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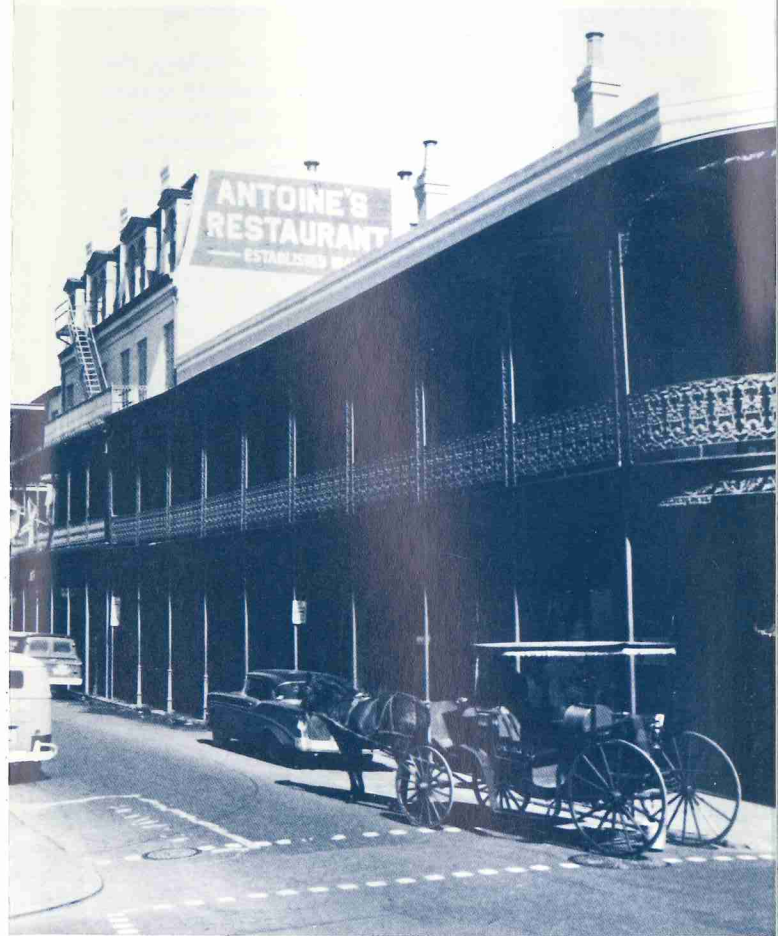
Illinois (except Chicago)	800-972-9147
Chicago	(312) 786-1333
Kentucky	800-874-2775
Louisiana	800-874-2800
Mississippi	800-874-2800
Tennessee	800-874-2800

For other locations, consult your telephone directory.

Thank you for taking this trip on Amtrak's Panama Limited. We hope you found it interesting and informative, and that you will be traveling Amtrak soon again. It's always nice to have you with us.

Welcome aboard Amtrak's Panama Limited

An experience in Americana,
as we travel through historic
Mississippi River Country



Nice to have you with us.

Welcome aboard! Sit back, relax and enjoy your adventure with Amtrak.

The Panama Limited offers daily train service between Chicago, second largest city in the nation, and New Orleans, second largest port city in America—a route of 923 miles.

En route between these two great cities, we'll be making 22 stops. Most of our route to New Orleans parallels the Mississippi River, and at some points we'll reach junctions on the Mississippi. We'll also pass through country that was traveled by explorers as early as 1520, and the homes of many Indian tribes long before America was discovered by Europeans.

Throughout the course of American history, the Mississippi River and its vast interconnecting system of channels and tributaries have played an enormous role in the economic development of the country. The Mississippi is over 2,300 miles long, and is traditionally considered the connecting link between North and South. In the North, it meets with the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence Seaway for access to the Atlantic Ocean. In the South, it flows through the Delta into the Gulf of Mexico, providing an inter-American route for goods to and from Panama and other Latin-American countries. Appropriately, our train inherited the name of the original Panama Limited, a train which was inaugurated at the time the Panama Canal was dug. The scenic beauty of the surrounding country, plus the tremendous cultural, historical and economic development which has taken place in "middle America," make this a section of the country definitely worth visiting more than once.

