

# **2014 ANNUAL MEETING – HOST COMMITTEE INFORMATION**

**-- THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2014 --**

## **Chicago Symphony Orchestra Outing (Dinner Optional)**

### **Britten**

Four Sea Interludes and Passacaglia from *Peter Grimes*

### **Shostakovich**

Symphony No. 7 (*Leningrad*)

Dinner: Northern Italian style restaurant (about three blocks from the symphony).

Yes, I would like \_\_\_\_\_ Tickets to the Symphony @ \$70 per ticket

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name(s) of guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like \_\_\_\_\_ reservation(s) to the pre-concert dinner @ \$42/dinner including tax and gratuity (does not include alcohol).

**Total : \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*Reservations will be taken on a first come, first serve basis. Maximum of 50 tickets.*

Form of Payment:	<input type="checkbox"/> Check	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa*	<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard*	<input type="checkbox"/> Discover*
Name on Card:	_____			
Card Number:	_____	Expiration:	_____	
Billing Address:	_____			
Authorized Signature:	_____			
*The NAA accepts Visa, MasterCard and Discover <b>ONLY</b> . Please Note: All amounts are processed in U.S. Dollars				

Please mail or fax this form with your payment, in U.S. Funds, to: NAA Operations Center, 1 N Main St, Ste 412, Cortland, NY 13045, Fax: 607-756-8365.

## **Dine – Around**

The Traditional NAA Dine Around provides an opportunity for NAA members and guests to enjoy a small group dinner with old friends and new. Join a small group of your fellow attendees, and sample some of the culinary diversity for which Chicago is renowned! Once again NAA members and guests have selected several interesting Chicago restaurants to feature at this year's **Dine Around**, and have volunteered to head a table. Information about these leaders, the restaurants and their menus, and sign-up sheets will be available at the NAA Host Table next to the Meeting Registration Desk on-site. If you have any questions about this year's Dine-Around please contact, Lisa Kohn, at [arbitrator@ameritech.net](mailto:arbitrator@ameritech.net) or Cary Morgen, at [cm@labor-arb.com](mailto:cm@labor-arb.com).

-- SATURDAY, MAY 24, 2014 --

## **Want to transform stress into usable energy and calm your mind?**

We invite you to experience Qigong; a mind/body exercise form originating in China over 5,000 years ago. Practiced by millions of people around the world, Qigong is considered the ultimate energy workout. By combining gentle stretches, strengthening postures, and flowing movements, Qigong is uniquely suited to relieve stress, boost the immune, respiratory and cardiovascular systems, and increase the body's innate healing potential. We are extremely fortunate to have a certified and accomplished Qigong instructor, April Epstein who will be leading two classes at The Fairmont on Saturday morning, May 24th at 7:45-8:30 and for the Spouse/Companion/Partners not attending program, 10:00-10:45. The class fee is \$20 and pre-registration is required. No experience necessary! Wear comfortable clothing, no mats required. **Each class requires a minimum of 25 participants in order to operate. Reservations will be taken on a first come, first serve basis. If the minimum(s) are not met by May 1, 2014, then the class will be canceled.**

To register, please contact Steven Bieirg at [arb438@comcast.net](mailto:arb438@comcast.net).

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-- ANYTIME --

## **Macy's By Appointment (MBA) 2014 Annual Meeting 111 North State Street, Chicago, IL 60602**

It is a free service and a great way to shop! Call Karl Moss at 312-781-3802 or send an email to [karl.moss@macys.com](mailto:karl.moss@macys.com) requesting a day and time for an appointment with your MBA Personal Shopper. You will discuss your favorite styles, colors, size, etc... You can either walk the floor with your personal shopper or have a private room ready and waiting with pre-selected clothing so all you have to do is have fun trying things on. Don't worry about having things held at different registers. Macy's has private rooms that lock, so all of your items will be safe. When you are finished shopping you will have only one transaction to complete. That way you are not swiping your card a dozen times. There is also free shipping, anywhere in the U.S., available for purchases that total \$50 or more.

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## **More Information...**

Please check the NAA's website ([www.naarb.org](http://www.naarb.org)) for more information, and updates, from the 2014 Annual Meeting Host Committee. They have been hard at work compiling the following information: Local Transit Guide, Visitors Guide, Chicago 101, How to Eat Like a Chicagoan, Where the Chicagoans Eat, Spouse/Companion/Partner activities and more!

## **CHICAGO LOCAL TRANSIT GUIDE FOR 2014 NAA MEETING**

Welcome to Chicago! You will find the Chicago Transit Authority's buses and elevated/subway trains (the "L") to be the quick and convenient way to our city's museums, stadiums, and neighborhoods.

Most attractions are just one bus or train ride from your Fairmont hotel. We'll start with some general information, and then give you step-by-step instructions on getting to all sorts of fun and interesting places. We are showing primarily places outside of the Downtown area (beyond walking distance).

You can also get more information at [www.transitchicago.com/maps](http://www.transitchicago.com/maps) and click on Downtown Transit Sightseeing Guide.

### **FARES:**

Get current fare information at [www.transitchicago.com](http://www.transitchicago.com) and click on the Fare Info icon under "Quick Links". (**Note:** Every elevated/subway rail station has a Customer Assistant who will help you with the fare payment process.)

### **SERVICE FREQUENCY:**

Routes referenced herein run every 6 to 12 minutes all day and evening, every day.

### **SERVICE HOURS:**

The Red and Blue lines run 24 hours daily. All other rail lines run until 1:00 am. Bus routes shown run until at least 10 pm, unless noted otherwise.

## **TRAVEL TIME:**

For each destination, your travel time once on the bus or train is generally 20 to 25 minutes unless noted otherwise.

