Lincoln to Grant Memorial Highways Two-Day Driving Tour
Some Considerations before Taking a Trip:

- This Tour is designed as a two-day tour, going counter-clockwise, with an overnight stay in Galena in the historic DeSoto House Hotel. You could start at any of the towns listed and loop around with different beginning and ending points. If you do not stay overnight in Galena, you may wish to consider staying at the bed and breakfast in Franklin Grove, called the Lincoln Way Inn or at the Crawford House in Dixon. Information about either can be found at: http://lincolnwayinn.com/ and http://www.crawfordhouseinn.com/.

- A two-day tour could be done on a Saturday and Sunday but the museum hours may be reduced in some locations on Sundays. Also, the rates to stay at the DeSoto House Hotel in Galena are usually less for a non-weekend night. There are generally fewer visitors in Galena during the week compared to the weekdays. If possible, a Thursday-Friday two-day tour would be ideal. Information about the DeSoto House is here: http://desotohouse.com/. Recommendations for accommodations are based on previous stays in the past by members and are not paid endorsements. Some museums are not open on Mondays.

- This is a visually rich area with plenty of places to visit, with a whole variety of activities. You can choose what you think you would like to see as priorities ahead of time.

- Off Route 20 in Union are the Illinois Railway Museum and the McHenry County Historical Museum and you will see signs for both places. That rail museum is huge and it is possible to spend several hours there. It and the historical museum might be worth visiting on another separate trip rather than racing through it and trying to squeeze in visits on a two-day tour.

- There are many wineries and antique stores along the way, especially closer to the Galena area. The wineries are signed and you can follow those signs if you want to stop in at a winery. There are so many cute antique stores along this whole route. This guide would be at least fifty pages long to list them all. You can choose to stop in if you wish. One recommended antique store to visit is the Lena Mercantile Company, just off Stagecoach Trail on 101 West Railroad Street in Lena.

- In the fall and early winter, the sun will set obviously rather early. For taking pictures in Apple River Canyon State Park, you may wish to consult the Internet for sunset times and arrive at least an hour prior to sunset to snap a few pictures prior to losing daylight. This link shows sunset times for Rockford, Illinois, which is similar in latitude and is the closest large city for planning purposes:
http://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/usa/rockford. For those who choose to stay overnight in Galena, there will be some back tracking along the U.S. Grant Memorial Highway the next morning to get to the Great River Road, so there will be a second chance for pictures in and outside Galena the next morning.

- There are multiple ways to get to and from the Apple River Canyon State Park. The most direct route from Lena is via a couple of gravel roads. It is possible to get there on a paved route. Both routes will be in the directions below. There is also a northern route to Galena from the State Park but to get back on the U.S. Grant Memorial Highway, these directions will take you through Stockton.

- For Grant's Home in Galena, so there is no surprise, visitors do wait on the porch outside for the guided tours. There should see a sign with directions about waiting for a guide. A docent will come outside and the wait is usually not very long at all, especially if one takes pictures of the outside of the house while waiting. The gift shop is limited and it is in the last room of the house, in the kitchen and pantry area. To find more books, pamphlets, etc., about President / General Grant, there are gift shops in the Visitors' Center and the Galena & U.S. Grant Museum, too.

- Many, but not all, of the museums are free-will donations for admissions. There is really no such thing as a free museum because all museums have at least utility and other expenses to keep their doors open, even those that rely on volunteer docents. Please consider being generous in giving toward free-will donations.

- While in Galena or Geneva, please drive slowly and be very mindful about pedestrians who are in a daze window-shopping and do not hit them!

- Names of businesses, Web URLs, and museum hours were accurate as of Fall 2015 but may change without notice.

- Some but not all nature preserves and parks have locations described here. Many locations on this driving around are in beautiful, natural settings in addition to their historical importance.

Day One: Geneva to Galena

Historical Geneva
There are many shops and restaurants in Geneva. If possible, there is street parking available on S. Third Street, in the heart of the historical center. For advance planning on what to see, there are listings on the Geneva Chamber of Commerce Website at:
http://www.genevachamber.com/about.php. Of all of the shops, The Little Traveler is one of the oldest of the shops in Geneva and it is located on a later generation realignment of the Lincoln Highway. Information about The Little Traveler can be found here: https://www.littletraveler.com/.

The Geneva History Museum is also on S. Third Street. It usually opens at 11:00 a.m. For information, please see: http://www.genevahistorymuseum.org/.

