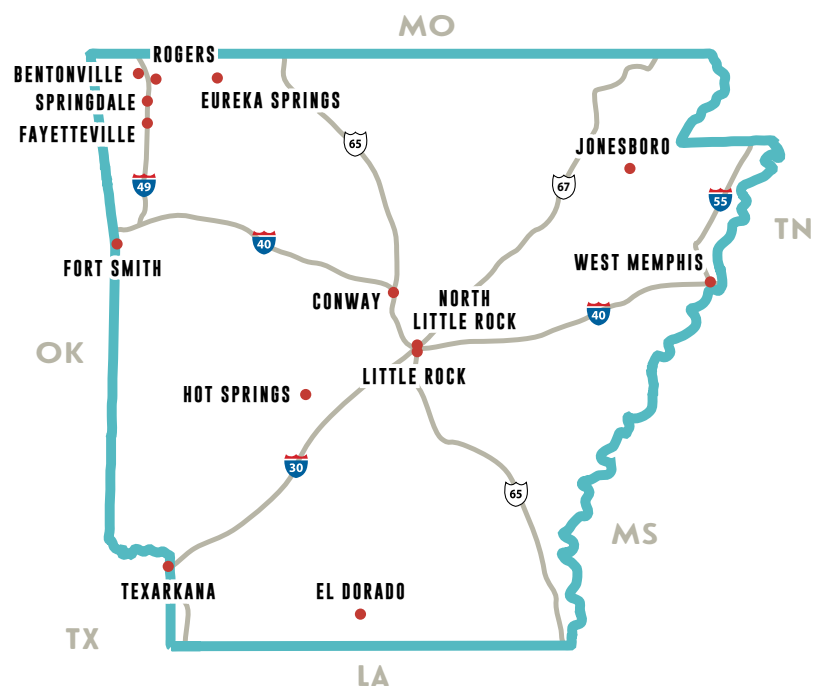


WELCOME TO ARKANSAS



Graced with temperate weather all year round, Arkansas is stunningly beautiful. Our terrain is one of the great unsung natural treasures of the nation, threaded with lakes and rivers and host to the Ozark and Ouachita Mountains.

Our thriving cities offer foodie havens, craft breweries, top-notch entertainment and celebrated art museums and cultural sites. But even in our largest cities, Arkansas is still a budget-friendly meeting place thanks to our low cost of living. With two major airports and several interstate highways connecting to surrounding states, Arkansas is close to everywhere and affordable for everyone! Come experience our warm hospitality and give your meeting attendees a taste of the Natural State.



If you said to everyone in the United States, “We’re going to pick a spot right in the middle of where you all live, and we’re going to hold our group’s national convention there,” you would be talking about a meeting spot very close to **ARKANSAS**.

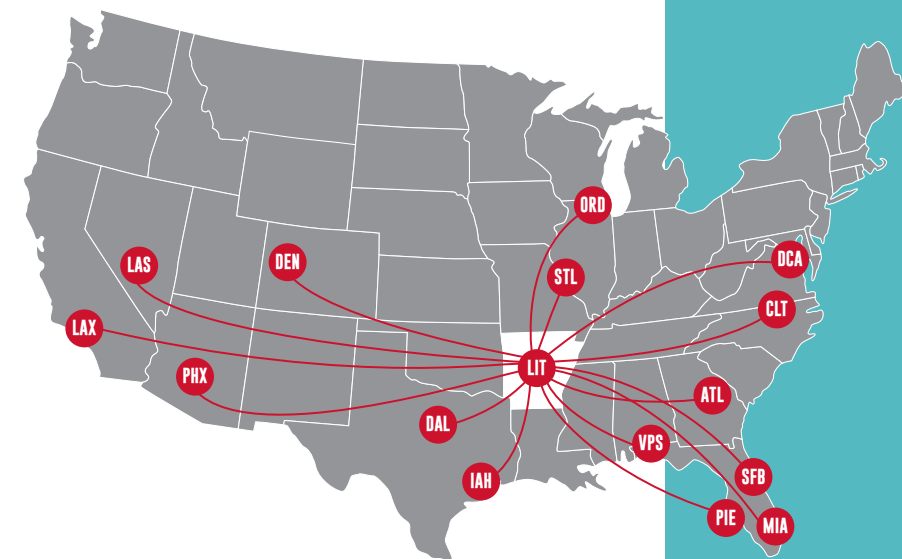
LEARN MORE



TO REQUEST YOUR FREE ARKANSAS BUSINESS MEETING PLANNER GUIDE, SCAN THIS CODE.



TO INQUIRE ABOUT ARKANSAS MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS, SCAN THIS CODE.



