ROADHOUSE 66

RIDING ROUTE 66 :: DAILY ITINERARY

Saturday, July 21, to Saturday, August 4, 2007

Day 1 :: Saturday, July 21, 2007 :: Arrive in Chicago, Illinois

The tour officially kicks off today! Riders spend the early part of the day traveling to Chicago and arriving at the hotel. Those who need to rent a Harley will need to do so in the afternoon. All riders and bikes need to be checked-in at the hotel prior to 6:00 PM. After Check-In, riders will be free until the Welcome Dinner Reception at 7:30 PM when the group will meet to get acquainted and have dinner and drinks along with a presentation about the long awaited beginning of this once in a lifetime riding tour.

Day 2 :: Sunday, July 22, 2007 :: Chicago, Illinois to Springfield, Illinois
Approximate Mileage :: 215 miles

After a short safety briefing and receiving a map which contains all pertinent information of the days travels, it's time to climb onto the saddle, open up the throttle, and begin our Route 66 experience! Starting out with a hearty breakfast in Chicago, the City of Big Shoulders, at the beginning point of The Mother Road, we will then head proudly southwest across the Land of Lincoln, following the path of Historic Route 66 through Cicero, Berwyn and on into Joliet. We will experience many Route 66 icons along the way, including a stop to pay tribute to the Gemini Giant, before enjoying lunch at an authentic Route 66 eatery.

Then it's off through Gardner, Dwight and Odell before joining the super slab on the way to Funks Grove. Then, after stopping at the Dixie Truckers Home and to see Tall Paul, the group rejoins the super slab for the last leg of the day's journey which will end in Springfield, Illinois.

Day 3 :: Monday, July 23, 2007 :: Springfield, Illinois to St. Louis, Missouri
Approximate Mileage :: 165 miles

An early visit to the Cozy Drive-In prepares us for another day along this great old two-lane highway. Our travels today takes us along the path of the 1918 Illinois State Route 4 through Auburn, Virden and Nilwood before riding our chrome steeds around the quaint, brick paved square in Carlinville where we will stop for a break. The group returns to old 66 in Litchfield just in time for lunch, before traveling through Mt. Olive on the way to visit with Rich and Montana in Staunton.

Leaving Staunton, the group follows the old road through Hamel, Edwardsville and Mitchell before crossing the mighty Mississippi and roaring into Missouri where the stately Chain of Rocks is located. After skirting around St. Louis on the way to our hotel for the night we visit a cool icon of old Route 66 located on Chippewa Street.

Day 4 :: Tuesday, July 24, 2007 :: St. Louis, Missouri to Lebanon, Missouri
Approximate Mileage :: 175 miles

Heading westward down old 66 from St. Louis through the beautiful Ozark State of Missouri ... on two wheels ... is nothing less then spectacular. Today's tour features a superb ride along two-lane 66 through several small towns from Pacific to Cuba before joining the super slab into Rolla where the

group will stop to enjoy a unique culinary treat that is Maid-just-Rite.

Further west on old 66, the group encounters the famous Devil's Elbow along with some early four-lane 66 and the Hooker Cut. Ready for some more two-lane 66 across the Missouri Ozarks? No problem. The tour follows old 66 through Waynesville, Buckhorn, Gascozark and Hazelgreen on the way to Lebanon where we will hold-up for the night at an authentic motel from the heyday of old Route 66..

Day 5 :: Wednesday, July 25, 2007 :: Lebanon, Missouri to Miami, Oklahoma Approximate Mileage :: 170 miles

Today, after a stop at a Route 66 Museum, a combination of super slab and the old two-lane roadbed is placed behind us on the way to Springfield, Missouri. Beyond Springfield, the old highway heads west toward Carthage, just like a pleasant step back in time, through the scenic countryside along an old road which has very dependably served our country for over 80 years.

Carthage has several Route 66 points of interest for us to visit before pushing on west past the 66 Drive-In Theatre, toward Joplin and the State of Kansas. The path of old 66 entering Kansas is truly one-of-a-kind as it winds through Hell's Half Acre and into the old coal mining town of Galena. After a pit stop at the Eisler Brothers Store in Riverton, the hunt is on for the only remaining Marsh Arch Bridge located on Route 66.

Baxter Springs is the final town along the mere 13.2 miles of old 66 through the southeast tip of Kansas and then it's across the Oklahoma State line into our first glimpse of Native American country. We then travel through Quapaw, Commerce and Miami (pronounced Mi am ah) where we stop for the night and a much needed rest.

Day 6 :: Thursday, July 26, 2007 :: Miami, Oklahoma to Tulsa, Oklahoma Approximate Mileage :: 145 miles

Back in 1926, old 66 from Miami to Afton, consisted of a paved road that was only 9' wide. Today, a rare and surviving section of that original roadbed may still be carefully traveled across. A herd of buffalo owned by the Shawnee Tribe reside just up the road on the way to Afton Station. After lunch in Catoosa, the Blue Whale, a famous icon of the old road, marooned in an old swimming hole is eagerly explored.

