InsideH(*)k



Mount Rushmore. Joshua Tree. Wall Drug.

When embarking on the star-spangled rite of passage that is the cross-country road trip, there are a few places you're obligated to stop. But almost a century after Route 66 was established, you've probably seen all the classics (and the throngs of tourists that tend to come with them).

So we took the Great American Road Trip itinerary and updated it with 100 new (but equally worthy) destinations. That's two in each state — one for family-friendly trips, one for your friends — along with 50 standards, for a grand total of 150 stops.

A couple caveats before you embark. To help us narrow down the picks, we got in touch with the tourism department in all 50 states (well, we tried, and had varying levels of success), and asked them to offer up recommendations for both the classic and contemporary destinations. But we've also included some from our own travels.

If you come across a distillery, brewery or other establishment offering alcoholic beverages, we are also recommending you settle down for the night (or choose a designated driver). And lastly, we're only picking places to turn off your engine and actually stop, rather than dedicated road-trip routes.

Rhode Island

Friends:

The White Horse Tavern

The First State takes a lot of pride in having the "oldest" version of everything, and the White Horse, which was built in 1673, takes the title for taverns, and it serves exceptional, locally foraged cuisine to this day.

Family:

Flying Horse Carousel

America's oldest continuously operating carousel was built in 1867; it is still open for business during certain periods throughout the spring and summer, though it does close for routine maintenance. Check the schedule before you go.

Classic:

The Breakers

Rhode Island's most famous "summer cottage" is a 70-room mansion that used to belong to the Vanderbilts, erstwhile kings of American opulence. You can't stay, but you can visit.