Geneva to U.S. Grant Memorial Highway, Elgin, Driving Time 30 Minutes

Continue following S. Third Street, cross the railroad tracks, and turn left at the traffic light onto Route 31 / Lincoln Highway / S. First Street heading north. Lincoln Highway will veer off to the left and west onto State Street / Route 38 at the next major intersection at the traffic light but continue to follow Route 31 northward toward St. Charles along the Fox River. Past State Street, Route 31 becomes N. First Street. As Route 31 enters St. Charles, it becomes Geneva Road.

St. Charles
In St. Charles, on the right side of Route 31, the Jalapeño Grill Mexican restaurant has eye-catching murals.

At the corner of Route 31 and Route 64, the old St. Charles National Bank is on the left side, now the law firm of Vanek, Larson, & Kolb. On the right side next to the Fox River is the historic Hotel Baker.

North of St. Charles there are numerous parks and forest preserves along the Fox River. On the right side is Ferson Creek Park with an easy looped drive. Past Red Gate Drive, there is a short turn off at Fox River Bluff West as part of the Kane County Forest Preserve system. Further north, immediately on the right past S. McClean Boulevard is another short turn off at the Blackhawk County Forest Preserve.

Continuing north, the Fox River Valley Trolley Museum can be seen from the road on the right side. It is not open on weekdays, just Saturdays and Sundays. The Website is at: www.foxtrolley.org/. But, there is an access road into the County Park near the museum and some of the trolleys can be seen from the road.

U.S. Grant Memorial Highway, Elgin to Lena, Driving Time 2 Hours
Elgin
Route 31 is also called LaFox Street toward approaching Elgin. The Trolley Museum is on the edge of Elgin. Continue northward. On the left side will be the large Elgin Mental Health Center. On the right side will be the Secretary of State's Department of Motor Vehicle facility. Just past the DMV, at the stoplight, turn left to the west on Route 20. This part of Route 20 will look more like an interstate because it is a bypass and it has an on-ramp like an interstate.

Continue on Route 20. To the west of Randall Road / Route 34, Route 20 will become a four-lane highway and it will not look like an interstate anymore until it is closer to Rockford.

Udina
Continue on Route 20 West. It is also called Reinking Road.

Pingree Grove
Continue on Route 20 West as Reinking Road splits off. Route 20 is also called Oak Street.

At Route 47, turn right to follow North Route 20. For a half mile, Route 20, Route 47, and Route 72 merge toward the north. This area is notorious for large road construction projects. Sometimes, road signs are not present where they should be due to construction. The large, white Pingree Grove water tower can serve as a landmark. It is near the corner where Route 20 turns northward and joins Route 47 for a half mile before turning left to become Route 20 West again.

Starks
Take the left lane to follow Route 20 West to Marengo.

Allens Corners
Continue following Route 20 West. On the left side is the Hampshire Forest Preserve.

Hampshire
Past I-90, more U.S. Grant Memorial Highway signs appear more frequently.
Harmony
Continue following Route 20 West and it is also called the South Grant Highway. There will be signs for the Railway Museum and the McHenry County Museum in Union. Those may be better to visit as a separate trip. The Railway Museum is huge.

Coral
Continue following Route 20 West.

Marengo
Route 20 becomes E. Grant Highway then W. Grant Highway past Route 23.

Garden Prairie
Continue following Route 20 West.

Belvidere
Route 20 becomes a four-lane divided highway. On the approach to Rockford, remember not to take Business Route 20; that goes through many, many stoplights.

Cherry Valley
Follow the signs for Route 20 West / South I-39 / South 51 toward Bloomington. The road will look like an interstate, with a cloverleaf. Follow Route 20 West to Freeport and watch the signs carefully because I-39 veers to the south. Route 20 West will still feel like an interstate because it is a bypass of Rockford. Past Rockford, it becomes a four-lane divided highway again.

Winnebago
Continue following Route 20 West. It is also called West State Street.

The terrain starts to become hillier around the State Police Headquarters and the Seward Bluffs Park Forest Preserve near the city of Pecatonica to the north.

Turn right on S. Browns Mill Road to stop at the Freeport Stephenson County Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB). There is an historical marker for the second Lincoln - Douglas Joint Appearance right outside the CVB. The CVB has many travel brochures, information, and restrooms.

Route 20 West will cross the meandering Pecatonica River in this area.
Freeport
Continue following Route 20 West. Do not take Business Route 20 because that goes through many stoplights.

Eleroy
Continue following Route 20 West. There are some old telegraph poles that can be spotted in this area. Outside Eleroy is Skate Station, a skating rink still in use today. Zero out the odometer and go 3.6 miles.
→ Turn right onto Galena Road at The Rafters Restaurant. This is Stagecoach Road. Follow it for a side trip to the old town of Lena.