## **BUSES -- SIGNAGE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Each bus stop is marked with a sign that lists each route number and route name, along with the general direction, final destination, and hours and days of service.

At certain bus stops with shelters, there are LED signs showing when the next buses are coming. Virtually all Downtown bus stops with shelters have these.

Buses have front and side LED signs showing the route number, name, and destination. Inside, LED signs and audio announce all stops.

## **TRAINS -- SIGNAGE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Each train line has a color name. Each station will have signs showing the color names and their final destinations in each.

Each train has front and side signs in the line color showing the final destination. Audio announcements are also made at each stop. On our newer trains, there are also LED signs at each end of the car showing the same announcements.

## **DIRECTIONS TO DESTINATIONS:**

Your hotel is located on Columbus Street at Lake Street in the Illinois Center area, which is just east of the traditional downtown. Our

Downtown is known as “The Loop”, and our elevated trains circle it hundreds of times a day!

Most directions in this Guide start by walking one block south on Columbus to Randolph, then turning right on Randolph. To save space, those directions will start with “Walk xx blocks west on Randolph to ....”

Destinations are grouped as follows: Airports, Museums, Sports Arenas, Neighborhoods, Observation Towers, Zoo/Conservatories, Historic Districts, and Sightseeing Trips.

### **O’HARE AIRPORT TO HOTEL...AND BACK:**

Follow overhead signs “Trains To City” to the CTA station. This is the Blue Line, and all trains go downtown—train destination signs will either read either “Forest Park” or “UIC”. Exit at Washington subway station.

At street level, you will be on Dearborn (one-way north). Either take a cab, walk, or board bus #60 on Washington (one-way east) one block east of Dearborn at State. This bus will take you to Randolph/Columbus; your hotel is one block north on Columbus. The distance from the Washington/Dearborn Blue Line subway station to the Fairmont Hotel is 0.6 mile (about a 13-minute walk).

Returning to O’Hare, board Blue Line subway train at the Washington subway station marked “O’Hare”. Travel time is approximately 45 minutes.

### **MIDWAY AIRPORT TO HOTEL...AND BACK:**

Follow overhead signs “Trains To City” to the station. This is the Orange Line, and all trains go Downtown on the Loop Elevated. Train signs will read “Loop”.

Exit at Randolph/Wabash elevated station. Your hotel is 4 short blocks east on Randolph and 1 block north on Columbus, a distance of 0.4 mile (about an 8-minute walk).

Returning to the airport, board Orange Line train at this same station. Train signs will read "Midway". Train travel time is approximately 30 minutes plus about a 10 minute enclosed walk to the airport terminal.

## **MAJOR MUSEUMS AND LINCOLN PARK ZOO:**

### Chicago History Museum (Lincoln Park)

Walk 5 blocks west on Randolph to Dearborn. Board bus #22 *Clark* or #36 *Broadway* on Dearborn (one-way northbound). Exit at North Ave.

### Dusable Museum of African American History (Washington Park)

Walk west on Randolph 2 blocks to Michigan. Cross Michigan, then turn right. Southbound on Michigan, board #4 *Cottage Grove* bus. Exit at 57th. Museum is one block west in Washington Park--following the curving road.

### Museum Campus – Alder Planetarium, Field Museum of Natural History, and Shedd Aquarium (South Loop)

Walk west on Randolph 4 blocks to State. Cross State, and walk one block south on State to the bus stop. Southbound on State, board bus #146 *Inner Drive/Michigan Express*. There are separate stops for each of the museums.

### Museum of Science and Industry (Hyde Park)

Walk west on Randolph 4 blocks to State. Cross State, and walk one block south on State to the bus stop. Southbound on State, board bus #6 *Jackson Park Express* or #10 *Museum of Science and Industry*. Take the #6 to 56<sup>th</sup> Street, (30 minutes) and you'll see the museum one block ahead. Or, take

the #10 to the museum door, but the #10 only runs every 20 to 30 minutes – so take whichever one comes first.

#### Notebaert Nature Museum (Lincoln Park)

Walk 2 blocks west on Randolph to Michigan. Board bus #151 *Sheridan* northbound on Michigan; exit at Fullerton.

### **SPORTS ARENAS:**

#### Wrigley Field (Cubs)

Walk west on Randolph 4 blocks to State. Turn left, and enter Red Line subway Lake station. Take train marked “Howard” to the Addison station (15 minutes). Returning, exit the train at the Lake station.

#### United Center (Bulls and Blackhawks)

For evening games, board bus #20 *Madison* southbound on Columbus at Lake, across the street from your hotel. Exit at United Center on Madison (20 minutes).

Returning, bus #19 *United Center Express* will be waiting after the game, and will take you to Michigan and Lake – just walk one block east to your hotel.

#### US Cellular Field (Sox)

Walk west on Randolph 4 blocks to State. Turn left, and enter the Red Line subway Lake station. Take train marked “95<sup>th</sup>” to Sox-35<sup>th</sup> station.

## **NEIGHBORHOODS FOR WALKING, SHOPPING, DINING (Listed Alphabetically):**

### Chinatown

Walk 4 blocks west on Randolph to State. Turn left, and enter Red Line subway Lake station. Take train marked “95<sup>th</sup>” to Cermak/Chinatown station. You’ll see the giant pagoda just west of the station. Three blocks of shopping and dining along Wentworth, and also along Cermak.

### Greektown

On weekdays from 3 pm to 7:30 pm, take bus #20 *Madison* from southbound on Columbus at Randolph. Ride to Halsted, then walk south on Halsted 2 blocks to Greektown. You can return via the Blue Line train, entering at the UIC -Halsted station just south of Greektown; ride to Washington station; use Randolph exit and walk 4 blocks east on Randolph to Columbus.

There is also a Red Line station at Addison, four blocks north of Belmont, closer to the north end of the district (also next to Wrigley Field!).

