PLAN YOUR TRIP AT ENJOYILLINOIS.CO.UK

THE OFFICIAL GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVELLERS

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A jaw-dropping skyline with soaring skyscrapers is the backdrop for bustling Chicago, set on the azure waters of Lake Michigan. Interact with the arts in a downtown cultural playground. Wander through world-renowned museums. Catch a Broadway show in a historic theatre. Ride the giant Centennial Wheel with sweeping city views. Spend the afternoon shopping luxury designer stores on a mile that can only be described as magnificent. Bike the scenic lakefront or simply sunbathe on a sandy beach. And dine on everything from famed deep-dish pizza to acclaimed Michelin-starred cuisine. Chicago offers it all.

**MAKE IT AMAZING:**
• Lake Michigan
• Lakefront Trail
• North Avenue & Oak Street Beaches
• Navy Pier
• Cloud Gate at Millennium Park
• Lincoln Park Zoo
• Chicago Helicopter Experience
• Skydeck Chicago
• 360 Chicago
• The Magnificent Mile
• Chicago Riverwalk
• Buckingham Fountain
• The 606 Trail
• Maggie Daley Park
CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE
SEE THE DAZZLING CITYSCAPE FROM A NEW PERSPECTIVE.

Chicago is known worldwide for its architecture, with a stunning skyline shaped by legendary architects that include Mies van der Rohe and Daniel Burnham (who designed the first skyscraper). And there are many ways to view it up close. Sail right into the heart of the cityscape on a narrated river cruise that showcases architectural gems. Glide along the lakefront on a Segway or join a group bike hike. Command a kayak and paddle the winding Chicago River. Or board an old-fashioned trolley that lets you hop on and off at your favourite sites.

MAKE IT AMAZING:
• Chicago Architecture Foundation River Cruise
• Chicago Segway Tour
• Bobby’s Bike Hike
• Urban Kayaks
• Chicago Trolley Tours
• Big Bus Tours Chicago
• Bike and Roll Chicago
• Shoreline Sightseeing
• Chicago Cultural Center/ Tiffany Dome
• Historic Water Tower & Pumping Station
• Frank Lloyd Wright’s Robie House
Chicago is home to some of the world’s leading museums. Admire the master works of Monet, Picasso and Warhol all in one incredible place. Discover a leafy terraced garden dotted with modern sculptures. Spend the day at a lakefront museum campus where you can watch dolphins leap in a cool blue pool, tiptoe past a fierce T. rex dinosaur and explore an Egyptian tomb, then be blasted into the cosmos from your seat in a cutting-edge sky theatre. Or ride through an underground coal mine and inspect the inner workings of a submarine at a giant science museum.

**MAKE IT AMAZING:**

- Art Institute of Chicago
- Museum of Contemporary Art
- Shedd Aquarium
- The Field Museum
- Adler Planetarium
- Museum of Science and Industry
- Chicago History Museum
- Driehaus Museum
- DuSable Museum of African American History
- Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
- National Museum of Mexican Art
- Chicago Children’s Museum
- Go Chicago Card
- CityPass Chicago
If you’re a sports fan, you’ve landed in the right city. You’ll see superhuman home runs and light-up-the-sky fireworks during baseball games played at the opposite ends of the city by Chicago’s two winning Major League teams. Head to the United Center to witness the extraordinary athletics of a basketball game or the lightning-quick moves of an ice hockey team, depending on the evening. Catch American football action on the turf of an impressive lakefront stadium. And cheer a fast-paced soccer match played with a home field advantage.

**MAKE IT AMAZING:**

- Chicago Cubs Baseball
- Chicago White Sox Baseball
- Chicago Bulls Basketball
- Chicago Blackhawks Hockey
- Chicago Bears Football
- Chicago Fire Soccer
- Auto Racing at Chicagoland Speedway
You’ll never be bored in Chicago, where entertainment venues are lit up seven nights a week. See a hit Broadway show in the historic downtown theatre district. Laugh at the quick-witted improv of tomorrow’s comedy stars. Be surprised by the unexpected antics of a trio of bald blue men, and don’t sit in the front row without a rain poncho (trust us!). Listen to some of the best live blues music in the country. Or steal away to hear sultry cabaret singers in an intimate jazz club with a notorious Prohibition Era past.