DIRECT FLIGHTS TO BILL AND HILLARY CLINTON NATIONAL AIRPORT (LIT) – LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

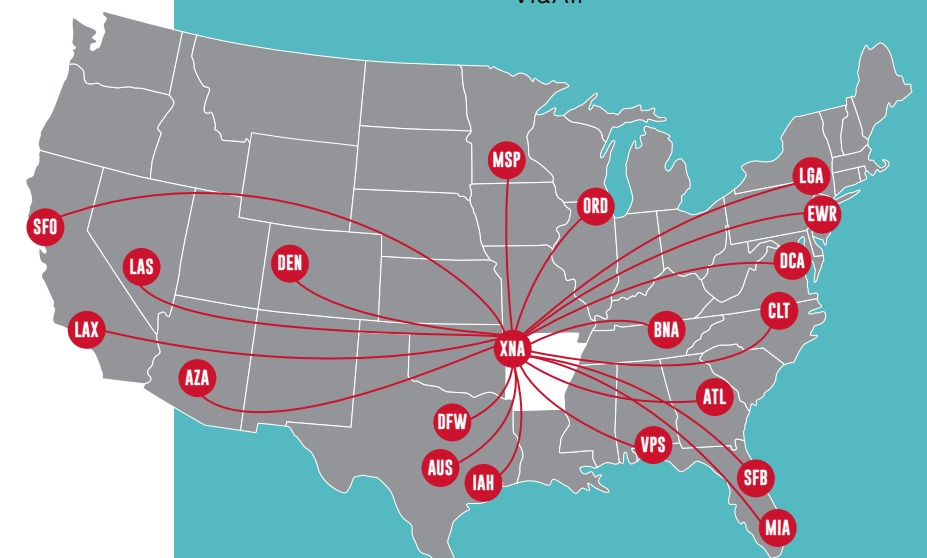
Major Airlines Serving LIT

- Allegiant Air
- American Airlines
- Delta Airlines
- Frontier Airlines
- Southwest Airlines
- United Airlines
- ViaAir

DIRECT FLIGHTS TO NORTHWEST ARKANSAS NATIONAL AIRPORT (XNA) – BENTONVILLE, ARKANSAS

Major Airlines Serving XNA

- Allegiant Air
- American Airlines
- Delta Air Lines
- Frontier Airlines
- United Airlines

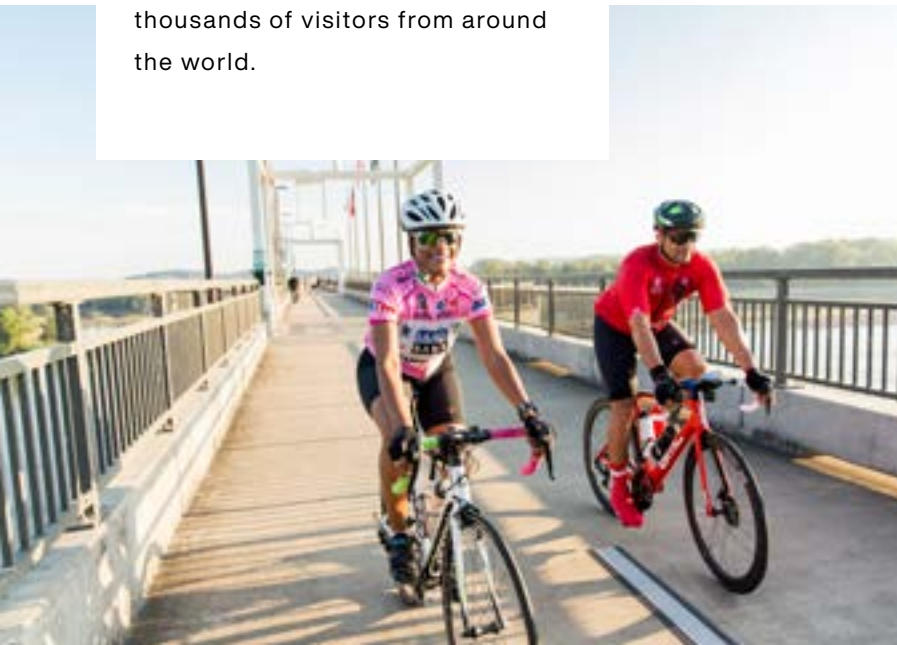




NORTH LITTLE ROCK

**A CITY OF BRIDGES, LITTLE ROCK
WOWS VISITORS WITH ITS STRIKING
NATURAL SETTING ON THE BANKS OF
THE ARKANSAS RIVER.**

Your attendees will enjoy the walkable downtown area with art galleries, museums, artisanal coffee shops and concert venues. Dive into the foodie scene with choices from award-winning cross-cultural cuisine to steak, seafood and pizza, or grab a bite at one of the wildly popular craft breweries. Cyclists and walkers in your group will flock to the iconic River Trail with its lovely riverside parks. Cultural attractions abound, and the Clinton Presidential Center, the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, and historic Little Rock Central High School draw hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world.



