



# ROAD TRIP TO CHICAGO WITH C&C

June - July 2025



WELCOME TO SOUTH DAKOTA  
GREAT FACES • GREAT PLACES

WILLIAMS  
1901  
WELCOME TO THE STATE OF WYOMING

welcome to Kansas

ROUTE 66

ROUTE 66

DOLLAR GENERAL

The Route 66 Centennial is here

Welcome to Holbrook Arizona

WELCOME TO ST. LOUIS  
GATEWAY TO THE WEST

Walt Rogers Highway  
GALENA, KANSAS

WELCOME TO LINCOLN ISLAND  
THE LAND OF LINCOLN  
A Land for the People of Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA'S FIRST OIL

ROUTE 66 ROADSIDE ATTRACTION

WHEELS CORP. ST. LOUIS, MO. OKLAHOMA'S FIRST OIL

EL VADO MOTEL  
VACANCY

A Route 66 Legend  
BIG TEX-REX

Bill Mack's influence on country music is legendary

# ROAD TRIP TO CHICAGO WITH C&C

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JUNE - JULY 2025

**MOST POPULAR PHOTO**

 41

ANOTHER BUCKET LIST DESTINATION CROSSED OFF THE LIST.



To learn more, go to page 31

**2025**

June ..... 6

July ..... 48

**The most liked pictures! ..... 156**




# JUNE

2025

Another bucket list destination crossed off  
the list.

 41

 156 photos



# JUNE

Monday, June 23, 2025

## MOBILE UPLOADS

Monday, June 23rd, 7:35 AM

1

## PHOTOS FROM JOHN

16

### WILLIAMS'S POST

Monday, June 23rd, 7:35 AM

First photo opportunity of the trip with C&C in Williams AZ.



Williams Arizona Route 66

## MOBILE UPLOADS

Monday, June 23rd, 7:35 AM



Williams Arizona Route 66



Williams Arizona Route 66



June 23rd, 7:35 AM - Williams Arizona Route 66

WILLIAMS'S POST

Tuesday, June 24th, 4:37 AM

Day One is in the books. It was mostly a check-off a couple more boxes on Route 66 kind of day. I visited five AZ cities that Rte 66 passed through before I-40 was built: Ash Fork, Williams, Flagstaff, Winslow and Holbrook.

I am going to cover each city separately starting with Ash Fork which is where I drive to to get on and off I-40. It's about an hour's drive from Talking Rock.

It's pretty much an abandoned city these days with a couple of gas stations and a cafe still open. This old picture of the DeSoto's Salon (when it was still open) with the car on top (1960s era DeSoto) is the main attraction in town.



Ash Fork, Arizona



This place is called Twin Arrows, but as you can see, it is down to just one arrow. It is considered a must stop for Rte 66 aficionados. We are about 20 miles east of Flagstaff.

Twin Arrows Trading Post



June 24th, 4:37 AM - Ash Fork, Arizona



TIMELINE PHOTOS

Tuesday, June 24th, 4:43 AM

👍 17



I posted pictures yesterday of C&C at the railroad station of Williams which is where you catch the train up to the Grand Canyon.

I've been to Williams many times now so I didn't stop and take any more pictures. It has the most gift stores of any Rte 66 town that you drive through and is a must-stop if you are ever driving in Northern Arizona.

📍 Williams, Arizona

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

👍 14

WILLIAMS'S POST

Tuesday, June 24th, 4:50 AM

Next city travelling eastward is Flagstaff. I stopped quickly to take these three photos of iconic Rte 66 destinations that are still open: Galaxy Diner, Monte Vista Hotel and Museum Club. I've also been to Flagstaff many times on my way to the Grand Canyon.

Flagstaff is an interesting city that is much higher in elevation than you think at 6,800 ft. Winters here can be very cold and snowy.



📍 Galaxy Diner - Route 66

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Tuesday, June 24th, 4:50 AM



June 24th, 4:50 AM



 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Tuesday, June 24th, 4:55 AM



 Meteor Crater

 **PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

 18

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Tuesday, June 24th, 4:55 AM

This was my first-ever stop at Meteor Crater. The dogs were not allowed inside so it was a quick photo op and trip to the gift store where I purchased a book that explained the history of the site and why it's also called the Barringer Space Museum. I've posted a wikipedia link below for more details.



 Meteor Crater

 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Tuesday, June 24th, 4:55 AM



 Meteor Crater

 **PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

 22

Tuesday, June 24th, 5:02 AM

I've been to Winslow several times and have posted pictures before of me and the girls standin' on the corner.

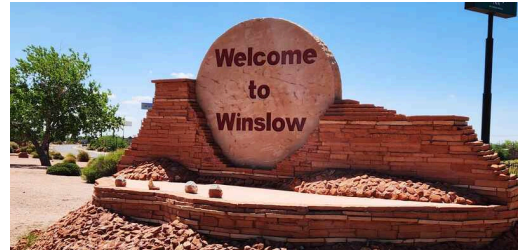
So today I stopped at La Posada Hotel which is still in operation and looks to be a very nice place to stay. The hotel was designed by Mary Colter and has a very rich history as one of the former Harvey House hotels.



 La Posada Hotel Winslow Az

 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Tuesday, June 24th, 5:02 AM



 Winslow, AZ



June 24th, 5:02 AM - Winslow, AZ

PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

15

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Tuesday, June 24th, 5:11 AM

Tuesday, June 24th, 5:02 AM

Next up is the Jack Rabbit Trading Post just outside of Joseph AZ. Their distinctive billboard signs used to be posted every mile or so in both directions.



Winslow, AZ

Jack Rabbit Trading Post



June 24th, 5:11 AM - Jack Rabbit Trading Post

PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

12

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Tuesday, June 24th, 5:16 AM

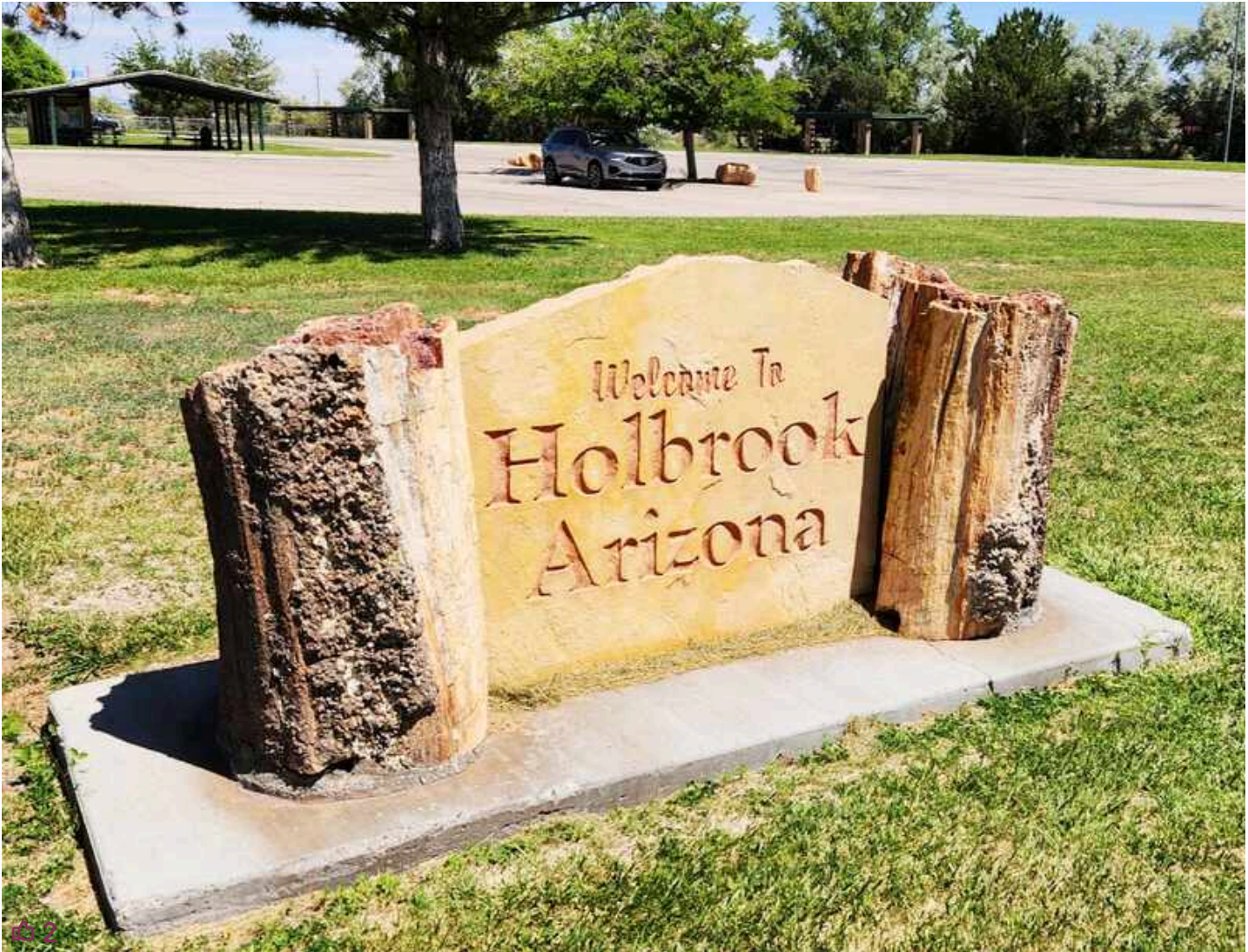
Tuesday, June 24th, 5:11 AM

Did you know they make sake in Holbrook AZ? I bought a bottle and plan to try it later on in the trip.



Jack Rabbit Trading Post

Holbrook, Arizona




 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Tuesday, June 24th, 5:21 AM



 Petrified Forest and the Painted Desert

 **PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

 17

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Tuesday, June 24th, 5:21 AM

Last stop of the day, a quick drive through the Petrified Forest. It is the only national park that was on the original Route 66 roadway. The old 1932 Studebaker pictured below is literally placed right where the old roadway used to exist.



 Petrified Forest and the Painted Desert

 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Tuesday, June 24th, 5:21 AM



 Petrified Forest and the Painted Desert

 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Tuesday, June 24th, 5:21 AM



 Petrified Forest and the Painted Desert

 **MOBILE UPLOADS**

 18

Tuesday, June 24th, 8:21 AM



Day two. My first-ever visit to Canyon de Chelly.

 Canyon de Chelly Visitor Center



👍 15

Cassie has decided to be my co-pilot this morning. June 24th, 8:30 AM - Canyon de Chelly National Monument

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Tuesday, June 24th, 9:25 AM



Visiting Spider Rock has been on my bucket list since moving to AZ in 2011. Mission finally accomplished.

📍 Spider Rock Overlook

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

Tuesday, June 24th, 10:21 AM

The girls are having a great time here at Canyon de Chelly.



📍 Canyon de Chelly National Monument

👍 29

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

👍 34

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Tuesday, June 24th, 10:18 AM

Bought some authentic Navajo artwork from this artist. Also met his wife who makes all her own jewelry. They were in a little pop-up store at one of the overlook sights.



📍 Canyon de Chelly National Monument

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

👍 1

Tuesday, June 24th, 10:18 AM



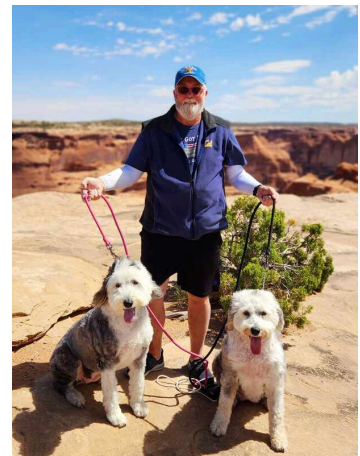
📍 Canyon de Chelly National Monument

👍 27

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

👍 2

Tuesday, June 24th, 10:21 AM



📍 Canyon de Chelly National Monument



👍 1

June 24th, 10:21 AM

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Tuesday, June 24th, 10:21 AM



 Canyon de Chelly National Monument

 1

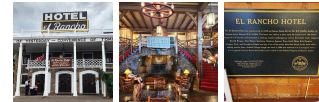
 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

 14

WILLIAMS'S POST

Tuesday, June 24th, 7:08 PM

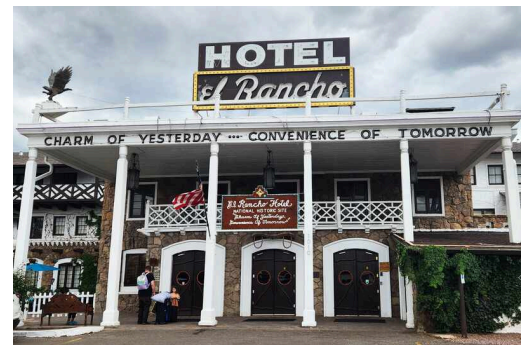
Finished today in Gallup NM, another Route 66 city. Stopped by the famous El Rancho Hotel to take these photos. All the rooms are named after movie stars.



 El Rancho Hotel, Gallup NM

 MOBILE UPLOADS

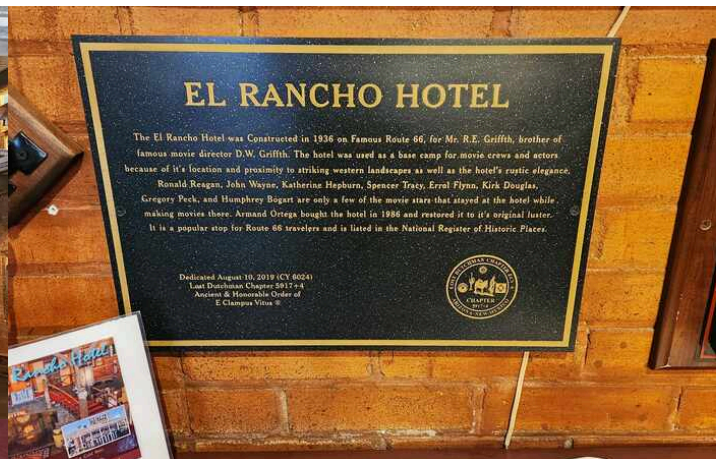
Tuesday, June 24th, 7:08 PM



 El Rancho Hotel, Gallup NM



June 24th, 7:08 PM - El Rancho Hotel, Gallup NM



**EL RANCHO HOTEL**

The El Rancho Hotel was constructed in 1936 on Famous Route 66, for Mr. R.E. Griffith, brother of famous movie director D.W. Griffith. The hotel was used as a base camp for movie crews and actors because of its location and proximity to striking western landscapes as well as the hotel's rustic elegance. Ronald Reagan, John Wayne, Katherine Hepburn, Spencer Tracy, Errol Flynn, Kirk Douglas, Gregory Peck, and Humphrey Bogart are only a few of the movie stars that stayed at the hotel while making movies there. Armand Ortega bought the hotel in 1986 and restored it to its original luster. It is a popular stop for Route 66 travelers and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Dedicated August 10, 2019 (NY 6024)  
Last Dutchman Chapter 5817-4  
Ancient & Honorable Order of  
E. Chapman Yates 4





June 24th, 7:14 PM - Window Rock, Arizona

MOBILE UPLOADS

Tuesday, June 24th, 7:14 PM



Window Rock, Arizona

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

24

WILLIAMS'S POST

Tuesday, June 24th, 7:14 PM

About 20 miles outside of Gallup is Window Rock. Not hard to understand how it got its name after seeing this rock. It also serves as the headquarters for the Navajo Nation.



Window Rock, Arizona

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

8

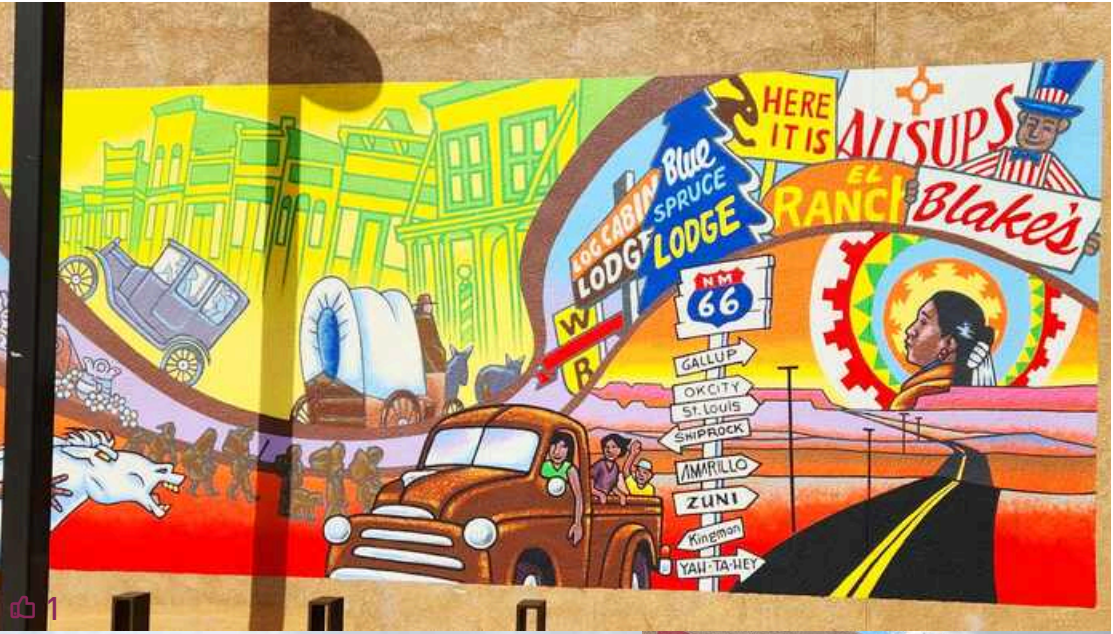
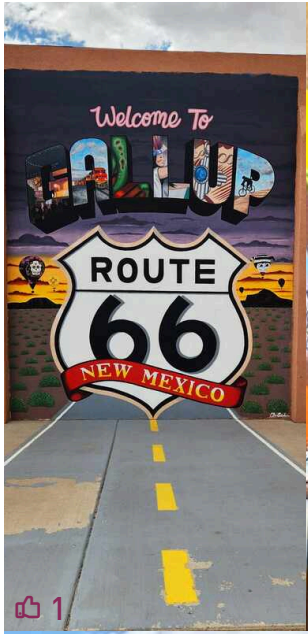
WILLIAMS'S POST

Tuesday, June 24th, 7:19 PM

Similar to Barstow CA, many of the walls in downtown Gallup are painted with murals.



Gallup New Mexico Route 66



PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

16

Tuesday, June 24th, 7:25 PM

The views at the Canyon de Chelly are simply amazing. It's off the beaten path in the NE corner of AZ but well worth the trip.



Canyon de Chelly National Monument

MOBILE UPLOADS

1

Tuesday, June 24th, 7:25 PM



Canyon de Chelly National Monument



June 24th, 7:25 PM - Canyon de Chelly National Monument



June 24th, 7:33 PM

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Wednesday, June 25th, 8:27 AM

Day 3. Quick stop in Santa Fe NM to snap a few photos with the girls.



 Santa Fe, New Mexico

 17



June 25th, 8:27 AM



**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Wednesday, June 25th, 2:45 PM

2

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

29

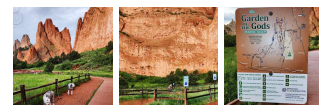
**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Wednesday, June 25th, 2:45 PM

End of Day 3 and State 3. Quick photo opportunity at the Garden of the Gods in Colorado Springs CO cut short by a big rainstorm.

I've now driven a little over 1,200 miles since leaving Talking Rock. The girls are enjoying taking long naps between stops.

Tomorrow I continue the journey north to NE Wyoming and State #4.



