



# Visitor Guide & Member Business Directory



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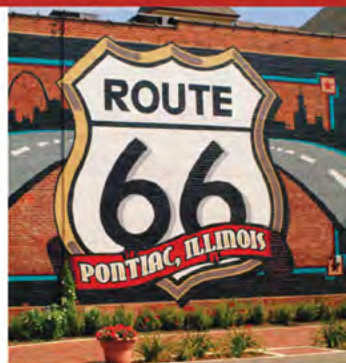
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*Pictured Above: Route 66 Motorheads Bar, Grill & Museum & Entertainment Complex Springfield, Illinois*

# Where Nostalgia Meets Newfound Adventure



## Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway

Route 66 defined a remarkable era in our nation's history and it lives on today in Illinois Route 66's many roadside attractions, museums, and restaurants - it's the shining ribbon of blacktop we call 'The Mother Road'.



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Joliet



Wilmington



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Dwight



Pontiac



Pontiac





# JOLIET, ILLINOIS



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Joliet Area Historical Museum & Route 66 Visitor's Center



Joliet Railroad Museum



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# GUIDE TO ILLINOIS ROUTE 66 SCENIC BYWAY

The Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway winds from the bustling metropolis of Chicago, snaking its way for over 400 miles through verdant fields, charming all-American small towns and vibrant urban centers, each teeming with unique stops and locales. With all that there is to see and do, we have created this guide to help you discover a land rich in traditions, historic structures, and one-of-a-kind treasures. Within these pages you will find an easy summary on the different towns and iconic attractions, maps outlining the towns and communities along the Route and must-stops to help you make the most of your experience. For ease of use, this guide is divided into three sections: **Northern Section**, **Central Section** and **Southern Section**, each identified by a corresponding color and each with its own distinctive lures and attractions.

Before you bucketlist your way around this guide, here are some Travel Tips to keep in mind:

- ✓ **Check Ahead:** Confirm that your destination is open. Due to Covid 19, we highly recommend that prior to travel, you confirm that your desired destination is open and inquire into any capacity restrictions.
- ✓ **Come Prepared:** Expect safety measures to be in place at businesses and public spaces throughout the Route.
- ✓ **Make Reservations:** Many restaurants and accommodations may rely on visitors to book their spot in advance. So to avoid disappointment, make your booking well in advance.

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*Project funded by Illinois DCEO's Route 66 Grant.*

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# #PLAYINPONTIAC

## MUSEUMS

Illinois Route 66  
Hall Of Fame & Museum  
110 West Howard Street  
815.844.4566

Livingston County War Museum  
321 North Main Street  
815.842.0301

Museum of the Gilding Arts  
217 North Mill Street  
815.842.1848

Pontiac-Oakland Automobile  
Museum & Resource Center  
205 North Mill Street  
815.842.2345



## EXHIBITS

Pontiac Museum Complex  
110 West Howard Street  
815.844.5847

Life in the 1940's  
The Bob Waldmire Experience  
Music of the Civil War  
Life on the Titanic  
A Route 66 Photo Journey  
Walldog Murals & Sign Art



## ATTRACTIONS

Murals on Main Street  
Looking For Lincoln Story boards  
Route 66 Wayside Exhibits  
Colorful Art Cars  
3 Swinging Walking Bridges  
Humiston Woods Nature Center



[visitpontiac.org](http://visitpontiac.org) | 815.844.5847

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ILLINOIS

# Our Story



## IN BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

 Cruisin' With Lincoln on 66 Visitors Center



**Bloomington-Normal Area Convention & Visitors Bureau**

**101 S. Madison St., Bloomington, IL 61701**

**800.433.8226 / VisitBN.org**



# HOW WILL YOU CELEBRATE 100 YEARS?



As the Centennial of Route 66 approaches, communities along Illinois Route 66 will be gearing up for a year of festivities, commemorating the iconic road's rich history and cultural significance.

From nostalgic events to modern-day celebrations, this milestone offers a chance to honor the legacy of Route 66 and its enduring impact on American culture and travel. Be sure to check out our website for more information!

[ILLINOISROUTE66CENTENNIAL.ORG](http://ILLINOISROUTE66CENTENNIAL.ORG)



# WELCOME TO ROUTE 66 IN ILLINOIS!

Welcome to Route 66 in Illinois! Where the Mother Road Begins. Whether you are driving the Mother Road for the first time or returning for new discoveries, we are glad that you are here!

Route 66 has inspired writers, filmmakers, photographers and artists alike. It's a road that represents a simpler time of travel and exploration, of family road trips and adventures, vivid neon, classic cars, and mom and pop diners. And with more than 400 miles of drivable Route 66, Illinois' stretch of the ribbon road is packed with wonders that continue to inspire and evoke a sense of nostalgia.

Whether you are an outdoor enthusiast, a history buff, or merely looking for a relaxing drive, Illinois Route 66 has an abundance of quirky sites, family friendly attractions, and year round festivals, to meet the needs of every type of traveler. This guide is the perfect companion to assist you in unearthing Illinois' Route 66 treasures, highlighting unique experiences and in discovering unexpected gems. Drive it all at once or enjoy sections as your time allows, or just follow the Illinois Route 66 road signs and let the Mother Road speak for itself. Whatever you choose, our stretch of the Main Street of America is sure to surprise and delight with every curve of the road. Ready to Hit the Road?

Happy Travels!

## Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway

**Get social:** We love our stretch of Route 66 and we love sharing it with you. Check us out on our social media channels where we share photos, latest news and travel information. If you are traveling through, feel free to ask questions or share your photos with us by using the hashtag #myIL66 or tagging us at @illinoisroute66.



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SmugMug

Share your photos or selfies with us at @MyIL66.

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## ABOUT THE ILLINOIS ROUTE 66 SCENIC BYWAY

The United States Department of Transportation has designated certain US roads as National Scenic Byways because of their special significance to the American people. Route 66 in Illinois received that recognition in 2005. Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway is a non-profit organization that was established with a mission to enhance and promote economic opportunities for each Illinois Route 66 community by preserving Illinois Route 66 Heritage and by sustaining and increasing heritage and cultural tourism. We serve 90 communities in Illinois, from Chicago to the Chain of Rocks Bridge near Madison, IL. Most have a population of only 2,500 or less.

We help attractions, small businesses, and communities take full advantage of their Route 66 resources to provide the best possible experience for visitors from around the world. We also provide information to travelers to help them plan their adventure down Route 66.

Whether it is helping a “mom & pop” restaurant get new tuckpointing for their restaurant, aiding a small business in setting up free Google Services or assisting a traveler on Route 66 to find the best milkshake in Illinois, we are there to help.

— **Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway**

For more information on Illinois Route 66:

**ILLINOIS ROUTE 66 SCENIC BYWAY**

1045 S 5th St. Springfield, IL 62703 | Tel: (217) 414-9331

Website: [illinoisroute66.org](http://illinoisroute66.org)

For more road trip ideas, find upcoming events, sign up for our e-newsletter or search for additional travel tools, go to [illinoisroute66.org](http://illinoisroute66.org)

**Did You Know?** A scenic byway is a road that exhibits one of six intrinsic qualities: scenic, natural, historic, recreational, archaeological or cultural, contributing toward a unique travel experience. The National Scenic Byways Program was established by Congress in 1991 to recognize roads with special significance to the American people. Route 66 in Illinois achieved this national designation in 2005.

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# A Step Back In Time

## History of Route 66



Route 66 became historically and economically significant as the nation's first all-weather highway linking Chicago to Los Angeles.

If there's a road that is on most people's bucket list to drive, it's Route 66. As one of the most famous highways in the world, Route 66 is neither the fastest, oldest nor the longest road. However, more than any other road in the country, Route 66 became historically and economically significant as the nation's first all-weather highway linking Chicago to Los Angeles. As the gateway to the West, Route 66 symbolized a pathway to freedom and adventure, capturing America's imagination. John Steinbeck's classic 1939 novel, *The Grapes of Wrath*, told of the hardship on what he called the Mother Road, bringing national attention to the road. In 1946, Nat King Cole released Bobby Troup's song encouraging America to "(Get Your Kicks On) Route 66" and the CBS television series *Route 66* brought the highway to life in many living rooms across America. These pop culture tributes would forever cement Route 66 in America's consciousness.





The beginnings of Route 66 stem back to the early 1900's, when car production and ownership in the US was rapidly increasing, and the country's mixture of dirt and paved roads were no longer meeting the demands of an America on the move. The federal government recognized this need and began to play a bigger role in road construction, culminating in the Federal Highway Act of 1921, which gave a multi-year plan of federal funding to form the National Highway System. Route 66 would emerge as one of these roads.

Route 66 was officially commissioned on November 11, 1926, and it would chart a diagonal course through the heart of America, uniting existing rural roads into one single numbered route, linking hundreds of rural communities in eight states: Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and California. Illinois already had an existing road network at the time, a result of the railroad line linking Chicago to St. Louis. That rail corridor is linked to the early work of Abraham Lincoln, one of the attorneys for the railroad in Illinois. Lincoln went





*Illinois is the only  
Route 66 state that also  
intersects with Abraham  
Lincoln's history.*

on to implement a national railway system as President of the United States (Illinois is the only Route 66 state that also intersects with Abraham Lincoln's history).

Illinois literally paved the way for Route 66, which took over the pre-existing State Bond Issue Route 4 (SBI 4), an already well-traveled and concrete-slab two-lane road from Chicago to St. Louis. Because of this, Illinois could boast, from the very start, that its stretch of the Mother Road was mud free and "slab all the way." Illinois was also the only state for which the road traveled north to south and the only state on Route 66 that was east of the Mississippi River.

Route 66 became especially important, bringing life to small towns as it weaved its way from the shores of Lake Michigan in Chicago to the Pacific Ocean in Santa Monica. Gas stations, truck stops, diners, tourist courts and then motels and other businesses sprang up to accommodate the traveling public. As America grew, so did demand for better, faster roads. As a result, new alignments of Route 66 were made. In Illinois, there were three major alignments: the original 1926-1930 alignment took the traveler through the heart of each of the communities along the road. The 1930-1940 alignment was re-routed in some cases to bypass larger, more congested communities. The 1940-1977 alignment was expanded into one of the earliest four-lane

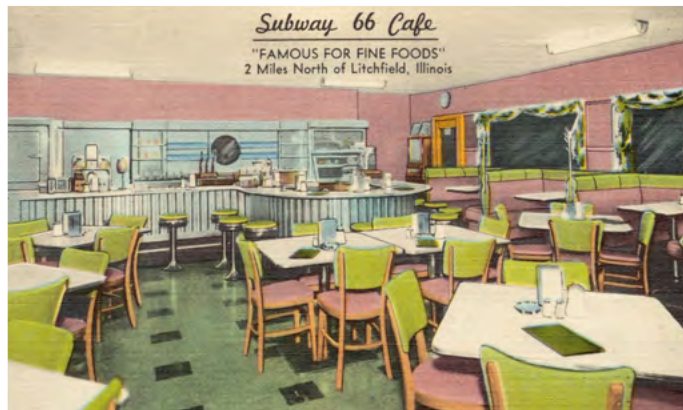




highways in order to accommodate the transportation needs of the military during World War II.

During the early years of Route 66, the road served a myriad of different peoples, most notably the migrants moving west in search of work during the Great Depression. When America became involved in WWII, Route 66 played a vital role in transporting supplies, troops, and job hunters looking to secure employment in defense plants on the west coast. After WWII, returning soldiers started taking family vacations, many of whom utilized Route 66 to travel west to sunny California, and the classic family road trip was born. These were the boom years of Route 66, where driving became an adventure. These were the days of motor courts, neon signs and roadside attractions that delivered the lure of the odd, fun, unexpected and exotic.

Then in 1956, inspired by Germany's Reichsautobahn network of superhighways during World War II, President Dwight Eisenhower enacted the Federal-Aid Highway Act, which set in motion the construction of five major highways that were expected to accommodate traffic demand and make travel more efficient. Unfortunately, these modern four lane interstates would also spell the decline





*Today, more than 85% of the old road is still accessible to vehicles with more than 400 miles of drivable Route 66 in Illinois.*

of Route 66 and other small highways as travelers opted for speed rather than meandering along. The small roadside tourist attractions that characterized Route 66 began to be overshadowed by the larger commercial strips that sprung up at every exit and interchange, sealing the fate of businesses and communities on the Mother Road.

In Illinois, Route 66 was replaced by the adjacent Interstate I-55, leading to the decommissioning of Illinois' stretch of the Mother Road altogether in 1977. On June 27, 1985, the entire stretch of Route 66, from Chicago to Los Angeles was officially decertified. Road signs were removed, along with its presence on maps.

While much of the original Route 66 has changed over time, with some sections having been usurped by the interstate system, nearly all of Illinois Route 66 is still traversable today. Illinois Route 66 was designated as a scenic byway by the United States Department of Transportation in 2005. The Byway is over 400 miles long and passes through 90 communities along the three alignments.

Communities along Illinois Route 66 have embraced the famous road and have worked to preserve their unique attractions. These cities and towns provide shopping, dining, lodging, amenities and other services







that make the trip a convenient one for the traveler. Though some iconic sites and personalities are no longer with us, the vibrancy of Route 66 continues to spawn new attractions, businesses, and entrepreneurs along the road.

Route 66 will turn 100 years old in 2026. That significant anniversary led Illinois to be the first state to introduce legislation to establish a State Route 66 Centennial Commission. This legislation was passed unanimously by the Illinois House and Senate and has been signed into law by the state Governor. In Congress, the Bill to establish the Federal Route 66 Centennial Commission was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives and Senate and signed into law by the President in December 2020.

Today, nostalgia for Route 66 is alive and well. In the following pages you will have the opportunity to retrace the steps of the Main Street of America in Illinois and prepare to discover America's Main Street for yourselves. Remember, the less rushed you are, the richer your experience will be. Illinois 66 has so much to offer.



Happy Travels!





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# Route 66 Motorheads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex



[www.66motorheads.com](http://www.66motorheads.com)



## ABOUT MOTORHEADS

Route 66 Motorheads Bar, Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex is way more than a restaurant. It's an experience. It's a step back in time. It's a place to join family and friends to reminisce on old memories of Springfield and create new ones. Motorheads has made its home in the former Stuckeys Roadside Stop just off the original Route 66 Byway that ran thru Springfield. After many years of falling into despair, the property was transformed into a unique Illinois destination for locals and tourists alike. From the custom bar, complete with 18 taps mounted on rear ends of vintage cars, to the hundreds of unique signs and artifacts, top-notch service, and the delicious food & drink menu you're in for the coolest experience around! Motorheads is home to vintage car shows, bike events, live music in the huge four seasons event complex, and the largest Route 66 emblem/sign in the world. There is one thing for sure, nothing ever stays the same here!

**600 Toronto Road | Springfield, Illinois 62711**

**(217) 679-7323 | Like Us on Facebook @66motorheads**

# Illinois Route 66 History Timeline

## 1921

The Federal Highway Act of 1921 is passed to create a national highway system through federal funding. In 1927, the National Highway System is formed.



## 1924

The route State Bond Issue 4 or SBI 4 is built from Chicago to St. Louis and becomes one of the best engineered links designated to create Route 66.

## 1926

On November 11, 1926, Route 66 is officially commissioned, beginning in Chicago, Illinois, and ending in Los Angeles, California. Since SBI 4 is replaced by Route 66, Illinois' section of the Mother Road is the first to be completely paved.

## 1927

Route 66 Highway Association is created, and the name "Main Street of America," is adopted.

## 1928

Dixie's Truckers Home is established in McLean, Illinois.



## 1932

The Standard Oil Station is built in Odell, Illinois.



## 1937

The Mar Theatre opens in Wilmington, Illinois.



## 1939

John Steinbeck gives Route 66 its charming nickname, “The Mother Road,” in his novel, *The Grapes of Wrath*, where his fictional characters, the Joad family, head west along Route 66 in search of work.

## 1945

World War II ends and the age of the American road trip starts to take shape, leading countless vacationing families to flock to Route 66 as a means of travel.

## 1946

- American songwriter Bobby Troup, while on a road trip to California with his wife, pens the song (*Get Your Kicks On*) *Route 66*. The song was recorded by Nat King Cole in the same year.
- Jack D. Rittenhouse self publishes *A Guide Book to Highway 66*, the first guidebook of its kind.



## 1949

The Cozy Dog Drive-In is established on Route 66 in Springfield, Illinois.

## 1956

President Eisenhower, inspired by the German Autobahn, passes a law to



construct a new system of high-speed, limited-access, highways. Five new interstates (I-55, I-44, I-40, I-15, and I-10) replace Route 66.

## 1960

The TV show, *Route 66*, airs and runs for 116 episodes, starring Martin Milner and George Maharis.



## 1965

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The Dari Delite restaurant in Wilmington, Illinois, is renamed the Launching Pad Drive-In and becomes home to the Gemini Giant.



## 1970

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Nearly all segments of original Route 66 are bypassed by a modern four-lane highway.



## 1977

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On January 17, 1977, the last Illinois Route 66 highway marker is taken down.

## 1985

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On June 27, Route 66 is officially decommissioned.

## 1989

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In October, the Route 66 Association of Illinois is formed in Dwight, Illinois.

## 1995

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The Illinois Department of Transportation creates and places new Historic Route 66 signs on Illinois' section of Route 66, highlighting the different alignments in Illinois.

## 1999

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Congress passes an act to create the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program, which helps preserve the historic and iconic places along the Mother Road.

## 2005

---

Illinois' section of Route 66 is recognized as a National Scenic Byway by the United States Department of Transportation.

