We hope you enjoy reading this guide and learning about points of interest along our route. It is written starting from the northeastern terminus of the train in New York and proceeds to points southwest and west, ending in Chicago. If you boarded in Chicago, just read the guide in reverse, remembering to look in the opposite direction if referenced.

**AMTRAK STATIONS** are shown in all capital letters, as opposed to upper and lower case for towns and geographical areas through which the train travels but does not stop. The Amtrak System Timetable or the Cardinal panel card should be consulted for actual station times. While all service presented in this guide was accurate at the time of publication, routes and services are subject to change. Please contact Amtrak at 1-800-USA-RAIL, visit Amtrak.com, or call your travel agent for the most current information.

Between the front door of America’s Eastern Seaboard, Amtrak’s famous Northeast Corridor, and the equally well-known delights of the Windy City, Chicago, lies the gateway to the American South and the unparalleled wonders of the journey westward through America’s mid-Atlantic and southeastern heartlands. From twinkling Northeast cityscapes to famous Civil War battlefields; from the Blue Ridge Mountain chain and the Shenandoah Valley to West Virginia’s wild and wonderful whitewater rivers; from the fabulous window on geologic history at the New River Gorge to the Kanawha River’s thunder into a 1,300-ft. canyon below; from quiet coal mining towns to the beautifully illuminated nighttime skyline of Charleston, the capital city, and on to the great plains and Chicago – the Cardinal takes you on an unforgettable journey through history and adventure.

[Today’s Cardinal is the lineal descendent of several trains. The James Whitcomb Riley was introduced by the New York Central Railroad in 1941 as an all-coach daytime train serving Chicago and Cincinnati by way of Indianapolis. Penn Central retained the Riley after the merger of the New York Central with the Pennsylvania Railroad. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway operated the George Washington between Cincinnati and Washington, with a section from Charlottesville to Newport News. After Amtrak’s beginnings in 1971, the train went through several permutations, being renamed the Cardinal in 1977 after the state bird of all six states through which it runs.]
Welcome aboard the *Cardinal*. From the flash of Broadway, the monuments of the nation’s capital to the City of Big Shoulders, the *Cardinal* takes you through historic towns, scenic landscapes and unparalleled natural wonders on its fabulous journey south and west through America’s mid-Atlantic, southeast and heartland.

On board the *Cardinal*, you will experience the comfort and relaxation of train travel while viewing spectacular scenery. We are happy to have you aboard today and want to ensure your trip is everything you want it to be. If there is anything that can be done to make your trip more enjoyable, please do not hesitate to call upon any Amtrak employee.

**THE TRAIN STAFF**

The staff of the *Cardinal* is here to make your trip a special and enjoyable experience.

**Conductor** is responsible for the entire On-Board Services Staff including ticket collection, passenger safety, and the safe operation of the train.

**Lead Service Attendant** is responsible for the operation of the Dining Car and Dining Car staff.

**Lounge Car Attendant** is responsible for the operation of the Lounge/Café Car.

**Sleeping Car Attendant** is responsible for providing all service for passengers ticketed in Sleeping Car accommodations, including room preparation, luggage service and any assistance necessary to ensure a comfortable journey. Contact your Sleeping Car Attendant if you desire drinks before dinner. They will also take your dinner reservations or arrange for your meal to be served in the privacy and comfort of your accommodation.

**Coach Attendant** is responsible for providing service for passengers ticketed in coach. This includes seat assignment, pillow service and assistance to ensure a comfortable journey.

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

Viewliner Sleeping Car accommodations provide a range of private rooms with amenities for day and night use. From roomettes to bedrooms and accessible bedrooms, some featuring a private lavatory and shower, Sleeping car accommodations will suit any need and can be described in more detail by any member of the crew. Please ask to speak to the Conductor regarding the availability of rooms. Amtrak’s ClubAcela is available for Sleeping car passengers boarding in New York, as is the Metropolitan Lounge in Chicago.

**Coach** seating provides a wide, reclining seat with leg rest, folding tray table and overhead lights. This enhanced service provides at-seat meal service if requested and larger pillows for additional sleeping comfort.