Here aboard the Panama Limited we're sure you'll find your trip thoroughly enjoyable. Our coaches, with roomy, reclining seats, and our private first-class sleeping accommodations are designed for maximum comfort during your trip. While on board, enjoy delightful meals served with a wide selection of beverages, including cocktails, wines and cordials, in our restaurant-style dining car. We're sure that you'll also enjoy visiting our lounge car—a popular feature with all our passengers—where you can meet with friends, or make new ones.

Now, let's begin our trip through the historic Mississippi River country. We'll start with Chicago, but if you're traveling north, begin at New Orleans and read in reverse.



The Chicago skyline

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS (Population 3,115,000 — Elevation 595 feet), on the shores of Lake Michigan, was originally named "Checagou" by the Indians after the area's strong-smelling wild onions. Incorporated in 1837, Chicago today is the nation's second largest city and welcomes over seven million visitors a year. Next to New York, Chicago has the largest freight business in the country and is the center of a great arterial system of railroads, highways, waterways and air routes. Chicago is one of the world's leading meat-packing centers, and is also a leading producer of steel and metal products, telephone and electrical equipment, frozen and canned food products, and printing and publishing materials.

The city of Chicago houses over 93 institutions of higher learning, the Convention Capital which hosts over 1,000 conventions and trade shows annually, and a score of museums and other cultural facilities. Shedd Aquarium is the largest in the world.

Additionally, Chicago is the home of many major league sports teams: the football Bears, the baseball White Sox and Cubs, the hockey Black Hawks, the basketball Bulls and the Sting soccer team.

As we leave Chicago, our first stop is **HOMEWOOD, ILL.** (Pop. 20,000 — El. 655 ft.). Barely 25 miles from the "Windy City," Homewood is a quiet residential community. Impressively large private homes enveloped by giant oak and pine trees provide a serene setting for this countrified suburb which is still near enough to be part of the huge Chicago complex.

Soon, the rapid pace and high-pitched excitement of the big city are left far behind as we begin our journey across the Prairie State.

Our next stop is **KANKAKEE, ILL.** (Pop. 30,000 — El. 630 ft.), home of Olivet Nazarene College. The city boasts an extensive historical museum and maintains its own symphony orchestra. Each year, more than 150,000 flowers are harvested from the surrounding gladiola fields. Also nearby are rich limestone and sand quarries, as well as many intriguing rock formations which make the area unique.

The next stop along our route is **RANTOUL, ILL.** (Pop. 25,500 — El. 760 ft.). Rantoul is the home of Chanute Field, an important air force installation during World War II, and the oldest and one of the largest Technical Training Centers of the U.S. Air Force. Each year in May, the base sponsors an Armed Forces Day Open House to the public.

On to **CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, ILL.** (Combined pop. 94,800 — El. 740 ft.), the "twin cities" of Illinois. Located here is the University of Illinois. Among the campus' many buildings are the Krannert Art Museum, the Classical & European Culture Museum, the Museum of Natural History, and the impressive bowl-shaped Assembly Hall. The University's Audio-Visual Aids Service houses the largest educational film library in the world.



Scene in Lincoln Log Cabin State Park

MATTOON, ILL. (Pop. 19,300 — El. 735 ft.) is next, a convenient station point for students attending nearby Eastern Illinois University in Charleston. Founded in 1855, the city was named for William

Mattoon, a railroad construction engineer. It was here that General Ulysses S. Grant formed the 25th Illinois Infantry at the start of the Civil War. Nearby are the Lincoln Log Cabin State Park and the restored pioneer village of New Salem where Abe Lincoln lived and worked. Annual performances of Robert Sherwood's "Abe Lincoln in Illinois" are staged here.

Leaving Mattoon, we travel on to **EFFINGHAM, ILL.** (Pop. 10,600 — El. 600 ft.) Founded in 1853 along the Little Wabash River, the city is in the center of the farming and dairy region, as well as being a busy industrial community, manufacturing everything from gloves, butcher blocks and church furniture to golf clubs and prefabricated homes. Effingham is also a junction with Amtrak's National Limited line to St. Louis and Kansas City, and east to Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and the East Coast.

Continuing along our route, we'll pass not far from the town of Salem, birthplace of William Jennings Bryan. Our next stop is **CENTRALIA, ILL.** (Pop. 14,900 — El. 500 ft.), home of Centralia Township Junior College. Centralia and its neighboring towns form a continuous urban area which is the trading and industrial center for four counties. The city contains many railroad yards, foundry works and a railroad shop, providing the town with its main source



Relaxing coach seating

of industry. The surrounding area is rich in natural resources (coal and oil) and is also well known for dairying and fruit raising.

