EASY ACCESS

A Guide for All Ages & Abilities

SPRINGFIELD
Welcome to Easy Access Springfield!

This is the second guide in our Easy Access series. Like Easy Access Chicago, it is a comprehensive resource for travelers with disabilities and their families, as well as for local residents. A much larger and more detailed version of the guide with searchable hotel and restaurant listings is available online. Featured in both is Southwind Park, Springfield’s new, universally accessible city park which we had the pleasure to help design.

Open Doors Organization is a Chicago-based non-profit whose mission is to teach businesses how to make their goods and services accessible to people with disabilities. Our staff of professionals has over forty years of experience in disability travel, and our research has provided the only credible market studies on the needs and preferences of travelers with disabilities in America.

In compiling this access guide, our trained site inspectors visited more than 150 hotels, restaurants, museums, theatres and public facilities to audit their accessibility. We thank everyone who welcomed us to their properties and answered our many questions. But above all, we thank the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and its director, Warren Ribley, for providing the funding to make this important project possible. We are proud to help the State of Illinois promote inclusion and accessibility for everyone.

Our intention in presenting this guide is neither to enforce compliance nor to endorse specific accessible properties, but instead to provide a detailed and reliable source of information that people with disabilities of all types and older travelers can use to locate properties and venues that fit their specific needs.

Thank you for choosing Springfield. We hope that Easy Access Springfield will make your stay much more convenient and pleasurable.

Eric Lipp
Executive Director

We wish to thank the following for making this project possible:
- Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
- Springfield Illinois Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Candy & Charles Creative Concepts
- Linda Cassady

Open Doors Organization is proud to bring the City of Springfield its first comprehensive access guide! Many thanks to the businesses and facilities that participated.

Linda Cassady
www.lindacassady.net

Terry Farmer
Photography
www.lindacassady.net

Laurel Van Horn, ODO
Project Director/Editor:

Open Doors Organization

2551 N. Clark Street, Suite 301
Chicago, IL 60614
773-388-8839
www.opendoorsnop.org

Project Director/Editor:
Laurel Van Horn, ODO

Design:
Linda Cassady
www.lindacassady.net

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EASYACCESS SPRINGFIELD: A Guide for All Ages & Abilities
SPRINGFIELD OVERVIEW

Surprising Springfield — An Access Overview

What makes a great accessible destination? Obviously not just ramps, designated parking and adapted restrooms. There also must be a variety of great attractions appealing to all tastes and ages that are relatively barrier-free. Location, transportation, hotels, restaurants and other services are important variables as well. Finally, the community and its attitudes play a vital, no less tangible role in creating a pleasant, welcoming environment.

By all the above criteria, Springfield, Illinois, is doing an impressive job for both residents and visitors with disabilities. Of course, there’s always more to be done, but Easy Access Springfield should demonstrate how much has already been achieved by both private businesses and governmental entities. As to community spirit, the private fundraising and volunteer efforts devoted to the building of Southwind Park, the new, fully-inclusive recreational facility, speak for themselves. Due to open in summer 2010, Southwind Park sets the highest standards for not only accessibility but also environmental sustainability.

In Lincoln’s footsteps

Even though most of Springfield’s attractions are historic sites, this won’t prevent visitors who use wheelchairs from also following in Lincoln’s footsteps. Credit must go to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) and the National Park Service for providing basic access in a non-intrusive way to structures dating back to the mid-1800s such as the Lincoln Home, Lincoln-Herndon Law Offices, Old State Capitol and even a few log cabins at New Salem. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, which draws more than a half-million visitors a year, is also the creation of IHPA. This new historic attraction makes use of the most modern technology to create exhibits and shows that speak to all age groups and abilities. History truly comes alive here.

Arts in the Heartland

With a population of just 117,000 and a compact, well-groomed city center, Springfield has a small-town feel. The pace is slow and the people helpful and friendly. At the same time, however, because this is the state capital, Springfield has a vibrant arts scene and a wealth of cultural institutions including a symphony orchestra and ballet company. Accessible venues for the performing arts include Sangamon Auditorium, Hoogland Center for the Arts and the Municipal Opera, which stages open-air musicals by Lake Springfield. For fine arts lovers, the Springfield Art Association and Prairie Art Alliance mount shows throughout the year. There are also a number of accessible galleries and gift shops downtown that feature the works of local artists.

Fun for Families

The Illinois State Museum has wonderful natural history exhibits with lots of opportunities for hands-on learning. Route 66, which runs right through Springfield, draws kids of all ages to such nostalgic attractions as Shea’s Gas Station Museum and the Route 66 Twin Drive-In. While access there and the Springfield’s amusement parks is somewhat limited, visitors can use the details in this guide to decide whether these attractions will meet their specific needs. Depending on the season, families can also enjoy a night of Springfield Sliders baseball or Jr. Blues hockey. By far the biggest family event in Springfield is the Illinois State Fair, held each August and offering a seemingly endless number of agricultural-based exhibits, demonstrations and concerts.

Parks and Nature

As Southwind Park demonstrates, Springfield Park District is dedicated to making its facilities inclusive and even offers adaptive carts at its golf courses. There are also lifts at city pools, accessible tennis courts and 15 miles of paved bike trails. Washington Park Botanic Garden, with its glass house and surrounding flower gardens, is one of the city’s most scenic spots. Another must for nature lovers is the Lincoln Memorial Garden which boasts an accessible prairie trail. Boating is also possible thanks to the Lake Springfield Marina which has accessible docks and pontoon boats for rent.

Transportation and Tours

Springfield is small enough that one can visit most downtown attractions without a vehicle. Well-maintained streets and sidewalks with good curb cuts make getting around easy for everyone. Springfield Walks offers a variety of theme tours, most of which are accessible to participants in wheelchairs. For those who prefer to ride, both Springfield Trolley Tours and the SMTD Historic Sites Bus use lift-equipped vehicles. Although Springfield has no accessible taxis as yet, several companies do provide transportation in adapted vans. Paratransit service is also available with advance registration.

Lodging and Restaurants

Springfield’s hotels and motels are clustered in the northeast near the State Fairgrounds, southeast near Lake Springfield, and southwest near the main shopping malls, as well as downtown. None are further than 20 minutes from the city center.

Families on a budget will be happy to see that some of the city’s most accessible hotels are also the least expensive. There are also good, barrier-free restaurants in every price range. The best locally-owned places to eat are mostly downtown, while the hotel zones offer a variety of chain restaurants.

Getting There

With St. Louis only 80 miles away and Chicago less than 200, many visitors choose to fly into these major cities and then drive to Springfield. One can also fly directly into Capital Airport which has jetways and is only 20 minutes from downtown. All the major rental car companies have facilities in Springfield. The city also has an Amtrak station just two blocks from the Old State Capitol and a Greyhound bus terminal, both of which provide accessible service.

Easy Access Springfield

One other feature helps make a destination truly accessible—a detailed guide that enables visitors and residents with disabilities to easily plan their trips and outings. With the publication of Easy Access Springfield online and in print, this final element is now in place. Hopefully, it will encourage many more families who have a child, parent or grandparent with a physical, sensory or cognitive limitation to come and discover Lincoln’s Home Town for themselves.
**Lincoln Sites**

**Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum**
212 N. 6th St. (Jefferson)  
217-782-5764 or 800-610-2094  
www.alplm.org

Springfield’s most popular attraction has exhibits and shows to satisfy all age groups. The facility is not only barrier-free for those using wheelchairs but also visitors with sensory disabilities. Theaters have assistive listening systems, reflective captioning and audio description. To be accommodated, just notify an usher before the show. There are also touch exhibits and, with advance notice, a personal guide can be provided. For a sign language interpreter, two weeks advance notice is required. Accessible amenities include a cafeteria, gift shop, single and multi-use restrooms, and check room with wheelchairs for loan. Medical bags for food, drink or medications needed during the visit are available from security. While the Library, located just south of the Museum, is primarily for scholars, it also holds exhibits and other public events. JAWS screen reader software is available in the Main Reading Room.

**Lincoln Home National Historic Site**
426 S. 7th St. (Edwards)  
217-492-4241, ext. 221  
www.nps.gov/linho

The Lincoln Home is the centerpiece of an historic site run by the National Park Service. The 4-block pedestrian zone that makes up Mr. Lincoln’s Neighborhood contains 12 structures restored to their 1860 appearance. Three can be visited by the public—the Lincoln Home, by guided tour only, and the Dean and Arnold Houses, which have exhibits. The last has a ramp while the others have platform lifts that cleverly recess into the ground. The second story of the Lincoln Home is inaccessible but one can view a video of the house at the modern Visitor Center. A new video, “Abraham Lincoln: A Journey to Greatness,” is also screened continually. Both are captioned. From the Information Desk, visitors may borrow wheelchairs, portable listening devices for the tour, headsets for the theatres and a tactile map and information in Braille. Those who require a sighted guide or wheelchair access should notify the ranger when picking up their tour ticket. For sign language interpretation, advance notice is required. Other amenities include accessible parking, restrooms, vending machines and a book shop.

**Lincoln-Herndon Law Offices**
1 Old State Capitol Plaza (6th & Adams)  
217-785-7960  
www.illinois-history.gov/hs/lincoln_herndon.htm

Abraham Lincoln had several law offices in Springfield but this is the only structure still standing. Visitors can see recreations of his third floor offices as well as a Federal Court and post office. The tour begins with an orientation video (uncaptioned) and exhibits on Lincoln’s legal career. Sign language interpretation is provided with advance notice. The accessible entrance is through Tinsley Dry Goods at 209 S. Sixth St. A buzzer at the door summons an escort to lead visitors up a ramp and into the first floor exhibit area. Tinsley’s also has an elevator for access to the upper stories and a wheelchair accessible restroom.

**Lincoln’s New Salem State Historic Site**
15588 History Lane (Route 97), Petersburg  
217-632-4000  
www.LincolnsNewSalem.com

The village of New Salem was home to Abraham Lincoln from 1831-37. Many of the log cabins, set on their original foundations, were reconstructed in the 1930s. A number have ramped or level access: the Onstot Cooper Shop, Second Berry-Lincoln Store, Rutledge Tavern and Miller Blacksmith Shop. At the modern Visitor Center, one can pick up a brochure/map for the self-guided tour, view an orientation video (captioned on request), visit the excellent museum and borrow a wheelchair or Braille guide. Accessible restrooms are also available at the far end of the village next to the Museum Store. Other accessible facilities include a small deli, souvenir shop, outdoor theatre, picnic area and campground. Village pathways are paved and relatively level. New Salem is approximately 20 miles northwest of Springfield.

