



Your road to freedom

Drive The USA

Self-Drive Guide



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Welcome!

Thank you for downloading our USA Self-drive Guide. As you're likely to be in the planning stage for your next holiday, with the help of our Tourism Partners, we've put together a selection of driving itineraries, along with suggested key attractions to visit along the way.

Here at DriveAway Holidays, we believe that there's no better way to experience freedom than by taking a self-drive holiday. As the leading specialist in Australia offering worldwide car hire, motorhome rentals and European Peugeot Leasing, find the best deals from world-leading suppliers with the expertise and knowledge of our team; and take the road to freedom on your next self-drive holiday!

Drive safely,

The DriveAway Holidays Team

A promotional banner for Dollar Rent a Car. On the left, a family of four is smiling from the back of a white van. In the center, four cars (blue, red, white, and red) are parked. The text "Holidays Matter!" is prominently displayed. To the right, a quote states: "Dollar has long been the car rental choice by value-seeking renters. So reserve your vehicle today with your DriveAway Holidays representative." The Dollar Rent a Car logo is on the far right, with the tagline "Do More with Your Dollar".

Holidays Matter!

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Begin your journey from one of the many bustling cities and take to the open road to discover some of the most extraordinary National Parks, charming towns and hidden gems.

So just picture yourself now, driving along the Californian coastline in a Mustang, exploring Death Valley in a luxurious RV or cruising Route 66 on a motorcycle, stopping when and where you choose to take in the scenery.

If this sounds like you, read on...

Golden Sunshine...



The Pacific Coast States

The Pacific Coast States sit on the west coast of the USA and include California, Oregon and Washington State. Their closer proximity to Australia and New Zealand often appeals to the first time visitor, offering a wide range of attractions and activities for all ages.

Los Angeles is the gateway for many visitors, home to the film and TV industry. Spend a few days exploring Hollywood, Santa Monica and Malibu Beach. For the young at heart, Disneyland and Universal Studios will have you on your feet from early morning until midnight with street parades, rides to thrill and non-stop entertainment. San Francisco is everyone's favourite US city. Easy to get around, it offers a wide variety of attractions and activities from shopping to dining, nightlife and live music.

However, to discover the Pacific Coast gems, take the road to freedom and explore further afield - sleepy fishing villages, premier wine regions and glorious National Parks.

The Pacific Coast Highway

Los Angeles - San Francisco

Day 1: Los Angeles

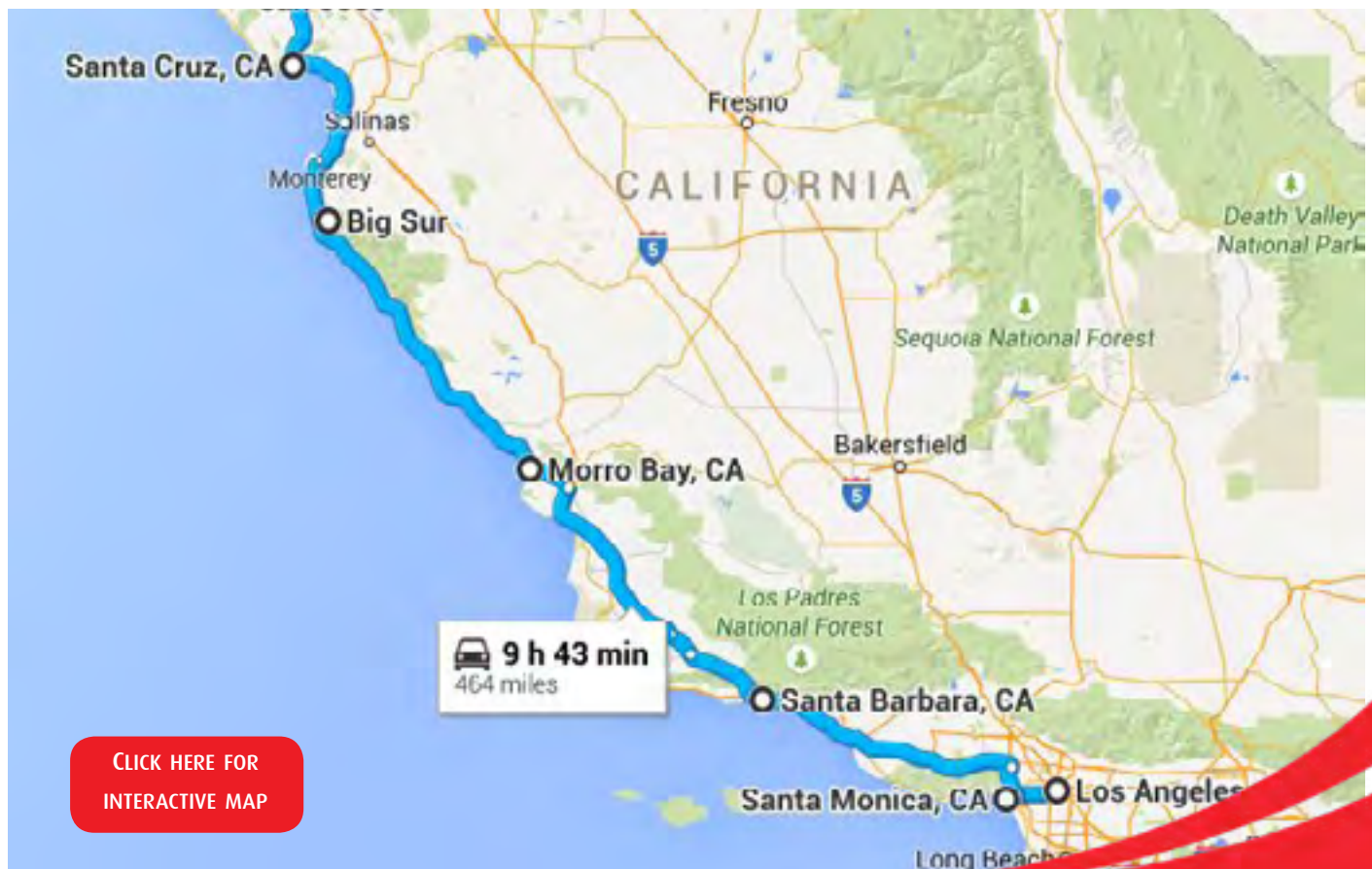
Also referred to as The City of Angels, Los Angeles is famed for its film and TV industry. With so much to see and do, spend your first day exploring some of the city's many attractions.

Day 2: Los Angeles to Santa Monica (16mi/25km)

Make the short drive west to the beach-front city of Santa Monica and spend the day at its famous Pier built in 1909. Explore the Aquarium and unwind at the beach. If time permits, take a short drive down the coast to Venice Beach, a renowned hangout for the creative and artistic.

LOS ANGELES ATTRACTIONS

- » The Hollywood Sign
- » Disneyland, Anaheim
- » Disney California Adventure Park
- » Universal Studios Hollywood
- » Rodeo Drive
- » Hollywood Walk of Fame
- » Grauman's Chinese Theatre
- » Santa Monica Pier
- » Venice Beach Boardwalk
- » Huntington Beach



The Pacific Coast Highway

Los Angeles - San Francisco

Day 3: Santa Monica to Santa Barbara (90 mi/145km)

Head north along the coast along to Malibu Beach, marveling at some of the best real estate in the world. Continue onto Santa Barbara and visit its popular beach - East Beach which boasts a stretch of white sand, palm trees and crystal blue water. Try surfing for the day, eagle para-gliding, kayaking, golfing, hiking or even go whale watching.

Day 4: Santa Barbara to Morro Bay (105mi/165km)

The picturesque fishing village of Morro Bay is the perfect spot for surfing and deep sea fishing. Kayak around the south part of the bay and have a picnic by the sand pit. Wildlife is abundant here and it is not uncommon to spot otters, sea-lions and many sea birds at the Embarcadero on the east side of the bay.

Day 5: Morro Bay to Big Sur (95mi/150km)

Fingers crossed for good weather because today is the day of breathtaking coastal scenery! As you drive along the Pacific Coast Highway, the road wraps around the sea cliffs, offering many vista points where the Santa Lucia Mountains meet the ocean. Once arriving at Big Sur stroll through the town, enjoying the art galleries and perhaps spot some of the region's wildlife.



The Pacific Coast Highway

Los Angeles - San Francisco

Day 6: Big Sur to Monterey (22mi/30km)

Carmel-by-the-Sea has inspired artists and attracted celebrities for years. Rated as one of the Top 10 US destinations, the European style village is nestled alongside white sandy beaches. Take the 17 mile drive from Pacific Grove to Pebble Beach and onto Monterey and discover Spanish Bay, Cypress Point Lookout and Carmel Bay.

SAN FRANCISCO ATTRACTIONS

- » The Golden Gate Bridge
- » Alcatraz Island
- » Lombard Street
- » San Francisco Zoo
- » Fisherman's Wharf
- » Pier 39
- » Union Square
- » AT&T Park
- » Cable Car Museum

Day 7: Monterey to San Francisco (160mi/186km)

Explore the rugged coastline of Monterey. Once home to the sardine industry, Cannery Row is now a strip of gift shops, restaurants and bars. If time permits, spend the morning at Monterey's Aquarium. Head onto the vibrant city of San Francisco, the perfect destination for a few days' stay and gateway to Napa Valley and Yosemite National Park. Drive over the Golden Gate Bridge and down the eight hairpin bends of Lombard Street before sampling a tasty meal at Pier 39.



Western Wine Trail

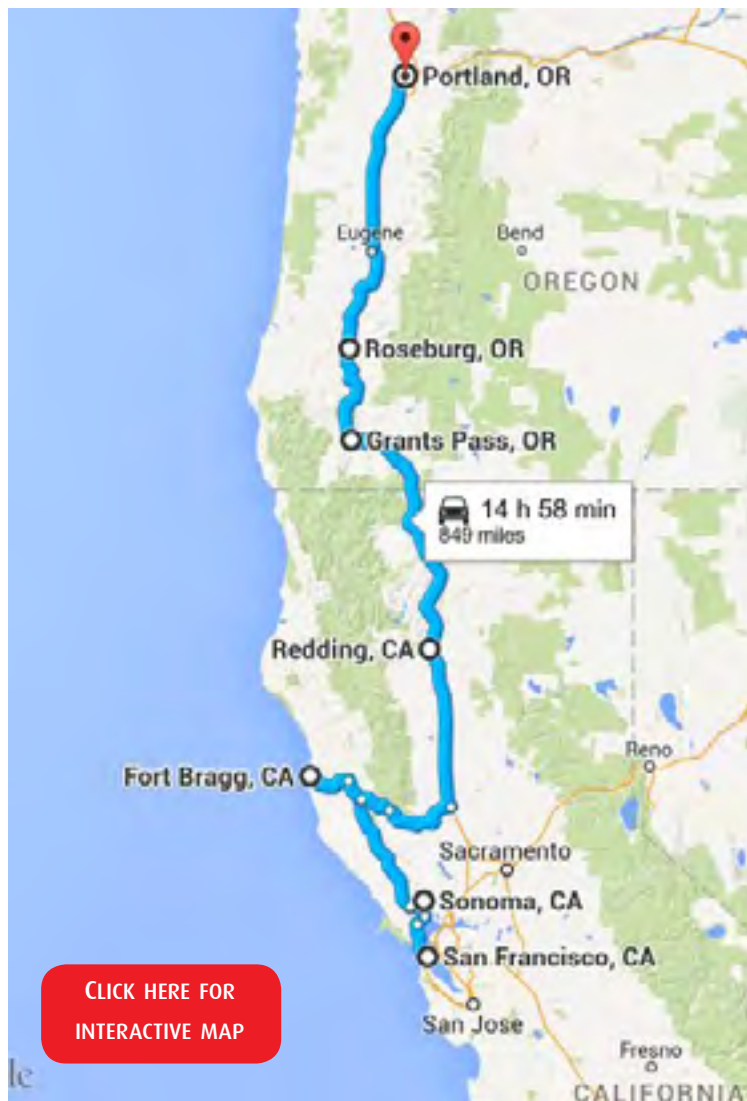
San Francisco to Portland, Oregon

Day 1 Day: San Francisco - Sonoma (44mi/70km)

Head north out of San Francisco via the famous Golden Gate Bridge to Sausalito. On the way to Sonoma you could cut over to Highway 1 along the coast and stop at Point Reyes Lighthouse and drive along the shallow, rocky inlet of Bodega Bay.

