



TEXAS EAGLE ROUTE GUIDE



CHICAGO • ST. LOUIS • LITTLE ROCK • DALLAS • SAN ANTONIO • LOS ANGELES

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, Chicago, and proceeds to points southwest, ending in San Antonio; the Sunset Limited combined section continues on to Los Angeles thrice weekly. If you boarded in either San Antonio or Los Angeles, just read the guide in reverse, remembering to look in the opposite direction if one is referenced.

AMTRAK STATIONS are shown in all capital letters. The Amtrak System Timetable or Texas Eagle 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.

From the "city of big shoulders" to the state that made "bigness" a virtue, the Texas Eagle will truly delight and amaze you from start to finish. If having a big heart is prized, the "heart of Texas" has it all wrapped up. So many superlatives are attached to its cities and wide-open spaces that you will immediately see it for yourself: things really are bigger here in the heartland of the Southwest, and nowhere more so than your views from the big windows of the Texas Eagle. From the Windy City through to St. Louis and on to the prairies and oil fields of Texas, to the modern cosmopolitan skyscrapers of Dallas, to the state capitol at Austin, to the pine forest and immense landscape conjuring images of cowboys and stagecoaches, to the picturesque Hill Country and on to "Remember the Alamo" at San Antonio – this is truly your introduction into the Spirit that is Texas. So prop up your boots and relax – you're entering the Lone Star State-of-Mind-Zone!

[The Texas Eagle is the direct successor to the former Missouri Pacific Railroad and Texas and Pacific Railway's train of the same name, inaugurated in 1948. For a number of years, the train operated in two sections, each departing St. Louis and diverging routes at Longview. One served Dallas and El Paso while the other served Austin and San Antonio. After 1961, one very long train was split into several sections serving additional Texas cities. Each version of the train had a "thru" section to Laredo and Mexico City. Amtrak took over intercity passenger service in 1971 and reinstated the Eagle in 1974.]



WELCOME ABOARD

Welcome aboard the *Texas Eagle*® From the City of Big Shoulders to the historic Alamo of San Antonio and on to flash of Hollywood on the *Sunset Limited*® thru cars tri-weekly, discover the spectacular scenery, geology, history and thriving cities that are uniquely American.

On board the combined *Texas Eagle/Sunset Limited*, 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 *Texas Eagle/Sunset Limited* 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

Superliner Sleeping Car accommodations provide a range of private rooms with amenities for day and night use. From roomettes to bedrooms 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 Magnolia Room is available for Sleeping car passengers boarding the *Sunset Limited* in New Orleans, as is the Traxx Club in Los Angeles.

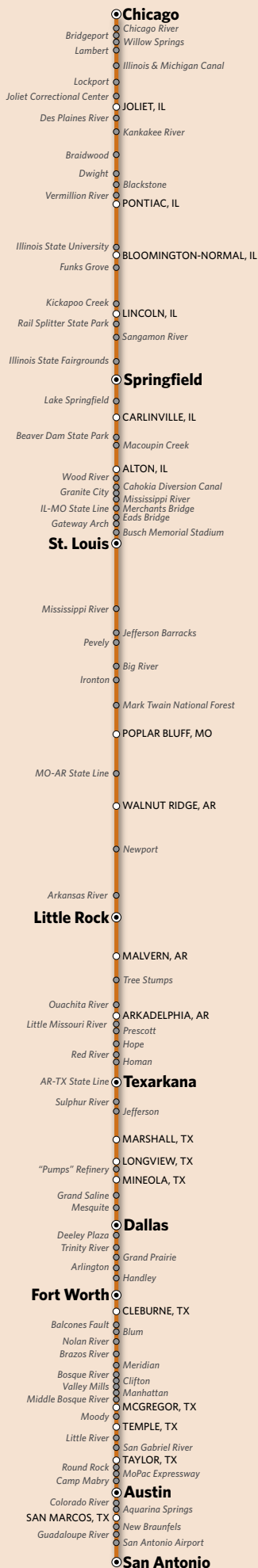
Coach seating provides a wide, reclining seat with leg rest, folding tray table and overhead lights. This enhanced service provides at-seat meal service if requested and larger pillows for additional sleeping comfort.

Dining Car features full-service hot meals prepared by Amtrak chefs with regional menu items unique to the *Texas Eagle/Sunset Limited*. 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.

Sightseer Lounge - Café Car is the perfect car for viewing the spectacular scenery along the *Texas Eagle/Sunset Limited* route. Large panoramic windows and informal seating provide the perfect atmosphere for sightseeing and making new friends. The Café is located on the lower level of this car and features sandwiches, snacks, beverages, and other light fare.

HOST RAILROADS are the freight and commuter railroads that Amtrak contracts with to operate Amtrak passenger trains. The *Texas Eagle* operates between Chicago and Joliet over the Canadian National Railway, from Joliet to Ft. Worth on the Union Pacific Railroad, from Ft. Worth to Temple over the Burlington Northern/Santa Fe Railroad, and from Temple to Los Angeles over the Union Pacific.

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.



CHICAGO is the nation's third largest city, famous for its ethnic neighborhoods and cuisine as well as its colorful history. As the train heads south, look to your left for a dramatic view of the towering city skyline, dominated by the Sears Tower, Daley Center and the domed Wrigley Building, among many magnificent structures. In 1885, the first skyscraper in the U.S. was constructed after the Chicago Fire of 1871 had destroyed the entire central business district. Chicago Union Station, completed in 1909, is the only surviving example of Chicago's great turn-of-the-century train stations. Chicago is one of the largest marketing and transportation centers of the Midwest, as well as one of the largest rail centers in the U.S., the first railway having opened in 1848.

As you continue south, you'll cross the Chicago River, famous as the world's only river that flows backwards because of its westward course away from Lake Michigan. Sanitary engineers reversed its flow in the early 1900s in an attempt to prevent a recurrence of epidemics. The city had been the first in the U.S. to construct a comprehensive sewer system, causing a problem of untreated waste to flow into Lake Michigan. The Chicago River was largely responsible for Chicago's early settlement, following the discovery by French explorers Louis Joliet and Pere Jacques Marquette in 1673. The first settler, a native of what is now Haiti, Jean Baptiste Point duSable, arrived in the 1770s and founded a trading post on the site. In 1833, the Town of Chicago was organized with a population of 350. Soon, you'll be able to catch a glimpse of Lake Michigan, the largest body of fresh water in the U.S.

