For a classic American road trip, nothing beats good ol’ Route 66. Nicknamed the nation’s ‘Mother Road’ by novelist John Steinbeck, this string of small-town main streets and country byways first connected big-shouldered Chicago with the waving palm trees of Los Angeles in 1926.

Whether you seek to explore retro Americana or simply want to experience big horizons and captivating scenery far from the madding crowd, Route 66 will take you there. Mingle with farmers in Illinois and country-and-western stars in Missouri; hear the legends of cowboys and Indians in Oklahoma; visit Native American tribal nations and contemporary pueblos across the Southwest, all the while discovering the traditions of the USA’s indigenous peoples. Continue by following the trails of miners and desperados deep into the Old West. At road’s end lie the Pacific beaches of sun-kissed Southern California.