**Lincoln Tomb**
Oak Ridge Cemetery  
1500 Monument Ave. (N. Grand Ave.)  
217-782-2717  
www.illinoishistory.gov/hs/lincoln_tomb.htm

A quiet, tree-lined hill in Oak Ridge Cemetery is the final resting place of Abraham Lincoln, his wife Mary Todd and three of their sons. The tomb and its forecourt are wheelchair accessible with designated parking and an accessible restroom nearby. No tour is provided, but persons with vision loss may request a guide. Low lighting makes it difficult to read inscriptions on the tomb’s bronze plaques. Staff may allow persons who are blind to touch the tomb. The famous bust of Lincoln outside the entrance may also be touched.

**Old State Capitol**
1 Old State Capitol Plaza (6th & Adams)  
217-785-7960  
www.illinois-history.gov/hs/old_capitol.htm

The Old State Capitol played an important role in Lincoln’s professional life as a lawyer, politician and Illinois Congressman. The accessible entrance is via underground parking on S. Sixth St. An elevator for pedestrians is located in an attractive brick kiosk on the plaza’s south side. To request an escort, ring the bell at the foot of the stairs. Visitors can view the building alone or take a 30-minute guided tour. With advance notice, sign language interpretation can be arranged. Unenclosed staircases may present an overhead hazard. Restrooms have only an accessible ambulatory stall. Wheelchairs are available from a docent.

Details on additional sites—Lincoln Depot, Lincoln Ledger and Lincoln Pew—are available online. The Depot is not wheelchair accessible.
Dana-Thomas House
301 E. Lawrence Ave. (4th St.)
217-782-6776
www.dana-thomas.org

Fans of Frank Lloyd Wright make pilgrimages to Springfield just to see the Dana-Thomas House, the best preserved and most complete of his early “Prairie” houses. Built in 1902-04, it still contains the original oak furniture and art glass doors, windows and light panels.

While the tours are not wheelchair accessible, the Visitors Center and Sumac Shop have a ramped entrance next to the railroad tracks. A short uncaptioned video is screened prior to each tour. With advance notice, an escort can be provided for someone with vision loss. The tour includes one tactile exhibit, a scale model of the house. There is accessible parking in the private lot on E. Cook St., but beware of gaps when crossing the tracks.

Edwards Place
700 N. 4th St. (Union)
217-523-2631
www.springfieldart.org

Located just north of downtown, this Italianate mansion was once a center of social and political activity with prominent guests such as Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas. On view is the authentic “Lincoln Courting Couch” from the parlor of Mary Todd’s sister, who married into the Edwards family. Only the first floor is wheelchair accessible, but visitors can ask to see an uncaptioned video showing the upstairs bedrooms. Edwards Place is owned by the Springfield Art Association, and access is via their main building adjacent to the home. The door is heavy but has a bell to summon assistance. Accessible amenities include parking, single use restrooms and drinking fountain. An escort for the tour can be provided for someone with vision loss.

Executive Mansion
410 E. Jackson St. (4th St.)
217-782-2525
www.illinois.gov/mansiontour.cfm

The Executive Mansion has served as the official residence of Illinois governors since 1855. Three levels of this Georgian-style home are open to the public on a tour that includes a state dining room, ballroom, Lincoln’s bedroom, four formal parlors and the library. The mansion is also known for its beautiful gardens.

Visitors requiring the accessible entrance must notify staff on the intercom so that a state trooper can meet them at the west portico, to the right of the main entrance. An elevator provides access to all levels on the tour. An escort can be provided for someone with vision loss. Accessible restrooms have knob door handles. There is a disability parking space next to the visitors’ entrance on Fourth St. between Jackson and Edwards.

Illinois State Capitol
410 S. 2nd St. (Capitol)
217-782-2099
www.cyberdriveillinois.com/services/permissions_with_disabilities/accesscapitol.html

Home to the Illinois State Legislature since 1877, the Capitol and its 361-foot dome tower over the downtown’s west side. Visitors can take a tour of the ornate building or watch the House and Senate in action from accessible, balcony-level galleries. A ramped entrance with automatic door is on the Capitol’s northwest corner.

The Information/Tour Desk in the 1st floor rotunda has a wheelchair for loan as well as portable listening devices and tour scripts in regular and alternative formats. A TTY is located nearby. Sign interpretation for groups may be arranged through the Springfield CVB. Headsets for assistive listening systems in the House, Senate and hearing rooms are available from the Document Office, Room 402.

Accessible amenities include restrooms and drinking fountains on the 1st and 2nd floors and a cafeteria in the basement. The Capitol Complex Visitors Center on College St. has accessible parking, restrooms, drinking fountain and outdoor picnic area, captioned video and a wheelchair for loan.

Union Station Visitors Center and Park
500 E. Madison St. (6th St.)
217-557-4588
www.alplm.org

Opened in 1898 by the Illinois Central Railroad, Union Station saw its last passenger train in 1971. It now serves as the Illinois Visitors Center and a gateway to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. The ramped entrance is on E. Madison St. While the waiting rooms have original oak benches, the restrooms, including a single use facility, are updated and accessible. Amenities include a drinking fountain, covered picnic area, lowered brochure racks and wheelchairs for loan. Union Square Park is an attraction in itself with its beautiful flower gardens, benches and Lincoln statues. The central brick-paved space is used for concerts and other performances.
Museums

Illinois State Museum
502 S. Spring St. (Edwards) 217-782-7386
www.museum.state.il.us

The museum’s new natural history hall features interactive elements, audio and video effects, life-sized dioramas and thousands of authentic fossils and other specimens, some of which can be touched. The fine arts are also well represented in permanent and changing exhibitions. With advance notice, a sighted guide can be provided. The museum and its exhibits are fully wheelchair accessible, and disability parking is available at the Capitol Complex Visitors Center on College St.

Shea’s Gas Station Museum
2075 Peoria Rd. (1 block south of Sangamon Ave.) 217-522-0475

This world-famous landmark on Old Route 66 is not wheelchair accessible—the interior is just too jam-packed with automotive memorabilia—but it’s still worth a visit for the photo op. On view outside are colorful, old fashioned gas pumps, period vehicles and, of course, the building itself, a blue and white porcelain panel “icebox” station. The entrance has one small step. There are no restrooms. This attraction is closed during the Illinois State Fair.

Gardens and Wildlife

Henson-Robinson Zoo
1100 E. Lake Dr. (In Lake Park) 217-753-6217
www.hensonrobinsonzoo.org

This small zoo, run by the Springfield Park District, displays more than 300 animals native to Australia, Africa, Asia and North and South America. There is also a petting zoo. Almost all areas are wheelchair accessible. An audio tour is currently under development. Accessible amenities include restrooms, drinking fountain, vending machines, picnic pavilion and small amphitheatre. Ticketing and sales counters in the gift shop and snack bar are not lowered.

Washington Park Botanical Garden
1740 W. Fayette Ave. (Chatham Rd.) 217-753-6228
www.springfieldparks.org/facilities/botanical

This lovely 20-acre botanical garden, run by Springfield Park District, is located in the northwest corner of Washington Park next to the Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon. Its 50-foot conservatory dome houses tropical plants from Asia, Africa and South America. While the conservatory and most paths are wheelchair accessible, there are steep slopes in some areas including the rose garden. Amenities include a gift shop, exhibit hall and accessible restrooms. An orientation to the conservatory is available on request.

Lincoln Memorial Garden
2301 E. Lake Dr. (Pawnee Rd.) 217-529-1111
www.lmgnc.org

This 100-acre woodland and prairie garden on Lake Springfield has six miles of interconnected trails. Aside from the paved pathway to the modern Nature Center, most are not wheelchair accessible, especially in wetter months. However, there is an accessible half-mile trail at the Ostermeier Prairie Center. Accessible parking and restrooms are located at both sites. The Nature Center has educational exhibits, program space and a gift shop. Sign language interpretation for programs can be provided with advance notice.

Theatres/Arts

Hoogland Center for the Arts
420 S. 6th St. (Capitol) 217-523-2787
www.sfcta.org

Located in the heart of downtown Springfield, this modern, accessible facility is home to many local theatre, music and dance groups. Theatre 1, which seats 465, has wheelchair spaces for 16-20 with companions alongside. Theatres 2 and 3 and the Club Room also have multiple spaces. There are no assistive listening systems. Contact individual companies directly for other accommodations such as sign language interpretation. Patrons park free after 5pm and on weekends at Public Parking next door.

Prairie Capital Conference Center
E. 9th & S. Adams Sts. 217-786-8800
www.springfieldpccc.com

This 40,000 sq. ft. arena hosts trade shows, concerts, sporting events and other entertainment. The Main Hall, which seats up to 7,000, has wheelchair seating in front on the main and mezzanine levels. Assistive listening devices may be reserved and picked up at the box office. Sign language interpretation, wheelchair assistance and escorts are available with advance notice. The single use restroom in the Main Hall has limited space to maneuver and transfer. Other restrooms have only an accessible ambulatory stall. Plaza Parking next door has accessible spaces on each level near the south elevator.

Sangamon Auditorium
U. of I. at Springfield, Public Affairs Bldg. 217-206-6160; 800-207-6960; 800-526-0844 TTY
www.SangamonAuditorium.org

This 4000-seat venue presents music and dance groups. The box office is not wheelchair accessible. Restrooms lack full transfer space. Sign language interpretation is provided the first Sunday of each production, and assistive listening devices may be borrowed at the box office. Escorts are also available.

Shea’s Gas Station Museum
2075 Peoria Rd. (1 block south of Sangamon Ave.) 217-522-0475

This world-famous landmark on Old Route 66 is not wheelchair accessible—the interior is just too jam-packed with automotive memorabilia—but it’s still worth a visit for the photo op. On view outside are colorful, old fashioned gas pumps, period vehicles and, of course, the building itself, a blue and white porcelain panel “icebox” station. The entrance has one small step. There are no restrooms. This attraction is closed during the Illinois State Fair.

Springfield Municipal Opera
815 E. Lake Shore Dr. 217-793-6864
www.themuni.org

The Muni dates back to 1950 when the outdoor amphitheatre first opened near the lake. This all-volunteer company puts on four musicals each summer. Since accessible parking is limited, a golf cart shuttles people to and from the entrance. One can also be dropped off at the lower gate close to wheelchair seating, located at both ends of rows A-H. There is a steep slope between the last row of seats and the main entrance, restroom and concessions. The box office is not wheelchair accessible. Restrooms lack full transfer space. Sign language interpretation is provided the first Sunday of each production, and assistive listening devices may be borrowed at the box office. Escorts are also available.

