

MARCO  POLO

ON THE ROAD ON
ROUTE

Travel with
Insider
Tips

66

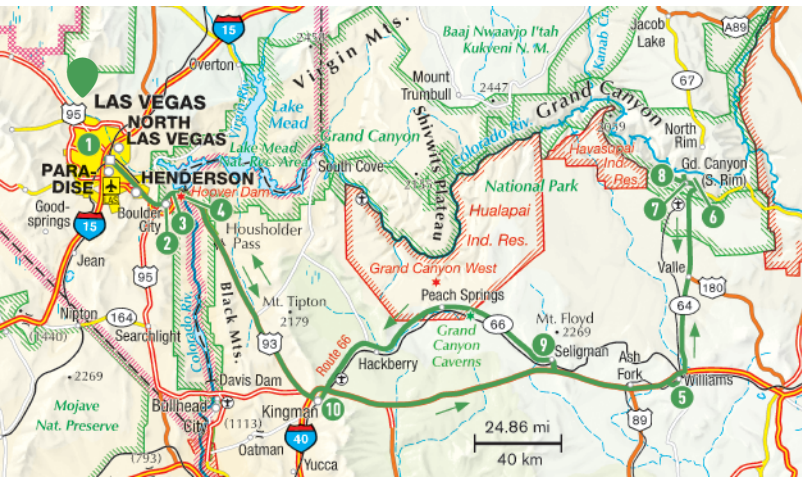


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Hoover Dam




ACROSS NORTHERN ARIZONA

 Las Vegas

 Las Vegas

 600 mi

 2 days,
pure driving/
hiking time
15 hours



You should book your hotel at the Grand Canyon as far in advance as you can. Starting in October, it can be extremely cold in the Grand Canyon. Temperatures frequently drop below -20°C in the winter.

- Staring into the deep at the Hoover Dam
- Tourist highlight: Everyone goes to the Grand Canyon
- Get your kicks on Route 66
- A pancake breakfast in a nostalgic dinerr
- Whatever the weather – sunset at Yavapai Point is always a sight to see
- A bike tour with a view along the rim of the Grand Canyon
- Neon signs and polished classic cars take you back to a bygone era

WHERE HOOVER DAMMED THE COLORADO

DAY 1

Step away from the breakfast buffet in **1 Las Vegas** today. There's a better breakfast in the coffee shops of **2 Boulder City** namely in the **Southwest Diner** (southwestdinerstl.com). So hit the road south on US 93. Just past Boulder City, a stop at the **3 Alan Bible Visitor Center**, is good preparation for the first attraction on this route, the monumental **4 Hoover Dam** (Turn off US 93 onto the Hoover Dam Access Road). There's no time for a longer tour, but it's quite an experience to stand on the giant, 221-meter-high concrete wall or to look up at it from the new bridge below the dam. Your palms will certainly be sweaty if you dare to peer over the railing. Continue on US 93, which now crosses into Arizona. Take I-40 in Kingman; it leads straight east across the wide, lonely plains of northern Arizona. Next stop: **5 Williams**, a little tourist town on historic **Route 66** that has western flair, a lot of bars, and funny souvenir shops along Railroad Avenue. Good for lunch with plenty

1 Las Vegas

25 mi 40 min.

2 Boulder City

5 mi 10 min.

3 Alan Bible Visitor Center

5 mi 10 min.

4 Hoover Dam

186 mi 3,5 hrs.

5 Williams

57 mi 1 hrs..



Grand Canyon – Mather Point

of road movie charm, the terrace of **Cruiser's Cafe 66** (cruisers66.com).

A GIANT CANYON AND PLENTY OF TOURISTS

It's about *an hour by car* from Williams on *US 64* and *US 180* to the south rim of the **6 Grand Canyon**. Anyone who wasn't smart enough to have booked a hotel in **Grand Canyon Village** in advance must first search for accommodations before driving into the park. After checking in, go to the visitor center at **Mather Point** and get the first breathtaking view of the 1600 km-deep canyon and its imposing rock formations. From here, it's easy to hike along the canyon's rim – **Yavapai Point** is about 1 km away. It's a little quieter there, and the view to the west in the evening light will provide you with plenty of new perspectives. It's an awe-inspiring experience. If in the summer it's still a long while until sunset, it's worthwhile to take the shuttle bus to **Hopi Point**.

6 Grand Canyon

DAY 2

BIKE ALONG THE CANYON RIM

3 mi 5 min.

7 Grand Canyon Village

8 mi 1,5 hrs.

8 Hermit's Rest

105 mi 2 hrs.

9 Seligman

The next morning, a view-packed bicycle tour from **7 Grand Canyon Village** to **8 Hermit's Rest** 13 km away is on the agenda. Rent bikes from **Bright Angel Bicycles** (bikegrandcanyon.com) across from the visitor center. This route takes you on bicycle paths and the paved Hermit Road to several spectacular outlooks where you can see across the labyrinth of steep stone cliffs. Have a quick bite in a local joint, then start the trip back from the Grand Canyon. Go back to Williams and *I-40* via *US 180* and *US 64*, then take *Exit 123* to **9 Seligman**, the most famous small town on Historic Route 66 in Arizona. Nostalgia reigns here, with old neon signs and polished classic cars parked along the streets. The photogenic **Delgadillo's Snow Cap** (*301 Route 55*)

is perfect for a coffee and ice cream stop. From here, Historic *Route 66* leads you further westward, across Peach Springs, on a wonderfully lonesome side road. In **10 Kingman** you're back in civilization, just in time for dinner. You might try some real southern BBQ at **Floyd & Co. Real Pit BBQ** (loydandcompany.com). in the old town center. After that, it's about two hours' drive back from *Kingman* to **1 Las Vegas** on *US 93*.

87 mi 2 hrs.

10 Kingman

100 mi 2 hrs.

1 Las Vegas

Welcome (back) to Las Vegas!



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