



Route 66 – The Main Street of America since 1926

Departs July 13<sup>th</sup> – Returns August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 - 23-Day Tour (\*see page 3 for 14-day tour with air option)

From Chicago to LA, 2000 Miles all the Way.....one of the most unique roads in American history

### **“Get Your Kicks on Route 66” ....The Mother Road**

Come with us and fall in love with the culture and nostalgia surrounding Route 66, from the shores of Lake Michigan to the surf at Santa Monica, the old highway is the stuff legends are made of.....

If you are the type of traveler who enjoys getting off-the-beaten-path, this is your road trip. Eight states that the actual route passes through, discovering people and places you didn't know existed, like Acoma Indian Pueblo, Cowboy Hall of Fame, Cadillac Ranch, the magnificent new Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum in Springfield, IL, the historic El Rancho Hotel in Gallup and of course Route 66 Museum and the list goes on and on. You'll dine in some of the finest restaurants, and some of the best roadside diners along the route. Visit Petrified Forest National Park and the Painted Desert in Arizona, not to mention the Grand Canyon!!!

Day one: Departing from the Wade Terminal in Schenectady New York, our 23-day journey begins, with our first 2-night stay in Akron, OH to enjoy an All-American Celebration!

Day two: Features two unique shows: a performance of Route 66, a classic 50's road trip musical and a Patriotic Luncheon and Show including some of America's most patriotic songs and anthems. What a way to start our Route 66 road trip!

Day three: Sunday morning depart for Chicago and Route 66, the highway which became one of the most famous roads in America began in 1926 on the corner of Jackson and Michigan Boulevards. Here you'll experience some of Chicago Neighborhood's, as well as Route 66 icons with our guide. Tonight, you'll visit Tommy Gun's Garage, Chicago's only original speakeasy Dinner Theater. A musical comedy revue with gangsters, the flappers, and after DINNER join the mugs and dolls for non-stop comedy.

Day four: Depart for Springfield, IL we'll follow Route 66 as closely as is possible; often, it's impossible to take a motorcoach on some roads, so we'll move between interstates to access points of interest. Today we will visit Route 66 Hall of Fame in Pontiac, IL and see the historic murals here in Pontiac. Upon arrival in Springfield, IL, we'll travel to Lincoln's Tomb State Historic Site, where the President and his family are laid to rest. Travel into St. Louis, MO, the largest city on Route 66 between Los Angeles and Chicago.

Day five: Today we'll discover the gorgeous Ozark Mountains. First stopping at a historic area called Forest Park, where early Rt. 66 ran through. Today, the Missouri History Museum is located in historic Forest Park, the site of the 1904 World's Fair. Then a pit stop at Ted Drewes Frozen Custard for a little treat. Next stop will be Meramec Caverns, the oldest "66" tourist attraction remains the coolest. It's always 60 degrees inside Meramec Caverns. Nicknamed "America's Cave," the amazing natural phenomenon served as a hideout for Missouri outlaws Jesse and Frank James. Continue on route to Rolla, MO with lots of sites to see. The only United States National Forest in Missouri is the Mark Twain National Forest located in Rolla. The city has some wonderful old homes, and it really is a beautiful place to see before continuing on to Springfield, MO, where we'll spend the night.

Day six: Continue west – with lots to see along the way, and finally, Joplin before entering Oklahoma on US 69 (Oklahoma 66). Just a ways down the road, you'll enter Mickey Mantle's hometown of Commerce, OK. Then next is Miami, OK with 13 miles of Route 66 as its main street. Then stop at the Blue Whale in Catoosa. Heading on to Tulsa for a drive down historic Route 66 through the heart of downtown Tulsa where roadside diners still exist and the famous neon signs of the old Highway still light up the road. Tonight we will stay in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma's state capitol, located along Route 66.

