

VISIT
SPRINGFIELD
MISSOURI



Birthplace of
ROUTE

SPRINGFIELD, MO

66

GET YOUR KICKS IN
THE *Birthplace of*
Route 66

SPRINGFIELDMO.ORG

EXPLORE *Springfield, MO*



MUST-DO ROUTE 66 ATTRACTIONS



- ◆ **HISTORY MUSEUM ON THE SQUARE** Step into Springfield's story at the History Museum on the Square. Right in the heart of downtown, this museum brings the past to life—from Springfield's legacy along Route 66 to its key moments in the Civil War.

- ◆ **SPRINGFIELD 66 SCULPTURE SERIES** Explore Springfield's Route 66 Sculpture Series, a collection of artistic installations celebrating the history and culture of the Mother Road. Featuring eye-catching designs, interactive photo opportunities and local creativity, these sculptures offer a unique way to experience Springfield's Route 66 legacy.



- ◆ **ROCKWOOD MOTOR COURT** Step back into the golden age of Route 66 with a stay at Rockwood Motor Court, a historic Springfield property welcoming travelers along the Mother Road since 1929. Its restored rooms feature vintage décor, furnishings and memorabilia inspired by different eras of Route 66, paired with modern comforts for today's travelers.

- ◆ **BEST WESTERN ROUTE 66 RAIL HAVEN** For 75 years, Best Western Route 66 Rail Haven has been welcoming guests along Route 66—even Elvis stayed here! This refurbished motel combines today's comforts with historic charm, making it a perfect stop on your Route 66 adventure.

- ◆ **BIRTHPLACE PLAZA** Visit the Route 66 Birthplace Plaza, honoring Springfield as the official birthplace of Route 66. Featuring the Ghost of the Colonial Hotel sculpture recreating the hotel façade where the famous telegram was sent, this landmark celebrates the enduring legacy of America's most iconic highway.



- ◆ **QUEEN'S GATE 66 AND MUSICAL ROAD** Experience two iconic Route 66 attractions with Queen's Gate 66 and the Musical Road. Featuring a vibrant roadside photo opportunity and a one-of-a-kind drive that plays "America the Beautiful," these stops blend nostalgic charm, interactive fun and classic Americana along the Mother Road.

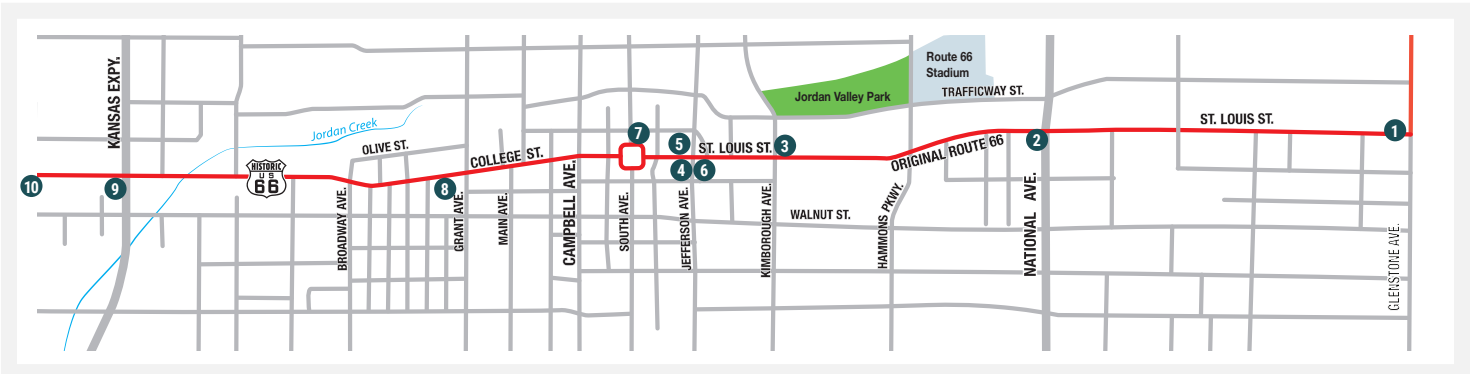
FLY INTO THE SPRINGFIELD-BRANSON AIRPORT (SGF)

The Springfield-Branson airport is serviced by four major airlines, providing non-stop flights to 15 major cities across the United States.



