GREAT RIVER ROAD
IN ILLINOIS
WELCOME
to the Great River Road in Illinois National Scenic Byway!

Head out for a day, a week, or a weekend as you enjoy this scenic route bounded by the Mississippi River. Experience towering bluffs, rolling countryside, river communities, farmlands and sweeping views. Discover historic and cultural treasures that tell stories of famed expeditions, presidents, Native American cultures and farming innovations. Connect with family and friends as you chart a path through the heart of America!
Like the images in this guide? Many came from visitors like you. Tag your photos using #GRRIL, #greatriverroadtrip or @mention us and you could be featured on our social channels.

@ILGreatRiverRoad
@ILGreatRiverRd
ilgreatriverroad

Although every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of information listed in this publication, we are not responsible for errors or omissions. To ensure a safe and happy visit, please contact the individual attraction/business prior to arrival to confirm hours and location. Plan ahead as some attractions and events may charge admission and may only accept cash.

Great River Road in Illinois
National Scenic Byway Office
581 S. Deere Road
Macomb, Illinois 61455
1-877-477-7007
info@greatriverroad-illinois.org

Cover image: Ben Butterworth Memorial Parkway, Moline
Inside front cover: Great River Road between Nauvoo and Hamilton
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3/2020 16,600
Listings throughout this guide are color coded to match the portion of the route they are located in. For specific information on a certain section of the route, see the information below for the corresponding convention and visitors bureau.

**Galena Country Tourism**  
123 N. Commerce Street • Galena  
815-776-9200 • VisitGalena.org

**Blackhawk Waterways Convention & Visitors Bureau**  
201 N. Franklin Avenue • Polo  
800-678-2108 • VisitNorthwestIllinois.com

**Visit Quad Cities**  
1601 River Drive, Suite 110 • Moline  
800-747-7800 • VisitQuadCities.com
**Great Rivers Country**  
(Great River Road in Illinois – Office)  
581 S. Deere Road • Macomb  
GreatRiverRoad-Illinois.com  
309-837-7460 • 877-477-7007  
(Located 40 miles from the byway)

**Quincy Area Convention & Visitors Bureau**  
532 Gardner Expressway • Quincy  
800-978-4748 • SeeQuincy.com

**Great Rivers & Routes Tourism Bureau**  
200 Piasa Street • Alton  
800-258-6645 • VisitAlton.com

**ILLINOISouth Tourism**  
4387 N. Illinois Street, Suite 200 • Swansea  
800-442-1488 • ILLINOISouth.org

**Southernmost Illinois Tourism Bureau**  
1000 N. Main Street, Cottage #1 • Anna  
800-248-4373 • SouthernmostIllinois.com

Download complete driving directions at GreatRiverRoad-Illinois.com
GETTING HERE

DRIVING
The Great River Road in Illinois is easily accessible, whether you’re arriving by car, truck, RV, motorcycle or any other wheeled transportation. Travelers can connect to the byway from seven major interstates: I-57, I-55, I-64, I-70, I-74, I-80 and I-88 (via I-80). More than one-third of the U.S. population is within a day’s drive of the Great River Road in Illinois. Arriving by train or plane and need a car to experience the byway? Many Illinois communities that offer Amtrak and air service to the Great River Road also provide car rentals.

Helpful Road Related Travel Information:
Illinois Department of Transportation
idot.illinois.gov
Current Road Conditions
gettingaroundillinois.com

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BY PLANE
Two primary airports along the Great River Road in Illinois offer daily nonstop flights to Chicago: Quincy Regional Airport and Quad Cities International Airport, which also offers nonstop flights from 11 U.S. cities. MidAmerica St. Louis Airport provides service to the Great River Road from nine U.S. cities. Just across the river, St. Louis Lambert International offers nonstop flights to 70 destinations. O’Hare and Midway International Airports, in Chicago, are also just a few hours away.

Quincy Regional Airport
quincyil.gov • 217-885-3285
Quad Cities International Airport
qcairport.com • 309-764-9621
MidAmerica St. Louis Airport
www.flymidamerica.com • 618-566-5656
St. Louis Lambert International Airport
flystl.com • 314-890-1333
O’Hare International Airport
flychicago.com • 800-832-6352
Midway International Airport
flychicago.com • 773-838-0600

BY TRAIN
Amtrak provides rail service to stations in Quincy and Alton, including daily service from Chicago. The Great River Road can be reached from 29 stations in Illinois and on long distance trains from as far away as California, Texas and New Orleans. Plans are also in the works for high speed rail service from Chicago to the Quad Cities.

Amtrak
amtrak.com • 800-872-7245

BY BUS
Greyhound provides service to Moline and Quincy. With over 230 stations nationwide, it’s easy to reach the Great River Road on Greyhound.

Greyhound
greyhound.com • 800-231-2222

Less than 400 miles gets you to the byway
**BYWAY SIGNAGE**

Traveling the Great River Road, notice the signs featuring the green and white paddlewheel logo that mark the route. Signs with a brown and white paddlewheel logo denote spurs, or points of interest, off the Great River Road. Spurs can lead to historic sites, recreation areas and locks and dams.

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**INTERPRETIVE CENTERS**

Stop in at any of the nine Great River Road Interpretive Centers along the byway for a fascinating glimpse into Illinois’ natural and cultural history. Located in museums, state parks and historic sites, these centers offer information on local points of interest and provide helpful travel information. Explore what each site has to offer, from historic forts to river ecology and famous explorers to historic architecture, let these destinations help navigate your path along the byway.

**INFORMATION KIOSKS**

Great River Road information kiosks are also located along the route. These distinctly blue information stations are typically located just off the road. They highlight where you are along your journey, while listing major attractions in the area or historical information.

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**Mississippi River Visitor Center — Arsenal Island**
328 Rodman Avenue
Rock Island
www.mvr.usace.army.mil
309-782-0485

**Black Hawk State Historic Site**
1510 46th Avenue
Rock Island
blackhawkpark.org
309-788-0177

**Villa Kathrine**
532 Gardner Expressway
Quincy
thevillakathrine.org
217-224-3688

**Pere Marquette State Park Interpretive Center**
13112 Visitor Center Lane
Grafton
www.dnr.illinois.gov
618-786-3323

**National Great Rivers Museum**
2 Lock and Dam Way
East Alton
mtrf.org
877-462-6979

**Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site**
30 Ramsey Street
Collinsville
cahokiamounds.org
618-346-5160

**Fort de Chartres State Historic Site**
1350 State Route 155
Prairie du Rocher
fortdechartres.us
618-284-7230

**Pierre Menard Home State Historic Site/ Fort Kaskaskia State Historic Site**
4230 Kaskaskia Road
Ellis Grove
www2.illinois.gov/dnrhistoric
618-859-3031

**U.S. Custom House Museum**
1400 Washington Avenue
Cairo
618-734-1840
Mississippi-Ohio River Confluence Observation Deck Cairo
The observation deck overlooks the confluence of the two rivers. This spot also marks Illinois’ southernmost point and its lowest point in elevation.

De Immigrant Windmill Fulton
The authentic Dutch windmill, De Immigrant, was fabricated in the Netherlands, disassembled, and transported to Fulton where it was rebuilt on the banks of the Mississippi River to celebrate the town’s Dutch heritage.

Robert Wadlow Statue Alton
Although Alton’s very own “Gentle Giant,” Robert Wadlow, passed away in 1940, he still stands tall in Alton. He holds the world record for being the world’s tallest man at 8 feet 11.1 inches.

Will B. Rolling Statue Port Byron
The statue reaches a height of 30 feet and is situated along the Great River Trail. Pedestrians and cyclists pass by Will as they journey along this popular cycling route that follows the Mississippi River.

Ulysses S. Grant and Julia Dent Grant Statues Galena
Located in Grant Park and dedicated in 1891, the statue of Grant pays tribute to “Grant as a Citizen.” A statue of Grant’s wife, Julia Dent Grant, is located at the nearby U. S. Grant Home State Historic Site.

Mary’s River Covered Bridge Chester
Built in 1854, and now restored, the bridge was part of a planked toll road from Chester to Bremen.

Black Hawk Statue Rock Island
Black Hawk State Historic Site is home to the Hauberg Indian Museum, as well as the 1892 statue of Sauk leader Black Hawk. The area was home to the Sauk and Meskwaki tribes.

ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS
The Hewer Statue
Cairo
This statue of a male figure hewing wood was moved to Cairo in 1906 after being displayed at the 1904 World’s Fair in St. Louis.

Heritage Canyon
Fulton
Nestled in a reclaimed limestone quarry, this 12-acre recreation of an 1800s village will take you back in time. Visit the doctor’s and dentist’s offices, church and blacksmith as you view tools and implements from pioneer times. Relax to the sounds of the waterfall and stroll the marked trails.

Popeye & Friends Character Trail
Chester
Chester is the birthplace of Popeye creator Elzie Segar. The Popeye & Friends Character Trail consists of granite statues of Popeye characters placed in various areas throughout Chester. The Popeye the Sailor Man statue has been overlooking the Mississippi River in Segar Park for more than 30 years.

Lincoln – Douglas Memorial
Quincy
This bronze relief sculpture by Lorado Taft commemorates the sixth Lincoln-Douglas debate that was held in Quincy in 1858. The sculpture was completed in 1936 and shows Lincoln speaking, while Douglas is seated cross-legged to the left and Mary Todd is seated to the right.

Salute to Steel Monument
Venice
Towering six stories high and situated in the McKinley Bridge Roadside Park, this monument is dedicated to the three communities of Granite City, Madison and Venice.

Focus Mural
Quincy
The mural, painted by Quincy artist Jennifer Bock-Nelson in 2013, covers 5,000 square feet.

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Piasa Bird
Alton
The first recorded sighting of the winged creature painted on the bluffs, near present-day Alton, was written in 1673 by Father Jacques Marquette. A modern day depiction of the original Native American painting is situated high on the stone bluffs.

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EVENTS

The following are a sampling of events that take place annually along the byway. Some events are free and some require a fee, it’s always best to call ahead or visit the event website for full details.

JANUARY

Bald Eagle Days ▲
Rock Island
qccaexpocenter.com
Celebrate the return of bald eagles to the area with birds of prey demonstrations, info booths, interactive activities and bald eagle watching.

Galena Whiskey Weekend ▲
Galena
galenawhiskeyweekend.com
A sure way to warm up this winter is to sample from more than 175 whiskeys and bourbons at Galena Whiskey Weekend. The event will be at historic Turner Hall. A gathering place treasured by the citizens of Galena for more than 125 years, it’s just steps away from more than 100 boutique shops and eateries on historic Main Street.

FEBRUARY

Mardi Gras Weekend ▲
Galena
visitgalena.org
Mardi Gras starts with a Pub Crawl on Main Street and continues with activities throughout the weekend. Dress your best for the Masquerade Ball at Galena Brewing Company and collect beads during the bead throwing ceremony.

Winter Carnival – Eagle Ridge ▲
Galena
eagleridge.com
From mini golf in the snow and crazy cocoa stations to bounce houses, candy bingo and s’mores, this winter carnival is packed with fun! Take the challenge and sign up for the Sasquatch Shuffle snowshoe race.

MARCH

Galena Goes 50’s Dance Weekend ▲
Galena
galenaswingdance.com
The 50s are taking over! Live music, sock hop, dance workshops, contests, prizes, food, craft beverages and more will fill the weekend.

Wine Lovers Weekend ▲
Galena
wineloversweekend.com
More than 250 varieties of wine and spirits from distributors across the United States will be available during one of Illinois’ largest indoor wine tastings. Mingle with friends as you sip your way through the Grand Tasting and Auction.

APRIL

General Grant’s Home Front ▲
Galena
tristatehistoricalpresentations.blogspot.com
Experience American Civil War living history through battle reenactments and camps, a Civil War era sanitary fair and bazaar, and other activities.

Mushroom Festival ▲
Grafton
pmlodge.net
Join fellow hunters in The Great Morel Hunt as you scan the ground for these delicious delicacies, weather and morel permitting. Bring your finds back to the lodge, where you can enjoy live music and browse vendors, while you see if you win a prize. Find the smallest morel, the largest morel, or the most morels and you just might go home with a free night’s stay!

MAY

Art on the Square ▲
Belleville
artonthesquare.com
Named the “Best Small Town Art Fair in America,” Art on the Square is the perfect place to browse new art, meet artists and purchase unique work for your home and beyond.

Dutch Days Festival ▲
Fulton
cityoffulton.us
Celebrate Fulton’s Dutch
heritage with a lively parade, games, tours of de Immigrant Windmill, food and fun for the whole family!

**Galena Sky Trail Race – Chestnut Mountain ▲**
Galena galenaskytrailrace.com
All participants receive a medal, so come out and see how long you’ll last – 4 hours, 8 hours, or maybe a little less. Enjoy the scenic views along the trail as you cruise the course at Chestnut Mountain Resort.

**Heritage Canyon – Early American Crafters ▲**
Fulton cityoffulton.us
Step back in time at Heritage Canyon and explore life in an 1800s village.

**Corkless in Galena ▲**
Galena corklessgalena.com
Sip wine from northwestern Illinois wineries. Browse the art exhibit and relax while taking in the live entertainment. Light snacks will be available and food vendors will be on site.

**JUNE**

**All-Wheels Drive-In Car Show ▲**
Alton altonmainstreet.org
This event typically attracts between 150–200 classic cars, hot rods and motorcycles, which the public is welcome to browse on 3rd, State and Belle Streets.

**Annual Miles Davis Jazz Festival ▲**
Alton visitalton.com
Enjoy an evening of jazz while celebrating the music and life of one of the true giants of jazz music, Miles Davis. This event benefits the Alton Museum of History and Art.

**Fort de Chartres Rendezvous ▲**
Prairie du Rocher fortedechartres.us
The two-day popular annual Rendezvous features shooting competitions, military drills, dancing, music, food and traders of eighteenth-century-style goods.

**Great Galena Balloon Race ▲**
Galena greatgalenaballoonrace.com
This three day event includes more than 20 hot air balloons, three races, and a night glow where the balloons light up the evening. Visitors can also enjoy live music, an art show, food vendors, and activities for the whole family.

**Gumbo Ya Ya ▲**
Rock Island downtownrockisland.org
Catch the spirit and energy of The Quarter in downtown Rock Island for Gumbo Ya Ya. Cajun, zydeco and jazz bands will tantalize your ears, while Cajun spiced food will heat up your taste buds. Bead tosses, confetti, feather masks, food and fun for the kids, and lots of tasty food items from vendors offering their own horseradish inspired dishes.

**International Horseradish Festival ▲**
Collinsville internationalhorseradishfestival.com
Collinsville is the Horseradish Capital of the World since 60-80 percent of the world’s supply is grown here. Come celebrate the spicy root vegetable with live music, a craft village, contests, games for the kids, and lots of tasty food items from vendors offering their own horseradish inspired dishes.

**Two Rivers Family Fishing Fair ▲**
Grafton enjoygrafton.com
For a day filled with fun and educational activities for the entire family, check out the Two Rivers Family Fishing Fair at Pere Marquette State Park. Favorite activities include a catch-and-release bluegill pond, where young anglers can have their photograph taken with their catch; the popular one-cast station where everyone wins a prize; and the bowfishing stations where children can test their skills. No license or fishing gear is needed.

**Lewis & Clark Point of Departure ▲**
Hartford campdubois.com
Join reenactors, complete with a replica of the white pirogue, as they mark the anniversary of the departure of the Lewis & Clark Expedition. Demonstrations include blacksmithing, candle making, broom making, coopering, cooking, weaving, carving and much more.

**Bikes and BBQ Festival ▲**
Alton riverfrontamphitheater.com
Get ready to roll out and pig out at the annual Bikes and BBQ Festival! See hundreds of motorcycles on display including exotic and custom bikes. Hear amazing live music and dig into the finest-tasting
barbecue prepared by renowned pitmasters from around the region.

**Elizabeth Community Fair ▲**
Elizabeth
elizabethcommunityfair.com
It’s time for the fair! Enjoy quality entertainment and memorable experiences. There will be food vendors, a carnival, competitions and many other things!

**Galena Festival of the Performing Arts ▲**
Galena
galenaafpa.org
Daily entertainment includes various musical performances at Grant Park and Turner Hall.

**Independence Day Celebration ▲**
Galena
visitgalena.org
Live entertainment, food and beverages, a parade, and fireworks will round out Independence Day in Galena.

**John Deere Classic PGA Tournament ▲**
Silvis
tpc.com
PGA Tour event featuring some of the finest golfers in the PGA at the beautiful TPC Deere Run golf course.

**Nauvoo Pageant ▲**
Nauvoo
nauvoopageant.org
Experience performances that bring to life folk songs, hymns and lively dances portraying the early days of Nauvoo.

**NW Illinois Art & Jazz Fest ▲**
Stockton
nwilartfest.com
Celebrate the arts! From glass to ceramics and photographs to lawn art, you’re sure to find a treasure to take home. The festival also has food vendors and craft beverages from brewers, distillers and wine makers.

**Red, White & Boom! ▲**
Rock Island
redwhiteandboomqc.org
View fireworks over the river between Schwiebert Park in Rock Island and Davenport, with family activities before the fireworks.

**Stockton 4th of July Celebration ▲**
Stockton
stocktons4th
Come out for the famous chicken dinner, live entertainment, activities for kids, a car show, arts and crafts, and a spectacular fireworks display.

**August**

**Floatzilla ▲**
Rock Island
floatzilla.org
River Action is assembling the Great River Raft in an attempt to break the world record for the largest flotilla of canoes and kayaks. Join the fun at Sunset Marina in Rock Island.

**Lincoln Highway Buy Way ▲**
Fulton and other towns along the Lincoln Highway
illinoislincolnhighwayassociation.org
Experience one of the country’s largest yard sales spanning several states along the Lincoln Highway. Fulton sales maps available one week before the event. Information about this event and other activities at Fulton’s Windmill Area are available on the Windmill Cultural Center and de Immigrant Windmill Facebook page.

**Rock the Hops ▲**
Alton
RockTheHops
A celebration of music, art and craft beer featuring 25+ bands, artists and makers! Over 25 styles of craft beer will be available. Paid admission grants you access to beer sampling at each venue, a souvenir tasting glass and access to shuttles.

**Sauce Alton Food Truck Festival ▲**
Alton
riverfrontamphitheater.com
This festival features food trucks from around the region offering global street food cuisine. In addition, the amphitheater’s concession team offers beverages of all types to compliment the food truck offerings. Live music will be showcased on the amphitheater’s stage.

**Tug Fest ▲**
Port Byron
tugfest.org
Giant tug-of-war across the mighty Mississippi between Le Claire, Iowa and Port Byron, Illinois with fireworks and live entertainment all weekend.

**September**

**Festival on Wheels Car Show ▲**
Nauvoo
beautifulnauvoo.com
Head to Nauvoo for this open-air show that hosts classic cars across automotive history. It’s one of the largest car shows in the region. After taking it all in, bring your lawn chair to enjoy great food and live music.

**Grafton’s Art in the Park ▲**
Grafton
Grafton’s Art in the Park
Enjoy beautiful art on display along with live music, food vendors, art activities, demonstrations and artists presenting their handmade art, fine art, paintings, photography, glass, jewelry and much more!

**Labor Day Festival ▲**
Olive Branch
Start the day with a pancake breakfast. Enjoy live music, vendors, food and crafts.

There’s fun and games for all ages. Event is held at the Olive Branch Community Center.

**Popeye Picnic ▲**
Chester
popeyepicnic.com
Celebrate the home of Popeye at this family friendly event. Enjoy the Popeye Museum, trivia, cartoons on the big screen and more!

**Rock Island Grand Prix ▲**
Rock Island
rockislandgrandprix.com
Every Labor Day weekend, racers go head to head against the best in the sport on the safest street circuit in karting. At night, competitors and spectators enjoy the nightlife of the Downtown Rock Island Arts & Entertainment District. The Rock Island Grand Prix ranks as the ultimate experience in kart racing. There is no greater thrill than racing through city streets at speeds approaching 100 miles per hour, one inch off the ground, as thousands of spectators cheer you on.

**Taming of the Slough ▲**
Moline
riveraction.org
There are three aspects to this adventure race—canoe or kayak, mountain bike and a 2-mile run to the finish. The race can be done individually or as part of a team. Race begins at 7:30am, followed by a post-race party.
your selected ride, you might pass by historic sites including the Thebes Courthouse and Mound City National Cemetery. Whether you’re a seasoned veteran who likes the challenge of a longer ride with difficult hills or are a beginner who likes to take it easy, the tour has a ride for you. Enjoy the camaraderie of hundreds of other cyclists who participate in the tour year after year. The tour rest stops are said to be some of the best, featuring lots of homemade goodies and desserts.