**MAKE IT AMAZING:**

- Broadway in Chicago
- The Chicago Theatre
- The Second City
- Blue Man Group
- Buddy Guy’s Legends
- House of Blues
- Kingston Mines
- B.L.U.E.S.
- Blue Chicago
- Green Mill Jazz Club
- Andy’s Jazz Club & Restaurant
- Kit Kat Lounge & Supper Club
- Jay Pritzker Pavilion at Millennium Park
- Chicago Symphony Orchestra
- Lyric Opera of Chicago
Chicago is a foodie’s paradise. Dine on remarkable meals that show off the talents of the city’s Michelin-star chefs who are at the top of their culinary games. Dig into deliciously thick and cheesy deep-dish pizza, which was invented right here in Chicago. Snack on hot dogs that have been elevated to an art form, trimmed with onions, relish, tomatoes, a pickle spear, sport peppers and mustard (never ketchup). And get in line to grab a bag of fresh-popped popcorn; try the melt-in-your-mouth mix of sweet caramel and salty cheddar cheese.

MAKE IT AMAZING:

- Alinea
- Au Cheval
- Berghoff Restaurant
- Blackbird
- Boka
- Garrett Popcorn Shops
- Gibsons Bar & Steakhouse
- Gino’s East
- Giordano’s
- Girl & the Goat
- Grace
- Longman & Eagle
- Lou Malnati’s Pizzeria
- Lula Cafe
- North Pond
- Pequod’s Pizza
- Piccolo Sogno
- Pizzeria Uno
- Portillo’s
- The Publican
- Shanghai Terrace
- Spiaggia
- Topolobampo
- Tru
If you’re on a shopping mission, look no further than Chicago and its nearby suburbs. Spend a day on North Michigan Avenue, better known as The Magnificent Mile. Stroll block after block of this beautiful boulevard lined with impressive flagship stores, and upscale malls featuring chic boutiques and major department stores. Just steps from the Magnificent Mile is Oak Street, home to some of the biggest names in fashion. State Street offers trendy shops housed in historic downtown buildings. For unbelievable designer deals, head beyond the city to some of the area’s biggest outlet malls.

MAKE IT AMAZING:

• The Magnificent Mile
• Oak Street
• State Street
• Water Tower Place
• 900 North Michigan Shops
• The Shops at North Bridge
• Gurnee Mills, Gurnee
• Westfield Old Orchard, Skokie
• Woodfield Mall, Schaumburg
• Fashion Outlets of Chicago, Rosemont
• Chicago Premium Outlets, Aurora
Marvel at the beauty of the season at blooming botanic gardens, or hike wooded state park trails and explore sparkling waterfalls. Spend the day riding wild roller coasters, splashing in a giant water park or cheering race cars as they whip around a speedway. Tour historic homes designed by esteemed architects Frank Lloyd Wright and Mies van der Rohe. Encounter dinosaurs in a riverside museum. Discover the I&M Canal, America’s first National Heritage Area. At night, catch a concert or try your luck at an exciting casino.
MAKE IT AMAZING:

- Burpee Museum of Natural History, Rockford
- Anderson Japanese Gardens, Rockford
- Frank Lloyd Wright’s Laurent House, Rockford
- Six Flags Great America & Hurricane Harbor, Gurnee
- KeyLime Cove Indoor Waterpark Resort, Gurnee
- Ravinia Festival, Highland Park
- Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe
- Baha’i House of Worship, Wilmette
- Rivers Casino, Des Plaines
- MB Financial Park at Rosemont, Rosemont
- Frank Lloyd Wright Home & Studio, Oak Park
- Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield
- The Morton Arboretum, Lisle
- Farnsworth House, Plano
- Chicagoland Speedway & Route 66 Raceway, Joliet
- I&M Canal National Heritage Area
- Starved Rock State Park, Utica
- Skydive Chicago, Ottawa
The Illinois leg of this storied byway, which begins in Chicago and stretches across the country to Santa Monica, is delightfully frozen in time. Explore the Mother Road and you’ll discover friendly devotees who keep the spirit of 66 alive with quirky roadside attractions, like a smiling spaceman and a giant catsup bottle (which make for perfect selfies). Step into museums filled with amazing memorabilia. Settle into a booth at delicious diners that still serve up homemade specials. And listen to legendary tales of an era when road trips were the way to see America.
MAKE IT AMAZING:

- Historic Route 66
- Buckingham Fountain, Chicago
- Lou Mitchell’s Restaurant, Chicago
- Joliet Area Historical Museum, Joliet
- Rialto Square Theatre, Joliet
- Gemini Giant, Wilmington
- Ambler’s Texaco Gas Station, Dwight
- Standard Oil Gas Station, Odell
- Illinois Route 66 Association Hall of Fame & Museum, Pontiac
- Pontiac-Oakland Automobile Museum, Pontiac
- Cruisin’ with Lincoln on 66 Visitors Center, Bloomington
- The Palms Grill Cafe, Atlanta
- Paul Bunyon Hot Dog Statue, Atlanta
- World’s Largest Covered Wagon, Lincoln
- Cozy Dog Drive In, Springfield
- Original Brick Road, Auburn
- Ariston Cafe, Litchfield
- Henry’s Rabbit Ranch, Staunton
- World’s Largest Catsup Bottle, Collinsville
- Chain of Rocks Bridge, Madison
Get a firsthand look at the maker spirit in Illinois as you explore one-of-a-kind restaurants, breweries, and artisans of all types around the state. Sip handcrafted beer and small batch bourbon. Watch a glassblower create a stunning vase. Savour dishes crafted by a chef who personally harvests the ingredients by hand. Browse the oversized works of an artist who believes bigger is better (think world’s largest wind chime and rocking chair, for starters). And visit a canoe maker just a few steps away from the Mississippi River who uses old world techniques to create floating works of art.
MAKE IT AMAZING:

- Blaum Bros. Distilling Co., Galena
- Rockford Art Deli, Rockford
- Whiskey Acres Distilling Co., DeKalb
- Heritage Bicycles, Chicago
- Revolution Brewing, Chicago
- Navarro Canoe Co., Rock Island
- Tangled Roots Brewing Company, Ottawa
- Illinois Sparkling Co., Utica
- Toraason Glass, Peoria
- Epiphany Farms, Bloomington
- Funks Grove Pure Maple Syrup, Shirley
- Custom Cup Coffee, Springfield
- Obed & Isaac’s Microbrewery & Eatery, Springfield & Peoria
- Big Things in a Small Town, Casey
- Firefly Grill, Effingham
- Steve Meadows Folk Art Gallery, Palestine
- Mississippi Mud Pottery, Alton
- Scratch Brewing Company, Ava
Learn about Lincoln’s remarkable life at Springfield’s presidential museum that traces his roots from his days as a travelling lawyer to the office of the White House through lifelike vignettes, dazzling special effects and rare artefacts. See the frontier town where a young Lincoln began his career come to life with costumed villagers. Wander the halls of the imposing state building where he tried cases and gave inspiring speeches. Tour the Lincoln family home that looks virtually unchanged from the 1800s. And pay your respects at the president’s monumental tomb.

MAKE IT AMAZING:

- Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum
- Lincoln Home National Historic Site
- Lincoln Tomb
- Old State Capitol State Historic Site
- Illinois State Capitol
- Dana-Thomas House
- Illinois State Museum
- Vachel Lindsay Home State Historic Site
- Lincoln’s Ghost Walk Tour
- History Comes Alive
- Lincoln’s New Salem State Historic Site, Petersburg
Galena’s Main Street has been heralded as one of the best in the U.S., thanks to its striking Civil War-era architecture that now houses more than 125 charming shops, galleries and restaurants. Stroll winding Main Street and discover local finds such as handcrafted pottery and artisan-made chocolates. Or head to the countryside and sample award-winning wines at picturesque vineyards. Stay the night in a mansion bed and breakfast nestled in the hills above Galena, or opt for a sprawling resort complete with championship golf courses.

MAKE IT AMAZING:

- Main Street Galena
- Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa
- Galena on the Fly
- Galena Trolley Tours
- Fever River Outfitters
- Galena Brewing Company
- Miss Kitty’s Grape Escape
- Galena Cellars Vineyard & Winery
- Massbach Ridge Winery, Elizabeth
- Rocky Waters Vineyard & Winery, Hanover
- Segway Tours at Chestnut Mountain Resort
- Soaring Eagle Zipline at Chestnut Mountain Resort
- Long Hollow Canopy Tours
- Ulysses S. Grant Home
Drive the scenic Great River Road and have your camera ready to snap shots of the mighty Mississippi River. Hike forested state parks that are home to bald eagles that nest among the bluffs in the winter. Get a bird’s eye view on an adrenaline-pumping zipline ride through the woods. Learn about the explorers and innovators who put Illinois on the world map. Climb mysterious mounds that were once home to an ancient Native American culture. Or just soak up the scenery from the deck of a relaxing riverboat cruise.
MAKE IT AMAZING:

- Mississippi Palisades State Park, Savanna
- De Immigrant Windmill, Fulton
- John Deere Pavilion, Moline
- Celebration River Cruises, Moline
- Caterpillar Visitors Center, Peoria
- Spirit of Peoria, Peoria
- Pere Marquette State Park, Grafton
- Grafton Zipline, Grafton
- Mississippi River Bluffs, Alton
- National Great Rivers Museum, Alton
- Melvin Price Locks & Dam, Alton
- Lewis & Clark Confluence Tower, Hartford
- Lewis & Clark State Historic Site, Hartford
- Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, Collinsville
MARK THESE FUN FESTIVALS AND EVENTS ON YOUR TRAVEL CALENDAR.

**SUMMER** (June/July/August)
- Chicago Blues Festival (Chicago)
- Chicago Pride Festival & Parade (Chicago)
- Superman Celebration (Metropolis)
- Blues on the Fox Festival (Aurora)
- Taste of Chicago (Chicago)
- World’s Largest Catsup Bottle Festival (Collinsville)
- Illinois State Fair (Springfield)
- Lollapalooza (Chicago)
- Chicago Air & Water Show (Chicago)
- Chicago Jazz Festival (Chicago)

**AUTUMN** (Sept./Oct./Nov.)
- Chicago Gourmet (Chicago)
- Chicago Architecture Biennial (Chicago)
- International Route 66 Mother Road Festival (Springfield)
- Morton Pumpkin Festival (Morton)
- Nascar Sprint Cup Weekend at Chicagoland Speedway (Joliet)
- Bank of America Chicago Marathon (Chicago)
- Nouveau Wine Weekend (Galena)
- Magnificent Mile Lights Festival (Chicago)
- East Peoria Festival of Lights (East Peoria)
- Sock Monkey Madness Festival at Midway Village Museum (Rockford)
- St. Patrick’s Day Parade (Chicago)
- Wine Lovers Weekend (Galena)
- Dutch Days Festival (Fulton)
- Illinois Route 66 Red Carpet Corridor Festival (Joliet to Towanda)
- Funks Grove Maple Syrup Experience (McLean)

**WINTER** (Dec./Jan./Feb.)
- Christkindlmarket (Chicago)
- Chi-Town Rising (Chicago)
- Bald Eagle Trolley Tours at Starved Rock (Utica)
- Bald Eagle Days at Pere Marquette State Park (Grafton)
- Illinois Snow Sculpting Competition (Rockford)
- Chinese New Year (Chicago)
- Chicago Restaurant Week (Chicago)

**SPRING** (March/April/May)
- Sock Monkey Madness Festival at Midway Village Museum (Rockford)
- St. Patrick’s Day Parade (Chicago)
- Wine Lovers Weekend (Galena)
- Dutch Days Festival (Fulton)
- Illinois Route 66 Red Carpet Corridor Festival (Joliet to Towanda)
- Funks Grove Maple Syrup Experience (McLean)
NOTES

DISTANCE CHART
(FROM CHICAGO)
- Alton: 287 mi / 462 km
- Aurora: 42 mi / 67 km
- Carbondale: 332 mi / 534 km
- Champaign: 138 mi / 222 km
- Galena: 164 mi / 264 km
- Gurnee: 40 mi / 65 km
- Joliet: 47 mi / 76 km
- Metropolis: 367 mi / 591 km
- Oak Brook: 19 mi / 31 km
- Peoria: 166 mi / 267 km
- Pontiac: 98 mi / 158 km
- Quad Cities: 165 mi / 266 km
- Rockford: 89 mi / 143 km
- Rosemont: 17 mi / 28 km
- Skokie: 15 mi / 24 km
- Springfield: 202 mi / 325 km
- Utica: 92 mi / 148 km

BY THE NUMBERS
- 1 National Forest in Southern Illinois
- 7 National Scenic Byways
- 8 State Parks with lodging and dining
- 26 miles/42 km of shoreline along Lake Michigan
- 33 beaches in Chicago
- 400 miles/644 km along Route 66
- 550 miles/885 km of shoreline along the Mississippi River

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