



## White Oak Weekend to Support Baryshnikov Arts Center April 6 — 8, 2018 FAQs

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

### **Where is White Oak?**

White Oak is located on 13,000 acres of serene forest along the banks of the St. Mary's River in Yulee, Florida. It is 30 minutes north of downtown Jacksonville and the Jacksonville International Airport (JAX).

### **What is White Oak?**

White Oak is a conservation and retreat center that 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. White Oak is owned by committed conservationists Mark and Kim Walter.

Previously owned by Howard Gilman, one of America's most significant philanthropists, White Oak became one of the leading conservation programs in the U.S. in the 80's and 90's. Using White Oak to serve all of his personal and philanthropic interests, including the arts, Mr. Gilman began a tradition of hosting artists for extended stays on the property where their needs were anticipated and met, and their artistic pursuits were encouraged. Mr. Gilman was one of the first people to significantly 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 convene in the presence of the natural wonders protected by his advanced environmental mission.

The defining hallmarks of White Oak as established by Mr. Gilman—hospitality, service, and generosity—are now carried forward by the Walter Family.

### **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 \$5,600 per person. \$4,500 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 March 2. Please email [whiteoak@bacnyc.org](mailto: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). 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 from around the world. BAC provides opportunities for artists across disciplines to create and perform new work, while ensuring low-ticket prices for audiences.

For more than twelve years, 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?**

March 2.

**Where is White Oak and how do I get there?**

White Oak is 30 minutes north of downtown Jacksonville, FL and the Jacksonville International Airport (JAX). Round trip 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](mailto: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; guests share houses, but rooms with king-sized beds and bath are private. Every house has a communal living area and a kitchen stocked with complimentary coffee, tea, full bar, and snacks. Daily housekeeping service is included.

**What's the schedule?**

A detailed itinerary will be provided once your reservation is confirmed. Activity will begin the afternoon of Friday, April 6 at 2pm and end Sunday, April 8 at noon. If flying into Jacksonville, we recommend you select a flight that arrives no later than 1pm 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 weather like at White Oak?**

Average temperatures in April are mid 70's in the daytime and high 50's to mid 60's at night. As temperature may fluctuate by 20 degrees in a day—and because the weekend entails both indoor and outdoor activities—we recommend that guests bring long sleeve shirts and pants, as well as a light jacket or sweater.

**Who will be there?**

Approximately 25 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?**

While most of the weekend activities are geared towards adults, we welcome mature youth age 12 and older. Because availability for the White Oak Weekend is extremely limited—and cost is determined on a per person basis, regardless of age—children and adults are the same price.

**How do I get more information?**

Please email [whiteoak@bacnyc.org](mailto:whiteoak@bacnyc.org) or call Vernon Scott at 646-731-3203 and a BAC staff person will be in touch within two business days.