Theatre in the Park at New Salem
15588 History Lane (Route 97), Petersburg 217-632-5440 or 800-710-9290 (Box Office) 217-241-3241 (Business Office) www.theatreinthepark.net

This outdoor amphitheatre, which seats 500, is located behind the Visitors Center. A series of musicals, dramas and comedies is presented Fri., Sat. and Sun. evenings from early June to late August. There is integrated wheelchair seating in the front row and numerous spaces behind the last row. Those using manual wheelchairs may need assistance to and from the lower level seating and snack bar due to the sidewalk slope. Handrails are in place on both sides of the walkway. Parking spaces, ticket counter, restrooms and drinking fountain, located at the Visitors Center, are fully accessible.
Cinemas

Kerasotes
Movie line: 217-528-3456, 800-326-3264
www.kerasotes.com
All three Kerasotes movie theatres in Springfield have assistive listening devices and wheelchair spaces with companion seating alongside. Parkway Pointe also shows open-captioned movies on a regular basis. Accessible amenities include parking, restrooms, drinking fountains, ticketing and, except for Parkway Pointe, snack bar counters.

- Parkway Pointe
  3025 Lindbergh Blvd.
  217-698-1056
- ShowPlace 8 East
  2945 S. Dirksen Pkwy.
  217-529-9448
- ShowPlace 12 West
  3141 Mercantile Dr.
  217-793-6440

Route 66 Drive-In
1700 Recreation Dr. (Chatham Rd.)
Movie line: 217-698-0066
Office: 217-546-8881
www.route66-drivein.com
This newly renovated, twin drive-in shows double features nightly from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day and on weekends in April, May and Oct. Located next to Knight’s Action Park, the drive-in has a concession stand, restrooms and a small playground. Amenities are partially wheelchair accessible.

Nightlife

Springfield’s nightlife is mostly clustered downtown. The properties listed here have accessible entrances, paths of travel, tables or coffee tables and, for the most part, fully adapted restrooms. For full access information, see www.easyaccessspringfield.org.

Donnie B’s Comedy Club
Breaktime Entertainment Center
2937 W. White Oaks Dr. (Wabash)
217-391-5653, 217-698-0918
www.donniebsofspringfield.com
Donnie B’s Comedy Club presents top quality national touring comedians every Fri. and Sat. night. Breaktime has a DJ on weekends until 3 am.

Marly’s Pub
9 5W Old State Capitol Plaza (5th & Adams)
217-522-2280
Open daily. Marly’s Pub presents live roll ‘n’ roll music Tues. through Sat. On Mon. there’s an Open Mic Night and on Fri. from 6-8 pm a Jazz Happy Hour.

Robbie’s
4 S. Old State Capitol Plaza (6th St.)
217-528-1901
www.robbies.biz
Robbie’s features live jazz on Fri. evenings, a program of the Springfield Area Arts Council.

Shopping

Shopping Centers
Springfield’s numerous shopping centers, which feature both boutiques and big chain stores, are located along the city’s two main shopping corridors—Veterans Parkway on the west and Dirksen Parkway on the east. White Oaks Mall, the largest enclosed retail shopping facility in Central Illinois, alone has over 115 stores and restaurants. All the shopping centers have accessible parking, entrances and restrooms. Many larger stores also have accessible dressing rooms. For a full listing by area, visit www.easyaccessspringfield.org.

Art Galleries
Springfield has a lively arts scene with a number of accessible galleries and stores featuring the works of local artisans. Except for the Springfield Art Association, all are located within a few blocks of the Old State Capitol and participate in the Downtown Springfield Art Walk. Full access details are available online.

The Blue Door
214 S. 6th St. (Monroe)
217-753-0262
www.BlueDoorArt.com
A collaborative of 60 Springfield area artisans, The Blue Door offers a wide variety of fine arts and crafts.

Prairie Art Alliance
420 S. 6th St. (Capitol)
217-544-2787
www.prairieart.org
Located in the Hoogland Center for the Arts, Prairie Art Alliance presents six exhibitions per year. Artworks are also for sale.

Robert Morris Gallery
607 E. Adams St. (6th St.)
217-522-8977
This small downtown art gallery, affiliated with Robert Morris University, shows works by students and faculty and from the school’s permanent collection.

Springfield Art Association
700 N. 4th St. (Union)
217-523-2631
www.springfieldart.org
In addition to the Edwards Place historic home, the Association operates a School of Art, extensive Art Library and Gallery of Art. Each year the Gallery hosts four to six exhibitions featuring national, regional and local artists.

Studio on 6th
215 S. 6th St. (Monroe)
217-522-8006
www.studioon6th.com
This cooperative gallery features the works of over 50 local artists. A wide variety of crafts are on sale, from pottery and jewelry to glass works, fiber arts, painting, photography and woodwork.

Tinsley Dry Goods
209 S. 6th St. (Adams)
217-525-1825
www.tinsleydrygoods.com
Tinsley Dry Goods has been a landmark in downtown Springfield since 1840. The store offers Lincoln busts and souvenirs, Civil War memorabilia, rustic metal and wood signs, soy candles and cards.

Alamo
115 N. 5th St. (Adams)
217-523-1455

Bar None
427 E. Monroe St.
217-523-3050
This recently renovated downtown bar features both live music and DJs.

Celtic Mist
117-119 S. 7th St.
217-528-7000
www.celticmistpub.com
Set in a historic downtown storefront, the Celtic Mist is a friendly Irish saloon. Live music is presented the first Sat. of every month at 9 pm.

Route 66 Drive-In
1700 Recreation Dr. (Chatham Rd.)
Movie line: 217-698-0066
Office: 217-546-8881
www.route66-drivein.com
This newly renovated, twin drive-in shows double features nightly from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day and on weekends in April, May and Oct. Located next to Knight’s Action Park, the drive-in has a concession stand, restrooms and a small playground. Amenities are partially wheelchair accessible.

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Springfield’s numerous shopping centers, which feature both boutiques and big chain stores, are located along the city’s two main shopping corridors—Veterans Parkway on the west and Dirksen Parkway on the east. White Oaks Mall, the largest enclosed retail shopping facility in Central Illinois, alone has over 115 stores and restaurants. All the shopping centers have accessible parking, entrances and restrooms. Many larger stores also have accessible dressing rooms. For a full listing by area, visit www.easyaccessspringfield.org.

Art Galleries
Springfield has a lively arts scene with a number of accessible galleries and stores featuring the works of local artisans. Except for the Springfield Art Association, all are located within a few blocks of the Old State Capitol and participate in the Downtown Springfield Art Walk. Full access details are available online.

The Blue Door
214 S. 6th St. (Monroe)
217-753-0262
www.BlueDoorArt.com
A collaborative of 60 Springfield area artisans, The Blue Door offers a wide variety of fine arts and crafts.

Prairie Art Alliance
420 S. 6th St. (Capitol)
217-544-2787
www.prairieart.org
Located in the Hoogland Center for the Arts, Prairie Art Alliance presents six exhibitions per year. Artworks are also for sale.

Robert Morris Gallery
607 E. Adams St. (6th St.)
217-522-8977
This small downtown art gallery, affiliated with Robert Morris University, shows works by students and faculty and from the school’s permanent collection.

Springfield Art Association
700 N. 4th St. (Union)
217-523-2631
www.springfieldart.org
In addition to the Edwards Place historic home, the Association operates a School of Art, extensive Art Library and Gallery of Art. Each year the Gallery hosts four to six exhibitions featuring national, regional and local artists.

Studio on 6th
215 S. 6th St. (Monroe)
217-522-8006
www.studioon6th.com
This cooperative gallery features the works of over 50 local artists. A wide variety of crafts are on sale, from pottery and jewelry to glass works, fiber arts, painting, photography and woodwork.

Tinsley Dry Goods
209 S. 6th St. (Adams)
217-525-1825
www.tinsleydrygoods.com
Tinsley Dry Goods has been a landmark in downtown Springfield since 1840. The store offers Lincoln busts and souvenirs, Civil War memorabilia, rustic metal and wood signs, soy candles and cards.
Erin’s Pavilion
Erin’s Pavilion, which houses the Visitor Center and is open year-round, offers over 15,000 sq. ft. of space for recreational and educational programs. Amenities include a family restroom with shower facilities, first aid/respite room, vending machines and smaller meeting and program rooms. The pavilion and its outdoor terrace overlook the 4-acre lake.

Fishing Piers
Three completely accessible fishing piers on the lake allow anglers to try their luck at catching bluegill, bass and catfish.

Gazebo
The gazebo offers a panoramic view of the lake and Erin’s Pavilion, all surrounded by beautiful native landscaping. It is an area for tranquil reflection and quiet conversation.

Sensory Gardens
One unique feature of Southwind Park is its five sensory gardens. The Enabling Garden has raised planters for seated gardening. The Tranquility Garden, for persons with Alzheimer’s or dementia, has seating areas and a grove of white birches. The Fragrant Garden features a waterfall and sensory plants in easy reach. The Children’s Garden includes a vegetable garden, native plant area, bird attracting garden and many different paths and whimsical items. The Butterfly Garden has interpretive signage, seating and a water feature.

Playground
The city’s largest playground is barrier-free and includes accessible swings and outdoor musical instruments. For safety and comfort, there is a pour-in play surface.

Picnic Shelters
Five picnic shelters, equipped with ceiling fans and electric outlets, are scattered throughout the park. A large family picnic shelter is located near the great lawn and sports courts.

Sports Courts
Bocce ball, life-size chess, horseshoe pits and shuffleboard courts offer group fun at the park. Individual and league play is available.

The Great Lawn
This 8-acre grassy area is ideal for kite flying, Frisbee and just hanging out with friends and family.

Urban Trail & Navigation System
Navigating the park is easy with a 2-1/2 mile concrete trail that has built-in directional guides and a color-coded wayfinding system for individuals with cognitive disabilities. Throughout the park are emergency call stations and wayfinding signage with “You are here” maps. Southwind Park also has GPS hand-held units for loan that feature an informational walking tour and fun trivia game.

Southwind Park Tram
The park’s exclusively designed tram, which carries up to 8 people, provides either a complete tour or a ride to a specific park location.

Directions
Southwind Park is located in southern Springfield. From I-55, take Toronto Rd. (Exit 90) to Second St., then turn north and travel 1 mile to Southwind Rd.
Illinois State Fair
801 E. Sangamon Ave. (N. 11th St.) 217-782-6661; 217-524-6858 TTY
217-524-8634 (Aux. Services/Senior Center) www.agr.state.il.us/sf
This 10-day mega event draws more than 700,000 visitors each August. Most of the shows and attractions, including the famous butter cow, are accessible. However, neither the Sky Ride aerial tram nor the various rides in the Carnival Midway can accommodate wheelchairs. At Adventure Village only the train has wheelchair access. Except for areas near the Main Gate, the terrain is mostly flat. One barrier to watch out for is the plastic coverings over electric cables.

