

ROAD TRIP · UNITED STATES

Route 66

16 days · Chicago — Los Angeles

ROAD TRIP · UNITED STATES

Route 66

The Mother Road from Chicago to the pier in Santa Monica.

Length	16 days, 15 nights
Distance	3,580 km, 12 driving days
Behind the wheel	40 h 20 min
Travellers	2, 1 room, 1 car
Hotels	Comfort: a good hotel (3 stars)
Flights	Amsterdam – Chicago O'Hare (ORD), Los Angeles (LAX) – Amsterdam

CONTENTS

Chicago	Days 1–2	**8**
Springfield	Day 3	**10**
St. Louis	Day 4	**12**
Tulsa	Day 5	**14**
Oklahoma City	Day 6	**16**
Amarillo	Day 7	**18**
Santa Fe	Days 8–9	**20**
Gallup	Day 10	**22**
Flagstaff	Days 11–12	**24**
Kingman	Day 13	**26**
Los Angeles	Days 14–15	**28**

Day by day

DAY	DATE	NIGHT	KM	DRIVE	°C
1		Chicago	30	40 min	
2		Chicago			
3		Springfield	320	3 h 50 min	
4		St. Louis	160	1 h 50 min	
5		Tulsa	630	7 h 10 min	
6		Oklahoma City	170	1 h 50 min	
7		Amarillo	410	4 h 30 min	
8		Santa Fe	450	5 h	
9		Santa Fe			
10		Gallup	320	3 h 30 min	
11		Flagstaff	300	3 h 10 min	
12		Flagstaff			
13		Kingman	240	2 h 30 min	
14		Los Angeles	510	5 h 50 min	
15		Los Angeles			
16		Flight home from LAX	30	30 min	

3,580 km · 40 h 20 min behind the wheel · on average 300 km a driving day

Kilometres and drive times by road (OSRM, OpenStreetMap), without stops: plan generously.

The route



Map: US Census Bureau (public domain) · roads © OpenStreetMap contributors

ON THE ROAD

Day 1	Land at Chicago O'Hare (ORD), drive to Chicago · About 30 km (20 mi), 40 min
Day 3	Chicago, drive to Springfield · About 320 km (200 mi), 3 h 50 min
Day 4	Springfield, drive to St. Louis · About 160 km (100 mi), 1 h 50 min
Day 5	St. Louis, drive to Tulsa · About 630 km (390 mi), 7 h 10 min
Day 6	Tulsa, drive to Oklahoma City · About 170 km (110 mi), 1 h 50 min
Day 7	Oklahoma City, drive to Amarillo · About 410 km (260 mi), 4 h 30 min
Day 8	Amarillo, drive to Santa Fe · About 450 km (280 mi), 5 h
Day 10	Santa Fe, drive to Gallup · About 320 km (200 mi), 3 h 30 min
Day 11	Gallup, drive to Flagstaff · About 300 km (190 mi), 3 h 10 min
Day 13	Flagstaff, drive to Kingman · About 240 km (150 mi), 2 h 30 min
Day 14	Kingman, drive to Los Angeles · About 510 km (320 mi), 5 h 50 min
Day 16	Los Angeles to Los Angeles airport (LAX), fly home to Amsterdam · About 30 km (20 mi), 30 min

Well prepared

ESTA

Dutch and Belgian travellers need no visa for a holiday of up to 90 days, but do need an approved ESTA before boarding. It costs about $40, is valid for two years (or until your passport expires) and is applied for online. Apply at least 72 hours before you fly, and only on the official site.

esta.cbp.dhs.gov

Passport

An electronic passport (with the chip symbol), valid for the whole stay. Children need their own passport and ESTA.

nl.usembassy.gov

Driving licence

Your Dutch driving licence is accepted for renting and driving a car as a visitor. An international driving permit next to it helps with police and some rental desks.

anwb.nl

Renting a car

The renter is the main driver and pays with a credit card in their own name (no debit or prepaid card); the deposit is held on it. Usually from 21, and from 21 to 24 you pay a young-driver fee of about $25 a day. Book from home with insurance included (CDW/LDW and extra liability, SLI) and an extra driver if you want to take turns. Returning the car elsewhere (a one-way trip) costs extra. Fuel is sold by the gallon (3.8 litres); fill it up yourself before you bring it back.

Driving in the USA

Keep right; speeds are in miles an hour (65 mph is 105 km/h). Turning right on red is allowed after stopping, unless a sign says no. At a 4-way stop, whoever stopped first goes first. For a stopped yellow school bus with flashing lights you stop in both directions. Toll roads are often electronic only: ask your rental company about its toll pass. On remote stretches (parks, desert) there's little signal and a long way to the next pump: fill up at half and download the map.

