



White Oak Weekend to Support Baryshnikov Arts Center May 19—21, 2017 FAQs

Thank you for your interest in the White Oak Weekend. We are delighted to provide you with some additional information.

What is White Oak?

White Oak is a conservation and retreat center located on 13,000 acres of serene forest along the banks of the St. Mary's River in Yulee, Florida, just outside of Jacksonville. White Oak specializes in the conservation of some of the world's most endangered and rare animals. Cheetah, okapi, rhinoceros and cassowary are just some of the species housed within sweeping naturalistic habitats.

Brought to cultural prominence by Howard Gilman, one of America's most significant philanthropists, White Oak became one of the leading conservation programs in the U.S. and was one of the first of its kind to connect the arts and conservation. Inspired by his friendship with Mikhail Baryshnikov, and in collaboration with him, Mr. Gilman built facilities and housing throughout the White Oak property to give artists space to relax, create and play while in the presence of natural wonders being protected by his advanced environmental mission.

White Oak is now owned by Mark and Kim Walter who have continued Mr. Gilman's legacy of hospitality, generosity and service to the arts, conservation and education.

What does the White Oak Weekend entail?

The weekend includes access to the exclusive White Oak property, deluxe accommodations with private bath and Wi-Fi for two nights, ground transportation to and from the Jacksonville airport, all meals created by farm-to-table Chef Bob McKeon, performances, an endangered animal tour, a rarely seen cheetah run, as well as optional activities which can include golf, kayaking, tennis, horseback riding, river boating, skeet shooting, bowling and gym access.

How much does it cost?

The White Oak Weekend is \$5,000 per person. \$3,500 is a tax-deductible contribution to Baryshnikov Arts Center (BAC).

How do I reserve my space and pay for the weekend?

Payment for the White Oak Weekend can be made by check or credit card by April 19th. Please email whiteoak@bacnyc.org and a BAC staff person will contact you to take your reservation and payment information over the phone.

What does my donation support?

Your generous contribution supports the mission and activities of Baryshnikov Arts Center (BAC). Founder and Artistic Director Mikhail Baryshnikov founded BAC in 2005. It is the culmination of his long-held vision to build a state-of-the-art home in New York City for performing artists of all disciplines from around the world. BAC provides opportunities for artists across disciplines to create and perform new work, while serving audiences with low-ticket prices.

Over its first decade, BAC has steadily expanded and deepened its work by presenting more artists on its stages, providing an increasing number of artist residencies, serving a wide range of audience members, and transforming the lives of public school students through its after school program.

What is the deadline for reservations?

April 19th

Where is White Oak and how do I get there?

White Oak is 30 minutes north of downtown Jacksonville, FL and the Jacksonville (JAX) International Airport. RT ground transportation between JAX and White Oak will be provided and arranged once your travel itinerary is confirmed.

How do I arrange my travel to and from Jacksonville?

Air Travel arrangements may be made with Anna Cruz at Protravel at anna.cruz@protravelinc.com or 212-702-2607, or with your own travel agent.

What are the accommodations like?

White Oak has a range of multi-bedroom houses each with private bath and king sized bed. Each house has a communal living area and a kitchen stocked with coffee, tea, and snacks. Guests share houses, but room and bath are private and include daily housekeeping service.

What's the schedule?

A detailed itinerary will be provided once your reservation is confirmed. Activity will begin the evening of Friday, May 19 at 7pm and end Sunday, May 21 at 1pm; however, you are welcome on the property Friday as early as 1pm and Sunday, until 2pm. If flying into Jacksonville, we recommend you select a flight that arrives no later than 5pm on Friday.

What is the dress code?

The White Oak Weekend is meant to be casual and relaxed with many outdoor activities planned. It is optional to dress more formally for evening cocktails and dinner.

What is the average weather like at White Oak?

Average temperatures in May at White Oak are mid 80's in the daytime, and high 60's at night. Given that May weather could bring some surprises, please pack a light jacket.

Who will be there?

Approximately 30 guests will participate in the weekend. Mikhail Baryshnikov will be present with other BAC staff to ensure you enjoy the weekend, and to give you access to White Oak history and the vision for Baryshnikov Arts Center.

Can I bring my children?

Regrettably, we cannot accommodate children on this trip, but we hope to design a family-oriented White Oak Weekend in the future.

How do I get more information?

Please email whiteoak@bacnyc.org or call Vernon Scott at 646-731-3203 and either Vernon or another BAC staff person will be in touch with you within two business days.