



Arizona Winter – Phoenix & Tombstone

February 14 – 27, 2026

Day #1 – Saturday, February 14th: (Happy Valentine's Day)

- 5:15 AM** Depart Urbana from Peoria Charter, 1910 N Federal Drive on a shuttle bus or van.
- 6:15 AM** Depart Normal from Schnuck's off Raab Road, 1750 Bradford Lane on a shuttle bus or van.
- 6:15 AM** Depart Peoria from Peoria Charter, 2600 NE Adams Street.
- 6:45 AM** Depart Morton from Wal Mart, 155 E Courtland Street (behind Culvers)
- 7:15 AM** *Shuttle bus/van transfers Normal & Urbana passengers to the Main Coach in Lincoln.* Depart Lincoln from Beck's Truck Plaza, I-55, Exit 126 (behind Arby's)
- 8:00 AM** We arrive in Springfield at **McDonalds*** where we'll make a ½ hour break stop.
- 8:30 AM** Depart Springfield traveling southwest towards our home for the night in Joplin, Missouri. We'll make rest & meal stops as needed along the way.
- 5:00 PM** We arrive in Joplin, Missouri at our home for the night – the **Drury Inn & Suites***. At 5:30 PM, you can come down and enjoy the **"Kickback Program**"** of heavy hors 'd oeuvres and drinks. Dinner will be the kickback program so please plan accordingly.

Day #2 – Sunday, February 15th:

Breakfast* is included here at the hotel this morning.

We check out, board our coach and depart for Tulsa, OK where we'll make a photo stop. Here you'll see one of Tulsa's premier Route 66 attractions, the giant **Blue Whale Sculpture***. The park, built as an animal-themed tourist attraction in the 70's by Hugh Davis, a curator at the Tulsa Zoo, closed down long ago and was left to crumble. Unlike so many other long-suffering Route 66 landmarks, however, the Blue Whale has been lovingly restored by the family of its original creators. Next, you'll have time for shopping and lunch on your own at the **Mother Road Market*** – Oklahoma's first food hall. Here you'll find good food, unique retail, and the WEL Bar! There is also a huge back patio with Rt. 66-themed mini



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golf. Tonight, we'll check into the **Drury Inn – Amarillo, TX***. Another **Kickback Program*** awaits you tonight.

Day #3 – Monday, February 16th:

Breakfast* is included at the hotel this morning.

We check out, board our awaiting coach and depart for another travel day. There are several Route 66 museums found along the historic route stretching across the country, but none of them quite compare to the passion instilled in the **Route 66 Auto Museum*** in Santa Rosa. The museum is a haven for car enthusiasts and those interested in re-living a pivotal era in automobile history. Route 66 Auto Museum started as a business for restoring cars, and it has operated for over 40 years. The owner, Bozo Cordova grew his passion for vehicles alongside his family to create one of the top local attractions. Later, we check into the **Drury Inn & Suites –**



Las Cruces, NM*. Dinner* is included this evening at a local restaurant.

Day #4 – Tuesday, February 17th:

Breakfast* is included at the hotel this morning.

This morning we're off to the **Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum***. Founded in 1952, the museum is widely recognized throughout the world as a model institution for innovative presentation & interpretation of native plants and animals featured together in ecological exhibits. The Desert Museum is ranked as one of the Top 10 Museums in the country and the #1 Tucson attraction. Unlike most museums, about 85% of the experience is outdoors! Next, you'll receive a **\$25 Lunch Voucher*** to use at the **Ironwood Café** located here at the museum. The voucher is good for a drink, appetizer and entrée. Our day ends with us checking into the **Casino Del Sol in Tucson for the next 2 nights***. **Dinner*** is included here at the Casino tonight.

Day #5 – Wednesday, February 18th:

Breakfast* is included at the hotel this morning.

Today we've got a full day enjoying Tombstone – the town too tough to die! Today we'll have a **local expert guide*** with us as we explore. You'll see all of the hot spots in Tombstone beginning with the **historical trolley tour***. This is a 30-



minute, 3-mile narrative tour, the most informative tour in Tombstone that takes you out of the historic district, highlighting all the old churches, and out to the Boot Hill Cemetery. **Lunch*** is at the Crystal Palace Saloon. From its humble beginnings in 1879 as the Golden Eagle Brewery to the present, the Crystal Palace has been a solid Tombstone fixture on the historic corner of 5th and Allen Streets. After lunch, we'll watch the infamous **Gunfight at the O.K. Corral***. See Wyatt



Earp, Doc Holliday, Virgil and Morgan Earp fight the McLaurys and Clantons in this daily reenactment in the Streets of Tombstone Theater. Learn what caused the 30-second showdown that left three cowboys dead. At Tombstone Historama, hear actor Vincent Price narrates this exciting multimedia history of Tombstone from Geronimo's Apache's to modern times. Then you'll enjoy some "free time" in Tombstone to

explore on your own. Our final stop will be a **visit to the Bird Cage Theatre***. The Bird Cage is the site of the longest running poker game in history. Legend has it that 26 people were killed in the theatre during its reputed years as one of the wildest and meanest places in Tombstone. Over 140 bullet holes remain in the building. Our day ends back at the Casino hotel with dinner on your own.