Lena
Stagecoach Road is also called Lena Street in Lena.
← Turn left on Schuyler St. / Route 73.
Go one block then → turn right on Railroad Street. The Lena Mercantile Company antique store is there across the street from the Subway restaurant. The Website is at: www.lenamercantile.com/.
Follow Railroad Street and see the Lena Water Tower on the left along Vernon Street.

Lena Water Tower to Apple River Canyon Park, Driving Time 30 Minutes
There are two main routes from Lena to Apple River Canyon Park, the more direct route that includes gravel roads (1) or the longer but paved route (2).

(1) For the Direct Route with Gravel Sections
From the Lena Water Tower, backtrack on Vernon Street and ← turn left on Lena Street / Stagecoach Road. Follow it outside Lena, and it becomes Galena Road. Follow Galena Road / Stagecoach Road through Waddams Grove, traveling 7 miles.
← Turn left at East Canyon Road and there should be a directional sign pointing toward the Apple River Canyon Park. The Park entrance is 5.6 miles away.

(2) For the Longer Route with No Gravel
From the Lena Water Tower, backtrack on Vernon Street and → turn right on Lena Street / Stagecoach Road to backtrack to The Rafters and Route 20.
→ Turn right at The Rafters and take Route 20 West. Go 9.2 miles.
→ Turn right on IL-78 North. Go 6.1 miles.
Turn left on East Canyon Road. The Park entrance is 3 miles away.

**Apple River Canyon State Park**
There are some short hiking trails but there are many scenic areas that can be enjoyed from a car. There is no entrance fee for the park.

**Apple River Canyon Park to Galena, Driving Time 45 Minutes**

When ready to leave Apple River Canyon State Park, follow the signs to return to Highway 78 via East Canyon Road.

- Turn right on IL-78 toward Stockton.
- Turn right on Route 20 West and go toward Stockton.

**Stockton**
The historic downtown area with a couple of antique shops is on the left following Main Street. Otherwise, continue following Route 20 West.

**Woodbine**
Continue following Route 20 West.

**Elizabeth**
- Turn right at East Myrtle Street for the Apple River Interpretive Center and Museum Store parking lot for the Apple River Fort.
- Retrace the short drive on East Myrtle Street and return to Route 20 West by turning right.
- Route 20 West will bend around to the left in the middle of Elizabeth. Continue following it to the west. There will be a bend to the right as Route 20 West heads out of town.

Route 84 (the Great River Road) joins with Route 20 to the west of Elizabeth and it merges with the U.S. Grant Memorial Highway between Elizabeth and Galena.

**Scenic Overlook**
On the right-hand side, watch for signs for the Scenic Overlook. Turn right into the Scenic Overlook and find the parking lot. There are clean restrooms with running water at this place. The hours are seasonal, though. Backtrack and turn right to exit the Scenic Overlook and return to Route 20 West.
Pass the Tapley Woods Conservation Area on both sides of Route 20 West.

**Galena**

Continue following Route 20 West into the heart of Galena. Cross the Galena River on the bridge and be prepared to turn right immediately after the bridge.

➔ Turn right immediately after crossing the bridge at Main Street. Stay on Main Street as Water Street splits off to the left. The DeSoto House Hotel is on the corner of Main Street and Green Street, with the address 230 S. Main Street.

There are two 15-minute parking spaces right in front for people to use as they check into the hotel.

Advantages of the DeSoto House Hotel are its central location and its off-street parking garage. Parking in Galena can sometimes be a challenge, although it should be less busy on a weekday compared to a weekend.

**Day Two: Galena to Back to Geneva**

Walk to These Locations from the DeSoto House:

**Galena Welcome Center**

This building has a small museum dedicated to Galena and U.S. Grant, travel information, a gift shop, and restrooms in the next building over. It closes at 5:00 p.m. and opens at 9:00 a.m. It is free to enter.

➔ Walk to the right after exiting the hotel (away from Green Street).

➔ Turn at Washington Street and go one block to Commerce Street

➔ Turn left at Commerce Street

Pass Hill Street and the Galena Welcome Center will be on the right at 123 North Commerce Street

**Galena-Jo Daviess County Historical Society & Museum**

Exit the Galena Welcome Center and ➡️ walk left on Commerce Street.

➔ Turn right on Hill Street

Walk two blocks

⬅️ Turn left on S. Bench Street

There are photo opportunities here of the old Galena Fire Department building, the old Methodist Church, the museum itself, and the St. Michael Church.

