

# 14 DAYS HISTORIC ROUTE 66

## DESTINATIONS

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LAS VEGAS

# TOUR ITINERARY

## DAY 1

Destination	Chicago
Meals included	
Accommodation	N/A

You've arrived in Chicago, the official start of Route 66. A welcome meeting will be held at 18:00 hrs in your hotel for you to meet your tour leader and fellow travelling companions. If you arrive earlier in the day why not kick off your Route 66 holiday by grabbing a slice of deep-dish pizza before venturing up the Willis Tower, or take to the streets for your very own walking tour along the shores of Lake Michigan.

## DAY 2

Destination	Chicago 🚗 Pontiac 🚗 Springfield
Meals included	
Accommodation	N/A

After leaving Chicago, your first stop on your Route 66 holiday is the town of Pontiac to see the fantastic Main Street murals celebrating Route 66, the Pontiac automobile brand, and local cultural and political history. A collection of more than 150 artists known as the 'Walldogs' painted a collection of 18 murals in just four days in the summer of 2009. Then you'll head south to the iconic Route 66 stop of Springfield, the capital of Illinois. Springfield's favourite son was Abraham Lincoln and you'll pay a visit to the Lincoln Home National Historic Site, the home that he lived in with his wife, Mary Todd Lincoln, from 1844 until 1861 when he became US President. Springfield is also the birthplace of the corndog and drive-thru restaurants, so make sure you arrive with an empty stomach!

## DAY 3

Destination	Springfield 🚗 St Louis
Meals included	
Accommodation	N/A

From Springfield, Illinois, it's only a couple of hours drive to St Louis, Missouri. St Louis is one of the largest cities in the USA with a metropolitan population of over 2.8 million. Founded in 1764, it became a major port on the Mississippi River and even hosted the Olympic Games in 1904.

## DAY 4

Destination	St Louis
Meals included	
Accommodation	N/A

The Gateway Arch commemorates the settlement of America's West and it was from here that countless pioneers set out to conquer the wild frontier. Stop at Ted Drewes, an iconic Route 66 tour attraction, where you can try a 'Concrete' - an extremely thick, creamy milkshake made from vanilla frozen custard. Spend the evenings checking out the city's vibrant bar and restaurant scene at your leisure.

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## TOUR ITINERARY

### DAY 5

Destination	St Louis 🚗 Branson
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Home to Dolly Parton's Dixie Stampede and considered an alternative version of The Strip, country music is to Branson what gambling is to Las Vegas. With over 50 dinner theatres, shows and other entertainment oddities, Branson is where it's at in Missouri. It unleashes a hefty dose of pure Americana and a wonderful playlist to enjoy it to.

### DAY 6

Destination	Branson 🚗 Oklahoma City
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Oklahoma, with more driveable miles of the old highway than any other state, is a mecca for fans of the 'Mother Road'. Oklahoma City is the capital and the largest city in the state. You spend a couple of nights here and can enjoy a full day discovering some of the city's many cultural attractions. Visit the Route 66 Vintage Iron Motorcycle Museum and the historic Coleman Theatre - built in the late 1920s in the era of vaudeville and silent films.

### DAY 7

Destination	Oklahoma City
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Oklahoma is also the gateway to cowboy country so what could be a better introduction to the 'Wild West' than an optional visit to the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Originally established in 1955 as the Cowboy Hall of Fame and Museum, it has broadened its scope to encompass both Western and Native American artwork and artefacts as well as historic photographs. Oklahoma City is a great place to see a baseball game and if you're interested, please mention this to your leader early on. A top tip is to swing by the many food trucks scattered around the city and sample some local flavours at reasonable prices.

### DAY 8

Destination	Oklahoma City 🚗 Amarillo
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Amarillo in the state of Texas is your destination for today. Before you leave Oklahoma and get on your 'Way to Amarillo', you'll visit the 'official' Route 66 Museum to learn about the legends surrounding the road you're travelling on, and make a short stop at Lucille's Service Station & Roadhouse. Then you make your way to the Big Texan Steak Ranch for a steak meal (optional). If you can eat a 72-oz. steak in less than one hour, you get it for free! This is 'Man Vs Food' for real!

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## TOUR ITINERARY

### DAY 9

Destination	Amarillo 🗣️ Albuquerque
Meals included	
Accommodation	N/A

Your Route 66 road trip continues with a visit to the Cadillac Ranch, where 10 classic cars are buried nose-down in the dirt. The owners encourage graffiti, so you can grab a spray can and leave your mark! After a short driving time, you reach the Midpoint Café, the midway point between Chicago and Los Angeles, which is famous for hot coffee and rolls. Today you make a stop at Tucumcari Post and Curios, an eccentric souvenir store and drive through the Tijeras Canyon which cuts the Southern Rocky Mountains from east to west.

### DAY 10

Destination	Albuquerque 🗣️ Gallup
Meals included	
Accommodation	N/A

Drive along the Rio Puerco Valley to Inscription Rock, a cliff face at El Morro National Monument where you can observe Native American petroglyphs. Cross the Continental Divide en route to Gallup. Stay at the El Rancho Hotel, a little slice of history which counts John Wayne and Katherine Hepburn amongst its famous guests.

