

**VINTAGE 66<sup>SM</sup>**

USA's most legendary highway



**Gateways**

Start – Chicago  
 End – Los Angeles

**Length of Program**

22 days / 21 nights

**Languages (Program Documentation)**

- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- French
- German
- Italian
- Spanish

**Program Departures**

Daily from 01 Apr 2026 to 31 Mar 2027

**Theme**

**Historic:** Arts, history, and museums.

**Tempo**

**Highlight:** Highlights oriented pace.

**Rates From**

**\$2171** per person DBL occupancy

Historic Route 66 | Chicago | St. Louis | Amarillo | Santa Fe | Albuquerque |  
 Grand Canyon NP | Santa Monica



**Values**

1. Flex Feature\*
2. Industry Leading Program Documentation

**Included In Program**

Code: S26ORD216

- 21-Night accommodations in featured hotels, or similar hotels including taxes
- Discovery Guide<sup>SM</sup> Program Documentation (Electronic Version)

**Not Included In Program**

- Car Rental
- Tolls
- Parking Fees
- National Park admission
- Admission to attractions that were not pre-booked.

**Program Overview**

A legendary highway stretching from Chicago to Los Angeles, Route 66 became the gateway to adventure, guiding early travelers through breathtaking landscapes and untamed beauty.



## Day To Day Itinerary



CHICAGO, IL

### DAY 01: ARRIVE IN CHICAGO, IL

Arrive at Chicago International Airport (ORD) and proceed to your hotel for a two-night stay. You'll be staying in close proximity to Lake Michigan, Lincoln Park Zoo and Wrigley Field—home of the Chicago Cubs. Famous for its towering skyscrapers, jazz and blues history and deep-dish pizza, discover the sights, sounds and tastes that give Chicago its distinctive character.



CHICAGO, IL

### DAY 02: CHICAGO

Start your journey at the Historic Route 66 official start sign, located at the intersection of East Adams Street and South Michigan Avenue, close to the Art Institute of Chicago. Take a boat ride on the Chicago River and look up in wonder at the skyscrapers surrounding you before strolling the Magnificent Mile to indulge in shopping and dining. Take in breathtaking views of the city from above in Skydeck Chicago and the 360 CHICAGO Observation Deck. 360 CHICAGO offers close views of the Magnificent Mile, Lake Michigan and the city while Skydeck Chicago provides distant panoramas.

Perhaps choose one in the daytime and one in the evening for a combination of panoramic views and the city's twinkling lights. See world-class improvisational comedy at a Second City improv show, a comedy troupe which boasts many famous alumni, including Bill Murray, Amy Poehler, Tina Fey, John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd. As you

will be staying overnight in the city, end your evening by enjoying the city's entertainment and catching a live jazz performance to experience classic Chicago culture.



SPRINGFIELD, IL

### DAY 03: CHICAGO – DWIGHT, IL – ODELL, IL – JOLIET, IL – PONTIAC, IL – LINCOLN, IL – SPRINGFIELD, IL

(201MI/324KM)

Grab breakfast or a coffee at “the first stop on the Mother Road”, Lou Mitchell's, to fuel you up for your journey. You'll be following in the path of many travelers before you at the start of their Route 66 adventure over the past 100 years, as it was the first place in Chicago to serve all-day breakfast. On your way to Springfield, stop off at two restored historic gas stations to start your journey discovering America's past: Ambler's Texaco Gas Station in the village of Dwight and the Standard Oil Gasoline Station in the village of Odell. Once a thriving gas station, Ambler's Texaco Gas Station has been beautifully restored to preserve its 1930s design, with traditional gas pumps. The Standard Oil Gasoline Station, meanwhile, is now a visitor center and hub for Route 66 enthusiasts, which provides tours of the station where you can learn about its history.

You'll encounter more links to John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd in Joliet. The Joliet Area Historical Museum, named Illinois Museum of the Year for 2025, houses the Route 66 Welcome Center which contains life-size replicas of the Blues Brothers and the chance to buy Route 66 memorabilia. A tour of Old Joliet Prison, which was a filming location for both The Blues Brothers and Prison Break, is a highly recommended experience. While you're in town, catch a play, musical, concert or comedy show at the beautiful Rialto Square Theatre, which was originally a vaudeville theatre and movie palace when it opened in 1926.

Make your way to Pontiac to see thousands of pieces of Route 66 memorabilia on display at the Route 66 Hall of Fame. Displays are organized by geographical location, making a great starting point to provide inspiration for things you can see along your journey. You can also see the kinds of cars that would have traveled Route 66 over the past century at the Pontiac–Oakland Automobile Museum, with its collection of classic and vintage vehicles. Leave Pontiac behind and visit The Mill Museum on 66 in Lincoln, which has a windmill design to reflect its original Dutch-themed aesthetic when it opened as a restaurant in 1929. The museum now contains Route 66 memorabilia as well as exhibits from the restaurants that it has hosted over the decades.

When you reach Springfield, make your way down the Historic Brick Road—1.4 miles of hand-laid bricks—to see a preserved segment of the original highway. Then, pay a visit to Shea's Gas Station Museum which offers the chance to look around the building's restored exterior and traditional gas pumps. Here you'll find one of the Route 66 Wayside Exhibits. These exhibits provide written information of the history of significant locations along Route 66. Take the Route 66 Mural Trail around Springfield to discover vibrantly colorful murals painted on walls in and around the city that artistically represent Route 66. Abraham Lincoln lived in Springfield for 17 years, and you can see a collection of historic signs from Springfield and Route 66 at the Ace Sign Museum, including a sign indicating where President Lincoln gave his farewell speech in this city.

