DestinationGREAT RIVERS & ROUTES

YOUR GUIDE TO SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS | JUST OUTSIDE ST. LOUIS

ALTON | COLLINSVILLE | EDWARDSVILLE | GLEN CARBON | GODFREY | GRAFTON & MORE











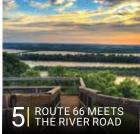
SERVING THE
ILLINOIS COUNTIES OF
MADISON | JERSEY
CALHOUN | MACOUPIN
MONTGOMERY | GREENE



WELCOME: Great Rivers & Routes THERE'S ONLY ONE PLACE IN AMERICA WHERE HISTORIC ROUTE 66 MEETS THE GREAT RIVER ROAD, JUST ACROSS THE RIVER FROM ST. LOUIS IN SOUTHWEST ILLINOIS. Let the majesty of the confluence of the Missouri, Mississippi, and Illinois rivers delight your travelers. In a region overflowing with centuries of history, it is easy to take a quick journey back in time. Walk along with President Lincoln as he made history on Alton's Lincoln & Civil War Legacy Trail. Climb the steps to the top of the largest manmade mound north of Mexico at Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site. Witness the power of the Mississippi River on the best dam tour around at the National Great Rivers Museum and Melvin Price Locks & Dam. Explore years of Route 66 history and memorabilia at Henry's Rabbit Ranch and the Pink Elephant Antique Mall. Journey to where Lewis & Clark started their great adventure at the Lewis & Clark State Historic Site and Confluence Tower.

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PRICING NOTES:

FREE no cost F/\$ no cost but donations are appreciated Ś price per person or flat fee* X Group restaurant options available



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All information contained in this publication was accurate at the time of printing. Due to the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis, please check with the Great Rivers & Routes Tourism Bureau for guidelines regarding specific businesses and to ensure a business is open to the public.

^{*} The Tourism Bureau can estimate the price for your tour itinerary

petting here

All roads lead to the **Great Rivers & Routes** region of Southwest Illinois, which is easily accessible via I-55, I-70, I-270, I-44, I-255 and I-64. For those traveling by air, we are just 20 minutes from St. Louis Lambert International Airport. Travel by train from all over the country and pull into the Amtrak station located in Alton.





over 40 full-service and limited service hotels and motels in the region designed to accommodate every group size and match every budget.



ALTON | 62002

- Best Western Plus Parkway Hotel
- Best Western Premier Alton St. Louis Area Hotel
- Comfort Inn
- Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton
- Super 8

COLLINSVILLE | 62234

- America's Best Value Inn
- Comfort Inn
- Days Inn Collinsville
- DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Collinsville
- Drurv Inn Collinsville
- Fairfield Inn Collinsville
- Hampton Inn Collinsville
- La Quinta Inn & Suites
- Super 8

EDWARDSVILLE | 62025

- Comfort Inn Edwardsville
- Country Hearth Inn & Suites
- Holiday Inn Express & Suites Edwardsville
- TownePlace Suites St. Louis Edwardsville

For more information: RiversandRoutes.com

GLEN CARBON | 62034

 Hampton Inn & Suites St. Louis-Edwardsville

GRAFTON | 62037

- Aeries Resort
- Pere Marquette Lodge & Conference Center
- **Ruebel Hotel & Restaurant**

JERSEYVILLE | 62052

- Jerseyville Harvest Inn
- Super 8 by Wyndham Jerseyville

LITCHFIELD | 62056

- America's Best Value Inn
- **Baymont Inn & Suites**
- **Hampton Inn Litchfield**
- **Holiday Inn Express & Suites Litchfield West**
- Quality Inn Litchfield Route 66
- Super 8 by Wyndham Litchfield
- Magnuson Grand Hotel & Conference Center

TROY | 62294

- **Best Western Troy Hotel**
- Holiday Inn Express Troy
- Motel 6 Troy
- Red Roof Inn St. Louis-Troy, IL
- Super 8 by Wyndham Troy IL/St. Louis Area

EXPLORE THE ROUTE 66

Tour the "Million Dollar Courthouse"

– Macoupin County Courthouse – completed in 1870 at the-then staggering price tag of \$1.3 million. The Renaissance Revival masterpiece boasts an exterior constructed from gold-colored stone blocks. Inside you will find elaborate woodwork, including a judge's bench of Italian marble and ornately decorated rooms.

Doc's Soda Fountain started in 1884 as Deck's Drug Store and has been named one of the best soda fountains in the U.S. by Country Living Magazine. The building also has a pharmacy museum with items dating back to the early 1800s. Group buffet lunch also available.

Soulsby Service Station, opened in 1926, is one of the oldest and most original located on Route 66. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2004. The sunshine yellow pumps and bright Shell Oil sign are a true blast from the past and worth pulling over for a group photo.

Visit the iconic Henry's Rabbit Ranch, home of the hopping kind and the VW kind! Explore the classic filling station with highway and trucking memorabilia and pick up a Route 66 collectible.

Search for Route 66 treasures at the **Pink Elephant Antique Mall**, with an oversized pink elephant statue, original 1960s
Futuro House, an ice cream shop shaped like an ice cream cone, and the new fudge and candy shop.











The Village of Elsah is known as the Village where time stood still. Take a leisurely narrated stroll through the first village to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places in its entirety. Visit Farley's Music Hall and the quaint Elsah General Store.

Take a driving tour of **Principia College**, a National Historic Landmark designed by architect Bernard Maybeck. The 2,600-acre College campus—with the largest collection in the world of buildings designed by Maybeck—sits atop limestone bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River.

Soar over the Mississippi Bluffs on the **Grafton SkyTour** aerial lift. Board enclosed gondola cars and open-air chair lifts for a leisurely scenic ride 300 feet high along a 1,500 foot path to Aerie's Resort and Winery. At the top, enjoy breathtaking views overlooking the confluence of the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. Group wine tasting experience available. Group lunch and dinner menus also available.

Enjoy a relaxing, fun-filled cruise aboard the **Hakuna Matata** riverboat. Based out of the Grafton Harbor, the Hakuna Matata has upper deck open-air seating and enclosed mid-deck seating. Maximum passenger capacity is 49.

