

Welcome to “Route 66 by Motorcycle”



Below you will find a complete map set for the Route 66 Motorcycle Route. It is to be used in conjunction with a custom “Route 66” gps chip to be used in your Garmin or BMW gps unit. Once you have installed the chip into your gps, the Route will be displayed as a bold, easy to see line. Navigation of the route is made as easy as following the line. New riders catch on and within a few minutes find this really great. I recommend that you zoom your gps unit into the 500 feet scale. The paper maps are included so that riders can review the route ahead of time and understand what attractions will be coming up as the day progresses.



The ride gps chip includes large distinctive orange double circles, nicknamed Donuts, that identify each stopping point or Point of Interest along the route. Riders can simply just ride along and the gps will identify where you can stop for gas, lunch, attractions, historic points of interest and your hotels each evening. When riders ride in groups, these Donuts are used as a meetup point for riders to check in with each other and to ensure that no one is having trouble. This allows every rider to ride at their own pace and stop when they like. Then they can simply rejoin the group at the next Donut.

Be sure to try your gps chip in your gps before coming to the ride to insure it is working correctly.

About the Route: This motorcycle route is based on both the original Route 66 and the newer bicycle Route 66 which adds some new backroad options. The route follows the old road where possible and sticks to back roads when necessary. There are a few instances where riders are routed onto the freeways for very short distances. These freeway sections have bicycle approved access ratings. However, for safety reasons, it is important that your bike can maintain a minimum of 50 mph. There are only a few times when this is necessary.



U.S. Route 66, also known as the Will Rogers Highway, the Main Street of America or the Mother Road, was one of the original highways within the U.S. Highway System. US 66 was established on November 11, 1926. Portions of the road that passed through Illinois, Missouri, New Mexico, and Arizona have been designated a National Scenic Byway of the name "Historic Route 66". The route, now unofficially modified for motorcycles, makes a great relaxing way to see the back USA. For countless thousands of people this route has been a life changing adventure. Now you can continue that tradition and have your own adventure for life.

About the ride

This is a 9 riding day adventure with lots of sights and stops along the way. The average daily mileage is 260 miles/day. At a slower pace this means that the days will be long, sometimes 10 to 12 hours. Riders should be experienced and prepared to go the distance and enjoy the scenic pace (9 days in a row). We will have a support truck following along which can carry a personal gear bag from each of the riders. The truck will also be there in the event of rider need or bike failure. Each night we will stay in a different motel along the route. We will be eating at restaurants along the way.

Friday Meetup Day Chicago

Lodging: [Travelodge Hotel Downtown Chicago](#) (312) 427-8000



Chicago, the start of Route 66

Riders should plan to meet at the hotel by 6pm. Riders should park their bikes at the parking garage across the street from the hotel. Bikes should be ready to ride.

Info for the parking garage: Name: "Park 1" 312 922-4128 \$39 /night per motorcycle parking spot.

Riders should plan to meet in the hotel lobby by 6:00pm and we will walk to have a group dinner and riders meeting. All final preparation and questions should be done before retiring for the evening.

Saturday Plans: Riders should have breakfast before the ride starts. Riders may want to meetup in the parking garage at 7:30am to make all the final arrangements. The support truck will be in the garage at 7:30 am so that riders may place their personal gear bag into the truck. Riding starts at 8:00am Saturday morning. Everyone ready and everyone leaves at the same time. We will stop at the first Donut, just a few blocks away, under the begin Route 66 sign in the bus pull over area and get a quick group picture.

Saturday Ride Day1 Springfield, Illinois

Lodging: [Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center](#) (888) 707-8366

Ride length: 204 Miles

Gas Plan: First gas is at 14 miles in Mccook, second gas is at 98 miles in Chenoa, final gas is at the end of the day.

Description: Riders meet at 7:30am in the parking garage. Load the support truck by 8:00am. Riding starts all together at 8:00am so that we can meet at the first Donut and take a group picture. The first part of our route is really just getting through and out of Chicago. First stop is gas at 14 miles. Next Donut is Gemini Giant, a tall old muffler man, then 2 old style gas stations. By now this is rural Illinois. Next is Pontiac and the Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum. This is followed by lunch at Edinger's Filling Station. Pontiac seems to be very passionate about Route 66. After lunch it is back to the highway and next gas in Chenoa. Then it is a sidebar through the town of Normal and past the Amtrak Station. Back on the highway there is another statue of Paul Bunyan. Then as you get near the town of Elkhart, there is a Donut and a Red route section option of the original first highway. This is a rideable old abandoned section. Enjoy. The day's route ends in Springfield at the Route 66 Hotel.

Breakfast: You are on your own: Recommend: Chicago Kitchen, in the hotel

Lunch Plan: Edinger's Filling Station in Pontiac

Dinner Plan: Yesterday's Restaurant in our hotel.