### Lincoln Park / DePaul

Walk west on Lake to Dearborn (4 blocks). Board bus #22 *Clark* or #36 *Broadway*. Starting at Belden (2200 North), over one mile of street shopping and restaurants await. North of Diversey (2800 North), shops continue along Broadway.

### North Halsted Street / East Lakeview

A six block stretch of Halsted Street, from Belmont to Grace, has long been Chicago’s commercial and entertainment center for the LGBT community. Shops, restaurants, and bars welcome everyone.



Walk 4 blocks west on Randolph to State, turn left and enter Red Line subway Washington station. Take train marked "Howard" to Belmont. Walk two blocks east on Belmont to Halsted, turn left, and enjoy!

### Oak Park / Frank Lloyd Wright Homes

Oak Park is world famous for its many Frank Lloyd Wright homes, including the original Home & Studio where the buildings were designed. Add Ernest Hemingway's birthplace and his separate museum, plus plenty of restaurants and shops, and you have the makings of a fine day.

Walk 3 blocks west on Randolph to Wabash and enter the elevated station. Go to the Green Line "To Harlem" platform, and take the Green Line train marked "Harlem" to the Oak Park station. Upon exiting the station, turn right and follow signs to the various attractions.

### Old Town / Second City

Once Chicago's hippie hangout in the 1960s and early 1970s, this three block stretch of Wells Street, starting at North Ave, has many interesting shops and restaurants, plus the Second City comedy revue just north of North Avenue, where such famed artists as Gilda Radner and John Belushi got their start.

Walk 3 blocks west on Randolph to Wabash. Enter the elevated station, and take the Brown Line train (marked "Kimball") to Sedgwick station. Exit the station, turn left, then turn right at North Ave just ahead. Old Town is just two blocks to the east at Wells.

Or, walk 5 blocks west on Randolph to Dearborn. Northbound on Dearborn, take bus #22 *Clark* or #36 *Broadway* to North Ave. Cross Clark and walk 2 blocks west on North Ave to Wells and you're there!

### Pilsen

The Mexican influence includes shops, restaurants, murals and the National Museum of Mexican Art. Walk west on Randolph 3 blocks to

Wabash and the elevated train station. Board Pink Line train marked “54<sup>th</sup>” and ride to 18<sup>th</sup> St.

### Rush Street

Chicago’s oldest nightlife area runs along Division between Clark and State, and then along State and Rush to Oak Street.

Walk west on Randolph 4 blocks to State; enter the Red Line subway Washington station, and take train marked “Howard” to the Clark/Division stop.

### West Loop / Randolph St. ( Dining )

Weekdays 3pm to 7:30pm, take bus #20 *Madison* south on Columbus at Randolph. Ride to Halsted and walk two blocks north to Randolph. Turn left, and there are two blocks of restaurants on each side of Randolph.

### Wicker Park

Walk 5 blocks west on Randolph to Dearborn. Turn left, and enter Blue Line subway Washington station. Board train marked “O’Hare” and exit at Damen. From the 3 way intersection of North Avenue, Damen, and Milwaukee Avenue, artistic and hipster shops, restaurants, and music venues spread out, particularly along Milwaukee and North Avenues.

### Wrigleyville / Southport Corridor

Walk west on Randolph 3 blocks to Wabash, and enter Randolph/Wabash elevated station. Board Brown Line train marked “Kimball” and exit at Southport. 4 blocks of shops and restaurants, plus the restored Music Box movie theatre.

## **OBSERVATION TOWERS:**

### John Hancock Center

Walk 2 blocks west on Randolph to Michigan. Turn right, and northbound on Michigan, take bus #147 *Outer Drive Express* or #151 *Sheridan* to Chestnut, or bus #3 *King Drive* to Chicago Ave and walk 2 blocks farther north.

### Willis (Sears) Tower

Walk west on Randolph 2 blocks to Michigan. Cross Michigan, and turn right. Southbound on Michigan, board bus #151 *Sheridan*. Ride to Adams/Franklin.

## **ZOO AND CONSERVATORIES:**

### Lincoln Park Zoo and Conservatory

Walk west 2 blocks on Randolph to Michigan. Turn right and northbound on Michigan, board bus #151 *Sheridan*. Ride to Webster.

### Garfield Park Conservatory

Much larger than the one at Lincoln Park! Walk west on Randolph 3 blocks to Wabash. Enter the Randolph/Wabash elevated station and take Green Line train marked "Harlem" to Conservatory station.

## **SIGHTSEEING TRIPS:**

### By Elevated Train

Walk west on Randolph 3 blocks to Wabash. Enter the elevated station and board a Brown Line train marked "Kimball". Ride to Southport and explore the four block long shopping district, or ride to Western to the

Lincoln Square neighborhood. You'll see everything from Victorian and hipster neighborhoods to factory districts to the DePaul campus, plus great skyline views.

#### By Lakefront Bus--North

Walk west on Randolph 2 blocks to Michigan. Turn right, and board a northbound #146 *Inner Drive/Michigan* bus. Ride to Belmont and walk west 3 blocks to Broadway for the shopping district. Either take the #36 *Broadway* bus back to downtown, or the #146 at the lakefront again.

#### By Lakefront Bus—South

Walk north on Columbus to Wacker, cross Wacker, and turn left. Board a #6 *Jackson Park Express* bus west on Wacker. This will take you through downtown and on south Lake Shore Drive to the Hyde Park / Museum of Science and Industry / University of Chicago area.

#### By Neighborhood Bus

Walk west on Randolph to Wabash, turn left, and walk two blocks south on Wabash to Madison (one-way west). Board the #56 *Milwaukee* bus and ride to North/Damen/Milwaukee (Wicker Park area). See downtown and former working class areas now being transformed.