LITTLE ROCK

Over 35 meeting and convention venues provide every size and configuration that a meeting planner could want, as well as easy access from I-30, I-40, and nearby Clinton National Airport.



LITTLE ROCK QUICK FACTS

HOTEL ROOMS: 7,200

MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: 3

MEETING VENUES: 35

**LARGEST VENUE: STATEHOUSE
CONVENTION CENTER**

SQUARE FOOTAGE: 220,000

**LARGEST CONTIGUOUS
SPACE: 82,892 S.F.**

North Little Rock used to be a local best-kept secret, but more and more visitors are discovering the artsy vibe of this gem just across the river from Little Rock. Historic downtown streets known as the Argenta Arts District bustle with a mix of readings, theater, comedy, fine dining and casual restaurants. Microbreweries and the bands at late-night Four Quarter Bar help make Argenta the place to be on weekends for hip, relaxed night life.

NORTH LITTLE ROCK QUICK FACTS

HOTEL ROOMS: 2,600

MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: 5

MEETING VENUES: 2

**LARGEST VENUE: WYNDHAM
RIVERFRONT LITTLE ROCK**

SQUARE FOOTAGE: 14,000

**LARGEST CONTIGUOUS
SPACE: ARGENTA PLAZA
(OUTDOOR LOCATION)
30,000 S.F.**

All meeting sites offer free parking, and the streetcar line to Little Rock can whisk you across the bridge in minutes. Guests can also enjoy a photo opp at the Old Mill, instantly recognizable worldwide from the film *Gone With the Wind*.



**KNOWN FOR ITS OUTDOOR CONCERTS AND ART GALLERY
STROLLS, NORTH LITTLE ROCK OFFERS MEETING VENUES
ON THE RIVERFRONT AND CLOSE TO SHOPPING AND DINING.**





FORT SMITH

To give your meeting attendees an unforgettable visit to an American treasure, you can count on Fort Smith. Once the gateway to the American West, Fort Smith keeps a frontier flavor that earned the honor of “Top 10 True Western Towns” from *True West* magazine. The major convention center downtown is only a few blocks from the Fort Smith National Historic Site. There, you’ll find a bucket-list living history experience as you walk through frontier-era buildings, including the courtroom of “Hanging” Judge Parker.



Fort Smith is nestled in the foothills of the Ozarks, providing scenic outdoor activities such as a ride on the vintage Arkansas & Missouri Railroad through the mountains, beginning in nearby Van Buren. With dining and shopping convenient to meeting venues, Fort Smith provides all amenities and plenty of space. Located just off I-40 near the Oklahoma border, the city allows quick and easy driving access from surrounding states.

FORT SMITH QUICK FACTS

HOTEL ROOMS: 2,750+

MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: 3

MEETING VENUES: 7

**LARGEST VENUE: FORT SMITH
CONVENTION CENTER**

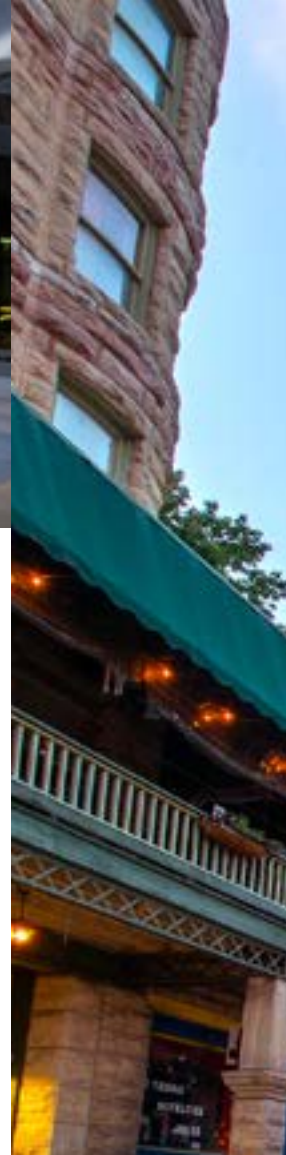
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 116,800

**LARGEST CONTIGUOUS
SPACE: 40,000 S.F.**



EUREKA SPRINGS

Tucked away in the Ozarks, Eureka Springs is famous for stunning beauty, historic streets, and a lovable quirkiness that has made visitors fall in love with the town since it was a Gilded Age resort. The hilly streets are filled with scores of one-of-a-kind shops and galleries. For uniqueness, craftsmanship and variety, this little town packs in more fun shopping per square foot than you can imagine. But your meeting attendees will have many more choices after they drive in on scenic highways. You can take a ghost tour at the historic Crescent Hotel & Spa, tour the respected Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge, or marvel at celebrated Thorncrown Chapel. Hiking and biking trails, zip lines and nearby caves and caverns offer something for every outdoor lover too. The town is a convenient drive from Little Rock, Dallas, Tulsa, and Kansas City, and has a reputation for fun that will have your guests eagerly anticipating their upcoming meeting.