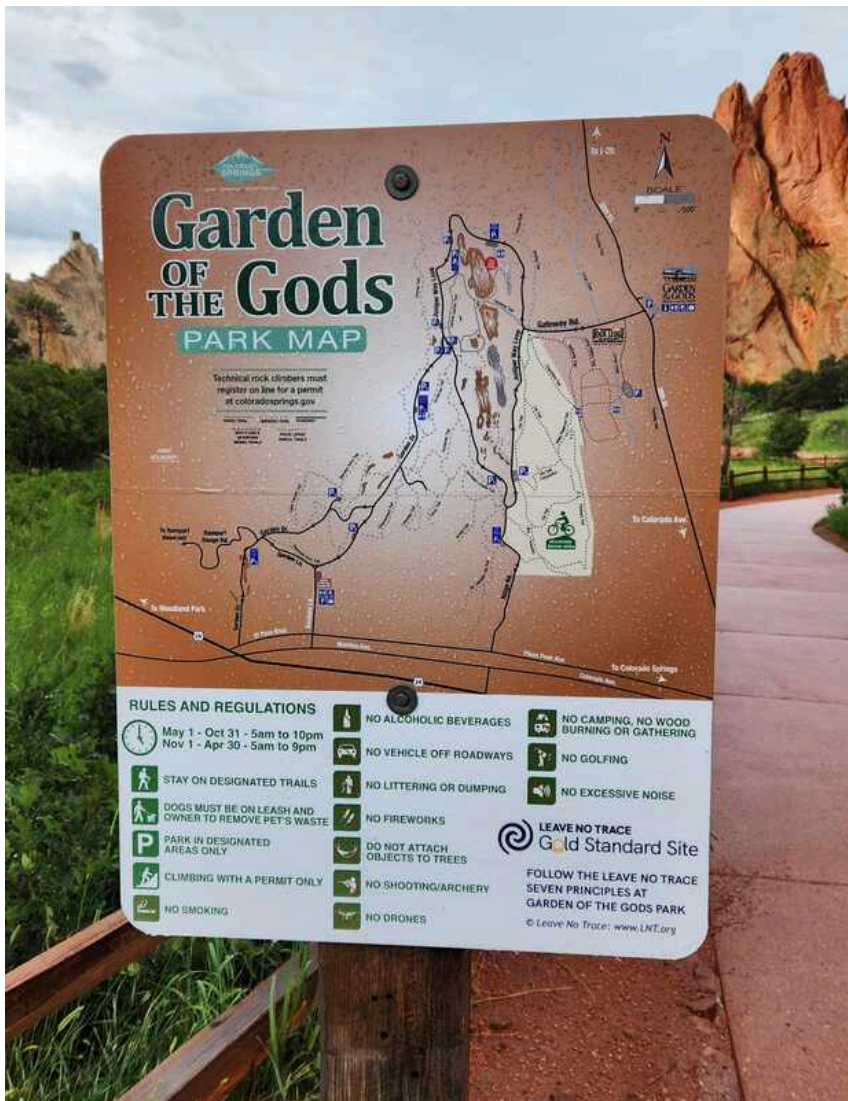
Garden of the Gods, Colorado Springs



Garden of the Gods

MOBILE UPLOADS

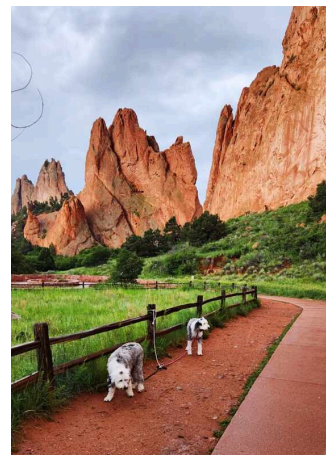
Wednesday, June 25th, 2:45 PM



📍 Garden of the Gods

YOU SHARED A PHOTO

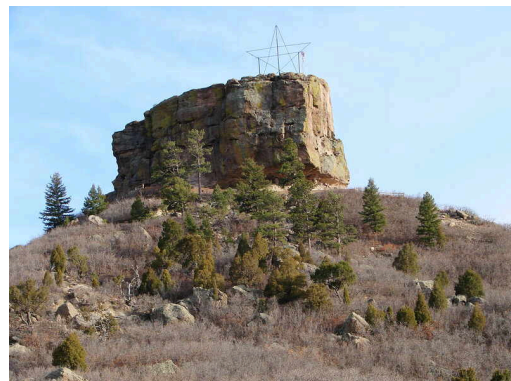
Wednesday, June 25th, 2:45 PM



TIMELINE PHOTOS

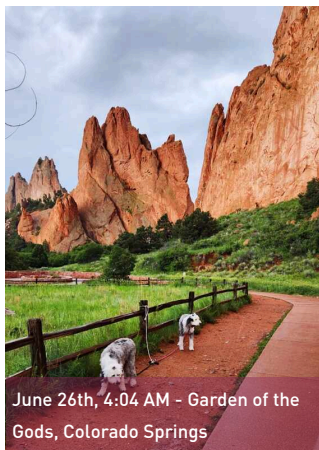
👍 18

Thursday, June 26th, 4:00 AM



Driving north from Colorado Springs on I-25, you pass by this very distinctive rock formation and town called Castle Rock.

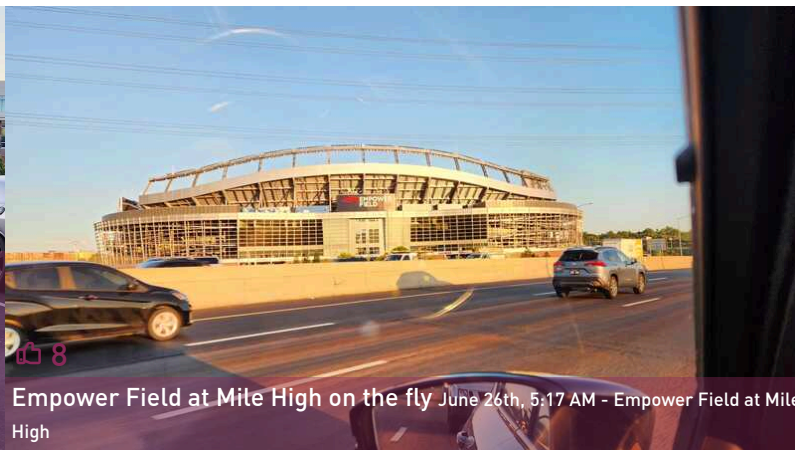
📍 Castle Rock, Colorado



June 26th, 4:04 AM - Garden of the Gods, Colorado Springs



Day 4, State 4. We are getting ready to roll. Destination Gillette WY. Yes. It's 5:30 in the morning. June 26th, 4:44 AM - Littleton Colorado



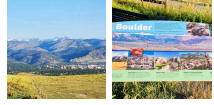
Empower Field at Mile High on the fly June 26th, 5:17 AM - Empower Field at Mile High

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

 18

Thursday, June 26th, 5:33 AM

Our first stop today will be beautiful Boulder CO. Last time I was here was the early 80s.



 Boulder Overlook

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Thursday, June 26th, 7:47 AM



 University of Colorado Boulder

 MOBILE UPLOADS

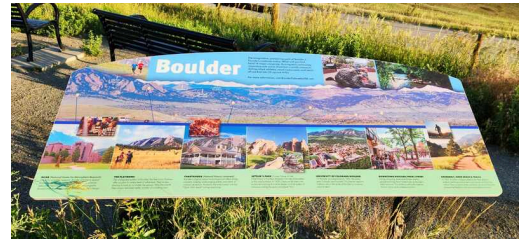
Thursday, June 26th, 5:33 AM



 Boulder Overlook

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Thursday, June 26th, 5:33 AM



 Boulder Overlook

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

 5

Thursday, June 26th, 7:47 AM

Quick drive through Boulder and the University of Colorado, home of the Buffaloes.



 University of Colorado Boulder



 1

June 26th, 7:47 AM - University of Colorado Boulder

MOBILE UPLOADS

Thursday, June 26th, 7:49 AM



Rocky Mountain National Park

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

20

WILLIAMS'S POST

Thursday, June 26th, 7:49 AM

My first visit to Rocky Mountain NP just outside of Estes Park CO. Lunchtime for the girls.



Rocky Mountain National Park, Colora...

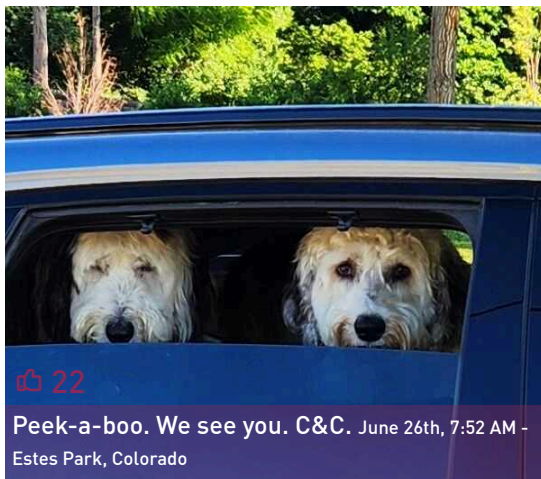
MOBILE UPLOADS

1

Thursday, June 26th, 7:49 AM



Rocky Mountain National Park



22

Peek-a-boo. We see you. C&C. June 26th, 7:52 AM - Estes Park, Colorado



1

June 26th, 9:24 AM



65 14

Day 4. State 4. Welcome to Wyoming. June 26th, 9:49 AM - Colorado/Wyoming state line

MOBILE UPLOADS

Thursday, June 26th, 10:34 AM



This might be the best dog stop we've ever experienced. And it's at a McDonald's 😊

Green grass. Beautiful shade trees. Parking a few feet away. Perfect.

Its a bonus for the girls because they both love Chicken McNuggets for snacks. If you buy two six-pieces, the second is only \$1.

📍 McDonald's

👍 17

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

👍 10

WILLIAMS'S POST

Thursday, June 26th, 4:54 PM

The drive eastward from Estes Park down to Loveland is on SR34 which follows the Big Thompson River and Canyon. It is a beautiful drive.

In 1976 the river flooded and over 140 people were killed, the deadliest flood in Colorado history. I have posted a wiki link below if you would like to know more.

The Big Thompson is a popular river for fly fishermen. I saw dozens of them on the drive down to Loveland.

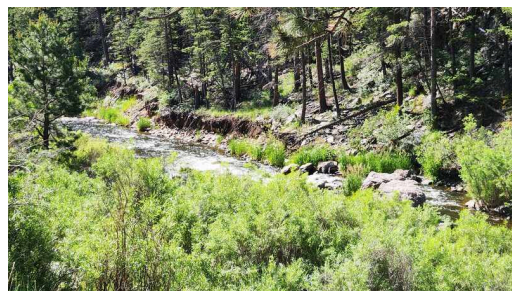


📍 Big Thompson River

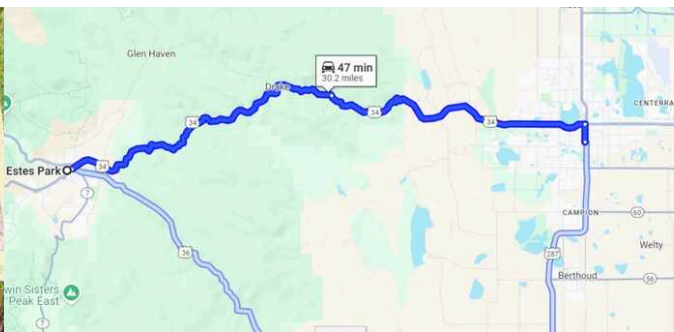
TIMELINE PHOTOS

👍 1

Thursday, June 26th, 4:54 PM



📍 Big Thompson River



June 26th, 4:54 PM - Big Thompson River

Friday, June 27, 2025

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Friday, June 27th, 5:13 AM



📍 Devils Tower National Monument

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

👍 21

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Friday, June 27th, 5:13 AM

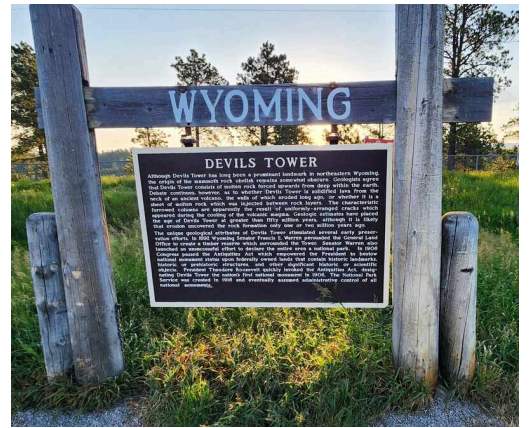
Good morning from Devils Tower WY.  
Any Close Encounters fans out there?



📍 Devils Tower National Monument

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Friday, June 27th, 5:13 AM

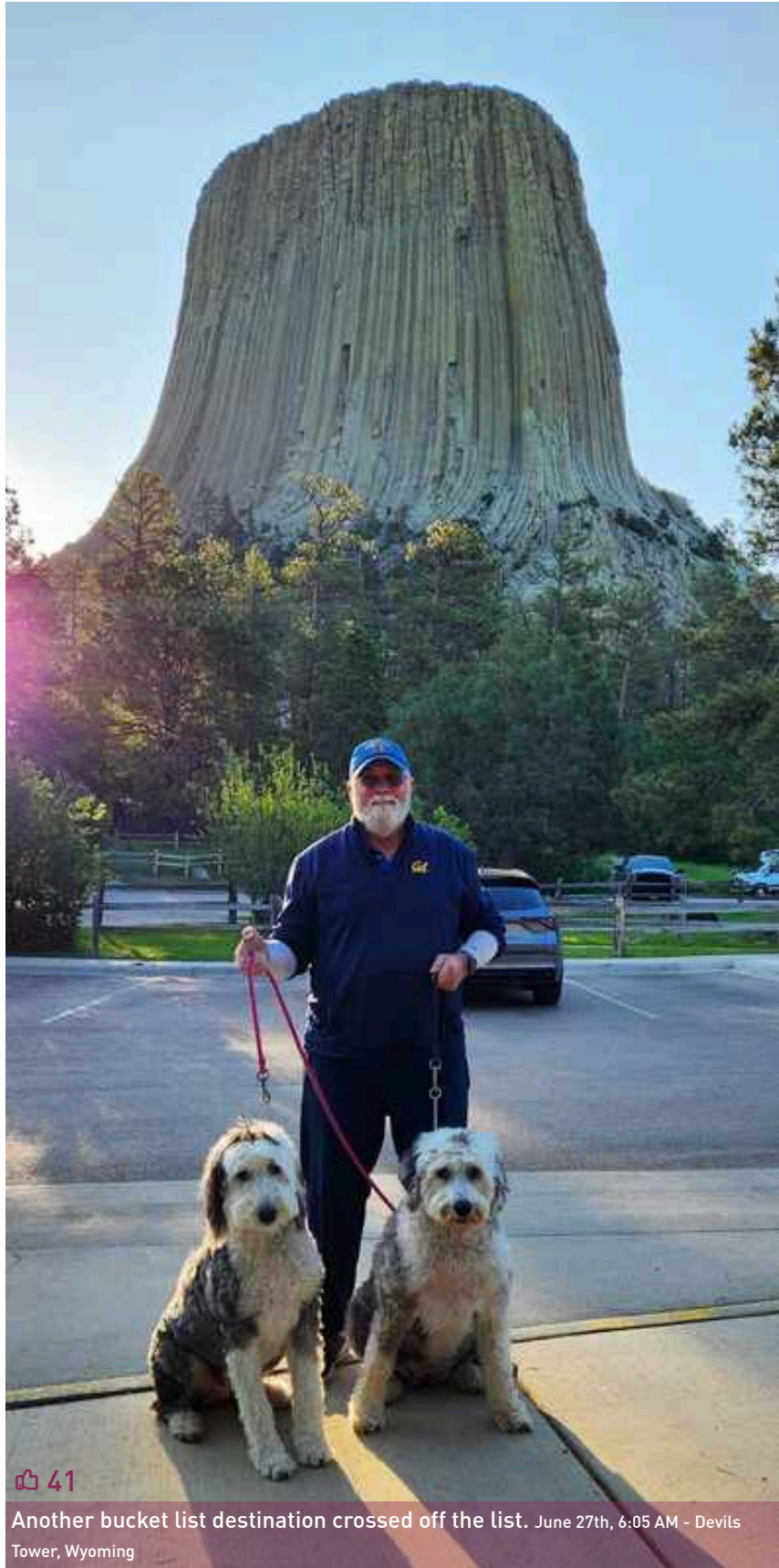


📍 Devils Tower National Monument



June 27th, 5:24 AM





📍 41

Another bucket list destination crossed off the list. June 27th, 6:05 AM - Devils Tower, Wyoming



June 27th, 5:37 AM



👍 20


Day #5. State #5. Next stop. Mount Rushmore SD. June 27th, 6:50 AM - South Dakota - Wyoming Border

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Friday, June 27th, 7:08 AM



📍 Geographic Center of the United States

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

👍 11

WILLIAMS'S POST

Friday, June 27th, 7:08 AM

Interesting fact here in Belle Fourche SD. We are at the geo center of the USA.



📍 Geographic Center of the United States

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Friday, June 27th, 7:08 AM



📍 Geographic Center of the United States



June 27th, 9:51 AM - Mount Rushmore National Memorial

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Friday, June 27th, 9:51 AM



Mount Rushmore National Memorial

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

20

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Friday, June 27th, 9:51 AM

Had to stay outside of the main courtyard at Mt. Rushmore because of their very restrictive pet policy. So we simply moved down the hill a bit and got this great shot of C&C with the Presidents in the background.



Mount Rushmore National Memorial

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Friday, June 27th, 9:51 AM



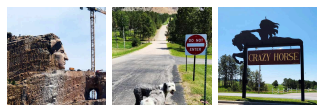
Mount Rushmore National Memorial

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

19

Friday, June 27th, 10:39 AM

Crazy Horse is just a short 20-minute drive from Mount Rushmore. They still have a lot of work to do. It doesn't look like they've made tons of progress since the boys and I were here in 1994.



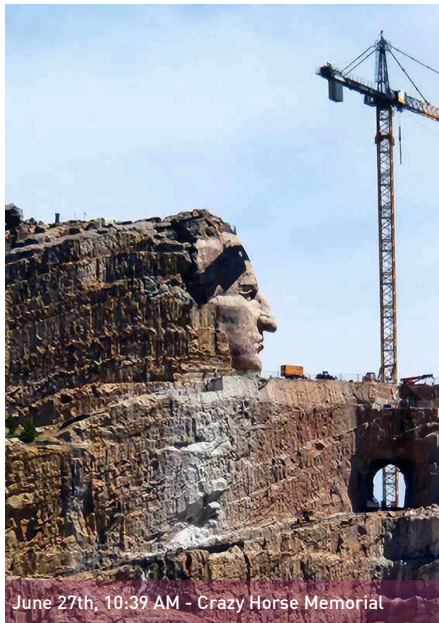
Crazy Horse Memorial, Crazy Horse SD

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Friday, June 27th, 9:51 AM



Mount Rushmore National Memorial



June 27th, 10:39 AM - Crazy Horse Memorial



 MOBILE UPLOADS

Friday, June 27th, 1:19 PM

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

 20

WILLIAMS'S POST

Friday, June 27th, 1:19 PM

We saw a few buffalo driving the Wildlife Loop Road at Custer State Park.

It's a beautiful park and well worth the visit. Was hoping to see more wildlife though.



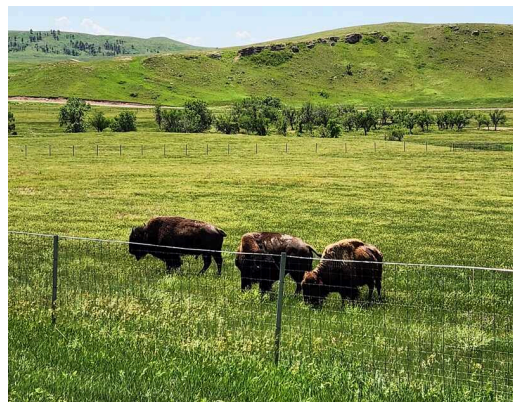
 Custer State Park South Dakota



 Custer State Park South Dakota

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Friday, June 27th, 1:19 PM



 Custer State Park South Dakota

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Friday, June 27th, 1:19 PM



Custer State Park South Dakota

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

18

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Saturday, June 28th, 5:06 AM

Good morning from Badlands NP just outside of Wall SD. Will finish today in Sioux Falls SD and tomorrow in downtown Chicago. The boys and I were here back in 1994.



Badlands National Park

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Saturday, June 28th, 5:06 AM



Badlands National Park



1

June 28th, 5:37 AM



June 28th, 5:14 AM



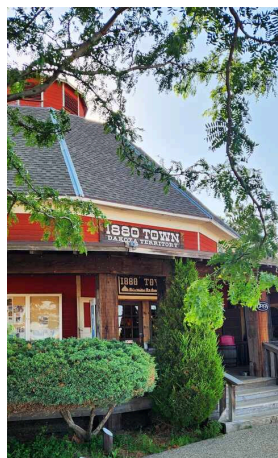
 MOBILE UPLOADS

Saturday, June 28th, 5:39 AM



 MOBILE UPLOADS

Saturday, June 28th, 7:37 AM



 1880 Town-South Dakota's Original

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

 16

WILLIAMS'S POST

Saturday, June 28th, 7:37 AM

Cute stop on I-90 for all of us to stretch our legs, use the facilities and get a quick bite to eat. Life on the road.



 1880 Town-South Dakota's Original

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Saturday, June 28th, 7:37 AM



 1880 Town-South Dakota's Original

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Saturday, June 28th, 9:49 AM



📍 Lewis And Clark Interp Center, Missouri River Overlook

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

👍 28

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Saturday, June 28th, 9:49 AM

Some rest stops are better than others. This one on a bluff overlooking the Missouri River near Chamberlin SD gets 5 stars. As you can see, C&C have no trouble making new friends.

The statue is called Dignity of Earth and Sky and it honors the Native Nations of the Great Plains.



📍 Dignity of Earth & Sky

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Saturday, June 28th, 9:49 AM



📍 Lewis And Clark Interp Center, Missou...



June 28th, 9:49 AM - Lewis And Clark Interp Center, Missouri River Overlook



MOBILE UPLOADS

Saturday, June 28th, 11:52 AM



PHOTOS FROM JOHN

17

WILLIAMS'S POST

Saturday, June 28th, 11:52 AM

Quick stop at the world famous Corn Palace in downtown Mitchell SD.