FAMILY FUN
Pavilions that house show animals. Not pets. Please use caution when entering.

Service animals are allowed at the Fair, but wheelchair access. Except for areas near the Main Gate, the terrain is mostly flat. One barrier to watch out for is the plastic coverings over electric cables.

Mobility
The Illinois Building at the main entrance, which houses the Senior Center, is one of two locations to rent wheelchairs and electric scooters. The other is at the north end of Grandstand Ave. next to the lot reserved just for disability parking. Trams providing fairground tours run every 10-15 minutes and make 12 stops. Two or three of the vehicles have ramped access but no tie downs. Performance venues with fixed seating all have multiple wheelchair spaces. When buying Grandstand tickets, one should mention any accessibility requirements. Accessible restrooms are available in numerous buildings including the Coliseum, which has single use restrooms. Seating and accessible picnic tables are located throughout the fairgrounds. Many buildings and tents have air conditioning including the Senior Center, which also has power outlets.

Hearing and Vision
There are FM loops at the Grandstand, Coliseum, Illinois Building Auditorium and Lincoln Stage. Receivers may be borrowed at the State Police Station south of the Grandstand. Sign language interpreters can be provided with 24-hour advance notice. Fair goers with vision loss can request an orientation at the Senior Center; staff at Information Booths will also provide assistance.

Service Animals
Service animals are allowed at the Fair, but not pets. Please use caution when entering pavilions that house show animals.

Amusement Parks & Arcades
Knight’s Action Park/Caribbean Water Adventure
1700 Recreation Dr. (Chatham) 217-546-8881
www.knightsoptionpark.com
This 62-acre amusement park is two parks in one. At Knight’s Action Park the batting cages, driving range, arcade game room and picnic pavilion are accessible as well as parking, restrooms and drinking fountain. At Caribbean Water Adventure the giant wave pool, kid’s pool and Caribbean Wild River all have zero entry. The latter is actually a gently flowing current one floats down on tubes. The bathroom has a roll-in shower with fold-down bench but no grab bars or handheld showerhead. Accessible facilities include parking, ticket counter, restrooms, drinking fountain, picnic shelters and most food concessions.

Kicks Family Entertainment Center
2744 S. 6th St. (Stanford) 217-753-2000
www.kicksfec.com
This popular indoor entertainment center on Old Route 66 has over 100 arcade games. A number have controls in easy reach and wheelchair space. The mini bowling alley and go-karts are not accessible. The 40,000 sq. ft. building has designated parking, ramped entry, low ticket counter, accessible dining and party rooms, gift shop, restrooms, drinking fountain and vending machines.

Recreation
Springfield Park District
Bunn Park
2500 S. 11th St. (Stanford) 217-544-1751
www.springfieldparks.org
In addition to 35 parks, the newest being Southwind, the Park District has 4 golf courses, 3 aquatic facilities, 2 ice rinks and 6 specialty venues including Henson Robinson Zoo, Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon and Washington Park Botanical Garden. All pools, indoor and outdoor, have lifts. The Washington Park Tennis Complex and tennis courts at the Nelson Center are wheelchair accessible. Playground equipment at many of the parks, including Washington, Lincoln and Rotary, is usable by all. Some parks also have accessible picnic pavilions.

For individuals with disabilities, the District offers many adaptive programs including Alley Catz, a year-round bowling program; Camp L.E.A.P., a nine-week, summer day camp for ages 7 and up; and Monster Mash, a costume Halloween party. The Springfield Park District also provides sports for Special Olympians by hosting athletic programs for track and field, golf, horseback riding, softball/T-ball, volleyball, basketball, cross country skiing, snowshoe, bocce, power lifting, swimming, and basketball. To learn more, contact the Recreation Supervisor of Inclusive Programming, Annette Rothgyer, at 217-544-1751 or by email: annette@springfieldparks.org.

Adaptive Golf
Bunn Park
217-522-2633
www.springfieldparks.org/golf/adaptive.asp
The Springfield Park District has a Solorider adaptive golf cart with swivel seat and hand controls at each of its 4 public golf courses:

- Bergen (9 hole), Bunn (18 hole), Lincoln Greens (18 hole) and Pasfield (9 hole). It also offers Adaptive Golf Clinics each summer in partnership with St. John’s Hospital and adaptive golfer Dany Baker.

Illinois Senior Olympics
1601 N. 5th St. (Nelson Center/Lincoln Park) 217-753-0700
www.ilsenoly.org
Designed to promote healthy life styles and fitness for adults, the Illinois Senior Olympics are open to men and women 50 years and older, with 30 event categories and team sports to choose from. More than 1,000 seniors compete annually in over 60 events throughout the Springfield area. The Illinois games are coordinated by the Springfield Park District.

www.easyaccessspringfield.org
Illinois Special Olympics
413 E. Adams St. (6th St.)
217-544-2043
www.soill.org
Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics Illinois Area 17 serves almost 500 athletes in Sangamon and Menard counties and holds 6 athletic events with competition in 13 sports.

Lake Springfield Marina
17 Waters Edge Blvd. (Palm Rd.)
217-483-3625
www.lakespringfieldmarina.com
This full service, private marina just off I-55 on the lake's south shore has accessible parking, boat slips and docks. It rents boats of all types, from canoes and kayaks to 24 ft. pontoons and a 42 ft. flat-deck party barge. The accessible floating dock allows level access to pontoon boats and has a set of handrails for safe boarding. The office has single use accessible restrooms, cold drinks for sale and an outdoor deck with picnic tables. Sunsetters Waterfront Bar & Grill, located at the marina, has an accessible outdoor dining area.

YMCA of Springfield
701 S. 4th St. (Cook)
217-544-9846
www.springfieldymca.org
The YMCA is an accessible facility with a variety of adaptive exercise and sports programs. With advance notice, a pool lift can be provided during any scheduled family swim time. The Special Needs Aquatic Program (SNAP) serves individuals with Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and other disabilities. Other adaptive programs include an all-in-one exercise class, a gentle stretching chair exercise class and personal training. The YMCA also has a bowling league for people with disabilities, the Saturday Strikers. For older members or those with arthritis, the YMCA offers various aquatic exercise programs.

AMF Laketown Lanes
3220 Stanton Ave. (Stevenson)
217-529-1666
www.amf.com/laketownlanes/centerHomepage.htm
This bowling alley in southeastern Springfield has a portable ramp to allow bowlers using wheelchairs to reach the lower level lanes which also have a 2” threshold. Adaptive aids include a rail for persons who are blind, a push ramp and mechanical bumpers. The venue has designated parking and accessible restrooms. Open daily.

Starship Billiards
2301 Stevenson Dr. ( Sheridan)
217-585-8888
Starship Billiards, located in southeastern Springfield, has 15 full-size pool tables and 5 dart machines. Parking, entrance, dining and bar areas, and restrooms are all accessible. Open daily.

Braveheart Therapeutic Riding Center
4652 Birmingham Dr., Pawnee
217-494-4537
www.bravehearttc.org
This non-profit offers horseback riding lessons to children and adults with physical, emotional, mental and/or social disabilities. Braveheart has its own barn, horses and tack in Pawnee, 15 miles south of Springfield off I-55. Lessons are offered from March through November.

Sports Viewing
Springfield Sliders
1601 N. 5th St. (Ridgley)
217-679-3511
www.springsliders.com
The Springfield Sliders, a summer collegiate baseball team in the Prospect League, make their home at Roberts Stadium in Lanphier Park. Their 54-game season runs from early June to mid-August. As in minor league baseball, the emphasis here is on family fun with lots of promotions and games between innings. The stadium, which accommodates 5,200 fans, has ramps on both first and third base sides leading to wheelchair seating areas. Companion seating is in folding chairs. Parking, restrooms and concessions are accessible. This is a Springfield Park District facility.

Springfield Jr. Blues
1415 N. Grand Ave. E. (13th St.)
217-525-2589
www.jrblues.com
The Springfield Jr. Blues, a franchise of the North American Hockey League, has played in the Nelson Center in Lincoln Park since 1993. In this Junior A league, players are 16-20 years old and striving to move on to Division I college teams and professional hockey. The 58-game regular season runs from September to April. The main seating area is in bleachers. A small rinkside platform with a short, steep ramp can accommodate one or two spectators in wheelchairs. Restrooms are fully accessible but ticketing and concessions counters are high. The Nelson Center, a Springfield Park District facility, also has an accessible outdoor pool, tennis courts and adaptive recreation programs.
An access specialist with Open Doors Organization surveyed the following properties. For full details on accessible restaurants audited by ODO, visit Easy Access Springfield online: www.easyaccessspringfield.org.