EUREKA SPRINGS QUICK FACTS

HOTEL ROOMS: 2,500

MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: 48

MEETING VENUES: 19

**LARGEST VENUE: BEST WESTERN
INN OF THE OZARKS
CONVENTION CENTER**

SQUARE FOOTAGE: 18,000

**LARGEST CONTIGUOUS
SPACE: 5,632 S.F.**

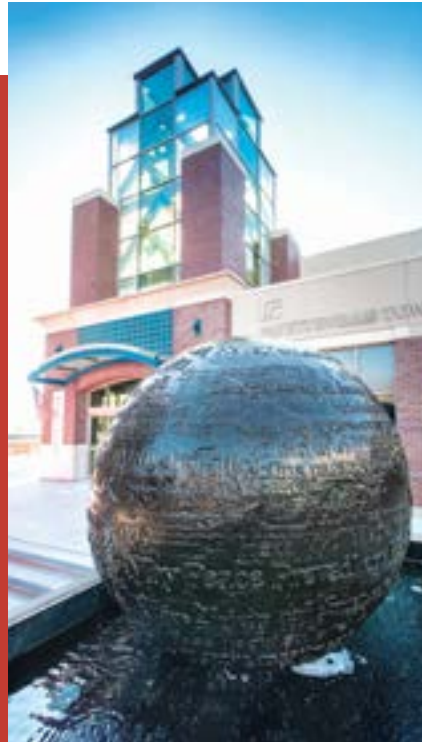


FAYETTEVILLE

**YOUR MEETING WILL HAVE NO END OF
EXCITING ENTERTAINMENT AND DINING
OPTIONS IN FAYETTEVILLE.**

Home of the flagship University of Arkansas, Fayetteville is well-known for its fantastic foodie scene, craft breweries, arts offerings and nightlife. Dickson Street and the downtown historic square are lively with festive spirit in the patio-friendly weather, with over 60 nearby restaurants and bars. The Walton Arts Center and TheaterSquared offer world-famous performances that would make memorable group outings for your meeting attendees.

Guests who prefer to take in the outdoors will love the city's impressive 100-mile trail system of hard- and soft-surface trails. Fayetteville is the highest rated biking city in the state, according to the League of American Bicyclists. Devil's Den State Park is minutes from downtown and offers excellent soft-surface trails for hiking and biking. Located on I-49 with a huge selection of venues and lodging, Fayetteville is a crowd-pleasing site for everyone.



FAYETTEVILLE QUICK FACTS

HOTEL ROOMS: 2,000

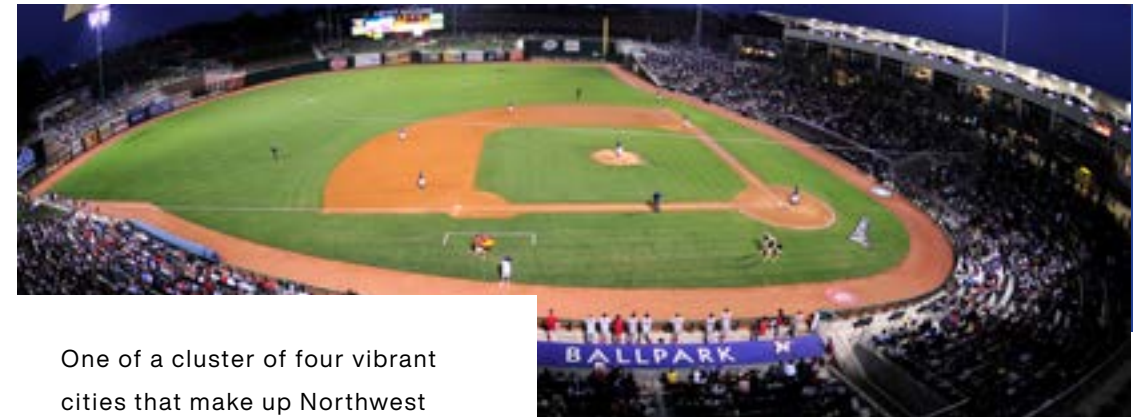
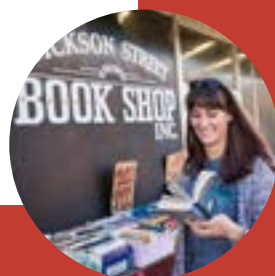
MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: 24