Pontiac and the Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame



Gemini Giant Muffler Man

HISTORIC ROUTE US 66 ROUTE

Start Route 66

Travelodge-Chicago

Chicago

Gas McCook

46m

Gemini Giant

26m

Ambler's Texaco Gas Station

Standard Oil Gas Station

9m

9m

Gas Chenoa

13m

22m

Amtrak Station

23m

Paul Bunyan

21m

Old Rt 66 Elkhart

24m

Springfield

Route 66 Hotel

Route 66 Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum

Edinger's Filling Station Restaurant

ROUTE 66

PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

Chicago to Springfield Illinois

Sunday Ride Day2 Lebanon, Missouri

Lodging: [Munger Moss Motel](#) (417) 532-3111

Ride length: 288 Miles

Gas Plan: Get gas in Springfield, 1/2 mile from our hotel. Next get gas in Saint Louis at 105 miles. Then get gas in Oak Grove at 77 miles and last gas at the end of the day at 106 miles.

Description: This day will take us into Missouri. Late morning we cross the Mississippi River and head into Saint Louis. The original river crossing was on the Chain of Rocks Bridge, now closed, so we will cross on the interstate bridge. Just after the Saint Louis gas stop there is a Red Route option to ride along the waterfront and see the Gateway Arch. This route is only a 3 mile detour but is often blocked due to construction. Leaving Saint Louis to the west, we will stop for lunch at the Historic Big Chief Restaurant. This is a long day and there are many attractions along the way. Some listed below. Be sure to manage your time and the time you spend at each stop along the way. You can easily run short of time. The day ends at another Route 66 historic hotel.

Breakfast: Yesterday's Restaurant in our hotel.

Lunch Plan: Big Chief Restaurant

Dinner Plan: Elm Street Eatery (1.3 mile ride from our hotel)



Devil's Elbow (bridge)



