let’s go!

GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES

GREAT ROAD TRIP ADVENTURES IN SOUTHWEST ILLINOIS

ALTON
COLLINSVILLE
EDWARDSVILLE
GLEN CARBON
GODFREY
GRAFTON
MADISON
JERSEY
CALHOUN
MACOUPIN
MONTGOMERY
GREENE COUNTIES

2020 FALL & WINTER GUIDE

enjoy illinois
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GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES
let’s go! GREAT ROAD TRIP ADVENTURES IN SOUTHWEST ILLINOIS

ALTON | COLLINSVILLE | EDWARDSVILLE | GLEN CARBON | GODFREY | GRAFTON
MADISON | JERSEY | CALHOUN | MACOUPIN | MONTGOMERY | GREENE | COUNTIES

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Must be 21. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, crisis counseling and referral services can be accessed by calling 1-800-GAMBLER (1-800-426-2537).
CHANGE. IT’S IN THE AIR. DAYS ARE GETTING SHORTER AND NIGHTS LONGER. THE SUN HITS THE ROAD AND RIVERS AT A DIFFERENT ANGLE – SOFTENING IT IN THE FALL AND BLURRING THE LANDSCAPE IN THE WINTER.

IT’S A CHANGE YOU CAN FEEL. It’s not just the leaves turning from green to red, gold and russet. Or the skies becoming heavy with snow. It’s the scent in the air. Breezes evolving from warm and soft to brisk and nippy.

EMBRACE CHANGE. RIGHT NOW. HOP IN THE CAR. Take a road trip and change the scenery outside the front door. Respond to the call of the Mother Road and Mississippi River rising in the air. And discover the Great Rivers & Routes region in southwest Illinois.

Explore a place where mighty rivers showcase their power and majesty as they carve their way across the Midwest. Travel down historic Route 66 between Springfield, IL and St. Louis and immerse yourself in its kitschy charm. Stretch your legs this fall where there is room to roam with outdoor adventures that inspire and thrill. Discover the winter beauty of American Bald Eagles in the wild as they soar through the air along the Mississippi and Illinois rivers.

Escape the daily stress of life in these times and find a quiet place where it’s easy to kick back and relax. Find your next, favorite getaway just a car drive away. Get off the beaten path and restore yourself in Great Rivers & Routes of southwest Illinois.

It’s all about change right now. Are you ready for it? Isn’t it about time?

let’s go
ON A ROAD TRIP...
FALL IS HERE AND WHAT BETTER WAY TO CELEBRATE THE CHANGING OF THE SEASONS THAN WITH A ROAD TRIP TO THE GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES REGION. LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE? OR IS A RELAXING WEEKEND GETAWAY IMMERSED IN NATURE MORE YOUR STYLE? OUTDOOR ENTHUSIASTS, NATURE LOVERS, THRILL SEEKERS, HISTORY BUFFS AND WEEKEND WARRIORS ALL HAVE A HOME IN THE REGION.

Adventure Seekers
Fly through the treetops along the Mississippi and Illinois river bluffs this fall on the Grafton Zipline at Aerie’s Resort. The brilliant coloring of the tree colors and momentary glimpses of the sprawling river below are some of the sights on this tree top canopy adventure. Rope bridges, trails and a surprise ending highlight a one-of-a-kind ziplining experience. Aeriesview.com
Satisfy your desire for high places and scale the limestone bluffs along the Illinois River at Pere Marquette State Park. The bluffs have become a great outdoor climbing experience for novice through advanced climbers with more than 40 routes on the highly featured limestone formations. The park, one of the largest in Illinois, also has 12 miles of hiking trails ranging from easy to advanced. The trails wind through lush forests and towering bluffs. Take the thrills to the water with a jet ski adventure through the waters of the Mississippi River. Jet skis are available for rent at River Road Water Sports located at Grafton Harbor. For family water fun launch into a day on the river in a pontoon boat available from Grafton Harbor. Kayaking and other water sports are the perfect way to spend the day at Lake Lou Yaeger in Edwardsville. The 1,357-acre recreational lake is the place to be in the fall for boating, fishing, camping and horseback riding fun. Kayaks and paddle boards are available for rent.

Travel Tip: The Great Godfrey Maze, a 7-acre giant corn maze, delights all ages with its dead ends and twists and turns. Each year, a different theme is chosen for the maze which opens to the public on weekends. In October the maze becomes “haunted” adding to the thrills. Dates TBD

Nature Lovers
Get in touch with nature at the Audubon Center at Riverlands located along the Mississippi River in West Alton. The Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary is home to migrating birds which follow the Mississippi Flyway each fall in their journey south. Hike along one of five different trails and see how many different birds you can spot. Additional bird watching is available at the Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge in Brussels. Also located along the Flyway, thousands of migrating birds make a pit stop at the refuge. Awe inspiring views of the Mississippi River and lush native prairie grasses and plants frame the 450-acre of The Nature Institute in Godfrey. Miles of trails, open to the public highlight small streams, a waterfall, upland forest and hill prairies. (Trails are closed to the public from December through March for restoration.) Stunning fall views of changing leaf colors add a new dimension to any visit. Edwardsville’s Watershed Nature Center, an award-winning facility, highlights the forest, prairie and wetlands of the region. Paved walking trails and a raised marsh walk surround the welcoming center. Indulge in the natural beauty found at area state parks including Beaver Dam State Park, south of Carlinville, and Horseshoe Lake State Park in Collinsville.

History Buffs
There’s no better time than fall and winter to explore local history. From early prehistoric civilizations to the nation’s earliest explorers and through the Civil War the area is rich in lore. A trail of museums links communities throughout the six county Great Rivers & Routes region. The Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, a National Historic Landmark and UNESCO World Heritage Site, is home to 80 surviving prehistoric mounds including the largest, Monks Mound, which stands 100 feet tall. The site was once home to an ancient civilization of Native Americans which, at one point, had a larger population than London, England. An interpretive center stands at the center of the site. Please call the site before visiting to get up-to-date hours and tour opportunities.

Family Fun
Grab the kids and hit the road for some fall family fun. Enjoy the views and the leisurely ride on chair lifts and gondolas at the Grafton SkyTour. Rise 300 feet above the river community of Grafton to the bluffs overlooking the confluence of the Mississippi and Illinois rivers. Enjoy lunch, dinner or a snack at The Winery at Aerie’s Resort at the top of the ride. A 45-minute cruise on the Mississippi River aboard the 49-passenger excursion boat, the Hakuna Matata, anchored at Grafton Harbor is a family favorite. The cruises include descriptions of river landmarks and a history of the area. Willoughby Heritage Farm in Collinsville brings the past to life in a delightful way for all ages. This carefully preserved city park has tractor’s, barns, a 1930’s Craftsman-style farmhouse and live animals. More than 30 acres surround the farm itself and includes hiking trails, bridges and scenic vistas. Saddle up at Pere Marquette Riding Stables in Grafton. The rides generally last 50-minutes and travel 1-1/2 miles through the adjacent Pere Marquette State Park. In the fall, the stable offers hay rides complete with a bonfire, roasted marshmallows and hot dogs. (Travel Tip: Reservations required)

*ADVENTURE SEEKERS
*TRAVEL TIP
*NATURE LOVERS
*HISTORY BUFFS
*FAMILY FUN

For more information on regional history, visit: RiversandRoutes.com

Your next road trip awaits in the only place in America where the Mother Road meets the Great River Road.

Meniewher Lewis and William Clark camped at the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers outside present day Hartford, IL as they prepared for their monumental journey across the western United States in 1803-04. Their encampment is commemorated at the Lewis & Clark State Historic Site, which is also Trail Site #1 on the National Lewis & Clark Trail.

The Abolitionist Movement took root in the young riverfront community of Alton with the 1837 death of Elijah P. Lovejoy, an avowed abolitionist, Presbyterian minister and newspaper editor. The Lovejoy Monument, Illinois’ tallest man-made monument, sits in the Alton National Cemetery in honor of Lovejoy.

Abraham Lincoln walked the streets of Alton and his time in the city is commemorated with the Lincoln & Civil War Legacy Trail. Entrepreneur Benjamin Godfrey is also honored with the Benjamin Godfrey Legacy Trail.

Edwardsville is home to the 1820 Colonel Benjamin Stephenson House. The original brick home has been preserved and provides a glimpse into early life in the Illinois Territory.

Other museums of note in the region include the Glen Carbon Heritage Museum, East Alton History Museum, Gillespie Coal Museum, Macoupin County Historical Society & Museum, and the Wood River Refinery History Museum. (Please check with local attractions and museums for hours of operations and state restrictions during the COVID-19 crisis. Visit RiversandRoutes.com for contact information.)

Visit Litchfield
Have a Yaeger Day!
Lake Lou Yaeger
440 acres | 5.5 miles of water

Discover the History of Refining at the Wood River Refinery History Museum

Historic 1904 Water Refinery

Wed & Thurs 10am – 4pm
Group Tours Available
900 S. Central Rd. 117 Roxana, IL

wrminorgum.org | wrmp66@wirmd.com
(618) 255-3718

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For more information on regional history, visit: RiversandRoutes.com
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9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Watch for 2021 dates!
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INTERACTIVE EXHIBITS | MELVIN PRICE LOCKS & DAM | GROUP TOURS | EDUCATION

2 LOCK AND DAM WAY
ALTON, IL 62002
(618) 462-6979
MEETINGOFOTHERIVERS.ORG

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Christmas Eve, Christmas Day,
New Year’s Eve, New Year’s Day

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618-786-7678 | GraftonHarbor.com | 215 West Water Street | Grafton, Illinois

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Haunted & Fall Colors
Wedding Ceremonies and More!
Come check out the Oyster Bar
and our Floating Winery!

618-786-7678 | GraftonHarbor.com | 215 West Water Street | Grafton, Illinois
...the exploration of the uncharted and unknown upper Midwest and western United States in search of a water route to the Pacific Ocean. And it began right here where the Missouri River meets the Mississippi.

This was the beginning of the adventure which took over two years to complete and catapulted the expedition into the history books. Learn more about the journey, the preparations and read actual excerpts from William Clark’s diary by visiting the Lewis & Clark State Historic Site in Hartford. This is where the true journey into the unknown began!

Open Year Round - Days of week vary seasonally
1 Lewis & Clark Trail Hartford
618.251.5811
CampDubois.com

It was one of the greatest adventures in American History...
NATURE & HIKING TRAILS AWAY FROM THE CROWDS

- **TWO RIVERS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**
  364 Wildlife Conservation Rd. • Brussels
  (618) 883-2524
  This federal refuge is an important link for migrating birds. The 3-mile Gilbert Lake trail is a gravel path along the Illinois River and a great place to see wildlife.

