



AIANTA ITINERARY

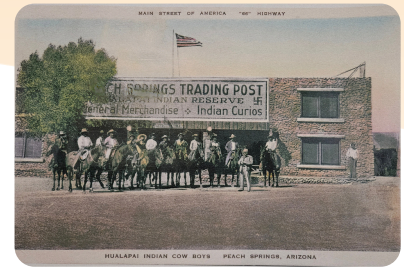
Roots of Route 66

Arizona - New Mexico



AIANTA
American Indian Alaska Native
Tourism Association

Route 66 is more than just a highway—it's an enduring symbol of adventure, freedom, and connection. Long before it became "The Mother Road," these pathways were ancient Indigenous trade routes, linking Native communities across the continent. As we look ahead to the 2026 Centennial of Route 66, AIANTA and Brand USA are honoring these deeper roots through the Roots of Route 66 FAM Tour (Arizona to New Mexico).



DAY 1 - Hualapai Nation, Peach Springs, Arizona

EXPERIENCES

Grand Canyon Skywalk: This glass-bottom bridge extends 70 feet over the Grand Canyon's western rim, offering unforgettable views of the Colorado River 4,000 feet below.

Peach Springs Trading Post: A cultural landmark built in 1928, the trading post once served as a hub for commerce and cultural exchange. It remains a unique stop and serves today as the Fish and Wildlife Office of the Hualapai Tribe.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hualapai Lodge: Located on historic Route 66, Hualapai Lodge is the ideal starting point for exploring Grand Canyon West. Guests enjoy comfortable lodging with access to whitewater rafting, hiking, and cultural experiences.

The Cabins at Grand Canyon West: Rustic and family-friendly, these cabins near the Skywalk offer a cozy overnight stay with modern amenities like refrigerators, microwaves, all inclusive arcade, and wildlife watching!

DINING

Lunch at Sky View Restaurant: Located near the Skywalk, this restaurant offers scenic canyon views and a menu featuring burgers, sandwiches, wraps, salads, and Southwestern-inspired dishes.

Dinner at Diamond Creek Restaurant: Situated inside Hualapai Lodge, Diamond Creek serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner with a menu of classic American fare including burgers, pizza, and salads.



DAY 2 - Navajo Nation & Hopi Tribe, Northern Arizona

EXPERIENCES

Walnut Canyon National Monument: Explore ancient cliff dwellings of the Sinagua people nestled in steep canyon walls. This scenic and educational hike highlights the resilience and ingenuity of early Indigenous communities.

Little Colorado River Gorge: This dramatic canyon, carved by the Little Colorado River, offers stunning viewpoints and a peaceful alternative to the Grand Canyon's more trafficked overlooks.

Dinosaur Tracks: Just outside Tuba City, these well-preserved tracks let visitors step into the ancient past. Walk alongside fossilized dinosaur footprints estimated to be over 200 million years old.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Moenkopi Legacy Inn and Suites: Located on Hopi Tribal land just over an hour from the Grand Canyon's South Rim, this is the first hotel built on Hopi land in more than 60 years. Inspired by the Elders of Upper Village of Moenkopi, the Inn was created as a place of welcome and cultural sharing for all travelers.

DINING

Catered - Traditional Hopi Dinner: Hosted by Hopi Arts Trail member Iva Honyestewa and Iskasokpu Catering, this meal featured traditional dishes like blue corn piki, mutton stew, and Hohoysi tea, offering a delicious and heartfelt introduction to Hopi foodways.