**Diner/Lounge Car** features full-service hot meals prepared by Amtrak chefs. The dining car provides the perfect atmosphere to meet your fellow passengers and enjoy a delicious meal while the scenery glides by your window. Sleeping Car accommodation charges include meals in the Dining car while passengers ticketed in Coach may purchase Dining car meals at reasonable prices.

**HOST RAILROADS** are the freight and commuter railroads that Amtrak contracts with to operate Amtrak passenger trains. The *Cardinal* operates between New York and Washington on Amtrak, between Washington and Alexandria on CSX Transportation, between Alexandria and Culpeper on Norfolk Southern, between Culpeper and Clifton Forge on Buckingham Branch, between Clifton Forge and Dyer on CSX Transportation, and between Dyer and Chicago on Norfolk Southern.

Information contained in this route guide as well as described amenities and features are subject to change without notice. While gratuities are not required for services provided, it is an appreciated way to convey to an employee that he or she has made your trip more enjoyable.
NEW YORK is America’s most populous city. So famous are its districts that Wall Street, Broadway and Madison Avenue are universally recognized shorthand for the industries located there. It is a global city, with worldwide influence over commerce, finance, culture and entertainment and the arts. It is also an important center for international affairs, hosting the United Nations headquarters. Unique among U.S. cities for its high use of mass transit, the density and diversity of its population, its reputation as a city that never sleeps is due to its 24-hour subways and the constant bustling of traffic and pedestrians. Birthplace of numerous cultural movements, its metropolitan population surpassed 10 million in the early 1930s, making it the first “megacity” in human history. Amtrak offers connections to its entire system through Chicago from New York.

New York/New Jersey State Line

Hudson River Tunnels Departing Manhattan, we enter a 2.5 mile tunnel under the Hudson River connecting Weehawken, New Jersey with Pennsylvania Station. The tubes (one in each direction) were completed in 1910 by the Pennsylvania Railroad.

New Jersey Meadowlands now visible is a large ecosystem of wetlands in 1910 by the Pennsylvania Railroad. Under the Hudson River connecting Weehawken, New Jersey with New York/New Jersey State Line making it the first “megacity” in human history. Amtrak offers traffic and pedestrians. Birthplace of numerous cultural movements, its metropolitan population surpassed 10 million in the early 1930s, making it the first “megacity” in human history. Amtrak offers connections to its entire system through Chicago from New York.

TRENTON is the capital of New Jersey and was the site in 1776 of George Washington’s first military victory after crossing the Delaware River. It was briefly capital of the United States in November and December of 1784. Watch for the bridge slogan that reads “Trenton Makes, the World Takes” – a relic of its era as a major manufacturing center from the late 1800s through the 1950s. It is home to New Jersey State Prison with two maximum security units. Innovative comedian Ernie Kovacs, influenced deeply by his Trenton Central High School drama teacher, in turn went on to influence American comedy for decades after his 1962 death in an automobile accident.

New Jersey/Pennsylvania State Line

North Philadelphia is home to Temple University and birthplace of comedian Bill Cosby. Tastykake and Pep Boys are headquartered in its Allegheny West neighborhood.

Schuykill River (pronounced SKOO-kull) is very popular with watersports enthusiasts and college rowing teams. Boat House Row is visible on the left after crossing the river, as is the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the steps of which were used by “Rocky” to train for his big fight in the film of the same name.

PHILADELPHIA Before we enter 30th Street Station, Center City can be seen on the left. City Hall Tower holds a statue of William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania, planner and developer of Philadelphia -- the “City of Brotherly Love” -- and a devout pacifist and Quaker. Home of the Liberty Bell, the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, Philadelphia was the social and geographical center of the original 13 American colonies, giving birth to the American Revolution. It also served as the nation’s second capital in 1774. Today, its metropolitan area is the fourth largest in the U.S.

University of Pennsylvania is now visible behind the school stadium, Franklin Field. A member of the Ivy League, it serves 20,000 students with 4,500 professors as one of the most selective universities in the U.S. It offered the nation’s first modern liberal arts curriculum after a board of trustees was assembled by Benjamin Franklin in 1749.

Commodore Barry Bridge spans the Delaware River between Bridgeport, N.J. and Chester, Pa. At 1,644 ft., it is the fourth longest cantilever bridge in the world.