Set in the rolling bluffs just outside Grafton and overlooking the scenic Illinois River, Pere Marquette State Park is the largest state park in Illinois. The centerpiece of park is Pere Marquette State Park Lodge & Conference Center featuring the 700 ten fireplace in the

featuring the 700-ton fireplace in the Great Room Lobby and the life-size chessboard with pieces. Group lunch and dinner available.





ROUTE 66 & RIVER ROAD SUGGESTED ITINERARY

DAY 1:

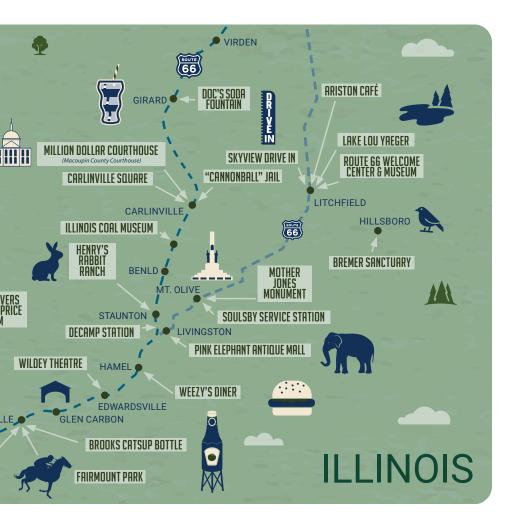
- 9:00am 10:15amHistoric Carlinville Tour (\$)
- 10:45am 11:45am **Doc's Soda Fountain** (FREE) 133 S. 2nd St • Girard
- 12:15pm 1:30pm Lunch at Ariston Café (\$) 413 Old Route 66 N • Litchfield

The Ariston Cafe has been serving up the best of American, Southern, Italian and Greek fare since 1924, one of the oldest American restaurants located on Route 66.

- 1:45pm 2:15pm Photo stop at Soulsby Service Station (FREE) 710 W. First St • Mt. Olive
- 2:30pm 3:30pm Henry's Rabbit Ranch (FREE)

1107 Historic Old Rt 66 • Staunton

■ 3:45pm - 5:00pm Pink Elephant Antique Mall (FREE) 908 Veterans Memorial Dr • Livingston



DAY 2:

- 9:00am 10:00am **Driving tour of Principia College (FREE)** One Front Gate Rd • Elsah
- 10:00am 11:30am Guided walking tour of Elsah (\$) Farley's Music Hall • 37 Mill St • Elsah
- 12:00pm 1:30pm Group lunch and winery tour at **Grafton Winery the Vineyards (\$)**

21028 Eckert Orchard Rd • Grafton

Settled among orchards and sprawling farmland, the 11,000-square-foot Grafton Winery, aptly named "the Vineyards," is a full production winery overlooking a lake and 4-acre vineyards where

they grow Chardonnel, Vidal, and Vinoles grapes. Enjoy a 20-minute production tour of the Vineyards followed by a private wine tasting.

= 2:00pm - 3:00pm Hakuna Matata cruise on the Mississippi River (\$) 215 W Water St • Grafton

3:15pm - 5:00pm **Grafton SkyTour Aerial Lift** and group wine tasting (\$) 3 W Clinton St • Grafton

5:30pm **Dinner at Pere Marguette** State Park Lodge (\$) 13653 Lodge Blvd • Grafton



COLLINSVILLE

World famous for its 170-foot tall water tower shaped like a catsup bottle, Collinsville is also the horseradish capital of the world. Located just minutes from Downtown St. Louis, the city has a rich heritage, a world class convention center and a thriving culinary scene.









FEATURED ATTRACTIONS

A civilization was born over 1,000 years ago on the Mississippi plains in what is now known as the city of Collinsville. Stroll through parts of the 2,200 acres of **Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Historical Landmark. Visit the interpretative center to view the "City of the Sun" video and see scenes of what life may have been like during the time of the Mississippians. Climb the 147 steps to the top of Monks Mound, the largest manmade mound north of Mexico.

The height of Monk's Mound pales in comparison to the 170-foot "World's Largest Catsup Bottle." The Brook's Catsup Bottle water tower is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is an iconic stop for travelers exploring Route 66.

Willoughby Heritage Farm recreates the 1940's farming life, complete with tractors, barns, a 1930's Craftsman style Farm House, and live donkeys, steers, chickens, and goats! The 30 acres of wildlife preserve features



hiking trails, bridges, and vistas overlooking the bluff line prairie and woodlands of the American Bottom. The University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners created 1940s style herb, flower, vegetable, and berry gardens to further provide a glimpse of life during the early 1900s.



The former site of the Collinsville Herald newspaper has been transformed into **Old Herald Brewery & Distillery**, a full service restaurant, production brewery, and craft distillery. Groups can schedule a sensory-based tour and tasting including four ¼ oz spirit samples or four 1 oz craft beer samples in a souvenir tasting glass. Group lunch and dinner menus also available.

COLLINSVILLE SUGGESTED ITINERARY:

9:00am - 9:30amVisit Kruta Bakery (FREE)

300 St. Louis Rd. • Collinsville

Four generations of family baking and nearly 100 years in business has helped Kruta Bakery perfect their signature baked treats. Meet a member of the Kruta family and pick up a few goodies to take back on the coach!

- 9:45am 11:30am
 Tour Willoughby Heritage Farm (\$)
 631 Willoughby Ln Collinsville
- 11:45am 1:30pm Lunch, Tour and Tasting at Old Herald Brewery & Distillery (\$) 115 E. Clay St • Collinsville
- 1:45pm 2:15pm
 Photo stop at the World's
 Largest Catsup Bottle (FREE)
 800 Morrison Ave Collinsville
- 2:30pm 4:00pm
 Cahokia Mounds State
 Historic Site (F/\$)
 30 Ramey St Collinsville

ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS

- D.D. Collins House
- Collinsville Historical Museum
- Fairmount Race Track
- Collinsville Aqua Park

QUICK FACTS

900

AREA HOTEL ROOMS

7

GROUP FRIENDLY
ATTRACTIONS

12

GROUP FRIENDLY
RESTAURANTS

GATEWAY CONVENTION CENTER

FEATURED
MEETING/EVENT SPACE

ANNUAL FESTIVALS

ITALIAN FEST HORSERADISH FESTIVAL

ALTON







Located 20 miles from St. Louis and home to a new multi-million state-of-theart Amtrak Station, Alton is one of America's great rivers towns. Filled with historic homes, great shops, diverse industry, and historic sites, many threads of our nation's history can be discovered on the banks of the Mississippi River.

