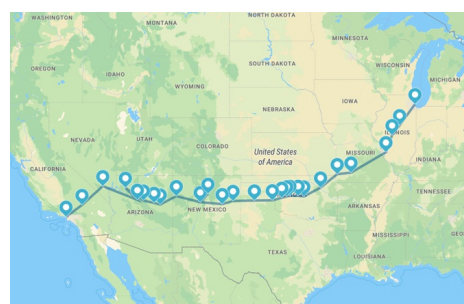




US, 17 Days · Tailor-made by car

Route 66 from Chicago to Santa Monica

Chicago not only competes with New York for being one of the most incredible cities in the world, but also plays host to the starting point of America's greatest road trip. Driving Route 66 is one of those journeys that we should all make at least once in a lifetime. We propose seventeen days of thrilling sensations along the so-called Mother Road, passing through historic towns and meeting endearing characters. People whose lives revolve around Route 66, who've dedicated a lifetime to retaining the original Route 66 spirit and who'll happily tell you about the magic surrounding this legendary road. Tons of asphalt that stretch across the country, allowing you to star in your very own road trip movie. All this crowned by a visit to the Grand Canyon, one of the great wonders of the world that Mother Nature has shaped over the centuries. You'll simply love touring around there on one of the best days of your holiday. What's more, the Route 66 will take you to places such as Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Chicago, Saint Louis, Springfield, Oklahoma City, Santa Fe and Santa Monica, all of them fascinating cities that become etched in your memory. So many that you might just need more than one storage device for all the photos that you'll take throughout your trip. All that remains is to hit the road and savour every minute of this once-in-a-lifetime experience.



Departure date: Departures from May 2026 till April 2027

From: Dublin, Shannon, Cork

Travel details

● DAY 1 · CITY OF ORIGIN - CHICAGO

Flight departure from the city of origin to Chicago.

After the necessary arrivals and customs formalities, you can pick up your rental car and start enjoying your holiday. Rest of the day at your leisure to explore one of the most riveting cities in the USA and savour its delicious cuisine.

Overnight stay in Chicago.

● DAY 2 · CHICAGO

If you're a lover of New York, you'll experience split emotions as soon as you set foot in Chicago. It's also a city of skyscrapers, but with a vitality and character that may make you unfaithful to the Big Apple for a few hours. The Loop is the central business district or downtown of Chicago. Here you will find the Millennium Park, with its gigantic and opulent sculptures, which will make you wonder why you don't have a similar park in your own city. Don't forget to take a picture in front of Cloud Gate or the Crown Fountain. And get ready to take quite a few more! Chicago is one of those cities that wows you wherever you go. Few sensations can be more pleasurable than listening to music in the open air at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion. What's more, The Loop is home to amazing cultural attractions and some of the city's most famous skyscrapers. From here you can also access the Navy Pier, a wonderful way to start the day. It opens at 10.00 am and commands one of the most outstanding views over Lake Michigan, as well as the child-friendly activities in the city. The Ferris wheel and Chicago Children's Museum are always a safe bet. From here, you can catch any of the boats that offer a laid-back tour of Lake Michigan. (Note: Tour not included). To see the city from another perspective, nothing better than heading up the Willis Tower (formerly known as Sears Tower), more than 400 metres high. You can marvel at the modernity of one of America's most captivating cities. A major landmark you'll see from here is Michigan Avenue, aka the "Magnificent Mile". When you get back down, you can make your way over there. You'll find exclusive boutiques, an array of restaurants and a very select atmosphere. This neighbourhood is also the perfect place to admire the urban architecture. You don't have to be an expert in the discipline to enjoy walking up and down South Michigan Avenue or State Street. South of The Loop, art lovers will come across the best museums in the city. Our favourites are The Art Institute of Chicago - where time seems to have stood still among its valuable works of art - and the Field Museum of Natural History, where you can 'meet' the famed T-Rex Sue. Don't forget to ask about it! (Note: to enter museums and avoid queues at Chicago's main attractions, many visitors choose to buy the CityPass. Work out if it's worth the cost, but think how much time you'll save queuing, which you can then spend exploring other parts of the city). To round off the day, nothing better than strolling through Lincoln Park, to the north of the city.

The atmosphere is wonderful; in fact, you will probably spend longer here than you had intended. You'll be hooked! Its top attractions are the Zoo and the Caldwell Lily Pool. At night, soak up the atmosphere at the city's famous jazz clubs.

Overnight stay in Chicago.