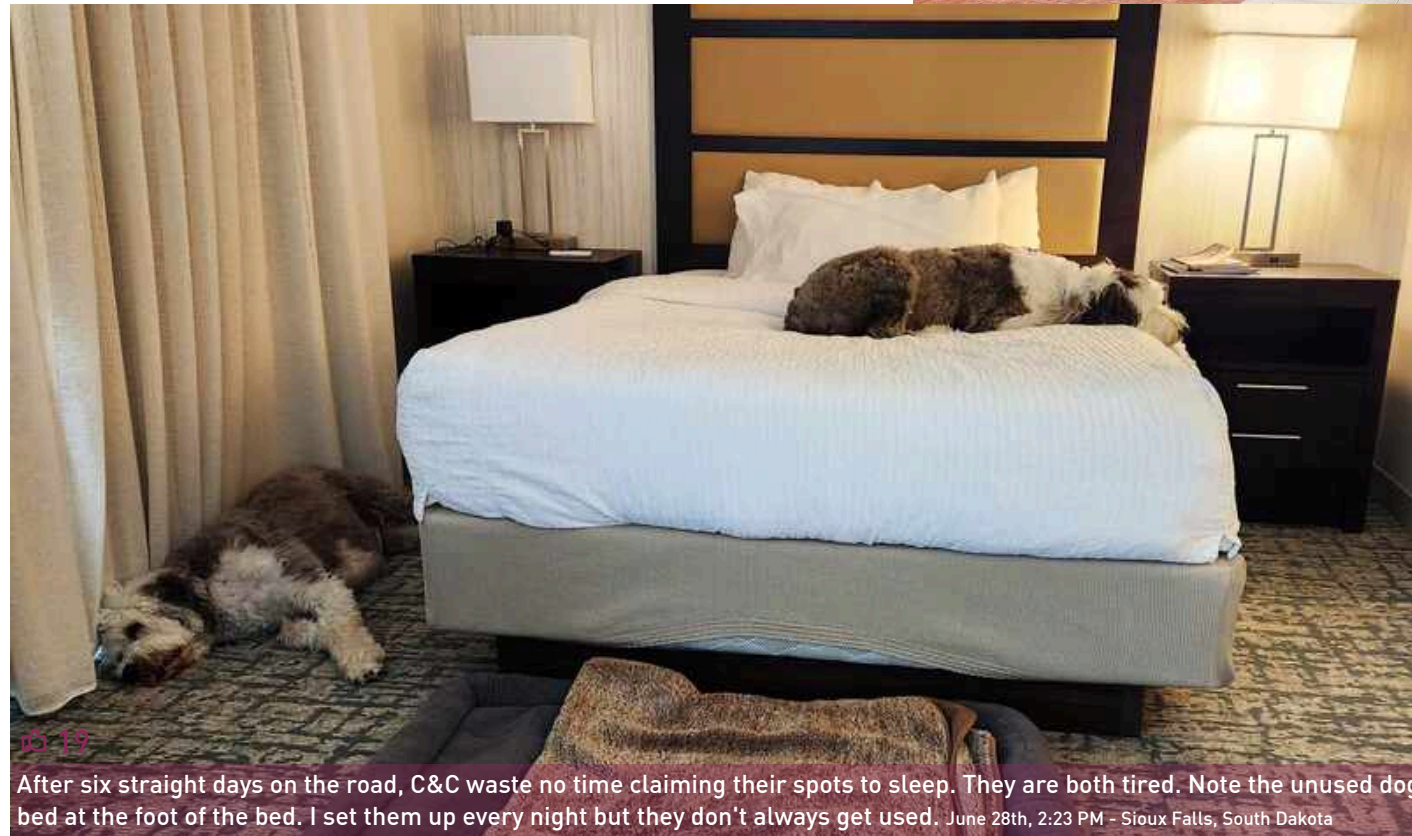
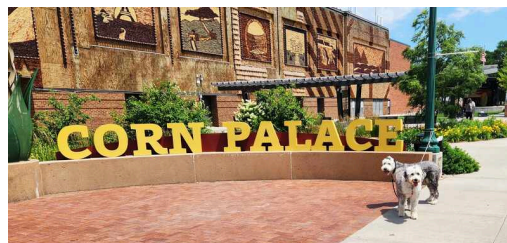
I didn't realize until going inside that it is a basketball arena and is still in use by the Dakota Wesleyan Tigers.



📍 Corn Palace, Mitchell, SD

MOBILE UPLOADS

Saturday, June 28th, 11:52 AM



15 19

After six straight days on the road, C&C waste no time claiming their spots to sleep. They are both tired. Note the unused dog bed at the foot of the bed. I set them up every night but they don't always get used. June 28th, 2:23 PM - Sioux Falls, South Dakota

 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Saturday, June 28th, 2:33 PM



 Taco John's

 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Saturday, June 28th, 2:33 PM



 Taco John's

 1

 **MOBILE UPLOADS**

Saturday, June 28th, 11:52 AM



 **PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

 11

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Saturday, June 28th, 2:33 PM

I've discovered a new fast food mexican chain and it's named after me



Quality is similar to Taco Bell.



 Taco John's

 **MOBILE UPLOADS**

 11

Sunday, June 29th, 8:31 AM



Not a whole lot to see in Iowa, our state #6, unless you like corn fields 😊

We are on I-80 headed east to Chicago. Just passed through a heavy thunderstorm.

 Tiffin, Iowa

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, June 29th, 1:41 PM

21



We made it. First glimpse of the Chicago skyline and traffic.

We'll be here three nights. Liz flies in later this afternoon.

Chicago, Illinois

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Sunday, June 29th, 3:24 PM

WELCOME - FREE ADMISSION

For the safety and enjoyment of all guests, the following items are

PROHIBITED

ALL BAGS AND CONTAINERS ARE SUBJECT TO SEARCH. THIS AREA IS UNDER 24 HOUR VIDEO SURVEILLANCE.

- WEAPONS (INCLUDING KNIVES)
- NARCOTICS/ DRUGS
- FIREWORKS/ EXPLOSIVES
- PETS (EXCEPT FOR SERVICE ANIMALS)
- OPEN FLAMES
- NOISE MAKERS

BAGS AND COOLERS MUST BE SMALLER THAN 26" X 13" W X 15" H. Any item deemed dangerous is at Security's discretion to disallow. Prohibited items are subject to change. Full list of prohibited items available at www.millenniumpark.org. Failure to comply with the above may result in entry being denied.



Millenium Park, Chicago

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, June 29th, 9:44 AM

10



Day #7. State #7. Welcome to Illinois on the fly.

Illinois-Iowa Border

PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

9

WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, June 29th, 3:24 PM

Surprise, surprise. Cara & Cassie were not allowed inside Millenium Park, just a few blocks away from where we are staying. I did not know they had that rule before today.

Grant Park is right next door to Millenium and it allows dogs. A little hard to figure.



Millenium Park, Chicago

Monday, June 30, 2025

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Monday, June 30th, 5:47 AM



Good morning from downtown Chicago. Outdoor breakfast at our hotel on Monroe St.

Many Chicago restaurants have outdoor patios like this one where dogs are welcome.

 The Kimpton Gray Hotel

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Monday, June 30th, 8:53 AM



 Navy Pier, Chicago

 36

 TIMELINE PHOTOS

Sunday, June 29th, 3:24 PM



 Millennium Park, Chicago

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

 17

WILLIAMS'S POST

Monday, June 30th, 8:53 AM

Our 1st stop today - Navy Pier.

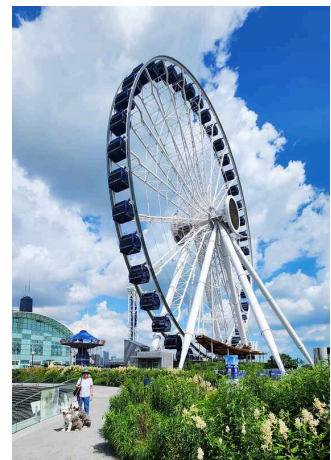


 Navy Pier, Chicago

 3

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Monday, June 30th, 8:53 AM



 Navy Pier, Chicago



June 30th, 8:53 AM - Navy Pier, Chicago

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Monday, June 30th, 9:19 AM



Shoreline Chicago River Architecture Tour

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

13

Monday, June 30th, 9:19 AM

Stop #2 - Architecture Tour aboard a boat on the Chicago River.



Shoreline Chicago River Architecture ...

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Monday, June 30th, 9:19 AM



Shoreline Chicago River Architecture ...

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

20

Monday, June 30th, 10:21 AM

More pictures from the river tour. Chicago has some magnificent architecture.

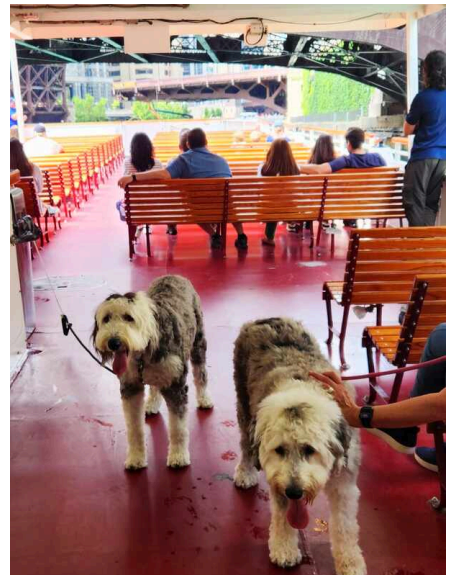


Chicago Riverfront

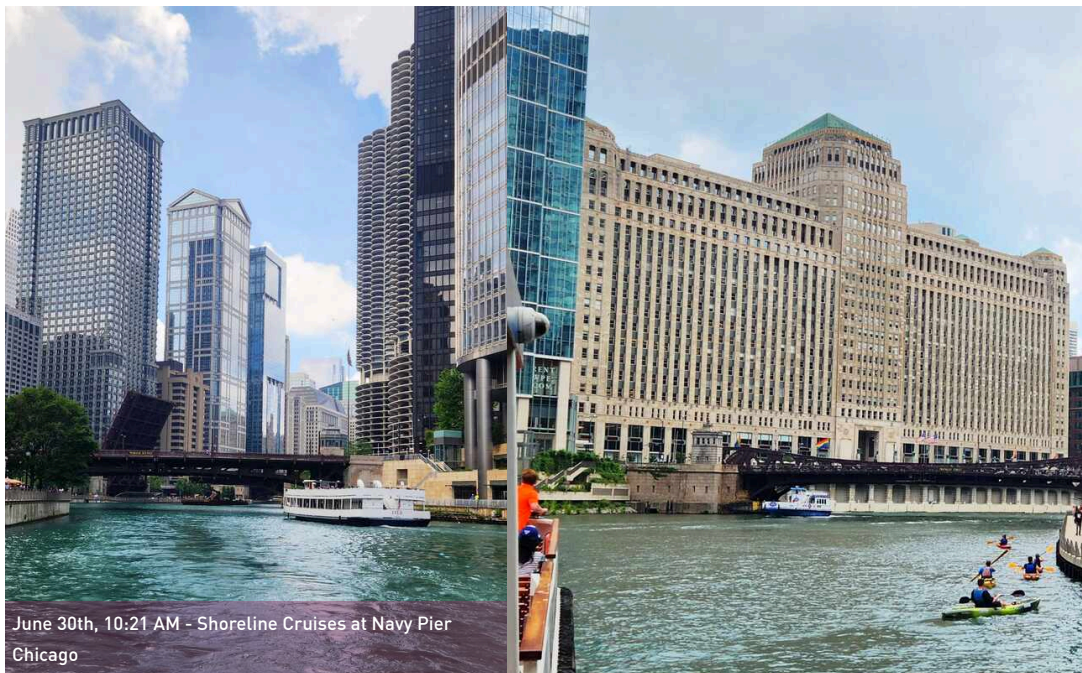
**MOBILE UPLOADS**

6

Monday, June 30th, 9:19 AM



Shoreline Chicago River Architecture ...



June 30th, 10:21 AM - Shoreline Cruises at Navy Pier Chicago



A photograph of a black sign for 'the GRAY' hotel. The sign lists valet rates for hotel overnight guests and restaurant &amp; retail services. It also includes a disclaimer and a 'CREDIT CARD ONLY' notice with logos for American Express, Visa, and Discover. At the bottom, it says 'SP+ PARKING'.

👍 1

If you drive a car into Chicago, be prepared for sticker shock. Overnight valet rates are up to \$83. June 30th, 11:37 AM - The Kimpton Gray Hotel

 MOBILE UPLOADS  
Monday, June 30th, 11:35 AM



Lunch at Harry Caray's at Navy Pier.

For those of you who are not Cubs fans, Harry was the longtime announcer for the Chicago Cubs in the 1980s who sang the song "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" during the 7th inning stretch. He is still a legend here in Chicago. I've posted a YT video of him singing below.

 Harry Carry's Tavern

 19

 MOBILE UPLOADS  
Monday, June 30th, 10:21 AM



 Shoreline Cruises at Navy Pier Chicago

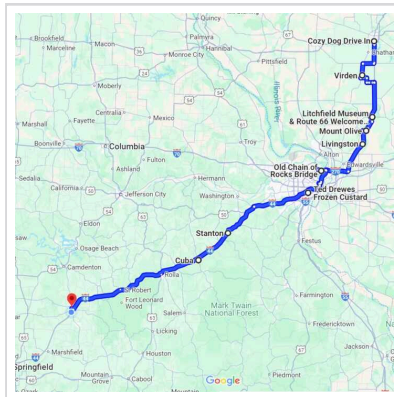
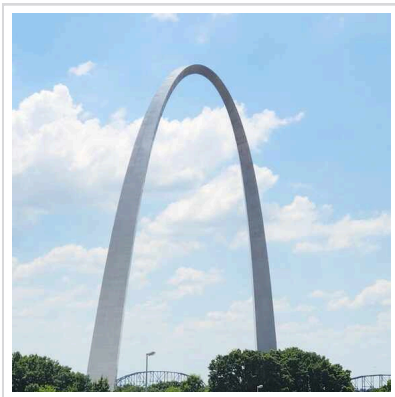
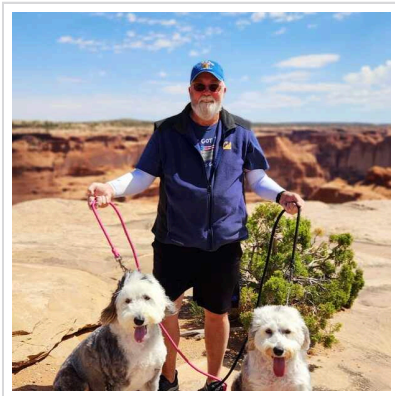
 MOBILE UPLOADS  38  
Monday, June 30th, 4:03 PM



We hired a dog sitter for the evening so we could go out and have a real meal. Liz is having their award winning fish & chips and I'm eating their delicious duck. Yum.

 The Dearborn






# JULY

2025

Home sweet home. The girls are a little tired. I slept in. 16 days.  
5000+ miles. 150+ FB posts. 800+ photos. 100+ stops. Route 66  
memories for a lifetime. Carpe Diem.

 35

 481 photos



JULY

Tuesday, July 1, 2025

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Tuesday, July 1st, 5:26 AM



 Start of Route 66

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

 27

WILLIAMS'S POST

Tuesday, July 1st, 5:26 AM

This whole trip began when I decided I wanted to take this picture of the start of Rte 66 in downtown Chicago.

Mission accomplished.

And tomorrow we start the long drive back to AZ driving where possible on the original route 66 roadway if it still exists.



 Start of Route 66

MOBILE UPLOADS

Tuesday, July 1st, 5:26 AM



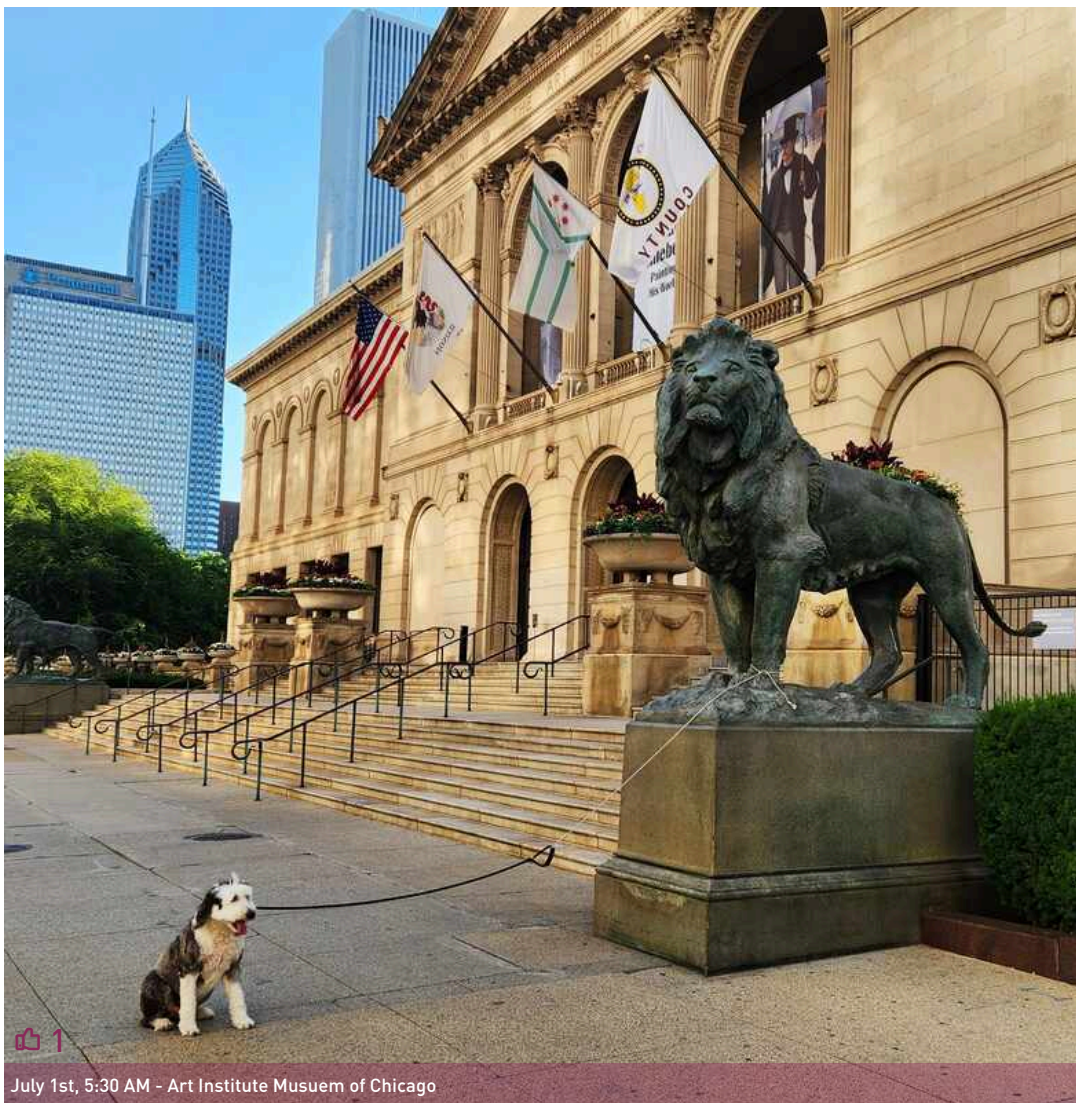
Start of Route 66

MOBILE UPLOADS

Tuesday, July 1st, 5:26 AM



Start of Route 66



1

July 1st, 5:30 AM - Art Institute Musuem of Chicago

 MOBILE UPLOADS


Wednesday, July 2nd, 3:50 AM

 30



Yesterday we drove out to Barrington to see the house we used to live in. We almost didn't recognize it because of how much the trees have grown since we sold it in 1996.

 Barrington, Illinois

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

 10

WILLIAMS'S POST

Tuesday, July 1st, 5:30 AM

Took a nice walk with Cara this morning and got these two beautiful shots.

Cassie didn't come because she's a little overweight and can't walk as far as Cara who's in great shape.

I also learned Cara is scared of the sound elevated trains make when they pass overhead.



 Art Institute Musuem of Chicago

 MOBILE UPLOADS

 1

Tuesday, July 1st, 5:30 AM



 Art Institute Musuem of Chicago

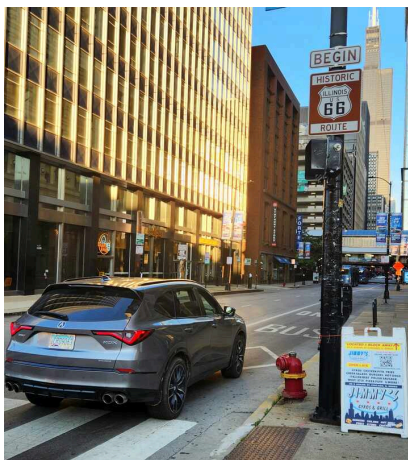


👍 9

One thing I don't miss about being in Chicago is the bumper to bumper traffic. I-90 was a mess yesterday in both directions. What is normally an hour's drive took 90 minutes in both directions. July 2nd, 3:53 AM - I 90-I 94 Freeway

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Wednesday, July 2nd, 5:40 AM



📍 Lou Mitchell's Bakery and Diner, Route 66

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

👍 17

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Wednesday, July 2nd, 5:40 AM

I am officially headed west on Route 66. First stop is Lou Mitchell's in downtown Chicago.

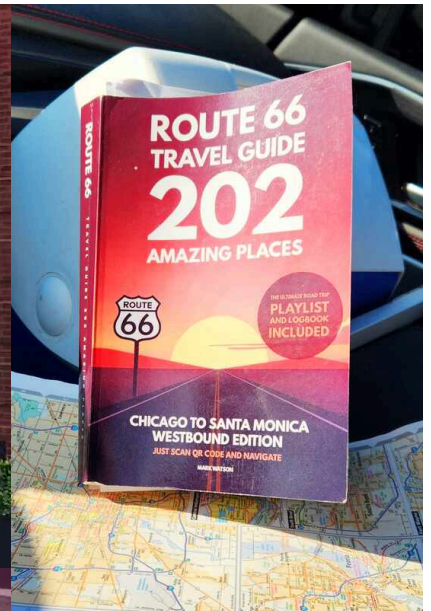
I am using the book below as my guide. It has 202 suggested places to stop between Chicago and Santa Monica. I may get to around 50 or so in the next seven days.



📍 Lou Mitchell's Bakery and Diner, Rout...




July 2nd, 5:40 AM - Lou Mitchell's Bakery and Diner, Route 66



 MOBILE UPLOADS

Wednesday, July 2nd, 7:08 AM



 Old Joliet State Prison Joliet Il

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

 11

WILLIAMS'S POST

Wednesday, July 2nd, 7:08 AM

Any Blues Brothers fans out there? This is the prison where the opening scenes of Jake being released were filmed.



 Old Joliet State Prison Joliet Il

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Wednesday, July 2nd, 7:08 AM



 Old Joliet State Prison Joliet Il

MOBILE UPLOADS

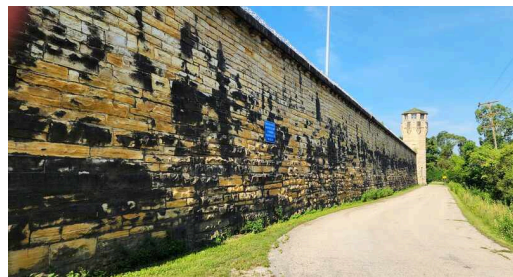
Wednesday, July 2nd, 8:34 AM



Rich n Creamy ice cream on route66

MOBILE UPLOADS

Wednesday, July 2nd, 7:08 AM



Old Joliet State Prison Joliet Il

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

9

WILLIAMS'S POST

Wednesday, July 2nd, 8:34 AM

In addition to the old prison, Joliet has a beautiful and historic downtown filled with Route 66 photo ops. Do you see Jake and Ellwood dancing on top of the ice cream store? Lots of Blues Brothers memorabilia in Joliet.