### **HISTORIC DISTRICTS:**

#### Prairie Avenue

Located just a mile south of downtown, this was the area for Chicago's movers and shakers of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. See restored mansions such as Glessner House (founder of International Harvester) and Chicago's oldest house—The Widow Clarke's—from 1847

Walk west on Randolph 2 blocks to Michigan. Cross Michigan, turn right, and board a southbound #3 *King Drive* or #4 *Cottage Grove* bus to 18<sup>th</sup> St. Cross Michigan and walk 2 blocks east to Prairie and Glessner House.

### Logan Square

A beautiful boulevard system showing off scores of large homes and mansions from the late 1890s to the 1920s is centered by the Blue Line Logan Square station – along with several new trendy restaurants.

Walk 5 blocks west on Randolph to Dearborn, turn left, and enter the Blue Line subway. Take train marked “O’Hare” to Logan Square station; use the Kedzie exit; and explore down either Kedzie Boulevard or Logan Blvd for several blocks.

### **...AND A FEW WORDS ABOUT PARKING IN CHICAGO:**

Last, but not least, for those of you adventurous enough to drive to Chicago, here are suggested links for finding the best parking rates (as an alternative to parking at the Fairmont, of course):

[www.parkwhiz.com](http://www.parkwhiz.com)

[www.spthero.com](http://www.spthero.com)

[www.bestparking.com](http://www.bestparking.com)

Also, keep in mind that Chicago has a new street parking pay system. We no longer have meters, instead look for the green pre-pay box on each block where parking is not free. Just about every commercial neighborhood and even many residential neighborhoods require that you pre-pay to park. Look carefully before leaving your car!!

## CHICAGO 101

### A guide for visitors

Chicago is one of the easiest cities to navigate, thanks to a grid system of street numbering. The most important thing to remember is that the Lake is east. After that, everything is easy. State Street, which runs north and south, divides the city into east and west, while Madison Street, which runs east and west, divides the city into north and south. The Fairmont Hotel, for instance, is 200 North and 300 East. Knowing that, you can fairly accurately determine the distance to anywhere in the city by knowing that each 100 is 1/8th of a mile. Once you go south of the downtown area, the east-west streets are numbered, so 35<sup>th</sup> St. (where the White Sox call home) is 3500 South, or nearly 4-1/2 miles south of Madison St. A bit of trivia: Wacker Drive, which follows the Chicago River, has north, south, east and west addresses.

### SHOPPING

Michigan Avenue, from the Chicago River north to Oak Street, is known as the “Magnificent Mile.” Visit [www.themagnificentmile.com](http://www.themagnificentmile.com) for complete information. In addition to shops from some of the world’s top designers, you will also find some great vertical shopping malls at **The Shops at North Bridge** (Nordstrom), **900 North** (Bloomingdales) and **Water Tower Place** (Macy’s and Lord & Taylor). When you get up to Oak Street, turn left to shop some great boutiques. When you tire of shopping, do afternoon tea at the **Drake Hotel** at Michigan and Oak.

To see the classic Chicago department store, go to **Macy’s** at 111 N. State St. Before it became Macy’s, it was the flagship store of Marshall Field & Co. Go inside to see the 6,000 sq ft Tiffany Dome, the largest glass mosaic of its kind. More trivia: When Harry Selfridge left Chicago after working for 25 years at Marshall Field, he hired Daniel Burnham, who designed the Chicago store, to build his new department store on Oxford Street in London to look like the State Street store.

Check for discounts for out-of-town visitors. Go to [www.visitmacysusa.com](http://www.visitmacysusa.com) for a voucher for 10% off. The concierge at The Shops at North Bridge sometimes has coupon books if you show a room key.

### THEATER

While it may not be Broadway or the West End, Chicago is noted for its theater. **Steppenwolf Theatre** (1650 N. Halsted, [www.steppenwolf.org](http://www.steppenwolf.org)) is presenting the world premiere of *The Way West*, Mona Mansour’s hilarious and heartbreaking play about today’s American family. **The Goodman Theatre** (170 N. Dearborn, [www.goodmantheatre.org](http://www.goodmantheatre.org)) has *The White Snake*, written and directed by Mary Zimmerman and based on the classic Chinese fable. *Motown The Musical* will be playing at the **Oriental Theatre** (24 W. Randolph) and *Buyer & Cellar* will be at the **Broadway Playhouse** (175 E. Chestnut, in Water Tower Place). Go to [www.broadwayinchicago.com](http://www.broadwayinchicago.com) for both. *Henry V* is being presented at the **Chicago Shakespeare Theater** (Navy Pier, [www.chicagoshakes.com](http://www.chicagoshakes.com)).

### BASEBALL

If you miss seeing the Yankees play in an historic ballpark, catch them at **Wrigley Field** when they

play the Cubs on May 20 (7:05 pm) and 21 (1:20 pm). The Yanks then move to the South Side and take on the White Sox at **U.S. Cellular Field** on May 22, 23, 24 and 25 (times TBA). Tickets for both parks are at [www.mlb.com](http://www.mlb.com).

## MUSEUMS

Walking distance from the Fairmont you will find the **Art Institute of Chicago** (111 S. Michigan) with its collections of Impressionist, Post-Impressionist, 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Asian and other art. A special treat are the Thorne Rooms, miniatures of design across time and cultures.

Walk a couple of blocks farther south (that means the Lake is on your left) to the **Spertus Museum** (610 S. Michigan) for a collection of Judaica. You will be able to identify it by its striking facade. The museum is closed on Saturdays.

