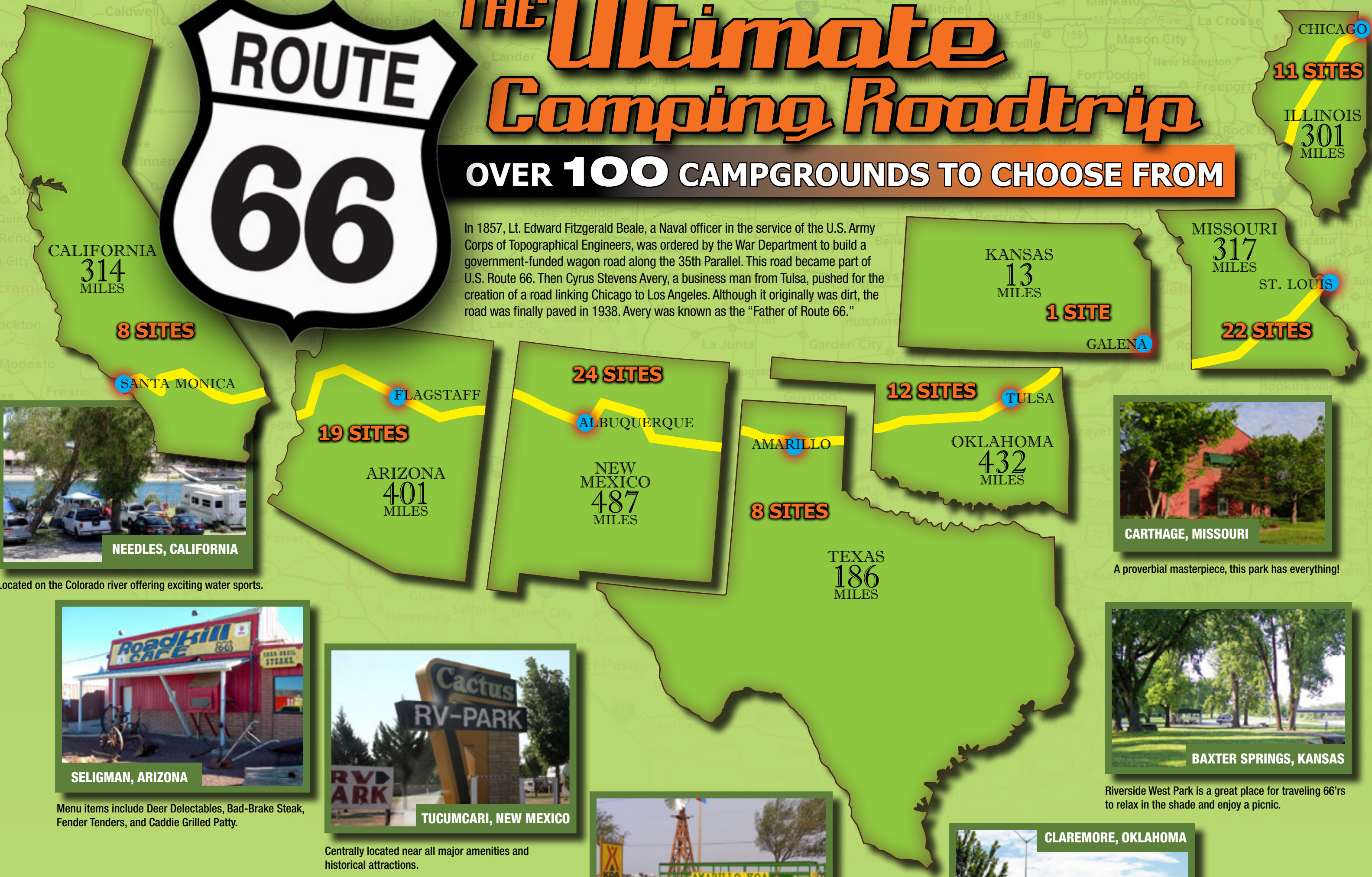




THE Ultimate Camping Roadtrip

OVER 100 CAMPGROUNDS TO CHOOSE FROM



Located on the Colorado river offering exciting water sports.



Menu items include Deer Delectables, Bad-Brake Steak, Fender Tenders, and Caddie Grilled Patty.



Centrally located near all major amenities and historical attractions.



Award winning, family owned and operated campground.



Claremore Expo Center & RV Park is always a happening place with concerts, festivals and variety events.



A proverbial masterpiece, this park has everything!



Riverside West Park is a great place for traveling 66'rs to relax in the shade and enjoy a picnic.

You can only drive parts of Route 66 these days... it has been replaced by the interstate highways I-55, I-44, I-40, I-15 and I-10, but still a surprisingly high amount of old road is waiting to be found by the more adventurous traveler.

Early 1929 - Cyrus Avery, highway commissioner of Tulsa Oklahoma leads an effort to link Chicago, Illinois and Los Angeles, California through his hometown of Tulsa.