● DAY 3 · CHICAGO - BLOOMINGTON - SPRINGFIELD (ILLINOIS)

Before setting off for Springfield, take the opportunity to see anything you missed yesterday, or head over to the University of Chicago and Hyde Park. Bear in mind, though, that there are almost 330 kilometres to Springfield. This means almost four hours on Route 66, so load up your phone or your iPod with songs by Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters and BB King... And off we go! This is a famous stretch because it forms part of several routes, including the 66 and the 61. That's why you'll be driving alongside dozens of cars that are following the same route as you are. There are bound to be tourists of many different nationalities, so put your multicultural hat on and get to know them at the stops throughout the day. It'll make the journey more enjoyable and you may end making friends who live on the other side of the planet. Your first stop could be Joliet. You'll have only left Chicago an hour ago, but the Rialto Square Theatre is well worth seeing. If you think it's too early on to stop, stay on the road to Wilmington (where you can take a photo under the "Gemini Giant" or Braidwood. There are life-size statues of Elvis, Betty Boop or the Blues Brothers here and as diners that will whisk you back to the 1960s. As you'll have noticed, filling up the tank isn't a problem here. You don't have to worry about the needle entering the red bit, as there are gas stations even in smaller towns. A great example is the one you'll find in Odell. You'll want to stop off to fill up! Another tip is to use a good GPS or smartphone app designed for the occasion. The "Route 66" is perfectly signposted, but it will be very useful if you make a detour to visit something. Road crossings are so frequent that you'll appreciate some help at times. The stops at Pontiac and Towanda are optional, but still attractive. If you're driving in a Pontiac, make sure to visit its museum and admire the murals that adorn certain facades. In Towanda, you can walk along the road that "Route 66" originally followed. You will be captivated by a mixture of nostalgia and pure magic. The roads around here are very comfortable, so you'll be able to admire the landscape. This includes endless swathes of cornfields which were once the claim of the local mechanics. Depending on the stops you've made, it is likely that you'll arrive in Springfield at lunchtime. FYI, this is the capital of the state of Illinois, and not Chicago - as many people think. So, there's a lot to see here. But the first thing is to eat, and this is a great place to do so. Don't be surprised to see lots of fast food places. You could succumb to temptation or look for a local restaurant where you can savour typical American salads or classic hot dogs. As for attractions, the city is famous for Abraham Lincoln's home, the Capitol and for the beauty of Lake Springfield. Stroll around the centre and take photos of everything referring to Route 66. Overnight stay in Springfield.

● DAY 4 · SPRINGFIELD (ILLINOIS) - SAINT LOUIS

You've got a very relaxed day ahead, with few kilometres on the road, so take the opportunity to admire the scenery and feel free as a bird. Pull over wherever and whenever you want. From here to Saint Louis, there are only two hours on the road, so take it easy. That said, when it comes to distances, watch out if you're using a GPS, because they usually quote travel times as if you were taking Highway 55, which runs parallel to "Route 66". If you go along the "Mother Road" (as "Route 66" is also known), you'll always take longer due to the road conditions and the amount of temptations you'll come across on the way, making you stop off again and again. And another tip: to avoid mistakes or doubts, throughout this stretch we'll always be referring to the Springfield in Illinois and the Saint Louis in Missouri, as there are other places with the same name in other states and a slight GPS error could lead to an unpleasant surprise. Baseball and blues are the two icons of Saint Louis, but there's a third one: Gateway Arch. It lies very close to Eads Bridge, so you can take the chance to visit both places. The bridge is famous for being the first to join both banks of the Mississippi River, which is no mean feat, as one side is in the state of Missouri and the other in the state of Illinois. To end the day, nothing better than finding a bar that brews its own beer. There are quite a few, so you won't struggle to find one. For dinner, a good option is to venture into The Hill, home to many Italian restaurants. And we're not talking about any old Italian dish, as some of the world's top chefs work here. Last but not least, you simply can't come to Saint Louis and not listen to live blues at a bar or club. Ask around to find out the most popular one at the moment, which will probably be in the neighbourhood of Soulard, and enjoy the experience. Overnight stay in Saint Louis.

● DAY 5 · SAINT LOUIS - SPRINGFIELD (MISSOURI)