TOUR DE SHAWNEE

The tour is a scenic ride through Shawnee National Forest, Horseshoe Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area, and the rolling hills and farmlands of southern Illinois. Depending on your selected ride, you might be held at different restaurants and pubs throughout town.

TOWBOAT FESTIVAL

Grafton enjoygraffton.com
Experience “Life on the Mississippi River” at this festival in Grafton. Tour the “Most Pristine Towboat,” hear tales from towboat captains, and learn about rivers from the Coast Guard Auxiliary and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

OCTOBER

Early Tindusters Color Run
Quincy earlytindusters.com
Nearly 900 hot rods fill the streets of Quincy each year for the Early Tin Dusters Color Run. This show is open to the public Saturday 8am-4pm downtown and Sunday 10am-2pm at Moorman Park.

Other Side of The Anvil
Galena galenahistory.org
Step up to one of six forging stations and forge your own iron object with the help of a skilled blacksmith. Enjoy live music, food, drinks and more while watching the blacksmiths at work.

Tour de Shawnee Bike Ride
Olive Branch tourdeshawnee.com
The tour is a scenic ride through Shawnee National Forest, Horseshoe Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area, and the rolling hills and farmlands of southern Illinois. Depending on your selected ride, you might pass by historic sites including the Thebes Courthouse and Mound City National Cemetery. Whether you’re a seasoned veteran who likes the challenge of a longer ride with difficult hills or are a beginner who likes to take it easy, the tour has a ride for you. Enjoy the camaraderie of hundreds of other cyclists who participate in the tour year after year. The tour rest stops are said to be some of the best, featuring lots of homemade goodies and desserts.

NOVEMBER

Galena Holiday Kick-Off
Galena visitgalena.org
Kick off the holiday season and join in the excitement with the lighting of the Christmas tree and a visit from Santa.

Lighting on the Commons
Moline lightingonthecommmons.com
Enjoy tractor-drawn wagon rides, live music, kids’ craft area, the lighting ceremony and fireworks! Cider and hot chocolate will be available.

Nouveau Weekend
Galena nouveauweekend.com
Raise a glass and celebrate the release of Galena Cellars’ nouveau wine! A traditional horse-drawn wagon parade delivers nouveau wine to area businesses. Wine tours will be available and nouveau dinners, live music and celebrations will be held at different restaurants and pubs throughout town.

DECEMBER

19th Century Christmas
Moline butterworthcenter.com
The Deere-family mansions are decked out for the holidays during this popular event. Music, activities for children, tours and 19th century themed decorations adorn the interior of the homes.

Christmas in Elizabeth
Elizabeth villageofelizabethil.com
Celebrate an old-fashioned Christmas with the Village of Elizabeth. Tour the 1876 Banwarth House and Museum decorated for the season, check out the cabooses and ten operating model trains at the Chicago Great Western Railway Depot Museum, and visit Santa. Take part in the living history demonstrations at nearby Apple River Fort. Enjoy a Christmas concert, craft show, soup and bake sale, Christmas tree decorating contest, Santa Dash fun run and many stores open late with bargains and discounts.

SUMMER

Quincy Gems Baseball
May–August Quincy quincygems.com
Head out to the ballpark! Enjoy an afternoon or evening cheering on the home team with friends and family.

Blues in the District
June–August • Quincy thedistrictquincy.com
Experience this summer concert series held in Washington Park.

Moline Summer Concert Series
June–August • Moline molinecentre.org
Each Thursday on Bass Street Landing enjoy free outdoor bands along with food and beverage vendors. Bring a lawn chair.
One of the most important parts of a great road trip is the food! From world-class barbecue and bushels of fresh produce to hometown favorites and decadent desserts, the Great River Road offers delicious choices.

**Finger Lickin’ Barbecue**
Illinois is home to some of the finest BBQ in the United States. To find it, look no farther than Murphysboro. Dubbed the BBQ Capital of Illinois, it boasts two BBQ joints whose pitmasters have been inducted into the Barbecue Hall of Fame. **17th Street Barbecue** has received nationwide acclaim, including serving the “Best Ribs in the U.S.” and being recognized as one of the “Top 10 BBQ Joints in the U.S.” Pitmaster Mike Mills dishes up BBQ using his Magic Dust and mustard-based barbecue sauce. Try your favorites with a side of tasty collard greens.

While its reputation is less widespread, locals say **Pat’s BBQ and Catering** goes toe-to-toe with the competition. Pitmaster Pat Burke doles out BBQ with his sweet and spicy rub and a sweet vinegar barbecue sauce. Except for potatoes and cobbler, everything is smoked at Pat’s BBQ. Savor your choice of delicious meats alongside a side of smoked mac and cheese.

Murphysboro isn’t the only place along the Great River Road with delicious BBQ. Locals all along the byway have their favorites, like **Shemwell’s Bar-B-Que** in Cairo, where it’s all about the sauce; **Jim’s Rib Haven** in Rock Island, where they’ve been making BBQ at this family-owned business for more than 30 years; and **BEAST Craft BBQ** in Belleville where the principles of fine dining are paired with high quality meats and the flavor of BBQ.

**All American**
One thing we do really well in Illinois is comfort food. If it’s deep fried, carb heavy or covered in cheese, we make it…and it tastes good! **Castelli’s at 255** in Alton has been making fried chicken with the same secret, trademarked recipe since 1937. It’s so popular that more than 70 percent of their customers have ordered it. Another fried chicken favorite is **Gallagher’s** in Waterloo. Its famous all-you-can-eat fried chicken Sundays have been voted “The Best Fried Chicken” by the *St. Louis Post Dispatch* and the *Riverfront Times*. They also serve a scrumptious candied bacon cheeseburger.

If you enjoy crispy, golden brown fish, then hit up **Huckleberry’s Pub** in Mounds, which claims to have the
best catfish around. **The Fin Inn**, in Grafton, is as much a destination as it is a restaurant. Sit tableside at one of four 2,000-gallon fish tanks while enjoying all-you-can-eat fried catfish on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Are you a meat lover? Then we’ve got you covered. **Maid-Rite** in Quincy has been serving famous loose meat sandwiches since the franchise opened in 1928. Try yours like a local with a side of fries dipped in a chocolate shake. Serving dinner since 1937, the **Log Cabin Steakhouse** in Galena is the place for sizzling, juicy, hand-cut steaks. If you love cheese, start off with a flaming saganaki served with a scorching “Opa” flourish! At **Rams Riverhouse** in Port Byron, get two meals in one with The Ram Jam. Topped with crisp bacon, melted cheese, potato crowns and an egg, this burger is an all in one breakfast/lunch mouth-watering combination!

**Pizza and Tacos**

Along the Great River Road, there’s more than deep dish on the menu. Enjoy some of the best thin crust pizza around at **Manny’s** in Savanna or **Manny’s Too** in Fulton. Family-owned and operated since 1973, Manny’s serves delicious pizza and Mexican food in a casual atmosphere. Be sure to order tacos to go with your pizza. **Gem City Pizzeria** is the oldest pizzeria in Quincy. Locals love the nachos and Jeff’s Special – a pizza topped with sausage, pepperoni, ham, mushroom and extra sauce.

A trip along the Great River Road wouldn’t be complete without a taste of Quad Cities-style pizza. What exactly is Quad Cities-style? The crust has a nutty flavor, due to the addition of malt to the dough. Add a zesty sauce and cheese on top, and cut it into strips. In Rock Island, **Harris Pizza** is the go-to location for Quad Cities-style pizza. It first opened 50 years ago, when pizza was so new to the area that they had to give it away to get people to try it! Now it’s a favorite of locals and visitors alike. Try yours with Harris’ famous secret recipe sausage.

**Locally Grown**

With almost 75 percent of the land used for farming, Illinois offers a bounty of locally grown foods. Buying local means growers can select varieties for their flavor instead of their long shelf life, resulting in fresher, tastier produce. Growing seasons run from the asparagus and spinach harvests of May to the pumpkins and apples of autumn and everything in between.

You can find a farmers market in almost every town along the Great River Road. Farmers markets are usually weekly or biweekly and offer a variety of local produce and vendors in one location. The **Galena Farmers Market** is held Saturdays from May through October. Local farmers, bakers and artisans offer everything from fresh produce, meats and delicious baked goods to beautifully handmade crafts and soaps.

Produce stands and roadside markets crop up along the Great River Road during the height of harvest season. They may offer just one crop or a variety. **Odelehr’s Roadside Market** in Brussels sells crafts, jams and jellies and pies, as well as produce, flowers and pumpkins. Orchards and u-picks allow you to stroll among the trees and in the fields, selecting the freshest produce. Known for its variety of hot peppers, **Happy Hollow U-Pick** in East Moline also grows 48 vegetables and berries. **Eckert’s** started out as a small roadside stand in 1910. Its Belleville location now has pick-your-own fruits and vegetables, a restaurant, country store and garden center. Eckert’s also hosts special events and free concerts during the summer. Visit **Jacobs Orchard** in Golden Eagle if you are looking for the famed (and delicious!) Calhoun County peaches, usually ready in late June and into July.

**Sweet Endings**

A trip along the byway is perfect for those who love desserts. Grab lunch at **My Just Desserts** in Alton, known for its half-pound chicken salad sandwich and the 9 to 13 different pies served fresh daily. Menu favorites include Mrs. Ledbetter’s chocolate pie and Toll House brownies.

If you’re looking for tasty baked goods in northern Illinois, check out **Krumpet’s Bakery** in Fulton. It serves breakfast all day and sandwiches made...
with homemade bread, but a meal at Krumpet’s isn’t complete until you’ve sampled its made-from-scratch pastries or desserts. Choose from a rotating variety of cream puffs, éclairs, pies, cakes and more. Headed to Quincy? Follow the scent of cinnamon to Underbrink’s Bakery, “The Best Bakery in Illinois,” according to Taste of Home magazine. Serving authentic German recipes since 1929, Underbrink’s is known for its amazing ice angel food cupcakes.

If cold treats are more your style, check out Bobby’s Frozen Custard in Maryville, voted “Best Ice Cream Stand in the Area” by Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville and “Best Ice Creamery” by the Riverfront Times. Take your pick of vanilla or chocolate custard and mix in a variety of your favorite toppings for a one of a kind treat!

In the Quad Cities, no name is more synonymous with delicious confections than Lagomarcino’s. Grab a seat in an authentic mahogany booth, sip on a homemade soda, enjoy delicious handmade chocolates or try a tuna salad sandwich. If you love ice cream, savor one of Lagomarcino’s famous hot fudge sundaes, featuring a mini pitcher filled with their bittersweet fudge sauce to pour over homemade ice cream. Whatever you have a taste for...it’s likely you’ll find it along the Great River Road.

LOCALLY GROWN

The following pages list locations where you can pick or purchase local produce at its best. Straight from the field or right off the vine, these very well could be the best peaches, tomatoes, peppers, berries—you get the idea—you’ve ever tasted!

Aledo Main Street Farmers Market ▲
Central Park • Aledo
aledomainstreet.com
309-582-5373
Located in Aledo’s Central Park, the market offers fresh produce, flowers, baked goods and more.
June–2nd week of October: Thursday 4pm–6pm

Rendleman Orchards Farm Market ▲
9680 State Route 127 N. Alto Pass
rendlemanorchards.com
618-893-2771
Experience an Illinois Centennial Farm located in the beautiful rolling hills of Shawnee National Forest. Offering peaches, nectarines and apples, along with other fruits and vegetables. Visit the Farm Market for produce and specialty items.
July 1–Mid-December:
Monday–Saturday 9am–5pm
Sunday Noon–5pm

Alton’s Farmers and Artisans Market ▲
Landmarks Boulevard & Henry Street
Alton
altonmainstreet.org
618-463-1016
Choose from a wide variety of locally grown produce (including organic and heirloom varieties), fresh baked goods, plants, and an assortment of hand crafted artwork. Special activities and entertainment each week.
Mid-May–Mid-October:
Saturdays 8am–Noon

Avon Farmers Market ▲
Smoyer Park Gazebo
Main & Fifth Streets • Avon
618-426-3641
Fruits, vegetables, homemade baked goods, arts and crafts.
May–October:
Thursdays 2pm–6pm

Eckert’s – Belleville Farm ▲
951 S. Green Mount Road
Belleville
eckerts.com
618-233-0513
The Belleville farm has an extensive greenhouse, restaurant, Country Store, pumpkin patch, and pick-your-own fruits, vegetables and Christmas trees.

Hagen Family Orchard ▲
2260 E. Illinois River Road
Brussels
Hagen Family Orchard
618-883-2385
Fresh peaches, apples, pumpkins and canned goods. Located just 3 miles from the Brussels Ferry.
Mid-July–October:
Daily 9am–5pm

Odelehr’s Roadside Market ▲
7127 Illinois River Road
Brussels
OdelehrsMarket
618-883-2265
Locally grown fruits and vegetables, jellies, salsa, canned goods and homemade crafts.
May 1–Thanksgiving

Toppmeyer’s Roadside Market ▲
480 Meyer Lane • Brussels
visitalton.com
618-883-2383
This roadside stand offers apples, peaches, pumpkins, squash and gourds. Open daily during growing season, just stop by and ring the bell.

Carrollton Farmers Market ▲
524 S. 5th Street • Carrollton
217-242-1766
Shop a variety of items such as peaches, corn, crafts, baked goods, fresh berries and much more.

**Chester Farmers Market ▲**
State Route 3 & 150 • Chester
ChesterFarmersMarket
618-826-3370
Home grown fruits and vegetables, baked goods and jams, handmade items and more.
May–September: Saturdays

**Monroe County Farmers Market ▲**
1000 Columbia Center Columbia
MonroeCountyIIFarmersMarket
618-792-3596
Thursdays 3pm–6pm

**Tri-State Market Pumpkin Barn ▲**
1887 State Route 35 N. East Dubuque
815-747-6832
Open-air market with fresh produce. Join in the October family fun: pumpkins, apples, bounce house, slide, corn maze, spook house, hayrides, farm animals, fall decorations and food.

**Happy Hollow U-Pick ▲**
17325 20th Avenue N. East Moline
happyhollowupick.com
309-496-1515
Forty-eight varieties of vegetables are grown for taste and not for high production yields. Happy Hollow is famous for the number of varieties of hot peppers they grow. They also raise goats and sheep.

**Quad Cities Growers Market ▲**
1140 Avenue of the Cities East Moline
growersmarkets.com
309-718-5020
Locally grown produce, plants, crafts and baked goods.
May–October:
Wednesday and Saturday 8am–Noon

**Stony Knoll Farm, Inc. & Pumpkin Patch ▲**
3115 Dennhardt Road East Moline
309-496-9636
Six generation family farm growing asparagus in spring and pumpkins in fall. Farm includes a 6-acre pick-your-own pumpkin patch, 5-acre corn maze, petting zoo, cornstalks, squash and flowers.

**Stones Apple Farm ▲**
16115 Hubbard Road East Moline
stonesapplebarn 309-496-2318
Stone’s Apple Barn is a fourth generation apple orchard with the best variety of apples and fruit you’ll ever purchase and apple cider too.

**Green Acres Farm ▲**
6200 Rock Springs Road East St. Louis
illinoisouth.org
618-397-6237
Have fun picking fruits and vegetables throughout the growing season.

**Dittmar Farms ▲**
256 S. Grebner Road • Elizabeth
815-858-3413
Great family fun! Enjoy the hayride, u-pick pumpkins and corn maze. Family-owned and operated since 1854, this farm specializes in apples, sweet corn and pumpkins.

**Terrapin Orchard ▲**
1063 U.S. Highway 20 E. Elizabeth
terrapinorchards.com
815-202-2180
Owned by a professional and passionate agronomist, Terrapin Orchards boasts 5,500 apple trees in over 20 varieties, including Zestar, Fuji, Gala and Honeycrisp. They also have 4 acres of strawberries in 4 different varieties.

**Three Rivers Farm Stand ▲**
22935 Chatauqua Road • Elsah
threeriverscommunityfarm
618-946-7974
Produce at the farm is grown using organic practices. In addition, the stand is stocked with local goods like pasture-raised meats, honey, eggs, cheese from Marcoot Creamery, orchard fruits and flower bouquets.

**Joe Ringhausen Orchard & Market ▲**
24748 Reddish Road • Fieldston
visitaiton.com
618-376-6772
Head out and pick your own peaches, apples, plums and blackberries. Then shop the market for cider, jellies, squash, pumpkins and more.

**Galena Farmers Market ▲**
123 N. Commerce Street Galena
galenafarmersmarket.org
563-542-0996
Vendor off er an assortment of local specialties, including vegetables, crafts, fruits, and organic foods.
May–October: Saturdays 7am–Noon

**Galena Territory Farmers Market ▲**
2000 Territory Drive • Galena
TheTerritoryFarmersMarket
815-777-2000
Find fresh produce, flowers, plants, meat, jams, jellies, baked goods and more.
June–October:
Sundays 8am–Noon

**Eckert’s – Grafton Farm ▲**
20995 Eckert Orchard Road Grafton
eckerts.com
618-786-3445
Specializing in peaches, blackberries, apples, pumpkins and pick-your-own produce.

Pick your own organically grown blueberries and produce. Handcrafted items are available for purchase, including home furnishings. Tours are offered for the country store and sawmill.

**Krueger’s Orchard ▲**
2914 Airport Road • Godfrey
kruegersorchard
618-466-3576
Summer and fall vegetables, as well as peaches, melons, tomatoes, sweet corn, pumpkins and fall decorations are available. Mid-July–October

**Pearson’s Produce ▲**
6304 Humbert Road • Godfrey
pearsonsproduce
618-401-7286
Family-owned business offering fresh fruit and vegetables, jams, pickles, honey and other local goods.

**Jacobs Orchard ▲**
148 Ridge Road • Golden Eagle
visitaiton.com
618-883-2000
Enjoy peaches, nectarines, plums, blackberries and a variety of tomatoes and garden vegetables.

**Eckert’s Country Store ▲**
1 E. Main Street • Grafton
visitaiton.com
618-786-4856
Choose from the best locally grown produce. May–November

Find fresh produce, flowers, plants, meat, jams, jellies, baked goods and more.

**Uncle Andy’s Country Market ▲**
1 E. Main Street • Grafton
815-777-1223
Choose from the best locally grown produce. May–November
**Mid-September–October 31**

**Live music available during fall festival weekends.**

**Roger’s Pumpkin Farm**

County Road 300 N. • Lomax

217-449-3486

Fifteen acres of pumpkins, squash, mums and gourds. Make it a full day of fall fun with hayrides, train rides and more.

**Eckert’s – Millstadt Farm**

2719 Eckert Orchard Lane

Millstadt
eckerts.com

Offers pick-your-own apples and pumpkins and cut-your-own Christmas trees.

**Edgewood Orchards**

1628 Edgewood Orchard Lane

Quincy

edgewoodorchards.com

Producing quality fruit and fruit products since 1930. Edgewood grows more than a dozen varieties of apples and makes quality apple cider. Shop the store for candy, apple butter, pies, jams, pumpkins, squash, gourds, honey and nuts.

**Morrison Farmers Market**

204 E. Lincolnway

(State Route 30)

Morrison

morrisonfarmersmarket.com

Locally grown produce, eggs, honey, baked goods, artisan products, flowers, plants and more.

**Mt. Carroll Farmers Market**

Main & Market Streets

Mt. Carroll

MountCarrollFarmersMarket

Features locally grown specialty crops as well as goods contributed by bakers, crafters and artisans.

**Mileur Orchard**

172 Mileur Orchard Road

Murphysboro

mileuorchard.com

In operation since 1961, offering fresh peaches and apples. Stop in for dessert at the bakery and enjoy the cobbler or a specialty pie.

**Ruma Farmers Market in the Park**

Ruma

618-282-3528

Locally grown seasonal vegetables, fruit, baked goods and canned goods.

**Savanna Farmers Market**

708 Main Street • Savanna

savanfarmmarket

815-266-1345

Fresh vegetables, fruits, crafts and baked goods are available. Check back often to see what new products and produce are available.

**Argo Acres**

16295 Argo Fay Route

Thomson

Argo Acres

815-259-2132

Find an assortment of fruits and vegetables, such as asparagus, rhubarb, strawberries, green beans, sweet corn, tomatoes, pumpkins, squash, gourds and multi-color Flint corn. Popcorn, raspberries and painted pumpkins also are available.

**Fairhaven Fruit Farm**

Fairhaven & Creamery Roads

Thomson

Fairhavenfruitfarm

563-213-6134

This family apple orchard has 600 fruit trees producing 30 different varieties of apples. Come taste the latest varieties, from McIntosh to Honeycrisp.