Marcus Hook calls itself the “Cornerstone of Pennsylvania.” Set alongside the Delaware River, it provided the setting for the 2005 film One Last Thing about a teen with a rare, terminal form of cancer who wished only for a date with a supermodel.
Pennsylvania/Delaware State Line

Delaware Memorial Bridge is visible downriver and connects Delaware with New Jersey. Its eight lanes span the world’s longest twin suspension bridge.

WILMINGTON experienced high growth in jobs and office construction and jobs in the 1980s after passage of laws liberalizing bank governance within the state. Many international banks have operations in the city, especially credit card operations. The historic train station was built in 1908 by the former Pennsylvania Railroad. Notables from Wilmington include actress Valerie Bertinelli, musician Calloway and commentator Bill Press.

Newark (pronounced NU-ARK) was founded in 1694. During the Revolutionary War, legend has it that the Stars and Stripes were first flown at the Battle of Cooch’s Bridge outside of Newark. Today, it is home to the University of Delaware, with world class programs in business, chemical engineering, chemistry and biochemistry. Its central area is compact, walkable and lively, due in large part to university students. Edgar Allan Poe is said to have written parts of “The Raven” while staying at the inn on Main Street.

Delaware/Maryland State Line

Elkton marks the head of navigation on the Elk River, which flows into nearby Chesapeake Bay. The town was once famous as a place for eloping couples to marry.

Susquehanna River is the longest river on the east coast and provides half of the freshwater inflow for the Chesapeake. Geologically, it is regarded as extremely ancient. In 1979, it was the scene of the Three Mile Island nuclear power accident near Harrisburg.

Aberdeen is home to the U.S. Army’s Aberdeen Proving Ground, established by Congress in 1918. Baltimore Orioles legend Cal Ripkin, Jr. hails from Aberdeen.

BALTIMORE is a major seaport founded in 1706 and the largest city in Maryland. Its Inner Harbor is a successful example of the city’s ambitious renewal effort. It is named after Lord Baltimore, founding proprietor of the Maryland Colony. Francis Scott Key, a Maryland lawyer, wrote the Star Spangled Banner here, a recounting of the British attack on the harbor during the War of 1812. Baltimore exhibits examples of architecture from periods ranging over two centuries. Oriole Park at Camden Yards is considered to be the most beautiful “retro” style baseball park in the major leagues. One of Amtrak’s eight busiest stations, the city is home to author Tom Clancy and Olympian Michael Phelps.

NEW CARROLLTON is a suburban stop for Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor service, situated alongside the eastern terminus of the Washington Metrorail’s Orange Line. Lying just inside the famous Washington Capital Beltway, it is named for a delegate to the Continental Congress and signer of the Declaration of Independence, Charles Carroll.

Maryland/DC Border

WASHINGTON, DC is the nation’s capital, founded in 1790. In addition to all three branches of the federal government, it houses 172 foreign embassies and the headquarters of the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Organization of American States, Inter-American Development Bank, Pan American Health Organization, many trade unions, lobbying groups and professional associations. It is also home to numerous museums and monuments, and parks such as Rock Creek, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, National Mall, Theodore Roosevelt Island and Anacostia. Washington is one of only 13 cities in the U.S. with teams representing all four major sports; its Washington Redskins have won three professional league championships. Several notable universities, including Georgetown, American, George Washington and Catholic are in Washington. Union Station, which celebrated its centennial in 2008, is a top tourist attraction. We depart the city from a tunnel under the Capitol, affording us a sweeping view of “official” Washington. Visible soon is the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, where all currency and postage stamps are produced. The Washington Monument dominates the skyline, and the Jefferson Memorial – modeled after the third president’s home at Monticello – can be seen astride the Tidal Basin, ringed by Japanese cherry trees.

DC/Virginia Border

Potomac River As we cross, the Pentagon is visible on the Virginia side and Arlington National Cemetery is just beyond. We now pass Crystal City, an office and hotel complex. The river, 383 miles long, forms a part of the borders between Maryland, Washington, Virginia and West Virginia. Known as “The Nation’s River,” it is rich in history and heritage. George Washington was born in, surveyed and spent most of his life within the Potomac Basin. Its watershed links coal miners in upstream West Virginia, urban residents in the District of Columbia and watermen in Virginia’s Northern Neck.

