

Route 66: Geography and Mapping

Texas

Route 66 in Texas spans roughly 178 miles across the Panhandle a huge region in the north of this, entering from Oklahoma near Shamrock and exiting toward New Mexico near Adrian. This segment is famous for nostalgic roadside stops, the Cadillac Ranch art installation in Amarillo, and being the midpoint of the entire Chicago-to-LA highway.



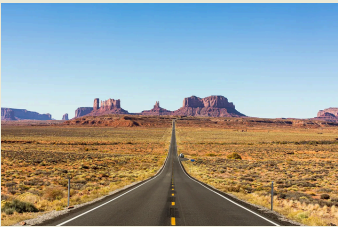
New Mexico

It offers a rich blend of Native American, Spanish, and Old West history across a significant portion of the "Mother Road." Major highlights include the neon-lit Central Avenue in Albuquerque, the vintage Blue Swallow Motel in Tucumcari, and the historic pre-1937 alignment through Santa Fe. Also, there is a statue with the number 66 here, symbolizing the importance of the route.



Arizona

The U.S. Route 66 crosses Arizona and passes through the historic town of Kingman, an important stop during the highway's golden age. This section is known for its long desert roads, classic motels, and well-preserved parts of the original route. Arizona stands out as one of the most iconic states along Route 66 thanks to its scenic desert landscapes and strong sense of history. Visitors can still find old gas stations, retro diners, and small towns that keep the spirit of the route alive.



California

The U.S. Route 66 ends in California, reaching Los Angeles and finishing at Santa Monica Pier. This final part is important because it marks the end of the long journey across the United States, connecting the desert with the Pacific Ocean. It also represents a symbolic finish, where travelers arrive at the coast after crossing the country and can enjoy the contrast between the inland landscapes and the ocean.



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