**Monroe County Farmers Market**

Parking lot at 100 Plaza Drive

Waterloo

Monroe County Il Farmers Market

618-792-3596

Vendors sell local produce, herbs, plants, jellies, soaps and more. Saturdays 7:30am–11:30am

**Wood River Farmers Market**

Parking lot at 143 & 1st Streets

Wood River

wrparks.org/farmers-market

618-877-3433

July–September: Thursdays 4pm–Dusk
A great way to experience local along the Great River Road is to sample the liquid bounty. There are 24 breweries, 5 distilleries, 23 wineries and a handful of small batch root beers available along the byway, so you’re sure to find a beverage that suits your taste.

Craft beer is all about flavor; whether it’s chocolate, coffee, citrus, florals or pumpkin, the possibilities are endless. The dizzying number of brewing techniques and ingredients means it’s possible to get a truly one-of-a-kind beer, and a true taste of place, around each curve of the mighty Mississippi.

A newcomer along the Great River Road is White Rooster Farmhouse Brewery in Sparta. Its traditional brewing methods, barrel aging process, and rotating selection of beers, continue to boost its popularity. It also helps that White Rooster was named one of the “50 Best New Breweries in the U.S.,” by BeerAdvocate.

Another recently opened brewery, Quincy Brewing Company, brings the flavor of craft beer to historic Downtown Quincy. Housed in the 1886 Reliance Tea & Coffee building, the brewery toasts landmarks and local history with its aptly named Villa K IPA, Bayview Blonde, and crowd favorite Wichman Sisters Wheat.

Established breweries serve tried-and-tested brews alongside new flavors, with a few accolades of course. Uncommon Stout, made by Bent River Brewing Company in Moline and Rock Island, is a coffee-infused oatmeal stout that landed on Thrillist’s “23 Illinois Beers to Drink Before You Die!” When visiting the Alton area, try the Porter at Old Bakery Beer Company, where this chocolate-infused, nutty, black ale can be paired with locally sourced menu items. Be sure to check out its full selection of brews, as Old Bakery Beer Company is a USDA-certified organic brewery.

Galena Brewing Company is reviving the local brewing scene in Galena. Local favorites include Anna Belle’s IPA and Uly’s Dark Oatmeal Stout.

Hopskellar Brewing Company in Waterloo is the venture of a one-time home brewer whose product was so popular that local business leaders requested he open a brewery. Influenced by beers in England and the Pacific Northwest, Hopskellar favorites include the Pale Mild Ale, Raspberry Ale and the Northern English Brown Ale.

Big Muddy Brewing in Murphysboro is considered by Thrillist, and locals alike, to be one of the “Best Craft Breweries in Illinois.” Try the Pumpkin Smasher; this autumn-inspired brew is made using pumpkins and savory pumpkin pie spices, resulting in hints of cinnamon and nutmeg.

Scratch Brewing Company in Ava has been called “America’s Coolest Microbrewery” by Men’s Journal and one of the “Most Beautiful Places to Drink Beer in the World” by All About Beer. Devoted to foraged beers, its brews feature ingredients like nettle, juniper, mushrooms, pawpaw and dandelion, which are harvested from its farm or surrounding woods. The resulting brews are a little daring, providing a taste you can only get in southern Illinois.

Following on the heels of the craft brewing boom, small batch distilling is making headway along the byway. Just like other craft beverages, craft spirits owe their flavor to the quality and variety of ingredients. Stumpy’s Spirits sources its grain and water from an eighth-generation family farm in Columbia, making it a true grain-to-glass operation. Try Old Monroe Single Barrel Select Bourbon Whiskey or the honey, pecan pie and lemon drop-flavored whiskeys.
**Bluestem Vodka** in Bethalto uses an all-in-one mash, fermentation, distillation process resulting in a cleaner vodka. Enjoy the flavor of their trademarked signature cocktail, The Stemcell®.

**Blaum Bros. Distilling Co.** in Galena serves everything from Lead Mine Moonshine, delivered in a mason jar, to a spicy vodka, Blaum Bros. Hellfyre. Made from soaking jalapeños, habaneros and black peppercorns in vodka, this spirit mixes one hot Bloody Mary.

As craft beer and spirits make their mark, Illinois wine is undergoing a renaissance. The state’s rich history of wine making goes back to 1691. Prior to prohibition, Illinois was ranked the fourth largest wine producing state in the U.S. with almost 4,000 acres of grapes. Today, Illinois is home to more than 100 wineries, 1,100 acres of grapes, 2 American Viticultural Areas and 7 wine trails. From the oldest Concord vineyard in the state, at Nauvoo State Park, to the largest American Viticultural Area in the U.S., a trip along the Great River Road uncorks your journey into Illinois’ wine country.

**Galena Cellars Vineyard & Winery** was awarded “Best Winery in the State of Illinois,” by *Yahoo! Travel*, and winemaker Christine Lawlor-White was twice named “Winemaker of the Year,” by the Illinois Grape Growers and Vintners Alliance. Taste the fruits of her labor while overlooking the rolling hills of northwest Illinois, or stop in at the tasting room on Galena’s quaint Main Street.

Nauvoo is home to **Baxter’s Vineyards & Winery**, the oldest operating winery in Illinois and part of the Mississippi Valley Wine Trail. Originally opened in 1857, it reopened after prohibition in 1936, becoming Illinois’ first bonded winery. Order ahead to have one of Carol’s famous pies baked fresh. Pair it with a glass of Baxter’s wine while relaxing on the patio.

Enjoy a glass of Leon Millot at **Fergedaboudit Vineyard & Winery**. Made in the Tuscan style, it may be the closest thing you can get to a Chianti made from 100 percent Illinois-grown grapes. One of the youngest wineries along the Great River Road, **The Pour Vineyard** in Red Bud, was established by a family that’s farmed the same land for the past 150 years.

Head to southern Illinois to experience wineries along the Shawnee Hills Wine Trail. Relax with a glass of red wine on the wisteria-covered deck at **Hickory Ridge Vineyard** in Pomona. Just a mile down the road, nestled amongst the trees, is **Pomona Winery**. Specializing in wines made from locally grown fruits other than grapes, taste the award-winning Strawberry Dessert Wine. This sweet wine received “Best Illinois Non-Grape Wine” honors in the 2017 Illinois Governor’s Cup and silver at the 2017 Indy International. Sip a glass of Rosato at the region’s oldest and most award-winning winery, **Alto Vineyards**. Selected to be an Illinois Bicentennial Rosé Wine, its Rosato is 100 percent crafted from southern Illinois’ flagship grape variety, Chambourcin.

If you’re looking for something the whole family can enjoy, try the craft root beers and sodas on tap along the Great River Road. In Galena, **Root Beer Revelry** offers dozens of root beers, cream sodas, ginger beers and more. Sample the on-tap assortment with a root beer tasting or indulge in a root beer float.

Head to the southern part of the state, where **Mini Corral Hamburgers** in Alton offers homemade cream soda and root beer that will delight your taste buds with notes of vanilla and maple syrup.

Whatever your favorite flavor, the Great River Road serves up beverages for all tastes.
CRAFT BEER & SPIRITS

Von Jakob Winery & Brewery ▲
230 State Route 127 N.
Alto Pass
vonjakobvineyard.com
618-893-4600

Old Bakery Beer Company ▲
400 Landmarks Boulevard
Alton
oldbakerybeer.com
618-463-1470

Scratch Brewing Company ▲
264 Thompson Road • Ava
scratchbeer.com
618-426-1415

Hofbräuhaus St. Louis ▲
123 St. Eugene Drive • Belleville
hofbrauhausstlouis.com
618-800-2337

Bluestem Vodka ▲
5313 State Route 140 • Bethalto
bluestemvodka.com
309-712-1697

St. Nicholas Landmark Brewery ▲
111 Ferry Street • Chester
stnicholaslandmarkbrewery.com
618-826-7150

Old Herald Brewing & Distillery ▲
115 E. Clay Street • Collinsville
oldheraldbrewing.com
618-855-8027

Stumpy’s Spirits ▲
1727 Centerville Road
Columbia
stumpysspirits.com
618-281-7733

Midwest Ale Works ▲
537 12th Avenue • East Moline
maw.beer
309-230-4684

Recess Brewing LLC ▲
307 N. Main Street
Edwardsville
recessbrewing.com
618-692-5101

Scratch Brewing Company ▲
264 Thompson Road • Ava
scratchbeer.com
618-426-1415

Bent River Brewing Company – Brew Pub ▲
1413 5th Avenue • Moline
bentriverbrewing.com
309-797-2722

Galena Brewing Co.
Ale House ▲
1534 River Drive • Moline
galenabrewery.com
309-524-3148

Rebellion Brew Haus ▲
1529 3rd Avenue A • Moline
rebellionbrewhaus.com
309-517-1684

Big Muddy Brewing ▲
1430 N. 7th Street
Murphysboro
bigmuddybrewing.com
618-684-8833

Peel Brewing Co. ▲
104 S. Cherry Street • O’Fallon
peelpizza.com
618-726-2244

Mastermind Vodka ▲
4262 State Route 162
Pontoon Beach
mastermindvodkausa.com
855-668-6352

Lieferbräu Brewery ▲
118 E. Market Street • Red Bud
lieferbrau
618-282-0807

Bent River Brewing Company – Brewery and Tap Room ▲
512 24th Street • Rock Island
bentriverbrewing.com
309-283-4811

Big Swing Brewing Co. ▲
113 18th Street • Rock Island
bigswingbrewingco.com
309-788-8247

Radicle Effect Brewerks ▲
1340 31st Street • Rock Island
rebrewerks.com
309-283-7605

Wake Brewing ▲
2529 5th Avenue • Rock Island
wakebrewing.com
309-558-0878

White Rooster Farmhouse Brewery ▲
113 W. Jackson Street • Sparta
whiteroosterfarmhousebrewery.com
618-449-2077

Hopskeller Brewing Company ▲
116 E. 3rd Street • Waterloo
hopskeller.com
618-939-2337

Stubborn German Brewing Company ▲
119 S. Main Street • Waterloo
stubborngermanbrewing.com
618-504-2444
WINERIES & VINEYARDS

Alto Vineyards ▲
8515 State Route 127 • Alto Pass
altovineyards.net
618-893-4898
Located in the rolling hills of Shawnee National Forest under the shadow of the 110-foot tall Bald Knob Cross. Offers award-winning wines and a 10-acre vineyard open for strolling.

Peachbarn Winery & Cafe ▲
560 Chestnut Street • Alto Pass
peachbarn.com
618-893-4923
Enjoy one of the distinctive estate wines in the tasting room or paired with Swedish cuisine in the restored 1945 Peach Barn Café. Stroll through the Scandinavian gift shop and savor a sun ripened peach picked in-season from the orchard.

Von Jakob Winery & Brewery ▲
230 State Route 127 N.
Alto Pass
vonjakobvineyard.com
618-893-4600
Located on the Shawnee Hills Wine Trail, Von Jakob offers an enjoyable atmosphere and picturesque views. The spacious decks (covered and uncovered) and cozy fireplaces provide an opportunity to relax and unwind any time of the year. With over 20 varieties of wine and a growing craft brewery, there is sure to be something for everyone. And when hunger strikes, there is a delicious menu that will satisfy your taste buds.

Lake Hill Winery ▲
1822 E. County Road 1540
Carthage
lakehillwinery.com
217-357-2675
Located near beautiful Carthage Lake, the winery offers a tasting bar and banquet rooms.

Lincoln Heritage Winery ▲
772 Kaolin Road • Cobden
lincolnheritagewinery.com
618-833-3783
Conveniently located between Cobden and Anna, Lincoln Heritage Winery is family-owned and operated. Relax on the beautiful patio overlooking the vineyards and rose gardens while sipping one of their highly acclaimed hand-crafted wines.

Owl Creek Vineyard ▲
1600 Cobden School Road
Cobden
owlcreekvineyard.com
618-893-2557
Owl Creek is an artisanal family winery focused on the production of wines grown in the Shawnee Hills. They are passionate about wines and look forward to introducing you to the great vintages that are grown in the region.

StarView Vineyards ▲
5100 Wing Hill Road • Cobden
starviewvineyards.com
618-893-9463
Family-owned and operated vineyard and winery which produces fine boutique wines. Each vine is individually nurtured to produce the highest quality grapes that are then used to produce the finest wines in the region. Sample wines while sitting on one of the decks under a large oak tree, enjoy breathtaking views, or take a walk around the pond to see Koi, turtles and other wildlife.

Lavender Crest Winery ▲
5401 U.S. Highway 6 • Colona
lavendercrest.com
309-949-2565
Lavender Crest Winery features wine production, tours, a wine tasting room, a gift shop and a dining area that serves lunch daily. The banquet room hosts Friday Night Wine Downs where visitors are invited to listen to music, have a light meal and let the cares of the week disappear.

Massbach Ridge Winery ▲
8837 S. Massbach Road
Elizabeth
massbachridge.com
815-291-6700
Sample award-winning, estate-grown wine while enjoying the breathtaking Jo Daviess County hills. Tasting room is located at 117 N. Main Street, Galena.

Galena Cellars Vineyard & Winery ▲
4746 N. Ford Road • Galena
galenacellars.com
800-397-9463
The Lawlor family, with more than 30 years of winemaking experience, proudly offers tours and tastings of 40 award-winning wines. Tasting room is located at 515 S. Main Street.

Grafton Harbor Floating Winery ▲
215 W. Water Street • Grafton
graftonharbor.net
618-786-7678
Slip on down to the Grafton Harbor to taste creatively-labeled wines that are sure to tingle the taste buds.

Grafton Winery & Brewhaus ▲
300 W. Main Street • Grafton
thegraftonwinery.com
618-786-3001
Award-winning wines and brews are prepared on-site from a combination of California and locally grown grapes and fruits. More than 15 wines are featured under the Grafton Winery label. Grafton Winery The Vineyards, located at 21028 Eckert Orchard Road, offers comfortable outdoor seating and a fireplace.

Elevate Your Spirits!
Mary Michelle Winery
13653 Lodge Boulevard
Grafton
pmlodge.net
618-786-2331
Known for its nationally recognized white wines made from native American grapes grown at their vineyard in Carrollton. The winery hosts two private labels – Mary Michelle and Illinois Cellars. Their award-winning wines are served exclusively in their tasting room at Pere Marquette Lodge.

Fergedaboudit Vineyard & Winery
4595 W. Speer Road • Hanover
fergedaboudit.com
815-591-2126
This boutique winery, located in a scenic valley in Hanover, specializes in dry, bold wines.

Rocky Waters Vineyard/Winery, Inc.
2003 W. Hanover Road
Hanover
Rocky Waters Vineyard Winery
815-591-9706
While relaxing on the deck, enjoy the spectacular view and sip wine made from grapes grown on their 25-acre vineyard.

Baxter's Vineyards & Winery
2010 E. Parley Street • Nauvoo
nauvoowinery.com
217-453-2528
Small, family-owned winery established in 1857 by Emile Baxter. Baxter's Vineyards is Illinois' oldest winery, home to Carol's Pies, Nauvoo Nibbles and The Wine Barrel. Self-guided winery tours are offered daily. Personal tours, including orchard and vineyards tours, are available by appointment.

Hickory Ridge Vineyard
1598 Hickory Ridge Road
Pomona
HickoryRidgeVineyard
618-893-1700
Family-owned and operated winery known for excellent dry wines and award-winning whites and rosés. Enjoy your wine while sitting in the cozy tasting room, taking in the beautiful views or relaxing in the tranquil environment.

Pomona Winery
2865 Hickory Ridge Road
Pomona
pomonawinery.com
618-893-2623
The Pomona Winery, located deep in the Shawnee Hills of southern Illinois, specializes in award-winning non-grape wines carefully crafted from local fruit.

The Pour Vineyard
9665 S. Prairie Road • Red Bud
thepourvineyard.com
618-304-4516
Comprised of 6 acres of rolling vineyards, a large lake and a renovated barn, this new vineyard sits on a Centennial Farm that has been passed down from generation to generation for over 150 years. The tasting room is a great place to relax with friends and family.

Hopewell Winery
19048 U.S. Highway 54
Rockport
hopewellwinery.com
217-285-2759
Located outside of Pittsfield, Hopewell Winery is situated on a quiet acre offering visitors a relaxing place to sit and sip.

Spirit Knob Winery
2211 E. 640th Place • Ursa
spiritknob.com
217-964-2678
Nestled in the bluffs of the Mississippi River Valley, the backdrop for your wine experience is an ever changing panorama. See website for live music events.

Schorr Lake Vineyards
1032 S. Library Street • Waterloo
schorlakevineyard.net
618-939-3174
Relax on the deck that overlooks the lake and vineyard. Enjoy the estate-grown and produced table and fruit wines.
Fall travel along the Great River Road means quaint fall festivals, picking the juiciest apples straight from the tree, and discovering the perfect pumpkin. The variety of trees, including sugar maple, hickory, oaks, sassafras and sweetgum, ensure the byway bursts with color each fall. Thanks to the 550-mile north-south path of the Great River Road, it also means more than a month of peak fall colors!

Fall festivals and fairs are a great way to experience the flavor and local artisans of the byway. Each year more than 45,000 attendees make their way to southern Illinois for the Murphysboro Apple Festival. Named “The Best Fall Festival in Illinois,” by Travel & Leisure, it’s the oldest and largest fall festival in southern Illinois. This four day event features a car show, marching band competition, carnival, children’s activities, a parade and much more.

Harvest fun takes over the town of Fulton during the Fall Festival at Heritage Canyon. Take a tour of the authentic Dutch windmill, de Immigrant, and the Windmill Cultural Center that showcase the area’s Dutch roots. Then head to nearby Heritage Canyon to see the 1800s come alive as you interact with blacksmiths and other artisans at work.

Crafts and handmade arts are the theme of the Galena Country Fair. Each year more than 150 vendors offer original works, while the farmers market sells fall produce, maple syrup, and honey. Live music, food, Irish dancing and children’s games make this an event everyone will enjoy.

For more than 50 years, the Barry Apple Festival has been one of the area’s largest events each fall. The apple pie competition, craft and food vendors, car show and parade bring more than 25,000 people to this town of 1,400. The natural beauty of the location, with the autumn colors and rolling hills of Pike County, provides a gorgeous backdrop.

Selecting the perfect pumpkin and walking through orchards to pick the season’s best apples are some of the must-dos of fall along the byway. After working up an appetite, sample fall’s bounty with a caramel apple, hot apple cider or fresh apple cider donuts. For more than 140 years, Rendleman Orchards in Alto Pass has been committed to growing the highest quality fruits and vegetables. Stop by the Farm Market to pick up a bag of tree-ripened apples, pumpkins, jams, jellies, salsas, apple cider donuts and more. Visit during Pickin’ at the Patch for handmade crafts, primitives and antiques.
When the leaves start to change, take a drive to the pumpkin patch at Dittmar Farms in Elizabeth. On weekends, pick your own pumpkins and apples, try your hand at the gourd shooter, take a hayride and get lost in the corn maze. Enjoy fresh baked goods like apple cider donuts and pumpkin bread at the farm or at the Orchard Station in downtown Elizabeth.

The Tri-State Market Pumpkin Barn in East Dubuque really kicks it up a notch in the fall. With mountains of pumpkins, finding the perfect one for carving is a sure thing. Spend the day in the crisp autumn air as you shop for fall decorations while snacking on caramel apples and kettle corn. Children will enjoy the bounce house, hayride and corn maze on weekends.

Family-owned and operated since 1930, Edgewood Orchards in Quincy makes its cider from whole apples and nothing else. The secret to the wonderful taste is in the blend of tart, sweet and neutral apples.

Take a wagon ride out to the pumpkin patch at Relleke Farms in Granite City to find a pumpkin worthy of carving. Founded in the late 1800s, Relleke's offers pumpkins in a variety of colors and sizes, and it has everything you need to decorate for fall, including gourds, cornstalks and straw bales. Weekend activities include pumpkin and face painting, fall-themed carnival rides, a petting zoo and the pumpkin chucker.

In East Moline, the fourth generation of growers oversees Stone's Apple Barn and the 55 varieties of apples they harvest. You can pick your own delicious apples on weekends or stop by the store for apples, honey, jams and more.

Fall road trips are all about breathtaking views, basking in the glow of autumn and capturing the perfect photo. With the mighty Mississippi, harvest-ready farms, rolling hills and towering bluffs as the backdrop, the Great River Road in Illinois is definitely camera-ready!

Go for a drive through Pere Marquette State Park to experience fall foliage overlooking the Illinois River. Leave the park and head toward Alton. This 20-mile stretch captures the full colors of autumn; soak it in as the mighty Mississippi flows on one side of the byway and the bluffs peek out from the trees on the other.

Hike the trails at Black Hawk State Historic Site in Rock Island to take in the fall colors in one of the least disturbed forests in Illinois. The 15 miles of trails at Mississippi Palisades State Park in Savanna include short walks to scenic overlooks of the Mississippi and longer trails under the canopy, providing gorgeous autumn views from any angle.