FEATURED ATTRACTIONS

Visit the National Great Rivers Museum dedicated to telling the story of life on the Mississippi. Take a guided tour of the Melvin Price Locks & Dam, one of the largest lock structures on the river.

Visit the life-size statue of Alton's "Gentle Giant," Robert Wadlow, still on record as the World's Largest Man at 8 ft, 11.1 inches. You can also sit in a bronze replica of a chair especially made for Wadlow.

The historic **BEALL Mansion** was built by Railroad Baron Z. B. Job as a wedding gift for his son and son's bride, Mary Drummond. Designed by world renowned architect, Lucas Pfeiffenberger, this 3-story, 10,000 + square foot mansion serves a dual role as a living museum of the wealth and opulence of a bygone era as well as one of the finest bed and breakfast inns in the St. Louis area.



The Jacoby Arts Center occupies the former Jacoby Furniture building and combines the historic with the contemporary in this newly updated facility. The 140,000 square-foot center is dedicated to giving artists a place to pursue their art and showcase their masterpieces. The Arts Center offers artist demonstrations based on the featured exhibit topics and groups can participate in a hands-on activity.

ALTON SUGGESTED ITINERARY:

8:15am – 8:45am Photo stop at the Robert Wadlow Statue (FREE)

2810 College Ave • Alton

- 9:00am 10:15am **National Great Rivers Museum** & Locks & Dam (F/\$) 2 Lock and Dam Way • East Alton
- 10:30am 11:45am Jacoby Arts Center Artist Demo (\$) 627 E Broadway • Alton
- Lunch
- 1:00pm 2:00pm **BEALL Mansion Tour (\$)** 407 E 12th St • Alton

2:30pm - 5:00pm Alton Living History Tour (\$)

Departs from the Alton Visitor Center 200 Piasa St • Alton

Join your local step-on guide for a Living History Tour and hear Alton's stories told at historic sites by costumed docents. From the site of the final Lincoln-Douglas debate which set the stage for Lincoln's presidency, to the ruins of the infamous Alton Prison, retrace the steps of Abraham Lincoln and the legacy of the Civil War in Alton. Additional stops include the Lyman Trumbull House and the Lovejoy Monument.

QUICK FACTS

416

HOTEL ROOMS

16

GROUP FRIENDLY ATTRACTIONS

GROUP FRIENDLY RESTAURANTS

FFATURED MEETING/EVENT SPACE

ANNUAL FESTIVALS

ALTON JAZZ & WINE FESTIVAL MISSISSIPPI EARTHTONES FESTIVAL ALTON FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS

- **Argosy Casino Alton**
- Mississippi Mud Pottery
- Alton Stained Glass Works
- Alton Museum of History and Art
- McPike Mansion
- Nan Elliott Rose Garden
- Haskell Playhouse
- National Great Rivers Research & Education Center
- Old Bakery Beer Company Brewery Tours

CITY HIGHLIGHT

EDWARDSVILLE



As the third oldest city in Illinois, Edwardsville has retained its historic charm with neighborhood historic districts and renovations of the Wildey Theatre, an iconic stop along Route 66. Edwardsville is also home to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and the wildly popular Land of Goshen Community Market held every Saturday on city streets from May through October.

FEATURED ATTRACTIONS

Goshen Coffee Company is a familyowned company that roasts nearly 97,000 pounds of coffee each year. Take a tour of the production/retail facility, see a demonstration of their custombuilt fluid bed roaster - a unique process that few roasters use, and sample one of their nine coffee varieties.

The **1820 Colonel Benjamin Stephenson House** links Edwardsville to the earliest days of the Illinois

Territory. Take a guided tour of the two-story Federal-style brick home with docents dressed in period costumes and enjoy a demonstration in the kitchen.

Opened in 1909 as an opera house and a popular stop along Route 66, the **Wildey Theatre** has undergone many transformations and is now a thriving full-time movie theatre and live music performance venue. Take a guided tour of the theater and learn how they make their legendary popcorn!











EDWARDSVILLE SUGGESTED ITINERARY

- 9:00am 10:00am
 Production Tour at Goshen
 Coffee Company (FREE)
 206 E Linden St. Edwardsville
- 10:00am 11:45am 1820 Colonel Benjamin Stephenson House (\$) 409 S Buchanan St • Edwardsville
- Lunch
- 1:45pm 2:30pm Wildey Theatre Tour (\$) 252 N Main St • Edwardsville

- 2:30pm 3:30pmEdwardsville Step-On Guide Tour (\$)
- 5:30pm
 Dinner and social time at The Outlet (\$)

 2477 S State Rte 157 Edwardsville

Enjoy a delicious buffet dinner and free time for passengers to socialize after a full day of sightseeing. The Outlet is the newest private group space at Edison's Entertainment Complex. Enjoy comfortable indoor and outdoor seating throughout the venue for social time, shuffleboard, billiards, vintage arcade games, foosball, board games, and more.

ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS

- Liberty Apple Orchard
- National Corn-to-Ethanol Research Center
- Recess Brewery Tours
- Watershed Nature Center
- The Gardens at SIUE
- Madison County Historical Museum
- Nickel Plate Train Station
- Edwardsville Arts Center
- Edwardsville Children's Museum
- Edison's Entertainment Complex

QUICK FACTS

302

AREA HOTEL ROOMS

14

GROUP FRIENDLY
ATTRACTIONS

19

GROUP FRIENDLY
RESTAURANTS

CRYSTAL GARDEN BANQUET CENTER

FEATURED MEETING/EVENT SPACE

ANNUAL FESTIVALS

ROUTE 66 FESTIVAL

EDWARDSVILLE ROTARY
CRITERIUM FESTIVAL

EDWARDSVILLE ART FESTIVAL



LITCHFIELD & HILLSBORO

Located an hour between Springfield and St. Louis, Litchfield is perfectly located to stay and play in a charming town rich in Route 66 history. Neighboring Hillsboro is home to delightful outdoor adventures and Lincoln history.