- **MCCULLY HERITAGE PROJECT**
  592 Crawford Creek Rd. • Kampsvoile
  (618) 653-4687
  More than 15 miles of trails wind through the 940 acres of this Calhoun County scenic wonderland. Access to horseback riding trails is available with advance arrangements.

- **GLAZEBROOK PARK**
  1401 Stamper Ln. • Godfrey
  (618) 692-7538
  This 20.5 mile paved trail follows the historic Old Chain of Rocks Bridge for breathtaking views of the Mississippi and Illinois rivers.

- **JOE GLIK PARK**
  7901 Lake Dr. • Edwardsville
  (618) 650-3070
  A short jaunt along Alton’s historic riverfront is available on this 0.78 mile route through the woods, spans local creeks and is a favorite hangout for wildlife.

- **THE GARDENS AT SIUE**
  6 Arboretum Cn. • Edwardsville
  (618) 635-3070
  A 2 ½ mile track.

- **GORDON MOORE PARK**
  4500 College Ave. • Alton
  (618) 463-3580
  Walk among the trickling streams of the Inland Institute’s Prairie Trail. Stop and smell the roses in the Nan Elliott Memorial Rose Garden.

- **JOE GLIK PARK**
  7901 Lake Dr. • Edwardsville
  (618) 692-7538
  This is Edwardsville’s largest park with 42 acres. Enjoy hiking, biking, the two lakes and other recreational facilities.

- **TRI-TOWNSHIP PARK**
  410 Wickliffe St. • Troy
  (618) 650-3070
  A paved and mulch paths wind through the scenic 36-acre botanical gardens. A half mile paved loop is ADA accessible. The Shade Stroll Path, a mulch trail, takes visitors through wooded areas to explore understory plantings.

- **THE GARDENS AT SIUE**
  6 Arboretum Cn. • Edwardsville
  (618) 635-3070
  A 2 ½ mile track.

- **TRAVEL TIP:**
  Be sure to walk or ride across the historic Old Chain of Rocks Bridge for breathtaking views of the Mississippi River.

BIKING & HIKING TRAILS FROM THE EDGES OF HISTORIC ROUTE 66 TO THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER NEAR ST. LOUIS, MADISON COUNTY TRANSIT HAS WELL OVER 100 MILES OF TRAILS DESIGNED TO SUIT ANY HIKING OR BIKE REQUIREMENT.

- **MCT BLUFF TRAIL**
  New Poag Rd. • Edwardsville
  Travel the Great American Bottoms’ ancient bluff line on two miles of paved trails on the SIUE campus.

- **MCT CONFLUENCE BIKE TRAIL**
  Alton to Granite City
  Ten tunnels and a 175-foot bridge are just some of the highlights of this scenic 8-mile trail connecting Troy to Edwardsville/Glen Carbon trails.

- **MCT NATURE TRAIL**
  Edwardsville & Granite City
  This well-traveled 15-mile paved trail winds through the woods, spans local creeks and is a favorite hangout for wildlife.

- **MCT NICKEL PLATE TRAIL**
  New Douglas to Pontoon Beach
  Stretching over 28 miles across farmland, woods and urban areas, this combination paved and limestone trail passes near Glen Carbon’s Miner Park and the Edwardsville Children’s Museum.

- **SAM VADALABENE BIKE TRAIL**
  Alton to Granite
  An awe-inspiring 20-mile paved trail running parallel to the Meeting of the Great Rivers National Scenic Byway. Stretching from Alton to Pere Marquette State Park, the trail hugs the base of towering limestone bluffs and provides breathtaking views of the Mississippi and Illinois rivers.

- **GREAT RIVERS BIRD & BIKE TRAIL**
  Hartford to Granite
  View migrating warblers, herons, egrets and hundreds of other birds native to the region on this Missouri Audubon endorsed trail.

- **ALTON BIKE TRAIL**
  A short jaunt along Alton’s historic riverfront is available on this 0.78 mile route located in Riverfront Park. This trail serves as a connector between the Confluence Bike Trail and Sam Vadalabene Bike Trails.
For some of the best fall color drives in the Midwest check out our recommendations:

**MEETING OF THE GREAT RIVERS SCENIC ROUTE**
(Shown in red on pages 17-18)
Hop in the car, roll down the windows and prepare to be dazzled when you take the road most traveled. The Meeting of the Great Rivers Scenic Fall Drive is a 60 mile round trip that begins in Alton and winds along Illinois Route 100 beside the mighty Mississippi River through Grafton. In addition to the leaf peeper bonanza of fall colors along the Illinois River, enjoy stops in the historic communities of Alton, Godfrey, Elsah and Grafton. Be sure to stop at Pere Marquette State Park for hiking opportunities.

**ROUTE 66 CIRCA 1930**
The 1930 branch of Route 66 begins in Litchfield, home to the historic Ariston Café and the Sky View Drive In (one of a handful of active drive-in theaters on the Mother Road in the U.S.). Be sure to walk through the Litchfield Museum and Route 66 Welcome Center. Travel south on the road to Mt. Olive and then hop on Interstate 55 for a jaunt to the Pink Elephant Antique Mall in Livingston.

**ROUTE 66: 1940 - 1977**
The youngest portion of Route 66 begins in Raymond and travels through Litchfield, Troy and Collinsville along Interstate 55. Be sure to stop at Nana’s Hidden Attic for great buys. See the world’s largest Catsup Bottle Water Tower in Collinsville, a Route 66 staple.

**CALHOUN COUNTY VISTAS & FERRIES**
(Shown in green on map – pages 17-18)
One of the highlights of this drive is the opportunity to ride the ferry across the Mississippi River. This scenic route can begin at either the free Brussels Ferry, north of Grafton, or in St. Charles, MO on the Golden Eagle Ferry. Enjoy winding roads, rolling hills, and, of course, glorious fall colors throughout Calhoun County.

**TRAVEL TIP:** Fuel your road trip with stops at these distinctive restaurants: The Loading Dock (Grafton), for riverside dining; Fin Inn (Grafton), where the fish join diners at tableside aquariums; Old Bakery Beer (Alton), craft beer and organic menu in a former Colonial Bakery factory; Pere Marquette Lodge & Conference Center (Grafton), seasonal buffets available along with famous family-style fried chicken dinners.

**TRAVEL TIP:** While taking this drive make a point to search for Calhoun County Barn Quilts located throughout the picturesque landscape. A map is available at: riversandroutes.com/listing/Calhoun-county-barn-quilts/11253

**ROUTE 66 SCENIC DRIVE**
(Shown in blue on map – pages 17-18)
There are three different ways to enjoy the Mother Road this fall. From Virden, south of Springfield, IL, to just outside St. Louis, three variations of Route 66 were created starting with the original road in 1926. New roadways were built in 1930 and 1940 giving the iconic road three distinct looks.

**ORIGINAL ROUTE 66**
Route 66 from Edwardsville to Auburn is part of the original two-lane highway. Enjoy a stop at Weezy’s, an original Route 66 diner in Hamel. Don’t miss the bunnies and rabbits at Henry’s Rabbit Ranch in Staunton and Doc’s Soda Fountain in Girard. Note: Stay alert for road signs to ensure you stay on the original road.

**COUNTY LOOP ON U.S. 67**
(Shown in yellow on map pages 17-18)
Considered one of the best country day drives in Illinois, the Country Loop travels through Alton, Godfrey, Jerseyville, Fieldon and Grafton. The route includes a mix of river bluffs and Illinois prairie. Enter anywhere on this loop. Or drive counterclockwise to get the best views of the changing colors on the river bluffs.

**ROUTE 66 1940 - 1977**
The youngest portion of Route 66 begins in Raymond and travels through Litchfield, Troy and Collinsville along Interstate 55. Be sure to stop at Nana’s Hidden Attic for great buys. See the world’s largest Catsup Bottle Water Tower in Collinsville, a Route 66 staple.

**TRAVEL TIP:** Take a break in Jerseyville and check out the newly opened Brossio Tavern which has quickly made a name for itself with its huge, juicy burgers or The Charcoal House Tavern for cold drinks and great food.

**TRAVEL TIP:** While taking this drive make a point to search for Calhoun County Barn Quilts located throughout the picturesque landscape. A map is available at: riversandroutes.com/listing/Calhoun-county-barn-quilts/11253

“Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is in flower.” — ALBERT CAMUS
Plump, juicy apples hang from trees ready to be picked. Small, medium and large orange pumpkins sit in fields ready to be carved into the perfect Jack-O-Lantern. Fresh cut flowers gathered into stunning bouquets and colorful, oddly shaped gourds are ready for purchase.

Gather up the perfect fall fruits, vegetables and more on an Orchard and Roadside stand road trip throughout the Great Rivers & Routes region.

Spend the day picking your own apples and pumpkins at U-Pick orchards. Take a break at a roadside stand serving up freshly pressed, homemade cider. Let the kids romp at the farm and enjoy up close and personal visits with farm animals.

**PICK OF THE CROP**

**PLANT YOUR ROAD TRIP BY VISITING THESE ORCHARDS AND ROADSIDE STANDS:**

**MADISON COUNTY**

**BOOMES FARM**
8803 Dustman Rd. • Worden 618-880-2422
Season: September 11 - November 1
**U-PICK:** Pumpkins (sales start last weekend in Sept.)
**U-CUT EVENT:** During Sunflower Days (Fri., Sat., Sun. on Sept 11, 12, 13 and Sept. 18,19,20) visitors can cut their own sunflowers, cosmos & zinnias. With farm admission, photos of flowers are allowed, but there is a fee to cut flowers.

**CRUYGER’S ORCHARD**
2914 Airport Rd. • Godfrey 618-466-3376
Season: July – October
**FRUITS:** Apples and melons.

**LIBERTY APPLE ORCHARD**
8308 Kuhn Station Rd. • Edwardsville 618-465-9717
Season: Late August through November
**U-PICK:** Apples – 14 varieties, no access fee. Visit the farm store, a replica one room school house, for local honey collected from hives in the orchard along with apple butter, apple sauce, baked goods, and cider.