Stroll along the trails at White Rock Nature Preserve near Valmeyer for views of the wide Mississippi River bottomlands from the hilltop prairie overlooks. The trails at Salt Lick Point Land and Water Reserve will take you past hill prairies, limestone glades and through acres of mature upland forest, but the view from below, of the bluffs peeking out from the autumn array, might be the best view of all. It's a bit of a drive up to Horseshoe Mound in Galena, but the scenery is worth it. The hiking trails, panoramic overlooks and viewing scopes open your eyes to the rolling countryside decked out in fall's finest.

View the autumn rainbow from atop the bluffs at Riverview Park in Alton or visit Principia College in Elsah to see historic buildings among the trees. Enjoy the leaf-peeping opportunities at Long Hollow Scenic Overlook in Elizabeth where farms, fields and foliage are on display in all their harvest-hued glory.

Take your pick of breathtaking views at LaRue-Pine Hills near Wolf Lake. Look down from the heights of Inspiration Point Trail for panoramic views of the Mississippi River valley and Big Muddy bottomlands. The view from below, on Muddy Levee Road, shows the towering 300-foot cliffs topped with trees displaying a kaleidoscope of autumn colors.
FALL FESTIVALS

The following are a sampling of annual events that take place during fall along the byway. It’s always best to call ahead or visit the event website for full details.

AUGUST

East Dubuque Wingfest ▲
Downtown • East Dubuque
East Dubuque Wingfest
If you love wings and craft beer, head to Wingfest! More than 60 craft beers will be available for tasting and plenty of wings to choose from. Fun and games for kids too!

Midwest Garlic Fest ▲
Terrapin Park • Elizabeth
midwestgarlicfest.com
815-777-9625
Come out and celebrate with the Galena Garlic Company as they showcase this tasty root vegetable. Farms will be offering Midwest grown garlic, and there will be local produce, food vendors and live music.

Olden Days Festival ▲
Tri County Antique Club
23946 State Route 3 • Dow
tricountyantiqueclub.org
800-258-6645
This family oriented event has something for everyone! Features antique tractors, tools and toys, an antique and garden tractor pull, and heritage demonstrations. There will be live entertainment both days, with country church on Sunday. Shop the large craft and flea market and enjoy lots of good “old-fashioned” food.

WILLOW FOLK FESTIVAL ▲
6522 S. Willow Road • Stockton
willowfolkfestival.com
This festival of music began in 1967 and continues today with family, friends and love. This annual fundraiser for the Willow United Methodist Church serves up great live entertainment. Come for the day or stay overnight and camp.

SEPTEMBER

Alton Expo ▲
Liberty Bank Alton
Amphitheater, 1 Riverfront Drive
Alton
altonamphitheater.com
800-258-6645
Enjoy five days of fair food, games, rides, live entertainment and more at the Liberty Bank Alton Amphitheater!

Apple Festival ▲
Pere Marquette Lodge and Conference Center
13653 Lodge Boulevard
Grafton
pmlodge.net
618-786-2331
Apple fever has hit Pere Marquette Lodge and you’re invited! Come out and join us in commemorating apples and all of their uses. The event features live entertainment, craft vendors, handmade products and family fun.

Barry Apple Festival ▲
Barry
barryapplefestival.com
217-335-2108
Annual parade, car show, arts and crafts and entertainment celebrate the apple industry in Pike County.

Fall Corn Festival ▲
Glazebrook Park
1401 Stamper Lane • Godfrey
godfreyil.org
618-466-1483
Come and enjoy a full day of fun at the park that includes music, petting zoo, pony rides, inflatables, games, arts and crafts, face painting, vendors and a corn eating contest! All ages welcome.

Galena Cellars Fall Harvest & Art Festival ▲
Galena Cellars Vineyard & Winery
4746 N. Ford Road • Galena
galenacellars.com
815-777-3235
Head to the festival for a fall adventure! Experience a combination of purple feet, paint brushes, pumpkin decorating, horses, music, food, spa treatments and wine.

Galena Oktoberfest ▲
Eastside Riverfront • Galena
galenaktoberfest.com
815-331-0180
This German celebration features non-stop live music, wiener dog races, polka dancing and lessons, German-style food and beverages, games for the kids and much more.

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galenaktoberfest.com
815-331-0180
This German celebration features non-stop live music, wiener dog races, polka dancing and lessons, German-style food and beverages, games for the kids and much more.
Jazz and Wine Festival ▲
Liberty Bank Alton
Amphitheater, 1 Riverfront Drive
Alton
altonamphitheater.com
800-258-6645
Are you down for some groovy beats and fresh drinks? Get in the mix at the Alton Jazz and Wine Festival, a celebration of Miles Davis and his birthplace. Jump, jitterbug and jive to the sounds of some of the craziest cats in the biz.

Mallard Fest ▲
White Park, 200 Block of Monroe Street • Hanover
hanover-il.com
Experience the world’s only Mallard Fest! This old-fashioned town picnic on the banks of the Apple River features live music, fireworks, parades and fun events for everyone.

Murphysboro Apple Festival ▲
13th & Walnut Streets
Murphysboro
MboroAppleFestival
618-684-3200
Southern Illinois’ longest running family festival features the largest parade in southern Illinois! A few of the many events during the festival include an apple peeling contest, apple pie eating contests, arts and crafts, the Murphysboro Clarkes vintage baseball team tournament, special exhibits at the General John A. Logan Museum, and so much more.

Nauvoo Grape Festival ▲
Nauvoo State Park
State Route 96 • Nauvoo
nauvoograpefestival.com
217-453-6648
One of Illinois’ oldest running annual festivals. Activities include a huge car show, flea market, parade, carnival, the Nauvoo Pageant, arts and crafts, food vendors, mud volleyball and more.

OCTOBER
Autumn Craft Fair ▲
River Ridge School
4141 State Route 84 S.
Hanover
elizabeth-il.org
More than 90 talented artisans offer unique handmade artwork, crafts and jewelry.

Docktoberfest ▲
The Loading Dock
1 Front Street • Grafton
graftonloadingdock.com
618-786-3494
Das Loading Dock presents the Docktoberfest Celebration! This festival features German-style food, bier, hammerschlagen and live music.

Historic Craft Fair ▲
Lewis & Clark State Historic Site
1 Lewis and Clark Trail
Hartford
campdubois.com
618-251-5811
The Lewis & Clark State Historic Site welcomes you to spend the day at the Historic Craft Fair. The event will host a number of local area craftspeople and artisans demonstrating and selling their goods, including baskets, needlework, quilts and other handmade items.

NOVEMBER
Native American Holiday Market ▲
Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site
30 Ramey Street • Collinsville
cahokiamounds.org
618-346-5160
Native American artists and crafters will have jewelry, paintings, herbs, weaving, baskets, pottery, bronze work and more available for purchase.
FALL FOLIAGE DRIVES

Blackjack Road ▲
Jo Daviess County
Begin this curvy journey in Galena. Drive past an alpaca farm, luxurious inns, ski slopes, and several recreation areas on your way to Hanover.

Bluff Road ▲
Monroe & Randolph counties
Runs along the bluffs from Palmer Road in Columbia, through Old Valmeyer and Chaflin Bridge, past Fults to Prairie du Rocher in Randolph County.

Calhoun County Vistas & Ferries Loop ▲
Calhoun County
visitallon.com/seasons/fall
800-258-6645
Rolling hills, winding roads, orchards and riverboat ferries create the perfect scenery for a peaceful drive through Calhoun County. There are several locations to enter the loop, but the ideal place to start is crossing the Brussels Ferry, just north of Grafton, into Calhoun County. Once in Calhoun County, continue on the Illinois River Road for 22 miles, through Brussels, Hardin and into Kampsville. In Kampsville, cross the Illinois River on the Kampsville Ferry and take State Route 108 into Eldred. In Eldred, turn right onto the Illinois River Road and onto State Route 100/16 past Pere Marquette State Park and back toward Grafton.

Inspiration Point – Shawnee National Forest Loop ▲
Union County
www.fs.usda.gov/shawnee
From State Route 3, turn east onto Muddy Levee Road to LaRue Road heading north. Turn onto Pine Hills Road to make your way to the trailhead for Inspiration Point and one of the most breathtaking views along the Great River Road. Head back to LaRue Road and onto Scatters Road to Hutchins Creek Road headed north. Take Hutchins Creek Road to Macedonia Road, then head north on Jerusalem Hill Road into Pomona. Head south on Natural Bridge Road to Pomona Road. Take Pomona Road east to State Route 127. Take State Route 127 south for 10 miles, then turn west onto State Forest Road back to State Route 3. This 35 mile route takes you through a portion of Shawnee National Forest and past some of the most beautiful scenery along the Great River Road. Before beginning your journey, please note some of the roads in this loop are gravel.

Ireland Hollow Road ▲
Jo Daviess County
Take Blackjack Road from Galena to the intersection of Blackjack and Irish Hollow Roads, continue on Irish Hollow Road to the intersection with Rodden Road. Turn east onto Rodden Road (gravel) to U.S. Highway 20, to loop back to Galena. Or continue south onto Rodden Road to the intersection with Saw Mill Road. Turn east onto Saw Mill Road to intersect State Route 84, 2 miles north of Hanover.

Meeting of the Great Rivers Scenic Route ▲
Jersey & Madison counties
visitallon.com/seasons/fall
800-258-6645
Approximately 60 miles roundtrip, heading west on State Route 100 from Alton to Elsah, Grafton and Pere Marquette State Park and back. With the mighty Mississippi on one side and the bluffs on the other, this drive has some of the prettiest views of autumn, but it also has heavy traffic on weekends during fall.
Celebration Belle – Fall Foliage Cruises
2501 River Drive • Moline
celebrationbelle.com
800-297-0034
See the beauty of fall onboard an authentic paddlewheel boat cruising the mighty Mississippi. Snap photos and enjoy the gorgeous scenery as you listen to music.

Scenic Art Loop
Northwest Illinois • First weekend of each month
scenicartloop.com • 815-947-2878
Enjoy the harvest-hued hills of northwest Illinois and 113 miles of art on this self-guided tour. Discover some of the region’s photographers, artists, potters and jewelry designers. Meet the artists and watch them at work in their studios, purchase original art, and visit nearby wineries, breweries, and restaurants that feature local art.

Shawnee Hills Wine Trail
Southwestern Illinois • shawneewinetrail.com
Located in the first area of Illinois to be recognized for its distinctive wine making properties, the Shawnee Hills Wine Trail is home to 11 different wineries. Sip Illinois made wine and enjoy the views of the dense fall foliage, rugged hills, deep ravines and sandstone formations of the Shawnee Hills region.

Twenty Dirty Hands Pottery Tour
Various locations throughout Jo Daviess County • October
twentydirtyhands.com
Visit some of the best known pottery and sculpture studios in Illinois as you enjoy the rolling hills of Galena Country in all its autumn glory. Some artists feature special events, exhibits and tours. Many of the studios are open to the public only during this event.

Union County Colorfest
Various locations throughout Union County • October
southernmostillinois.com
Celebrate fall in the forest during the annual Colorfest. Enjoy scenic drives to quaint communities, offering everything from baked goods to a biathlon. Kid-friendly activities, flea markets, food vendors, races and more await in Union County each fall!
The Great River Road offers dozens of fun attractions and experiences for children of any age. If you’re traveling in the summer, cool off along the drive at waterparks and local swimming pools. **Raging Rivers WaterPark** in Grafton has Itty Bitty Surf City and Treehouse Harbor for the little ones, and Swirlpool and Body Flumes for the more adventurous. Let the kids expend some energy while you relax poolside.

If you have an afternoon or evening free, spend quality family time at **Scotties Fun Spot** in Quincy, offering ball pits, bumper cars, go carts, laser tag, mini golf and more! Feeling hungry? Enjoy a snack or meal at the on-site restaurant or, if you have time, venture to one of Quincy’s popular local eateries.

Prefer the outdoors? Head out for a hike or trail ride. Older kids can experience the rolling hills of the Galena Territory on horseback at the **Shenandoah Riding Center**. The staff offers rides for beginners and those with more advanced skills through the stunning landscape along 40 miles of trails. **State parks** along the byway provide a chance to explore nature with hiking, boating, horseback riding and other recreational opportunities. Visit the Great Outdoors section for a full list of recreation areas along the byway.

Discover how John Deere revolutionized modern farming with his steel plow. At the **John Deere Pavilion** in Moline, climb in the cab of a giant combine, test your skills maneuvering a bulldozer in a state-of-the-art simulator and interact with hands-on activities in the John Deere Discovery Zone.

Learn about the Mississippi River and how locks and dams help boats move up and down the waterway at the **National Great Rivers Museum**, in Alton. Steer a barge around other river traffic on the mighty Mississippi in the simulator, see what wildlife call the river home, and tour the **Melvin Price Locks and Dam**, one of the largest locks and dam facilities on the river. Take a tour to the top of the locks, eight stories up, and get a birds-eye view of barge traffic passing below.

At the **Niabi Zoo** in Coal Valley, see more than 200 species from around the world. Feed goats, llamas and zebu at the petting zoo. Sign up for the Giraffe or Big Cat Encounters to go behind the scenes and see these amazing animals up-close.

The fun doesn’t stop during the winter months. Fill your day with skiing, snowboarding, tubing and hot chocolate at **Snowstar Winter Sports Park** in Andalusia. **Chestnut Mountain Resort**, overlooking the Mississippi River in Galena, offers winter fun with a view! Ski, snowboard or tube during the day, then relax while enjoying a meal at one of the resort’s restaurants. During summer, race down the alpine slide, experience an off-road Segway tour and ride the soaring eagle zip line.

Whatever time of year you’re visiting, there’s always something for the entire family to see, experience and explore along the Great River Road.
KID-FRIENDLY ADVENTURES

Alton Museum of History and Art ▲
2809 College Avenue • Alton
altonmuseum.com
618-462-2763
The museum is located in historic Loomis Hall across from the Roger Wadlow statue. Exhibits explore Alton’s “Gentle Giant,” the Lewis & Clark Expedition, American Civil War, Lincoln-Douglas debates, and the Underground Railroad.

Alton Room Escape ▲
319 Ridge Street • Alton
altonroomescape.com
618-876-9768
In this live adventure, teams search for clues and solve riddles to escape themed adventure rooms in under an hour.

Belle-Clair Speedway ▲
200 S. Belt East • Belleville
belleclairspeedway.net
314-267-4944
Between March and October this action-packed track hosts midget, sprint, and stock car races, along with demolition derbies and motorcycle races.

Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge ▲
364 Wildlife Conservation Road
brussels
fws.gov/refuge/two_rivers
618-883-2524
More than 200,000 waterfowl make a stop at the refuge each fall and spring as they migrate along the Mississippi Flyway. Located at the confluence of the Mississippi and Illinois rivers, this refuge provides a unique opportunity to experience the wildlife that are attracted to the backwaters and bottomland forests.

Niabi Zoo ▲
13010 Niabi Zoo Road
Coal Valley
niabizoo.com
309-799-3482
Learn about more than 200 species from the African Leopard to the Zebu, ride on the train and carousel, go behind the scenes to meet the animals up-close, and feed animals from parakeets to llamas!

Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site ▲
30 Ramey Street • Collinsville
cahokiamounds.org
618-346-5160
View what remains of the most sophisticated prehistoric site north of Mexico. Walk to the top of Monk’s Mound, explore the life-size village, and learn about Native American culture.

Treehouse Wildlife Center ▲
23956 Green Acres Road • Dow
treehousewildlifecenter.com
618-466-2990
Learn about native species and see some of the permanent residents at this center dedicated to the rehabilitation of injured and orphaned wildlife.

National Great Rivers Museum & Melvin Price Locks and Dam ▲
2 Lock and Dam Way
East Alton
mrf.org
618-462-6979
Uncover the history of the mighty Mississippi and how it has shaped our culture, history, economy, ecology and the people of the region. Take a tour of the locks and watch barge traffic from 80 feet above the river.

Edison’s Entertainment Complex ▲
2477 S. State Route 157
Edwardsville
edisonsfun.com
618-307-9020
The laser tag arena, arcade, and bowling lanes will keep kids active for hours!

Edwardsville Children’s Museum ▲
722 Holyoake Road
Edwardsville
edwardsvillechildrensmuseum.org
618-692-2094
Exhibits allow children to see what it’s like to take care of animals in an animal hospital, shop for groceries, cook a favorite meal, visit the dentist, deliver mail, create a piece of art and more.

Dittmar Farms ▲
256 S. Grebner Road
Elizabeth
dittmarfarms.com
815-858-3413
Take a hayride through the apple orchard or out to the pumpkin patch to pick your favorites.

Long Hollow Canopy Tours ▲
3247 W. Longhollow Road
Elizabeth
longhollowcanopytours.com
815-281-2853
Soar through the trees, reaching heights of 75 feet and speeds up to 40 miles per hour! Walk the sky bridge and explore the forest from above. See website for participant requirements.

Windmill Cultural Center and de Immigrant Windmill ▲
111 10th Avenue • Fulton
cityoffulton.us
815-589-4033
Explore more than 20 model windmills from 10 European countries, visit the education area with children’s activities, and shop for flour, ground by the mill, in the gift shop. Across the street, tour the authentic Dutch windmill on the banks of the Mississippi River.

Altitude Trampoline Park ▲
91 Fountain Drive
Glen Carbon
altitudeglencarbon.com
618-744-6959
Enjoy the foam pits, tumble tracks, basketball dunking lanes, kids zone, and 20,000 square feet of interconnected trampoline attractions.

Great Godfrey Maze ▲
1401 Stamper Lane • Godfrey
godfreyil.org
618-466-1483
Get lost in a corn maze. Open weekends during fall, visitors are required to have a flashlight to navigate the maze after dark. Try the corn crib, cow train, hay wagon, and the jumping pillow.

Grafton Sky Tour ▲
14 W. Main Street • Grafton
aeriesview.com
618-786-8439
Take an enclosed gondola or open chairlift and enjoy a scenic ride up the bluffs to Aerie’s Resort. Beautiful views of the confluence of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers await.

GreatRiverRoad-Illinois.com 29
Pere Marquette State Park ▲
13112 Visitor Center Lane
Grafton
www.dnr.illinois.gov
618-786-3323
Illinois’ largest state park sits at the confluence of the Illinois and Mississippi rivers and offers hiking, biking, rock climbing, and camping opportunities.

Raging Rivers WaterPark ▲
100 Palisades Parkway • Grafton
ragingrivers.com
618-786-2345
From the Cascade Body Flumes and Swirl Pools, to Itty Bitty Surf City and the Endless River, there’s something for everyone!

Lewis & Clark Confluence Tower ▲
435 Confluence Tower Drive
Hartford
confluencetower.com
618-251-9101
Discover the history of the area, delve into the Lewis & Clark Expedition, and see the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. Stop at all three viewing platforms on this 180-foot tower.

Lewis & Clark State Historic Site ▲
1 Lewis and Clark Trail • Hartford
campdubois.com
618-251-5811
The interpretive center contains a 55-foot, full scale replica of the expedition’s keelboat and exhibits describing their journey. Outside, view a replica of Camp River Dubois where the Corps of Discovery spent five months preparing for their expedition. Site #1 on the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail.

Center for American Archeology ▲
101 N. Broadway • Kampsville
caa-archeology.org
618-653-4316
For more than 50 years, the CAA has offered award-winning research and educational programs for archeology enthusiasts, professionals-in-training and those who have a general interest in the prehistoric communities that once thrived along the banks of the Illinois River.

World Wide Technology Raceway ▲
700 Raceway Boulevard
Madison
wwtraceway.com
618-215-8888
Head to the races for fast paced family entertainment! With Indy Car series, NASCAR, Stock Car races and more, the track produces heart pounding fun and is located just minutes from downtown St. Louis.

Horseshoe Lake State Fish & Wildlife Area ▲
21204 Promised Land Road
Miller City
www.dnr.illinois.gov
618-776-5689
Camp, boat, fish and hunt in this 10,200-acre State Fish and Wildlife Area containing a 2,400-acre shallow lake. Enjoy the deep south charm of the native bald cypress, tupelo gum, swamp cottonwood trees and wild lotus. Located in Alexander County, 7 miles north of Cairo, just east of State Route 3.

Channel Cat Water Taxi ▲
2951 River Drive • Moline
gogreenmetro.com
309-788-3360
Travel the Mississippi River on an open-air boat that takes passengers back and forth across the river to various landings. Ride it all day for one price.

John Deere Pavilion ▲
1400 River Drive • Moline
visitjohnndeere.com
309-765-1000
Climb in the cab of a tractor, bulldozer or combine; discover how the creation of the steel plow led to the revolution of modern agriculture; enjoy hands-on activities in the Discovery Zone; and test your skills in the state-of-the-art simulator.

QC Family Entertainment Center ▲
4401 44th Avenue • Moline
qcfeccom
309-517-1158
Friends and family will be entertained for hours! An arcade, 2-story laser tag arena and 32 lanes of bowling await.