Wagon Wheel Motel - Cuba, MO



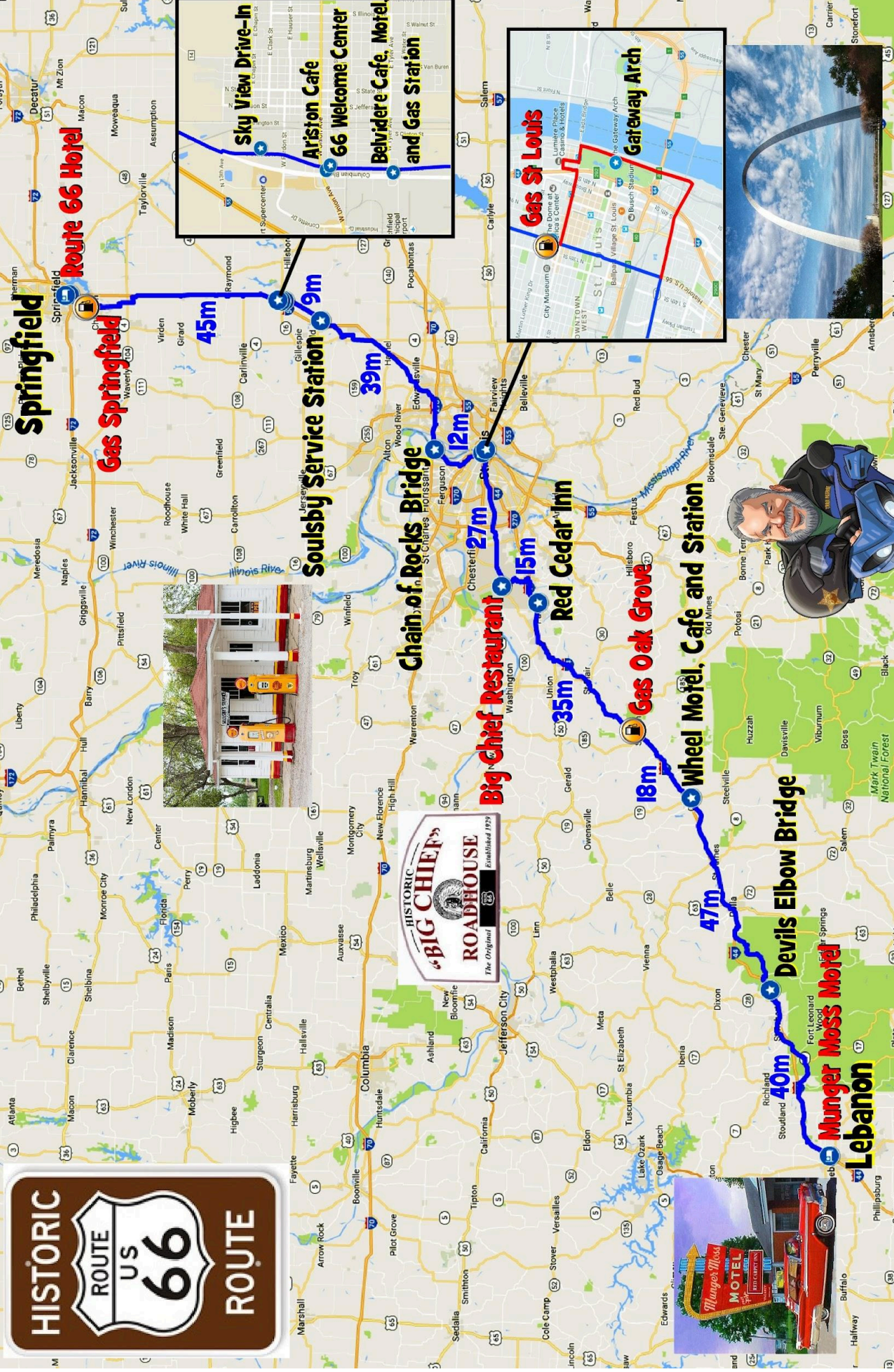
Chain of Rocks Bridge



Gateway Arch

Route 66 Motorcycle Route Ride 2

Springfield to Lebanon MO
Ride Length is 288 miles



Monday Ride Day3, Chandler, Oklahoma

Lodging: [Lincoln Motel](#) (405) 258-0200

Ride length: 343 Miles

Gas Plan: Get gas Before leaving Lebanon. Next gas is at 92 miles in Miller. Next gas is at 84 miles in Commerce. Next gas is at 89 miles in Tulsa and last gas is at 77 miles at the end of the day in Chandler.

Description: This is our longest day so I recommend an early start. Get breakfast as you leave town. The day is filled with scenic attractions. You should not spend too long at any of these places as it will all add to the length of the day. For much of the day the route follows near Interstate 44. If time runs short you can detour to the interstate. My recommended highlight is Blue Whale of Catoosa. The day ends in Chandler, Oklahoma.

Breakfast: Recommend: Waffle House, just 3 miles into our route.

Lunch Plan: Recommend: Waylan's Ku-Ku Burger, 163 miles into our route

Dinner Plan: Recommend: Sonic Drive-In (Walking distance from our hotel)