Day seven: Today we start our tour at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Depart Oklahoma City we'll stick to 1-40 to Amarillo, Texas, through Elk city, visit the Rt. 66 National Museum, and then continue onward. Tonight feel the excitement in Amarillo, Route 66 was home to one of the biggest restaurants around, the Big Texan Steak Ranch, taking a giant step back to the rowdy, rip-roaring days of the late 1800s. Overnight in Amarillo, and make the Texas Panhandle a memorable stay.

Day eight: We'll depart Amarillo along the remnants of Route 66 to Cadillac Ranch. A San Francisco art collective assembled used Cadillac's (1949-1963) half-buried, nose-down – a must-see! Continue through some fascinating little towns, including Adrian (midpoint of Rt 66) and Glenrio at the border. Over the state line into New Mexico will arrive in Tucumcari, a town still prosperous and offers a real glimpse of what Route 66 was all about, with its neon signs, historic Blue Swallow Motel and others. Depart for Albuquerque for a 2-night stay, with a stop along the way at Comet Drive-In in Santa Rosa.

Day nine: Morning visit to Pueblos of New Mexico Cultural Center and you will see just how a highway can influence so many lives. Next will take you to Albuquerque's Old Town, where you will have the rest of the afternoon free to explore the area looking at the adobe architecture, some of the shops, and visiting historic buildings.

Day ten: We depart for Gallup, NM, traveling along some remaining parts of old Rt. 66 and stopping for a morning visit Acoma Indian Pueblo, often called "Sky City", considered to be the oldest continuously inhabited village in the United States. Then cross the Continental Divide and continue to Gallup, the main shipping point and buying center for the Navajo. Here in Gallup, we will overnight at The El Rancho Hotel, built in 1937 and is located on Route 66, home for numerous Movie Stars while filming in the area including John Wayne, Katherine Hepburn, Spencer Tracy, Errol Flynn, Kirk Douglas, Gregory Peck, Humphrey Bogart and numerous others. Dinner included tonight at a local restaurant, followed by a driving tour to see the neon lights that made Route 66 so famous.

Day eleven: This morning we start out at the Painted Desert Visitor Center – located within Petrified Forest National Park, the only park in the National Park System containing a section of Historic Route 66. The Painted Desert Inn National Historic Landmark once served as a trading post, inn and restaurant for travelers (like us) along historic Arizona Route 66. Today is a museum, used for demonstrations by local Native American artisans. This morning drive through the park runs 28 miles from end to end. We continue on to Winslow, Arizona, here you will see the historic La Posada Hotel, the last of the great Harvey Houses of the 1930s. Route 66 buffs enjoy Winslow’s historic downtown district, and you’ll surely enjoy LUNCH and the atmosphere here! Tonight is in Flagstaff, nestled at the base of the San Francisco Mountains.

Day twelve: Travel to the South Rim of Grand Canyon, stopping at the Desert View Lookout on the East Rim taking in the views of the Colorado River and the Painted Desert. Then continue on to Grand Canyon Village, where we will include lunch at the famous El Tovar located on the rim with its gorgeous views. You’ll have free time to explore or walk along the rim trail. Don’t forget your camera! Depart for Williams, AZ for our overnight stay.

Day thirteen: From Williams, Arizona to Kingman, Arizona will begin with a visit to Seligman, a Route 66 town all the way, founded in 1895, you’ll see numerous Route 66 landmarks. Then continue on through Valentine and Hackberry, stopping in Kingman at the famous Route 66 Mural for photos and lunch here before crossing the Arizona border into California. Continue on to Needles, Known as the hottest place in the U.S. Traveling on through the Mojave Desert and into Barstow for a stop at the Route 66 Mother Road Museum. Continuing on to San Bernadino, where we’ll spend our last night stay on Route 66!

Day fourteen: Finally, we wind our way into Los Angeles, on the way to the Santa Monica Pier and the Pacific Ocean, here marks the end of your Route 66 trip and a great photo op....it’s been a grand journey! This afternoon a step-on-guide will be touring us around pointing out interesting places, through the heart of Beverly Hills, Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood and the legendary Paramount Studios. A farewell Dinner is planned to bid farewell to those who will be leaving the tour to fly home.