**MILLS APPLE FARM**
11477 Pocahontas Rd. • Marine 618-887-9732
Season: Mid July to Noon on Christmas Eve
**U-PICK:** Apples & Pumpkins

**PEARSON’S PRODUCE**
3341 Humbert Rd. • Godfrey 618-401-7286
Season: April - October
**FRUITS:** (In Season only): Apples, peaches, watermelon, cantaloupe, pears, plums.
**VEGETABLES:** (In Season only): green beans, tomatoes, potatoes, sweet potatoes, onions, peppers, pumpkins, gourds.
**ALSO AVAILABLE:** Large variety of salsa, Amish noodles, mustards, syrups, sauces, jam, jelly, and mums in the fall.

**THEODORA FARMS**
4835 N. Alby Rd. • Godfrey - 618-208-7738
Season: September 11 - November 1
**U-PICK:** Apples, pumpkins, squash, gourds, mums.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY**

**ECKERT’S COUNTRY STORE & FARMS**
20995 Eckert Orchard Rd. • Grafton 618-786-3445
Season: July 1 – October
**U-PICK:** Apples – mid August through October
**Pumpkins:** end of September to end of October.
Prepicked apples and pumpkins can be purchased. Also available: bakery items from the Belleville Eckert’s Gifts, jams, jellies, apple products, cider in September.

**JOE RINGHAUSEN ORCHARDS & MARKET**
24746 Redbud Rd. • Fieldon 618-376-6772
Season: July - December
**U-PICK:** Apples.
The market also sells cider, jellies, pumpkins, squash.

**RINGHAUSEN APPLE HOUSE**
13770 U.S. Hwy 67 • Jerseyville 618-498-6951
Season: July - December
**FRUITS:** Apples, peaches, plums. Fresh apple cider.
**VEGETABLES:** tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchini, peppers, various garden vegetables.

**HUGGEN FAMILY ORCHARD**
3879 Illinois River Rd. • Brussels 618-883-2385
Season: July - October
**FRUITS:** Apples (September from Labor Day to October). Pumpkins (1st week of September).
**JACOBS ORCHARD**
148 Ridge Rd. • Golden Eagle 618-376-8457
Season: June - November
**FRUITS:** Apples, pumpkins, squash, gourds, cider, mums.
**VEGETABLES:** Tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchini, turnips, garden veggies.

**JACOBS ORCHARD • HARDIN**
3017 Illinois Rt. 16 & Illinois Rt. 100 at the East End of the Joe Page Bridge, Hardin 618-378-8457
Season: June - November
Apples, pumpkins, squash, gourds, cider, mums. Also canned salsa, jellies, jams, cider, fall décor, mums.

**THREE RIVERS FARM STAND**
22935 Choudinique Rd. • Elsah 618-946-7974
Season: Mid May through October
**U-PICK:** Flowers only.
Garden produce, eggs, meat, eggs, peaches, apples.

**UNCLE ANDY’S COUNTRY MARKET**
1 E. Main St. • Grafton 618-786-4856
Season: Mid-October - November
**U-PICK:** Seasonal produce, cucumbers, sweet corn, tomatoes, peaches, apples, jams, jellies, sauces, gifts.

**THEODORE FARMS**
4835 N. Alby Rd. • Godfrey 618-208-7738
Season: July 1 – October
**FRUITS:** Apples, plums, peaches, watermelon, cantaloupe, pears, plums, squash, gourds.
**ALSO AVAILABLE:** Large variety of salsa, Amish noodles, mustards, syrups, sauces, jam, jelly, and mums in the fall.

**THEODORA FARMS**
4835 N. Alby Rd. • Godfrey 618-208-7738
Season: July 1 – October
**FRUITS:** Apples, peaches, plums.

**TOPPMeyer’s Orchard**
22925 Chautauqua Rd. • Elsah 618-857-2383
Season: July – October
**FRUITS:** Apples.

**RiversandRoutes.com**

For more information, go to: RiversandRoutes.com

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**THREE RIVERS FARM STAND**
22935 Choudinique Rd. • Elsah 618-946-7974
Season: Mid May through October
**U-PICK:** Flowers only.
Garden produce, eggs, meat, eggs, peaches, apples.

**UNCLE ANDY’S COUNTRY MARKET**
1 E. Main St. • Grafton 618-786-4856
Season: Mid-October - November
**U-PICK:** Seasonal produce, cucumbers, sweet corn, tomatoes, peaches, apples, jams, jellies, sauces, gifts.

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**See Map on Pages 17-18**

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**Eckert’s Grafton Farm**

Pick-Your-Own
Blackberries, Peaches, Apples and Pumpkins

Open July – October

**LIKE US ON**

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**20995 Eckert Orchard Road, Grafton IL • 618-233-0513**
**ORCHARD TIPS**

Call ahead before you go to find out which apple varieties are available.

The best time to pick your own apples is early in the day — it’s a great way to avoid crowds.

Pick apples on outside branches first and work your way into the interior. Apples on the outer branches ripen before ones on the interior of the tree.

Put apples gently into baskets or bags to avoid bruising.

McIntosh and Honeycrisp apples ripen during September. Red and Golden Delicious come in by the end of September. Fuji and Granny Smith are October fruits.

---

**MACOUPIN COUNTY**

**BROOM ORCHARD**
12803 Broom Rd. • Carlinville
217-854-3514

Season: July – December

**U-PICK:** Apples after Labor Day. Pick up Broom Orchard cider. Also available on site: apple butter made from Broom apples by a local Amish business. Locally grown popcorn in ½ gallon and 1 gallon jugs; honey, and fruit spreads. Annual Apple Festival held the fourth weekend of September and Pumpkin Festival held the second weekend of October.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

**D & M ORCHARD & PRODUCE**
243 Spaeth Lane • Hillsboro
217-537-3219

Season: July – October

**FRUITS:** Apples.
**VEGETABLES:** Pumpkins. Fresh eggs also available. Cash only.

**GREENE COUNTY**

**GREENE FIELDS FARM**
311 Daum Station Rd. • Greenfield
217-416-0839

Season: September 5 - last weekend of October

**U-PICK:** 10 acres of pumpkins for u-pick. Also 2,800 potted mum plants in single colors and a rare tri-color mum. The mums are in pots in the field. You can walk out and select your own.

**FRUITS:** Apples. The farm has over 160 varieties of pumpkins, gourds, squash. Visitors are allowed to visit the barns of this working farm where you will find chickens, pigs and dairy cows.
WHEN THE GHOSTS COME OUT TO PLAY IN ALTON, THEY USUALLY HAVE AN AUDIENCE. THE HISTORIC RIVERFRONT COMMUNITY IS KNOWN AS "ONE OF THE MOST HAUNTED SMALL TOWNS IN AMERICA" AND FOR GOOD REASON.

It’s the spectral shapes that appear in the windows of long closed stately mansions and the lingering scent of jasmine perfume in the staircase of a former hotel. And it’s the blue lights that spark in a pitch black wine cellar during a dark room session along with eerie footsteps echoing around an empty underground swimming pool.

Over the years, Ghost Adventurers, Ghost Hunters and independent ghost investigators have converged on Alton searching for the ghosts that roam the city. And throughout the year, but especially in the fall, four different haunted organizations bring the city’s haunted side to life with a variety of tours that celebrate the city’s historic mysteries.

Explore the hauntings along the Great River Road during the popular Alton Haunting tours. Troy Taylor, a renowned haunted history expert, has spent over 20 years probing Alton’s haunted side and has developed a series of walking tours, ghost hunts and driving tours highlighting the city’s haunted history.

Spend an evening with the dead. Or enjoy an eerie night of spiritualism during Alton Hauntings “‘An Evening With …” events. Each event includes dinner and a lively discussion and exploration into specific themes. Topics this fall include famous ax murderess Lizzie Borden, an in-depth look at Spiritualism, the St. Louis Exorcism, the Lemp Family of St. Louis and even Abraham Lincoln and his connection with the supernatural. Attendance is limited by state guidelines and will sell out quickly. For tickets and more information: altonhauntings.com

Alton Hauntings also offers haunted walking tours each weekend from September through early November in celebration of Alton’s haunted season. A series of Ghosts of the River Road tours are also held throughout the year and include a stop at the haunted and mysterious Mineral Springs Hotel. Take a few hours and investigate the reportedly haunted and undeniably eerie Mineral Springs Hotel. Home to the ‘Jasmine Lady’, the haunted mural and the supremely creepy underground swimming pool, the hotel has its own haunted tales to tell. Mysterious Mineral Springs daytime guided tours are available. Check out Mysterious Mineral Springs on Facebook for more information.

Since 1992 Alton Haunted Odyssey has brought the city’s hauntings to life with trolley tours. The tours take visitors past some of the city’s most haunted buildings including the Ryder Building, McPike Mansion and Milton School. Ghost hunts take place every Friday and Saturday evening throughout October.

For beer lovers, Haunted Craft Beer Walks are held every Friday in October through Alton Haunted Odyssey. The stroll includes stops at five haunted locations. At each location, a five ounce pouring of one of five different Old Bakery Beer Company brews is provided.

For more information on the trolley and haunted craft beer walks, visit: Altonhauntedtours.com

Alton’s most famous haunted house, the McPike Mansion, stands out from the crowd with its tales of ghostly apparitions. The abandoned home is reportedly among the 10 most haunted sites in America.

According to owner Sharyn Luedke, the original owner Henry McPike along with members of his family and the house staff, have yet to leave the home which is now under renovation. The brick home, built in 1869, was once home to the McPike Family, and is located in the heart of Alton. It was used as a country estate by the family at the time where McPike perfected the famous McPike Grape and created an extensive orchard. Members of the family lived in the home until 1936. Visitors to the mansion could meet Henry, his wife, mother, or one of their servants during the popular dark room sessions that take place monthly in the basement wine cellar. Tours of the house itself are unavailable. Celebrations of the McPike Mansion and its hauntings are held throughout September and October. Visit: Mcpikemansion.com for more information.
HERE COME THE HOLIDAYS

THERE’S SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT THE DAYS BETWEEN THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS. A TINGLE OF ANTICIPATION. THE CRISP, CLEAN SMELLS OF SNOW AND FRESHLY CUT TREES. SPARKLING LIGHTS DRESSING UP BUILDINGS AND TREES.

Re-discover holiday pleasures in the Great Rivers & Routes region this year with a seasonal getaway filled with the delights found along the Mother Road of Route 66 and the Great River Road.

Enjoy a quiet drive along the winding roads of Alton’s Rock Spring Park during Christmas Wonderland. More than 3 million lights and cheerful holiday displays decorate the park from the Friday after Thanksgiving through Sunday, Dec. 27. Christmas Wonderland is open daily.

