

Route 66

Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada & California!

June 20-July 2, 2024

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Route 66 Hall of Fame & Museum
- Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum
- Gateway Arch
- Meramec Caverns
- Nat'l Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum
- Nat'l Route 66 & Transportation Museum
- Route 66 Halfway Point
- Albuquerque City Tour
- Coleman Theater & Lunch
- Grand Canyon Railroad & Nat'l Park Tour
- Hoover Dam
- Warner Bros. Studios
- Santa Monica Beach
- & Much More!

MEALS INCLUDED

Breakfast (B): 11 Lunch (L): 4 Dinner (D): 4

PRICE PER PERSON

Reservation Deposit:	\$200
Double (2 people/room):	\$3575
Triple (3 people/room):	\$3555
Quad (4 people/room):	\$3535
Single (1 person/room):	\$4935

IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION

Final Payment Due: 5/6/24

Cancel for a Full Refund: 5/20/24

Documents Required: Valid Driver's License, Government Issued Photo ID or Passport

Optional Trip Cancellation & Interruption Insurance is available for purchase

Day 1 Peru, IL

We begin our journey to ride the historic Route 66. This legendary ride promises a journey down memory lane, stepping back in time when cars were king and Americans were discovering the joys of the open road. The entire route is 2,448-miles long from Chicago to Los Angeles. Today we'll travel across Wisconsin and Illinois for our evening stay in Peru. Tonight, we will all get together for an **included Pizza Party** at our hotel. (D)

Day 2 Springfield, IL

This morning we drive to Pontiac, Illinois, where we'll start our Route 66 adventure. Pontiac celebrates the "Mother Road" at the **Route 66 Hall of Fame & Museum**, which is located in a restored firehouse. Here we'll tour the repurposed school bus that was home, gallery and transportation to artist Bob Waldmire-who created artwork that depicts Route 66. Here we'll also see the **world's largest Route 66 shield** and is the perfect photo op for the start of trip! Next we'll continue to Springfield, our home for the evening. We will visit the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum** to learn about our 16th president. We'll step into key moments in Lincoln's life, and feel like we're walking in Lincoln's shoes. (B)

Day 3 St. Louis, MO

We depart Springfield this morning and make our way into Missouri to St. Louis. Our first stop is at the **Old Chain of Rocks**

Bridge, one of the more interesting bridges in America. It's hard to forget a 30-degree turn midway across a mile-long bridge more than 60 feet above the mighty Mississippi. For more than three decades, the bridge was a significant landmark for travelers driving Route 66. Today, the bridge is only open to pedestrians and it offers an impressive view of the mighty Mississippi and the Gateway Arch. Next, we will board the **Gateway Riverboat** for a cruise along the riverfront taking in views of the city and Arch. A **boxed lunch is included**. Next, we visit the **Gateway Arch**. Since 1965, Route 66 travelers have taken in this inspiring symbol of the Gateway to the West when beginning the journey. We'll take the tram ride to the top for an amazing view 630 feet up on the tallest monument in the United States. Then we'll have time to explore the museum, visitor center and grounds while here. (B, L)

Day 4 Branson, MO

Today we will see many original sights and buildings located along Route 66 such as we head out of St. Louis. Sights include **Donut Drive-in, Ted Dewes, the Wagon Wheel Motel and Chestwood Bowling Alley**. We visit **Meramec Caverns** this afternoon. At five stories high, it is the largest commercial cave in Missouri. We're going to go off course a little bit this evening to our overnight stay in Branson, Missouri! On arrival, we'll have a delicious **included dinner** then see the **"Ultimate 70s Show"** at the Kings Castle Theater. (B, D)

Day 5 Oklahoma City, OK

Back onto Route 66 this morning once we reach Springfield. A tour and included lunch at the historic **Coleman Theater** in Miami, Oklahoma is our first stop. Then, we will tour the **National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum**. Gain a better understanding of the west with exhibits and artwork that focus on the American cowboy, rodeos, Native American culture, Victorian firearms, frontier military and western performers. We can't pass up a stop at **Pop's Soda Ranch**, that sells more than 600 flavors of specialty bottled sodas. Dinner is included this evening. (B, L, D)