Ralph B. Birks Recreational Trail/ Ben Butterworth Memorial Parkway ▲
River Drive, between 22nd and 55th Streets • Moline
moline.il.us
309-524-2424
Part of the Great River Trail running through the heart of Moline along the Mississippi River, this beautiful 2.2-mile parkway offers spectacular sightseeing.

Ravens Grin Inn Haunted House ▲
411 N. Carroll Street • Mt. Carroll
hauntedravensgrin.com
815-244-4746
An eclectic mix of fun house and haunted house, Ravens Grin Inn is open year around, gore free, and very family-friendly.

Family Living Center ▲
650 White Street • Nauvoo
historicanauvoo.net
217-453-2237
Get a taste of pioneer living and discover candle making, rope winding, spinning and other crafts.

Scotties Fun Spot ▲
8000 Broadway Street • Quincy
scottiesfunspot.com
217-222-3868
Join in the fun with go karts, roller skating, mini golf, laser tag, bowling and arcade games.

Backwater Gamblers Water Ski Shows ▲
5000 44th Street • Rock Island
backwatergamblers.com
Leaps, pyramids and high speed excitement is what you will find at these water-ski shows.
Every Wednesday and Sunday at 6:30pm from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Hauberg Indian Museum ▲
1510 46th Avenue • Rock Island
blackhawkpark.org
309-788-9536
Learn about the Sauk and Meskwaki tribes through exhibits. View full-size replicas of winter and summer houses and artifacts like jewelry, trade goods, and domestic items.

Quad City Botanical Center ▲
2525 4th Avenue • Rock Island
qcgardens.com
309-794-0991
Stroll past tropical and prairie plants, rare conifers, artwork, statues, and enjoy hands-on activities for kids in the amazing indoor and outdoor gardens.

Whitewater Junction ▲
17th Street and 18th Avenue
Rock Island
rigov.org
309-732-7946
Big kids will enjoy the heart-pounding excitement of the Rocket, Zephyr, Express and Cannonball slides. Younger kids will enjoy the tot slide, tea cup, and the shallow water play area.

CHRISTMAS TREE FARMS

Tangled Tinsel Christmas Tree Farm & Gift Shop ▲
5 Christmas Tree Lane • Alton
tangletinselfarm.com
618-465-7036
Choose from a selection of pick-your-own or pre-cut pine trees from 2-10 feet tall. Pick up fresh evergreen wreaths, swags, pine roping, and grave blankets at the barn. Shop the wide variety of handmade crafts and ornaments in the gift shop.

Eckert’s – Belleville Farm ▲
951 S. Green Mount Road
Belleville
eckerts.com
618-233-0513
Eckert's has an extensive greenhouse, restaurant, Country Store, and pick-your-own fruits, vegetables, pumpkins and Christmas trees.

Timber Lane Christmas Tree Farm & Country Store ▲
7250 Garden Plain Road
Fulton	timberlanetreefarm.com
309-887-4892
Choose and cut your own Christmas tree. Shop the Country Store for a variety of handmade crafts, canned goods, Delft pottery, ornaments and seasonal decor.

Ochs Tree Farm ▲
638 N. Blackjack Road • Galena
ochstreesfarm.com
563-542-5281
Ochs provides everything you need to cut your tree. Visit the warming house for fresh garland, wreaths and more.

Mathews Christmas Trees ▲
705 E. 2300th Place • Liberty
MathewsChristmasTrees.com
217-645-3157
Choose and cut Christmas tree farm that also offers pre-cut trees and fresh wreaths.

Bill’s Christmas Trees ▲
5102 N. Elizabeth-Scales Mound Road • Scales Mound
815-845-2609
Choose and cut your own Christmas tree. Tree shaker and netting are available. Stop by the holiday shop and pick out a holiday wreath.

Gateway Grizzlies – GCS Park ▲
2301 Grizzle Bear Boulevard
Sauget
gatewaygrizzlies.com
618-337-3000
Take the family out to a ball game at GCS park, home of the Gateway Grizzlies Frontier League baseball team.

Ingersoll Wetlands Learning Center at the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge ▲
7071 Riverview Road • Thomson
815-273-2732
Located within the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, the learning center is filled with hands-on exhibits and provides a dramatic view of the Mississippi River.
To see the natural beauty of Illinois, take a drive on the Great River Road. Rolling hills, prairie-dotted plains and limestone bluffs provide relaxing places to unplug, experience nature and reconnect with friends and family. From rock climbing, hiking, biking and equestrian trails to fishing, boating, camping and gorgeous views, some of the best recreational opportunities in Illinois are along the byway.

Just north of Savanna, Mississippi Palisades State Park offers forested bluffs and rock palisades overlooking the Mississippi River. The towering limestone formations offer a range of technical climbing routes and classic top rope climbs. With more than 150 established routes, climbers of any skill level can fill a day or a weekend. If you prefer hiking, the extensive trail system covers 15 miles, leading to 6 river overlooks.

Encompassing more than 8,000 acres, Pere Marquette State Park is the largest state park in Illinois. Bike rentals, horseback riding, hiking, nature viewing and fishing are only some of the activities offered here. Each winter, the park becomes a hub for bald eagle watching. Weekends are filled with bald eagle interpretive programs led by site naturalists.

Near Makanda, Giant City State Park boasts breathtaking natural beauty, cultural history and numerous opportunities for outdoor recreation. On the park’s namesake nature trail, hike among the “Giant City Streets,” consisting of massive blocks of sandstone that formed 12,000 years ago.

Whether you’re looking for a relaxing walk or a challenging hike, state parks and recreation areas along the byway offer the perfect opportunity to enjoy nature. Pomona Natural Bridge, located near Pomona in Shawnee National Forest, offers a moderate, .3-mile hike to a 90-foot sandstone arch. This quick hike is suitable for all ages. Hike across the top of the formation for stunning views. Take the path less traveled at Trail of Tears State Forest near Jonesboro. This hidden gem in the Ozark Hills offers more than 40 miles of hiking opportunities among the densely wooded, rugged hills.

If cycling is your passion, travel the Great River Trail between Rock Island and Savanna. This paved 60-mile path is part of the larger 10-state Mississippi River Trail. Beginning in downtown Galena, travel the Mississippi River backwaters along the Galena River Trail. This crushed limestone path leads to forested areas, historic sites and scenic views of Galena. The extensive trail system of Madison County is known as the MCT (Madison County Transit Bike Trails). Take a day or weekend to navigate this cycling paradise. With more than 120 trail miles connecting communities and urban areas, this is one of the most extensive bikeways in the country. If you’re looking for a unique off-road cycling experience, take the pedestrian bridge to Sylvan Island near Moline. This
technical singletrack playground winds through a 35-acre island in the middle of the Mississippi River.

Camping areas abound along the byway. Many sites at Thomson Causeway Recreation Area offer abundant shade, level concrete pads for RVs and views of the Mississippi River. This location also provides a boat launch and access to the Great River Trail. Illiniwek Forest Preserve in Hampton is another favorite camping area. The preserve has access to the Mississippi River for boating, as well as opportunities for biking and hiking along the Great River Trail. Plus, it’s a short distance to attractions in the Quad Cities.

If you enjoy the outdoors, but roughing it isn’t your style, stay in a lodge or cabin rental along the byway. Rent a cabin near Giant City Lodge in Makanda, and take in views of the lush, rolling forest of the Shawnee Hills. Made of multi-hued sandstone and white oak timber by the Civilian Conservation Corps, the lodge features a great room with a massive native stone fireplace and a restaurant featuring mouthwatering fried chicken dinners. Spend the night in the lodge or cabins at Pere Marquette Lodge and Conference Center. Also built by the Civilian Conservation Corps, the lodge’s 700-ton stone fireplace makes a great place to warm up after a fall color hike or a picturesque backdrop to a friendly game of chess on the life-size game board.

Fishing is one of the most popular activities along the byway. In the Mississippi River, almost 120 species of fish, including small and largemouth bass, catfish, walleye, bluegill and crappie, await the bait of even the most novice angler. Some of the best largemouth bass fishing on the Mississippi River can be found in Pool 19 between Hamilton and Gulfport. Access to the river can be gained at boat launches in Hamilton, Nauvoo and Dallas City. There are also ample fishing opportunities in waters off the river. Lake Carlton at Morrison-Rockwood State Park is considered a prime fishing location by locals. During the summer months, anglers hook walleye, bass and muskie, but the fishing doesn’t stop with the arrival of winter. If you’re willing to brave the cold, ice fishing on Lake Carlton will bring in panfish, walleye and sauger. A few miles northwest of Murphysboro, Kinkaid Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area is home to one of the premier muskie lakes in Illinois. It’s also known for producing large crappie, including the 2017 state record that weighed in at 4 pounds 8.8 ounces.

Ever consider exploring the outdoors on horseback? If you’re headed to Shawnee National Forest and want to bring your trusty trail partner along, visit Johnson Creek Recreation Area near Murphysboro. This location is one of only a few Forest Service campgrounds in Shawnee National Forest that accommodates equestrian camping. At Big River State Forest in Keithsburg, equestrians can make use of designated trails, scenic gravel roads and fire lanes equaling more than 60 trail miles. The forest also has 35 campsites to accommodate equestrians and their horses.

If you’re a birder, there’s no better place to be than along the Mississippi River. Each spring and fall more than 300 species of birds migrate along the Mississippi Flyway from their breeding grounds in Canada to their wintering habitat in the Gulf of Mexico and South America. A prime location to view some of the 200,000 birds that journey along this portion of the flyway is at the confluence of the Mississippi and Illinois rivers at Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge. Here, viewing platforms and scopes bring an assortment of waterfowl and songbirds into focus. Located near Thomson, Ingersoll Wetlands Learning Center at the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge is an ideal place to photograph a bald eagle, sandhill crane or trumpeter swan. Other native species found here include the ornate box turtle, river otter and prickly pear cactus.

Hiking, biking, climbing, riding, fishing, boating, camping—you name it—an amazing outdoor getaway awaits along the Great River Road!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RECREATION AREAS</th>
<th>BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN PATHS</th>
<th>BIRD WATCHING/WILDLIFE VIEWING</th>
<th>BOATING</th>
<th>CAMPING</th>
<th>CROSS COUNTRY SKIING</th>
<th>EAGLE WATCHING</th>
<th>EQUESTRIAN</th>
<th>FISHING</th>
<th>HIKING</th>
<th>ICE SKATING</th>
<th>MOUNTAIN BIKING</th>
<th>SPORT SHOOTING</th>
<th>SWIMMING</th>
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<tr>
<td>Andalusia Slough Recreation Area 14895 78th Avenue W. • Andalusia <a href="http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil">www.mvr.usace.army.mil</a> • 563-263-7913</td>
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<td>Apple River Canyon State Park 8763 E. Canyon Road • Apple River <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov">www.dnr.illinois.gov</a> • 815-745-3302</td>
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<td>Apple River Canyon State Park – Salem Unit 1205 N. Salem Road • Elizabeth rivers2ridges.com • 815-745-3302</td>
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<td>Apple River Canyon State Park – Thompson Unit 1573 N. Scout Camp Road • Stockton rivers2ridges.com • 815-745-3302</td>
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<td>Baldwin Lake State Fish &amp; Wildlife Area 10981 Conservation Road • Baldwin <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov">www.dnr.illinois.gov</a> • 618-785-2555</td>
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<td>Bear Creek Recreation Area N. 2400 Avenue • Ursa <a href="http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil">www.mvr.usace.army.mil</a> • 563-263-7913</td>
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<td>Big River State Forest 1337 Township Road 2850N • Keithsburg <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov">www.dnr.illinois.gov</a> • 309-374-2496</td>
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<td>Black Hawk State Historic Site 1510 46th Avenue • Rock Island blackhawkpark.org • 309-788-0177</td>
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<td>Blanchard Island Recreation Area 34000 176th Street W. • New Boston <a href="http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil">www.mvr.usace.army.mil</a> • 563-263-7913</td>
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<td>Blanding Landing Recreation Area 5720 S. River Road • Hanover <a href="http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil">www.mvr.usace.army.mil</a> • 815-591-2326</td>
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<td>Buehler Preserve 102 Jefferson Street • Galena jdcf.org • 815-858-9100</td>
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<td>Casper Bluff Land &amp; Water Reserve 870 S. Pilot Knob Road • Galena jdcf.org • 815-858-9100</td>
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<td>Cedar Lake – Shawnee National Forest State Route 127 south from Murphysboro to Boat Dock Road • Murphysboro <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/shawnee">www.fs.usda.gov/shawnee</a> • 618-833-8576</td>
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<td>Clear Springs Wilderness – Shawnee National Forest Road 236 (Pine Hills Road) • Grand Tower <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/shawnee">www.fs.usda.gov/shawnee</a> • 618-833-8576</td>
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<td>Delabar State Park R.R. 2, Box 27 • Oquawka <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov">www.dnr.illinois.gov</a> • 309-374-2496</td>
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<td>Fisherman’s Corner Recreation Area 16123 State Route 84 N. • Hampton <a href="http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil">www.mvr.usace.army.mil</a> • 815-259-3628</td>
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| Fort Kaskaskia State Historic Site        | 4372 Park Road • Ellis Grove  
www2.illinois.gov/dnrhistoric • 618-859-3741 |                                  |              |
| Frank Holten State Recreation Area        | 4500 Pocket Road • East St. Louis  
www.dnr.illinois.gov • 618-874-7920 |                                  |              |
| Fults Hill Prairie Nature Preserve        | Bluff Road, south of Fults • Chester  
www.dnr.illinois.gov • 618-826-2706 |                                  |              |
| Giant City State Park                     | 235 Giant City Road • Makanda  
www.dnr.illinois.gov • 618-457-4836 |                                  |              |
| Hanover Bluff Natural Area                | 8995 S. Hanover Hill Road • Hanover  
rivers2ridges.com • 815-745-3302 |                                  |              |
| Henderson County Conservation Area        | Gladstone Lake Road • Gladstone  
www.dnr.illinois.gov • 309-374-2496 |                                  |              |
| Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park         | Locks 30, 31 & 32 – Access from U.S. Highway 67 • Milan  
www.dnr.illinois.gov • 815-454-2328 |                                  |              |
| Horseshoe Lake State Fish & Wildlife Area | 21204 Promised Land Road • Miller City  
www.dnr.illinois.gov • 618-776-5689 |                                  |              |
| Horseshoe Lake State Park                 | 3321 State Route 111 • Granite City  
www.dnr.illinois.gov • 618-931-0270 |                                  |              |
| Illinois Forest Preserve                  | 836 State Avenue • Hampton  
ricfpd.org • 309-496-2620 |                                  |              |
| Iris and Jack Witkowsky State Wildlife Area | 4573 S. Blackjack Road • Hanover  
www.dnr.illinois.gov • 815-745-3302 |                                  |              |
| Jerry F. Costello Lock and Dam            | 4800 Lock and Dam Road • Modoc  
www.mvs.usace.army.mil • 618-284-7160 |                                  |              |
| Johnson Creek Recreation Area              | Shawnee National Forest  
State Route 151, south of Ava • Ava  
www.fs.usda.gov/shawnee • 618-833-8576 |                                  |              |
| Julius J. Knobeloch Woods Nature Preserve | Rentschler Road off of State Route 177 • Freeburg  
www.dnr.illinois.gov • 618-462-1181 |                                  |              |
| Kaskaskia River State Fish & Wildlife Area | 10981 Conservation Road • Baldwin  
www.dnr.illinois.gov • 618-785-2555 |                                  |              |
| Kidd Lake Marsh State Natural Area        | Bluff Road, south of Fults • Chester  
www.dnr.illinois.gov • 618-826-2706 |                                  |              |
| Kinkaid Lake State Fish & Wildlife Area   | 52 Cinder Hill Drive • Murphysboro  
www.dnr.illinois.gov • 618-684-2867 |                                  |              |
| Lake Murphysboro State Park               | 52 Cinder Hill Drive • Murphysboro  
www.dnr.illinois.gov • 618-684-2867 |                                  |              |
## RECREATION AREAS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Recreation Area</th>
<th>BICYCLE/ PEDESTRIAN PATHS</th>
<th>BOATING</th>
<th>CAMPING</th>
<th>CROSS COUNTRY SKIING</th>
<th>EAGLE WATCHING</th>
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<th>SPORT SHOOTING</th>
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<td>LaRue-Pine Hills – Otter Pond Research Natural Area Shawnee National Forest</td>
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<td>Little Grand Canyon – Shawnee National Forest</td>
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<td>graftontrailrides.com • 618-786-2156</td>
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▲ Blackhawk Waterways ▲ Great Rivers & Routes ▲ Great Rivers Country ▲ ILLINOISouth ▲ Quad Cities ▲ Quincy ▲ Southernmost Illinois ▲ Galena Country
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>Salt Lick Point Land and Water Reserve</td>
<td>Quarry Road &amp; Limestone Drive • Valmeyer • clifftopalliance.org • 618-935-2542</td>
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<td>Schurmeier Teaching Forest</td>
<td>147 E. Reusch Road • Elizabeth • jdf.org • 815-858-9100</td>
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<td>Stermler Cave Woods Nature Preserve</td>
<td>2200 Stermler Road • Columbia • <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov">www.dnr.illinois.gov</a> • 618-281-9816</td>
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<td>Tapley Woods State Natural Area</td>
<td>5 miles west of Elizabeth on U.S. Highway 20 • Elizabeth • <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov">www.dnr.illinois.gov</a> • 815-745-3302</td>
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<td>The Nature Institute:</td>
<td>Olin Nature Preserve, Mississippi Sanctuary, Kemp and Cora Hutchinson Bird Sanctuary, Heartland Prairie Project at Gordon Moore Park 2213 S. Levis Lane • Godfrey thenatureinstitute.org • 618-466-9930</td>
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<td>Thomson Causeway Recreation Area</td>
<td>Lewis Avenue • Thomson • <a href="http://www.mrv.usace.army.mil">www.mrv.usace.army.mil</a> • 815-259-2353</td>
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<td>Trail of Tears State Forest</td>
<td>3240 State Forest Road • Jonesboro • <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov">www.dnr.illinois.gov</a> • 618-833-4910</td>
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<td>Turkey Bluffs State Fish &amp; Wildlife Area</td>
<td>2 miles south of Chester on State Route 3 • Chester • <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov">www.dnr.illinois.gov</a> • 618-826-2706</td>
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<td>Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge</td>
<td>364 Wildlife Conservation Road • Brussels • fws.gov/refuge/two_rivers • 618-883-2524</td>
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<td>Union County State Fish &amp; Wildlife Area</td>
<td>2755 Refuge Road • Jonesboro • <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov">www.dnr.illinois.gov</a> • 618-833-5175</td>
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<td>Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife &amp; Fish Refuge and Ingersoll Wetlands Learning Center</td>
<td>7071 Riverview Road • Thomson • stewardsumrr.org • 815-273-2732</td>
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<td>8642 State Route 84 S • Hanover • jdc.org • 815-858-9100</td>
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<td>Wards Grove Nature Preserve</td>
<td>3334 S. Willow Road • Stockton • <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov">www.dnr.illinois.gov</a> • 815-745-3302</td>
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<td>White Rock Nature Preserve</td>
<td>6438 Bluff Road • Valmeyer • clifftopalliance.org • 618-935-2542</td>
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<td>Winston Tunnel State Natural Area</td>
<td>2641 S. Blackjack Road • Galena • rivers2ridges.com • 815-745-3302</td>
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<td>World Shooting &amp; Recreational Complex</td>
<td>1 Main Event Lane • Sparta • <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov">www.dnr.illinois.gov</a> • 618-295-2700</td>
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BIKE TRAILS

Bill Klingner Trail ▲
.5 miles • Paved
Quincy
Riverfront to 24th Street
Setting: runs along Cedar Creek
Contact: Quincy Park District
quincyparkdistrict.com
217-223-7703

Great River Trail (National Recreation Trail) ▲ ▲
61.5 miles • Paved
Rock Island to Savanna
Setting: Mississippi River, small communities, and urban area
Contact: Bi-State Regional Commission
greatrivertrail.org
309-793-6300

Clat Adams Bicentennial Park ▲
.2 miles • Paved
Quincy
Front & Hampshire Streets
Setting: riverfront
Contact: Quincy Park District
quincyparkdistrict.com
217-223-7703

Galena River Trail ▲
6 miles • Paved, Limestone and Natural Mixed
Galena
Galena near Depot Park to Chestnut Mountain Resort along the Mississippi River backwaters
Setting: picturesque city views of historic Galena, forest, bluffs, and Mississippi River backwaters
Contact: Galena Country Tourism
visitgalena.org
815-776-9200

Kiwanis Trail ▲
6.5 miles • Paved, Gravel and Limestone
Moline to Rock Island
Setting: quiet streets and separated trail through nature preserve
Contact: Bi-State Regional Commission
qctrails.org
309-793-6300