Bridgeport is a heavily industrialized section of Chicago originally settled by Irish immigrants in the 1830s, many of whom came to work on the Illinois and Michigan Canal. As a result of inadequate funding for the project, the state ended up issuing land scrip in lieu of money to pay them. The city has long been a political hotbed, having been home to five mayors including both Richard J. and Richard M. Daley.

Willow Springs is near a wooded forest preserve where numerous deer can be spotted.

JOLIET is Illinois' fastest growing city. The castle-like stone building visible to the left is a high school. Joliet took its name from French-Canadian explorer Louis Jolliet, who camped on a huge mound nearby in 1673. Its original name was Juliet, most likely because a nearby village was named Romeoville. The heart and history of Joliet are centered around the Des Plaines and DuPage Rivers. Its main attractions today include a Harrah's Casino and Hotel, the Rialto Square Theater (said to be a favorite haunt of Al Capone) and Chicagoland Speedway, host to events from NASCAR and the Indy Racing League. Next door, the Route 66 Motor Speedway features National Hot Rod Association events on its drag strip. Notable natives of Joliet include Grammy Award-winning singer Lionel Ritchie.

Kankakee River served as a water transportation route through the 19th century for Native Americans and early European settlers, including French fur trappers. It was part of an inland canoe route connecting the Great Lakes to the Illinois River and the Mississippi. The river today remains a popular destination for recreational canoeing and fishing for warm-water species.

Dwight is the site of an original stretch of the famous highway, U.S. Route 66, as well as an historic vintage gas station, Ambler's Texaco. It also boasts one of only three banks designed by renowned architect Frank Lloyd Wright – and the only one still standing. Its 1857 Dwight Pioneer Gothic Church is a rare example of a wooden gothic building. The Vermillion River precedes our next stop, Pontiac.

PONTIAC was named after a legendary Indian chief in 1837; settlers arrived the following year. Attractions include swinging bridges and the Route 66 Museum along with boutiques, shops and restaurants. Emmy-winning actress Moira Harris hails from Pontiac.

Illinois/Missouri State Line

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL is comprised of two adjacent municipalities. Bloomington hosts one of the top Shakespearean festivals in the country, and it was named by *Golf Digest* as one of the five best places to play the game in the U.S. The popular snack Beer Nuts have been produced here since 1937. Bloomington also offers several historic sites, mansions and museums and is home to the corporate headquarters of State Farm Insurance. Normal is the site of Mitsubishi Motor Manufacturing of America, the former Diamond-Star Motors, which had begun as a joint venture between Mitsubishi Motors and Chrysler Corporation. Today, it produces Galant, Eclipse and Endeavor models at its Normal facility. The main campus of Illinois State University, the state's oldest public university, is located here as well. The late actor McLean Stevenson, best known for portraying Lt. Colonel Henry Blake on the hit TV series *M*A*S*H*, was born in Normal.

Funks Grove is an unincorporated community on U.S. Route 66 that is known for its stand of white oak and sugar maple trees, the latter of which are used to make maple syrup and maple sugar. The Funk family settled here in 1824 and continues to harvest the grove. Donated to the state in 1985 as a nature preserve, it is a National Historic Landmark next to a rest stop on Interstate 55.

LINCOLN received its name in 1853 in a unique ceremony presided over by Abraham Lincoln, who assisted with platting the town. It is the only city named for him prior to his election as president; a statue commemorates his having christened the town with the juice of a watermelon. Author Langston Hughes is said to have begun his writing career in Lincoln when, in the eighth grade, he was elected class poet.

SPRINGFIELD, the state capital of Illinois, boasts a large number of attractions and historic sites affiliated with Abraham Lincoln, who spent 24 years here as a lawyer and politician. The only home he ever owned is open to the public seven days a week, free of charge, operated by the National Park Service. The town was a major center of activity during the Civil War, with both a training camp and prison camp. The war's first official death was that of a Springfield resident. Labor activist John L. Lewis and General Foods Corporation founder Marjorie Merriweather Post once called Springfield home. The first drive-thru food service window in the U.S. is still in operation here, the Maid-Rite Sandwich Shop, and the corn dog on a stick is alleged to have been invented in the city. Springfield's Dana-Thomas House is among the best preserved of architect Frank Lloyd Wright's "Prairie" houses. In 2003, the film *Legally Blonde 2* was filmed here.

ALTON is located at the confluence of the Illinois, Mississippi and Missouri Rivers; as such, it developed as a river town with passenger ferry service operated by Rufus Easton, who named the town after his son. Aside from being the site of the seventh and last Lincoln-Douglas debate in 1858, other historic events occurred here. In 1837, an abolitionist printer was murdered by a pro-slavery mob. As a result, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution was drafted in Alton. The world's tallest man, Robert Wadlow, was born here in 1918. At the time of his death at age 22, he was 8'11" in height and weighed 490 pounds. Some 40,000 people attended his funeral in Alton, at which 12 pallbearers carried his half-ton coffin.

Wood River was the departure point for Lewis and Clark's expedition of 1803-04; their winter camp is now the site of the State Historic Site. In 1907, Standard Oil built a refinery here and the town suddenly had many more workers than homes. This was solved by erecting Sears & Roebuck catalog homes, many of which still stand. In 1926, the city boasted the world's largest swimming pool. Today, the major employer is Olin Corporation, a major manufacturer of copper alloys, ammunition, chlorine and sodium hydroxide.

Eads Bridge into St. Louis was opened on July 4, 1874. As we pass under it, consider that it was at the time the world's longest arch bridge at 6,422 ft., the first to use cantilever support methods and one of the first to make use of pneumatic caissons. After the Civil War, steamboat dominance was waning and the bridge was conceived as a solution to counter Chicago's newfound dominance as a center of commerce. The bridge was tested first with an elephant from a traveling circus and then with 14 locomotives simultaneously.

Gateway Arch is the iconic image of St. Louis, just to the south of the Eads Bridge. Opened in 1967, it is, at 630 ft., the tallest monument in the U.S. The base of each leg, built up simultaneously, had an engineering tolerance of one sixty-fourth of an inch in order to meet at the top. Access to an observation area at the apex is gained via tramway comprised of an elevator cable lift and gimbaled cars similar to ferris wheel gondolas.