Grab dinner at Route 66 Motorheads Bar & Grill Museum and Entertainment Complex, which was designed with car enthusiasts in mind. The museum contains Route 66 and car memorabilia, and the venue also hosts motorcycle rallies and car shows throughout the year. Spend the evening catching a movie under the stars at the Route 66 Twin Drive-In before staying in this historically significant city for the night.



ST. LOUIS, MO

**DAY 04: SPRINGFIELD – MAPLEWOOD, MO – ST. LOUIS, MO****(98MI/158KM)**

Continue your journey onward, passing through the city of Maplewood, MO, which, from 1926 to 1933, Historic Route 66 wound through. Walking along the 7200 and 7300 blocks of Manchester Avenue, you can see plaques that pay tribute to the businesses that served travelers along this part of the route during that period.

Then make your way to St. Louis, your base for the night. Stop by The Old Chain of Rocks Bridge on the north edge of St. Louis, which was the original Mississippi River crossing on Route 66. It closed to vehicles in 1970 but is still open for you to walk across.

Car enthusiasts can enjoy two museums dedicated to vehicles in St. Louis. The National Museum of Transportation houses the largest collection of transportation in the world, including a steam locomotive and the first Super Hornet fighter jet, which was built by Boeing in St. Louis. You can also see classic and collectible cars on display at

the St. Louis Car Museum. Another interesting museum is The Neon Museum of St. Louis, which offers a nostalgia trip, with vintage neon signs that lined Route 66 in decades past. At The Visitor Center at Route 66 State Park, you can see Route 66 memorabilia including souvenirs that travelers from decades past bought on their journeys across Missouri on Route 66.

You're spoilt for choice for traditional dining options in St. Louis this evening. Carl's Drive In is a cash-only diner, serving root beer, burgers, hot dogs and nostalgia, that's been a St. Louis institution for 60 years. The Village Bar, known for its welcoming atmosphere, is a local favorite that is one of the longest running businesses in St. Louis. Big Chief Roadhouse is one of the last remaining full-service restaurants still operating on Route 66, serving homemade meals with locally sourced ingredients. If you're looking to satisfy your sweet tooth, Donut Drive-In offers baked treats like cakes and tarts in a variety of flavors. For a popular dessert option, Ted Drewes Frozen Custard is a beloved name in St. Louis, that has been a tradition in the city since 1959.



SPRINGFIELD, MO

**DAY 05: ST. LOUIS – PACIFIC, MO – ST. CLAIR, MO – SULLIVAN, MO – STANTON, MO – CUBA, MO – FANNING, MO – ROLLA, MO – DEVIL'S ELBOW, MO – ST. ROBERT, MO – WAYNESVILLE, MO – CONWAY, MO – SPRINGFIELD, MO****(217MI/349KM)**

From St. Louis, make your way to Pacific, known as "Train Town USA", which has erected a 12-foot shield as a landmark to celebrate Route 66's centennial. Continue west to the town of St. Clair, a popular stop on Route 66. The International Shoe Company Building employed most people in this town in the 1920s and the building still stands today.

Continue onward to the town of Sullivan, which has 27 fire hydrants along its portion of Route 66. The fire hydrants have been painted to represent different cities or sites along Route 66. In nearby Stanton, be sure to take a tour of Meramec Caverns for a patriotic American experience. These limestone caves have a light show

that projects images of America's beauty onto a limestone curtain while the song "God Bless America" plays.

As you drive onward, pass through Cuba, known as "Route 66 Mural City", which has 14 outdoor murals depicting scenes from local and national history, including city visits from Harry S. Truman and Amelia Earhart. In nearby Fanning, admire the Route 66 Red Rocker which was the world's largest rocking chair when it was built in 2008, standing at over 42 feet tall, and is still the second largest in the world.

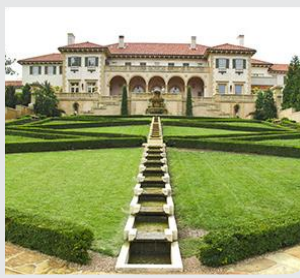
Head to Rolla, where you'll find a half-scale replica of Stonehenge on the campus of the Missouri University of Science and Technology. From here, continue to Devil's Elbow to cross Devil's Elbow Bridge, and admire its picturesque setting in the Ozarks. Built in 1923, it's one of the few remaining original bridges on Route 66. Drive onward to St. Robert, MO, where you can see vintage neon signs that originated along Historic Route 66 at the outdoor museum, Route 66 Neon Park. For quirky fun, look no further than Uranus Sideshow Museum. It exhibits historical pieces from America's circus and sideshow history and oddities, including two-headed animals. You can also see live performances, such as a sword swallower. Pick up some freshly made fudge from the Uranus Fudge Factory for your journey before you leave.

A short drive will take you to the city of Waynesville. During your drive, you'll catch sight of Frog Rock on your right, a granite boulder that has been sculpted and painted to look like a frog. Once in Waynesville, you'll find the Old Stagecoach Stop, which has taken on many roles since it was built in 1850, including a stagecoach stop, a tavern, Civil War hospital, and post office. Now it's a museum where each room reflects a different time in the building's history, containing original artifacts from its past.

You can see two notable bridges in this area. The Roubidoux Bridge over Roubidoux Creek is a concrete arch bridge which recently celebrated its centenary while the Gasconade River Bridge is a marvel of 1920s bridge design, showcasing the engineering process of its era. Cross the creek to head to Lebanon, which has a Route 66 museum featuring nostalgic recreations of a 1950s diner and gas station.

