



Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway
Visitor Guide
& Member Business Directory



www.IllinoisRoute66.org

enjoy
illinois



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

BW | **Best Western.**
Hotels & Resorts
Illinois



Life's
a Trip

The trick to being able
to go anywhere, is having
locations everywhere.



**50+ Best Western Hotels
throughout Illinois.**

*Where you need it, when
you need it.*

Visit bestwesternillinois.com

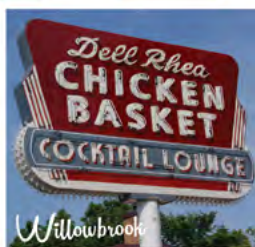


Each BW[®] Hotels property is independently owned and operated. Best Western and the Best Western marks are trademarks or registered service marks of Best Western International, Inc. ©2025 Best Western International, Inc. All rights reserved.

ILLINOIS US 66 The First HUNDRED Miles



Chicago



Willowbrook



Romeoville



Joliet



Joliet



Wilmette



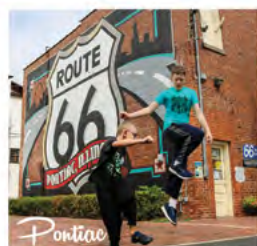
Braidwood



Dwight



Pontiac



Pontiac



www.TheFirstHundredMiles.com



enjoy
illinois

Joliet Area History Museums

Route 66 Road Trips Start HERE!



Old Joliet Prison
Historic Site



1926 Planinsek
Grocery Museum



Joliet Railroad
Museum



Joliet Area
Historical Museum &
Route 66
Visitor's Center



The Gemini Giant &
Landing Pad Souvenir Shop
Wilmington



plan your visit:
jolietmuseum.org



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.
- ✓ **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.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Welcome to Illinois Route 66	7	Northern Section	32
About Route 66 Scenic Byway	8	Central Section	42
A Step Back In Time	10	Southern Section	60
Illinois Route 66 Timeline	18	Directory of Information	
Signs on the Mother Road	22	& Services	
Illinois Route 66 Treasures		• Northern Section	77
• Land of Giants	24	• Central Section	85
• Land of Classic Dining	26	• Southern Section	94
• Land of Vintage Gas Stations	28	• General Information	101

Project funded by Illinois DCEO's Route 66 Grant.

All Rights Reserved. All information is current as of press time. The Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway, Thin Tread Media and their contractors assume no liability for the accuracy of the information or representations contained herein and will not be responsible for errors, changes or omissions.

#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 | 815.844.5847



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



VisitBN

enjoy

illinois

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

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.



@illinoisroute66



@ILRoute66



@ILRoute66



@GoIL66

SmugMug

Share your photos or selfies with us at @MyIL66.

Publisher Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway 1045 S 5th St. Springfield, IL 62703

Tel: (217) 414-9331 | Website: illinoisroute66.org | **Editorial and Art Direction** Thin Tread Media

Website: routemagazine.us | **Editor** Brennen Matthews | **Deputy Editor** Kate Wambui

Editorial Assistants | Theresa Romano, Lillie Richards | **Graphic Design** Tom Heffron

Photo Credits Ace Sign Company, Adam Alexander, Anatoly Evdokimov, Antranias, Astur, BD Images, Catloverforever, David P. Smith, Dcwcreations, Eddie J. Rodriguez, Efren Lopez, Enjoy Illinois, f11photo, Funks Grove, Gimas, Heritage Corridor Destinations, Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway, Joe Sonderman, John Smith, Kevin Eatinger, LittleT889, Logan Bush, Logan County Tourism Bureau, Macoupin County Million Dollar Courthouse, Marekuliasz, Notmatisse, Paul Brady Photography, Pink Elephant Antique Mall, Randy Von Liski, Rivers and Routes, Sangamo Brewing, Sangamon County History, Simone Williams, Skyview Drive-In, Stlpublicradio.org, Teemu08, TLF Images, Tom Lohr, Visit Springfield CVB



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

For more road trip ideas, find upcoming events, sign up for our e-newsletter or search for additional travel tools, go to 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.

Home of the
ROUTE 66
ILLINOIS

September 26-28, 2025

**ENGAGE YOUR SENSES
IN SPRINGFIELD, IL**

**ROUTE 66
LEGENDS
& Landmarks**
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

**THE ROAD...
IS ALIVE!**

**SIGN
MUSEUM**
ACE SIGN CO. SPRINGFIELD, IL

66
A ROUTE 66
HISTORIC ATTRACTION

Peppertown

66
DRIVE IN

HORSESHOE TRAIL
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

**Visit
Springfield
Illinois**

Springfield Visitors Center
1 S. Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Let's Get Social! @visitspringfield

enjoy
illinois

**INTERNATIONAL
ROUTE 66
ILLINOIS
U.S. ROUTE
66
MOTHER ROAD
FESTIVAL
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

**September 26-28, 2025
Springfield, IL**

Find out more at
www.route66fest.com!