As we approach the southern tip of Illinois, we make our next stop in **CARBONDALE, ILL.** (Pop. 28,400 — El. 415 ft.), so-named because of the extensive nearby coal deposits which account for one of the area's largest businesses. Connections may be made here, via Gulf Transport Co. buses, to St. Louis. Carbondale is the home of the 500-acre campus of Southern Illinois University. On campus is the Mitchell Art Gallery which features frequent exhibits by nationally known artists. Nearby is the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge. Bald Knob, a high point in the Illinois Ozarks, has a large cross atop its point, site of an annual Easter sunrise service.

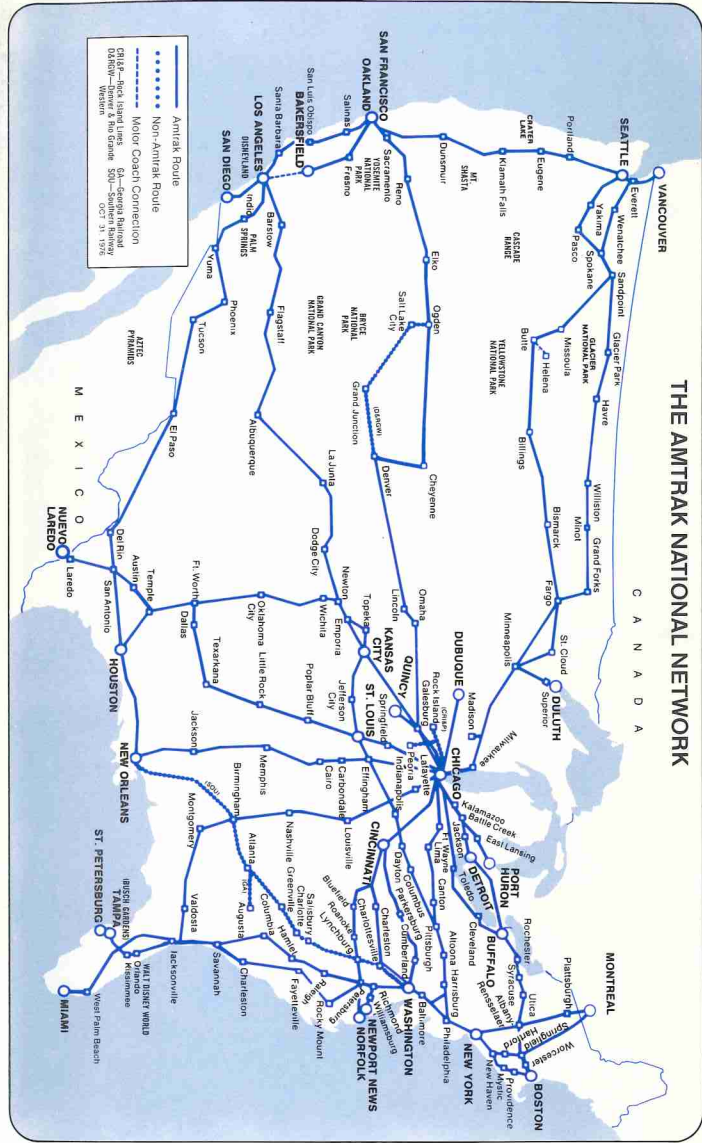
Our last stop in Illinois is **CAIRO, ILL.** (Pop. 5,500 — El. 320 ft.) at the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. First explored in the 1600s, the town was founded in 1818 by a St. Louis merchant who gave the city its name because he thought it resembled an Egyptian city. Locally, the area is still called "Egypt" or "Little Egypt." Bridges at this point connect three states—Illinois, Missouri and Kentucky. During the first two years of the Civil War, the headquarters of General Grant were located at Fort Defiance on Point Cairo, affording him complete command of all river operations. Also in Cairo is the stately Magnolia Manor (once the home of a wealthy merchant), which still stands and contains many items of historic value.