You are on "Route 66" and that has to be noticed. Today, we'll continue exploring the picturesque countryside of Missouri until reaching the city of Springfield, recognised as the origin of "Route 66" in 1926 and also famous for being the birthplace of Mark Twain. The perfect starting point is just a few kilometres back, the old Chain of Rocks Bridge, a true call to nostalgia. This is a historic bridge that links the two banks of the Mississippi River and, although it was once open to traffic, it's now one of the longest pedestrian bridges in the world. Crossing it involves a halo of mystery that will whisk you back to the original spirit of "Route 66". Almost two kilometres separate the states of Illinois and Missouri, which provide you with a magical moment. Sit on the banks and dream of blues and jazz. When you've finished, head back to the car, blast out the music and drive towards Eureka. Just a few kilometres before arriving, you'll come across the Route 66 State Park. Look for the Visitor Centre and head straight in. It showcases original items of the "Mother Road", as "Route 66" is known in the United States. All day today, you'll be driving parallel to the highway, sometimes on the left and sometimes on the right (having crossed bridges). So, don't trust the times given by your GPS, as they tend to reflect the highway route. But don't worry that today you will have an easy and comfortable day. You can stop off wherever you want, taking advantage of your choice of a self-drive holiday. You're free as a bird, so enjoy! Wind down the windows and breathe in the fresh air. You'll pass through Villa Ridge and arrive at Meramec Caverns, an amazing place that has been open to the public since 1933. It was once the hideout of the famous bandit Jesse James and his gang, and today is a showcase of stalactites and stalagmites. Following the route, the next stop is Cuba. Yes, there's a place called Cuba in Missouri! It's known as "Mural City", and you'll soon understand why. Stop at one of the diners for a snack and admire the murals (many of them original) with a single theme: "Route 66". Everything here is "Route 66" to the max. If you like the weird and wonderful, stop off at Fanning to see the second largest rocking chair in the world. It's spectacular! And don't forget to take a picture in front of it to show everyone back home; otherwise, they'll never believe you. In Lebanon, you can have a bite to eat and mooch around the Route 66 Museum. You'll love it, maybe even as much as filling up at the gas stations along the Route. They're fantastic and full of stories, which the pump attendants will happily tell if you ask them nicely. By Lebanon, you'll have almost 90 kilometres left to get to Springfield, so you're close to the end of the stretch. When you reach your destination, enjoy your free time and get to know the city at your own pace. That said, one of the most fascinating things you can do here is to visit Pythian Castle at night to see whether the legend about its ghosts is true. Overnight stay in Springfield.

DAY 6 · SPRINGFIELD (MISSOURI) - JOPLIN - TULSA

The best way to kick-start the day is with a hearty American breakfast and a quick refuel, meaning you can leave Springfield on a full stomach and a full tank. An amazing day lies ahead: out-and-out "Route 66". Five hundred fascinating kilometres skirting the highway, with the first must-see being Gay Parita. This is a mythical gas station that has passed through different hands since 1930. The most famous owner was Gary Turner, who passed away in 2015. After some dark times, Gary's daughter (alongside her husband) has taken the reins of the business, following in her father's footsteps. If you stop off here, take some time to chat with them about the figure of Mr. Turner and his historical contribution to the "Mother Road". Of course, neither of them will ask for anything in return, but it's always nice to leave a tip to keep these places going. People like these are one-of-a-kind! You'll have to make a slight detour to get to the next two suggestions, but it's well worth it. The first proposal is Joplin, a pocket-sized city that boomed thanks to zinc mining and now houses one of the most interesting museums on the Main Street of America, another nickname for Route 66. What's more, it's on the way to the next stop: a very special gas station. It is a service station that you'll instantly recognise because the trucks outside are the twin sisters of the stars of the Pixar movie "Cars". Hence its name, "Cars on the Route". It has a wonderful little restaurant where you have a quick coffee before continuing your drive through Kansas. It actually won't be long until you arrive at Brush Creek Bridge, an immaculate white bridge where you can take a picture of the "Route 66" sign painted on the road. All these places are magical and cherish thousands of stories, so don't hold back from asking a local to tell you about them. On with our journey. You'll leave Kansas with nostalgia and cross into Oklahoma, where undulating pastures await you, although much of the original Route 66 has been paved over again and now follows the standard highway. It's a shame for romantics, but you'll make up the time you end up spending at all the stops. The first one in Oklahoma could be the Vintage Iron Motorcycle Museum in Miami - the Miami here in Oklahoma, not the Florida one - which includes authentically restored works of art from the two-wheeled world. Here, you can also visit the Coleman Theatre and eat at one of the best burger bars on "Route 66". Quite a lot. Then, you can hit the road again to Totem Pole Park, which features a highly ornate 30-metre-high totem. When you get to Catoosa, you can check out its blue whale and then set off in the direction of Tulsa, the capital of oil. So much so that we advise you to fill up your tank in the city, as in few other places will you find petrol as cheap as here. Set aside some of the dollars you save for tonight's plan. Tulsa boasts one of the most famous drive-in theatres in Oklahoma, so you can't miss tonight's movie! Before the screening, you can stroll around Philbrook Museum of Art and its gardens, along the River Arkansas River or through Downtown. Overnight stay in Tulsa.