Travel the Great River Road to Grafton and enjoy a ride on the Grafton SkyTour that rises more than 300 feet in the air on its way to the “Twinkling Lights & Holiday Nights” event at Aerie’s Resort. Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday in December there will be horse drawn trolley rides through the West Ridge Woods at the resort along with family friendly activities at The Terrace. The SkyTour has open air chair lifts and enclosed gondolas. The ride begins on Grafton’s Main Street at the foot of the river bluffs and carries riders to the top of the bluffs.

Jerseyville is home to the annual Downtown Country Christmas. This year the event will kick off the Saturday after Thanksgiving and run throughout the holiday season. Stroll through downtown Jerseyville and peer into business windows decorated for the season with “Bright Nights Holiday Window Displays.” Additional seasonal events include “Light Up Your Business” and “Light Up Your Home” contests as well as a month-long scavenger hunt with prizes. Visit Downtowncountrychristmas.com for up-to-date information.

Holiday fun takes place throughout the Great Rivers & Routes region including the annual Collinsville Christmas at the Collins House and Light Up Parade, A Carlinville Christmas, and the annual Bethalto Christmas Village. Enjoy a stroll through downtown Staunton with the Holiday Walk and Tree Lighting.

For more details, visit: RiversandRoutes.com
The Eagles Have Landed

Let’s face it. It isn’t really winter until flocks of graceful white trumpeter swans and the regal and striking American bald eagles come to town.

Southwest Illinois is, after all, the winter home to birds who have discovered the region is a smorgasbord of delicious dining and a relatively warm and relaxing getaway during the cold winter months. Hundreds of American Bald Eagles have staked out the confluence of the Mississippi, Illinois, and Missouri rivers as their cold weather homes. Trumpeter Swans are drawn to the empty fields and shallow waters of inland bays. There they are joined by other wintering birds including ducks, geese and even the occasional Snowy Owl.

The Great Rivers & Routes region has become a snowbird haven of sorts. Following the Mississippi Flyway, the avian equivalent of a superhighway, birds seeking warmer climates and strong food sources land in the area. Trumpeter Swans come to the area from the north woods of Wisconsin starting in early December and typically stay until February when they return to their homes to nest. Often families of swans spend the winter months dining out in fields adjacent to the Audubon Center at Riverlands/Riverlands Bird Sanctuary. More than 1,500 swans have been counted in the area over the winter showcasing the comeback of a once nearly extinct species.

The biggest draw, however, is the return of American Bald Eagles each winter. Hundreds of the birds fly along the Mississippi River from the northern borders of Minnesota and southern Canada looking for open waters and a fresh food source. As river waters freeze to the north, eagles head south. Eagles typically land in the region starting in late December and head north in mid to late February. Some eagles have stayed in the area, nesting and raising their young along the Mississippi River.

DID YOU KNOW...

The American Bald Eagle is found only in the North American continent. Bald eagles live across much of Canada, the U.S. and northern Mexico. The Golden Eagle is seen throughout the northern hemisphere.

They are aerial daredevils; while flying they will sometimes grab another eagle’s talons. The pair usually separate before hitting the ground.

Eagles build enormous nests in tree tops. Nests are typically 2 to 4 feet deep and 4 to 5 feet wide.
WHILE THE KICK OFF TO EAGLE SEASON ISN’T A FORMAL HOLIDAY – IT CERTAINLY FEELS LIKE ONE! Eagle season will launch this year with the fan-favorite Eagle Watcher’s Passport. This mobile passport provides a self-guided eagle watching tour and participants who visit five of the 10 eagle watching locations on the passport, check in with a pin provided at each stop, and then contact the Alton Visitor Center at 1-800-258-6645 or visit RiversandRoutes.com for details on how to receive your free shirt (available while supplies last). Additional bald eagle events are held throughout the area.

MISSION: Your winter adventure, if you choose to accept, is to search for wintering American Bald Eagles throughout the Great Rivers & Routes region in southwest Illinois. They are perched in the trees. Or sitting on an ice floe in the middle of the Mississippi River. A few eagle nests are also visible among the bare winter trees. Starting in January, begin your quest to see bald eagles in the wild – along the confluence of America’s three great rivers: the Mississippi, Illinois and Missouri.

REWARD: If you decide to become an eagle-eyed eagle watcher your quest is rewarded with an official Eagle Watcher’s T Shirt.

Here’s what you do: Go to Explore.Rivers&Routes.com and download the Eagle Watcher’s Passport to your phone. When you visit five of the 10 eagle watching locations on the passport, check in with a pin provided at each stop, and then contact the Alton Visitor Center at 1-800-258-6645 or visit RiversandRoutes.com for details on how to receive your free t shirt (available while supplies last).

The Audubon Center at Riverlands celebrates bird year round but Eagle Season is a highlight for the birding center. Meet the raptors that make the region their home during the weekend with live meet and greet events. American Bald Eagles are also on hand during these free events. Enjoy additional family-friendly activities.

Call (636) 899-0909 for details or visit the center’s website: Riverlands.Audubon.org

The historic Chain of Rocks Bridge, once a Route 66 link from Illinois to St. Louis, is home to eagle watchers in the winter months. Every January, the Great Rivers Greenway hosts Bald Eagle Days. Spotting scopes staffed by trained volunteers are set up for people to find and identify eagles soaring over the Mississippi River. Be sure to dress warmly.

Visit GreatRiversGreenway.org for more information.

TRAVEL TIP: Due to uncertainties surrounding COVID-19, please contact each location for details on eagle watching activities.

For more information on eagle events, go to: RiversandRoutes.com
BEST SPOTS TO SEE EAGLES

**A** HARDIN On Route 100, cross the Joe Page Bridge to Hardin. There are great riverfront restaurants perfect for viewing eagles while you dine.

**B** PERE MARQUETTE STATE PARK The largest state park in Illinois is a popular home to eagles, which can be seen along the Illinois River banks or spotted from scenic lookout points within the park.

**C** TWO RIVERS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AT GILBERT LAKE One half mile upriver from the Brussels Ferry is Gilbert Lake. The trees in the field often have eagles perched in them. A three-mile hiking trail connects with Pere Marquette State Park.

**D** TWO RIVERS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AT SWAN LAKE Ride across the Brussels Ferry into Calhoun County and follow the signs to Swan Lake. The visitor’s center has scopes for viewing eagles.

**E** BRUSSELS FERRY Eagles are active near the Brussels Ferry where they enjoy perching in the tall cottonwood trees lining the river banks.

**F** GRAFTON RIVERFRONT Head down to Front Street for a stretch of the legs. Walk the riverfront to view eagles perched in the trees and soaring over the river.

**G** ELSAH Take time to stroll through the village watching eagles soaring over the nearby Mississippi River.

**H** TREEHOUSE WILDLIFE CENTER Just a short drive off the Great River Road, this wildlife rehab center offers up-close views of bald eagles every day of the week.

**I** PIASA HARBOR Get a close up view of eagles and the river at this harbor located between Alton and Grafton.

**J** CLIFTON TERRACE This area is a great spot to pull off the road and pull out your binoculars. A parking area right along the riverfront offers great views of eagles who like to perch in the nearby trees or on ice floes in the Mississippi River.

**K** RIVERLANDS MIGRATORY BIRD SANCTUARY & THE AUDUBON CENTER AT RIVERLANDS Designated as a National Audubon Society Important Birding Area, eagles can be seen in the Ellis Bay refuge. Use the indoor spotting scopes to learn about the migration.

**L** NATIONAL GREAT RIVERS MUSEUM/MELVIN PRICE LOCKS & DAM Watch eagles fishing for an easy catch at the Locks & Dam. The National Great Rivers Museum offers spotting scopes for viewing.

**M** NATIONAL GREAT RIVERS RESEARCH & EDUCATION CENTER Watch for eagles from the rooftop of the NGRREC building which sits on the Mississippi River bank.

**N** LEWIS & CLARK STATE HISTORIC SITE Eagles like to fly near this historic site because it’s close to the confluence of two of the longest rivers in the county – and a great source of food for the birds.

**O** EDWARD “TED” AND PAT JONES CONFLUENCE POINT STATE PARK Birding opportunities are plentiful where the Mississippi and Missouri rivers join.

**P** CHAIN OF ROCKS BRIDGE This historic Route 66 bridge is an ideal spot to watch eagles soar over the waters of the Mississippi River looking for food.

**Q** HORSESHOE LAKE STATE PARK Eagles enjoy congregating at this natural lake that covers 2,400 acres. Take a walk around the lake and count the number of eagles using the lake for their winter homes.

**R** BEAVER DAM STATE PARK Watch for eagles around the trees and open waters of this park located just seven miles southwest of Carlinville.

**S** LAKE LOU YAEGER Take a winter walk around the park and look for eagles. Located just outside Litchfield, the 300 acre park surrounds a 1,200 acre lake. A 45-mile shoreline provides plenty of room to find the prime spot to see wintering eagles.
To accommodate the drinks will be served, Cox notes. No food or wipe (the theater) down, "come in the next day and sanitized with a mist and we every night our building is allowed in rest rooms. than four people at a time are away from the audience. stage is more than 18-feet first two rows of seats have after each performance. The ever had. And to make sure strongest seasons we've Alton Little Theater community theater performances, opera and entertaining escapes of all varieties.

AS THE DAYS GROW SHORTER AND THE NIGHTS BECOME LONGER … FALL More musical entertainment who want to entertain." says. "Right now people need to get out and let their imagination go and be triggered again," Cox says. "We have an incredibly talented group of performers who want to entertain." More musical entertainment is available throughout the region.