ALEXANDRIA and its historic center, Old Town, is a mostly high-income suburb of Washington, largely populated by professionals working in federal civil service, the military, or for one of the private companies contracting to provide service to the federal government. Established in 1695, it was ceded in 1846 to the U.S. Government to
form the District of Columbia, and retroceded to Virginia in 1846 when the District of Columbia was reduced in size to exclude that portion south of the Potomac River. Market Square in Old Town is the oldest continuously operating marketplace in the U.S.

MANASSAS began life as Manassas Junction, a strategic railroad crossing that was the focal point of two Civil War battles of Bull Run. It is today a suburb of Washington, and is served by the commuter railroad Virginia Railway Express at the Manassas station.

CULPEPER is a town of 9,600 that has grown rapidly into a “bedroom community” of Northern Virginia and its Washington suburbs. During the Civil War, it was an important crossroads for a number of armies marching through central Virginia, both Union and Confederate. In the heart of downtown stands the childhood home of Confederate General A.P. Hill, commander of “Hill’s Light Division” under Stonewall Jackson. During the Revolutionary War, the Culpeper Minutemen militia was formed here.

Rapidan River, one of America’s best trout fishing streams, is the largest tributary of the Rappahannock River in North-central Virginia.

Orange served as General Robert E. Lee’s headquarters during the Civil War between 1862 and 1864 and was, being just north of the Rapidan River, effectively the northern border of the Confederacy at that time. The St. Thomas Episcopal Church, which still stands, was converted into a hospital for Confederate wounded after the Battles of Chancellorsville and Wilderness. Thriving well into the 20th century, the town became known for its silk mill, producing many of the parachutes used during World War II by U.S. troops. That building today houses a restaurant and other businesses. Actor Randolph Scott, best known for his “tall-in-the-saddle” western movie roles, was born in Orange County.

Gordonsville began with a tavern operated from the late 1700s by Nathaniel Gordon catering to stagecoach passengers en route. It hosted such notables as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe. The town was of vital importance to the Confederacy during the Civil War as a railroad junction and was successfully defended on several occasions.

Shadwell is the birthplace of Thomas Jefferson on a plantation of the same name; he was one of six children. The original house burned to the ground in 1770. By 1835, a carding factory that prepared raw fibers as textiles, a merchant mill and a sawmill had sprung up and the town prospered. By the time the railroad reached Shadwell in 1849, it had become one of the earliest towns to have a station agent.

CHARLOTTESVILLE has been named best place to live in the U.S. based on cost of living, climate and quality of life. It is home to three former presidents: Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and James Monroe. It is also home to the University of Virginia, and Monticello, Jefferson’s renowned mountain-top home. Nearby Michie Tavern was established in 1784 to serve as a social center and provide travelers with food, drink and lodging. A Virginia Historic Landmark, it remains in operation today offering tours, period games, colonial reel dancing and 18th century-style dining. The town was undamaged during the Civil War, surrendered by the mayor to spare it from burning. Nearby Shenandoah National Park and Skyline Drive offer recreational activities and beautiful scenery. Its Downtown Mall is one of the longest outdoor pedestrian malls in the country. Actress Sissy Spacek, actor Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson and novelist John Grisham have all called Charlottesville home.

STAUNTON was named after Lady Rebecca Staunton, wife of a popular Colonial Governor. Founded in 1747, it was, in 1908, the first city in the world to adopt a city manager form of government. Its appeal to tourism is enhanced by the American Shakespeare Center, the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and birthplace and the Museum of American Frontier Culture. Its strict building codes make it an attractive location for period films; in 2006, scenes from the movie Evan Almighty were shot here. The Statler Brothers, a country music group, launched their careers in 1955 at the Lynhurst Methodist Church.

CLIFTON FORGE is the closest station to Hot Springs, home of the legendary Homestead resort hotel situated in the heart of the Allegheny Mountains. It features championship golf courses, horseback and carriage rides, shooting, fly fishing, hiking, falconry, swimming and luxury accommodations.