MEETING VENUES: 14

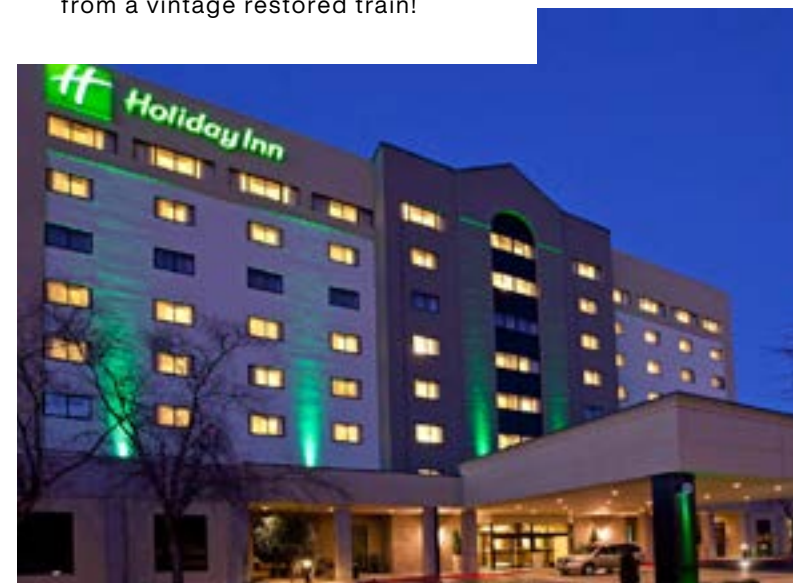
**LARGEST VENUE: FAYETTEVILLE
TOWN CENTER**

SQUARE FOOTAGE: 19,000

**LARGEST CONTIGUOUS
SPACE: 14,000 S.F.**



One of a cluster of four vibrant cities that make up Northwest Arkansas's metropolitan corridor, Springdale is north of Fayetteville and just south of Rogers on I-49. Guests will love their proximity to all nearby attractions including sports games, major arts centers, and top-notch outdoor adventures in the foothills of the Ozarks. Combining budget-friendliness with easy access to city culture and entertainment, Springdale attracts many meetings every year to its Northwest Arkansas Convention Center as well as more intimate venues. Springdale is home to the 32,000 s.f. Ozark Highlands Nature Center on 61 acres, as well as Rodeo of the Ozarks. And everybody can get aboard the Arkansas & Missouri Railroad to experience the Boston Mountains from a vintage restored train!



SPRINGDALE



SPRINGDALE QUICK FACTS

HOTEL ROOMS: 1,653

MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: 16

MEETING VENUES: 8

**LARGEST VENUE: NORTHWEST
ARKANSAS CONVENTION
CENTER AT THE HOLIDAY INN**

SQUARE FOOTAGE: 49,000

**LARGEST CONTIGUOUS
SPACE: 28,800 S.F.**



ROGERS

AN IDEAL SETTING FOR MEETINGS
AND CONVENTIONS

ROGERS QUICK FACTS

HOTEL ROOMS: **2,066**

MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: **10**

MEETING VENUES: **17**

LARGEST VENUE: **EMBASSY
SUITES & ROGERS
CONVENTION CENTER**

SQUARE FOOTAGE: **125,000**

LARGEST CONTIGUOUS
SPACE: **41,550 S.F.**

In close proximity to surrounding cities and major national attractions, Rogers is an excellent choice to please your meeting goers. In addition to the city's many smaller meeting spaces, the Rogers Convention Center can accommodate groups of up to 5,000 people with lodging at the connected Embassy Suites. The center and hotel are convenient, comfortable and close to great shopping at the Pinnacle Hills Promenade. Rogers is also home to the Arkansas Music Pavilion, the state's largest amphitheater, seating up to 7,000 guests. The city is a winning location for tournaments centered on sporting events, with facilities for softball, tennis, baseball, football, road and mountain biking, soccer, swimming, cheer, dance, wrestling and lacrosse. Other unique Rogers attractions include the Daisy Airgun Museum, A.G. Russell Knives and Hobbs State Park-Conservation Area.

ART, FOOD, MUSIC, CYCLING AND HISTORY AROUND
IN THIS NORTHWEST ARKANSAS CITY.

BENTONVILLE

In Bentonville, your meeting attendees will experience the beauty of the Ozark foothills, which help give the city its reputation as a top mountain biking destination in the nation with over 140 miles of trails. You can also experience a national-caliber art scene including Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, The Momentary and the 21c Museum and Hotel, all top-flight art spaces with great foodie options. The Walmart Museum and the Museum of Native American History add to a long list of local attractions. Hundreds of dining choices from High Southern

cuisine to farm-to-table to craft breweries mean that every taste can be satisfied when your visitors venture out for fun. Located along the I-49 corridor, Bentonville is easily accessible from most major cities by air and just a short drive from Kansas City, Dallas, Oklahoma City, St. Louis and Little Rock.



