



# AMERICA

## ALAN DODGE'S CROSS AMERICA CULTURAL ODYSSEY



20 Day/19 Night - Dallas to New York  
8-27 October 2017



### Package Inclusions

- Accommodation at premium properties (where our locations allow)
- Private arrival and departure transfers in Dallas and New York
- Meals as indicated on the itinerary (B,L,D)
- Internal flights in the US as included in the itinerary
- Dedicated coach transportation from Chicago to New York
- Prepaid sightseeing and entrances to sites included on the itinerary
- Portage and gratuities where possible
- Expert tour commentary and content by Alan Dodge
- Dedicated tour escort

For the autumn of 2017, join us on this amazing cultural tour as we explore the lesser visited cities of North America, discovering some of the greatest art museums, orchestras, cultural centres and, at times, off beat attractions across a swath of America, commencing in Ft. Worth Texas and ending up in New York City!

### Package Pricing

per person

On the basis of 20 confirmed passengers

Twin Share

Single

**\$11,053** **\$14,386** USD

Often travellers from Australia grace the two coasts of the United States with stops in L.A., San Francisco and across to New York City. Although some have made it to the stunning metropolis of Chicago, few would have savoured the offerings of places that lie between, like Toledo, Ohio; Kansas City Missouri; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania or Baltimore, Maryland.

Along the way we'll visit some great collections like the Nelson-Atkins Museum in Kansas City, the Kimbell Art Museum in Ft. Worth, the Cleveland Museum of Art and the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore. We'll also have a chance to visit the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame (yes, seriously), in Cleveland, the Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh and the Barnes Collection in Pennsylvania. We'll have a tour of Frank Lloyd Wright architecture in Chicago as well as see his famous 'Fallingwater' house in Bear Run, Pennsylvania. We'll visit the nation's capital in Washington, D.C. to admire the vast collections of the National Gallery of Art and the wonderful holdings and sculpture garden of the Hirshhorn Museum. We'll hear major orchestras and, if on our schedule, attend an opera or other performances.

As well, we'll have a chance, in some cities, to explore: there are jazz clubs, historic quarters, sports bars, shops and restaurants that define the character of each urban centre we visit.

Our trip will start in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, well serviced by a QANTAS direct flight from Sydney and other major airlines. From there we shall have two flight connections, first to Kansas City, then to Chicago. From Chicago we'll have a dedicated bus to take us to Toledo, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Washington, D.C., Baltimore, and Philadelphia, ending our odyssey in New York City.

The trip will end with a four day visit to New York. This can be revised for anyone with time constraints that would not allow for the New York stop. We shall see a good part of the countryside as we move across the states from the mid-west to the east coast of America.

Alan grew up in the United States and worked in the Portland Museum of Art in Maine and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. before joining the National Gallery of Australia and later becoming Director of the Art Gallery of Western Australia. Alan has connections with many of the museums and other attractions on this odyssey and from time to time we'll have a chance to meet directors and curators as well as visit some of the finest cultural institutions in America.

**DEPOSIT: A deposit of USD\$4000 per person is required to secure your position on this tour. Please note that seats are limited so act now in order to avoid disappointment.**

Itinerary overleaf...



For bookings and information contact

Clare Robertson on 9382 5086 or clare@traveltree.com.au

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# ALAN DODGE'S CROSS AMERICA CULTURAL ODYSSEY



## Itinerary...

### Day 1 Sunday, 8 October - Dallas

Today is the arrival day into the US. You will be transferred from the airport to hotel and after check in, you have the day at leisure. For group members that arrive into Dallas early in the day, Alan will be heading to the Dallas Museum of Art in the afternoon and will accompany any group members who would like to experience one of the largest art museums in America.

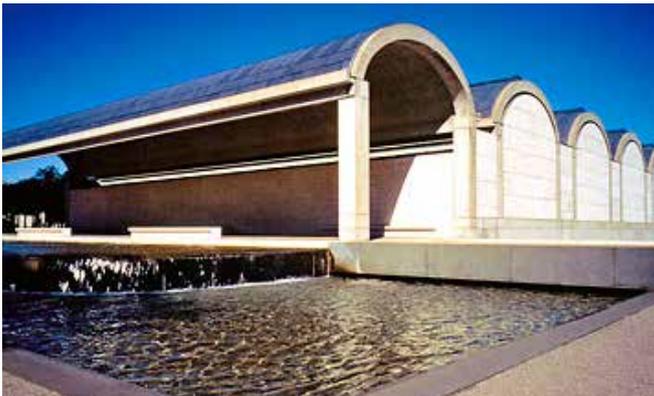
Overnight: Dallas

### Day 2 Monday, 9 October - Dallas (B,D)

Today is a free day in Dallas to explore the city sights and perhaps pick up a pair of Texas cowboy boots!