**Virginia/West Virginia State Line**

Allegheny Tunnel The former Chesapeake & Ohio (C&O) and Virginia Central railroads traversed this mountainous region over a large portion of both main and branch lines; tunneling was necessary, and many survive in some form today. Leaving Clifton Forge, assault on the Allegheny Mountains required several tunnels. The Allegheny Tunnel runs under their crest and marks the boundary between Virginia and West Virginia, as well as the Eastern Continental Divide.

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS is the birthplace of golf in America; Oakhurst Links opened in 1884. The famous Greenbrier resort is one of the most luxurious and exclusive resorts in the U.S. In 1979, it hosted the first Ryder Cup featuring the current competitive setup of the U.S. and European sides. The Greenbrier began as the “Queen of the Watering Places” and was the summer destination of wealthy guests from all over the South. For much of its history, it was owned by the former Chesapeake & Ohio Railway. Every U.S. president from Dwight Eisenhower through George W. Bush has stayed at its presidential suite.

ALDERSON is located along the Greenbrier River with a population of about 1,100. The town boasts the largest Fourth of July celebration in the state of West Virginia, with events spanning an entire week. The station, in the historic downtown district, dates from 1896 and is a recently restored example of depots typical of the standard C&O designs used between 1890 and 1916. The town is also home to the Alderson Federal Prison Camp for minimum-security female inmates. It has housed such notables as jazz singer and songwriter Billie Holiday, former Manson Family member Lynette “Squeaky” Fromme and television host, author and publisher Martha Stewart.

Great Bend Tunnel under Big Bend Mountain derives its fame from the story of John Henry besting the steam drill. The six foot, 200 lb. Henry is said to have driven steel into hard rock -- with a hammer in each hand -- faster than could be done by the machine. A song about his exploits became the most famous, widespread, widely imitated and discussed folksongs in American railroading.

HINTON is a county seat featuring a complete downtown on the National Registry of Historic Places. The Wood Clock Museum has over 500 clocks of every type in a private collection that has been opened to the public, and the Hinton Railroad Museum is filled with artifacts from the early days of the C&O Railway.

Sandstone Falls is a photographic spectacle and one of the Seven Natural Wonders of West Virginia, created by continuous flats of sandstone extending upstream some 12 miles of the New River Gorge National River. Waders enjoy bath-temperature waters by spring as the falls flow over broad rock surfaces.