BENTONVILLE QUICK FACTS

HOTEL ROOMS: **2,100**

MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: **6.8**

MEETING VENUES: **25**

LARGEST VENUE: **FOUR POINTS
BY SHERATON**

SQUARE FOOTAGE: **11,300**

LARGEST CONTIGUOUS
SPACE: **5,700 S.F.**



JONESBORO IS ONE OF ARKANSAS'S FAST-GROWING CITIES, FEATURING A BUSY DOWNTOWN WITH RESTAURANTS, GALLERIES AND A CIVIC CENTER/ COMMUNITY THEATER.



Jonesboro offers a crowd-pleasing array of dining options as well as numerous meeting venues including the Red Wolf Convention Center. Arkansas State University is home to one of the mid-South's finest museums, an arts center and an indoor sports/entertainment complex. The Crowley's Ridge National Scenic Byway leads to the Forrest L. Wood Crowley's Ridge Nature Center and runs along Craighead Forest Park, a much-loved city park on 692 acres. Groups can also venture out to explore Civil War routes, the Trail of Tears and the Southwest Trail, all part of the Arkansas Heritage Trails System in this area. Schedule a special expedition to tour Historic Dyess Colony and the Johnny Cash Boyhood Home.



JONESBORO

JONESBORO QUICK FACTS

HOTEL ROOMS: **881**
MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: **2.1**

MEETING VENUES: **16**

LARGEST VENUE: **RED WOLF
CONVENTION CENTER/
EMBASSY SUITES**

SQUARE FOOTAGE: **21,545**

LARGEST CONTIGUOUS
SPACE: **15,000** s.f.

WEST MEMPHIS



West Memphis, Arkansas is a charming small town just across the Mississippi River from downtown Memphis, Tennessee. The Eugene Woods Civic Center can accommodate any group from 10 to 1000 with high quality AV, projection screens, and projectors. If your meeting guests are seeking entertainment, they can find fun, thrills and great eats at Southland Casino Racing, which offers over 2000 gaming machines, the World Market Buffet restaurant, live greyhound racing and simulcast horse and harness racing. In summer 2021, the casino will add a 20-story hotel tower with 300 rooms. Visiting cyclists and walkers at your meeting will enjoy the 7-mile paved Big River Trail on the flood plain next to the river.

West Memphis offers a wide variety of casual restaurants, plentiful shopping and comfortable national hotel chains. Guests can have the best of both worlds with budget-friendly rooms convenient to a major city just across the water.



WEST MEMPHIS QUICK FACTS

HOTEL ROOMS: **1,491**
MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: **13**

MEETING VENUES: **2**

LARGEST VENUE: **EUGENE
WOODS CIVIC CENTER**

SQUARE FOOTAGE: **10,000**

LARGEST CONTIGUOUS
SPACE: **6,600** s.f.





HOT SPRINGS

For over a century, Hot Springs National Park has been the site of national meetings for visitors drawn to its wonderful blend of historic beauty, relaxation and recreation. Al Capone visited the bathhouses and hotels that still stand on Bathhouse Row, and Babe Ruth hit home runs in major-league baseball's first spring trainings here. A delight for nature-lovers, Hot Springs is set in scenic hills with premier hiking and biking trails and surrounded by lakes with world-class fishing and boating. Your attendees will have scores of memorable dining choices including the historic Ohio Club that hosted gangsters as well as the Superior Bathhouse Brewery, the first craft brewery in a national park. Fun downtown shopping and a lively arts scene add to the entertainment value for guests, along with top local attractions such as Oaklawn Racing Casino Resort and Garvan Gardens. Venues of all sizes can match any meeting needs.

HOT SPRINGS QUICK FACTS

- HOTEL ROOMS: 4,000**
- MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: 5**
- MEETING VENUES: 7**
- LARGEST VENUE: HOT SPRINGS CONVENTION CENTER**
- SQUARE FOOTAGE: 360,000**
- LARGEST CONTIGUOUS SPACE: 103,000 s.f.**



CONWAY

Conway's ample dining offerings and lodging choices as well as its easy access from the highway make it a perfect site for multi-state gatherings. The "City of Colleges" is located along Interstate 40 approximately 30 miles from Little Rock and is the northwestern entryway to the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway metro region. Arts events hosted by the three local colleges include national touring companies and musical performances for a fun group outing at night.

CONWAY OFFERS THE CHARM OF A SMALL TOWN WITH THE AMENITIES OF A LARGER CITY FOR YOUR MEETING ATTENDEES.

Conference centers, meeting rooms, and event space are located in every corner of the city. The spacious Conway Expo and Event Center boasts a convenient central location close to many hotels, restaurants, and shopping opportunities. The Event Center includes full audio/video throughout as well as a fully equipped catering kitchen.

CONWAY QUICK FACTS

- HOTEL ROOMS: 1,400**
- MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: 35**
- MEETING VENUES: 12**
- LARGEST VENUE: CONWAY EXPO & EVENT CENTER**
- SQUARE FOOTAGE: 40,000**
- LARGEST CONTIGUOUS SPACE: 40,000 s.f.**





WHEN PLANNING A MEETING
OR CONVENTION IN ARKANSAS,
LOOK SOUTH TO EL DORADO.



