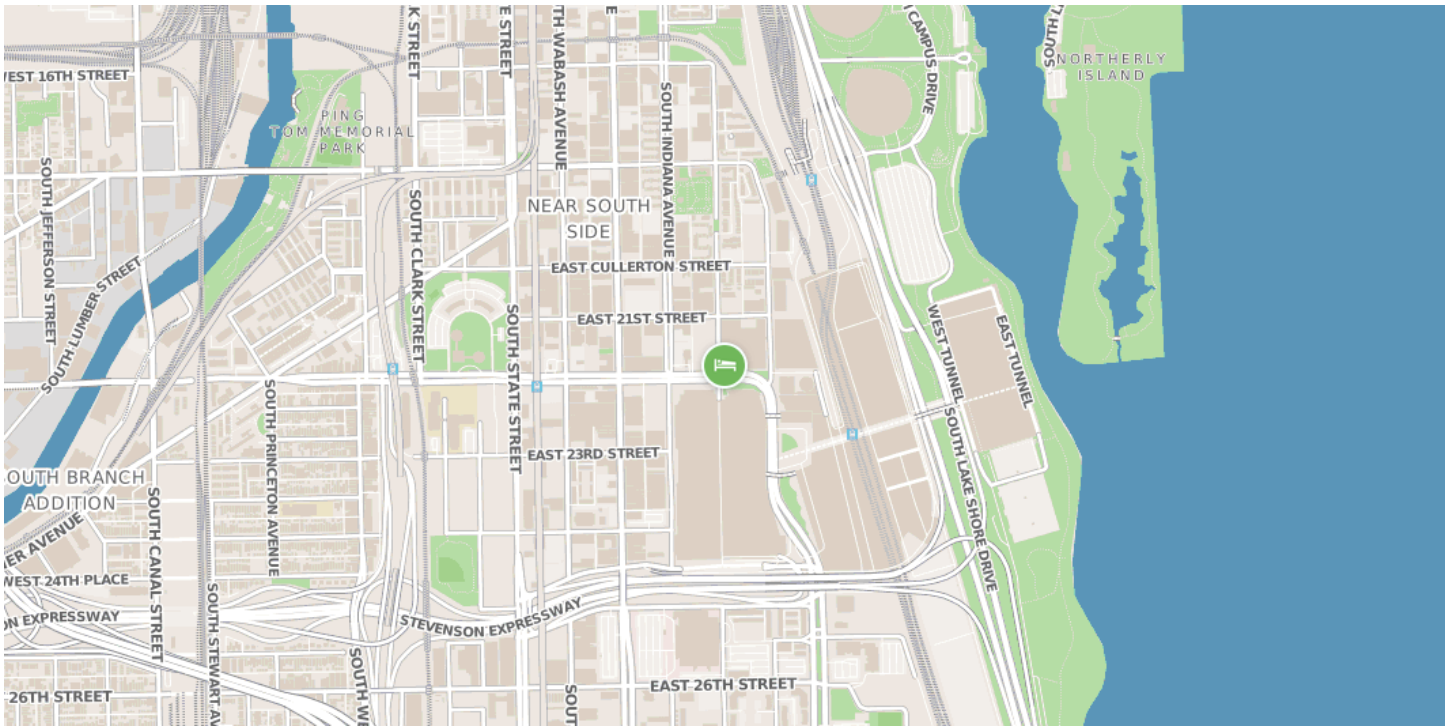




Chicago Downtown Tour

Wednesday, May 23



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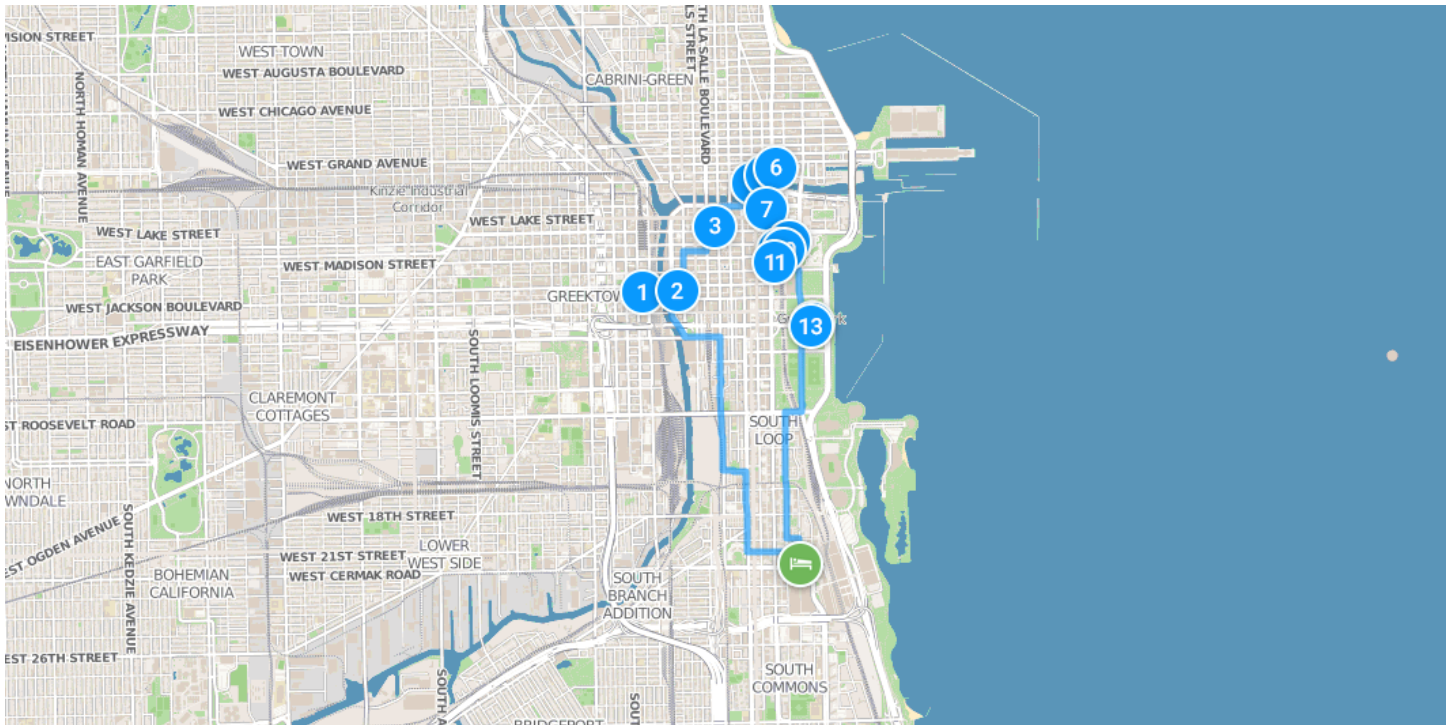
Marriott Marquis Chicago

Directly connected to McCormick Place, this Chicago hotel features state-of-the-art technology and connectivity, with over 93,000 square feet of meeting space, on-site dining and a 24-hour fitness centre.

Address

GPS: 41.85316, -87.62046

2121 South Prairie Avenue, 60616 Chicago



© OpenStreetMap contributors

1 Chicago Union Station 30 min

Chicago Union Station is a major railroad station that opened in 1925 in Chicago, Illinois, replacing an earlier station built in 1881. It is the only remaining intercity rail terminal in Chicago, as well as being the city's primary terminal for commuter trains. The station stands on the west side of the Chicago River between West Adams Street and West Jackson Boulevard, just outside the Chicago Loop. Including approach and storage tracks, it is about nine and a half city blocks in size. Its facilities are mostly underground, buried beneath streets and skyscrapers.

Chicago Union Station is the third-busiest rail terminal in the United States, after Grand Central Terminal and Penn Station in New York City. It is Amtrak's overall fourth-busiest station.