Busch Memorial Stadium The former site of the original stadium is visible on the right. Demolished in 2005, it had been home to baseball's St. Louis Cardinals and was altered to accommodate the former St. Louis Cardinals of the NFL. Planned as Ballpark Village, the northern half of the site is now used as a softball field and for game parking; the rest of its footprint is used by its replacement stadium.

ST. LOUIS is also known as "Gateway City," seen as the dividing mark between eastern and western halves of the U.S. and the 'gateway' through which pioneers first migrated west via the Missouri River, Oregon Trail and other wagon trails. Named for King Louis IX of France and founded in 1764, it passed to United States in 1803 as part of the Louisiana Purchase. The steamboat era arrived in 1817, and with it dependable river trade with New Orleans – another river city upon which St. Louis' street grid had been modeled. By 1850, it had become the largest city west of Pittsburgh and the second largest port, with tonnage exceed only by New York. In 1893, Nikola Tesla made the first public demonstration of radio communication in St. Louis; in 1904, the city hosted the World's Fair to commemorate the Louisiana Purchase and the first Olympics held in an English-speaking country. Today, Forest Park is one of the largest urban parks in the world, exceeding Central Park in New York by 500 acres. Its Missouri Botanical Garden is one of the world's leading botanical research centers. The Jefferson National Expansion Memorial is the centerpiece of the Gateway Arch and commemorates westward growth between 1803 and 1890. The Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis is decorated with the largest mosaic collection in the world. Its historic Italian Hill neighborhood is home to Yogi Berra, Joe Garagiola and other noted athletes. The St. Louis Zoo is the most visited zoo in the U.S., having surpassed the San Diego Zoo in popularity. Singer/guitarist Chuck Berry is a native St. Louisian; soul artists Ike and Tina Turner and jazz innovator Miles Davis began their careers here; and modern artist Cheryl Crow calls St. Louis home. Many well-known U.S. corporations also make St. Louis their headquarters, such as Anheuser-Busch Breweries, Federated Department Stores, Eveready Battery Co. and Enterprise Rent-A-Car. Some 81 theaters and dance companies as well as one of the largest theatrical production companies in the country reside here – as does sportscaster Bob Costas, in a quiet St. Louis suburb.

POPLAR BLUFF is known as the "Gateway to the Ozarks" and lies along an escarpment separating the Ozark Foothills from the Mississippi embayment. Early settlers chose this, a then-uninhabited bluff containing profusely growing poplar trees, for its location on a navigable river. The Moark Regional Railroad Museum here offers visitors the chance to see displays of model trains and photographs of early railroading days which depict logging, lumber mills, factories, area train depots, the early steam engine and a dining car display. The

museum features a train room with a model train layout which takes visitors on an imaginary train ride through an interesting countryside featuring farms, cities, mountains, mining, the desert, rivers and industrial sites. For a number of years, the town was home away from home for train crews, who stayed in hotels and boarding houses that once lined the streets.

Missouri/Arkansas State Line

WALNUT RIDGE boasts a restored 1920 Italianate/Mediterranean style train station that now serves as the local area Chamber of Commerce and tourist center as well as the Amtrak passenger stop. A stretch of night clubs along Highway 67 here, called the Rock 'N' Roll Highway, played host to such musical greats as Johnny Cash, Elvis Presley, Roy Orbison, Jerry Lee Lewis and Conway Twitty in the 1950s.

LITTLE ROCK is the capital of and largest city in Arkansas. Early travelers used a stone outcropping on the bank of the Arkansas River as a landmark; the French explorer Jean-Baptiste Bernard de la Harpe named the area "La Petite Roche" (French for "Little Rock") in 1722. The Rose Law Firm here is the oldest west of the Mississippi River, established in 1820. Former President Bill Clinton delivered his acceptance speech from the front steps of the Old State House in 1992; his Presidential Center opened in 2004. Major corporations headquartered here include Dillard's Department stores. The campuses of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences are within the city. Notable natives of Little Rock include the former undisputed world middleweight champion, Jermain Taylor, and the Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in the Pacific during World War II, General Douglas MacArthur. Federal Express (now FedEx) was founded in Little Rock in 1971 but moved to Memphis two years later.

MALVERN is known as the Brick Capital of the World due to the presence of three Acme Brick plants in the area. It hosts "Brickfest" each year, featuring a brick toss, among other activities. Home to Grapette International, maker of Grapette soda, its most notable former resident is Academy Award winning actor Billy Bob Thornton, whose family moved here in 1963. The town once hosted a narrow-gauge railroad called the Diamond Jo that served Hot Springs, replacing the previous stagecoach connection.

ARKADELPHIA is situated at the foothills of the Ouachita Mountains. Originally settled in 1809, it was then known as Blakeytown; salt was its first industry. In 1839, the name Arkadelphia was adopted, likely formed by combining the state's first three letters with the ending from Philadelphia. Home to Henderson State University and Ouachita Baptist University, it boasts hiking as a popular pastime at the nearby Ouachita National Forest, along with camping, water sports, golf and fishing at DeGray Lake State Park. Less than 40 miles away is the Crater of Diamonds State Park, where visitors can pay a fee to prospect for diamonds they can actually take home. Six-time Pro Bowl Dallas Cowboys free safety Cliff Harris played for Ouachita Baptist before being invited to the Cowboys' training camp in 1970, going on to revolutionize his position.

Arkansas/Texas State Line

TEXARKANA lays half in Texas and half in Arkansas, each side having a population of approximately 35,000. By 1542, Spanish explorer Hernando DeSoto is said to have visited the area just to the north, when it was occupied by the Grand Caddoes. Congenial relations with other tribes and the white man were the rules of the Caddoes, and remains of their culture can be found within 30 miles of Texarkana. By the 1870s, the Texas and Pacific Railroad stretched its tracks across Texas and, in 1873, sold the first lots in Texarkana. The town got its name, according to one version of the story, from Colonel Gus Knobel; it combines the

three states of Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana, the latter's border some 30 miles to the south. The western half of the city lays in Bowie County, Texas, named after Jim Bowie, alleged inventor of the Bowie Knife and hero of the Texas Revolution at the Alamo, where he died. His life was the subject of a 1956-58 TV show, *The Adventures of Jim Bowie*. Notable natives of Texarkana include H. Ross Perot, who famously ran for President in 1992 and 1996, polling more votes than any third party candidate in history.