EL DORADO

This historic oil boomtown and world headquarters of Murphy Oil Corporation has struck big again with creation of the Murphy Arts District. The \$54 million renovation centers around the 1928 Griffin Building. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it was a former Model T showroom that now houses the 2,000-seat Griffin Music Hall, a farm-to-table restaurant called The Griffin and a cabaret lounge. The Griffin Building overlooks the 8,000-capacity amphitheater, a two-acre children's playscape, and the farmers market next door.



EL DORADO QUICK FACTS

HOTEL ROOMS: 552

MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: 15

MEETING VENUES: 5

**LARGEST VENUE: EL DORADO
CONFERENCE CENTER**

SQUARE FOOTAGE: 13,200

**LARGEST CONTIGUOUS
SPACE: 10,590 s.f.**

In addition to the Arts District, El Dorado offers lodging, fine dining and a host of attractions like the South Arkansas Arts Center, South Arkansas Symphony and South Arkansas Arboretum State Park. Voted as having "America's Best Downtown" in 2009, El Dorado is rich in southern charm with plenty of culture and events to delight visitors.

Sitting at the crossroads of four states, Texarkana is a natural meeting site for the whole region, located at the intersection of I-30 and I-49. You can straddle the state line and snap your own photo as you stand in two states at once! But there's so much more to Texarkana, which has outdoor recreation, culture and the arts, history, shopping or dining to entertain your meeting guests. If you want to host a special meeting or event, the Holiday Inn connects to the Arkansas Convention Center right next to the popular Holiday Springs waterpark. The Texarkana Country Club can seat up to 200 for dinner in its formal ballroom and offers luxury outdoor experiences. Attractions include the Four States Auto Museum and the Four States Fair and Rodeo. The Texarkana Regional Airport is building a new terminal in 2021, which will allow larger airplanes and more airlines for even greater ease of access.