This evening, we will meet at the hotel and head out for our included welcome dinner at an iconic location in Dallas.

Overnight: Dallas



### Day 3 Tuesday, 10 October - Dallas (B)

This morning we will visit the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth. The Kimbell is unique as a museum as it only collects 'masterpieces' and its collection is small, a mere 400 works or so, but each one exceptional.

This will be followed by a visit to the Cowgirl Hall of Fame - the only museum in the world dedicated to honoring women of the American West who have displayed extraordinary courage and pioneer spirit in their trailblazing efforts. Perhaps we will find our uniform for the rest of the trip here!

Evening free for performance or dinner

Overnight: Dallas

### Day 4: Wednesday, 11 October - Dallas/Ft. Worth - Kansas City (B)

Today we have a mid-morning flight to Kansas City from Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport

The afternoon will be free to explore Kansas City, one of the great homes of American Jazz. Boutiques and art galleries line the valley area and Country Club Plaza, modelled after Seville in Spain, is the earliest shopping centre built in America (1920s), now lovingly restored. The downtown area sits on a ridge over the confluence of the Kansas and Missouri Rivers. It is one of the most beautiful cities of America's Midwest.

Evening free for performance or dinner

Overnight: Kansas City



### Day 5 Thursday, 12 October - Kansas City (B)

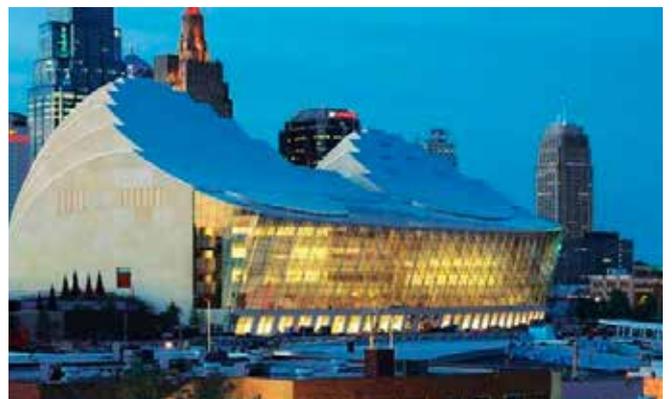
We start our day with Kansas City's best view at the National WW1 Memorial. After our photo stop we make our way to the great Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. Containing masterpieces by Monet, Caravaggio and many others, this museum also has one of the greatest collections of vintage and contemporary photography thanks to a major gift from Hallmark Corporation, which included the gift of their curator as well. The museum itself is in a wonderful, historical building, which sports a major wing built in the last decade. All is set in a beautiful park.

Lunch either at Nelson-Atkins Museum or Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art

In the afternoon we'll visit the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art. Started as a private collection of a prominent banker, the Kemper Museum has become a fixture in the cultural wealth of Kansas City. This small museum has a stunning contemporary building and houses not only a major collection of modern/contemporary art, but also interesting exhibitions by contemporary artists.

Evening free for performance or dinner

Overnight: Kansas City



### Day 6 Friday, 13 October - Chicago (B)

Today we fly from Kansas City to Chicago. On arrival mid-afternoon, we will check into our hotel and spend the rest of the afternoon discovering the architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright and Louis Sullivan in urban Chicago.

Evening free for performance or dinner

Overnight: Chicago

# ALAN DODGE'S CROSS AMERICA CULTURAL ODYSSEY



## Day 7 Saturday, 14 October – Chicago (B)

This morning we shall visit the massive Chicago Institute of Art, which holds one of the greatest collections of European Art in America. To experience this museum is to enjoy great art in an equally great setting. The museum has been expanded several times, almost seamlessly, and is a pleasure on the eyes with its fine neo-classic lines. Among its masterpieces is the monumental painting by Georges Seurat, 'A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte' which was the inspiration for the Stephen Sondheim musical, 'Sunday in the Park with George' in which the painting was recreated as a giant tableau vivant. This is only one of the great masterpieces in the Art Institute's vast collections.

In the afternoon we have free time to explore the Old Town or other areas of Chicago.

Evening free for performance or dinner.

Overnight: Chicago

## Day 8 Sunday, 15 October - Chicago – Toledo (B,D)

This morning we'll be introduced to our dedicated bus and driver and head for Toledo, Ohio (4 hours drive)

After time to freshen up we will head to the Toledo Museum to visit the museum's fine collections. Director of the Toledo Museum is Dr. Brian Kennedy who is former Director of the National Gallery of Australia. If Dr. Kennedy is in Toledo at the time, we'll have a chance to meet with him.

Evening: Dinner included in Toledo this evening.