Jefferson is located on Big Cypress Bayou and was named after Thomas Jefferson. It was conceived as a port city, and experienced its Golden Era between 1845 and 1875 when steamboats plied the Mississippi River between New Orleans and St. Louis after the bayou has been cleared of obstructions. During this prosperous period, an architectural style evolved which resembled New Orleans. Then known as the point of entry into the new Republic of Texas, Jefferson ceased to be a prominent port city once the railroads came in the 1870s. Today, it is known as the Bed and Breakfast Capital of Texas, with brick streets, a variety of merchants and culinary delights ranging from casual to fine dining. A few miles east, Caddo Lake offers visitors tours of a beautiful water garden of bayous, cypress trees, Spanish moss, lotuses and water lilies.

MARSHALL is sometimes referred to as the Gateway of Texas. Founded in 1841 as a county seat, it quickly prospered as a gateway by being on several major stagecoach lines. The establishment of what were then known as "colleges" earned it another nickname: The Athens of Texas. During the Civil War, it became the western capital of the Confederacy after the fall of Vicksburg. After the war, the city entered its railroad era. Confirming its status were the first telegraph service and the first electric light in the state. An expanding ceramics industry earned it yet another title: Pottery Capital of the World. Today, tourism has emerged as an important part of the area's economy, offering visitors such events as Stagecoach Days, the Fire Ant Festival and the Wonderland of Lights – one of the largest light festivals in the U.S. Notable one-time Marshallites include two-time former heavyweight champion of the world and entrepreneur George Forman, Marshall Senior High School graduate and former first lady Lady Bird Johnson, and journalist Bill Moyers.

LONGVIEW Inspired by the view from a farmer's front porch, a railroad surveyor suggested this town's name in 1870. The original site had been founded in 1850 as Earpville. Commercial rail service came two years later, and Longview became known nationally as the head of the former Southern Pacific's line. Cotton remained the principle driver of the local economy until the late 1920s; in 1930, the East Texas Oilfield discovery proved to be the largest in the world and the city's fortunes changed dramatically. Today, Heritage Plaza tells the story of Longview on the site of the former Gregg Hotel, built in 1930 and later acquired by Conrad Hilton. Annual events drawing tourism include the East Texas Boat, RV and Camping Expo, the Memorial Day Weekend Motorcycle Rally, AlleyFest and the Turnip Green Festival. Its healthy local economy is supported by oil field services and manufacturing. Actor Matthew McConaughey graduated from Longview High School in 1988, and actor Forest Whitaker was born here, as was Karen Silkwood, union activist and subject of the 1983 film, *Silkwood* starring Meryl Streep.

MINEOLA came into existence when railroads built out their lines through East Texas. Originally called Sodom, the name Mineola is said by some to have evolved from combining the names of two daughters of a prominent local businessman, Minnie and Olla. More likely, however, is that a railroad official's hometown of Mineola, New York is the source. Because the town was in the heart of the East Texas timber belt, wood was plentiful for tie making and lumber. "Big Jim" Hogg, governor of Texas between 1891 and 1895, had a daughter named Ima Hogg, born in Mineola. Known as "The First Lady of Texas," her unusual

name was taken from an epic poem written by an uncle. Nevertheless, she endeavored to play it down. More importantly, she used her family's oil income to benefit the people of Texas through numerous philanthropic works, which her foundation of the same name carries on today. Nearby Canton is the site of First Monday Trade Days, the largest and oldest continuously operating flea market in the U.S. Former Speaker of the California Assembly and Mayor of San Francisco Willie Brown was born and raised in Mineola.

DALLAS Ninth largest city in the U.S., Dallas lays claim to invention of the integrated circuit in 1958 at Texas Instruments, the largest wholesale trade complex in the world, and more restaurants per capita than New York City. After the discovery of oil 100 miles east in 1930, Dallas quickly became a financial center for the industry for which it is so well known to large audiences via the popular 1980s television show, *Dallas*. It features a concentration of hi-tech firms, 12 Fortune 500 companies, numerous corporate headquarters and one of the largest urban arts districts in the nation. Note the glitzy skyscrapers visible from your window, including the iconic Reunion Tower and the Bank of America Plaza. Its metro population of over six million makes it the largest such area in Texas and the number one area in the nation in population growth as of 2009. In 1841, John Neely Bryan established the permanent settlement that would become Dallas. It is believed that the name may derive from George Miffin Dallas, U.S. Vice President under James K. Polk. Highland Park Village, opened in 1931, was the second shopping mall ever to be constructed in the U.S., remains in operation and is a National Historic Landmark. Famous luxury retailer Neiman Marcus was founded here in 1907 and is still headquartered on Main St. The city is also renowned for its barbeque and its authentic "Tex-Mex" cuisines, in addition to numerous nationally-ranked steakhouses. Its "Deep Ellum" neighborhood near downtown boasts a population of studio artists and entertainment venues alongside bars and pubs. Its Dallas Cowboys have advanced to eight Super Bowl contests and won five of them since entering the league in 1960. The most notable event is the State Fair of Texas at Fair Park, held annually since 1886. The Red River Shootout, pitting the University of Texas against the University of Oklahoma at the Cotton Bowl, is the Fair's finale. Dallas is the third most popular business travel destination in the U.S. You'll note the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) trains at the station, as well as the Trinity Rail Express linking Dallas to Ft. Worth. Actor Owen Wilson and producer Aaron Spelling were born in Dallas.

FORT WORTH is the cultural gateway to the American West, forming the other part of the Dallas/Fort Worth "Metroplex" of over six million inhabitants. The original fort was a protective Army outpost named for Major General William Jenkins Worth, second in command to General Zachary Taylor at the opening of the Mexican-American War in 1846, who secured Texas' independence from Mexico originally won at the Battle of San Jacinto by the Texans themselves in 1836. Following the Civil War, which had severely depressed the city, a revival occurred when the Texas & Pacific Railway steamed into town in 1876. It soon became a premier center for the cattle industry and wholesale trade and a final stop in civilization for cowboys driving cattle north on the Chisholm Trail to Kansas. Today, its downtown area is characterized by art deco buildings. The Tarrant County Courthouse features American Beaux Arts Design and was frequently seen in episodes of television's *Walker, Texas Ranger* – as was the White Elephant Saloon in the Stockyards, or "CD's Place," in the same show. Sundance Square is an eight-block entertainment district downtown, and the unique Fort Worth Water Gardens were seen in the 1976 film *Logan's Run*. The Stockyards and Historic District also offer the annual Fort Worth Stock Show; the world's largest "honky-tonk," Billy Bob's; the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame; and rides on the Grapevine Vintage Railroad, or "Tarantula Train," departing from the Stockyards Station with its many shops and restaurants. The arts are well represented by the Modern

Art Museum, The Kimball Art Museum, and the Amon Carter Museum. *American Idol* winner and singer Kelly Clarkson and actor Bill Paxton hail from Ft. Worth.

