

# Travel guide helps you get back to your routes



hit the road

e'louise ondash

The ninth edition of Jamie Jensen's "Road Trip USA: Cross-Country Adventures on America's Two-Lane Highways" is a beautiful thing.

A high-quality, 900-plus page, full-color paperback that weighs in at 2 pounds even (according to my digital bathroom scale), this travel guide is the only thing you'll need if you're contemplating a road trip anywhere in the contiguous 48 states and southern Canada.

"You can use the book to keep in shape on the road, too," jokes Jensen, a long-time travel writer, editor, grant writer, father of 22-year-old twins and road-tripper-to-the-core. He's put more than a half-million miles on various vehicles over the last 35 years.

It's hard to believe, but "there's a lot that's not in it," Jensen continues during a phone call from his home in Davis. "It's a challenge as to what to put in there. There are lots of places I've been that are not in the book."

That's hard to imagine as the pages of "Road Trip USA" seem to hold endless information on places both popular and unknown.

The book is compact and well organized into 11 color-coded routes that crisscross the country, but within each route are smaller trips with corresponding



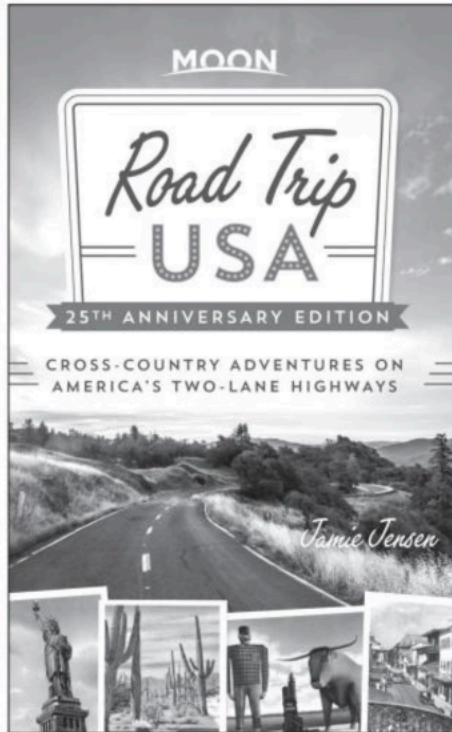
TRAVEL WRITER Jamie Jensen took a selfie in Kinsley, Kansas, on Route 50, exactly 1,561 miles from both New York and San Francisco. The author has driven more than a half-million miles in 35 years. Courtesy photo

maps, plenty of details and full-color photos, including some of Jensen's vintage postcard collection.

"I think it's awesome that you don't have to drive all the way across the country (to use the book)," says Jensen, who grew up in Santa Monica, not far from the terminus of Route 66. "You

can do some of these trips in a nice long weekend."

For locals who want to start right out of their driveways, there is the Pacific Coast route, no doubt familiar to many San Diego County residents. But chances are many haven't visited Mission San Miguel Arcangel, just north of Paso



THE NINTH EDITION of "Road Trip USA" by Jamie Jensen of Davis is a 900-page, well-organized, full-color reference book that makes easy work of planning road trips, long and short, using the country's two-lane highways. Courtesy photo

Robles, established in 1797 and the only non-restored mission; or Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Preserve, "endless acres of windswept beaches, coastal sand dunes and boggy bird-friendly marshlands" south of Pismo Beach; or Garrapata State Park, a two-mile stretch of pristine

beach just south of Point Lobos.

What are some of Jensen's favorite spots?

"The drive along Big Sur," he says without hesitation. "If I had all the time and money in the world, I'd stay there. And the old fishing village of Bandon on the Oregon Coast."

What's of interest in this town of 3,200?

The funky and fanciful Bandon Driftwood Museum, for one.

True to the '60s, there is no website (that I can find), so enjoy the surprise when you discover the bizarre collection of objects constructed of driftwood which provides "a good sense of Bandon's back-to-the-land hippie ethos," Jensen writes.

For another, there is Washed Ashore, both a disturbing and amazing assemblage of sea-life sculptures fashioned from plastic garbage retrieved from Bandon's beach. The artworks are meant to educate visitors about this worldwide pollution problem.

The focus in Jensen's book is not on the interstates "with their soggy franchises and identical chains," but on two-lane highways where you'll find towns with names like Bemidji (Minnesota), Chincoteague (Virginia), and Winooski (Vermont); retro 1950s diners like Blueberry Hill in St. Louis; William Faulkner's home in Oxford, Mississippi, just as he left it when he died in 1962; a 31-foot statue of Paul Bunyan in Bangor, Maine; and the annual March Rattlesnake Roundup in Sweetwater, Texas.

"Road Trip USA" comes with a bonus: a two-sided, full-color, fold-out map — easy to put back together and ideal for spreading on the kitchen table and planning that next road trip.

For more photos and commentary, visit [www.facebook.com/elouise.ondash](http://www.facebook.com/elouise.ondash).

# 'Together Tour' food share extended through end of the year

By Staff

CARLSBAD — Feeding San Diego will once again host its monthly drive-through food distribution event for North County families in need, from 10 a.m. to noon July 28 at 2525 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, on the northwest side of the Shoppes at Carlsbad.

Access the food drive through the Marron Road and Monroe Street intersection. Residents simply register for the "Together Tour" at [feedingsandiego.org/together-tour/](http://feedingsandiego.org/together-tour/) and receive a registration code to

participate.

The distribution is open to anyone in need with no requirements.

The site at The Shoppes at Carlsbad will offer the food distribution on the fourth Wednesday of every month through the end of 2021.

Feeding San Diego's series of large-scale regular food distributions, called the "Together Tour," provide 50 pounds of food assistance to households, including local military families.

Since February, this series of large-scale distributions

has served more than 56,000 people and supported them with 855,500 pounds of food and resources about additional resources like CalFresh.

"It has been an incredible experience to make our way across San Diego County to engage with different communities and provide food assistance where it's needed most," said Dan Shea, CEO of Feeding San Diego.

"Our large-scale distributions are still very much needed as our local economy continues to recover from the pandemic."



THE SHOPPES AT CARLSBAD will be the site of Feeding San Diego's monthly drive-through food distribution for North County families, from 10 a.m. to noon July 28 and every fourth Wednesday, at 2525 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, on the northwest side. Courtesy photo

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