Sponsored by:

**RECON
TECHS**
Springfield

**Visit
Springfield
Illinois**
ALWAYS
LEGENDARY

Register Here



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

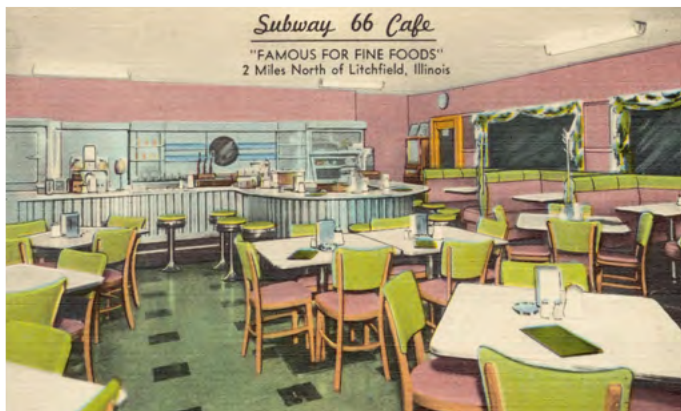
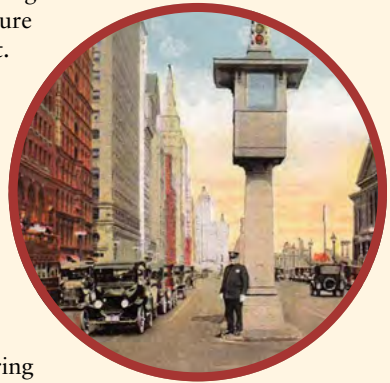




highways in order to accommodate the transportation needs of the military during World War II.

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!



FIND YOUR LINCOLN STORY

Lincoln sites are found all along
Route 66 and throughout Illinois.

Over 250 presidential sites across
43 counties are waiting to
be discovered!



AN ENTIRE REGION
TO EXPLORE!



A MEMBER OF THE
**National Heritage
Area System**



For a full listing of sites, programs, and events, visit www.lookingforlincoln.org

Route 66 Motorheads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex



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 Stuckey's 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

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



1970

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



1977

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

1985

On June 27, Route 66 is officially decommissioned.

1989

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

1995

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

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.

2026

Route 66 will celebrate 100 years on November 11, 2026.

Experience and Explore

Red Carpet Corridor

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



THE RED CARPET CORRIDOR FESTIVAL IS CELEBRATED ANNUALLY THE FIRST WEEKEND IN MAY!



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



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

Take a guided tour of the mansion and grounds, including Sarah Davis' beautiful heirloom garden, and two special exhibits.

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 daviddavisman.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 November of 2024, the Gemini Giant was installed at South Island Park. After some repairs and new paint, the iconic giant has now found a permanent home in Wilmington.

Over in the town of **Normal**, you'll



illinoisroute66.org



Enjoy Illinois

find a 15-foot-tall “soda jerk” style muffler 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 carvings.

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 muffler man once peddled wares at Bunyon's Hot Dog Stand in Cicero (southwest of Chicago) before being



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

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

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.

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



John Smith

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!



Kevin Earinger

Visit Historic Downtown

← LEXINGTON →

The Magic is on Main Street

**-SHOP
-DINE
-EXPLORE
-STAY**

WWW.LEXINGTONIL.GOV



LAMBERT 1957

OUR one of a kind, life size wall mural is hand painted and makes a fun and unique backdrop for your next travel photo op

THE LONGEST CONTINUOUSLY OPERATING GAS STATION ON ROUTE 66 ANYWHERE IN THE USA*

OPEN 24 HOURS

- * Fuel & Automotive
- * Tobacco
- * Electronic Gaming & Illinois Lottery
- * Food, Snacks & Candy
- * Best Nostalgia Candy Selection
- * Hot Coffee & Cold Beverages
- * Alcohol * Ice * Free air
- * Clean Restrooms

CONTACT US

815-726-8867

1529 N. Broadway St.
Joliet, IL 60435

A LEADING NAME IN THE GAS AND CONVENIENCE STORE INDUSTRY FOR OVER 66 YEARS





VISIT LITCHFIELD, IL

HISTORIC OLD ROUTE 66-OUTDOOR RECREATION
FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENTS













Litchfield

ILLINOIS 

VisitLitchfield.com
(866) 733-5833

GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES
OF SOUTHWEST ILLINOIS

enjoy **illinois**



WHERE THE MOTHER ROAD *Meets the River Road*

Your one-of-a-kind road trip adventure begins
at RiversandRoutes.com.

**GREAT
RIVERS
& ROUTES**
OF SOUTHWEST ILLINOIS

enjoy
illinois

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**.



Illinois route 66

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 cruisinwithlincoln66.org and mchistory.org.

200 N. MAIN ST. BLOOMINGTON, IL





618-876-7616



OBRIENTIRE.COM

3924 NAMEOKI RD. GRANITE CITY, IL



WELCOME!

To the longest, continuously operating tire & auto repair on Route 66 and in America!

SAY HELLO!

Stop by for a selfie with the "LARGEST TIRE ON ROUTE 66"! Visit our retro showroom and "garage" and pick up some Route 66 "merch"!