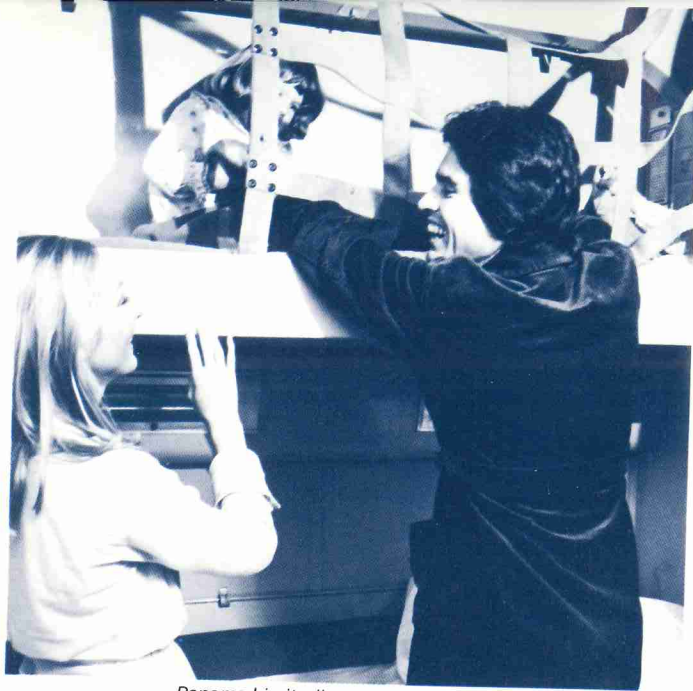
A quick trip across the western tip of the Bluegrass State takes us to our only stop in Kentucky, the southern border town of **FULTON, KY.** (Pop. 3,250 — El. 380 ft.) which shares its borderline with the town of Fulton, Tennessee. An International Banana Festival is held here every August featuring a wide variety of Latin American arts, crafts, food and music.

Approximately halfway between the northern- and-southernmost points of the trip, we'll stop in **DYERSBURG, TENN.** (Pop. 15,700 — El. 295 ft.). Founded in 1821, the city was named in honor of Colonel William Henry Dyer who served under General Jackson in the War of 1812. The city is both industrial and agricultural, housing a number of cotton mills, compresses and coal-oil refineries. Cotton, corn and small fruits are the area's major crops.

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Panama Limited's comfortable sleeping accommodations



A Memphis panorama

Our next stop, **MEMPHIS, TENN.** (Pop. 660,000—El. 264 ft.), is located on the east bank of the Mississippi River. Renowned as the world's largest hardwood lumber center and also the world's largest inland cotton market, Memphis is even more well

known for being the "City of the Blues." On Front Street, "Cotton Row" reflects the city's prominent cotton trade, while not far away is famous Beale Street where waterfront jazz originated.

There are many things to see and do in Memphis: visit historical Magevney House and Fontaine House, the Pink Palace Museum with its African exhibits, the Railroad Museum and home of immortal Casey Jones—even visit the home of Elvis Presley! Not far away are Columbia, home of President James Polk, the restored Indian village of Chuckalissa, and Shiloh National Military Park. For an enjoyable river ride, daily cruises are available aboard the "Memphis Queen" paddlewheeler.

Continuing on our journey, we enter the beautiful and historic state of Mississippi. Our first stop is **BATESVILLE, MISS.** (Pop. 3,796 — El. 220 ft.), near Enid Lake, one of the largest in the state, and part of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project. The adjoining dam is part of the Yazoo Basin flood-control project. Nearby is beautiful Yocona Ridge State Park, offering the visitor many sports and camping facilities amidst a maze of colorful, fragrant flowers for which the area has become famous.

Further along is **GRENADA, MISS.** (Pop. 9,944—El. 195 ft.). Originally founded as two separate towns by political rivals, the two communities united in 1836. This unification was symbolized by an actual wedding ceremony in which the bride came from one township and the groom from the other. Confederate General John C. Pemberton made his headquarters here while opposing Grant during the Civil War. A popular resort and vast recreational area is Grenada Lake which covers almost 10,000 acres.

Moving further south, we arrive in **WINONA, MISS.** (Pop. 5,521 — El. 410 ft.) near the Big Black River which cuts across the state to the Mississippi. Scattered throughout the area are a number of beautiful mansions dating back to Civil War days, many of which are still open to the public and contain numerous items of historic value.