Renting an RV

You can rent an RV from about 21 with an ordinary car licence. On top of the rent, count on mileage (often per mile), a kit with bedding and kitchen things, cleaning and the campsite: in the popular parks you book those months ahead on recreation.gov. Big RVs aren't allowed on every park road. Take photos of the RV when you pick it up: damage and missing items are the most heard complaint.

recreation.gov

National parks

Most big parks charge per car. Visitors from abroad pay $100 a person extra at 11 popular parks; the annual pass for non-residents is $250. Some parks need a timed-entry reservation in high season.

nps.gov

Money and tipping

Prices are without sales tax, which is added at the till. In restaurants a tip of 15 to 20% is usual. Cards are accepted almost everywhere; at the pump you may be asked for a ZIP code, so pay inside.

Travel insurance and health

Care in the USA is very expensive: take travel insurance with worldwide medical cover, and check whether your health insurance covers the USA. Cancellation insurance covers the trip if you can't go; insure the rental car with the rental company (see Renting a car). Take medicines in their original packaging, with a prescription in English. Emergency number: 911.

Power, phone and time

110 volt with flat two-pin plugs (type A/B): bring an adapter. A US eSIM is cheaper than roaming. The mainland has four time zones, Arizona mostly without daylight saving time.

Customs

Fresh food, meat and fruit may not be brought in. Declare food you carry.

Packing list

- [ ] Passport (valid for the whole trip)
- [ ] ESTA, printed
- [ ] Driving licence (and an international one)
- [ ] Credit card in the driver's name
- [ ] Travel and cancellation insurance
- [ ] Confirmations: flights, car, hotels
- [ ] America the Beautiful pass for the parks
- [ ] Plug adapter for type A/B (110 volt)
- [ ] Car charger and phone holder
- [ ] eSIM or offline maps
- [ ] Sunscreen, sunglasses and a cap
- [ ] Water bottles for the desert
- [ ] Hiking shoes
- [ ] Layers: the coast and the nights get cold
- [ ] Medicines, in your hand luggage
- [ ] A pen, for this booklet

DON'T FORGET

Notes



DAYS 1–2

Chicago IL

Where Route 66 begins

Land at Chicago O'Hare (ORD), drive to Chicago: about 30 km (20 mi), 40 min

2 nights

CHICAGO · DAYS 1–2

HOTEL

- [ ] Sentral Michigan Avenue · 3★ — roughly €140
  808 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
- [ ] SpringHill Suites by Marriott Chicago Chinatown · 3★ — roughly €130
  2357 S WENTWORTH AVE
- [ ] Residence Inn by Marriott Chicago Downtown Magnificent Mile · 3★ — roughly €120
  101 East Erie Street
- [ ] Hyatt House Chicago West Loop-Fulton Market · 3★ — roughly €110
  105 N MAY STREET
- [ ] Hyatt Place Chicago Midway Airport · 3★ — roughly €120
  6550 S Cicero Ave

NOTES



DAY 3

Springfield IL

Lincoln's hometown

Chicago, drive to Springfield: about 320 km (200 mi), 3 h 50 min

1 night

SPRINGFIELD · DAY 3

HOTEL

- [ ] Ramada by Wyndham Springfield North · 3★ — roughly €80
  3281 Northfield Drive
- [ ] Northfield Inn Suites and Conference Center · 3★ — roughly €80
  3280 Northfield Dr
- [ ] Crowne Plaza Springfield by IHG · 3★ — roughly €90
  3000 S Dirksen Pkwy

NOTES



DAY 4

St. Louis MO

The Gateway Arch

Springfield, drive to St. Louis: about 160 km (100 mi), 1 h 50 min

1 night

HOTEL

- [ ] Pet-friendly St Louis Home w/ Grill & Backyard · 3★
  4997 Fairview Ave
- [ ] St Louis Home < 1 Mi to Forest Park! · 3★
- [ ] St Louis Retreat ~ 1 Mi to Botanical Garden · 3★
  4242 Shenandoah Ave
- [ ] St Louis Vacation Rental 4 Mi to Airport! · 3★
  8142 Natural Bridge Rd
- [ ] The Hill · 3★
  2127 Marconi Ave

NOTES



DAY 5

Tulsa OK

Art deco and the Blue Whale of Catoosa

St. Louis, drive to Tulsa: about 630 km (390 mi), 7 h 10 min

1 night

HOTEL

- [ ] Home2 Suites By Hilton Tulsa Airport · 3★ — roughly €120
  2201 N 77th E Ave
- [ ] Fairfield Inn & Suites Tulsa Downtown Arts District · 3★ — roughly €120
  111 N Main St
- [ ] Hampton Inn and Suites Tulsa Central · 3★ — roughly €80
  3418 S 79th East Ave
- [ ] Hampton Inn & Suites Tulsa-Woodland Hills · 3★ — roughly €80
  7141 S 85th East Ave
- [ ] Home2 Suites by Hilton Tulsa Hills · 3★ — roughly €110
  6910 South Olympia Avenue