Paris Springs, Gay Parita Sinclair Gas Station



Route 66 Drive In Theater



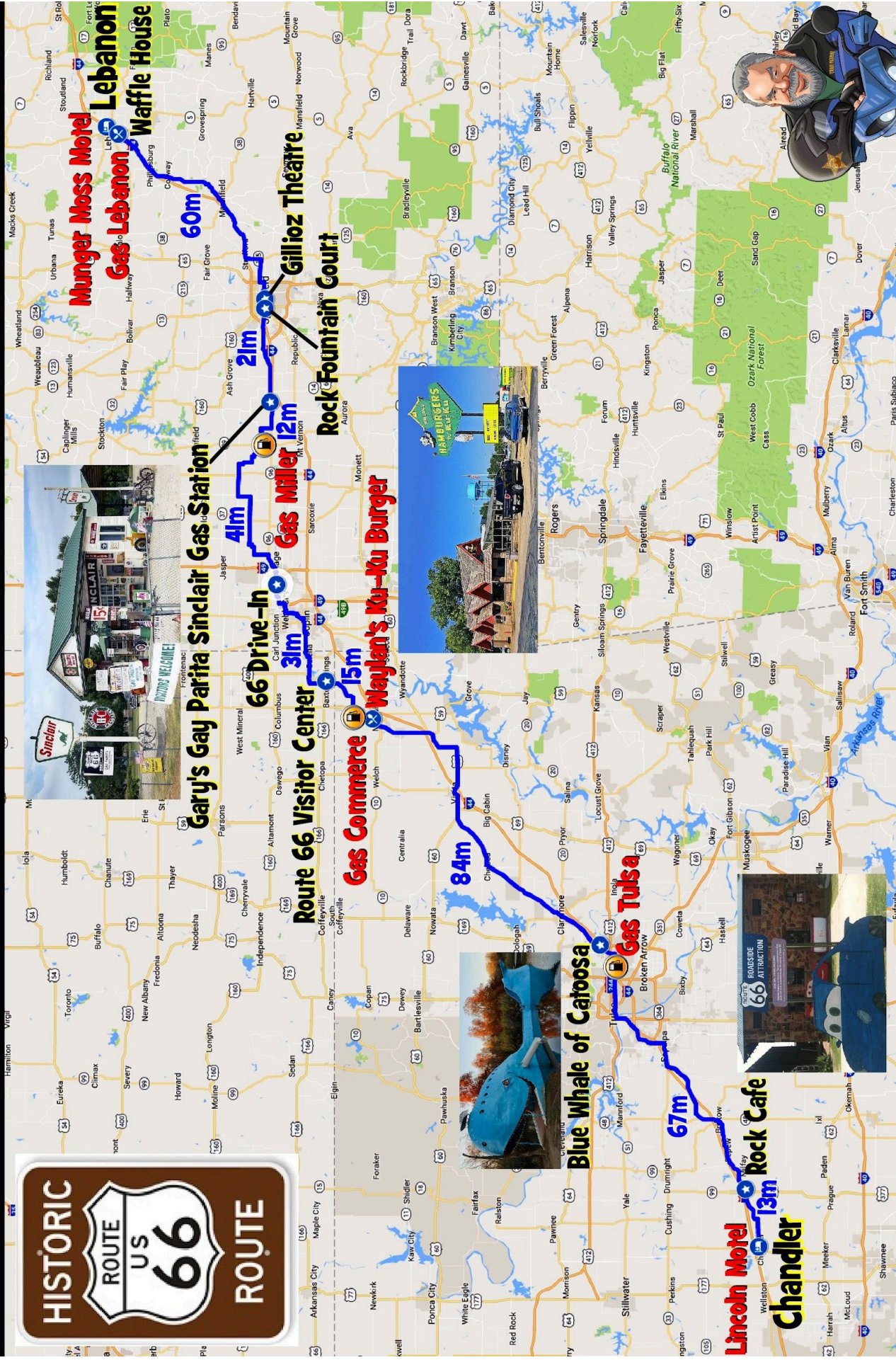
Blue Whale of Catoosa



Route 66 Visitor Center

Route 66 Motorcycle Route Ride 3

Lebanon MO to Chandler OK
Ride Length is 343 miles



Tuesday Ride Day4, Amarillo, Texas

Lodging: Route 66 Inn (806) 383-3318

Ride length: 316 Miles

Gas Plan: Get gas Before leaving Chandler. Next gas is at 92 miles in Geary. Next gas is at 92 miles in Sayre. Next gas is at 68 miles in Alanreed and last gas is at 63 miles in Amarillo at the end of the day.

Description: Most of the day's ride is back route 66. There are some short freeway sections that cannot be avoided. Again there are lots of attractions along the way. This is also a long day so be sure to manage your time.

Breakfast: None: You're On Your Own (YOYO)

Lunch Plan: Recommendation: Braum's Ice Cream & Burger Restaurant

Dinner Plan: Two choices for Dinner: Big Texan Steak Ranch Brewery or Smokey Joe's. Follow the Black line out and back on your GPS unit.



