

## Chicago – June 24-28, 2010

### Useful information

- Sales Tax is 9%. Doubling the tax works well tip-wise
- Madison Street divides the city north/south and State Street divides the city east/west

### Websites:

[www.explorechicago.org](http://www.explorechicago.org)

### Tours:

- [Chicago Greeter](#)  
77 E. Randolph St., Chicago, IL 60602, 877.244.2246
  - Free Admission
  - Explore Chicago with a friendly, knowledgeable Chicago Greeter as your guide! Visitors can register for a free 2-4 hour guided walking tour of a neighborhood or special local interest of their choice.
- [Chicago River Architecture Tour](#)  
Wrigley Building, 400 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60616, 312.337.1446
  - \$25 Adult Admission
  - Enjoy a 75-minute journey through the heart of the city by boat. Led by an architectural expert, this in-depth tour traces the history, innovations and visionaries that created the finest examples of urban architecture in the world.
- [Chicago Trolley & Double Decker Hop-On / Hop Off Tour](#)  
Address Varies, Chicago, IL 60601, 773.648.5000
  - \$29 Adult Admission; online price \$26
  - Buy online and save 10%; online tickets must be purchased 24 hours in advance.
  - Four tours for the price of one from May 23 - Sept 7
  - Receive special offers including a FREE Chicago t-shirt, Hershey's chocolate bar, Garrett's popcorn sample and much more.
  - With your Hop on Hop off ticket, you will enjoy a two hour, fully narrated tour that covers 13 magnificent miles of Chicago's downtown and the Loop.
- [Chicago at Sunset Tour](#)  
Wrigley Building, 400 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60616, 312.337.1446
  - \$26 Adult Admission
  - Experience what has been called the world's most beautiful skyline with Wendella Boat's 'Chicago at Sunset Tour', offered summer evenings at 7:45 pm. For two hours, you'll be treated to views of Chicago's signature skyline from the unique vantage point of Lake Michigan as the setting sun gives way to the city's nightly show.

## Attractions:

- [Millennium Park](#)  
201 E. Randolph St., Chicago, IL 60602, 312.742.1168
  - Free Admission
  - Millennium Park is an award-winning center for art, music, architecture and landscape design. The result of a unique partnership between the City of Chicago and the philanthropic community, the 24.5-acre park features the work of world-renowned architects, planners, artists and designers.
- [Navy Pier](#)  
600 E. Grand Ave, Chicago, IL 60611, 312.595.PIER
  - Free Admission
  - Navy Pier is the place where all of Chicagoland and tourists from around the world have come since 1995 to enjoy the beauty and the thrills of a day on Lake Michigan. From rides to restaurants, exhibitions to entertainment, shopping to dining cruises and tour boats, Navy Pier has it all - in a location unlike any other!
- [Skydeck Chicago \(formerly Sears Tower Skydeck\)](#)  
233 S. Wacker Dr., Chicago, IL 60606, 312.875.9447
  - See breathtaking views of Chicago from the Western Hemisphere's tallest building. Voted one of the Seven Wonders of Chicago, no trip to Chicago is complete without a visit to Skydeck Chicago. Make it your first stop for a 360-degree view of Chicago from 103 floors above the Loop that you can't get anywhere else.
  - Hours:  
Open every day including weekends and ALL holidays  
April - September, 9 am - 10 pm  
Last entry 30 minutes prior to closing
  - Admission only: Adults \$15.95
  - Admission with Audio Tour: Adults \$21.45
  - Admission includes The Ledge

