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Places to Stay

MAR 12, 2026

Okana Resort & Indoor Waterpark

Oklahoma City

by Matt Kirouac



Courtesy OKANA Resort & Indoor Waterpark

In the Chickasaw language, the words for water (“oka”) and friend (“inkana”) merge to form Okana—a \$400 million resort and waterpark from the Chickasaw Nation that’s making waves, both literally and culturally, on the Oklahoma River. Opened in February 2025, the 404-room resort is a water wonderland: a 100,000-sq.-ft. indoor waterpark with 15 waterslides, a wave pool, and splash pads, plus a 4.5-acre outdoor lagoon—one of the largest in the country—where kids tackle a floating obstacle course while parents sip frozen piña colodas on a sandy beach beneath artificial

palms. Between foam parties, sandcastle competitions, and an adults-only warming pool, Okana has fun for every age. An on-site entertainment center ups the ante with a neon mirror maze and two-story laser tag, while a baseball-themed restaurant pairs gourmet hot dogs with sports simulators. Family-friendly suites feature bunk beds and balconies, and a retro candy shop tops ice cream with white-fudge corn twists from Chickasaw-owned Bedré Fine Chocolate. In fact, much of the resort is outfitted by Indigenous makers. Cherokee brothers Bryan and Jake Waytula made the murals. Tribally-owned Mahota Textiles made the upholstered headboards. Together with the neighboring First Americans Museum—the largest single-building tribal cultural center in the U.S.—Okana is establishing Oklahoma City as a capital for Indigenous art, culture, and entertainment.