DAY 7 · TULSA - OKLAHOMA CITY

The best way to kick-start the day is with a hearty American breakfast, which - like everything here - is on a big scale. Now you've filled your stomach, do the same with the petrol tank of your car (taking advantage of the prices in Tulsa) and then hit the road. One of the most laid-back days lies ahead. Between Tulsa and Oklahoma City, there are about 200 kilometres along "Route 66", and although you'll pass through towns such as Sapulpa, Milfay or Chandler, the highlight of the day is undoubtedly John Hargrove's Place, in Arcadia. It's beyond words, thanks, both to the exhibits and the friendly welcome. As with most attractions, public and private, on Route 66, it's free-of-charge, but it relies on tips to stay in business for all the car fanatics who'll follow in your footsteps. John is one of those characters that you simply have to meet; one of those people who will make the drive unique and turn this legendary Route into something out of this world. A few kilometres later, you'll arrive in the ever-captivating Oklahoma City. It's home to the Myriad Botanical Garden, one of the most spectacular in the whole world. It has a large outdoor section but also a spectacular transparent greenhouse that lights up when the sun sets. It houses an exceptional tropical garden. What's more, many events and activities are held here, so check out the programme to see if anything appealing coincides with your visit. Also amazing are its lakes, but three in particular: Overholser, Hefner and Stanley Draper. The first two are really extraordinary and you'll love strolling along the banks or taking out a boat. If you're here in the second fortnight of September, you're in luck because you'll coincide with the Great State Fair, the event of the year in the city and as American as you can get. The city of cowboys is spectacular at night when it's all lit up, the perfect backdrop for a stroll through the districts of Midtown and Metro Park. Overnight stay in Oklahoma City.

DAY 8 · OKLAHOMA CITY - EL RENO - WEATHERFORD - CLINTON - ELK CITY - SHAMROCK - AMARILLO

You're making your way across the Great Plains of the US along the most authentic interstate route in the country, so your excitement levels must be through the roof by now.

You'll be driving through the states of Oklahoma and Texas, on what will probably be one of your favourite "Route 66" days. Before leaving Oklahoma City, it's time to have breakfast. And the best way is to savour the delicious fried pies so typical here! You can also get a take-out to enjoy at today's first stop, Lake Overholser Bridge, a wonderful place where you'll wish you could have a picnic every weekend of the year.

Fields, a lake and a bridge in the background. What more could you ask for? When you feel like it, head back on the road and continue the route through El Reno, Weatherford and Clinton. You'll notice how the landscape drastically changes after you cross the state border, with wind energy mills becoming a mainstay. Just a few minutes before Clinton, watch out for a true jewel of a museum. The Oklahoma Route 66 Museum awaits you with open doors and much to see inside. It's like a small town in which absolutely everything is reproduced, from the train station, the opera house, the tavern and even the typical woman of the time with curlers in her hair. Everything is meticulously reproduced, so the entrance fee is well worthwhile.

The "Route 66" is full of incredible places, but also fascinating people, such as Gary Turner (you probably met his daughter and son-in-law yesterday) and hundreds of other anonymous people who make this journey truly unique in the world. Well, if you're lucky, Harley will be waiting for you after turning off at Exit 11, just past Elk City. He lives in the small town of Erick and is a local superstar, thanks to being the owner of the City Meat Market. It's not always open, but he lives round the corner and usually pops over as soon as he sees any movement. If he doesn't turn up - long white beard and white head of hair -, ask for him in the neighbourhood, as meeting him will make the day even better. After a good chat with Harley, back on the road on the way to Texas, passing through Shamrock, where you can pull over at today's most fascinating gas stations. The first is Tower Station, which also has a typical American diner where you can stop off to fill your stomach up, too. A shot of caffeine and a little treat will definitely perk you up. The second one is very close to the museum. It's Magnolia Gas Station and it's truly unique. Some of the pictures of the day will definitely be taken here. You'll then drive through McLean and Groom before arriving in Amarillo. This last stretch is wonderful, not just because of the atmosphere in the air, but also because you'll always have the sun in the background, looking west, and you'll be accompanied by the huge windmills lining both sides of the road. At the end of the day, probably quite late on, you'll arrive in Amarillo, where you can unwind and have some dinner. Make sure you try the excellent BBQ meats at a typical restaurant.

Overnight stay in Amarillo.