Experience and Explore

# ROUTE 66 *Red Carpet Corridor*

Joliet, Elwood, Wilmington,  
Braidwood, Godley, Braceville,  
Gardner, Dwight, Odell, Pontiac,  
Chenoa, Lexington, Normal,  
Bloomington



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[ILROUTE66REDCARPETCORRIDOR.COM](http://ILROUTE66REDCARPETCORRIDOR.COM)

# Signs on the Mother Road

Illinois Route 66 leads with some of the best mapped out Historic Route 66 Signage, to help you navigate the old road. So keep an eye out for them. Along with the road signage are strategically placed **Experience Hubs**, **Wayside Exhibits** and **Interpretive Statues** found in different communities along Illinois Route 66.

**EXPERIENCE HUBS** are nine-foot-tall Kiosks located in the communities of Berwyn, Romeoville, Joliet, Wilmington, Dwight, Pontiac, Bloomington, Normal, Lincoln, Springfield, Carlinville, Litchfield, Edwardsville and Chain of Rocks (Madison). Not only do they share the story of Route 66 in Illinois, but they guide you to the locations where those stories took place! At night these kiosks light up with the name of the host community.



Steppinstars

**WAYSIDE EXHIBITS** can be found in Berwyn, Countryside, Willowbrook, Romeoville, Dwight, Pontiac, Normal, Bloomington, Atlanta, Lincoln, Williamsville, Springfield, Virden, Carlinville, Litchfield, Staunton and Hamel. Each exhibit tells the unique story about that location and Route 66 and reflects the design elements of the 1940's and 50's automotive industry featuring streamlined shapes, angles and curves, chrome and neon of that era.



Steppinstars

**INTERPRETIVE STATUES** are two-dimensional iron statues depicting a famous scene from the history of Route 66 in Illinois in the communities of Pontiac, Elwood, Godley, McLean, Elkhart, Sherman, Benld, Gillespie and Staunton. Accompanying a corresponding wayside panel, these 'shadow statues' share the story of the Mother Road in a unique and fun way. They also serve as great photo opportunities.



Vielen Dank





**A ROUTE 66  
HISTORIC ATTRACTION**

## The David Davis Mansion

*Over 150 Years of History*



1000 Monroe Drive Bloomington, IL  
309-828-1084

**Tours: Wednesday-Saturday  
9am to 3:30pm**

### *Tours*

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### *Events*

Enjoy one of our 20+ yearly public events, including a celebration for Lincoln's Birthday, a Spring Festival and Easter Egg Hunt, seasonal car shows, the Glorious Garden Festival, Christmas at Clover Lawn, and more!

### *Shopping*

Explore our collection of books, souvenirs, gifts, and more in the Clover Lawn Museum Shop, located inside the mansion.

Visit [daviddavismansion.org](http://daviddavismansion.org) to learn more and view our event calendar!



# Land of Giants

The idea that bigger is better is alive and well in Illinois Route 66. With each twist and turn, uncover roadside attractions that pack a big punch. From enormous 18-foot muffler men, to gigantic bottles, to gargantuan tricycles, you're sure to find something spectacularly big, culturally significant or downright oddball. So be ready for some pretty nifty Kodak moments and enjoy the ride!

Begin your adventure in **Wilmington** where the iconic **Gemini Giant** once stood proudly outside the Launching Pad Drive-In. This towering figure, standing at 30 feet tall, portrays a spaceman adorned in a striking green suit, a silver helmet and clutching a rocket. The Gemini Giant pays homage to the nation's 1961 Gemini Space Flight program. The Gemini Giant captured the imagination of many, becoming a beloved landmark outside the Launching Pad. However, today, the Gemini giant no longer graces the vicinity of the Launching Pad. Despite this, he remains the most photographed of the muffler men and the sole surviving space themed variant. In March 2024 the Gemini Giant was relocated to storage for some much-needed love and repair. Looking towards the future the city of Wilmington has taken ownership of the iconic figure with plans to relocate it to 201 bridge St. in Wilmington; anticipated to occur in the mid to late



illinoistroute66.org

Summer of 2024, the relocation of the Gemini Giant promises to continue its legacy as a symbol of Wilmington's rich Route 66 history. Over in the town of **Normal**, you'll find a 15-foot-tall "soda jerk" style muffer man named **Carl**. The smiling giant at Carl's Ice Cream Factory, the only ice cream store in Bloomington/Normal that makes its own premium hard ice cream, stands proudly holding an ice cream cone in one hand and a hamburger in the other, clearly enticing travelers to give in to their hunger cravings.

Further south, the Mother Road takes you to another of these famous goliaths, the 19-foot **The Bunyon Giant** in super quaint **Atlanta**. This hotdog holding muffer man once peddled wares at Bunyon's Hot Dog Stand in Cicero (southwest of Chicago) before being



Enjoy Illinois



Enjoy Illinois

relocated to Atlanta in 2003. Big Paul is on the ready to help nail that perfect photo op.

Give the kids a presidential history lesson at the **World's Largest Covered Wagon in Lincoln**. This 25-foot-tall and 40-foot-long Guinness Book of World Records qualifier, comes complete with a large statue of Abraham Lincoln sitting on the front end, a law book in hand. Known as the Lincoln Railsplitter, the attraction was hand-built in 2001 and was moved from the town of Divernon to Lincoln in 2007. In **Springfield**, you'll want to track down the **Lauterbach Giant**, a 1962 muffler man who has advertised a variety of businesses in town, including a tire shop, a café and motel. Proudly holding an American flag (rather than the original tire), this bearded gent, who

sits in front of Lauterbach Tire & Auto Service, has quite the storied past that includes surviving decapitation after a tornado blew through town in 2006. Luckily, he was quickly restored to all his patriotic glory.

As you come to the end of Illinois Route 66, a stop at the whimsical **Pink Elephant Antique Mall** in Livingston is an absolute must. Get a 5-for-1 deal with the variety of huge statues all in one stop! Hang ten with the **Giant Surfer**, a **Giant Tricycle**, a **Giant Pink Elephant**, among others. You will also encounter a more recent addition: a massive former President Donald J. Trump statue realistically wearing a large red MAGA hat. And just because you are in the Land of Giants, you get the special treat of seeing one of the rare and unique **Uniroyal Girls**. With only a dozen or so left in the country, these first ladies of roadside attractions were allegedly modeled after Jackie Kennedy, and depending on the season, can be seen sporting a dress, bikini or in this case a waitress uniform. The last Illinois giant treasure stands tall in **Collinsville**. the **Giant Catsup Bottle** doubles as a 170-foot-tall water tower and is undeniably impressive. No matter which giant you spot, you're promised pure, nostalgic entertainment and rare photo opportunities for the whole family.



Rivers and Routes

# Land of Classic Dining

Take your taste buds for a ride as you explore the Land of Classic Dining. From traditional diners and quirky cafes to amazing fine dining, Illinois' stretch of the Mother Road hosts some of the most treasured eateries on the highway.

Breakfast at **Lou Mitchell's** in **Chicago** has become a rite of passage before heading out west. The eatery's 1950's decor, zigzag shaped counter, and retro booths will time warp you back to a bygone era. For 98 years, Lou's has served up hearty meals, with a side of quirky tradition — milk duds for the ladies and donut holes for the gents.

Stop in at the **Berghoff Restaurant** for a look at the first ever Chicago Liquor License No. 1 which hangs proudly on one of the walls. With a legacy that goes back to the 1800s, this restaurant's historic ambiance with oak wood paneling, old fashioned light fixtures and indoor murals, reeks of old-world charm.

If you are looking for a taste of the “original Chicago hot dog,” otherwise known as the “depression dog” then step into **Henry's Drive-In** in **Cicero**. A former drive-through diner famous for its delicious french-fry topped

hotdog. However, if chicken is on your mind, then head over to **Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket** in **Willowbrook** for some of their world-famous slow-cooked chicken. Tracing its roots to a 1930s lunch counter, this current 1946 roadhouse offers sit down dining and a cocktail lounge.

The **Polk-A-Dot Drive** in **Braidwood** is a '50s-style diner right out of *American Graffiti*. Starting out as a food bus with polka dots in 1956, it has become a popular gem on Route 66 for its checkered floors and tabletop jukebox, root beer floats and chili cheese fries. For delicious country cooking in a family-oriented atmosphere and Route 66 flare, then the newly renovated **Old 66 Family Restaurant** in **Dwight** is the place to be. The front of a car is used as a hostess stand, supporting the road travel theme, while Mother Road memorabilia adorns their historic walls. You'll find an abundance of Route 66 history at the **Old Log Cabin** in **Pontiac**,





Heritage Corridor

perfect ambiance to enjoy the made from scratch, internationally inspired menu.

Experience an American fast-food treasure at the **Cozy Dog Drive-In** in **Springfield**, home of the “original” hot dog on a stick. The third generation Waldmire family-owned diner has been feeding hungry travelers since the 1940s. What began as a ‘crusty cur’ at 15 cents, has become a true Mother Road royalty. If you’re in the mood for a finer dining establishment in the state capital, check out **Maldaner’s**, opened over a hundred years ago in 1884. Here you can enjoy chef-prepared meals inspired by Mediterranean influences, in a historical setting.

from the almost 100-year-old building itself, to the regulars who frequent the cabin.

Slide yourself into one of the booths at the **Dixie Travel Plaza** in **McLean** and transport back to 1928. Originally called Dixie Truckers Home, the restaurant offers a long history of those who know the road and good food better than perhaps anyone: truckers.

The painted murals, low lighting, mismatched tables and chairs, and the exposed brick walls of the **Wild Hare Cafe**, in **Elkhart**, give the

The bright neon **Ariston Cafe** sign in **Litchfield** will beckon you to stop at this eatery that is considered one of the oldest restaurants in operation along the Mother Road. The booths, counter seating, and white linen cloth covered tables attest to the cafe’s rich history, tradition, and place in the town’s narrative.



John Smith

# Land of Vintage Gas Stations

At a point in time, family-owned filling stations dotted the American landscape, and they weren't just for fuel. These drive-in gas stations helped usher in the golden age of American automobiles. Although generally not in service anymore, these historic roadside staples that dot Illinois Route 66 are a reflection of America's transportation revolution and offer an opportunity to soak in the allure of a bygone era.



Kevin Earinger

Start your exploration at the **Ambler's Texaco Station in Dwight**, a spot that serves as both the literal and metaphorical welcome center to the nostalgia that you are looking for. Built in 1933 and consisting of an office with an arched roof and a sheltering canopy extending over three gas pumps, the restored gas station stands as one of the oldest continually operated service stations along Route 66. Browse through the displays of old cash registers, historic automotive memorabilia, and tools from the 66 years that it serviced motorists, including a fully restored Model-T, Dwight's first fire truck.

Just down the road in **Odell**, relish in the history and authenticity of the **Odell Standard Oil Station**. Built in 1932 and based on the 1916 Standard Oil of Ohio design, with a garage and service bay added in the late 1940s, the station sold gas until the 1960s, but ended up closing for good in the 1970s, eventually falling into disrepair.

But the station was so beloved by the local community that the town (along with the help of several committees and associations), decided to restore it to its original grandeur, allowing for the icon to remain today.



Kevin Earinger



The cottage-like facade and bright yellow Shell pumps of the **Soulsby Service Station in Mount Olive** are a time capsule of an era of customer service that today seems quaint. Built in 1926 by Henry and Russell Soulsby, the Shell station stopped serving gas in 1991 and closed its doors for good in 1993. However, under new ownership, the station has been impeccably restored to look essentially the same as it did during its prime in post-World War II. It remains one of the most photographed stations on the entire highway.

At the 1931 **Sprague's Super Service Station in Normal**, you'll find an architectural rarity in the distinctive brick Tudor Revival structure that is now the area's visitor's center. Constructed by William W. Sprague, the beautiful manor-style building with its red-gabled roofline, once housed a cafe, garage and gas station selling Cities Service gas, while the upstairs served as living quarters for the owner and gas attendant. During the 1940s, the building and plot changed hands a couple of times and the gas pumps were eventually removed in 1979. The building was purchased in 2006 and painstakingly restored to its original glory and stands as the only Tudor Revival canopy gas station in the State of Illinois.

In bustling **Springfield**, you will find the historic 14x14 foot **Mahan's Phillips 66 Filling Station** on display at Fulgenzi's Pizza & Pasta. Believed to date back to the 1920s, it was bought by Henry Mahan who moved it to Middletown before World War II, where for six decades, he ran it as a Phillips 66 Station. Back then it was white in color, with a big canopy, and a pre-electric gas pump with a big glass globe at the top. Mahan

eventually closed the station in the mid-1950s. Today, Mahan's, rumored to be one of the earliest gas stations in Illinois, serves as a roadside novelty and a great photo opportunity or souvenir spot for any traveler, currently located at Fulgenzi's Pizza & Pasta.

Just south of Mahan's is **Shea's Gas Station Museum**. Shea's was a Texaco, and later Marathon, gas station from 1946 – 1982. Owners Bill and Helen Shea transformed the property into a world-renowned museum in 1995 until Bill passing in 2013. The building contents were auctioned off and property sold in 2016. In early 2024, the City of Springfield, made improvements to the property including reproducing the original signage on the exterior and interior of the station. While the interior of Shea's is not yet open to the public; Shea's is now a photo opportunity not to be missed!



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# NORTHERN SECTION

Illinois Route 66 glides easily through the state with over 400 miles of Historic Route 66, and through charming communities, each with something unique and interesting to see. The Northern section meanders evenly from the hustle and bustle of downtown **Chicago** across **Joliet, Wilmington, Braidwood, Godley, Gardner, Dwight, Odell** and finally to the quaint town of **Pontiac**, melding a bustling urban scene with robust history, classic Americana, and outdoor adventure.

## CHICAGO

Traditionally, the Route 66 starting point is here, on the shores of Lake Michigan. The Windy City has a rich and complex history that includes the devastating Great Chicago Fire and the rebuilding of the city, to its speakeasy past during the Prohibition years where Route 66 began to play a significant role. Start your epic trip at the **Historic Route 66 Begin Sign** on East Adams Street, then grab the 'world's finest coffee' at the iconic **Lou Mitchell's Restaurant**.



## CRUISIN' WITH LINCOLN ON 66 VISITORS CENTER & GIFT SHOP

Located on the ground level of the nationally accredited, award-winning **McLean County Museum of History**, the **Cruisin' with Lincoln on 66 Visitors Center & Gift Shop** is your one-stop shop for local products, information, and more! After you take a picture on our iconic Lincoln Bench, grab a cold Route 66 soda and a locally sourced snack before continuing your journey on the Mother Road. Plan your visit at [cruisinwithlincolnon66.org](http://cruisinwithlincolnon66.org) and [mchistory.org](http://mchistory.org).

200 N. MAIN ST. BLOOMINGTON, IL



# Events on 66!



Route 66 Classic Car Show  
North Lawndale  
Mid-September  
[carsonroute66.com](http://carsonroute66.com)



WeatherTech's Berwyn  
Route 66 Car Show  
Last Saturday in August  
[berwynrt66.com](http://berwynrt66.com)



Red Carpet Corridor  
First Weekend in May  
Joliet to Bloomington-Normal  
[ilroute66redcarpetcorridor.com](http://ilroute66redcarpetcorridor.com)



International Route 66 Mother Road Festival  
Historic Downtown Springfield  
Last Weekend in September  
[route66fest.com](http://route66fest.com)



Litchfield Pickers Market  
Downtown Litchfield  
2nd Sunday of the Month  
May through October  
[visitlitchfield.com](http://visitlitchfield.com)



Slow Art Day  
on Route 66  
(Annually in April)  
Route 66 Art Trail  
(Annually in July)  
Bloomington-Normal  
[facebook.com/BNartists](https://facebook.com/BNartists)



Route 66 Miles  
of Possibility Conference  
Edwardsville - Oct 31 - Nov 3, 2024  
Joliet - 2025 | Springfield 2026  
[route66miles of possibility.com](http://route66miles of possibility.com)

For More Events Visit:  
[www.illinoisroute66.org/events](http://www.illinoisroute66.org/events)

# NORTHERN SECTION

The Mother Road maneuvers through the Chicago suburbs of **Cicero**, home of **Henry's Drive-In**, through **Berwyn**, host of the annual **Berwyn Route 66 Car Show**, and the **Berwyn's Toys & Trains**, where you can operate a giant train set, then through **Countryside** and **Willowbrook**. Increased war time traffic resulted in various alignments including the original 1920s two-lane highway from **Joliet** to **Wilmington**, which was replaced with a 1930s four-lane divided highway through **Plainfield** and **Channahon**, that later became I-55.

## PLAINFIELD & CHANNAHON

If taking the 1930s route, you will want to stroll through **Historic Downtown Plainfield** which is on the National Register of Historic Places and enjoy the beautiful historic architecture and **Waterfront Trails**. Another site to see is **Warehouse:109**, an event venue whose gallery of antique motorcycles, vintage bar and a 1958 Airstream are an ode to classic Americana. And if you really want to get out in nature, check out the **Channahon State Park** in **Channahon**, an Indian name meaning "meeting of the waters" of the DuPage, Des Plaines and Kankakee rivers. Established in 1932, the 21-acre park which is the official trailhead for the **Illinois & Michigan Canal State Trail** checks all the outdoorsman boxes with camping, canoeing, fishing, picnicking and trail access.



Anatoly Evdokimov



LittleT889



### Did You Know?

Downtown Plainfield hosts a unique shared alignment of **Route 66 (Highway 59)** and the **Lincoln Highway (Highway 30)** that traverses three blocks in the downtown district (Division Street & Joliet Road).



