

ez 66 guide for travelers

EZ 66 Guide for Travelers is a comprehensive resource for anyone looking to explore the iconic Route 66, often referred to as the "Main Street of America." This historic highway stretches from Chicago to Santa Monica, offering travelers a glimpse into America's rich cultural heritage, quirky roadside attractions, and stunning landscapes. The EZ 66 Guide serves as a roadmap to navigate this legendary route, providing essential information, tips, and recommendations for an unforgettable journey.

Understanding Route 66

Route 66 was established in 1926 and became one of the most famous highways in the United States. Spanning over 2,400 miles, it connects multiple states, including Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California.

The Significance of Route 66

- Cultural Impact: Route 66 symbolizes freedom and adventure, representing the spirit of the American road trip.
- Historical Landmarks: The route is dotted with historic landmarks, diners, and motels that evoke nostalgia for a bygone era.
- Economic Influence: It played a significant role in the development of the American midwest and the growth of the automobile industry.

Overview of the EZ 66 Guide

The EZ 66 Guide for Travelers is authored by Jerry McClanahan, a longtime Route 66 enthusiast. It serves as both a travel guide and a keepsake, featuring detailed maps, photographs, and anecdotes from the road.

Key Features of the Guide

1. Detailed Maps: The guide includes detailed maps that highlight the original Route 66 alignment, making it easier for travelers to navigate the historic route.
2. Attraction Listings: Each state along Route 66 is covered with listings of attractions, eateries, and accommodations.
3. Personal Stories: The guide is enriched with personal stories and experiences that bring the journey to life.

4. Tips for Travelers: Practical advice on what to see, where to stop, and how to make the most out of the journey.

Planning Your Route 66 Adventure

Embarking on a Route 66 adventure requires careful planning. Here are some steps to help you prepare for your journey.

Choosing Your Starting Point

- Chicago: Begin your journey in the Windy City, where you can explore historical sites and enjoy deep-dish pizza.
- Santa Monica: If you prefer to start at the end, Santa Monica offers beautiful beaches and the iconic Santa Monica Pier.

Timeframe for Your Trip

- Short Trip (1 week): Focus on a specific segment of the route, such as Illinois to Oklahoma.
- Long Trip (2-3 weeks): Travel the entire length of Route 66, allowing time for exploration and detours.

What to Pack

- Essentials: Comfortable clothing, sturdy shoes, and a hat for sun protection.
- Travel Gear: A good camera, a journal to document your experiences, and a reliable GPS or map.
- Snacks and Water: Keep snacks and water handy for those stretches between towns.

Must-See Attractions on Route 66

The EZ 66 Guide for Travelers highlights numerous attractions that showcase the unique character of Route 66. Here are some of the must-see stops:

Illinois

- The Route 66 Hall of Fame: Located in Joliet, this museum celebrates the

history of the highway.

- Lou Mitchell's: An iconic diner in Chicago known for its hearty breakfast and warm hospitality.

Missouri

- Meramec Caverns: A stunning natural attraction that offers guided tours through magnificent caves.

- Route 66 Drive-In Theater: A nostalgic outdoor movie experience that harkens back to the golden age of American cinema.

Oklahoma

- Blue Whale of Catoosa: A quirky roadside attraction featuring a giant whale sculpture and a pond for swimming.

- Route 66 Museum: Located in Elk City, this museum showcases the history and culture of the highway.

Texas

- Cadillac Ranch: An iconic art installation featuring half-buried Cadillacs, beckoning visitors to leave their mark with spray paint.

- The Big Texan Steak Ranch: Known for its 72 oz steak challenge, this restaurant is a must-visit for foodies.

New Mexico

- Santa Fe: A detour to this artistic city offers a rich cultural experience with galleries and historic architecture.

- Route 66 Auto Museum: Located in Santa Rosa, this museum features vintage cars and memorabilia.

Arizona

- Grand Canyon: A slight detour from Route 66, the Grand Canyon is a natural wonder that should not be missed.

- Route 66 in Williams: Known as the "Gateway to the Grand Canyon," this town is home to many Route 66-themed attractions.

California

- Santa Monica Pier: The official end of Route 66, visitors can enjoy the beach, amusement park, and a vibrant atmosphere.
- Pacific Coast Highway: Consider extending your trip by traveling along the stunning Pacific Coast Highway.

Tips for Traveling Route 66

To make the most of your Route 66 adventure, consider these tips:

Stay Flexible

- Allow yourself time to explore spontaneous attractions or hidden gems along the route.
- Be open to changing your plans based on recommendations from locals or fellow travelers.

Engage with Locals

- Talk to residents and business owners to gain insights into the history and culture of the area.
- Participate in local events or festivals if they coincide with your visit.

Document Your Journey

- Keep a travel journal or blog to record your experiences, thoughts, and reflections.
- Take plenty of photos to capture the memories and share them with friends and family.

Conclusion

The EZ 66 Guide for Travelers is an invaluable resource for anyone looking to experience the magic of Route 66. From its historical significance to its quirky attractions, this iconic highway offers a unique glimpse into America's culture and heritage. Whether you're planning a short trip or a full-fledged adventure, the guide provides the necessary tools to make your journey memorable. So pack your bags, hit the road, and let the spirit of Route 66 guide you on an unforgettable journey through the heart of America.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the EZ 66 Guide for Travelers?

The EZ 66 Guide for Travelers is a comprehensive travel guide that provides detailed information and maps for Route 66, the iconic highway that stretches from Chicago to Santa Monica.

Why is Route 66 important to American culture?

Route 66 is often referred to as the 'Main Street of America' and symbolizes the freedom of the open road, representing the American spirit of adventure and exploration.

What can travelers expect to find in the EZ 66 Guide?

The guide includes historical sites, roadside attractions, dining options, lodging, and detailed maps, making it a valuable resource for anyone traveling along Route 66.

Is the EZ 66 Guide suitable for both seasoned travelers and beginners?

Yes, the EZ 66 Guide is designed to cater to all types of travelers, offering easy-to-follow directions and information that can help both seasoned road trippers and first-time travelers.

How does the EZ 66 Guide enhance the Route 66 experience?

The guide enhances the experience by providing insights into the history, culture, and unique attractions along Route 66, allowing travelers to immerse themselves in the journey.

Are there any digital versions of the EZ 66 Guide available?

Yes, the EZ 66 Guide is available in various formats, including print and digital versions, allowing travelers to access the information on mobile devices or tablets.

How can I purchase the EZ 66 Guide for Travelers?

The EZ 66 Guide can be purchased online through various retailers, including the official website, as well as in bookstores and travel shops along Route 66.

What are some must-see attractions recommended in the EZ 66 Guide?

Some must-see attractions include the Cadillac Ranch in Amarillo, the Wigwam Motel in Holbrook, and the Route 66 Museum in Victorville, all of which are highlighted in the guide.

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