

## Some interesting things to do in Chicago

### Links to sites with advice:



Visit Tripadvisor list of highest rated things to do in Chicago at:

[https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g35805-Activities-Chicago\\_Illinois.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g35805-Activities-Chicago_Illinois.html)



An official Chicago-run attractions page with many options and links to the best sites:

<https://www.choosechicago.com/>

### Some of the main attractions:

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#### **Navy Pier**

Navy Pier is a 3,300-foot-long (1,010 m) pier on the Chicago shoreline of Lake Michigan. It is located in the Streeterville neighborhood of the Near North Side community area. The Navy Pier currently encompasses more than fifty acres of parks, gardens, shops, restaurants, family attractions and exhibition facilities and is the top leisure destination in the Midwestern United States ("Midwest"), drawing nearly nine million visitors annually. It is one of the most visited attractions in the entire Midwest and is Chicago's number one tourist attraction.

Here is a nice overview of Navy Pier with a map: <https://www.chicagotraveler.com/attraction-maps/navy-pier-map.html>

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#### **The Art Institute of Chicago**

The Art Institute of Chicago, founded in 1879 and located in Chicago's Grant Park, is one of the oldest and largest art museums in the United States.

The official site is here: <http://www.artic.edu/>

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#### **360 Chicago Observation Deck**

Soaring 1,000 feet over Michigan Avenue, 360 CHICAGO is one of the city's most unique attractions. Located on the 94th floor of the John Hancock Center, 360 CHICAGO (formerly John Hancock Observatory) offers breathtaking views of Chicago's skyline, the lakefront and four neighboring states. It's also the only place you can enjoy TILT – Chicago's highest thrill ride. This one-of-a-kind marvel tilts guests off the side of the building and provides the most thrilling views of Chicago. Come to 360 Chicago for the best views all around.

The official web site is here: <http://www.360chicago.com/>

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#### **Millennium Park**

Three square blocks of open lakefront complete with a Ferris Wheel, outdoor music pavilion and ice skating rink; has become one of the city's most popular sites. Millennium Park is also home to the famous 'bean' sculpture (Cloud Gate) where selfies are actually appropriate.

More information and current events at Millennium Park can be found here:

[https://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dca/supp\\_info/millennium\\_park.html](https://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dca/supp_info/millennium_park.html)

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### **Skydeck Chicago - Willis Tower**

No trip to Chicago is complete without a visit to the top of the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere and The Ledge at Skydeck Chicago! Treat yourself to a "one stop Chicago" experience on your journey to the 103rd floor. Enjoy 360-degree views spanning up to 50 miles and 4 states and our most spectacular view - 1,353 feet straight down! "Dare to Stand Out" on The Ledge - glass balconies extending 4.3 Feet outside the building provide a thrilling, once in a lifetime experience!

More information can be found here: <http://www.willistower.com/>

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### **Chicago Cultural Center**

The Chicago Cultural Center is the nation's first free municipal cultural center and one of the most visited attractions in Chicago. The stunning landmark building, opened in 1897 as the city's first public library, is home to two magnificent stained-glass domes, and annually presents hundreds of free cultural exhibits and performances. Admission is free.

More information here: <https://www.choosechicago.com/things-to-do/museums-and-arts/chicago-cultural-center/>

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### **Chicago Walking Tour: Interior Architecture of the Loop and Pedway Tour**

Venture inside renowned Chicago landmarks, elegant lobbies, and underground corridors on this 2-hour walking tour. Your expert guide will share insights about interior architectural features of this design-rich city — from mosaic domes to the sprawling Chicago Pedway System — bringing the details of the Windy City into vivid focus. Stop to admire Chase Tower, the Marshall Field and Company Building, the Chicago Cultural Center, and more, including public art by Chagall and Picasso.

More information can be found here: [https://www.tripadvisor.com/AttractionProductDetail-g35805-d11454032-Chicago\\_Walking\\_Tour\\_Interior\\_Architecture\\_of\\_the\\_Loop\\_and\\_Pedway\\_Tour-Chicago\\_Illinois.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/AttractionProductDetail-g35805-d11454032-Chicago_Walking_Tour_Interior_Architecture_of_the_Loop_and_Pedway_Tour-Chicago_Illinois.html)

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### **Chicago Architecture River Cruise (best during nice weather)**

Cruise down the Chicago River to see the city's famous architecture on this 75-minute tour. With commentary from your onboard guide, watch the spectacular skyline glide by, including more than 40 notable buildings like the Aon Center, the Wrigley Building and the John Hancock Building. Cover all three branches of the Chicago River, passing the East Bank Club, the old Post Office Building and the Willis Tower (formerly known as the Sears Tower).