The Museum is at 211 S. Bench Street, one and a half block past Hill Street with a $10 entrance fee. The Website is at: galenahistorymuseum.org.
From the Galena Museum, walk back to the DeSoto House Hotel:
Exit the Museum and ➔ turn right
Go a half block and find a pedestrian pathway down the hill, which leads back to the corner of Main Street and Green Street

**U.S. Grant Home**
From the DeSoto House Hotel, drive to the right on the one-way Main Street
➔ Turn left at Hill Street
Go one block
➔ Turn right on S. Bench Street, which is one-way going the opposite direction
S. Bench Street curves around to the left and joins Main Street
➔ Turn left at the stoplight to take Route 20 East, also known as Spring Street.

Cross the Galena River and look for a sign for the U.S. Grant Home. There are three signed approaches to the U.S. Grant Home, all left-hand turns. The first approach is closer to the house. The second approach has more parking. The third approach is if you miss the first two signs.

First approach: ➔ Turn left at Park Avenue, go two blocks, and ➔ turn right on Bouthillier Street. The address is 500 Bouthillier Street and there is a small parking lot right across the street from the house on the hill.

Second approach: ➔ Turn left at the second sign and it leads directly to a large parking lot. There is a wooden ramp up the hill to the house.

Third approach: If you miss the first two, ➔ turn left on Bouthillier Street at the cemetery and the house is at 500 Bouthillier Street.

**Galena to Fulton, Driving Time 1 Hour, 10 Minutes**

Zero out your odometer at the U.S. Grant Home.
Return to Route 20 East from the U.S. Grant Home by ➔ turning left.
Follow Route 20 East for 11.5 miles. You will backtrack a little from Day One and pass the Scenic Outlook. Route 20 and Route 84, the Great River Road, are merged in this section.
There will be a BP Gas Station on the right side of the road.
➔ Turn right at Route 84 South, the Great River Road. It is also called Washington Street. Go 4.9 miles
Hanover
Cross the Apple River in Hanover and be prepared to turn left

Turn left on Route 84 South / Jefferson Street

The Mississippi Palisades State Park is along Route 84. There are also several wildlife areas along Route 84.

Savannah
Route 84 bends to the left in the heart of Savannah, and it is also called Chicago Avenue.
There is a Savannah Museum and Cultural Center but it is open for special events without regular hours.
Just before the McDonald's on the left side, Route 84 turns right. Turn right to stay on Route 84 South. It is also called Viaduct Road.

Thomson
The Thomson Correctional Center is on the right-hand side.
Continue following Route 84 South

Ebner
Continue following Route 84 South. It is also called Waller Road.

Fulton
Turn right on 10th Avenue.
The Dutch Windmill and the Windmill Cultural Center are at the end of 10th Avenue next to the Mississippi River.

Fulton to Flagg Township Museum in Rochelle, Driving Time 1 Hour, 30 Minutes
Turn around and backtrack east on 10th Avenue
←Turn left at 4th St.
The corner of 10th Avenue and 4th was the site of Dement House, a hotel built in 1855, then it was a military college, then it became the Lincoln Highway Tire Co. from 1918-1928.
For a lunch option in Fulton, try Krumpets at 1016 4th Street, the Website is at: www.krumpetsbakery.com/
←Turn left at 15th Ave.
←Turn right at yield and follow the curve at 16th Ave.
←Turn left at Waller Road onto the Great River Road
←Take the next right at 136
Go east on 136, which is also the Reagan Trail
Just outside Fulton, see the unique Barn Yard Antiques on the right side
←Turn left to follow Route 30 to Morrison
Pass under two railroad viaducts on Lincoln Road, the first is the Union Pacific (UP) and the second is for Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF)

**Morrison**
Near Hillendale Ct. and Lincolnway Ct. on the left side is the former Hillendale Bed & Breakfast, now a law office.
The Morrison City Hall has a concrete marker in front of it, 200 W. Main St. parallel to Lincoln Way, on the corner of N. Base St.
See the Lincoln Highway Garage mural painted by the former owner of the Hillendale Bed & Breakfast, the late Michael A. Winandy, on the right side by Fitzgerald Pharmacy, on the corner of Cherry St.
See the Parkview Motel on the left side, across from the Dairy Queen on the right side.
Morrison is 13 miles to Rock Falls but the Lincoln Highway veers northward further east and goes through the town of Sterling instead.
On the east side of Morrison, Lincoln Way becomes Lincoln Road.
Past the veterinary clinic on the left side, on the right side, see the sign for a Seedling Mile.
The second Seedling Mile sign is on the left side, near the entrance to the Prairie Hill Landfill.
See the concrete marker on the corner of Yager Road.
**Round Grove**
See the Furniture Emporium in Round Grove on the left side, which used to be a church, and has a recent coat of white paint. Past the Forest Inn Restaurant on the right side and the Blue Goose Inn Restaurant on the left side, there is a concrete marker on the corner of Blue Goose Road mixed in with the weeds. Sometimes it is visible from the road and sometimes it is further covered in the weeds. Ahead near Matznick Road is a picnic table area behind a closed and locked gate with an unfriendly state property sign meant to discourage the curious from stopping. Do not stop there.  ↵ Turn left at Emerson Road