NORTHERN SECTION

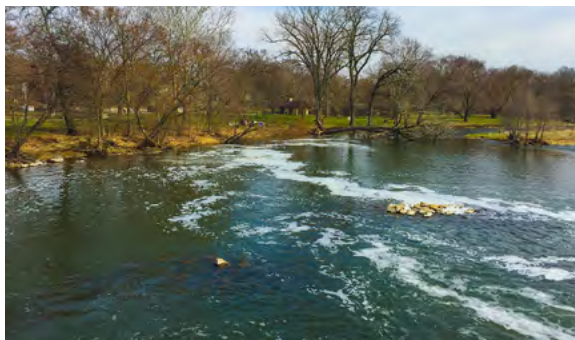
The Mother Road maneuvers through the Chicago suburbs of **Cicero**, home of **Henry's Drive-In**, through **Berwyn**, host of the annual **Berwyn Route 66 Car Show**, and the **Berwyn's Toys & Trains**, where you can operate a giant train set, then through **Countryside** and **Willowbrook**. Increased 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**. 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 between Main 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.

Heritage Corridor CVB



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. In November of 2024, the Gemini Giant was installed at South Island Park.. 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.

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.



Astur



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



nps.gov

Kevin Eadinger



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



Gimas



Gimas

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



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

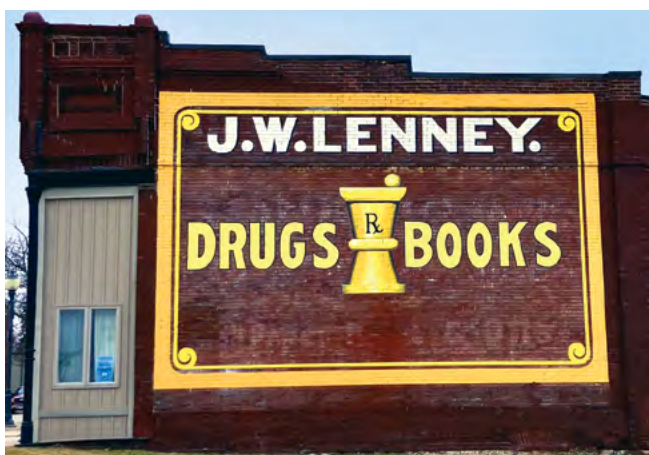
For a complete list of Attractions, see the Directory at the end of the guide or visit illinoisroute66.org

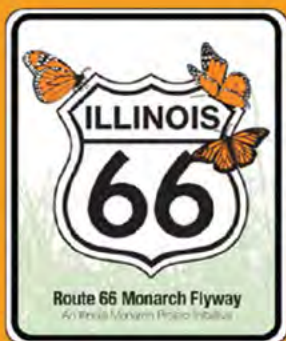
CENTRAL SECTION

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 **City of Chenoa** was established in 1856 by Matthew T. Scott and his original home remains an attraction in the community. Chenoa has two Route 66 alignments, and the earliest version ran on North Morehead Street. Chenoa's **Route 66 Prairie Trail**, an early 3-mile stretch listed on the National Register of Historical Places, has an informational exhibit about Route 66. The downtown district features a brand new **J.W. Lenney Drugs & Books Mural**. The **Texaco Star** is an original gas station building on the north end of the city. Be sure to take a break at the **Route 66 Fetch & Stretch Dog Park** while on your Route 66 travels. Head west at the Route 66/US Highway 24 Crossroads, and enjoy food, drink and entertainment at **OB's Cervezaria**.

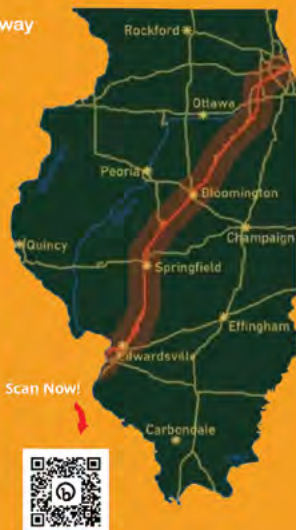




Route 66 Monarch Flyway

The Route 66 Monarch Flyway is focused on facilitating pollinator gardens within 33 miles east and west of Illinois Route 66.

The goal is to help save the Monarch Butterfly which has been dwindling in population for many years.



To learn more about our efforts and sign up for quarterly virtual meetings, scan the QR code or visit the link provided.

bit.ly/Rt66MonarchFlyway



The ILLINOIS ROCK & ROLL MUSEUM on Route 66

is committed to preserving the rich history and contributions of musicians, performers and industry leaders who have impacted the music world and embodied the creative spirit of Illinois. We strive to inform, engage, and inspire our visitors through exhibits and programs that draw upon a diversity of cultures, history, and musical influence.

9 W. CASS ST. JOLIET, IL 60432

ROADTOROCK.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION (815) 927-1540



HERITAGE
CORRIDOR
DESTINATIONS

enjoy
illinois

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

Membership Benefits include:

- Free Admission
- Voting for the Illinois Rock & Roll Museum Hall of Fame
- Gift Shop Discount - 10% off purchases
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Members Only Events - (some exceptions)
- Pre-sale notices for special events



The Illinois Rock & Roll Museum on Route 66 is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. EIN 82-2293229. Contributions are tax-deductible for income, gift, and estate taxes.

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 Edinger



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 stop 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 Tapped 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. Another stop is the **Atlanta Public Museum**, Where Atlanta's Stories Come to Life. Step into a world of history and fascinating stories about the people, businesses and artifacts of Atlanta. And be sure to visit the **Route 66 Arcade Museum**, located inside the Museum to enjoy playing classic video and pinball games from the 1970's –1990's, all set to Free Play for your enjoyment. 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.

