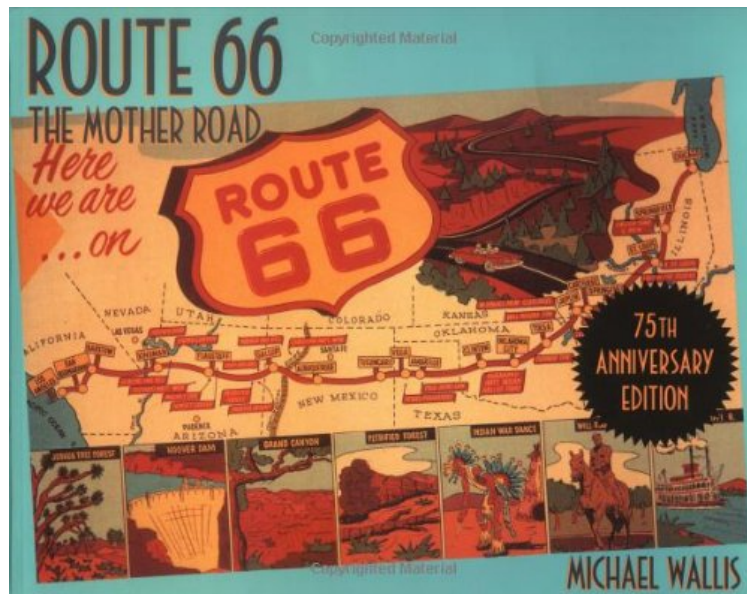


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Route 66: The Mother Road 75th Anniversary Edition

Michael Wallis

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Michael Wallis : Route 66: The Mother Road 75th Anniversary Edition before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Route 66: The Mother Road 75th Anniversary Edition:

32 of 32 people found the following review helpful. Excellent front to back historical coverage of Rt. 66. By G. Mohr This is a great book for just kicking back and taking a virtual ride on Rt. 66. I, myself, have never been down the road as I am an East Coaster and never yet made the western trek to California. However, I always dreamed of doing such in a RV and now I know for sure what road to take. While I have heard of Rt. 66 before, I (never prior to reading this book) knew much about the road. What got me started on Rt. 66. was the fairly recent Disney movie "Cars" (of which I highly recommend seeing). The movie touched upon what Rt. 66 means to America and its past and also the effects of the Interstate system and I-40 on Rt. 66. The author of the book, Michael Wallis, has a cameo in "Cars" as the voice of the police car. So it was quite obvious to me that if Mr. Wallis' knowledge is good enough for Disney... Well, this made my decision very clear on what Rt. 66 book to purchase. Wallis's knowledge of the road is fantastic and expansive. He takes you from the road's beginnings both literally and historically. You go through each state and further to each town along the route, explaining in detail how the roads beginnings were to how they are today. After reaching California, Wallis then has a dedicated chapter on how a recent movement is presently undergoing to restore Rt. 66. highlighting those business's that remain and new and old attractions to visit. As other reviews pointed out, this book does create a very vivid image in one's mind that does allow you to virtually go down Rt. 66. It is a great 'primer' for those who want to brush up on their Rt. 66 history and also gives you a good idea of places to visit once you plan a trip on the historic road. Created in sections by state, you can either choose to go through the book front to back as I have or choose to reach each state in more detail. Everything is here. The only gripe I would have with the book is that while it is an excellent historical document on Rt. 66, I was hoping that key places would be easier to find and laid out more like a reference book. This way I could easily look up attractions in each state and see how they were and how they are now. I am assuming I would get this wish by buying Russ Olsen's

"Route 66: Then and Now" book. As for traveling, I know I would want a quick reference. If you are traveling Route 66, using this book as a reference will have you fumbling through pages. So this book is best read BEFORE one takes on the trip. For the road trip itself I was recommended "Route 66 Adventure Handbook" by Drew Knowles and also the "EZ66 guide for travelers" by Jerry McClanahan. (I have still yet to read these). From what I gathered by other reviewers these two books supplemented with Wallis's book would give anyone everything they would need to know about Rt. 66. So bottom line, for overall history and just about everything you need to know about Rt 66. while taking a virtual tour of the road, well, this is it. This is where this book shines. A fantastic book best read from cover to cover. However for a quick reference to take on an actual Rt. 66 road trip, that is where this book falls short. There are probably better sources for that task. Overall a great buy for the price and it would make a great addition to anyone's American history library and it would also make a great coffee table book (especially if they made a hardcover edition). 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Herman Rummelt Jr Wonder what the Route 66 craze was all about? This well written book covers the topic from A-Z. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By willkelli Great Book!

America's Main Street is celebration, Michael Wallis hit the road again, revisiting people and places that made the Mother Road an American icon, and uncovering new treasures. A love letter and a tribute, Route 66: The Mother Road takes us on an unforgettable journey through the secret corners and hidden towns of America's most famous and beloved highway.

Like others before him, from John Steinbeck to Charles Kuralt, Michael Wallis went on the road in search of America. The result is...a colorful paean to a most romantic byway. The New York Times Since the do-gooders abolished public hangings, the only show in town worth watching is the traffic on Highway 66 heading West, and Route 66: The Mother Road is the best book we have to tell us what we are seeing. Stanley Marsh III, owner of the Cadillac Ranch, Amarillo, Texas This story of our nation's most famous highway keeps alive an important part of American history. It's a delight! Will Rogers, Jr. Route 66 changed the course of my whole life. I will treasure my trip forever, and this book recaptures very vividly every memory. Bobby Troup, songwriter of "(Get Your Kicks on) Route 66" Any of you who love nostalgia will love Route 66: The Mother Road as much as I do. Tony Hillerman A love letter to the road... {Wallis} wraps the history of the route around pictures of it and lets the people who have traveled and lived along the Mother Road tell their stories. Kelli Pryor, Entertainment Weekly About the Author Michael Wallis is an award-winning historian of the Old West and author of Route 66: The Mother Road.