THE *Birthplace* OF ROUTE 66

TRAVEL THE ROUTE THROUGH DOWNTOWN



- 1 **Queen's Gate 66 and Musical Road** – Near 1700 E. St. Louis St., an iconic photo spot representing the Birthplace of Route 66 and a drivable rumble strip that plays “America the Beautiful”.
- 2 **Steak 'n Shake** – 1158 E. St. Louis St., 417-866-6109 | Outside, this Route 66 icon still offers curbside service. Inside, enjoy the 1950's-style decor.
- 3 **About Ben Adhem Shrine Mosque** – 601 E. St. Louis St., 417-869-9164 | Built in 1923, this unique building serves as a community event and entertainment venue.
- 4 **Route 66 Springfield Welcome Center** – 318 Park Central E #106., 417-881-5300 | Route 66 souvenirs and all the information you need for your visit.
- 5 **Gillioz Theatre** – 325 Park Central East, 417-863-9491 | This opulent movie house opened in 1926 and remains a premiere event destination.
- 6 **Birthplace Plaza** – Adjacent to the Springfield Route 66 Welcome Center | An homage to the Birthplace of Route 66, featuring the Ghost of the Colonial Hotel art installation.
- 7 **History Museum on the Square** – 157 Park Central Square, 417-831-1976 | Discover the “How, When & Why” of the history that makes Springfield and Greene County unique, including an entire gallery dedicated to Route 66.
- 8 **Mother's Brewing Company** – 215 S. Grant Ave., 417-862-0423 | Beers that make your good times on the Mother Road even better.
- 9 **College Street Cafe** – 1622 W. College St. (next to Route 66 Car Museum) | A classic american diner serving up Route 66 favorites.
- 10 **Rockwood Motor Court** – 2200 W. College St. | A historic 1929 motel filled with Route 66 nostalgia.

OTHER TOP ATTRACTIONS IN SPRINGFIELD



WONDERS OF WILDLIFE: NATIONAL MUSEUM & AQUARIUM

Voted America's Best Aquarium for 8 years.

Explore 1.5 million gallons of aquariums teeming with 35,000 creatures from oceans, lakes and rivers. Get hands-on with stingrays, come face-to-face with piranhas and meet giant river monsters! Afterward, step into the immersive Wildlife Galleries, where you'll lock eyes with record-setting big game and discover the importance of conservation.

FANTASTIC CAVERNS

Explore the caves the easy way.

Experience America's Ride-Thru Cave. A 55-minute guided tour follows an ancient underground riverbed filled with massive formations. The cave stays a comfortable 60° year-round.

SPRINGFIELD-STYLE CASHEW CHICKEN

Be a part of the cashew chicken crave.

Savor a taste of Springfield's history with “Springfield-Style” Cashew Chicken. This iconic dish, born in the 1960s, blends crispy chicken, crunchy cashews and a savory sauce for a delicious combination of American and Chinese flavors that's uniquely Springfield.



THREE DAY ITINERARY

Welcome to Springfield, Missouri—the heart of the Ozarks and the birthplace of Route 66! This city has the perfect mix of outdoor fun and city culture. With non-stop flights from 15 cities, getting here is a breeze, and once you're here, the adventure begins. Enjoy parks, shopping and diverse attractions. Springfield caters to all, whether you're into family-friendly or pet-friendly activities. Here are some hidden gems to start your journey:



DAY ONE

- ◆ **Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium** - Adjacent to the original Bass Pro Shops® Outdoor World®, this 1.5-million-gallon aquarium and immersive wildlife museum adventure showcases 35,000 live fish, animals, reptiles and birds.
- ◆ **Lunch at Hemingway's Blue Water Cafe** - Enjoy great seafood and down-home cooking at this unique restaurant located in Bass Pro Shops® Outdoor World®.
- ◆ **Bass Pro Shops® Outdoor World®** - Shop in the original Granddaddy of All Outdoor Stores, with nearly 500,000 square feet of shopping fun. While you are there, experience the NRA National Sporting Arms Museum, Archery Hall of Fame Museum, Bass Pro Museum and the Bass Pro Motorsports Museum, all with free admission and open during store hours.
- ◆ **Performance at the Historic Gillioz Theatre** - Opened in 1926 on Route 66, this stunning theatre was first built for concerts and silent movies. Over the years, it has grown to become a major performance venue for musicians, comedians and performers.

DAY TWO

- ◆ **Route 66 Guided Driving Tour** - A step-on guide will share Springfield's Route 66 history.
- ◆ **History Museum on the Square** - See exhibits ranging from prehistoric times to the 1950s, including a Route 66 exhibit and the history of Springfield.
- ◆ **Park Central Square** - Take a stroll back in time through the streets of downtown Springfield. Check out the historic site of the first recorded shootout of the Wild West era between "Wild Bill" Hickock and Davis Tutt, visit the art galleries, and do some shopping in the downtown boutiques!
- ◆ **Lunch at Steak 'n Shake on Historic Route 66 or College Street Cafe**
- ◆ **Springfield Art Museum** - Enjoy Springfield's oldest cultural institution, connecting you with thousands of years of culture, with collections on American art, sculptures and more.
- ◆ **Pythian Castle** - Tour Springfield's only castle and experience the history and mystery.

DAY THREE

- ◆ **Wilson's Creek National Battlefield** - A critical Civil War battlefield in Missouri, the site includes walking trails to various battlefields, a museum and changing exhibits.
- ◆ **Lunch at Leong's Asian Diner** - A trip to Springfield is not complete without trying some of our famous "Springfield-Style" Cashew Chicken!
- ◆ **Fantastic Caverns** - Fantastic Caverns is America's one and only ride-thru cave! Not only is it a natural wonder, but it's also packed with local history that makes it a must-see spot.
- ◆ **Baseball Experience** - Enjoy the excitement of a ballgame in Route 66 Stadium, an 11-time Texas League Field of the Year winner and home to the Double-A affiliate of the St. Louis Cardinals.

VISIT
SPRINGFIELD
MISSOURI



Dana Maugans, CDME
DIRECTOR OF SALES

- ◆ dana@springfieldmo.org
- ◆ 800-678-8767 ext. 111
- ◆ springfieldmo.org