This is not a complete list of all the accessible restaurants in Springfield and their listing in this guide is not an endorsement by Open Doors Organization. The access features reported in this guide are not intended to reflect compliance with any local, state or federal building codes or standards. It is not the intent of this guide to certify or guarantee that the businesses and properties listed meet any of the required accessibility codes and laws.
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<th><strong>DOWNTOWN</strong></th>
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<th><strong>Price</strong></th>
<th><strong>Menu/Service</strong></th>
<th><strong>Restroom</strong></th>
<th><strong>Comments</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maldaner’s</strong></td>
<td>Lunch: M-F, Dinner: Tu-Sa</td>
<td>1,2,3 OL</td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Robbie’s</strong></td>
<td>Lunch: M-Sa, Dinner: M-F</td>
<td>1,2 OL</td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>TO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fulgenzi’s</strong></td>
<td>Breakfast: M-Sa, Lunch: M-Sa, Live Music: M-F 12-1pm</td>
<td>1 OL</td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>SU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Trout Lily Café</strong></td>
<td>Breakfast: M-Sa, Lunch: M-Sa, Live Music: M-F 12-1pm</td>
<td>1 OL</td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>SU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>NORTHEAST</strong></th>
<th><strong>Hours</strong></th>
<th><strong>Price</strong></th>
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<th><strong>Restroom</strong></th>
<th><strong>Comments</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chesapeake Seafood House</strong></td>
<td>Lunch Buffet: M-F, Early Bird: Su-F, Dinner: daily</td>
<td>2,3 B OL</td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fulgenzi’s Pizza and Pasta</strong></td>
<td>Lunch: M-Sa, Dinner: M-Sa</td>
<td>1,2 OL</td>
<td></td>
<td>SU</td>
<td>DEX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ryan’s Family Steak House</strong></td>
<td>Breakfast: Sa-Su, Lunch: daily, Dinner: daily</td>
<td>1,2 OL</td>
<td></td>
<td>SU</td>
<td>DEX</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>NORTWEST</strong></th>
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<th><strong>Menu/Service</strong></th>
<th><strong>Restroom</strong></th>
<th><strong>Comments</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Oak’s on Seventh</strong></td>
<td>Lunch: Tu-Sa, Brunch: Su, Dinner: daily</td>
<td>1 SU</td>
<td></td>
<td>DEX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Westwoods Lodge Pub &amp; Grill</strong></td>
<td>Lunch: daily, Dinner: daily</td>
<td>1,2,3 OL</td>
<td></td>
<td>SU</td>
<td>DEX</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SOUTHEAST</strong></th>
<th><strong>Hours</strong></th>
<th><strong>Price</strong></th>
<th><strong>Menu/Service</strong></th>
<th><strong>Restroom</strong></th>
<th><strong>Comments</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capital City Bar &amp; Grill</strong></td>
<td>Lunch: M-Sa, Dinner: M-Sa, Bar closed 1am, Closed Su</td>
<td>1,2 TO</td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>SU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Carlos O’Kelly’s</strong></td>
<td>Lunch: daily, Dinner: daily</td>
<td>1,2 B OL</td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cozy Dog Drive In</strong></td>
<td>All meals: M-Sa, Closed Su and major holidays</td>
<td>1 OL</td>
<td></td>
<td>SU</td>
<td>DEX</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SOUThEAST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurant</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Menu</th>
<th>Restroom</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hen House</td>
<td>All meals: daily</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>TO</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX Next to Motel 6 Limited space to maneuver in restroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panera Bread</td>
<td>All meals: daily</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>OL</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX Takeout counter high Heavy restroom door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lobster</td>
<td>Lunch: daily Dinner: daily</td>
<td>1,2,3</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX Braille/tactile signage on restroom doors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosewood Dining Room</td>
<td>All meals: daily</td>
<td>2,3</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX In Crowne Plaza Hotel Heavy restroom door Low side grab bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sgt. Pepper’s Café</td>
<td>All meals: daily</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>A</td>
<td></td>
<td>DEX Inner entry door heavy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smokey Joe’s BBQ &amp; Grill</td>
<td>Breakfast: daily Lunch: daily Dinner: M-Sa</td>
<td>1,2,3</td>
<td>OL</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX Sink in stall blocks lateral transfer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starship Billiards</td>
<td>Lunch: daily Dinner: daily Bar closes 1 am</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>TO</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX Ramped bar area</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Price Range
1. Under $7
2. $7 - $15
3. Over $15

#### Menu/Service
- **B** Braille
- **L** Large Print
- **OL** Menu Online
- **TO** Takeout
- **D** Delivery
- **SU** Single Use
- **A** Accessible
- **DEX** Dexterity Features

#### Restroom
- **A** Accessible
- **SU** Single Use, Accessible
- **DEX** Dexterity Features

### SOUThWEST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurant</th>
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<th>Price</th>
<th>Menu</th>
<th>Restroom</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taste of Thai</td>
<td>Lunch: M-Sa Dinner: M-Sa</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>TO</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX In Capital City Shopping Center No Braille/tactile signage Sink blocks lateral transfer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amber Jack Ale House</td>
<td>Breakfast: Sa-Su Lunch: daily Dinner: daily</td>
<td>2,3</td>
<td>OL</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX No accessible tables in bar area No Braille/tactile signage Heavy restroom door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bella Milano</td>
<td>Lunch: daily Dinner: daily</td>
<td>2,3</td>
<td>OL</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX Heavy restroom door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D’Arcy’s Pint</td>
<td>Lunch: M-Sa Dinner: M-Sa Bar closes 1 am</td>
<td>1,2,3</td>
<td>OL</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX No Braille/tactile signage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fritz’s Wagon Wheel</td>
<td>Dinner: To-Su Closed M</td>
<td>2,3</td>
<td>OL</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX No accessible tables in bar area No Braille/tactile signage Heavy restroom door Rear grab bar not behind toilet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mariah’s</td>
<td>All meals: daily</td>
<td>1,2,3</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>OL</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monical’s Pizza</td>
<td>Lunch: daily Dinner: daily</td>
<td>1,2,3</td>
<td>OL</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>DEX Braille/tactile signage on restroom doors Gluten-free pizza available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Price Range
1. Under $7
2. $7 - $15
3. Over $15

#### Menu/Service
- **B** Braille
- **L** Large Print
- **OL** Menu Online
- **TO** Takeout
- **D** Delivery
- **SU** Single Use
- **A** Accessible
- **DEX** Dexterity Features

#### Restroom
- **A** Accessible
- **SU** Single Use, Accessible
- **DEX** Dexterity Features
EASYACCESS SPRINGFIELD: A Guide for All Ages & Abilities

LODGING

All hotels listed have the following features/policies (unless otherwise noted):

- Wheelchair accessible entrance, hallways, and elevators
- Wheelchair accessible guestrooms and bathrooms (non-smoking)
- Wheelchair accessible public restrooms
- Nearby parking lot/garage with accessible designated spaces (if not onsite)
- Block specific adapted room for guests with disabilities
- Reserve adaptive equipment in advance
- Have written evacuation procedure for guests with disabilities
- Train staff on how to evacuate guests with disabilities
- Flag guests with disabilities in computer and generate printouts daily
- Provide orientation for guests who are blind/have low vision
- Braille/tactile signage for guestrooms, restrooms, elevators and hoistways
- Strobe fire alarms in public areas and accessible guestrooms
- Kit with visual alerting devices, strobe fire alarms in public areas
- Braille/tactile signage for guestrooms, hallways, policies (unless otherwise noted):

Accessible Restrooms—Have all these features (unless otherwise noted):

- Entry door has at least 32” clearance
- Stall door at least 32” clearance
- Stall door swings out or has clearance beyond swing
- Space to maneuver—5’ x 5’ or T-shaped space to turn
- Grab bar behind and beside toilet
- 30” space for lateral transfer
- Toilet height 17” to 19”
- Roll under sink with 27” knee clearance

Accessible Guestrooms—Have all these features (unless otherwise noted):

- Door clearance at least 32”
- Maneuvering clearance inside door 18” min.
- Space to maneuver—5’ x 5’ or T-shaped space to turn
- 36” clearance on at least one side of bed
- Environmental controls 54” or less
- Easy grasp/lever door handles

Guest Bathrooms—Have all these features (unless otherwise noted):

- Door clearance at least 32”
- Door swings out or has clearance beyond swing
- Space to maneuver—5’ x 5’ or T-shaped space to turn
- Grab bar behind and beside toilet
- 30” space for lateral transfer
- Toilet height 17” to 19”
- Roll under sink with 27” knee clearance
- Adjustable hand-held shower
- Grab bars in tub/shower

Accessible Entrance/Hallways—Have all these features (unless otherwise noted):

- Door has at least 32” clearance
- Level, ramped or sloped entry 1/2” or less
- Threshold less than 1/2” beveled
- 36” path of travel to accessible facilities
- Height clearance at least 80”
- No protruding objects undetectable by white cane

Elevators—Have all these features (unless otherwise noted):

- Door clearance 36” minimum
- Car size 54’ x 68” minimum
- Lowered control panel

| DOWNTOWN | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Price    | Rm/Bed Types | Blind/| Adapt. | Adapt. | Roll-in | Dining | Comments |
|          |              | Law Vision | Equip. | Rms. |        |        |          |
| Hilton Springfield | $ |  | | FO | | | |
| 700 E. Adams St. (7th St.) | Res: 217-799-1530 Toll-Free: 866-899-8039 | | | | | | Valet parking. Complimentary shuttle. Adapted rooms are 2 regular rooms combined and have 1 standard and 1 adapted bathroom. |
| Mansion Inn & Suites | $ |  | | FO | | | No accessible restroom. All exterior rooms on ground floor. Some roll-in showers have 2” curb and bench not in reach of controls. Some bathrooms lack lateral transfer space. |
| President Abraham Lincoln Hotel & Conference Center | $ |  | | FO | | | Valet parking. Complimentary shuttle. Some bathroom doors 37”. Some bathrooms lack lateral transfer space. |
| The Inn at 835 | $ |  | | FO | | | |
| 835 S. Second St. (Lawrence) | Res: 217-523-4466 | | | | | | |
| The State House Inn | $ |  | | FO | | | |

| NORTHEAST | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Price    | Rm/Bed Types | Blind/ | Adapt. | Adapt. | Roll-in | Dining | Comments |
|          |              | Law Vision | Equip. | Rms. |        |        |          |
| Best Western Clearlake Plaza | $ |  | | FO | | | Some bathrooms lack lateral transfer space. |
| Northfield Inn, Suites & Conference Center | $ |  | | FO | | | Smoke-free. Complimentary shuttle. Some bathrooms lack lateral transfer space. |

An access specialist with Open Doors Organization surveyed the following properties. Only one or two guest rooms per hotel were surveyed, and access details reported here reflect those particular rooms. Other accessible rooms may have different features.

For full details on all accessible lodgings audited by ODO, visit Easy Access Springfield online: www.easyaccessspringfield.org.

This is not a complete list of all the accessible lodgings in Springfield and their listing in this guide is not an endorsement by Open Doors Organization.

The access features reported in this guide are not intended to reflect compliance with any local, state or federal building codes or standards. It is not the intent of this guide to certify or guarantee that the businesses and lodgings listed meet any of the required accessibility codes and laws.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NORTHEAST</th>
<th>LODGING Price Range</th>
<th>Hotel Information</th>
<th>Accessible Dining</th>
<th>Price Range</th>
<th>Roll-in</th>
<th>Dining</th>
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Price Range $ Budget $ SS Mid-Range
Adapted Room/Bed Types
S Suite | G Connecting | B Bed | LS Large Print Menu | BI Braille Hotel Information | LI Large Print Hotel Information
2 Beds 2 Beds 2 Beds Open Frame Bed Height 25” max.

Blind/Law Vision
B Braille Menu | BI Braille Hotel Information | LI Large Print Hotel Information

Adaptive Equipment
TP Shower Bench (portable) | TF Shower Bench (fixed)
PL Pool Lift | FW Free Weights | SS Step Stool | WC Wheelchair

Accessible Dining
R Restaurant | LB Lounge/Bar | BR Breakfast Room | RS Room Service

Adapted Room/Bed Types
S Suite | G Connecting | B Bed | LS Large Print Menu | BI Braille Hotel Information | LI Large Print Hotel Information
2 Beds 2 Beds 2 Beds Open Frame Bed Height 25” max.