TEXARKANA



TEXARKANA QUICK FACTS

HOTEL ROOMS: 2,300

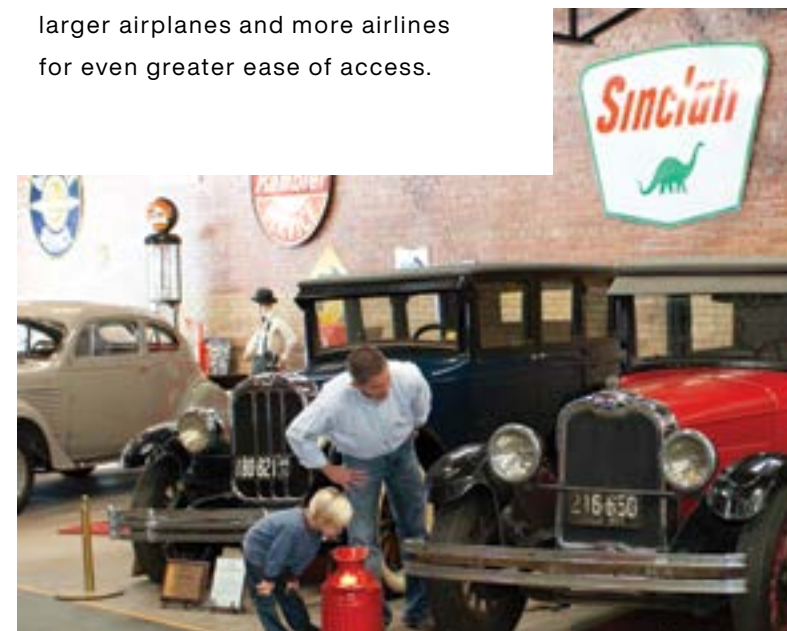
MILES TO NEAREST AIRPORT: 35

MEETING VENUES: 6

LARGEST VENUE: CROSSTIES

SQUARE FOOTAGE: 37,000

**LARGEST CONTIGUOUS
SPACE: 10,000 s.f.**

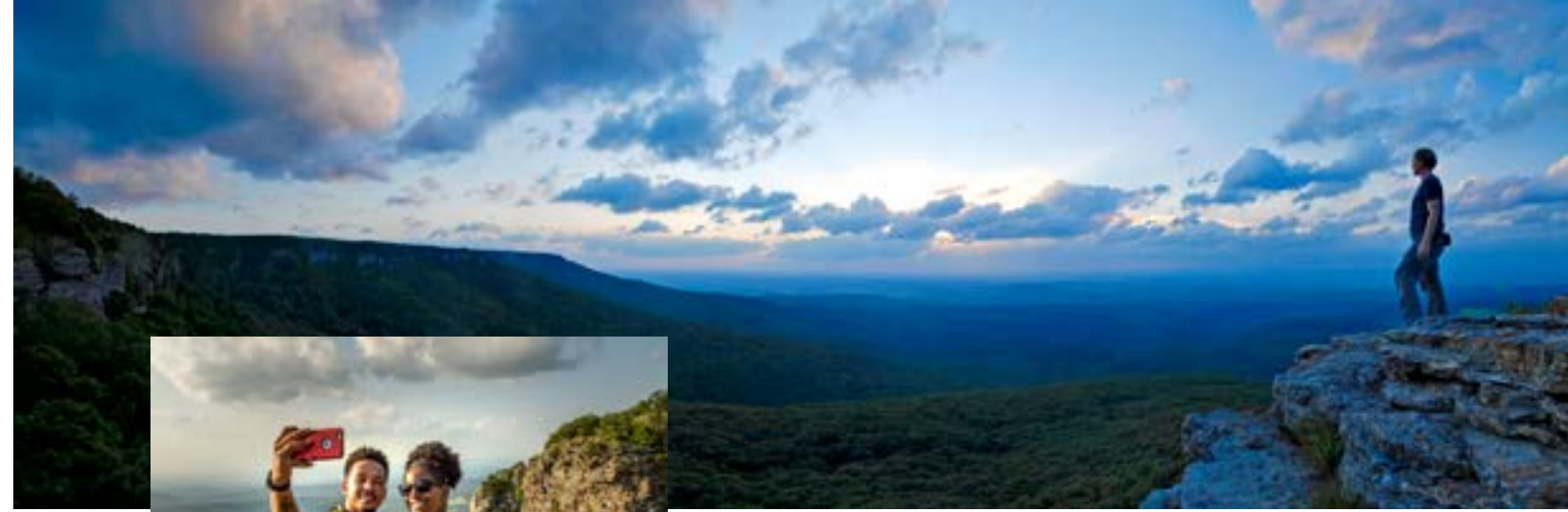


ARKANSAS STATE PARK LODGES

ARKANSAS'S STATE PARK LODGES are ideal sites for meetings, welcoming planners and guests to striking landscapes and spacious facilities serving delicious meals. The architects who designed the lodges at these parks built structures of wood and stone that harmonize with their natural settings, with magnificent walls of glass in lobbies and restaurants to showcase scenic views.

The state capitalized on its natural beauty by choosing remarkable locations. At **PETIT JEAN**, the state's first mountain resort park, guests can stay either in a 24-room lodge or in one of 33 cabins. **MOUNT MAGAZINE'S RESORT** offers a 60-room lodge and 13 cabins that stretch across a bluff on the state's highest mountain. At **QUEEN WILHELMINA STATE PARK**, the 40-room lodge perches on Rich Mountain, the state's second-highest peak. For those who prefer an island getaway, there's **DEGRAY LAKE RESORT STATE PARK**, featuring a 96-room lodge that faces the clear and tranquil lake.

Two unique twists on traditional state park resorts are the state's mountain cultural center and a historic bed-and-breakfast. **OZARK FOLK CENTER** celebrates cultural exploration, with live music, a craft center where 20 artisans work, and gardens that offer fresh produce for its restaurant. This park welcomes overnight guests in 60 duplex-style rooms with a friendly village feel. **THE JAILHOUSE BED AND BREAKFAST** at Historic Washington State Park surrounds visitors with living history in a 1918 jailhouse, now renovated with eight guest rooms with charm and all modern amenities. The Jailhouse is part of a full historic village including the 1832 Williams Tavern restaurant.



TO PLAN YOUR MEETING, YOU CAN DIRECTLY CONTACT EACH PARK FOR FRIENDLY ASSISTANCE. FIND MORE INFORMATION AT [ARKANSASSTATEPARKS.COM](https://arkansasstateparks.com).

Each park has meeting spaces of varying sizes and styles. DeGray attracts large groups with a convention center for 300. Mount Magazine and Ozark Folk Center have flexible spaces for under 200 people. The Jailhouse offers ample meeting space for up to 250 in the surrounding historic village, including an auditorium, meeting rooms and a large WPA gym. Queen Wilhelmina's 75-person meeting room has the bonus of a balcony with mountain views. Petit Jean's smaller meeting rooms are perfect for retreats and board meetings.

As resorts, the parks pack in plenty of amenities that may include mountain trails for hiking, pools for swimming, and lakes for fishing, boating and water sports. Guests can enjoy bicycles, horseback riding and outdoor pavilions. DeGray has a championship golf course, a disc golf course and a marina for boat rentals.

No two menus are alike at any of the parks' full-service restaurants. Diners will find surprises like lamb souvlaki or spring duck salad alongside more traditional fare. All of the restaurants offer catering services, using farm-to-table ingredients from local producers as much as possible.





ROGERS CONVENTION CENTER