Illinoisroute66.org

## JOLIET

Make your first stop the **Joliet Area Historical Museum and Route 66 Welcome Center**, and take in their impressive (and free!) Route 66 Experience exhibit. History buffs will appreciate a tour of the **Old Joliet Prison**, once home to some noteworthy felons like Leopold and Speck, and film location for “The Blues Brothers” with fictional criminal, “Joliet Jake” Blues. Ooh and aah at the grandeur of the **Rialto Square Theatre** whose beauty is next to none and shares the same birth year as the Mother Road. Then linger with some musical history at the **Illinois Rock & Roll Museum on Route 66**. Through artifacts, jam sessions and vinyl listening stations, it honors and celebrates the musical contributions of Illinois to the world. Sweet tooth cravings? Head to the **Rich & Creamy** ice cream shop that has stood on this same spot for almost 50 years and where Jake and Elwood Blues replicas dance atop the roof. A refreshing walk through the **Kicks on 66 Park**, which overlooks the Joliet Prison, will leave you energized to keep motoring on.

❗ **Don't Miss:** The 6-foot tall **Route 66 Number & Shield Installment** outside the Welcome Center in Joliet that makes for the perfect selfie shot.

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Heritage Corridor CVB



# NORTHERN SECTION

## WILMINGTON

The **Gemini Giant**, one of the highways most iconic fiberglass glass muffler men once adorned the parking lot of the Launching Pad. Currently, the Gemini Giant is in storage but is slated to be relocated to its new home at 201 Bridge Street in Wilmington. Be sure to journey to the **Historic Water Street Shopping District** where retail shops, including the **Route 66 Antiques** with its array of unique collectables will have you shopping to your heart's content. Wilmington's very own **Mar Theatre** lit up its dazzling marquee for the first time in 1937, and continues to this day to offer locals and travelers the chance to watch films in a lavish, comfortable theatre. Be sure to check out the iconic green **Sinclair Dinosaur** statue perched atop an old 1963 Sinclair service station on 205 E Baltimore Street.

**Don't Miss:**  
The green **Sinclair Dinosaur** statue perched atop an old 1963 Sinclair service station on 205 E Baltimore Street.



John Smith



John Smith

## BRAIDWOOD

If you are looking for quirky and kitschy, plan to pay a visit to the **Braidwood Zoo**, a collection of weird and wacky art sculptures by the late Jack Barkers and a fun photo op. The **Polk-A-Dot Drive-In**, which started out with original owner Chester “Chet” Fife serving fast food out of his school bus in 1956, is a classic throwback to the 1950s with its spinning neon sign, booth seating, diner fare and rock and roll nostalgia represented by playful statues of Marilyn Monroe, Elvis Presley and the Blues Brothers.



Astur

## GODLEY & GARDNER

Blink and you will miss them, these small communities have their share of treasures to uncover, including the **Illinois Route 66 Mining Museum**, in Godley that tells the stories of miners who worked along Illinois Route 66. In Gardner, the 1906 historic **Two Cell Jail** will give you a taste of a confined life behind bars while you listen to an audio narration of its history. The restored **Historic Streetcar Diner**, originally created in 1932, from an early 20th century Kankakee streetcar, was transformed into a playhouse and cottage in 1937. Today, guests can peer into its history, replete with diner themed furniture and a colorful mural of a kitchen and chef on the back wall.



John Smith

### ! Don't Miss: The Shop on Route 66

● this bright-red, one-story building takes the love of the soft drink to a whole new level. Operating as Perkins Wood and Glass shop, it is brimming with Coke memorabilia making it an Americana stop at its best.



John Smith

# NORTHERN SECTION

## DWIGHT

Home to many heritage attractions, Dwight's **Route 66 Visitor Center** is no exception, occupying the 1933 restored **Ambler's Texaco Gas Station**, which is considered the longest running gas station on the Mother Road. History enthusiasts should check out the town's **Historic Depot**, built in 1891, as well as the historic **John R. Oughton House**. The tall, five-story **Oughton Estate Windmill**, built in 1896 to pump water for the estate, still stands impressively nearby. Enjoy tasty home cooked meals whose recipes have been passed down through three generations at the newly renovated **Old Route 66 Family Restaurant**.

Gimas



## ODELL

Journey back in time at the restored 1932 **Standard Oil Station** whose blue roof, swinging Standard Oil sign and architectural design harken back to its glory days. Also of interest is the now-filled **Odell Subway Tunnel**, created in 1937 it provided pedestrians safe passage beneath the very busy Route 66 of the late '30s to early '40s.

Heritage Corridor CVB



Kevin Eisinger



❗ **Don't Miss:** The restored **Meramec Caverns Barn** or Cayuga Barn, about 600 feet from the Mother Road in **Cayuga**. A nostalgic remnant of 1930s Meramec Caverns advertising campaign.





## PONTIAC

Pontiac exudes small-town charm at its best where the history of the community is preserved in the treasure trove of museums, murals, outdoor art, historic homes and a charming downtown that invites you to browse through the unique shops and restaurants. The

**Route 66 Association Hall of Fame and Museum**, housed in a historic firehouse, is a place you can spend a couple of hours soaking in the history of the Mother Road. It is also home to the iconic **Volkswagen Bus** belonging to the late Route 66 personality, Bob Waldmire, and the **Livingston County War Museum**. Follow the **Blue Directional Footprints** signs painted on the sidewalk to discover the **Museum of the Gilding Arts** and the **Pontiac-Oakland Automobile Museum**. To uncover the town's life-like **24 Outdoor Wall Murals** including the popular **Route 66 Shield Mural** just follow the **Red Footprint Signs**.

**! Don't Miss:** The **Old Log Cabin**, a rustic shrine to American comfort food. It hasn't changed much since it first opened in 1926 as a roadside lunchroom and gas station.



Adam Alexander



Adam Alexander




Gimias




Gimias

# NORTHERN SECTION

The pride of downtown Pontiac is the **Livingston County Courthouse** which dates back to 1841 when the first wooden one was constructed. The current and third courthouse, built in 1875, flaunts marvelous architecture and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. While here, take the challenge and unearth the **Pontiac Art Cars**, an outdoor seasonal art display of 15 uniquely decorated miniature '57 Chevs and pickup trucks that dot the downtown shopping area. Be sure to enjoy a relaxing stroll at the **Humiston-Riverside Park** which is the location of one of Pontiac's three pedestrian **Swinging Bridges**, each of which cross the Vermilion River and offer serene views.

 **Did You Know?** Pontiac is the only city in central Illinois with three swinging bridges.

 **Don't Miss:** Participate in the **Pontiac Charm Trail** and collect one-of-a-kind mementos at participating retail stores. A unique way to commemorate your trip.




Efren Lopez



Efren Lopez



John Smith

 **Travel Tip:** Nature and outdoor aficionados looking to hit the trails, indulge in some fishing or explore on canoe will love the **Humiston Woods Nature Center**, a 335 acre hardwood forest and eight-acre restored prairie along the Vermilion River.

# MUST STOPS



- Begin/End Route 66 Signs East, Chicago
- Lou Mitchell's Restaurant and Bakery, Chicago
- Henry's Drive-In, Cicero
- Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket, Willowbrook
- Joliet Area Historical Museum and Route 66 Welcome Center, Joliet
- Rich & Creamy, Joliet
- Old Joliet Prison (Collins Street Prison), Joliet
- Rialto Square Theatre, Joliet
- Illinois Rock & Roll Museum on Route 66, Joliet
- Historic Water Street Shopping District, Wilmington
- Mar Theatre, Wilmington
- Sinclair Dinosaur, Wilmington
- Polk-A-Dot Drive-In, Braidwood
- Braidwood Zoo, Braidwood
- The Two Cell Jail and Christiansen Memorial, Gardner
- Historic Streetcar Diner, Gardner
- Ambler's Texaco Gas Station, Dwight
- Standard Oil Gasoline Station, Odell
- Meramec Caverns Barn, Cayuga
- Route 66 Hall of Fame and Museum, Pontiac
- Murals on Main Street Tour, Pontiac
- Miniature Cars through Downtown, Pontiac
- Bob & Ringo's Grill & Smokehouse, Pontiac

For a complete list of Attractions, see the Directory at the end of the guide or visit [illinoisroute66.org](http://illinoisroute66.org)

# CENTRAL SECTION

Welcome to the Central Section of Illinois Route 66, famously known as the Land of Lincoln, offering the perfect balance of history, small town charm, and big town conveniences. Flanked by corn and soybean fields, the Mother Road follows through the tiny towns of **Chenoa**, **Lexington**, and **Towanda**, then zig zags through the bustling town of **Bloomington/Normal**. From here, it traces peacefully through **Shirley**, **McLean**, **Atlanta**, **Lincoln**, **Broadwell**, **Elkhart**, **Williamsville**, and **Sherman** before heading straight to the state capital, **Springfield**.

## CHENOA

The sleepy village of **Chenoa** has made use of its retired, section of Route 66 by turning it into the **Chenoa Route 66 Prairie Trail**. This three-mile stretch features exhibits and information about Route 66. An abandoned 1926-30 segment off of Moorehead and Cemetery roads, is part of the pavement listed on the National Register of Historical Places and offers the perfect opportunity to see and experience an old alignment of the Mother Road. The **Quaint Downtown** showcases the **Chenoa Pharmacy**, one of the longest running businesses in the area, having first opened in 1889. Be sure to check out the historic **Matthew T. Scott House**, originally built in 1855 by the noted agriculturalist, son of a Kentucky banker and founder of the town.

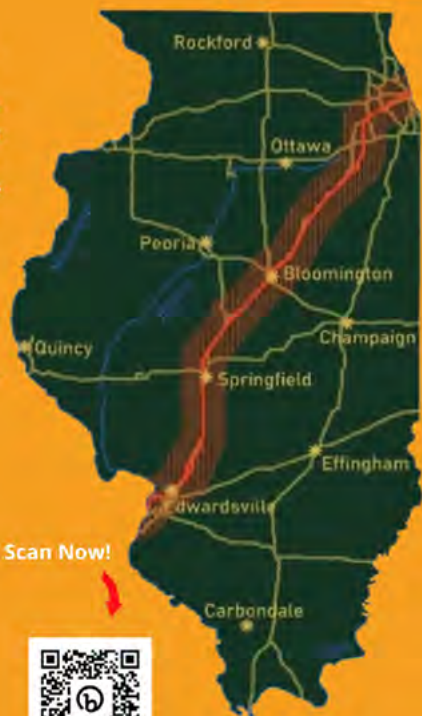


Logan Bush



# ROUTE 66 MONARCH FLYWAY

The Route 66 Monarch Flyway, which the Illinois Monarch Project debuted in 2020 and is now a committee of the Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway, is a 66-mile-wide corridor that stretches from Chicago to St. Louis across the state of Illinois. The project is seeking to bring the unique aspect of Route 66 to Illinois' efforts to help the monarch butterfly by planting native wildflowers and restoring habitat projects within the corridor. The "Flyway" collaborates with public and private partners, in addition to individuals across the state, to protect and enhance existing habitat and establish new habitat that supports monarch butterflies and other pollinators.



For more info, contact our Co-Chairs:  
Geoff Ladd, Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway  
[gladd@illinoisroute66.org](mailto:gladd@illinoisroute66.org)

Susan Helm, Master Gardener/Naturalist  
[susan.helm@comcast.net](mailto:susan.helm@comcast.net)

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# CENTRAL SECTION

## LEXINGTON

Enjoy a serene stroll back in time on **Memory Lane**, the one-mile strip of original pavement, lined with Burma Shave Signs and vintage billboards, that served as Route 66 until the 1940s. Then, follow the 1940s **Neon Arrow Sign** to the **Picturesque Downtown**. Grab a bite at **Uncle Vait's**, a friendly eatery in a historic building and then find the 11-foot-tall scrap metal **American Standard Elephant** statue for an Instagram worthy photo op. Check out the restored 20 x 20 **John Patton's Cabin** located in the **Lexington Pool Park**. Patton who first settled here in 1829 is credited with the development of the town.

## TOWANDA

Experience the infamous **Dead Man's Curve**, a sharp, treacherous curve that took speeding drivers by surprise and many to their fatal ends. Then walk the **Towanda Route 66 Parkway**. At 3.5 miles, it is the longest and most developed of the Route 66 trails in northeast McLean County. Adorned with murals, maps and Burma Shave signs,



Eddie J. Rodriguez



illinoisroute66.org


it takes you on a geographical journey through the eight Route 66 states.



John Smith

## BLOOMINGTON/NORMAL

Route 66 snakes through the town of **Normal**, past **Ryburn Place**, formerly a **1931 Sprague's Super Service Station and Cafe**, now restored as an information center and gift shop. In downtown Bloomington, start off at the **McLean County Museum of History** and "**Cruisin' with Lincoln on 66**" **Visitors Center**. Housed in the **Historic Copper Domed Courthouse** that dates back to 1903, the museum features seven exhibit galleries that showcase the history of McLean County and surrounding areas. Even though it no longer exists, history buffs will appreciate a trip to the location of the **Original Steak N' Shake**, which was opened back in 1934, as well as a stop at the **David Davis Mansion State Historic Site**, a Victorian home that was built in 1872 for US Supreme Court Justice David Davis, friend and mentor to Abraham Lincoln. **Miller Park**, complete with a zoo, an artificial lake, two war memorials, and a preserved steam locomotive, or the **Grady's Family Fun Park**, a 5.5-acre entertainment complex, are definite hits with both adults and kids, as is the **Children's Discovery Museum**. The **Normal Theatre** first opened in 1937, and the **Castle Theatre** first established in 1916 in downtown Bloomington will captivate your imagination with their bright, flashing neon marquees. Still up for more adventure? Stop in at the **Prairie Aviation Museum** and check out their collection of preserved aircraft and revolving aviation exhibits and memorabilia.

 **Did You Know?** Bloomington is the hometown of actor McLean Stevenson who played Colonel Blake in the 1970s hit sitcom *M\*A\*S\*H*. It is also here, in 1937 that Beer Nuts were first created and can be purchased at the **Cruisin with Lincoln on 66 Visitor Center**.

Kevin Eslinger



Simone Williams



illinoisroute66.org



# CENTRAL SECTION

## SHIRLEY/FUNKS GROVE

Encompassing about a thousand acres of trees, **Funks Grove Pure Maple Sirup Farm** is a beloved sweet spot that offers **Pure Maple Sirup**, historic buildings, and lush virgin forest. Watch as the maples are tapped and see the sap turned into sirup, a Funk family tradition that dates back to 1824. Indulge in some contemplative respite among the towering trees at the serene **Chapel of the Templed Trees**. The nearby **Funks Grove Church and Cemetery** offers a glimpse into the area's history. Just down the road is the **Sugar Grove Nature Center**, which offers five miles of walking trails, interpretive exhibits, live animals, and a wildlife viewing room.



Funks Grove

## McLEAN

This quiet community is home to the historic **Dixie Truck Stop**, possibly the very first truck stop on Route 66. First opened in 1928 by J.P. Walters and John Geske, in a mechanic's garage with a single counter cafe and barstools, the truck stop has grown over the decades, but continues its old-fashioned, all-American eatery vibe with true southern hospitality. Check out the model railroad displays at the **McLean Depot Train Shop/A Home on the Road Interpretive Statue**, located in the restored old **GM&O, Alton Route depot**. And don't miss the fun **Arcadia Museum**, which is chock-full of 70+ playable arcade machines to enjoy.



dcwcreations



illinoisroute66.org

**Did You Know?** **Funks Grove Nature Preserve** is an 18-acre tract of land within the larger Funks Grove and is one of the largest remnants of virgin forest in Illinois.

**Travel Tip:** There is a Route 66 Mural commemorating Wesley “Shorty” Ruble, a beloved McLean barber, and a Bench with cutouts of a man, child, and dog in downtown McLean that makes a fine photo op!



## ATLANTA

A towering **Smiley Face Water Tower**, the concessional result of a squabble over which baseball team (Cubs or Cardinals) would be painted on the tower, beckons you to stop at this quaint town. **The Bunyon Giant**, a 19-foot tall Muffler Man statue holding a hot dog, stands guard over Atlanta's main drag, and the **Historic Palms Grill Café Sign** and Missy's Sweet Shoppe, Arch Street Artisans Shop and more. For some gaming utopia, check out the **Route 66 Arcade Museum** which has an array of classic games from the 1930s-1970s, some of which you can still play! Don't miss the **Atlanta Public Library**, which has operated continuously as a library since its establishment in 1908. Its unique 40-foot stone tower houses a 1909 Seth Thomas clock that is still being wound by hand each week. Be sure to check out the new **American Giants Museum** recently completed, is a unique attraction centered on Muffler Men and Roadside Giants!



### Did You Know?

The Atlanta Public Library, with its gilded rotunda and eight symmetrical sides, is Illinois' only octagonal-shaped public library.

T.L.F. Images



T.L.F. Images



Kevin Ealinger





# LINCOLN

Famously, the first town in the country named after Abe Lincoln before he became president. A 2-foot-long **Watermelon Monument** commemorates when he christened the town with the fruit's juice in 1853. The 1865 **Lincoln College** (now closed), the only college named after the famous President while he was still alive is home to the **Lincoln Heritage Museum**, where you can trace the life and work of Lincoln as a traveling circuit riding lawyer. The entire **Historic Downtown** is on the National Register of Historic Places and its streets and buildings are steeped in history, including the **Logan County Courthouse**. The majestic dome structure, built in 1905, is still active today. Other sites to see are the **World's Largest Covered Wagon**. Published in the Guinness Book of World Records it has a giant statue of Abraham Lincoln in the driver's seat, law book in hand. Stop by the **Mill Museum on Route 66**, a red and white Dutch-themed building, complete with windmill, that originally opened in 1929 as the Blue Mill Restaurant and is now a museum,



Henryk Sadura

showcasing Route 66 artifacts and original memorabilia.