National Route 66 Museum Elk City



Ann's Chicken Fry



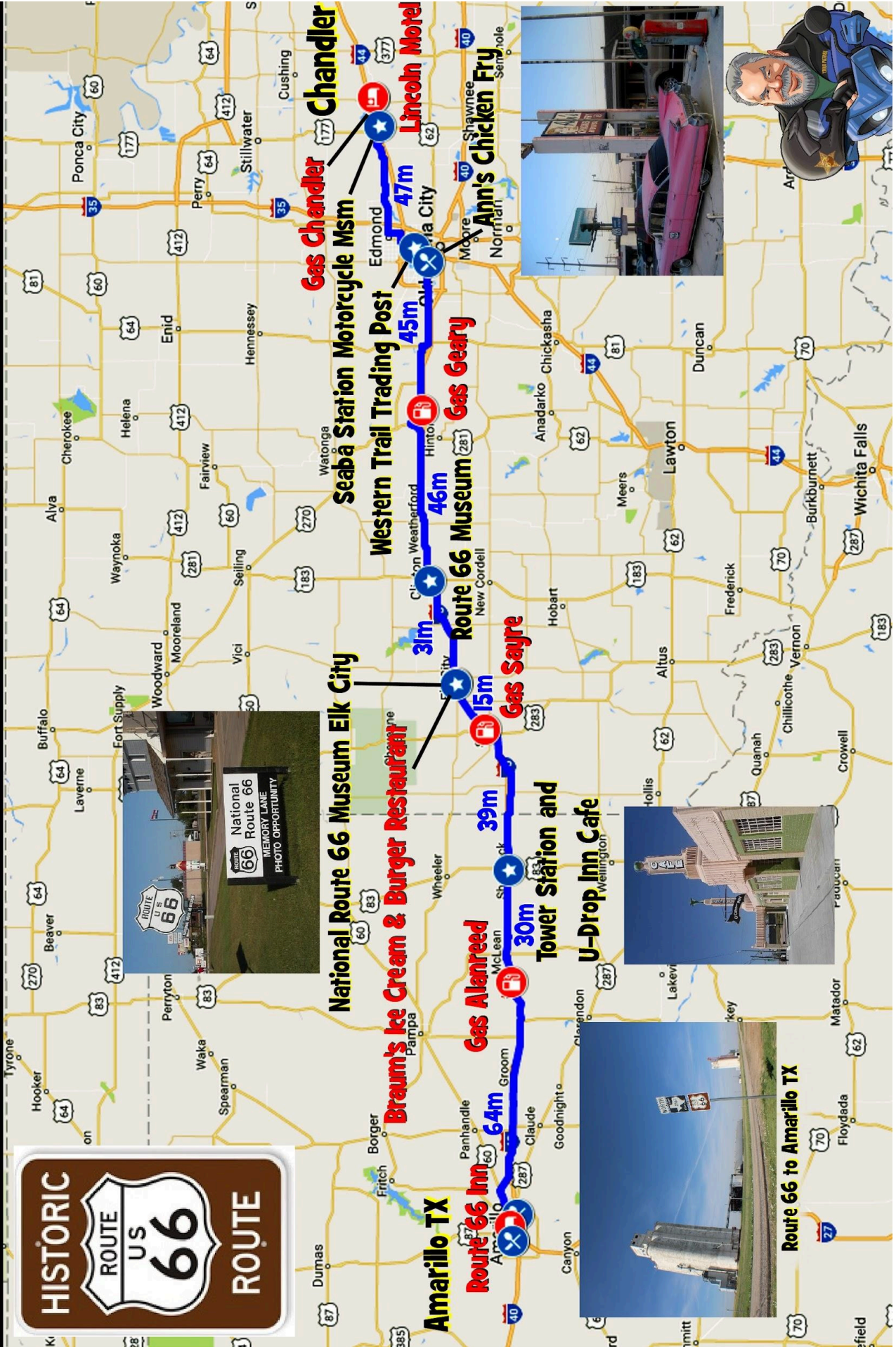
Tower Station & U-Drop Inn Cafe



Route 66 to Amarillo TX

Chandler OK to Amarillo TX
Ride Length is 316 miles

Route 66 Motorcycle Route Ride 4



Wednesday Ride Day5, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Lodging: [Silver Saddle Motel](#) 505-471-7663

Ride length: 302 Miles

Gas Plan: Get gas Before leaving Amarillo. Next gas is at 91 miles in San Jon. Next gas is at 88 miles in Santa Rosa. Next gas is at 60 miles at Phillips 66. Last gas is at 63 miles in Santa Fe at the end of the day.

Description: This day is mostly remote highway 66 in the wide open spaces. Freeway would be boring. The day starts with the Cadillac Ranch, yes, a row of half buried cars. Most of the day Route 66 follows near the freeway. But there are a couple of short sections on the freeway too. Lots of attractions along the way. This day is still long, so watch your time.

Breakfast: None: You're On Your Own (YOYO)