Joliet, Illinois



July 2nd, 8:34 AM - Rich n Creamy ice cream on route66



Wednesday, July 2nd, 8:40 AM



Gemini Giant

Wednesday, July 2nd, 8:35 AM



PHOTOS FROM JOHN

16

WILLIAMS'S POST

Wednesday, July 2nd, 8:40 AM

One town south of Joliet is Wilmington where the Gemini Giant can be found. This is considered one of the iconic Rte 66 stops.

Added bonus is it's located in a beautiful, shady park where C&C could get out and do their business on real grass. There was no grass anywhere in the Chicago Loop.



Gemini Giant



July 2nd, 8:40 AM - Gemini Giant





July 2nd, 8:50 AM

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Wednesday, July 2nd, 9:26 AM



📍 Gardner Two Cell Jail

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

👍 10

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Wednesday, July 2nd, 9:26 AM

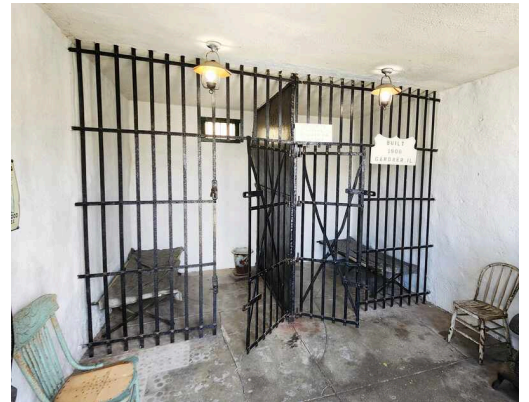
Continuing south, next town is Gardner with their famous two cell jail.



📍 Gardner Two Cell Jail

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Wednesday, July 2nd, 9:26 AM



📍 Gardner Two Cell Jail

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

👍 8

Wednesday, July 2nd, 9:53 AM

Next up is the town of Dwight and the famous Ambler Becker Texaco gas station. It's been converted into a museum.



📍 Ambler Becker Texaco Station

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Wednesday, July 2nd, 9:26 AM



📍 Gardner Two Cell Jail



July 2nd, 9:53 AM - Ambler Becker Texaco Station



July 2nd, 11:12 AM - Odell, Illinois

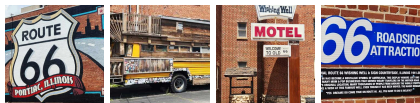
Wednesday, July 2nd, 11:12 AM



Odell, Illinois

Wednesday, July 2nd, 4:19 PM

Of all the towns I passed through today, Pontiac may have been the most interesting. The Bob Waldmire Yacht (a converted school bus) shown below is quite unique.



Pontiac Illinois Rt. 66 Museum

Wednesday, July 2nd, 9:53 AM



Ambler Becker Texaco Station

10

WILLIAMS'S POST

Wednesday, July 2nd, 11:12 AM

It's just one small town after another here in Illinois. Odell has this beautiful restored Standard Oil gas station.

Lunchtime for the girls.



Odell, Illinois

Wednesday, July 2nd, 11:12 AM

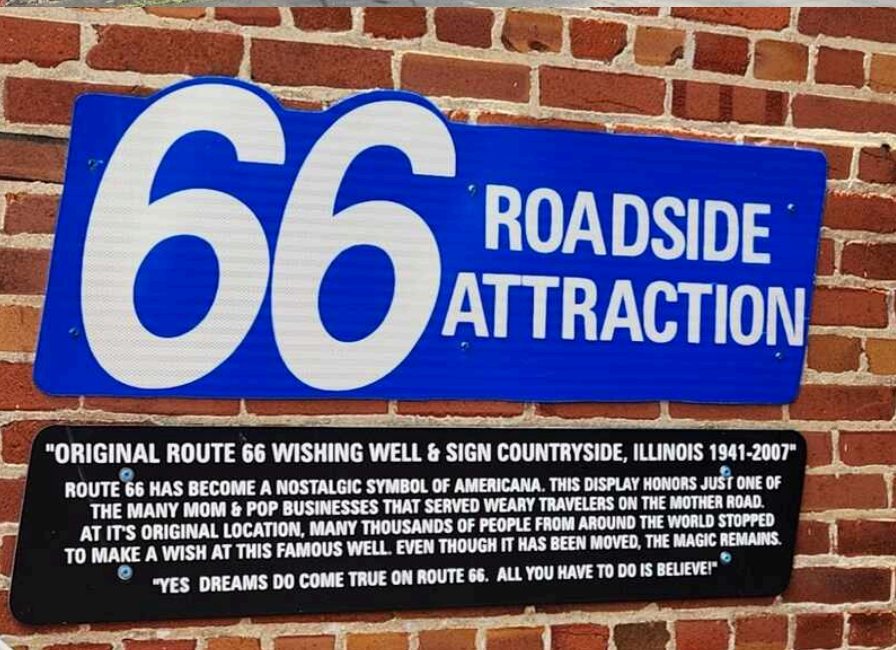
2



Odell, Illinois



July 2nd, 4:19 PM - Pontiac Illinois Rt. 66 Museum



PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Wednesday, July 2nd, 4:23 PM

12

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Wednesday, July 2nd, 4:23 PM

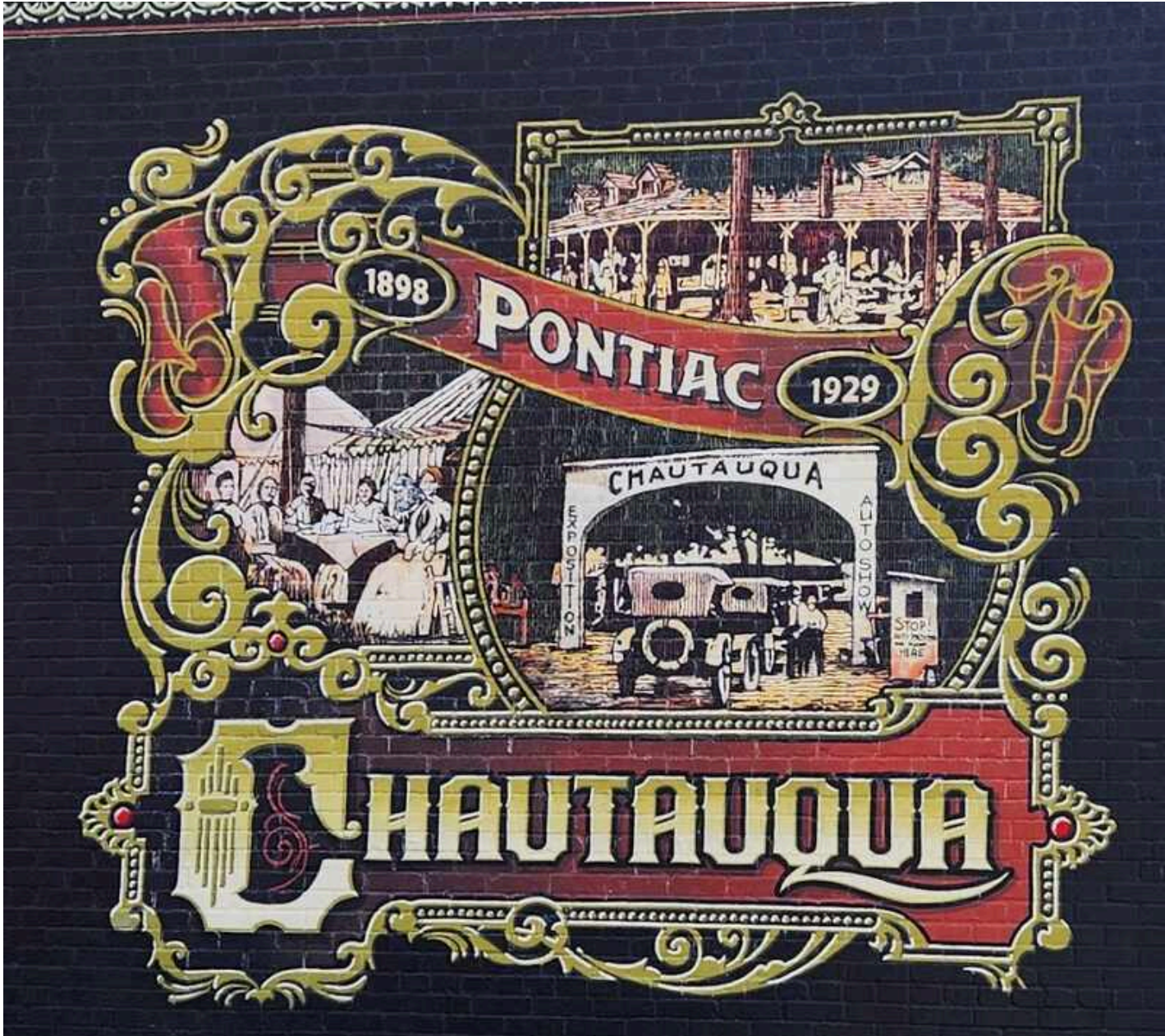
Pontiac also has murals on many of the downtown building walls.



Pontiac Il



Pontiac Il



👍 1



TIMELINE PHOTOS

Wednesday, July 2nd, 4:27 PM



📍 Sprague's Super Service

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

👍 11

WILLIAMS'S POST

Wednesday, July 2nd, 4:27 PM

Normal is best known for this beautifully restored gas station - Sprague's Super Service.



📍 Sprague's Super Service

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Wednesday, July 2nd, 4:27 PM



📍 Sprague's Super Service

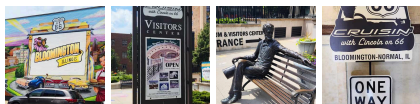
PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

👍 9

Wednesday, July 2nd, 4:34 PM

Our last stop today was Bloomington, home of the Illinois State Reggie Redbirds. It has a beautiful Visitor's Center and I was able pick up some information that will be helpful for the rest of the trip. The people who work in these places are generally very nice and eager to answer any questions you might have.

It's a close call what's more popular in these parts - Abraham Lincoln or Route 66. Thus the tagline Cruisin with Lincoln on 66.



📍 Bloomington Illinois

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Wednesday, July 2nd, 4:27 PM



📍 Sprague's Super Service

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Wednesday, July 2nd, 4:34 PM



📍 Bloomington Illinois

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Wednesday, July 2nd, 4:34 PM



Bloomington Illinois

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Wednesday, July 2nd, 4:34 PM



Bloomington Illinois

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Wednesday, July 2nd, 4:34 PM



Bloomington Illinois



MOBILE UPLOADS

Thursday, July 3rd, 3:46 AM



Cozy Dog Drive In

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

12

WILLIAMS'S POST

Thursday, July 3rd, 3:46 AM

Good morning from Springfield IL. I'm at Cozy Dog Drive In, home of the original corn dog on a stick.

Today's route takes me through St. Louis MO finishing the day in Lebanon MO.



Springfield Illinois

MOBILE UPLOADS

1

Thursday, July 3rd, 3:46 AM



Cozy Dog Drive In



July 3rd, 3:46 AM - Cozy Dog Drive In



**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Thursday, July 3rd, 4:45 AM



**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

7

Thursday, July 3rd, 4:43 AM

Just spotted these beautiful murals in downtown Virden IL.

One of the benefits of driving Rte 66 is it forces you to slow down and experience rural America in towns like Virden.



Viriden, Illinois

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Thursday, July 3rd, 4:43 AM



Viriden, Illinois

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

7

Thursday, July 3rd, 5:06 AM

Another interesting stop in the middle of nowhere surrounded by corn and soybean fields.

Informative sign on the side of the road about this Rte 66 corridor.



Docs Just Off 66 - Girard, Illinois

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Thursday, July 3rd, 5:06 AM



Docs Just Off 66 - Girard, Illinois



These are the kinds of old cement roads I was expecting to see more often. They were built 100 years ago. July 3rd, 5:19 AM - Nilwood, Illinois



July 3rd, 5:06 AM - Docs Just Off 66 - Girard, Illinois



PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

7

Thursday, July 3rd, 5:54 AM

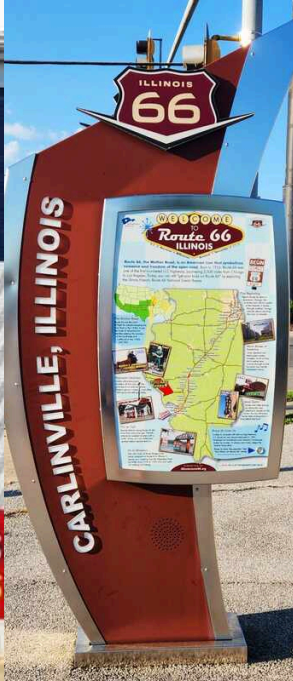
Beautiful County Courthouse in downtown Carlinville. It's nickname is the million dollar courthouse.



Carlinville, Illinois



July 3rd, 5:54 AM - Carl Lincolnton, Illinois



PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Thursday, July 3rd, 6:55 AM

9

MOBILE UPLOADS

Thursday, July 3rd, 6:55 AM

Ariston Cafe in Litchfield is the oldest continuously operated restaurant on Rte 66, first opened in 1924.



Ariston Cafe



Ariston Cafe



July 3rd, 6:55 AM - Ariston Cafe



MOBILE UPLOADS  
Thursday, July 3rd, 7:08 AM

PHOTOS FROM JOHN 11  
**WILLIAMS'S POST**  
Thursday, July 3rd, 7:08 AM

Litchfield also has a lovely museum and welcome center. But I got there before it was open so had to settle for these pictures.



Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welco...



Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welcome Center

MOBILE UPLOADS  
Thursday, July 3rd, 7:08 AM



Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welco...



## MOBILE UPLOADS

Thursday, July 3rd, 7:34 AM



## PHOTOS FROM JOHN

12

### WILLIAMS'S POST

Thursday, July 3rd, 7:34 AM

Mt. Olive is home to the Soulsby Shell Service Station that operated continuously for 65 years from 1926 to 1991.



### 📍 Soulsby Service Station

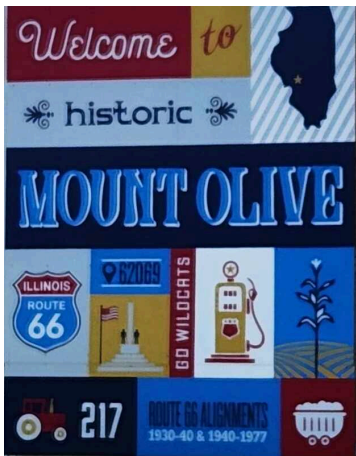
## MOBILE UPLOADS

Thursday, July 3rd, 7:34 AM



## MOBILE UPLOADS

Thursday, July 3rd, 7:34 AM



## MOBILE UPLOADS

Thursday, July 3rd, 7:34 AM



MOBILE UPLOADS

Thursday, July 3rd, 8:01 AM



Henry's Ra66it Ranch

PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Thursday, July 3rd, 8:08 AM

I bought these two gorgeous photo books, about 400 pages each, filled with 4-color photography and commentary of Rte 66 sites.

I hope I don't find too many places I missed on this trip 😊



Henry's Ra66it Ranch

PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

11

Thursday, July 3rd, 8:01 AM

Just outside of Mt. Olive is this adorable gift store. The owner used to raise rabbits but he died last year and now there's just this rabbit statue.



Henry's Ra66it Ranch

MOBILE UPLOADS

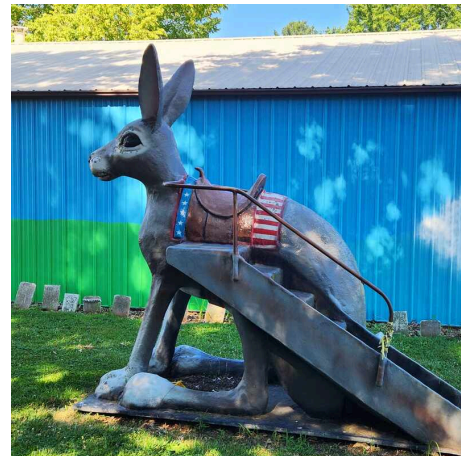
Thursday, July 3rd, 8:01 AM



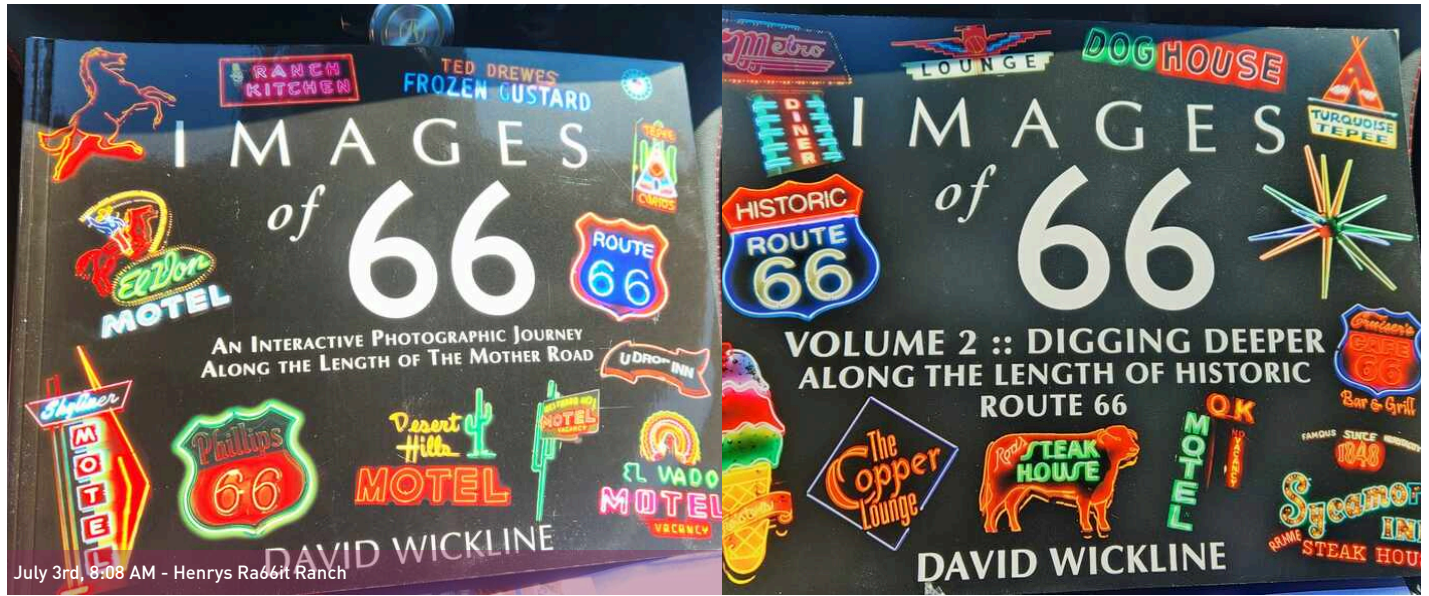
Henry's Ra66it Ranch

MOBILE UPLOADS

Thursday, July 3rd, 8:01 AM



Henry's Ra66it Ranch



July 3rd, 8:08 AM - Henrys Ra66it Ranch

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Thursday, July 3rd, 8:28 AM



📍 Pink Elephant Antique Mall

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

👍 10

Thursday, July 3rd, 8:28 AM

In Livingston you'll find this huge antique store called Pink Elephant. Its housed in the old high school with over 50 dealers inside.



📍 Pink Elephant Antique Mall

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Thursday, July 3rd, 8:28 AM



📍 Pink Elephant Antique Mall



July 3rd, 8:28 AM - Pink Elephant Antique Mall

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

Thursday, July 3rd, 9:13 AM

Love's (with a McDonalds) is still my #1 preferred travel stop, especially now that C&C love Chicken McNuggets.



📍 Loves Truck Stop Hamel

👍 12

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Thursday, July 3rd, 8:28 AM



📍 Pink Elephant Antique Mall



July 3rd, 9:13 AM - Loves Truck Stop Hamel



**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

Thursday, July 3rd, 10:03 AM

We have crossed over the Mississippi River and are in Missouri, State #8 for this trip.

This bridge is famous because it has a 22 degree bend in the middle. Today it only allows bikers and walkers.



📍 Old Chain Of Rocks Bridge

👍 9

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Thursday, July 3rd, 10:03 AM



📍 Old Chain Of Rocks Bridge



👍 18

The St. Louis Arch on the fly. July 3rd, 10:49 AM - St. Louis Arch



**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Thursday, July 3rd, 10:51 AM



**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

12

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Thursday, July 3rd, 4:48 PM

Last stop of the day was Cuba MO. It has so many murals it's been given the nickname Mural City. Murals are definitely a Rte 66 fixture.