If you are up to it, keep walking south to the Museum Campus, where you will find the **Field Museum of Natural History** (1400 S. Lake Shore Dr.), with a diverse collection that includes mummies, gems, and dinosaurs, especially Sue, the largest and most complete T. Rex. *Before the Dinosaurs: Tracking the Reptiles of Pangaea* will be a special exhibit. Next is the **John G. Shedd Aquarium** (1200 S. Lake Shore Dr.) with more than 22,000 aquatic animals. Special features are the Caribbean and Wild Reefs, the Abbott Oceanarium and the Aquatic Show. Finally, the **Adler Planetarium** (1300 S. Lake Shore Dr.) will take you out of this world. Three different sky theaters present shows about the universe around us.

In the other direction, literally and figuratively, is the **Museum of Contemporary Art** (220 E. Chicago). There will be special exhibits of Andy Warhol, Marisol Escobar and Alexander Calder, in addition to the regular collection that includes some of the most thought-provoking work created since 1945.

Chicago's most popular museum is the **Museum of Science and Industry** (57<sup>th</sup> Street and Lake Shore Dr.) It is a hands-on experience with interesting exhibits wherever you turn, including a model train set that takes you from Chicago to Seattle, a working coal mine, the U-505 German submarine captured during WWII and hatching baby chicks. It is housed in the only remaining building from the 1893 Columbian Exposition. Nearby, on the campus of the University of Chicago, you can visit the **Oriental Institute** (1155 E. 58<sup>th</sup> St.), a repository of antiquities from the Near East. Also in that neighborhood is the **DuSable Museum of African-American History** (740 E. 56<sup>th</sup> Place), which portrays the life and experiences of African-Americans in the past, present and future.

## ARCHITECTURE

Chicago has a long and continuing history as an architectural center. *The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson chronicles the competition by the city's early architects in building the 1893 Columbian Exposition. If you arrived on United Airlines, you walked through one of Helmut Jahn's designs. To see our buildings the right way, take a tour with the **Chicago Architecture Foundation** ([www.architecture.org](http://www.architecture.org)). Options include walking, Segway or boat rides. Each has an experienced and knowledgeable docent/guide.

Barry Simon

## **How to Eat Like a Chicagoan** by Barry Simon

If you want to pass for a Chicagoan, and who doesn't, you have to act like one. Although we have teams in every major sport, the one thing that unites Chicagoans is eating out. There's a reason why the National Restaurant Association has its convention here every year. We have top name chefs at restaurants that will set you back a few hundred a person and charming neighborhood joints that have folks who eat there two or three times a week. But besides where we eat, it is what we eat that makes us Chicagoans. (One other thing identifies us as Chicagoans – we pronounce it Chi-kaw-go, not Chi-kah-go. And please don't call it Chi-Town. That is as touristy as ketchup on a hot dog.)

### **Hot Dogs**

First of all, that's what we call them. Not red hots, weiners, frankfurters or franks. The Chicago hot dog is iconic. So much so that when *The New York Times* ran an article several years ago about variations in hot dogs among different cities, it declined to include Chicago because it said the Chicago hot dog is in a class by itself.

Each ingredient is important in constructing the true Chicago hot dog. Start with the bun. If it ain't got poppy seeds, it ain't worthy of holding a Chicago hot dog. The traditional bun is the Mary Ann bun, now baked by Rosen's. And it is steamed. They take the entire package and put it in the steamer, taking out one bun at a time. The hot dog is boiled, and the less frequently they change the water, the better. You're cooking the dog, not bathing it. The most common dog in Chicago is made by Vienna, and you will see their sign prominently displayed where the Vienna dog is sold. It has just the right combination of spices, and has a nice "snap" when you bite into it. Once the hot dog has been placed in its bun, it is time to "drag it through the garden." We start with mustard (yellow), relish (neon green), and chopped onion. Then add a kosher dill pickle wedge, a couple of tomato wedges and sport peppers (optional). Finally, sprinkle celery salt on top. And there you have it. Sauerkraut is an acceptable addition, and grilled onions may be substituted for raw if you are on a date. But never, ever ask for ketchup. You can now find lots of variations, including gourmet dogs with foie gras, but this is the only one that may be called "The Chicago Hot Dog."

Where do you get the Chicago hot dog? The best places are stands, generally free-standing structures (calling them buildings would be a stretch), with maybe a couple of stools by the counter or a picnic bench out in front. There are more than 1800 of them in Chicago, but nearly all of them are out in the neighborhoods. Each stand is usually individually owned, in some cases by a lawyer interested in a cash business. Alas, the last true stand near the Fairmont, Hot Diggity Dogs, has closed. One rule of thumb is that the more items there are on the menu, the worse the hot dog. An exception to the stand might be Portillo's (100 W. Ontario, but actually more popular for its beef sandwiches), which started out as a wagon. Although they now have more than 40 locations, and have gone beyond Illinois to California, Arizona and (gasp) Indiana, it is still family owned. Even though McDonald's franchises started here, we have never really accepted the concept for hot dogs. Each hot dog stand must have its own unique character. While they violate the "no franchise" rule, you can get authentic Chicago hot dogs near the Fairmont at Gold Coast Dogs (159 N. Wabash) and America's Dog at the Navy Pier Food Court. Don't leave Chicago without tasting one.



## **Italian Beef**

Our answer to the Philly Cheese Steak. Thinly sliced and simmering in spicy juices, Italian beef is generously plopped into an Italian bread (you were expecting matzah, maybe?), usually about 8" long. Most people add sweet peppers, but some do hot peppers. If you ask for it dipped, they then take the entire sandwich and dip it into the juices, allowing the bread to soak them up. You can ask for "a beef, sweet and dipped." You have to lean into the table to safely eat it, 'cuz it really drips. Don't wear a good shirt, and if you are wearing a tie, toss it over your shoulder. If you want it less messy, ask for it "juicy but not dipped," and they will just pour some extra juice over the sandwich. Portillo's (see above) does a good job of it, but also try Al's just down the block (169 W. Ontario). A short walk from Al's is Mr. Beef (666 N. Orleans), a favorite of Jay Leno's. Both Al's and Mr. Beef claim to be #1, so go to both and decide for yourself. Do lunch at Mr. Beef and then dinner at Al's, because Mr. Beef closes at 5. (It reopens at 10:30 on Friday and Saturday nights) A variation on the Italian beef is the combo, which adds an Italian sausage, for the indecisive. I don't deny it will sustain you.