FEATURED ATTRACTIONS

The Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welcome Center is located where the Vic Suhling gas station once stood. The museum houses historical artifacts of Litchfield and showcases Litchfield's relationship with Route 66.

Built by Hillsboro pioneer Solomon Harkey for his family in 1834, the two story Federal Style **Harkey House** is the oldest remaining structure in Hillsboro. Furnished inside with period furniture and historically significant pieces, the house is open for group tours.

Bremer Wildlife Sanctuary is home for scores of birds and animals in central Montgomery County including bluebirds, red headed woodpeckers, and purple martins. Enjoy a narrated wagon ride through the sanctuary and a presentation in the education center (topics can include the owls of Illinois, native wildflowers, restoring the blue bird population, and more).





View the statue commemorating Abraham Lincoln's visit to Hillsboro in September 1858 as a candidate for the U.S. Senate. After your photo stop, walk along the quaint downtown street to visit a variety of shops and boutiques.

Store options include Nzuri Boutique, the Resale Station, Blackboard Mercantile, and the Dressing Room. Don't forget to stop at the Black Rabbit coffee shop for a drink!

LITCHFIELD & HILLSBORO SUGGESTED ITINERARY

- 10:00am 11:00am Litchfield Museum and Route 66 Welcome Center (F/\$) 334 Historic Old Rt 66 North • Litchfield
- 11:15am 12:15pm **Group tour of the Harkey House** (F/\$) 305 S Broad St • Hillsboro
- Lunch X

- 1:45 pm − 3:15pm **Bremer Wildlife Sanctuary** (F/\$) 194 Bremer Ln • Hillsboro
- 3:30pm 4:30pm Abraham Lincoln Statue Photo Stop and shopping in downtown Hillsboro 200 S Main St • Hillsboro

QUICK FACTS

385

AREA HOTEL ROOMS

GROUP FRIENDLY ATTRACTIONS

10

GROUP FRIENDLY RESTAURANTS

ANNUAL FESTIVALS

LITCHFIELD PICKERS MARKET **ROUTE 66 FESTIVAL & CLASSIC CAR FESTIVAL**



ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS

- **Opera House Brewing Company**
- Sky View Drive In
- Lake Lou Yaeger Recreational Area
- Anderson Farm Pumpkin Patch
- The Orpheum Theatre

SEASONAL ITINERARIES:

SITUATED IN THE
MIDWEST, THE GREAT
RIVERS & ROUTES
REGION HAS FOUR
DISTINCT SEASONS, ALL
OF WHICH COME WITH
THEIR OWN DELIGHTS.
WHETHER IT'S
SPOTTING BALD EAGLES
OR WALKING THROUGH
A GARDEN FILLED WITH
COLORFUL BLOOMS,
YOU CAN FIND THE
PERFECT ITINERARY
FOR YOUR GROUP.





WINTER: EAGLE DAYS IN ALTON

■ 9:00am - 10:15am

National Great Rivers Museum/Melvin Price Locks & Dam (F/\$) 2 Lock and Dam Way • Alton Visit the National Great Rivers Museum dedicated to telling the story of life on the Mississippi. Take a guided tour of the Melvin Price Locks & Dam, one of the largest lock structures on the river.

■ 10:30am − 12:00pm **Eagle Watching Tour** (\$) Alton Visitors Center

200 Piasa St • Alton

Enjoy a narrated driving tour with a local guide to eagle watching hot spots. Watch out for eagles flying overhead and use scopes to search for eagle nests. The tour will start and end at the Alton Visitor Center.

TOUR PLANNER TIP

Schedule your tour on a Saturday in January to participate in the Alton Visitor Center's free eagle meet and greet from 10am-2pm!

■ Lunch 🔀

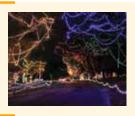
2:00pm – 3:00pm Treehouse Wildlife Center (\$)

23956 Green Acres Rd • Dow

Visit Dow, IL to learn about the non-profit organization dedicated to the rehabilitation of sick, injured, and orphaned wildlife.
Take a guided tour of the indoor education center and outdoor resident animals including bald eagles, hawks, turkey vultures, pelicans, foxes, and more.

 3:30pm - 4:45pm
 Audubon Center at the Riverlands (F/\$)

301 Riverlands Way West Alton Situated within the 3,700 acre Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary, the Audubon Center at Riverlands is an innovative partnership between the National Audubon Society and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Learn about the local habitats for both resident and migratory birds located in the heart of the Mississippi River Flyaway. Use the Visitor Center's scopes to search for eagle nests and enjoy the hundreds of trumpeter swans who call the Audubon Center home during the winter.



LOOKING FOR A NEW HOLIDAY TOUR IDEA?

Plan a visit to Alton's **Christmas Wonderland** light display in **Rock Spring Park**. More than 2 million lights illuminate some of Alton's legendary characters such as Robert Wadlow and the Piasa Bird. The light display starts at the end of November and runs through the end of December.









SPRING: GARDENS IN BLOOM

9:30am - 10:30amLewis & Clark SignatureGardens (F/\$)

5800 Godfrey Rd • Godfrey

Created under the guidance of the Missouri Botanical Gardens, the six signature gardens at Lewis & Clark Community College feature unique sculptures, fountains, lakes, ponds, and luscious flora. Take a one-hour guided tour with the Horticulture Manager.

11:00am - 12:30pm Lunch at Josephine's Tea Room (\$)

6109 Godfrey Rd • Godfrey

Escape to Josephine's Tea Room to enjoy a delicious lunch of soup, salad, entrees, and homemade desserts. Early arrival time planned to browse their extensive gift shops.

■ 1:00pm - 2:00pm Nan Elliott Memorial Rose Garden (F/\$)

4550 College Ave • Alton
Stop and smell the roses at
the Nan Elliott Memorial

Rose Garden in Alton's Gordon Moore Park. This one-acre garden has been recognized as one of the best rose gardens in the St. Louis area with 125 varieties of roses and nearly 1600 rose bushes. Take a onehour guided tour with Joel Anderson, an Accredited ARS Consulting Rosarian.