DAY 9 · AMARILLO - TUCUMCARI - SANTA ROSA - ALBUQUERQUE

Today will be the halfway point of your trip, so hit the road and get ready to enjoy a whole load of fascinating places today. The first is Cadillac Ranch, where you can spray-paint one of the twelve Cadillacs buried nose-first in the ground. You can buy spray cans at a store in Amarillo stores or right here on site. Take your pick! It will definitely be an ephemeral piece of art, because hundreds of people pass through here every day and will probably paint over your creation, but hey ho! You'll have fun painting whatever takes your fancy, even dedicating something to your loved ones and immortalising it in a photo. When your inspiration runs out, head over to Adrian. In itself it has no charm, except that it's the Midpoint of the "Route 66". You're exactly the same distance from Chicago as you are from Los Angeles. Celebrate the fact at the 1950s-style diner here and pick up some souvenirs. When you get back on the road, you'll see that some stretches are unpaved and others are simply cut off. Don't worry, as there'll always be a diversion to get on to the highway and then return to the Route at the next exit. Just 40 kilometres from Adrian, you'll leave Texas and cross into New Mexico, the sixth state since setting off from Chicago. Not bad at all. Just over the border, you'll come across Tucumcari, the city of murals. They are very original. There are thirty-one in total, so you can take photos of as many as you want. The most spectacular is the one that measures 40 metres long by 7 metres high. You'll see that Tucumcari is a very original place. The unmistakable atmosphere that surrounds its shabby-chic motels and diners will amaze you. From here, you can drive over to Santa Rosa and, depending on the time of year, take a dip in one of its lakes. And then it's just under 200 kilometres to Albuquerque. If you see that you're short on time, take the 40 to make the trip quicker. You'll probably arrive in Albuquerque as night is drawing in. Don't worry, because tomorrow you'll have time to visit the city. Overnight stay in Albuquerque.

DAY 10 · ALBUQUERQUE - SANTA FE - ALBUQUERQUE

Have a relaxing morning, unless your trip falls in the month of October. This is when the "Albuquerque Balloon Festival" (the largest in the world) takes place over three weekends. Preparations begin at four in the morning and the event goes on late into the night, with illuminated balloons floating across the New Mexico sky.

It's a fascinating sight and make sure you experience it, even if just for a few hours. You won't regret it! If you're here at another time of the year, simply have a leisurely breakfast and enjoy the city. Our tip is to start off in the Historic Downtown of Albuquerque. The air of tranquillity here is delightful. A peace that was interrupted by the filming of the five seasons of "Breaking Bad". So, if you're a fan of the series, you could start off at the most iconic places from the show. First stop could be the house of Walt, the lead character, and then simply follow the hordes of people, as Albuquerque has for some time been a must-visit for the many fans of the world's most famous chemistry teacher. True devotees can even take a tour around iconic places in a camper van just like Walt's on-screen RV.

When you finish the tour around "Breaking Bad" settings, we recommend temporarily leaving Albuquerque and heading over to Santa Fe. This is the oldest state capital in the US and strolling around the environs of the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi is an unforgettable experience. The architecture is very unique and, although there are lots of tourists, it still retains the original spirit of "Route 66".

You can also venture into Valles Caldera National Preserve and Pecos National Historical Park. Two magnificent green lungs that will help you disconnect from the road and spend a day at one with nature.

When finished, you can head back to Albuquerque and admire the best views of the area by taking the Sandia Peak Tramway, which climbs up to a height of 3,000 metres. It's a vertigo experience!

Overnight stay in Albuquerque.

DAY 11 · ALBUQUERQUE - GALLUP - HOLBROOK (OPTIONAL VISIT TO PETRIFIED FOREST NATIONAL PARK)

After a relaxing day, it's time to hit the road again and set off for Gallup. Just over 400 kilometres lie ahead, during which you'll pass through Mesita and Grants, but there's not much to see there. In Gallup, however, fans of costumes and souvenirs will be bowled over by the vast array of stores.

You can buy all the cowboy or Native Indian garments you could ever imagine. Even a bow and some arrows, just in case you fancy reliving your childhood and all those Cowboys and Indians games.

When you leave Gallup behind and can no longer see it in your rear-view mirror, you'll notice how the landscape begins to change. This means you've already crossed into Arizona! So, bid farewell to endless plains and say howdy to the Rockies and voilà! You'll have gained an hour just by stepping foot in your seventh state on this tour. Remember that Arizona is one hour behind New Mexico. Our suggestion is to spend it in Petrified Forest National Park. As its name suggests, you'll find petrified trees here. The setting is amazing and inspiring alike. In fact, a residence has been built here where artists spend seasons in search for inspiration to create their works in different disciplines. What's more, it's a great place for hiking, whether on the time-told trails or on the new routes that are opened up each year. Some of the most thrilling are Red Basin and Martha's Butte, where you can follow the markers or ask for a guide, who will explain all the features of the Petrified Forest. You could also try to compare and contrast it with the immensity of the Grand Canyon that you'll explore tomorrow. If you feel insignificant here, imagine there! The road that winds through the National Park comes out in Holbrook, where you'll be spending the night today.