Sandstone is an unincorporated community and site of the Sandstone Visitors Center built by the National Park Service to provide outreach and build environmental awareness of issues involving the New River George. Its interactive museum draws thousands of visitors annually. The area contains some of the oldest prehistoric Native American artifacts yet to be discovered. A nearby quarry contributed to the building of the Washington Monument.
Hawk’s Nest overlook, visible above and across the basin, offers river’s rapids draw thrill seekers from everywhere. The outside world in 1872 with the coming of the railroad. Today, the Gauley Bridge marks the confluence of the New and Gauley Rivers between 1869 and 1873. From the fish hawks that originally inhabited the massive cliffs. They many workers their lives when the mineral silica was discovered during 19th century people lived and worked to contribute the coal and lumber to historians. A project to dam the river at Hawk’s Nest in 1927 cost 270 acres on the northern rim of the New River. It features a lodge three camping areas offer visitors hiking, biking, kayaking and float-fishing – which suspends bait at a predetermined depth and signals a bite. THURMOND was once a prosperous town during the heyday of coal mining in the New River Gorge. Today, it is a town of seven residents – six of whom sought elective office during the city elections held in 2005. It served as the filming location of a 1987 movie starring James Earl Jones, Matewan, depicting a 1920 miners strike and attempts to unionize workers. Much of the Thurmond is owned by the National Park Service, and the entire town is a designated historic district. The two-story wooden structure that houses the Amtrak station also contains a railroad museum and New River Gorge visitor center. Fayetteville is situated on a plateau at an altitude of 1,820 ft., known as a mecca for world-class outdoor recreation as well as for the New River Gorge Bridge. Spanning 3,030 ft. at a height of 876 ft. above the New River, it is the highest bridge in the Americas and second-highest in the world. The annual Bridge Day Festival in October hosts base jumpers parachuting from the side of the bridge. The Fayetteville County Courthouse, built in 1897, is a remarkable example of Romanesque Revival architecture. The New River Gorge is the site of some of the country’s best white water rafting and has more than 1,400 established rock climbs. A national park system unit, the New River Gorge National River is predated in geological history only by the Nile in Egypt. It lies at the core of a significant forest containing diverse flora, and provides habitat for endangered mammals, rare birds and amphibians. Within the gorge lie a significant number of abandoned sites where 18th and 19th century people lived and worked to contribute the coal and lumber that powered American industry of the day. The region was opened to the outside world in 1872 with the coming of the railroad. Today, the river’s rapids draw thrill seekers from everywhere. Hawk’s Nest overlook, visible above and across the basin, offers spectacular views in spring and fall of one of the most photographed vistas in the eastern U.S. The State Park of the same name protects 270 acres on the northern rim of the New River. It features a lodge with 31 rooms, aerial tram, museum and the overlook, in addition to hiking, biking, paddle boating and fishing. Its stone buildings were built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s and are of interest to historians. A project to dam the river at Hawk’s Nest in 1927 cost many workers their lives when the mineral silica was discovered during construction of a tunnel. Exposure to the dust led to lung disease and spurred government efforts to improve worker safety. The name derived from the fish hawks that originally inhabited the massive cliffs. They left the site permanently after the railroads began blasting in the area between 1869 and 1873. Gauley Bridge marks the confluence of the New and Gauley Rivers to form the Kanawha River. Throughout this wild and beautifully picturesque country, much is visible only by rail or whitewater raft. MONTGOMERY is home to the West Virginia University Institute of Technology. A 1993 television film, “Goodbye Miss 4th of July,” depicting the story of a Greek family growing up in Montgomery, was produced by the Disney Channel. The town takes its name from one of the city’s first settlers, James C. Montgomery. CHARLESTON is the largest city in, and the capital of West Virginia, situated at the confluence of the Elk and Kanawha Rivers. The gold-domed capitol building visible from the train was completed in 1932. Before the state of West Virginia was admitted to the Union in 1863, Charleston, established in 1794, was part of Virginia. By the early 1800s, salt brines were discovered along the Kanawha River and the first salt well was drilled, bringing prosperity and economic growth. Citizens chose the city as their state capital in 1877. In the 20th century, natural resources such as coal and natural gas, railroad expansion and state government all contributed to growth. Annual events include the West Virginia Dance Festival and the West Virginia International Film Festival. Actress Jennifer Garner and country singer Kathy Mattea grew up here. HUNTINGTON is West Virginia’s second largest city on the border of Ohio along the Ohio River, founded in 1870 as the western terminus for the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway. Today, Marshall University occupies a large portion of the city to the east of the Central Business District and was named in honor of former U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Marshall. Among its earlier graduates was Carter G. Woodson, who became the Father of Afro-American History when he founded Negro History Week in 1926. It later became Afro-American History Month. After the prominence of coal mining waned, the city became a regional medical community and a university town. The city hosts several annual events including Jazz-MU-Tazz at the University. Hollywood Squares host Peter Marshall and the late comedian Soupy Sales grew up here. West Virginia/Kentucky State Line Ohio River Also known as Big Sandy River, it is a tributary of the Mississippi and carries commercial shipping including coal mined in the region. The name is derived from the presence of extensive sand bars. ASHLAND is an economic and medical center for northeastern Kentucky. Its early growth was fueled by the pig iron industry, and later on by coal and other industrial concerns. The business district includes the Paramount Arts center where Billy Ray Cyrus’ music video Achy Breaky Heart was taped. The city boasts a 47-acre wooded Central Park hosting an annual holiday light show; a street in the park, Chuck Woolery Boulevard, is named for the well-known game show host who hails from Ashland. Notable natives also include the Judds, a country music duo, and actress Ashley Judd; Judd Plaza is named in their honor. Russell is located on hilly topography and founded as a good strategic position against attacks by local Native American tribes. AK Steel’s Ashland Works is located here, as is a large CSX Transportation rail classification yard. Country singer Billy Ray Cyrus attended high school in Russell. SOUTH SHORE/SOUTH PORTSMOUTH is situated along the Ohio River across from Portsmouth, Ohio. Former major league pitcher and coach Don Gullett is from South Shore. MAYSVILLE is an historically important town in the Kentucky bluegrass region, settled by frontiersmen like Daniel Boone. Once a center of wrought iron manufacture, it sent fancy ironwork to New Orleans to decorate its buildings. For a large part of the 20th century, it was home to one of the largest tobacco auction warehouse systems in the world. Seen from above at night, the streetlights of the downtown area form the outline of the Liberty Bell, including its crack. The late singer and actress Rosemary Clooney was born here. COVINGTON Here, just outside of Cincinnati, we again cross the Ohio River. Originally called Fort Rowdy, Covington’s annual October gathering celebrates the village’s beginnings as a fort built in 1793 by the forces of “Mad Anthony” Wayne. The American general defeated an Indian confederacy and signed the Treaty of Greenville, giving most of what is present-day Ohio to the U.S. and clearing the way for
statehood in 1803. "Rowdy" was what Wayne dubbed the fort because of the carousing his officers and men embarked upon after building the breastworks of brush and logs at the site. A museum features Civil War exhibits and displays related to the town’s history.