Day 2: Sonoma

Spend the day exploring Sonoma's delightful wineries. Take a tour to discover how to get more enjoyment from your wine glass at some of Sonoma's hidden gems.



Day 3: Sonoma to Fort Bragg (146mi/234km)

The route to Fort Bragg leads through Calistoga. Visit Old Faithful Geyser of California with its rising steam and bubbling hot water pools. On the way to Mendocino you will find the Golden Eye Winery. Taste their famous Pinot Noir, or how about Zinfandel at Edmeads Winery. The large variety of wineries along the way offers something for all tastes.

Western Wine Trail

San Francisco to Portland, Oregon

Day 4: Fort Bragg to Redding (232mi/373km)

The wine trail leads today via Humboldt Redwoods State Park towards Eureka. Drive through the famous tree along the way at Myers Flat. A stop at the Loleta Cheese Factory invites you to sample some cheese and enjoy a picnic in their botanical gardens. Continue to Redding and visit one of the local wineries.

Day 5: Redding to Grant Pass (178mi/286km)

Depart from Redding via Lake Shasta to Grants Pass. Choose to take a rafting trip through the picturesque Hellgate Canyon on Oregon's Rogue River whilst enjoying wildlife viewing.

Day 6: Grant Pass to Roseburg (69mi/111km)

Depart from Grants Pass and head to Roseburg. On the way, visit Crater Lake, a deep lake surrounded by high cliffs with two picturesque islands and a violent volcanic past.

Day 7: Roseburg to Portland (179mi/288km)

Drive to Cottage Grove with its famous Covered Bridges and then via Eugene and Salem to Portland. Enjoy the variety of restaurants and bars that Portland has to offer at night. Just outside Portland lies the Willamett wine country and on today's half day exploration, a naturalist guide will acquaint you with the area. Learn about the rich ecology of the region, and explore the local wine making history, the fine art of viticulture and Oregon's commitment to sustainable farming practices.

The Loneliest Highway



The South West

Head inland from the Pacific Coast and explore states of Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Arizona and New Mexico. The diverse mountainous landscapes are perfect for a road trip.

The Grand Canyon is a must see when visiting Nevada. Take a helicopter ride into the canyon itself, learn about the nature, history and culture or go hiking and rafting. Valley of Fire is Nevada's oldest and largest state park, dedicated in 1935. Ancient trees and early man are represented throughout the park by areas of petrified wood and 3,000 year-old Indian petroglyphs.

For entertainment beyond belief head to the magical city of Las Vegas. The Fremont Street Experience is in the heart of Las Vegas' downtown casino corridor, and the location of many famous (or once famous) casinos. Prior to the development of the Las Vegas Strip, this was your iconic Vegas scene.

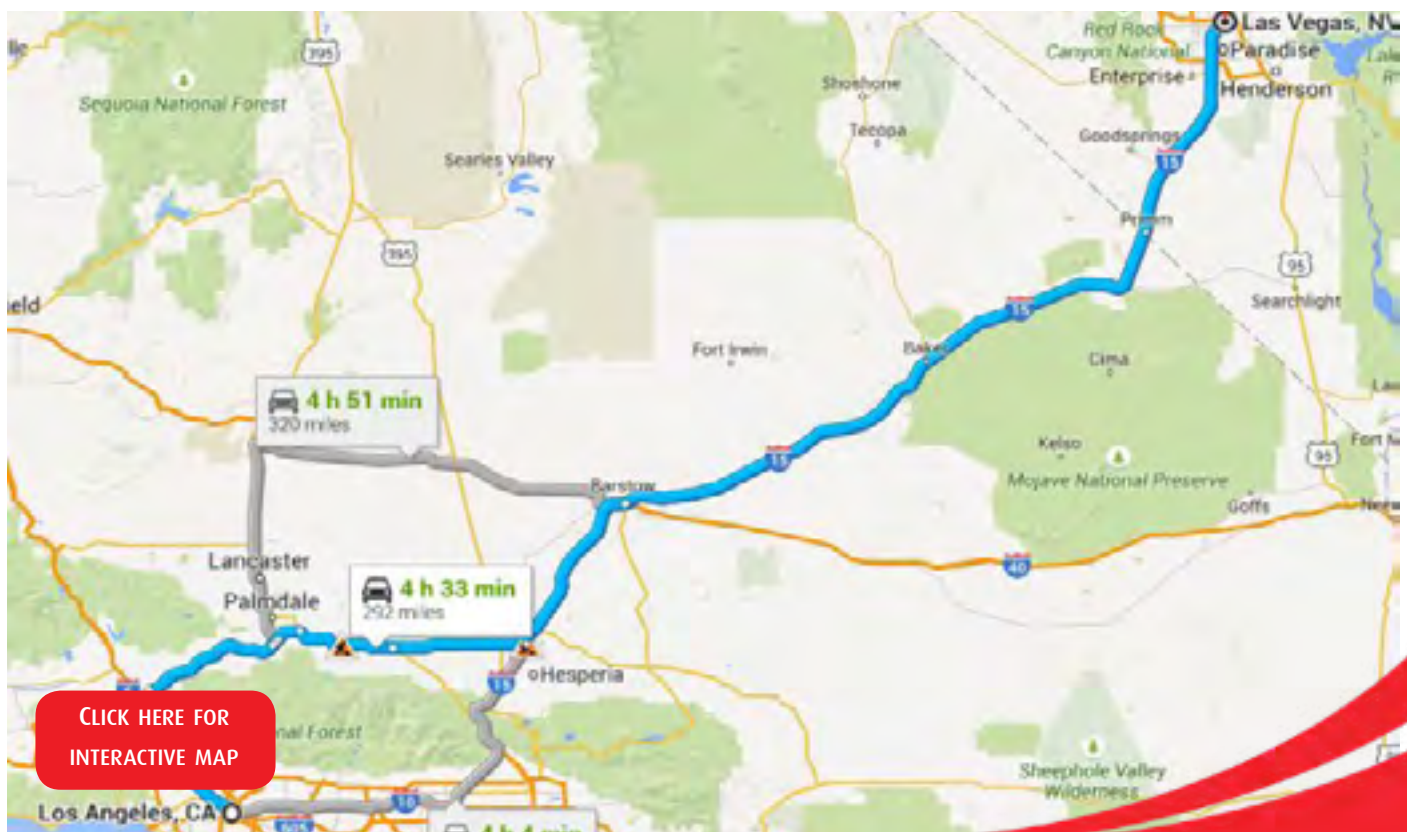
Lake Tahoe is the 10th deepest lake in the world. The clear water reflects dazzling turquoise. In Lake Tahoe you can try fishing, ice skating, hiking, skiing and more, or even an evening movie on the beach and free concerts.

California to Nevada

Las Vegas

Los Angeles to Las Vegas (270mi/190km)

The drive from Los Angeles to Las Vegas is extremely popular and takes just over 4 hours, but allow time to stop off along the way. First take the US 101 and then head onto the I-15N. The first stop off the highway is at Mormon Rocks - massive sandstone rock formations. Time permitting, take exit 153a and head along old Route 66 from Victorville to Barstow. Along this drive you will see many old diners, an ostrich farm and Bottletree Ranch full of metal tress made with old bottles. Back on the I-15N, take the Ghost Town Road exit and then left onto Yermo Road as you arrive at Peggy Sue's 50s Diner. Built in 1954, this is a great spot to indulge in everything from hamburgers to apple pie. Head back onto the I-15N and take exit 239 for Zzyzx Road a popular "oasis" stop in the Mojave Desert where you will discover some interesting history. Next stop is Baker, home to The Mad Greek - a famous 24 hour diner. Continue along I-15N across the boarder into Nevada, arriving at the party capital of Las Vegas.



The Loneliest Road Cowboy Country

Nevada

Day 1: Lake Tahoe - Highway 50

After Life Magazine dubbed Nevada's portion of Highway 50 as the Loneliest Road in America, travellers near and far have flocked to the Silver State to experience this epic road trip. Check out this legendary stretch of road, but only if you're up for some incredible hot springing excursions at Spencer's, monumental lodging like the Hotel Nevada, the biggest burger challenge you'll ever face in Middlegate and the best kept National Park's secret at Great Basin.

NEVADA ATTRACTIONS

- » The Valley of Fire
- » The Fremont Street Experience
- » The Grand Canyon
- » Lake Tahoe
- » Las Vegas
- » Cowboy Country
- » Mountain Falls Golf Club

Day 2: Victory Highway - Elko

Head north into Cowboy Country, along the celebrated Victory Highway to Elko where you can spend the day digging into Nevada's mining, ranching and native culture. Stop at the Western Folklife Center, home of the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering, drive to the glacier-carved Lamoille Canyon in the Ruby Mountains and try one of Elko's Basque restaurants.



Fossils & Geology

Utah

Day 1: Salt Lake City - Moab (234mi/376kms)

Start this drive in SLC by visiting the Natural History Museum of Utah and see exhibits of prehistoric fossils. Take a short drive to Thanksgiving Point and the Museum of Ancient Life, which is the world's largest Dinosaur museum. Continue onto Moab.