■ 2:30pm - 3:30pm **BEALL Mansion** (\$) 407 E. 12th St • Alton

> The historic BEALL Mansion was built by Railroad Baron Z.B. Job as a wedding gift for his son and son's bride, Mary Drummond, Designed by world renowned architect. Lucas Pfeiffenberger, this *3-story, 10,000* + *square foot* mansion serves a dual role as a living museum of the wealth and opulence of a bygone era as well as one of the finest bed and breakfast inns in the entire St. Louis area. Take a one-hour quided tour of the Mansion followed by a self-guided tour of the mansion grounds and garden.

ADDITIONAL GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES GARDEN TOURS:

- 1820 Benjamin
 Stephenson House U of I Extension
 Master Garden
- Willoughby Heritage Farm - U of I Extension Master Garden
- D.D. Collins House –
 Collinsville Garden Club
 Seasonal Garden
- Bethalto Arboretum













SUMMER: ANIMAL ADVENTURES AND RIVER ROAD CRUISING

■ 9:00am - 10:00am Guided tour of the Legendary Mustang Sanctuary (\$)

10107 Klenke Rd • Alhambra

The Legendary Mustang Sanctuary obtains wild mustangs and burros from the Bureau of Land Management and gentles them by healing the sick, restoring their natural spirit and winning their confidence and trust. Take a guided tour of the sanctuary with owners, Shawn and Kathy, to learn about the history of Mustangs and how they manage the sanctuary.

■ 10:30am - 11:45am **Tour Willoughby** Heritage Farm (\$)

631 Willouahby Ln • Collinsville

Willoughby Heritage Farm recreates the 1940's farming life, complete with tractors, barns, a 1930's Craftsman style Farm House, and live donkeys, steers, chickens, and goats! The 30 acres of wildlife preserve features hiking trails, bridges, and vistas overlooking the bluff

line prairie and woodlands of the American Bottom. The University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners created 1940s style herb, flower, vegetable, and berry aardens to further provide a glimpse of life during the early 1900s.

Lunch in Collinsville



■ 1:15pm Depart to drive along the Great River Road

Experience the rolling waters of the Mighty Mississippi River coupled with magnificent limestone bluffs durina a scenic drive on the Meeting of the Great Rivers National Scenic Byway, recognized in national magazines as one of the most scenic drives in the Midwest.

■ 2:00pm - 3:30pm Grafton SkyTour Aerial Lift and Wine Tasting (\$)

3 W Clinton St • Grafton

Soar over the Mississippi Bluffs on the Grafton SkyTour aerial lift. Board enclosed gondola cars and open-air chair lifts for a leisurely scenic ride 300 feet high along a 1,500 foot path to Aerie's Resort and Winery. At the top, enjoy breathtaking views

overlooking the confluence of the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers and a group wine tasting experience.

■ 4:00pm - 5:00pm Hakuna Matata cruise on the Mississippi River (\$)

215 W Water St • Grafton

Enjoy a relaxing, fun-filled cruise aboard the Hakuna Matata riverboat. Based out of the Grafton Harbor. the Hakuna Matata has upper deck open-air seating and enclosed mid-deck seating. Please note that the maximum passenger capacity is 49.

FUN IN THE SUN!

Looking for family-friendly fun in the sun? Check out the water park, water recreation, and splash pad options in the Great Rivers & Route regions:

- Collinsville Agua Park, Collinsville
- Raging Rivers Water Park, Grafton
- Lake Lou Yaeger, Litchfield
- Leon Corlew Splash Pad, Edwardsville

FALL: EXPLORE CALHOUN COUNTY

■ 9:00am

Cross the Mississippi River aboard the Brussels Ferry (FREE)

Your local step-on guide will meet you at the ferry stop to board the coach and cross the river with you. The guide will start their tour during the ferry ride and will continue after lunch if time allows.

9:15am - 12:00pm Rural Fruits & Labors Tour of Calhoun County (\$)

Create a personalized day in Calhoun County by combining up to three of the locations below (available May – September, stops may vary by season):

- ☐ Take a behind the scenes look at a family owned and operated orchard
- Learn about how the best summer tomatoes are grown with a visit to a local produce farm and market

- ☐ Tour a local vineyard to see how the local fruit is harvested and turned into wine
- ☐ Visit the county grain elevators, where the crops in Calhoun County are processed and loaded onto barges on the river
- Listen as a local farmer talks about the process of raising cattle for beef production

12:30pm Lunch at the Wittmond Hotel (\$)

166 E Main St • Brussels

Family-style all you can eat lunch featuring 3 meats, sides, salads, dessert, and non-alcoholic beverages. The restaurant is open Friday – Monday.

2:00pmCenter for AmericanArcheology (F/\$)

101 N Broadway • Kampsville

The Center for American Archeology is dedicated to discovering and disseminating the unwritten story of the humans who occupied the region surrounding the confluence of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers for more than 10,000 years. The Visitor's Center and Museum, housed in the historic Kamp Store, offers a variety of exhibits focusing on the history of the lower Illinois River Valley, the archaeological history of the Kamp Store.

3:30pm Return ride on the Brussels Ferry

ADDITIONAL FARM TOUR OPTIONS:

- Eckert's Grafton Farm, Grafton
- Liberty Apple Orchard, Edwardsville
- Greene Fields
 Farm, Greenfield



LOOKING FOR A MORE ACTIVE OUTDOOR FALL ACTIVITY?

Make plans to visit the **Great Godfrey Maze**, the seven-acre corn maze which features different themes each year. The maze is typically open on weekends but groups can access the field for a private visit during the week.







GREAT RIVERS Made

EXPERIENCE THE GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES REGION OF SOUTHWEST ILLINOIS WITH GUIDED PRODUCTION TOURS, TASTINGS, AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS CELEBRATING PRODUCTS MADE IN THE REGION

Take a windshield tour of the **Wood River Refinery** to learn how products such as gasoline, jet fuel, diesel fuel, propane, asphalt and chemical feedstock are made through a multimedia presentation. This facility allows tours March through September.

900 S Central Ave • Roxana

Tour the National Corn-to-Ethanol Research Center, the only facility in the world in which corn ethanol, cellulosic ethanol, advanced biofuels, and specialty chemical research is conducted simultaneously.