American Giants Museum



TLF 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 Williamsville, 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.



Kidzeum

The Road to Adventure!
EXPLORING
ROUTE 66

New exhibition opens summer 2025!

- Fix a flat at the repair shop
- Flip some flapjacks in our vintage diner
- Watch a movie at the drive-in theater
- Build and race cars down the Rt 66 Speedway

412 E. Adams St.,
Springfield, IL

Kidzeum.org • 217-679-2123


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.



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



Teemu08



Normalise

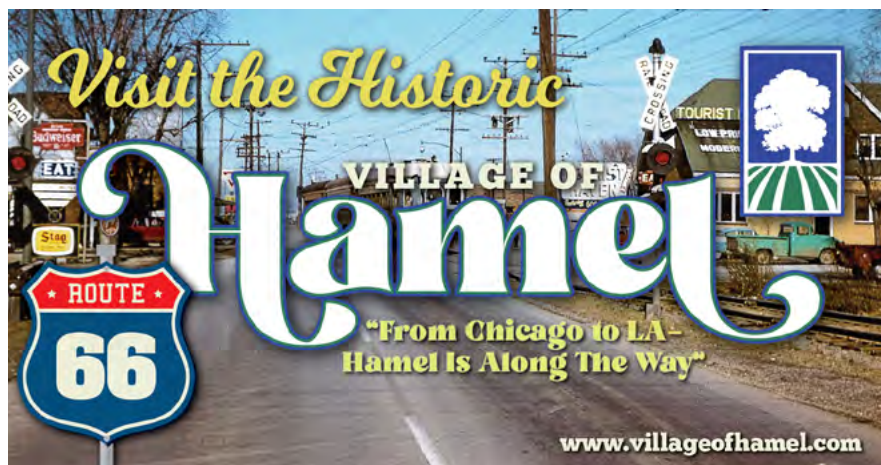


MUST STOPS



- ☐ 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
- ☐ Atlanta Public Museum, 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
- ☐ Illinois Route 66 Experience
- ☐ The Stadium Smokehouse Bar & Grill, 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



ENJOY ROUTE 66 IN LOGAN COUNTY

Journey along the famous Illinois Route 66 in Logan County! See the World's Largest Covered Wagon, museums and many more roadside attractions. Experience the Legacy of Abraham Lincoln. Ride on America's road. All of this and more in Logan County where our great history began and your adventure is waiting.

DESTINATIONLOGANCOUNTYIL.COM

[enjoy illinois](http://enjoyillinois.com)

Carl's Ice Cream

1700 W College Avenue | Normal, Illinois
(309) 454-7732

601 W Locust | Bloomington, Illinois
(309) 828-7732

carlsicecream.com

Celebrating 92 Years



CENTRAL ILLINOIS' LARGEST WATER & AMUSEMENT PARK



WATER SLIDES



SPRAYGROUND



FAMILY FUN



GO KARTS



BIRTHDAYS



**DRIVING
RANGE**



GAME ROOM



LAZY RIVER



AMUSEMENTS



Exit 96 off I-72
Next to the Route 66 Drive In



1700 Recreation Drive
Springfield, Illinois, 62711
(217) 546-8881 knightsactionpark.com



illinoisroute66.org



Experience Illinois Route 66

Located on the Illinois State Fairgrounds - the Northwest corner of Sangamon Avenue and Route 66.



Scan me





Shop Illinois Route 66

Download our FREE
mobile app from the
App Store or Google Play



Travel Illinois Route 66



**The Illinois Route 66 Scenic
Byway - Where Nostalgia
Meets Newfound Adventure!**

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



Experience the thrill of slot car racing at Route 66 Model Raceway in Elkhart, IL—where speed, skill, and nostalgia collide on the Mother Road! Perfect for all ages, it's a must-visit stop on Historic Route 66.

RT 66 MODEL RACEWAY

route66modelraceway.com

109 Governor Oglesby / Elkhart

S I N C E * 1 9 2 4

MAID-RITE SANDWICH

Oldest Drive-thru in the Nation!



118 N. Pasfield, Springfield, IL 62702 · 217.523.0723 · [f](#) @Maid-Rite



ANTIQUES ~ COFFEE ~ TEA
SPICES ~ FLORAL ~ SPECIALTY

900 N. EDWARDSVILLE - RT4/ROUTE 66
STAUNTON, ILLINOIS
(618) 779-2956

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). 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**, **Nickorobbs** 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.

songamoncountyhistory



 **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 Carllinville, 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?** Carllinville 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 Carllinville 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.



illinoisroute66.org

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.



stipublicradio.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. This spot is a Route 66 favorite and considered a must-visit for any Mother Road enthusiast. 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. Our friend

and former Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway board member, Rich Henry, passed away on August 16, 2024, in Staunton at the age of 77. Rich was the beloved owner of Henry’s Ra66it Ranch, a Route 66 attraction he opened in 1995 as Henry’s Old Route 66 Emporium. In 1999, he reimagined it as Henry’s Ra66it Ranch, adding rescued rabbits and Volkswagen Rabbits to create a truly unique stop on the Mother Road. Inducted into the Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame in 2012, Rich leaves behind a legacy of creativity and dedication to Route 66. Rich, you are missed!





illinoisroute66.org

LITCHFIELD

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.




