

Chickasaw Country strolls through Ardmore's Café Alley Building's history flavors restaurant's atmosphere

OKLAHOMA CITY (November 14, 2017) - Flavors of Chickasaw Country, a video and blog series featuring locally-owned restaurants in Chickasaw Country, recently visited Café Alley in Ardmore. Chickasaw Country travel blogger, Kalli Kliewer, sampled drinks and dishes and spoke with Samantha Norton, who has co-owned the restaurant with her husband Jason since 2009.

Norton said she and her husband wanted a casual and relaxing atmosphere in Café Alley, but that doesn't mean there's not a lot of work happening in the kitchen as nearly every dish is made from scratch.

"The menu—we wanted to gear it so you could come and sit and have a good hamburger," she said. "There's something on the menu for everybody. All the deserts, meats, every dish including the sauces, are all made in the kitchen. My husband is all about quality."

Café Alley makes its home in the heart of downtown Ardmore in a century-old building that's also housed a produce company and a dry goods distributor. "We have a lot of history and character inside the building," Norton said. "We have the original skylight and a scale that was used more than 100 years ago."

Paige Williams Shepherd, director of corporate development and tourism for the Chickasaw Nation, said Flavors of Chickasaw Country provides an exclusive look at local restaurants in south-central Oklahoma and offers visitors and locals the opportunity to experience one-of-a-kind Chickasaw Country eateries, such as Café Alley, from a behind-the-scenes perspective.

"Chickasaw Country is home to thousands of tourism destinations, and through the fall and holiday seasons, there's countless events and sights that make the perfect day-trip or weekend getaway," said Shepherd. "Through Flavors of Chickasaw Country, we showcase incredible locally-owned eateries in south-central Oklahoma, helping visitors plan their trips and itineraries. After all, what trip is complete without a great meal?"

Norton encouraged everyone to stop in for a signature Café Alley beverage and experience a meal they might not expect in a small town.

"When we bought the restaurant, we wanted some kind of signature drink that we were known for, and we definitely became known for our Alley Teas," she said. "We're bringing something to this small town that you can't get in a lot of small towns. Our motto is a big city feel in a small town."

Flavors of Chickasaw Country was designed to create awareness for restaurants in the south-central region of Oklahoma known as Chickasaw Country. Including a tour of the restaurant, photo shoot and video with the owners, Flavors of Chickasaw Country is currently in its fourth season. The interviews, tour and video footage are transformed into an exclusive video and blog post for the Chickasaw Country website and social media platforms.

To find out more about the delicious offerings at Café Alley, visit Chickasaw Country's blog, where all Flavors of Chickasaw Country episodes can be found: http://chickasawcountry.com/blog.

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About Chickasaw Country

Nestled in south-central Oklahoma, Chickasaw Country is a regional tourism organization representing 13 of Oklahoma's 77 counties. As the official destination tourism organization, Chickasaw Country includes 7,648 square miles, 11 percent of Oklahoma's total 68,597 square miles. Chickasaw Country, a division of the Chickasaw Nation, is a tourism source for visitors and communities within the region and promotes destinations, attractions and festivals. Chickasaw Country is a diverse and culturally-vested destination, with new adventures and experiences around every corner.

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