



ROUTE
6

SCENIC
Road Trip
GUIDE



Drive The Nation™





Road Trip

OVERVIEW

Coast-to-Coast

Route 6 Overview provided by Drive The Nation editor, Anne Sandoval.

U.S. Route 6 may not be the most well-known road trip route like Route 66 or the Pacific Coast Highway, but it can take you all the way across the U.S. from coast to coast. Heading from east to west, the highway begins in Massachusetts and ends in California, with plenty of interesting attractions along the way.





Massachusetts



From the quaint and scenic Provincetown to historical attractions and museums, Route 6 winds along the entire coast of Massachusetts. If you love lighthouses and all things seaside, you'll love the Route 6 drive through Massachusetts.

[View details on page 5-6](#)

Rhode Island & Connecticut



Your Route 6 scenic drive continues through Rhode Island and Connecticut, stopping in bustling cities like Providence and Hartford as well as charming towns in both states. Enjoy museums, vineyards, zoos and parks along Route 6 in Rhode Island and Connecticut!

[View details on page 7-8](#)

Pennsylvania



The drive on Route 6 through Pennsylvania takes you along the road less traveled. Many beautiful natural attractions are accessible from Route 6, including Pine Creek Gorge, Cherry Springs State Park, Allegheny National Forest and Presque Isle State Park.

[View details on page 9-11](#)

Ohio



Spend a day exploring Cleveland to see the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and tons of other great attractions. Thrillseekers must stop in Sandusky to visit Cedar Point Amusement Park. The attractions along Route 6 in Ohio offer fun for everyone in your group!

[View details on page 12-13](#)

Indiana



You're in for a truly scenic drive as you take Route 6 through Indiana's Amish Country. Stop at churches, farmers markets and museums as you make your way into Illinois just outside of Chicago. The attractions along Route 6 in Illinois are all about architecture, from mid-century homes to covered bridges.

[View details on page 14-15](#)

Illinois



Route 6 provides a view of Illinois many miss out on when they just visit Chicago. See expansive prairies and charming small town main streets as you pass through. Plus, architecture fans can tour Victorian, Modern, and Prairie homes throughout the state.

[View details on page 16-17](#)



Iowa & Nebraska



Trust us, you didn't leave the farmlands behind in Indiana; there's plenty of open space to enjoy as you drive through Iowa and Nebraska. You may be surprised, however, that Route 6 will bring you to plenty of attractions, including the home of President Hoover, an Air and Space Museum and more.

[View details on page 18-19](#)

Colorado



One of the most beautiful sections of the coast-to-coast drive on US Route 6 is through Colorado. After passing through the prairie and the Denver metropolis, you'll make your way through the glorious Rocky Mountains. Passing through famous ski towns, the Continental Divide, and much more, Route 6 in Colorado is unforgettable.

[View details on page 20-22](#)

Utah



When driving US Route 6 from east to west, you'll enter Utah in the northeast part of the state. Throughout the drive, you'll be inspired by red rock vistas. Stops along the way include dinosaur museums and clear blue hot springs!

[View details on page 23-24](#)

Nevada



When you picture Nevada, you probably think of the neon lights of the Las Vegas strip, but Route 6 takes travelers to explore a whole different part of this beautiful state. You'll drive through small towns with towering mountain ranges and stop to enjoy natural attractions such as Great Basin National Park.

[View details on page 25-26](#)

California



From the towering granite peaks and sequoia trees of California's national parks to the TV studios in Burbank, driving Route 6 through California can show you just how diverse the Golden State is. Your coast-to-coast Route 6 drive ends in Long Beach, California - a perfect place to watch the sun set on your epic US road trip.

[View details on page 27-28](#)



Road Trip

ROUTE MAP

Massachusetts





Provincetown, Massachusetts

It's not just the town on Cape Cod where Route 6 originates; it's also a darn good time. Widely known across New England and the U.S. for its LGBT-friendly atmosphere and vibrant summer nightlife, P-Town (as it's known to locals) offers great shopping and fresh seafood, thanks to its prime oceanfront location.

Sandwich, Massachusetts

Combining the beauty of botanical gardens with the sophistication of an art museum, you'll find the best of both worlds on the Heritage Museum & Gardens grounds. Permanent exhibitions include American Folk Art, Carousel, and Historic Automobile Galleries, and there are also temporary installments that feature the work of a particular artist. The garden and galleries are only open from April through mid-October.

Mattapoiset, Massachusetts

It wouldn't be a true New England road trip without at least one visit to a lighthouse, right? Ned's Point Lighthouse, standing since 1838, is totally classic, and still actively used by the U.S. Coast Guard to aid in navigation. It's a bit off the beaten path, so you might find it less crowded than other famous spots, like Nubble Light in Maine.

New Bedford, Massachusetts

Take a walk on the wild side... or just say hello to some furry friends at the Buttonwood Park Zoo. In addition to all of the classic farm animals, the zoo is home to a variety of creatures, including black bears, bison, seals, otters, and all sorts of amphibians and reptiles. For a fee, you can even get a behind the scenes look at a day in the life of a zookeeper.

Fall River, Massachusetts

Not for the faint of heart! The site of one of the most infamous Massachusetts murders, the Lizzie Borden Bed & Breakfast Museum now draws brave visitors who are willing to spend the night in a truly haunted house. Of course, if you're too spooked to commit to a whole evening, you can always opt for a tour before the sun goes down. They're offered seven days a week, 363 days a year.



Road Trip

ROUTE MAP

Rhode Island & Connecticut





Providence, Rhode Island

In Providence, check out the WaterFire installation on the waterfront from May through November. There are also a number of cool neighborhoods to explore for food and shopping, from Federal Hill's Italian restaurants to College Hill's boutiques and cafes — which are just a short stroll from both Brown University and Rhode Island School of Design. A visit to The Roger Williams Park Zoo makes for a great family-friendly afternoon of meeting and greeting all types of creatures.

Johnston, Rhode Island

The town of Johnston is worth a visit as well. Learn about the winemaking process and sample reds and whites at Verde Vineyards. Or, bring the whole family along to Pezza Farm, which features sheep, goats, turkeys, and miniature horses in addition to a big selection of flowers and plants.

Scituate, Rhode Island

The sleepy town of Scituate is home to many beautiful historic homes, old buildings, and farms. Drive through the Clayville or Hope Village Historic Districts to get a sense of the way life used to be and admire the industrial architecture.

Willimantic, Connecticut

The town of Willimantic boasts a quaint downtown with cute cafes, restaurants, and bars, as well as artsy boutiques. There are also a number of cultural and educational establishments here: the Windham Textile and History Museum, the Connecticut Eastern Railroad Museum, and the Capitol Theater, which is now an arts academy and magnet high school.

Hartford, Connecticut

As the state capitol, Hartford has a lot to offer. Get your fill of culture at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, or learn about what makes our universe tick at the Connecticut Science Center. If you're passing by in springtime, don't miss Elizabeth Park, where you can admire gardens with roses, tulips, and more.

Bristol, Connecticut

There are plenty of offbeat entertainment options in Bristol. There's the American Clock and Watch Museum, The Witch's Dungeon Classic Movie Museum, and the New England Carousel Museum. Kids (and just the young at heart) will love Lake Compounce, an amusement park, and can flex their creative muscles at the Imagine Nation Children's Museum.





Road Trip

ROUTE MAP

Pennsylvania



Presque Isle State Park

Conneaut Lake Park

Meadville

Zippo/Case Attractions

Pennsylvania Lumber Museum

Cherry Springs State Park

Pine Creek Gorge

Susquehanna River

Clarks Summit

Steamtown National Historic Site

Grey Towers National Historic Site

Pittsburgh

Philadelphia





Grey Towers National Historic Site

As you cross from New York into Pennsylvania, the first attraction worth seeing is Grey Towers National Historic Site home of Pennsylvania Governor and forestry conservationist, Gifford Pinchot, is a French chateau inspired grey stone turreted mansion set amid views of the forests that Pinchot loved. In 2016, the Mansions Tours are offered from May 28 to October 31. You can also tour the gardens and take forested hikes. A visit to near by Milford and a meal in one of their wonderful restaurants, such as the Waterwheel Cafe or the Village Diner, are musts.

Steamtown National Historic Site

Before there was electricity or gasoline, America was powered by steam. Steamtown National Historic Site. You can tour the railroad museum and ride on an historic railroad in downtown Scranton. Visit the Roundhouse, turntable, and repair shop. The development of the museum is ongoing so you will probably see some of the construction, and also rolling stock awaiting restoration. There are many old locomotives. The museum is located where the old Scranton yards of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad used to be. Hungry? Go casual at Little Pizza Heaven or POSH at Scranton Club.

Susquehanna River

Pass north of Scranton and then enjoy a truly scenic drive as Route 6 flirts with the Susquehanna river from Clarks Summit to Tunkhannock. You'll cross the river at Jeld-Wen, then continue west. Situated in the Tioga River Valley, the small town of Mansfield may make a good pit stop. Reviewers recommend Yorkholo for a hearty meal or refreshments. Or, head onward to nearby Wellsboro to have a meal there at the Penn Wells Hotel, or the Wellsboro Diner.

Pine Creek Gorge

The Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania, also known as Pine Creek Gorge, is a forty-seven mile long forested canyon in the middle Tioga State Forest. To enjoy the views from the Route 6 vicinity, we recommend the Colton Point Overlook and the Leonard Harrison State Park Overlook. Take the Pine Creek Gorge trail for a hike or bike adventure, it stretches 30 miles to Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania.



Cherry Springs State Park

If you plan your trip right, you can wait until after sunset to go stargazing at Cherry Springs State Park, near Coudersport. This is one of the darkest places in the Northeast after dark, so you get the whole sweep of the starry night. You can get close to the stars at Astronomy Field, high up on a 2,300-foot mountain. The surrounding Susquahannok State Forest shields any ambient light. The latitude of the park gives a fabulous look at the nucleus of the Milky Way Galaxy and a 360-degree view of the night sky.

Pennsylvania Lumber Museum

The Pennsylvania Lumber Museum near Galeton, in Potter County, tells the story of the lumber industry of a century and more ago. The site includes a fascinating, working historic saw mill. There is also a recreated lumber camp. The many exhibits and collections will keep the whole family occupied as they show you a slice of logging life. When you're ready for a meal, you can choose between the Brick House Deli or the Ox Yoke Inn.

Zippo/Case Attractions

Drive west through Coudersport and Port Allegheny, then take 219 to go north to Bradford for a zippy side trip. There is a whole culture of Zippo lighter collectors, but even if you are not one of them, you will be fascinated by the Zippo Lighter Museum in Bradford. There is a "Zippo" car and a giant lighter to welcome you to the museum, as well as a USA flag made out of, yes, you guessed it, Zippo lighters. Everyone loves the display of Zippo lighters that still work after they were run over by heavy equipment or suffered through other mishaps. The displays of Case knives are an added plus. You can even watch employees repairing Zippo lighters. Eat at Beefeaters, or the Kabob's at the Option House.

Meadville, Pennsylvania

Enjoy a drive from Kane through the Allegheny National Forest. Stop in the quaint city of Warren, with a charming downtown historic district and many shops to explore. Continue west through Union City, Mill Village and Cambridge Springs until you arrive in Meadville, the home of Allegheny College. Take some time to explore the historic campus and the town.

Conneaut Lake Park

Conneaut Lake Park has been an amusement destination for more than a century, since 1892 to be precise. Most folks will tell you it is a great place for families with small children, who want to have a fun but low-key vintage amusement park experience. Historic though it may be, it is very much a lively summer resort and amusement park today. Vintage roller coaster aficionados come from around the world to ride the Blue Streak, the old wooden roller coaster. For a meal with a great view of the lake from any table, dine at Silver Shores.

Presque Isle State Park

Our final Pennsylvania Route 6 attraction is just north of the highway, where you can tour the USS Brig Niagara at Presque Isle State Park overlooking Lake Erie. The wooden-hulled brig is more than 200 years old and was the flagship of Oliver Hazard Perry during the Battle of Lake Erie in the War of 1812. Period-uniformed docents offer informative tours. The ship has survived sinking and reconstruction, and is one of two ships of this era still in existence in the USA. Check the schedule before you go for your tour. Presque Isle State Park is free to visit and enjoyed by swimmers, bikers, ice fishers, and kayakers. Explore the sweeping dunes, dramatic lighthouses, and the blue expanses of Lake Erie.





Ohio

Road Trip

ROUTE MAP



Drive The Nation™



Cleveland, Ohio

The capital city of Cleveland is home to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, as well as the Playhouse Square Center, which is one of the largest performing arts facilities in the country. In addition, the Cleveland Orchestra is considered to be among the nation's most prominent. The city also boasts an aquarium, science center, zoo, art museum, and botanical garden. Locals love visiting the indoor/outdoor marketing with more than 100 vendors.

Lakewood, Ohio

The town of Lakewood is great for outdoor pursuits. Take in the Cleveland skyline while walking or jogging around Lakewood Park, or pack a picnic and enjoy the afternoon. The Museum of Divine Statues will appeal to all who appreciate art, regardless of religious affiliation. This museum houses various historical pieces from churches, such as sculptures and stained glass windows.

Sandusky, Ohio

Further down the road, thrill seekers needn't look further than Cedar Point Amusement Park in Sandusky. The park is the self-proclaimed Roller Coaster Capital of the World, with 18 twisting, turning rides to choose from. There's something for every type of daredevil here: floorless coasters, classic wooden coasters, upside-down coasters and more. There's even a water park, Soak City, that provides the perfect way to cool off on a hot day.

For more wet 'n wild fun, try one of several other water parks in the area. Castaway Bay, Great Wolf Lodge, and Maui Sands are just a few that are great for the whole family. And for a taste of nostalgia, pop into the Merry-Go-Round Museum, which offers a free ride for the price of admission! Animal lovers shouldn't leave Sandusky without stopping at the Lagoon Deer Park, a petting zoo that allows visitors to feed the gentle creatures, along with goats and other furry friends. Grown-ups can head to Firelands Winery for a self-guided tour and tasting of their different varieties.

Napoleon, Ohio

Ever wanted to pose for a photo in front of a giant soup can? You'll want to stop by the Campbell's Soup Supply Co. in Napoleon, which has just that. While it's a corporate site that is not open to visitors, the can is, it's a true roadside oddity you don't want to miss.



Butler, Indiana

In Indiana, the easternmost town on Route 6 is Butler, which dates to 1856, when the railroad reached this location. Quaint bungalows, historic churches and more than 30 contributing structures to the Butler Downtown Historic District will greet you as you drive through town.

Waterloo, Indiana

When you come to Waterloo, be sure to enjoy a look at the decorated red brick cottages in the style of architect Andrew Jackson Downing, at the corner of N Center and Route 6. At Waterloo, we recommend that you take route 427 south to Auburn to visit the Auburn-Cord-Duisenberg Museum in the town where supremely elegant classic cars were manufactured.

Kendallville, Indiana

Returning to Route 6 and continuing west you will have a nice straight stretch into Kendallville, named for Amos Kendall, the eighth US Postmaster General. There are some interesting old Victorian-era commercial buildings; look for the one with the charming elephant head brackets. The Mid-America Windmill Museum offers a walk on a trail set among a collection of working antique windmills.

Ligonier, Indiana

Ligonier began as a native American settlement known as Strawberry Valley. You can see it depicted in one of the more than 20 murals showing highlights of the town's history. Take Calvin Street north to see some of the fine old houses and the vintage business district. The Ligonier Historical Museum is in the 1889 building of Congregation Ahavas Sholem (Lovers of Peace), one the few remaining nineteenth century synagogues in the United States. This is part of Indiana's Amish and Mennonite country. Don't be surprised if you see a horse and buggy, or horse drawn farm equipment in the passing fields.

Napanee, Indiana

Quaint Napanee features photo-worthy old homes and shops to explore in the center of town. West of town, visit Amish Acres to learn about the residents known for farming, family and faith. See the round red barn, shop, dine and stay at the Stahly-Nissley-Kuhns farmstead, the only Amish farm listed in The National Register of Historic Places.

Westville, Indiana

Westville is just 15 miles from lake Michigan, so it's a perfect place to stop and take a side trip. While you're in town, check out the main architectural landmarks: the red brick Everel S. Smith House and the Victorian-Era Odd Fellows Hall.



Cook County, Illinois

Stretch out your legs after a long car trip with a variety of hiking trails at the Midlothian Meadows Park. Or, keep an eye out for butterflies and wildlife at the Gensburg-Markham Prairie Nature Preserve. Nearby, the Chicago Gaelic Park in Oak Forest is famous for their Irish Fest on Memorial Day and is home to an Irish pub.

Joliet, Illinois

Continue through Orland Park and New Lenox to Joliet. Pay a visit to the Rialto Square Theatre and the Joliet Area Historical Museum, then visit the historic Route 66 Raceway. After you cross the Des Plaines River, stop at the Rocky Run Rookery Preserve for bird watching, picnicking, boating, and fishing.

Marseilles, Illinois

Past Channahon, the drive becomes less urban, and the flat prairies are more visible. Enjoy the unfolding prairie scenery as you drive. Continue on to Marseilles where the main street and the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad Depot offer photo opportunities. Here, architecture fans may wish to detour up to Plano to see the famous all-glass Farnsworth House by celebrated 20th century architect Mies van der Rohe. Advance reservations are strongly encouraged.

Coal Valley, Illinois

Somewhere around Peru and Coal Valley it strikes you how very different this stretch of Route 6 is from the southern suburbs of Chicago you have left behind. The 360 view of the Illinois prairies as you cross over I-180 will impress you with its flatness.

Princeton, Illinois

By contrast, the county seat town of Princeton has an impressive array of stately mansions of the late Victorian to Prairie Style eras. At Princeton, see the downtown shops. Drivers will enjoy the treat of driving through the 150-year-old Red Covered Bridge and the newer Captain Swift Covered Bridge. Dine at Four and Twenty Café or Prime Quarter Steak House, and save room for pie at Myrtle's.

Moline, Illinois

Your last Route 6 stop in Illinois is Moline, World Headquarters of John Deere. Here, you can see their famous green and yellow farm machinery on display. Dine at Lemon Grass, Barley and Rye Bistro, or the River House Bar and Grille. Enjoy views of the Mighty Mississippi River and the Davenport, Iowa skyline, or take a cruise on the Celebration Belle to ride the river.

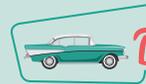
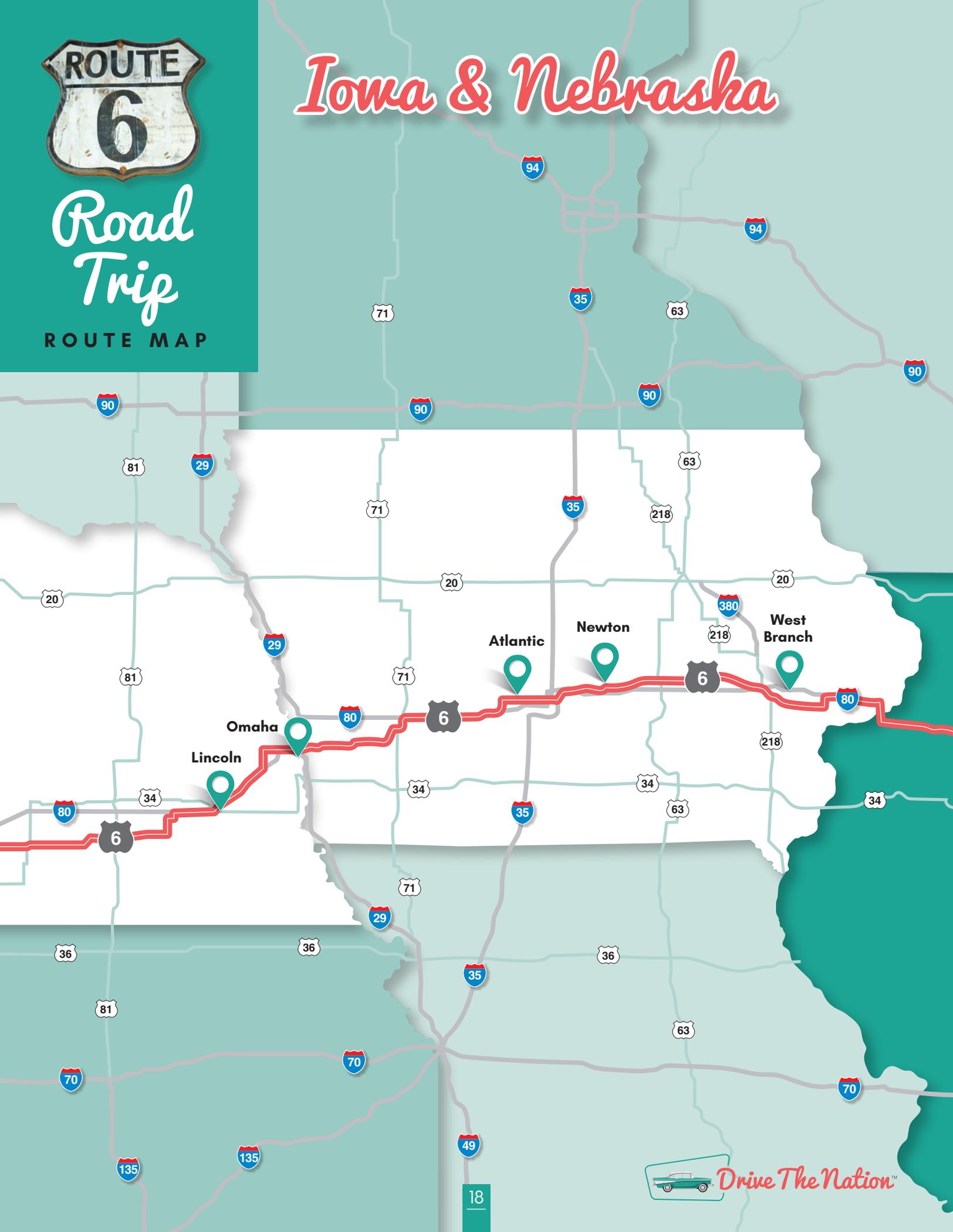




Road Trip

ROUTE MAP

Iowa & Nebraska



Drive The Nation™



West Branch, Iowa

Start your drive through Iowa at a town proud of its cultural heritage. West Branch is a perfect stop for history fans. The Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum includes the cottage he was born in as well as a reconstructed one-room schoolhouse and blacksmith shop. Aside from this site, 14 other buildings in this town are on the National Register of Historic Places.

Newton, Iowa

The Iowa Speedway is a must-see on your road trip. As the only professional sports venue in Iowa, people come from near and far to see IndyCar drivers take on "The Fastest Short Track on the Planet." While in Newton, check out the Arboretum & Botanical Gardens and catch a flick at the Valle Drive-In.

Atlantic, Iowa

Take a stroll down bustling Chestnut Street to get a feel for small-town life. Take a tour of the Atlantic Bottling Company, headquarters of a privately-owned, independent bottler and distributor that first introduced Coca-Cola to Iowans in the 1910's.

Omaha, Nebraska

Once you leave Iowa, you'll be in the largest city in Nebraska. As the home of inventions like the Reuben sandwich, packaged cake mix, and the ski lift, it's no surprise that Omaha is also where you'll find lots of inventive things to do. Our can't-miss spot? The Henry Doorly Zoo. It spans 130 acres with thousands of animals. The Desert Dome is the world's largest indoor desert and is home to animals and plants from deserts around the world.

While you're in town, also visit the Joslyn Art Museum, Pioneer Courage Park, and Memorial Park - all free attractions.

Lincoln, Nebraska

As a city that tops lists of places to live and visit, it's no surprise that Lincoln caters to all types of visitors. Fulfill your need for speed at the Museum of American Speed, or take a walk in the expansive Sunken Gardens. The Nebraska Capitol is unique in its architectural design of a tower, not a dome, and is home to the nation's only nonpartisan Legislature. For some quirky fun, check out the shops at the Haymarket District or step into one of the city's many free museums, including the Telephone Museum and the Museum of Roller Skating. Then, it's time to roll on out to Colorado.

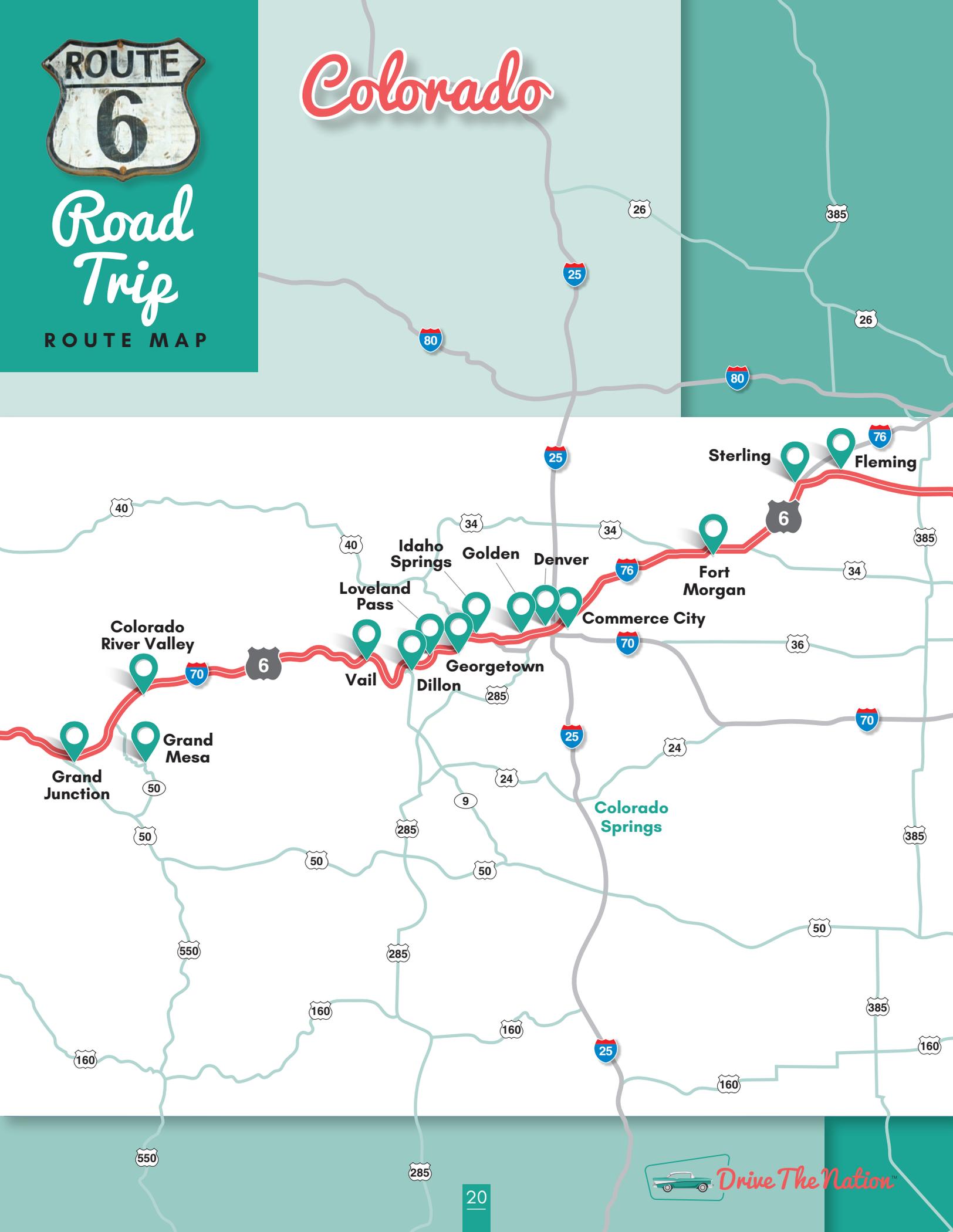




Road Trip

ROUTE MAP

Colorado





Northeastern Corner of Colorado

A cluster of silos at the Grainland Co-Op marks the spot as you pass from Nebraska into Colorado. If you're feeling peckish, Bully's Pub and Grub in Fleming is a northeastern Colorado destination steakhouse. Haxtun serves up Mexican food at the Bar Lo Café. Holyoke's W. E. Heginbotham House is the city's public library; go to enjoy its classic Craftsman style architecture.

Sterling, Colorado

A bit farther along, in Sterling, you can visit the Overland Trail Museum. Since 1936, it has been helping visitors learn about the history of the Overland Trail. Sterling is the county seat of Logan County. See the impressive Court House and have a meal at Gallagher's River City Grill or the Old Town Bistro.

Fort Morgan, Colorado

The Fort Morgan Museum Has a lot of information about the region, from the railroads to the glider school. They also have a working windmill and some handsome cowboy spurs. The Pawnee National Grasslands begins just north of Fort Morgan. Fort Morgan serves as the starting point for the Pawnee Pioneer Parkway through the Grasslands. Go to see the wildlife and the gorgeous Pawnee Buttes.

Commerce City, Colorado

Your route is also I-76 as you head toward Denver. At Commerce City's Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge, you can see bison in the foreground and Denver's skyscrapers in the background. What a great study in contrasts! The Vintage Aero Flying Museum near Hudson is a privately-owned museum featuring WWII memorabilia and planes. Usually open on Tuesdays and Thursdays, you need to call ahead for an appointment to visit.

Denver, Colorado

Denver is a major city with exceptional activities for sports fans, cultural enthusiast and outdoor adventurers. The city offers Rocky Mountain views and 300 days of sunshine annually. Some highlights include: cheering on the Denver Broncos or Colorado Rockies, spending the day at Denver Museum of Nature & Science or the Denver Zoo, and exploring the outdoors at Confluence Park or Red Rocks amphitheater.

Golden, Colorado

At Golden, see the Buffalo Bill Grave and Museum up on Lookout Mountain to hear about this Wild Westerner. While in Golden have a Bob's Atomic Burger. Lakewood Heritage Center has many fun artifacts of the city's history. Even better, you can find some to take home with you at their 20th Century Emporium Museum Store.





Georgetown, Colorado

As you continue west, Georgetown is another mining-era town that is filled with lots of character just waiting to be enjoyed. The Dusty Rose Tea Room, and the Whistle Stop Café are among the fine places for a meal. Ride the Georgetown Loop Historic Railroad, and tour the Hotel De Paris and the Hamill House for a flavor of days gone by.

Idaho Springs, Colorado

Route 6 separates from I-70 after Idaho Springs, an absolutely delightful gold rush era town, with a pretty collection of historic downtown buildings well worth a stop to stroll and shop. The vintage gingerbread cottage style houses are painted bright and happy colors; you will probably find several dozen that you would like to call home. Argo Gold Mine Museum and the Indian Hot Springs nearby are great places to visit and explore. Marion's of the Rockies has the best breakfast in Idaho Springs.

Loveland Pass, Colorado

Experience the mountain glories of Loveland Pass. Be sure to stop at the overlooks to enjoy the views. The pass tops out at an elevation of 11,990 feet above sea level, as you cross the Continental Divide. Loveland is the highest mountain pass in the world that regularly stays open during a snowy winter season. In any season, what a treat to see the hairpin turns, towering Rockies and dramatic valleys, up close and personal from your own vehicle!

Dillon, Colorado

Soon thereafter, at Dillon, Marina Park is a popular boating spot. Whether you stop at the park or continue westward on Route 6, the views of Lake Dillon there are lovely. At Silverthorne, Route 6 rejoins I-70 and as you pass into Frisco, you can hike to the top of Mt Royal, and see the abandoned Masontown along the way.

Vail, Colorado

Vail is world famous as a wintertime playground. The ski resort city is a winter wonderland, and also a joy in the other seasons of the year. In warmer months, don't miss the Betty Ford Alpine Garden for a beautiful stroll. Glenwood Springs offers the Hanging Lake Trail, a strenuous hike that provides a great destination, Hanging Lake and its pair of surrounding waterfalls. Then, back in town, soak your muscles in the Glenwood Hot Springs Pool for total relaxation.

Colorado River Valley

As you continue through the Colorado River Valley you will come to Parachute; enjoy the views of Battlement Mesa, and photograph the old Battlement Mesa School House. "Bookcliffs", named for lines of sediment and shale that resemble the pages of a book can be seen at Rifle, Rifle Falls State Park offers some lovely waterfalls spilling over limestone cliffs. From here, you can opt to take Old Route 6, which offers super views of the canyon created by the Colorado River, until it rejoins Route 6 proper near De Beque.

Grand Mesa, Colorado

From there, we highly recommend you consider taking a side trip to Grand Mesa, the largest flattop mountain in the world. The Grand Mesa Scenic Byway offers incredible views for driver and passenger alike. Now you've made your way to Grand Junction, popular for its Colorado wineries and microbrews.

Grand Junction, Colorado

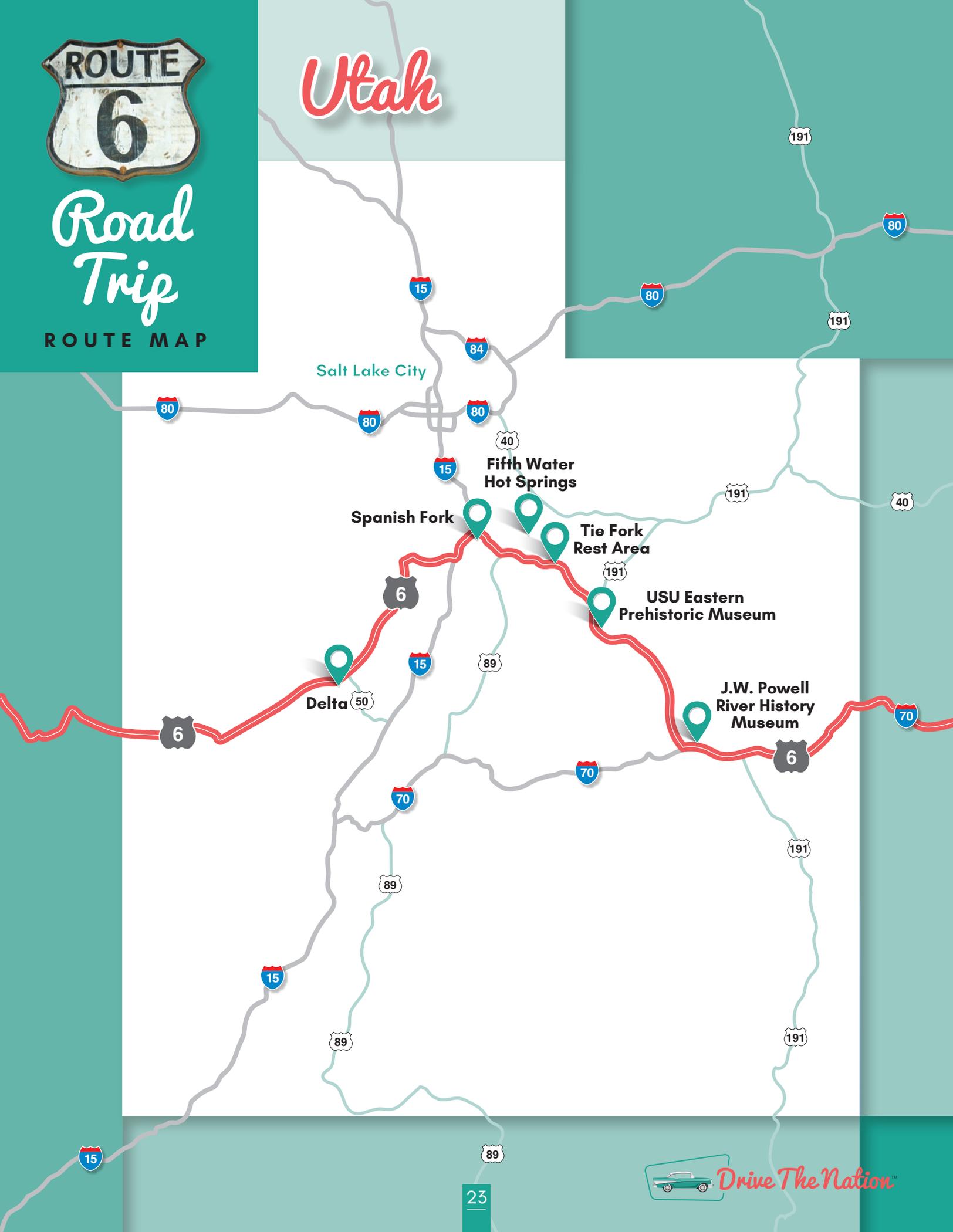
You may also want to visit Colorado National Monument, with dramatic (sometimes terrifying) driving, and five-star scenery. Enter the park at the Grand Junction gate and exit from the Fruita gate. Next, the Rattlesnake Arches Trail is located in the McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area near Grand Junction and Fruita. The trail is a 15-mile strenuous trip, recommended for skilled hikers only. It leads to a cluster of dramatic red sandstone arches. At Fruita, you can have a nice view of the Colorado River on a quick side trip, on the bridge south of town.



Road Trip

ROUTE MAP

Utah



Salt Lake City

Fifth Water Hot Springs

Spanish Fork

Tie Fork Rest Area

USU Eastern Prehistoric Museum

Delta

J.W. Powell River History Museum





J. W. Powell River History Museum

The importance of rivers cannot be understated in the Western part of the country, and Utah is no exception with its Green and Colorado Rivers. That's why so many people have enjoyed learning more about rivers and river running from the JW Powell River History Museum in Green River. Beyond the boat room, dinosaur exploration, and the crossroads of west exhibits, visitors can also explore the art gallery, and more about JW Powell's life such as the founding of the USGS.

Utah State University East Prehistoric Museum

If you (or someone you're traveling with) loves everything dinosaurs, then you cannot go wrong with a visit to the Prehistoric Museum in Price, Utah. The museum features tours and a children's discovery center where they can get down and dirty with some dino bones. The museum has a very extensive collection of dinosaur bones, a woolly mammoth display, and even a local artists gallery as well.

Tie Fork Rest Area

A rest area? Absolutely, especially considering the Tie Fork Rest Area has been voted among the top ten in all of America, so that means it is a must see. It's got your conventional needs covered, but also adds a bit more like a "bark park" for your pets, a replica steam locomotive, and area history. The rest area also has another special attraction; it's less than two miles away from a ghost town, Tucker, Utah that was abandoned when the railroad moved in 1913.

Fifth Water Hot Springs

Anyone who has ever been to Utah will tell you that it has so many amazing outdoor experiences you barely need to see anything else. Not far from Spanish Fork, Utah you'll find Fifth Water Hot Springs, a naturally occurring hot water pools smack in the middle of nature.

Spanish Fork, Utah

Around the Spanish Fork area, there are plenty of other outdoor activities to be had along the Fifth Waters Creek, including hiking and trail running. Keep an eye out for waterfalls too. Well, there you have it. These highlight some of the main attractions you'll see when traveling along scenic Route 6 through Utah. Not only will you learn quite a bit about the history of Utah, you'll be able to explore some new things too.





Road Trip

ROUTE MAP

Nevada



Drive The Nation™



Coaldale, Nevada

Travelers seeking a true “ghost town” experience will certainly want to make a stop in Coaldale, which is home only to a handful of abandoned buildings, most of which have been heavily vandalized over the years. Warm Springs is yet another ghost town along Route 6, whose namesake stems from the natural hot springs in the area. In addition to a swimming pool that’s behind a locked fence, you’ll find a boarded-and-sealed cafe and a vacant home, both from the middle of the 20th century. Finally, Currant was originally established as a farming town, and was a hotbed of mining activity beginning in 1914. Today, its population is a sparse 65!

Tonopah, Nevada

Once you’re sufficiently spooked, head to the town of Tonopah. Get your fill of regional history at the Mining Park, which spans over 100 acres, or the Central Nevada Museum. From October through April, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, guided tours of the town’s Royston Turquoise Mine are offered. If these unique attractions weren’t enough, Tonopah has also been named as the top place to stargaze by USA Today, so keep your eyes peeled when the sun goes down.

Ely, Nevada

For more outdoor adventure, check out Ely. Take a swim in the natural, spring-fed McGill public pool, go fishing, biking, or hiking at Cave Lake State Park, or play a round at White Pine Golf Course. History takes center stage at the White Pine Public Museum and the Nevada Northern Railway Museum, which highlights old-fashioned train travel. For a one-of-a-kind photo op, make a stop at the Ward Charcoal Ovens State Park, featuring — you guessed it — six of the big hive-shaped structures.

Great Basin National Park

Speaking of picture-perfect spots, the six-story Lexington Arch in Great Basin National Park is carved from limestone and is one of the largest of its kind in the western United States. While you can hike to the base of the arch, it’s only recommended for more experienced trekkers. Feeling lucky? Play (and stay) at the Jail House Motel & Casino, Hotel Nevada and Gambling Hall, or Prospector Hotel and Gambling Hall.





Road Trip

ROUTE MAP

California



Drive The Nation™



Yosemite National Park

As Route 6 crosses into California from Nevada, the road runs smack in the middle of three of the best National Parks in the entire system. If you're game for a little bit of a detour from your road trip, you do not want to miss Yosemite National Park.

Nearby National Parks

If you have time to veer off Route 6 for a few hours, you can explore nearby national parks including Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Park. For more, keep traveling south until Lone Pine and take a quick side trip to Death Valley National Park.

Mojave, California

For aviation buffs, the next stop you want to head down Route 6 has to be Mojave. Here, you'll find a number of different museums and attractions dedicated to flight. Start by taking the self driving tour at the Mojave Air and Space Port, (don't miss the airliner bone yard!) then check out the Air Force Flight Test Museum.

Santa Clarita, California

If you're looking for even more thrills, head to Santa Clarita, California home of Six Flags Magic Mountain, dubbed "America's Best Theme Park" by USA Today. If you love high-speed thrill rides like roller coasters, you don't want to miss this. To cool off after a day at Six Flags, head over to neighboring Six Flags Hurricane Harbor, a water park that doesn't hold back on the thrill rides either!

Burbank, California

For all the movie and television buffs on your road trip, you cannot even think about not stopping in Burbank, California to get a real TV and movie fix. The city and surrounding area is home to major studios like Sony Pictures and Warner Brothers. Both of which offer tours to visitors. But that's not all, if you want to get really up close and personal with TV, then consider attending the tapings of some of the most popular shows out there like The Big Bang Theory, Ellen, and Conan.

Long Beach, California

After hitting up all the sites in Los Angeles, it's time to come to the end of your road trip in Long Beach. Which means, beach time and relaxation, let's face it, after a long trip like that, you've earned it. After you've spent a bit of time working on your tan, don't forget to take in some of the local attractions like the award winning Aquarium of the Pacific, and tour the famous Queen Mary 2.