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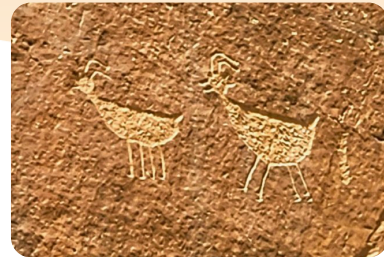


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Day 3 - Hopi Homelands

EXPERIENCES

Experience Hopi Tour: A guided journey through the mesas, including a discussion on Hopi agriculture at the Moenkopi Fields overlook. Learn about the cultural vision of the Upper Village of Moenkopi elders. Includes **Coalmine Canyon**, a colorful and lesser-known natural wonder, **Dawa Park**, accessible only with a certified Hopi guide, Dawa Park is home to hundreds of petroglyphs from various eras, and stops along the **Hopi Arts Trail** to visit the home and gallery of Iva Honyestewa for a traditional basketry presentation and the studio of silversmith Duane Tawahongva to learn about Hopi jewelry making.



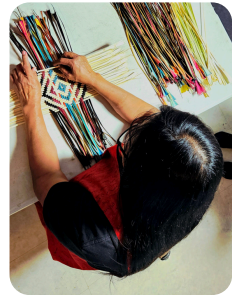
ACCOMMODATIONS

Quality Inn Window Rock: Centrally located in the Navajo Nation, this comfortable hotel is a convenient home base for exploring cultural and natural landmarks in the region.

DINING

Lunch at Hopi Cultural Center: Enjoy a mix of American and traditional Hopi dishes served in a cultural setting.

Dinner at Diné Restaurant: Affordable and satisfying, the Diné Restaurant is known for comfort food favorites like fry bread with butter, honey, or both.



Day 4 - Navajo Nation, Window Rock

EXPERIENCES

Window Rock Tribal Veterans Park: Visit Tségháhoodzání, the iconic natural sandstone arch in the heart of Window Rock. The adjacent Veterans Memorial honors the legacy of Navajo servicemembers with a peaceful space for reflection.

Navajo Nation Museum & Library: Dive deep into Diné heritage at this cultural hub. Explore traditional and contemporary exhibits, language preservation efforts, and genealogical resources that highlight the strength and resilience of the Navajo people.

Navajo Nation Zoo: The only tribally owned zoo in the United States, this sanctuary features animals native to the region. Each exhibit connects to Navajo cultural stories and teachings.

DINING

Lunch at Navajo Nation Museum, hosted by Navajo Tourism: Enjoy a vibrant meal prepared by Chef Jerald Tso (Diné), whose dishes fuse traditional Navajo ingredients with modern culinary flair, and a live performance by Talibah Begay, whose music and teachings honor Diné traditions.

Dinner at Ex Novo Brewing Company, hosted by Visit Albuquerque: Located on historic Route 66, this elevated brewery experience features New Mexican Ranch Cuisine crafted by Executive Chef Marc Quiñones.



Day 5 - Pueblos of New Mexico

EXPERIENCES

Coronado Historic Site: Explore Puebloan and Spanish artifacts on a guided tour with exclusive access to the painted kiva and reconstructed adobe.

Indian Pueblo Cultural Center: Discover Pueblo history through exhibits, murals, and cultural stories. Shop Native art and gifts at the Pueblo Store.

Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway: Ride 15 minutes to 10,378 feet for sweeping views of Albuquerque and the surrounding landscape.

ACCOMMODATIONS

TownePlace Suites by Marriott: The perfect property for travelers exploring Native destinations.

DINING

Lunch at Indian Pueblo Kitchen: Savor Pueblo-inspired dishes made with local ingredients in a warm, cultural setting.



About AIANTA

For more than 26 years, the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) has served as the only national organization dedicated to advancing cultural heritage tourism in Native Nations and communities across the United States. Established by tribes for tribes to address inequities in the tourism system, AIANTA is a 501(c)(3) national nonprofit governed by an all-Native board of directors and serves as a united voice for the \$15.7 billion Native hospitality sector. AIANTA's successful legislative work led to the industry-changing Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act (NATIVE Act) funding in 2018, as Indian Country Tourism was recognized through federal appropriations via NATIVE Act implementation. AIANTA's mission is to define, introduce, grow, and sustain Indigenous tourism that honors traditions and values. Tribes who are looking to start or expand their cultural tourism footprint can find resources at www.ainta.org and visitors interested in learning more about Native culture can visit www.nativeamerica.travel.