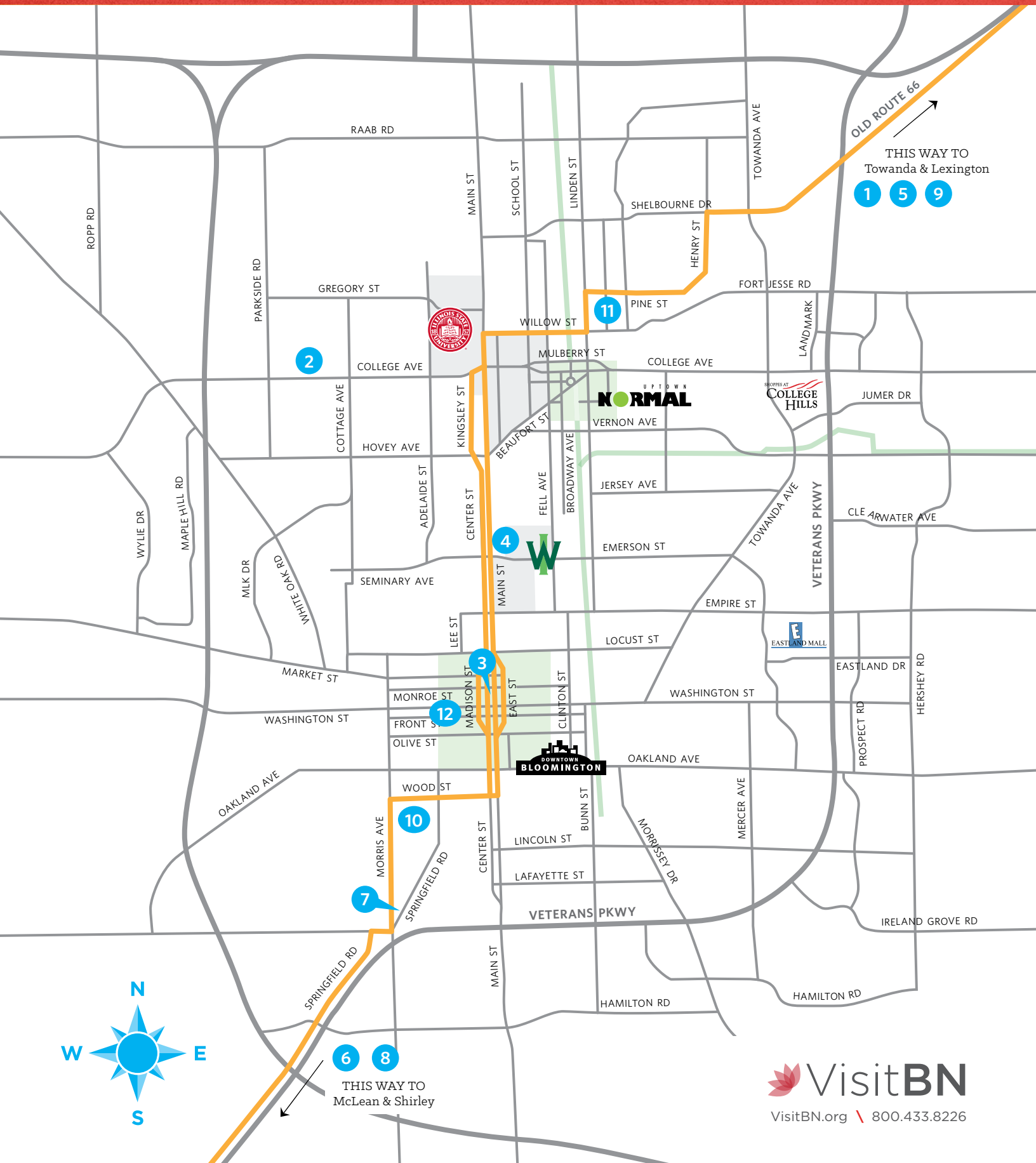


Route 66 Attractions

IN BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, ILLINOIS



OLD ROUTE 66
THIS WAY TO
Towanda & Lexington
1 5 9

THIS WAY TO
McLean & Shirley
6 8

Route 66 goes through Bloomington-Normal!