UTAH ATTRACTIONS

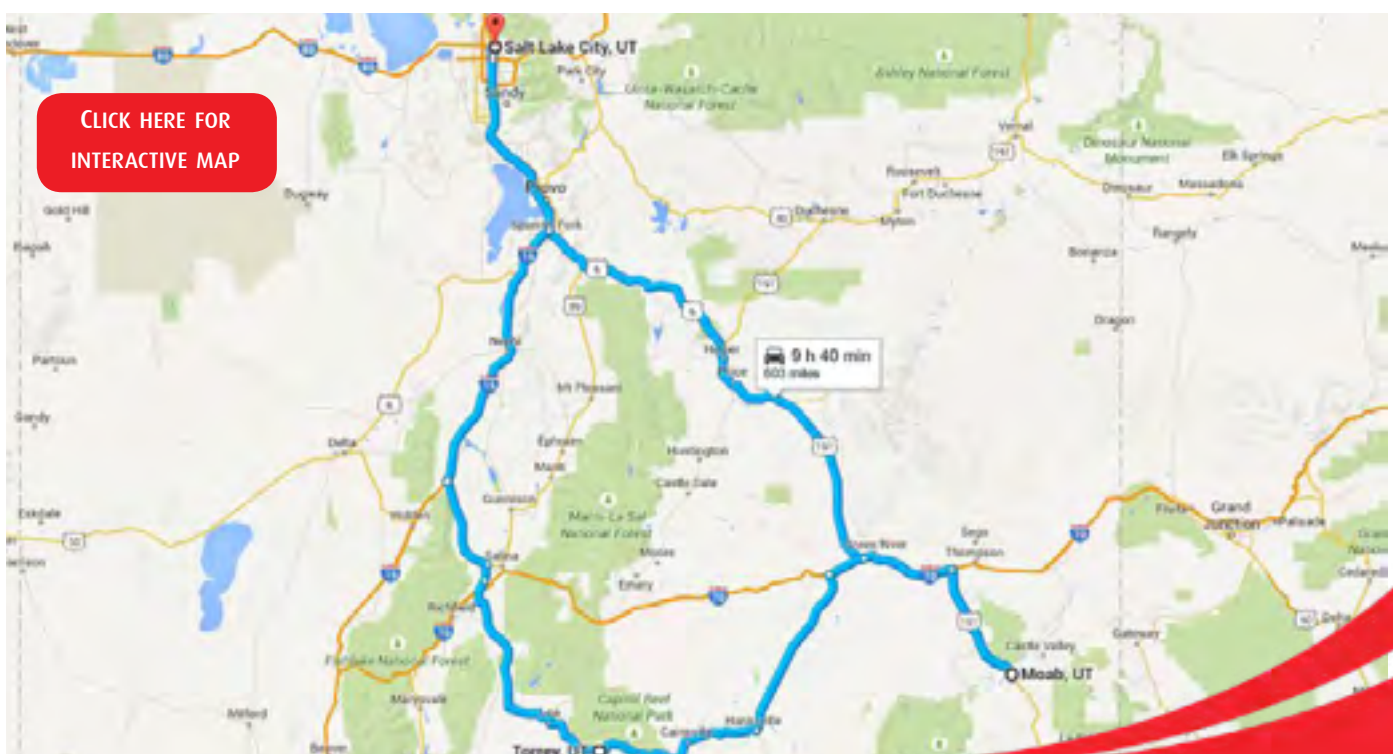
- » Salt Lake City
- » The Great Salt Lake
- » Antelope Island
- » Arches National Park
- » Bryce Canyon National Park
- » Capital Reef National Park
- » Monument Valley

Day 2: Moab, Utah

Explore Arches National Park, hiking to Delicate Arch and discover over 2,000 ecological arches. Continue onto the Negro Bill Canyon Trailhead and walk to Morning Glory Arch, one of the longest arches in the world. If time permits experience rafting on the Colorado River.

Day 3: Moab - Torrey, Utah (156mi/251km)

Drive to Goblin Valley State Park, one of the most unique sights in the west, comprising of oddly shaped rock formations that at some points look like



Fossils & Geology

Utah

Day 3 Continued: Moab - Torrey, Utah

an army of goblins. Then continue to Capitol Reef National Park - a 100 mile fold in the earth's crust that created the Colorado Plateau. Erosion has since carved the spectacular cliffs and rock formations of Capitol Reef. Spend the afternoon exploring before driving onto Torrey.

Day 4: Torrey - Salt Lake City, Utah (213mi/342km)

Before concluding this ecology drive, continue to U-Dig Fossils - a quarry west of Delta. Enjoy a day of digging for Trilobites where you are guaranteed to unearth your own 250 million year old fossils which you can take home. Continue back to Salt Lake City.





Beauty & Tranquility

Real America

Comprising the Rocky Mountain States of North Dakota, Montana, South Dakota and Wyoming, this region is located in America's north mid-west.

From the Black Hills of South Dakota to the Theodore Roosevelt National Park of North Dakota and Montana's Glacier National Park to the expanses of Wyoming's Yellowstone National Park, the Real America is an unspoilt region perfect for road trip exploration.

Travel at your own pace in a motorhome or RV rental, discovering Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Grand Teton National Park, Badlands National Park, Medora, Crazy Horse Memorial, Fargo, Jackson Hole, Devils Tower and Buffalo Bill's Cody Country to name but a few.

This region is a haven for outdoor activities such as hiking, whitewater rafting, skiing, snowboarding, boating, biking, horse riding, fly fishing and golfing. For a taste of the Real America visit a rodeo, experience the Wild West and learn about America's frontier heritage.

Beartooth Highway

Wyoming

Day Drive: State Highway 120 (47mi/75km)

Cresting at 10,947 feet in Beartooth Pass, Beartooth Scenic Byway is Wyoming's highest paved primary road. Accessible from the south via the Chief Joseph Scenic Byway (State Hwy. 120), the travelling CBS journalist Charles Kuralt once called it "the most beautiful drive in America," and once you've driven

it you'll understand why. The only National Scenic Byway in Wyoming, this two-lane route was the first and most substantial road to be constructed under the Park Approaches Act of 1931, and is currently in the nomination stage for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Winding through Custer, Shoshone and Gallatin National Forests, drivers will find vast mountain landscapes, massive glaciers and alpine meadows full of wildflowers, all leading up to the Northeast Entrance of Yellowstone National Park. Although Beartooth is closed to automobiles in the winter, it still offers snowmobilers spectacular paths to explore.

Opened in 1936, this drive follows the old Sheridan Trail. If coming from the South, don't be tempted to head straight off to Yellowstone immediately, as you'll miss out on some of the most spectacular panoramic views at Clay Butte Lookout. As you continue along Beartooth Pass, the scenery is spectacular!

WYOMING ATTRACTIONS

- » Cheyenne Frontier Days
- » Cody Night Rodeo
- » Devils Tower
- » Yellowstone National Park
- » Old Faithful Geyser
- » Grand Teton National Park
- » Jackson Hole



Going-to-the-Sun Road

Montana

Day Drive: Glacier National Park (50mi/80km)

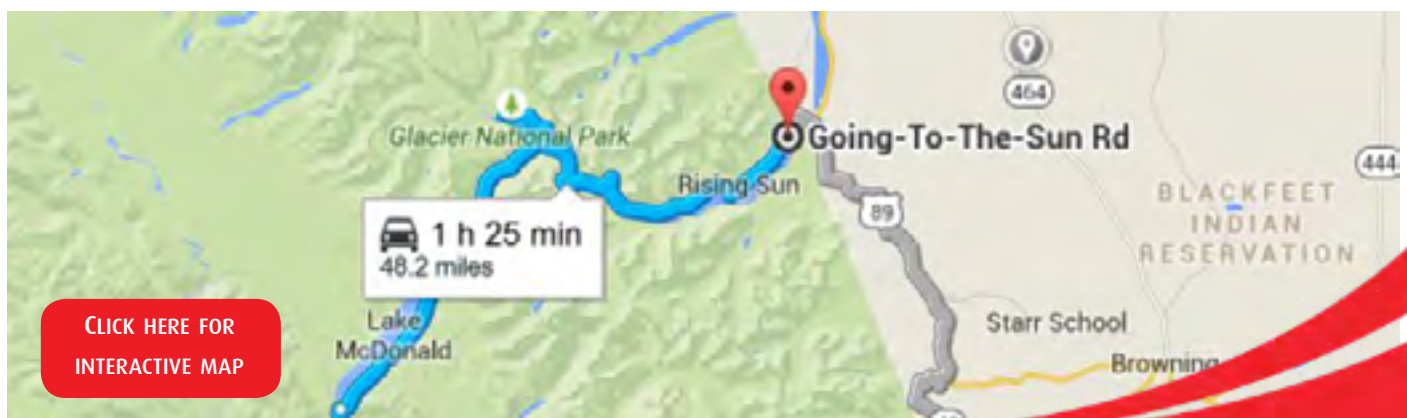
The name itself conjures a vision of something very special, and indeed it is. This road is a spectacular feat of engineering, running east to west through the Glacier National Park with breathtaking scenery ranging from alpine tundra to cedar forests, incredible glacial lakes to mountains that look as if they have exploded out of the earth.

Major highlights include the Jackson Glacier, the “Weeping Wall” and Logan Pass, where you can hike up to a hidden look-out. It is likely that you will see some of the local wildlife near Logan Pass, including moose, mountain goats and bighorn sheep. If you take the time to visit, there is plenty to see off the Sun Road as well.

Montana is known for its good food, microbreweries and farmers’ markets – don’t forget to try some of the local Huckleberry Pie! It’s not often you get a chance to enjoy countryside as pristine as what you’ll find in this northern American state. Please note that the Sun Road is only accessible from June to mid-late October depending on the snow fall.

MONTANA ATTRACTIONS

- » Glacier National Park
- » Helena
- » Missoula
- » Bannack Ghost Town
- » Crow Fair Pow Wow
- » Little Bighorn Monument



The Enchanted Highway

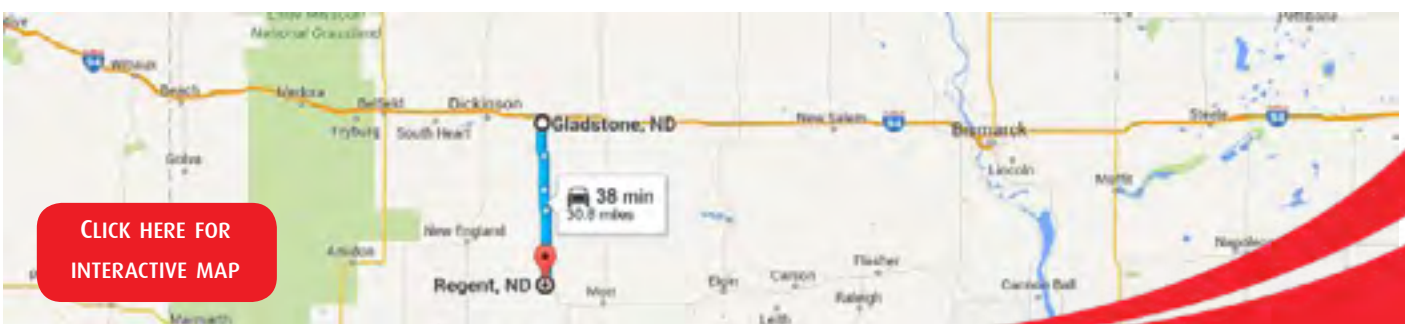
North Dakota

Day Drive: Gladstone - Regent (30mi/56km)

The Enchanted Highway begins at Exit 72 on I-94 near Gladstone and terminates 30 miles down the road in the small town of Regent. Beginning with “Geese in Flight” at Exit 72, large metal sculptures are placed along the county highway, each with a parking area and kiosk. Sculptures include World’s Largest Tin Family, Teddy Rides Again, Pheasants on the Prairie, Grasshoppers in the Field, Deer Crossing and Fisherman’s Dream. The gift shop in Regent has miniatures of each statues.