Day #6 – Thursday, February 19th:

Breakfast* is included at the hotel this morning.

This morning, we **visit the Musical Instrument Museum*** in Phoenix. It is the largest museum of its type in the world. The collection of over 15,000 musical instruments and associated objects includes examples from nearly 200 countries and territories representing every inhabited continent. It is a unique experience of sight, touch and of course sound. **Lunch*** is included today at **Café Allegro** which is located here in the museum. The afternoon finds us making music and rhythm together during a one-hour workshop. Learn the basics of African, Latin, and pop music hand drumming from a master instructor, then participate in a thrilling jam session. Next, we'll **visit the Desert Botanical Gardens*** - home to thousands of species of cactus, trees and flowers from all around the world spread across 55-acres in Phoenix. We'll then check into the **Drury Inn Phoenix Chandler Fashion Center for the next 4 nights***. Enjoy the **Kickback Program*** here at the hotel for dinner.

Day #7 – Friday, February 20th:

Breakfast* is included at the hotel this morning.

This morning we'll **visit the Heard Museum***. The Heard Museum sets the standard for collaborating with American Indian artists and tribal communities to provide visitors with a distinctive perspective about the art of Native people, especially those from the Southwest. Next, you'll have some "free time" in **Old Town Scottsdale***. Old Town Scottsdale is a top shopping destination with boutiques, galleries, and shops. It's also home to some of the city's best restaurants. This afternoon you'll have time to explore a museum that may have caught your eye, do some shopping, or check out some art exhibits. If desired, you could sample wines and ales along the Scottsdale Wine or Ale Trail. Lunch is on your own. **Dinner*** is included at the **Old Town Tortilla Factory**. Built from a historic 75-year old Scottsdale adobe home, it captures the timeless charm of the Southwest.



Day #8 – Saturday, February 21st:

Breakfast* is included at the hotel this morning.

Today we start with a **visit to the S'edav Va'aki Museum for a tour***. This museum was formerly known as the Pueblo Grande Museum & Archaeological Park. This ancient village appears to have been settled sometime before A.D. 500 and was abandoned around 1450 for unknown reasons. Next, we'll **visit the Goldfield Ghost Town***. Here you'll have some "free time" to explore and enjoy lunch on your own. Here you'll see historic buildings and hear the extensive mining history of the town. Excellent exhibits of the mining tools that the old timers used to extract gold and silver are everywhere. Following the Ghost Town Tour, we'll take a **Goldmine Tour***. This 25-minute tour is an underground **guided tour*** that takes you back in time to 100 years ago. The guides will be well versed on the history of the mine, town, gold mining equipment and procedures. Hang on tight as the mineshaft shakes from exploding dynamite.



Late afternoon has us getting a **ride on the Superstition Scenic Railroad***. A mile and a half circle the town and the narrated journey lasts 20 minutes. The engineer tells of the history of Goldfield, the Superstition Mountains, and the desert southwest in general. Our day ends with the **Dolly Steamboat for a Twilight Dinner Cruise***. We'll cruise on Canyon Lake and dine in style and complete relaxation during this magical time of the day. Observe Canyon Lake wildlife, like bighorn sheep and bald eagles, as they settle in for the evening.

Day #9 – Sunday, February 22nd:

Breakfast* is included at the hotel this morning.

Our day begins with a **visit to Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin West Home* for a tour**. This beloved winter home and desert laboratory was established in 1937 and diligently handcrafted over many years into a world unto itself. Deeply connected to the desert from which it was forged, Taliesin West possesses an almost prehistoric grandeur. It was built almost entirely by Wright and his apprentices, making it among the most personal of his creations. Next, we'll **visit**



Queen Creek Olive Mill for a class & lunch*. During your Olive Oil 101 Educational Class, you'll learn how extra virgin olive oil at Queen Creek Olive Mill is made, how to use it in the kitchen, and why it's so darn good for you! Experts will teach you how to correctly taste olive oil (no bread) and help you shop in the gourmet Marketplace following the instruction. The evening is free to enjoy the hotel and the **Kickback Program***. Dinner is on your own tonight.

Day #10 – Monday, February 23rd:

Breakfast* is included at the hotel this morning.