## BROADWELL

The tiny village of Broadwell, home of the refurbished original **Pig Hip Restaurant** sign. The restaurant served travelers on old Route 66 from 1937 to 1991. Today, all that remains is the original sign and a memorial plaque, a reminder of what once was, and a great photo op.

## ELKHART

Two beautiful murals greet travelers as they explore Elkhart's Historic Downtown, making it a stop and shop must-do on the travel list. Elkhart is home to the new **Elkhart Station General Store**, featuring Illinois makers and a tasting room. The downtown is also home to **The Country Bumpkin Antiques**, which is an official Logan County Tourism visitors center, and home to **Horsefeathers Antiques/Wild Hare Cafe**, a delightful treasure trove and dining facility housed in a former 1892 bank building. Head up to scenic **Elkhart Hill**, the highest elevation in Central Illinois at 777 feet above sea level. This ancient hill covers almost 700 acres and is deeply rooted in the town's history. The **St. John the Baptist Chapel** — located inside the wooded and serene 1874 **Elkhart Cemetery** — was built in 1890 by Lemira Parke Gillett in memory of her husband John Dean Gillett and is one of the few remaining Culver buildings in the area. While here, take in the picturesque concrete **Gillett Memorial Arch Bridge** which was commissioned by former Illinois first lady Emma Gillett Oglesby in 1915, and served to connect the cemetery to the grounds of Oglesby estate.

**Travel Tip:** The **Elkhart Historic Route 66 Wall Mural**, located on the side of Horsefeathers Antique Shop building, is a 36-feet by 8-feet hand painted mural that represents the history of the village and the Mother Road.



John Smith



Randy Von Liski



# CENTRAL SECTION

## WILLIAMSVILLE AND SHERMAN

Stroll through the **Historic Downtown** and check out the **Interpretive Signs**, depicting the town's interesting past. The **Williamsville Historical Museum**, built from two railroad boxcars, showcases the town's railroad roots. In Sherman, the **Old Station**, a 1930's service station – still a work in progress – exudes plenty of old school flavor with its vintage signs, bright yellow gas pumps plus a resident guardian, a **Sinclair Dinosaur** statue. Be sure to stop at the **Route 66 Multi-Directional Sign**, a great photo op that



John Smith

pays homage to the international appeal of the Mother Road. Sherman was incorporated as a village in 1959 with a population of 209 people. Sherman has grown to over 3500 residents due to its close proximity to Springfield. Sherman is known for their parks. These include the **Route 66 Wayside Park** and the **Village Park Amphitheater**, which is next to the Rail Golf Course and Carpenter Park — home to an original scenic stretch of Route 66 at the edge of the Sangamon River.

## SPRINGFIELD

As the capital of Illinois since 1837, Springfield holds a rich history with strong ties to Route 66, having more Mother Road attractions than anywhere else in Illinois. The old road meanders right through the heart of the city, which has throngs of things to see and do. No two days here are the same when you explore everything it has to offer. Kick off your adventure by picking up a **Living Legends Passport** at



Paul Brady Photography

the **Springfield Visitors Center** and get to meet Route 66 local business owners face-to-face.

For a step back in time, the iconic **Cozy Dog Drive-In** will push your nostalgia buttons in all the right ways. Owned and operated by third generation Waldmire family, this retro eatery has been serving the famous ‘Cozy Dog’ for over 70 years. You will also want to check out one of the coolest watering holes on the Mother Road, the **Motorheads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex**.

More than just offering one of a kind dining and entertainment experience, this venue is also home to the **World’s Largest Outdoor Route 66 Sign**, and has an extensive display of memorabilia from bygone Route 66 landmarks, motor racing, and Springfield history. Be warned, you could spend a lot of time here.

 **Did You Know?** **Motorheads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex** sits on what was once a Stuckey’s and has the original 10 by 30-foot sign on exhibit.



Visit Springfield



Visit Springfield



Visit Springfield

# CENTRAL SECTION

Fancy dining literally on the Mother Road? Then head to **Maldaner's Restaurant** whose outside patio seating is set out on actual old Route 66 pavement. For a true blast from the past, cruise to the 1920s **Maid-Rite Sandwich Shop**, an original old-school diner believed to be the oldest sandwich shop in continuous operation in Springfield, and the first drive-through restaurant in the country! Any self-respecting "sign geek" must check out the **Ace Sign Company Sign Museum**, a 75+-year-old, fourth generation business with a collection of over 85 historic signs from Springfield and Route 66 including the ethereal **Bel-Aire Sputnik Sign** that once graced the Belaire Motel. Don't miss the **Route 66 Drive In Theater**, an American classic that was first opened in 1974, and of course the towering giant of Springfield, the **Lauterbach Muffler Man** in front of Lauterbach Tire and Auto Service. Your Route 66 experience in



Visit Springfield



Ace Sign Company

Springfield isn't complete until you visit the **Route History** where you get to learn about the Black American experience along Historic Route 66 and in the city of Springfield.



illinoisroute66.org

## LOOKING FOR LINCOLN

For Abraham Lincoln fans, it doesn't get any better than Springfield. The epitome of the Land of Lincoln, Springfield takes the love of America's most beloved president, who lived, worked and raised his family here for many years, to a whole new level. For starters, take in the experiential **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum**, where the life of Lincoln from boyhood to his presidency and assassination, truly comes alive with state-of-the-art special effects. **Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site**, the **Lincoln Home National Historic Site**, the only home that Lincoln ever owned, and the **Lincoln Tomb**, where he and his family rest, will give you insights into the man, husband, and father that he was. Still want more Lincoln? Then the picturesque **Old State Capitol** where he made his famous House Divided speech and the **Lincoln Depot**, where he gave his final address before heading to Washington, are a must-visit.

**Travel Tip:** The **Abe's Hat Hunt Explorer Passport** leads you on a scavenger hunt to locate Lincoln's hidden hats in 12 Lincoln historic sites and attractions throughout Springfield.




Visit Springfield



Visit Springfield

# CENTRAL SECTION

For history buffs, Springfield is a treasure trove of cultural, historical and educational sites with a wealth of exhibits, archives and artifacts. Learn about the challenges and triumphs of the military history of Illinois at the **Illinois State Military Museum**. Housed in a historic stone building, the museum tells the story of the Illinois National Guard through military vehicles, weapons and artifacts of Illinois soldiers exhibits. Included is a display of the artificial leg of Mexico's General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, the "Napoleon of the West," which was captured by soldiers of the 4th Illinois Infantry. Another destination-worthy museum is the **Illinois State Museum** which tells the story of the land, life, people, and art of Illinois through extensive permanent and temporary exhibits. If architectural history is of interest to you then check out the **Elijah Iles House**. Built in 1837, by one of the founders of the city, it houses the **Museum of Springfield History** on the lower level. **Edwards Place**, the oldest house in Springfield on its original foundation and the **Dana-Thomas House**, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1902 for Susan Lawrence Dana, a Springfield socialite are sure to also delight. Uncover the stories about African-American life in Central Illinois, at the **Springfield and Central Illinois African American Museum**, another intriguing stop.

 **Did You Know?** Located in the old town square, the historic **Greek Revival Old State Capitol** building served as the seat of state government from 1839-1876. It was here that Lincoln delivered his famous "House Divided" speech in 1858.



Visit Springfield



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# MUST STOPS



- Route 66 Memory Lane, Lexington
- Neon Arrow Sign, Lexington
- Illinois Route 66 Parkway, Towanda
- Dead Man's Curve, Towanda
- Ryburn Place at Sprague's Super Service, Normal
- Carl's Ice Cream, Normal
- McLean County Museum of History, Bloomington
- "Cruisin' with Lincoln on 66" Visitor Center, Bloomington
- Funks Grove Pure Maple Sirup, Funks Grove
- Sugar Grove Nature Center, Funks Grove
- Dixie Family Restaurant, McLean
- The American Giants Museum, Atlanta
- Paul Bunyon Statue, Atlanta
- Smiley Face Water Tower, Atlanta
- Route 66 Arcade Museum, Atlanta
- Public Library & Clock Tower, Atlanta
- The Tropics Restaurant Neon Sign, Lincoln
- Railsplitter Covered Wagon, Lincoln
- The Mill Museum on 66, Lincoln
- Pig Hip Marker & Sign, Broadwell
- Elkhart Historic Route 66 Wall Mural, Elkhart
- Elkhart Station, Elkhart
- The Wild Hare Cafe, Elkhart
- John P. Gillett Memorial Bridge, Elkhart
- The Old Station, Williamsville
- Williamsville Railroad Depot and Box Cars, Williamsville
- Cozy Dog Drive-In, Springfield
- Route 66 Motorheads Bar, Grill & Museum, Springfield
- Route 66 Drive In Theater, Springfield
- Lauterbach Giant, Springfield
- Mahan's Filling Station at Fulgenzi's, Springfield
- Shea's Gas Station, Springfield

For a complete list of Attractions, see the Directory at the end of the guide or visit [illinoisroute66.org](http://illinoisroute66.org)

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# SOUTHERN SECTION

Welcome to the southern and final section of Illinois Route 66. Due to population growth and road development, sections of Route 66 underwent constant changes over the years, ranging from widening to rerouting, including in this stretch. From **Springfield**, the Mother Road traversed along Illinois Route 4 to **Stanton** from 1926-1930 while the official Route 66 was being built to the west. This alignment snakes through the hearts of **Chatham, Auburn, Thayer, Virden, Girard, Nilwood, Carlinville, Gillespie, Benld** and onto **Stanton**. These towns endure as cherished gems that evoke a sense of genuine small-town America and are more than worth a visit. The western alignment was in service from 1930-1940. The final alignment was built in 1940 as a four lane highway that morphed into Interstate 55 after Route 66 was decommissioned. Towns included along the later alignments and in the Metro East area include **Glenarm, Divernon, Farmersville, Litchfield, Mt. Olive, Livingston, Hamel, Edwardsville, Troy, Glenarm, Collinsville, Fairmount City, Mitchell, Granite City** and the original Mississippi River crossing at **Chain of Rocks Bridge** in **Madison**.

## CHATHAM AND AUBURN

Take a glimpse into the golden age of train travel at the **Chatham Depot & Railroad Museum**. Built in 1902, this restored station preserves the area's railroad history. While here, stop in at the **Sangamo Brewing and Breweriana Museum**, a full bar and craft brewery that nods to the history of vintage breweriana from downstate Illinois. Hopheads will appreciate the extensive collection of vintage beer advertisements and paraphernalia on display. Then, follow one



Sangamo Brewing

of Illinois 66's most popular detours, the **Historic Brick Road** at Snell and Curran Roads in **Auburn**. Dating back to 1931, this original, hand-laid stretch (close to a mile

long), with gentle curves and surrounded by corn fields, is testimony that it's not just what's along the Mother Road that creates memories, but the road itself.



David P. Smith



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# SOUTHERN SECTION

## GLENARM

This tiny village is home to the 60-foot **Sugar Creek Covered Bridge**. Not only picturesque, this 1880 Burr truss bridge is the only one of its kind remaining in Sangamon County and is open to foot traffic. If you are craving some outdoor time, then you are in the perfect spot. Grab a blanket and enjoy a picnic respite in the serene park adjacent to the bridge. While in town, why not check out the **Corvair Museum**? It pays tribute to the varieties of Chevrolet Corvair and has rotating exhibits that are sure to thrill motor enthusiasts and novices alike.



John Smith

## DIVERNON

For a feel of this quiet community — a once roaring mining town that was the second largest town in Sangamon County, thanks to a thriving coal production (the Madison Coal Mine Number 6) — check out the **Rusty Star Marketplace & Route 66 Welcome Center**. It is home to 80 small business shops under one roof. The restored **Historic Divernon Train Depot & Museum** preserves the town's past as one of four depots on the Springfield to Litchfield line. Before you continue one, stop in at one of three antique shops that can be found within a short distance of one another; **Tammi's Treasures Antiques and More, Nickorbobs** and **Hildas** will not disappoint.



illinoisroute66.org

! **Don't Miss The Shrine of Our Lady of the Highways in Waggoner/Raymond.** The statue of Mother Mary, imported from Italy and installed in 1959 “to honor (the Virgin) Mary and ask her assistance guiding travelers on their way.”



illinoisroute66.org



## FARMERSVILLE

**Farmersville**, nestled between Girard and the 1940-1977 alignment of Route 66, boasts a rich history. Once the site of Art's Motel, the town now proudly hosts the annual **Irish Days** festival every June, a tradition spanning over 110 years. Additionally, Farmersville is home to the **Rooted Home**, a home decor and apparel store, and features one of the latest murals that graces Illinois Route 66.

ISByway




## VIRDEN

A visit to **Virden** starts at the **Town Square and Central Park** where you will find the **1898 Battle of Virden Monument**, a detailed bronze mural that immortalizes brave coal miners who died fighting for workers' rights. **Sly Fox Bookstore**, which specializes in children's books, and **Showtime Lane Family Fun Center** guarantee hours of enjoyment for the whole family. The 19x50-foot **History of Virden Mural**, one of three very cool murals in town, highlights Virden's origins as a stagecoach stop, then a coal mine town, and its deep Route 66 roots.

sangamoncountyhistory



 **Did You Know?** Portions of the Mother Road through this area travel on what was once the old Pontiac Trail, named after the Ottawa Chief

Pontiac, and was the main pathway between Chicago and St. Louis in the early 1900s. Today, Route 66 follows State Road 4, the first fully paved highway in Illinois.



# SOUTHERN SECTION

## THE LORE OF THE NILWOOD TURKEY TRACKS

**Nilwood** is home to less than 250 people. The only indication that the main drag that runs through town was once Historic 66 are a couple of roadside markers on IL-4, a peeling mural on the side of a red brick biker club called the Iron Sled, and, wait for it... a hand-painted wooden turkey! The story goes that before IL-4 was designated a part of Route 66 in 1926, an unknown number of birds ran across the wet pavement, leaving 34 turkey tracks to permanently cement themselves in the road. Today, those tracks, imprinted on the narrow street of Donaldson Road, are contained by a thick white border that is painted on the original 1926 pavement and sandwiched between two Route 66 highway markers. This more than 100-year-old road trip relic is marked by a hand-painted sign that reads “Turkey Tracks” in elegant script and a smiling wooden turkey on the side of the road. The peculiar attraction may be a roadside oddity for the occasional traveler, but for residents of small towns that boast similar minor attractions, the narrative of the place they call home is shaped by the story of Route 66.



John Smith



Route 66 from Girard to Nilwood is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a short lived section of the original 1926 pavement that was replaced in 1930 with a major realignment to the east.

## GIRARD AND NILWOOD

Step into the 1920's themed **Docs Just Off 66**, (formerly Docs Soda Fountain & Pharmacy Museum and before that, Deck's Drug Store) one of Girard's oldest businesses dating back to 1884. Wet your whistle with a cherry or vanilla Coke, banana split, Route 66 beer float or enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner in the Pharmacy-themed restaurant and bar. Or, have your pick from over 50 flavors of ice-cream at another local landmark, the **Whirl-a-Whip**. **Nilwood** is not only home to the famous imprints of Turkey Tracks, it is also home to the **13-Star Flag Barn**, a popular photo op of a rustic picturesque barn that has the Betsy Ross flag painted on its wall. The specific flag is unique as it has 13 stars in a circle representing the original 13 colonies.




illinoisroute66.org

✓ **Travel Tip:** To get the full ‘life at a slower pace’ experience, check out **Hidden Ridge at Otter Lake**, a private wooded hideaway just steps from Girard that offers authentic camping in canvas tents amidst a serene and beautiful setting.





BD Images

 **Did You Know?** Some of the road segments in this stretch consist of the original Route 66 concrete box culverts which although cracked in some places, have withstood the test of time.

## CARLINVILLE

The impressive brick-paved **Historic Square** is the center of community life in Carlinville, the biggest town along this stretch of Route 66. Surrounded by colorful shops and cafes, like the **Historic Treasures** and the **Mother Road Antique Mall**, all housed in century old buildings, the square is a scene of summer picnics and market days. An appealing **Cedar Gazebo** adds to its charm. It's a short walk from here to the crown jewel of the town: the **Macoupin County "Million Dollar" Courthouse**. Completed in 1870 at a price tag that took 40 years to pay off, it is considered the most magnificent courthouse in Illinois. Peek into the town's past at the **Historical Society & Museum**, and the onsite authentic schoolhouse, blacksmith, and a print shop that tell of the area's fascinating history. Envision life behind bars at the 1869 medieval-inspired **Historic County Jail**, built in the 'cannon ball' method to impede jailbreaks. For some extra spooky fun, check out the **Loomis House** on the Square. The once grand hotel built in 1869 is rumored to be haunted. You tell us what you think!

 **Did You Know?** Carlinville has the largest community of **Sears & Roebuck Mail Order Homes** in the country (150 homes), all within a 9-block radius on the north end of town. These were purchased in 1917 by the Standard Oil Company for their mine workers.

 **Travel Tip:** The Carlinville Historic Square is the only town square in Illinois that Route 66 went completely around.

Rivers and Routes



Macoupin County Million Dollar Courthouse FB page



John Smith



# SOUTHERN SECTION

## GILLESPIE

Right in the heart of coal mining country, **Gillespie** honors its impressive black diamond history at the **Illinois Coal Museum**. The town's main street hints at a past with eclectic stops like **Miner's Restaurant**, the **Village Toy Chest**, and **Michelle's Pharmacy**. Other sites to see are the **Miner Silhouette Statue**, the **Interpretive Coal Mining Exhibit**, the **Downtown Mural**, and the **Historic Canna Theatre**, which opened in 1921 as the Pert Theatre. Its ancient marquee and entrance are glimpses into its glory days.