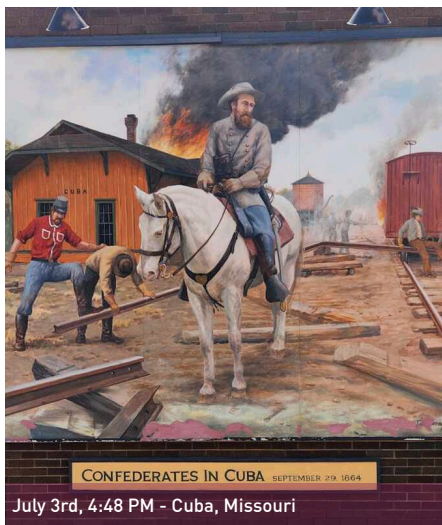
Cuba, Missouri

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Thursday, July 3rd, 4:48 PM

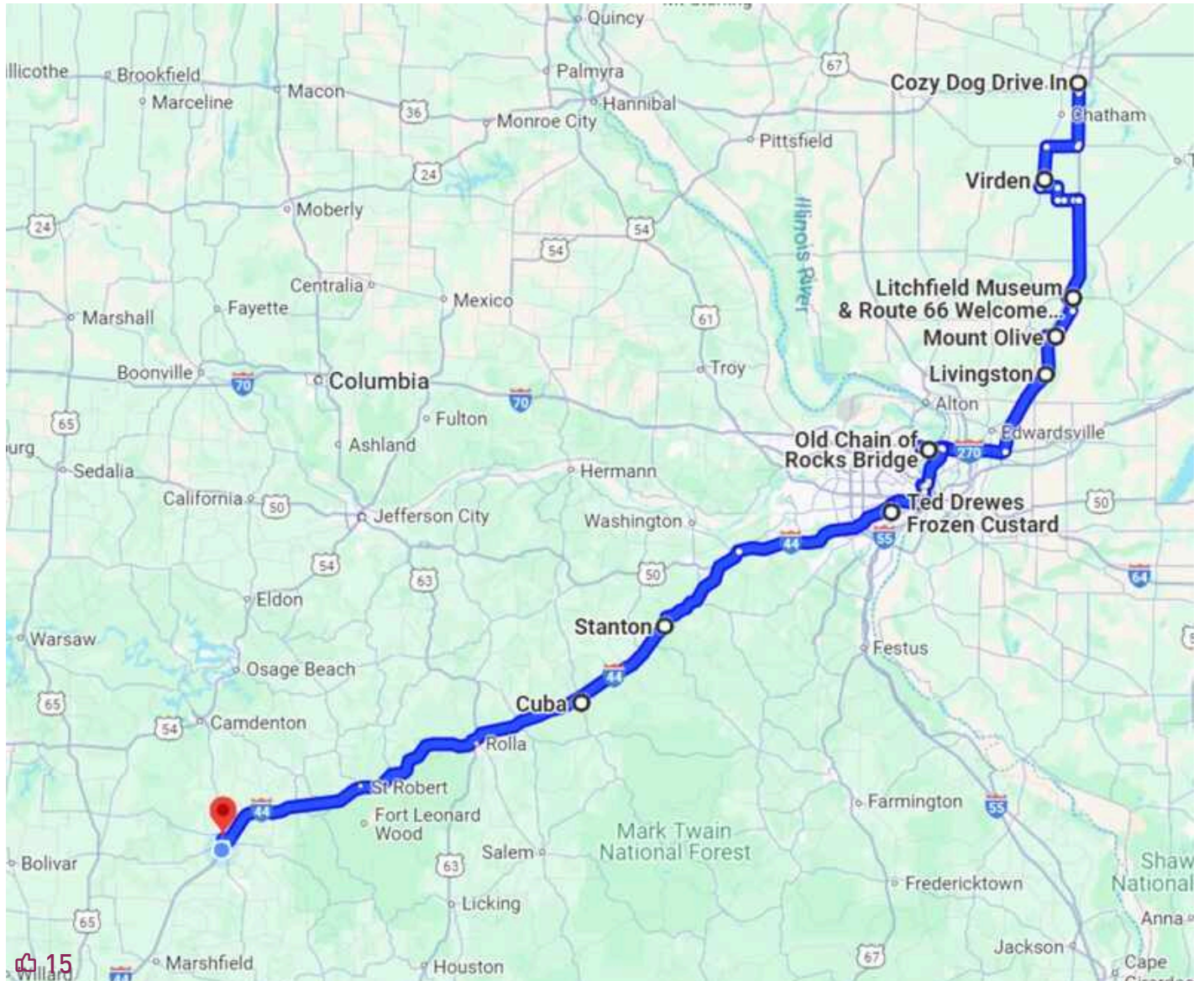


Cuba, Missouri



July 3rd, 4:48 PM - Cuba, Missouri





📍 15

Day #11 Here's today's path. I cheated and drove I-44 from Stanton to Lebanon because we took too much time earlier in the day and I was getting a little tired. 11 hours of driving and sightseeing with two 100-pound sheepdogs is plenty 😊 July 3rd, 5:07 PM - Lebanon, Missouri



July 3rd, 4:48 PM - Cuba, Missouri

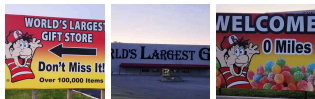
Friday, July 4, 2025

PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Friday, July 4th, 3:41 AM

Good morning and happy July 4th from Phillipsburg MO, home of the world's largest gift store.

I'm here a little before their 10 am opening 😊 Today's drive will take us to Tulsa OK.



Worlds Largest Gift Store

18

MOBILE UPLOADS

Friday, July 4th, 3:41 AM



Worlds Largest Gift Store



July 4th, 3:41 AM - Worlds Largest Gift Store



1

MOBILE UPLOADS

Friday, July 4th, 5:52 AM



PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

13

Friday, July 4th, 5:52 AM

Springfield MO is chock-full of Rte 66 stops. Its tagline is the birthplace of Rte 66 because it was in a downtown hotel (now demolished) that the name route 66 was officially approved.



Springfield, Missouri

MOBILE UPLOADS

Friday, July 4th, 5:52 AM



 MOBILE UPLOADS

Friday, July 4th, 5:52 AM



 MOBILE UPLOADS

Friday, July 4th, 5:52 AM



 PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

 10

WILLIAMS'S POST

Friday, July 4th, 7:04 AM

Carthage MO is the intersection of the north-south Jefferson Hwy and the east-west Rte 66. That's why it's called the crossroads of America.

This famous motel has been completely restored and is open for business.



 Boots Court Motel



 1

July 4th, 7:04 AM - Boots Court Motel



MOBILE UPLOADS

Friday, July 4th, 7:04 AM

PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

8

Friday, July 4th, 7:38 AM

Who remembers going to a drive-in theater? This one in Carthage MO is still open and has been operating continuously since 1949.



66 Drive-In Theatre



Boots Court Motel

MOBILE UPLOADS

Friday, July 4th, 7:38 AM



66 Drive-In Theatre

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Friday, July 4th, 7:38 AM



66 Drive-In Theatre

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

11

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Friday, July 4th, 7:56 AM

Any Superman fans out there?  
Carterville MO has this museum with  
over 2500 artifacts.



Superman Museum

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Friday, July 4th, 7:56 AM



Superman Museum





👍 13

Welcome to Kansas our state #9. We won't be here long. Just 3 cities in SE Kansas before crossing over to Oklahoma later today. July 4th, 8:21 AM - Kansas-Missouri Border

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Friday, July 4th, 7:56 AM



📍 Superman Museum

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

👍 13

Friday, July 4th, 11:29 PM

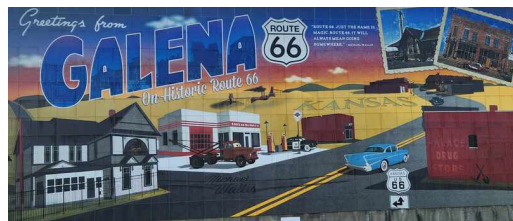
I could have spent all day in Galena KS but an hour was all I could spare. There's so much to see here. It's no wonder John Lasseter was fascinated by the city when he was doing his research for the animated movie Cars, a movie I need to rewatch now that I've been to this stretch of Rte 66.



📍 Route 66 Galena KS

 TIMELINE PHOTOS

Friday, July 4th, 11:29 PM



📍 Galena, Missouri



July 4th, 11:29 PM - Galena, Missouri

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

 8

Friday, July 4th, 11:34 PM

Here's a few other murals from Galena KS



 Route 66 Galena KS

 TIMELINE PHOTOS

Friday, July 4th, 11:34 PM



 Route 66 Galena KS

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Friday, July 4th, 11:34 PM

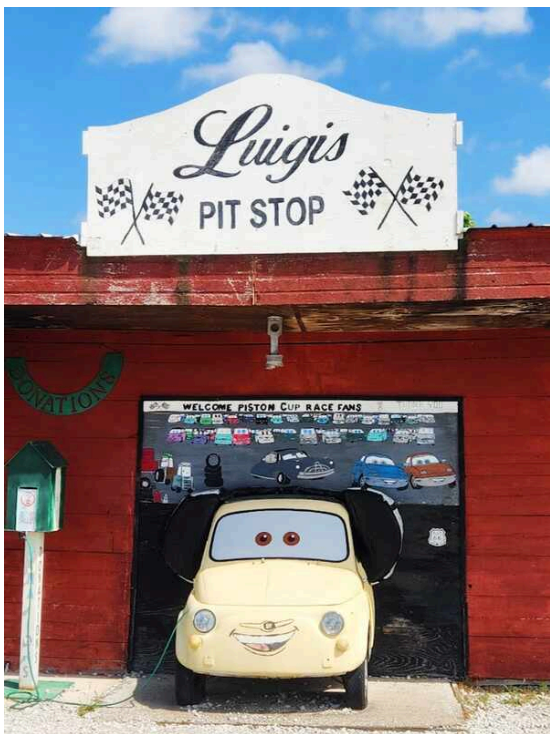


Route 66 Galena KS



TIMELINE PHOTOS

Friday, July 4th, 11:41 PM



Route 66 Galena KS

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

12

WILLIAMS'S POST

Friday, July 4th, 11:41 PM

And here's a few of the other attractions in Galena KS.



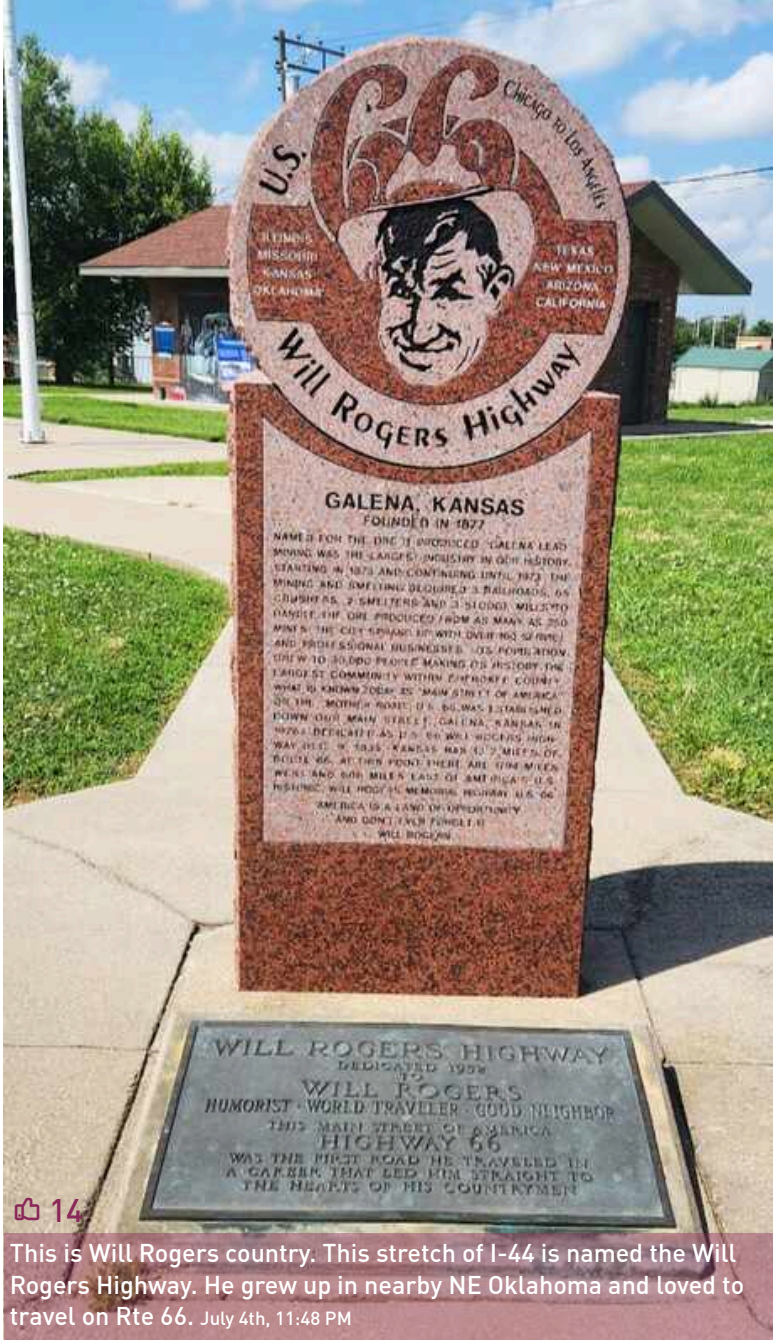
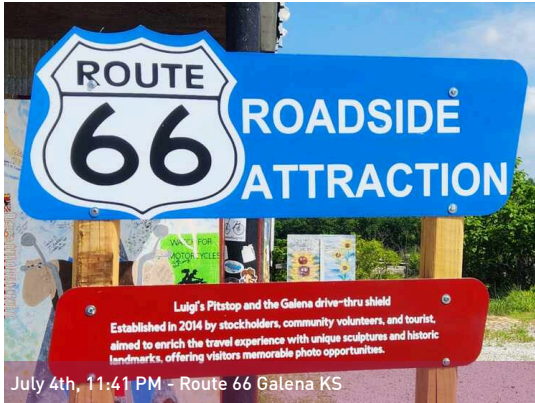
Route 66 Galena KS

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Friday, July 4th, 11:41 PM



Route 66 Galena KS



This is Will Rogers country. This stretch of I-44 is named the Will Rogers Highway. He grew up in nearby NE Oklahoma and loved to travel on Rte 66. July 4th, 11:48 PM

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Friday, July 4th, 11:41 PM



Route 66 Galena KS

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Friday, July 4th, 11:52 PM



Nelson's Old Riverton Store

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

8

WILLIAMS'S POST

Friday, July 4th, 11:52 PM

Riverton KS is one town over from Galena. This store has been in operation for 100 consecutive years.



Nelson's Old Riverton Store

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Friday, July 4th, 11:52 PM



Nelson's Old Riverton Store

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

7

WILLIAMS'S POST

Saturday, July 5th, 12:03 AM

The third little city in SE Kansas is Baxter Springs where this beautiful arch bridge crosses the Brush Creek River. It is closed to car traffic and has been carefully restored.



Rainbow Bridge (Kansas)

TIMELINE PHOTOS

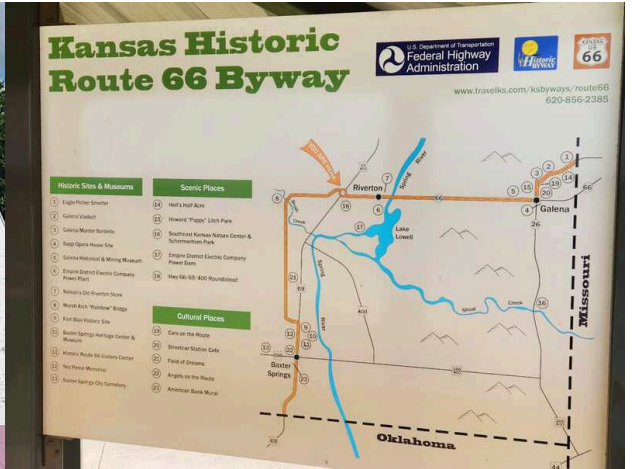
Saturday, July 5th, 12:03 AM



Rainbow Bridge (Kansas)



July 5th, 12:03 AM - Rainbow Bridge (Kansas)



**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Saturday, July 5th, 12:04 AM

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**



**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Saturday, July 5th, 12:16 AM

Downtown Baxter Springs also has some interesting attractions. This is the last stop in Kansas before crossing the border into Oklahoma.



📍 Baxter Springs, Kansas

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Saturday, July 5th, 12:16 AM



📍 Baxter Springs, Kansas



TIMELINE PHOTOS

Saturday, July 5th, 12:27 AM



Commerce, Oklahoma

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

10

WILLIAMS'S POST

Saturday, July 5th, 12:27 AM

The first town in Oklahoma, our state #10, is Commerce, the boyhood home of NY Yankee slugger Mickey Mantle.

I was a NY Yankee fan growing up in Dos Palos and Mickey was my hero.



Commerce, Oklahoma

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Saturday, July 5th, 12:27 AM



Commerce, Oklahoma

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Saturday, July 5th, 12:27 AM



Commerce, Oklahoma

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Saturday, July 5th, 12:27 AM



Commerce, Oklahoma



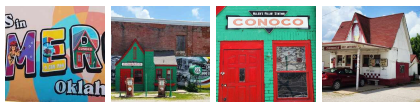
July 5th, 12:29 AM

PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

9

Saturday, July 5th, 12:33 AM

I could have spent longer in Commerce as well but the day was getting long and I still had several cities to see.



Commerce, Oklahoma

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Saturday, July 5th, 12:33 AM



Commerce, Oklahoma



PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

13

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Saturday, July 5th, 12:39 AM

Saturday, July 5th, 12:33 AM

Right next door to Commerce in NE Oklahoma is the town of Miami OK. It is best known for the beautiful Coleman Theater (still in operation) and its Gateway Arch.



Coleman Theater



Commerce, Oklahoma



👍 1

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Saturday, July 5th, 12:39 AM



📍 Coleman Theater

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

👍 11

WILLIAMS'S POST

Saturday, July 5th, 12:46 AM

Next stop was Chelsea OK and the Pryor Creek Bridge.



📍 Pryor Creek Bridge Route 66

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Saturday, July 5th, 12:46 AM



📍 Pryor Creek Bridge Route 66



July 5th, 12:46 AM - Pryor Creek Bridge Route 66



**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Saturday, July 5th, 12:52 AM



Route 66 Pedestrian Underpass

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

11

Saturday, July 5th, 12:52 AM

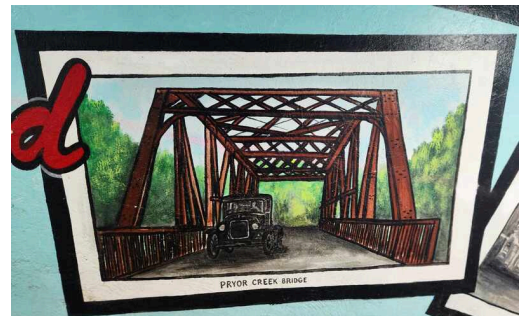
One unique attraction in Chelsea is this underground tunnel (under Rte 66) where the walls have been painted with murals



Route 66 Pedestrian Underpass

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

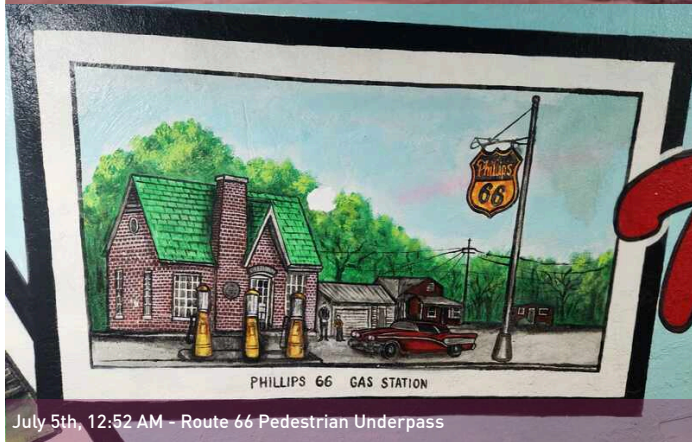
Saturday, July 5th, 12:52 AM



Route 66 Pedestrian Underpass



As you can see from this mural in Chelsea OK, it claims to be Oklahoma's first oil well. According to the wiki article blow, this claim appears to be untrue. July 5th, 12:55 AM - Chelsea, Oklahoma



July 5th, 12:52 AM - Route 66 Pedestrian Underpass



PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Saturday, July 5th, 1:01 AM

One of the most interesting attractions of this trip is Ed Galloway's Totem Pole Park in the middle of nowhere about 20 minutes from Chelsea OK.



Totem Pole Park

15

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Saturday, July 5th, 1:01 AM



Totem Pole Park



July 5th, 1:01 AM - Totem Pole Park

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Saturday, July 5th, 1:01 AM

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

📷 9

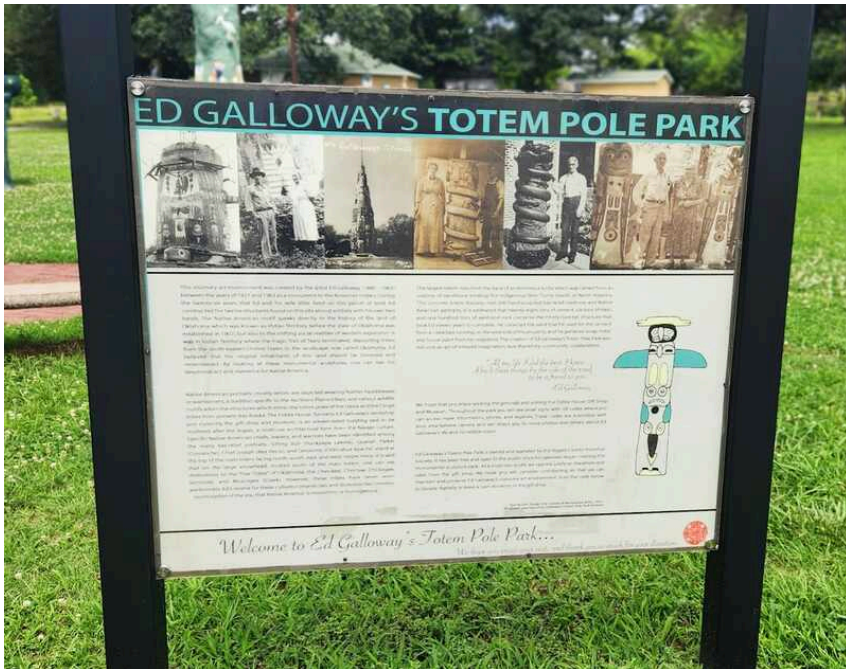
**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Saturday, July 5th, 1:07 AM

Last stop of the day was the Blue Whale in Catoosa OK.

It was another long but rewarding 11-hour day door-to-door. I stop every couple of hours or so to let C&C stretch their legs, do their business, and get some food and water.

I took so many pictures today (over 100) that I was unable to post them all online in real time. So I woke up early today to catch-up before we start day #13 in Tulsa OK.



