Seasonal Route 66 Itineraries - Fall Highlights (7 Days, September-Novemb

Day 1: Chicago, IL -> Springfield, IL (~200 miles, ~4.5 hrs)

- 08:00 AM - Route 66 Begin Sign, Chicago (Start of the journey)
- 09:00 AM - Joliet Route 66 Welcome Center (Photo ops)
- 11:00 AM - Pontiac Route 66 Museum & murals (Fall mural stroll)
- 12:30 PM - Lunch: Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket (Classic Route 66 diner)
- 02:00 PM - Fuel Stop: Lincoln (Top off fuel)
- 06:30 PM - Dinner: Cozy Dog Drive-In (Springfield original)

Overnight Stay: Route 66 Hotel & Conference Center, Springfield

Seasonal Note: Crisp September air makes outdoor stops refreshing.

Day 2: Springfield, IL -> St. Louis, MO (~100 miles, ~2 hrs)

- 09:30 AM - Lincoln Library (Historic exhibits)
- 11:00 AM - Gateway Arch (Iconic landmark)
- 12:00 PM - Fuel Stop: Litchfield (Top off fuel)
- 12:30 PM - Lunch: Ariston Cafe (Historic Route 66 eatery)
- 01:00 PM - Forest Park (Fall foliage picnic)
- 07:00 PM - Dinner: Pappy's Smokehouse (Famous BBQ)

Overnight Stay: Red Roof Inn, St. Louis

Seasonal Note: October evenings perfect for Forest Park's autumn colors.

Day 3: St. Louis, MO -> Springfield, MO (~215 miles, ~4.5 hrs)

- 09:00 AM - Missouri Botanical Garden (Fall blooms & foliage)
- 11:00 AM - Route 66 State Park (Scenic stop)
- 12:00 PM - Fuel Stop: Rolla (Top off fuel)
- 12:30 PM - Lunch: Ted Drewes Frozen Custard (Seasonal pumpkin flavor)
- 01:30 PM - Fantastic Caverns (Underground tour)
- 03:00 PM - Fuel Stop: Lebanon (Top off fuel)
- 07:00 PM - Dinner: The Order (Modern American cuisine)

Overnight Stay: Best Western Route 66 Rail Haven, Springfield

Seasonal Note: October foliage brightens the drive.

Day 4: Springfield, MO -> Tulsa, OK (~180 miles, ~4 hrs)

- 09:00 AM - Vintage Iron Motorcycle Museum (Classic bikes)
- 12:30 PM - Fuel Stop: Miami (Top off fuel)
- 01:00 PM - Lunch: Burn Co BBQ (Local BBQ)
- 02:30 PM - Fuel Stop: Claremore (Top off fuel)
- 03:00 PM - Tulsa Art Deco District (Architecture walk)
- 07:00 PM - Dinner: The Tavern (Gastropub fare)

Overnight Stay: Route 66 Harley Motel, Tulsa

Seasonal Note: September evenings lively with fall festivals.

Day 5: Tulsa, OK -> Oklahoma City, OK (~105 miles, ~2.5 hrs)

- 09:00 AM - OKC National Memorial (Reflective visit)
- 11:00 AM - Bricktown Entertainment District (Shops & sights)
- 12:30 PM - Fuel Stop: Chandler (Top off fuel)
- 01:00 PM - Lunch: Empire Slice House (Creative pizza)
- 07:00 PM - Dinner: Cattlemen's Steakhouse (Historic steakhouse)

Overnight Stay: Skirvin Hilton, Oklahoma City

Seasonal Note: November nights are cozy in Bricktown.

Day 6: Oklahoma City, OK -> Amarillo, TX (~260 miles, ~5 hrs)

- 09:00 AM - Cadillac Ranch (Iconic roadside art)
- 11:00 AM - Fuel Stop: Elk City (Top off fuel)
- 11:30 AM - Amarillo Historic District (Explore downtown)
- 01:00 PM - Lunch: Big Texan Steak Ranch (Route 66 classic)
- 02:00 PM - Fuel Stop: Shamrock (Top off fuel)
- 07:00 PM - Dinner: Tyler's Barbecue (Local favorite)

Overnight Stay: Big Texan Motel, Amarillo

Seasonal Note: October sunsets glow over Cadillac Ranch.

Day 7: Amarillo, TX -> Albuquerque, NM (~290 miles, ~5.5 hrs)

- 09:00 AM - Petroglyph National Monument (Hiking & views)

- 11:30 AM - Albuquerque Old Town (Shops & culture)
- 12:30 PM - Fuel Stop: Tucumcari (Top off fuel)
- 01:00 PM - Lunch: Route 66 Diner, Santa Rosa (Retro eats)
- 03:00 PM - Fuel Stop: Santa Rosa (Top off fuel)
- 07:00 PM - Dinner: Sadie's of New Mexico (New Mexican cuisine)

Overnight Stay: El Vado Motel, Albuquerque

Seasonal Note: September-November festivals bring autumn charm to Old Town.