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**!



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.

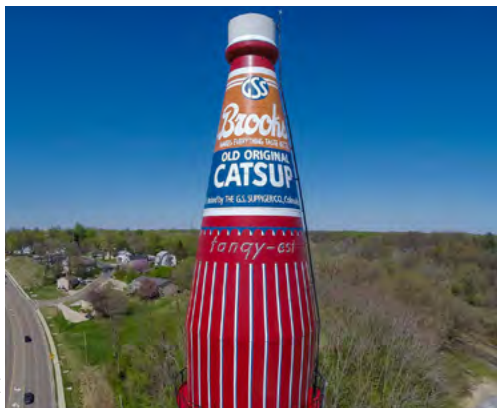


SOUTHERN SECTION

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, Glenarm
- 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
- 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



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



OPEN April 1- October 31
3279 Honey Bend Ave | Litchfield, IL
www.countrybendcampground.com

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



**OVER 100
BOOTHES**

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

ON ROUTE 66 ~ OPEN DAILY

618-637-2544

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.tammistresures.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 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
217-627-3491

**SCAN
ME!**



SAVE THE DATE!



**STATEWIDE ILLINOIS CONFERENCE &
ROUTE 66 CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION**
ON NOVEMBER 11, 2026



NORTHERN SECTION

CHICAGO

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

Lou Mitchell's Restaurant and Bakery

565 West Jackson Boulevard
(312) 939-3111
loumitchellsrestaurant.com

Two Lane America

(Route 66 Tours)
1050 North Damen Avenue
(513) 827-8273
2laneamerica.com

Lodging

Best Western Grant Park

Hotel Chicago
1100 South Michigan Ave
(312) 922-2900
bestwesternillinois.com

Best Western Plus Hawthorne

Terrace Hotel Chicago
3434 North Broadway
(773) 244-3434
bestwesternillinois.com

Best Western Plus Hyde Park

Chicago Hotel
4900 South DuSable/Lake Shore Drive
(773) 324-3000
bestwesternillinois.com

Best Western River North Hotel

125 West Ohio Street
(312) 467-0800
bestwesternillinois.com

NORTH LAWNDALE

Castle Car Wash Historic Landmark

3801 Ogden Avenue

BERWYN

Cigars & Stripes BBQ Lounge

6715 Ogden Ave.
(708) 484-1043
stripesbbq.com

Also Nearby to Berwyn:

Al Capone Gravesite

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

McCOOK

Steak N Egger

8408 Joliet Road
(708) 853-9240
steaknegger.com

COUNTRYSIDE

Best Western Plus Chicagoland -

Countryside
6251 Joliet Rd
(708) 354-5200
bestwesternillinois.com

BOLINGBROOK

The Promenade Bolingbrook

631 East Boughton Road
(630) 296-8350
shoppingpromenade.com

Lodging

Aloft Bolingbrook

500 North Janes Avenue
(630) 410-6567
willcountylodging.org

NORTHERN SECTION

Best Western Plus Bolingbrook

225 West South Frontage Road
(630) 226-1669
bestwesternillinois.com

Fairfield Inn & Suites Bolingbrook

165 Fenwood Drive
(630) 378-0380
willcountylodging.org

Hampton Inn & Suites Bolingbrook

165 Remington Boulevard
(630) 759-7100
willcountylodging.org

Hilton Garden Inn Bolingbrook

135 Remington Boulevard
(630) 771-1500
willcountylodging.org

Holiday Inn & Suites Bolingbrook

205 Remington Boulevard
(630) 679-1600
willcountylodging.org

Home2 Suites by Hilton Chicago Bolingbrook

1 Brookside Court
(630) 914-3575
willcountylodging.org

Quality Inn Bolingbrook I-55

175 Remington Boulevard
(630) 378-5300
willcountylodging.org

Ramada by Wyndham Bolingbrook

520 South Bolingbrook Road
(630) 972-9797
willcountylodging.org

Residence Inn Chicago Bolingbrook

180 Remington Boulevard
(630) 332-5200
willcountylodging.org

Springhill Suites Bolingbrook

125 Remington Boulevard
(630) 759-0529
willcountylodging.org

CHANNAHON

Briscoe Mounds Historic Site

25000-25094 West Front Street
(815) 727-8700
reconnectwithnature.org

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

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
willcountylodging.org

Country Inn & Suites Romeoville

1265 Lakeview Drive
(630) 378-1052
willcountylodging.org

NORTHERN SECTION

Days Inn & Suites Romeoville

1280 Normantown Road
(630) 372-1000
willcountylodging.org

Extended Stay America Romeoville

1225 Lakeview Drive
(630) 226-8966
willcountylodging.org

Holiday Inn Express Romeoville

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

Super 8 Romeoville

1301 Marquette Drive
(630) 410-1576
willcountylodging.org

Wood Spring Suites Romeoville

1093 Wyndham Parkway
(331) 803-4040
willcountylodging.org

PLAINFIELD

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

LOCKPORT

Gaylord Building Historic Site/ Gallery Seven

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

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

Events

Miles of Possibility Route 66 Conference at Joliet Area Historical Museum

(Oct 9 – Oct 11, 2025)
204 N Ottawa Street
route66milesofpossibility.com

Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park & Statues

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

NORTHERN SECTION

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 Railroad Museum

Gateway Center Train Station
90 East Jefferson Street
(815) 723-5201
jolietmuseum.org/joliet-railroad-museum.
html