Blind/Law Vision
B Braille Menu | BI Braille Hotel Information | LI Large Print Hotel Information

Adaptive Equipment
TP Shower Bench (portable) | TF Shower Bench (fixed)
PL Pool Lift | FW Free Weights | SS Step Stool | WC Wheelchair

Accessible Dining
R Restaurant | LB Lounge/Bar | BR Breakfast Room | RS Room Service

EASYACCESS SPRINGFIELD: A Guide for All Ages & Abilities
**SOUTHWEST**

<table>
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<th>Price</th>
<th>Rm/Bed Types</th>
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<td>S</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>G</td>
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<tr>
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<td>G</td>
<td>IB</td>
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**Getting Around**

**Disability Parking Placards**
Both foreign and out-of-state disability parking permits are considered valid for parking in designated accessible parking spaces in Illinois. With either a disability license plate or placard, you may also park free at metered parking spaces except those limited to 30 minutes or less. The placard must be hung from the rearview mirror or placed on the dashboard. Watch for day/hour sign restrictions to avoid being ticketed or towed. If you are renting a wheelchair accessible van, the company will provide a parking placard for your convenience. Illinois does not issue temporary placards to non-residents so be sure to bring your own parking placard with you.

**Gas Stations**
Illinois law requires gas station attendants to pump gas at the self-serve price to people displaying either a disability placard or license plate. If, however, only one employee is on duty, they are not required to comply.

**Parking Garages: Clearance Heights**
4th & Capitol—8 ft. 4th & Washington—6 ft. 6 in. 6th & Capitol—6 ft. 10 in. 6th & Madison—8 ft. 2 in. 7th & Capitol—7 ft. 7th & Monroe—6 ft. 8 in. 7th & Washington—6 ft. 7 in.

**Accessible Van Transportation**
Joyful Transport 217-381-9422
Joyful Transport has 2 wheelchair vans and 1 non-emergency stretcher vehicle. One van accommodates 1 passenger in a wheelchair and 3 in seats; the other, 2 in wheelchairs and 10 in seats. Full-day and half-day rates are negotiable, with a week advance notice required. For regular transport, 48-hour advance reservation is recommended. All reservations are taken by phone. Cash, checks, or credit cards accepted (Visa, MasterCard, Discover).

**R Squared Transport**
217-325-9069
217-891-4238 or 217-622-9073 (evenings and weekends)
R Squared Transport has a number of wheelchair vans and mini-vans that will accommodate either 1 or 2 passengers in wheelchairs and 3 in seats. Within Springfield, the company changes a flat fee one-way and round-trip. Outside Springfield, mileage is calculated. No day or half-day rates are available. To ensure prompt service, 24-hour advance notice is recommended. All reservations are accepted by phone. Only cash or checks are accepted.

**Paratransit Service**
Access Springfield
217-522-6087 (Information)
217-522-8594 (Reservations)
www.smtd.org
Paratransit service is provided by the Springfield Mass Transit District. Visitors who want to extend their eligibility to Springfield must have their local agency provide documentation that they are ADA paratransit eligible for the jurisdiction in which they reside. ADA paratransit certification (with expiration date and registration number) can be faxed to 217-789-9819 or emailed to drowden@smtd.org. Please allow time for processing. Rides may be scheduled up to 3 days in advance. Service hours are Mon.–Fri. 6:15am-Midnight and Sat. 6:15am-6pm. No service Sun. and major holidays.
TRANSPORTATION

Senior Transport
Senior Services of Central Illinois
713-528-4035
www.ssoci.org

Senior Transport provides transportation to participants age 60 or older living in Sangamon County. Vans are wheelchair accessible. A Personal Information Form (PIF) must be completed before service is provided. This service is offered on a weekly basis and covers the entire county. Reservations are required. Service hours are Mon.-Fri. 7:30am-4pm.

Complimentary Hotel Shuttles
The following hotels offer complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport; bus and train stations. For accessible transportation, advance notice is required.

Staybridge Suites—217-793-6700
Hampton Inn & Suites—217-793-7670
Crowne Plaza Springfield—217-529-7777
Ramada Ltd. North—217-523-4000
Northfield Inn—217-523-9700
President Abraham Lincoln Hotel—217-544-8800
Hilton Springfield—217-789-1530

In-Town Transportation
Springfield Mass Transit District
217-522-5531 V/TTY
www.smtd.org

The SMTD provides public bus transportation on 13 fixed routes during the day and 3 fixed routes at night. Most buses are lift-equipped or have ramps. All routes are accessible, but some trips may not be. For riders’ convenience, these are clearly identified on SMTD schedules, available online. All trips at night and on the Historic Sites route are accessible. Day Service is available Mon.-Sat. 6:15am-5:45pm; Night Service, Mon.-Fri. 6:45-11:45pm. There is no service on Sundays and major holidays. The cash fare is the same as for other SMTD routes.

SMTD Historic Sites Bus Route
The Historic Sites route serves the main tourist sites as well as the downtown hotels. A brochure with a map and schedule may be downloaded or picked up at Visitor Centers. Day Tickets, available from the driver, allow riders to reboard as frequently as they like and are good on all SMTD routes. All service is wheelchair accessible. Buses run every half hour Mon.-Sat. from 8:15am-5:45pm. There is no service on Sundays and major holidays. The cash fare is the same as for other SMTD routes.

Springfield Trolley Tours
217-528-4100
The accessible trolley runs daily from April through Nov. with stops at 9 historic sites. See “Tours” for details.

Inter-City Transportation
Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport
1200 Capital Airport (J. David Jones Pkwy.)
217-788-9200
www.flySPI.com

Capital Airport is a small, convenient facility just minutes from downtown. Daily nonstop jet service to Chicago O’Hare, a one hour flight, is available from American Eagle and United Express. Direct Air also has flights to warm weather destinations. Parking and wireless Internet service are free.

Greyhound Bus Terminal
2351 S. Dirksen Pkwy, (Reilly Dr.)
217-544-8466
Greyhound: 800-231-2222, 800-345-3109 TTY
Access Greyhound: 800-752-4841, 800-345-3109 TTY
www.greyhound.com/travel_information/disabilities.shtml

The Greyhound Bus Terminal is a one-level, modern facility located across from the IL Department of Transportation in southeast Springfield. Service from Chicago takes 4-1/2 to 5 hours; from St. Louis, less than 2 hours. Contact Access Greyhound or go online for details on their services and discounts. For lift-equipped bus service, 48-hour advance notice is required.

Amtrak Station
100 E. 3rd St. (Washington)
217-755-2013
800-872-7245, 800-523-6590 TTY
www.amtrak.com

Springfield’s Amtrak station is just west of the Old State Capitol. Travel time is approximately 3-1/2 hours from Chicago and 2 hours from St. Louis. Even on unreserved trains, persons using wheelchairs must reserve a wheelchair space or transfer seat. Boarding is by manual chair lift, arranged either by calling ahead or arriving early. Disability accommodations and discounts are available only by phone or in person.

Airports
Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport
1200 Capital Airport (J. David Jones Pkwy.)
217-788-9200
www.flySPI.com

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The terminal has accessible parking, level entrance and level access to bus platforms. Accessible amenities include restrooms, drinking fountain, pay phone, vending machines and lockers. Greyhound provides escort service on request for persons with vision loss. Print schedules and a volume control phone are available but no TTY. The nearest service animal relief area is on the west side of the building.

Amtrak Station
100 E. 3rd St. (Washington)
217-753-2013
800-872-7245, 800-523-6590 TTY
www.amtrak.com

Springfield’s Amtrak station is just west of the Old State Capitol. Travel time is approximately 3-1/2 hours from Chicago and 2 hours from St. Louis. Even on unreserved trains, persons using wheelchairs must reserve a wheelchair space or transfer seat. Boarding is by manual chair lift, arranged either by calling ahead or arriving early. Disability accommodations and discounts are available only by phone or in person.

Airport Shuttles
Airports offer ground transportation for passengers using wheelchairs.

Complimentary Hotel Shuttles
The following hotels offer complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport; bus and train stations. For accessible transportation, advance notice is required.

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President Abraham Lincoln Hotel—217-544-8800
Hilton Springfield—217-789-1530
TRANSPORTATION

\[\text{Map graphic: courtesy of SCVB}\]

**Sites & Attractions**

1. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
2. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum
3. Capitol Complex Visitors Center
4. Dana-Thomas House
5. Elijah Iles House: Springfield’s History Museum
6. Executive Mansion
7. Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Museum
8. Illinois State Capitol
9. Illinois State Library
10. Illinois State Museum
11. Korean War National Museum & Gift Shop
12. Lincoln Depot (Great Western)
13. Lincoln Family Pew
14. Lincoln-Herndon Law Office
15. Lincoln Home National Historic Site
16. Lincoln Home Visitor Center
17. Lincoln Ledger
18. National Museum of Surveying
19. Old State Capitol
20. Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau
21. Union Square Park
22. Union Station Visitor Center
23. Vachel Lindsay Home

**Restaurants**

1. Augie’s Front Burner
2. Bennigan’s Grill & Tavern
3. Bento’s
4. Café Andiamo!
5. Café Brio
6. Café Moxo
7. Caitie Girls
8. Capitol Square Grill (Howlett Bldg.)
10. Chuck Wagon
11. Cold Stone Creamery
12. Del’s Popcorn
13. Feed Store
14. First Street Café
15. Food Mart
16. Gallina’s
17. Garden of Eatin’
18. Head West Sub Stop
19. Holy Land Diner
20. Jimmy John’s
21. Lindsay’s Gallery
22. Maid Rite Sandwich Shop
23. Mal daner’s
24. Maya
25. Pease’s Candy
26. Quizno’s Subs
27. Robbins
28. Sammy’s Sports Bar & Grill
29. Saputo’s
30. Sebastian’s Hide-Out
31. Starbucks
32. Subway
33. The Alamo
34. The Highland Room
35. The New Coney Island
36. The Pizza Machine Co.
37. Trout Lily Café
38. Two Olives Cantina
39. Z Bistro

**Public Parking Garages & Lots**

- 4th & Capitol
- 4th & Monroe
- 4th & Washington
- 6th & Capitol
- 6th & Madison
- 6th St. between Washington & Adams (underground)
- 7th & Capitol (under public library)
- 7th St. between Edwards & Capitol
- 7th & Monroe
- 7th & Washington

**Hotels-Motels-B&Bs**

- Hilton Springfield
- President Abraham Lincoln Hotel & Conf. Center
- The Henry Mischler House
- The Statehouse Inn, A Clarion Collection Hotel
- Pasfield House Inn
- Mansion View Inn & Suites
- The President Abraham Lincoln Hotel & Conf. Center
- The Henry Mischler House
- The Statehouse Inn, A Clarion Collection Hotel
Visitor Centers

Few destinations are as well endowed with Visitor Centers as Springfield. While some are linked to one specific site and others promote tourism statewide, all can answer questions on area attractions, restaurants, hotels, events, public transportation or the location of the nearest pharmacy. They are also great places to just take a break, use the accessible restroom, eat a picnic lunch or cool off in the air conditioning.