**Emerson**
Continue on Emerson Road and veer to the right slightly past Fisher St. on McCue Road.  ↵ Turn left at the now defunct Speed Bowl Park. The Lincoln Highway sign pointing left is missing, probably the victim of a snowplow.

**Sterling**
Continue on W. Lincolnway, which becomes W. 4th St. Past Dillon Ave., follow the curve to the right then to the left and the road becomes one-way, W. 3rd St. See the Mexican-American history and heritage mural on the left on the Napa Auto Parts building. On the right on the corner of Locust St., see the mural of the eight presidents who visited Sterling on the Main Street Wine Cellar building. On 1st Ave., on the Whiteside County Clerk-Circuit building, see the mural of the Lincoln Highway. On the side of the Precinct Restaurant & Bar, see the mural of the Secret Six, the forerunners of the Illinois State Police.

**Side Trip to a Lincoln Statue:**
↪ Turn left on Fifth Ave., pass the Koiser Studio of Dance / Colleen's School of Clogging & Celtic Dance and find Propheter Park, which has a statue of Lincoln. Retrace the route back to Lincoln Highway or take Sixth Ave. and ↵ turn left on Lincoln Highway / E. Third St.
Photo Opportunity:
Lincoln-Mahanan Home, 607 E. Third St., parking lot next door. There is an historical marker at the front of the house that tells the story of Lincoln staying at the house.

Follow the slight s-curve and see the Dillon House, which has a concrete marker and is home of the Sterling-Rock Falls Historical Society Museum
Follow a larger s-curve, pass the BP gas station and the road becomes two-way again. It is then called Lincolnway and Route 2.
See the State Police Headquarters, which is District 1 because of its origins in Sterling with the Secret Six.
Pass the Lincoln Way Storage and turn left on Prairieville / Palmyra Road, toward Prairieville and Gap Grove
Pass the Emerald Hill Golf Course on the right side, see the Midway Drive-in on the right side. On the opposite side, you may see a hand-made sign that says, "Drive like it was your kid playing."

Palmyra
Pass the Palmyra Township Garage

Gap Grove
Pass the Palmyra Quarry.
On the right side, see the George Pace marker.
On the right side, pass the Palmyra Greenhouse and see the tanks painted like cows.
Pass the Golden Oak Dairy Farm.
See the abandoned White House on the right side.

Dixon
On the left side, see the Veterans Memorial Park.
ежду Turn left on to Route 2, Palmyra St. There is a choice of two generations of the road:
(1) To follow the first generation of the Lincoln Highway, just past the Sauk Properties real estate office, .nanoTime Su copyright rights, then turn right on Lincoln Way, and turn right again on Galena Ave.

(2) To take the easy way, continue on Route 2 and turn right just past McDonald's on Galena Ave. / Route 52
Side Trip to a Lincoln Statue:

➡️ Turn right at W. Boyd St. then ← turn left on N. Hennepin Ave. to see the only statue of Abraham Lincoln dressed as a soldier, for when he served at Fort Dixon. Retrace your route back to Galena Ave.

Cross the Rock River on the Lincoln Memorial Bridge, rebuilt in 2007. Just past the river, see the Lincoln Highway gazebo on the left side, and the statue of Ronald Reagan on a horse on the right side.

Up the hill, see the Dixon War Memorial Arch and the Nachusa House, formerly a hotel now a retirement home on the right. See the Courthouse and a rock with a historical marker of a Lincoln speech.

← Turn left to follow Lincoln Highway/Route 52 / E. 7th St.

Side Trip to Reagan's Boyhood Home"
Continue straight on Galena Ave., ➡️ turn right at W. 9th St. and ➡️ turn right at S. Hennepin for Ronald Reagan's Boyhood Home. To return to the Lincoln Highway, continue straight on S. Hennepin, then ➡️ turn right on W. 7th and continue straight on E. 7th / Route 52

Follow the s-curve and E. 7th St. becomes Chicago Ave., follow the curve to the left to continue on East 38 / Franklin Grove Rd. Pass the VFW Post 540 on the left side. Pass the Charles R. Walgreen Field / Dixon Airport on the right side. Walgreen was a pharmacist in Dixon and the founder of the Walgreen’s chain.