Find a seat at the intimate and historic Wildey Theatre in Edwardsville which features some of the best live music outside the St. Louis area. On the stage where Al Jolson and Douglas Fairbanks Jr. once plied their vaudeville trade, headliners including John Wayne, Head East, Wishbone Ash and the Ozark Mountain Daredevils showcase their talents. The Wildey opened in 1909 as an opera house and home to the Independent Order of Oddfellows. Once a major to the Independent Order of Oddfellows. Once a major to the region. Through a combination of recitals, operas, masterclasses and more, Opera Edwardsville shares the experience of live opera with its artistic drama, compelling history, global perspectives, and, of course, its music. "Three Little Pigs: An Opera for Kids!", a free public event, is planned in November and the 3rd Annual Christmas at the Wildey will be held in December featuring sacred cantatas and arias of the Renaissance and Baroque. In the mood for a celebration? Or just want to enjoy the atmosphere at a classic dive bar. There's no better place than Fast Eddie's Bon Air in Alton. For 27 years, Fast Eddie's has been a destination for young and old alike with its cold drinks, cheap food and seriously live music. The bar, which has a storied history of its own, has become a rite of passage for anyone celebrating a 21st birthday. (FYI: Anyone celebrating a 21st birthday at Fast Eddie's receives a commemorative t-shirt) Art comes to life at area art galleries which feature work by local artists. Be sure to visit Jacoby Arts Center, Good Weather Gallery, Macoupin Art Collective, Lady Marsh Gallery & Gifts, Edwardsville Arts Center, and Von Dell Gallery & Studios. Wildey Theatre is also home to Opera Edwardsville, a three year old organization, determined to bring world class opera and musical performances to the region. Through a combination of recitals, operas, masterclasses and more, Opera Edwardsville shares the experience of live opera with its artistic drama, compelling history, global perspectives, and, of course, its music. "Three Little Pigs: An Opera for Kids!", a free public event, is planned in November and the 3rd Annual Christmas at the Wildey will be held in December featuring sacred cantatas and arias of the Renaissance and Baroque. In the mood for a celebration? Or just want to enjoy the atmosphere at a classic dive bar. There's no better place than Fast Eddie's Bon Air in Alton. For 27 years, Fast Eddie's has been a destination for young and old alike with its cold drinks, cheap food and seriously live music. The bar, which has a storied history of its own, has become a rite of passage for anyone celebrating a 21st birthday. (FYI: Anyone celebrating a 21st birthday at Fast Eddie's receives a commemorative t-shirt) Art comes to life at area art galleries which feature work by local artists. Be sure to visit Jacoby Arts Center, Good Weather Gallery, Macoupin Art Collective, Lady Marsh Gallery & Gifts, Edwardsville Arts Center, and Von Dell Gallery & Studios.
Alton

For nearly 200 years, Alton has been the perfect location for week day and weekend getaways. With the mighty Mississippi River carving along the city's edge, the community is known as “One of the Most Haunted Small Towns in America.” Waves of history flow through the community which has a storied position in the abolitionist movement and is home to the site where Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas argued for their political futures.

EAT Alton has a smorgasbord of dining options for every meal of the day. Sit down to the Hunka Hunka Burnin Love French toast concoction at Joe K's in Upper Alton and GB Grill on Broadway in downtown. For a more eclectic morning meal, visit The Post Commons, where coffee and organic food are served in the re-purposed Post Office building. Two long-standing restaurants, Castelli’s at 255 and Tony’s Restaurant, serve up hearty family recipe entrees for dinner.

Brown Bag Bistro on Broadway in downtown. For a more Midwestern-style dining options for every meal of the day, Sit down to the Hunka Hunka Burnin Love French toast concoction at Joe K’s in Upper Alton and GB Grill on Broadway in downtown. For a more eclectic morning meal, visit The Post Commons, where coffee and organic food are served in the re-purposed Post Office building. Two long-standing restaurants, Castelli’s at 255 and Tony’s Restaurant, serve up hearty family recipe entrees for dinner.

SHOP Explore the various antique shops that make up the city’s Antique District in downtown Alton. Country Meadows, Tinner’s Anvil Antiques, and the Wilson’s Antiques, are all within a stone’s throw of each other. Check out hand thrown pottery, made on site at Mississippi Mud Pottery. Olive Oil Marketplace has oils, coffee beans and cooking utensils. Clothing boutiques in downtown include the independently owned Rushmore, The Grapevine (for children’s clothing), Mississippi Hippie, and J & Co. - The Mercantile. Shop at Alton Square Mall for gourmet popcorn, clothing and more.

PLAY Riverboat gaming came to Alton in the early 1990’s and hasn’t left. Argosy Casino Alton, docked on the riverfront, shows off a riverboat themed interior, two floors of gaming action, a newly opened Sportsbook and restaurants. World famous Fast Eddie’s Bon Air, an iconic dive bar that has cheap food, the coldest beer in town and live music every night of the week, is a must stop destination. For a great belly laugh, get tickets for a play or musical at Alton Little Theater; the state’s longest continuously operated community theater.

STAY From eclectic to historic and everything in between, an overnight stay is memorable in Alton. Enjoy a luxurious night at the elegant Beall Mansion, a renovated historic home, now an upscale bed and breakfast inn. Spend the night at Alton Cracker Factory with views of the river and Clark Bridge. Also in the downtown district is Tiffany Inn. Enjoy the pool and specials at Best Western Premier Alton - St. Louis.

Located in historic, downtown Alton, Simmons Hanly Conroy is dedicated to our clients and our community. The firm has donated millions of dollars and countless volunteer hours to charitable organizations across the Riverbend area - a place we have been proud to call home for more than 20 years.

We stand for our clients.

(618) 259-2222 simmonsfirm.com

Best Western Premier
Tiffany Inn
103 W. 3rd St.
Alton, Illinois 62002

Argosy Casino Alton
1 Alby St.
Alton, Illinois 62002

Alton Cracker Factory
200 Alby St.
Alton, Illinois 62002

Beall Mansion
310 E. Broadway
Alton, Illinois 62002

Brown Bag Bistro
208 State St.
Alton, Illinois 62002

Country Meadows
401 E. Broadway
Alton, Illinois 62002

CITIES AND TOWNS THROUGHOUT THE GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES REGION KNIT THEIR OWN CHARACTER, BEAUTY AND CHARM INTO THE FABRIC OF THE AREA. Discover the collection of communities that create a region like no other and come together in the only place in America where the Mother Road meets the Great River Road.

Alton

Collinsville

World famous for its 170-foot tall water tower shaped like a catsup bottle, Collinsville is also known as the horseshoe capital of the world. Located just minutes from Downtown St. Louis, three national and historic highways converge in the city – The National Highway, Route 66 and the Great River Road. Home to the only World Heritage site in the Great Lakes region of the U.S. – Cahokia Mounds – the city has a rich heritage, a world class convention center and a thriving culinary scene.

EAT A visit to the city isn’t complete without first stopping at Kruta’s Bakery for pastries, donuts, Danishes and more. The 100-year-old family operated bakery still uses some of the original recipes founder Frank Kruta brought with him when he emigrated from Eastern Europe. Centuries old recipes are cooked up at Ramon’s El Dorado Restaurant which has been a staple to the culinary scene for over 50 years. Casual American fried chicken is part of Ravanelli’s charm. Pair a plate of chicken with pasta and a loaf of bread and garlic butter. Uptown Collinsville is home to Old Herald Brewery & Distillery, which is housed in a former newspaper building. Quench your thirst with a pint of Printer’s Ink, Proofreader Pale Ale or check out the line of house distilled rum, gin, agave and vodka. Sloan’s Pub House, Mungs Italian Eatery, Who Dat’s, Friday’s South, The Sandwich Shop and Bert’s Chuckwagon are also delicious dining options in the city’s Uptown District. For a relaxed, upscale dining experience, visit Porter’s Steakhouse.

SHOP Stroll through Uptown Collinsville and wow your tastebuds with Code 3 Spices, the place to go for grilling spices and utensils. A portion of each sale goes to first responders and military non-profits. Get retro at Rich’s Record Emporium where real vinyl records are sold. Spirito’s Italian Grocery Store is a nod to the city’s Italian heritage with some great Italian food.

PLAY Live horse racing takes place every Tuesday and Saturday through early September at Fairmount Park. The mile long racetrack is the state’s only live thoroughbred track outside Chicago. Off track betting is available every day at the track. Tour the historic D.D. Collins House, visit Willoughby Heritage Farms featuring a 1940’s farmhouse, or bowl a few frames at Camelot Bowl.

STAY After a day exploring Collinsville, complete your road trip with an overnight adventure at Collinsville hotels. Take a break at the Doubletree by Hilton or recently renovated Drury Inn. A total of eight different hotels are conveniently located near two interstate highways and just minutes from downtown St. Louis.
Edwardsville is one of the fastest growing communities outside St. Louis but retains its small town charm and accessibility. The city is the third oldest in Illinois and produced four state governors over the years. A thriving downtown district accent the city's place on Route 66 and its burgeoning culinary reputation. Edwardsville is also home to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and the wildly popular Land of Goshen Market held every Saturday on city streets through October. Don't miss the city's annual Halloween Parade on, you guessed it, Halloween!

**EAT** Edwardsville is known for its abundance of great restaurants. Take a walk down Main Street, home to the cozy 222 Artisan Bakery & Café where the coffee is fresh and pastries, quiche and oatmeal are made in-house daily. Nearby, Sacred Grounds Café serves up a vegetarian breakfast, lunch, and specialty coffees in a coffeehouse setting filled with local art. Tucked away in downtown, a little like walking into Grandma's kitchen. Smell the coffee brewing and grab a cup at Goshen Coffee Café new order-in spot. Cleveland-Heath takes comfort food to an entirely new level with its Japanese Pancake appetizer and tendy pork porterhouse. Chava's Mexican Restaurant brings a taste of Guadalajara to the Midwest.

**SHOP** Load up on great buys at the locally owned and operated stores that dot the city's streets and shopping districts. The Gingham Buffalo has gifts, home furnishings and more.

**PLAY** Some of the best live music in the city can be found at the Wildey Theatre every weekend. The revamped opera house is now home to top notch national and regional bands. A 52 Tuesday movie night and community events fill in the rest of the venue’s calendar. For more active entertainment, journey to Edison’s Entertainment Complex which has 12 bowling lanes, a laser tag arena and game arcade and the newly opened adult-only venue ‘The Outlet’. Rock climbing, roller skating and more are on the agenda at the Edwardsville YMCA Meyer Center. Make it a movie day or night at the AMC Edwardsville 12 to see newly released films. The Edwardsville Children’s Museum has fun for kids of all ages. For history buffs, tour the 1820 Col. Benjamin Stephenson House and step back in history to simpler times.

**STAY** Plan an overnight stay in Edwardsville and choose from several hotels located near shopping and dining. The newly opened TownePlace Suites by Marriott offers extended stay options. The Comfort Inn, Holiday Inn Express & Suites and Country Hearth Inn & Suites provide relaxing overnight options.