Take a rest stop at The Route 66 Welcome Center at the Conway Rest Area. Its enclosed picnic areas have facades reminiscent of classic Route 66 businesses. Inside, you'll find an information center with maps and brochures to help you plan the rest of your trip.

Continue your journey onward to your destination for the night, Springfield, MO. Visit some of the city's interesting museums while you're in town. At the Route 66 Car Museum you can see vintage and classic cars as well as cars that have starred in movies like Batman and Back to the Future. The History Museum on the Square is a good place to learn about Springfield's illustrious past and its ties to Route 66: this city is where Route 66 was named and was also the location of the first Wild West shootout.



TULSA, OK

**DAY 06: SPRINGFIELD – ASH GROVE, MO – MILLER, MO – AVILLA, MO – CARTHAGE, MO – JOPLIN, MO – GALENA, KS – BAXTER SPRINGS, KS – COMMERCE, OK – MIAMI, OK – VINITA, OK – CHELSEA, OK – CATOOSA, OK – TULSA, OK**

**(181MI/291KM)**

Before you depart Springfield, drop into the Route 66 Springfield Visitor Center, which offers helpful tips for navigating Route 66 and Missouri. You'll pass two filling stations from a bygone era on your onward journey. Gary's Gay Parita in Ash Grove is a replica of an old 1930s Sinclair filling station, with memorabilia including old gas pumps and cars. The second station is Spencer Station in Miller, MO, which was built in 1926 to serve Route 66 travelers as a general store, garage, café and barbershop and is being restored for Route 66 travelers to enjoy.

From there, head west to Avilla, a "living ghost town" with about 100 residents. Around the village you can see Route 66 murals and Avilla Post Office, originally built as a bank in 1915, which is a good example of early 20th

Century American architecture. Continue along Route 66 to Carthage and pull up to the 66–Drive In to step back in time and watch movies at this theater, which opened in 1949. Continue on to Joplin to see Route 66 Mural Park, which pays homage to Route 66's connection to Joplin with large–tiled murals, including one of a map of America marking Route 66. At the border between Joplin, MO and Galena, KS, cross the yellow brick road marker, artfully inspired by Kansas' connection to The Wizard of Oz, to enter Kansas. Once in Galena, KS, stop by Cars on the Route to see the tow truck that inspired the creation of the character Tow Tater in the movie, Cars. You can see replicas of other characters from the movie around town, including Luigi at Luigi's Pit Stop. On your way out, drive through the Galena Drive Thru Arch, a colorful 10–foot arch painted with Kansas sunflowers.

Next, make your way to Baxter Springs. Pass by Rainbow Bridge, the only remaining marsh arch bridge on Route 66, which recently celebrated its own 100th birthday. While in the city, be sure to check out the Baxter Springs Historical Mural—an impressive 100–foot mural depicting different aspects of Baxter Springs' history, from being Kansas' first cow town, through the Civil War period to its baseball team. Before you leave Baxter Springs, check out the Kansas Route 66 Visitor's Center. It was originally constructed as a gas station in the 1930s and retains that exterior appearance. Whether you're looking for tips for your journey or Route 66 memorabilia, you'll find it here.

Your next stop is Allen's Conoco Fillin' Station in Commerce, OK, which was built into the wall of a building, earning it the nickname "Hole in the Wall Conoco Station". It has vintage pumps out the front, providing a striking photo opportunity before you move on in your journey.

Head southward to Miami, OK, to drive under the Route 66 Gateway Sign and along the longest main street on Route 66. Continue your journey to Vinita, where The Big Bill Muffler Man stands 21 foot tall to greet you outside the highly recommended Hi–Way Cafe. A short drive further takes you to Chelsea, where the Route 66 Pedestrian Underpass Mural pays tribute to historical elements of Chelsea.

Continue south–west to Catoosa and walk inside the mouth of the giant Blue Whale of Catoosa. Learn about Catoosa's history at the Catoosa Historical Museum, where you'll find remnants from the city's past, including a mailbox that was used when mail was delivered on horseback. Another recommended museum is the D.W. Correll Museum, which houses antique automobiles, a historic gas pump and gems, minerals and seashells from around the world. From here, make your way to Tulsa, where you will spend the next two nights.



TULSA, OK

**DAY 07: TULSA, OK**

There are many vibrant districts to discover in Tulsa. Visit Tulsa Visitor Center to grab a visitor's guide to the city to orient you. In Meadow Gold District, you can discover a community of shops selling Route 66 memorabilia and vintage finds, and creative outdoor murals decorating the walls. Explore more murals, along with neon signs, in Tulsa Market District. A popular stop in this district is Mother Road Market, voted Best Food Hall by USA Today, which offers Route 66–themed mini golf.

The Blue Dome District is named for its blue–domed building that used to serve Route 66 travelers as a 24–hour gas station. The Historic Greenwood District, known as "Black Wall Street", was home to a thriving community of African American businesses in the early 20th century. Sculptures in the area, including the Tower of Reconciliation, memorialize the Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921, and tell the story of African Americans' roles in

building Oklahoma.

In Kendal Whittier District, you'll find the Oklahoma Walk of Fame honoring Oklahomans that have made significant contributions to the entertainment industry, from Brad Pitt to Ron Howard. At Route 66 Historical Village, purchase an engraved brick to leave your mark on this part of the highway or to commemorate a loved one. Drive down Route 66 Main Street, the place where oil was first discovered in Tulsa County. In the Gateway District, Route 66 Rising is a striking large sculpture celebrating Tulsa's historic connection to Route 66.