Capitol Complex Visitors Center
425 S. College St.
217-524-6620

Lincoln’s New Salem Visitors Center
20 miles NW of Springfield on Rt. 97
217-632-4000

Springfield Illinois Convention & Visitors Bureau
109 N. 7th St.
217-789-2360, 800-545-7300

Union Station Visitors Center
500 E. Madison St.
217-557-4588

Insider Tips

Street Numbering System
Springfield’s numbered streets, which run north-south, begin at the longitude of the State Capitol and extend to 32nd Street on the far east side of the city. Street numbers start at State and Madison downtown. State Street divides east and west addresses and Madison Street divides north and south addresses. Even-numbered addresses are on the west and north sides of the streets and odd-numbered addresses on the south and east sides.

Downtown Parking Meters
In downtown Springfield, parking meters are free after 8pm and on weekends. Of course, those with disability parking permits may always park free except at meters limited to 30 minutes or less. Watch out also for day/hour sign restrictions.

Capital City Festivals
Chicago may be world famous for its music and culinary festivals, but the Illinois State Capitol also knows how to put on a show. Annual events include the Springfield Highland Games & Celtic Festival, Old Capitol Art Fair, SOHO Music Festival, International Carillon Festival, Capital City Celebration, Taste of Downtown, Old Capitol Blues & BBQ and International Route 66 Mother Road Festival. Of course, the biggest festival of all is the Illinois State Fair, held for 10 days each August. For a complete listing of area events, go to www.visit-springfieldillinois.com.

Springfield’s New Attractions
Topping the list of new, exciting attractions is Southwind Park; set to open in summer 2010. See “Family Fun” for details. Also opening in 2010 is the National Museum of Surveying, located at 521 E. Washington St. The Korean War National Museum has already opened its Dennis J. Healy Freedom Center at 9 Old State Capitol Plaza. The exhibits here will eventually move to the permanent museum at 5th and Madison.

Downtown Springfield, Inc.
This not-for-profit organization is dedicated to preserving, promoting and enhancing Springfield’s historic central business district. Its website lists upcoming events, many of which are sponsored by DSI itself such as the Downtown Springfield Art Walk, Old Capitol Farmers’ Market and Old Capitol Blues and BBQ. There are also convenient listings for downtown shops and restaurants at www.downtownspringfield.org.

There’s A Horseshoe on My Plate!
First-time diners in Springfield may notice a strange item on the menu, the Horseshoe. This lethal culinary wonder consists of sourdough toast topped with meat (ham, hamburger, steak, chicken or pork), then covered with a mound of French fries and topped off with a cheese sauce. A smaller version is called a Ponyshoe; a whopping one, a Clydesdale.

Best Place to Meet the Locals
The Old Capitol Farmers’ Market takes place every Wed. and Sat. morning, 8am to 12:30pm, from mid-May through Oct. Located on E. Adams between 3rd and 5th Streets, the market features fresh produce, baked goods, cheeses and other specialty items. It’s a lively scene, with local artisans, live music and chef demonstrations. Even if you’re staying in a hotel and can’t cook, this is a great place to buy gifts to take home such as handmade soaps and craft items. It’s also the best place to meet the locals and find out where they like to eat.

Free Local Newspaper
A quick and easy way to discover what’s happening in Springfield is to check out the Illinois Times, a free weekly newspaper distributed on stands around town. It has movie listings, a calendar of events, ads for restaurant specials and store sales, as well as news of local interest. You can pick up a copy just outside the Springfield Illinois CVB. The paper is also online at www.illinoistimes.com/Springfield.

History Link Cell Phone Tour
Too busy to take a guided tour? Thanks to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, you can now use your cell phone to get information on a number of historic sites around Springfield such as Union Station, Old State Capitol, Lincoln Depot and Illinois State House. Just dial 217-213-3003 and follow the prompts. The only charge is for cell phone usage.

Accessible Churches and Synagogues
A group of local churches and synagogues has prepared a brochure listing 11 wheelchair accessible houses of worship in the downtown area. Included are details on access features such as assistive listening systems, large print bulletins and adapted restrooms. The brochure entitled “Downtown Springfield Churches and Synagogues” is available from the Springfield Illinois CVB.
**Visitors Information**

**Tours**

**Guided Tours**

**Springfield Trolley Tours**
217-528-4100

The trolley, which runs daily from April through November, offers a convenient way to get from site to site and an informative, narrative tour. Stops include Lincoln Home Visitors Center, Dana-Thomas House, Illinois State Museum, Capitol Complex Visitors Center, Illinois State Capitol, and Tinsley Dry Goods. Both All Day and Circle Tour fares (no reboarding) are available.

**Springfield Walks**
217-502-8687 or 217-525-1825 (Tinsley)
www.springfieldwalks.com

From March through October, Springfield Walks offers a variety of entertaining and educational walking tours in downtown Springfield. Current offerings include “Lincoln’s Ghost Walk,” “Weird, True and Scandalous” and “Springfield’s Haunted Dead Walk.” The last is not wheelchair accessible. Tours take place Tuesdays to Sat. at 7, 7:30 or 8 pm. Days, times and prices vary. Tickets are sold and tours begin at Tinsley Dry Goods, 209 S. 6th St.

**Pied Piper Downtown Architectural Walking Tour**
217-554-1723
www.downtownspringfield.org/tours.htm


**Springfield Race Riot of 1908**
www.visitspringfieldillinois.com/Visitor

The story of the Race Riot of 1908, which resulted in the lynching of two African-American residents and the destruction of many black and Jewish businesses, is told through a self-guided, eight-marker tour beginning at Seventh & Jefferson. The brochure is also available at Visitor Centers. Groups of 15 or more may prefer to book a more in-depth guided tour from Springfield Walks.

**Self-Guided Tours**

**Downtown Springfield Art Walk**
217-544-1723
www.downtownspringfield.org/artwalk.htm

Art Walk, which takes place from 5-8 pm on select evenings from April to October, features shopping, dining, artwork and free entertainment. A tour map can be downloaded or picked up at a participating venue.

**Illinois State Capitol Sculptures—A Walking Tour**
www.sos.state.il.us/publications/pdf_publications/walking_capitol_tour.pdf

Visitors to the Statehouse should take time to see the wonderful sculptures dotted throughout the complex. Tour highlights include statues of Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King and Stephen A. Douglas as well as memorials to Illinois Workers, Fire Fighters and Police. The brochure is also available at Visitor Centers.

**Looking For Lincoln Walking Tour**
www.visitspringfieldillinois.com/Visitor

Over 30 outdoor interpretive exhibits placed throughout the downtown area allow visitors to experience Springfield as Abraham Lincoln knew it. Some exhibits include life-sized bronze figures. A map of the “Here I Have Lived” exhibits is available on the Springfield CVB website.

**Family Travel**

Springfield is a great family destination—affordable, welcoming and jam-packed with things to see and do that appeal to all ages and accommodate all abilities. Kids love the Lincoln story and openly enjoy the Lincoln Home and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum with its colorful exhibits, lifelike figures, and amazing holographs. And it’s hard to beat a stroll through the rustic village of New Salem where costumed guides have fascinating stories to tell from Lincoln’s early years.

The Illinois State Museum’s natural history exhibits offer hands-on learning, while the museum’s fine art displays please adults as well. The city has several amusement parks and arcades including the indoor Kicks Family Entertainment Center and Knight’s Action Park/Caribbean Water Adventure, the perfect place to cool off on a hot summer day.

Many city parks have accessible playground equipment, and all city pools, indoor and outdoor, have lifts. Opening in 2010 is Southwind Park, a universally accessible, year-round recreational facility. Lake Springfield offers a whole other world of outdoor recreation, from boating, fishing and picnicking to hiking and nature discovery. Located here are 8 city-owned parks as well as the Henson Robinson Zoo, Springfield Municipal Opera, Lincoln Memorial Gardens and Lake Springfield Marina.

Route 66, which runs right through Springfield, offers such nostalgic attractions as the Cozy Dog Drive-in and Shaw's Gas Station Museum. In September a free downtown event, the International Route 66 Mother Road Festival & Car Show, features a parade of vintage cars and lots of food and entertainment. Of course, the biggest family event is the Illinois State Fair, held every August. Other seasonal events at the Fairgrounds include the Midwest Chance Horse Show and the Springfield Mile Motorcycle Races.

Springfield’s affordability helps make it a great family destination. Some of the most accessible lodgings, like the Microtel Inn, are also the least expensive. Springfield also has good restaurants in every price range. For a list of those where kids eat free, see the Springfield Moms website. Many historic sites are either free or ask a modest donation. Even the paid attractions charge small town prices, so outdoor theatre at The Muni or a night of baseball with the Springfield Sliders won’t break the bank. The hardest part—not being able to enjoy all that Springfield has to offer in just one visit!

**Resources**

**Springfield Moms**
www.springfieldmoms.org

Springfield Moms is an extensive online resource network for families with kids of all ages. Their Resources A-Z index includes a section for Children with Special Needs. The site also has an Events Calendar, Take Out and Delivery Restaurant Guide, and list of Restaurants Where Kids Eat Free.

**Sittercity**
888-748-2489
www.sittercity.com

Sittercity is an online babysitter resource serving many cities including Springfield. They have local sitters experienced in caring for children with disabilities and elder care.
**Telephone Relay Service**  
Dial 711 throughout the United States to reach all Telecommunications Relay Services. There is no service fee, only applicable charges for long distance.

**Sign Language Interpreters & Captioning**  
Illinois Court Reporters Association  
800-656-2467  
www.icra.org/cart.htm  
Statewide directory of professional members who provide CART (Communication Access Realtime Translation).

Illinois Deaf & Hard of Hearing Commission  
217-557-4495, 877-455-3323 V/TTY  
www.idhhc.state.il.us  
Online directory of sign language interpreters.

Jacksonville Community Center for the Deaf  
217-245-0429 V/TTY, 800-468-9211 V/TTY  
www.jccdeaf.org  
Referrals for sign language interpreters in Springfield area.

