

Edwardsville is the third oldest city in Illinois and was originally incorporated in 1818. As of 2016, the city's population was 25,071. Home to Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, the campus is one of the largest in the United States.



Edwardsville has always offered Route 66 travelers food, service, and a glimpse into history. From 1926 until the mid-1950s, the famous highway passed Cathcart's Cafe and Cathcart/Goddard Tourist Home, Hi-Way Tavern & Cafe, City Park, Kriege Hardware, El Del Uptown Tavern, and the iconic Bohm Building The Madison County Centennial Monument, in front of the Carnegie Public Library, was sculpted by Charles Mulligan in 1912. This 16-foot tall marble sculpture features four female figures representing: Learning, Justice, Plenty, and Virtue.

Attractions



Downtown Edwardsville Historic District

This quaint tree lined street with its charming light posts and flower pots offers a variety of locally owned shops and eateries. Come and spend the day where timeless buildings and modern conveniences meet to create an enjoyable experience in Illinois' third oldest city. Free Stroll-goer's Guides available at Museums and local businesses.

North Main Street

Downtown Edwardsville Historic District Official Website



Edwardsville Historic Districts

In addition to the historic downtown district, Edwardsville also is home to the St. Louis Street historic district, built in the late 1800s, and known for homes that represent several architectural styles. Also, just south of town, is the Leclair Village historic district, a vibrant area with a beautiful lake and park, baseball field, the Edwardsville Children's Museum that is located in the former Leclaire Academy and the factory buildings that are now the home of Lewis and Clark Community College. Edwardsville Historic Districts Official Website



Wildey Theatre

Come out and catch a classic movie or watch a live performance at this recently renovated theater house. Built in 1909 and named after the founder of the International Order of Odd Fellows, the Wildey offers a full range of events, including movies, musicals, live theatre and concerts- all conveniently located in the diverse downtown historic district. Admission charge

252 North Main Street (618) 307-2053 Wildley Theater Official Website



The 1820 Colonel Benjamin Stephenson House

This two-story Federal home is the oldest brick building in Madison County. Col. Stephenson, who was a contemporary of the first territorial governor, Ninian Edwards, completed the home in 1821. The beautifully restored Stephenson House offers tours by costumed docents who represent the Stephenson family, their neighbors and servants. Discover how the house is linked to the earliest days of the Illinois Territory and the establishment of Edwardsville as a center of government and commerce 409 South Buchanan Street

(618) 692-1818

The 1820 Colonel Benjamin Stephenson House Official Website



Edwardsville Children's Museum

Education stations in the historic Leclaire School House include an ice cream parlor, florist shop, bank, fire station, and a YMCA fitness center, plus areas for dress-up play where imagination can go wild! 722 Holyoake Road

(618) 692-2094

Edwardsville Children's Museum Official Website



Cleveland-Heath

Stop by for one of the best dining experiences you will ever have, in a great environment, surrounded by happy people, awesome drinks and fun food. Chef Eric Heath and Chef Jennifer Cleveland both graduated from the Culinary Institute of America at Greystone in The Napa Valley, California. The couple have worked at restaurants such as Jole, Ad Hoc, Farmstead, and the French Laundry before opening their own restaurant. Recipient of the "Enjoy Illinois: Delicious Destination" award by the Illinois Office of Tourism.

106 North Main Street (618) 307-4830 <u>Cleveland Heath Official Website</u>



Stagger Inn...Again

This legendary bar was originally established in 1974 and re-established in 1985, this is a very popular hangout amongst locals and the university community. Good food and live music most weekends. 104 East Vandalia Street

(618) 656-4221 Stagger Inn...Again Official Website



Recess Brewing

Recess Brewing bills themselves as a "community supported" brewery. The new brewery provides locally crafted beer and gives visitors the experience of how the beer is made. The location houses a 1500 square foot brewery and an 1100 square foot taproom which is open to everyone. 307 North Main Street

(618) 692-5101 Recess Brewing Official Website



Bigelo's Bistro

A favorite dining experience in Edwardsville, featuring "inventive" food and drink in a casual, relaxed atmosphere. Featuring a combination of unique pasta dishes, specialty entrees, pizzas, sandwiches, salads and daily specials. Also enjoy 12 different taps of American craft beers, featuring a rotating selection of local and national breweries.