## **Pizza**

Yes, New York and Chicago pizzas are different. We won't get into which is better. We respect diversity and will not criticize people for liking their hometown pizza, even if it is greasy and tastes like cardboard. If you need something closer to New York pizza, order a thin crust. But don't be surprised if you can't fold it. We cut our pizza into squares. What? Cutting a circle into squares? We call it "party cut" and it is pretty much standard when you buy a whole pizza. People say Chicago is divided into Cubs fans and Sox fans. We are really divided into those who like the crust and eat their way around the pizza, and those who dislike crust and eat the middle pieces. A happily married couple has one of each.

The famous Chicago-style pizza is deep dish. Whether it was started at Uno's or at Lou Malnati's, or even at Gino's is irrelevant. Frankly, they are all made pretty much the same. Lots of dough on the bottom and the sides, then a layer of mozzarella and tomato sauce. Then come your toppings – pepperoni, sausage, green pepper and mushrooms being the most popular. Baked and served in a deep pan, this is a knife and fork meal.

As you walk down Ontario near Portillo's and Al's, you will see a huge sign that says "Original Gino's East." It ain't. The original Gino's was on Rush Street and it isn't anymore. However, Gino's East (160 E. Superior) opened later and got its name from being east (closer to the lake) of Gino's. That is the only connection between Gino's and Gino's East. You will find plenty of other Original Gino's Easts. Go for authenticity. The other two must-stops for tourists are Uno's and Due's, a block apart on N. Wabash at Ohio and Ontario, respectively. That block of Wabash is known as "Ike Sewell Drive" to honor the owner often credited with creating the deep dish pizza. (He was also an All-American guard for the UT Longhorns.) Uno's is now international, with stores in places like Kuwait, South Korea and Indiana.

If you want something totally different, try Chicago Pizza and Oven Grinder (2121 N. Clark). It is more like a pizza pot pie. Served in a bowl and then turned over. The restaurant is in a Victorian brownstone that was across the street from the garage where the St. Valentine's Day Massacre occurred. It is rumored that the house served as a lookout post for the gunmen.

## **Steak**

Hog butcher to the world, Chicago was the home of the International Stockyards until the mid-60's. At the famous gate to the Stockyards was the Stockyards Inn, one of Chicago's original steak houses. Alas, both the Stockyards and the Inn are gone, but Chicago still has a tradition of great steak houses. Gene & Georgetti (500 N. Franklin) has been around since 1941 and continues to be family owned. It helps if you go there with one of their "regulars." Everyone is familiar with Morton's, which opened its original location in 1978 at 1050 N. State. It is now all over the world, in places such as Macao, Beijing and Indianapolis, but this is still a true Chicago steak house. If you want one closer to the Fairmont, the Morton's at 65 E. Wacker Place is just the other side of Michigan Ave.

Other uniquely Chicago venues are Mike Ditka's (100 E. Chestnut), Harry Caray's (33 W. Kinzie), Gibson's (1028 N. Rush), Chicago Cut (300 N. LaSalle), and Chicago Chop House (60 W. Ontario). The first three have other locations in the city, but the last two have only one restaurant each. Then there are chains that have had the audacity to think they can replicate the Chicago steak house. Well, they may be good, but if you are coming to Chicago for a steak dinner, go someplace authentic. Be prepared to order à la carte with side dishes big enough for at least two people. Go with a group so you can share several sides. And get the real experience – start off with a top shelf martini. You will be forgiven (even praised) if you take a pass on the after-dinner cigar. Remember, all Chicago restaurants are non-smoking, as are all public buildings in Illinois.

## **Cheezborger, Cheezborger, Cheezborger, No Pepsi, Coke, No Fries, Cheeps**

Jim Belushi made The Billy Goat Tavern famous in the early years of Saturday Night Live. In 1934 William Sianis purchased the Lincoln Tavern across from the old Chicago Stadium. When a goat wandered in one day, Sianis adopted both the goat and his nickname, "Billy Goat." Legend has it that he placed a curse on the Chicago Cubs when they would not let his goat into Wrigley Field for a World Series Game in 1945. Going into Game 4, the Cubs were ahead of the Tigers two games to one. When his appeal to Cubs owner P. K. Wrigley was unsuccessful, Sianis reportedly said "The Cubs will never win the World Series so long as the goat isn't allowed in Wrigley Field." Well, you know the rest. While there are outlets in several locations around the city, including O'Hare and Navy Pier, the oldest is down on the lower level of Michigan Ave. at 430 N. Michigan. It used to be between the Tribune and Sun-Times buildings and would be a regular hang-out for pressmen in their newspaper hats and reporters like Mike Royko, but both papers are now printed farther west and Mike is no longer with us. Now you will feel right at home with the other tourists.

## **Ribs**

Okay, here I have to be honest. If you have enjoyed ribs in Texas, Kansas City or St. Louis, don't go out for ribs in Chicago. Generally, they are not smoked or rubbed. And if they are, you wouldn't know it. Instead, they are thrown on a broiler with a lot of barbeque sauce. And they don't have a lot of meat on them, either. If you like gnawing on bones, and don't have bonding on your front teeth, you might like them. The Academy's Fall Education Conference is in Memphis this year. Have your ribs there.

