Join the Memorial Art Gallery Council on a program celebrating American art, architecture, and landscapes as we visit Kansas City, Missouri and Bentonville, Arkansas. Visiting these two remarkable cities you will enjoy special gallery visits and private curatorial tours showcasing the influence art has had on this region. We begin our program in Kansas City, where this urban Midwestern city has made a big impact in the art scene. Here we will take in state-of-the-art museums, such as, the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art and the Nelson-Atkins Museum, while also discovering the emerging galleries at the Crossroads Arts District. We will then make our way to Bentonville where, the Moshe Safdie designed, Crystal Bridges Museum stunned the art world when it opened in 2011. Together with Alice Walton, daughter of Walmart’s founder, Safdie and Walton have excelled in recreating the idea of a museum. Along the way we will be enjoying wonderful meals, including a stop at Arthur’s BBQ, named one of the best BBQ restaurants in the US. We welcome you to join us on what promises to be an exceptional trip.

**Tour Highlights**

- Enjoy private docent tours of the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art
- Visit the Nelson-Atkins Museum and stroll through the sculpture park
- Stop by the home and studio of artist Thomas Hart Benton
- Discover the magnificent architecture of the Kauffman Center for Performing Arts, designed by Safdie
- Take in the impressive Crystal Bridges Museum galleries with docent tours
- Marvel at the magnificent grounds and installations of the Art Trail of Crystal Bridges Museum
- Explore the emerging galleries at Kansas City’s Crossroads Art District
- Take a special tour of the Bachman House, designed by Frank Loyd Wright

**Accommodations**

- **Kansas City:** 2 nights
  - The Raphael Hotel
- **Bentonville:** 2 nights
  - 21C Hotel

For more information or detailed itinerary please contact:

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The Memorial Art Gallery’s tour operator, Distant Horizons, is a California Seller of Travel (CST #2046776-40) and a participant in the California Travel Restitution Fund. Information regarding the rights of California residents to make a claim may be found at tcrinfo.org. California law requires certain sellers of travel to have a trust account or bond. Distant Horizons has a trust account.
We begin our program in Kansas City, with a lovely lunch at Café Sebastienne, part of the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art and one of Kansas City’s premier restaurants. After lunch, explore the Kemper Museum on a private docent-led tour which boasts a vast permanent collection of modern and contemporary art works, including works by Dale Chihuly, Petah Coyne, Georgia O’Keeffe and Andy Warhol. End the day with a welcome dinner at the Capital Grille.

Continue discovering Kansas City with a tour of the Kauffman Performing Arts Center, designed by Moshe Safdie. Enjoy a curatorial visit of the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, characterized by its dramatic Bloch Building. Recognized internationally as one of the finest art museums in the United States, it currently maintains a collection of over 40,000 works of art, spanning over 5,000 years. Take a stroll through the museum’s sculpture park which features what looks like a giant game of badminton, titled Shuttlecocks.

Tour the home and studio of Missouri’s most renowned 20th-century artist, Thomas Hart Benton, known to best interpret realistic American lifestyles and cultures. His two-and-a-half story, eclectic-style house reveals a lot about his interest and many of his original paintings and sculptures add a vibrant splash of color to the simply decorated home. Discover Kansas City’s blossoming arts scene at the Crossroads Art District where we will enjoy special visits to local galleries before enjoying a Bar-B-Q lunch at Arthur Bryant’s, voted one of the best Bar-B-Q restaurants in the country.

Continue on to Bentonville for a visit to the Crystal Bridges Museum. Also designed by Safdie, the museum is strategically situated in the picturesque setting where natural beauty and the impact of art collide. Take a private docent-led tour of the museum’s Collection Highlights which spans five centuries of American masterworks. Here you will also have time at leisure to take-in the museum’s vast collection and temporary exhibits.

Walking along the Art Trail, discover the museums outstanding sculpture collection and experience James Turrell’s The Way of Color. Enjoy a lovely farewell dinner at the Hive, located in the 21-C Hotel. End the program with a morning tour of the Frank Loyd Wright building, also known as the Bachman-Wilson House, built in 1956. The house is a classic example of Wright’s Usonian design. In 2013 Crystal Bridges acquired the home and began a long process of relocating the house, a process that required disassembling piece by piece and transporting over 1,200 miles to Bentonville.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: MEDIUM - The trip will spend considerable time in museums and will require being able to be on your feet for extended periods of times. The program will require walking for 15 minutes or more and using stairs. The trip is not suitable for those who have mobility problems.