Nachusa
Pass the Nachusa Lutheran Home.

Emmert
Pass the Emmert Cemetery on the left side.

Franklin Grove
There is a choice of two generations of the road:
(1) To follow an older alignment of the Lincoln Highway and to see part of the original route, ➡️ turn right on Gap Road and cross the railroad tracks and follow the curve to the left. Continue following the L Lincoln Highway signs and they lead to N. Elm
Street, the location of the H. I. Lincoln Building, home of the Lincoln Highway Association.

Or:

(2) To take the easy route, continue on Route 38 and ➔ turn right at N. Elm St. and cross the railroad tracks to see the H. I. Lincoln Building.

After visiting the LHA Headquarters, cross the railroad tracks next to the H.I. Lincoln Building on N. Elm and ➔ turn right on Route 38

Franklin Grove to Ashton:
There are two routes to choose, the original on gravel or the second-generation alignment.

(1) East of Franklin Grove, the original route follows a gravel road on the aptly named Track Road, parallel to the railroad tracks, which is a ➔ right turn. Track Road will lead into a ← left turn on Richardson Ave. in Ashton.

(2) For the easy, second-generation route with no gravel, continue on Route 38. Just past Track Road on the right side of Route 38, see a banged up concrete marker. Follow the curve to the left and see another concrete marker on the left side. Continue on Route 38 and past Hoosier Road, see the concrete marker on the right side. Then, just before the radio tower, see another concrete marker on the left side. Continue into Ashton and ➔ turn right onto Richardson Ave.

**Ashton**
From Richardson Ave., ← turn left on Main St.
See the mural of the paving celebration in Ashton along Main St.
← Turn left on Brown Ave., then ➔ turn right back onto Route 38/N. 1st St.

Outside Ashton, follow the curve to the left. On the right side, pass Fred's Bargain Barn. Pass Koch Rd. on the right. On the left side, see an old Cadillac resting in front of a barn, just before Brooklyn Road.
Side Trip to Unsigned Original Sections of Lincoln Highway or the easy way:

(1) To see parts of the original route that are not marked with the L signs, turn right at Thorpe Rd. by a picnic area. The original section once crossed Steward Creek. You will need to turn around to return to Route 38.

To see the other side of the original route that is not marked, turn right again at S. Klondike Rd., which is a true dead end. You will need to turn around to return to Route 38.

Or:

(2) Take the easy way by continuing to follow Route 38, the second-generation route.

**Rochelle**

The Flagg Township Museum usually closes at 4:00 p.m. You may want to visit it first, then backtrack to the other points of interest in Rochelle.

Follow Route 38 to veer left at a curve and cross the railroad tracks upon entering the town.

Veer right at a curve.

Continue straight on Lincoln Ave.

Side Trip to the Railroad Park

Turn right at N. 9th St. to see the Rochelle Railroad Park, which has a view of a rare double diamond crossing of UP and BNSF tracks. Retrace your route to return to Lincoln Ave.

On the corner of Lincoln Ave. and Lincoln Hwy., see the restored Standard Gas Station, with replica concrete markers, and turn left.

Side Trip to the Flagg Township Museum:

Turn left at 4th Ave. There is parking in front or in a lot behind the museum. There is a concrete marker at the back of the museum. Retrace your route to return to Lincoln Hwy.

**Flagg Township Museum in Rochelle to Geneva, Driving Time 1 Hour**

On the corner of Lincoln Hwy. and 5th Ave., see the mural of Emily Post.

Continue on Lincoln Hwy. then turn right at the traffic light by the Butterfly Restaurant to return to Route 38.

Continue across the overpass of I-39.
Creston

➤ Turn right at S. Beck Rd.
← Turn left at Cedarholm.
➤ Turn right at N. Ridge St.
← Turn left at W. North St.

There are several photo opportunities in Creston along S. Main Street. There is the Creston Opera House, on S. Main St., across the railroad tracks. Along S. Main St., see the mural about the Fountain, the mural of Headon's Fine Meats on the left, and the gazebo by the Fire Station on the right.

➤ Turn right at E. Grant St.
← Turn left at N. Woodlawn Rd.
➤ Turn right to return to Route 38.

Upon approaching the campus of Kishwaukee College, see the sign for the First Seedling Mile on the right side.

← Turn left at the traffic light and ← left again at the entrance of the College, and ← left again into the parking lot to see a historical marker and a gazebo about the First Seedling Mile. Retrace your route to return to Route 38.

Past the College, on the left side there is another marker for the First Seedling Mile, to indicate the east end of the Seedling Mile.

