

U.S. ROUTE

17

ROUTE 17 PRINTABLE LIBRARY

WHOLE ROUTE

Route 17 State-by-State Roadbook

A paper-first five-state orientation from Punta Gorda, Florida, to Winchester, Virginia.

USE THIS FOR

Carry the full corridor at a glance, then choose which state, chapter, trip, or stop deserves more detail.

LIVE GUIDE <https://route17roadtrip.com/route-overview/>

Florida > Georgia > South Carolina > North Carolina > Virginia

Planning aid only - verify current weather, construction, closures, operating hours, lodging, fuel, parking, and access before driving.

SCAN OR TAP



LIVE GUIDE

WHOLE ROUTE

Read Route 17 as five connected state chapters

The route changes character repeatedly. Use this roadbook to keep the role of each state clear before opening a more detailed printable.

Florida	Southern launch; heartland; Central Florida; St. Johns River; Jacksonville gateway	Punta Gorda / Arcadia / Jacksonville
Georgia	Compact coastal gateway and Golden Isles middle	Brunswick / Savannah
South Carolina	Lowcountry, Charleston, river reset, Grand Strand handoff	Charleston / Georgetown / Myrtle Beach
North Carolina	Cape Fear, river towns, Inner Banks, Albemarle handoff	Wilmington / New Bern / Edenton / Elizabeth City
Virginia	Tidewater history, river-town middle, inland finish	Chesapeake / Yorktown / Fredericksburg / Winchester

Direction matters

Northbound and southbound travelers use the same places differently. Treat endpoints, resets, and handoffs as roles rather than assuming a single one-way itinerary.

FLORIDA

Florida roadbook chapter

Southern launch chapter: harbor start, inland reset, Central Florida crossroads, St. Johns River recovery, and Jacksonville gateway.

SOUTHERN START Punta Gorda Harbor-first launch and a gentler opening pace.	INLAND RESET Arcadia Old-Florida / Peace River pause that keeps the middle honest.
NORTHERN GATEWAY Jacksonville Major city-scale reset before the Georgia coast approach.	

Decisions that matter

- [] Choose whether Punta Gorda is a true start/overnight or simply the launch point.
- [] Give Arcadia one clear reset role instead of making the middle a second destination.
- [] Allow extra margin through Central Florida; route choice matters more here than scenery alone.
- [] Protect Jacksonville arrival time if the next day continues to coastal Georgia.

Live guide

<https://route17roadtrip.com/states/florida/>

GEORGIA

Georgia roadbook chapter

Compact coastal gateway: Florida line, Golden Isles / Brunswick reset, then Savannah as the historic-city payoff and Lowcountry handoff.

SOUTHERN LAUNCH Jacksonville Major Florida gateway that sets up the Georgia coast.	PRACTICAL MIDDLE Brunswick The clearest coastal reset and Golden Isles middle.
HISTORIC ANCHOR Savannah Georgia finish, overnight, or launch toward Charleston.	

Decisions that matter

- [] Decide if Georgia is a fast connector, a one-reset coast day, or a fuller coastal chapter.
- [] Keep Brunswick as the middle reset; do not make it compete with Savannah for city-scale time.
- [] Arrive in Savannah with enough margin for the city to feel like the payoff.
- [] If continuing north, treat Savannah as the clean handoff into the South Carolina Lowcountry.

Live guide

<https://route17roadtrip.com/states/georgia/>

SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina roadbook chapter

Lowcountry-to-beach chapter: quiet state-entry pacing, Charleston depth, marsh middle, Georgetown reset, then the Grand Strand and North Carolina handoff.

MAJOR ANCHOR Charleston Full city base, history, harbor context, and the state's strongest stay decision.	RIVER RESET Georgetown Calmer riverfront middle before the beach corridor.
QUIET PAUSE McClellanville Small Lowcountry texture stop, not a full destination.	BEACH CORRIDOR Myrtle Beach Intentional Grand Strand activity/traffic decision.

Decisions that matter

- [] Give Charleston enough time to work as a real anchor; do not reduce it to a quick stop.
- [] Use Georgetown as the most reliable middle reset when the day needs breathing room.
- [] Choose Grand Strand energy on purpose; traffic, parking, and activity density can reshape the day.
- [] Use Little River as state-line orientation rather than another destination to overbuild.

Live guide

<https://route17roadtrip.com/states/south-carolina/>

NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina roadbook chapter

Cape Fear, river-town, Inner Banks, and Albemarle chapter: Wilmington arrival, New Bern reset, Edenton slow history, Elizabeth City handoff.

COASTAL GATEWAY Wilmington City-scale Cape Fear arrival and overnight anchor.	RIVER RESET New Bern Measured middle pause with room to breathe.
HISTORIC PAUSE Edenton Quiet waterfront-history stop.	NORTHERN HANDOFF Elizabeth City Albemarle gateway that prepares the Virginia entry.

Decisions that matter

- [] Choose whether Wilmington is the main stay or simply the city launch.
- [] Use New Bern as the first deliberate reset.
- [] Give Edenton time only if the slower historic middle is part of the plan.
- [] Protect enough margin at Elizabeth City for a clean Virginia handoff.

Live guide

<https://route17roadtrip.com/states/north-carolina/>

VIRGINIA

Virginia roadbook chapter

Inland finish chapter: Chesapeake gateway, Hampton Roads / York River history, Middle Peninsula continuity, Fredericksburg reset, and Winchester finish.

GATEWAY Chesapeake Practical Tidewater entry from North Carolina.	HISTORY ANCHOR Yorktown Deliberate history stop near the York River.
INLAND RESET Fredericksburg City-scale pause before the northern finish.	NORTHERN FINISH Winchester Clear inland terminus for the Route 17 corridor.

Decisions that matter

- [] Use Chesapeake to orient the gateway rather than as another history stop.
- [] Let Yorktown carry the history weight.
- [] Use Fredericksburg as the strongest city-scale reset before the final inland run.
- [] Treat Winchester as the finish line northbound and the opening anchor southbound.

Live guide

<https://route17roadtrip.com/states/virginia/>

WHOLE ROUTE

Route-wide decision sheet

Use this page to decide how much corridor belongs in the trip before you start assigning stops.

Direction	
Start state / anchor	
Finish state / anchor	
States to drive this trip	
Primary overnight(s)	
One must-do stop	
One backup stop	
What gets cut first	
Live checks before departure	

Notes