NORTH DAKOTA ATTRACTIONS

- » Medora
- » Theodore Roosevelt Nat. Park
- » Bismarck Mandan
- » Maah Daah Hey Trail
- » Fargo
- » United Tribes Int.Powwow
- » Lake Metigoshe State Park
- » International Peace Garden



[CLICK HERE FOR
INTERACTIVE MAP](#)

Peter Norbeck National Scenic Byway

South Dakota

Day Drive: Black Hills (70mi/112km)

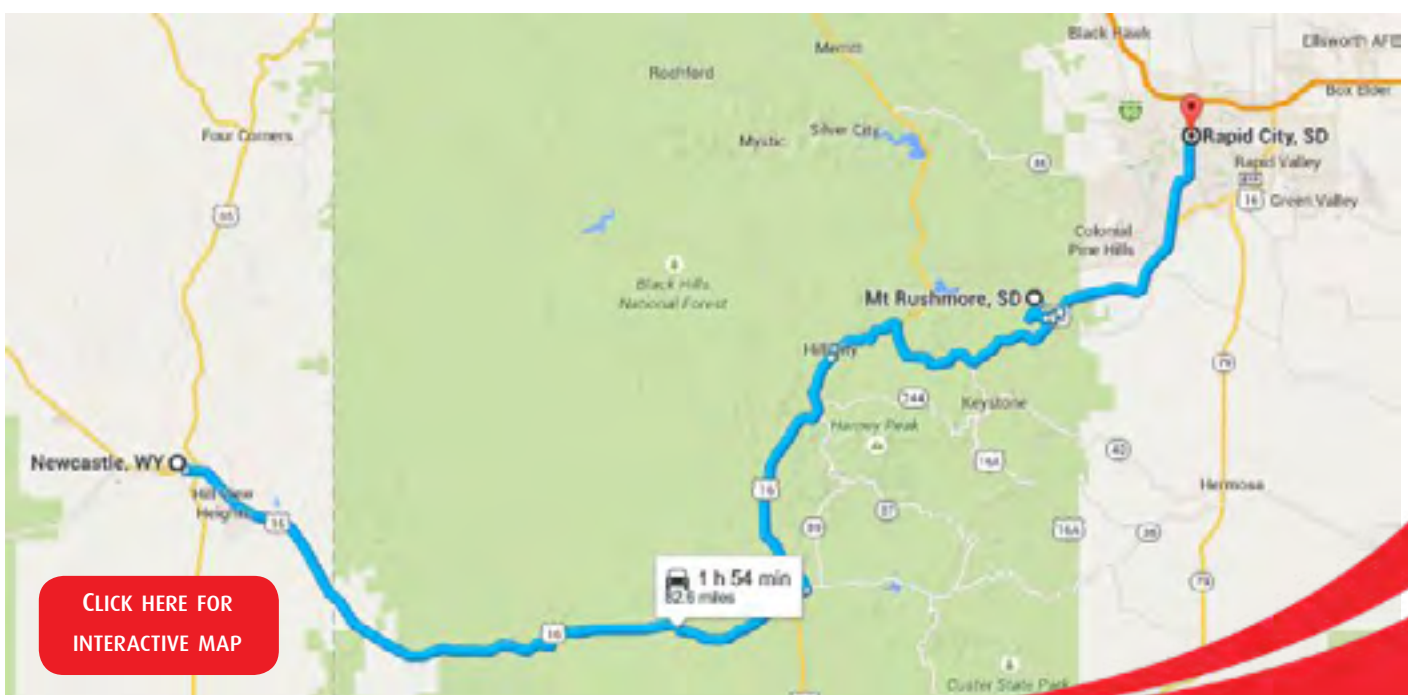
Peter Norbeck was a visionary Senator and Governor for South Dakota. He personally chose the layout of the Iron Mountain Road in the 1930s and persisted in building when told it couldn't be done.

SOUTH DAKOTA ATTRACTIONS

- » Mount Rushmore
- » Black Hills
- » Custer Buffalo Round-up
- » Sand Lake Refuge
- » Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary
- » Pierre
- » Rapid City

This masterpiece of artistic engineering includes spiraling bridges, hairpin curves, granite tunnels and awe-inspiring views and was named one of the 10 most outstanding byways in America.

Roughly a figure-eight route, the route travels through portions of Custer State Park, Norbeck Wildlife Preserve, Mount Rushmore National Memorial and the Black Elk National Wilderness Area. Highways 16A, 244, 89 and 87 combine to create this amazing route with mountain lakes and rocky terrain about every turn. Shaggy white mountain goats, deer and chipmunks are commonly seen along the way.





Yee-haw!

Great Plains

From the mountainous region of Colorado through to the wide open plains of Texas this region is located in America's mid south-west.

Colorado is famed for its outdoor activities such as skiing and white water rafting. But there is much more waiting to be discovered along the states 25 scenic byways, including wildlife, gold rush history and wineries.

Think of Nebraska and agriculture springs to mind. This state offers a variety of scenic byways through historical trails, cowboy country and wild prairies. Venture into the heartland of the Great Plains, Kansas State and learn about some of America's Native Indian tribes. Visit tall grass prairies in a covered wagon and see bison in the wild, and indulge in a local barbeque.

Continue south into the state of Texas, famed for its cowboys and rodeos. Attractions include the Sixth Floor Museum and the Bishop's Art District. Dine at one of the 8,000 restaurants, enjoy a sports game – Dallas Cowboys, Texas Ranges, Dallas Mavericks and take the River-walk in San Antonio and visit the famous Southfork Ranch.

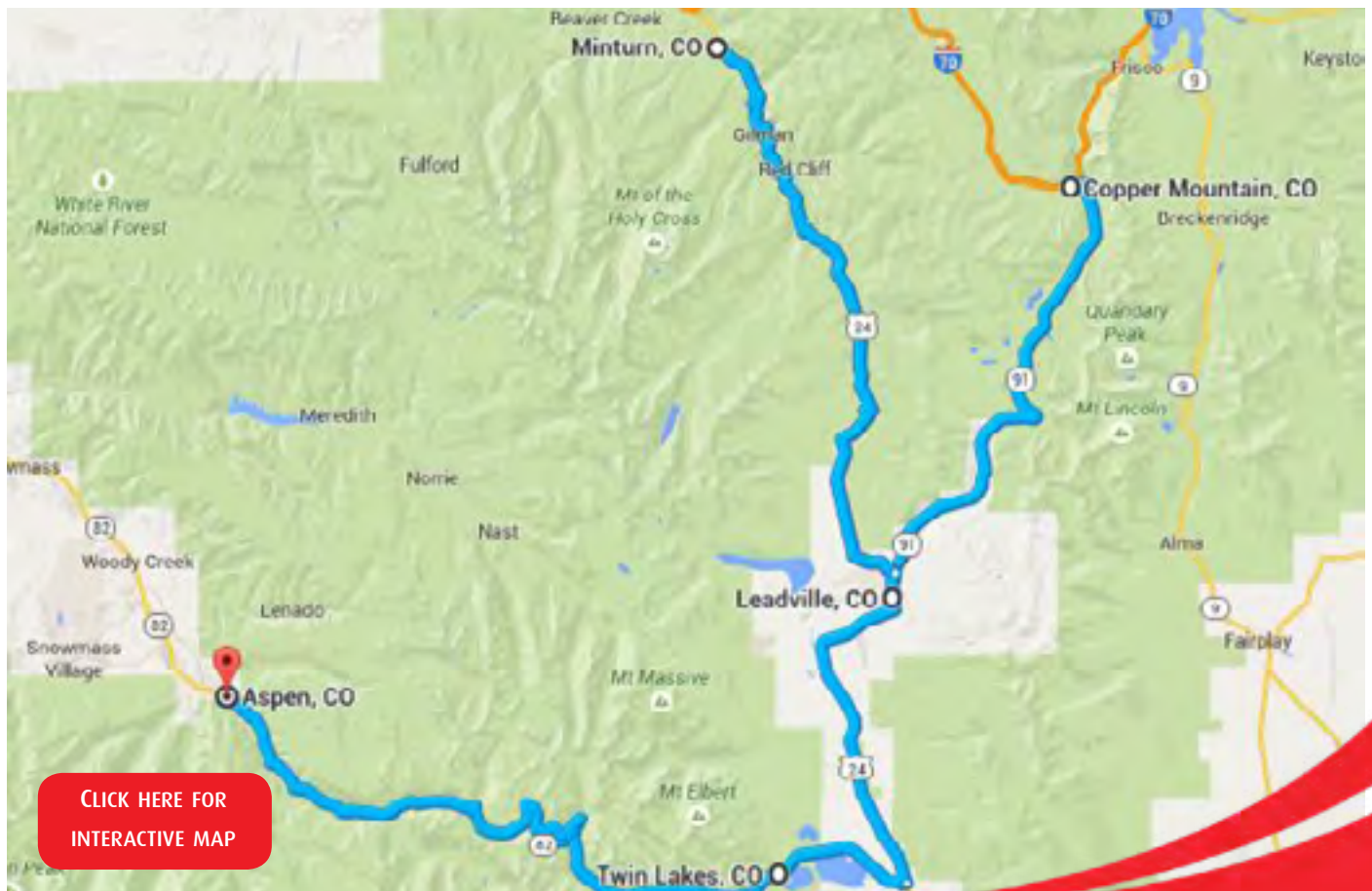
Top of the Rockies

Colorado

Day Drive: Copper Mountain / Mintur - Aspen (115mi/185km)

This incredibly scenic drive brings access to a vast network of trails and recreational activities including hiking, climbing, wildlife viewing, mountain biking and horseback riding. The numerous lakes and streams offer some of the finest trout fishing in the country, kayaking, canoeing or just relaxing by the shores.

Start the drive from Copper Mountain on Highway 91; from Leadville at the juncture of Highways 91 and 24, from Minturn on Highway 24 or from Aspen on Highway 82. The Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Commission has adopted the Columbine, the Colorado state flower, as its logo. As you tour the byway, the Columbine signs will identify your route. As you travel along the route look out for big-horn sheep, prong horn antelope, red-tail foxes, deer, elk, pica, mountain goat and marmot!



Urban Cowboy Adventure

Texas

Day 1-2: DFW Airport - Fort Worth (25mi/40km)

A modern day Cowtown, the streets of The Historic Fort Worth Stockyards will transform you to the old western movies of John Wayne. A newly constructed walkable plaza in Sundance Square along with a vibrant art scene, is a great place to begin your introduction to the Texas culture.

