

# THEMED ITINERARIES > THE GREAT RIVER ROAD TRIP

Sunset view from the Villa Kathrine



An American institution for more than 80 years, the Great River Road follows the Mississippi River for 3,000 miles through 10 states, from northern Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico in Louisiana.

## AMERICA'S NATIONAL



"Betty Blue" cruises the Quincy Riverfront



Lily pads thrive at Nauvoo's wide expanse every summer



The sun peeks through an iceberg on Quincy Bay

### THE GREAT RIVER ROAD IS NOT A SINGLE ROAD

It's a collection of local, state, and federal highways that tell the story of the Mississippi River and its people. Discover four-season celebrations and witness the ever changing natural beauty of the varied landscapes.

Illinois contains the longest segment of the Road, clocking in at 550 miles. There are nearly 100 historic sites, museums, and other attractions that are part of the Great River Road Network of Interpretive Centers.

### 2023 QUINCY AREA EVENTS on the Great River Road

- > Great River Eagle Days / Jan 28-29
- > Bridge the Gap to Health Race / May 13
- > Big River Steampunk Festival / May 19-21
- > Fishing for Freedom / June 2-4
- > Freedom Fest / July 3-4
- > Friends of the Trails Ultimate Ride / July 8
- > Riverfest Music Festival / Aug 18-19
- > Nauvoo Grape Festival / Sept 1-3
- > Frontier Settlement Days / Sept 9
- > Moonlight Ride for Hunger / Sept 9
- > Rotary Bourbon & Popcorn / Nov 4

### TWO GREAT RIVER ROAD FACTOIDS:

- > It takes a drop of water 90 days to travel the length of the Mississippi River, from Lake Itasca in northern Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico in southern Louisiana
- > It would take about 36 hours of driving to complete the Great River Road north to south (that only includes driving on one side of the river minus segments that are on both sides, e.g., WI/IA v. IL)

For more info & ideas visit:

**RiversandRoutes.com** & **ExperienceMississippiRiver.com**.

Watch for the green paddle wheel icon along the way.







Follow our **SPOTS TO SPOT Trail** from Quincy to Nauvoo. Be awed by the majesty of our regal National Bird and enjoy history, food & drinks along the way. Prime eagle-viewing months are Nov-Feb, but these stops are worth exploring all year long.



**1 LOCK & DAM 21** 909 WEST LOCK & DAM RD / QUINCY / 217.228.0890

Eagles have been wintering here since the opening of this system in 1938. Hundreds per day are often spotted during peak season. Drive to boat launch for the best view.



**5 SPIRIT KNOB WINERY** 2211 640TH PL URSA / 217.964.2678 / [spiritknobwinery.com](http://spiritknobwinery.com)

Warm up to a cozy stone fireplace, award-winning wines, and stunning views. Search the owner's favorite majestic oak of which the eagles are equally fond.



**2 VILLA KATHRINE** 532 GARDNER EXPY QUINCY / 217.224.3688 / [thevillakathrine.org](http://thevillakathrine.org)

High atop the river bluffs, Quincy's Mediterranean castle is a prime viewing spot where eagles migrate annually. Interpretive Center #26 and Quincy's Tourist Info Center. Open for self-guided tours year round.



**6 WARSAW BREWERY** 900 N 5TH WARSAW / 217.505.1009

Situated on a rising slope above the Mississippi, the brewery building holds a colorful past, now offering a full restaurant, bar, and outdoor terrace with prime river views. Closed seasonally after NYE.



**3 THE DOCK** 1021 BONANSINGA DR / QUINCY 217.223.9748 / [thedockthatrocks.com](http://thedockthatrocks.com)

Enjoy the direct river view, throw a game of bags, and dance the night away. Quincy's local riverfront bar with fun indoor/outdoor spaces and refreshing beverages.



**7 LOCK & DAM 19** END OF KEOKUK ST HAMILTON / 319.524.2631

The largest capacity, single powerhouse electricity generating plant in the world upon its completion in 1913. On the National Register of Historic Places; spans the Mississippi from Hamilton to Keokuk, IA.



**4 QUINSIPI ISLAND** 1419 BONANSINGA DR QUINCY / 217.223.7703 / [quincyparkdistrict.com](http://quincyparkdistrict.com)

Cross the bridge at All America Park to enter a unique, 130-acre island park with plentiful riverlife, playground equipment, marina & docking, plus Lincoln-era log cabin village.



**8 RED BRICK STORE** 865 WATER ST / NAUVOO 217.453.2246 / [redbrickstore.com](http://redbrickstore.com)

This historic structure is part of the Nauvoo "Flats," with the Mississippi adjoining its back lawn. Look for the eagle's nest just north of the store, and lunch at a quaint eatery in town.