Overnight: Toledo



## Day 9 Monday, 16 October - Toledo – Cleveland (B)

Today we head for Cleveland, Ohio (2 hour drive)

After lunch we'll visit the most famous attraction in the city, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame sited on Cleveland's waterfront, an area rescued from what had become an industrial wasteland. This is an experience not to be missed and a lesson in how to make a museum a fun and engaging experience.

Evening free for performance or dinner

Overnight in Cleveland



## Day 10 Tuesday, 17 October - Cleveland – Pittsburgh (B)

This morning we shall visit the Cleveland Museum of Art. Situated in beautiful Cleveland University Park, the museum is the near neighbour of the home and concert hall of the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra and the University.

In the afternoon we'll leave Cleveland to travel to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (2hrs 15 minutes)

Pittsburgh was a great industrial city, riding on the wealth of coal and the development of the steel industry; it fed the materials for building the great railroads of America and the subway system of New York. The discovery of oil in Pennsylvania added to the riches. All of this led to the development of the great families: the Carnegies, the Mellons and the Gettys amongst others. These families spent large amounts on art and other cultural accoutrements of their lifestyles. As a result, the Carnegie Institute has had a long history of great acquisitions. By mid-twentieth century Pittsburgh went into a serious decline, plus its pollution was the stuff of legend. However, this crisis led to a rebirth of the city as a home of culture, a base for British Airways and home of Alcoa Corporation amongst other clever moves to build a new city out of the industrial ashes of old Pittsburgh. The city sits at the confluence of two rivers and placed in a beautifully hilly landscape. Now cleaned up from its polluted past, Pittsburgh has emerged as a gem. It was also the home of Andy Warhol, one of the most important artists of the twentieth century.

Evening free for performance or dinner

Overnight: Pittsburgh



# ALAN DODGE'S CROSS AMERICA CULTURAL ODYSSEY



## Day 11 Wednesday 18 October – Pittsburgh (B)

This morning we'll explore the Carnegie Institute and its fine art museum. After lunch we head to the Andy Warhol Museum, the archive and collection of the artist left to Pittsburgh as one of its great gems.

Evening free for performance or dinner

Overnight: Pittsburgh

## Day 12 Thursday 19 October – Pittsburgh/Bear Run/Washington, D.C. (B)

This morning we leave Pittsburgh as we head to Washington, D.C. We will stop at Bear Run to visit Frank Lloyd Wright's Falling Water House on our way (50 minutes' drive).

Late afternoon we will arrive into Washington, D.C. (3 hours 30 minute drive from Bear Run, Pennsylvania). We will head to The Phillips Collection, which is situated near DuPont Circle in 'our neighbourhood'. Duncan Phillips and his wife, artist Marjorie Phillips were avid collectors of modern European art and also friends of a number of key American artists. As a result their house bulged with paintings by Picasso, Matisse, Van Gogh, Bonnard, etc. Most famous is Renoir's masterpiece, 'The Luncheon of the Boating Party', 1880-81 and a stunning room of Mark Rothko's subtle contemplative works. The Phillips family felt that the collection was so important that they moved out of the house and turned it into an art museum. Today the building has several extensions and has become one of the most fascinating private collections in America.

Evening free for performance or dinner

Overnight: Washington, D.C.



## Day 13 Friday, 20 October – Washington, D.C. (B)

This morning our bus will drop us at the National Gallery of Art for a visit here. The National Gallery of Art was built with the money of the great industrialist and banker (and former US Treasurer), Andrew Mellon. His collection, which includes a number of masterpieces sold from the Hermitage by Stalin, formed the nucleus upon which a great national collection was built. Additional gifts from the Kress Collection, the Paul and Bunny Mellon Collection and many others, has meant that the National Gallery houses a formidable collection of European and American art in particular. Masterpieces like Raphael's 'Alba Madonna' and portrait of Bindo Altovitti, a number of great paintings by Rembrandt, Van Ruisdael, Vermeer, David, Ingres, Turner, Monet, Degas and Picasso grace the original 1941 neo-classic building. A new wing, built in 1973-75 houses more modern art and special exhibitions.

We will then head across the Mall to the Hirshorn Museum. This was built from a private collection gifted to the nation and sitting on the famous mall, which is home to the Smithsonian Institution. Its building and sculpture garden are a delight. Australian Melissa Chiu, formerly director of the Asia Society Museum, is now Director of this fine collection of modern art.

We will have time to explore The Mall and surrounds until late afternoon when our coach will collect us to visit the National Portrait

gallery and Smithsonian American Art Museum. The two collections are housed in a historic Greek Revival building (the old Patents Office) on 8th and F Streets, north of the Mall where most of the Smithsonian buildings are. Recently the building was renovated with stunning work by architect Norman Foster. As the building is no on the Mall, it is not visited as much as the main attractions, but both collections are rich and beautifully displayed. Our bus will take us back to the hotel to freshen up before an evening out either for dinner or concert.