The East Meets West: Symbolic Route 66 Midpoint sculpture of a horse–drawn carriage beside a car is a must–see, artistically representing the emergence of highways spreading across the USA in the 1920s. The life–size statues in the car represent Cyrus Avery, known as the "Father of Route 66" for creating the route, and his family driving across Route 66. Due to this historic connection, Tulsa is recognized as the official "Capital of Route 66". Adjacent to the Cyrus Avery Centennial Plaza, where this statue is located, you can see the Cyrus Avery Route 66 Memorial Bridge, which was originally known as the Eleventh Street Bridge that carried Route 66 over the Arkansas River.



OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

**DAY 08: TULSA – SAPULPA, OK – STROUD, OK – DAVENPORT, OK – CHANDLER, OK – WARWICK, OK – ARCADIA, OK – OKLAHOMA CITY, OK (107MI/172KM)**

Depart Tulsa and begin your trip toward Oklahoma City. Your first stop is Sapulpa, a must for motor enthusiasts. Visit Gasoline Alley Classics, housed in a former Ford factory and filled with nostalgic automotive memorabilia, followed by the Heart of Route 66 Auto Museum, showcasing an impressive collection of classic and vintage automobiles that celebrate the golden age of motoring. Continue west to Stroud, where a stop at the legendary Rock Café is highly recommended. Serving travelers since the 1950s, this iconic diner offers authentic comfort food and a dose of Route 66 history—the café’s owner famously inspired the character Sally in Pixar’s Cars movie. As you drive onward, pass through Davenport, where you can stretch your legs and follow the distinctive red brick road to admire the tallest mural on Route 66. The striking 1891 Land Run mural vividly depicts one of Oklahoma’s most significant historical moments.

Continue west to Chandler, and visit the Route 66 Interpretive Center, where you can learn about the part Oklahoma has played in forming the sights and sounds of Route 66, from the 1920s to the present day. Check out McJerry’s Route 66 Gallery to see artwork paying homage to Route 66. West of Chandler, the Seaba Station Motorcycle Museum in Warwick allows you to step through motorcycle history, displaying motorcycles from 1908 to the present day.

As you make your way to Arcadia, you’ll spot Arcadia Round Barn on your right. Constructed in 1898, it’s the only wooden round barn in Oklahoma. You won’t be able to miss Pops 66 Soda Ranch with its 66-foot-tall pop bottle outside. A popular stop, you can choose from a large selection of soda to get your dose of Americana, from root beer and grape soda to lemonade in a variety of flavors.

Arrive in Oklahoma City by late afternoon or evening for an overnight stay. Once you reach the city, you’ll easily spot the Milk Bottle Grocery—it has a supersized milk bottle on top of the building. Film buffs can catch a movie at one of the oldest movie houses in Oklahoma City, the Tower Theatre, which opened in 1937. Its iconic neon sign has been restored and it now hosts both live shows and film screenings. Check out the lobby in another famous building that opened as a movie theatre in 1946, Will Rogers Theatre. It features a large mural illustrating the life story of actor Will Rogers, “Oklahoma’s favorite son”. You can also pay an educational visit to The Oklahoma State Capitol complex, which offers an education in art, history and government and a chance to tour the artworks.



AMARILLO, TX

**DAY 09: OKLAHOMA CITY – YUKON, OK – EL RENO, OK – CALUMET, OK – BRIDGEPORT, OK – HYDRO, OK – CLINTON, OK – ELK CITY, OK – SHAMROCK, TX – MCLEAN, TX – AMARILLO, TX (258MI/415KM)**

Before you depart Oklahoma, a visit to The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum is highly recommended to get an informative insight into the culture and history of the American West. You’ll learn about cowboys, rodeos and Native American culture in interactive galleries and can walk through a replica 1800s cattle town in an immersive exhibit. Explore Oklahoma’s rich history further in the Oklahoma History Center. Check out the iconic Gold Dome Building, with its revolutionary golden-colored dome-shaped roof, originally built as a bank in the 1950s, as you explore the city.

For refreshments before you continue your journey, the Classen Grill offers freshly squeezed orange juice, homestyle breakfasts and Mexican-inspired dishes while Cheever’s Café specializes in Southwestern cuisine. Lake Overholser Bridge, built in 1924, traditionally carried travelers along Old Route 66 to exit Oklahoma City. While it no longer carries traffic, it remains a scenic stop before you continue your journey toward Amarillo, TX.

Look out for the pretty, colorful murals as you pass through Yukon’s Main Street. Drive through the “Crossroads of America”—the intersection of Route 66 and another highway with a 1926 birthday, U.S. Route 81—as you pass through El Reno. At the corner of the crossroads, you’ll find The Filling Station, a restored 1930s station where you can see displays of vintage automobiles. From here, continue through Calumet, where the giant Native American Muffler Man towers above you as you pass through. Moving onward to Bridgeport, cross over the Pony Bridge, the longest bridge on Oklahoma’s stretch of Route 66, which was featured in The Grapes of Wrath film. You’ll come across another restored station as you continue to Hydro—Lucille’s Historic Gas Station—which features restored architecture and vintage gas pumps outside that provide a great photo opportunity. Next, head to Clinton to walk through time at the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum, with exhibits capturing each decade of Route 66’s history. Continue to the National Route 66 Museum in Elk City, where you can see classic cars and even sit in one to watch vintage films in the drive-in theater.