TEXAS ATTRACTIONS

- » Cattle Drive in Stockyards
- » Fort Worth's Cultural District
- » Horse Riding
- » Dallas 6th Floor Museum
- » Reunion Tower
- » Dallas Zoo & Aquarium
- » Fort Worth's Sundance Square

Day 3-4: Wildcatter Ranch (90mi/144km)

Escape to this 1,500 acre working Texas cattle ranch. Set in incredible scenery enjoy activities led by a team of local Texas cowboys such as horseback-riding, feeding longhorn Cattle and Skeet Shooting. Finish the day off with a hand-cut Mesquit grilled Texas steak with a dip in the pool and hot tub.

Day 5-6: Wildcatter Ranch - Dallas (120mi/193km)

Dallas is the urban contrast to your western experience in Fort Worth and the ranch. The city is made up of several districts centered around a vibrant downtown. Plan to explore the largest arts district in the USA, trendy nightlife in Uptown or the music scene of Deep Ellum. Save time for shopping as Dallas offers a vast variety of choice from outlets to luxury shops, all with the added bonus of the tax-free program.



Get Your Kicks...



Great Lakes

A diverse region, the Great Lakes comprise of 5 interconnecting lakes in the central north-east and include the states of Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio. The regions shares a mix of natural beauty and industrial settlements.

There's no better way to discover the Great Lakes than by taking a road-trip exploring Lakes Erie, Michigan and Huron. Visit the city of Detroit with its many attractions and bustling street including the Detroit Institute of Arts (the 6th largest fine arts museum in America) and stroll around Mackinac Island State Park.

Chicago is one of America's largest cities with towering skyscrapers including the iconic John Hancock Centre, Willis Tower and neo-Gothic Tower. Attractions include Millennium Park, Navy Pier, Grant Park, the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum, The Field Museum, The Shedd Aquarium and the Art Institute of Chicago.

For all road trip lovers, Chicago is highly renowned for the start of America's best known road trip, Route 66!

Route 66

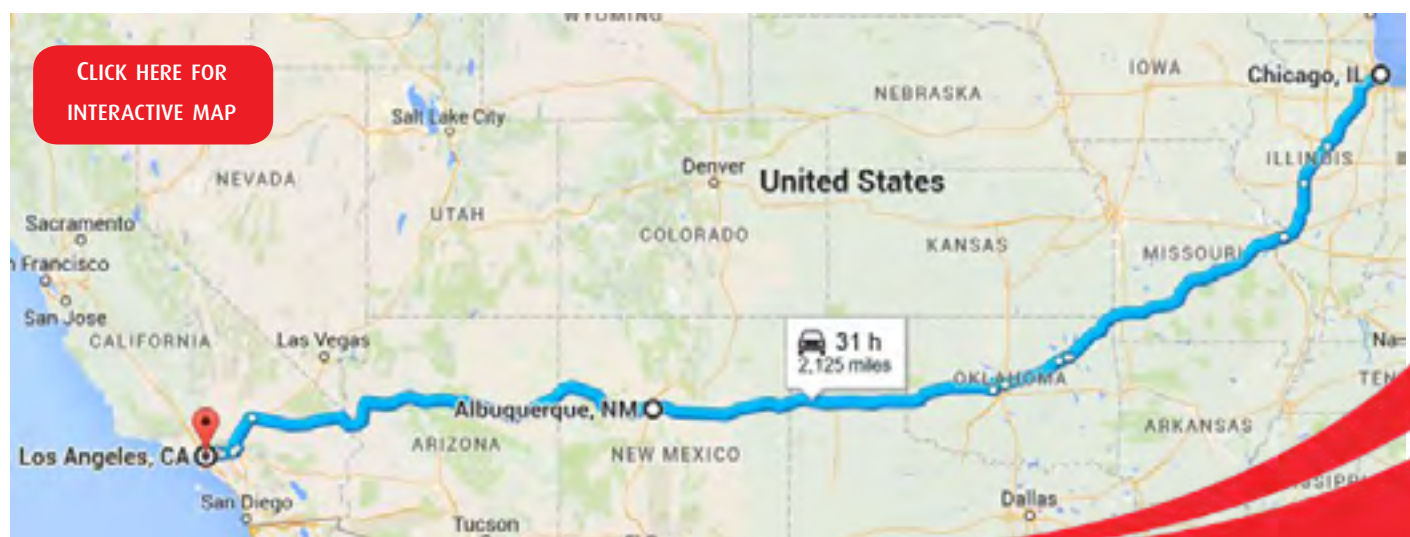
**Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma,
Texas, New Mexico, Arizona & California**

14 Days: Chicago Illinois - Los Angeles (3300mi/5215km)

One of the most famous highways in the US, Route 66 stretches from Chicago to Los Angeles. Built in 1926, it became the main route for migrants seeking a better life in California. The historical route has now been replaced with modern highways but the townships have preserved the heritage of historical Route 66.

After exploring Chicago and Lake Michigan, begin your journey through the farmland of Illinois and onto St Louis, Missouri. From the Mississippi River, Route 66 will take you through Oklahoma City where the migrant convoys in the 1930s once began. Stop off at Oklahoma Museum which tells the story of this historical journey. Travel through the region of the Cheyenne and Arapao Indians where they once hunted bison, then onto Amarillo Texas, home to cowboys and oil fields.

Stop off at the infamous Cadillac Ranch where you will find 10 tail-finned Cadillacs buried nose first into the sand! Continue to New Mexico through the hunting lands of the Comanche Indians and onto Albuquerque.



Route 66

**Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma,
Texas, New Mexico, Arizona & California**

14 Days - continued: Chicago Illinois - Los Angeles (3300mi/5215km)

At Albuquerque, take a ride on the aerial tramway to the top of the Sandian Mountains. The city is world famous for its hot air balloon festival in October. Travelling onto Santa Fe, taking the famous Tortoise Trail through the small artist-mountain communities. Built in 1610, visit the oldest government building in the US, Palace of the Governors. Drive onto Holbrook, the Petrified Forest National Park, then through Navajo Indian Country toward the Grand Canyon National Park where you can take a helicopter flight or a hike and experience its vast majestic scenery. Stop off at Flagstaff and try your hand star-gazing at the Lowell Observatory.

Journey onto Las Vegas, otherwise known as Sin City, and the entertainment capital of the world! Here you may choose to visit the Red Rock Canyon or take a flight over the West Rim of the Grand Canyon. Highlights include the Skywalk outlet shopping and, of course, the nightlife Vegas is renowned for. From Las Vegas, head west through the Mojave Desert stopping at the ghost town of Calico. Finally, Route 66 concludes at Santa Monica, Los Angeles - The City of Angels, where you can take a leisurely stroll along the boardwalk and marvel at the alternative culture along Venice Beach!





Heart & Soul...

The Deep South

This region covers the southern most part of America and includes the states of Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama.

Rich in antebellum history, a visit to the Deep South will leave you deeply moved. From the hardship of the cotton fields, the heart and soul of Gospel music was born and later influenced Rock 'n' Roll and evolved into Rhythm & Blues.

Follow the mighty Mississippi, one of the world's most famous rivers through the Deep South exploring some of the rural heartland and delightful small towns and cities to which the river gave birth. Experience traditional blues music with a mix of gospel and soul. Great musicians emerge and thrive in the cities from where their music first caught the world's imagination.

A journey through the Deep South would not be complete without experiencing a southern barbeque, iced tea and some great southern hospitality!

Ol' Man River

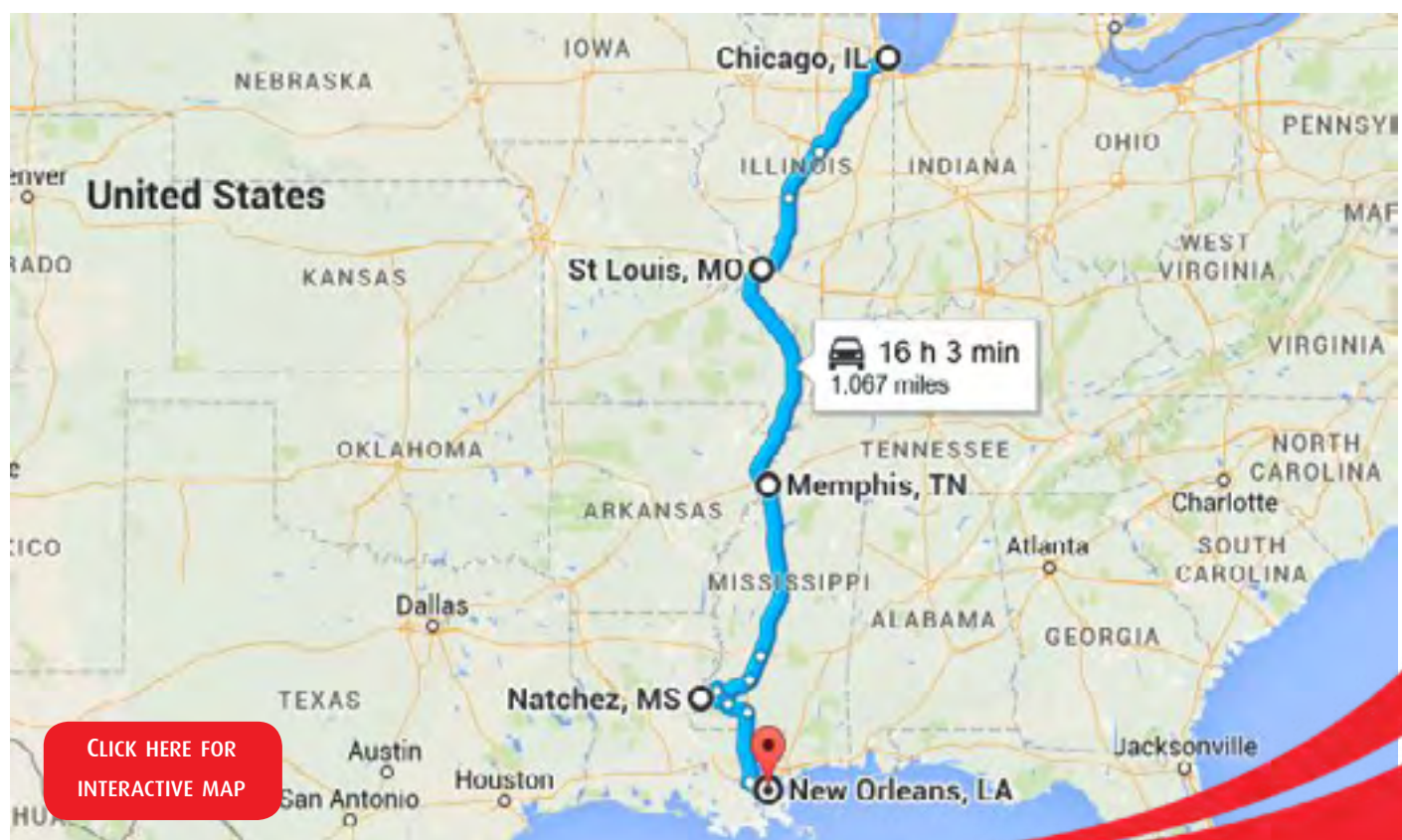
Chicago - New Orleans

Day 1: Chicago

Explore this magnificent city built around Lake Michigan and take the curving Lakeside Drive see stunning views of the skyline, dominated by the John Hancock Center buildings. The view from the top of the building offers a breathtaking panorama over the city and the lake beyond. Stroll the grounds of Millennium Park and take a look at the reflective Cloud Gate Sculpture or cross the Chicago River and head into downtown. With a thriving centre of boutiques, cafés, restaurants and specialist shops, Chicago is lively by day and night.