Overnight stay in Holbrook.

DAY 12 · HOLBROOK - WINSLOW - FLAGSTAFF - GRAND CANYON - WILLIAMS

One of the most fascinating days of the tour lies ahead. You'll get to discover the sheer enormity of the Grand Canyon and how it has been shaped by Mother Nature over the centuries. Speaking of ancient times, just outside Holbrook, in Winslow, is Rock Art Ranch, home to bison, cattle and a true historic wonder: more than 3,000 petroglyphs. These are works of art carved in rock by American natives who lived here 13,000 years ago, although the petroglyphs actually date from 5,000 BC. You have to arrange the visit in advance, but it's well worth it for the sights on view and the chance to meet Brantley Baird, another of the great characters of this trip. Besides owning the ranch and having discovered most of the petroglyphs, he's a great source of knowledge and storyteller. You'll love hearing his tales. Afterwards, you can set off towards today's true highlight. You'll pass through Canyon Diablo, Winona, Flagstaff and Williams, where you can turn on to the 64 and drive straight to the entrance of the Grand Canyon. Get ready to feel at one with nature, marvel at its sheer beauty and feel like a mere speck of dust in the universe. Everything is so mind-blowing that at times it can even overwhelm you. But trigger all your senses and savour your surroundings. By definition, a "canyon" results from the weathering and erosion of the land caused by a river over thousands of years. Here, that definition falls short. The Colorado River has created a true work of art by moulding the land like a potter who creates a sculpture for public enjoyment. Upon arrival at Grand Canyon Village hop from viewpoint to viewpoint. (Note: Admission not included). In fact, you can leave your car parked in the Visitor Center and get carried away, now literally, on one of the free buses that run through the most interesting places in the area. Whatever you fancy. You might not enjoy the freedom of your own vehicle, but you will be able to unwind and know for sure that you're not missing out on anything, especially since there are places that are only open to these buses. There are several lines, so you just have to choose the one that takes your desired route. However, this isn't the only way to visit the Grand Canyon. More and more travellers are choosing to take a helicopter tour to admire this miracle of nature in all its glory. Another option is to hike along some of the signposted trails. That said, find out the average duration of the hikes as they tend to be designed for more than one day. To start rounding off the day, nothing better than admiring the sunset to the west and enjoying a true feast for the eyes. Think that you're experiencing once-in-a-lifetime moments and witnessing one of the world's very best sunsets. When the sun eventually goes down, it'll be time to say goodbye to the Grand Canyon and head down to Williams, where you'll spend the night. Unwind after a day packed with so many emotions, as tomorrow's destination will be no other than Las Vegas. Overnight stay in Williams.

DAY 13 · WILLIAMS - LAS VEGAS

You'll wake up in Williams, where you can savour a hearty American breakfast to prepare for the journey to Las Vegas. Whether you leave here on the 66 or the 40, the first interesting stop is Seligman, one of the most colourful and fascinating towns on the entire West Coast. The vintage cars parked on the roadside turn it into a makeshift automobile museum. You can also take the typical photo of the huge American flag here. On leaving Seligman, you'll have to decide whether to continue on the 66 to Kingman or take the faster route on the 40. You choose! As soon as you arrive in Kingman, you'll see that it's a genuine oasis in the Mojave Desert. It's a key point on "Route 66", which is why you'll bump into lots of fellow adventurers setting out on the most famous of American road trips. Whichever the way you came, you can now take the 93 to the city of Las Vegas. Although you'll be keen to reach the neon city, we recommend one last stop beforehand. It is worth it. And its name is Lake Mead. It straddles the Nevada-Arizona border and offers activities such as jet skiing or even scuba diving. But if you fancy something more chilled out, you can simply wander along its shore admiring what humans are capable of building. Yes, this is an artificial lake! It was created as a reservoir to supply the area with water and has become one of the top tourist attractions in the country. When you finish the visit, you'll only be half an hour from Las Vegas. You probably won't arrive when it's lit up by millions of neon lights, but don't worry, as you'll have time to fully enjoy the city that never sleeps. Call first at your hotel to have a good mooch around the facilities on offer. When you're ready, you can start off by heading down The Strip. You'll bump into hundreds of stag dos trying to emulate the stars of "The Hangover" and dozens of people handing out flyers. Take it easy, as the distances are vast and it'll take some time to get through everything you've highlighted on your map. A map that includes the entire world, as walking along this street will take you to the Eiffel Tower, the Statue of Liberty, the canals of Venice and the pyramids of Egypt. Before heading back to the hotel, you can also watch the water show at Bellagio Casino. Litres and litres of water frolicking to the music with a combination of lights and colours that will mesmerise you. The shows aren't always the same, so you can stay on to watch another one. Bellagio isn't the only venue for a free show. Some of the big hotels also have one. When you eventually get back to yours, try your luck at the casino or on the slot machines. Overnight stay in Las Vegas.