Opening Hours

Chicago Union Station is closed daily from 1 am to 5 am.

Address

GPS: 41.87867, -87.64041
500 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 107,
Chicago, IL 60661, USA

🚶 6 min, 490 m

2

Willis Tower

30 min

Built in 1974, this 1,450-foot tall structure held the world record for the tallest building for more than 20 years. Today, it's the second tallest building in the United States and the thirteenth in the world.

The reason Willis Tower is so popular is because of its Skydeck, which allows you to step on a glass "balcony" and observe the city underneath you with nothing obstructing the view. Feel free to take as many pictures as you want, the view from the Skydeck is truly spectacular. The most popular times to visit are during sunset and at night.

Be prepared for a long wait in line, try to avoid this place during the weekend. Buying a ticket online is going to save you a lot of queue time, but you are still going to wait for the elevator up and down. You can get here by subway, station Quincy/Wells; brown, orange, pink and purple line.

Opening Hours

October - February: daily: 10 am - 8 pm

March - September: daily: 9 am - 10 pm

Last entry 30 minutes prior to closing.

Admission

Adults: \$23

Children (3-11): \$15

Children (under 3): free


Fast pass: \$49

Contact

+1 312 875 0066

GPS: 41.87887, -87.63597

233 South Wacker Drive, 60606, Chicago

 13 min, 990 m

3

James R. Thompson Center

2 h

A real architectural marvel which houses more than

50 state offices, galleries, shops, cultural venues and much more. It was designed by Helmut Jahn, whose name is connected with many well-known modern buildings such as the Sony Center in Berlin, the One Liberty Place in Philadelphia or the Suvarnabhumi Airport in Bangkok.

Contact

+1 312 814 6660

GPS: 41.88486, -87.63141

100 W Randolph St,
Chicago, IL 60601, USA

 14 min, 1.1 km

4

Trump International Hotel & Tower Chicago

2 h

The Trump International Hotel and Tower, also known as Trump Tower Chicago and Trump Tower, is a skyscraper condo-hotel in downtown Chicago, Illinois. The building, named after businessman and current U.S. President Donald Trump, was designed by architect Adrian Smith of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill. Bovis Lend Lease built the 98-story structure, which reaches a height of 1,388 feet including its spire, its roof topping out at 1,171 feet. It is next to the main branch of the Chicago River, with a view of the entry to Lake Michigan beyond a series of bridges over the river. The building received publicity when the winner of the first season of The Apprentice reality television show, Bill Rancic, chose to manage the construction of the tower over managing a new Trump National Golf Course and resort in Los Angeles.

Opening Hours

The Terrace - rooftop restaurant and bar: daily: noon - midnight
(weather permitting)

Michelin two-starred restaurant Sixteen (16th floor):

Breakfast: daily 6:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Brunch: Sun: 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Lunch: Mon - Sat: 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Dinner: Wed - Sun: 5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Spa: Sun - Sat: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Contact

+1 312 5888000

GPS: 41.88888, -87.62645

401 North Wabash Avenue

 3 min, 180 m

5

Wrigley Building

15 min

Strolling through the streets of Chicago, you cannot miss this building thanks to its unique architecture and bright white colour. Built in 1924, this office complex was one of the first major office buildings in the city. Serving as headquarters for Wrigley's chewing gum company, it became one of the most iconic sights of Chicago and to this day dominates Michigan Avenue.

The 250 000 terra-cotta tiles that this building is famous for are hand washed frequently to keep the exterior shinningly clean. In the first years of its existence, there used to be an observatory on the 26th floor. It only cost 5 cents to get in and you even got a chewing gum as a gift from the company.


Today, the building rents both offices and retail spaces, so if you want to get in and admire the beautiful skyline of Chicago, you can do so while having a shopping spree in stores like Zara, Sephora, Giorgio Armani or H&M.

