



# Fast Facts about the Cherokee

## What were Cherokee homes like?

The Cherokee Indians lived in settled villages, usually located near a river. Cherokee houses were made of rivercane and plaster, with thatched roofs. These dwellings were about as strong and warm as log cabins.

## What was Cherokee food like?

The Cherokees were farming people. Cherokee women harvested crops of corn, beans, squash, and sunflowers. They also gathered berries, nuts and fruit to eat. Cherokee men hunted deer, wild turkeys, and small game and fished in the rivers. Cherokee dishes included cornbread, soups, and stews cooked on stone hearths.

## What were some Cherokee weapons and artifacts?

Cherokee hunters used bows and arrows or blowguns to shoot game. Fishermen generally used spears and fishing poles. Warriors fired arrows or fought with a melee weapon like a tomahawk or spear.

## What are Cherokee arts and crafts?

Traditional Cherokee art included [pipe carving](#), [rivercane baskets](#), [gourd art](#), and [pottery](#). After moving to Oklahoma, the Cherokees couldn't get the materials they used to use for traditional crafts, so they concentrated on other crafts like [beadwork](#) and [textile arts](#).



## Who are some famous Cherokee Indians?

One of the best-known people in Cherokee history was [Sequoyah](#). Although he did not know how to read or write in any other language, he succeeded in inventing a writing system for Cherokee that is still used today. A famous Cherokee Indian from modern times is [Wilma Mankiller](#), the first woman to be Principal Chief of the Cherokee tribe.