400 University Park Dr Edwardsville Take a guided windshield tour of the **St. Louis Regional Airport** including the airport fire station, control tower, two runways, fuel farm, and West Star Aviation service station.

8 Terminal Dr • East Alton

Enjoy a windshield tour of America's Central Port, located on the last lock on the Mississippi River heading south. Learn about the port district's levee system, U.S. Steel dock facility, Warehouse District and Mixed-Use Business District. 1635 W 1st St • Granite City

Experience of the excitement of the World Wide Technology Raceway during a narrated windshield tour. WWT Raceway is the only motorsports venue in the US to host NASCAR, INDYCAR and NHRA sanctioned events. They also have multiple group experiences available including go-karts, drag racing schools.

700 Raceway Blvd • Madison

Located on the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri River, National Maintenance and Repair Shipyard provides marine and rail repair services, engine rebuilding and new barge construction. Take a guided tour to learn about the company's four dry docks that service over 150 ships each year and the engine shop.

401 W Hawthorne Ave Hartford



Prouds GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES Prouds

Mississippi Mud Pottery has been made by skilled loving hands right in their studio with a stunning view of the Mississippi River.

Since 1983, all of the

Enjoy artist demonstrations and browsing unique handmade pottery.

310 E Broadway • Alton

Alton Stained Glass
Works is a full-service
stained glass shop creating
custom windows, lamps,
doors, art and more. Enjoy
an artist demonstration to
learn about bead making
and glass fusing. Art classes
are also available for
smaller groups.

Bluestem Vodka is distilled using locally grown corn and is named for the native prairie grasses that grow in Missouri and Illinois. Get an up close and personal look at how their vodka is made. The guided tour includes a tasting, cocktail, and keepsake Bluestem Vodka rocks glass.

5313 IL-140 • Bethalto

Old Bakery Beer Company

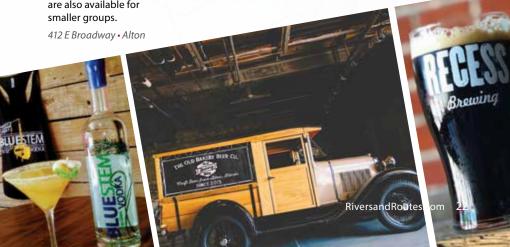
is a certified organic brewery located in the historic old Colonial Bakery building in downtown Alton. Enjoy a private tour of the brewery process and tasting of their flagship and seasonal beers.

400 Landmarks Rlvd • Alton

Recess Brewing is a

community supported brewery providing locally crafted beer. Enroll in Beer School to learn about the brewing process, sample Recess beers, take a guided tour and much more.

307 N Main St • Edwardsville



[HISTORY &] HERITAGE SITES]

LEWIS & CLARK CONFLUENCE TOWER (\$)

Rise 180 feet above the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers to learn more about Lewis & Clark's journey on an elevator-based tour. Three tower viewing platforms, at 50, 100 and 150 feet, highlight the stories of the surrounding area including the Village of Hartford and the Meeting of the Great Rivers National Scenic Byway.

435 Confluence Tower Dr • Hartford



LEWIS & CLARK STATE HISTORIC SITE (F/\$)

Walk in the footsteps of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark as they plan their journey to explore the western United States in 1804. As National Trail Site #1 on the Lewis & Clark Trail. the site houses a museum dedicated to the planning and journey of the two explorers and their Corps of Discovery, Experience Lewis & Clark like never before in five exhibit rooms. the film "At Journey's Edge" and a 55-foot full scale "cutaway" keelboat.

3500 New Poag Rd • Hartford

CAHOKIA MOUNDS STATE HISTORIC SITE (F/\$)

Stroll through parts of the 2,200 acres of Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Historical Landmark. Visit the interpretative center to view the "City of the Sun" video and scenes of life of a civilization born over 1,000 years ago on the Mississippi plains. Climb the 147 steps to the top of Monks Mound, the largest man-made mound north of Mexico.

30 Ramey St • Collinsville













1820 COLONEL **BENJAMIN** STEPHENSON HOUSE (\$)

The Stephenson House links Edwardsville to the earliest days of the Illinois Territory. This two-story brick home, constructed in the Federal style, was built out of native material by skilled local craftsmen and features original millwork. Take a guided tour with docents dressed in period costumes and enjoy a demonstration in the kitchen.

409 S Buchanan St. **Edwardsville**

GLEN CARBON HERITAGE MUSEUM (F/\$)

Housed in a 100-year-old brick school house, the multi-level museum tells the story of Glen Carbon through a series of vibrant, hands-on exhibits. Hold a chunk of local coal and see how Madison Coal Corporation impacted the community with its company town approach to mining. Touch some of the pressed bricks made from highly sought after Glen Carbon Clay.

124 School St · Glen Carbon

YANDA LOG CABIN (F/\$)

The lingering smells of wood smoke and history greet visitors to the Yanda Log Cabin. Built in 1853 by Austrian immigrants William and Annie Yanda, the cabin was home to their family which included 10 children. Yanda was a blacksmith in the area.

148 Main St • Glen Carbon

CHENEY MANSION (\$)

Cheney Mansion is a 12room mansion featuring vintage clothing, military artifacts, toys, pictures, and other items of historical interest. The home was a stop on the Underground Railroad and is reported to be haunted.

601 N State St • Jerseyville

FULKERSON MANSION (\$)

The 1866 Fulkerson Mansion is a 14-room Southernstyle mansion, which sits on the original Hazel Dell farmstead. The home is rich in artifacts and furnished with antiques of the period.

1510 N State St • Jerseyville

D.D. COLLINS HOUSE (F/\$)

The Greek revival cottage home was built in 1845 and has been authentically restored. The Collinsville Garden Club maintains a garden on-site featuring crops reminiscent of the time period. Seasonal garden tours available.

703 W Main St · Collinsville

COLLINSVILLE HISTORICAL MUSEUM (F/\$)

The Collinsville Historical Museum includes exhibits unique to the city, like Blum Bell Manufacturing Company's original cow bells, a glimpse into Collinsville's mining past, and an exhibit featuring the history of the Catsup Bottle, a National Historic Landmark.

