Welcome to Illinois Route 66!

Come explore unique people, places, and stories through our wayside exhibits. Our exhibits are as diverse as 66 itself covering everything from riots, the invention of the motel, and the birth of the Cozy Dog.

Follow the Stories of THE ROAD

The 31 Illinois Route 66 Wayside exhibits can be found in 17 communities along the Mother Road. Each wayside is placed at a site with historic significance and tells the story of the site’s relationship to Route 66. The interpretive stations use illustrations, pictures, and audio to explore each site. Don’t forget to bring a notebook and a pencil to collect all 12 Passport Stamps! When you discover a stamp simply place a piece of paper over the rubbing station and use your pencil to collect a unique engraving.

The United States Department of Transportation has designated certain US roads as National Scenic Byways because of their special significance to the American people. Because of its historic importance, Illinois Route 66 became a National Scenic Byway in 2005.

Along with our State Agency partners, the Byway works with communities and businesses to provide a memorable Mother Road experience for travelers on Route 66 in Illinois.
EXHIBIT LOCATIONS

1) Berwyn
   • Automobile Love Affair
   • Cruising the Strip
   • Eating on the Run
   • A Road Well Traveled

2) Countryside
   • This was “Countryside”

3) Willowbrook
   • Get Your “Chicks” on Route 66 — The Chicken Basket

4) Romeoville
   • Good Eating on Route 66 — The White Fence Farm Story

5) Dwight
   • Full Service On Route 66
   • Mom and Pop Motels — The Paulsen-Strufe Motel
   • Shifting Roadways
   • Well Connected Village

6) Pontiac
   • A Bridge to the Past
   • Protecting Travelers — State Police Headquarters
   • Patrolling “Bloody 66”
   • The Log Cabin Inn
   • An Underground Crossing — The Ladd School Subway
   • International — National Scenic Byway

7) Normal
   • A Station and a Home — Sprague’s Super Service

8) Bloomington
   • Risks of the Road

9) Atlanta
   • Laying the Hard Road through Atlanta
   • Wheels of Fortune on 66

10) Lincoln
    • Roadside Attractions — World’s Largest Covered Wagon

11) Williamsville
    • The Golden Years

12) Springfield
    • Fun Along the Road — Knight’s Action Park
    • Cozy Dog

13) Virden
    • Route 66 Coal Towns — The Battle of Virden

14) Carlinville
    • Circling the Square

15) Litchfield
    • Fine Dining on Route 66 — The Ariston Café
    • Endless Nights — The Sky View Drive-In

16) Staunton
    • Henry’s Ra66it Ranch

17) Hamel
    • Trucking Down 66

Visit our website at illinoisroute66.org for more information and for GPS coordinates of all exhibits!