Head west to Shamrock, Texas, to see early American history displays of pioneer settler artifacts and Indian arrowheads at the Pioneer West Museum. While you’re in town, follow in Elvis Presley’s footsteps by dining at the Tower Station and U-Drop Inn Café and sitting in the booth he sat in. This building’s Art Deco design was used as a model for a building in the Cars movie.

Drive on to McLean, Texas, “the Heart of Old Route 66”, where you’ll find a restored 1920s Philips 66 Gas Station with a cottage design and bright orange gas pumps. From there, it’s just a few minutes’ walk to The Devil’s Rope and Route 66 Museum, which is uniquely dedicated to showcasing the story of the American West through exhibits on barbed wire and the 1930s Dust Bowl, cowboy artifacts and Route 66 memorabilia.

When you reach Amarillo, your final stop for the day, take time to admire the buildings on Route 66 Sixth Street Historic District, which feature elements of Spanish Revival, Art Deco and Art Modern Design. Pay a visit to The Texas Route 66 Visitor Center to pick up some souvenirs that represent the people and places that make Route 66 iconic. Motor enthusiasts will enjoy a visit to Bill’s Backyard Classics, which has vintage and classic cars from the 1920s onwards on display. Ambitious diners may wish to take on the 72oz steak challenge at the Big Texan Steak Ranch and Brewery, where if you consume the steak within an hour, you get it for free!



TUCUMCARI, NM

**DAY 10: AMARILLO – VEGA, TX – ADRIAN, TX – GLENRIO, NM – TUCUMCARI, NM (112MI/180KM)**

As you depart the city, you'll see one of the most instantly recognizable sights of Route 66 in Cadillac Ranch: 10 graffiti-covered Cadillacs, buried nose-first in the dirt. Bring a spray paint can and make your own mark on the cars. Continuing on to Vega, you'll come to Magnolia Service Station, which served gasoline to Route 66 travelers from the 1920s–1950s. Today you'll find historic photographs, gas station artifacts and oral histories inside the station.

Celebrate reaching the Midway Point of Historic Route 66 in Adrian with a well-earned rest at the retro Midpoint Café and Gift Shop where you can choose from a wide selection of flavorsome homemade pies. Flo's Diner in the movie *Cars* was based on this diner and the character of Flo was based on the diner's former manager. Take a photo with the halfway sign and pick up Route 66 souvenirs at the Dream Maker Station Route 66 Souvenir and Gift Shop before continuing your journey.

Start the second half of the route with a visit to Glenrio, NM, which thrived from the 1940s–70s when it catered to Route 66 travelers. Due to the introduction of Interstate 40 in 1975, it is now a ghost town with 17 abandoned buildings. You can still identify the diner, bar and hotel to get a sense of the adventure motorists felt decades ago as they passed through the town. One company that is thriving in the town is Russell's Truck and Travel Center, which includes a free classic car museum showcasing Thunderbirds, Mustangs and Corvettes as well as Hollywood and Route 66 memorabilia. It also includes a classic diner and a convenience store where you can pick up some snacks for your trip.

Get your Americana fix as you drive through Tucumcari, NM, to catch sight of an abundance of neon signs and over 50 vibrant murals throughout the city. In Route 66's heyday, these signs enticed weary travelers to stay at local motels and you can channel how they felt as you make your way to your hotel for an evening's stay.

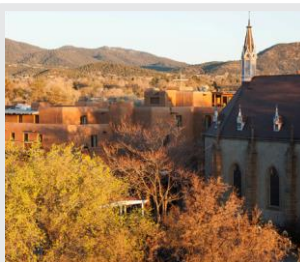


SANTA FE, NM

**DAY 11: TUCUMCARI – SANTA ROSA, NM – SANTA FE, NM (167MI/269KM)**

Leave Tucumcari behind to start your journey toward Santa Fe. En-route, stop at Santa Rosa where you can see over 30 classic cars on display at The Route 66 Auto Museum. Then follow Route 66 into downtown Santa Fe and marvel at how many businesses and buildings have stood the test of time from Route 66's early days, from 1920s hotels to 1930s motor courts.

Santa Fe is a city rich in culture for you to explore. The Palace of Governors, built in 1610, is the oldest continuously occupied government building in the United States. Native American artisans sell jewelry outside the palace, as they have done for hundreds of years. For a cultural experience, check out the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, a popular museum which celebrates the artwork of "the mother of American Modernism". Make your way to your hotel late afternoon or early evening for a two-night stay.



SANTA FE, NM

**DAY 12: SANTA FE, NM**

A can't-miss stop with a fascinating history in Santa Fe is The Loretto Chapel. When the chapel was built in 1878, there was no way to access the loft. Legend says that the nuns prayed to the patron saint of carpenters, St. Joseph. The next day a carpenter, believed by many to be St. Joseph, arrived, built the staircase and left without taking payment. The mystery of the staircase's design still baffles engineers and architects to this day: the staircase has no visible means of support, it was built using wooden pegs instead of nails, and the wood used is not native to the area. Check out this incredible work of architecture for yourself. Another historical chapel to visit is the San Miguel Chapel, which was built in the early 1600s, making it the oldest church in the continental United States.



ALBUQUERQUE, NM

**DAY 13: SANTA FE – BERNALILLO, NM – ALBUQUERQUE, NM (64MI/103KM)**

Explore the original Route 66 route in the city by driving around the Santa Fe Loop and Old Santa Fe Trail before making your way toward Albuquerque. As you leave Santa Fe, drive past the "Big Cut", located near San Felipe Pueblo, which, originally consisted of a 75-foot-long, 60-foot-deep cut in the hill made by construction workers with dynamite, shovels and picks in 1909. Part of the original Route 66, remnants of this cut can still be seen from the freeway.