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## BENLD

Bootlegging, gambling halls, and gangster hideaways are all said to be part of **Benld's** storied past. The unassuming town, whose name is a combination of its founder, Benjamin L. Dorsey's name, thrived as a mining town with a high immigrant population. Revel in the town's gangster past at **Capone's Saloon**, a tribute to the mobster rumored to have spent time here. And want a great pic opportunity? Check out the **Holy Dormition Orthodox Parish**, noted for its Italian and Russian roots. The current onion-domed church was built in 1915 to replace the original 1907 building. It is the only Russian Orthodox Parish under the Moscow Patriarchate in the state of Illinois.



illinoisroute66.org

 **Did You Know?** The **Coliseum Ballroom**, the town's main attraction that hosted the Who's Who in the Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame, burned down in 2011. Built in 1924, it was considered the largest dance floor between Chicago and St. Louis. 



stpublicradio.org





# STAUNTON

Enjoy Illinois

Travel back to the days of yore in downtown Staunton where a new **Route 66 Mural** titled, “Where the Three Roads Come Together,” showcases all three alignments of Route 66: 1926-1930, 1930-1940 and 1940-1977, that went through town. A drive through the **Historic Downtown** is like stepping back to what small towns used to be. On the old alignment of Route 66, look out for the ‘Hare it Is’ sign which welcomes you to **Henry’s Ra66it Ranch**, a quirky roadside attraction and home to rabbits of the Volkswagen and furry kind. This spot is a Route 66 favorite and considered a must-visit for any Mother Road enthusiast. If the words Cabriolet, Dagmar and Fade-aways are in your vocabulary you must check out **Country Classic Cars** and enjoy the 600 antique cars exhibited all under one roof! The family owned and run business also

has a gift shop with collectables and Route 66 memorabilia. Then tank up at 1930s **DeCamp Station**, a historic roadhouse with a fascinating and somewhat colorful history that included a gambling and brothel past and a stick up by gangsters in a large black sedan. The former dance hall has been revived into a classic bar offering a unique dining experience.

 **Did You Know?** The town was named after a Mr. Stanton as a thank you to his donation of land for the village square. An error by the clerk processing the name application gave the town its Staunton spelling.

 **Travel Tip:** Staunton is located on the ITS-Route 66 Bike Trail with the Trailhead located at Duda Park.



# LITCHFIELD

illinoisroute66.org

Embrace the Mother Road at the **Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welcome Center**. Located near the site of the 1957 Vic Suhling gas station, the museum's exhibits and displays include a must-see original Route 66 road-sign. The restored **Vic Suhling - Gas For Less Neon Sign** testifies to the former station's place in history. Soak in sentimental remembrances of days gone by at the **Ariston Cafe**, rumored to be the oldest continuously operated restaurant along all of Route 66. This Route 66 landmark, with origins going back to 1924, has been a Litchfield staple since 1935, offering friendly service, fabulous soul food, and standouts desserts. Another eatery that has stood the test of time is the three generational **Jubelt's Restaurant & Bakery**. Tracing its story back to 1922, the bakery has been serving the Litchfield community since 1952 and from its current location since 1982. History buffs will want to admire the **Historic Carnegie Library Building**, the centerpiece of the town that was originally funded by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie in 1904. Make it a retro night at the **Sky View Drive-In**. First opened in 1950, it is the



SkyView Drive-In

only original operating drive-in movie theater on the Illinois stretch of Route 66. It also happens to be the oldest continuously operated drive-in from Chicago to California!

**✓ Travel Tip:** Explore Litchfield's outdoors culture at **Lake Lou Yaeger**, a 1,357- acre, 5.5-mile-long lake that offers boating, fishing, hiking and biking trails, campgrounds, a public swim beach, and a conservation area.

**💡 Did You Know?** Litchfield is host to two separate alignments of Route 66: the 1930-1940 and 1940-1977 routes.

The **1940-1977** ‘newer’ alignment of the Mother Road, started off as a two-lane road and later became a four-lane highway with some sections swallowed up by I-55. It runs east of Springfield with much fewer turns but winds its way through the quaint towns of **Farmersville**, and **Litchfield**, before joining Old Route 66 through **Mt. Olive**, **Livingston**, **Hamel**, **Edwardsville**, and **Mitchell**.

## MT. OLIVE

This small community is home to the oldest gas station still standing on Illinois’ stretch of Route 66, the 1926 **Soulsby Service Station** which had been impeccably restored, maintaining its original house and canopy design. Just north of Route 66, paying homage to the town’s coal mining roots, is the **Union Miners Cemetery**, and **Mother Jones Monument** dedicated to the memory of Mary Harris Jones, a labor organizer and formidable voice in the fight for miners’ rights. Visit the **Mother Jones Museum** website for a virtual tour on her life and legacy.



Enjoy Illinois

## LIVINGSTON

What this small town lacks in size, it makes up for in giants. Make your way to the **Pink Elephant Antique Mall**, home to an array of giant attractions: the Giant Surfer, a Harley-Davidson Muffler Man, a Giant Tricycle, a Giant flying Saucer House, a Giant Pink Elephant, and a rare Giant Uniroyal Girl believed to be crafted after Jacqueline Kennedy. Inside the former high school turned mall, you will find floor to ceiling shelves displaying wares of more than 50 antique dealers. Onsite is also a retro ice-cream shop, and the **Mother Road Fudge-n-Candy Shop**.



Pink Elephant Antique Mall Facebook

## HAMEL

At the intersection of Route 66 and IL Route 140 is the sleepy town of Hamel, a place that proudly proclaims its Mother Road heritage. Step into the former 1938 Tourist Haven Restaurant — now **Weezy’s Route 66 Bar and Grill** — a local hotspot that keeps the old road’s spirit alive with themed decor, vintage signs, and hearty meals.

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**, established by German settlers in the mid-1800s is famously known as the “**Church of the Neon Cross**” and has a large blue neon cross donated during WWII by the Brunnworth family in memory of their son. Its soft glow is now a symbol of safety for Route 66 travelers. Head over to the Hamel Train Depot afterwards and get your ice-cream fix at the **Route 66 Creamery**.

# SOUTHERN SECTION

## EDWARDSVILLE

Prepare to be charmed by the storybook-like streets of the third oldest city in the State of Illinois. A walk through **Downtown Edwardsville's Historic District** will make you want to stay until the cows come home. The **St. Louis Street Historic District**, one of the most prestigious sections of Edwardsville in the late 1800s, features a collection of extravagant homes in various architectural designs. South of town is the **Leclaire Village Historic District**, a 23-block neighborhood with modest, but attractive homes displaying 19th Century architecture. Soak in nature's natural beauty at the **Leclaire Lake Park**, which features a picturesque two-acre fishing lake, picnic pavilion, and playground area. Enjoy hours of educational enjoyment at the **Edwardsville Children's Museum** which hosts exhibits and programs geared to inspire wonder. Peek into Illinois' cultural, political, social, and architectural past with a tour by costumed docents at the **1820 Colonel Benjamin Stephenson House**, a two-story Federal Style house considered the oldest brick building in Madison County, and an important landmark in the establishment of Edwardsville. Then, catch a classic movie or live performance at the former opera house now renovated historic **1909 Wildey Theatre**. Finally, be sure to check out the new **West End Service Station** recently renovated by Great Rivers & Routes Tourism Bureau.

▶ **Don't Miss The Watershed Nature Center**, a protected forest, prairie, and wetland habitat, featuring paved hiking trails, a raised marsh walk, and a welcome center. It's a true gem for outdoor recreation.





As you prepare to leave the Land of Lincoln, Route 66 once again splits into two alignments. The 1926-30 route, also known as City 66, travels through **Mitchell**, **Granite City**, **Madison**, and finally **Venice**, before crossing into East St. Louis. The second alignment, the 1940-1977 or by-pass route, maneuvers through **Troy**, **Collinsville**, and **Fairmont City** and into St. Louis.

## MITCHELL

The first hint of urbanization hits you as you approach this old Route 66 town that still harbors relics of the past, such as the infamous **Luna Cafe**. Built in 1924, the cafe has quite the storied history that includes gambling in the basement, a ‘ladies of the night’ upstairs, and even Al Capone is rumored to have frequented here. The elaborate and colorful vintage **Neon Sign** has been fully restored, including a ruby colored glass for the cherry to magnify the red glow. The story goes that back in the day, if the cherry was lit, the working girls were in.



illinoisroute66.org

## GRANITE CITY


Home to **O’Brien Tire & Auto Care**, an old school, fifth generation family run business that is considered to be the oldest auto repair shop on the route, serving travelers for over 90 years. Don’t miss the opportunity for an Instagram worthy selfie with the 8,000 pound, 12-foot high **Giant Tire!**



illinoisroute66.org

## MADISON

Explore the Illinois section of the **Old Chain of Rocks Bridge** that provided passage to the mighty Mississippi River for three decades. Built in 1929, the 5,353-foot-long toll bridge features a 30-degree turn midway across and today it serves as one of the world’s longest bicycle and pedestrian bridges still in existence.

 **Did You Know?** The Old Chain of Rocks Bridge was used as a filming site in the 1981 John Carpenter movie, *Escape from New York*, starring Kurt Russell and Adrienne Barbeau.



marekulasz

# SOUTHERN SECTION

## COLLINSVILLE

Its proximity to downtown St. Louis makes Collinsville a charming small town with big city conveniences. You will find beautiful storefronts and architecture in **Historic Downtown Collinsville** where you can take the self-guided tour to acquaint yourself with the **1908 Bull Durham Tobacco sign**, the **150-year-old Blum House**, the **D.D. Collins House**, and the old **Miner's Theater**. Get connected even more with the town's history at the **Collinsville Historical Museum** which hosts unique exhibits on the town's mining past, the city's founding fathers, as well as veterans from the Civil War. The **Brooks Catsup Bottle Water Tower** — the world's largest catsup bottle — is a favorite roadside attraction and a great photo op. The 170-foot tower was built in 1949 to supply water to the catsup plant. Experience local farm heritage at the **Willoughby Heritage Farm & Conservation Reserve** which has a restored barn, historic farm house, chicken coop, gardens, and interpretive trails to enjoy. Also of interest is the **Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site & Interpretive Center**, the largest historic Native American settlement north of Mexico and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Enjoy Illinois



Enjoy Illinois

## TROY, PONTOON BEACH & FAIRMONT CITY

In **Troy**, admire two Walldog murals, **The Troy Transportation** mural, and the **"Bullet" Bob Turley** mural — in honor of Troy native and former major league baseball pitcher Robert Bob Turley, nicknamed "Bullet Bob" for his 98 mph fastball. Outdoor enthusiasts will want to check out the **Horseshoe**



sangamoncountyhistory

**Lake State Park** in **Pontoon Beach**, a 2,960-acre park ideal for bird watching, fishing, picnicking, and camping. Don't miss **Nite Spot Cafe** and its iconic mid-century, neon sign in **Fairmont City**.

# MUST STOPS



- Sugar Creek Covered Bridge, Chatham
- Sangamo Brewing & Sangamo Breweriana Museum, Chatham
- Historic Brick Road, Auburn
- Rusty Star Marketplace & Route 66 Welcome Center, Divernon
- Virden Miner's Memorial/Central Park Virden History Mural, Virden
- Docs Just Off 66, Girard
- Money Talks, Girard
- Whirl-a-Whip, Girard
- Turkey Tracks in Pavement, Nilwood
- 13 Star Flag Barn Painting, Nilwood
- Macoupin County "Million Dollar" Courthouse, Carlinville
- Macoupin County Jail of 1869, Carlinville
- Macoupin County Historical Museum, Carlinville
- Illinois Coal Museum, Gillespie
- Capone's Saloon, Benld
- DeCamp Station, Staunton
- Country Classic Cars, Staunton
- The Shrine of Our Lady of the Highways, Raymond
- Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welcome Center, Litchfield
- Ariston Café, Litchfield
- Jubelt's Bakery, Litchfield
- Soulsby's Service Station, Mt. Olive
- Pink Elephant Antique Mall, Livingston
- Weezy's Route 66 Bar & Grill, Hamel
- Wildey Theatre, Edwardsville
- The West End Service Station, Edwardsville
- Luna Cafe, Mitchell
- O'Brien Tire & Auto Care, Granite City
- Brooks Catsup Bottle Tower, Collinsville
- Old Chain of Rocks Bridge, Madison

For a complete list of Attractions, see the Directory at the end of the guide or visit [illinoisroute66.org](http://illinoisroute66.org)



•Family Friendly•  
 .....  
 RV there yet?  
 ROUTE 66 | Litchfield  
 .....  
 •Reserve ONLINE•



OPEN April 1- October 31  
 3279 Honey Bend Ave | Litchfield, IL  
[www.countrybendcampground.com](http://www.countrybendcampground.com)

-  **PINK ELEPHANT ANTIQUE MALL**
-  **TWISTEE TREAT 50'S DINER**
-  **MOTHER ROAD FUDGE & CANDY SHOP**
-  **AREA 66 HAUNTED SCHOOL**



**908 VETERANS MEMORIAL DRIVE  
 LIVINGSTON, IL 62058**



**ON ROUTE 66 ~ OPEN DAILY**

**618-637-2544**

**[PINKELEPHANTANTIQUEMALL.COM](http://PINKELEPHANTANTIQUEMALL.COM)**



# DECAMP STATION

STAUNTON, IL

A Historical Roadhouse on Old Route 66

Dining, Drinks, Dancing & Sports

618-637-2951

Inside/Outside  
Bar



Seasonal  
Hours

LIVE MUSIC  
EVERY SATURDAY 6-9PM

DJ/KARAOKE  
EVERY FRIDAY 6PM-10PM

facebook.com/decampstation  
www.decampstationil.com

490 W. State Route 104, Divernon - Exit 82 - Just Off Route 66

**TAMMI'S**  
**TREASURES**  
ANTIQUES & MORE



- 25,000 sq ft of Treasures
- Antiques, Primitives, Vintage, Refurbished, Repurposed & More
- Enjoy Beer or Wine While You Shop
- Discreet Video Gaming
- Open Daily from 10a - 5:30p



www.tammistreasures.com

# MEMBER DIRECTORY OF INFORMATION & SERVICES

This Directory contains a complete list of all Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway Members. For additional business information, check out our website at [www.illinoisroute66.org](http://www.illinoisroute66.org) or download our mobile app by searching “Explore Illinois Route 66” in the App Store or on Google Play.

Happy Planning!



## Old-Fashioned Soda Fountain Restaurant & Pharmacy Museum



**Burgers - Milkshakes - Sundaes  
Sodas - Beer - Phosphates - Wine  
Nightly Specials - Ice Cream Flights**

**133 S. 2nd St. | Girard  
[docsjustoff66.com](http://docsjustoff66.com)  
217-627-3491**



# NORTHERN SECTION

## CHICAGO

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### **Begin/End Route 66 Signs**

(across from The Art Institute)  
East Adams Street/Jackson  
[choosechicago.com/blog/architecture-history/the-ultimate-route-66-chicago-itinerary](http://choosechicago.com/blog/architecture-history/the-ultimate-route-66-chicago-itinerary)

### **Lou Mitchell's Restaurant and Bakery**

565 West Jackson Boulevard  
(312) 939-3111  
[loumitchellsrestaurant.com](http://loumitchellsrestaurant.com)

### **Two Lane America**

(Route 66 Tours)  
1050 North Damen Avenue  
(513) 827-8273  
[2laneamerica.com](http://2laneamerica.com)

### *Lodging*

#### **Best Western Grant Park**

##### **Hotel Chicago**

1100 South Michigan Ave  
(312) 922-2900  
[bestwesternillinois.com](http://bestwesternillinois.com)

#### **Best Western Plus Hawthorne**

##### **Terrace Hotel Chicago**

3434 North Broadway  
(773) 244-3434  
[bestwesternillinois.com](http://bestwesternillinois.com)

#### **Best Western Plus Hyde Park**

##### **Chicago Hotel**

4900 South DuSable/Lake Shore Drive  
(773) 324-3000  
[bestwesternillinois.com](http://bestwesternillinois.com)

#### **Best Western River North Hotel**

125 West Ohio Street  
(312) 467-0800  
[bestwesternillinois.com](http://bestwesternillinois.com)

## NORTH LAWNSDALE

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### **Castle Car Wash Historic Landmark**

3801 Ogden Avenue

### *Events*

#### **Route 66 Classic Car Show**

(Mid-September)  
3800 West Ogden Avenue  
(Between Harding Ave. and Hamlin Ave.)  
[carsonroute66.com](http://carsonroute66.com)

## CICERO

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### **Henry's Drive-In**

6031 Ogden Avenue  
(708) 305-5767  
[henrys66.com](http://henrys66.com)

## BERWYN

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### **Berwyn Development Corporation**

3322 South Oak Park Avenue,  
2nd Floor  
(708) 788-8100  
[berwyn.net](http://berwyn.net)

### *Events*

#### **WeatherTech's Berwyn Route 66 Car Show**

(Last Saturday in August)  
Ogden Avenue between Oak Park and Ridgeland  
(708) 788-8100  
[berwynrt66.com](http://berwynrt66.com)

### *Also Nearby to Berwyn:*

#### **Al Capone Gravesite**

Mount Carmel Cemetery  
1400 South Wolf Road  
Hillside, IL (located 15 minutes northwest of Berwyn)

# NORTHERN SECTION

## McCOOK

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**Steak N Egger**  
8408 Joliet Road  
(708) 853-9240  
steaknegger.com