NOTES



DAY 6

Oklahoma City OK

Cowboy museums

Tulsa, drive to Oklahoma City: about 170 km (110 mi), 1 h 50 min

1 night

HOTEL

- [ ] Holiday Inn Express & Suites Oklahoma City Mid - Arpt Area by IHG · 3★ — roughly €70
  7817 South Walker Ave
- [ ] SpringHill Suites by Marriott Oklahoma City Midwest City Del City · 3★ — roughly €130
  5400 Main Street
- [ ] Homewood Suites by Hilton Oklahoma City-West · 3★ — roughly €100
  6920 W Reno Ave
- [ ] Home2 Suites by Hilton OKC Midwest City Tinker AFB · 3★ — roughly €110
  1820 Center Drive
- [ ] Hampton Inn & Suites Oklahoma City Airport · 3★ — roughly €90
  4333 SW 15th Street

NOTES



DAY 7

Amarillo TX

Cadillac Ranch

Oklahoma City, drive to Amarillo: about 410 km (260 mi), 4 h 30 min

1 night

HOTEL

- [ ] Drury Inn & Suites Amarillo · 3★ — roughly €180
  8540 W Interstate 40
- [ ] TownePlace Suites Amarillo West/Medical Center · 3★ — roughly €230
  6807 I-40 WEST
- [ ] Best Western Plus Medical Center · 3★ — roughly €90
  7410 W Amarillo Blvd
- [ ] My Place Hotel-Amarillo West/Medical Center, TX · 3★ — roughly €100
  2208 Cinema Drive
- [ ] Four Points by Sheraton Amarillo Central · 3★ — roughly €110
  1911 Interstate 40 East

NOTES



DAYS 8–9

Santa Fe NM

Adobe and art galleries

Amarillo, drive to Santa Fe: about 450 km (280 mi), 5 h

2 nights

HOTEL

- [ ] Inn of the Turquoise Bear · 3★
  342 East Buena Vista Street
- [ ] El Farolito Bed & Breakfast Inn · 3★
  514 Galisteo St
- [ ] Four Kachinas Bed & Breakfast Inn · 3★
  512 Webber St
- [ ] Casa Cuma Bed & Breakfast · 3★
  105 Paseo de la Cuma
- [ ] Inn on the Alameda · 3★ — roughly €280
  303 E. Alameda

NOTES



DAY 10

Gallup NM

Native American trading posts

Santa Fe, drive to Gallup: about 320 km (200 mi), 3 h 30 min

1 night

HOTEL

- ☐ Hampton Inn & Suites Gallup · 3★ — roughly €110
  1460 W Maloney Ave
- ☐ Hilton Garden Inn Gallup · 3★ — roughly €130
  1530 W Maloney Ave
- ☐ La Quinta by Wyndham Gallup · 3★ — roughly €100
  3880 East Hwy 66
- ☐ Best Western Plus Gallup Inn & Suites · 3★ — roughly €100
  910 E Aztec Ave
- ☐ SpringHill Suites by Marriott Gallup · 3★ — roughly €130
  1105 W Lincoln Ave

NOTES



DAYS 11–12

Flagstaff AZ

The Grand Canyon is close

Gallup, drive to Flagstaff: about 300 km (190 mi), 3 h 10 min

2 nights

HOTEL

- [ ] Club Wyndham Flagstaff · 3★
  1900 Country Club Dr
- [ ] Residence Inn by Marriott Flagstaff · 3★ — roughly €480
  100 North Humphreys Street
- [ ] Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Flagstaff East · 3★ — roughly €130
  1000 North Country Club Dr
- [ ] Elden Trails Bed and Breakfast · 3★
  6073 Snowflake Drive
- [ ] Drury Plaza Hotel Flagstaff · 3★ — roughly €140
  300 S Milton Rd

NOTES



DAY 13

Kingman AZ

The old road through Oatman

Flagstaff, drive to Kingman: about 240 km (150 mi), 2 h 30 min

1 night

KINGMAN · DAY 13

HOTEL

- [ ] Kid-friendly Kingman Home Near Parks & Dining · 3★
  2524 Chambers Ave
- [ ] Best Western Plus A Wayfarer's Inn & Suites · 3★ — roughly €100
  2815 E Andy Devine Ave
- [ ] La Quinta by Wyndham Kingman · 3★ — roughly €100
  3419 Hotel Way
- [ ] Hampton Inn & Suites Kingman · 3★ — roughly €100
  1791 Sycamore Ave
- [ ] Wingate by Wyndham Kingman · 3★ — roughly €100
  1149 E Sunrise Ave Building 1 & Building 2

