

Reservations are now open for the popular *Heartland Flyer* Big Game Train headed to Dallas, Texas in October for the annual Red River Rivalry football showdown between the University of Oklahoma Sooners and the University of Texas Longhorns. For less than the cost of a tank of gas, football fans can kick back, deck out in their school's colors and start weekend festivities the minute they board the train.

For only \$55 each round-trip, passengers can enjoy a lively, spirit-filled trip and get in game mode as they travel from Oklahoma City to Dallas with other eager fans. An observation coach is being added, which will give passengers a chance to enjoy unique panoramic views on their trip. Train travel aboard the *Heartland Flyer* offers passengers a safe mode of travel and the luxury of a café car to purchase snacks and drinks including adult beverages for the trip.

Amtrak's *Heartland Flyer* is scheduled to leave from Santa Fe Depot in Oklahoma City at 8:25 a.m., Friday, Oct. 12 and arrive at downtown Dallas Union Station at 2:10 p.m. just in time for passengers to enjoy all the pre-game festivities. The train has regularly scheduled stops in Norman, Purcell, Pauls Valley, Ardmore and in Texas at Gainesville, and Ft. Worth.

On the return trip, the *Heartland Flyer* will depart from downtown Dallas Union Station at 2:25 p.m. Oct. 14 and will arrive back in Oklahoma City at 9:39 p.m.

Seating is limited and restrictions apply, so booking reservations early is strongly recommended. For fares and schedules, to book, buy and print your ticket, start by going to Amtrak.com or call 800-USA-RAIL. The \$55 discounted rate is applied upon checkout.

Fans should act quickly, since the annual OU/TX train continues to gain in popularity and seats fill up quickly. Last year, two additional coach cars had to be added to accommodate about 350 fans who teamed up with the *Heartland Flyer* during the OU/TX weekend.

The train also consistently earns superior ratings in the Amtrak Customer Satisfaction Index, which polls passengers about on-time performance; travel value; friendliness of on-board personnel; comfort; equipment cleanliness and reliability; and stations and schedules.

The line has carried over 880,000 passengers since daily service started between Oklahoma City and Ft. Worth in 1999.

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(Editors and News Directors: For more information call the ODOT Media & Public Relations Division at 405-521-6000.)