📍 Totem Pole Park



📍 Blue Whale of Catoosa

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Saturday, July 5th, 1:07 AM



📍 Blue Whale of Catoosa

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Saturday, July 5th, 1:07 AM

# The History of the Blue Whale

The following excerpt was written by Hugh's daughter, Dee Dee (Davis) Belt, for the Catoosa Historical Society's "History of Catoosa" book, published in 2003 to celebrate Catoosa's Centennial. Dee Dee passed away January 8, 2006; updates made in 2022 by Blaine Davis.

"The Blue Whale was built by Hugh S. Davis, Boy Scout, photographer, zoologist, lecturer, father of two, grandfather of four, great-grandfather of nine, and friend of many. Hugh believed that every day was a beautiful day, that people should use the talents God gave them, that one should keep busy by thinking, planning, and creating, that people should love what they do and do what they love, that you should always finish what you start, and that you should enjoy life and live it to its fullest.

The pond on the Davis property was always a fun place. Before the Whale was built, the kids who were friends of the Davis' son Blaine and daughter Dee Dee swam, canoed in dug-out African canoes, played King-of-the-Hill by throwing each other off the large floating rafts, and fished for perch and bass. They picnicked in the summer and skated on the ice in the winter. Then, Hugh's children grew up and the pond was quiet... but not for long. When Blaine had sons John and Paul, their favorite place was across the road building and exploring with their Papa.

Hugh always had a "project" in the making... whether it was building furniture, creating an alligator ranch, or constructing an ark, he was always busy. After his retirement from the Tulsa Zoo, he devoted all of his time to developing facilities to educate people about nature. First he built the Ark, with its cute, cut-out wooden animals smiling at the kids who celebrated birthdays there, then the Alligator Ranch and Nature's Acres with its live alligators, snake pit, and prairie dog village.

In the late 1960s, at the age of 60, Hugh began to doodle pictures of a "fish" that he wanted to build at the pond. From that fish evolved a whale - larger and larger he grew, from sketches on napkins to drawings on oversized sheets of paper. Hugh left notes about the materials he used to build the Blue Whale:

- Metal lath - 180 sq. ft. per bundle; 14 bundles would go 2,520 sq. ft. at a cost of \$215.70
- 2" pipe - will need 1,179 feet for \$451.00
- 3/4" & 7/8" rods - 2,650 feet for \$77.50
- 1" pipe - 100 feet
- Dry concrete - 126 sacks for \$228.79
- Ready-mix concrete - 19 1/2 yards for \$296.08
- Rock - 19,400 pounds
- Sand - 15 tons
- 20" nails, copper flashing, and screening for \$40.75
- Wood - 2,454 linear feet for \$473.82

To accomplish his plan, he needed help fashioning the iron framework... the skeleton of the Whale. For this task he called on his dear friend, Harold Thomas, a welder, to weld the 20-foot-tall, 80-foot-long structure. Harold worked 100 hours and charged nothing... he enjoyed helping out a neighbor and friend. It took two years, 1970-1972, to build the Whale. According to Hugh's notes, he worked 2,920 hours applying the cement, which he hand-mixed and applied one five-gallon bucket at a time.

In July 1972, the unpainted Whale began attracting people who wanted to fling themselves off his tail, slide down his water-coated fins, and poke their heads out of the holes in the Whale's head. So began what became one of the best-loved events on Route 66. From 11:00 am until dark every day (except Monday or when it rained), people swam, picnicked, and fished.

Blessings were showered upon the Davises during the time they operated the Blue Whale. No one was ever seriously injured, no one ever sued, no one was ever bitten by a snake. It was a good time. It was a good place.

Because of Hugh's crippling arthritis, the Blue Whale was closed in 1988. Hugh died January 11th, 1990, and his wife, Zelta, to whom he had given the Whale as an anniversary gift, passed away August 1, 2001. The Blue Whale was then owned by Dee Dee (Davis) Belt and her husband, Dick. Blaine and his sons, John and Paul, kept the grounds maintained and the gates open so people could continue to enjoy the Blue Whale. On April 1, 2020, the City of Catoosa purchased the Blue Whale."

Blue Whale of Catoosa

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Saturday, July 5th, 1:07 AM



Blue Whale of Catoosa

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

21

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Saturday, July 5th, 4:19 AM

Good morning from downtown Tulsa OK. We're back at it bright and early. There's a lot to see here in Tulsa. Rte 66 ran right through the middle of town.



July 5th, 4:19 AM





 MOBILE UPLOADS

Saturday, July 5th, 4:28 AM



 The Meadow Gold sign

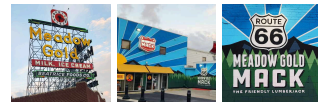
 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

 7

WILLIAMS'S POST

Saturday, July 5th, 4:27 AM

Meadow Gold Mack is across the street from Buck Atom's.



 The Meadow Gold sign

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Saturday, July 5th, 4:28 AM



 The Meadow Gold sign



July 5th, 4:28 AM - The Meadow Gold sign

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Saturday, July 5th, 5:35 AM

 11

A few more pics from downtown Tulsa.



 Route 66 Village



July 5th, 5:35 AM - Route 66 Village

 MOBILE UPLOADS

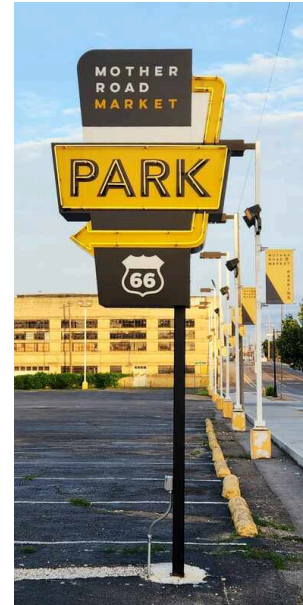
Saturday, July 5th, 5:35 AM

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Saturday, July 5th, 5:35 AM



 Route 66 Village



 Route 66 Village

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

 20

WILLIAMS'S POST

Saturday, July 5th, 6:01 AM

We got to this museum before opening hours. I would have liked to have seen some more of the vintage cars that once drove on Rte 66.



 Heart of Route 66 Auto Museum



July 5th, 6:01 AM - Heart of Route 66 Auto Museum



 MOBILE UPLOADS

Saturday, July 5th, 6:01 AM

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Saturday, July 5th, 6:01 AM



 Heart of Route 66 Auto Museum



 Heart of Route 66 Auto Museum

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

 10

WILLIAMS'S POST

Saturday, July 5th, 7:26 AM

Stroud OK is a cute little city about halfway between Tulsa and OKC. John Lasseter did a lot of research here before filming Cars.



 Stroud, Oklahoma



July 5th, 7:26 AM - Stroud, Oklahoma



PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Saturday, July 5th, 7:56 AM

Davenport OK is another Rte 66 city known for its beautiful murals.



Davenport, Oklahoma

13

MOBILE UPLOADS

Saturday, July 5th, 7:26 AM



Stroud, Oklahoma



July 5th, 7:56 AM - Davenport, Oklahoma



 MOBILE UPLOADS

Saturday, July 5th, 7:56 AM



 Davenport, Oklahoma



How about that? There's a grocery store chain here in OK by the name WILLIAMS. They have 9 stores. July 5th, 8:09 AM

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Saturday, July 5th, 8:29 AM

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

12

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Saturday, July 5th, 8:29 AM

Chandler OK is one town west of Davenport. It has this old Phillips gas station that looks to be recently repainted. It also has an Interpretive Center housed in a former National Guard Armory that looks like a prison. It's a museum devoted to understanding the construction of Rte 66.

The drive from Davenport to Chandler was an adventure. Rte 66 was closed for construction as was the on-ramp to I-44. So I had to drive about 12 miles in the wrong direction to work my way around the problem. No fun.



Chandler, Oklahoma

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Saturday, July 5th, 8:29 AM



Chandler, Oklahoma



Chandler, Oklahoma



July 5th, 8:29 AM - Chandler, Oklahoma



 PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Saturday, July 5th, 11:17 PM

Next stop was in Arcadia OH about a 40 minute drive west of Chandler. Pops Soda Ranch was quite unique. They make over 700 kinds of specialty flavored sodas. The round barn is also different. Its design is intended to help combat tornadoes although there is no scientific evidence to support this. I did not eat at the Chicken Shack but the parking lot was full and there was a line coming out the front door.

I've added wiki links below to all three locations



 Round Barn Route 66 Arcadia OKC



July 5th, 11:17 PM - Round Barn Route 66 Arcadia OKC

 16

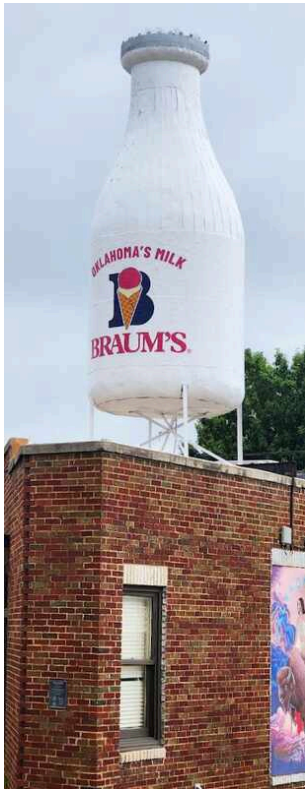
 MOBILE UPLOADS

Saturday, July 5th, 11:00 PM



**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Saturday, July 5th, 11:22 PM



Oklahoma City was a big disappointment. My only stop was to take this picture of the giant milk bottle that once set on top of a grocery store that has been demolished. You still see lots of Braum's ice cream stores throughout Oklahoma.

📍 Milk Bottle Building - Route 66

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Saturday, July 5th, 11:37 PM



📍 El Reno, Oklahoma

👍 10

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Saturday, July 5th, 11:17 PM



📍 Round Barn Route 66 Arcadia OKC

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

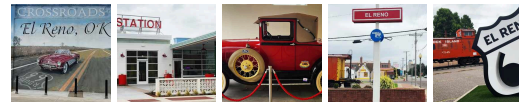
👍 10

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Saturday, July 5th, 11:37 PM

El Reno OK is a western suburb of OKC where I found this lovely restored service station that has been converted into a visitor's center.

The 1929 Model A Ford Sport Coupe was a thing of beauty.



📍 El Reno, Oklahoma



July 5th, 11:37 PM - El Reno, Oklahoma



PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Saturday, July 5th, 11:44 PM

Next stop heading west was Hydro OK where you find Lucille's Gas Station built in 1929. The history shown below is quite informative.



Lucille's Famous Route 66 Gas Station

8

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Saturday, July 5th, 11:37 PM



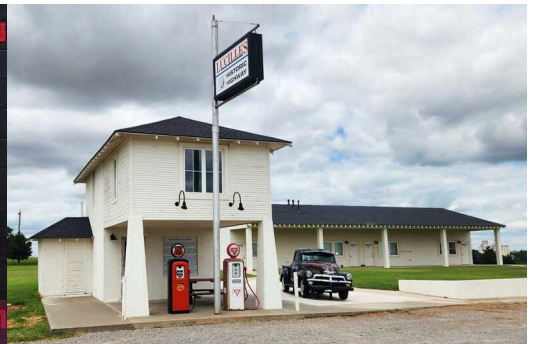
El Reno, Oklahoma



July 5th, 11:44 PM - Lucille's Famous Route 66 Gas Station

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Saturday, July 5th, 11:44 PM



**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

10

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

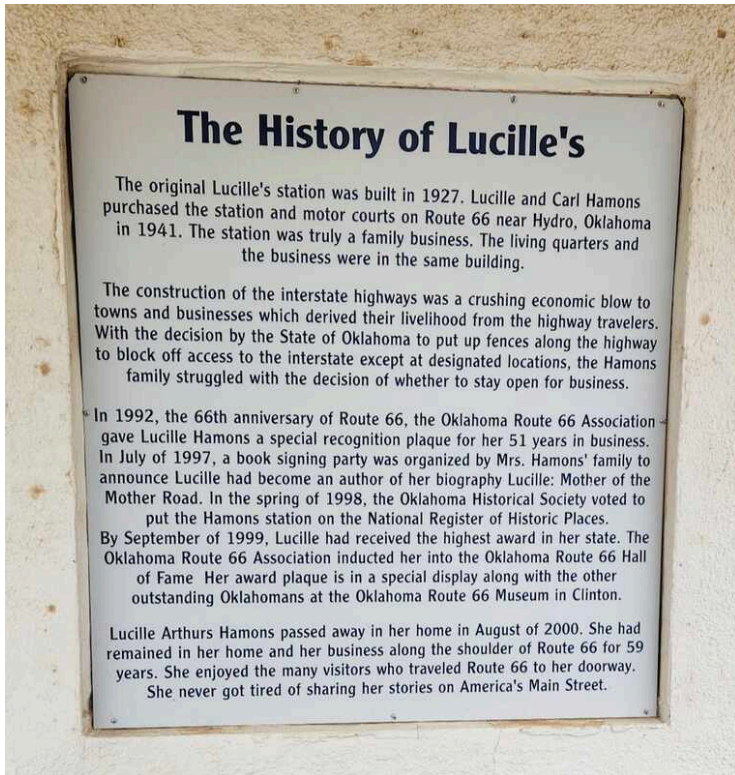
Saturday, July 5th, 11:52 PM

Last stop of the day was in Weatherford where you find the Lucille's Hotel and Roadhouse. Lucille is a legend in these parts but passed away in 2000.

There's also a Lucille's Roadhouse in Clinton OK where I stayed last night. I had a ribeye steak and sweet corn which was quite good. C&C liked it too



Lucille's Roadhouse

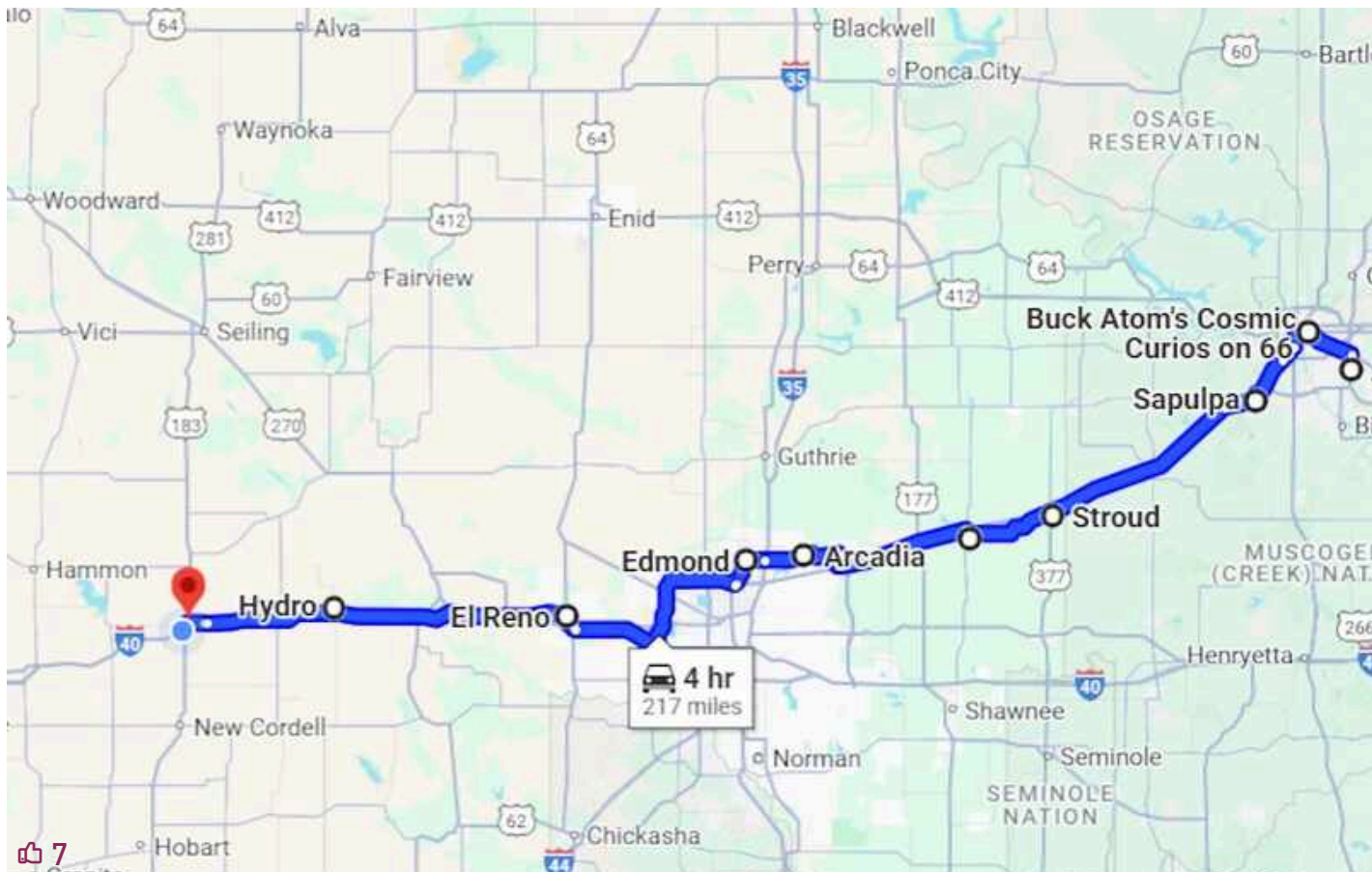


Lucille's Famous Route 66 Gas Station



July 5th, 11:52 PM - Lucille's Roadhouse



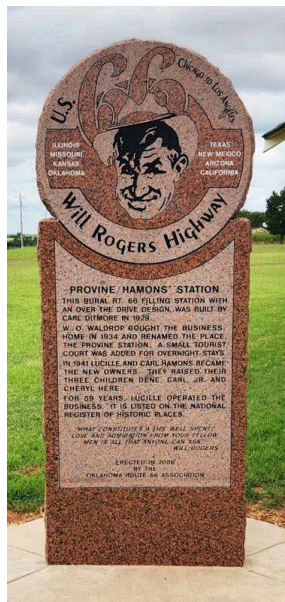


Here is the map for our journey on Day #13 Tulsa to Clinton OK. July 6th, 12:06 AM - Hampton Inn & Suites Clinton Oklahoma

## Saturday, July 5, 2025

### TIMELINE PHOTOS

Saturday, July 5th, 11:53 PM



### TIMELINE PHOTOS

Saturday, July 5th, 11:52 PM



Lucille's Roadhouse

Sunday, July 6, 2025

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 5:28 AM



 Route 66 Museum

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

 10

WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 5:28 AM

We spent the night in Clinton OK about 60 miles from the Texas border. It turns out Clinton has one of the nicest Rte 66 museums in the country. Here's some night shots as we were back on the road at 5:30 am.



 Route 66 Museum

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 5:28 AM



 Route 66 Museum

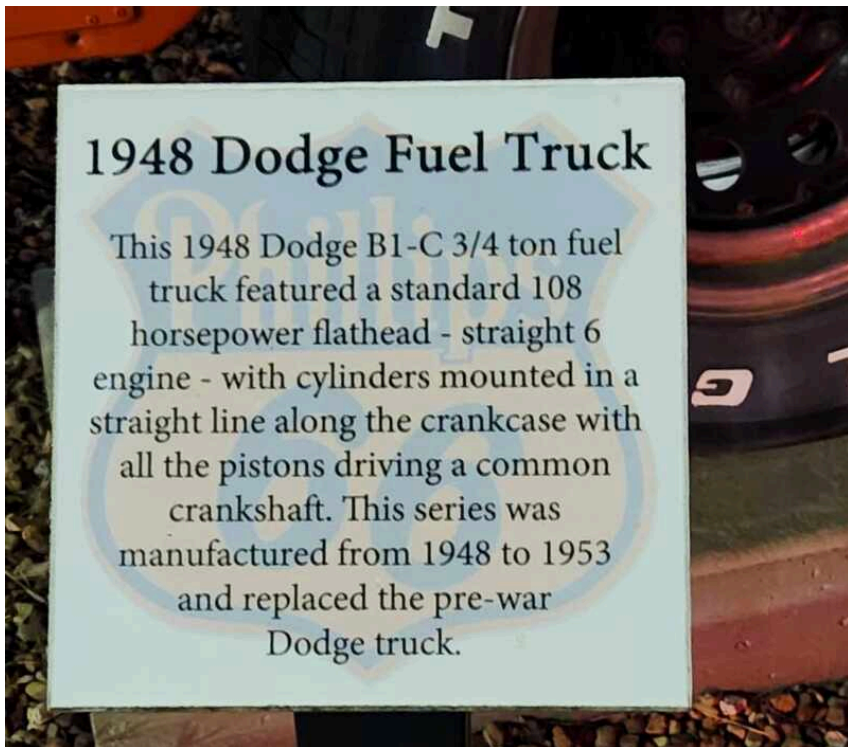


July 6th, 5:28 AM - Route 66 Museum



MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 5:28 AM



Route 66 Museum

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 5:30 AM



Clinton, Oklahoma

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

7

WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 5:30 AM

Couple more night shots from Clinton OK.



Clinton, Oklahoma

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 5:30 AM



Clinton, Oklahoma

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 5:30 AM



Clinton, Oklahoma

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Sunday, July 6th, 5:33 AM



📍 Sayre, Oklahoma

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

Sunday, July 6th, 5:38 AM

Last stop in Oklahoma is Erick, home of Roger Miller and Sheb Wooley.



📍 Erick, Oklahoma

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

👍 10

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Sunday, July 6th, 5:33 AM

One town over is Sayre OK which also has a Rte 66 museum. I stopped at this hole-in-the-wall donut shop for some delicious apple fritters.