CLEBURNE hosted a major Santa Fe Railroad locomotive repair facility dating to 1898. Springing from Camp Henderson, established in 1854, the city was incorporated in 1871 and named after Confederate General Patrick Cleburne. Johnson County's soldiers would depart for war from here, most of them serving under the command of General Cleburne. Lake Pat Cleburne provides water to the city and surrounding area. Local government is the major employer in Cleburne. Nearby Cleburne State Park boasts fishing, camping, swimming and paddle boats among its attractions.

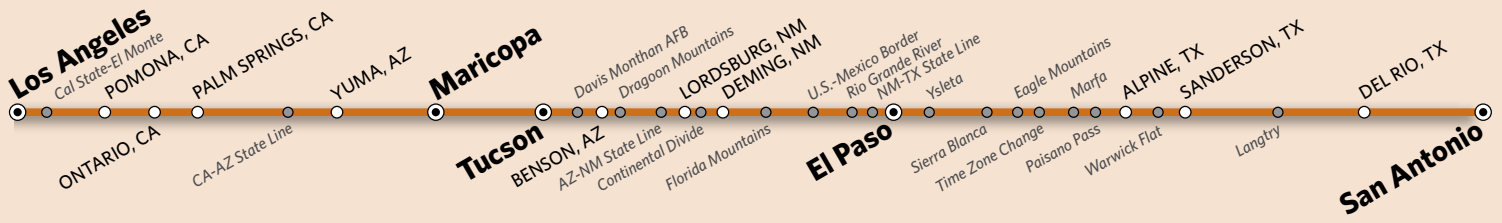
Balcones Fault is an abrupt boundary, now apparent between the Coastal Plain of North Central Texas and the so-called Hill Country, punctuated by the Balcones Escarpment. This tensional structural system runs from Waco in the north central part of Texas to the Del Rio in the southwest and is thought to be related to the Ouachita Mountains, formed some 300 million years ago during a continental collision. The mountains were long ago eroded, but their roots exist beneath thousands of feet of sediment. The fault zone has been inactive for 15 million years. Subterranean features such as Wonder Cave are found along its length, as are numerous springs. It is also a line of demarcation for various ecological systems and species distributions. We will parallel the fault from this point, approaching the Brazos River, all the way to San Antonio.

MCGREGOR was established in 1882 at the intersection of the former Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe and the Texas and St. Louis railways. The town received a significant boost in 1942 with the building of a government ordnance plant. Texas A&M University was given some of the land for development of an experimental farm and research center. Gateway to Waco some 16 miles to the to the northeast, McGregor lays only 6.6 miles south of Crawford, site of former President George W. Bush's Prairie Chapel Ranch.

TEMPLE was founded as a railroad junction in 1881 and still serves as a major freight railroad hub. It is known today as a regional medical center; the Scott & White Memorial Hospital employs 10,000 people locally. It, along with the Veteran's Hospital Center and other smaller clinics, makes the city home to more physicians per capita than any community in the U.S. It is also the site of Texas A&M University's Medical School. Dubbed the "Wildflower Capital of Texas," Temple is bisected by I-35 and the Balcones Fault. To the east lies the Blackland Prairie region, a rich farming area; to the west, the terrain rises with shallower soils over low limestone hills, essentially the northeastern edge of the Texas Hill Country. "Mean" Joe Greene, the four-time Super Bowl champion, former Pittsburgh Steelers' all-pro defensive tackle and cornerstone of the famed "Steel Curtain" defense of the 1970s, was born in Temple.

TAYLOR was founded in 1876 and soon became a busy shipping point for cattle, grain and cotton. By 1890, Taylor had two banks and the first savings and loan institution in the state of Texas. The T. Don Hutto Residential Center was opened in 2006 as a detention facility to hold illegal immigrant families together while they await the outcome of their immigration hearings or their return to their home countries. Taylor is also the birthplace of Frederick Bean "Tex" Avery, animator, cartoonist and voice actor who created the characters of Daffy Duck, Bugs Bunny, Porky Pig and others during the golden age of Hollywood animation.

AUSTIN is the capital of Texas and home to the University of Texas, one of the largest and most prestigious universities in the country. Residents include a blend of university professors, students, politicians, lobbyists, musicians, state employers and high-tech workers, reflecting



an eclectic mix. Also known as “Live Music Capital of the World,” it boasts vibrant nightlife on 6th Street downtown and the longest-running music program on American television, *Austin City Limits*. The town was settled in the 1830s on the banks of the Colorado River and was originally named Waterloo. When chosen in 1839 to be the capital of the new Republic of Texas, it was renamed after Stephen F. Austin, the Father of Texas. The state capitol building was completed in 1888 and hailed at the time as the seventh largest building in the world. With artists such as Willie Nelson, Austin’s music scene began to attract major attention in the 1970s. The city is headquarters for two Fortune 500 companies, Dell Computer and Whole Foods Market. It is consistently ranked among the safest cities per capita of any size and in many categories. The O. Henry Museum annually hosts its “Pun-Off”, drawing pun-employed fans of wordplay – a.k.a. “punslingers” – to celebrate the pun. It was inspired by the short-story writings of its namesake, who lived in Austin during the 1880s. (Expect to see “punsmove” rising from town in May.) The city is also home to the annual Austin Film Festival, and it’s been the location for a large number of motion pictures, due in part to the influence of the University of Texas’ Department of Radio-Television-Film. In addition to team sports programs of the University of Texas Longhorns, which have won 47 national championships over the years, the town is also known for its active outdoor culture. Ballet Austin is the fourth largest ballet academy in the U.S. Its Barton Springs is the nation’s largest natural swimming pool in an urban area; swimming in Barton Springs during Christmas is an annual tradition, as the water is spring-fed and does not dip below 68 degrees in winter.