**Hearing Aids Sales & Repair**  
Central Illinois Hearing, Ltd.  
2534 Farragut Dr. (W. Lawrence)  
217-726-6101 V/TTY  
www.centralillinoishearing.com

J.B. Sherry Hearing Aids  
2330 S. MacArthur Blvd. (Outer Park Dr.)  
217-744-1888

Springfield Clinic Audiology  
1025 S. Sixth St. (Clay)  
217-528-7541, 800-444-7541

**Dialysis Clinics**  
DaVita Springfield Central  
932 N. Rutledge St. (Dodge)  
800-424-6589  
www.davita.com

Memorial Medical Center Dialysis  
701 N. First St. (Miller)  
217-788-3000  
www.memorialmedical.com

RAI Centre West Springfield  
1112 Centre West Dr. (W. Monroe)  
217-787-3310  
www.renaladvantage.com

**Medical Supplies and Oxygen**  
Apria Healthcare  
775 E. Linton Ave. (Baker Dr.)  
217-788-0461  
www.apria.com

Hook’s Oxygen & Medical Equipment  
3108 Great Northern Ave.  
3031 S. Dirksen Pkwy.  
217-726-8546  
www.rotech.com

**Medical Home Services**  
644 N. Second St. (Miller)  
217-788-4663  
www.medicalhomeservices.com/Products  
Also Wheelchair/Scooter Sales and Rental.

Vono Medical Supplies  
400 N. First St. (Mason)  
217-522-2403, 800-559-3211  
www.vono.com  
Also Wheelchair/Scooter Sales and Rental.

**Veterinarians**  
Animal Emergency Clinic of Springfield  
1333 Wabash Ave. (Jerome)  
217-698-0870  
6pm-8am, 24 hour on weekends and holidays. After Hour Emergencies only (covers all Springfield veterinarians).

Capitol Illini Veterinary Services Ltd.  
1711 Wabash Ave. (Chatham Rd.)  
217-546-1541

**Services**  
Coble Animal Hospital  
2828 S. MacArthur Blvd. (North)  
217-789-4200

Laketown Animal Hospital  
1115 Stevenson Dr. (S. 12th St.)  
217-529-4211

**Urgent Care/Walk-In Clinics**  
Springfield Clinic Prompt Care  
217-528-7541, 800-444-7541  
www.springfieldclinic.com

Prompt Care Main  
1025 S. Sixth St. (Clay)

Prompt Care West  
2200 Wabash Ave. (Montvale)

Springfield Priority Care  
1836 S. MacArthur Blvd. (Ash)  
217-789-1403

**Personal & Respite Care**  
Comfort Keepers  
217-744-2226  
www.comfortkeepers.com  
Personal and respite care, 2-hour minimum shift.

Interim Health Care  
217-793-3650  
www.interimhealthcare.com  
Personal and respite care, skilled nursing. 3-hour minimum shift.

Joyful Nursing  
217-793-9080  
www.joyfulenterprises.com  
1-24 hour care and skilled nursing for all ages.

**24-Hour Pharmacies**  
CVS  
888-607-4287  
211 E. Carpenter St., 217-528-6411  
www.cvs.com

Walgreens  
800-925-4733  
2020 S. MacArthur Blvd., 217-744-1880  
2305 W. Monroe St., 217-546-9558  
www.walgreens.com

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Capitol Illini Veterinary Services Ltd.  
1711 Wabash Ave. (Chatham Rd.)  
217-546-1541

**Lift Repairs & Vehicle Modifications**  
Drake-Scruggs Equipment  
2000 S. Dirksen Pkwy. (Rochester Rd.)  
217-533-3871  
www.drake-scruggs.com

United Access  
2924 N. Dirksen Pkwy. (Mayden Rd.)  
217-544-2699, 866-727-1010  
www.unitedaccess.com  
Also rents wheelchair vans.

**Wheelchair/Scooter Sales, Rental & Repair**  
Personal Mobility  
2924 N. Dirksen Pkwy. (Mayden Rd.)  
217-241-1548, 877-279-8492  
www.personalmobilityinc.com

The Scooter Store  
2122 North Grand Ave. E. (Water)  
217-789-3904, 866-251-9885  
www.thescooterstore.com

**Hospitals**  
Memorial Medical Center  
701 N. First St. (Miller)  
217-788-3000

St. Johns Hospital  
800 E. Carpenter St. (N. 8th St.)  
217-544-6464

**24-Hour Pharmacies**  
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211 E. Carpenter St., 217-528-6411  
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Capitol Illini Veterinary Services Ltd.  
1711 Wabash Ave. (Chatham Rd.)  
217-546-1541
Resources

ADA Compliance Coordinator
Marilyn Selby, Office of Community Relations
217-789-2270, 217-789-2269 TTY
www.springfield.il.us

Dept. of Human Services
217-557-1601, 217-557-2134 TTY
800-843-6154, 800-447-6404 TTY
www.dhs.state.il.us

IL Assistive Technology Program
1 W. Old State Capitol Pl., Ste. 100 (Washington)
217-522-7985 V, 217-522-9866TTY
800-852-5100 V/TTY, IL only
www.illtech.org

Equipment for Equality
217-544-0464, 800-758-0464, 800-610-2779 TTY
www.equiforequality.org

IL Deaf & Hard of Hearing Commission
217-557-4495 V/TTY
877-455-3323 V/TTY
www.idhhc.state.il.us

IL Telecommunications Access Corp.
800-841-6167, 800-841-1055 TTY
www.itacctty.org

American Lung Association
217-787-5864, 800-548-8252
www.lungusa.org

Epilepsy Resource Center
217-726-1839
www.spfidsparc.org

National MS Society—Greater IL
217-523-4588, 800-344-4867
www.nationalmsso.org

Muscular Dystrophy Association
217-351-1853 (Champaign, IL)
www.mda.org

Sparc—Springfield Arc of IL
217-793-2100
www.spfidsparc.org

The Autism Program of IL
217-525-8332
www.theautismprogram.org

United Cerebral Palsy of Land of Lincoln
217-525-6522
www.ucplil.org

Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities in IL
217-522-7016 V/TTY, 800-433-8848 V/TTY
www.ccidlin.org

Area Agency on Aging for Lincolnland
217-789-2270, 217-789-2269 TTY
www.aginglinc.org

IL Network of Centers for Independent Living
317-525-1308 V/TTY, 800-587-1227 V/TTY
www.incl.org

Senior Services of Central IL
217-528-4035
www.ssoci.org

Alzheimer’s Association—Greater IL
217-726-5184, 24/7 Helpline: 800-272-3900
www.alz.org/illinois

Photo: Courtesy of SCIL

Travel Tips

Air Travel

• Before you fly, learn your rights under the Air Carriers Access Act which now applies also to foreign carriers serving the US. “New Horizons: Information for the Air Traveler with A Disability” is available online (www.airconsumer.ost.dot.gov/pubs.htm) or call the Dept. of Transportation Hotline (see below).

• Make your reservation and special service requests as far in advance as possible. Specify what you need such as an escort or wheelchair assist, boarding chair, onboard aisle chair or aisle seat with moveable armrest. Whenever possible, book a non-stop flight. At large airports, allow extra time for connections.

• If you are deaf or hard of hearing, self-identify to the airline and gate agents so you don’t miss important announcements. Some airlines will call or text flight or gate changes.

• Many types of oxygen concentrators are now approved for use in flight. For details, see Advanced Aeromedical (www.aeromedic.com).

• To help minimize damage to power chairs and scooters, attach a laminated set of instructions to power chairs. To minimize damage to both the power chair and scooter, attach a laminated set of instructions on assembly/disassembly. Arrive early and take on board anything not firmly attached. On request, one folding manual wheelchair may be stowed in the cabin closet.

• The airline limit of one carry-on and one personal item does not apply to medical supplies and equipment, mobility aids and assistive devices. These are also exempt from checked baggage restrictions and charges.

• The Transportation Security Administration has specific guidelines for passengers with disabilities or medical concerns (866-289-9673, www.tsa.gov). If necessary, ask for a supervisor.

• If a disability-related problem arises, ask for the airline’s Complaints Resolution Official (CRO). If it is not satisfied, call the DOT Hotline at 800-778-4838 or 800-455-9880 TTY.

Motor Coach Tours and Travel

• Under ADA regulations for Over-The-Road Buses, all fixed route and charter service companies must, with 48-hour advance notice, provide lift-equipped service. This obligation holds whether or not the company owns their own accessible vehicles.

• If you have a disability or medical condition, the transportation service company must provide that service and make reasonable accommodations. If you need a wheelchair, lift, ramp, or alternative means to access a bus, contact the company as far in advance as possible. Specify what you need such as an escort or wheelchair assist, boarding chair, onboard aisle chair or aisle seat with moveable armrest. Whenever possible, book a non-stop flight. At large airports, allow extra time for connections.

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Lodging

• To reserve an accessible room, call the property directly. Confirm that they will “block” the room. If not available on arrival, let the manager know that it is their responsibility to find you accessible accommodation at the same price.

• If reservations or front desk staff cannot answer specific questions about accessibility, ask to speak to either the head of engineering or housekeeping.

• Notify the hotel in advance if you need basic adaptive equipment such as a shower bench or ADA kit with visual alerting devices so they can reserve or acquire the items.

• Properties that offer free shuttle service must provide alternate accessible transportation at no charge. Several days advance notice may be required.

• Hotels.com and Expedia.com now provide basic access information for all properties. Once a reservation is made, staff will contact the hotel directly and confirm the booking within 48 hours or try to locate an equivalent hotel with the desired access feature.

• For additional Tips and Resources, go to www.easyaccessspringfield.org.
Creating Accessibility in Travel & Hospitality

Open Doors Organization is a non-profit dedicated to creating equal opportunity for people with disabilities as consumers. Through research, training, media outreach and community programs, we work to raise awareness while helping to bring about a more inclusive society.

Everyone deserves a vacation, and our Easy Access guides are designed to make trip planning easy for travelers with disabilities of all ages and their friends and families. We hope you enjoy this guide and come to explore Springfield, Illinois—a great, accessible destination!

Copies of Easy Access Springfield and Easy Access Chicago may be ordered from the Illinois Office of Tourism: www.enjoyillinois.com, (800) 226-6632 or 785-6055 TTY.

Open Doors Organization
2551 N. Clark St., Suite 301
Chicago, IL 60614
773-388-8839
www.opendoorsnfp.org

Easy Access Springfield is also online!
www.easyaccessspringfield.org

ILLINOIS. MILE AFTER MAGNIFICENT MILE.