📍 Sayre, Oklahoma

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Sunday, July 6th, 5:33 AM



📍 Sayre, Oklahoma

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Sunday, July 6th, 5:33 AM



📍 Sayre, Oklahoma



July 6th, 5:38 AM

**Erick, Oklahoma**  
*Small town, big talent*

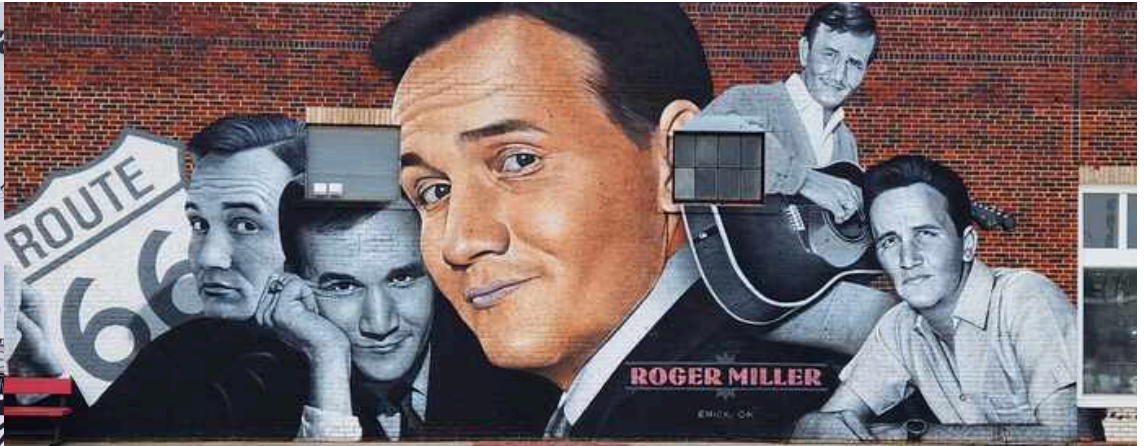
**Roger Miller**  
 Singer, Songwriter, Musician, Actor

**Sheb Wooley**  
 Singer, Songwriter, Musician, Actor

**Micheal Smotherman**  
 Singer, Songwriter, Musician

**Marc Durham**  
 Singer, Songwriter, Musician

**Harley and Annabelle**  
 Living Legends in Erick Oklahoma



**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Sunday, July 6th, 5:38 AM



**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

5

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Sunday, July 6th, 5:41 AM

While in Erick I spotted this curiosity shop (in the old City Meat Market) that is the best decorated place I've seen all trip.



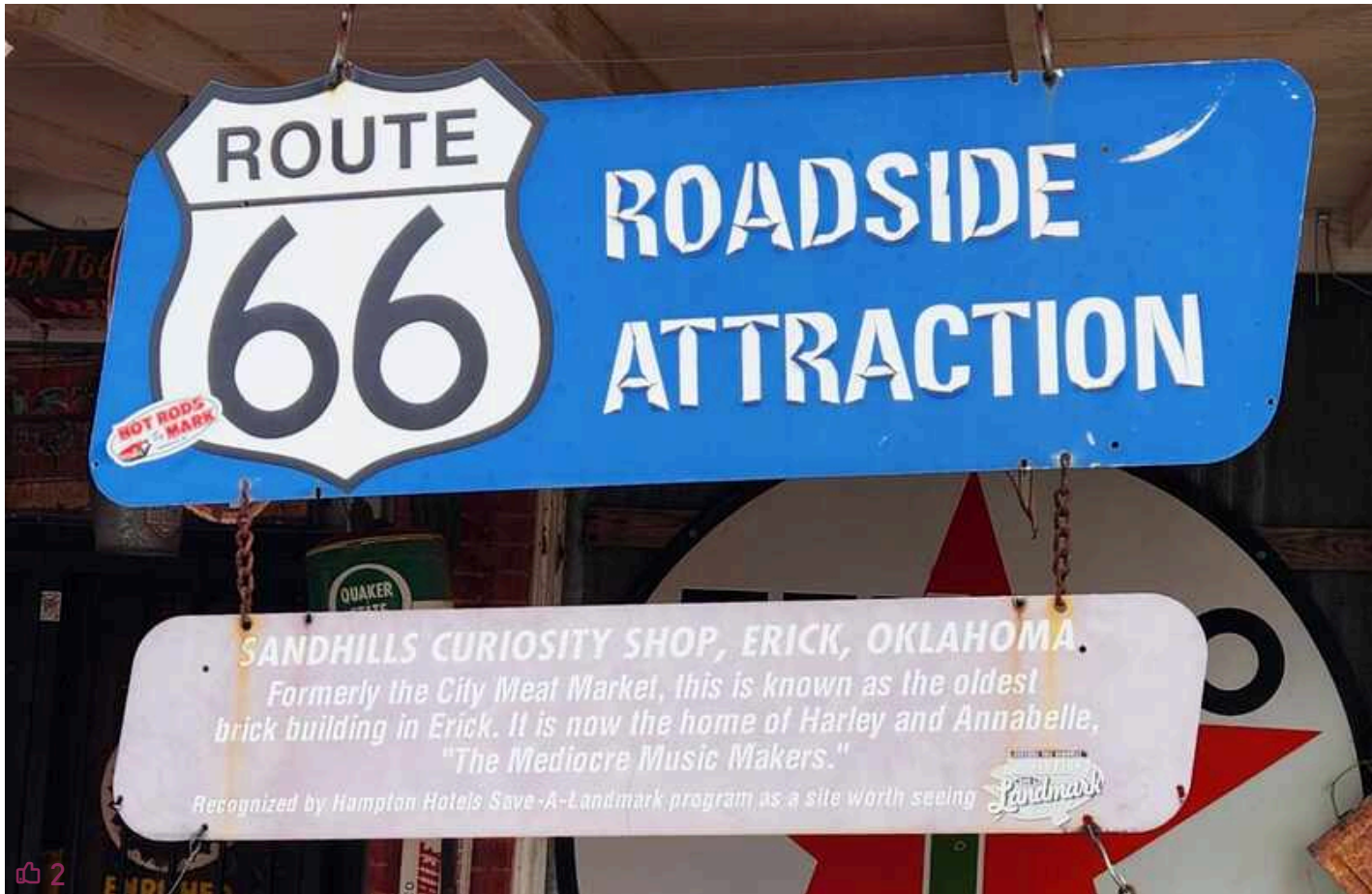
Sandhills Curiosity Shop

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Sunday, July 6th, 5:41 AM



Sandhills Curiosity Shop



👍 2

📖 PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 6:01 AM

Welcome to Texas, the 11th and final state we'll be driving through this trip.

I-40 crosses the northern panhandle and we'll be making stops in Shamrock and Amarillo and maybe a few other spots.



📍 Texas/Oklahoma Border I-40W

👍 7

📖 MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 5:41 AM



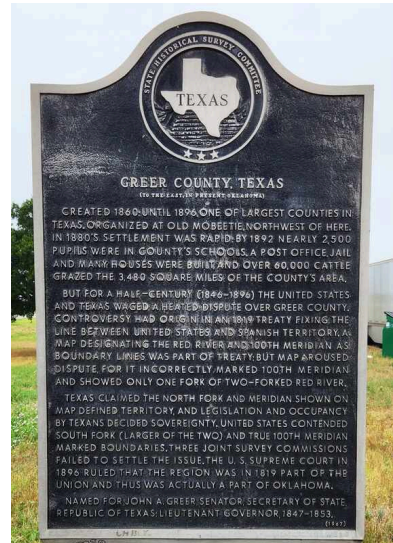
📍 Sandhills Curiosity Shop

Sunday, July 6th, 6:01 AM



Texas/Oklahoma Border I-40W

Sunday, July 6th, 6:01 AM



Texas/Oklahoma Border I-40W

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

8

WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 7:04 AM

Welcome to Shamrock TX, one of the most important stops on Rte 66. I actually stayed here with the girls a few years ago before I knew its significance.



Shamrock, Texas



July 6th, 7:04 AM - Shamrock, Texas



MOBILE UPLOADS

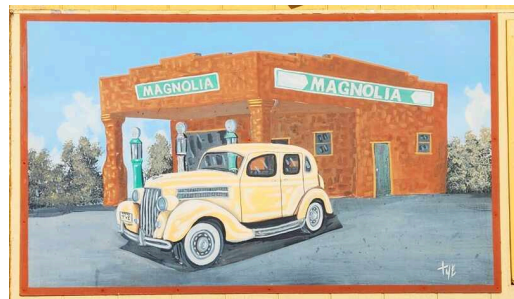
Sunday, July 6th, 7:44 AM

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 7:04 AM



Historic Conoco Gas Station



Shamrock, Texas

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

17

WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 7:44 AM

I could be here in Shamrock all day but will have to settle for just a few posts.

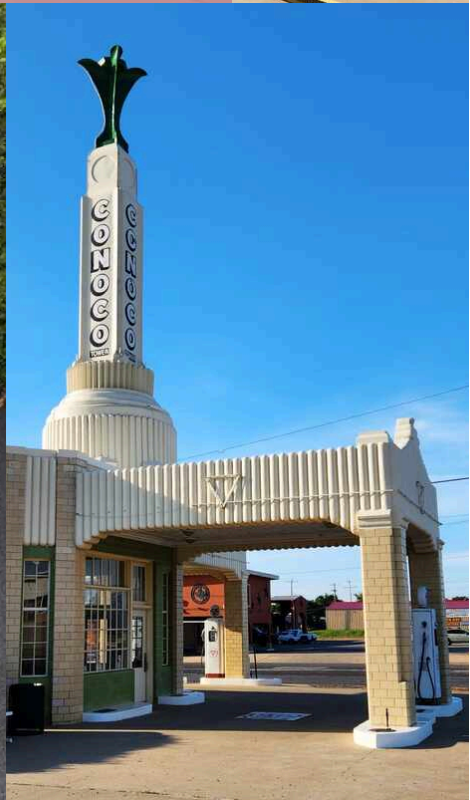
The highlight of the town is the art deco Conoco Tower and U-Drop Inn.



Historic Conoco Gas Station



July 6th, 7:44 AM - Historic Conoco Gas Station



 PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 7:45 AM

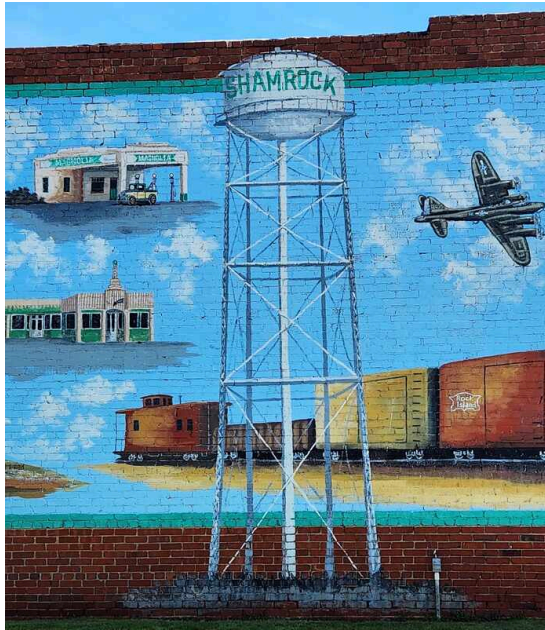
 7

The Shamrock water tower also has quite a history.



 Shamrock Water Tower Historical Marker





**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Sunday, July 6th, 7:45 AM

1

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

8

Sunday, July 6th, 7:50 AM

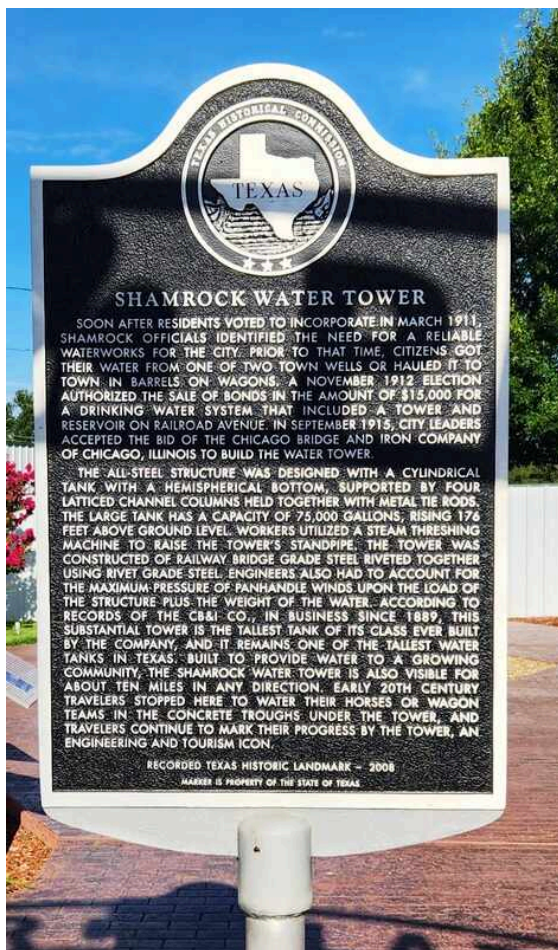
How many of you remember Songwriter/DJ Bill Mack, the Original Midnight Cowboy? He grew up in Shamrock.



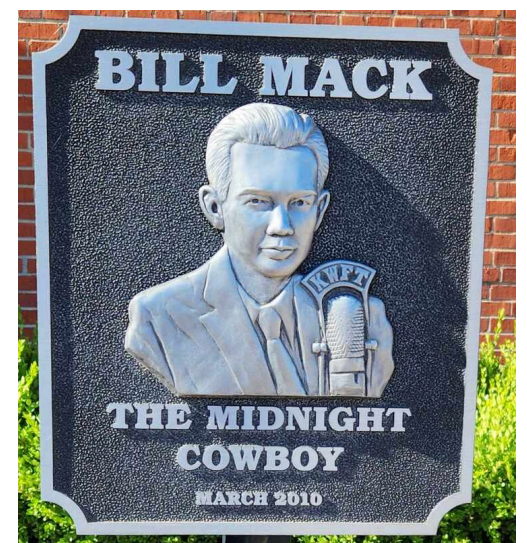
Shamrock, Texas

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Sunday, July 6th, 7:50 AM



Shamrock Water Tower Historical Marker





👍 1

July 6th, 7:50 AM

PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 7:51 AM

Of course there are all sorts of murals in town.



📍 Shamrock, Texas

👍 7

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 7:51 AM



📍 Shamrock, Texas





**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Sunday, July 6th, 7:55 AM

7

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

8

Sunday, July 6th, 7:58 AM

A few more random shots from Shamrock.



Shamrock, Texas

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Sunday, July 6th, 7:58 AM



Shamrock, Texas

Dollar General to the rescue. For some reason the girls aren't loving their regular food. But they adore thinly sliced deli chicken meat which DG sells. The girls are happy 😊

Dollar General



July 6th, 7:58 AM - Shamrock, Texas



PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 8:19 AM

There's a mural on the way into town that has all eight states that Rte 66 passes through. I just had to circle back and get these pics before leaving. I missed them when I first drove by. For some reason I failed to get a close-up of the 8th picture of Texas. So I am just posting the long shot instead.



Route 66; Shamrock, Texas

15

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 7:58 AM



Shamrock, Texas



July 6th, 8:19 AM - Route 66; Shamrock, Texas





2

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 8:57 AM



McLean, Texas

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

14

WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 8:57 AM

Quick stop in McLean TX where they have restored this Phillips 66 gas station originally built in 1929.



McLean, Texas

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 8:57 AM



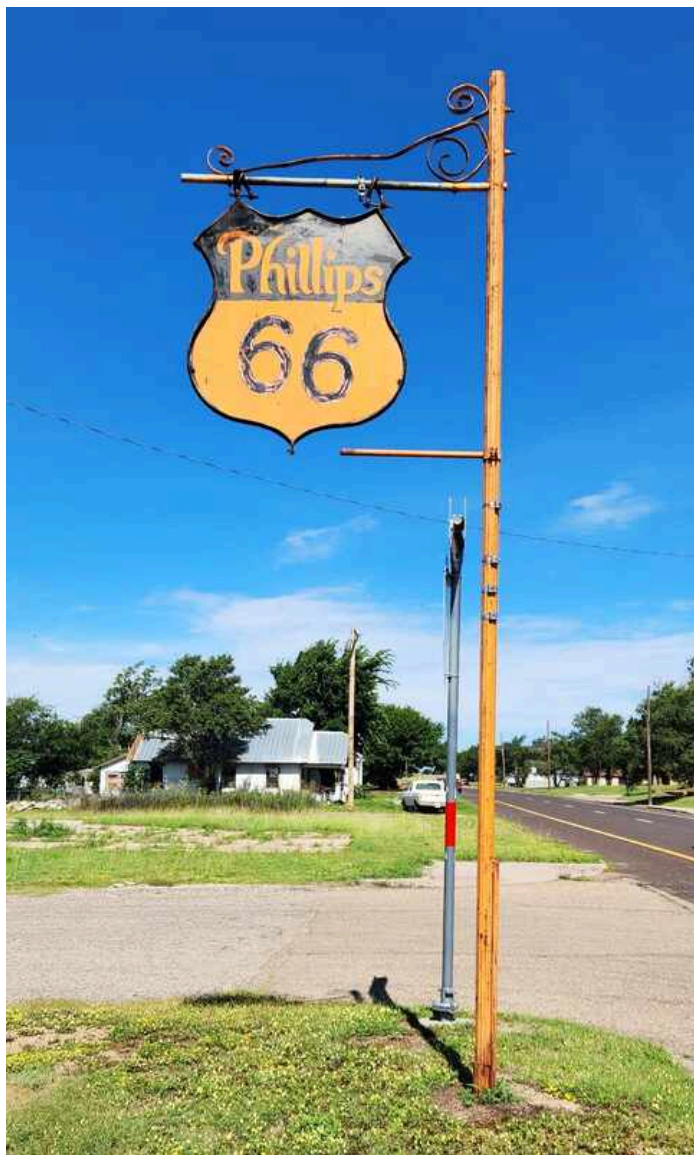
McLean, Texas



July 6th, 8:57 AM - McLean, Texas

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Sunday, July 6th, 8:57 AM



McLean, Texas

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

11

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Sunday, July 6th, 9:00 AM

Did you know barbed wire is also called devil's rope? Well here in McLean there is a Devil's Rope Museum.



Devil's Rope and Route 66 Museum

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Sunday, July 6th, 9:00 AM



Devil's Rope and Route 66 Museum

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 9:00 AM



 Devil's Rope and Route 66 Museum

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

 14

WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 9:32 AM

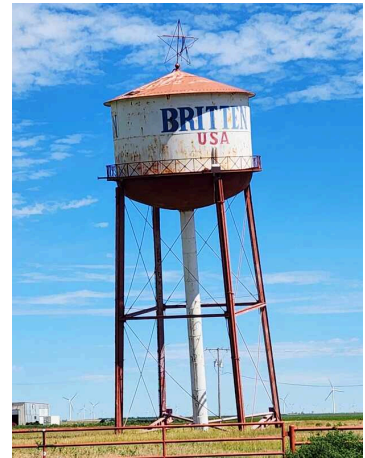
This leaning tower in Groome TX is one of the most photographed oddities on Rte 66.



 Leaning Water Tower Of West Texas

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 9:32 AM



 The Leaning Water Tower At Britten



 8

A lot of wind turbines in this part of Texas. July 6th, 10:02 AM - Conway, Texas

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 10:53 AM



 The Big Texan..Amarillo,Texas

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 9:34 AM



 PHOTOS FROM JOHN

 13

WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 10:53 AM

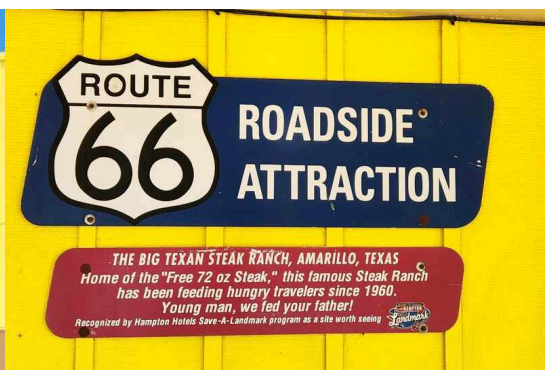
We are at The Big Texan restaurant in Amarillo where you can get a free 72 oz steak if you can eat it in one hour. The parking lot is packed.



 The Big Texan..Amarillo,Texas



July 6th, 10:53 AM - The Big Texan..Amarillo,Texas



MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 10:53 AM



The Big Texan..Amarillo,Texas

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 10:56 AM



Big Texan Amarillo

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 10:53 AM



The Big Texan..Amarillo,Texas

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

9

WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 10:56 AM

In the Big Texan parking lot you can also find Big Tex Rex, a cowboy-dressed green dinosaur.

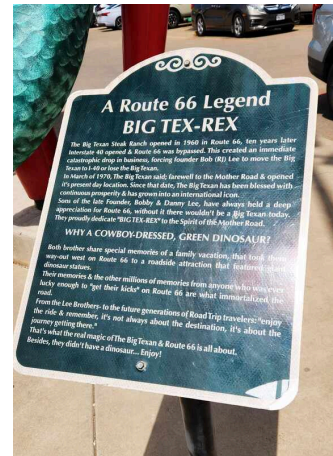


Big Texan, Amarillo Texas

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 10:56 AM

1



Big Texan Amarillo

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 11:15 AM



Route 66 Historic District

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

10

WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 11:15 AM

Downtown Amarillo has an amazing street (Sixth Avenue) that has tons of Rte 66 themed establishments.