**Kentucky/Ohio State Line**

**CINCINNATI** was founded in 1788 and named after the Society of Cincinnati. It honors George Washington, who was considered a latter-day *Cincinnatus* — a Roman called to serve as dictator who immediately resigned his authority after successfully concluding a crisis. It was considered the first “boomtown” in the heart of the country to rival coastal cities. Steam navigation on the Ohio River helped grow Cincinnati, along with construction of a canal. Rapid expansion followed, and the railroad appeared in 1836. Cincinnati was first in the world to use steam fire engines, and first in the U.S. to establish a paid fire department. The precursor to baseball’s Cincinnati Reds began as the Red Stockings in 1869, the first professional baseball team in the country. Proctor & Gamble introduced Ivory Soap here in 1879. Today, the downtown area is focused around Fountain Square. Union Terminal, built in 1933, houses a Museum Center and Omnimax Theater. The city is home to ten Fortune 500 companies. Its Oktoberfest is the largest such celebration in the country. Its range of unique foods includes several varieties of chili, and goetta, a peasant food of German origin composed of ground beef and oats, commonly consumed as a breakfast meat. Many movies and TV shows have been shot or set in Cincinnati, such as *Batman Forever* and *WKRP in Cincinnati*. In 1911, Leonard Slye was born in Cincinnati in a house where second base now sits at Riverfront Stadium. He was destined to become better known as Roy Rogers, the King of the Cowboys.

**Oxford/Miami University** was founded in 1809, highly ranked as a so-called "Public Ivy" for its faculty, offerings and overall experience. Described by poet Robert Frost as "the most beautiful college there ever was," it is one of only four colleges to produce both a U.S. President (Benjamin Harrison) and a Super Bowl-winning quarterback (Ben Rothlisberger). It is well known for its School of Education housed in McGuffey Hall, named after a Classics professor who wrote the pioneer text book *McGuffey Reader*. The book had at one time more than 130 million copies in print, more than any book in history, with the exception of the Bible.

**Ohio/Indiana State Line**

**Liberty** is a farming community and county seat most noted as the birthplace of Ambrose Burnside, the Civil War Union General whose unique facial whiskers gave rise to the modern term "sideburns."

**CONNERSVILLE** was known in the early 20th century as "Little Detroit" for its importance to the auto industry. The McFarlan Motor Corporation produced cars here for 19 years; Auburn, Cord, Lexington and others also had production facilities. Al Capone is said to have purchased two McFarlans, one for himself and another for his wife. Several Duesenberg bodies were also produced here. Its American Central plant later built Jeep bodies for Willys Overland and Admiral kitchen appliances, making the city one of the largest dishwasher producers in the country. Connersville is home to both the first industrial park and the first high school band in the U.S. Each June, the Heritage MusicFest takes place at a campground by the Whitewater River, and the MudFest is celebrated each July.