If you just wish to adore the structure from outside, you can do so during the night, when the building is lit up with different colours and it's visible from afar. It's only steps away from Michigan & Hubbard bus stop.

Address

GPS: 41.88973, -87.62488

400 North Michigan Avenue

 4 min, 280 m

6

Tribune Tower

30 min

The Tribune Tower is a neo-Gothic structure located at 435 North Michigan Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, United States. It is the home of the Chicago Tribune, Tribune Media, and Tronc, Inc., formerly known as Tribune Publishing. WGN Radio broadcasts from the building, while the ground level houses the large restaurant Howells & Hood, whose patio overlooks nearby Pioneer Court and Michigan Avenue. CNN's Chicago bureau is located in the building. It is listed as a Chicago Landmark and is a contributing property to the Michigan–Wacker Historic District. The original Tribune Tower was built in 1868, but was destroyed in the Great Chicago Fire in 1871.

Opening Hours

Only the lobby of the building is open to the public.

Address

GPS: 41.89037, -87.62367

435 North Michigan Avenue, 60601

 6 min, 460 m

7

Carbide and Carbon Building

1 h


Historical landmark, the first real skyscraper in Chicago built during 1920s in a distinctive Art Deco style. It houses Hard Rock Hotel Chicago and it is believed to be designed to resemble the champagne bottle with a wooden stump. The movie fans might recognise this building because it appeared in the movie Wanted.

Contact

+1 312 345 1000

GPS: 41.88654, -87.62476

230 N Michigan Ave,
Chicago, IL 60601, USA

 10 min, 810 m

8

Jay Pritzker Pavilion

15 min

Jay Pritzker Pavilion, also known as Pritzker Pavilion or Pritzker Music Pavilion, is a bandshell in Millennium Park in the Loop community area of Chicago in Cook County, Illinois, United States. It is located on the south side of Randolph Street and east of the Chicago Landmark Historic Michigan Boulevard District. The pavilion was named after Jay Pritzker, whose family is known for owning Hyatt Hotels. The building was designed by architect Frank Gehry, who accepted the design commission in April 1999; the pavilion was constructed between June 1999 and July 2004, opening officially on July 16, 2004.

Pritzker Pavilion serves as the centerpiece for Millennium Park and is the home of the Grant Park Symphony Orchestra and Chorus and the Grant Park Music Festival, the nation's only remaining free outdoor classical music series. It also hosts a wide range of music series and annual performing arts events.

Opening Hours


Mon - Sun: 6 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Contact

+1 3127421168

GPS: 41.88342, -87.62184

100 North Columbus Drive

 8 min, 660 m

9

The Bean (Cloud Gate) (Cloud Gate (The Bean))

15 min

The iconic Chicago public art sculpture is sometimes nicknamed "The Bean" for its shape (much to the resentment of the author). It was designed by the British artist Anish Kapoor and it was installed in its present day location at the AT&T Plaza in 2006.

It is a popular selfie spot for the tourists. You can take pictures of your funny reflections in its stainless steel polished surface which also reflects the city skyline beautifully. Highlighting the skyline was actually the original aim of Kapoor when constructing the structure.

Opening Hours

Daily: 6 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Admission

Admission to the Millennium Park is free.

Address

GPS: 41.88268, -87.62331
201 E Randolph St,
Chicago, IL 60601, USA

 8 min, 660 m

10

Millennium Park

1 h

One of the most popular places to visit when in Chicago. The Millennium Park offers entertainment for both the young and the older.

It's also called "the largest rooftop garden in the world", because it was constructed above a giant parking garage. Opening in 2004, the park immediately became successful in bringing people over and providing them with attractions.

It provides its visitors with countless free events, such as art exhibitions, concerts, workouts, film screenings and more. There are numerous venues in the area, like the Jay Pritzker Pavilion, which serves as a place for various concerts, the Crown Fountain, which projects videos of locals "spitting" as the fountain spouts water, an ice rink, and a famous Chicago landmark - The Bean. The Bean is a sculpture with a reflective surface, popular with photographers and kids.