**GO**

222 Artisan Bakery & Café - 222 N. Main St. - 222artisanbakery.com; Sacred Grounds Café - 233 N. Main St. - a little taste of heaven bakery. com; Chava’s Mexican Restaurant - 217 E. Vandallia St. - chavasmexican.com; 1818 Chophouse - 210 S. Buchanan St. - 1818chophouse.com; Peel Wood Fired Pizza - 921 S. Arbor Vitae - peelpizza.com; Mike Shannon’s Grill - 871 S. Arbor Vitae Dr. - mikeshannonsgill.com; Doc’s Smokehouse - 6108 Shoger Dr., Suite D - docssmokehouse.com; Gingham Buffalo - 500 N. Main St. - theginghambuffalo.com; Water Sweats Soap Company - 6108 Shoger Dr., Suite C - watersweatsssoap.com; What to Wear - 921 S. Arbor Vitae; Seams for the Soul Boutique - 216 S. Buchanan St. - seams4thesoul.com; Good Sports Cards & Memorabilia - 1990 Troy Rd., JC; Four Muddy Paws - 212 S. State Rt. 137 - fourmuddypaws.com; Whisker Bones Supply Co. - 138 N. Main St. - whiskerbones.com; Chef’s Shoppe - 2320 Troy Rd. - chefsshoppe.com; Wildey Theatre - 252 N. Main St. - wildeytheatre.com; Edison’s Entertainment Complex - 2407 S. State Rt. 137 - edisonsfun.com; YMCA Meyer Center - 7348 Goshen Rd. - edwardsvilleymca.com; AMC Edwardsville 12 - 6633 Center Grove Rd. - amctheatres.com; Edwardsville Children’s Museum - 722 Holyoke Ave. - edwardsvillechildrensmuseum.org; 1820 Col. Benjamin Stephenson House - 409 S. Buchanan St. - stephensonhouse.org; TownePlace Suites by Marriott - 610 Center Grove Rd. - marriott.com; Comfort Inn - 3080 State Rt. 137 - choicehotels.com; Holiday Inn Express & Suites - 1000 Plummer Dr. - ihg.com; Country Hearth Inn & Suites - 1013 Plummer Dr. - stayinn.com

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siue.edu/visit
Jerseyville

Surrounded by farms, prairie and woodlands, Jerseyville has the distinction of being one of the largest cities in Jersey County and is home to the annual Jersey County Fair celebrating life in the rural community. The historic Cheney Mansion and nearby Fulkerson Mansion, rich with Underground Railroad History, and even a bit of ghostly activity, keep the city's history alive. A vibrant downtown district provides shopping and dining options. The stately Romanesque Revival-style county courthouse sits at the crossroads of the city's main highways.

EAT

Espresso Yourself in the city with a stop at the aptly named bakery for muffins and classic cinnamon rolls. Be sure to try the Taco Rolls with a side of salsa and sour cream. Stop in at Big Boys Donuts for more sweet delights. Good times are brewing at George's Local Brew. Known for its cold beer and cocktails, the restaurant serves up sandwiches and classic thin crust pizza. Everything is handmade at the 1880 Pizza Pasta House. Enjoy salads and paninis in addition to domestic and imported wines and beers. DJ's Pub & Grill has daily lunch and drink specials. Stop by Brossio Tavern and sample their juicy burgers and beer on a second floor outdoor patio.

PLAY

History lovers delight in visiting the historic Cheney Mansion built in 1827 and once a 'station' on the Underground Railroad. Historical tours and paranormal investigations are held throughout the year. Pre-arranged tours are available at the historic Fulkerson Mansion. Take a walk and enjoy a picnic at the Wock Family Lake and Walking Trail. Family-fun is waiting at Tri County Bowl.

EAT

To Do's

Jerseyville's noteworthy past at the Axe Company. History buff's enjoy a visit to the Glen Carbon Heritage Museum and Yanda Log Cabin which bring the past to life. STAY

Spend the night at Hampton Inn & Suites, conveniently located 255 with easy access to St. Louis.

PLAY

Leap in to fun at Altitude Trampoline Park with wall-to-wall trampolines. Thousands of square feet of bouncing fun include Extreme Dodgeball, Trampoline Basketball, a Foam Pit and more. Hone your axe throwing skills at The Axe Company. History buffs enjoy a visit to the Glen Carbon Heritage Museum and Yanda Log Cabin which bring the past to life.

STAY

Spend the night at Hampton Inn & Suites, conveniently located near Interstate 255 with easy access to St. Louis. Rich dark coal veins weaving underneath this community gave this village its name. Glen means "village" in Welsh and 'Carbon' refers to coal. Now considered "One of the Best Places to Live in the U.S.,” Glen Carbon sits on the edge of major interstate highways and has easy access to St. Louis. A replica covered bridge welcomes drivers to the downtown district and the historic Yanda Log Cabin, located on Main Street, brings pioneer life front and center. Be sure to visit the Glen Carbon Heritage Museum and take a walk, or bike ride, on the miles of paved trails carving throughout the village.

EAT

Take a break while exploring Glen Carbon's noteworthy past at the Wooden Nickel Pub and Grill. Handcrafted woodwork and oak floors carry over the "rustic" past theme. Stop in for a quick drink at the Old Towne Tavern, which has been serving the community since 1890. Enjoy smoked meats, paninis, salads, sides and hoagie pizzas and some great munchies including Bacon Fat Popcorn which complements the selection of wines, specialty cocktails and rotating menu of seasonal craft beers at The Cabin at Judy Creek. Be sure to stop by the Weeping Willow Tea Room for a hearty soup, sandwich or salad.

SHOP

Gently used women's fashions line the racks at Karma on Main in downtown Glen Carbon. Pick up a piece of unfinished pottery at Pottery Hollow Painting & More and paint it on site. Planning a party? Check out the party décor at To Do's.
Godfrey

Scenic views, rolling hills and abundant nature trails are just a few of the charms found in Godfrey, which roams from the banks of the Mississippi River to the prairie of southwest Illinois. Named in honor of Capt. Benjamin Godfrey, a native New Englander who settled in the village, the community boasts dozens of shops, restaurants and tea rooms. The village is also home to Lewis & Clark Community College, originally founded as the Monticello Seminary for Women.

EAT Start your day at the only Mister Donut shop still operating under its original name (think Dunkin’ Donuts now) and snag a cup of coffee and an original gooey glazed donut. For anyone looking for pancakes at noon, Clifton Country Inn & Bake Shop serves breakfast all day. Shop and dine at the highly regarded Josephine’s Tea Room & Gift Shops. The elegant restaurant serves lunch in a historic mansion with landscaped gardens. Don’t forget dessert! Hickory smoked hand pulled pork is just one of the regular menu choices at Carver’s Southern-Style BBQ. The food consistently wins Best BBQ competitions. Farm-to-table quality paired with Midwestern comfort food highlights the menu at Bakers & Hale. Lunch, dinner, brunch and kids menus on tap. For a quick meal or to stock up for a planned picnic, stop in at Godfrey Meat Market. Watch your favorite team and game at Roper’s Regal Beagle, a relaxed sports pub and grill. Be sure to stop at Shivers Frozen Custard for a cool treat.

SHOP Browse shelf after shelf of antique glass at My Antique Store. Specializing in glass, china and flatware, there is also small furniture, art and pottery available. Dresses, shawls, jewelry along with scarves, handbags, home decor and more fill the rooms of Josephine’s Tea Room and Gift Shops. Discover discount name brand clothing at the Factory Connection.

PLAY Stroll through the Monticello Sculpture Gardens at Lewis & Clark Community College. Self-guided tours are available of the grounds which have been designated by the Missouri Botanical Gardens as a Signature Garden. Discover trails and paths through a diverse landscape including hardwood forests, prairies and wetlands at The Nature Institute. Be sure to stop by Glazebrook Park, a 120-acre area with two ponds, playgrounds and three miles of walking trails. In the fall, get lost in the Great Godfrey Maze.
Grafton

Breathtaking views of the confluence of the Illinois and Mississippi rivers are just part of Grafton’s charm. Ride to the top of the river bluffs on the new SkyTour, a gondola and open air chair lift, then sip a glass of wine while drinking in the views from 300-feet high. New shopping and dining opportunities dot the riverfront community’s Main Street. Spend the night in a variety of guest houses and bed and breakfast inns and walk the streets outlaw Jesse James reportedly wandered.

EAT Embrace the river themes in Grafton by dining out in an aquarium restaurant at Fin Inn where the fish and turtles join diners at tableside aquariums. Both O’Jan’s Fish Stand and Beasley’s Fish are no frills outdoor food stands serving up fresh fried fish. Sit beside the Mississippi River and enjoy a drink and Dock Salsa at The Loading Dock. Enjoy award winning local wines along with refreshing lunch and dinner entrees at Grafton Winery & Brewhaus or travel to the top of the river bluffs and enjoy the views at The Winery at Aerie’s Resort. Good old fashioned barbecue is on the menu at the Hawg Pit BBQ Barn. Be entertained by the décor and live music at the 3rd Chute Bar & Grill. Cajun food is served up at the Grafton Oyster Bar.

SHOP Stroll down Grafton’s Main Street and stop in at Harrison’s Gifts for whimsical décor and more. New to You and Treasures Past & Present are the places to go for antique hunters. Enjoy southwestern art and more at Pajarito. For a memento of your trip to Grafton, step inside River Bank Gifts. And, of course, the Grafton Riverside Flea Market, held the last weekend of the month through October, is a picker’s paradise.

PLAY Glide along the Mississippi and Illinois rivers on the 49-passenger Hakuna Matata excursion boat. Take your adventure to the next level with Grafton SkyTour. Then explore the tree canopy on the river bluffs with Grafton Zipline Adventures. During colder months, indoor ice skating at The Loading Dock Ice Rink provides winter fun.

STAY Make it a weekend getaway with a stay at Tara Point Inn & Cottages high above Grafton on the river bluffs. Scenic views and a relaxed setting are always in season. More than 34 local guest houses scattered throughout the city provide casual getaway experiences.

For a complete list of events and adventures visit EnjoyGrafton.com • GraftonILChamber.com

EnjoyGrafton.com • GraftonILChamber.com
Elsah

Massive limestone bluffs cradle the Village of Elsah, located in a small valley along the Mississippi River and the Great River Road. As historic as it is picturesque, the entire village has been named to the National Registry of Historic Places. Settled in the mid-1800’s, all of the original homes were built out of limestone quarried from a nearby site. The village is often referred to as the “village where time stood still.” Quaint bed and breakfast inns and shopping complete a day spent in the village.

SHOP Step back into a simpler time with a leisurely walk through the picturesque village. Be sure to stop at the Elsah General Store and pick up a bottle of vintage soda, old-fashioned candy, local honey, pottery and more. Peace Works – A Market With a Mission is stocked entirely with fair trade goods where each item has a mission and a portion of the purchase price is donated to charitable organizations. Merchant on Mill has quaint gift items and cottage inspired vintage home décor. Boho, peasant luxury and festival fashions are available at The Look Factory.

