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The 2017 Oklahoma Freewheel Tour Across Oklahoma Route Revealed

Stillwater, OK, 1/14/2017 — Freewheel, Inc. announced the route for its 2017 Oklahoma Freewheel cross-state bicycle tour today. Due to weather conditions, Executive Director Trevor Steward and the Board of Directors decided to announce the route by [video](#) via email and social media. The video of the much-anticipated route was released to the public today at 4 pm. The 2017 tour will start June 11 in Wichita Falls, TX and conclude June 17 in South Haven, KS.

Along with the route, the theme for this year's tour was announced. "Celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Historic Chisholm Trail" guided the route development and will help determine the entertainment that riders will experience in each host town. The theme also inspired the design of the 2017 OK Freewheel jersey and t-shirt. With the goal of highlighting and celebrating the history of the Chisholm Trail, the riders will use segments of U.S. Route 81 and nearby rural roads to make their way from Texas to Kansas. U.S. Route 81 closely follows the original Chisholm Trail, and is designated by the State of Oklahoma as the "Historic Chisholm Trail Bike Route".

Oklahoma Freewheel participants will be treated to a mostly south-to-north route across the central portion of Oklahoma. On June 11th riders will start their weeklong tour in Wichita Falls, TX. Located south of Lawton, Wichita Falls is best known for hosting the annual Hotter'n Hell Hundred bicycle ride and is the home of Midwestern State University. From Wichita Falls, riders will cross over the Red River on their way to Comanche. Comanche is often called the "Rodeo Capital of the World" and is rich in its diversity of talent and people.

From Comanche, the riders will pedal along the beautiful country roads as they take the scenic way to Duncan. Duncan is home to the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center. The riders will get the opportunity to tour the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center and spend the night on the centers grounds. From Duncan, the tour continues on to Chickasha. Located at about the halfway point, Chickasha is known for its annual Festival of Light event and is home to The University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. From Chickasha, the tour heads north to Kingfisher. Kingfisher is home to the Chisholm Trail Museum, the Governor Seay Mansion, and is the birthplace of Sam Walton, founder of Walmart.

From Kingfisher, the tour keeps working its way up U.S. Route 81 to Enid. Located in north-central Oklahoma, Enid is home to the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center and Vance Air Force Base. Enid is nicknamed the "Queen Wheat City" and is the "Wheat Capital" of both Oklahoma and the United States. After a night in Enid, the tour then heads northeast to Ponca City. Ponca City is the home to the Pioneer Woman Museum and E.W. Marland Mansion. The final day of the 2017 Oklahoma Freewheel tour takes riders across the Oklahoma-Kansas border into downtown South Haven, KS. Situated just north of the border, South Haven has hosted multiple OK Freewheel finishes.

Oklahoma Freewheel also announced the continuation of the gravel (non-paved) route option for this year's tour. Believed to still be the only organized cross-state gravel tour in the country, the gravel route will closely follow the road route while giving participants a very different view of Oklahoma. Gravel cycling offers an even more adventurous way to enjoy Oklahoma's countryside from the seat of a bike. 2017 will be the 3rd time Oklahoma Freewheel has offered the gravel route option.

The participants of Oklahoma Freewheel will travel around 440 miles to complete the 2017 cross-state bicycle tour.

Oklahoma Freewheels mission is to promote and strengthen cycling tourism in Oklahoma. For more information on this great ride and to register, visit www.okfreewheel.com.

2017 OK Freewheel Route Announcement video - <https://youtu.be/C0xXAd0SkSI>