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

Planinsek Grocery and Meat Market Museum

1314 Elizabeth Street
(815) 723-5201
jolietmuseum.org/martin--emma-
planinsek-grocery-and-meat-market-
museum.html

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

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

NORTHERN SECTION

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

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

NORTHERN SECTION

Wingate by Wyndham

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

ELWOOD

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

Gemini Giant Muffler Man Statue

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

The Landing Pad

110 South Park St. Unit C
thelandingpadil.com

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

Braidwood Zoo & Polk-A-Dot Statues

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



Located behind the Gemini Giant

T-SHIRTS • MAGNETS • NOVELTY ITEMS
WILL COUNTY & ILLINOIS MADE PRODUCTS

110 South Park St. Unit C, Wilmington, IL
THELANDINGPADIL.COM

CLUB 66 The First HUNDRED Miles
enjoy illinois

NORTHERN SECTION

GODLEY

Illinois Route 66 Mining Museum & Route 66 Interpretive Exhibit

150 Kankakee Road
(815) 458-2222

BRACEVILLE

Mazonia/Braidwood Fish & Wildlife Area

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

GARDNER

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/ThePerkinsShopOn66

DWIGHT

Ambler's Texaco Station

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

Crazy 80's Auto Museum

316 West Waupansie Street
(815) 405-1232
illinoisroute66.smugmug.com/Crazy-80s-Auto-Museum-in-Dwight

Old Route 66 Family Restaurant

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

ODELL

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

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

Historic Illinois State Police District 6 Headquarters

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

Pontiac Musum Complex & Gift Shop

321 North Main Street
(815) 419-7015

Jurassic Gemstones

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

NORTHERN SECTION

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

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

J.W. Lenney Drugs & Books Mural

202 S Veto Street
(815) 945-7619
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

"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

Normal

Carl's Ice Cream/Carl The Giant

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

Illinois Art Station

101 E. Vernon Avenue
(309) 386-1019
illinoisartstation.org/

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

Bloomington Center for The Performing Arts

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

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
gradypizza.com

Hangar Art Company

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

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

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

CENTRAL SECTION

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

SHIRLEY/FUNK'S GROVE

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

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

McLean Water Tower

210 Center Street
coreofmclean.org

Shorty's Barber Shop Route 66

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

ATLANTA

American Giants Museum

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

Arch Street Artisans Shop

103 Southwest Arch Street
facebook.com/ArchStreetArtisans

Atlanta Public Museum

114 SW Arch Street
(217) 746-6151
www.atlantamuseum.org

Logan County Visitors Welcome Center

~ located inside the Atlanta
Public Museum
114 SW Arch Street
(217) 746-6151
www.atlantamuseum.org

Route 66 Arcade Museum

~ located inside the Atlanta
Public Museum
114 SW Arch Street
(217) 746-6151
www.atlantamuseum.org

CENTRAL SECTION

Atlanta Public Library & Clock Tower

100 Southeast Race Street
(217) 648-2112
apldinfo.org

LINCOLN

Historic Downtown Lincoln

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

Phone Booth on Lincoln City Hall

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



Visit the American Giants Museum

100 NE Arch Street, Atlanta, IL

2025 Hours: Tuesday: 1 pm - 4 pm
Wed.—Sat: 10 am - 4 pm
Sunday: 1 pm - 4 pm
Monday: Closed

This one-of-a-kind experience tells the story of the kitschy and quirky “Muffler Man/Bunyan Giant” statues that sprang up in the 1960s as advertising gimmicks across the USA. Today, they are some of the most popular attractions for tourists traveling Historic Route 66.

www.americangiantsmuseum.com 217-650-7117

Follow us on Facebook: American Giants Museum

CENTRAL SECTION

Postville Courthouse

State Historic Site

914 Fifth Street
(217) 732-8930
[destinationlogancountyil.com/
postville-courthouse](http://destinationlogancountyil.com/postville-courthouse)

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](https://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

World's Largest Covered Wagon

(The Railsplitter)
1750 Fifth Street
(217) 732-8687
destinationlogancountyil.com

BROADWELL

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

Elkhart Cemetery/St. John the Baptist Chapel

County Road 10
(217) 947-2238
elkharthistoricalsociety.org

Elkhart Hill Farm & Vineyard

(formerly Old Gillett Farm)
4-6 Drake Lane
(217) 947-2158
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

Elkhart Historical Society

(217) 947-2238
elkharthistoricalsociety.org

Elkhart Station General Store

101 Governor Oglesby Street
(217) 947-2199
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)

CENTRAL SECTION

John P. Gillett Memorial Bridge

(Arch Bridge)
County Road 10
(217) 947-2238
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

Route 66 Model Raceway

109 Governor Oglesby St.
(217) 971-6408
route66modelraceway.com

WILLIAMSVILLE

Historic Downtown Williamsville

West Main Street
(217) 566-3520
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