NOTES



DAYS 14–15

Los Angeles CA

The end of the trail on Santa Monica Pier

Kingman, drive to Los Angeles: about 510 km (320 mi), 5 h 50 min

2 nights

LOS ANGELES · DAYS 14–15

HOTEL

- [ ] FOUND Hotels, Santa Monica, Series by Marriott · 3★ — roughly €200
  12311 Santa Monica Blvd
- [ ] Residence Inn by Marriott Los Angeles LAX/Century Boulevard · 3★ — roughly €150
  5933 W Century Blvd
- [ ] Holiday Inn Express Hollywood Walk of Fame by IHG · 3★ — roughly €220
  1921 N Highland Avenue
- [ ] Holiday Inn Express West Los Angeles by IHG · 3★ — roughly €350
  11250 Santa Monica Blvd
- [ ] Residence Inn by Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE · 3★ — roughly €190
  901 W Olympic Blvd

NOTES

What it costs

DAY	PLACE	HOTEL	TOURS	CAR	TOTAL
1	Chicago	€160	–	€60	**€220**
2	Chicago	€160	–	€60	**€220**
3	Springfield	€160	–	€60	**€220**
4	St. Louis	€160	–	€60	**€220**
5	Tulsa	€160	–	€60	**€220**
6	Oklahoma City	€160	–	€60	**€220**
7	Amarillo	€160	–	€60	**€220**
8	Santa Fe	€160	–	€60	**€220**
9	Santa Fe	€160	–	€60	**€220**
10	Gallup	€160	–	€60	**€220**
11	Flagstaff	€160	–	€60	**€220**
12	Flagstaff	€160	–	€60	**€220**
13	Kingman	€160	–	€60	**€220**
14	Los Angeles	€160	–	€60	**€220**
15	Los Angeles	€160	–	€60	**€220**
16	Flight home from LAX	–	–	€60	**€60**

Flights	€1,700
Hotels	€2,400
Excursions	€0
Car hire	€960
Total	**€5,060**
	€2,530 a person

An estimate to plan with (prices of 2026-10): hotels, the ticked excursions, car hire and flights. No fuel or meals.

Notes

About this booklet

Made on rondreis.expert. Your trip is still there, to change and print again: usa.rondreis.expert/en/tours/route-66/

PHOTOS

From Wikimedia Commons, all free of rights (public domain or CC0).

Chicago	Aerial view of Chicago, Illinois LCCN2011632410.tif · Carol M. Highsmith, Public domain
Springfield	Illinois State Capitol, Springfield, IL.jpg · Carol M. Highsmith (1946–), Public domain
St. Louis	Exterior, Robert A. Young Federal Building, St. Louis, Missouri LCCN2010719796.tiff · Carol M. Highsmith, Public domain
Tulsa	Tulsa, Oklahoma Federal Building LCCN2013634257.tif · Carol M. Highsmith, Public domain
Oklahoma City	Sculpture "Vigii" located in plaza of the former Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma LCCN2010720863.tif · Carol M. Highsmith, Public domain
Amarillo	A highlight of the "Texas" outdoor musical drama, staged in the Pioneer Amphitheater carved from the rocks of Palo Duro Canyon southeast of Amarillo in the Texas Panhandle, are majestic rides along LCCN2014633864.tif · Carol M. Highsmith, Public domain
Santa Fe	Route 66 centennial 1926-2026 city of Santa Fe New Mexico, USA.jpg · Arlo Barnes, CC0
Gallup	McKinley County New Mexico Court House.jpg · AllenS, Public domain
Flagstaff	Comet NEOWISE (50155614036).jpg · Deborah Lee Soltesz from Flagstaff, AZ, CC0
Kingman	Mr. D'z Diner, Route 66, Kingman, Arizona LCCN2010630078.tif · Carol M. Highsmith, Public domain
Los Angeles	Aerial views of residential Los Angeles, California LCCN2013632611.tif · Carol M. Highsmith, Public domain

MAP AND TYPE

Map: US Census Bureau (public domain), roads © OpenStreetMap contributors (ODbL). Type: Playfair Display and Inter (SIL Open Font License).

THE ROUTE

Chicago (2) · Springfield (1) · St. Louis (1) · Tulsa (1) · Oklahoma City (1) · Amarillo (1) · Santa Fe (2) · Gallup (1) · Flagstaff (2) · Kingman (1) · Los Angeles (2)

The Mother Road from Chicago to the pier in Santa Monica.

16 days · 15 nights · 3,580 km

rondreis.expert

usa.rondreis.expert/en/tours/route-66/