You can easily spend anywhere between half an hour and a whole day here, depending how much you make use of the attractions provided. There are eateries everywhere around, so if you want to refresh yourself, you don't need to go far. Since the area is so big, there are plenty of bus stops around. There are also two subway stations - Van Buren St. and Museum Campus/11th St., lines ME and SSL.

Opening Hours

Daily: 6 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Admission

Admission to the park is free.

Contact

312-742-1168

GPS: 41.88261, -87.62252
201 E Randolph St,
Chicago, IL 60602, USA

 9 min, 710 m

11

Crown Fountain

15 min

Crown Fountain is an interactive work of public art and video sculpture featured in Chicago's Millennium Park, which is located in the Loop community area. Designed by Catalan artist Jaume Plensa and executed by Krueck and Sexton Architects, it opened in July 2004. The fountain is composed of a black granite reflecting pool placed between a pair of glass brick towers. The towers are 50 feet tall, and they use light-emitting diodes to display digital videos on their inward faces. Construction and design of the Crown Fountain cost \$17 million. The water operates from May to October, intermittently cascading down the two towers and spouting through a nozzle on each tower's front face.


Residents and critics have praised the fountain for its artistic and entertainment features. It highlights Plensa's themes of dualism, light, and water, extending the use of video technology from his prior works.

Opening Hours

Mon - Sun: 6 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Address

GPS: 41.88148, -87.62373
201 E. Randolph St., between Michigan Ave and Columbus Ave
Chicago, IL 60602, USA

 12 min, 910 m

12

Clarence F. Buckingham Memorial Fountain

1 h

One of the largest fountains in the world and a gem of the Grand Park and of the whole Chicago. Its jets shoot water 47 meters high and illuminate it with colourful lights. Be sure to visit it after dusk when it is lit up.

Dedicated in 1927, it commemorates Clarence F. Buckingham. The fountain was sponsored by Clarence's sister Kate Buckingham who also co-created some design features. It cost a staggering \$750,000 to build.

It was featured in many series and TV shows. The fans of the iconic show Married with Children will surely hear the theme song playing in their heads the second they see the fountain because it was here where the opening of the theme was filmed.

There's free Wi-Fi around the fountain for those who want to share their experiences with the world immediately.

Opening Hours

Mon - Sun: 8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Contact

+1 312 742 3918

Above hours apply when fountain is open, typically April to mid-October.

GPS: 41.87580, -87.61895

301 South Columbus Drive, 60605, Chicago

 3 min, 250 m

13

Grant Park

2 h

Also called Chicago's front yard by the locals, this park is one of the oldest public parks in the city, and also the largest one, spanning over 319 acres. The park serves as a place of relaxation for the locals. It also frequently hosts public gatherings, events, and festivals, like the annual Taste of Chicago. President Barack Obama held his victory speech here in 2008.

The park, to be found in Chicago's business district, was first opened in 1844 under the name Lake Park. Since then, it has been extended several times and many attractions were added to it.

Most notable among them are the Museum Campus, where the Adler Planetarium, Field Museum of Natural History, and Shedd Aquarium can be found, and the Buckingham Fountain. The fountain, placed in the center of the park, is one of the largest in the world. There are also many monuments dedicated to various notable personalities all throughout the park.

Opening Hours

Daily: 6 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Admission

Admission to the park is free.


Contact

+1 312 742 3918

GPS: 41.87547, -87.61916

337 E. Randolph St.

Chicago, Illinois 60601

 35 min, 2.9 km

14

Marriott Marquis Chicago

Directly connected to McCormick Place, this Chicago hotel features state-of-the-art technology and connectivity, with over 93,000 square feet of meeting space, on-site dining and a 24-hour fitness centre.

Address

GPS: 41.85316, -87.62046

2121 South Prairie Avenue, 60616 Chicago