Route 66 Historic District

MOBILE UPLOADS

Sunday, July 6th, 11:15 AM



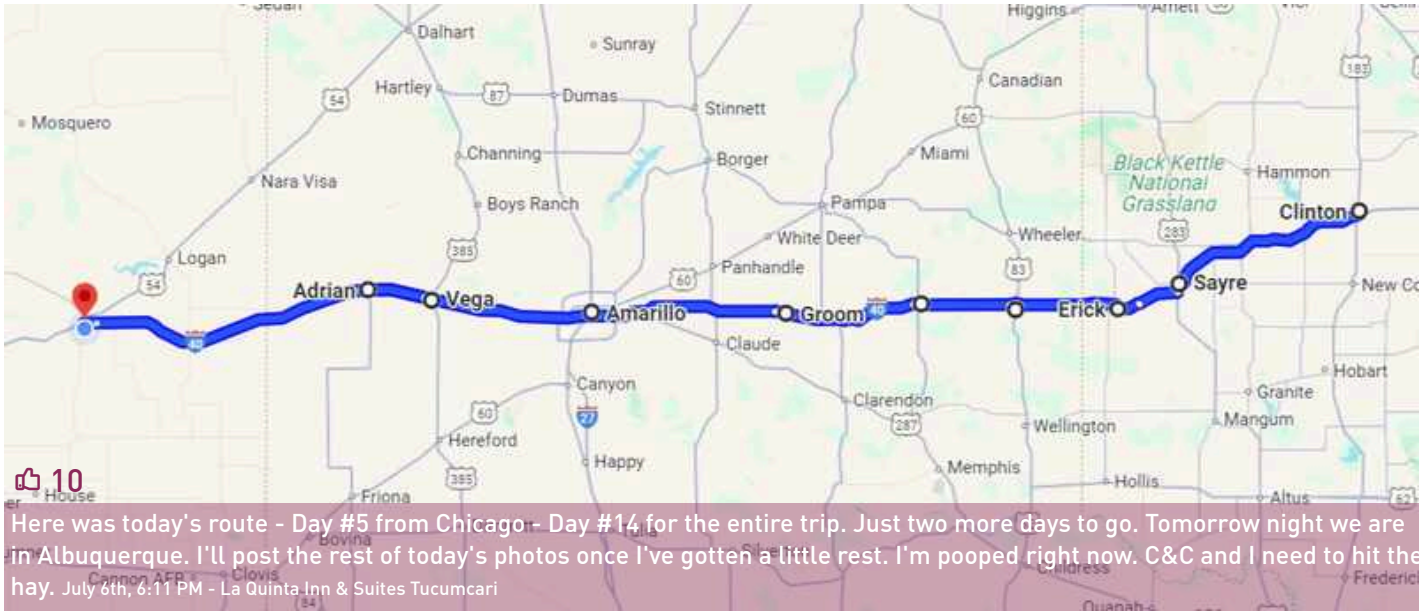
Route 66 Historic District



July 6th, 11:15 AM - Route 66

Historic District





**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Sunday, July 6th, 10:12 PM



**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

13

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Sunday, July 6th, 10:21 PM

Back to yesterday. Since the girls and I had already been to Cadillac Ranch, we simply did a quick drive-by and took these two pictures from the street. As you can see, people have begun to paint the street in addition to the cadillacs.

The Cadillac RV Park and Gift Store is right down the road and I got this pic of the 2nd Amendment Cowboy who is standing guard over the park.



📍 Cadillac Ranch, Amarillo

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Sunday, July 6th, 10:21 PM



TIMELINE PHOTOS

Sunday, July 6th, 10:21 PM



TIMELINE PHOTOS

Sunday, July 6th, 10:21 PM



TIMELINE PHOTOS

Sunday, July 6th, 10:21 PM



PHOTOS FROM JOHN

9

WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 10:30 PM

Vega TX has this beautiful, restored Magnolia Service Station first built in the 1920s and an attractive County Courthouse.



Magnolia Station



TIMELINE PHOTOS

Sunday, July 6th, 10:30 PM



TIMELINE PHOTOS

Sunday, July 6th, 10:39 PM



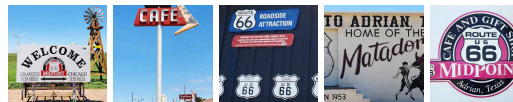
PHOTOS FROM JOHN

12

WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 10:39 PM

Adrian TX is the midpoint between Chicago IL and Santa Monica CA. The gift store here was one of the nicest I've seen.



MidPoint Cafe and Route 66 Gift Shop, ...

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Sunday, July 6th, 10:39 PM



**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Sunday, July 6th, 10:39 PM

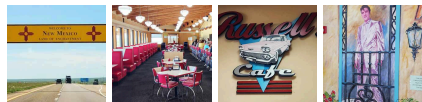


**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST**

Sunday, July 6th, 10:44 PM

👍 11

We are back in New Mexico. First stop - Russell's Truck and Travel Center in Glenrio NM - that has this portrait of Elvis. The outside has been rebranded by TA but the inside still appears to be original Russell's decor.



📍 Russell's Truck & Travel Center





July 6th, 10:50 PM

 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Sunday, July 6th, 10:50 PM



 **PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

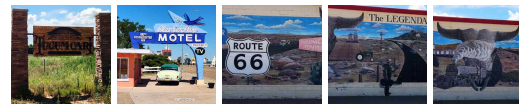
 13

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Sunday, July 6th, 10:50 PM

Our last stop of the day was Tucumcari NM where we are spending the night. We had just enough time to drive by the famous Blue Swallow Motel and this beautiful downtown mural so long I had to split the take into three separate photos.

We'll have more time in the morning to see Tucumcari. There's a lot of Rte 66 history here.



 Blue Swallow Motel

 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Sunday, July 6th, 10:50 PM



TIMELINE PHOTOS

Sunday, July 6th, 10:50 PM



TIMELINE PHOTOS

Sunday, July 6th, 10:50 PM

1



PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Sunday, July 6th, 11:12 PM

15

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Sunday, July 6th, 11:12 PM

Have you noticed how similar the logos are for Rte 66 and Phillips 66. I've attached a link to the Phillips website below that explains why.

Here's what Google AI thinks about Phillips choosing the number 66:

The "66" in Phillips 66 originated from a test drive in 1927 where a new gasoline formulation reached 66 miles per hour on a stretch of U.S. Route 66 in Oklahoma. The name was chosen to highlight the high-performance fuel and the association with the newly popular highway.



 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Sunday, July 6th, 11:12 PM



 **PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

 16

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Monday, July 7th, 7:31 AM

Tucumcari NM got its name from this nearby mountain. Its a Comanche word that means lookout.

I could probably spend all day here. It's by far the most interesting Rte 66 town I've been to. Fascinating contrast of new, old and abandoned. The whole town is a living museum.

I plan to post a lot more tonight when we get to Albuquerque. I've taken over 50 photos this morning.



 Tucumcari, New Mexico

 **MOBILE UPLOADS**

Monday, July 7th, 7:31 AM



 Tucumcari, New Mexico



July 7th, 7:31 AM - Tucumcari, New Mexico





**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Monday, July 7th, 7:35 AM



Tucumcari, New Mexico

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Monday, July 7th, 7:31 AM



Tucumcari, New Mexico

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

6

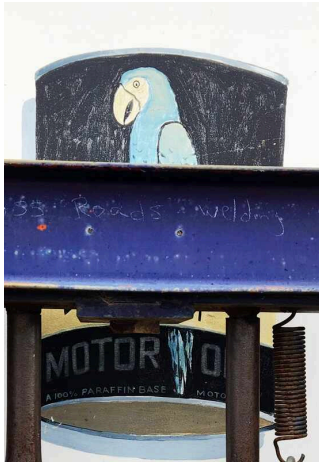
**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Monday, July 7th, 7:35 AM

Has anyone ever heard of Polly gas or Polly motor oil?



Tucumcari, New Mexico



A beautiful mural in Tucumcari. July 7th, 7:37 AM

Lunchtime for the girls in Tucumcari. July 7th, 7:54 AM

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**  
Monday, July 7th, 5:00 PM



Tucumcari, New Mexico

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST** 14  
Monday, July 7th, 5:00 PM

You feel bad for Tucumcari when you drive around and see all the abandoned businesses. Here's just a small sampling. I would say about 25% of the town looks like this. A lot of Rte 66 history is disappearing.

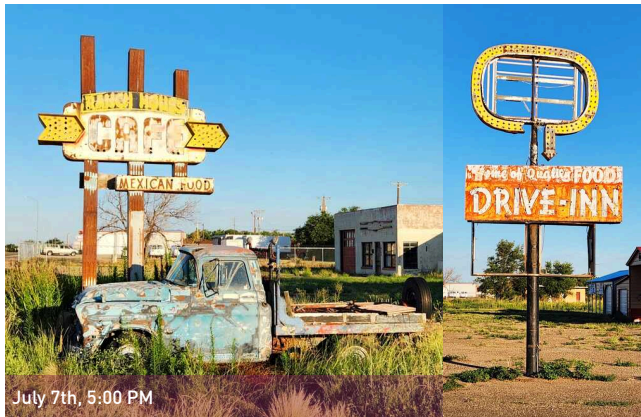


Tucumcari, New Mexico

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**  
Monday, July 7th, 5:00 PM



Tucumcari, New Mexico



**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Monday, July 7th, 5:05 PM



**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Monday, July 7th, 5:05 PM



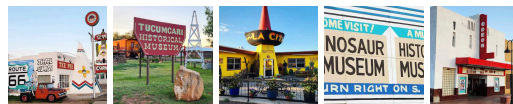
**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

14

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Monday, July 7th, 5:05 PM

What makes the city so interesting is that thriving, old businesses are sometimes right next door to the ones that have been abandoned.



Tucumcari, New Mexico

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Monday, July 7th, 5:05 PM





July 7th, 5:05 PM

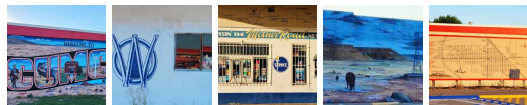


 PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

 8

Monday, July 7th, 5:09 PM

And of course, there are murals everywhere in town.



 Tucumcari, New Mexico

 TIMELINE PHOTOS

Monday, July 7th, 5:09 PM



 Tucumcari, New Mexico

 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Monday, July 7th, 5:09 PM



 Tucumcari, New Mexico

 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Monday, July 7th, 5:09 PM



 Tucumcari, New Mexico

 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Monday, July 7th, 5:09 PM



 Tucumcari, New Mexico



July 7th, 5:17 PM

### TIMELINE PHOTOS

Monday, July 7th, 5:09 PM



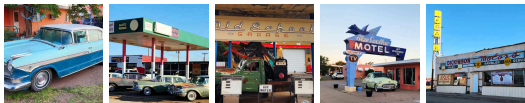
Tucumcari, New Mexico

### PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Monday, July 7th, 5:17 PM

14

And lots of vintage cars, trucks and dealers that used to service them all including Edsels, Hudsons and Ramblers.



Tucumcari, New Mexico



PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Monday, July 7th, 5:28 PM

Next town down the road from Tucumcari is Santa Rosa. I stopped at Silver Moon restaurant which has a wonderful gift shop and another Rte 66 car museum. There have been several on this trip already.

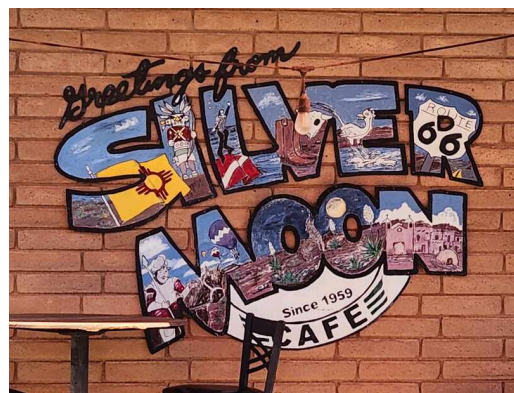


Santa Rosa, NM - Old Route 66

15

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Monday, July 7th, 5:28 PM



Santa Rosa, NM - Old Route 66



July 7th, 5:28 PM - Santa Rosa, NM - Old Route 66

 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Monday, July 7th, 5:28 PM



📍 Santa Rosa, NM - Old Route 66



 **PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

 14

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Monday, July 7th, 5:34 PM

Our final stop today was Albuquerque and we started with the historic Old Town. The downtown Kimo Theater is maybe the most beautiful building we've seen this trip.



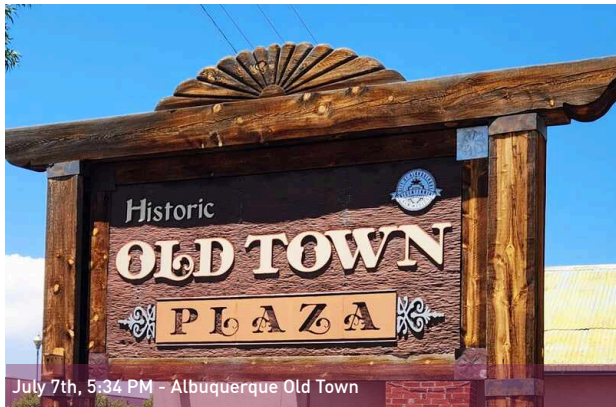
📍 Albuquerque Old Town

 **TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Monday, July 7th, 5:34 PM



📍 Albuquerque Old Town



July 7th, 5:34 PM - Albuquerque Old Town



**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Monday, July 7th, 5:34 PM

**TIMELINE PHOTOS**

Monday, July 7th, 5:34 PM



Albuquerque Old Town



Albuquerque Old Town

**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

13

**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Monday, July 7th, 5:37 PM

Here's some pics of the other stops we made in Albuquerque. Rte 66 passed right through the heart of town.



El Vado Motel



TIMELINE PHOTOS

Monday, July 7th, 5:47 PM



New Mexico Madonna of the Trail

PHOTOS FROM JOHN

9

WILLIAMS'S POST

Monday, July 7th, 5:47 PM

Our last stop today was Madonna of the Trail. It is one of 12 identical statues located in the 12 different states of the National Old Trails Road. It depicts a mother with two children bravely marching westward and carrying a rifle for protection.



New Mexico Madonna of the Trail

TIMELINE PHOTOS

Monday, July 7th, 5:47 PM



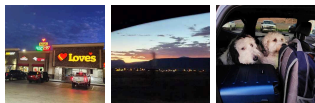
New Mexico Madonna of the Trail

Tuesday, July 8, 2025

PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Tuesday, July 8th, 4:45 AM

As a general rule, I don't like night driving. But today is an exception. We are anxious to get home. Only five more hours. Its been a good trip. I'm already thinking about the next one. C&C have been so good. They love being on the road.



Grants, NM

11

MOBILE UPLOADS

Tuesday, July 8th, 4:45 AM



Route 66 Grant New Mexico

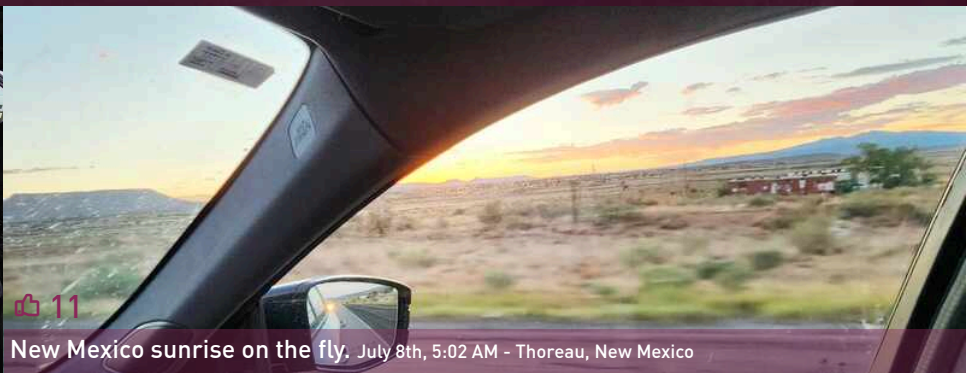


👍 1

July 8th, 4:45 AM - Route 66 Grant New Mexico



👍 11



New Mexico sunrise on the fly. July 8th, 5:02 AM - Thoreau, New Mexico

 PHOTOS FROM JOHN WILLIAMS'S POST

Tuesday, July 8th, 6:21 AM

👍 14

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Tuesday, July 8th, 6:21 AM

We are back in AZ. Cassie has found a new spot to take a nap 😊



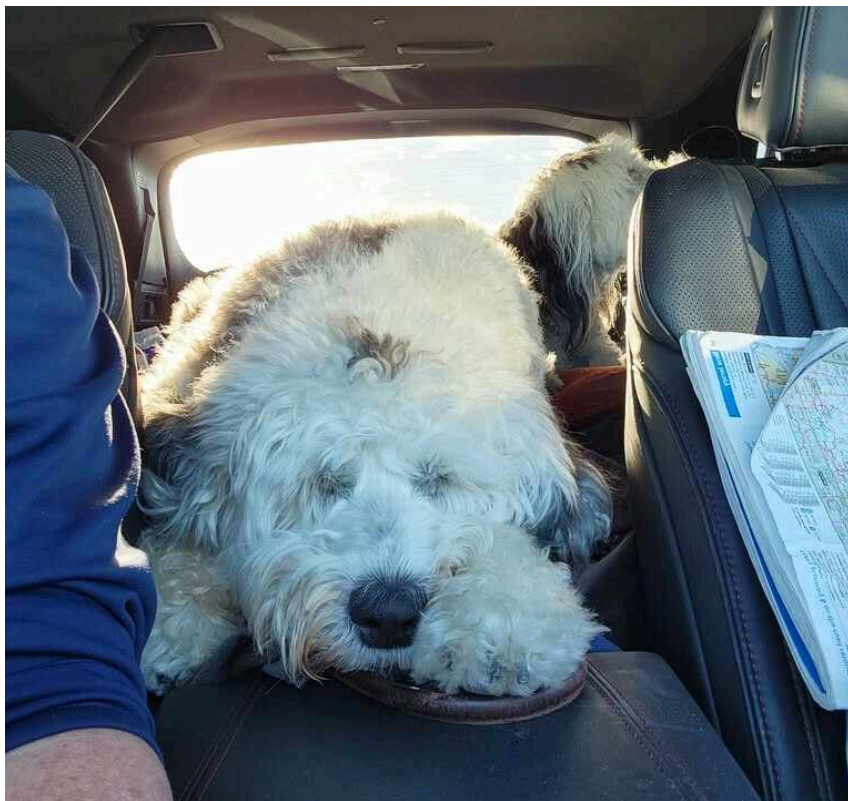
📍 New Mexico - Arizona Border



📍 New Mexico and Arizona Border

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Tuesday, July 8th, 6:28 AM



**PHOTOS FROM JOHN**

35

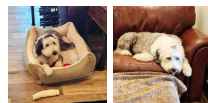
**WILLIAMS'S POST**

Tuesday, July 8th, 12:20 PM

Home sweet home. The girls are a little tired. I slept in.

16 days. 5000+ miles. 150+ FB posts. 800+ photos. 100+ stops.

Route 66 memories for a lifetime. Carpe Diem.



📍 Talking Rock

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Tuesday, July 8th, 12:20 PM



📍 Talking Rock

**MOBILE UPLOADS**

Tuesday, July 8th, 12:20 PM



📍 Talking Rock



route66centennial.org/ Route 66 celebrates its 100th Anniversary next year. July 9th, 4:01 PM

 MOBILE UPLOADS

Wednesday, July 9th, 3:42 PM




Thursday, July 10, 2025

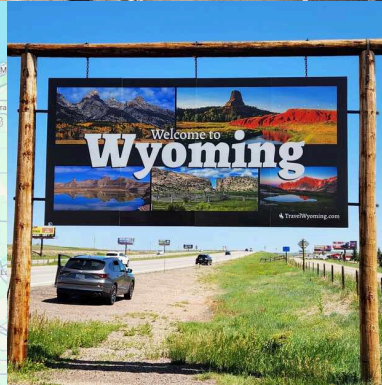
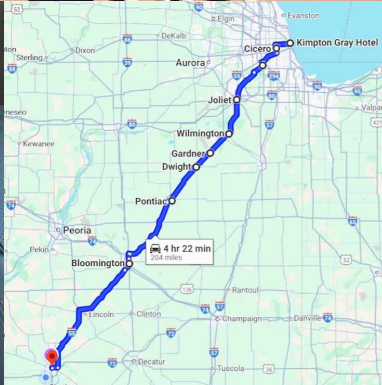
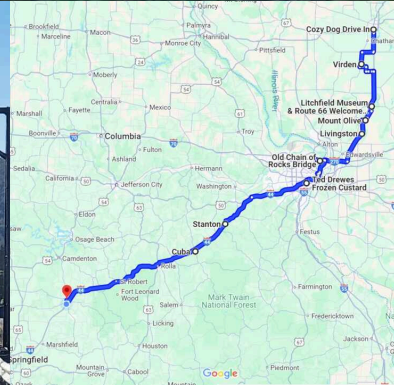


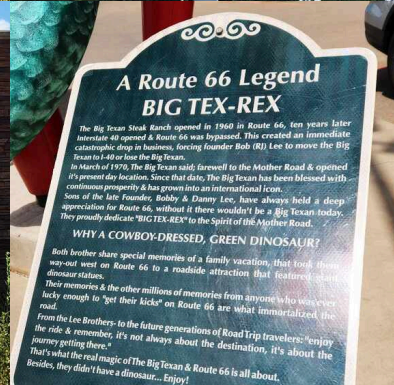
 34  
July 10th, 6:21 AM



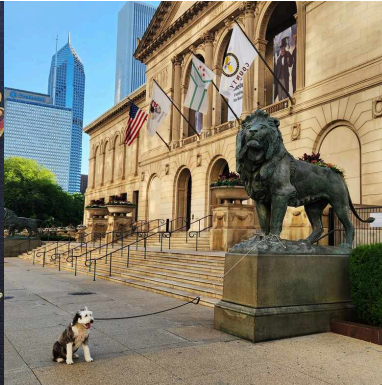
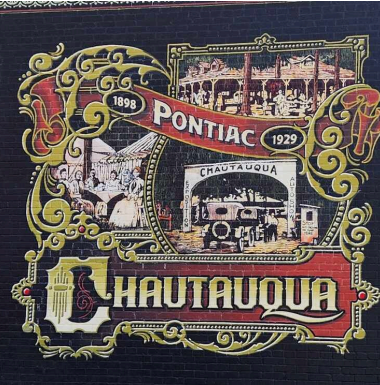
 12  
July 10th, 6:27 AM







# THE MOST LIKED PICTURES!



 My Social Book

[www.mysocialbook.com](http://www.mysocialbook.com)

2025-07-43112077