

Asia District, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

The Vibe:

Little Saigon, or Asia District, lies in the middle of Oklahoma City's downtown area. Oklahoma City's Asia District is often called "Little Saigon" because the largest population of Asian descendants in the entire state of Oklahoma calls this area home. The Asia District formed in 1975 when thousands of fleeing Vietnamese arrived in Oklahoma following the fall of Saigon. Since then, the Vietnamese, Chinese, and other Asian-American ethnicities have established businesses in Little Saigon and have since converted the Classen Boulevard strip into a vibrant international neighborhood.

Visitors come to the Asia District of Oklahoma City to experience the Asian cuisine, culture, and shopping opportunities. Today, the Asia District is anchored by the Gold Dome Building and sits between Northwest 23rd Street and Northwest 30th Street. The area is bordered by the Paseo Arts District on the east and by Oklahoma City University on the west. The Milk Bottle Building, the most well-known structure in the Asia District, was constructed in 1910. This snapshot opportunity now houses the Saigon Baguette, a walk-up window eatery that serves delectable Vietnamese sandwiches on Route 66.

Places to Eat:

- The best way to experience the Asia District of Oklahoma City is through its cuisine. Try some Phở, a traditional Vietnamese noodle soup at Phở Lien Hoa restaurant.
- Lido Restaurant is a fantastic Vietnamese restaurant that blends French and Vietnamese cooking to create unusual dishes like Frog Legs with Vietnamese Curry.
- Try Grand House China Bistro's genuine Chinese cuisine.
- Golden Phoenix combines Chinese and Vietnamese dishes to provide a fantastic menu selection.
- The charming ambiance at Guernsey Park allows you to enjoy their Asian fusion dishes, such as the Chicken Lollipop appetizer, Thai-Style Burgers, and Coconut Panna Cotta.
- Indulge in authentic sushi at the Jiro Sushi restaurant.
- The Samurai restaurant is home to gluten-free and vegan-friendly cuisine.
- At the Hy Palace, you may dine on a Chinese and Asian buffet.

- Teapioca Lounge is a cute boba store with inexpensive smoothies, coffee, flavored teas, and Asian sweets.
- Farm-to-table meals are prepared fresh to order at Super Cao Nguyen's Vietnamese restaurant.
- Banana Island Restaurant is a kid-friendly and vegan-friendly restaurant that is perfect for lunch or a late-night dining experience.
- Lang Bakery is a traditional bakery with a Vietnamese twist - Try the Banh Mi Xa Xiu.

Places to Stay:

The Classen Inn Motel is conveniently located on Classen Boulevard and is within walking distance of several restaurants and attractions in the Asia District.

When you need a break from the hustle and bustles of city life, head to the Pink Cloud Guest House with its gated and secured private parking. This one-bedroom apartment offers guests all amenities, including a full kitchen, private bathroom, queen bed, lounge space complete with a comfortable sitting area, and an outdoor deck. Other amenities include complimentary Wi-Fi and cable. It is situated right behind a trendy art place called Creative Space, housed in the historic Rainbow Grocery Store. The Pink Cloud Guest House is perfect for artists and environmentalists alike.

Judy's Lamplight Inn Bed and Breakfast offers beautiful surroundings and pleasant home-cooked breakfasts and desserts in a lovely house built in 1910. The guest rooms have full or queen beds, ceiling fans, televisions, and telephones. The home features a spacious living room, cozy library, dining room, and private parking. Enjoy a stroll around the gardens after your meal in the dining room. Please take advantage of their beautiful backyard deck with a waterfall and flagstone patio.

The Grandison Inn at Maney Park, built in 1904, is one of Oklahoma City's most distinctive Victorian buildings. The magnificent Victorian characteristics of this unique home were restored during the restoration of this three-story inn while adding modern luxurious features like private bathrooms and whirlpool tubs. The mahogany woodwork, maple hardwood floors, comfy nooks, and original stained glass all lend to the Inn's charming nature. Each of the eight guest rooms has a unique theme with distinctively embellished fine antiques. Each room has a luxurious whirlpool tub or shower, a private phone, complimentary wireless Internet access, and flat-screen television.

Things to Do:

Many distinctive sights and activities are included in the Asia District. When walking about the neighborhood, you can't miss the Citizens Bank Tower, which the Price Tower influences. Today this tower is an apartment complex known as The Classen. The Citizens Bank Building, known as The Gold Dome, stands next door; and was one of the first geodesic domes in the United States and has been a familiar sight in Northwest Oklahoma City for many years. It's an event space and office building.

The famous Milk Bottle Building lies across 23rd street. You can't miss seeing this building; it literally has a milk bottle on the top of the building. Delicious sandwiches and drinks are served inside.

Military Park lies across the street, which helps break up the monotony of the strip malls. Take a closer look at the vibrant landscaping in the median of the road's intersection. Before rubber-tired busses and cars, this was where the streetcar line traveled.

Another historic building on the west end of the street is the Kamps Grocery Store, which was founded at the turn of the 20th century. On the east side of Military Park, near the airport, is Super Cao Nguyen supermarket, which serves a variety of Asian foods and has a café where you can get a bite to eat. The original Cao Nguyen grocery store next door is the descendant of Super Cao Nguyen. The name "Cao Nguyen" refers to the mountainous midlands of Vietnam. This one-stop shop is not only the most prominent Asian supermarket in the metro area but also Oklahoma's largest specialty grocer. Super Cao Nguyen is a popular destination, with customers driving from Wichita, Kansas, and Dallas, Texas. The store's diverse cuisine, consumer goods, fresh products, and seafood are all sourced from the Gulf of Mexico.

Memorial Park is at the north end of the Asia District and serves as the home base of the Boys & Girls Club and a host of annual festivals and activities. The Central Park Community Garden is located here, where neighborhood residents cultivate their own fruits and veggies.

Transportation:

Over the last few years, new sidewalks, benches, and traffic signals have been added and improved on Classen Boulevard, making it a much safer and more attractive walkway. The METRO Transit service serves the area around Classen Boulevard and provides public bus transportation to residents and visitors.