Day 2: Chicago - St Louis (296mi/476km)

Depart Chicago and head towards St Louis. En route stop at the Route 66 Hall of Fame and Museum, home to thousands of artefacts and memorabilia related to Route 66 - The Mother Road. Stop for lunch at Springfield, Illinois before arriving at St Louis.



Ol' Man River

Chicago - New Orleans

Day 3: St Louis

Head to Gateway Arch for a magnificent view of St. Louis. Visit the Odyssey Theatre for a larger than life glimpse of Lewis and Clark's Great Journey West along with the Museum of Westward Expansion which preserves rare artifacts from the days of Lewis and Clark. The museum also houses exhibits of early day pioneers who helped shape the history of the American West. Enjoy lunch at the Missouri Botanical Garden before boarding the garden's tram for a narrated tour through the beautiful grounds. Founded in 1859 the Missouri Botanical Garden contains 79 acres of scenic landscaping and sculptures. Highlights include: the Climatron® tropical rain forest, Linnean House, Japanese Garden and the Grigg Nanjing Friendship Chinese Garden. Next, tour the Anheuser-Busch Brewery. Visit the historic stable home to the Budweiser Clydesdales and see first hand how the beer is crafted in the Brew House and packaged in the Bevo Packaging Plant. After the tour sample the different brews and relax in the Hospitality Room or browse the gift shop. Dine at one of St. Louis great restaurants before taking in some authentic St. Louis blues music.

Day 4: St Louis - Memphis (283mi/455km)

Before heading off, see one of the largest mosaic collections in the world as you tour the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis. Take a 4.5 hour drive to Memphis, the heartland of gospel and birthplace of Rock 'n' Roll and enjoy some Memphis barbeque.

Ol' Man River

Chicago - New Orleans

Day 5: Memphis

Explore Memphis before a visit to Graceland, home of all things Elvis Presley. Explore the mansion and grounds of his 14-acre estate, along with Elvis Presley's Automobile Museum, the Lisa Marie Jet and Hound Dog II Jetstar planes. After lunch make a visit to the famous Sun Studio where Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash and B.B. King first recorded. Continue to Mud Island River Park and the Swiss-made monorail which offer great views of downtown Memphis, the Mississippi River and Mud Island River Park. This evening take the opportunity to experience the nightlife of Beale Street.

Day 6: Memphis to Natchez (300mi/482km)

Continue to follow the Ol' Man River to Natchez. Along the way make a stop at Clarksdale and the Delta Blues Museum, to give yourself the chance to explore the history and heritage of the unique American musical art form of the blues.



Ol' Man River

Chicago to New Orleans

Day 7: Natchez

Founded in 1716 by the French and named after the Indians who dwelt there, this unique town is recognized as the oldest settlement on the Mississippi River. Visit the Frogmore Plantation, a cotton plantation of the early 1800s which still produces cotton and gin today. Learn of the early Natchez planters and their slaves, following their evolution from the wilderness to the thriving 1850s cotton plantation, beyond the 'War Between the States' to a struggling new way of life. Examples of authentically furnished slave quarters can be seen. Later this afternoon head over to the Antebellum Homes of Natchez and this evening and enjoy some authentic blues alley entertainment.

NEW ORLEANS ATTRACTIONS

- » French Quarter
- » Bourbon Street
- » Creole & Cajun cuisine
- » Cafe du Monde
- » Garden District
- » Mardi Gras
- » Voodoo Cemetery

Day 8: Natchez - New Orleans (170mi/273km)

Drive to Oak Alley Plantation, a protected National Historic Landmark. It is named after its distinguishing feature, an alley or canopied path created by a double row of live oaks about 800 feet long planted in the early 18th century, long before the present house was built. The alley runs between the house and the Mississippi River. Continue to New Orleans, otherwise known as Big Easy and the city that never sleeps.



Endless Summer...



The South East

America's South East covers the states of North & South Carolina, along with Florida and Georgia.

Florida has endless stretches of white sandy beaches and sunshine - well, 825 miles! Popular with families, it is home to Disney World, Sea World Universal Studios. Miami is the gateway to the Caribbean with many cruise departures from the port. Take a boardwalk along Miami Beach, surf at Fort Lauderdale and swim at Daytona Beach.

North Carolina is a great place for relaxing whether it be in the mountains or by the coast. Great for outdoor activities, off for some biking, white water rafting or kayaking on your road trip.

Discover an abundance of waterfalls, forests and natural beauty in South Carolina. Take a drive through the Devils Fork State Park and explore the Jocassee Georges on the Lake of Jocassee. This state is full of natural beauty and tranquility...

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Overseas Highway

Florida Keys

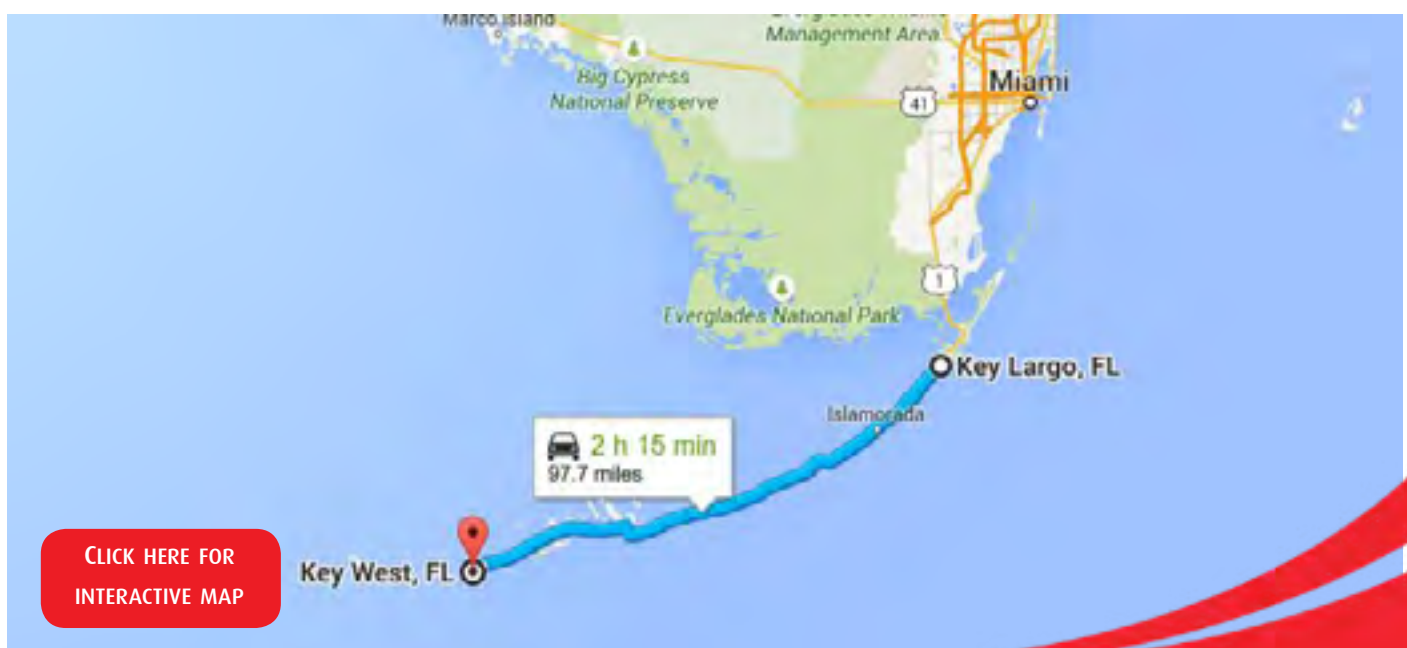
Day Trip: Key Largo - Key West (127mi/204km)

The Overseas Highway, also known as U.S. Highway 1, connects the Florida Keys with the mainland. The Florida Keys are over 120 mile long chain of islands around the base of the Florida peninsula, and are connected to the mainland by a series of bridges.

FLORIDA ATTRACTIONS

- » Disney World & Sea World
- » Universal Studios
- » Daytona Beach
- » Miami & Orlando
- » Kennedy Space Centre
- » Florida Keys
- » Everglades

The most spectacular bridge, the Seven Mile Bridge in the Lower Keys, has been featured in movies such as True Lies and 2 Fast 2 Furious. The Overseas Highway runs from Key Largo, Islamadora, Marathon, Lower Keys and finally to Key West, the most distant and most famous of the Florida Keys. In addition to spectacular beaches, diving and snorkeling, the Florida Keys offer botanical gardens, museums, along with attractions such as the Theater of the Sea and several state and national parks where you can enjoy a wide variety of outdoor recreation and wildlife viewing.