En-route, stop in Bernalillo, known as "the historic heart of New Mexico", to explore its rich historical culture. Pay a visit to the fascinating ancient ruins in Coronado Historic Site, which were inhabited by Native Americans over 1000 years ago.

On arrival in Albuquerque, take time to explore Old Town Albuquerque, a historic site founded in 1706, and visit the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center features the art, food, dance and history of the 19 Pueblo tribes of New Mexico. In downtown Albuquerque, you'll discover a collection of rescued vintage neon signs from Route 66 at Glorieta Station's "Neon Park". For a classic Route 66 dining experience, step back in time at Lindy's Diner, one of the longest operating diners on Route 66, which opened in 1929. It serves classic diner favorites as well as New Mexican dishes. Enjoy the evening in Albuquerque where you will spend the night.



GALLUP, NM

**DAY 14: ALBUQUERQUE – GRANTS, NM – CONTINENTAL DIVIDE, NM –  
CHURCH ROCK, NM – GALLUP, NM**
**(138MI/222KM)**

As you continue your journey west, you'll pass the Rio Puerco Bridge, one of the longest bridges in New Mexico, which was part of Historic Route 66 and remains open to pedestrians. Continue onward to Grants to drive through the Route 66 Drive-Thru Arch, an 18-foot sign featuring neon lights, painted flames and a classic shield design, which offers a cool photo opportunity. Next, head to the Continental Divide, west of Thoreau, which brings you to a height of 7245 feet where rainfall east of the divide flows to the Atlantic, and rain that falls west of the divide flows into the Pacific Ocean. After leaving the Continental Divide, you'll come to Red Rock Museum, in Church Rock, which is filled with Native American art and jewelry.

Your final stop for the day is Gallup, where you will stay for the night and can continue to explore the rich Native American culture and history of this region. A fascinating museum in this city is the Navajo Code Talker Museum, which honors Native Americans who used their traditional language as an unbreakable code to transmit secret Allied messages during World War II. The Gallup Cultural Center, located in the historic Santa Fe Railway Depot, has exhibits on Native American traditions. While in town, you have the opportunity to buy your own authentic Native American products, including jewelry, paintings and rugs, from Bill Malone Trading as a memento of your journey.



WINSLOW, AZ

**DAY 15: GALLUP – MENTMORE, NM – PETRIFIED FOREST NATIONAL PARK, AZ –  
HOLBROOK, AZ – JOSEPH CITY, AZ – WINSLOW, AZ**
**(128MI/206KM)**

After you leave Gallup, the Manuelito Visitor Center in Mentmore offers a scenic stop where you can learn more information on New Mexico's Route 66 history before continuing to the remarkable Petrified Forest National Park, the only national park on Route 66. It's named for its large deposits of petrified wood and known for its Triassic fossils, especially fallen trees that lived about 225 million years ago. Within the national park, you'll also find the Painted Desert, named for the striking colors on its rocks, including red and shades of lavender.

From here, head to Holbrook where you can visit Gillespie Park to see a bronze dinosaur sculpture and a mural depicting Western pioneer life. Continue to Joseph City to see The Jack Rabbit Trading Post on Historic Route 66. This convenience store gained fame in 1949 for its series of billboards from Missouri to Arizona, counting down

the distance for travelers to reach the trading post. Be sure to take a photo in front of the store with the large jackrabbit and the billboard saying, "HERE IT IS".

Your final stop for the evening is Winslow, AZ. For The Eagles fans, Standin' on the Corner Park in Winslow is a must. It's a tribute to The Eagles' debut single, "Take It Easy", written by Jackson Browne and Glenn Frey. The lyrics describe standing on a corner in Winslow, Arizona, when a girl drives past in a flatbed Ford. To honor this, the park contains a mural, a Ford flatbed truck, a statue of a man resembling Jackson Browne standing on a corner holding a guitar, and a statue of Glenn Frey.



FLAGSTAFF, AZ

**DAY 16: WINSLOW – FLAGSTAFF, AZ**
**(55MI/89KM)**

On your journey from Winslow to Flagstaff, take the opportunity to walk along the edge of the rim of Barringer Crater, a meteorite impact crater that was created about 50,000 years ago. Learn about its history in the visitor center, see a fragment of the meteorite and discover how the area was used for training Apollo astronauts, before heading to the mountain town of Flagstaff for a late afternoon check-in for a two-night stay.

Take time to learn about Flagstaff in Flagstaff Visitor Center, which offers Flagstaff-themed souvenirs, maps, Route 66 memorabilia, and locally crafted items. You can also receive recommendations and insider tips to help you discover the local area. From the visitor center, take a walk around Flagstaff Historic District to see iconic buildings and neon signs. You can even take a Walk This Talk self-guided audio tour introduced by actor, Ted Danson, who grew up in the town. The tour takes you along the original Route 66 route around Flagstaff Historic

District. Alternatively, you could walk the Route 66 Trail, an urban trail from the train depot to the east side of town.



GRAND CANYON NP, AZ

**DAY 17: FLAGSTAFF – GRAND CANYON NP, AZ – FLAGSTAFF, AZ**

Flagstaff is an area of natural wonders with much to explore. You can hike to Humphrey's Peak, the tallest point in Arizona, visit Sunset Crater, a dormant volcano, and see the ancient cave dwellings at Walnut Canyon, and the pueblos at Wupatki National Monument.

