

Logan County, Rich Soil, Rich in History

Located in the geographical center of Illinois, Logan County has a history tied almost exclusively to Abraham Lincoln, as well as a wealth of agricultural resources.

Morning: Start your tour of Logan County in **Atlanta**, Illinois, with a stop along Old Route 66. Learn more about the town's history and connection to Abraham Lincoln at the **Atlanta Museum and the Route 66 Park**. Be sure to stop by the **Hawes Grain Elevator** to learn more about the agricultural history of a county with some of the richest farm land in the world.

Next, drive South on Old Route 66 to **Lincoln**, Illinois, the county seat and largest city in Logan County. **Historic Downtown Lincoln** has a rich political history; Stops include the **Logan County Courthouse** (built in 1905). Just inside the door is a 9 foot tall replica of Abraham Lincoln. Outside the courthouse, check the city's latest statue, 'Lincoln Rallies the People', depicting Abraham Lincoln's 1858 run for the U.S. Senate against his political rival Stephen Douglas.

A watermelon **sculpture** marks the site where Lincoln christened his namesake town with watermelon juice in 1853.

Afternoon: Apart from downtown in Lincoln, the replica of the **Postville Courthouse** on Fifth Street is another site where Lincoln practiced law, and the **Lincoln Heritage Museum** has many excellent exhibits and artifacts about the Life and Legacy of Abraham Lincoln.

Next on the tour is a 20 minute drive to the newly renovated **Mt. Pulaski Courthouse**, where Lincoln practiced law. The **Mt. Pulaski Township Historical Society Museum and Genealogy Research Center** tells the culturally rich history of the town.