

FUN FROM A-Z: THE ULTIMATE FAMILY ROAD TRIP ON ARIZONA'S ROUTE 66

[Arizona's stretch of Route 66](#) is more than just a road—it's a journey through time, American ingenuity, and iconic adventure. For families, it's the perfect backdrop for an easy-to-plan but impossible-to-forget road trip. Along the way, you'll uncover history, encounter wildlife, marvel at giant meteors, and discover one-of-a-kind stops that turn "Are we there yet?" into "Let's keep going!" So, buckle up— it's time to hit the Mother Road for a family adventure that delivers fun from A-Z.

KINGMAN: GET READY TO ROLL

Start your trip in [Kingman](#), the "Heart of Historic Route 66." This town has been a hub for travelers and adventure seekers since the 1800s when America's great railroad race made tracks to the Wild West. When Route 66 came along, Kingman's reputation as a crossroads for adventure was solidified, making it the perfect place to kick off your trip.

Be Sure to See:

KINGMAN LOCOMOTIVE PARK

If your littles go loco for locomotives, you've found just the spot. Climb aboard a historic (stationary) steam-powered train, wander the grounds, and soak in a slice of rail history so fun you'll have everyone shouting, "Allllll aboard!!"

ARIZONA ROUTE 66 MUSEUM

Step inside and be transported back to the heyday of the Mother Road. With interactive exhibits and larger-than-life murals, the museum is a hands-on way to introduce kids to the history of Route 66. Who knew learning could be so fun?

SELIGMAN: THE QUIRKIEST MILE ON THE ROUTE

If you've ever seen Disney Pixar's *Cars*, you've already caught a glimpse of [Seligman](#)— one of the real-life inspirations for Radiator Springs. This colorful town is the self-proclaimed "Birthplace of Historic Route 66," thanks to local legend Angel Delgadillo, who led the charge to protect the highway's legacy. Packed with retro vibes and classic attractions like the Roadkill Cafe, Seligman is nostalgia central.

Be Sure to See:

ROUTE 66 GIFT SHOP

This is the place to stock up on kitschy keepsakes and souvenirs that you won't find anywhere else. The bright colors and nostalgic décor make for great family photo ops, too!

DELGADILLO'S SNOW CAP

Treat the family to a quirky pit stop filled with humor and delicious snacks. Grab a shake or a burger, but be prepared for a side of giggles—the staff there loves a good joke!

CAMERON: A STOP FOR THE AGES

As you head East from Seligman, take a quick detour to the Navajo Nation and the small town of Cameron, where history and Indigenous cultures blend into the day-to-day.

Be Sure to See:

CAMERON TRADING POST

The Cameron Trading Post has been serving travelers since 1916 when it was a stop for Indigenous traders. It now offers authentic Native American crafts, intricate jewelry, and traditional cuisine like Navajo-style fry bread. It's a hands-on (and delicious!) way to introduce your kids to Arizona's rich heritage while supporting modern-day tribes.

WILLIAMS: THE WILD (AND WILDLIFE) WEST

In [Williams](#), the Old West collides with Route 66 nostalgia. Known as the “Gateway to the Grand Canyon,” this town is as lively as it is family-friendly. From neon signs to cowboy flair, Williams is packed with attractions that go far beyond the “bear” necessities.

Be Sure to See:

BEARIZONA WILDLIFE PARK

Take a drive on the wild side! Watch as bears, wolves, and bison roam free in this drive-through wildlife park. For more up-close encounters, explore the walk-through area where kids can meet animals face-to-face.

GRAND CANYON RAILWAY

Hop aboard a train straight out of the Wild West! This scenic railway adventure offers singing cowboys, old-timey characters, and stunning views on your journey to the Grand Canyon. And if you happen to be traveling near the holidays, you might get to book a ride with Santa on the seasonal Polar Express!

FLAGSTAFF: ADVENTURES & STARGAZING

Flagstaff is more than one of Arizona's largest cities—it's a galaxy of fun waiting to be explored. Nestled in the San Francisco Peaks, this mountain town has a sky full of stars and an appetite for year-round outdoor adventure, including epic rope courses, endless hiking trails, and even skiing and snowboarding!

Be Sure to See:

LOWELL OBSERVATORY

As the world's first International Dark Sky City, Flagstaff is a certified haven for amateur and expert stargazers! Introduce your kids to the wonders of the universe at this world-famous observatory. With interactive exhibits and nighttime stargazing sessions, it's a stellar way to end the day.

WINSLOW: OUT OF THIS WORLD EXPERIENCES

Just 30 minutes from Flagstaff, you'll find Winslow, a little town with big scientific impacts and croon-worthy fame. Parents, go ahead and blast the Eagles' hit "Take it Easy" as you cruise around town. Photo-ops and out-of-this-world attractions await, and there's no better soundtrack.

Be Sure to See:

METEOR CRATER & BARRINGER SPACE MUSEUM

See the power of space up close and personal! Winslow is home to one of the planet's best-preserved meteor impact sites, created by a 150,000-ton meteorite about 50,000 years ago. The site has hosted NASA scientists and field trips alike. Launch into cosmic curiosity and explore observation decks, guided rim tours and hands-on exhibits. This massive landmark is guaranteed to be a (literal) hit.

HOLBROOK: ANCIENT WONDERS AND PREHISTORIC FUN

Cap off the AZ portion of your trip in [Holbrook](#), where the ancient past can be brought home as a present. Known for its Route 66 kitsch and proximity to Petrified Forest National Park, Holbrook is a town that feels like stepping back in time—both to the heyday of the Mother Road and millions of years ago when dinosaurs roamed.

Be Sure to See:

JIM GRAY'S PETRIFIED WOOD CO.

Step into a treasure trove of ancient artifacts. This shop and museum combo lets kids marvel at real petrified wood, fossils, and even a 2.9-million-year-old alligator skull.

MORE INSPIRATION FOR YOUR TRIP:

Swimming at [Topock66](#)

Petting the burros in Oatman

Looking for goldfish in Shaffer Fishbowl Spring

Seeing the animals at [Keepers of the Wild](#)

Taking the specialty Wild or Explorer's tours at Grand Canyon Caverns (helmets, headlamps, kneepads, and crawling around)

[Route 66 Zipline](#)

The [Poozeum](#) in Williams

Playing in the water in Winslow ([Clear Creek Rentals](#) offers kayaks, tubes, and paddleboards)

Riding the rabbit at [Jack Rabbit Trading Post](#)

Holbrook dinosaurs

[Wigwam Motel](#) (inspiration for the Cozy Cone Motel in Pixar's *Cars*)

GET YOUR TIPS FOR ROUTE 66: KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- **Pack for a Range of Weather:** Despite what old Westerns might portray, Arizona is more than a desert! Temperatures vary across destinations, and the day's highs and lows can swing significantly. Check the forecast and pack accordingly.
- **Remember to Hydrate:** Arizona's unofficial slogan is "At least it's a dry heat." Locals will vouch for the importance of drinking more water than you think you need, even when the temperatures are moderate—dehydration is no fun!
- **Plan Ahead:** Some stops, like Bearizona and the Grand Canyon Railway, will likely require reservations—be sure to check online.
- **Schedule Some Wiggle Room:** Take some musical inspiration and "take it easy" as you wander Route 66—road trips are most fun when you can travel at your leisure and stop when inspiration hits. Don't be afraid to stay an extra night (or two!) while you ramble down the road. You never know what you'll discover!

Need a little extra help planning? Check out [Historic Route 66 AZ](#) for shopping guides, expert advice, and more inspiration!