Horseshoe Lake Bike Trail ▲
5 miles • Limestone
Miller City
Horseshoe Lake State Fish & Wildlife Area
Setting: cypress swamp and lake
Contact: Horseshoe Lake State Conservation Area
618-776-5689

Lakeview Park ▲
2.25 miles • Paved
Waterloo
Lakeview Park, Lakeview Drive
Setting: park
Contact: Waterloo Park District
waterlooparkdistrict.org
618-939-7967

MCT Confluence Trail ▲
20.5 miles • Paved
Alton to Granite City
Setting: Mississippi River and urban areas
Contact: Madison County Transit District
mcttrails.org
618-797-4600

MCT Nickel Plate Trail ▲
28.5 miles • Paved and Limestone
Edwardsville to Glen Carbon
Setting: connects communities and trails
Contact: Madison County Transit District
mcttrails.org
618-797-4600

MCT Quercus Grove Trail ▲
18.9 miles • Limestone and Paved
Edwardsville to Hamel
Setting: city and rural rail-trail
Contact: Madison County Transit District
mcttrails.org
618-797-4600

MCT Schoolhouse Trail ▲
15.5 miles • Paved
Madison to Troy
Setting: connects communities
Contact: Madison County Transit District
mcttrails.org
618-797-4600

Great River Trail

Chestnut Mountain Resort Trails
Contact: Madison County Transit District
mcttrails.org
618-797-4600

**MCT Watershed Trail** ▲
1.3 miles • Paved
Edwardsville to Roxana
Setting: Watershed Nature Center and open space
Contact: Madison County Transit District
mcttrails.org
618-797-4600

**MetroBikeLink Trail** ▲
14 miles • Paved
Fairview Heights to Belleville
Setting: rail with trail, connecting communities, and transit facilities
Contact: St. Clair County Transit District
scctd.org
618-628-8090

**Metro-East Levee Trail** ▲
7.6 miles • Limestone
Cahokia vicinity
Setting: Mississippi River, wetlands, and natural areas
Contact: St. Clair County Highway Department
618-233-1392

**Old Chain Of Rocks Bridge** ▲
Spans Mississippi River • Paved
State Route 3, North Riverfront Park – Madison County
Setting: Ride across the Mississippi River
nps.gov
314-416-9930

**Ralph B. Birks Recreational Trail/Ben Butterworth Memorial Parkway** ▲
4.2 miles • Paved
Moline
Mississippi River, downtown
Setting: Located along the Mississippi River, the Birks Recreational Trail runs the entire span of Moline’s 4.2-mile shoreline. Two miles include the Ben Butterworth Memorial Parkway, with the remaining 2 miles along roads and separated paths adjacent to downtown Moline and businesses.
Contact: City of Moline Parks & Recreation
moline.il.us
309-524-2424

**Sam Vadalabene Bike Trail** ▲
20.6 miles • Paved
Alton to Pere Marquette State Park
Along State Route 100
Setting: Mississippi River
Contact: Great Rivers & Routes Tourism Bureau
visitallon.com
800-258-6645

**Wilson Park** ▲
1.4 miles • Paved
Granite City
Wilson Park, 2900 Benton Street
Setting: park
Contact: Granite City Park District
park.granitecity.com
618-877-3059

**Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge** ▲
3 miles
364 Wildlife Conservation Road • Brussels
fws.gov/refuge/two_rivers
618-883-2524

**Buehler Preserve** ▲
.5 miles
102 Jefferson Street • Galena
jdcf.org
815-858-9100

**Chestnut Mountain Resort Mountain Bike Trails** ▲
5 miles
8700 W. Chestnut Mountain Road • Galena
chestnutmn.com
800-397-1320

**Galena River Trail** ▲
6 miles
South end of Depot Park
Galena
visitgalena.org
815-776-9200

**Illiniwek Forest Preserve** ▲
5 miles
836 State Avenue • Hampton
ricfpd.org
309-496-2620

**Loud Thunder Forest Preserve** ▲
12 miles
19406 Loud Thunder Road
Illinois City
ricfpd.org
309-795-1040

**Stephens Park** ▲
1.5 miles
17th Street and 15th Avenue
Moline
qcforc.org
563-524-2424

**Sylvan Island Park** ▲
4 miles
1st Avenue & 2nd Street
Moline
qctrail.org
309-524-2429

**Dorrance Park** ▲
3.5 miles
401 Agnes Street • Port Byron
qcforc.org
309-203-1404

**Spring Valley Trails Nature Classroom** ▲
2 miles
1301 S. 48th Street • Quincy
seequincy.com
EAGLE WATCHING

Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge ▲
364 Wildlife Conservation Road
Brussels

Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge – Swan Lake ▲
Ride across the Brussels Ferry into Calhoun County and follow the signs to Swan Lake
Brussels

Chester Welcome Center ▲
10 Bridge By-Pass Road
Chester

Treehouse Wildlife Center ▲
23956 Green Acres Road • Dow

National Great Rivers Museum & Melvin Price Locks and Dam 26 ▲
2 Lock and Dam Way
East Alton

East Dubuque Boat Launch ▲
2nd Street & Menominee Avenue
East Dubuque

Gramercy Park ▲
Beecher Street
East Dubuque

Elsah ▲
State Route 100 • Elsah

Lock and Dam 13 ▲
4999 Lock Road • Fulton

Casper Bluff Land & Water Reserve ▲
870 S. Pilot Knob Road
Galena

Lock and Dam 18 ▲
End of 1675 N. • Gladstone

Clifton Terrace Park ▲
State Route 100 & Clifton Terrace Road
Godfrey

Piasa Harbor ▲
10815 Lockhaven Road
Godfrey

The Nature Institute ▲
2213 S. Levis Lane • Godfrey

Brussels Ferry ▲
16211 State Route 100 W.
Grafton

Grafton Riverfront ▲
215 Water Street • Grafton

Pere Marquette State Park ▲
13112 Visitor Center Lane
Grafton

Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge – Gilbert Lake ▲
.5 miles upriver from the Brussels Ferry • Grafton

Devil’s Backbone Park ▲
Brunkhorst Avenue
Grand Tower

Hamilton ▲
State Route 96 (Across from Keokuk, Iowa, Lock and Dam 19)
Hamilton

Hampton Heritage Interpretive Center ▲
251 S. State Avenue • Hampton

Illiniwek Forest Preserve/ Lock and Dam 14 ▲
State Route 84 • Hampton

Hardin Riverfront ▲
On State Route 100, cross the Joe Page Bridge in Hardin
Hardin

Lewis & Clark Confluence Tower ▲
435 Confluence Tower Drive
Hartford

Lock and Dam 16 ▲
102nd Avenue W. • Illinois City

Loud Thunder Forest Preserve ▲
19408 Loud Thunder Road
Illinois City

Union County State Fish & Wildlife Area ▲
2755 Refuge Road • Jonesboro

Old Chain of Rocks Bridge ▲
W. Chain of Rocks Road
Madison

Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park ▲
Locks 30, 31 & 32 – Access from U.S. Highway 67 • Milan

Horseshoe Lake State Fish & Wildlife Area ▲
21204 Promised Land Road
Miller City

Jerry F. Costello Lock and Dam ▲
4800 Lock and Dam Road
Modoc

Lock and Dam 17 ▲
173 Lock and Dam Road
New Boston

Lock and Dam 21 ▲
909 W. Lock and Dam Road
Quincy

Quinsippi Island ▲
Bonansinga Drive & Cedar Street
Quincy

Mississippi River Visitor Center/Locks and Dam 15 ▲
Arsenal Island • Rock Island

Schwiebert Riverfront Park ▲
Between 17th & 20th Streets on 1st Avenue • Rock Island

Two Rivers Marina ▲
13495 U.S. Highway 54
Rockport

Marquette Park & Savanna Marina ▲
Riverfront • Savanna

Mississippi Palisades State Park ▲
16327A State Route 84
Savanna

Thomson Causeway Recreation Area ▲
Lewis Avenue • Thomson

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge/ Ingersoll Wetlands Learning Center ▲
7071 Riverview Road • Thomson
There are a number of ways to enjoy the Mississippi River and other bodies of water along the Great River Road: take a cruise, captain your own vessel or rental, participate in a guided river adventure or take a ferry. However you travel, you’re sure to take home lasting memories.

Experience the power and beauty of the mighty Mississippi on a cruise. Take a trip aboard an authentic paddlewheel boat, the Celebration Belle, through Celebration River Cruises in Moline. Discover the history of the area and enjoy panoramic views during a lunch tour, themed excursion or day trip. The Spirit of Peoria is one of the few overnight paddwheelers in the nation. Departures from Grafton and Peoria include all-day cruises, themed excursions and extended cruises along the river. Discover the cultural and natural history of the Galena area on a narrated Mississippi River cruise from Chestnut Mountain Resort. Set off on an adventure on the Hakuna Matata from Grafton Harbor. This “Key West of the Midwest” destination has a relaxed atmosphere and offers a variety of specialty cruises throughout the season.

Visit sites on both sides of the Mississippi with the help of a ferry or water taxi. Service across the Mississippi includes the following ferries: St. Genevieve-Modoc, Golden Eagle and Grafton. Travel to and from the byway crossing the Illinois River using the KampsTville and Brussels Ferries. In the Quad Cities, board the open-air Channel Cat Water Taxi—a fun way to experience the open water and popular attractions in Illinois and Iowa.

Explore the waters of the byway as you navigate a water trail or take part in a guided canoe trip. The Quad Cities Water Trails offer 45 miles of pure paddling and include sections for all skill levels. Flowing from Wisconsin to Illinois and emptying into the Mississippi River, the Rock River National Water Trail snakes through the Rock River Valley, past natural, historic and cultural sites. Settle in for a day on the water in a giant voyageur canoe with Big Muddy Adventures. Their guided excursions near Alton let you experience the river like an early explorer.

Don’t have a boat of your own? Rental boats are available at several destinations along the route. Dip your toes in the mighty Mississippi from the cockpit of a kayak or the deck of a paddleboard from Two Rivers YMCA’s Sylvan Boathouse in Moline. Enjoy the tranquil waters along the byway with a rental at a destination off the Mississippi. At Fever River Outfitters in Galena, appreciate the serene beauty of the Galena River with a self-guided canoe or kayak day-trip.

Head to Quincy’s Moorman Park and enjoy the peaceful waters of the lake aboard a paddleboat or kayak. Grafton Harbor can get your group on the move with a pontoon rental. Loud Thunder Forest Preserve near Hampton can accommodate any adventure. With a variety of rentals from kayaks to party barges, spend the day boating on the preserve’s 167-acre Lake George.

For regulations and information on navigating the Mississippi, visit the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Rock Island District or the St. Louis District websites (www.mvr.usace.army.mil, www.mvs.usace.army.mil). Information on boating and fishing in bodies of water in state parks and recreation areas is available on the Illinois Department of Natural Resources’ website (www.dnr.illinois.gov).
**MISSISSIPPI RIVER BOAT LAUNCHES & MARINAS**

- **Albany Marina** ▲ 1st Avenue & Water Street
  Albany

- **Alton Marina** ▲ End of Boat Launch Road • Alton

- **Andalusia Marina** ▲ End of 2nd Street W.
  Andalusia

- **Andalusia Slough Recreation Area** ▲ 2 miles west of Andalusia
  Andalusia

- **Ducky’s Lagoon** ▲ 13515 78th Avenue W.
  Andalusia

- **Public Boat Ramp** ▲ 4 miles west of Andalusia
  on State Route 92

- **Cockrell Hollow Access** ▲ West of Batchtown • Batchtown

- **Rip Rap Landing State Fish and Waterfowl Management Area** ▲ End of Rip Rap Road • Bellevue

- **Willow Access North** ▲ 4.5 miles west of Bellevue
  Bellevue

- **Willow Access South** ▲ 4.5 miles west of Bellevue
  Bellevue

- **Cairo Access Boat Ramp** ▲ Ohio Street • Cairo

- **Fort Defiance Access Ramp** ▲ Fort Defiance Road • Cairo

- **Chester Boat Ramp** ▲ Water Street • Chester

- **Cordova Public Ramp** ▲ 10th Street N. • Cordova

- **Cordova Public Ramp** ▲ 5th Street S. • Cordova

- **Dallas City Public** ▲ End of W. 1st Street
  Dallas City

- **East Dubuque Public Boat Ramp** ▲ 2nd Street and Menominee Avenue
  East Dubuque

- **Frentress Lake Marine Center** ▲ 830 Gill Road • East Dubuque

- **Mid-Town Marina** ▲ 285 5th Street • East Dubuque

- **East Moline Boat Launch** ▲ Empire Park, State Route 84
  East Moline

- **Cattail Slough Recreation Area* ▲ Diamond Road • Fulton

- **Fulton Marina** ▲ 1800 4th Street • Fulton

- **Lock and Dam 13 Recreation Area** ▲ 4999 Lock Road • Fulton

- **Mickelson's Landing** ▲ End of Riverfront Drive • Fulton

- **Ferry Landing Boat Ramp** ▲ End of N. Ferry Crossing Road
  Galena

- **Henderson Creek Public** ▲ 1675 North • Gladstone

- **Piasa Creek Access** ▲ End of Hazelnut Drive • Godfrey

- **Brussels Ferry Boat Launch** ▲ State Route 100 • Grafton

- **Grafton Harbor** ▲ 215 W. Water Street • Grafton

- **Grafton Public Boat Ramp** ▲ End of N. Market Street
  Grafton

- **Pere Marquette State Park** ▲ 12701 State Route 100 • Grafton

- **Royal Landing Access Ramp** ▲ 7 miles southwest of Grafton
  Grafton

- **Grand Tower Boat Ramp** ▲ Front Street • Grand Tower

- **Village of Hamburg Boat Ramp** ▲ Water Street • Hamburg

- **Chaney Creek** ▲ N. County Road 0 • Hamilton

- **Hamilton Public Ramp** ▲ Western side of Montebello
  State Park • Hamilton

- **Illiniwek Forest Preserve** ▲ 836 State Avenue • Hampton

- **Blanding Landing Recreation Area* ▲ 5720 S. River Road • Hanover

- **John Hay Recreation Area** ▲ Off of State Route 106, south of
  Interstate 72 • Hull

- **Blanchard Island Recreation Area** ▲ 350th Street West and 176th
  Avenue West • Illinois City

- **Big River State Forest** ▲ Three Launches along County
  Route 3 between Keithsburg and Oquawka • Keithsburg

- **Keithsburg Municipal** ▲ End of Monroe Street or the
  end of 1st & Jefferson Streets • Keithsburg

- **Meyer Public** ▲ E. 30th Street • Meyer

- **Ben Butterworth Memorial Parkway** ▲ Old River Drive • Moline

- **Sylvan Slough Docks** ▲ End of 1st Street • Moline

- **Nauvoo Public Boat Launch** ▲ N. Sycamore Haven Drive
  Nauvoo

- **Bayview Fishmarket** ▲ End of Liberty Street
  New Boston

- **Blanchard Island Recreation Area** ▲ 34000 176th Street W.
  New Boston

- **Crosses Corner** ▲ 1698 15th Street • New Boston

- **New Boston Public** ▲ 1st Street • New Boston

- **Cincinnati Landing** ▲ 3 miles southwest of New Canton • New Canton

- **Delebar State Park** ▲ Delebar State Park Road
  Oquawka

- **Oquawka Public** ▲ End of Schuyler Street
  Oquawka

- **Oquawka Public** ▲ Along Marina Drive • Oquawka
Pleasant Hill Access Ramp ▲
5 miles southwest of Pleasant Hill at the end of Clarksville Road
Pleasant Hill

Port Byron Municipal Ramp ▲
End of Cherry Street • Port Byron

Bob Bangert Public ▲
N. Bottom Road • Quincy

Canton Chute Recreation Area ▲
County Road 300 E. • Quincy

Clat Adams Park ▲
End of Hampshire Street Quincy

Kesler Park Landing ▲
All America Park • Quincy

Lower Lock and Dam 21 ▲
Martindale Road • Quincy

Quincy Boat Club ▲
Kesler Park • Quincy

Rapids City Public ▲
Shuler's Shady Grove Park, 1st Avenue & 11th Street
Rapids City

Two Rivers Marina ▲
13495 U.S. Highway 54
Rockport

Marquette Park ▲
Wayne King Drive • Savanna

Mississippi Palisades State Park ▲
End of Marina Road • Savanna

Savanna Marina ▲
1 Main Street • Savanna

Spring Lake Resort ▲
8048 State Route 84 • Savanna

Thebes Boat Ramp ▲
2nd Street • Thebes

Big Slough Recreation Area* ▲
5836 Riverview Road • Thomson

Thomson Causeway Recreation Area ▲
Lewis Avenue • Thomson

Bear Creek Recreation Area ▲
End of N. 2400th Avenue
Ursa

*Site administered by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and requires payment of a day use fee to use the boat ramp

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LOCKS & DAMS

Melvin Price Locks and Dam 26 ▲
2 Lock and Dam Way • East Alton
mtrf.org
618-462-6979

Lock and Dam 27 ▲
3291 W. 20th Street
Granite City
www.mvs.usace.army.mil
618-452-7107

Lock and Dam 19 ▲
End of Keokuk Street • Hamilton
missriver.org
319-524-2631

Lock and Dam 14 ▲
Lighthouse Lane • Hampton
www.mvr.usace.army.mil
309-794-4357

Lock and Dam 22 ▲
Lock and Dam Road • Hull
missriver.org
573-221-0294

Lock and Dam 16 ▲
102nd Avenue W. • Illinois City
www.mvr.usace.army.mil
309-537-3191

Jerry F. Costello Lock and Dam ▲
4800 Lock and Dam Road
Modoc
www.mvs.usace.army.mil
618-284-7160

Lock and Dam 17 ▲
173 Lock and Dam Road
New Boston
www.mvr.usace.army.mil
309-587-8125

Lock and Dam 21 ▲
909 W. Lock and Dam Road
Quincy
missriver.org
217-222-0918

Locks and Dam 15 ▲
Arsenal Island • Rock Island
missriver.org
309-794-5338

Lock and Dam 20 ▲
E. 30th Street • Warsaw
missriver.org
573-288-3320

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GreatRiverRoad-Illinois.com 43
Experience Illinois’ rich history and culture by visiting museums, historic and educational sites along the Great River Road. From the most sophisticated prehistoric native civilization north of Mexico to John Deere’s innovations that revolutionized modern agriculture, there’s a story flowing through every city, town and village along the byway.

Long before European explorers and pioneers crisscrossed America, the area that would become the state of Illinois was inhabited by two main tribes: the Illiniwek (Illinois) and Miami. Eventually, many other tribes would come to call this land home. Evidence of prehistoric Native Americans, as well as the tribes that would follow, dots the landscape along the byway. Experience the journey of the Sauk and Meskwaki at the Hauberg Indian Museum, located at the Black Hawk State Historic Site in Rock Island. This museum houses full-size replicas of Sauk winter and summer houses, dioramas depicting daily activities, artifacts and authentic trade goods.

One of the oldest Mississippian period sites in Illinois is located at Albany Mounds State Historic Site in Albany. Once the location of an extensive Hopewell village, you can take the site’s interpretive path to learn about the mounds and the Hopewell culture. Of the 96 burial mounds constructed here between 200 B.C. and A.D. 300, approximately 50 remain today. Even though many were lost over time, this site still contains the largest collection of mounds from the Hopewell culture in Illinois and one of the largest mound groups in the United States.

In southern Illinois, near Collinsville, Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site encompasses the remains of the largest pre-Columbian Native American site north of Mexico. Once a thriving village of 10,000-20,000 people, Cahokia included at least 120 mounds. The interpretive displays, replica village and artifacts housed in the museum depict the rise and fall of Cahokia as a regional and ceremonial center of the Mississippian culture. After ascending 154 stairs to the top terrace of Monks Mound, look across the river for a glimpse of the Gateway Arch.

From French occupation to daring expeditions and early immigrants, stories from a fledgling nation unfold along the Great River Road. During the 18th century, the French held control of what is now Illinois and constructed the first of three forts named “de Chartres” along the banks of the Mississippi River. The original structure, built in 1720, was assembled using wood and was reconstructed due to flooding five years later. The third was constructed in 1753 and was made of stone. Today, Fort de Chartres State Historic Site, located four miles west of Prairie du Rocher, contains recreated portions of
the stone fort. The powder magazine within the fort complex has been partially restored and is believed to be the oldest building in Illinois. The museum, built on the foundation of an original building, houses exhibits detailing the history of the fort and its French inhabitants.