It would be remiss to be in the city closest to the Grand Canyon without making a side trip to see it. This mile deep canyon offers breathtaking views, and a helicopter ride is a great way of getting a bird's-eye view of this spectacular natural site.



KINGMAN, AZ

**DAY 18: FLAGSTAFF – WILLIAMS, AZ – ASH FORK, AZ – SELIGMAN, AZ – KINGMAN, AZ (147MI/237KM)**

From Flagstaff, head to Williams, AZ, where you can see a mural marking the fact that Williams was the last town on historic Route 66 to be bypassed by Interstate 40 when the final section of the bypass was completed in 1984. While in town, pay a visit to Pete's Route 66 Gas Station Museum, a restored 1949 gas station which now houses memorabilia dedicated to Route 66 and the heyday of classic service stations. Continue on to Ash Fork, where the Ash Fork Route 66 Historic Museum showcases the stories that built the town, from its sandstone routes to its railroad past, and has a 1926 Model T automobile on display.

Next, move onto Seligman, celebrated as the "Birthplace of Historic Route 66". The town played a pivotal part in preserving the legacy of Route 66 after it was bypassed by Interstate 40 in 1978. Local barber, Angel Delgado, known as the "Godfather of Route 66", led local businesses to form the Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona

which played a crucial role in reviving tourists' interest in the route. Thanks to their efforts, Arizona became the first state to designate Route 66 as a historic highway and they successfully campaigned for Historic Route 66 signage. Today, you can visit Angel & Vilma Delgado's Route 66 Gift Shop and Visitors Center, which has memorabilia showcasing the town's history.

You've now reached Kingman, home to the Arizona Route 66 Museum and the Kingman Railroad Museum. The Arizona Route 66 Museum illustrates the story of Arizona's part of the route. It houses vehicles from different periods in history, from wagons to classic automobiles. While in town check out Hackberry General Store—with its rustic store front, it will take you back in time. It has a collection of cars from the 1950s and 60s, signs and gas pumps for you to view as well as Route 66 memorabilia for you to purchase. Make your way to your Kingman hotel for the night.



BARSTOW, CA

**DAY 19: KINGMAN – OATMAN, AZ – NEEDLES, CA – AMBOY, CA – NEWBERRY SPRINGS, CA – BARSTOW, CA (206MI/332KM)**

You'll feel like you're driving through the Old West as you move on to Oatman, AZ. The town is famous for its "burros" – small wild donkeys – that roam freely through the town. Check out its numerous gift shops and restaurants and don't miss its regular Wild West gun fight battle reenactments that take place on the street.

From Arizona, it's time to head to the final state on your Route 66 journey. The Historic Route 66 California Gateway site in Needles, CA marks the point where Route 66 enters California. Take a break at its picnic tables and check out its information kiosk to learn about Route 66 and the local region. Sign the visitor book before you leave, which has become so popular with local residents that they visit the site just to read the log entries.

You'll spot the tall neon sign leading you to your next stop from miles away. Roy's Motel and Café in Amboy has made an appearance in movies and music videos including Enrique Iglesias' "Hero". It has also counted Harrison Ford and Anthony Hopkins as regular customers. Grab a bite to eat at Bagdad Café, in Newberry Springs, which was seen in the movie of the same name. For your final destination for the evening, head to the Mojave Desert city of Barstow. Here, you can visit the Route 66 Mother Road Museum, which has classic cars, artifacts from decades past and historic photos of the local area on display.



SANTA MONICA, CA

**DAY 20: BARSTOW – ORO GRANDE, CA – VICTORVILLE, CA – CAJON PASS, CA – SAN BERNADINO, CA – RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA – PASADENA, CA – SANTA MONICA, CA (131MI/211KM)**

Moving on from Barstow, set off toward the final stop on Route 66, Santa Monica. On your journey, check out Elmer's Bottle Tree Ranch near Oro Grande, a creative art installation of bottle trees hanging from large metal pipes. Head down to Victorville, where the Old Town Route 66 sign will greet you as you enter the city.

A stop at Emma Jean's Holland Burger Café, is recommended for a vintage dining experience. It opened in 1947 and still retains a 1950s Americana feel. The bench outside is made of an old Chevy pickup truck and inside you'll see old license plates and Route 66 memorabilia on the walls. While in town, pay a visit to the California Route 66 Museum, which originally operated as a café that featured in Neil Diamond's "The Jazz Singer". Inside you'll find lots of exhibits to educate you on the history of Route 66 and can even sit in a recreated 1950s diner booth and a 1917 Ford Model T.

Continue on the route to the Cajon Pass, a mountain pass between the San Gabriel and San Bernadino Mountains, that has an elevation of 3,777 feet. It's been used for thousands of years as a passage from the Mojave Desert and the Los Angeles Basin and hikers can walk parts of the pass. Once you get to San Bernadino, you'll come across The Original McDonald's Site and Museum, where you'll find memorabilia from throughout the decades inside, including original artifacts from when it opened in 1940.

Heading west, make a stop at Rancho Cucamonga to visit the historic Cucamonga Service Station. Maintaining its original appearance as a service station of the 1930s, it now operates as a museum containing artifacts of local and Route 66 history. Continue your journey to Pasadena to see the Colorado Street Bridge, which connects Pasadena to Los Angeles. It was the world's highest concrete bridge when it was built in 1913. Until then, horses and wagons had to descend down one steep hillside, cross a small bridge over a stream and climb the steep hillside on the other side to cross the river. From here, continue your journey to the finish line in Santa Monica.