## "Where the Chicagoans Eat..."

By Rocky Perkovich

Inspired by Barry Simon's piece "How to Eat Like a Chicagoan," I have chosen a dining guide that will get you into some of our great neighborhoods and, in some cases, to great places to eat that the hotel concierge will most likely not recommend to you. In all cases a cab ride, except where noted, will be about \$10-15 one way and if you share the extra cost is \$1.50 per person. Finally, if it is a joint at which I have eaten, I so note. Enjoy!

### **WEST LOOP NEIGHBORHOOD**

American Cuisine: Sepia, 123 North Jefferson, 312-441-1920. Excellent food with seasonal ingredients.  
Note: It is conversationally challenged. Reservations necessary.

Italian Cuisine: Trattoria Isabella, 217 North Jefferson, 312-207-1400. Good Italian food with a big and nice outdoor dining area.

Southern Cuisine: Wishbone, 1001 West Washington, 312-850-2663. Southern not Cajun however. Be sure to get the Andouille hash.

French Cuisine: La Sardine, 111 North Carpenter, 312-421-2800. Reservations essential

Asian Cuisine: Moto, 945 West Fulton, 312-491-0058. Reservations essential

### **RANDOLPH STREET MARKET NEIGHBORHOOD**

Probably, at least in terms of neighborhoods near the hotel, the hottest dining area in town.

Italian Cuisine: Nellcote, 833 West Randolph, 312-432-0500. Reservations essential. Also, next door at 116 North Green Street is RM Champagne a lovely champagne bar with small bites and a gorgeous outdoor area. Don't be dissuaded by the alley entrance. Reservations for both are essential

American Cuisine: Girl and the Goat, 809 West Randolph, 312-492-6262. Reservations essential

Graham Elliot (yes that Graham Elliot) Bistro, 841 West Randolph, 312-888-2258.  
Reservations essential

Asian Cuisine: Belly Q, 1400 West Randolph, 312-563-1010. Reservations essential

### **WEST TOWN/WICKER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD**

American Cuisine: Ruxbin, 851 North Ashland Avenue, 312-624-8509. Reservations essential because it is small, very small. I personally thought it was over-rated but many people love it.

Vegetarian Cuisine: Green Zebra, 1460 West Chicago, 312-243-7100. Most restaurants have 1-2 vegetarian choices, Green Zebra is just the opposite - 1 or 2 non-vegetarian options. However, even the non-vegetarian will be happy with the vegetarian choices and the vegetarian will be very very happy. Reservations essential

Mexican Cuisine: Mexique, 1529 West Chicago, 312-850-0288. Don't be fooled however, it is Mexican fused with French elements. Very nice.

Flo, 1434 West Chicago, 312-243-0477. Little more traditional than Mexique and more Southwestern rather than Mexican.

Asian Cuisine: Thalia Spice, 833 West Chicago, 312-226-6020. Thai and Indian food.

Southern: Carriage House, 1700 West Division Street, 773-384-9700. A bit farther than the others. Add maybe \$5 to you one way cab fare.

### **RIVER WEST NEIGHBORHOOD**

Italian Cuisine: Mart Anthony's, 1200 West Hubbard Street, 312-421-3477. Sorry, but now I need to brag. This is my neighborhood hang out and it is great and a hidden little known gem unless you go to see the Bulls or the Hawks at the United Center.

Great homestyle Italian food. Nothing fancy. Just home made pasta and sauces and HUGE portions. Be ready to share to take it back to the hotel. When I eat here I feel as though I am visiting Grandma Cappocci's

Sit at the bar where you will be served by Ursula, Laura, Heather or Lindsay or at a table where you may be served by one of those lovely ladies or Spiro or Juan. In any event, tell them "Rocky sent me!"

La Scarola, 721 West Grand, 312-243-1740. Much like Mart Anthony's, but, in my view, not as good. Reservations essential

Piccolo Sogno, 464 North Halsted, 312-421-0077. Now this is the neighborhoods chic Italian place. Also, a lovely secluded garden. Reservations essential

### **NEAR NORTH/RIVER NORTH NEIGHBORHOODS**

Italian Cuisine: J. Rocco Italian Table, 749 North Clark, 312-475-0271. I thought it was over rated, but others like it.

Club Lago, 331 West Superior, 312-951-2849. Great little Italian place and, much like Mart Anthony's, just good home style cooking. Besides any Italian place where the two owners are Guido and Giancarlo has to be good, right?

Coco Pazzo, 300 West Hubbard, 312-836-0900. If you want your Italian a little more upscale this is the place. Also they have a fabulous antipasto table. If Chef Frederico happens by tell "Rocky Sent Me."

French Cuisine: Cyrano's Farm Kitchen, 546 North Wells, 312-467-0546. Lovely little French bistro. Very nice. Reservations essential

Kiki's Bistro, 900 North Franklin, 312-335-5484. Classic French.

American Cuisine: Kinzie Chop House, 400 North Wells, 312-822-0191. Excellent chops and steaks in a smaller more intimate setting than many of the well known Chicago chop houses.

Tortoise Club, 350 North State, 312-755-1700. One of those bigger chop houses but not quite as well known or crowded as the others.

Farm House, 228 West Chicago, 312-280-4960.

Latin/Mexican Cuisine: Mercadito, 108 West Kinzie, 312-329-9555. Upscale and good. If the hostess when you visit is Stephanie, tell her "Rocky Sent Me." Reservations essential

Tavernita, 151 West Erie, 312-274-1111. The sister restaurant to Mercadito. Although it is much bigger, reservations are still essential.

Carnivale, 702 W. Fulton, 312-850-5005. Similar to the three above.

Havana, 412 North Clark, 312-644-1900. Similar to the four above, but not as crazy with the crowds

Cafe Iberico, 737 North LaSalle, 312-573-1510. Excellent tapas and homemade sangria. Reservations essential.