Official site here: <https://www.cruisechicago.com/architecture-tours>

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### **The Magnificent Mile**

Chicago's Magnificent Mile is one of the great avenues of the world and is at the center of all that makes Chicago an international destination. One of the top 10 hospitality, dining and retail destinations in the world, with endless shopping, international cuisine, top rated hotels, lively entertainment, majestic architecture and natural beauty at every turn, The Magnificent Mile offers visitors to Chicago a one-of-a-kind city experience. The Magnificent Mile is the 13-block stretch of North Michigan Avenue that runs from the banks of the Chicago River to the south, to Oak Street to the north. The Magnificent Mile district extends a full square mile from North Michigan Avenue. The Magnificent Mile is a spectacular showcase of style, flavor, entertainment and fun. With more than 460 stores, 275 restaurants, 60 hotels and unique entertainments and attractions packed and stacked along its length, The Magnificent Mile has an indulgence for every passion and every pocket.

Information on TripAdvisor here: [https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction\\_Review-g35805-d109779-Reviews-The\\_Magnificent\\_Mile-Chicago\\_Illinois.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g35805-d109779-Reviews-The_Magnificent_Mile-Chicago_Illinois.html)

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### **The Field Museum**

One of America's premier natural history museums, the Field's "Live over Time" exhibit now houses "Sue," the largest and most complete Tyrannosaurus rex ever discovered.

Official site here: <https://www.fieldmuseum.org/>

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### **Museum of Science and Industry**

The largest science museum in the Western Hemisphere! Housed in the only remaining building from the 1893 World's Fair, MSI is a Chicago must-see. You'll experience 14 acres of hands-on exhibits and have the chance to stand before a 40-foot tornado; climb aboard a World War II German submarine; take a run in a human-sized hamster wheel; descend into an Illinois coal mine; tour a fully functioning eco-friendly home; board a 727 hanging from the ceiling; transmit your pulse to a 13-foot, 3-D beating heart; and much more! MSI is not a place where you walk around quietly and observe. No way! You get involved in the fun—and learn—by doing. Just a few miles from downtown with convenient underground parking.

Official site here: <https://www.msichicago.org/>

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### **American Writers Museum**

Through innovative and dynamic state-of-the-art exhibitions, as well as compelling programming, the American Writers Museum educates, enriches, provokes, and inspires visitors of all ages. Special exhibits FREE with paid admission; Palm: All Awake in the Darkness, inspired by the life and work of the American poet W.S. Merwin, and The Beat Journey: Jack Kerouac's "On the Road" featuring the original manuscript scroll.

Official site here: <http://americanwritersmuseum.org/>

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### **Wrigley Field**

Wrigley Field is the home of the Chicago Cubs, one of the city's two Major League Baseball (MLB) franchises. It first opened in 1914 as Weeghman Park for Charles Weeghman's Chicago Whales of the Federal League, which folded after the 1915 baseball season. The Cubs played their first home game at the park on April 20, 1916. Chewing gum magnate William Wrigley Jr. of the Wrigley Company acquired complete control of the Cubs in 1921. It was named Cubs Park from 1920 to 1926, before being renamed Wrigley Field in 1927.

TripAdvisor information here: [https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction\\_Review-g35805-d104004-Reviews-Wrigley\\_Field-Chicago\\_Illinois.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g35805-d104004-Reviews-Wrigley_Field-Chicago_Illinois.html)

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### **Lincoln Park (best in nice weather)**

Home to the Lincoln Park Zoo, this popular park is also located in a neighborhood called Lincoln Park.

TripAdvisor page here:

[https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction\\_Review-g35805-d132894-Reviews-Lincoln\\_Park-Chicago\\_Illinois.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g35805-d132894-Reviews-Lincoln_Park-Chicago_Illinois.html)

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Overview map of some main attractions:

