



America's Mother Road

Walking Tour

To begin your Route 66 adventure, park your car in the free parking lot on the west side of Ottawa Street (across the street from the Joliet Junior College Renaissance Center at 214 North Ottawa St.).

Let's Get Walking!

You'll notice the neon sign hanging out front, welcoming you to the **Route 66 Visitors Center** (204 N Ottawa St). This free attraction tells the history of Route 66 and Lincoln Highway. Attached to the Route 66 Experience is the interactive **Joliet Area Historical Museum** full of fascinating exhibits and exciting facts (well worth the minimal admission fee). This museum lies at the crossroads of America (Cass & Ottawa Streets) and is the site of Lincoln Highway and Route 66's only crossing.

Located at 310 N Ottawa St., the **Friends of Community Public Art (FCPA)** is an artist run, not-for-profit organization that oversees the creation of community based public art and teach on the Corridor's rich cultural heritage. Look for the sign "Art of the Steelworkers."

From the corner, walk one block east to Chicago St. Walk north on Chicago to Columbus St, then take a right on Columbus, walking one block past Scott St. to bring you to the Joliet Iron Work Historical Site.

Once an iron manufacturing facility from the early 20th century, the **Joliet Iron Works Historical Site & trail** now resides in the Des Plaines River preservation system of over 2,400 acres of land. The site provides a self-guiding historical tour and connects to the 11 mile I&M Canal trail, perfect for biking, hiking, and cross-country skiing.

When returning to Chicago St., walking south to Cass St. (Route 30/Lincoln Highway) intersection will bring you to the first alignment of Route 66. As you walk past Cass St., take notice of the **Joliet Public Library** on your right and all the beautiful architecture. In fact, **the building at 501 Chicago St. on your right housed the first Dairy Queen that opened on June 22, 1940.** Note the metal sculptures of the Marks Brothers at the corner of Chicago and Clinton Streets by local artist **Marsha Lega**, member of the Friends of Community Public Art.

Located at 102 N Chicago St. Built in 1926, "**The Palace for the People**" is considered one of the most beautiful theaters in the nation. The building houses over 100 crystal chandeliers and lights with a mix of Italian Renaissance and Eastern Europe architecture. Check out the Barton Grande Organ and the "duchess" chandelier. For more information, call **815-726-7171** or visit www.rialtosquare.com.

Continue south on Chicago Street as far as it goes to Jefferson Street, turn right. Walk toward the Jefferson Street lift bridge.

To your right will be **Harrah's Casino** (151 N Joliet St.), your spot for fun, excitement, dining and relaxation. Continue over the river and on your right is **Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park** (201 W Jefferson St). Note the Lincoln Highway Gazebo within Bicentennial Park. You can stroll the beautiful river walk and read the boulders marking the sites of Joliet's first homes and businesses. The only building in the park houses an indoor theater and outdoor stage where Thursday nights in the summer you can see free concerts on the hill.

Kickin' Route 66 Attractions

- A** Route 66 Visitors Center & Joliet Area Historical Museum
204 N. Ottawa St.
- B** Friends of Community Public Art Studio
310 N. Ottawa St.
- C** Joliet Iron Works Historical Site & Trail
Columbia St., east of Route 53/Scott St.
- D** World's First Dairy Queen
501 N. Chicago St.
- E** Joliet Public Library
150 N. Ottawa St.
- F** Rialto Square Theatre
102 N. Chicago St.
- G** Harrah's Casino
151 N. Joliet St.
- H** Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park
201 W. Jefferson St.

Dining on 66

- I** Joliet Route 66 Diner
22 W. Clinton St.
- J** The Department
205 N. Chicago St.
- K** Nardi's on Chicago
158 N. Chicago St.
- L** Chicago Street Pub
75 N. Chicago St.
- M** Chicken-N-Spice
251 N. Chicago St.
- N** Red Goose Bakery & Cafe
56 N. Chicago St.



For more information, call **815-588-7940** or visit www.HeritageCorridorCVB.com

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