Day 6 Amarillo, TX

We'll spend our morning reflecting at the **Oklahoma City National Memorial**, built to honor the victims, survivors, rescuers, and all who were affected by the Oklahoma City bombing on April 19, 1995. After lunch on your own along the way we'll visit **Elk City's National Route 66 and Transportation Museum complex** which features automotive and first-person audio accounts from travelers. The museums replicated drive-in theater shows clips from movies such as "The Blob." Our overnight will be in Amarillo, Texas. (B)

Day 7 Albuquerque, NM

Just out of town is **Cadillac Ranch**, our first stop for the day. Ten Cadillacs buried nose-down in a field at the same angle as the Pyramids of Giza. It has been stopping visitors since 1974. Located nearby is the 2nd Amendment Cowboy for a great photo op. Our drive continues and we'll finally make it to the **Half-way Point of Route 66!** **Lunch will be included** this afternoon in Tucumcari, New Mexico. Later we'll arrive in Albuquerque, our home for the evening. As we arrive we'll drive on what was once the Route 66 but is now **Central Avenue**. This 18 mile drive features motel courts, diners, vintage neon signs and attractions. (B, L)

Day 8 Williams, AZ

We begin our morning with a **City Tour**

of **Albuquerque**. We'll travel to **Gallup** for lunch on your own, the city is home to **Gallup's El Ranch Hotel**, which during its glory days became a mecca for Hollywood actors. We cross into Arizona and stop at the Flagstaff visitor center. They offer a **self-guided Route 66 Walking Tour** if you choose. We'll continue to our overnight in Williams, Arizona later. (B)

Day 9 Williams, AZ

All aboard! This morning we will board a vintage rail car in Williams, AZ for a nostalgic trip back in time with western music and cowboy characters sharing historical and regional information on the **Grand Canyon Railway**. The train will travel almost due north 65 miles to the Historic Village at the South Rim of **Grand Canyon National Park**. Upon arrival, a motorcoach will be waiting to take us on a 1.5 hour **guided tour along the South Rim**. This tour is loaded with history, information about the region and lovely viewpoints. **Lunch will be included** at the Maswik Lodge along the way. There will be time to explore and shop at the historic Grand Canyon Village before we board our train for the 2 hour trip back to Williams Depot. (B, L)

Day 10 Las Vegas, NV

Today we'll drive through the remainder of Arizona, making a stop in **Seligman**, known as the birthplace of the historic Route 66. It's home to the **world's largest Route 66 sign and the Historic Route 66 Motel**. There will be time to explore Main Street and check out the vintage neon signs, 50s-style motels and bars with funky mannequins posing on rooftops. We'll continue along the Old Route 66 road through many other quirky towns along the way. We'll spend the afternoon at the **Hoover Dam**. We'll tour the Dam which includes a 10 minute movie on the history of Hoover Dam, a 1 hour guided tour to a platform, overlooking a 30' diameter penstock pipe, the Nevada Wing of the Powerplant, and a stop in an original inspection tunnel inside the dam. Then we'll spend some time at the

Visitor Center and observation. **Please note, this tour is NOT handicapped accessible, if you choose not to do it, you can spend time at the visitor center and observation deck - pricing will not change if you choose to just do the Visitor Center** Afterwards, we'll continue to Las Vegas to check-in to our hotel. (B)

Day 11 Torrance, CA

Nearing the end of Route 66, we will travel into California today! A stop will be made at the **California Route 66 Museum in Victorville** after lunch. Upon arrival to Los Angeles and see the **sign for the end of Route 66**. You'll have some time at **Santa Monica Beach** where you can put your toes in the ocean and explore the beach! We'll stay in Torrance this evening, about 30 minutes from downtown LA. (B)

Day 12 Torrance, CA

Our last day of adventures before we head home tomorrow. We'll spend the day exploring LA, which includes a **city tour with a local guide**. We'll see **downtown LA, Old Town, Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Rodeo Drive and much more!** Next up, **Warner Bros. Studios** to explore one of the busiest working studios in Los Angeles with an expert tour guide. We'll go behind the scenes of the studios that has been entertaining the world for nearly 100 years. This evening, we'll get together for a **Farewell Dinner** on our last night. (B, D)

Day 13 Home

We will board a plane and fly back to Minneapolis, Minnesota today.