**INDIANAPOLIS** is Indiana’s largest city and state capital, having the second largest number of monuments after Washington, D.C. For much of its history, it has been oriented to government and industry. Today, its economy is more diversified. Its Indianapolis 500, a Memorial Day race for open-wheel cars, is the largest single-day sporting event in the world with more than 257,000 permanent seats. The city is also home to the Colts of the NFL and the Pacers of the NBA. Residents and visitors enjoy the Indiana State Fair and the Indy Jazz Festival annually. It is the second most populous state capital after Phoenix, and the only one to occupy the exact center of its state. City center is Monument Circle featuring the Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Monument. Kiwanis International is headquartered here. The TV sitcom *One Day at a Time* was set in Indianapolis, the opening credits of which included a shot of the Pyramids, a set of three office buildings.

**CRAWFORDSVILLE** held the first official intercollegiate basketball game at the YMCA between Wabash College and Purdue in 1894. Today, Crawfordsville is noted for being one of only four remaining all-male liberal arts colleges in the U.S. One of the country’s first Rotary Jails opened here in 1882; now a museum, it is on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1891, appearance of the so-called “Crawfordsville Monster” in the skies above the city on two occasions frightened some 100 local citizens. The story was published in the *Indianapolis Journal*. An annual tour downtown addresses both the creature and other mysterious happenings that year.

**LAFAYETTE** is the county seat of Tippecanoe County and home to Purdue University, around which revolve many of the industrial and economic activities of the city. Alcoa Aluminum, Caterpillar Large Engine Division and Subaru of Indiana also maintain a presence here. Its early regional prominence sprang from its function as a shipping center on the Wabash River, further escalated by the arrival of the railroad in the 1850s. In 1859, the country’s first official air mail delivery took place when John Wise piloted a balloon from Lafayette to Crawfordsville. Notable natives include the late director, producer and actor, Sydney Pollack; the co-founder of Sears, Roebuck and Company, Alvah Curtis Roebuck; and the founder and chief executive of public affairs television network C-SPAN, Brian Lamb.

**Tippecanoe Battlefield Park** is a wooded area seven miles north of Lafayette that played a major role in American history. In 1811, the Battle of Tippecanoe between American forces led by William Henry Harrison defeated an American Indian confederation led by Tecumseh and his brother, Tenskwatawa, which dealt a severe blow to the confederacy. The battle was used as a campaign slogan in the election of 1840, “Tippecanoe and Tyler Too,” that helped Harrison win the Presidency and John Tyler the Vice Presidency. The park offers hiking, a nature center, a battlefield monument and a museum.

**RENSSELAER** was platted in 1839, named for founder James Van Rensselaer of Utica, New York. St. Joseph’s College was established in 1888. It is today a primarily undergraduate Catholic institution offering 75 major, minor and pre-professional programs along with a nationally acclaimed Core Curriculum.

**DYER** forms the border with the state of Illinois on its western side. In 2005, the town was named one of the best places to live in the U.S. by CNN and *Money Magazine*. It is also home to the Chi Town Shooters, a professional hockey team of the All American Hockey League.

**Indiana/Illinois State Line**

**CHICAGO** Vibrant and energetic, Chicago is the industrial core of the Midwest and a major transportation hub. In the heart of America’s agriculture belt, it is a leading distributor of farm products. Its many regional food specialties reflect the city’s ethnic and working class roots. Its spirit is also exemplified in its unique architecture; here is where the word “skyscraper” originated in 1885. The arts and sciences are also alive here, with an abundance of world-renowned theaters and museums. Cellular Field, home of the Chicago White Sox, is soon visible. (As we cross the Rock Island Railroad at Englewood, imagine the intense rivalry between the *Twentieth Century* and *Broadway Limited* trains as they raced one another to New York decades ago.) Of particular note is the New Regal Theater, originally an "atmospheric" motion picture
palace where the audience sat in an imaginary courtyard under the stars. Today, it is a showcase for live entertainment. The cemetery you see is where Harold Washington, the city’s first African American mayor, is buried. We now cross the South Branch of the Chicago River, famous for its backwards flow, and where ships ply Great Lakes ports along the Illinois and Michigan Canal. Sanitary engineers reversed its flow in the early 1900s to prevent epidemics. As we pull into the covered platforms in the station, watch for an impressive view of the city skyline. Among its magnificent structures are the Sears Tower, Daley Center and John Hancock Building. Most Amtrak long-distance trains originate or terminate here.
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