As America expanded and pioneers moved westward, there were new territories to explore, and the Corps of Discovery was established to map part of the westward expanse. Guided by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, the crew departed from Illinois in 1804 near the present-day location of the Lewis & Clark State Historic Site in Hartford. Lewis, Clark and their crew set up winter camp here for five months to prepare for their journey into the wilderness. The site includes a full-scale recreation of Camp River Dubois, a 55-foot replica keelboat packed for the expedition and excerpts from participants’ journals, which prove that correct spelling was not a prerequisite for joining the expedition.

In Elizabeth, visit Apple River Fort State Historic Site. The fort was originally constructed here in 1832, as a result of the Black Hawk War, and was rebuilt in 1997 adjacent to the original fort’s footprint. The nearby interpretive center conveys the history of the Sauk and their leader Black Hawk, the Fox, the early miners, and the tensions between them.

Historic Nauvoo brings the pioneer era to life, with more than 30 historic buildings dating from 1839-1846. Take a wagon ride around town, visit the blacksmith and print shop, discover 19th-century games at Pioneer Pastimes and stop in the Red Brick Store.

In 1852, the village of Maestown was founded by German immigrants. The quaint shops, buildings and tranquil landscape will transport you to simpler times. The historic significance of the community is so unique that the entire village is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

A walk down Galena’s Main Street unveils more than 100 boutique shops and eateries behind 1800s-era storefronts. Momentous sites can be found all around town, including the Elihu B. Washburne House and Old Market House State Historic Sites. Grab a seat aboard a narrated trolley tour to learn about the area’s rich history and architecture.

Local heroes are honored and remembered along the byway. Visit the Ulysses S. Grant Home State Historic Site to see how the American Civil War hero, and future 18th president, lived in Galena in 1868. The restored red brick home contains many original furnishings, including Grant’s favorite green chair.

One of the oldest national cemeteries in the United States is located in Mound City. Honoring the service of more than 8,000 veterans, many of whom were soldiers who fought during the Civil War, Mound City National Cemetery is a solemn place of reflection. The grounds house a superintendent's lodge designed by Montgomery C. Meigs in the 1880s, the 1874 Illinois State Soldiers and Sailors Monument, and markers inscribed with verses from “Bivouac of the Dead,” by Theodore O’Hara.

Arsenal Island, near Rock Island, is home to an active military installation that offers visitors the opportunity to see the U.S. Army’s second oldest museum. The Rock Island Arsenal Museum opened in 1905, and today its exhibits tell the story of the people who worked at the arsenal and displays items they designed and produced. The island also contains the oldest public golf course in the area, with the unique distinction that...
you can play 18 holes on an island in the Mississippi River.

The Savanna Museum and Cultural Center includes more than 120 examples of authentic American Civil War-era clothing, an extensive scale model railroad depicting Savanna in the 1950s, and a room dedicated to Savanna native, and big band leader, Wayne King.

Farming innovator John Deere is known around the world for revolutionizing modern farming techniques beginning in 1837 with the invention of his steel plow. In Moline, visit Deere & Company World Headquarters, the John Deere Pavilion and the John Deere Harvester Works. Learn about the company’s past and current innovations, sit in the driver’s seat of a mega machine, test your skill in a simulator, and take a factory tour.

The Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum in Rock Island is one of a series of 14 museums that house the world’s largest private collection of original manuscripts and documents. Exhibits are rotated quarterly and include an original draft of the Bill of Rights of the United States, Felix Mendelssohn’s “The Wedding March” and an extremely rare document that includes Einstein’s Mass Energy Equivalence Formula (E=mc²) written by Einstein himself.

Enjoy the journey as you experience history firsthand along the byway!
MUSEUMS, HISTORIC & EDUCATIONAL SITES

Albany Mounds State Historic Site ▲
Cherry Street & 12th Avenue
Albany
albymounds.com
309-788-0177
Stroll along a serene walking path that includes interpretive signs, leading to Native American burial grounds dating to the Hopewell culture.

Tri-Township Heritage Museum ▲
306 Lime Street • Albany
309-887-4085
Museum houses historical pictures, books, journals and memorabilia from Albany, Garden Plain and Newton.

Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area ▲
Alton
lookingforlincoln.com
Stroll through the Alton area to experience Lincoln history. Alton is one of eight gateway cities to the trail’s 42 counties in Illinois.

Alton Museum of History & Art ▲
2809 College Avenue • Alton
altonmuseum.com
618-462-2763
The museum is located in historic Loomis Hall across from the Robert Wadlow statue. Displays cover Alton’s “Gentle Giant,” the Lewis & Clark Expedition, American Civil War, Lincoln-Douglas debates and the Underground Railroad.

Curiosity Museum ▲
301 E. Broadway • Alton
curiositymuseumalton.com
618-465-3200
Take the self-guided tour and wander through the displays in Alton’s historic Mineral Springs Hotel. There’s a bit of everything in this museum, from the curious world of quack medicine to historic torture devices and the just plain weird.

Haskell Playhouse ▲
1211 Henry Street • Alton
haskellplayhouse.org
618-463-2235
Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974, this Queen Anne style playhouse was built for Lucy Jane Haskell by her grandfather. The playhouse contains a single room, front porch and side porch. The interior has been restored and is open for special occasions.

Hayner Genealogy & Local History Library ▲
401 State Street • Alton
haynerlibrary.org
618-462-0677
The Illinois Room in the library holds local, state and national history research collections. The displays feature the art and history of the Riverbend. Extensive genealogical research materials are also available.

Lincoln – Douglas Square ▲
Broadway & Landmarks Boulevard • Alton
visitaton.com
800-258-6645
Lifelike statues commemorate the final 1858 debate between Stephen A. Douglas and Abraham Lincoln that took place at the corner of Broadway and Market Street.

Lincoln & Civil War Legacy Trail ▲
10 Historic Stops • Alton
visitaton.com
800-258-6645
Experience the unique heritage of Abraham Lincoln and the American Civil War along this self-guided trail. Trail guides are available at the Alton Visitors Center.

Lovejoy State Memorial ▲
Monument & 5th Streets • Alton
visitaton.com
800-258-6645
Elijah P. Lovejoy, abolitionist and editor, surrendered his life for free speech, free press and free men. Today, visitors can pay tribute to this martyr of the abolitionist movement.

Piasa Bird ▲
State Route 100 • Alton
visitaton.com
800-258-6645
A dragon-like beast painted on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River was first discovered and recorded during exploration of the Mississippi River in 1673 by Father Jacques Marquette. Although the original Native American painting of the Piasa Bird is gone, a replica is perched high atop the bluffs at Piasa Park.

Robert Wadlow Statue ▲
2810 College Avenue • Alton
visitaton.com
800-258-6645
Alton’s “Gentle Giant,” Robert Wadlow, was born on February 22, 1918, weighing an average 8 pounds 6 ounces. He grew to be the tallest man in the world, according to the Guinness Book of World Records, reaching a height of 8 feet 11 inches before his death in 1940.

Biggsville Horse and Buggy Museum ▲
210 E. Main Street • Biggsville
309-221-0066
The museum offers visitors a glimpse of the period from 1820 to 1920, when horses were a primary source of power for farming and transportation. Over 50 pieces of machinery are displayed inside a 6,000 square foot building.

Cahokia Courthouse State Historic Site ▲
107 Elm Street • Cahokia
www2.illinois.gov/dnrhistoric
618-332-1782
This structure began as a private residence in 1740 and would go on to serve as a courthouse. It was dismantled in 1901, displayed at the 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair and then reconstructed on its original foundation in 1939.

Holy Family Log Church ▲
116 Church Street • Cahokia
holyfamily1699.org
618-337-4548
The oldest church west of the Allegheny Mountains is home to the oldest continuous Catholic Parish in the United States. Built in 1799, it is one of only five remaining churches built in the French Colonial, upright log style.

Jarrot Mansion State Historic Site ▲
124 E. 1st Street • Cahokia
www2.illinois.gov/dnrhistoric
618-332-1782
Completed in 1810 for native Frenchman Nicholas Jarrot, the mansion remains one of the oldest masonry structures in the state. Due to ongoing restoration, the Jarrot Mansion is open for special events only.

A. B. Safford Memorial Library ▲
1609 Washington Avenue
Cairo
618-734-1840
This library, built in the Queen Anne style, is a working library that houses a valuable collection of American Civil War documents and museum quality antiques and paintings.

Fort Defiance Park ▲
U.S. Highway 60 & 62 • Cairo
618-734-4127
Fort Defiance, known as Camp Defiance during the American Civil War, was a former military fortification located at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. Although the fort is no longer there, it is a great place to fish and view the confluence from atop the Boatman’s Memorial. It’s also located at the southernmost point in the state.
The museum features an Abraham Lincoln exhibit containing American Civil War artifacts. Historical displays of life in Hancock County including Native Americans, pioneers, agriculture and exhibits on domestic life are available to view. Natural history dioramas, fossils, minerals and geodes round out the collection.

Mary’s River Covered Bridge ▲
State Route 150 • Chester (Northeast of town) illinoissouth.org 618-826-1430
Built in 1854, the bridge has a 90-foot span and is 86 feet long. It was constructed as part of a toll road between Bremen and Chester. It is the only bridge of its kind left in southern Illinois and was in continuous service from 1854 to 1930.

Popeye Museum and Spinach Can Collectibles ▲
1001 State Street • Chester popeyethesailor.com 618-826-4567
Visit the hometown of Popeye creator Elzie Segar to experience the only Popeye shop and museum in the world! View historic and iconic Popeye character items and memorabilia.

Randolph County Museum & Archives ▲
1 Taylor Street • Chester 618-826-2667
Museum houses county and Native American artifacts that span more than 300 years. The museum also houses the Kaskaskia Manuscripts, a collection of court records dating to the 1700s.

Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site and UNESCO World Heritage Site ▲
30 Ramey Street • Collinsville cahokiamounds.org 618-344-1834
This is the home of the largest pre-Columbian city north of Mexico. Walk to the top of Monk’s Mound, see the film and experience the life-size village. Don’t miss annual events that focus on Native American culture.

Collinsville Historical Museum ▲
406 West Main Street Collinsville collinsvillemuseum.org 618-344-1834
Local and world history comes alive in this museum. This is a one-of-a-kind repository for unique historical artifacts from 1767 through the present.

Willoughby Heritage Farm and Conservation Reserve ▲
631 Willoughby Lane Collinsville willoughbyfarm.org 618-977-0941
Willoughby Heritage Farm and Conservation Reserve is a public park that’s recreated an atmosphere inspired by 1940s farming-life. The authentic farm is complete with tractors, barns, a 1930s Craftsman style farmhouse, and even live animals like donkeys, steer, chickens, and goats! More than 30 acres make up the wildlife preserve that contains hiking trails, bridges and vistas overlooking the prairie and other areas.

East Alton History Museum ▲
119 N. Main Street • East Alton visitalton.com 618-216-2781
Learn about the history of East Alton beginning from its founding in 1893 through the present. Images and displays portray important aspects of the community.

National Great Rivers Museum/Melvin Price Locks and Dam 26 ▲
2 Lock and Dam Way East Alton mtrf.org 618-462-6979
Located at the Melvin Price Locks and Dam, this state-of-the-art museum is dedicated to telling the story of life on the Mississippi River. See how the flowing waters shaped our culture, history, economy, ecology and people of the region. Watch the 30-minute film, Power of the River, before heading out on a tour of one of the largest lock systems on the river.

Gramercy Park ▲
Beecher Street • East Dubuque 815-747-2449
Overlooking the Mississippi River, this Illinois Natural Heritage Landmark houses archaeological treasures spread across 10 acres. Twenty-six Hopewell mounds are scattered throughout with accompanying historical and archaeological signage.

Campbell’s Island State Memorial ▲
124 Island Avenue • East Moline 309-788-0177
This granite monument honors a battle that took place on Campbell’s Island during the War of 1812.

John Deere Harvester Works ▲
1100 13th Avenue • East Moline johndeereattractions.com 800-765-9588
For an unforgettable experience, schedule a tour to see how John Deere makes the most advanced and productive combines in the world. Tours subject to availability and factory production schedules. Closed-toe shoes are required and the minimum age is 13. Call ahead to receive a tour time.

1820 Colonel Benjamin Stephenson House ▲
409 S. Buchanan Street Edwardsville stephensonhouse.org 618-692-1818
Explore the oldest brick home in Madison County, and learn how Colonel Benjamin Stephenson became one of the founding fathers of both Edwardsville and the State of Illinois.

Governor Coles State Memorial ▲
Valley View Cemetery, 1564 Lewis Road • Edwardsville 618-692-1818
The memorial, which stands at Valley View Cemetery, was

**Edwardsville Children’s Museum ▲**
722 Holyoake Road
Edwardsville
edwardsvillechildrensmuseum.org
618-692-2094
Exhibits allow children to see what it’s like to take care of animals in an animal hospital, shop for groceries, cook a favorite meal, visit the dentist, deliver mail, create a piece of art and more.

**1876 Banwarth House and Museum ▲**
408 E. Sycamore Street
Elizabeth
banwarthmuseum.com
815-858-2024
Tour the Victorian home of Charles Banwarth and see what everyday life was like in 1876.

**Apple River Fort State Historic Site ▲**
311 E. Myrtle Street • Elizabeth
appleriverfort.org
815-858-2028
Visit the site of one of the battles fought during the Black Hawk War. Step back in time as you walk through the recreated fort. Learn about area history at the interpretive center located next to U.S. Highway 20.

**Chicago Great Western Railway Depot Museum ▲**
111 E. Myrtle Street • Elizabeth
elizabethhistoricalsociety.com
815-858-2343
The museum displays thousands of railroad artifacts of northwestern Illinois railroads. View the G-scale and HO-scale model layouts that are fully operational. Head over to the full-size Milwaukee Road caboose that contains more displays inside.

**Elizabeth History Museum ▲**
110 E. Myrtle Street • Elizabeth
elizabethhistoricalsociety.com
815-858-2343
View local history exhibits on lead mining, the Apple River Fort, Elizabeth businesses, schools, and displays on local veterans.

**Fort Kaskaskia State Historic Site ▲**
4372 Park Road • Ellis Grove
www2.illinois.gov/dnrhistoric
618-859-3741
The fort was built by the French in 1759 and was used to protect the village of Kaskaskia. All that remains today are fascinating earthworks outlining what was once the fort’s perimeter and a spectacular scenic overlook of the Mississippi River.

**Pierre Menard Home State Historic Site ▲**
4230 Kaskaskia Road
Ellis Grove
www2.illinois.gov/dnrhistoric
618-859-3031
Built in 1815, the home is the finest example of French Colonial architecture in the Central Mississippi Valley. Built for Illinois’ first lieutenant governor, the home offers visitors a look into the life of a successful entrepreneur and political leader.

**Village of Elsah and Museum ▲**
26 LaSalle Street • Elsah
historiclesah.org
618-374-2626
Founded in 1853, this quaint river village features stone houses and lush gardens. The museum is housed in the Elsah Village Hall, built in 1887, and showcases the history of former residents, highlights local architecture and displays implements from the mid-1800s.

**De Immigrant Windmill ▲**
111 10th Avenue & 1st Street
Fulton
cityoffulton.us
815-589-4033
Celebrate the town’s Dutch heritage as you tour this fully operational windmill. Constructed in the Netherlands and then reassembled atop the levee in Fulton, this icon towers nearly 100 feet above the Mississippi River.

**Heritage Canyon ▲**
515 N. 4th Street • Fulton
cityoffulton.us
815-589-4600
This reclaimed 12-acre quarry features a furnished mid-1800s settlement complete with schoolhouse, church and many more buildings.

**Martin House Museum ▲**
707 10th Avenue • Fulton
cityoffulton.us
815-589-3809
American Civil War-era home contains stained glass windows, walnut bench seating and a walnut staircase. Museum features memorabilia and artifacts pertinent to Fulton’s history.

**Windmill Cultural Center ▲**
111 10th Avenue • Fulton
cityoffulton.us
815-589-4033
View an extensive collection of more than 20 European model windmills from 10 European countries. Explore informative interpretive exhibits, an education area with children’s activities and gift shop with stone ground flour, Delft pottery and souvenirs.

**Dowling House ▲**
220 Diagonal Street • Galena
calhounheritage.org
815-777-1250
Galena’s oldest house, built in 1826, once served as the only trading post in the city and was frequented by fur traders.

**Elihu B. Washburne House State Historic Site ▲**
908 3rd Street • Galena
granthome.com
815-777-3310
Washburne was a popular congressman and a friend of both Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant. Grant’s presidential election victory was received in the library of the home via telegraph.

**Galena & U. S. Grant Museum ▲**
211 S. Bench Street • Galena
galenahistory.org
815-777-9131
The museum is housed in an 1858 Italianate mansion with 6,000 square feet of exhibit space. You’ll be greeted by the “Ghosts of the Grants” hologram, view American Civil War exhibits, see an 1830s lead mine shaft and explore the extensive historical collections.

**Galena Main Street ▲**
Main Street • Galena
visitgalena.org
815-776-9200
Galena’s historic Main Street, named “Best Main Street in the Midwest” by Midwest Living, curves past more than 100 19th-century storefronts. Galena looks much as it did during the time of the American Civil War, although now the historic red brick buildings are home to charming boutiques, art galleries and restaurants.

**Old Market House State Historic Site ▲**
123 N. Commerce Street
Galena
granthome.com
www2.illinois.gov/dnrhistoric
815-777-3310
The museum is housed in the Old Market House, once frequented by fur traders. The home has been fully restored and contains the Galena Museum on the second floor.
Historical Highlights

Constructed in 1845-1846, this building was the center of community life during Galena’s heyday and once housed vendors and shoppers.

**Old Stockade on the Cobblestone Street ▲**
208 Perry Street • Galena
cjar.net/stockade.htm
815-238-3248
This restored 1820s log building was used as a refuge for women and children during the Blackhawk War. It is filled with information that brings Galena’s earliest history to life.

**The Chicago Athenaeum Museum of Architecture and Design ▲**
601 S. Prospect Street • Galena
chi-athenaeum.org
815-777-4444
This satellite facility of an international museum features contemporary art, architecture and photography from around the world.

**The Old Blacksmith Shop ▲**
245 Commerce Street • Galena
galenahistory.org/blacksmith-shop
815-777-1893
Authentic 1897 blacksmith shop with working forges and an on-site historian. The shop is filled with tools and equipment from its 100 year history. The gift shop is well-stocked with Galena-forged items made by our blacksmiths. Come watch the sparks fly!

**Ulysses S. Grant Home State Historic Site ▲**
500 Bouthillier Street • Galena
granthome.com
www2.illinois.gov/dnrhistoric
815-777-3310
General Ulysses S. Grant was presented this Italianate home upon his return to Galena in 1865. First opened to the public in 1904, it has been restored to the post-American Civil War and Grant presidency era. Many of the original furnishings from this period remain in the home.

**Glen Carbon Heritage Museum ▲**
124 School Street • Glen Carbon
glen-carbon.il.us/891/Heritage-
Museum-and-Log-Cabin
618-288-7271
The museum is housed in a renovated 1914 school building located in the “Old Town” section of the village.

**Fountain Bluff ▲**
Fountain Bluff Road • Gorham
800-526-1500
Prehistoric dwellers left their mark on the rock walls of Fountain Bluff. The mysterious carvings depict wolves, birds, deer, human forms, crosses, circles and other geometric figures.

**Mississippi River Museum & Interpretive Center ▲**
604 Front Street • Grand Tower
618-565-2227
The museum houses artifacts from the heyday of steamboats to preserve the history and culture of life on the water.

**Tower Rock ▲**
Brunkhorst Avenue • Grand Tower
800-248-4373
Tower Rock is a small, rocky island on the Missouri side of the Mississippi River. The rock has long been feared by riverboat captains because of the rapid current that swirls at its base. This navigational point for early explorers was visited by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, as well as Catholic missionaries.

**Hampton Heritage Interpretive Center ▲**
251 S. State Avenue • Hampton
hamptonil.org
309-755-8398
Located on the Mississippi River, the center’s displays cover the river ecosystem and the river’s role in town history.

**Lewis & Clark Confluence Tower ▲**
435 Confluence Tower Drive Hartford
confluencetower.com
618-251-9101
Discover the history of the area, delve into the Lewis & Clark Expedition, and see the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. Stop at all three viewing platforms on this 180-foot tower.

**Lewis & Clark State Historic Site ▲**
1 Lewis and Clark Trail • Hartford
campdubois.com
618-251-5811
The Corps of Discovery, led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, followed the Missouri River and crossed the Rockies, reaching the Pacific Ocean in late 1805. The interpretive center contains a 55-foot, full scale replica of the expedition’s keelboat, and exhibits detailing the journey. Outside is a replica of Camp River Dubois where the Corps of Discovery spent five months preparing for the expedition. Site #1 on the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail.

**Lincoln Memorial Picnic Ground ▲**
N. Main Street • Jonesboro
www.fs.usda.gov/shawnee
618-251-9101
Lincoln and Douglas. This site commemorates the location of the third Lincoln-Douglas debate during their run for the Illinois Senate seat.

