

TRANSPORTATION

Along the Mighty Mississippi



From its headwaters at Lake Itasca to where it empties into the Gulf of Mexico, the Mississippi River stretches more than 2,300 miles. Its collective stories celebrate the flow of life that has shaped and sustained land, people, fauna, and flora over centuries.

Experience these stories as you drive along the Great River Road National Scenic Byway, which traverses ten states on both sides of the river. Visit our website for the locations of nearly 100 official Interpretive Centers along the way.

The dramatic story of Mississippi River transportation, conveyed through some of the Interpretive Centers, reflects the river's economic importance.



ExperienceMississippiRiver.com

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Some Suggested Interpretive Centers

Science Museum of Minnesota – Mississippi River Gallery

120 W. Kellogg Blvd. - Saint Paul, Minnesota - 651.221.9444

smm.org

Gallery showcases the interaction between the Mississippi River and the lives of the people who depend on it. Board a Mississippi River towboat or try the River Pilot Simulator.

Riverside Museum

410 E, Veterans Memorial Dr. - La Crosse, Wisconsin - 608.782.1980

lchshistory.org

Learn about the impact the Mississippi and Black rivers have had on the development of the area. The museum also houses artifacts from the 1870 wreck of the steamboat War Eagle.

Buffalo Bill Museum & River Pilots Pier

199 N. Front St. - LeClaire, Iowa - 563.289.5580

buffalobillmuseumleclaire.com

Along with stories of legendary heroes, the museum displays a wooden-hulled, Western Rivers stern-wheeler, the only surviving example of such a boat.

George M. Verity Riverboat Museum

101 Mississippi Dr. - Keokuk, Iowa - 319.524.4765

geomverity.org

The George M. Verity was a stern-wheel riverboat that began service in 1927, pushing barges up and down the Mississippi and Ohio rivers until it was retired in 1960.

City of Clarksville Visitor Center

302 N. 2nd St. - Clarksville, Missouri - 573.242.3132

clarksvillemo.us/visitorscenter.html

Center has an observation deck overlooking Lock and Dam #24, a great place to view the working river firsthand.

Cairo Custom House Museum

1400 Washington Ave. - Cairo, Illinois – 618.734.9632

Historic building and museum was once a facility that collected tariffs on imports travelling up the Mississippi. It is one of the few surviving U.S. Customs houses.

River Road Queen Welcome Center

Washington County Welcome Center & Museum of the Delta

Hwy. 82 and Reed Rd. - Greenville, Mississippi - 662.332.2378

visitmississippi.org

Welcome center is a replica of an 1800s steamboat. Unique structure was originally built for the Mississippi Pavilion at the 1984 New Orleans World's Fair.

Plaquemine Lock State Historic Site

57730 Main St. - Plaquemine, Louisiana - 225.687.7158

lastateparks.com

The lock and waterway helped bring trade and prosperity to much of Louisiana. In 1909, it was considered a feat of engineering, lifting boats and barges 51 feet.