Emilio's, 215 East Ohio, 312-467-7177. See Cafe Iberico. Closer to the hotel, but Iberico is much better and worth the extra cab fare.

Japanese Cuisine: Slurping Turtle, 116 West Hubbard, 464-0466. Reservations essential

NOTE: The Hubbard Street corridor from State street west and the one or two blocks just north or south are full of restaurants and you could just wander and pick.

American Cuisine: Hubbard Inn, 110 West Hubbard, 312-222-1331. Upscale bar food and good. Reservations essential.

Erie Cafe, 536 West Erie, 312-266-2300. Old school Chicago steak house.

#### **NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE/GOLD COAST NEIGHBORHOODS**

Cajun Cuisine: Heaven on Seven, 600 North Michigan, 312-280-7774. Sadly our only Cajun restaurant unless you go way out of your way. The Loop location, 7 North Wabash, is better, but only open for lunch.

American Cuisine: Purple Pig, 500 North Michigan, 312-464-1744. Great place for small bites and all things pork as well as others. Reservations essential. Nice outdoor area.

Italian Cuisine: Stefani's 437 North Rush, 437 North Rush Street, 312-222-0101. Used to be my go to place before Mart Anthony's. Excellent food both Italian and not. Nice outdoor area as well. If you do and see either of the two managers, Frank or Alessandro, tell them "Rocky sent me."

Tavern on Rush, 1031 North Rush, 312-664-9600. Another Stefani place and much like 437. However, the outdoor area is great for people watching as it is part of what one Chicago reporter calls, the "Viagra Triangle." Try to get a table with Natalya and tell her "Rocky Sent Me." Reservations essential

French Cuisine: Le Colonial, 937 North Rush, 312-255-0088. French with a Vietnamese twist.  
Reservations essential

Bistronomic, 1131 North Rush, 312-337-1131. Classic French. Be sure to try any of the crepes. Excellent.

### **CHICAGO'S LITTLE ITALY/UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOOD**

Note: This is going to cost a little more for the cab ride, maybe twice as much, but you will get great home style Italian comfort food and avoid the crowds. Also, I am positive the hotel concierge would never think to send you here.

Tufano's Vernon Park Tap, 1073 West Vernon Park, 312-733-3393

Bruna's 2424 South Oakley, 773-254-5550

La Fontenella, 2414 South Oakley, 773-927-5249

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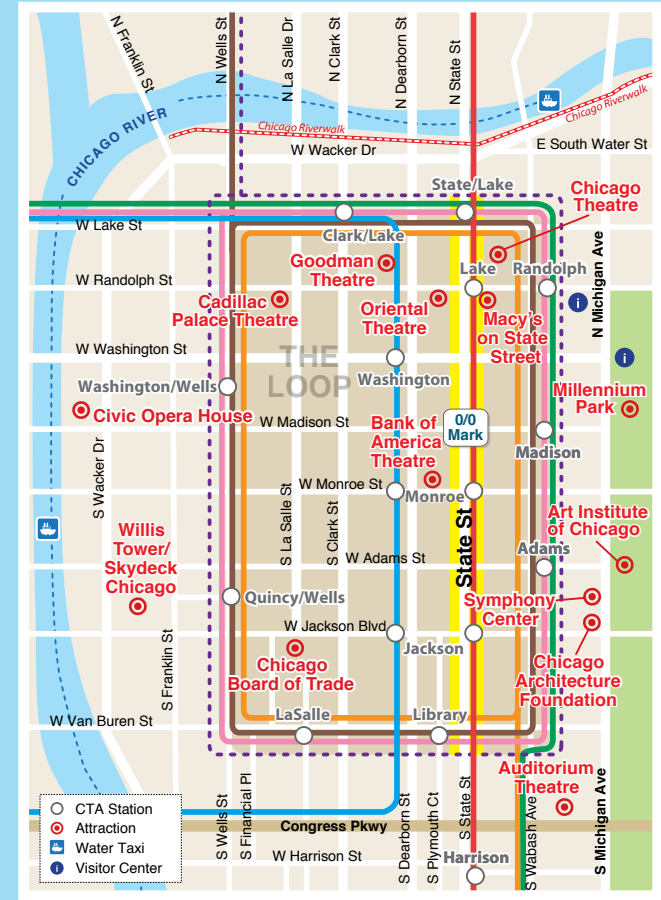
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# TOP 10 Attractions

1. Navy Pier
2. The Magnificent Mile
3. John Hancock Observatory
4. Willis Tower/Skydeck Chicago
5. Millennium Park
6. The Art Institute of Chicago
7. The Field Museum
8. John G. Shedd Aquarium
9. Adler Planetarium
10. The Museum of Science and Industry



THE MAGNIFICENT MILE



THE LOOP



HYDE PARK

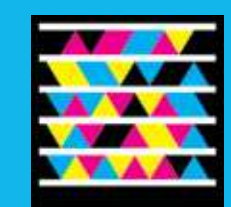
## Visitor Information Center Locations

Stop into a visitor information center for free brochures and multilingual maps. Friendly, knowledgeable staffers can answer any questions you have about Chicago and help you make the most of your stay.

- Water Works Visitor Information Center  
163 E. Pearson St.
- Chicago Cultural Center and Visitor Information Center  
77 E. Randolph St. in the Loop
- Navy Pier Guest Services  
in the Family Pavilion
- Millennium Park Welcome Center  
201 E. Randolph St.

## Map Key

- Interstate
- U.S. Highway
- Airport
- Water Taxi (seasonal)
- Attraction
- Stadium
- Information Center
- Beach
- Red Line
- Orange Line
- Brown Line
- Blue Line
- Pink Line
- Purple Line



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