## COUNTRYSIDE

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**Best Western Plus Chicagoland -  
Countryside**  
6251 Joliet Rd  
(708) 354-5200  
bestwesternillinois.com

## BOLINGBROOK

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**The Promenade Bolingbrook**  
631 East Boughton Road  
(630) 296-8350  
shoppingpromenade.com

### *Lodging*

**Aloft Bolingbrook**  
500 North Janes Avenue  
(630) 410-6567  
willcounty lodging.org

**Best Western Plus Bolingbrook**  
225 West South Frontage Road  
(630) 226-1669  
bestwesternillinois.com

**Fairfield Inn & Suites Bolingbrook**  
165 Fenwood Drive  
(630) 378-0380  
willcounty lodging.org

**Hampton Inn & Suites Bolingbrook**  
165 Remington Boulevard  
(630) 759-7100  
willcounty lodging.org

**Hilton Garden Inn Bolingbrook**  
135 Remington Boulevard  
(630) 771-1500  
willcounty lodging.org

**Holiday Inn & Suites Bolingbrook**  
205 Remington Boulevard  
(630) 679-1600  
willcounty lodging.org

**Home2 Suites by Hilton Chicago  
Bolingbrook**  
1 Brookside Court  
(630) 914-3575  
willcounty lodging.org

**Quality Inn Bolingbrook I-55**  
175 Remington Boulevard  
(630) 378-5300  
willcounty lodging.org

**Ramada by Wyndham Bolingbrook**  
520 South Brookside Road  
(630) 972-9797  
willcounty lodging.org

**Residence Inn Chicago Bolingbrook**  
180 Remington Boulevard  
(630) 332-5200  
willcounty lodging.org

**Springhill Suites Bolingbrook**  
125 Remington Boulevard  
(630) 759-0529  
willcounty lodging.org

## CHANNAHON

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**Briscoe Mounds Historic Site**  
25000-25094 West Front Street  
(815) 727-8700  
reconnectwithnature.org



# NORTHERN SECTION

## **Channahon State Park/I&M Canal National Heritage Area**

25302 West Story Street  
channahon.org

## **McKinley Woods/Four Rivers Environmental Education Center**

25055 South Walnut Lane  
(815) 727-8700  
reconnectwithnature.org

## **ROMEOVILLE**

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### **Isle a la Cache Museum**

501 East Romeo Road  
(815) 727-8700  
reconnectwithnature.org

### **White Fence Farm Restaurant & Carryout**

1376 Joliet Road  
(630) 739-1720  
whitefencefarm-il.com

### *Lodging*

#### **Comfort Inn Romeoville**

1235 Lakeview Drive  
(630) 226-1900  
willcounty lodging.org

#### **Country Inn & Suites Romeoville**

1265 Lakeview Drive  
(630) 378-1052  
willcounty lodging.org

#### **Days Inn & Suites Romeoville**

1280 Normantown Road  
(630) 372-1000  
willcounty lodging.org

#### **Extended Stay America Romeoville**

1225 Lakeview Drive  
(630) 226-8966  
willcounty lodging.org

#### **Holiday Inn Express Romeoville**

722 North Center Boulevard  
(630) 229-6445  
willcounty lodging.org

#### **Super 8 Romeoville**

1301 Marquette Drive  
(630) 410-1576  
willcounty lodging.org

#### **Wood Spring Suites Romeoville**

1093 Wyndham Parkway  
(331) 803-4040  
willcounty lodging.org

## **PLAINFIELD**

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### **Plainfield's Downtown**

#### **Historic District**

24401 West Lockport Street  
(815) 436-7093  
plainfieldil.gov/community/  
downtownplainfield

#### **Plainfield Route 66/Lincoln Highway Alignment**

IL 59 & US 30 Downtown Plainfield  
(815) 436-4431  
plainfieldchamber.com

#### **Plainfield Shorewood Area Chamber of Commerce**

24109 West Lockport Street  
(815) 436-4431  
plainfieldchamber.com

## **LOCKPORT**

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#### **Gaylord Building Historic Site/ Gallery Seven**

200 West 8th Street  
(815) 838-9400  
gaylordbuilding.org

# NORTHERN SECTION

## **Illinois State Museum**

### **Lockport Gallery**

201 West 10th Street  
(815) 838-7400  
museum.state.il.us/ismsites/lockport

## **Lincoln Landing Open Air Park & Museum**

9th Street and Canal Street  
(815) 838-0549  
cityoflockport.net/Facilities/Facility/  
Details/Lincoln-Landing-5

## **Lockport Historic District**

Downtown Lockport  
(815) 838-0549  
cityoflockport.net

## **Will County Historical Museum/ I & M Canal National Heritage Area**

803 South State Street  
(815) 838-5080  
willhistory.org

## **JOLIET**

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## **Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park & Statues**

30 North Bluff Street  
(815) 724-3761  
bicentennialpark.org

## **Illinois Rock & Roll Museum on Route 66**

9 West Cass Street  
(815) 927-1540  
roadtorock.org

## **Jefferson Street Lift Bridge**

198 West Jefferson Street  
joliet.gov

## **Joliet Area Historical Museum and Route 66 Welcome Center/Route 66 Selfie Station**

204 North Ottawa Street  
(815) 723-5201  
jolietmuseum.org

## **Joliet Iron Works Historic Site**

31 Columbia Street  
(815) 727-8700  
reconnectwithnature.org

## **Joliet Route 66/Lincoln Highway Intersection**

IL 59 & US 30 Downtown Joliet  
(815) 723-5201  
jolietmuseum.org

## **Lambert 1957 Convenience Store**

1529 N. Broadway Street  
(815) 726-8867  
illinoisroute66.smugmug.com/  
Northern-Illinois-Route-66-  
Attractions/Lambert1957Mobil

## **Old Joliet Prison**

(Collins Street Prison)  
1125 Collins Street  
(815) 723-5201  
jolietprison.org

## *Events*

### **Red Carpet Corridor Festival**

(First Weekend in May)  
Joliet to Bloomington-Normal  
(815) 844-5847  
ilroute66redcarpetcorridor.com

## *Lodging*

### **Baymont by Wyndham**

1730 McDonough Street  
(815) 768-1881  
willcountylodging.org

# NORTHERN SECTION

## **Best Western Joliet Inn & Suites**

4380 Enterprise Drive  
(815) 730-7500  
bestwesternillinois.com  
willcountylodging.org

## **Best Western Plus North Joliet**

3231 Norman Avenue  
(815) 439-4200  
bestwesternillinois.com  
willcountylodging.org

## **Candlewood Suites Joliet Southwest**

1461 Rock Creek Boulevard  
(779) 201-8078  
willcountylodging.org

## **Clarion Hotel & Convention Center**

411 South Larkin Avenue  
(815) 729-2000  
willcountylodging.org

## **Comfort Inn Joliet West I-80**

1520 Commerce Lane  
(815) 730-1111  
willcountylodging.org

## **Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Joliet North/Plainfield**

3239 Norman Avenue  
(815) 436-6577  
willcountylodging.org

## **Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Joliet South**

1501 Riverboat Center Drive  
(815) 741-3499  
willcountylodging.org

## **Hampton Inn Joliet I-55**

3555 Mall Loop Drive  
(815) 439-9500  
willcountylodging.org

## **Hampton Inn Joliet I-80**

1521 Riverboat Center Drive  
(815) 725-2424  
willcountylodging.org

## **Harrah's Casino & Hotel Joliet**

151 North Joliet Street  
(815) 740-7800  
willcountylodging.org

## **Holiday Inn & Suites Joliet Southwest**

1471 Rock Creek Boulevard  
(779) 206-2915  
willcountylodging.org

## **Hollywood Casino & Hotel Joliet**

777 Hollywood Boulevard  
(888) 436-7737  
willcountylodging.org

## **Home2 Suites Joliet/Plainfield**

4095 Hennepin Drive  
(815) 727-3310  
willcountylodging.org

## **Mainstay Suites I-55 Joliet**

3235 Norman Avenue  
(815) 436-5141  
willcountylodging.org

## **Mainstay Suites I-80 Joliet**

135 South Larkin Avenue  
(815) 744-1770  
willcountylodging.org

## **Motel 6 Joliet I-55**

3551 Mall Loop Drive  
(815) 439-1332  
willcountylodging.org

## **Motel 6 Joliet I-80**

1850 McDonough Street  
(815) 729-2800  
willcountylodging.org

# NORTHERN SECTION

## **Quality Inn Joliet**

411 South Larkin Avenue  
(815) 729-2000  
willcountylodging.org

## **Red Roof Inn Chicago-Joliet**

1750 McDonough Street  
(815) 741-2304  
willcountylodging.org

## **Super 8 by Wyndham Joliet I-55**

3401 Mall Loop Drive  
(815) 741-2400  
willcountylodging.org

## **Super 8 by Wyndham Joliet I-80**

1806 McDonough Street  
(815) 306-8137  
willcountylodging.org

## **Townplace Suites Joliet**

1515 Riverboat Center Drive  
(815) 741-2400  
willcountylodging.org

## **Wingate by Wyndham**

101 McDonald Avenue  
(815) 741-2100  
willcountylodging.org

## **ELWOOD**

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### **Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery**

20953 West Hoff Road  
(815) 423-9958  
cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/abrahamlincoln.asp

### **Douglas Street Route 66 Pavement & Workers Roadside Exhibit**

Southeast Corner, Mississippi Avenue & Douglas Street  
(815) 423-5011  
villageofelwood.com

## **WILMINGTON**

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### **Gemini Giant Muffler Man Statue (Future Location)**

201 Bridge Street (South Island Park)  
(815) 476-2175  
wilmington-il.com/tourism



Curtis Harsh

# NORTHERN SECTION

## **Historic Water Street Shopping District**

North & South Water Street  
(815) 476-2175  
wilmington-il.com/tourism

## **Route 66 Antiques**

603 West Baltimore Street  
Wilmington, IL 60481  
(815) 926-2230  
facebook.com/rt66antiques

## **Mar Theatre**

121 South Main Street  
(815) 476-4662  
the-mar.com

## **BRAIDWOOD**

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### **Braidwood Zoo & Polk-A-Dot Statues**

140 & 222 North Front Street  
(815) 458-2333  
braidwood.us

## **GODLEY**

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### **Illinois Route 66 Mining Museum & Route 66 Interpretive Exhibit**

150 Kankakee Road  
(815) 458-2222

## **BRACEVILLE**

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### **Mazonia/Braidwood Fish & Wildlife Area**

IL-53 & East Huston Road  
(815) 237-0063  
dnr.illinois.gov/parks/park.mazonia-braidwood.html

## **GARDNER**

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### **The 2 Cell Jail/Historic Streetcar Diner**

East Mazon & North Center Streets  
(815) 237-3008

## **The Shop on 66 - Perkins Wood and Glass**

315 North Center Street  
(815) 237-0068  
facebook.com/ThePerkinsShop0n66

## **DWIGHT**

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### **Ambler's Texaco Station**

417 West Waupansie Street  
(815) 584-3077  
dwightillinois.org

### **Old Route 66 Family Restaurant**

105 South Old Route 66  
(815) 584-2920  
route66restaurant.com

## **ODELL**

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### **Odell Subway Tunnel**

Corner of Hamilton & West Streets  
(815) 998-2133  
odell-il.com

### **Standard Oil Gasoline Station**

400 South West Street  
(815) 998-2133  
odell-il.com

## **PONTIAC**

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### **Bob & Ringo's Grill & Smokehouse**

223 West Madison Street  
(815) 844-6565  
bobandringossmokehouse.com

### **Dargan Park Sculptures**

Madison and Fountain  
(815) 844-5847  
visitpontiac.org

### **Eagle Performing Arts and Conference Center**

319 North Plum Street  
(815) 844-1187  
pontiaceagle.com

# NORTHERN SECTION

## **Historic Illinois State Police District 6 Headquarters**

Route 66 South of Pontiac  
(815) 844-5847  
visitpontiac.org

## **Home Again on Route 66 Gifts**

321 North Main Street  
(815) 674-5062  
facebook.com/homeagainonroute66

## **Jurassic Gemstones**

117 West Madison Street  
(815) 844-2977  
jurassicgemstones.com

## **Livingston County Courthouse**

112 West Madison Street  
(815) 844-5847  
visitpontiac.org

## **Livingston County War Museum**

321 North Main Street  
(815) 842-0301  
visitpontiac.org/2189/Livingston-County-War-Museum

## **Murals on Main Street Tour**

Downtown Pontiac  
(815) 844-5847  
visitpontiac.org

## **Route 66 Hall of Fame and Museum**

110 West Howard Street  
(815) 844-4566  
visitpontiac.org & il66assoc.org

## **Swinging Bridges of Pontiac**

Throughout Pontiac over the Vermilion River  
(815) 844-5847  
visitpontiac.org

## **The International Walldog and Sign Art Exhibit**

**Pontiac Museum Complex**  
110 West Howard  
(815) 844-5847  
visitpontiac.org

## **The Museum of the Gilding Arts**

217 North Mill Street  
(815) 842-1848  
visitpontiac.org

## *Lodging*

### **Best Western Pontiac Inn**

1821 West Reynolds Street  
(815) 844-1187  
bestwesternillinois.com



# CENTRAL SECTION

## CHENOA

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### **Chenoa Dog Park on Route 66**

205 N Morehead Street  
(815) 945-7619  
chenoail.org

### **Chenoa Original Route 66 Alignment Photo Stop**

South Morehead Street &  
U.S. 24 Intersection  
(815) 945-4211  
chenoail.org

### **Chenoa Pharmacy & Visitors Center**

Historic Downtown Chenoa  
209 Green Street  
(815) 945-4211  
chenoail.org

### **OB's Cervezaria/Joe's StationHouse Pizzeria/Iron Cave Golf**

917 E Cemetery Ave.  
Chenoa, IL 61726  
(815) 513-8455  
facebook.com/OBsCervezaria

## LEXINGTON

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### **"American Standard"**

**Elephant Sculpture**  
West Main Street & Route 66  
(309) 365-3331  
lexingtonillinois.org

### **Historic Downtown Lexington**

West Main Street & Route 66  
(309) 365-3331  
lexingtonillinois.org

### **Lexington Neon Arrow**

West Main Street & Route 66  
(309) 365-3331  
lexingtonillinois.org

### **Lexington Route 66 Park**

West Main Street & Route 66  
(309) 365-3331  
lexingtonillinois.org

### **Route 66 Memory Lane**

Original Route 66 Alignment  
(309) 365-3331  
lexingtonillinois.org

### *Lodging*

### **The Lexington House on 66 Airbnb**

1002 West Walnut Street  
lexingtonhouseon66.com

## BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

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### *Normal*

### **Carl's Ice Cream/Carl The Giant**

1700 West College Avenue, Normal  
(309) 454-7732  
carsicecream.com

### **DESTIHL Brewery & Beer Hall**

1200 Greenbriar Drive, Normal  
(309) 420-0159  
destihl.com

### **DESTIHL Restaurant & Brew Works**

318 S. Towanda Avenue, Normal  
(309) 862-2337  
destihl.com

### **Children's Discovery Museum**

101 East Beaufort Street, Normal  
(309) 433-3444  
childrensdiscoverymuseum.net

### **Historic Normal Theater**

209 North Street, Normal  
(309) 454-9722  
normaltheater.com

# CENTRAL SECTION

## **Ryburn Place at Sprague's Super Service**

305 Pine Street, Normal  
(309) 585-4103  
ryburnplace.com

## **Uptown Normal**

11 Uptown Circle, Normal  
(309) 454-9777  
uptownnormal.com

## *Bloomington*

### **Anju Above Restaurant**

220 East Front Street, Bloomington  
(309) 828-2323  
epiphanyfarms.com/anjuabove

### **Bloomington Center for The Performing Arts**

600 North East Street, Bloomington  
(309) 434-2777  
artsblooming.org

### **BN Artists**

105 West Jefferson Street, Bloomington  
(309) 319-8672  
facebook.com/BNartists

### **"Cruisin' with Lincoln on 66"**

#### **Visitors Center**

200 North Main Street, Bloomington  
(309) 827-0428  
cruisinwithlincoln66.org

### **David Davis Mansion State Historic Site**

1000 Monroe Drive, Bloomington  
(309) 828-1084  
daviddavismansion.org

### **Epiphany Farms Restaurant**

220 East Front Street, Bloomington  
(309) 828-2323  
epiphanyfarms.com/  
epiphanyfarmsrestaurant

### **Evergreen Memorial Cemetery**

302 East Miller Street, Bloomington  
(309) 827-6950  
evergreenmemorialcemetery.com

### **Grady's Family Fun Park**

1501 Morrissey Drive, Bloomington  
(309) 662-3332  
gradysfunpark.com

### **Grady's Pizza**

1501 Morrissey Drive, Bloomington  
(309) 662-3333  
gradyspizza.com

### **Hangar Art Company**

105 West Jefferson Street, Bloomington  
(309) 319-8672  
thehangarartco.com

### **Harmony Korean Bar-B-Que**

7 Currency Drive, Bloomington  
(309) 570-1590  
epiphanyfarms.com/  
harmonykoreanbbq

### **McLean County Arts Center**

601 North East Street, Bloomington  
(309) 829-0011  
mca.wildapricot.org

### **McLean County Museum of History**

200 North Main Street, Bloomington  
(309) 827-0428  
mchistory.org

### **Miller Park and Zoo**

1020 South Morris Avenue,  
Bloomington  
(309) 434-2250  
millerparkzoo.org



# CENTRAL SECTION

## **Power House Art - 410 Sculpture Park**

410 South Madison Street,  
Bloomington  
(309) 261-6893  
powerhouse-art.com

## **Prairie Aviation Museum**

Central Illinois Regional  
Airport Complex  
2929 East Empire Street, Bloomington  
(309)-663-7632  
prairieaviationmuseum.org