1942 - As a result of the war, automobile production ceased, gasoline rationing began, and tires became scarce -- all of which affected Route 66. Massive creation of war industry jobs, mostly in California, brought another wave of migrating people across Route 66. The highway was important for military traffic, transporting troops, supplies, and equipment. The road was not adequate for the traffic it carried, and the difficulty of maintaining the road grew throughout the war.

December, 1962 - Missouri petitioned American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, on behalf of all the Route 66 states, to have the interstates renumbered as I-66 from Chicago to Los Angeles. Needless to say, the request was refused.



January 5, 1931 - Missouri was the third state to completely pave its portion of Route 66, following Illinois and Kansas. The last mile of original Route 66 is paved in Phelps County just east of the Pulaski County line near Arlington. The work crew tosses coins into the wet cement to celebrate the completion.

1950 - The "Family Vacation" begins as a new American phenomena in the 1950's. Route 66 became a destination unto itself. With its caverns and caves, scenic mountains, beautiful canyons and sparkling deserts being heavily promoted by the U.S. 66 Highway Association, Route 66 became the ultimate road trip. This spawned trading posts, alligator farms, full-service gas stations, grills with fried chicken, "blue plate specials" and home-made pie, "mom and pop" motor courts, Native American festivals and every other type of tourist trap.

Today, thousands enjoy these vintage peeks along the old highway. However, the original road is not indicated on most maps, and Legends' of America website provides descriptions of the many towns, sites, and icons of the Mother Road, as well as additional articles and the Route 66 Emporium for those looking for books & maps, postcards, souvenirs, and memorabilia.

1995 - New Historic Route 66 signs have been put up, documenting the different historic alignments in Illinois. **1999** - In response to the recognized need to preserve the rich resources of the historic highway, Congress passed an act to create the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program. Administered by the National Park Service, the program collaborates with private property owners; non-profit organizations; and local, state, federal, and tribal governments to identify, prioritize, and address Route 66 preservation needs.

By 1970, nearly all segments of original Route 66 were bypassed by a modern four-lane highway.



2004 - The Illinois Route 66 Hall of Fame Museum is established in Pontiac, Illinois in the restored Pontiac City Hall and Fire Station.

October 13, 1984 - The outdated, poorly maintained vestiges of U.S. Highway 66 completely succumbed to the interstate system when the final section of the original road was bypassed by Interstate 40 at Williams, Arizona. The route was "replaced" by Interstates 55, 44, 40, 15 and 10. By 1985 Route 66 was officially decommissioned and the familiar highway markers came down.



Frank A. Redford developed the Wigwam Motel Village after adding tipi-shaped motel units around a museum-cum-shop he had built to house his collection of Native American artifacts. He applied for a patent on the ornamental design of the buildings on December 17, 1935, and was granted a design patent on February 18, 1936. The original drawing includes the swastika, at the time a symbol associated with native Americans or often worn as a good-luck charm. Seven Wigwam Villages were built between 1933 and 1949.



Several myths have been perpetuated about the origin of the Cadillac Ranch, the most popular of which is the one I heard growing up in the Texas Panhandle. As the story went, an eccentric Amarillo, Texas millionaire would buy one Cadillac after another and when it was time to buy a new one, he would have the old one buried nose first on his land. However, the truth is, the Cadillac Ranch was a planned artistic endeavor.

Yes, Texas millionaire Stanley Marsh, 3 was an eccentric. He was also said to be very down to earth, quickly disregarding the "ll" as too pretentious and using "3" instead. In 1973, Marsh invited a San Francisco artists' collective called the Ant Farm to help him in the creation of a unique work of art for his sprawling ranch just west of Amarillo.



Shamrock Tx boasts the Tower Station and U-Drop Inn Restaurant. Representing the art-deco style that was popular in the 1920s and 1930s, the building was completed in 1936. Local newspapers reported it as "the swankiest of swank eating places" and "the most up-to-date edifice of its kind on the U.S. Highway 66 between Oklahoma City and Amarillo." The U-Drop Inn, where "Delicious Food Courteously Served" became the standard, was a welcoming sight to highway travelers and the many buses that pulled in at the diner.



Just east of the Seligman AZ Vistor's Center, is the "must see" Delgadillo's Snow Cap Drive-In at 217 E. Route 66. A Mother Road landmark through the ages, you'll enjoy not only great road food, but also a little humor that is always "served" up at the Snow Cap.

AMAZING ATTRACTIONS ALONG ROUTE 66



One of the most recognizable icons on Route 66 in Catoosa OK, is the Blue Whale. It was built by Hugh Davis in the early 1970s as an anniversary gift to his wife Zelta, who collected whale figurines. Hugh and Zelta had over 40 years of zoological experience when Hugh built the 80 foot long grinning Blue Whale.

Hugh, who had retired by that time, owned the land on which the attraction was built and surprised Zelta with the massive project for which she had no idea. Originally, the pond surrounding the massive Blue Whale was spring fed and intended only for family use. However, as many locals began to sneak in to enjoy its cool waters, Davis brought in tons of sand, built picnic tables, hired life guards, and opened his masterpiece to the public.



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