

TOUR OF CHICAGO- 4 nights

Thank you for choosing Chicago for a city break! We welcome you to our beautiful city on the shore of Lake Michigan and invite you to discover the unparalleled architecture, shopping, dining, cultural attractions and music scene of this world-class destination.

ITINERARY OVERVIEW



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Day 1: Arrival in Chicago

Day 2: Millennium Park, Art Institute of Chicago, Grant Park, Buckingham Fountain, John Hancock Observatory and Magnificent Mile

Day 3: Museum Campus, Chicago Architecture Foundation River Cruise, Chinatown

Day 4: Oak Park, Frank Lloyd Wright Home & Studio, Chicago Premium Outlets

Day 5: Departure from Chicago

Day 1: Arrival in Chicago

As your aircraft descends into Chicago and you transfer from the airport to your hotel, take in the breathtaking views of this beautiful city on the shores of Lake Michigan and the exciting architecture which sets it apart from every other place in the world. You've already begun your discovery of this sensational world-class city.

Tonight, enjoy a memorable welcome dinner at one of Chicago's celebrated restaurants – many of which offer glittering views of the city at night.

Day 2:

Begin your exploration of Chicago with a walking tour of the city's newest and most popular attraction, Millennium Park. Key elements of this award-winning 9.9 hectare showcase of public art, architecture and landscape include Anish Kapoor's stunning "Cloud Gate" sculpture, Frank Gehry's breathtaking Pritzker Pavilion, Lurie Garden, and the enchanting, interactive Crown Fountain.

In the block south of Millennium Park, The Art Institute of Chicago encompasses more than 5,000 years of human expression from cultures around the world as well as the largest collection of impressionist paintings outside of Paris. Founded in 1879, the Art Institute will open its newest addition – the 24,000 square meter Modern Wing housing renowned Modern and Contemporary masterpieces – in May 2009.

Stroll through Grant Park – the city's grand "front yard" and home to Chicago's many free summer festivals – to famous Buckingham Fountain. This public icon is one of the finest fountains in the nation and the centerpiece of Grant Park.

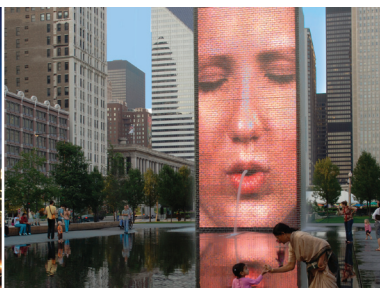
Walk north and up Michigan Avenue to the John Hancock Center, a landmark building known for its pyramid shape and crossed outer beams. From the 94th floor John Hancock Observatory and the open-air Skywalk, you'll enjoy sensational views of the city, lake, and, on clear days, the surrounding states of Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. And the multimedia Sky Tour comes in adults' and kids' versions and in French, German, Japanese, Mandarin, and Spanish.

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Make no little plans.[®]
choose CHICAGO



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City of Chicago/Mark Montgomery



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Take some time to explore Michigan Avenue. The stretch between Oak Street and the Chicago River known as The Magnificent Mile features hundreds of boutiques, shops, entertainment options, and restaurants.

Choose one of the wonderful Magnificent Mile restaurants for dinner this evening.

Day 3:

Chicago's many fine cultural institutions are fascinating places to learn and explore, and three of them are conveniently located on the beautiful Museum Campus just south of Grant Park. Here, on the city's lakefront and just steps apart, you can see the world's largest and most complete T. rex at The Field Museum, the space and sky theaters at Adler Planetarium, and, at Shedd Aquarium, the spectacular Oceanarium which recently completed a major renovation.

Travel north up Michigan Avenue to the Chicago River to board the Chicago Architecture Foundation's Architecture River Cruise. During this 90-minute narrated cruise, you'll enjoy an unmatched look at the city, discover architectural details – ranging from Beaux Arts to Art Deco to Gothic to Modern – of the city's most famous buildings, and hear anecdotes about Chicago history. Don't miss the new Trump International Hotel & Tower, now in the final stages of construction.

Next, head to Chinatown. Chicago's Chinatown, one of the largest of its kind in North America, is the dynamic center of a prosperous Chinese-American community. Visit unique local shops and sample delicious authentic Chinese food in this colorful neighborhood located around Wentworth Avenue.

Spend the evening listening to great blues or jazz in one of Chicago's legendary clubs.

Day 4:

Today's exploration will take you west to the Village of Oak Park. Here you'll see the Frank Lloyd Wright Home & Studio and, in the surrounding neighborhood, beautifully preserved examples of this great American architect's work as you learn about the lasting impact he made on the architectural world. Downtown Oak Park, also known as the birthplace of the celebrated writer Ernest Hemingway, is a great place for a good lunch.

Continue on to suburban Aurora's Chicago Premium Outlets where 120 outlet stores including Brooks Brothers, Calvin Klein, Giorgio Armani, J. Crew, Kate Spade, Kenneth Cole, Lacoste, Nike, Polo Ralph Lauren, Salvatore Ferragamo, Sony, and many others offer impressive savings.

For dinner, try one of Chicago's exciting ethnic restaurants either downtown or in one of the many neighborhoods.

Day 5:

As you leave our city, we thank you again for choosing Chicago and hope to see you soon!