## **Red Raccoon Games**

301 North Main Street, Bloomington  
(309) 828-9196  
redraccoongames.net

## **Visit BN Gift Shop**

at Grossinger Motors Arena  
101 South Madison Street,  
Bloomington  
(309) 585-6070  
visitbn.org

## *Events*

### **Route 66 Art Trail**

(Annually in July)  
Bloomington-Normal  
(309) 319-8672  
facebook.com/BNartists

### **Slow Art Day on Route 66**

(Annually in April)  
Bloomington-Normal  
(309) 319-8672  
facebook.com/BNartists

## *Lodging*

### **Best Western Plus Bloomington East Hotel**

604 1/2 IAA Drive, Bloomington  
(309) 808-0628  
bestwesternillinois.com

## **Power House Art - The House on Garling Airbnb**

(Opening October, 2024)  
1905 Garling Drive, Bloomington  
(309) 261-6893  
powerhouse-art.com

## **SHIRLEY/FUNK'S GROVE**

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### **Funks Grove Heritage Fruits & Grains**

5257 Historic U.S. 66  
(508) 633-4323  
facebook.com/funksgrovehfg

### **Funks Grove Pure Maple Sirup**

5257 Historic U.S. 66  
(309) 874-3360  
funkspuremaplesirup.com

### **Sugar Grove Nature Center**

4532 North 725 East Road  
sugargrovenaturecenter.org

## **McLEAN**

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### **Arcadia: America's Playable Arcade Museum**

107 South Hamilton Street  
(309) 287-1725  
vintagevideogames.com

### **CORE of McLean**

coreofmclean.org

### **Dixie Family Restaurant/ Historic Dixie Truck Stop**

315 East Dixie Road  
(309) 874-2900  
facebook.com/DixieFamilyRestaurant

### **McLean Depot Train Shop/A Home on the Road Interpretive Statue**

266 East Dixie Road  
(309) 244-5900  
mclean-il.com

# CENTRAL SECTION

## **McLean Water Tower**

210 Center Street  
coreofmclean.org

## **Pinball Paradise: America's Playable Pinball Museum**

102 East Morgan Street  
(309) 287-1725  
vintagevideogames.com

## **Shorty's Barber Shop Route 66**

### **Walldogs Mural**

Downtown McLean  
(309) 874-2102  
mclean-il.com

## *Lodging*

### **Hotel Arcadia Airbnb**

107 South Hamilton Street  
(309) 287-1725  
airbnb.com/rooms/5308078

## **ATLANTA**

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### **American Giants Museum**

100 Southwest Arch Street  
(217) 648-5077  
americangiantsmuseum.com

### **Arch Street Artisans Shop**

103 Southwest Arch Street  
facebook.com/ArchStreetArtisans

### **Atlanta Coal Mining Company Historical Mine**

301 Southwest Second Street  
(217) 871-7557  
atlantaillinoistourism.com

### **Atlanta Museum**

112 Southwest Arch Street  
(217) 648-2112  
atlantapld.org

### **Atlanta Public Library & Clock Tower**

Atlanta Library District  
100 Southeast Race Street  
(217) 648-2112  
aplinfo.org

### **Atlanta Route 66 Park**

105 Southeast Race Street  
(217) 871-7557  
atlantaillinoistourism.com

### **Atlanta's Smiley Face Water Tower**

407 Southwest Second Street  
(217) 871-7557  
atlantaillinoistourism.com

### **Historic U.S Route 66, Illinois**

#### **Route 4 Driving Exhibit**

Corner of Northeast Arch Street  
and Sycamore Street  
(217) 871-7557  
atlantaillinoistourism.com

### **J.H. Hawes Grain Elevator & Museum**

301 Southwest Second Street  
(217) 871-7557  
atlantaillinoistourism.com

### **J.P. Hieronymus Carriage House**

301 Southwest Second Street  
(217) 871-7557  
atlantaillinoistourism.com

### **Logan County Visitors Welcome Center in Atlanta**

114 Southwest Arch Street  
(217) 871-7557  
atlantaillinoistourism.com

### **Route 66 Arcade Museum**

114 Southwest Arch Street  
(217) 871-7557  
atlantaillinoistourism.com

# CENTRAL SECTION

## **Route 66 Murals & Outdoor Advertising**

Downtown Atlanta  
(217) 871-7557  
atlantaillinoistourism.com

## **The Bunyon Giant**

103 Southwest Arch Street  
(217) 871-7557  
atlantaillinoistourism.com

## LINCOLN

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## **Abe's Carmelcorn Shoppe**

117 North Kickapoo Street  
(Old Route 66)  
(217) 732-4564  
facebook.com/abescarmelcorn

## **Historic Downtown Lincoln**

Kickapoo & Broadway Streets  
(Old Route 66)  
(217) 732-8687tyil.com

## **Historic Lincoln Depot/Logan County Tourism Bureau**

101 North Chicago Street  
(217) 732-8687  
destinationlogancountyil.com

## **Historic Logan County Courthouse**

601 Broadway Street  
(217) 735-2376  
destinationlogancountyil.com/logan-county-courthouse-downtown

## **Lincoln Christening Scene**

101 North Chicago Street  
(217) 732-8687  
destinationlogancountyil.com

## **Lincoln Heritage Museum**

1115 Nicholson Road  
(217) 735-7399  
museum.lincolncollege.edu

## **Phone Booth on Lincoln City Hall**

700 Broadway Street  
(217) 735-2815  
destinationlogancountyil.com

## **Postville Courthouse State Historic Site**

914 Fifth Street  
(217) 732-8930  
destinationlogancountyil.com/  
postville-courthouse

## **Route 66 Corner Garage Antiques and Collectables**

1211 Fifth Street (Old Route 66)  
(217) 737-3949/(217) 737-7676  
facebook.com/Route66CornerGarage

## **The Cow in the Corn Sculpture**

Sangamon & Pulaski Streets  
(217) 732-8687  
destinationlogancountyil.com

## **The Lodge Off 66**

Historic Roadside Tavern  
2265 900th Avenue, Hartsburg  
(8 miles Northwest of Lincoln)  
(217) 737-0553  
facebook.com/p/The-Lodge-off-66-100083309948643

## **The Mill Museum on 66**

738 South Washington Street  
(217) 732-8687  
mill66.com

## **The Tropics Restaurant Neon Sign**

1109 Hickox Drive  
(217) 732-8687  
destinationlogancountyil.com

## **Walldogs Murals**

Downtown Lincoln  
(217) 732-8687  
destinationlogancountyil.com

# CENTRAL SECTION

## **World's Largest Covered Wagon**

(The Railsplitter)  
1750 Fifth Street  
(217) 732-8687  
[destinationlogancountyil.com](http://destinationlogancountyil.com)

## **BROADWELL**

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### **Pig Hip Marker & Sign**

101 West Oak Street  
[il66assoc.org/2022/04/ernie-edwards-the-pig-hip-restaurant](http://il66assoc.org/2022/04/ernie-edwards-the-pig-hip-restaurant)

## **ELKHART**

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### **Elkhart Cemetery/St. John the Baptist Chapel**

County Road 10  
(217) 947-2238  
[elkharthistoricalsociety.org](http://elkharthistoricalsociety.org)

### **Elkhart Hill Farm & Vineyard**

(formerly Old Gillett Farm)  
4-6 Drake Lane  
(217) 947-2158  
[connshg.com/historic-gillett-farm](http://connshg.com/historic-gillett-farm)

### **Elkhart Historic Route 66 Wall Murals**

Corner of Latham Street & Governor Oglesby Street  
[connshg.com/elkhart-station-general-store](http://connshg.com/elkhart-station-general-store)  
[elkharthistoricalsociety.org](http://elkharthistoricalsociety.org)

### **Elkhart Historical Society**

(217) 947-2238  
[elkharthistoricalsociety.org](http://elkharthistoricalsociety.org)

### **Elkhart Station General Store**

101 Governor Oglesby Street  
(217) 947-2199  
[connshg.com/elkhart-station-general-store](http://connshg.com/elkhart-station-general-store)

## **Historic Downtown Elkhart**

Governor Oglesby Street  
(217) 947-2287  
[destinationlogancountyil.com/explore-our-towns/elkhart-menu-item](http://destinationlogancountyil.com/explore-our-towns/elkhart-menu-item)

## **John P. Gillett Memorial Bridge**

(Arch Bridge)  
County Road 10  
(217) 947-2238  
[elkharthistoricalsociety.org](http://elkharthistoricalsociety.org)

## **Logan County Visitors**

### **Welcome Center**

at The Country Bumpkin Antiques  
103 Governor Oglesby Street  
(217) 947-2238  
[destinationlogancountyil.com/country-bumpkin-visitor-center](http://destinationlogancountyil.com/country-bumpkin-visitor-center)

## **WILLIAMSVILLE**

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## **Historic Downtown Williamsville**

West Main Street  
(217) 566-3520  
[williamsville.illinois.gov](http://williamsville.illinois.gov)

## **The Old Station**

117 North Elm Street

## **Williamsville Celebrates**

### **Route 66 International Traveler**

### **Multi-Directional Sign**

at Williamsville Public Library and Museum  
217 North Elm Street  
(217) 566-3520  
[williamsville.illinois.gov](http://williamsville.illinois.gov)

## **Williamsville Park-Trail-Lake**

706 East Main Street  
(217) 566-3520  
[williamsville.illinois.gov](http://williamsville.illinois.gov)

# CENTRAL SECTION

## **Williamsville Railroad Depot and Box Cars**

102 South Elm Street  
(217) 566-3520  
williamsville.illinois.gov

## SHERMAN

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### **Carpenter Park Route 66 Pavement**

1 Carpenter Park Trail  
(217) 544-1751  
springfieldparks.org/locations/8/carpenter-park/springfield/location-details

### **Double H Bar**

121 North First Street  
(217) 496-3811  
facebook.com/tims.double

### **Historic Route 66 Bike/Hike Trail Trailhead**

Corner of Bahr Road & East Andrew Road Sherman  
(217) 496-2621  
shermanil.org

### **Route 66 Wayside Park**

Corner of Old Route 66/Sherman Blvd and Andrew Road/Route 124  
(217) 496-2621  
shermanil.org

### **Sherman Village Park & Village Park Amphitheater**

1200 Rail Fence Road  
(217) 496-2621  
facebook.com/shermanvillagepark

## SPRINGFIELD

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### **7th Street Cidery**

503 South 7th Street  
(217) 679-4726  
connshg.com/7th-Street-Cidery

### **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum**

112-212 North Sixth Street  
(217) 782-5764 or (800) 610-2094  
presidentlincoln.illinois.gov

### **Ace Sign Co. Sign Museum**

2540 South First Street  
(217) 522-8417  
acesignco.com/museum

### **Alive! on 66**

600 Toronto Road  
(217) 685-1055  
aliveon66.com

### **Brezie's Roasted Beans and Gaming**

3351 S. 6th Street Road, Ste 2 (Southern View)  
(217) 761-0996  
www.breziesroastedbeans.com

### **Buzz Bomb Brewing Co.**

406 East Adams Street  
buzzbombbrewingco.com

### **Conn's Catering & Events**

835 South Second Street  
(217) 523-4466  
connshg.com/conn-s-catering

### **Conn's Hospitality Group & Conn Family Community Works**

625 South Second Street  
(217) 522-3123  
connshg.com

### **Cozy Dog Drive-In**

2935 South Sixth Street  
(217) 525-1992  
cozydogdrivein.com

# CENTRAL SECTION

## **Dana-Thomas House**

(Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright)  
301 East Lawrence Avenue  
(217) 782-6776  
[dnrhistoric.illinois.gov/experience/sites/site.dana-thomas-house.html](http://dnrhistoric.illinois.gov/experience/sites/site.dana-thomas-house.html)

## **Downtown Springfield, Inc.**

Historic Downtown Springfield  
Old State Capitol Plaza  
(217) 544-1723  
[downtownspringfield.org](http://downtownspringfield.org)

## **Grab-A-Java**

1702 South 6th Street  
(217) 523-5282  
[grabajava.com](http://grabajava.com)

## **Grab-A-Java**

3115 Hedley Road  
(217) 523-5282  
[grabajava.com](http://grabajava.com)

## **Illinois Governor's Mansion**

410 East Jackson Street  
(217) 782-6450  
[governorsmansion.illinois.gov](http://governorsmansion.illinois.gov)

## **Illinois State Capitol**

401 South Second Street  
(217) 782-2099  
[visitspringfieldillinois.com/LocationDetails/?id=Illinois-State-Capitol](http://visitspringfieldillinois.com/LocationDetails/?id=Illinois-State-Capitol)

## **Illinois State Fairgrounds Route 66 Experience**

(Inside Gate 2)  
801 East Sangamon Avenue  
[illinoisroute66.org/](http://illinoisroute66.org/)  
[isfroute66experience](http://isfroute66experience)

## **Illinois State Museum**

502 South Spring Street  
(217) 782-7386  
[illinoisstatemuseum.org](http://illinoisstatemuseum.org)

## **Jamie's Route 66**

3351 S. 6th Street; Suite 3  
(Southern View)  
(217) 741-1377

## **Knight's Action Park & Splash Kingdom**

1700 Recreation Drive  
(217) 546-8881  
[knightsactionpark.com](http://knightsactionpark.com)

## **Lincoln Home National Historic Site**

413 South Eighth Street  
(217) 492-4241  
[nps.gov/liho/index.htm](http://nps.gov/liho/index.htm)

## **Lincoln Memorial Garden**

2301 East Lakeshore Drive  
(217) 529-1111  
[lincolnmemorialgarden.org](http://lincolnmemorialgarden.org)

## **Lincoln Tomb State Historic Site/ Illinois War Memorials**

at Oak ridge Cemetery  
1500 Monument Avenue  
[dnrhistoric.illinois.gov/experience/sites/central/lincoln-tomb.html](http://dnrhistoric.illinois.gov/experience/sites/central/lincoln-tomb.html)

## **Merchant House Urban Event Space**

625 East Monroe Street  
(217) 523-4466  
[connshg.com/merchant-house-event-space](http://connshg.com/merchant-house-event-space)

## **Nancy's Pizza**

2301 West Monroe Street  
(217) 679-0456  
[nancypizza.com](http://nancypizza.com)

## **Obed & Isaac's Microbrewery & Eatery**

500 South Sixth Street  
(217) 670-0627  
[obedandisaacs.com](http://obedandisaacs.com)

# CENTRAL SECTION

## **Official Springfield Visitors Center**

at Lincoln-Herndon Law Office  
1 South Old State Capitol Plaza  
(Corner of 6th & Adams)  
(217) 789-2360  
visitspringfieldillinois.com

## **Old State Capitol State Historic Site**

1 South Old State Capitol Plaza  
(217) 785-9363  
dnrhistoric.illinois.gov/experience/sites/  
site.old-state-capitol.html

## **Papa Frank's Restaurant**

4111 Wabash Avenue  
(217) 679-8700  
papafranksspringfield.com

## **Route 66 Drive-In**

1700 Recreation Drive  
(217) 698-0066  
route66-drivein.com

## **Route 66 Motorheads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex**

600 Toronto Road  
(217) 679-7323  
66motorheads.com

## **Saputo's Restaurant**

801 East Monroe Street  
(217) 544-2523  
saputos.com

## **Shea's Gas Station**

2075 North Peoria Road  
(217) 789-2360  
visitspringfieldillinois.com/  
LocationDetails/?id=Shea%27s-  
Gas-Station

## **Sonrise Donuts Sign**

Ace Sign Co. Sign Museum &  
Route 66 Motorheads Museum  
(217) 789-2360  
visitspringfieldillinois.com

## **Springfield Lucky Horseshoes**

1415 N Grand Ave East  
(217) 679-3511  
shoesbaseball.com

## **The Lauterbach Giant**

1569 Wabash Avenue  
(217) 546-2600  
visitspringfieldillinois.com/  
LocationDetails/?id=Lauterbach-Giant

## **Trish & Mary's Pub at**

### **Vinegar Hill Mall**

107 West Cook Street, Suite A  
(217) 679-3287  
connshg.com/trish-marys-pub

## **Wm. Van's Café at Vinegar Hill Mall**

107 West Cook Street  
connshg.com/wm-vans-coffee-house

## *Events*

### **International Route 66**

### **Mother Road Festival**

Historic Downtown Springfield  
(Last weekend in September)  
route66fest.com

## *Lodging*

### **Best Western Clearlake Plaza**

3440 East Clear Lake Avenue  
(217) 525-7420  
bestwesternillinois.com  
Inn at 835 Boutique Hotel B&B  
835 South 2nd Street  
(217) 523-4466  
innat835.com

# SOUTHERN SECTION

## CHATHAM

### Apple Barn

2290 East Walnut Street  
(217) 483-6236  
applebarn.net

### Sangamo Brewing & Sangamo Breweriana Museum

109 East Mulberry Street  
(217) 697-8026  
sangamobrewing.com

### Sugar Creek Covered Bridge

1 Covered Bridge Road

### Lodging

#### Double J Campground

9683 Palm Road  
(217) 483-9998  
doublejcampground.com

## GLENARM

### Corvair Museum

10041 Palm Road  
(217) 494-7105  
corvair.org

## AUBURN

### Historic Brick Road

Snell and Curran Roads  
illinoisroute66.smugmug.com/  
Southern-Illinois-Route-66-  
Attractions/Historic-Brick-Road-in-  
Auburn

## DIVERNON

### Hilda's Antique Mall

14266 Fraaze Road  
(217) 628-9192  
facebook.com/hildasantiquemall



109 E. Mulberry  
Chatham, Illinois 62629  
(217) 697-8026  
www.sangamobrewing.com



Micro-Brewery, Restaurant, and Museum highlighting the nostalgic history of Illinois Breweries and their advertising.