PLAY Take a bike ride through the streets of historic Elsah. Visit TreeHouse Wildlife Center for an up close look at animals native to the region. Wander through the Village of Elsah Museum for a look into the past.

STAY Enjoy a peaceful overnight stay in Elsah. Homemade breakfasts and afternoon snacks are on tap at the Green Tree Inn of Elsah, a bed and breakfast inn. Check out Maple Leaf Cottage Inn Bed & Breakfast for a relaxing stay, also located in the heart of the village.

Elsah General Store
22 LaSalle St.
elsahgeneralstore.com

Peace Works – A Market With A Mission
7 Mill St.
shopthelookfactory.com

Merchant on Mill
47 Mill St.

The Look Factory
43 Mill St.
shopthelookfactory.com

TreeHouse Wildlife Center
23956 Green Acres Rd.
treehousewildlifecenter.com

Village of Elsah Museum
26 LaSalle St.
escapetoelsah.com

Green Tree Inn of Elsah
15 Mill St.
greentreeinnelsah.com

Maple Leaf Cottage Inn Bed & Breakfast
12 Selma St.
mapleleafcottageinn.com

e escapetoelsah.com

GO: Elsah – A Step Back in Time – Village in Illinois

RiversandRoutes.com
Calhoun County

Striking natural beauty and lush farmlands blend together in Calhoun County which is bordered on the west by the Mississippi River and on the east by the Illinois River. The location between the rivers gives the peninsula county a desirable micro-climate perfect for growing peaches, apples and other produce. Picturesque barn quilts adorn the sides and fronts of rural buildings. Migrating birds make the county a bird watcher’s paradise during the fall. American Bald Eagles fly in for the winter months.

EAT Brussels: The historic Wittmond Hotel is home to all-you-can-eat, family-style meals. Fried chicken, fried catfish, burgers and roast beef are on the menu at AJ’s Bar & Grill. Hardin: Dine on a catfish sandwich or filet at the iconic Illinois Riverdock Restaurant, located on the banks of its namesake. Go to the Straight Home Bar & Grill for tasty meals and cold drinks. Pick up a burger and fries at the Hardin Drive In.

Batchtown: The Old Fill Inn Station has a diner atmosphere attached to a bar.

PLAY Brussels: Eagles, American White Pelicans and more call the Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge home. Make a stop at the Historic Brussels Jail, originally called a “calaboose” where inmates at one time had to sleep standing up. Check in to the Calhoun Visitor Center for maps and information. Hardin: Browse through the Calhoun County Historical Society Museum. Take a ride across the Joe Page Bridge, one of the few lift bridges left on the Illinois River.

The Center for American Archeology provides a look at the prehistoric history of the region.

SHOP Brussels: Visit the wide variety of orchards and roadside stands for fresh fruits, vegetables and pumpkins including: Hagen Family Orchard, Toppmeyer’s Orchard and Odeleh’s Roadside Market; Hardin: Jacobs Orchard, Golden Eagle: Eberlin’s Orchard and Jacobs Orchard.

Carrollton

Rolling hills and farmland surround Carrollton, the county seat of Greene County and home to the historic Courthouse Square. The courthouse is a limestone Romanesque-Revival building built in the late 1800’s and occupies an entire city block. The courthouse and surrounding 12-block business district is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Carrollton sits in the middle of Greene County on State Highway 108. Greene County is bordered on the west by the Illinois River. Travel through Greenfield, White Hall and Roodhouse to fully explore the county. Don’t miss Greene Field Farms for a great family farm experience.

STAY Spend the night at the Farmhouse Loft, located in the heart of downtown Carrollton. The guest house is near dining and the historic county courthouse.

EAT Enjoy a cup of coffee during the day and wine and spirits in the evening at Copper Stills & Mash. A limited food menu is also available and live music is on tap just about every Saturday night. Authentic flavors and ingredients make the pizza’s at Alfonso’s memorable. For more casual tastes, check out the Dairy Bar of Carrollton for local ice cream and sandwiches.


Copper Stills & Mash - 430 N. Main St., Alfonso’s - 514 N. Main St. - alfonsoospizza.biz; Dairy Bar of Carrollton - 234 S. St. - dairybarcarrollton.com; Farmhouse Loft - 506 N. Main St. - fhloft.com; Greene Fields Farm - 311 Daum Station Rd. - greenefieldsfarm.com
Litchfield

EAT Take a break from driving down the Mother Road at the historic Ariston Café. Known for its neon signage and huge menu, it is believed to be the oldest cafe on Route 66 today. The Ariston is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Don’t miss dessert and luscious baked goods at Jubelt’s Bakery, located a hop-skip-and-a-jump from the Ariston. Casual homestyle food is on the menu at Tosi’s Route 66 Café.

SHOP Explore historic downtown Litchfield which is chock full of antique shops, home décor boutiques and more. The perfect antique awaits at Phyllibemas’ Antiques. Nana’s Hidden Attic and the Litchfield Indoor Flea Market also yield up treasures to the careful shopper. Motor cycle enthusiasts should make Niehaus Cycle Sales a must stop.

PLAY Spend an evening enjoying a great movie complete with popcorn and a soda at the Sky View Drive-In Theater, the last original operating drive in on Route 66 in Illinois. Visit the Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welcome Center for a look at Mother Road memorabilia and a dive into the city’s rich history. Enjoy a picnic, spend the day on the beach, kayak, hike and bike at Lake Lou Yaeger. Explore the Shoal Creek Conservation Area with a camera at this home to over 700 species of plants, 70 kinds of butterflies and 74 different species of birds. The Pickers Market takes over the streets of downtown Litchfield the second Sunday of each month May through October.

STAY Spend the night along Route 66 in Litchfield. Six hotels in the city including Hampton Inn and Holiday Inn Express & Suites offer relaxing getaway opportunities. Hotels are located just off Interstate 55 and on the Mother Road.
CARLINVILLE

This rural community is best known for its historic Sears Homes neighborhood, built in 1918 to house coal miners by the Standard Oil Company. And, of course, the Million Dollar Courthouse, which was supposed to cost $50,000 to construct and ended up totaling $1.3 million (in 1870 dollars). A courthouse was supposed to cost $50,000 to construct.

EAT For more than 100 years, Taylor’s Mexican Chili Parlor has been providing top-notch chili, tamales and butter bean soup to diners. Fresh ingredients are key for Abella’s Restaurant, a family-friendly spot serving up breakfast, lunch and dinner. Enjoy the rustic atmosphere at Crabby’s Supper Club, a family-friendly spot. Desserts are made in-house and check out the pies made every weekend by the owner’s mother.

SHOP For those on the hunt for eclectic antiques and vintage and magical finds, stroll through Country Gypsy. More antiques, upcycled and recycled goods are available at Olde, on the city square. Mother Road Antiques is open seven days a week for shoppers and has antiques of all shapes, sizes and prices. One-of-a-kind gifts and souvenirs are available at Cherry Tree Gifts & Souvenirs.

PLAY Tour the historic Million Dollar Courthouse, built at a cost of $1.3 million in 1870. It took residents more than 40 years to pay off the construction costs. The building is a working courthouse to this day. Don’t miss the Cannonball Jail, a fortress-style building built with Civil War era cannonballs. It was once a Route 66 stop.

East Alton

East Alton has a storied past as a railway community and industrial center. Today it is home to a growing retail and culinary scene and celebrates its community history in a local city-run museum.

EAT Breakfast is the most important meal of the day and First Stop Bake Shop is the best place to enjoy it. Indulge in sourdough breakfast paninis, bagels and lox, and of course, French pastries. New to the East Alton food scene is J.J. Therme’s, which features Jalapeno-Belly Bombers, Pickle Fries, Popeye’s Spinach Salad and a host of aptly named sandwiches and entrees. For a quick bite, stop in at Magnum’s Bar & Grill. Don’t be put off by the name, Airliner Bar & Grill is family-friendly and has lunch and dinner specials in addition to cocktails and beer. Super premium small-batch ice cream is made in-house at Blue Ice Creamery.

SHOP Bargain hunters enjoy shopping at Pure Bliss Home Décor. Most furniture, décor, rugs and accent pieces are up to half off regular retail prices. Locally owned and operated, the Community Seed and Feed store has outdoor lawn ornaments and more. Spend the day at Sandi’s Costumes & Alterations. Shoppers won’t be able to see everything the store has to offer in just one day.

PLAY Lace up a pair of skates and take to the ice at East Alton Ice Arena. The city owned rink has open ice skating year round. Axe-erts come together at Riverbend Axe Throwing, a bar and lounge that has specially designed axe throwing targets, pool tables, big screen TV’s and more. If it’s movie and popcorn time, head to AMC Eastgate 6 for big screen entertainment.
Troy

Troy has been a crossroads town since it was founded in the early 1800s. Once the site of the first stagecoach stop for travelers to and from St. Louis along the newly created National Road, the vibrant city now sits at the intersection of Interstates 55 and 70. With both small town charm and easy access to St. Louis (just 18 miles away), the city has developed a growing culinary scene and has a wealth of overnight options.

EAT  It may not look like much from the outside, but Kelly’s Butcher Shop & Deli is where the locals go for hot meals daily. Look for it behind the 4-0 Quick Shop at the intersection of U.S. 40 and Troy-O’Fallon Road. To satisfy a taste for Tex-Mex, check out Terra Sur. For pizza, check out Alfonzo’s Pizzeria and Joe’s Pizza and Pasta. Handmade ice cream is the perfect treat available at City Scoops Creamery.

PLAY  A skateboard park, Frisbee golf course, lake, over two miles of walking trails and a petting zoo are all available at Tri-Township Park. There is also a radio-controlled vehicle crawler course.

STAY  Five different hotels offer overnight options, all conveniently located near interstate highways. Stay at the Best Western Troy Hotel and enjoy room amenities like a wet bar, jetted tubs and suites. Free breakfast bar, indoor pool and fitness center are part of any stay at the Holiday Inn Express. Enjoy a suite complete with a whirlpool hot tub, mini fridge and microwave at Red Roof Inn St. Louis – Troy. Complimentary continental breakfast and a heated indoor pool are part of the Super 8 by Wyndham experience.