Lunch Plan: Recommendation: Route 66 Restaurant

Dinner Plan: Recommendation: Cafe Castro, across the street from our hotel



Cadillac Ranch



66 Antique Ranch



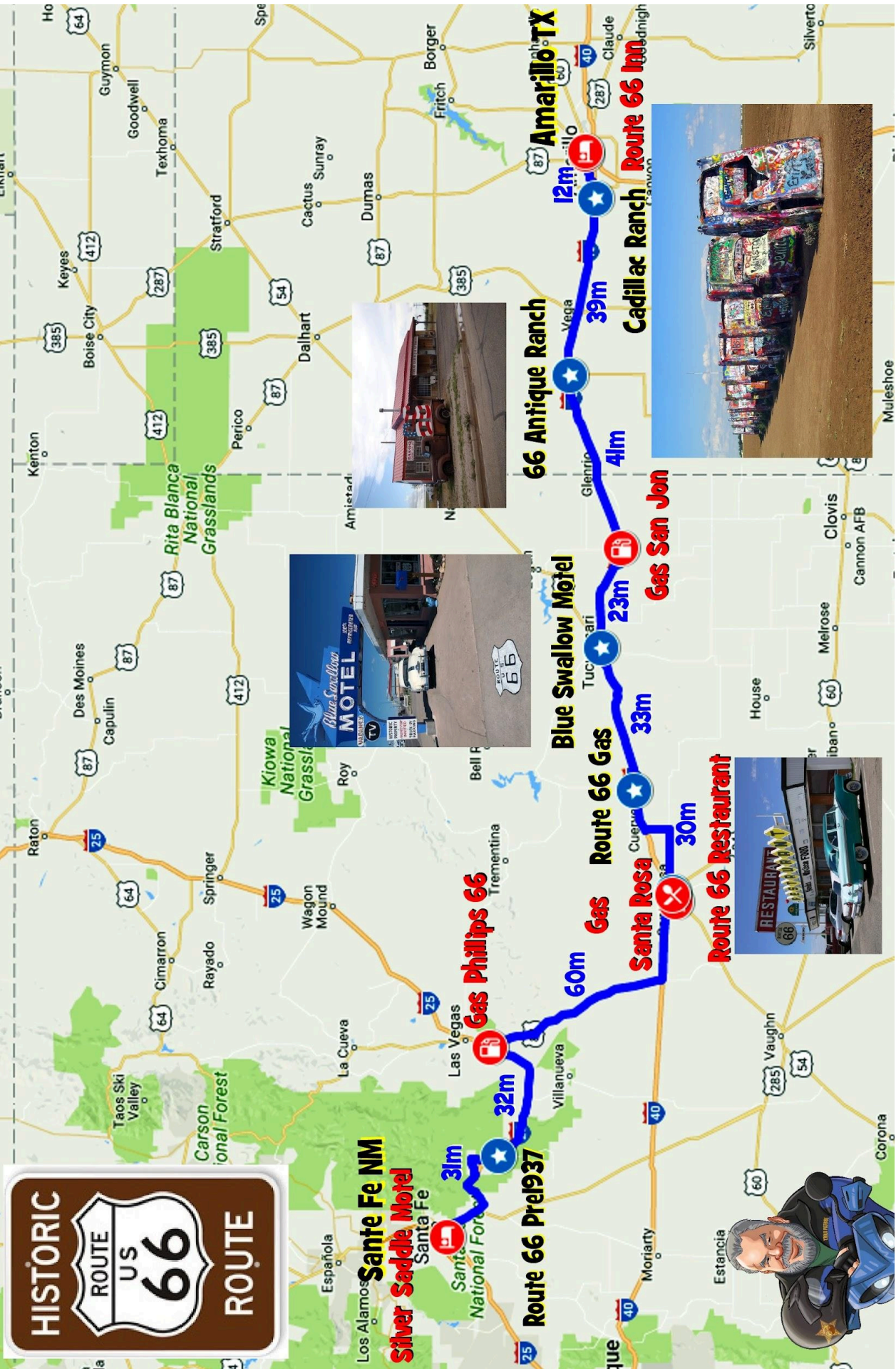
Blue Swallow Motel



Route 66 Restaurant

Route 66 Motorcycle Route Ride 5

Amarillo TX to Santa Fe NM
Ride Length is 302 miles



Thursday Ride Day6, Gallup, NM

Lodging: [El Rancho Hotel](#) (505) 863-9311

Ride length: 244 Miles

Gas Plan: Get first gas 16 miles south of Santa Fe. Next gas is at 100 miles in Gas Indian Reservation. Next gas is at 81 miles in Gas Navajo Res. Next gas is at 50 miles in Gallup at the end of the day.

Description: Today Route 66 passes through Albuquerque and the rest of the route is pretty remote. There is a singing road section. You will have to turn around and ride the rumble strips eastbound for a mile or so. It should play God Bless America. How fun check it out. Again, there are several old historic sights along the route. Stop as time allows.

Breakfast: None: You're On Your Own (YOYO)

Lunch Plan: 1st Street Cafe

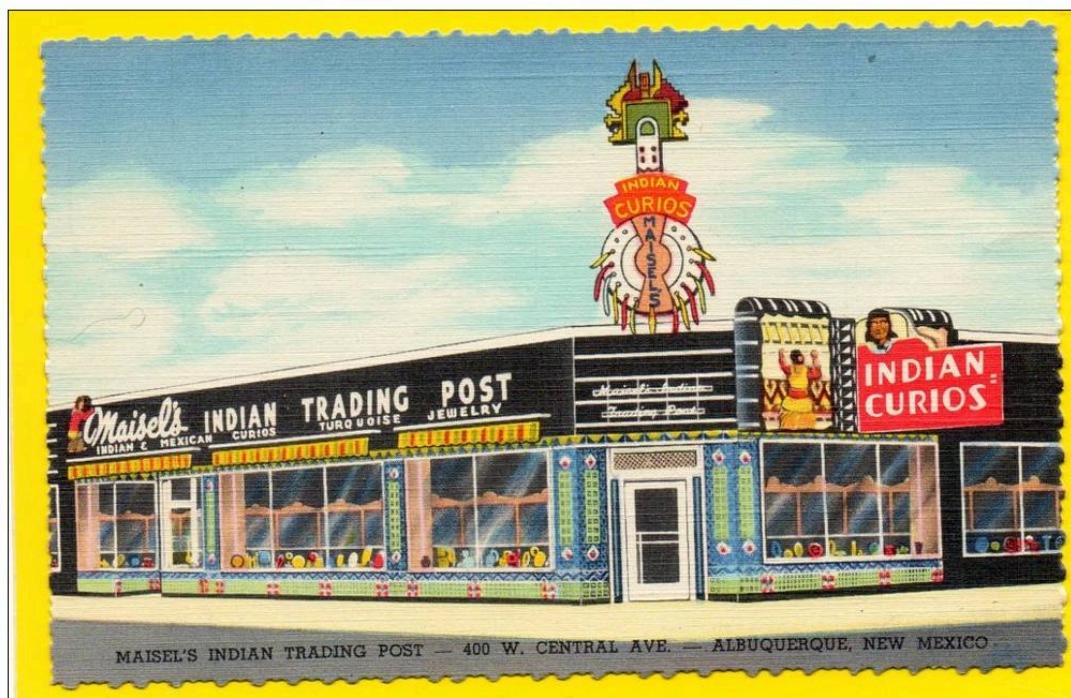
Dinner Plan: 49er Lounge in our hotel. Should be great.



