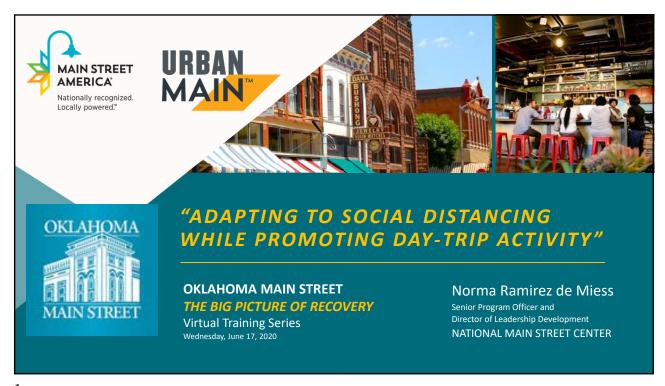
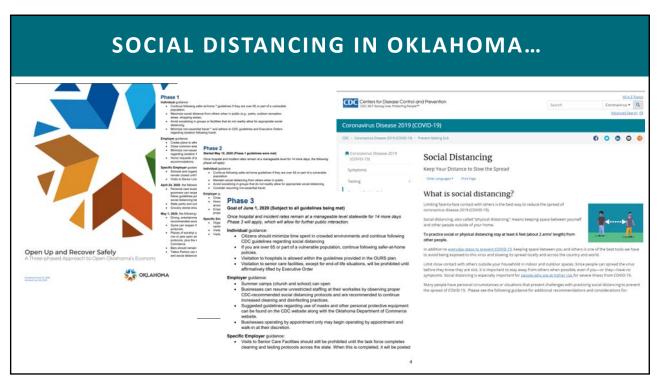
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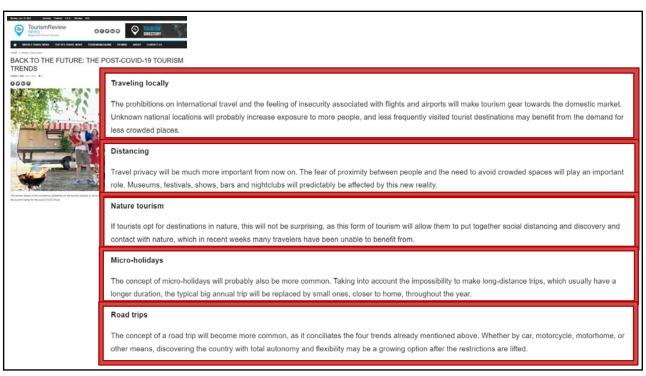
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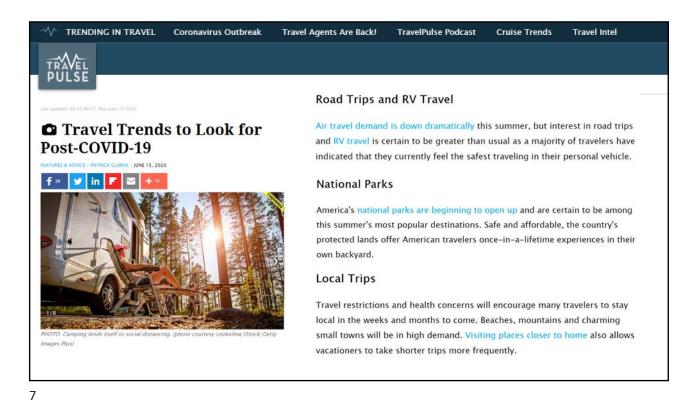


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# MARKETS BUSINESS INVESTING TECH POLITICS CNBC TV PRESONAL FINANCE Travel changed after 9/11; Here's how it will look after the Covid-19 pandemic finally recedes PUBLISHED SUIL, MAY 10 2020-10:20 AM EDT 1 UPDATED MON. MAY 11 2020-14.9 PM EDT KEY POINTS \* The Covid-19 pandemic has brought travel and tourism to a near-standstill, and no one is sure when it will restart. • When travel does begin again, look for it to start with road trips not too far from home, say experts. • The new travel normal may mean a shift to vacation rentals over hotels, driving rather than flying, and an increase in the use of travel insurance and personal travel advisors.