Malta

Side trip, ➤ turn right at N. 4th St., then ➤ turn right again on Jefferson St. to see a mural about the Seedling Mile on the side of the Malta Historical and Genealogical Society building. Retrace your route to return to Route 38.

Or,
Continue on Route 38.

DeKalb

Route 38 is called Lincoln Highway in DeKalb. This city was the first to rename its Main Street to Lincoln Highway.

Side Trip to a Free Auto Camp, a Relocated Concrete Marker, and the Egyptian Theatre, or the easy way:

(1) At the formal entrance to Northern Illinois University with a concrete gate, ← turn left at Castle Dr. at the stoplight, then ➤ turn right at the top of the hill on College Ave., just over the river, ← turn left at Woodley Rd. and follow the curves along the river,
cross Lucinda and see the entrance to Annie's Woods Park, which was the free auto camp. Parking may be a challenge because the university is in session but there is a circle to drive around.

⬅️ Turn left on Lucinda Ave., which becomes Miller Ave. Follow the curve veering right and ⬅️ turn left at Linden Pl. and find the entrance to the Ellwood House. The relocated concrete marker is in front of the gray, educational building on the left. Follow Linden Pl. to the left and follow the turn on the left on Augusta Ave., ➔ turn right at the stoplight onto N. 1st St. ⬅️ Turn left at the light at E. Locust St. and look for the Egyptian Theatre along N. 2nd St. The Egyptian Theatre is the most photographed location in DeKalb County.

(2) For the easy way, not taking the side trip, continue on Lincoln Highway/Route 38: See the Lincoln Highway mural on the building on the corner of N. 7th St. On the corner of N. 11th St., see the gazebo and modern decorative markers constructed similar to the style of Art Deco. Continue eastward on Route 38.

**Cortland**
Pass Melrose T-Top on the left side.
See the Cortland Mural on the blue Dun-Rite Building.

**Maple Park**
Continue eastward at the traffic light.

Maple Park to Geneva

There are two routes to choose, the easy way or the original 1913 route:

(1) For the easy route, continue straight on Route 38 eastward, pass Acquivava Winery on the left side and continue straight through St. Charles into Geneva. Continue on Route 38.

(2) For the original route, at the first right past the traffic light in Maple Park, ➔ turn right on Schrader Rd., then ⬅️ turn left on Keslinger Rd. Follow Keslinger Rd. eastward, past Elburn, two Metra train stations, and Delnor / Northwestern Hospital in Geneva. Keslinger Rd. becomes Kaneville Rd. Follow it through a residential area and ➔ turn right at W. State St. / Route 38.
St. Charles
The second generation Route 38 passes through a small section of St. Charles.

Geneva
W. State St. / Route 38 becomes E. State St. On the other side of the Fox River, it continues and becomes Roosevelt Rd., which is a feeder route to Chicago. Do not follow W. State St. across the Fox River. Instead, there are other choices, the original route or the second generation route.

If you missed these places on Day One, here is an historical building and two different generations of Lincoln Highway, the original 1913 route or a second-generation route back to S. Third Street where the directions started:
On the corner of State Street and 5th Street, there is the Geneva Bank & Trust drive-thru, in white with a blue roof. That is a re-purposed old Pure Oil gas and service station.

(1) To follow the original 1913 route, continue on W. State St. See the mural along S. Second St. and the gazebo along State, then turn right at S. First St. / Route 31 and continue on it.
Or,
(2) To follow the second-generation route, turn right at S. Third St.

You are now where you started on Day One, after making a giant loop around northern Illinois!

Things to Know and Do

Geneva

The historic district of Geneva is filled with unique shops and the Geneva History Center is within walking distance. Most shops open at 10:00 a.m.

The Geneva History Center does not open until 11:00 a.m. on Tuesdays through Saturdays.
Along both sidewalks on S. Third Street close to the Post Office and the Geneva History Center toward Lincoln Highway on State Street, there are historical markers embedded into the sidewalks, such as this one:

Of the shops in Geneva, The Little Traveler is recommended for its history and its variety of goods sold there, from candy to clothing, including imported treasures. The address is 404 S. Third Street and the Website is: www.littletraveler.com. Not long after the establishment of the Lincoln Highway, Edmond and Kate Raftery bought the home on 404 S. Third Street and their friends, the Calhouns, moved to China and began sending Kate goods from Asia. Other friends of the Rafterys sent goods from other locations from around the world and Kate's collection outgrew the house so she opened part of it as a shop. The shop became known as The Little Traveler in 1925 and the original house has several additions as the shop continued to grow over the years. Kate Raftery inspired others to open shops and build beautiful homes along the Fox River.
The Geneva History Museum opens at 11:00 a.m. and admission is $2 plus they will accept donations. It has permanent exhibit on local history in Geneva including a section on the brilliant but eccentric Colonel George Fabyan, an expert on acoustics and cryptography, owner of the research facility Riverbank Laboratories across the street from his Fabyan Villa farmhouse redesigned by Frank Lloyd Wright, and he was a Lincoln Highway Association member. The Web site is at: www.genevahistorymuseum.org/. The Fabyan Villa is just south of Geneva along the Fox River and Lincoln Highway (Route 31) and it is open on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays from May 1 through early October. It is well worth visiting during the summer.

There are several great places to eat lunch in Geneva before taking Route 31 to join up with the U.S. Grant Memorial Highway. Less expensive chain restaurants can be found in St. Charles or Elgin.

**St. Charles**

Col. Edward J. Baker owned both the St. Charles National Bank and the Hotel Baker. The bank building dates to 1902 and the hotel opened in 1928 after two years of design and construction. The pink marble bank once included a lookout for guards with machine guns. The Hotel Baker's power came from hydroelectric power from the Fox River and its combination of brick, concrete, and steel were meant to make it fireproof. Much of the hotel's architecture and design inside and out is Spanish Romantic Revival. In the 1970s, the hotel became a Lutheran-sponsored retirement home until the overhead became too costly. A group of investors bought and renovated it and turned it back into a hotel until they became bankrupt in the early 2000s. A subsequent group of investors bought it and continue to operate it as a hotel. For more information, see the St. Charles Public Library's Website at: sites.google.com/site/stcharleshistoricbuildings/main_page.

**U.S. Grant Memorial Highway / Route 20**

The State of Illinois designated Route 20 across Illinois as the U.S. Grant Memorial Highway in 1955. Route 20 goes across the country from Boston to Newport, Oregon and it dates to 1921. There is a Historic Route 20 Association with a Website at: www.historicus20.com/. Within Illinois, signage with President Grant’s image became added in 2007, mostly on the west side of the state although there is a sign on West 95th Street in Oak Lawn, not too far from Advocate Christ Medical Center.
**Elizabeth**
The Apple River Interpretive Center and Museum Store and the Apple River Fort are free will donations. There is a shop on the parking lot level and a museum on the lower level. There is a rather long walkway to the Fort. There is not a parking lot near the Fort. It is possible to drive to the Fort, see the outside, and turn around but to go inside the Fort, leave the car in the parking lot and follow the long walkway from the lower level. The Website is at: appleriverfort.com.

**Scenic Overlook West of Elizabeth**
There used to be a wooden lookout tower at this location but it deteriorated and is now gone. There are informational kiosks about the Great River Road and the Blue Star Highway at this place, along with clean restrooms with running water. The views of the hills of Jo Daviess County, known as the Driftless Area, are spectacular. Glaciers did not flatten out this area and when they retreated, they left behind silt and debris known as drift. Periodic flooding as the ancient ice melted carved out valleys.

**DeSoto Hotel**
This hotel is in an excellent location in the heart of Galena. There are two restaurants in the hotel open during dinnertime, the Green Street Tavern and the Generals' Restaurant.

**Fulton**
Along 10th Avenue, there is a mural depicting the old Fulton-Lyons Bridge that once crossed the Mississippi River and was on the original 1913 Lincoln Highway. Once
crossing the bridge from Iowa, the road took a 90-degree turn at the bottom of a hill, and was the scene of many drivers running off the road. The bridge no longer exists.

Dixon
The Dixon Welcome Center and the Eisenhower Mural, which depicts Dwight Eisenhower as young Army officer traveling in the 1919 Army Transcontinental Convoy, relocated from their previous location along River Road, across from the Ronald Reagan on a horse statue next to the Rock River. Just after crossing the Rock River, pass the photography studio (the old location of the mural), look for the Galena Trail and Coach Road sign on the next page and turn right into an alley, Commercial. Follow the alley for a couple of blocks until you see the Dixon Welcome Center. It has tourism brochures and a gift shop that sells the Petunia Wine, unique to Dixon.

Dixon also has the Northwest Territory Historic Center, which is open Tuesdays through Saturdays, see: http://nthc.org/ for more information. It has exhibits on the history of Dixon, from the native people through to recent history, including a replica of Ronald Reagan's classroom. There is also an Abraham Lincoln History Room. The address is 205 W. 5th Street, which is a right turn off S. Galena Avenue,
Rochelle
This is the Flagg-Township Museum. There is a concrete marker near the back of the museum.