Singing Road

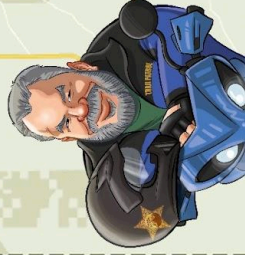
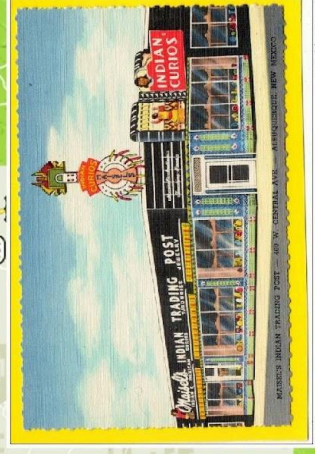


Rio Puerco Bridge



Maisei's Indian Trading Post

**Santa Fe NM to Gallup NM
Ride Length is 244 miles**



Friday Ride Day7 Seligman, Arizona

Lodging: [Historic Route 66 Motel](#) (928) 422-3204

Ride length: 290 miles

Gas Plan: Get gas before leaving Gallup (6 miles from our hotel). Next gas at 112 miles in Holbrook (note in town on the Black out and back route). Next gas at 85 miles in "Gas West of Winona". Then next gas at 88 miles in Seligman at the end of the day.

Description: Long day again with lots going on. A lot of remote back roads, but there are some short freeway sections. Highlights are "Standing on a corner in Winslow Az," lunch at Joe and Aggie's Cafe or late in Williams at Cruisers Cafe and then later have ice cream at Cruisers Cafe in Williams. But save room for dinner at the Roadkill Cafe.

Breakfast: None: You're On Your Own (YOYO)

Lunch Plan: Your choice: Early in Holbrook at Joe and Aggie's Cafe or late in Williams at Cruisers Cafe. Or just stop for ice cream at Cruisers Cafe.

Dinner Plan: Group dinner at Roadkill Cafe



Standin' On The Corner Park Winslow



CHIEF YELLOWHORSE TRADING POST



DeSoto's Salon



Cruisers Cafe Williams

Route 66 Motorcycle Route Ride 7

Gallup NM to Seligman Arizona
Ride Length is 290 miles



Saturday Ride Day8 Barstow CA

Lodging: [Route 66 Motel](#) (760) 256-7866

Ride length: 308 Miles

Gas Plan: Get gas in Seligman before leaving. Next gas is at 83 miles in Kingman. Next gas is at 65 miles in Needles, CA. Next gas is at 107 miles in Ludlow. Last gas is at 52 miles in Barstow at the end of the day.

Description: This is the cross the desert day. The route starts across the last section of Arizona. This is the area that the "Cars" movie was based on. I hope we can see "Mater" near Radiator Springs (Peach Springs), maybe at the Truxton Gas Station. Next it is into California and a gas and lunch stop in Needles. Then the real back desert starts. The section between Needles and Ludlow is 107 miles of remote desert. Bring water just in case. Stick together with your buddies on this stretch. Long day again with lots to see, manage your time.

Breakfast: None: You're On Your Own (YOYO)

Lunch Plan: Juicy's River Cafe in Needles

Dinner Plan: Open in Barstow



Truxton Gas Station



Hackberry General Store

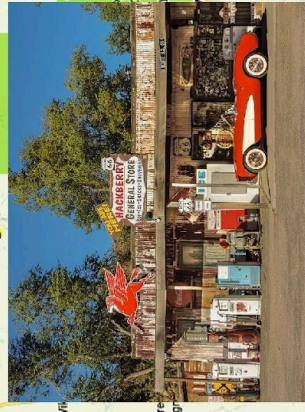


Oatman



Roy's Motel and Cafe in Amboy

**Seligman AZ to Barstow CA
Ride Length is 308 miles**



Sunday Ride Day9 Santa Monica

Ride length: 148 Miles

Gas Plan: Get gas before leaving Barstow. Next gas at 71 miles in Rialto. Next gas at 76 miles in Santa Monica after the ride (YOYO).