Evening free for performance or dinner

Overnight: Washington, D.C.

## Day 14 Saturday, 21 October – Washington, D.C. – Baltimore – Philadelphia (B)

Today we leave Washington, D.C. for nearby Baltimore (50 minutes drive) to visit two wonderful museums: The Baltimore Museum of Art and the Walters Art Museum. The Baltimore Museum is richer for the wonderful gift of works collected by the wealthy Cone sisters, who were advised on their art purchases in Paris by none other than artist Mary Cassatt. Both museums are a treat.

We'll end the afternoon by driving on to Philadelphia (1 hour 50 minutes drive)

Evening free for performance or dinner

Overnight: Philadelphia

## Day 15 Sunday, 22 October – Philadelphia (B,D)

Today we'll visit the massive Philadelphia Museum of Art as well as the nearby Rodin Museum. After lunch will pay a visit to an unusual site – Philadelphia's Magic Gardens. Local arts began mosaic tiling an area in South Street in the 1960's and never stopped. They have created an area that glistens with creativity, urban renaissance and a hint of madness.

Evening: This evening as the last evening of official touring on the schedule, we will enjoy a farewell dinner.

Overnight: Philadelphia



# ALAN DODGE'S CROSS AMERICA CULTURAL ODYSSEY



## Day 16 Monday, 23 October - Philadelphia – New York City (B)

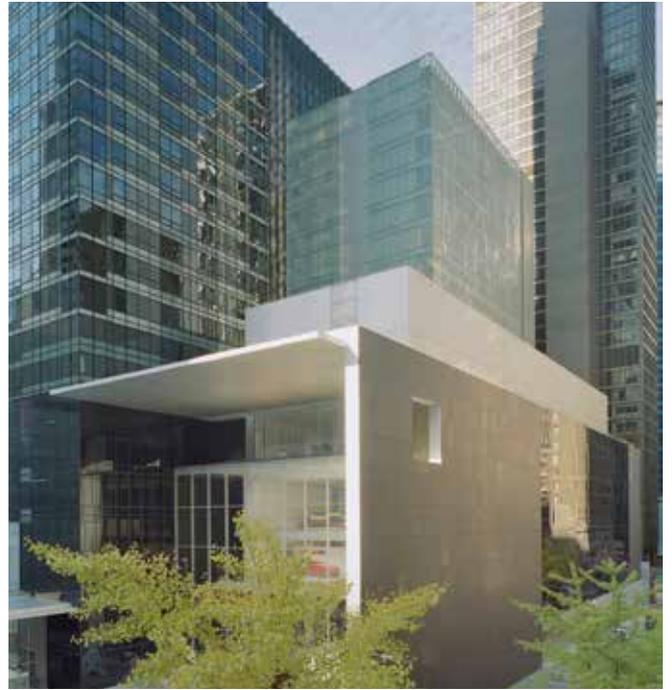
This morning we'll visit the Barnes Foundation. This private museum houses one of the most important collections of early French modernism in the world, housed in the grounds of Barnes home in suburban Philadelphia. The collection used to be very difficult to view in the Barnes home as lighting was not good and works were placed in places hard to see, such as Matisse's famous 'The Dance'. Works by Monet, Cezanne, Gauguin and Matisse are mouth-wateringly beautiful. Only once have highlights of the Barnes Collection toured (to New York, Toronto, Tokyo, etc.), but now the collection has been carefully re-installed. For those who have never seen it, this visit will be a revelation. For those who have been here before, it will be a great privilege to reacquire yourself with so many major works.

On leaving the Barnes Foundation we shall continue on our way to New York

City (less than 2 hours' drive). We will arrive into New York in the late afternoon and can organize a transfer from our hotel to the airport for anyone on a late flight not wishing to stay with the group for our time in New York.

Evening free for performance or dinner.

Overnight: New York



## Day 17 – 20, 24 – 27 October – New York City

Three nights in New York City. We shall have our Manhattan accommodation booked (without breakfast) and free time to explore the city. As it is autumn, the opera and concert season is in full swing and often, new shows have opened on Broadway. All the great museums await, including the New Whitney, MoMA, the

Metropolitan Museum, the Guggenheim, the New Museum, the Frick, the DIA Foundation, the New York Historical Society and many more.

We plan to meet up each morning to devise a plan for the day and groups can break off to enjoy their preferred activities. Alan will be available throughout the stay to assist with ideas for the day and to help with ticket purchases.

27 October is our departure day and we have included transfers for those departing from the airport to return home or carry on to another destination.

The New York stop can be revised for anyone with time constraints that would not allow for this optional stay.

Evenings free to enjoy shows and dinners at your leisure.

Overnights: New York

**For bookings and information contact**

Clare Robertson on 9382 5086 or [clare@traveltree.com.au](mailto:clare@traveltree.com.au)

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