Seasonal Route 66 Itineraries - Spring Highlights (10 Days, March-May)

Celebrate the rebirth of the Mother Road with this Spring Highlights itinerary. From Chicago's budding parks to Santa Monica's breezy coast, the journey blends iconic roadside stops with seasonal delights - wildflowers, spring festivals, and fresh menus at classic diners. This 10-day adventure captures the vibrant energy and renewal of Route 66 in springtime.

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: May nights are lively with spring festivals.

Spring Must-See Stop: Oklahoma Redbud Trees - Roadsides burst with pink blossoms, creating a natural canopy.

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: Spring sunsets glow over Cadillac Ranch.

Spring Must-See Stop: Texas Panhandle Wildflowers - Bluebonnets and Indian paintbrush line the highways.

Day 8: Santa Fe, NM -> Gallup, NM (~200 miles, ~4 hrs)

- 09:00 AM - Santa Fe Art Stroll (Morning galleries)
- 12:00 PM - Fuel Stop: Grants (Top off fuel)
- 12:30 PM - Lunch: Local Cafe (Quick bite)
- 01:00 PM - El Rancho Hotel (Historic Route 66 stop)

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- 03:00 PM - Red Rock Park (Hiking & views)
- 07:00 PM - Dinner: Jerry's Cafe (Local favorite)

Overnight Stay: El Rancho Hotel, Gallup

Seasonal Note: Wildflowers bloom around Red Rock Park.

Spring Must-See Stop: New Mexico Desert Blooms - Cacti and desert flora add vibrant pops of color against red rock backdrops.

Why Spring Works on Route 66

- Blooming landscapes: Wildflowers and blossoms brighten Midwest and Southwest stretches.
- Mild weather: Comfortable temperatures make long rides enjoyable.
- Festivals and events: Spring fairs and art markets add authentic charm.
- Fresh menus: Diners and cafes feature seasonal specials and lighter fare.
- Longer days: Extended daylight hours allow more time for exploration.
- Balanced crowds: Spring offers lively towns without peak summer congestion.