You did it! Mark the end of your journey across the country by the "End of the Trail" sign on the Santa Monica Pier. Take a ride on the Ferris wheel and rollercoaster on Santa Monica Pier and admire the beach and sea views before heading to your hotel in Venice Beach to enjoy a two-night stay to celebrate your achievement.



LOS ANGELES, CA

**DAY 21: LOS ANGELES, CA**

Whether you're into the thrill and magic of theme parks, the beauty and relaxation of SoCal beach life or walking in the footsteps of your favorite TV and movie stars, there's lots to discover in Los Angeles, "the Entertainment Capital of the World".

Take time to explore the eclectic neighborhood of Venice Beach and see fitness buffs working out in Muscle Beach's outdoor gym. Hike to the famous Hollywood Sign and take in the wondrous view of the city. Find your favorite celebrity's star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, their handprint in the forecourt of the TCL Chinese Theatre, and their house on a tour of Hollywood stars' homes. Learn the secrets of movie magic on Universal Hollywood's Studio Tour where you can explore backlots and sets from movies and TV shows, and enjoy the rides, attractions and performances at Universal Studios and Disneyland.



LOS ANGELES, CA

**DAY 22: SANTA MONICA – LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, CA****(12MI/19KM)**

Depart at leisure to Los Angeles International Airport (LAX).

**Richtpreise pro Person**

Reisetermin	Fahrzeug-Kategorie	Beispiel	<u>Alleinreisender / Einzelzimmer</u>	<u>2 Personen im Doppelzimmer</u>
<b>1.4. - 13.6.26</b>	Standard	Nissan Roque	<b>CHF 7'004.00</b>	<b>CHF 3'527.00</b>
	SUV	Ford Edge	<b>CHF 7'292.00</b>	<b>CHF 3'672.00</b>
	Large SUV	Chevrolet Tahoe	<b>CHF 7'455.00</b>	<b>CHF 3'903.00</b>
	Pick-Up	Ford F150	<b>CHF 7'699.00</b>	<b>CHF 4'025.00</b>
<b>14.6. - 14.9.26</b>	Standard		<b>CHF 7'252.00</b>	<b>CHF 3'652.00</b>
	SUV		<b>CHF 7'541.00</b>	<b>CHF 3'796.00</b>
	Large SUV		<b>CHF 7'703.00</b>	<b>CHF 4'028.00</b>
	Pick-Up		<b>CHF 7'948.00</b>	<b>CHF 4'149.00</b>
<b>15.9. - 31.12.26</b>	Standard		<b>CHF 6'943.00</b>	<b>CHF 3'496.00</b>
	SUV		<b>CHF 7'231.00</b>	<b>CHF 3'641.00</b>
	Large SUV		<b>CHF 7'394.00</b>	<b>CHF 3'872.00</b>
	Pick-Up		<b>CHF 7'638.00</b>	<b>CHF 3'995.00</b>

**Inbegriffene Leistungen**

- 21 Übernachtungen in den aufgeführten oder ähnlichen Hotels inkl. Taxen
- Discovery-Guide (Roadbook) in elektronischer Form
- Fahrzeugmiete ab Tag 3 in Chicago bis Tag 20 am Abend inkl. unlimitierte Meilen, Vollkasko- und Diebstahlversicherung mit Erstattung des Selbstbehaltes, Zusatzhaftpflichtversicherung über 10 Mio. Euro, Flughafengebühren, GPS / Navi, 1 ZusatzfahrerIn sowie eine Tankfüllung (Auto kann leer abgegeben werden)
- Ausführliche Reisedokumentation

**Nicht inbegriffen**

- Einwegmiete (zahlbar bei Übernahme mit Kreditkarte) je nach Fahrzeug ab ca. \$ 440.00 bis \$ 640.00
- Flüge nach Chicago und zurück ab Los Angeles (je nach Auslastung, Reiseternin und Buchungszeitpunkt sind Nonstopflüge ab Fr. 900.00 pro Person verfügbar - je eher Sie buchen, des grosser ist die Chance einen sehr attraktiven Tarif zu bekommen.
- Mahlzeiten (teilweise kleines Frühstück inkl.)
- Strassengebühren, Parkplatzkosten, Eintritte Nationalparks etc.
- ESTA-Einreiseregistration (\$ 41.00, resp. Fr. 85.00 falls wir dies für Sie übernommen sollten)
- alle nicht unter "inbegriffen" aufgeführte Leistungen

**Annulationskosten / Reisebedingungen**

Bearbeitungsgebühr Fr. 100.00 pro Person zuzüglich:

- bis 91 Tage vor Reiseantritt: 10 % des Reisepreises
- 90 - 61 Tage vor Abreise 20 % des Reisepreises
- 60 - 46 Tage vor Abreise 75 % des Reisepreises
- 45 - 0 Tage vor Abreise 100 % des Reisepreises

Diese Tour wird von uns vermittelt, es gelten daher ausschliesslich die Haftungs- und Vertragsbedingungen unseres US-Partners TRAVALCO USA Inc., Hollywood FL - USA.

► [Reise- und Vertragsbedingungen](#)

**Fahrzeugbeispiele**

Standard



SUV



Large SUV



Pick-up



**Wir kennen diese legendäre Strasse von eigenen Reisen sehr gut und geben Ihnen gerne weitere Tipps und Informationen. Anpassungen nach Ihren Wünschen machbar. Melden Sie sich rechtzeitig, dieses Jahr feiert die Route 66 das 100-jährige Bestehen.**

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**062 765 50 60 | reisebuero.menziken@bluewin.ch**



Mitglied im Garantiefonds der Schweizer Reisebranche