SAN MARCOS was founded on the banks of the San Marcos River, considered by many archeologists to be the oldest continuously inhabited area in the Northern Hemisphere. The area around San Marcos Springs was first settled in 1846. Its founder, Edward Burleson, was a hero of the Texas Revolution. Situated along the Balcones Fault, it contains many natural springs and notable water features. The upper river is a popular recreational area frequented for tubing, canoeing, swimming and fishing. The culture of the city is greatly enriched by its diversity and the presence of Texas State University students, creating the vibrancy of a thriving music scene. The town square, laid out in 1851, has recently been the focus of a multi-million dollar restoration project. San Marcos Springs can be viewed at Aquarena Center from glass-bottom boats on Spring Lake. The springs are a crucial habitat for five endangered species. Wonder World Park offers tours of an ancient earthquake cave, Wonder Cave, along with a wildlife park, miniature train and anti-gravity house. Former President Lyndon B. Johnson and country music star George Strait were both educated at the former Southwest Texas State University, now Texas State University.

New Braunfels was named for a German community by early immigrants; Braunfels translates to “brown rock” in German. Wurfest each November is held to celebrate the city’s German-American heritage. The city hosts one of the most famous water parks in the U.S., Schlitterbahn WaterPark Resort. The Comal River, at 3.2 miles in length,

is one of the shortest in the world. By 1850, New Braunfels had thrived to become the fourth largest city in Texas. Today, the Gruene Historical District is a Nationally Registered Historic District offering dining in the ruins of the original gristmill and live music at Gruene Hall.

SAN ANTONIO is a cultural and geographic gateway to the Southwest. It is best known for its River Walk lined with restaurants, bars and shops, the Alamo, the Tejano culture and its Sea World and Six Flags Fiesta Texas theme parks. It is also home to one of the most successful professional basketball franchises in the NBA, the Spurs. The Battle of the Alamo in 1836 pitted 189 defenders against the 4,000-man army of Mexican General Santa Anna for 13 days; their deaths led to the battle cry “Remember the Alamo” as a rallying point of the Texas Revolution. The building is a former Catholic mission maintained as a shrine in the heart of the historic downtown district. The seventh most populous city in the U.S., its diversified economy is focused on financial services, health care, defense and tourism. Twenty million tourists annually contribute substantially to the city’s economy as well. The Fairmont Hotel, built in 1906, is in *Guinness World Records* as one of the heaviest buildings ever to be moved intact. Visitors can also see the 40-foot tall cowboy boots at North Star Mall to experience the cowboy culture year round. Notable natives and residents include entertainer Carol Burnett and actors Joan Crawford, Olivia de Havilland and Tommy Lee Jones.

SUNSET LIMITED ROUTE CONTINUATION

DEL RIO is a border city with Mexico and home to Laughlin Air Force Base, the busiest pilot training base in the U.S.A.F. and the largest employer in the area. In 1962, it was Laughlin-based U-2 photographic evidence of a land-based nuclear missile installation in Cuba that touched off the infamous Cuban Missile Crisis of that year. Three Border Patrol Stations are also large employers. Actress Jessica Alba was a resident when her father was stationed here in the Air Force. The town has served as a backdrop for numerous movies and music videos. The Val Verde Winery in Del Rio, founded in 1883, is the oldest in Texas’ booming wine industry. The wine business constitutes a “rising star” in the Lone Star State, now the fifth largest producer of grapes and wines in the U.S. Some 120 wineries produce in excess of \$120 billion in revenue annually. Spanish missionaries began cultivating grapes near present-day El Paso in the 1600s.

Langtry is most notable as home to the famous and eccentric “Judge” Roy Bean, who called himself the “Law West of the Pecos” and held court in his own saloon named the Jersey Lillie. A common and oft-repeated myth holds that the town was named for the famous actress of the period, Lillie Langtry; it was instead named for George Langtry, an engineer and foreman who had supervised the work crew that built the railroad. After a checkered career, Bean spent most of his profits to help the poor and died in bed after a bout of heavy drinking. A fictionalized 1956 TV series depicted his life and times and starred Edgar Buchanan in the title role. Today, the Judge Roy Bean Visitor Center continues to keep the town alive.

SANDERSON is the cactus capital of Texas, the eastern gateway to the Big Bend Wilderness Area and site of the “last” train robbery in 1912 at nearby Baxter’s Curve. The outlaws, thinking of everything, shod their horses with their shoes on backwards to make it appear that their escape was in the opposite direction! Foiled by a quick-thinking express messenger, the perpetrators’ novel plan failed spectacularly. Today, the would-be robbers’ graves are a tourist attraction in town at the Santa Rita Cemetery.

ALPINE is the gateway to Big Bend State Ranch Park, Fort Davis National Historical Site and home to Sul Ross State University. It celebrates the Working Ranch Rodeo and Chuckwagon Cookoff each August and the Big Bend Balloon Bash every September. Alpine came into existence in 1882 due to the arrival of the railroad and its abundant supply of high quality water essential to the operation of steam locomotives. In these parts, ranches often exceed 200,000 acres in size. Prior to the admission of Alaska to the Union in 1959, Alpine was the largest city in the largest county in the largest state in the United States.

Marfa is a tourist destination located between the Davis Mountains and Big Bend National Park. The name is derived from a character in a Jules Verne novel. The Chinati Foundation holds an annual open house for artists, collectors and art enthusiasts from around the world in its more than ten buildings of permanent exhibits. The famous 1956 film *Giant* starring Rock Hudson, Elizabeth Taylor and James Dean was filmed here and depicts the west Texas oil and ranching cultures. The city is one of the prime soaring sites in the U.S., an aviation sport dedicated to gliding on air currents. The town may be best known for the phenomenon known as the “Marfa Lights,” unexplained sightings in the nocturnal sky that have been reported since at least 1883. Witnesses describe glowing basketball size spheres floating above the ground.

Time Zone Change Set your watch ahead one hour of westbound; one hour back if eastbound.

Sierra Blanca takes its name from a mountain just northwest of town. The town came into existence when competing railroads for a second transcontinental line came within ten miles of one another in 1881. Famous railroad magnate Jay Gould is said to have driven a silver spike to commemorate the event, and the town sprang up around the spot. Recent years have seen the rise of controversy over a nearby sewage sludge dump composed of waste products from New York City. Its population was 533 at the latest census.

