



# ILLINOIS. MILE AFTER MAGNIFICENT MILE.

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**THE VOTE FOR THE OFFICIAL SEVEN WONDERS OF ILLINOIS IS ON!**  
*Throughout March consumers can visit [www.enjoyillinois.com](http://www.enjoyillinois.com) to vote on favorite destinations across the state*

CHICAGO - The Illinois Bureau of Tourism today launched the voting phase of the **Seven Wonders of Illinois** initiative that invites consumers to determine the most wonderful travel destinations in Illinois. Beginning today, March 5, and continuing throughout the month, visitors to the Bureau's Web site, [www.enjoyillinois.com](http://www.enjoyillinois.com), can vote for their favorite attractions in each region of the state by choosing from a list of nominations, which includes museums, quirky roadside attractions and lush natural scenery.

Each week the field will be narrowed down, based on votes, until only two contenders remain in each region. Visitors are invited to check back weekly, as attractions advance during the competition, to vote on the remaining destinations. The winning Seven Wonders of Illinois will be announced on April 30 along with themed travel packages, downloadable videos for each wonder and much more.

"People love Illinois and have been eager to vote for their favorite 'wonders,'" said Jan Kostner, Illinois state travel director. "We anticipate this excitement will continue throughout the voting process and will build awareness for all of the wonderful destinations Illinois has to offer."

The Seven Wonders of Illinois program was launched at the 2007 Illinois Governor's Conference on Tourism in Chicago in February, when Kostner invited consumers to nominate their favorite Illinois attractions on the Bureau's Web site. The Bureau received more than 3,700 nominations during February, from which 84 destinations were chosen to compete—12 from each of Illinois' seven regions (Chicago, Chicagoland, Northern, Central, Western, Southwest and Southern). To view the complete list of competing Seven Wonders of Illinois attractions, visit [www.enjoyillinois.com](http://www.enjoyillinois.com).

Visitors to the Seven Wonders of Illinois Web site can also enter the Seven Wonders of Illinois giveaway for a chance to win an exciting travel package for two to the Seven Wonders of Illinois destination of their choice.

To get travelers started on their journeys to discover the Seven Wonders of Illinois, the Illinois Bureau of Tourism offers additional information on one-of-a-kind attractions, events, accommodations and bookable 3-Day Getaways through the Bureau's Web site, [www.enjoyillinois.com](http://www.enjoyillinois.com) or its travel counselors at **1-800-2CONNECT**. In mid-March, visitors can also order the all-new Illinois Travel Guide, the most comprehensive guide to

travel in the Land of Lincoln. Guides will also be available at Tourist Information Centers, local convention and visitors bureaus, and regional tourism development offices statewide.

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**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Media materials and downloadable images are available on the Illinois Bureau of Tourism online media center at [www.illinoismediacenter.com](http://www.illinoismediacenter.com). Additional photography, available electronically, may be obtained by contacting Emma Douglas at [emma.douglas@edelman.com](mailto:emma.douglas@edelman.com), 312-240-2730 or Stephanie Aenchbacher at [stephanie.aenchbacher@edelman.com](mailto:stephanie.aenchbacher@edelman.com), 312-240-2688.

*The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Bureau of Tourism manages industry efforts that result in sustainable and significant economic and quality-of-life benefits for Illinois residents.*