Kelly’s Butcher Shop & Deli  804 S. Main St.  kellysbutchershopanddeli.com; Terra Sur  920 Edwardsville Rd.  terrasurtroy.wixsite.com; Alfonzo’s Pizzeria  611 Edwardsville Rd.  Joe’s Pizza and Pasta  904 Edwardsville Rd.  orderjoes.com; City Scoops Creamery  300 Edwardsville Rd.  cityscoopscreamery.com; Tri-Township Park  410 Wickliffe St.  tritownshippark.org; Best Western Troy Hotel  2020 Formosa Rd.  bestwestern.com; Holiday Inn Express Troy  2011 Formosa Rd.  ihg.com; Red Roof Inn St. Louis – Troy  2030 Formosa Rd.  redroof.com; Super 8 by Wyndham  910 Edwardsville Rd.  wyndhamhotels.com
PICK UP YOUR FORK AND SPOON AND GET READY TO INDULGE YOUR TASTE BUDS WITH GREAT SANDWICHES, SALADS, SOUPS, STEAKS AND MORE DURING ANNUAL RESTAURANT WEEK DINING EVENTS HELD THROUGHOUT THE SIX COUNTY GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES REGION.

Locally owned and operated restaurants in participating communities showcase signature dishes at fixed prices highlighting the growing culinary trendiness of the region.

Make plans now for a culinary road trip to sample a taste of the region and discover a new favorite dining experience.

For 10 days in October, the Ed-Glen Chamber of Commerce celebrates Edwardsville’s trendy and growing restaurant scene with SAVOR. The 10-day restaurant week event, set for Oct. 2–11, features fixed price specials at participating restaurants. The event is a salute to the restaurateurs, cuisine and diners in the city. Enjoy tender smoky BBQ, hand-tossed wood-fired pizzas, family-recipe Italian dishes, enchiladas and tacos with a Guadalajara flair, and some of the best sweet potato French fries in the area.

For a list of restaurants and more information, visit www.edglenchamber.com/restaurant-week

Prepare to celebrate 10 years of dining delights during Alton Restaurant Week, Jan. 15 – 24, 2021. Traditionally held the third week of January, this 10-day dining adventure has repeatedly delighted diners with its large participation of locally owned and operated restaurants and the variety of entrees available. From secret recipe fried chicken to mouthwateringly juicy pepperloin steaks and everything in between, area restaurateurs ensure this is a dining event not to be missed. Restaurants in Alton, Godfrey, Grafton, East Alton and Bethalto all take part. Fixed price specials are available for lunch and dinner. Be sure to pick up your commemorative Restaurant Week glass which features an Alton landmark.

Go to AltonRestaurantWeek.com for more information.

Collinsville’s newly minted Restaurant Week returns for its second year Feb. 26 – March 7. Lunch and dinner fixed price specials show off the city’s growing culinary scene. Past participants include Mungo’s Italian Eatery, Old Herald Brewery & Distillery and Sloan’s Pub House among others.

RiversandRoutes.com/restaurants for more information.

It’s all about the craft experience on this new mobile pass. Sample some of the best craft beers, wines and spirits brewed at local breweries, wineries and distilleries throughout the six county Great Rivers & Routes region. Enjoy discounts on food, brews and tours at the eight highlighted locations on the pass. Check in at four locations and earn a free prize.

To download your pass and start your craft adventure go to: Explore.RiversandRoutes.com

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dining

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1063 S. State Route 157 • Edwardsville
(618) 659-2000 • Bellamilanos.com

Bella Milano is a neighborhood restaurant famous for its delicious food, casual atmosphere, and heart-felt heritage and family-style dining. The menu changes daily based on the cravings of the kitchen and over 400 guests.

MORRISON'S IRISH PUB
200 State St. • Alton • (618) 433-8900
Morrisonirishpub.com

Morrison's Irish Pub is a family-friendly restaurant and bar with seasonally rotating sandwiches, salads and soups designed to pair with the brewery’s organic beer. Daily food specials and the menu has vegan and gluten-free options.

CASTELL'S RESTAURANT AT 255
3400 Fosterburg Rd. • Alton • (618) 462-4620
Castellis255.com

Castell's 255 is a neighborhood restaurant that has been in business for over 80 years. Family recipe pasta, Italian dressing and more highlight the menu.

CLEVELAND-HEATH
106 N. Main St. • Edwardsville • (618) 307-4830
Clevelandheath.com

Cleveland Heath is a family-owned and operated restaurant with a seasonal menu. The menu changes daily based on the cravings of the kitchen.

OLD BAKERY BEER COMPANY
606 Main St. • Alton • (618) 462-1500
Oldbakerybeer.com

Old Bakery Beer Company is a neighborhood restaurant famous for its signature hand pies, ½ pound chicken salad sandwiches and more. The menu changes daily based on the cravings of the kitchen.

BLUFF CITY GRILL
424 E. Broadway • Alton • (618) 382-8288
Bluffcitygrillalton.com

Bluff City Grill enjoys a relaxed, casual dining experience in downtown Alton with a menu that ranges from salads and sandwiches to steaks and pasta. Watch your favorite game on the 14 TVs in the lounge & sports bar.

MUSIC

THE LOADING DOCK
401 Front St. • Grafton • (618) 786-3494
Graftonloadingdock.com

The Loading Dock is a neighborhood restaurant famous for its homemade pies, ½ pound chicken salad sandwiches and more. The menu changes daily based on the cravings of the kitchen.

PORTER’S STEAKHOUSE
1000 Eastport Plaza Dr. • Collinsville
(618) 345-2400
Porterscollinsville.com

Porter’s Steakhouse is a classical steakhouse with a seasonal menu, extensive wine list, casually chic atmosphere and amazing dining options. Thursdays are Prime Rib Night at Porter’s Steakhouse. A classical steakhouse with a seasonal menu, extensive wine list, casualy chic atmosphere and juicy prime rib special with live music every Thursday night.

THE WINERY AT AERIE’S RESORT
600 Timber Ridge Dr. • Grafton • (618) 786-7477
Aerieview.com

The Winery at Aerie’s Resort is a neighborhood restaurant famous for its homemade pies, ½ pound chicken salad sandwiches and more. The menu changes daily based on the cravings of the kitchen.

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The Inn has two Riverside rooms
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Three Cottages have a total of eight suites,
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all have king size beds & Whirlpool Baths.

Tara Point is located just 12 National Scenic Byway miles upriver from Alton, atop a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. Many say it's the most beautiful view in the Midwest. All Inn Rooms & Cottage Suites have great river views.

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(618) 465-8985

1900 Homer Adams Parkway
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Winery | Indoor Pool | State Park
Conference Center | Hiking & Biking Trails
Scenic Drive | Tennis, Volleyball & Shuffleboard

618-786-2331
PMLODGE.NET
RiversandRoutes.com  6463  Great Rivers & Routes

ALTON MARINA GIFT SHOP
1 Henry St. • Alton • (618) 462-9860
Altonmarina.com

Everything you need for a day on the boat, or a day in the sun can be found at the marina gift shop. Shop for the latest trends in jewelry, hats, bags and more. Adjacent deli has sandwiches and great mixed drinks.

COUNTRY MEADOWS
401 E. Broadway • 413 E. Broadway • Alton
(618) 465-1965

Searching for antiques, collectibles, or vintage pieces? This long-time Alton antique store has an ever-changing collection of classic items.

GRAFTON HARBOR GIFT SHOP
215 W. Water St. • Grafton • (618) 786-7678
Graftonharbor.com

Clothing, nautical gifts, liquor, wines and children’s gifts are available at the gift shop attached to the floating harbor.

ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS & PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES WITH GIANT STATUES

TWISTEE TREAT DINER
ICE CREAM, FRUIT JUICE, CHOCOLATES & TAFFY RETRO CANDIES

401 W. Water St. • Grafton • (618) 786-7678

COUNTRY MEADOWS
401 E. Broadway • 413 E. Broadway • Alton
(618) 465-1965

MISSISSIPPI MUD POTTERY
308 Veterans Memorial Dr. • Livingston
(618) 637-2366

An entire school gym has been converted into row upon row of antiques and collectibles that range from early 20th century to the more kitschy modern keepsakes. An adjacent candy store offers homemade fudge and old-fashioned candy.

PINK ELEPHANT ANTIQUE SHOP
908 Veterans Memorial Dr. • Livingston
(618) 637-2366

An entire school gym has been converted into row upon row of antiques and collectibles that range from early 20th century to the more kitschy modern keepsakes. An adjacent candy store offers homemade fudge and old-fashioned candy.

MISSISSIPPI MUD POTTERY
308 E. Broadway • Alton • (618) 462-7573
Mississippimudpottery.com

Handmade pottery is created right in front of your eyes at this shop named an Illinois Maker. Durable bowls, mugs, plates and more are created. Be sure to check out the artistic and authentic leaf and fish designs.

WHAT’S IN STORE?

REMEMBER WHEN SHOPPING MEANT ACTUALLY GOING IN TO A STORE AND BROWSING THE AISLES? RE-DISCOVER THE JOYS OF SHOPPING IN THE GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES REGION WITH ITS BLEND OF TRENDY AND ANTIQUE SHOPPING DELIGHTS.

Mississippi Mud Pottery
310 E. Broadway • Alton • (618) 462-7573
Mississippimudpottery.com

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“Ice Cream, Fruit Juice, Chocolates & Taffy Retro Candies

908 Veterans Memorial Drive
Livingston, IL
618-637-2366

Mississippi Mud Pottery
310 E. Broadway • Alton • (618) 462-7573
Mississippimudpottery.com

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We offer the latest in state-of-the-art innovations and technology in many areas of care while maintaining a hometown feel that provides the warmth and convenience our neighbors have been familiar with for more than 80 years.

Our Services

- Cancer Care (Member of the Siteman Cancer Network)
- Cardiology
- Diabetes Management
- Digestive Health
- Emergency Services
- Imaging
- Laboratory Services
- MRI Services
- Neurology
- Nutrition Counseling
- Orthopedics
- Pain Management
- Senior Care
- Sleep Disorders
- Surgical Services

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WEDDING RECEPTIONS - TASTING ROOM

21028 ECKERT ORCHARD RD
GRAFTON, IL 62037

GRAFTON WINERY
THE VINEYARDS

WWW.THEGRAFTONWINERY.COM

WINE PRODUCTION - CORPORATE EVENTS

2116 COLLEGE AVE. • ALTON

CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND

ROCK SPRING PARK, ALTON, ILLINOIS

2020 SEASON BEGINS NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 27

SUGGESTED DONATION:
AUTO $7 / BUSES & TROLLEYS $1 PER PERSON

WALK THROUGH FIRST MONDAY AFTER THANKSGIVING
OPEN EVERY MONDAY – FRIDAY 8PM - 9PM
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 5PM - 9PM

1.800.258.6645
ChristmasWonderlandAlton.com

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