

Alton, Illinois, USA

Perched on limestone bluffs above the mighty Mississippi, Alton punches well above its size — abolitionist history, the world's tallest man, and bald eagles soaring the confluence make this small river town a surprisingly rich shore-day stop.

Docked (river pier)

Typical call: 6-8 hrs

USD

English

Eagle watching Nov–Mar

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Alongside at Alton Marina / National Great Rivers Museum dock, adjacent to Clark Bridge

Walk to center: 5–10 min walk to Historic Downtown Alton

Best For: History buffs, eagle watchers, antique hunters, scenic river drives

Don't Miss: Robert Wadlow statue, National Great Rivers Museum (free), Piasa Bird bluff painting

Getting around: Taxi Metered (varies) · Rideshare Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Alton Museum of History & Art** — Explore exhibits on abolitionist Elijah Lovejoy, jazz legend Miles Davis, and Robert Wadlow — the 8 ft 11 in tallest...
- Lewis & Clark Confluence Tower** — A few miles north of Alton, this tower overlooks the dramatic confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers — the...
- Pere Marquette State Park** — Illinois' largest state park sits 20 minutes west of Alton at the confluence of the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers.
- National Great Rivers Museum (Free)** — Right at the dock, this free Smithsonian-affiliated museum covers the ecology and commerce of the Mississippi through...
- Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site** — A UNESCO World Heritage Site just 30 minutes from Alton, Cahokia Mounds preserves the largest pre-Columbian settlement...

BEST WALKS

- Riverfront to Downtown History Walk** 1.5 miles • Easy • 45–60 min — From the dock, stroll along the Mississippi riverfront past the Clark Bridge, then head into Historic Downtown Alton.
- Piasa Bird Bluff Drive / Walk** Short scenic drive or bike • 3 miles north of downtown — Head north on the Great River Road (IL-100) to see the Piasa Bird — a large Native American mythological creature painted on the...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	67°	48°	11d
Jun	86°	67°	11d
Aug	87°	69°	12d
Sep	83°	64°	6d
Oct	71°	52°	9d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:31AM–7:40PM · Jun 5:46AM–8:25PM · Aug 6:23AM–7:55PM · Sep 6:48AM–7:12PM · Oct 7:13AM–6:28PM

USD

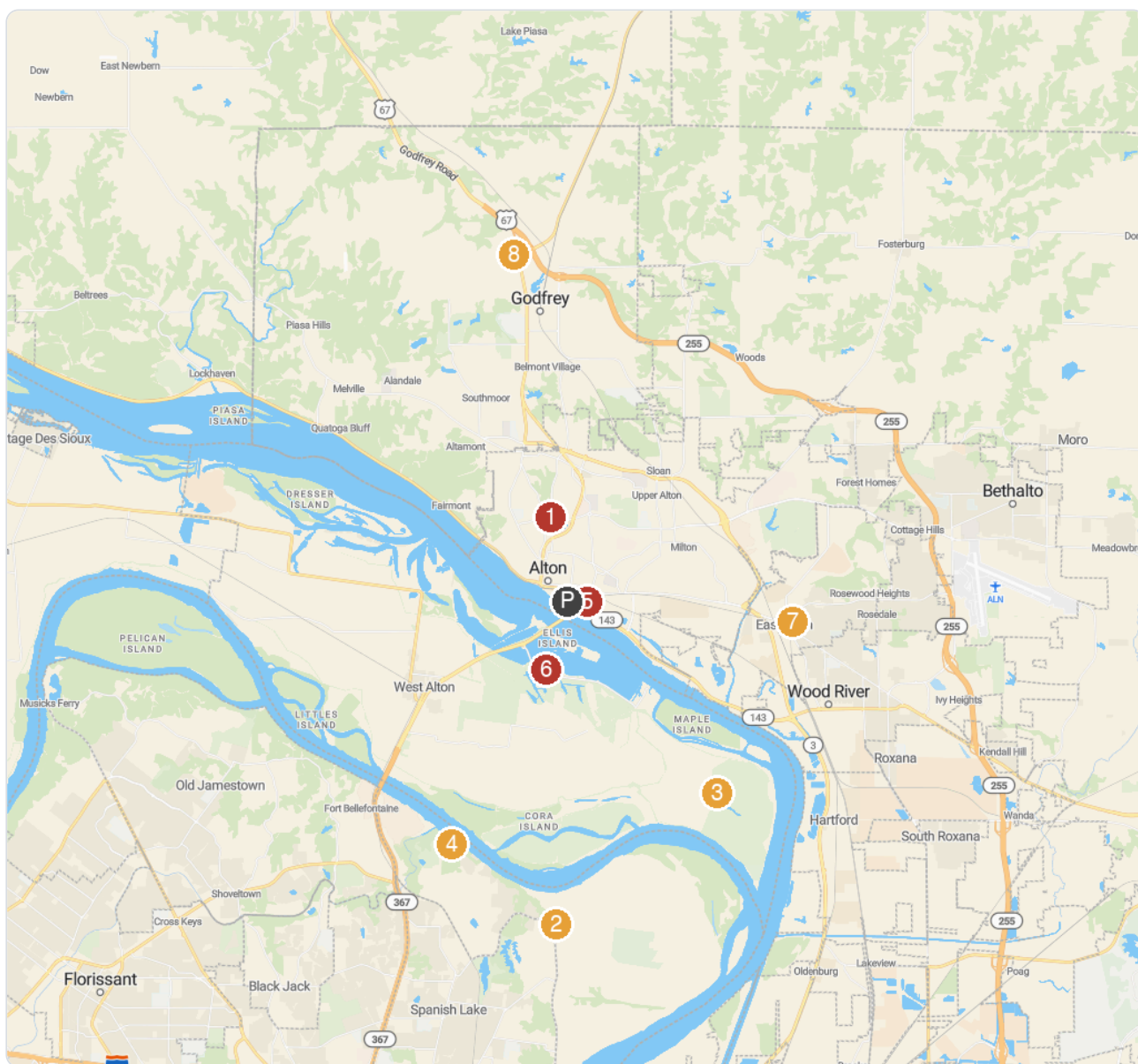
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Free museum right at the dock. The National Great Rivers Museum is Smithsonian-affiliated and free — perfect first stop while you get your bearings.

Alton, Illinois, USA — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



1 **McPike Mansion** Historic, haunted mansion; take a tour.

3 **Edward "Ted" and Pat Jones-Confluence Point State Park** State park where the Missouri and Mississippi rivers meet.

5 **Russell Commons Park** Local park with green space, playground, and picnic areas.

7 **Van Preter Park** Community park offering playgrounds, sports fields, and walking paths.

P **Cruise port / terminal**

2 **Columbia Bottom Conservation Area** Large conservation area for wildlife viewing and outdoor recreation.

4 **Fort Belle Fontaine** Historic fort, first US military post west of Mississippi.

6 **Audubon Center at Riverlands** Nature center for birdwatching, trails, and environmental education.

8 **Village of Godfrey Parks and Recreation Department** Department managing Godfrey's parks, trails, and recreational programs.