**Center for American Archeology ▲**
101 N. Broadway • Kankakee
caa-archeology.org
618-653-4316
For over 50 years, the CAA has housed award-winning research and educational programs for archeology enthusiasts, professionals-in-training and for those who have a general interest in the prehistoric communities that once thrived along the Illinois River.

**Kaskaskia Bell State Memorial ▲**
1st Street, Kaskaskia Island
kaskaskia.org
314-416-9930
Known as the “Liberty Bell of the West,” the bell was rung as the island was captured from the British during the Revolutionary War.

**Old Chain of Rocks Bridge ▲**
Chain of Rocks Road • Madison
nps.gov
314-295-2304
Hundreds of items are housed in what was formally a working farm barn.

**Schneidewind Barn Museum ▲**
1125 Schneidewind Road
Marissa
618-295-2304
This entire German settlement is on the National Register of Historic Places and is almost 170 years old. Restorations include a church from 1867 and a one-lane stone arched bridge. Be sure to visit the Corner George Inn, general store, kaffeehaus, sweet shoppe, museum and visitors center.

**Lincoln Memorial Picnic Ground ▲**
N. Main Street • Jonesboro
www.fs.usda.gov/shawnee
618-251-9101
Lincoln Memorial Picnic Ground. The structure is 80 feet in diameter with a 45-foot tall silo in the center.

**Butterworth Center & Deere-Wiman House ▲**
1105 8th Street • Moline
817 11th Avenue • Moline
butterworthcenter.com
309-743-2700
Visit these two historic homes that were once owned by descendants of John Deere.

50 Historical Highlights
Deere & Company World Headquarters ▲
One John Deere Place • Moline
johnndeereattractions.com
309-765-1000
Situated on a beautifully wooded, 120-acre campus, the headquarters houses 15,000 square feet of exhibits. Items on display cover agriculture, golf and turf, construction and consumer products, and company history.

John Deere Pavilion ▲
1400 River Drive • Moline
johnndeereattractions.com
309-765-1000
The John Deere Pavilion houses big, powerful machines that invite you to grab the controls and let your imagination run. Climb into one of the simulators and test your skills in realistic job situations, and check out an awesome machine that has legs instead of wheels. Kids can explore the hands-on activities in the Discovery Zone.

Mound City National Cemetery ▲
141 State Route 37 • Mound City
moundcitynationalcemetery.org
618-759-0239
Visit one of the oldest national cemeteries in the country. See the monument to the Union soldiers of Illinois, dating to 1874, and the grave of Russian-born Union Brigadier General John Turchin. The superintendent’s lodge was designed in 1880 by U.S. Army Quartermaster General Montgomery Meigs.

General John A. Logan Museum ▲
1613 Edith Street • Murphysboro
loganmuseum.org
618-684-3455
Explore the museum exhibits dedicated to this famous Civil War general. Stroll along the walking trail with interpretive signposts. Experience history as you pass by the archaeological site of Logan’s birthplace and several other historic homes, including the house of Samuel H. Dalton who served in the Union Navy.

Historic Nauvoo ▲
Nauvoo
historicanauvoo.net
beautifulnauvoo.com
217-577-2603
217-453-6648
Start off your tour at the visitor’s center and then explore 35 restored historic sites that range from a bakery to a brick yard. Nauvoo is often considered to be the most accurately restored and intact historic town in the country, offering exciting educational opportunities that include hands-on activities, pioneer games and horse-drawn wagon rides.

Rheinberger House Museum ▲
1140 Kimball Street • Nauvoo
beautifulnauvoo.com
217-219-0188
This original brick home features an underground arched wine cellar, German kitchen and the oldest vineyard in Illinois. Mormon, Icarian and local history are on display. Be sure to sample grapes during the growing season.

Weld House Museum ▲
1380 Mulholland Street
Nauvoo
beautifulnauvoo.com
217-219-0188
See the office of pioneer physician Dr. John F. Weld. The home was built in the late 1830s and now houses a large arrowhead collection, paintings, an Icarian room, oral family history transcripts, and numerous other artifacts from Nauvoo.

O’Fallon Historical Society Museum & Archives ▲
101 West State Street • O’Fallon
ofallonhistory.net
618-624-8409
Housed in a 1904 bank building, the exhibits in this research library focus on O’Fallon area history including Oscar-winning actor William Holden and illustrator Bernie Fuchs.

Alexis Phelps House ▲
2nd & Hancock Streets
Oquawka
hendersoncountyedc.com
309-867-2911
Alexis Phelps was a long-standing friend of Judge Stephen Douglas and Abraham Lincoln. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the home was built in 1883.

Henderson County Courthouse ▲
4th & Warren Streets • Oquawka
hendersoncountyedc.com
309-867-2911
This building, circa 1842, is the second oldest courthouse in Illinois. Stephen Douglas was the first judge to oversee court here.

Henderson Covered Bridge ▲
State Route 164 • Oquawka
hendersoncountyedc.com
309-627-2069
Built in 1866, the bridge is 104 feet long and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This original brick home was built in 1883.

Pomona Natural Bridge ▲
State Route 127 to Pomona Road to Natural Bridge Road
Pomona
www.fs.usda.gov/shawnee
618-253-7114
This 90-foot natural bridge is a must see. It took millions of years of erosion to create this sandstone formation. Enjoy the short hike through the oak, hickory and beechnet.

Fort de Chartres State Historic Site ▲
1350 State Route 155
Prairie du Rocher
fortdechartres.us
618-284-7230
The 1790s fort, formerly one of the strongest forts in North America, is being rebuilt atop the original stone foundations. The chapel, priest’s room, commander’s office and ammunition storage room have been restored. The Winter and Summer Rendezvous draw thousands of visitors.

1930s Preserving Agriculture History Museum ▲
1435 Boy Scout Road • Quincy
1930sAgMuseum
217-430-3036
This museum showcases agriculture machinery that would be found in a typical 80-120 acre farm and farmhouse in the Midwest during the 1930s. Open by appointment only.

Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area ▲
Quincy
lookingforlincoln.com
Visit one of the oldest national cemeteries in the country. See the monument to the Union soldiers of Illinois, dating to 1874, and the grave of Russian-born Union Brigadier General John Turchin. The superintendent’s lodge was designed in 1880 by U.S. Army Quartermaster General Montgomery Meigs.

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The East End Historic District & Northwest Historic District ▲
Quincy
seequincy.com
800-978-4748
The East End Historic District features a collection of houses of every period and style since 1850. The corner of 16th and Main Streets was described by National Geographic as “one of the ten most architecturally significant corners of the United States.” The Northwest Historic District showcases large mansions built in the 19th and 20th centuries, with most of the homes located on the bluffs.

John Wood Mansion ▲
425 S. 12th Street • Quincy
hsqc.org
217-222-1835
The mansion was once the home of Quincy’s founder, and 12th Governor of Illinois, John Wood. The home is recognized as one of the Midwest’s finest existing examples of Greek Revival architecture. A museum, 1835 pioneer log cabin and Lincoln gallery are also located on the grounds.

Quincy Museum ▲
1601 Main Street • Quincy
thequincymuseum.org
217-224-7669
Housed in the historic Newcomb-Stillwell Mansion, the museum displays local, natural and agricultural history, including an exhibit on the Moorman Manufacturing Company.

Villa Kathrine ▲
532 Gardner Expressway
Quincy
thevillakathrine.org
217-224-3688
Experience this unique Moroccan style home that now houses the Villa Kathrine Convention and Visitors Bureau. Built in 1900 by W. George Metz, the building’s outward design is based on the Villa ben Ahben in Morocco. Enjoy sweeping views of the Mississippi River from the grounds.

Red Bud Area Museum ▲
116 E. Market Street • Red Bud
redbudareamuseum.weebly.com
618-967-4208
The Opera House was built in 1855 and today houses the museum’s collections. Stop by to see exhibits, artifacts and documents that chronicle the city’s history and growth.

Black Hawk State Historic Site & John Hauberg Indian Museum ▲
1510 46th Avenue • Rock Island
blackhawkpark.org
www2.illinois.gov/dnrhistoric
309-788-0177
This site features a 200-acre nature preserve and hiking trails, as well as the Hauberg Indian Museum. Exhibits depict daily life of the Sauk and Meskwaki Tribes.

Colonel Davenport House ▲
Arsenal Island • Rock Island
davenporthouse.org
309-786-7336
Built in 1833 and located on Arsenal Island, this was the home of Colonel George Davenport. Guided tours reveal interesting facts about Quad Cities’ history, famous people who have visited the home and the tragic death of Colonel Davenport.

Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum ▲
700 22nd Street • Rock Island
karpelesrockisland.org
309-788-0806
Karpeles museums house the world’s largest private holding of important manuscripts and documents. The Rock Island manuscript library is located in a former church that was built in 1914. This museum hosts various shows throughout the year featuring manuscripts, displays, letters and documents from famous individuals.

Mississippi River Visitor Center ▲
Arsenal Island • Rock Island
missriver.org
309-794-5338
Views from the visitor center include the river, lock and dam operations, boats locking through and bald eagles in winter. Tours of the lock and dam during the summer months are by appointment.

Quad City Botanical Center ▲
2525 4th Avenue • Rock Island
qqgardens.com
309-794-0991
This conservatory features a mixture of tropical plants under a 70-foot atrium, gardens, waterfalls and a butterfly garden. The Children’s Garden includes a mini Mississippi River that invites children to play, explore and interact in the meandering stream.

Rock Island Arsenal Museum ▲
1 Rock Island Arsenal Building 60 • Rock Island
arsenalhistoricalsociety.org
309-782-5021
The history of the island unfolds at the second oldest U.S. Army museum in the country. Experience the exhibits, view photos and see the model of Fort Armstrong, the first fort built on the island.

Wood River Refinery History Museum ▲
State Route 111 • Roxana
wrmuseum.org
618-255-3718
The museum chronicles the legacy of the Wood River Refinery from its groundbreaking in 1917 to its contributions to neighboring communities and the industry.

Savanna Museum & Cultural Center ▲
406 Main Street • Savanna
savannamuseum.org
View more than 100 authentic Civil War uniforms, railroad memorabilia, a large HO-scale train display and more.

Kaskasia-Cahokia Trail ▲
St. Clair, Monroe and Randolph counties
kctrailillinois.org
Monroe County: 618-281-8812
Randolph County: 618-826-2721
St. Clair County: 618-257-1488
This route follows Illinois’ first road. Its origins can be traced back 8,000 years to prehistoric Native Americans, whose movements created the trail for sustenance, trade, social and religious purposes.

Thebes Courthouse ▲
409 Oak Street • Thebes
thesbecourthouse.com
618-764-2658
This hand-hewn stone courthouse crowns a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. Completed in 1848, it’s on the National Register of Historic Places.

Mersinger Pioneer Cabin ▲
State Route 162 • Troy
troyhistoricalsociety.org
618-667-6662
This replica of a pioneer cabin is open for viewing by appointment.

Fort Edwards Memorial ▲
Fort Edwards Street • Warsaw
warwalparks.com
This monument stands 50 feet tall and was unveiled in 1914 to commemorate the location of Fort Edwards. Completed in 1814, the fort was situated 100 feet above the river. Enjoy sweeping views of the river and three states: Illinois, Iowa and Missouri.

History Museum of Monroe County ▲
724 Elaine Drive • Waterloo
monroecountyhistorymuseum.org
618-939-5008
Items in the collection represent the settlement of the west; local commerce, transportation, and agriculture; and the influence of immigrants in Southern Illinois.

Wood River Museum and Visitors Center ▲
40 W. Ferguson Avenue
Wood River
woodriver.org
618-254-1993
Find many informative exhibits on topics including the Lewis & Clark encampment of 1803, Olde Downtown, the flood of 1915, the impact of Standard Oil on this growing community and more.
Treasures are waiting to be discovered, but it’s not all vintage finds and rusty gold along the Great River Road. Boutiques in towns along the byway offer new, refurbished, handcrafted and one-of-a-kind items from local artisans.

Visit historic Galena’s Main Street to find art, home goods, jewelry, sweets, Illinois wine and more. Many of Galena’s 100-plus shops offer an array of locally made items. Pinder Pottery & Gallery features beautiful functional pieces and artwork made by artists from Jo Daviess County. Just up the street, the Galena Canning Company sells salsas, jams and sauces made from the freshest local ingredients.

In nearby Elizabeth, the stunning contemporary pieces created at Eshelman Pottery are made by integrating both glazed and unglazed surfaces.

Down the road in Savanna, grab a coffee from the 1930s soda counter while browsing items from more than 80 local vendors and artists at the Savanna Marketplace. From apparel and souvenirs to home goods and skin care products, there’s something for everyone at this local artisan market. After shopping, relax on the outdoor patio with a view of the Mississippi River.

In the Quad Cities, original pieces from more than 75 regional artists are available at the Quad City Arts Gallery in Rock Island. Works of art include paintings, pottery and everything in between. The works of Isabel Bloom are easily recognizable for their simple style and rounded features. Sculptures made in the Quad Cities, originally designed or inspired by Isabel Bloom, can be purchased at the John Deere Commons in Rock Island.

Looking for shopping options in Quincy? Head to The District. This distinct area from the Mississippi River to 12th Street and between Broadway and State Streets provides dining, shopping and entertainment options amidst an eclectic mix of Quincy’s notable architecture. Stop into Potter and Vaughn, which offers everything from novelty socks and greeting cards to artwork and jewelry. Shop for home décor and furniture, including benches made from Adams County barnwood, at District Designs II.

As you head into the Alton area, you’ll find a mix of antique shops and local artisans. Knotty by Nature in Grafton produces handcrafted wood furniture and live edge slabs in all shapes and sizes. The artisans of Alton Stained Glass Works create handcrafted lamps, window panes, ornaments, made-to-order pieces and more. The shop also houses the Artisans’ Lounge Wine and Tea Room. Mississippi Mud Pottery in Alton creates pieces intended for everyday use; however it’s also known for producing handmade ceramic fish. By using molds of real fish, artisans create incredibly detailed and exquisitely painted replicas.

In the southern Illinois town of Chester, home of Popeye creator Elzie Segar, visit the only Popeye shop and museum in the world, Popeye Museum and Spinach Can Collectibles. Browse historic and vintage items surrounding this famous cartoon character, along with new collectibles and souvenirs.

From unique to antique, there are plenty of hidden treasures to discover along the byway.
ANTIQUE SHOPS

Albany True Value Antiques ▲
401 S. Main Street • Albany
309-887-4850

Alton Exchange Mall ▲
2990 E. Homer Adams Parkway
Alton
altonexchangemall
618-463-1273

Country Meadows ▲
401 E. Broadway • Alton
Country Meadows Antiques
618-374-6015

Country Meadows II ▲
413 E. Broadway • Alton
Country Meadows Antiques
618-374-6015

George Street Antique Mall ▲
108 George Street • Alton
618-396-2231

J & P’s Edelweiss ▲
435 E. Broadway • Alton
618-741-8749

Refabuloused Relics ▲
615 E. Broadway • Alton
Refabuloused Relics
618-795-4556

Rusty Rhino ▲
510 W. Delmar Avenue • Alton
Rusty Rhino Emporium
618-372-1077

Tinner’s Anvil ▲
211 Langdon Street • Alton
Tinner’s Anvil
618-433-1718

Wilson’s Antiques ▲
217 E. Broadway • Alton
618-465-3798

Annabelle Market ▲
300 S. Main Street • Anna
AnnabelleMarket
618-833-9366

Oldies but Goodies Antiques & Collectibles ▲
4575 E. Vienna Street • Anna
Oldies But Goodies Antiques and Collectibles
618-614-3119

Barry Thrift Shop ▲
791 Bainbridge Street • Barry
barrythriftshop
217-335-2411

Craft & Antique Mall ▲
60 Airport Plaza • Bethalto
Craft and Antique Mall of Bethalto
618-377-9307

Homestead Flea Market ▲
5205 State Route 140
Bethalto
618-377-0452

Round 2 Relics ▲
5101 State Route 140 • Bethalto
Round2RelicsBethalto
618-406-2827

Corky’s Emporium ▲
16453 State Route 111 • Brighton
618-623-5650

Village Consignment ▲
144 E. Main Street • Brussels
VillageConsignments
618-771-9827

Opera House Antiques/Spinach Can Collectibles ▲
1001 State Street • Chester
popeyethesailor.com
618-826-9827

Country Fair Mall ▲
504 W. 1st Avenue
Coal Valley
CountryFairMall
309-799-3670

The Cottage ▲
501 W. 1st Avenue • Coal Valley
The Cottage
309-799-3025

Packrats Paradise Antique Mall ▲
220 S. Front Street • Cobden
antiquemallcobden
618-713-1989

Wine Trail Antiques ▲
201 S. Jefferson Street • Cobden
618-893-4800

Antiques and Accents by Vadna ▲
200 W. Main Street • Collinsville
618-823-8446

Evalina’s “Raggs to Riches” ▲
124-A S. Main Street • Columbia
Evalina’s Raggs to Riches
618-520-0569

Roseberry Farms ▲
115 W. Gundlach Street
Columbia
roseberryfarms.com
618-520-2324

Ken’s Antiques & Reproductions ▲
108 S. Chestnut Street • DeSoto
618-532-9857

Restore Décor ▲
223 N. Main St. • Edwardsville
faithcoalitionedwardsville.com
618-980-1278

Vintage 71 ▲
813 N. Main St. • Edwardsville
Vintage71Store
618-307-9949

Common Cents Resale ▲
201 S. Main Street, Suite 3
Galena
commontcentsdbq.com
815-858-0080

EZ Sell USA ▲
201 N. Commerce Street
Galena
ezsellusa.com
815-402-3300
815-543-5201

The Shop on the Hill ▲
504 S. Main Street • Elizabeth
815-858-3815

Merchant on Mill ▲
47 Mill Street • Elsah
Merchantonmill
618-334-0081

Old House Parts ▲
600½ Jackson Street
Evansville
Old House Parts
618-409-1711

St. Clair Antiques ▲
315 Salem Place
Fairview Heights
St Clair Antique Mall
618-628-1650

River Huis Traders ▲
1105 4th Street • Fulton
815-539-3160

Common Cents Resale ▲
300 S. Main Street • Elizabeth
commoncentsdbq.com
815-583-5414

Galena Antique Mall ▲
8201 U.S. Highway 20 W.
Galena
GalenaAntiqueMall
815-777-3440

Grammy’s Attic ▲
421 S. Main Street • Galena
480-612-1115

Gustafson & Grey, Ltd. ▲
301 S. Main Street • Galena
815-777-3525
**GREAT RIVER ROAD**

**BY THE NUMBERS**

- **690 MILES**
  Distance from the northern end of the Great River Road near the headwaters of the Mississippi River in Itasca State Park, Minnesota, to the northernmost point of the Great River Road in Illinois.

- **550 MILES**
  Distance from East Dubuque, at the northern end of the Great River Road in Illinois, to Cairo, at the southern end of the Great River Road in Illinois.

- **65**
  Number of state parks, preserves and natural areas along the route of the Great River Road in Illinois.

- **22 MILLION**
  Number of cubic feet of earth it took to build Monks Mound, the largest pre-Columbian earthen construction in the Americas, located at Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site.

- **30**
  More than 30 different architectural styles are on display in over 3,600 historic structures in Quincy.

- **279 FEET**
  Fort Defiance Point, where the Ohio and Mississippi rivers meet, is the lowest point in Illinois at 279 feet above sea level.

- **125**
  Number of boutique shops lining Main Street in Galena, known as the “Most Beautiful Main Street in America.”

- **100**
  Number of Barn Quilts dotting the landscape in Carroll County.

- **19**
  Number of state historic sites found along the byway.

- **3RD**
  The Great River Road follows the Mississippi River, the third largest watershed in the world.

- **917 MILES**
  Distance from the southernmost point of the Great River Road in Venice, Louisiana, on the Mississippi River delta to the southernmost point of the Great River Road in Illinois.

- **2,700 FEET**
  The length of the rope used for the annual tug-of-war across the Mississippi River between Illinois and Iowa during the annual Tug Fest.

- **472**
  Total number of craft beverages served at the craft breweries, wineries and small batch distilleries along the Great River Road in Illinois.

- **1720**
  First built in 1720, Fort de Chartres State Historic Site is home to the oldest existing building in Illinois.

- **22 MILLION**
  Number of state parks, preserves and natural areas along the route of the Great River Road in Illinois.
Your travels along the byway are something to write home about. Cut out these cards to share your journey with friends, family, your cat, dog, etc.—you get the picture. Just remember to put a stamp on it.

Great River Road in Illinois National Scenic Byway
Located along the entire western border of Illinois, this route follows the Mississippi River for 550 miles. GreatRiverRoad-Illinois.com (image: De Immigrant Windmill)