Williamsville Park-Trail-Lake

706 East Main Street
(217) 566-3520
williamsville.illinois.gov

Williamsville Railroad Depot and Box Cars

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

SHERMAN

Carpenter Park Route 66 Pavement

1 Carpenter Park Trail
(217) 544-1751
visitspringfieldillinois.com/LocationDetails/?id=Route-66-Carpenter-Park-Alignment

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

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum

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

CENTRAL SECTION

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/connss-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

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)

Grab-A-Java

1702 South 6th Street
(217) 523-5282
grabajava.com

Grab-A-Java

3115 Hedley Road
(217) 523-5282
grabajava.com

Grab-A-Java

300 Chatham Rd.
(217) 523-5282
grabajava.com

Illinois Governor's Mansion

410 East Jackson Street
(217) 782-6450
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/
isfroute66experience

Illinois State Museum

502 South Spring Street
(217) 782-7386
illinoisstatemuseum.org

Jamie's Route 66

3351 S. 6th Street; Suite 3
(Southern View)
(217) 741-1377
jamiesroute66.com

CENTRAL SECTION

Kidzeum of Health and Science

412 East Adams Street
(217) 971-4435
kidzeum.org

Knight's Action Park & Splash Kingdom

1700 Recreation Drive
(217) 546-8881
knightsactionpark.com

Lincoln Home National Historic Site

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

Lincoln Memorial Garden

2301 East Lakeshore Drive
(217) 529-1111
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

Maid-Rite Sandwich Shop

118 N Pasfield Street
(217) 523-0723
facebook.com/MaidRiteSandwichShop/

Merchant House Urban Event Space

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

Nancy's Pizza

2301 West Monroe Street
(217) 679-0456
nancyspizza.com

Obed & Isaac's The Cidery

503 S. 7th Street
(217) 670-0627
connshg.com/obed-and-isaacs/
springfield/cidery/

Obed & Isaac's Microbrewery & Eatery

500 South Sixth Street
(217) 670-0627
obedandisaacs.com

Official Springfield Visitors Center

109 N. 7th St.
(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

CENTRAL SECTION

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

The Chili Parlor

820 S 9th Street
(217) 523-4989
thechiliparloronline.com

The Curve Inn

3219 South Sixth Street Road
(217) 529-5806
thecurveinn.com

The Fountain on 66

(Opening Spring/Summer 2025)
1101 South 9th Street
(217) 241-0905

The Stadium Smokehouse Bar & Grill

2300 N Peoria Road
(217) 241-0905
stadiumsmokehouse.com

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

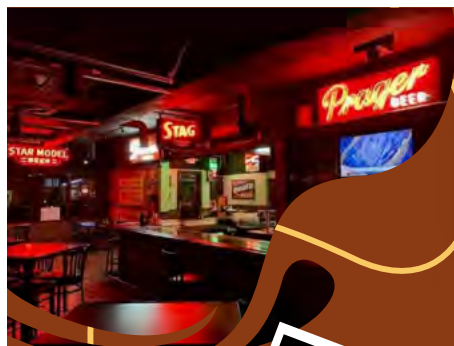
Historic Brick Road

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

Tammi's Treasures, Antiques & More

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

VIRDEN

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, Kaylee's Cafe & Visitor Center

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

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

Virden Area Chamber of Commerce

(217) 965-6139
virdenchamber.com

FARMERSVILLE

The Rooted Home

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

Events

Irish Days Celebration

Historic Downtown Farmersville
May 29 – 31
facebook.com/p/Irish-Days-
Celebration-100057336854828

GIRARD

Docs Just Off 66

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

Hidden Ridge at Otter Lake

(217) 416-6394
facebook.com/HiddenRidge.OtterLake

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

SOUTHERN SECTION

NILWOOD

Turkey Tracks in Pavement

South of Nilwood on Donaldson Road

CARLINVILLE

Carlinville Historic Square

Downtown Carlinville

(217) 854-4076

cityofcarlinville.com

Collected

122 E. Side Square

(217) 299-1183

shopcollectedboutique.com

Crowe Boot & Shoe

218 W. Main Street

(217) 854-SHOE(7463)

crowebootandshoe.com

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

Mother Road Antique Mall

106 North Side Square

(217) 854-8029

facebook.com/motherroad2



shoptherootedhome.com

516 Elevator Street | Farmersville



217-710-6262

SOUTHERN SECTION

Standard Addition/Sears and Roebuck Mail Order Houses

Charles and Rice Streets
(217) 854-4076
cityofcarlinville.com

Victory Lane Chrysler

Dodge-Jeep-Ram

400 West Main Street
(217) 854-5337
victorylanechrysler.com

Lodging

Carlinville Grand Airbnb

289 North Broad Street
(618) 779-6162
airbnb.com/rooms/48700028

GILLESPIE

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

The Barracks American Table and Event Center

206 W Spruce Street
(618) 356-2044
facebook.com/p/The-Barracks-American-Table-and-Event-Center-100092273677077/

STAUNTON

DeCamp Station

8767 State Route 4
(618) 637-2951
decampstationil.com

Henry's Rabbit Ranch

(Limited hours)
1107 Historic Old Route 66

Mullins & Mayfields Landscaping

120 S Hibbard Street
(618) 635-3050
mayfieldslandscaping.com/

Staunton Route 66 Mural

Corner of Elm & West Main Streets
(618) 635-2233
cityofstauntonil.com

Vintage Station

225 Phillips
(618) 779-2956
facebook.com/vintagestationstaunton

LITCHFIELD

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

SOUTHERN SECTION

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

nancypizza.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

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

Litchfield West

4 Thunderbird Circle

(217) 324-4556

ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/litchfield/ltces/hoteldetail