Once in the saddle again, the Route 66 Harley Davidson dealership in Tulsa, Oklahoma is the next stop ... then it's on to Sapulpa and the Frankoma Pottery Factory. Downtown Tulsa is the next destination where the Cyrus Avery 11th Street Bridge, and both the historic Blue Dome and the Vickery Stations are located. After this, the search is now on for a feast of Hank's Big Okie's with cheese, before heading south to Skelly Drive and our hotel in Tulsa for the evening.

Day 7 :: Friday, July 27, 2007 :: Tulsa, Oklahoma to Clinton, Oklahoma Approximate Mileage :: 210 miles

West of Sapulpa the group rides over the brick deck of the 1921 Rock Creek Bridge and travels along a tree canopied and pristine section of the old historic Ozark Trail. Next the riders tackle the Tank Farm Loop with it's original concrete roadbed, before heading on through Bristow and Depew on the way to the Rock Café in Stroud. Continuing on through Chandler and Wellston, the group puts more vintage two-lane in their back pockets as they approach Arcadia, where a well deserved stop is made for some home cookin', and a visit with Butch at the Round Barn.

Refueled and refreshed, the group skirts around Oklahoma City, and heads for Bethany and more two-lane 66. Yukon and El Reno are up next before riding across the 3⁄4 mile long Pony Bridge on

the way to Hydro and both the old and new Lucille's. Weatherford marks the last town along 66 before we arrive in Clinton, Oklahoma where we will stop to check out the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum before ending another perfect summer day along old historic 66.

Day 8 :: Saturday, July 28, 2007 :: Clinton, Oklahoma to Amarillo, Texas Approximate Mileage :: 175 miles

After leaving Clinton, and passing the Bessie Wye, old 66 provides the group with miles of original Portland concrete pavement which closely follows the lay of the land just like it has always been there. In Elk City we visit the new National Route 66 Transportation Museum, before heading west through Sayre, Foss and Hext and to a well deserved lunch break and show at the City Meat Market in Erick.

As we bid Oklahoma goodbye, and leave Texola behind, the Lone Star State welcomes the riders with open roads fit for a road king all the way to McLean where some Devil's Rope is encountered. Leaving McLean on the super slab, it is time to kick back and settle into the saddle for our final ride of the day under sunny Texas skies, all the way to the Big Texan Steak Ranch, home of the free 72 ounce steak!

While in Amarillo, the riders will attend a Midnight Rodeo before hanging their hats for the night back at the Big Texan Hotel.

Day 9 :: Sunday, July 29, 2007 :: Amarillo, Texas to Santa Rosa, New Mexico Approximate Mileage :: 180 miles

An early morning ride along 6th Street in Amarillo peaks the groups interest for what comes next. But what could be so interesting as to lure this group of road warriors off their bikes and out into the middle of a wheat field in the Texas panhandle to have a closer look? It's the world famous Cadillac Ranch. Then it's time to enjoy a long ride straight through Bushland, Wildorado, Vega and Landergin before a mid-point lunch break in Adrian and a tasty slice of that old "ugly crust pie".

Joining I-40 in Grulkey, the group descends the Caprock Escarpment in search of the ghost town of Glenrio which is located on the border of Texas and New Mexico. Entering New Mexico, the path of old 66 is followed all the way to Tucumcari where Mike's Teepee Curios and the historic Blue Swallow Motel are located. Then it is on through Montoya, Newkirk and Cuervo before joining the super slab for the evening trek into Santa Rosa for the night under the beautiful star lit skies of "Big Sky Country", which are not usually found anywhere else.

Day 10 :: Monday, July 30, 2007 :: Santa Rosa, New Mexico to Gallup, New Mexico Approximate Mileage :: 260 miles

After visiting the Route 66 Auto Museum and heading west out of Santa Rosa, the super slab takes us to Moriarty where the last remaining rotosphere, in existence along old 66, is located. The super slab takes us most of the way to Albuquerque, where the path of Central Avenue is followed through historic Nob Hill and into the downtown where a true BBQ feast awaits us.

Back on old 66, and past many 66 icons and neon signs, including the historic El Vado Motel, the riders tackle the Nine Mile Hill before crossing the vast Rio Puerco Valley on the way to Mesita and the Laguna Pueblo. From here, and all the way to the Arizona border, exists some of the most fabulous scenery New Mexico has to offer.

Following old 66 through big sky country, traveling the same path that millions and millions of those before us have traveled, is a humbling experience ... and one the group will savor as we pass through Grants, Bluewater and Prewitt on our way westward, rising in elevation up to the Continental Divide.

It's all "downhill" from here as our late afternoon super slab journey to the Native American town of Gallup begins. Entering Gallup, the group seeks out a popular lodge where many movie stars once stayed. This looks like a good place to dismount and rest the groups road weary bodies for the night.