Ysleta was settled in 1680 by Spanish conquistadors, Franciscan clerics and Tigua Indians fleeing the Pueblo Revolt in Mexico. In 1955, the City of El Paso annexed Ysleta against the wishes of residents. In 1967, the Tiguas were recognized formerly as the Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo. A successful casino was closed after a lobbying effort by Jack Abramoff, who later gained fame in a high-profile Washington political scandal and was convicted of defrauding American Indian tribes and corrupting public officials.

EL PASO is situated along the Rio Grande River across the border from Ciudad Juárez in Mexico. Fort Bliss, a major U.S. Army installation and local employer, lies to the east and northeast; the Franklin Mountains extend into the city from the north and nearly divides it into two sections. The area was not considered a part of Texas until 1848 when the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo made settlements on the north bank of the Rio Grande River American; the present Texas-New Mexico boundary was drawn in the Compromise of 1850. The population exploded with the arrival of the Southern Pacific, Texas and Pacific and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroads in 1881. Becoming a boomtown, it hired Marshal Dallas Stoudenmire to clean up and tame the cowboys and saloons. By 1930, Conrad Hilton opened

his first high-rise hotel here; in 1934, Varney Speed Lines began operations out of El Paso Municipal Airport but was soon taken over and renamed Continental Airlines. The popular drink “Margarita” was first mixed at Tommy’s Place Bar in 1945 in El Paso. The 24,000-acre Franklin Mountains State Park is the largest urban park in the U.S. and resides entirely within the city. Here is the headquarters of Helen of Troy Limited, manufacturer of health products such as Dr. Scholl’s, Vidal Sassoon and Sunbeam, among others. The offices of Fortune 500 companies such as Hoover, Eureka, Boeing and Delphi are also resident. Local attractions include Big Bend and Carlsbad Caverns national parks. Numerous films have been shot on location in El Paso, including *No Country for Old Men* starring Tommy Lee Jones. A long list of notables from El Paso includes Gene Roddenberry, television writer and creator of the popular TV series *Star Trek*. Note the handsomely restored train station here, designed by the same Chicago firm that built Washington Union Station in Washington, D.C.

Texas/New Mexico State Line

Rio Grande River serves as a natural boundary; watch for the crucifixion-topped peak of Sierra de Cristo Rey to mark this meeting of the Lone Star State, Texas, with Mexico and New Mexico – the Land of Enchantment. The 33-ft. statue stands atop a nine-ft. base on the 4,500-ft. mountain. Spanish for “Big River,” the Rio Grande is 1,885 miles long, fourth longest river system in the U.S.

Florida Mountains soon loom close to the tracks, along with the Three Sisters. Look out for “Window Peak,” a hole through a ridge in the Floridas at the 7,300 ft.-elevation mark. A flat-top mountain near the tracks is an extinct volcano; watch for rattlesnakes thriving on the warmth of its lava beds extending nearly to trackside. Into these barren lands between El Paso and the mountains rode the famous Mexican revolutionary Pancho Villa in 1916. And here, in 1881, came the end for Billy the Kid at the hands of Pat Garrett, the culmination of the famous Lincoln County Wars. To the southeast of Deming lies nearby Rockhound State Park, established in 1966 as the first park in the U.S. to allow collection of rocks and minerals for personal use.

DEMING was founded in 1881, named after Mary Ann Deming Crocker, wife of Charles Crocker – one of the so-called “Big Four” of the railroad industry in that era. Here the Silver Spike was driven to commemorate the meeting of the Southern Pacific and the Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe railroads, the second transcontinental railroad to be completed in the U.S. Of the numerous prehistoric Native American sites in the area, the Mimbres and Casas Grandes cultures left pottery of remarkable quality. The Lunas Mimbres Museum displays these artifacts, dating from between 950 A.D. and 1250 A.D. Among its other exhibits are a cowboy chuck wagon, a “Harvey House” traditional railroad restaurant and social center, and an antique auto collection that houses an extremely rare 1907 REO. Those initials stood for Ransom E. Olds, who pioneered both the REO and a more familiar brand, Oldsmobile. Watch for jack rabbits, cottontails, kangaroo rats, hawks, buzzards, coyotes, porcupines, skunks, songbirds, crows and roadrunners – among others.

Continental Divide Halfway to Lordsburg, we cross the Divide at an elevation of 4,587 ft., the point at which waters east of it flow into the Atlantic and to the west of it into the Pacific.

LORDSBURG was founded in 1880 as a Southern Pacific Railroad town. In 1938, the first airport in New Mexico began operations here. During World War II, some 1,500 Japanese-Americans were held locally at a U.S. Army internment camp. In 1927, the town was one of the stops on Charles Lindbergh’s “Spirit of St. Louis” air tour. Shakespeare, a ghost town 2 miles south, was a stop on the famous Butterfield Overland Mail stagecoach route between 1857 and 1861, an early operation of Wells Fargo and American Express. Employing over 800, it

used 250 Concord stagecoaches and 1,800 head of stock at its peak. Today, Lordsburg a popular rest stop for travelers on Interstate 10, with more than 300 guest rooms available.

New Mexico/Arizona State Line

A time change occurs here between April and October. When traveling westbound, set your watch back one hour; if eastbound, one hour forward.

The **Pelloncillo Mountains** we now pass through, straddling each state, were the final homelands of the Chirichua Apaches. Chief Geronimo's surrender to the U.S. Calvary at the Skeleton Canyon here in 1886 forever ended the Indian Wars in the U.S. The Lieutenant who negotiated the meeting was neither recognized nor promoted and died in obscurity. The region is today important for mining copper, silver and gold.

The **Dragon Mountains** in Arizona, soon visible on the left, provided the cover for Geronimo's former base of operations. The historic town of Tombstone, the legendary location of "Boot Hill" Cemetery and "Shootout at O.K. Corral" referenced in so many TV "westerns," is located at the southwestern portion of this range, 24 miles from Benson. It receives some 450,000 tourists annually.

BENSON, situated on the San Pedro River, grew up in the early 1900s as the demand for copper and silver increased, shipped in as they were for smelting and distribution via the adjacent Southern (now Union) Pacific Railroad main line. In the modern era, its moderate climate and location as a gateway to Kartchner Caverns State Park have resulted in its growing popularity as a retirement community and tourist destination offering train trips and stagecoach rides. Its culture is ingrained in the Old West and traditional railroad heritage. The Benson Visitor Center – Train Depot is in the heart of the historic district.