### DAY 11

Destination	Gallup 🗣️ Grand Canyon
Meals included	
Accommodation	N/A

Stop at the Petrified Forest National Park to see the different colours of rock layered on top of each other. Pass through Winslow and see the location mentioned in The Eagles' lyric, "standin' on the corner in Winslow, Arizona". The Grand Canyon is the ultimate symbol of the Desert Southwest and a spectacle not to be missed. It's not on the original Route 66, but it's so close it would be a crime to pass it by! This incredible natural wonder is difficult to comprehend. You'll have plenty of opportunity to explore the park at your own pace. In your free time, we highly recommend a scenic helicopter flight over the canyon, which offers perspectives that you simply can't see visiting on foot.

### DAY 12

Destination	Grand Canyon
Meals included	
Accommodation	N/A

Venture down the Bright Angel Trail to Plateau Point, or stroll along the more leisurely West Rim Trail and catch a shuttle bus out to Hermit's Rest. Finish your day by watching the amazing IMAX film, 'The Grand Canyon Experience', and enjoy a spectacular sunset over one of the world's natural wonders!

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## TOUR ITINERARY

### DAY 13

Destination	Grand Canyon 🚗 Las Vegas
Meals included	
Accommodation	N/A

The historic Route 66 town of Seligman and its Snow Cap Diner makes for a quirky pit-stop, especially since it's filled to the brim with pure Americana. Next up is Vegas and if it's gambling you want, you've come to the right place, as nowhere else in the world will you find so many casinos per square metre. In Las Vegas, you'll enjoy a driving city tour to discover some of the best things that epitomise this city, as well as learning about some of its colourful history. In the evening, you'll stay in Downtown Las Vegas, known for its captivating old Vegas charm.

### DAY 14

Destination	Las Vegas 🚗 Los Angeles
Meals included	
Accommodation	N/A

On your final day, you have the endless sunshine of California in your sights, following Route 66 across the great Mojave Desert to the city of Los Angeles. You'll toast farewell to an epic American road trip and to your new friends, from the iconic Santa Monica Pier.

This tour ends at our gateway hotel at approximately 17:00 hrs. We can book you post-tour accommodation at our gateway hotel if required. If you are planning to fly tonight, please do not book a flight that departs before 21:00 hrs.

## TOUR ITINERARY

### Inclusions

#### WHATS INCLUDED

All accommodation  
4 breakfasts  
All transport and listed activities  
Tour leader throughout  
Travel by private minibus  
Explore the Route 66 Vintage Iron Motorcycle Museum  
Visit the historic Coleman Theatre  
Entry to Abraham Lincoln's House and Museum  
St Louis Gateway Arch  
Stay at the famous and historic El Rancho Hotel  
See the Cadillac Ranch in Amarillo  
Crossing the sprawling Great Plains  
Cruise the Las Vegas Strip on a tour of the city  
Grand Canyon National Park  
Visit Pontiac's painted wall murals  
Visit the iconic Santa Monica Pier  
Wine and cheese 'Sundowner' in an area of natural beauty  
Superior twin share accommodation  
Sightseeing and transportation as per the itinerary

### Fine Print

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## TOUR ITINERARY

### HOW TO BOOK & PAYMENTS

#### Deposit & Payments

Book now and secure your package with only a \$650 deposit per person.

Pay a 2nd instalment of \$1174 per person within 28 days.

You will then be invoiced for final payment 90 days prior to departure.

#### Booking Process

Select the purple 'Reserve Your Seat' tab to begin your booking (you must 'Sign Up' first by entering your email and creating a password)

Then select the purple 'Book now' tab of the tour you have selected

Select your Departure Date, Departure City, Number of Passengers, Room Configuration, any Upgrade Options, and enter any Special Requests

Click the purple 'Proceed to Secure Checkout' tab

Enter your credit card or PayPal details to secure your deposit/payment. You may also pay via BPAY (not available within 70 days of departure)

Once your order is complete, you will be prompted to complete a Booking Form so that we can fulfil your booking

Your position on the tour will be confirmed within 48 hours of completing your order. If your place cannot be confirmed, a full refund of the deposit will occur

### OPTIONAL TOURS

### EXCLUSIONS

International Airfares

Personal Expenses

Travel Insurance

Optional activities

Anything not mentioned in the itinerary or optional

### HOTEL LIST

13 hotel nights. Accommodation will be in clean, comfortable hotels and motels with en-suite bathroom facilities, chosen for their friendly atmosphere and proximity to the highlights of the region. You will be roomed with a fellow passenger of the same sex on a twin share basis (two people per room) unless you are travelling as a couple.

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## TOUR ITINERARY

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

#### Accommodation

The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences, however, any changes are beyond our control.

#### Single Supplement

A single supplement is available upon request.

#### Triple Share

Not available.

#### Children

Children must be 5 years old or over and share a room with parents at all times. Children are charged the same price as adults.

#### Tour Documentation

Final documentation will be provided approximately 30 days prior to travel.

#### Activity Level 3 Moderate

You are moderately fit and possess a spirit of adventure. Some previous experience is required for most activity based trips.