## Shopping:

- **Magnificent Mile**
  - A Chicago shopping spree must include a visit to the famed "[Magnificent Mile](#)" along Michigan Avenue from the Chicago River to Oak Street. Located on the Mile are department store giants **Neiman Marcus**, **Saks Fifth Avenue**, **Nordstrom** and **Bloomingdale's** alongside hundreds of specialty shops and boutiques such as **Crate & Barrel**, the **Apple Store**, the **Disney Store**, **American Girl Place**, **Niketown**, **Tiffany & Co.** and **Ralph Lauren**.
- **Oak Street**
  - On nearby Oak Street, apparel from Paris, Milan, Chicago and New York resides comfortably within Chicago's chic **Gold Coast** neighborhood. The result is an international street lined with intimate buildings and shops whose employees are dedicated to personal service. **Prada**, **Kate Spade**, **Nicole Miller** and **Tory Burch** are just a few of the boutiques that line Oak Street.
- **State Street**
  - Chicago shopping began on State Street, often called "That Great Street," in the heart of the Loop. One of the city's first major retail outlets, the flagship **Marshall Field's State Street store** (now **Macy's**) has been a Chicago icon and world-class shopping destination for more than 150 years. The store is an architectural and historical marvel, offering ten selling floors of premier ready-to-wear clothes, collections by Chicago-based designers and the finest home lines.
- **Neighborhood Shopping**
  - **Division Street** and the [Southport Corridor](#) are home to specialty shops that carry the work of independent and Chicago-based designers. In the [Lincoln Park](#) neighborhood, shop along Lincoln Avenue, Clark Street, Armitage Avenue or Halsted Street, or venture further north to the **Lakeview** neighborhood (along Clark Street, Belmont Avenue or Broadway) for a wide variety of shopping alternatives. In recent years, cutting-edge national stores like **Anthropologie**, **Marc Jacobs** and **Cynthia Rowley** have opened shops in these neighborhoods.

## Special Events:

- [Taste of Chicago](#)  
Michigan Ave. & Congress Dr., Jun 25, 2010 - Jul 4, 2010, 312.744.3315
  - Free Admission
  - Chicago's tremendous array of culinary delights are located in one place at the ten-day lakefront festival where food choices range from ethnic to exotic to Chicago specialties. Also includes six stages of free entertainment including international headliners at the Petrillo Music Shell.

## Places to Eat:

- Pizza
  - [Edwardo's](#), [Gino's East](#), [Giordano's](#), [Leona's](#), [Home Run Inn](#), [Lou Malnati's](#). [Pizzeria Uno](#),
- Hot Dogs
  - [Superdawg](#), (6363 N. Milwaukee Ave.); [Wiener's Circle](#) (2622 N. Clark St.); and [Hot Doug's](#), (3324 N. California Ave.)
- Ethnic Foods
  - [Chinatown](#) is just five minutes south of downtown on the CTA Red Line.
  - [Greektown](#) is a 15-minute walk west of the Loop.
  - [18th Street](#), the heart of the [Pilsen](#) neighborhood, is lined with high-quality Mexican restaurants.
  - Along [Devon Avenue](#) in [Rogers Park](#), you'll find Jewish delis and some of the best Middle Eastern and Indian restaurants in town.
  - Great Italian restaurants are all over the city, but some of the biggest concentrations are near the UIC campus along [Taylor Street](#) in [Little Italy](#) and on [Oakley Avenue](#) near Cermak Road in [Little Village](#). [Gene & Georgetti's Restaurant](#), 500 North Franklin Street, 312.527.3718
  - Polish restaurants abound along Milwaukee Avenue in the [Logan Square](#) and [Jefferson Park](#) neighborhoods.
  - Excellent soul food is available at South Side restaurants such as Army & Lou's, 422 E. 75th St. in [Chatham](#), and West Side restaurants such as Edna's, 3175 W. Madison St., in [Garfield Park](#).
- Neighborhood Dining
  - Of course, not all neighborhood restaurants feature ethnic food. Many of them offer outstanding "American contemporary" fare that receives high marks from the city's hard-to-please reviewers. You can easily run up a \$100 tab for two at places like [Sola](#), (3868 N. Lincoln Ave.), in [Lincoln Square](#), and [Spring](#), (2039 W. North Ave.), in [Bucktown](#), and it's well worth it.
- Bars and Clubs
  - [Wrigleyville](#), near Clark and Addison streets, is full of sports bars, along with some funky lounges and clubs.
  - [Bucktown](#) and [Wicker Park](#) attract a chic younger crowd who keep up with current trends in music, cocktails and fashion.
  - [Roscoe Village](#) has a lively party scene, as well.
  - And if you're just looking for a comfortable place to have a beer, a sandwich and some conversation – there are great places all over Chicago, from the [Hopleaf Bar](#) (5148 N. Clark St.) in [Andersonville](#) to [Chief O'Neill's Pub](#) (3471 N. Elston Ave.) in Avondale to [Cork & Kerry](#) (10614 S. Western Ave.) in [Beverly](#).
  - Other bars with great beer lists include:
    - [Kuma's Corner](#) (2900 W. Belmont Ave.) in Avondale
    - [Map Room](#) (1949 N. Hoyne Ave.) in Bucktown
    - [Cooper's](#) (1232 W. Belmont Ave.) in Lakeview
    - [Mitchell's Tap](#) (3356 S. Halsted St.) In Bridgeport