406 W Main St • Collinsville

ALTON MUSEUM OF HISTORY & ART (F/\$)

The Alton Museum of History & Art is located across the street from the Robert Wadlow Statue, One of the most popular rooms, the Wadlow Room, pays tribute to Alton's Gentle Giant" and the World's Tallest Man. The Pioneer Room explores the history of Alton from the Lewis & Clark Expedition to the Civil War with exhibits on Elijah Lovejoy, the Lincoln-Douglas Debates and the "Alton Route" on the Underground Railroad.

2809 College Ave • Alton

ILLINOIS COAL MUSEUM (F/\$)

From a village of 600 residents in the 1870s to a coal mining boom town of 6,000 people, the Illinois Coal Museum covers the history of Gillespie and the Illinois coal mining industry. Exhibits cover the different types of coal mines,

advancements in mining processes and equipment, the rolel of Unions and a number of mining disasters in the area.

121 S Macoupin St • Gillespie

WOOD RIVER REFINERY HISTORY MUSEUM (F/\$)

Step back in time more than 75 years at the Shell History Museum. Trace the history of Shell Wood River and neighboring communities through early photographs, vintage gasoline pumps, glass motor oil bottles, Shell advertising, and more.

900 S Central Ave • Roxana

CENTER FOR AMERICAN ARCHEOLOGY (F/\$)

The Center for American Archeology is dedicated to discovering and disseminating the unwritten story of the humans that occupied the region surrounding the confluence of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers for more than 10.000 years. The Visitor's Center and Museum offers a variety of exhibits focusing on the 10,000 year pre-history of the lower Illinois River Valley and the archaeological history of Illinois.

101 N Broadway • Kampsville

MACOUPIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM (F/\$)

The Macoupin County Historical Museum is housed in the Anderson Mansion, built in 1883







and listed on the National Register of Historical Places. Other authentic buildings on the grounds include a schoolhouse, blacksmith shop, print shop, herb garden and more.

920 W Breckenridge St • Carlinville

HARKEY HOUSE (F/\$)

Built by Hillsboro pioneer Solomon Harkey for his family in 1834, the two story Federal Style Harkey House is the oldest remaining structure in Hillsboro. Furnished inside with period furniture and historically significant pieces, the house is open for group tours.

305 S Broad St • Hillsboro

HAMILTON PRIMARY SCHOOL (F/\$)

Built in 1835, the Hamilton Primary School was the first free and integrated school





in the United States. The original school building was razed in 1870 with the current building rebuilt at the site. Used through 1971, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

107 E Main St • Otterville

BETHALTO HISTORICAL MUSEUM (F/\$)

Housed in the original Village Hall, built in 1873, the Bethalto Historic Museum two-story brick Victorian building is the oldest governmental building still in use in Madison County. The Museum exhibits cover the people, places, and events that helped shaped the modern-day village, including the one-room jail.

124 W Main St · Rethalto

SOUTHWESTERN FARM & HOME MUSEUM (F/\$)

The Southwestern Farm & Home Museum houses

historic photos, village documents, glassware and more. Uncle Tom's Cabin shows you how life was in a one-room cabin. Don't miss Grandma's Kitchen or the General Store.

123 Park St • Shipman

CALHOUN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM (F/\$)

The Historical Society houses a museum in the former drugstore building in Hardin. Displays have been created to feature Calhoun County's unique history. Artifacts include military items, clothing, photos and more.

204 N County Rd • Hardin

EAST ALTON HISTORY MUSEUM (F/\$)

The East Alton History Museum features photographs and artifacts documenting the history of East Alton since its incorporation in 1893.

119 N Main St • East Alton

VILLAGE OF ELSAH MUSEUM (F/\$)

Discover what life was like in historic Elsah when it was founded in 1853 by James Semple. The museum, housed in the Elsah Village Hall built in 1887, showcases former residents, architectural styles used in constructing buildings, and implements used by residents in the mid-1800s.

26 Lasalle St · Elsah

WOOD RIVER MUSEUM & VISITOR CENTER (F/\$)

The Wood River Museum and Visitors Center preserves the town's history through a variety of exhibits including the Wood River massacre of 1814, Olde Downtown, the Flood of 1915, the World's largest swimming pool, and the impact of Standard Oil on this growing community.

40 W Ferguson Ave Wood River









HISTORICAL MONUMENTS & STATUES

- ROBERT WADLOW STATUE "World's Tallest Man" • Alton
- ELIJAH P. LOVEJOY MONUMENT • Alton
- LINCOLN-DOUGLAS SQUARE • Alton
- MILES DAVIS STATUE • Alton
- MOTHER JONES MONUMENT & BURIAL SITE • Mt. Olive
- PIASA BIRD Alton
- SACAGAWEA MONUMENT Godfrey
- LINCOLN STATUE •
 Litchfield
- DOUGHBOY STATUE Glen Carbon



ANIMAL TOURS









The Legendary Mustang Sanctuary obtains wild mustangs and burros from the Bureau of Land Management and gentles them by healing the sick, restoring their natural spirit and winning their confidence and trust. Then they begin the training process. Take a guided tour of the sanctuary with owners, Shawn and Kathy, to learn about the history of Mustangs and how they manage the sanctuary. 10107 Klenke Rd • Alhambra

Treehouse Wildlife
Center is a non-profit
organization dedicated to
the rehabilitation of sick,
injured, and orphaned
wildlife. Take a guided tour
of the indoor education
center and outdoor
resident animals including
bald eagles, hawks, turkey
vultures, pelicans, foxes,
and more.

23956 Green Acres Rd • Dow

Bremer Wildlife
Sanctuary is home for
scores of birds and animals
in central Montgomery
County including bluebirds,
red headed woodpeckers,
and purple martins. Enjoy
a narrated wagon ride
through the sanctuary
and a presentation in the
education center (topics

can include the owls of Illinois, native wildflowers, restoring the bluebird population, and more).

194 Bremer Ln • Hillsboro

Willoughby Heritage
Farm recreates the 1940s
farm life complete with
tractors, barns and a 1930s
Craftsman-style Farm
House. Learn more about
the animals living on the
farm including donkeys,
miniature horses, chickens,
rabbits, goats, and cows.
631 Willoughby Ln • Collinsville

The **Audubon Center at Riverlands** is an innovative partnership between the National Audubon Society and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Learn about the prime prairie, wetland, and lowland forest habitats for both resident and migratory birds located in the heart of the Mississippi River Flyaway and at the confluence point of several of our nation's greatest rivers.