**THIS MARKS THE END OF OUR ROUTE 66 TOUR; includes 14 nights’ accommodations, deluxe motor coach transportation from Schenectady, New York, 21 meals; 13 Breakfast, 3 lunches, 5 dinners, 5 guided city tours, three shows, all attractions listed and entrance fees.**

**Cost per person double \$2,499.00 \*Price does not include airfare from Los Angeles**

**Option: Extend your vacation to add a Las Vegas package and fly home from Las Vegas for an additional cost. Or, just stay with us and travel home “The Wade Way” on our cross country tour.**

**Los Angeles to Schenectady cross country tour (9-days/8 nights) Begins on July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012** \*if you are joining this tour in Los Angeles we will be departing early morning and you will need to arrival on July 26<sup>th</sup> at your own expense.

Day fifteen: And now, so we don’t retrace our Route 66 route, we will depart from Los Angeles to Las Vegas for our first night stay on our 9-Day road trip home.

Day sixteen: Depart Las Vegas and we will continue our travel north on 1-15 making our first stop at Kolob Canyons - Zion National Park. Soon we will be traveling east on 1-70 homeward bound. Tonight we are staying in Moab, Utah, home to Arches and Canyonlands National Parks and surrounded by some of the most stunning red rock landscapes on Earth. Moab is a unique small resort town with beautiful scenery and the cool waters of the Colorado River; this is truly a highlight you won't want to miss!

Day seventeen: It's a free day to experience Moab, with a great collection of restaurants, shops, and galleries. Stroll through downtown for a great selection of southwestern arts and jewelry, souvenirs, t-shirts, and much more. Those that love to walk, a paved pedestrian walkway meanders through the heart of Moab. There's so many ways to explore the beautiful red rock area surrounding Moab. Choose your adventure from a variety of tours that will be offered for you to enjoy.

Day eighteen: This morning we will pack up and cross the border into Colorado, where Denver will be your home for the next two evenings. Traveling through the Colorado Rocky Mountains, cross the Continental Divide and we arrive in Georgetown for time to explore its Victorian charm and also enjoy this beautiful mountain setting. Here we take a scenic train ride in the Rocky Mountains on the Georgetown Loop Rail Road. Next stop is Denver, the "Mile High City", to enjoy a free evening and exciting activities centered around a mile-long pedestrian promenade, lined with outdoor cafes.

Day nineteen: Our guide will join us today for a tour of Denver's treasures, jewels and some of the West's most colorful characters, from Buffalo Bill to Molly Brown. Did you know that the 13<sup>th</sup> step on the west side of the State Capitol Building is exactly 5,280 feet above sea level – one mile high? And did you know The Stanley Hotel in beautiful Estes Park, with spectacular views of Rocky Mountain National Park, was Stephen King's inspiration for "The Shining?"

Day twenty: We continue along route 70 to overnight in Lincoln, Nebraska, the capital and one of the Midwest's most beloved cities.

Day twenty-one: Enjoy a visit to the Amana Colonies, a unique destination with a unique history. Continue on to Davenport, Iowa for an overnight stay.

Day twenty-two: Continuing east to Cleveland, Ohio.

Day twenty-three: Thank you for joining us and celebrating a journey on America's Highways and one of the most unique roads in American history....Route 66! We wish you all a safe and enjoyable journey home from this unforgettable trip of a Lifetime!

**Cost per person double \$1,195 from Los Angeles to Schenectady cross country tour includes; 8-nights' accommodations, 8 Breakfast, deluxe motor coach transportation.**

**Tour highlights; Kolob Canyons, Arches and Canyonlands National Parks, Colorado Rocky Mountains, Georgetown Loop Rail Road, Denver sightseeing tour and Amana Colonies.**

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