DAY 14 · LAS VEGAS - BARSTOW - SANTA MÓNICA

Say goodbye to Las Vegas because Santa Monica is waiting for you. There's a long stretch of road ahead today (some 500 kilometres), yet very calm. In fact, the first stop we recommend is the Fashion Outlets of Las Vegas, just before crossing the border to California. They're huge, like everything here in the US, so we recommend setting a limit on how long you want to spend here, because it's easy to get engrossed by all the deals and spend the whole day rummaging through the bargains. When you leave, you'll enter California and drive for 170 kilometres past the Mojave National Reserve on your left to beyond Baker, passing through the towns of Midway and Harvard before reaching Calico. This is a really fascinating ghost town. Although it looks like a tourist trap, it's a fantastic abandoned mine that you can visit. (Note: Admission not included). A few minutes later you'll reach Barstow, another retail paradise. There are loads of fantastic outlets full of great deals so you can fill up your case with discounted clothing. That's if you haven't stopped in Vegas. The drive from Barstow to Pasadena takes about two and a half hours. You can do it non-stop and cross the Angeles National Forest on the 15 until reaching Pasadena. Turning off "Route 66" will save you time, but you'll go from traffic-free heaven to the huge highways of Los Angeles. If you're a fan of "The Big Bang Theory," in Pasadena, you can go to the Cheesecake Factory, where Penny worked at the beginning of the series. Sheldon and Leonard's apartment doesn't exist as such, but eating a burger and a piece of cake here is a great experience. From here to Santa Monica takes little more than half an hour, although the traffic isn't the best in Los Angeles. This is because you have to cross the city to get to Santa Monica. Don't worry about leaving Los Angeles behind because you'll be back in two days' time. But today's the day to finish off "Route 66", and the endpoint is here in Santa Monica. Specifically on the pier, so make the most out of the last light of the day to take all the photos you want of the sign, and congratulate yourself for having crossed deepest America. Over these fourteen days, you'll have amassed experiences that will stay with you for the rest of your life. Consider yourself a lucky one! Overnight stay in Santa Monica.

DAY 15 · SANTA MÓNICA

With the amazing feeling of having travelled "Route 66" from start to end, you deserve all the rewards that will come over the next few hours. The first will be to get out of bed whenever you fancy. You'll have been getting out of bed early for the past two weeks to make the most out of the day, so now's the time to take it easy. Breakfast awaits you on Third Street Promenade, in the heart of Downtown Santa Monica. There are dozens of coffee shops and boutiques in this pedestrianised area, so make sure you have a good mooch around. When you're done, you can head to one of the most magical "piers" on the West Coast. It's an amazing experience to stroll up and down this pier with an ever-lively atmosphere, with the omnipresent Ferris wheel as a backdrop. From here, you'll get a stunning view of Santa Monica beach in all its immensity. You can amble along the sand, take a dip in the ocean or emulate Pamela Anderson, David Hasselhoff and the rest of the 'Baywatch' crew. The famous series was filmed here and you'll see the original towers of the real lifeguards. The beach is simply amazing. There are always people hanging out and always something to see or do, whether playing a game of "beach volleyball" or watching the street performers on the boardwalk. This will take you up to Venice Beach; you'll have to choose whether you walk, rollerblade or cycle there. And not to mention the network of channels here that exude a certain romanticism similar to the world-famous Italian city. But not only is there water and a fascinating atmosphere, but also some truly impressive graffiti. You can do all this before working out at Muscle Beach, an outdoor gym right on the water. Can you imagine one on your favourite beach back home? Very close to Venice Beach is one of the most famous high schools of the 1980s, where Sandy and Danny of 'Grease' fame fell in love. By now, you'll have taken up most of the day, so stick around and marvel at the sunset from Santa Monica Beach, with the "pier" and the amusement park in the background. At night, you can dine around Third Street Promenade and have a nightcap at one of the on-trend bars in the area. Overnight stay in Santa Monica.

DAY 16 · SANTA MÓNICA - LOS ANGELES - CITY OF ORIGIN

Before planning your day, make sure you have enough time to comfortably get to the airport. Depending on your flight time, and thanks to the freedom of having your own rental car, you can make your last stop on the tour and discover some of the many attractions of Los Angeles.

Arrival at the airport with enough time to drop off your rental car and flight back to the city of origin.

Night on board.

● DAY 17 · CITY OF ORIGIN

Arrival. End of the trip and our services.