Description: This is the last day of the ride. It is a short day so the riders may depart for their home locations. The ride ends with a group celebration lunch. The morning starts with a 23 mile ride to Molly Brown Cafe for breakfast. The morning route is all back, fast Route 66 highway. After Victorville there is a freeway section down the Cajon grade. Then it is a mix of the old route 66 across the LA basin. These can be busy crowded streets and remember lane splitting is allowed in California, so no need to wait for traffic. Park in the public parking near the Pier (yes it is a donut). Then walk to Bubba Gump Shrimp for our ride celebration lunch.

Breakfast: Recommend: Molly Brown Cafe (23 miles into the day's ride)

Lunch Plan: Bubba Gump Shrimp, at the end of the ride.



Molly Brown Cafe

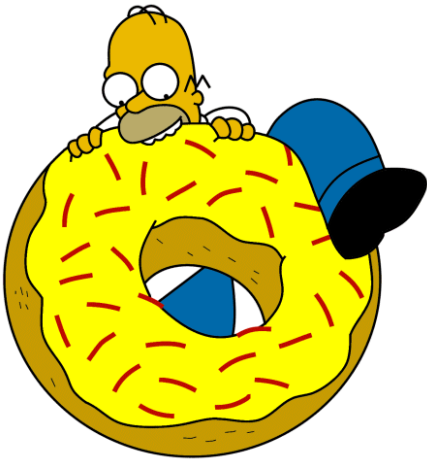


Van de Kamp Eatery now a Denny's



End of Route 66, the Santa Monica Pier

Donut Holes: Are we doing Donut Holes?



This ride includes Donut Holes. Donut Holes are suggested as meetup spots for riders riding in groups. It is recommended that you join a group of riders and not ride alone. Ride groups should be 6 people or less. Using gps to navigate while riding in a group presents lots of new challenges and opportunities. First, riders tend to ride at their own pace and often ride out of sight of the others in the group. Some riders may like to stop and take pictures and others simply like to stay out of the dust. When using GPS, riders often unknowingly pass or change their position within the group. While the rider, say Jeff, thinks Brian is in front of him, Brian is now behind. Jeff and both riders don't know that this change has occurred. What happens next is Brian slows to allow Jeff to catch up and Jeff speeds up to try to catch Brian. The gap between them gets ever bigger and the riders may never see each other again. These situations can escalate into big confusion and issues.

To mitigate the group confusion this ride includes meetup points called Donut Holes. Donut Holes are big circles embedded into your GPS. These circles mark the spot that riders take a quick stop to check in with the other riders and verify that everyone is accounted for without issue.

When a rider turns up missing at the Donut Hole, it is up to the group to decide to ride back to the last known sighting of the missing rider. Riders should not skip a Donut as the rest of the group may turn back looking for the missing person. This allows ride groups to catch issues early before they become big problems

As your riding group forms, the riders should ask each other, are we doing Donuts? If your group agrees to do Donuts, then that means everyone is responsible for ensuring everyone in the group is present at the Donut Holes. Stay on the trail. Much of this ride borders wilderness areas. In some places the ride cuts right through wilderness areas on road easements so it is very important to stay on the route at all times

On GPS Maps

Remember you are not looking to find tracklogs, but rather MAPS. This ride uses a one map named "Route 66 Motorcycle".

FAQ's

Q: How do I check my GPS to see if the SD card is working?

A: There are two ways you can check your GPS.

1. See the trail on the GPS yourself. Turn on the GPS and zoom out to about 50 or 30 miles. Use the cursor to pan over to an area where you know the trail should be. Now begin zooming in. Wait for the gps to refresh its screen as they can be slow. As you zoom in, you should see the trail as a wide bold blue line made up of arrows. OK, good job, you did it right.

2. Check to see if the map is in the GPS unit's memory: The steps to do this vary depending on which Garmin gps unit you have (and there are hundreds). Most work like this:

- Alternate 1: From the "Map" page select Menu. Then select "Setup Map" then scroll down and select "Select Map." Now you can scroll down and read the maps in you unit. You should find a map called "Route 66 Motorcycle." Make sure it is enabled and you are done!
- Alternate 2: Some GPS units (like Nuvi's) work like this. Select "Settings" then "Maps" then "Info" and now you should find the map "Route 66 Motorcycle" Make sure that it is checked and you're done.
- Alternate 3: Some work like this. Select "Tools" then "Settings" then "Map" then "Map Info." You should find the map "Route 66 Motorcycle" Make sure that it is checked and you're done.

Again, your gps may have a different way to access the maps, but the download does work in all Garmin gps units with a card slot. Sorry, there are just too many garmin gps units for me to go through them all.

If you are new to this stuff or having trouble I will help you at the ride.