301 Riverlands Way West Alton

Visit the iconic Henry's Rabbit Ranch, home of VW Rabbits and real rabbits. Explore the classic filling station with highway and trucking memorabilia and pick up a Route 66 collectible.

1107 Historic Old Rt 66 Staunton



Haunted

ALTON IS CONSIDERED "ONE OF THE MOST HAUNTED SMALL TOWNS IN AMERICA," AND YOUR TRAVELERS CAN FIND OUT WHY. A murky past of murder, war, death and destruction has led to Alton's haunted present. Through the years, many travelers have investigated and inquired about the unexplained happenings and psychic phenomena found throughout Alton. Several locations reportedly haunted include the infamous McPike Mansion, Mineral Springs Hotel, The First Unitarian Church, and Milton School. These locations and more have been featured on popular haunted shows airing on the Travel Channel and Syfy Channel.

HAUNTED TOUR OPTIONS:

- ALTON HAUNTED ODYSSEY Altonhauntedtours.com
- ALTON HAUNTINGS Altonhauntings.com
- McPIKE MANSION Mcpikemansion.com

MC BIKE ANSION IKCA 1869

STEP-ON GUIDES:

HELP YOUR TRAVELERS EXPLORE LIKE A LOCAL BY ADDING A STEP-ON GUIDE TO YOUR ITINERARY. HERE IS A LIST OF OPTIONS IN THE GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES REGION.

Bluff City Tours

Greg and Pat Gelzinnis • Alton

Riverbend Tours

Mary Ann Warmack • Alton

History Chix

Cathy Bagby • Alton

Calhoun Touring Adventures

Rhonda Thomas • Brussels

Underground Railroad Tours

Eric Robinson • Alton

The Land of Goshen

Will Krause and Cindy Reinhardt • Edwardsville

Route 66 History

Cheryl Eichert Jett

Historic Carlinville

Deb Young • Carlinville

Litchfield & Route 66

Sarah Waggoner • Litchfield

Valley of Coal

lessica Mills • Glen Carbon









MAKE ROOM IN YOUR ITINERARY FOR THESE INTERACTIVE DINNER THEATER AND LIVE PERFORMANCE OPTIONS:

DIE LAUGHING DINNER THEATER

Best Western Premier • Alton

A Die Laughing Dinner Theater involves the audience members. Many people will be asked to be characters in the show. Imagine people in your group as "Fred & Ethel" with Lucy and Ricky or the "Jefferson's" with Archie and Edith! There are four acts that take place in between the courses of the meal. You will die laughing during these comical dinner shows!

DINNER AT LINCOLN'S TABLE

My Just Desserts • Alton

Travel back in time and experience Dinner at Lincoln's Table. This interactive dinner at My Just Desserts will showcase the many who dined with Lincoln and Mary Todd during their years in the area. Featuring actors from Alton Little Theater, your dinner hosts will include Mary Todd, Robert Todd and Lizbeth Keckly, Mary's longtime servant sharing all of the household gossip. Enjoy a menu that would have been served at Lincoln's table including beef brisket, ambrosia salad, Delmonico potatoes, succotash, cornbread and Mary Todd Lincoln's white cake.

GOLDEN AGE TRIVIA

Best Western Premier • Alton

Enjoy answering trivia questions about the golden age of television, movies, songs history & more. Prizes awarded to the table that answers the most questions correctly. Enjoy a delicious fried chicken dinner with all the fixings while testing your knowledge.

LIVE PERFORMANCE VENUES:

Group tickets rates are available at any of these live theater and musical performance venues.

- ALTON LITTLE THEATER altonlittletheater.org
- WILDEY THEATRE Wildeytheatre.com
- GREATER ALTON CONCERT ASSOCIATION Greateraltonconcertassociation.org
- SIUE UNIVERSITY THEATER SIUE.edu
- SIUE ARTS & ISSUE SIUE.edu



GROUP-FRIENDLY DINING

LOOKING FOR NEW RESTAURANT IDEAS FOR YOUR TRIP TO THE GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES REGION? CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING GROUP-FRIENDLY SUGGESTIONS:



COLLINSVILLE:

- Mungo's Italian Eatery
- Ravanelli's
- Old Herald Brewery & Distillery
- Colton's Steakhouse

EDWARDSVILLE/ GLEN CARBON:

- Bella Milano
- EdgeWild Edwardsville
- Mike Shannon's Grill
- Wang Gang Asian Eats
- Weeping Willow Tea Room

GODFREY:

- Bakers & Hale
- Josephine Tea Room

ALTON:

- Santino's Steak and Pasta House
- My Just Desserts
- Bluff City Grill
- Captain's Table Buffet Argosy Casino Alton
- Castelli's Restaurant at 255
- Old Bakery Beer Company
- Alton Sports Tap

JERSEYVILLE:

- 1880 Pizza Pasta House
- Charcoal House Tavern
- Olive Branch Cafe

GRAFTON:

- Grafton Winery & Brewhouse
- The Loading Dock
- Grafton Oyster BarPere Marquette
- Pere Marquette Lodge Restaurant
- Fin Inn
- Aerie's Resort

LITCHFIELD:

- Ariston Café
- Maverick's Steak and Spirits

BETHALTO:

Laux Brickhouse Grille

CARLINVILLE:

- Crabby's Supper Club
- Tangled Vine Restaurant
- Reno's







1-800-258-6645

ONE CALL DOES IT ALL!

The Great Rivers & Routes Tourism Bureau is waiting to help you plan one of your best tours ever. You will have the full support of our Tourism Bureau and our regional tourism partners.

Let us help make your trip a winner!

Contact Katie Bennett, Tourism Sales Manager kbennett@riversandroutes.com











Meeting of the Great Rivers National Scenic Byway Great Rivers & Routes Tourism Bureau 200 Piasa St. • Alton, IL 62002 • (800) 258-6645 RiversandRoutes.com | GreatRiversByway.com