

## Osage Hills Tours

These interconnected loops offer a cyclist an unusual view of Oklahoma's rich and colorful history. Osage County gained its name from the Osage Indians, who became among the wealthiest of the tribes when oil was discovered on their lands a century ago. Osage County is also the location of the vast Tallgrass Prairie Preserve where the land is being allowed to return to its original condition. To get a first hand look at the lifestyles spawned by the discovery of oil, one should visit the Marland Mansion in Ponca City, the home of Frank Phillips in Bartlesville or his country hunting lodge and hideaway at Wollaroc. All of these are open to the public. Nearby Osage Hills and Wah-Sha-She state parks offer camping facilities and other recreational opportunities in the area. For mountain bike riders, the land around Kaw, Hulah and Copan lakes is operated by the Corps of Engineers and most of it is open to the public. Check with the local managers for maps and access areas.