Southern Atlantic Coast

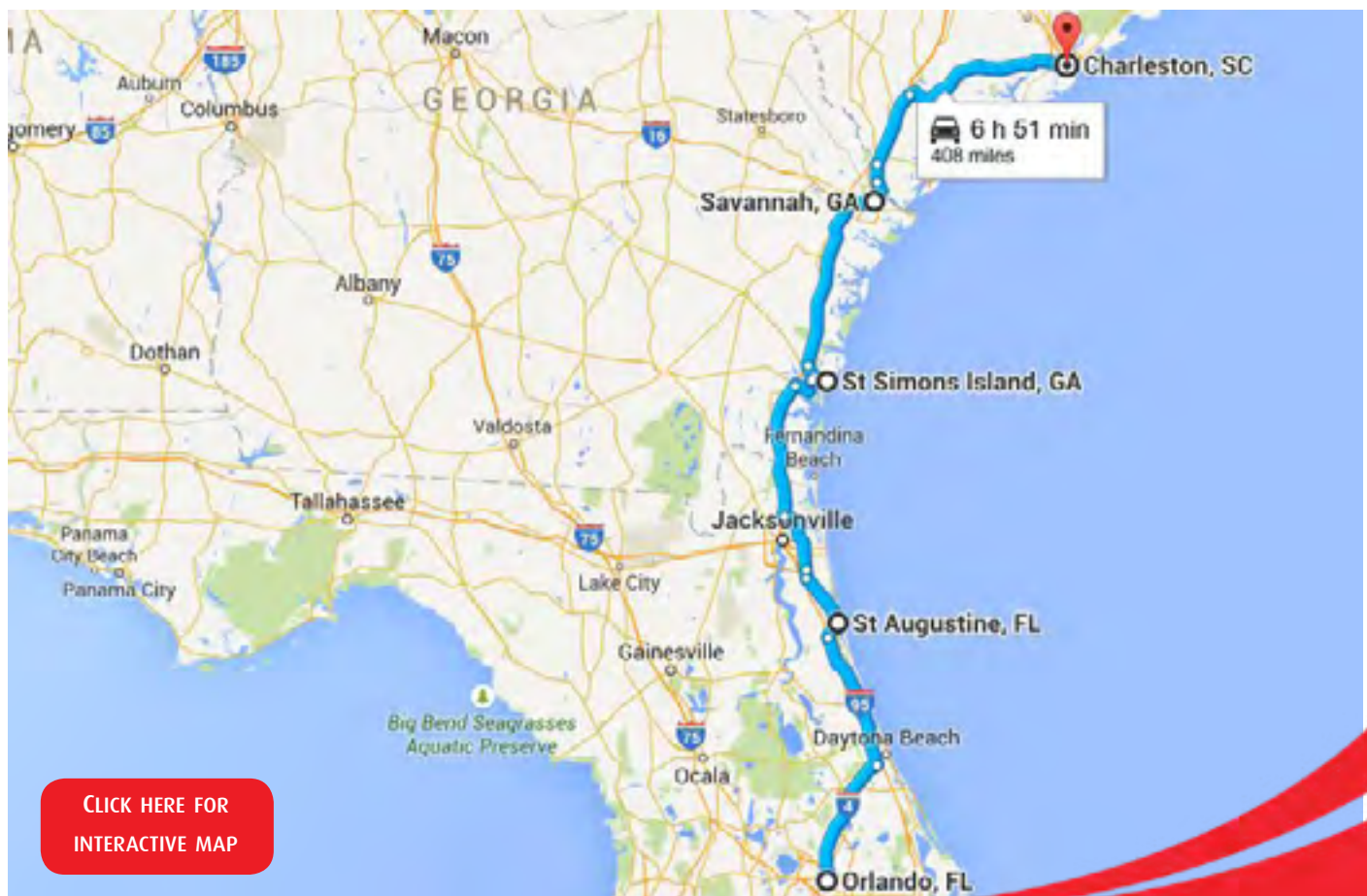
Orlando to Charleston

Day 1-3: Orlando

America's family fun capital Orlando is home to Walt Disney World, Sea World and other famous mega-theme parks including Discovery Cove and Universal Studios. Once you've had your fill of the theme parks, enjoy outstanding golf courses, a family-friendly science centre and the entertainment in the fine art museum.

Day 4: Orlando - St. Augustine (107mi/km)

Departing Orlando, begin your drive and just two hours away stop in St. Augustine, Florida. The oldest city in America, St Augustine is rich in history and set in a tranquil natural setting. Absorb centuries of colorful adventure from the coquina stone walls of the Castillo to the lush grounds of Fort Mose and reveal the city's story.





Cityscapes

The Mid Atlantic

New York State, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Washington DC, Virginia and West Virginia are the states which make up the Mid Atlantic region which is located between New England and the South.

From the hustle and bustle of the Big Apple - New York - and the nation's capital city - Washington DC - to the shores of New Jersey and across the lush plains of the Pennsylvania, the Mid Atlantic has something for everyone. Whether you are looking to live it up in the Hamptons for the weekend, visit the White House or take a road trip through Pennsylvania, the Mid Atlantic is a great destination for a self-drive trip.

Back to Nature

New York to Niagara Falls

Day 1: New York

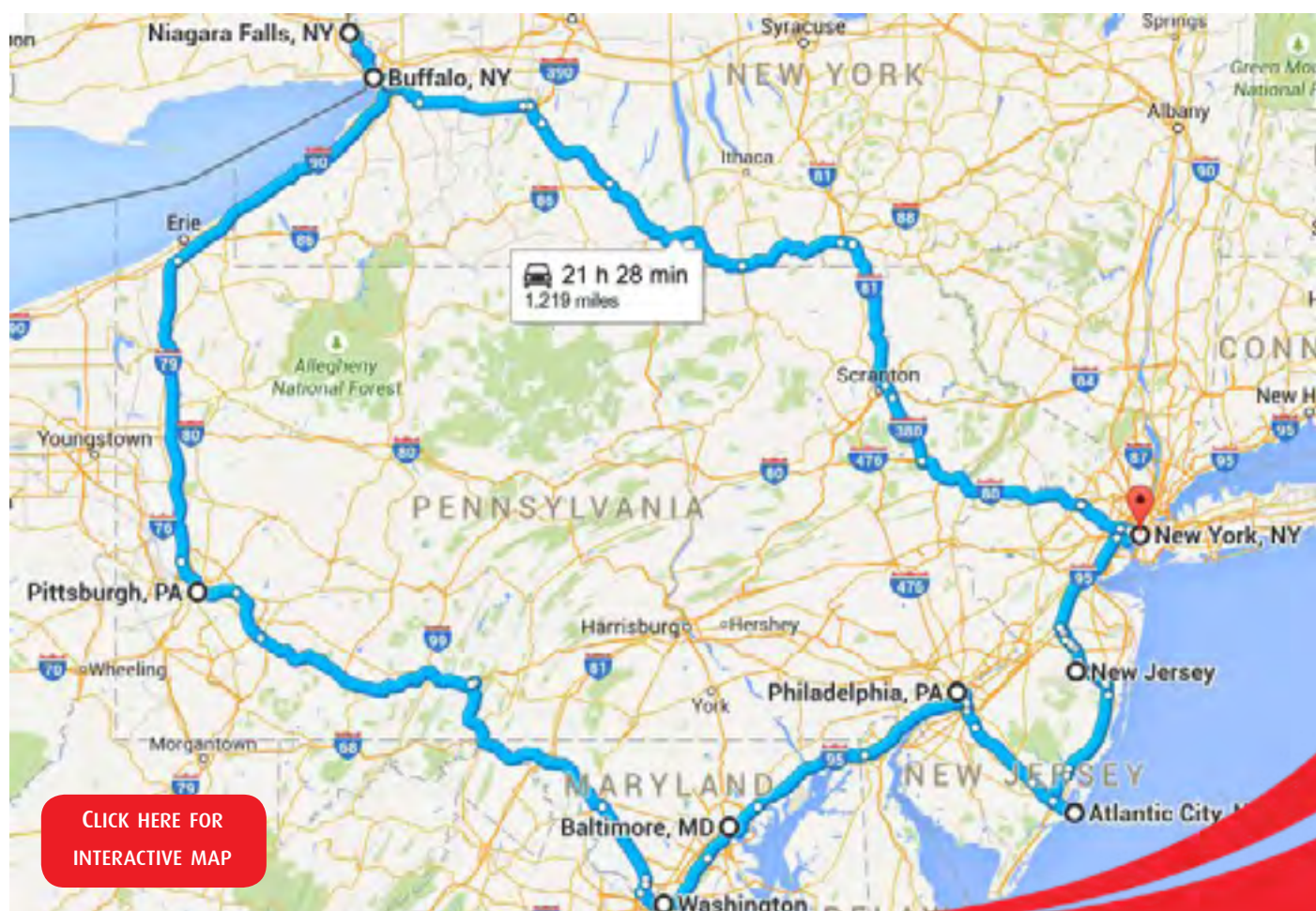
Immerse yourself with the hustle and bustle of the Big Apple, spending a few days exploring the iconic sites and drive across the Brooklyn Bridge.

Day 2: New York to New Jersey (70mi/112km)

New Jersey has a significant role in America's history and there are many museums and historical attractions to see whilst there. Support one of the many sporting teams including Giants and Jets Football teams, Red Bulls, Net Basketball and more. Visit the Pinelands National Reserve which cover 1.1 million acres in south New Jersey.

NEW YORK ATTRACTIONS

- » Times Square
- » Broadway
- » Central Park
- » Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island
- » 5th Avenue
- » Rockefeller Centre
- » NYC Museums



Back to Nature

New York to Niagara Falls

Day 3: New Jersey to Atlantic City (69mi/110km)

Atlantic City offers visitors many attractions. The Atlantic City Boardwalk is a great place to spend the day browsing the confectionery shops, strolling the arcade, visiting the casinos, hotels, eateries, rides and more. Try many activities whilst in Atlantic City such as para-sailing, sailing or surf school and relax at the day spas.

WASHINGTON DC ATTRACTIONS

- » The White House
- » The Lincoln Memorial
- » Franklin D Roosevelt Memorial
- » The Smithsonian
- » Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- » Chesapeake & Ohio Canal
- » International Spy Museum

Day 4: Atlantic City to Philadelphia (62mi/100km)

Visit the following must see attractions whilst in Philadelphia like the Benjamin Franklin Museum, Liberty Bell, Adventure Aquarium, Philadelphia Museum of Art, LOVE Park at JFK Plaza and any other sites you desire.

Day 5: Philadelphia to Baltimore (100mi/160km)

The number one attraction in Baltimore is the National Aquarium. Make sure to check out the Maryland Science Centre, Baltimore Basilica and Railroad museum.

Day 6: Baltimore to Washington, D.C. (39mi/60km)

The capital of the U.S. is overflowing with government buildings, sites and attractions. Visit the White House and Lincoln Memorial

Day 7: Washington, D.C. to Pittsburgh (245mi/395km)

Spend a few days in Pittsburgh enjoying the family friendly activities like the Carnegie Museum of Art, Kennywood Park and the Pittsburgh Pirates at PNC Park.

Back to Nature

New York to Niagara Falls

Day 8: Pittsburgh to Niagara Falls (238mi/383km)