We check out, board our coach and depart for Sedona! Upon arrival in Sedona, we board our **jeeps for the Pink Jeep Tour***. Climbing 2,000 feet above the town to the very top of the Mogollon Rim, you'll find a magnificent view. This tour is off-road fun with fantastic photo opportunities as you drive past majestic red rock formations, through pine forest and desert, to the mountain top and back. Next, we head to **Tlaquepaque Village*** where you'll have free time to explore and enjoy lunch on your own. This Arts & Crafts Village is nestled beneath the shade of the sycamores on the banks of beautiful Oak Creek in Sedona. Tlaquepaque is the most distinctive Sedona shopping experience to be found in the Southwest. Evening has us checking into the **Element Hotel*** in Sedona for the night. **Dinner*** will be at a local restaurant.

Day #11 – Tuesday, February 24th:

Breakfast* is included at the hotel this morning.

This morning, we travel to the **Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway for a ride***. The Tramway transports you above deep canyons and breathtaking terrain at a distance of 2.7 miles. You'll see some of nature's more dramatic beauty unfold before you. Later today, we check into the **Drury Inn & Suites in Albuquerque, NM for the night***. You can enjoy the **Kickback Program*** for dinner or find a nearby restaurant on your own.



Day #12 – Wednesday, February 25th:

Breakfast* is included at the hotel this morning.

Today, we'll stop at the **Cadillac Ranch on Rt. 66***. Here there are ten graffiti-covered cars, half-buried, nose-down, facing west at the same angle as the



Cheops' pyramids. Invented and built by a group of art-hippies imported from San Francisco, their silent partner was Amarillo Billionaire – Stanley Marsh III. He wanted a piece of public art that would baffle the locals. So ten Caddies were driven into one of Stanley Marsh's fields and half-buried, nose down. We've got a travel day to get to our overnight lodging in Clinton, OK. Upon arrival, we'll check into the **Hampton Inn*** for the night and enjoy a delicious **Dinner @ Lucille's Roadhouse***.

Day #13 – Thursday, February 26th:

Breakfast* is included at the hotel this morning.

This morning you'll **visit the Cherokee Trading Post*** where you can do some shopping. This family-owned gift shop in Clinton was established in 1967 on historic Rt. 66. The Cherokee Trading Post & Boot Outlet offers Native American jewelry, hand-beaded jewelry, Minnetonka moccasins, Native American artifacts, pottery, art, authentic rattlesnake products, leather jackets and Western items, as well as Oklahoma and Rt. 66 souvenirs. Find a wide variety of cowboy boots for every occasion including a number of different brands at their boot outlet, which is western Oklahoma's largest boot store with over 5,000 boots. We continue our travels into Rolla, Missouri where we'll overnight at the **Hampton Inn***. Dinner is on your own tonight.

Day #14 – Friday, February 27th:

Breakfast* is included at the hotel this morning.

This morning, we depart for Cuba, Missouri. One of 9 American Cities named after that Island Country, it is known as the **Route 66 Mural City***. There are 12



large outdoor murals depicting scenes from local and national history. These include images of Harry S. Truman, Amelia Earhart and Bette Davis. Plus, you'll see the Wagon Wheel Motel and the World's Largest Rocking Chair. Next, we'll **visit the National Museum of Transportation***. Here you'll get an understanding of our country's rails to roads philosophy. The Smithsonian Institution calls on this St. Louis based museum when setting up exhibits as they have the most comprehensive collection in the entire US from railroad to highway. See Bobby

Darin's "Car of the Future" and enjoy a self-guided tour. After the tour, we depart for home to arrive early evening.

Cost Per Person:

Single: \$5659.00 Double: \$4480.00 Triple: \$4075.00 Quad: \$3845.00

Tour Includes: Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation, Professional Driver & Tour Hosts, Hotel Accommodations, All Attractions & Meals in Bold Print and marked with an asterisk*.

If you feel the Driver & Tour Hosts have done a good job, it is appropriate to tip them. We suggest \$4 per customer per day for the Driver & \$4 per customer per day for the Tour Hosts on this trip.

Hotels:

**Day #1:
Drury Inn
Joplin, MO**

**Day #3:
Drury Inn
Las Cruces, NM**

**Day #6 - #9:
Drury Inn
Phoenix, AZ**

**Day #11:
Drury Inn
Albuquerque, NM**

**Day #13:
Hampton Inn
Rolla, MO**

**Day #2:
Drury Inn
Amarillo, TX**

**Days #4 & #5:
Casino Del Sol
Tucson, AZ**

**Day #10:
Element Hotel
Sedona, AZ**

**Day #12:
Hampton Inn
Clinton, OK**