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base Watch for a vast aircraft "bone yard" on the right where the dry desert climate preserves hundreds of stored airplanes. Nearby is the Pima Air & Space Museum, which displays historic aircraft. The base is an air combat command installation, the primary mission of which is to train pilots to provide close air support and forward air control to ground forces worldwide.

TUCSON was first inhabited 12,000 years ago by Paleo-Indians. Established as a Spanish fort in 1775, it was originally part of Mexico after it gained independence from Spain in 1821. In 1853, it became part of the U.S. after the Gadsden Purchase. Surrounded by five major mountain ranges, it is the southernmost ski destination in the country. The Tucson desert is home to the Saguaro National Park, known for its unique giant cacti that can reach a height of 50 feet. The Old Tucson Movie Studio was a backdrop for some 300 of Hollywood's greatest western movies. Much of the city's economic development has been centered on the University of Arizona, its second largest employer. High-tech industries also employ some 50,000 people. The Tucson Gem & Mineral Show each February is one of the largest of its kind in the world, drawing more than 50,000 attendees from 20 countries. Vocalist and entertainer Linda Ronstadt hails from Tucson.

MARICOPA is home to the Koli Equestrian Center, offering horseback riding trails on the Gila River Indian Reservation. The station here features a former converted *California Zephyr*® dome observation lounge car. The town itself has had three incarnations: one as a stagecoach relay and trading center, one as a railroad junction and a third as a fast-growing business location.

YUMA is located in the Sonoran Desert and the eastern bank of the Colorado River separating Arizona and California. Take note of the most photographed sand dunes in the world as we pass through town and continue heading west. The city's sunny and warm climate makes it a popular tourist haven and site for winter destination for snowbirds

and water enthusiasts. The Yuma Territorial Prison State Historical Park offers tours through the Arizona Territory's first prison, now a museum. The Marine Corps Air Station and Yuma Proving Ground share responsibility for population growth. CNN anchor man Lou Dobbs began his broadcasting career here as a police and fire reporter for KBLU-AM.

Arizona/California State Line

A time change occurs here during winter. Eastbound passengers should set their watches back one hour; westbound one hour ahead. Note the Eucalyptus trees near the tracks, a species native to Australia that is used as an effect windbreak, and properties of which are medicinal.

PALM SPRINGS is best known for its golfing tournaments and "Walk of Stars" honoring those who have contributed to the city's prominence and name recognition. A desert city, it offers in addition to golf, tennis, horseback riding and hiking as major forms of recreation. Its Palm Springs Aerial Tramway ascends two and one-half miles to reveal views of the entire Coachella Valley. Numerous five-star hotels, restaurants and attractions cater to tourists. Many celebrities have established residences in the area. The Palm Springs International Film Festival presents star-filled, red-carpet events, and the area is host to a number of sporting events including tennis and golfing tournaments and major boxing matches. Note the giant windmills visible from both sides of the train. Nearly continuous strong winds coming off Mount San Jacinto and San Geronio Mountain (the highest peak in Southern California) power these huge structures to generate eco-friendly electricity. The city garnered notoriety when former entertainer-turned-politician Sonny Bono served as mayor between 1988 and 1992.

ONTARIO forms part of Southern California's Inland Empire region, that name having been derived from its location some 37 miles inland of the Pacific Ocean and east of downtown Los Angeles. Its Ontario Mills shopping mall is the largest one-level mall in Western North America – so large that automatic doors play audio reminders of which entrance one has used. The city has a manufacturing industry that includes the Maglite Corporation, makers of flashlights. The Graber Olive House, which produces olives, is a city historical landmark and one of the oldest institutions in the city.

POMONA is home to California State Polytechnic University, known for its nationally-ranked engineering and architectural programs, which can be seen on the right. It is also the site of the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds. The city is known as well for hosting the National Hot Rod Association's Winternationals drag racing event. Pomona is named for the ancient Roman goddess of fruit. The city gained prominence in 1964 when it received mention in Ronny and the Daytona's hit song *G.T.O.* Numerous movies and scenes from movie and television shows have been filmed here. Notable residents include "Sugar" Shane Mosley, winner of world boxing titles in three weight divisions.

El Monte has as its slogan "the end of the Santa Fe Trail." Settlement began here in 1849. The city became an important site for the New Deal's Subsistence Homestead project during the Great Depression that helped supply single-family ranch homes to qualifying applicants. Visible here is Longo Toyota, which bills itself as the world's largest Toyota dealer for over 40 years. Cheech Marin of *Cheech and Chong* fame is a one-time resident of El Monte. We cross the San Gabriel River just east of the city.

California State University at Los Angeles is on the right as we travel up the center median of Interstate 10, or the San Bernardino Freeway, serves 21,000 students and boasts one of the best nursing schools in the state. Its Television, Film and Media Studies program coordinates with the neighboring Hollywood film industry. Notable alumni include tennis great Billie Jean King.

LOS ANGELES El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora de la Reina de Los Angeles (The Town of Our Lady of the Queen of Angels), now known simply as Los Angeles, was founded in 1781. Note the Los Angeles County Hospital on the right as we travel along Interstate 10, the San Bernardino Freeway. Crossing the concrete-lined Los Angeles River, you'll be reminded of numerous television and movie chase scenes. The station is a fitting blend of Spanish and Art Deco styles, reflecting both the city's early heritage and its great film tradition. Opened in 1939, it was the last of the great "union stations" serving multiple railroads. Across from the station is Olvera Street, a colorful historic district that marks the site of the original village. The city leads the world in producing popular entertainment, which forms the base of its

international fame and global status as "Tinseltown." It is also home to people from more than 140 countries speaking over 200 different languages. Visible from the front of the station is Los Angeles City Hall, made famous as The Daily Planet in Superman and as itself in Dragnet, both popular television shows from the 1950s and 1960s.

At Los Angeles, passengers may transfer to *Pacific Surfliner* trains to San Diego and Santa Barbara, Metrolink commuter trains to other Southern California communities or the MTA Red subway or Gold light rail lines to still more parts of the city. If you are detraining here, we hope you enjoyed your trip. If you are just beginning your journey, welcome aboard!