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The Rise of the Walking Tour

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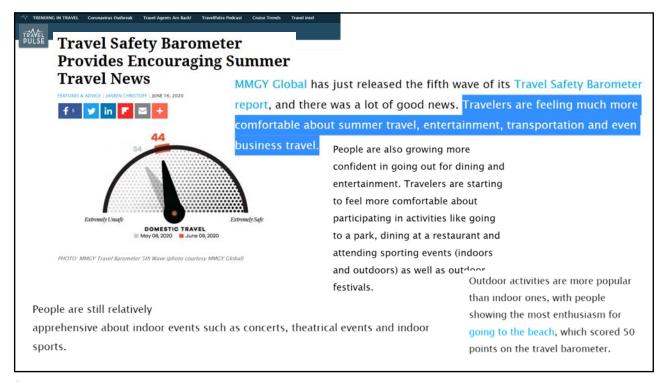
FEATURES & ADVICE | GUEST AUTHOR | JUNE 16, 2020

Because of COVID-19, travel came to an almost complete standstill in early 2020 as Americans sheltered in place. As travel bans begin to lift, many travelers are itching to get out from the walls they have been surrounded by for months. The urge to travel has been stronger than ever. However, without an end to COVID-19 in sight, many travelers are re-thinking the traditions of family vacation activities. Enter the walking tour.

PHOTO: Broadway in Downtown Nashville, Tennessee. (photo via benedek/iStock

While some walking tours are group-based, more cities are offering variations on these tours, including investing in technology for self-guided tours, answering a need for travelers who are curious about a city, but more interested in avoiding crowded public spaces.

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Day-Trip During COVID:

- Conduct a District "Treasure" Assessment
- Take an "OUR" town focus
- Experience-driven destinations NOT Event-driven
- A shift in Work Planning

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# **District "Treasures":**

What are the assets you currently have within your district that you would consider a "treasure". The things that make you unique & people find interesting.

- Businesses
- Food
- Local Tourist Attractions
- Natural Resources/Parks
- Local Non-Profits
- Art
- History

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# An "OUR" Town Focus:

- Draw county-wide residents into your district
- An increase county-wide customers is low hanging fruit within many Main Streets
  - Typically a group with higher income
  - A larger customer-base within 2-10 miles of your district.
  - Still idenfy with the downtown as their town
  - Many will feel more comfortable visiting places they are already familiar with.
  - Bringing back the "Stay-cation" Idea

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# **Experience-driven NOT Event-driven:**

- Focus on the <u>places</u> you can create
  - What do you currently have within your district that encourages people to gather?
  - Is your district walkable?
  - Is your district scenic? Urban and/or Natural
- Events still need to happen, but they do not need to be the centerpiece
- Train, Encourage, & Allow Businesses to be those experience-driven places.

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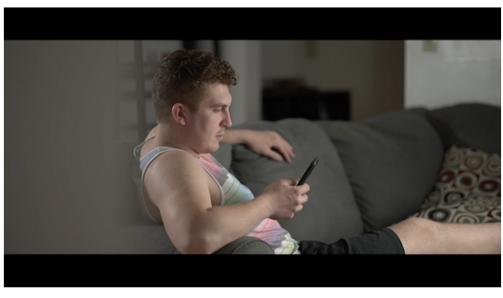
# A Shift in Work Planning:

- A larger # of smaller events
- New collaborations with local non-profits.
- A focus on quick, cheap, & temporary design elements within the district.
- · Beautification!
- Small-scale business owner training
- Activities that people can do in their own timing.

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# **Day Trip Promotional Video:**

**Downtown Owosso** 



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# **District Treasures:**

**Downtown Owosso** 













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# **Partners:**

# **Downtown Owosso**

- Owosso Historical Commission
- Downtown Owosso Farmers Market
- City of Owosso
- Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Shiawassee Arts Center
- Owosso Community Players/Lebowsky Center
- Steam Railroading Institute
- Owosso Amphitheater
- Downtown Business Owners
- Downtown Historic District Commission
- Shiawassee County Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership
- Shiawassee Small Business Development Center

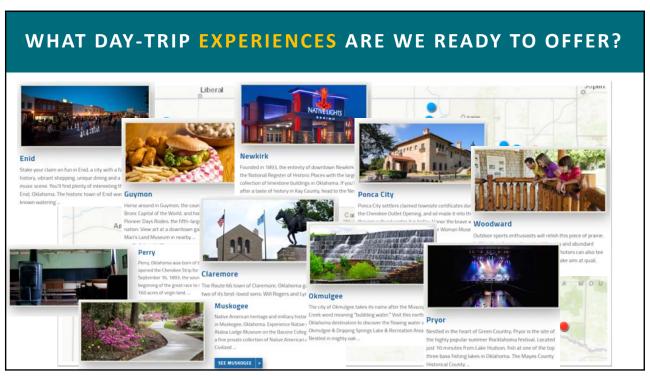
- Owosso Public Schools
- Memorial Hospital
- Cook Family Foundation
- Baker College
- Youth Advisory Council
- Nature Conservancy
- Shiawassee County YMCA
- Local Non-Profits & Churches

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# Downtown Places: | For all NOTE | Downton | Places | Pla

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