

Route 66 Fun Facts

- Current maps do not include old U.S.Route 66
- Route 66 is 2,448 miles long
- Route 66 was commissioned in 1926.
- In 1926, only 800 miles of Route 66 was paved.
- Paving was concluded in 1937.
- Route 66 crosses eight states and 3 time zones.
- Route 66 starts in Chicago and ends in Los Angeles (Santa Monica)
- The “Route 66” television series ran from 1960 to 1964.
- 1928 Trancontinental Foot Marathon (also called the Bunion Derby) followed all of Route 66
- In 1929, “Happy” Lou Phillips and “Lucky” Jimmy Parker roller-skated Route 66 travelling up to 75 miles a day.
- In 1958, a man named Pete McDonald walked on stilts from New York to Los Angeles. In Chicago, he finished the trip on Route 66. He was paid \$1,500 for the stunt.
- Hobo Dick Zimmerman walked Route 66 from California to Michigan pushing a wheelbarrow, to visit his 101 year-old mother. Dick was 78.
- In 1972, John Ball, a 45 year-old South African, jogged from California to Chicago on Route 66, and then on to the East Coast. The trip took 54 days.