Lake Lou Yaeger Primitive Campgrounds

3 Primitive Lane

(217) 324-4771

visitlitchfield.com/lake-lou-yaeger/camping

MT. OLIVE

Mother Jones Museum

Mt. Olive City Hall

215 East Main Street

(217) 999-4261

facebook.com/therealmotherjonesmuseum

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

SOUTHERN SECTION

NEW DOUGLAS

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park at Rustic Acres

12246 Binney Road
(217) 456-1122
rusticacresjellystonepark.com/

LIVINGSTON

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

WORDEN

Boonies Farm Glamping & Event Venue

8863 Dustman Road
(618) 888-2422
booniesfarm.com

HAMEL

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

West End Service Station

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

TROY

Best Western Troy Hotel

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

COLLINSVILLE

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

Fairmount Park Casino & Racing

9301 Collinsville Rd.
(618) 345-4300
fairmountpark.com

GRANITE CITY

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

SOUTHERN SECTION

O'Brien Tire & Auto Care/

Giant Tire Photo Op

3924 Nameoki Road

(618) 876-7616

obrientire.com

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. 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.



Apple App Store

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

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 Godley

(815) 458-2222
facebook.com/p/Village-of-Godley-100068365278518/

Village of Dwight

(815) 584-3077
dwightillinois.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 Lincoln

(217) 735-2815
lincolnil.gov

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

Village of Chatham

(217) 483-2451

chathamil.gov

City of Thayer

(217) 965-5413

villageofthayer.org

City of Virden

(217) 965-5805

virden.municipalimpact.com

Village of Farmersville

[facebook.com/](https://facebook.com/groups/867683750621639)

[groups/867683750621639](https://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

City of Edwardsville

(618) 692-7535

cityofedwardsville.com

City of Collinsville

(618) 346-5200

collinsvilleil.org

CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAUS, TOURISM OFFICES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERS

CORE of McLean

coreofmclean.org

Heritage Corridor Destinations

(Route 66 - The First Hundred Miles)

(844) 944-2282

hcdestinations.com

thefirsthundredmiles.com

Berwyn Development Corporation

3322 South Oak Park Avenue,

2nd Floor

(708) 788-8100

berwyn.net

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

Atlanta Betterment Fund

(217) 648-5077

[americangiantsmuseum.com/](http://americangiantsmuseum.com/betterment-fund)

betterment-fund

Logan County Tourism Bureau

(217) 732-8687

destinationlogancountyil.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

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

Virden Area Chamber of Commerce

(217) 965-6139

virdenchamber.com

Carlinville Community

Chamber of Commerce

carlinville.com

Girard Chamber of Commerce

(217) 341-4436

girardilchamber.org

Visit Litchfield (Litchfield Tourism)

(217) 324-8147

visitlitchfield.com

Staunton Chamber of Commerce

229 W. Main Street

Staunton, IL 62088

(618) 635-8356

stauntonchamber.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

davidschwartzphoto.com

Illinois Local

illinoislocal.org

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

GENERAL INFORMATION

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

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

Conn's Hospitality Group

connshg.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
illinoishotels.org

Illinois Restaurant Association

(800) 572-1086
illinoisrestaurants.org

Best Western Illinois

(800) 528-1234
bestwesternillinois.com

*Disclaimer: Please note the Business Directory only includes **2025 Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway Members**. If you'd like to be listed in the Member Business Directory, please email 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.*





MICROBREWERY | EATERY

HISTORIC CHARM *on Route 66*



Discover downtown Springfield's favorite playground.

Obed & Isaac's Microbrewery & Eatery and The Cidery offer outstanding craft brews, delicious food, and a wide selection of ciders, perries, and meads. Nestled between the two is a stunning beer garden, perfect for outdoor dining and relaxation in a historic setting right along Route 66. Dog and family friendly.

500 S 6TH STREET - 503 S 7TH STREET • DOWNTOWN SPRINGFIELD • 217.670.0627

www.obedandisaacs.com

ELKHART STATION General Store

ILLINOIS PRODUCTS AND TASTING ROOM

Make your next stop Elkhart Station, just up the road on Route 66 from Obed & Isaac's.

This delightful general store celebrates Illinois with locally made products, a tasting room for sampling Illinois beer and wine, and a picture-perfect backdrop for photos. An authentic Route 66 gem!



101 GOVERNOR OGLESBY ST • ELKHART • 217.947.2199

www.elkhartstation.com

Discover a new way to explore the museum



**HEADPHONES
RECOMMENDED**
FOR THE BEST EXPERIENCE



LINCOLN UNLOCKED

A NEW DIGITAL EXPERIENCE



**Augmented
Reality**



**Link
Devices**



**Accessibility
Features**



Tours



Abraham Lincoln
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

212 North 6th Street, Springfield, IL 62701 | 217-558-8844
PresidentLincoln.Illinois.gov



**DOWNLOAD
THE
APP**

Visit LincolnUnlocked.com