1. "A Geographical Journey"

Parkway

Along Historic Route 66, Towanda, IL 61776
309.728.2187 • IllinoisRoute66.org

The Parkway is a 1.6 mile stretch of Route 66 with educational kiosks. The walking tour has fliers printed in several languages and a collection of Burma Shave signs.

2. Carl's Ice Cream

1700 College Avenue, Normal, IL 61761
309.454.7732

Carl Garbe bought and named the store Carl's Ice Cream in 1980. Carl and his wife, Betty, started making premium hard ice cream and is still the only ice cream store in Bloomington/Normal that makes its own premium hard ice cream. The Ice Cream Factory features a 14 ft. tall Muffler Man holding an ice cream cone and hamburger.

3. Cruisin' With Lincoln on 66 Visitors Center

200 North Main Street, Bloomington, IL 61701
309.827.0428 • CruisinWithLincolnOn66.org

This Visitors Center combines the region's two most popular historical attractions: Route 66 and Abraham Lincoln. Located at the McLean County Museum of History, it features unique exhibits, local information, a gift shop, and more!

4. Casey's Garden Shop

1505 North Main Street, Bloomington, IL 61701
309.828.1424 • CaseysGardenShop.com

Originally a market that helped feed locals and Route 66 travelers, this family business is now a full-service florist and garden center that has served the surrounding area since 1949. Casey's was inducted into the Illinois Route 66 Hall of Fame on June 12, 1999.

5. Dead Man's Curve

Towanda, IL

A dangerous curve on the original Route 66 before the 1940s, this curve caught travelers off guard as they misjudged its sharpness and narrow width. Many accidents were caused by travelers speeding on the unfamiliar road.

6. Dixie Truck Stop

501 South Main Street, McLean, IL 61754
309.874.2900

In 1928, J.P. Walters and John Geske rented part of a mechanic's garage to sell sandwiches to Route 66 travelers. By the 1930s, the operation had grown to a full-fledged restaurant with cabins and a cattle pen. The stop, which is the oldest truck stop in America, still serves travelers along Route 66 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

7. Forrest Park

1813 Springfield Road, Bloomington, IL 61701

One of the area's most popular tourist camps during the early 1920s, Route 66 tourists would stop here for a rest-area and campground. No longer a lodging zone, it is now a city park populated with mature oak and hickory trees, a playground, and four shelters.

8. Funks Grove Pure Maple Sirup

5257 Historic U.S. 66, Shirley, IL 61772
309.585.4103 • FunksPureMapleSirup.com

This business was established in 1891. It depended on the steady stream of customers that Route 66 brought to its door. Today, the sirup farm at Funks Grove remains a favorite stop among Route 66 travelers.

9. Memory Lane

1020 South Morris Avenue, Lexington, IL

This one-mile stretch of original Route 66 was dedicated in 1926. It has been restored back to the 1940s era with vintage billboard and Burma Shave signs. It can be walked year-round and is open to vehicular traffic during festivals.



10. Miller Park Zoo

1020 S. Morris Avenue, Bloomington, IL 61701
309.434.2260 • BPARD.org

Opened in the late 1800s, the zoo began to house exotic animals after a circus left behind a lion cub. It offers educational classes, special events, group programs, and daily feedings to various animals.

11. Ryburn's Place at Sprague's Super Service

305 East Pine Street, Normal, IL 61761
309.585.4103 • RyburnPlace.com

This landmark opened in 1931 to serve travelers on Route 66, and features an information center and gift shop. It is owned by the Town of Normal, on the National Register of Historic Places, a Town of Normal Local Landmark, and in the Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame.

12. VisitBN Gift Shop

101 South Madison, Bloomington, IL 61701
309.585.6070

The gift shop features McLean County made products such as BEER NUTS® Brand Snacks, soaps, candles, jewelry, and Rader Farms jams and salsas. It also offers postcards, travel mugs, T-shirts and more. This new local gem is located in Grossinger Motors Arena.