Your trip includes

Your trip includes

- ✓ Return flight.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Chicago.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Chicago.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Springfield - Il.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Springfield - Il.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Saint Louis - Missouri.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Saint Louis - Missouri.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Springfield - Mo.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Springfield - Mo.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Tulsa - OK.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Tulsa - OK.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Oklahoma City - Ok.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Oklahoma City - Ok.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Amarillo - Tx.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Amarillo - Tx.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Albuquerque - New Mexico.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Albuquerque - New Mexico.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Holbrook - Az.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Holbrook - Az.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Williams - Az.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Williams - Az.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Las Vegas.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Las Vegas.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Santa Monica - Ca.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Santa Monica - Ca.
- ✓ Rent-a-car.
- ✓ Amount of the supplement for collection and return of the vehicle in a different office.

Your trip doesn't include

- ✗ Electronic Authorization (ESTA/ETA) to enter in US.
- ✗ Resort fee US.
- ✗ Possible toll charges.
- ✗ Insolvency protection.

Destinations Visited

Chicago



Bloomington - Il



Springfield - Il



Saint Louis - Missouri



Springfield - Mo



Joplin - Mo





Tulsa - OK



Oklahoma City - Ok



El Reno - Ok



Weatherford



Clinton - Ok



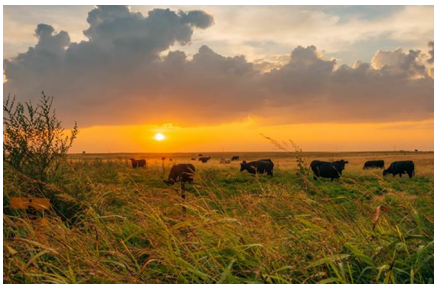
Elk City - OK



Shamrock



Amarillo - Tx



Tucumcari - Nm



Santa Rosa - Nm



Albuquerque - New Mexico



Santa Fe - Nm



Gallup - Nm



Holbrook - Az



Winslow - Az



Flagstaff - Az



Grand Canyon - Az



Williams - Az



Las Vegas



Barstow - Ca



Santa Monica - Ca



Important remarks

- Tips in US are a common practice.

- Generally in US the accommodation in the triple rooms have two double beds or one double and one single bed and the quadruple accommodation has two double beds.

- Driving in the USA: 1.Overtaking on the right is not only legal but everyone does it. And the sooner you get used to roads with more than five lanes, the better. 2.It is legal (and mandatory) to turn right on a red light when there is a signal to do so. 3. With regard to parking, make sure you check when you can park on the street and never park in front of a fire hydrant (even though there are no signs prohibiting it). If there are lines painted on the road

to mark out parking spaces, leave the car right in the middle of them, however huge the gap may seem. Be especially careful in the centre of big cities and don't let the parking meter go over by even one minute (check before paying because there are days of the week or certain times when you don't have to pay). 4. Beware of tolls. They will be indicated with the words toll or turnpike and don't usually have a barrier, so you can drive through them without realising and then receive a fine a few weeks later. Don't drive in FasTrak Only lanes and make sure you have some cash on you, as some tolls are cash-only. 5. Unless you want a ticket and a stern chat from a Highway Patrol Officer, it's best not to drive more than five or ten miles above the maximum speed allowed for the road. If the police end up stopping you, keep your hands on the steering wheel and in sight at all times and don't even think about trying to be funny. 6. We recommend signing up to roadside assistance services and a GPS when you hire a car.

- Consult the entry restrictions and additional requirements for people who have previously traveled to destinations such as Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Yemen, Syria, etc.
- Hotels may charge a Resort Fee charge that must be paid directly at the destination. The amount can vary between approximately \$15 and \$65 per room per night. This charge is indicative and may be modified depending on the establishment's policy.
- Check-in time at the hotel on the day of arrival depends on each establishment, but in no case will it be before 3:00 p.m., unless otherwise indicated.
- The proposed excursions and tours for each day are purely suggestions, as you can tailor the trip to suit your times, tastes and needs.
- A credit card is considered a guarantee, so sometimes you will need one for check-in at hotels.
- Hotels usually have cots available. Otherwise, babies will have to share a bed with an adult.
- To pick up your rental car, you'll need a credit (not debit) card in the name of the person who made the booking, who must also be the named driver of the vehicle.
- Consult the necessary documentation to enter the destinations visited and for transit in the countries where air stopovers are made.
- You must give notice that you are going to cross the border while collecting the vehicle. Authorisation may be required to drive through certain countries or areas/states (as is the case in the US and Canada). Depending on the conditions set out in the rental contract and the company hired, you might be charged a surcharge payable at the destination office.