# SOUTHERN SECTION

## **Nickorbobs Home & Gifts**

14260 Frazee Road  
(217) 628-9191  
nickorbobs.com

## **Rusty Star Marketplace & Route 66 Welcome Center**

14335 Frazee Road  
(217) 628-1122  
facebook.com/rustystarmarketplace

## **Tammi's Treasures, Antiques & More**

490 Illinois Highway 104  
(217) 628-3333  
tammistreasures.com

## **VIRDEN**

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### **DnR Custom Apparel & Route 66 Souvenir Shop**

207 County Line Road  
(217) 965-4510  
dnrcustomapparel.com

### **Jo's Place**

217 East Jackson Street  
(217) 965-3442  
facebook.com/JosPlacevirden

### **Neatos Elements**

140 North Dye Street  
neatoselements.com

### **Showtime Lanes & Visitors Center**

1515 North Springfield Street  
(217) 965-5521  
showtimelanes.com

### **Silvernicks New & Used**

167 North Springfield Street  
(217) 891-6514  
silvernicks.com

## **The Slyfox Bookstore**

123 North Springfield Street  
(217) 965-3641  
slyfoxbookstore.com

## **Virden History Mural**

105 East Jackson Street  
virdenmural.com

## **Virden Miner's Memorial/ Central Park**

Virden Square  
175 East Jackson  
(217) 965-6139  
virdenchamber.com

## **Virden Area Chamber of Commerce**

(217) 965-6139  
virdenchamber.com

## **FARMERSVILLE**

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### **The Rooted Home**

516 Elevator Street  
(217) 710-6262  
shoptherootedhome.com

### *Events*

#### **Irish Days Celebration**

Historic Downtown Farmersville  
(Annually Late May – Early June)  
facebook.com/p/Irish-Days-  
Celebration-100057336854828

## **GIRARD**

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### **Docs Just Off 66**

133 South 2nd Street  
(217) 627-3491  
docsjustoff66.com

### **Girard Chamber of Commerce**

(217) 341-4436  
girardilchamber.org

# SOUTHERN SECTION

## Money Talks

125 South 2nd Street  
(217) 414-5416  
facebook.com/people/Money-Talks/100063634088992/

## Whirl-A-Whip

309 South Third Street  
(217) 627-9447  
whirlawhip.net

## NILWOOD

### Turkey Tracks in Pavement

South of Nilwood on Donaldson Road

## CARLINVILLE

### Blackburn College

700 College Avenue  
(800) 233-3550  
blackburn.edu

### Carlenville Historic Square

Downtown Carlenville  
(217) 854-4076  
cityofcarlenville.com

### Historic Treasures

518 North Side Square  
(217) 716-2299  
historic-treasures.business.site

shoptherootedhome.com

516 Elevator Street | Farmersville

217-710-6262

# SOUTHERN SECTION

## **Macoupin County**

### **“Cannonball Jail” of 1869**

205 East First South Street

(217) 854-3341

<https://macoupincountyil.gov/tourism/cannonball-jail/>

### **Macoupin County “Million Dollar” Courthouse**

200 East Main Street

(217) 854-3341

[macoupincountyil.gov/tourism/courthouse-history](http://macoupincountyil.gov/tourism/courthouse-history)

### **Mother Road Antique Mall**

106 North Side Square

(217) 854-8029

[facebook.com/motherroad2](https://facebook.com/motherroad2)

### **Standard Addition/Sears and Roebuck Mail Order Houses**

Charles and Rice Streets

(217) 854-4076

[cityofcarlinville.com](http://cityofcarlinville.com)

### **Victory Lane Chrysler Dodge-Jeep-Ram**

400 West Main Street

(217) 854-5337

[victorylanechrysler.com](http://victorylanechrysler.com)

### *Lodging*

#### **Carlinville Grand Airbnb**

289 North Broad Street

(618) 779-6162

[airbnb.com/rooms/48700028](https://airbnb.com/rooms/48700028)

## **GILLESPIE**

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### **Downtown Gillespie**

Gillespie City Hall & Civic Center

115 North Macoupin Street

(217) 839-2919

### **Gillespie Route 66 Mural at Michelle’s Pharmacy**

120 South Macoupin Street

### **Illinois Coal Museum at Gillespie**

121 South Macoupin Street

(833) 228-8603

[gillespiecoalmuseum.org](http://gillespiecoalmuseum.org)

## **STAUNTON**

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### **Concordia Bar & Bowling Alley, Events & Activities**

709 South Union Street

(618) 635-2040

[concordiahall.com](http://concordiahall.com)

### **Country Classic Cars**

2149 East Frontage Road

(618) 635-7056

[countryclassiccars.com](http://countryclassiccars.com)

### **DeCamp Station**

8767 State Route 4

(618) 637-2951

[decampstationil.com](http://decampstationil.com)

### **Staunton Route 66 Mural**

Corner of Elm & West Main Streets

(618) 635-2233

[cityofstauntonil.com](http://cityofstauntonil.com)

### **Vintage Station**

225 Phillips

(618) 779-2956

[facebook.com/vintagestationstaunton](https://facebook.com/vintagestationstaunton)

## **WAGGONER**

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### **Beal’s M&M Museum**

355 South Buchanan Street

(217) 494-3320

[facebook.com/Bealsmuseum](https://facebook.com/Bealsmuseum)

# SOUTHERN SECTION

## LITCHFIELD

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### **Ariston Café**

413 North Historic Route 66  
(217) 250-2031  
ariston-cafe.com

### **Jubelt's Restaurant & Bakery**

303 North Historic Route 66  
(217) 324-5314  
jubelts.com

### **Lake Lou Yaeger Recreation Area**

4313 Beach House Trail  
(217) 324-5832  
visitlitchfield.com/lake-lou-yaeger

### **Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welcome Center**

334 North Historic Route 66  
(217) 324-3510  
litchfieldmuseum.org

### **Litchfield Tourism Office**

at Historic Carnegie Library Building  
400 North State Street  
(217) 324-8147  
visitlitchfield.com

### **Nancy's Pizza**

13 Thunderbird Circle  
(217) 324-0707  
nancyspizza.com

### **Sky View Drive-In Theatre**

1500 North Historic Route 66  
(217) 324-4451  
litchfieldskyview.com

### **Victory Lane Ford**

903 Old Route 66 North  
(217) 324-3965  
victorylaneford.com

### **Victory Lane Outdoors**

1117 Old Route 66 North  
(217) 324-2452  
victorylaneoutdoors.com

### **Walton Park**

(217) 324-9075  
10207 Niemanville Trail  
litchfieldparkdistrict.com/  
walton-park.html

### *Events*

#### **Litchfield Pickers Market**

400 North State Street  
(217) 324-8147  
facebook.com/litchfieldpickersmarket

### *Lodging*

#### **Country Bend Campground**

3279 Honey Bend Avenue  
(217) 324-2363  
countrybendcampground.com

#### **Hampton Inn Litchfield**

11 Thunderbird Circle  
(217) 324-4441  
litchfield.hamptoninn.com

#### **Lake Lou Yaeger Primitive Campgrounds**

3 Primitive Lane  
(217) 324-4771  
visitlitchfield.com/lake-lou-yaeger/  
camping

## MT. OLIVE

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### **Mother Jones Museum**

Mt. Olive City Hall  
215 East Main Street  
(217) 999-4261  
facebook.com/  
therealmotherjonesmuseum

# SOUTHERN SECTION

## **Soulsby's Service Station**

710 West First Street (Old Route 66)  
nps.gov/places/soulsby-service-station.htm

## **Union Miners Cemetery and Mother Jones Monument**

700 North Lake Street  
riversandroutes.com/directory/mother-jones-monument-and-burial-site

## LIVINGSTON

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### **Mother Road Fudge-n-Candy**

908 Veterans Memorial Drive  
(618) 637-2803  
facebook.com/pinkelephantantiquemall

### **Pink Elephant Antique Mall & Twistee Treat Diner**

908 Veterans Memorial Drive  
(618) 637-2366  
pinkelephantantiquemall.com

## HAMEL

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### **Route 66 Creamery**

11 South Old Route 66  
(618) 960-3540  
facebook.com/rt66creamery

### **Route 66 Mural/Monument/Wayside Exhibit**

Village of Hamel  
111 South Old US Route 66  
(618) 633-2484  
villageofhamel.com

## EDWARDSVILLE

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### **West End Service Station**

Great Rivers & Routes/City of  
Edwardsville Visitor Center  
620 St. Louis Street  
riversandroutes.com/directory/west-end-service-station

## *Events*

### **Route 66 Miles of Possibility Conference**

at Wildey Theatre  
(Oct 31 – Nov 3, 2024)  
252 North Main Street  
route66milesofpossibility.com

## TROY

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### **Best Western Troy Hotel**

2020 Formosa Road  
(618) 667-9200  
bestwesternillinois.com

## COLLINSVILLE

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### **Brooks Catsup Bottle Water Tower**

800 South Morrison Avenue  
(618) 344-8775  
catsupbottle.com

### **Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site**

30 Ramey Drive  
(618) 346-5160  
cahokiamounds.org

## GRANITE CITY

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### **Granite City Neon Sign Park**

(opening in 2024-2025)  
Downtown Granite City  
riversandroutes.com/cities-towns/  
granite-city

### **Horseshoe Lake State Park**

3321 Highway 111  
(618) 931-0270  
dnr.illinois.gov/parks/park.  
horseshoelakemadison.html

### **O'Brien Tire & Auto Care/ Giant Tire Photo Op**

3924 Nameoki Road  
(618) 876-7616  
obrientire.com

# SOUTHERN SECTION

## PONTOON BEACH

### **Best Western Plus Pontoon Beach**

4 Regency Parkway  
(618) 512-1314  
bestwesternillinois.com

## MADISON

### **Old Chain of Rocks Bridge**

Chain of Rocks Road on  
Chouteau Island  
traillink.com/trail/old-chain-of-  
rocks-bridge

*If you are a business member of the Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway, we thank you for your support. If you would like to join the Byway, or if your business is not listed in this guide, please email Casey Claypool at [casey@illinoisroute66.org](mailto:casey@illinoisroute66.org). Byway memberships begin at \$150 for the year!*

## ***We've Got An App For That!***

Planning the perfect road trip along the historic Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway just got easier! We're excited to share with you the Illinois Route 66 mobile app, an interactive way to map out everything you want to see. This tool provides a new way to explore what Illinois Route 66 has to offer, including hotels, popular restaurants, local events, historic roadside attractions and more.



**Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway**



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Google Play

Download our mobile app by searching 'Explore Illinois Route 66' in the App Store or on Google Play.

## ***IllinoisRoute66.org***

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Community, CVB, Chamber & Tourism Partners Directory

### COMMUNITY MEMBERS

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**City of Countryside**  
(708) 354-7270  
countryside-il.org

**Village of Romeoville**  
(815) 886-7200  
romeoville.org

**Village of Bolingbrook**  
(630) 226-8400  
bolingbrook.com

**City of Joliet**  
(815) 724-4000  
joliet.gov

**City of Lockport**  
(815) 838-0549  
cityoflockport.net

**Village of Channahon**  
(815) 467-6644  
channahon.org

**Village of Elwood**  
(815) 423-5011  
villageofelwood.com

**City of Wilmington**  
(815) 476-2175  
wilmington-il.com

**City of Braidwood**  
(815) 458-2333  
braidwood.us

**Village of Dwight**  
(815) 584-3077  
dwrightillinois.org

**Village of Odell**  
(815) 998-2133  
odell-il.com

**City of Pontiac**  
(815) 844-5847  
visitpontiac.org

**City of Chenoa**  
(815) 945-7619  
chenoail.org

**City of Lexington**  
(309) 365-3331  
lexingtonillinois.org

**Town of Normal**  
(309) 665-0033  
visitbn.org

**City of Bloomington**  
(309) 665-0033  
visitbn.org

**Village of McLean**  
(309) 874-2102  
mclean-il.com

**City of Atlanta**  
(217) 871-7557  
atlantaillinoistourism.com

**City of Lincoln**  
(217) 732-8687  
destinationlogancountyil.com

**Village of Elkhart**  
(217) 947-2287  
elkhartillinois.com

**Village of Williamsville**  
(217) 566-3806  
williamsville.illinois.gov

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## **Village of Sherman**

(217) 496-2621  
shermanil.org

## **City of Springfield**

(217) 789-2360  
visitspringfieldillinois.com

## **City of Virden**

(217) 965-5805  
virden.municipalimpact.com

## **Village of Farmersville**

facebook.com/  
groups/867683750621639

## **City of Gillespie**

(217) 839-2919

## **City of Staunton**

(618) 635-2233  
cityofstauntonil.com

## **City of Litchfield**

(217) 324-8147  
visitlitchfield.com

## **City of Mt. Olive**

(217) 999-4261

## **Village of Hamel**

(618) 633-2484  
villageofhamel.com

## **CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAUS, TOURSIM OFFICES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERS**

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### **Heritage Corridor Destinations**

(Route 66 - The First Hundred Miles)  
(844) 944-2282  
hcdestinations.com  
thefirsthundredmiles.com

## **Berwyn Development Corporation**

(708) 788-8100  
whyberwyn.com

## **Plainfield Shorewood Area Chamber of Commerce**

(815) 436-4431  
plainfieldchamber.com

## **Visit Pontiac (Pontiac Tourism)**

(815) 844-5847  
visitpontiac.org

## **Visit BN (Bloomington- Normal Area CVB)**

(800) 433-8226  
visitbn.org

## **Visit Atlanta (Atlanta Tourism)**

(217) 871-7557  
atlantaillinois.org

## **Atlanta Betterment Fund**

(217) 648-5077  
americangiantsmuseum.com/  
betterment-fund

## **Logan County Tourism Bureau**

(217) 732-8687  
destinationlogancountyil.com

## **Elkhart Historical Society**

(217) 947-2238  
elkharthistoricalsociety.org

## **Visit Springfield Illinois**

(Springfield CVB)  
(800) 545-7300  
visitspringfieldillinois.com

## **Downtown Springfield Inc.**

(217) 544-1723  
downtownspringfield.org



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## **Virden Area Chamber of Commerce**

(217) 965-6139  
virdenchamber.com

## **Girard Chamber of Commerce**

(217) 341-4436  
girardilchamber.org

## **Visit Litchfield (Litchfield Tourism)**

(217) 324-8147  
visitlitchfield.com

## **Great Rivers & Routes Tourism**

**Bureau of Southwest Illinois**  
(Route 66 - The Last Hundred Miles)  
(800) 258-6645  
RiversAndRoutes.com

## **BYWAY PARTNERS**

### **Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area**

(Looking for Lincoln)  
(217) 492-8366  
lookingforlincoln.org

### **David Schwartz Photography**

daidschwartzphoto.com

### **Illinois Main Street**

(312) 610-5619  
ilmainstreet.org

### **Illinois Route 66 Centennial Commission**

(217) 670-1805  
illinoisroute66centennial.org

### **Landmarks Illinois**

(312) 922-1742  
landmarks.org

### **National Scenic Byway Foundation**

(330) 231-3468  
nsbfoundation.com

## **National Trust for Historic Preservation**

(202) 588.6000  
savingplaces.org

## **ROUTE Magazine**

routemagazine.us

## **Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership**

route66roadahead.org

## **AIRPORTS**

### **O'Hare International Airport**

(800) 832-6352

### **Chicago Midway Airport**

(773) 838-0600

### **Central Illinois Regional Airport Bloomington-Normal**

(309) 663-7383

### **Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport Springfield**

(217) 788-1060

## **ILLINOIS INFORMATION**

### **Illinois Office of Tourism**

(800) 2CONNECT or  
TTD (800) 406-6418  
enjoyillinois.com

### **Illinois Department of Natural Resources**

(217) 782-6302  
dnr.illinois.gov

### **Illinois Department of Transportation**

(217) 782-7820  
idot.illinois.gov

### **Illinois Highway Driving Conditions**

(800) 452-IDOT  
gettingaroundillinois.com

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## **Ride Illinois (Route 66 Bike Trail)**

(630) 216-9282  
rideillinois.org

## **U.S. Customs Service**

(877) 227-5511  
cbp.gov/travel

## **LODGING AND DINING INFORMATION**

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### **Conn's Hospitality Group**

connshg.com

### **Epiphany Farms Hospitality Group**

epiphanyfarms.com

### **Illinois Grape Growers & Vintners Alliance**

(217) 726-8518  
illinoiswine.com

### **Illinois Campground Association**

(866) 895-2267  
illinoisgocamping.com

### **Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association**

(312) 346-3135  
illinois-hotels.org

### **Illinois Restaurant Association**

(800) 572-1086  
illinoisrestaurants.org

### **Best Western Illinois**

(800) 528-1234  
bestwesternillinois.com

### **Will County Lodging Association/Visit Will**

visitwill.com

### **Stuckey's**

705 South Main Street Wrens,  
Georgia 30833  
(800) 423-6171  
stuckeys.com

*Disclaimer: Please note the Business Directory only includes **2024 Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway Members**. If you'd like to be listed in the Member Business Directory, please email [casey@illinoisroute66.org](mailto:casey@illinoisroute66.org) and put 'Become A Member' in the subject line of the email. The Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway and their contractors assume no liability for the accuracy of the information or representations contained herein. Please note that admission prices and/or rates in this guide are based on the 2024 season. To ensure accuracy, please call ahead to verify all information.*



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[www.7thstreetcidery.com](http://www.7thstreetcidery.com)



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