Day 11 :: Tuesday, July 31, 2007 :: Gallup, New Mexico to Williams, Arizona Approximate Mileage :: 230 miles

Today is another busy day along old 66. New Mexico gives way to the Copper State of Arizona with its spectacular scenery. After a stop at the old and dusty Trading Posts at the state line where rubber tomahawks are still sold, the super slab is utilized to transport the group to the vast reaches of the Petrified Forest and Painted Desert National Park. The gorgeous views from the vista points of the colorful badlands of the Painted Desert quickly give way to the vivid multi-colored permineralized Conifer logs and remnants, buried here by sand and volcanic ash since the Late Triassic Period, of the Petrified Forest. Leaving the Park, Highway 180 directs the group toward Holbrook where a stop for lunch with Joe & Aggie is long overdue.

"Here It Is" ... a stop at the Jackrabbit Trading Post proves fun, Then it's a girl my Lord, in a flatbed ford ... as we arrive at The Eagles, Standin' on a Corner Park, in Winslow, Arizona. West of Winslow the majestic, snow-capped San Francisco Peaks appear, along with some ruins from the heyday of old 66 named Two Guns and Twin Arrows. Then it's on into Flagstaff for a well merited break at "The Zoo" before "easy riding" it to Bellemont to pay our respects to Peter and Billy at the old Pine Breeze Inn. A stop at a Biker's Roadhouse for dinner is certainly unique and welcomed by each road warrior, before enjoying an evening ride through the lush and fragrant Ponderosa Pine forests and beautiful scenery on our way on further west to Williams.

Day 12 :: Wednesday, August 1, 2007 :: Williams, Arizona to Needles, California Approximate Mileage :: 195 miles

Williams, known as the Gateway to the Grand Canyon, also has a very pleasureable Route 66 atmosphere, with several old motels, eateries and neon signs along the two-way loop through town. Williams was also the last town bypassed by the interstate in 1984. Heading into the lower elevation of western Arizona, the riders eagerly keep an eye out for the Crookton Road Exit where old 66 is once again rejoined for a two-wheeled, two-lane expedition along the longest surviving uninterrupted alignment of old 66 that stretches through Seligman, Peach Springs, Hackberry and on into Kingman.

After a stop at Angel's Barbershop and the Rusty Bolt, the riders descend on the Snow Cap for a snack before aiming the handlebars toward the Hualapai Indian Reservation and Peach Springs. After Truxton and Valentine, a pit stop at the Hackberry General Store is certainly a must for this group of riders before they begin the journey into Kingman and then on to Cool Springs. Leaving Cool Springs the road warriors begin earning their wings on the way through the Black Mountains to Sitgreaves Pass and on into the old gold mining town of Oatman.

Entering California, the riders stop in Needles for food, fuel, and a full nights sleep. Tomorrow they must tackle the most grueling portion of the 2,500 mile tour ... following the path of old 66 across the vast desert landscape of the arid and desolate Mojave.

Day 13 :: Thursday, August 2, 2007 :: Needles, California to Rialto, California Approximate Mileage :: 220 miles

An early start is required to traverse the Mojave before the heat of the afternoon sets in. After leaving the super slab in favor of old two-lane 66, several ghost towns are passed through before arriving at Roy's in Amboy for a well deserved break. Rolling on across the National Old Trails Highway, the surface becomes slightly rough for those traveling on two-wheels, as Barstow and today's lunch

awaits the riders in the distance.

After visiting The Mother Road Museum, in Bartsow, more miles of the National Old Trails Highway are put behind us before stopping at the California Route 66 Museum, in Victorville. This afternoon we descend the Cajon Pass, down through the San Bernardino Mountains, and enter the Los Angeles Basin. One last rural expanse of old 66 will be experienced before heading to the Wigwams in Rialto where we will take off our boots and shake off the dust for the night.

Day 14 :: Friday, August 3, 2007 :: Rialto, California to Los Angeles, California
Approximate Mileage :: 195 miles

As a special treat, the final day of the tour provides plenty of spectacular scenery along one of southern California's most scenic motorcycle roadways as the seasoned road warriors navigate the Rim of the World Scenic Byway, along the crest of the San Bernardino Mountains and around Big Bear Lake. Then, after a final stop for lunch at yet another classic Route 66 icon, the group travels across the Colorado Street Bridge, and heads down the historic Arroyo Seco Parkway and through the Figueroa Street Tunnels before aiming their dusty iron horses westward toward the Pacific Ocean one last time to follow Santa Monica Boulevard to Ocean Avenue and onto the Santa Monica Pier, marking the end of this spectacular journey across the heartland of America.

This evening the group will join together for one final time to enjoy a Farewell Dinner Reception and to celebrate and to individually recall the highlights of our once in a lifetime, two-lane adventure along The Mother Road ... along Route 66.

Day 15 :: Saturday, August 4, 2007 :: Depart from Los Angeles, California

Today the tour participants will begin their individual treks toward home.

This magical journey, with its "one-of-a-kind" riding experience, down the most famous two-lane highway in America, its close camaraderie with many newly made friends, the countless unique and dusty icons of the old road, the remaining ruins of prosperous days gone by, along with the ever changing scenery across this spectacular country, have filled each rider with conjured up thoughts and vivid memories of a simpler time, of a pre-franchised era, and of a time before America became generic ...

Memories enough to last each of the now,
well seasoned Road Warriors, for a lifetime ...

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they will not easily forget ...

Find out why they say ...

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