140 North Main Street (618) 655-1471 Bigelo's Bistro Official Website



The Gardens at SIUE

The Gardens at SIUE, a 35-acre public botanical garden on the SIUE campus, is a Missouri Botanical Garden Signature Garden featuring woodlands, water features, grasslands and sculpture. Walk the trails for rejuvenation, study native plant species for personal growth, or attend an event for entertainment. SIUE Campus, State Route 157

The Gardens at SIUE Official Website



Edison's Entertainment Complex

Edison's Entertainment Complex is the St. Louis area's home of GENIUS LEVEL FUN! Located in Edwardsville, IL, Edison's features 12 lanes of boutique bowling, a 4,000 sq. ft. laser tag arena newly rethemed and with a second level in August 2017, a 65+ game state-of-the-art arcade, 10 party and event spaces, and a full-service bar and restaurant serving inventive pizzas, gourmet burgers, large variety of street tacos, delicious bone-in and boneless wings with homemade sauces, scrumptious salads, and much more! Edison's...WHAT A BRIGHT IDEA!

2477 S State Rte 157 (618) 307-9020

Edison's Entertainment Complex Official Website

Watershed Nature Center

Education, Conservation, Restoration in Edwardsville, Illinois

Watershed Nature Center

The Watershed Nature Center is home to over 40 acres of prairie, forest, and wetland habitats. The center features paved walking trails, a raised marsh walk, and a welcome center. The Watershed is dedicated to providing environmental education, passive recreation, and enjoyment of native habitats for Edwardsville and surrounding communities.

1591 Tower Avenue 618-692-7578 Watershed Nature Center Official Website



Edwardsville, Illinois Route 66 Experience Hub and Wayside Exhibits

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MAJOR EVENTS:



June 8, 2018

The Blue Carpet Corridor, from Chatham down to Collinsville (including Edwardsville), is a unique section of Route 66 characterized not only by its Mother Road charm, but also its rich mining history and colorful mobster lore. Route 66 is known for its quirky attractions, roadside hospitality, and family fun. And on the second weekend in June, the blue carpet will be rolled out to welcome thousands of travelers.

(618) 307-5049

Blue Carpet Corridor Official Website



Edwardsville Route 66 Festival & Car Cruise-In June 8-9, 2018

Come get your kicks at the Edwardsville, Illinois Route 66 Festival! If classic cars, great food and family fun are your idea of a good time, join us for the Annual Route 66 Festival at City Park in downtown Edwardsville. The City of Edwardsville is excited to welcome the community back to the park to enjoy great food, live music, the classic car cruise through town, the local talent show, local artists, children's activities, trolley rides and much more.

Downtown Edwardsville 112 S. Kansas Street (618) 692-7538

Edwardsville Route 66 Festival & Car Cruise-In Official Site



Leclaire Parkfest

October 21, 2018

The annual Leclaire Parkfest, hosted by Friends of Leclaire, is held from Noon to 5 PM at Leclaire Park the third Sunday of October. A fall festival celebrating the history of the Leclaire National Historic District, the event features live music (Dixieland Jazz and Folk/Bluegrass), delicious festival foods, narrated trolley tours of the historic district, children's games and activities, craft vendors, a large book fair, and an exhibit of vintage cars and tractors.

900 Hale Avenue 618-656-1294 Leclaire Parkfest Official Website

AMENITIES City of Edwardsville

Edwardsville City Hall 118 Hillsboro Avenue info@cityofedwardsville.com City of Edwardsville Official Website



Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville (SIUE) State Route 157 (888) 328-5168 SIUE Official Website

Edwardsville Accommodations



Comfort Inn 3080 IL-157 Edwardsville, IL 62025 (618) 656-4900 Comfort Inn Edwardsville Official Website



Country Hearth Inn and Suites 1013 Plummer Drive Edwardsville, IL 62025 (618) 656-7829 Country Hearth Inn and Suites Official Website



Holiday Inn Express & Suites Edwardsville 1000 Plummer Drive Edwardsville, IL 62025 (618) 692-7255 Holiday Inn Express & Suites Edwardsville Official Website

CLICK HERE – Edwardsville Google Map



Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway 700 East Adams Springfield, IL 62701 (217) 525-9308 info@illinoisroute66.org www.illinoisroute66.org