Next is **DURANT, MISS.** (Pop. 2,752 — El. 250 ft.). Holmes County State Park is one of the principal recreational areas in the state. Surrounding Durant are a number of Indian reservations, including settlements of the Chickasaw, Choctaw and Natchez tribes who inhabited this section of the country when DeSoto first explored it in 1541.

Springtime festivals are an annual attraction for visitors to our next stop, **CANTON, MISS.** (Pop. 10,503—El. 240 ft.). Several miles to the east is the Ross Barnett Reservoir, the largest in the state and one of the largest in the general South-Central area of the country. Founded in 1824, the city is primarily a center for textile and lumber manufacturing.



The "Old Capitol" in Jackson

We now make our way toward the capital city of **JACKSON, MISS.** (Pop. 171,000 — El. 294 ft.). The Old Capitol, built in 1839 where Jackson, Jefferson and Clay addressed the legislature, has been restored and is the most famous historic building in the state. The Department of Archives and History operates a museum here containing many Indian relics. The Department is the official keeper of the state's historical records and offers the public extensive reference materials on all phases of the life and history of Mississippi. One of the most valuable documents in its care is the state's original Ordinance of Secession from the Union, adopted in 1861—a declaration which ultimately contributed in part to the outbreak of the Civil War. Built in 1841, the Governor's Mansion in Jackson is one of the few homes saved from total destruction when the city was taken over by Union troops under General Sherman in 1863. Along with the University Lyceum Building and several courthouses, the Mansion has been preserved and remains a landmark admired by many for its classic elegance and graceful Corinthian architecture.

As we travel south to the Mississippi border, we come to **HAZLEHURST, MISS.** (Pop. 4,567 — El. 479 ft.). Here we find ourselves deep in the heart of farm country, an area primarily devoted to the production of cotton and livestock.

As we come close to the end of our trip through the Magnolia State, we arrive in **BROOKHAVEN, MISS.** (Pop. 10,700 — El. 450 ft.). Settled in 1818, the city deals heavily in agricultural products such as corn, sugar cane, fruits, nuts and cotton. Natural resources, however, also contribute to the city's industry, mainly petroleum, wood pulp, brick and tile.

Soon, we reach **McCOMB, MISS.** (Pop. 12,100 — El. 460 ft.), founded by Colonel H.S. McComb and



Delightful dining on the Panama Limited

incorporated in 1872. A spectacular local event which takes place each year around Easter time is the "Lighted Azalea Trail." In keeping with the Japanese tradition of lighting cherry blossoms, the people of McComb illuminate their azalea bushes by placing tiny lights on the trees surrounding the delicate pink and white flowers, a dazzling display of color and light which can be seen for some distance. Art festivals and music programs are also held to help celebrate the joyful season.

Our only other stop before the train's final destination will be **HAMMOND, LA.** (Pop. 13,100 — El. 40 ft.). Founded in 1850, the city was named after its original settler, Peter Hammond, and is the seat of Southeastern Louisiana College. The one product for which the city is especially well known—and lays claim to in great quantities—is strawberries, considered to be among the largest and most delicious in the country.

The last lap of our journey takes us through the intriguing bayou swamp country of Louisiana, the inspired setting for many a story, and around the western edge of Lake Pontchartrain.



Steamboat 'round the bend on the Mississippi

As we arrive in **NEW ORLEANS, LA.** (Pop. 569,000 — El. 5 ft.), we'll be just in time for a delicious lunch at any one of the many fine restaurants for which the city has become famous. Many of them are located in the Vieux Carré, the famous French Quarter, known all over the world for its intriguing iron-trellised balconies, quaint Old World charm, intimate theatre groups, and, of course, good food. Down almost any street you'll hear strains of good old Dixieland jazz, right at home in the land where it was born.

Each year, tourism in Louisiana accounts for over 700 million dollars in revenue, for which New Orleans is largely responsible. Outstanding among New Orleans' many festivals and pageants is the annual Mardi Gras. The term Mardi Gras is French for "Fat Tuesday," symbolizing the Old World custom of using up all the fat in the house before the Lenten



Making the café scene in New Orleans

season. The holiday, also known as Shrove Tuesday, is also celebrated in France, Italy, Quebec, Germany and parts of South America. In New Orleans, the season of gaiety culminates in a week devoted to carnivals and comes to a climax on Mardi Gras day.

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