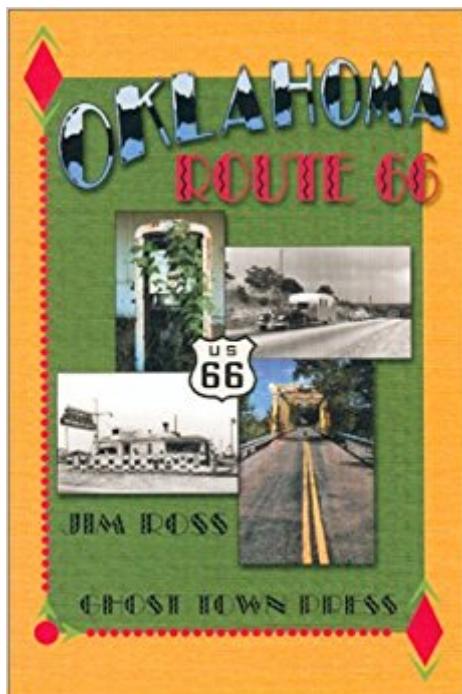


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Oklahoma Route 66



Synopsis

"Oklahoma Route 66" is the ultimate tour book to the Sooner State's 400 miles of Mother Road. Written by veteran highway historian Jim Ross, "Oklahoma Route 66" contains 62 hand-crafted maps and more the 240 images, including historical documents, vintage postcards, and period photos never before published. Introduction by Michael Wallis, Pulitzer Prize nominated author of "Route 66: The Mother Road."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If you are an explorer, like me, this book is for you. "Oklahoma Route 66" is an adventurer's feast! -- David Knudson, Executive Director, National Historic Route 66 Federation This is a historian's treasure trove, a cartographer's dream, and a boon to all who travel Oklahoma 66. -- Thomas Arthur Repp, author, "Route 66, The Empires of Amusement"

Jim Ross published the first guidebook to the Oklahoma road in 1992 ("Oklahoma Route 66, The Cruiser's Companion"). An accomplished writer, editor, and photographer, he is also co-author of the best-selling "Here It Is! The Route 66 Map Series," and co-producer of the video, "Bones of the Old Road." Fittingly, he lives on historic Route 66 near Arcadia, Oklahoma.

One simply cannot find a better written Route 66 book than this one. If you think you're going to travel the Route in Oklahoma, don't do it without this book. Even if you're just passing though OK on a longer 66 trip. This book is SO complete, the Oklahoma Highway Dept uses parts of it for their

website section on Route 66. What's that tell ya? (See: [...]) You'll want something like the excellent "Route 66: EZ66 Guide for Travelers" by Jerry McClanahan for travelling the rest of Route 66, but while in OK, you'll put that down and use this book. Trust me. If you explored every single alignment and all the "ghost 66" sections listed herein, you could spend a week on 66 just in OK. Even if you're just doing a less "investigative" trip, you'll learn more from this book than any other. I got to meet the author on my recent Route 66 trip, and he is a great guy, just overflowing with info about and obvious passion for Route 66. (He even lives on an old alignment of Route 66, in a house that looks like an old cottage-style Phillips 66 station!) Get this book, you will not regret it.

Michael Wallis, one of the foremost authorities on Route 66 today, has given Jim Ross the title "Pathfinder of the Mother Road" in his introduction to Ross' "Oklahoma Route 66." The title is well-deserved, as proven by Ross's careful exploration of Route 66 in his home state for this 75th anniversary year of the Road. The photos are a wonderful sampling from all the decades of the Road's life, right up to the year 2000. Ross writes with nicely-turned phrases that are both colorful and descriptive, but clear and to the point. But as Wallis' title promises, it appears that the maps and Ross's detailed tracing of the route and its many changes in Oklahoma will be a contribution to the history of Route 66 that will long be remembered. As a long-time enthusiast of the Mother Road, I have read many books and articles on the subject but have yet to see a book on 66 that offers such detail and documentation of the road itself. Those who read about and travel the Oklahoma portion of the Road in the future will be greatly indebted to Ross for this study and documentation of its pathway through the Sooner State. The book is far more than the tracing of a roadway. Ross pays tribute to the many persons and places who have made Oklahoma unique among the states through which it passes: Cyrus Avery, the "Father of the Mother Road," Jack "Mr. 66" Cuthbert, who worked hard to promote 66 when the interstates threatened it, Lucille Hamons, the "Mother of the Mother Road" and icon of the roadside businessperson, and many others. His closing paragraphs express a genuine love for the Road and a true appreciation for its continuing place in our culture. To say the least, it is an absolute must for anyone who has a serious interest in the Mother Road.

As a die-hard fan of Route 66, I have read and devoured many books trying to get from one town to the next without getting lost (which everyone does at least once!!). This book is the only one you will need when crossing Oklahoma on Rt 66. I wish more were like this for each state, I would own the whole set!! A definite "must-have" for 66 roadies.

As an historic highway researcher and writer myself, I was greatly impressed with Oklahoma Route 66 by Jim Ross. Jim provides so much detailed information on following the Mother Road through Oklahoma that not a single scrap of any alignment has been left to anyone's imagination, right down to the original dirt roads used in 1926 and the interim strips of asphalt laid down to connect the old road to sections of new interstate highway being constructed in the 1950s. For die-hards like me who want to know each and every place the old road went, this book is a dream. The maps are concise and easy to read. The photos are crisp and plentiful. Just what I expected from the man who, along with Jerry McClanahan, brought us the Bones of the Old Road video and Route 66: The Map Series. Fun to read and to use, this book's a keeper.

Oklahoma's own Jim Ross has written a masterful book on America's Main Street. The book combines maps that are clean and easy to follow, numerous vintage images of photos and postcards that enhance the enjoyment of the book, and information about the people and places along the way. He even has included historical information about how the road came about. Anyone interested in history or in finding the road in Oklahoma (including every known alignment) will want to have this book. This is a book the novice as well as the seasoned veteran roadie will enjoy!

Jim Ross has done it again. "Oklahoma Route 66" is a must have guidebook for those Mother Road travelers navigating Oklahoma's stretch of the Mother Road. The photographs and maps are fabulous. Thanks, Mr. Ross, for your exceptional research. I plan to bring my copy on my next 66 journey through Oklahoma.

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