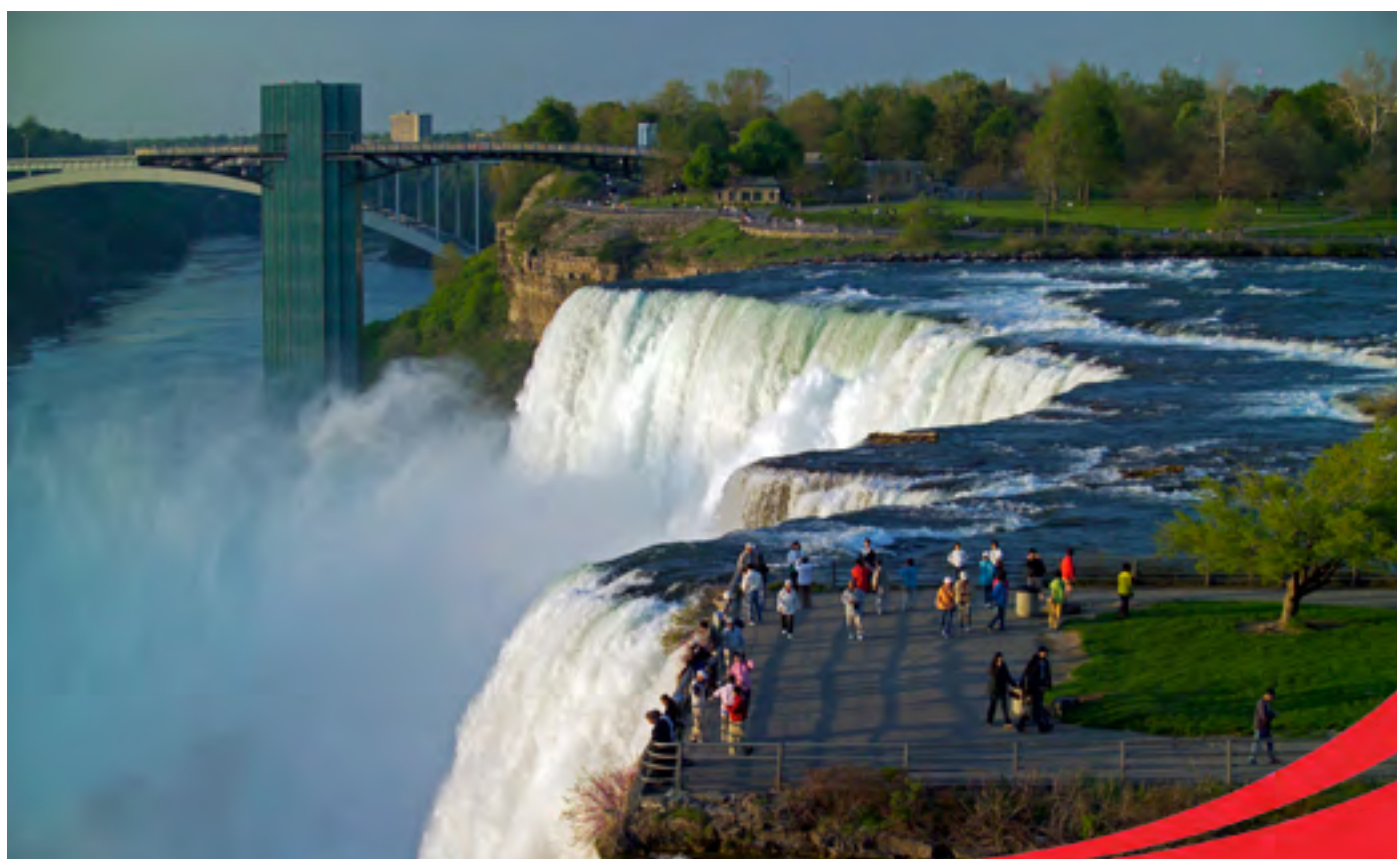
Experience the world famous Niagara Falls on your road trip. Walk through the park at your own leisure or take the Niagara Scenic Trolley ride. This natural beauty is not to be missed when driving near the Canadian border.

Day 9: Niagara Falls to Buffalo (20mi/32km)

Whilst in Buffalo visit the architectural sites designed by Frank Lloyd Wright as well as Shea's Performing Arts Centre, Botanical Gardens, Forest Lawn, Albright Knox Art Gallery, Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site, St Joseph's Cathedral and Liberty Building. This small town and more than enough to see and do.

Day 10: Buffalo to New York (373/600km)

End your road trip back in New York and continue to explore this fascinating city!



Fall & Foliage



New England

New England is located in the north eastern corner of the United States, comprising the modern states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. Bounded by the Atlantic Ocean, Canada and New York State, New England offers immense diversity.

Perfect for self-drive exploration, this region is best explored during autumn - mid September to mid October when the foliage changes from green to fiery oranges and reds before falling for winter. The mountainous terrains are ideal for hiking and skiing and home to quaint seaside villages, hotel resorts and spas to help you relax and unwind. Discover stretches of serene beaches, scenic byways and interesting cultural history.

A Taste of New England

Boston, The White Mountains & Cape Cod

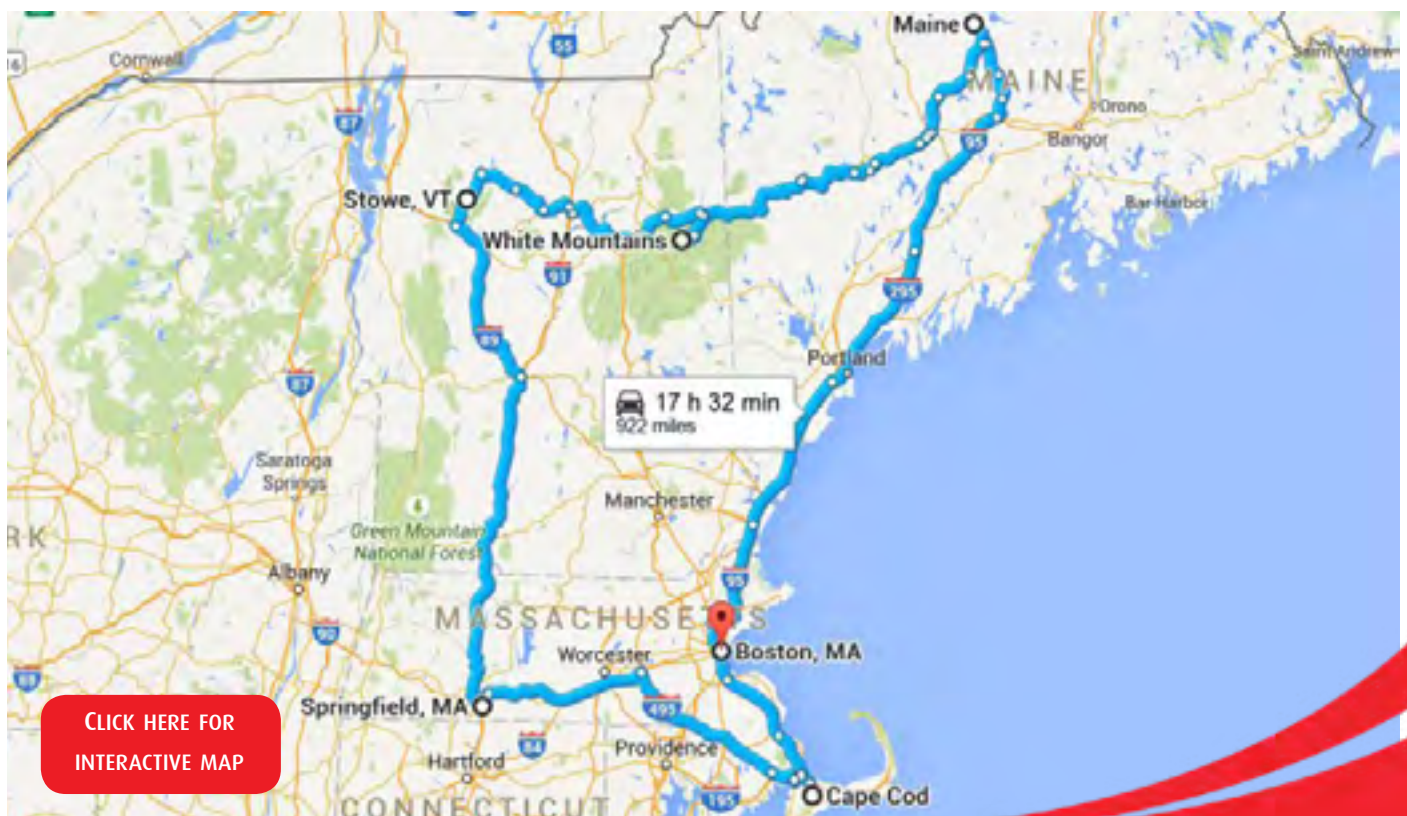
Day 1: Boston - Maine (112mi/180km)

Steeped in history, Boston is one of America's oldest cities and the economic and cultural hub of New England. After spending time exploring head to Maine.

The most scenic and historical route to Maine is through the Essex Heritage area. Along the way, visit the Saugus Ironworks established in 1646 and the old sailing ports of Gloucester and Marblehead. Salem was the site of the witch trials of 1694 and now also hosts the Peabody Museum. Along the route, visit the picturesque seaside town of Kennebunkport in York County. Its reputation as a superb community comes from the numerous large seaside estates along Ocean Avenue. The famous "Bush Compound" is located on Walker's Point, a peninsula visible from Ocean Avenue.

BOSTON ATTRACTIONS

- » The Freedom Trail
- » Cambridge
- » Old North Church
- » Faneuil Hall Marketplace
- » Museum of Science
- » The Cheers Pub
- » Fenway Park



A Taste of New England

Boston, The White Mountains & Cape Cod

Day 2: Maine - White Mountains (107mi/172km)

Drive through stunning scenery from forests to fields, all interspersed with lakes and rivers. When you reach the White Mountains in New Hampshire there are two scenic byways you should drive. The first is the White Mountains Trail National Scenic Byway, a 100 mile loop that winds through the White Mountains National Forest past many attractions. Further south, the second route is the Kancamagus National Scenic Byway, often referred to as the best fall foliage drive in America. The road offers splendid views and vivid colour, best of all between mid-September and mid-October.

Day 3: The White Mountains - Stowe, Northern Vermont (130mi/210km)

The Green Mountains in Vermont played a huge role in the creation of Vermont. The Green Mountain Byway runs on VT 100 through the towns of Waterbury and Stowe, between the spine of the northern Green Mountains to the west and the peaks of the Worcester Range to the east. As you drive the route, enjoy breathtaking views of meadows, farmlands and forests with spectacular mountain backdrops. The most prominent natural feature is Mount Mansfield, Vermont's highest peak.

Day 4: Stowe - Connecticut River Valley/Berkshires (174mi/280km)

Drive the Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway, an untouched rural roadway that runs through the Berkshires. Follow the route through forested hills, the rock-strewn Westfield River, open fields, small towns of 19th century architecture, wetlands and steep rock ledges. Take one of the three entries into Chester-Blandford State Forest and enjoy hiking, camping, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing. Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in Becket a National Historic Landmark, hosts dance companies from around the world. The outdoor stage has a beautiful view into the Berkshire Hills.

A Taste of New England

Boston, the White Mountains & Cape Cod

Further north in the Berkshires you'll find Mount Greylock, one of the highlights of the region. At 3,491 feet, it is the highest point in Massachusetts and southern New England, offering fantastic panoramic views into five states. Legend has it that Greylock's long, saddle-like shape inspired Herman Melville to write "Moby Dick".

Day 5: The Berkshires - Cape Cod, Massachusetts (186mi/300km)

Cape Cod is larger than most people imagine. The Upper Cape closest to the Massachusetts mainland is home to Sandwich and Falmouth, the location of the famous Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Hyannis, of Kennedy fame, is located Mid-Cape. The narrow portion of land where it bends sharply north is considered the Lower Cape. The Outer Cape includes the Cape Cod National Seashore, forty miles of pristine sandy beach, marshes, ponds and uplands. Lighthouses, cultural landscapes and wild cranberry bogs offer a glimpse of Cape Cod's past. Whale watching is a must at the right time of year.

Take a ferry to Nantucket Island, once a booming whaling port with its seaside cottages and old-fashioned whale oil lamps that light the streets. Even though Edgartown is the most famous town on Martha's Vineyard, the Vineyard, another island reached only by boat, actually has six different towns that are as different as night and day. Once a thriving whaling port, the island is now home to writers, artists, architects and designers who come here to get away from the hustle and bustle of Boston.

Day 6: Cape Cod - Boston (75mi/120km)

En-route visit picturesque Sandwich, the Cape's oldest town, and the Plimoth Plantation at Pylmouth - a living Museum of life in 1627 - before driving an hour and a half back to Boston.



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