

Chicago

HOST COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

by Gerald R. Butters, Jr.
Aurora University

Food

This list includes restaurants in the vicinity of the Drake Hotel, as well as some suggestions and directions to other dining options in the city. Also included are entertainment opportunities, such as museums and theaters.

In the Hotel

Cape Cod Room

140 E. Walton Place
(312) 787-2200
Seafood
Average Entree: \$20-40

Lavazza Coffee

140 E. Walton Place
(312) 640-2440
Coffee, Sandwiches, Salads and
Gelato
Average Entree: \$5-15

Coq D'Or

140 E. Walton Place
(312) 787-2200
Lounge
Traditional American
Average Entree: \$15-30

Drake Brothers

140 E. Walton Place
(312) 787-2200
Traditional American, Breakfast,
and Brunch
Average Entree: \$20-40

Palm Court

140 E. Walton Place
(312) 787-2200
Traditional Tea and Light
Sandwiches
Average Entree: \$10-20

A Nice Place for Lunch or Dinner Nearby

Cheesecake Factory

875 N. Michigan Avenue
(John Hancock Center)
(312) 337-1101
Casual American
Average Entree: \$10-20

Corner Bakery

1121 N. State Street
(312) 787-1969
Bakery and Sandwiches
Average Entree: \$5-10

XOCO

449 N. Clark Street
(312) 334-3688
Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
Average Entree: \$11

Frontera Grill

445 N. Clark Street
(312) 661-1434
Brunch, lunch and dinner
Average Entree: \$16

Foodlife

835 N. Michigan Avenue
(Water Tower Place)
(312) 225-3663
Upscale Food Court
Average Entree: \$5-15

Purple Pig

500 N. Michigan Avenue
(312) 464-1744
Lunch and Dinner
Average Entree: \$7

Host Committee Recommendations

Karyn's Cooked

738 N. Wells Street
(312) 587-1050

Brunch, Lunch and Dinner

Average Entree: \$12

Lux Bar

20 E. Bellevue Place
(312) 642-3400

Eclectic American, Neighborhood

Bar Food

Average Entree: \$10-20

M Burger

835 N. Michigan Avenue
(Water Tower Place)

(312) 867-1549

Upscale Burger Joint

Average Entree: \$5-10

Farmhouse

228 W. Chicago Avenue
(312) 280-4960

Tavern

Average Entree: \$10

OYSY

50 E. Grand Avenue

888 S. Michigan Avenue

Sushi

Average Entree: \$10-30

Mity Nice Grill

835 N. Michigan Avenue
(Water Tower Place)

(312) 335-4745

Traditional American

Average Entree: \$10-20

RL

115 E. Chicago Avenue
(312) 475-1100

Traditional American, Classic

City-Club Menu

Average Entree: \$25-45

Fast Food and Pubs Nearby

Dublin's

State and Maple

(312) 266-6340

Irish Tavern, Eclectic Pub Fare

Average Entree: \$10-20

Epic Burger

227 E. Ontario Street

(In the old Post Office building)

(312) 257-3260

Burgers

Average Entree: \$10-20

Qdoba

20 E. Chicago Avenue

(312) 915-0953

Mexican Fast Food

Average Entree: \$5-10

Flacos Tacos

46 E. Chicago Avenue

(312) 226-8226

Fresh Mexican Food

Average Entree: \$5-10

Rise and Shine—Breakfast (or Brunch) Nearby

Einstein Bagels

45 E. Pearson

(312) 943-9888

Bakery and Sandwiches

Average Entree: \$5-15

West Egg Cafe

620 N. Fairbanks Court

(Between Ohio St. & Ontario St.)

(312) 280-8366

Breakfast

Average Entree: \$10-20

Eggspierience

35 W. Ontario Street

(312) 870-6773

Breakfast

Average Entree: \$10-20

Tempo, State & Chestnut

(312) 943-4373

24 Hour Diner

Average Entree: \$5-15

Toni Patisserie and Café

65 E. Washington Street

(312) 726-2020

Breakfast

Average Entree: \$5-15

Original Pancake House

22 E. Bellevue Place

(312) 642-7917

Breakfast

Average Entree: \$5-15

Good Places in the Neighborhood

(A BIT OF A WALK OR A SHORT CAB RIDE)

Big Bowl

8 E. Cedar

(312) 640-8888

Pan-Asian

Average Entree: \$10-20

Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Walk 1.5 blocks straight ahead to Rush Street and turn right. Walk 3 blocks north to Cedar Street and turn right. Big Bowl is on your left.

Carmine's

1043 N. Rush Street

(312) 988-7676

Italian

Average Entree: \$30-50

Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Walk straight ahead 1.5 blocks to Rush Street and turn right. Go 2 blocks to Carmine's, on your right.

Grill on the Alley

909 N. Michigan Avenue

(312) 255-9009

Average Entree: \$15-40

American Steakhouse

Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Turn right on Michigan Avenue, Grill on the Alley is on your left.

Hugo's Frog Bar

1024 N. Rush Street

(312) 640-0999

Average Entree: \$15-40

Seafood and Steaks

Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Walk 1.5 blocks straight ahead to Rush Street and turn right. Go 1.5 blocks, Hugo's is on your left after Oak Street.

Le Colonial

937 N. Rush Street

(312) 255-0088

French-Vietnamese

Average Entree: \$20-30

Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Walk 1.5 blocks straight ahead to Rush Street and turn right. Le Colonial is on the right.

McCormick & Schmick's

41 E. Chestnut Street

(312) 397-5000

Steak and Seafood

Average Entree: \$20-40

Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Continue to Wabash Avenue and turn left. Walk 2 blocks to Chestnut Street. The restaurant is on your right.

Mike Ditka's

9100 E. Chestnut Street

(312) 587-8989

Average Entree: \$15-40

Steaks, Chops, Burgers, Sports

Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Turn left onto Michigan and go 2 blocks to Chestnut Street. Turn right on Chestnut. Ditka's is on your right.

Morton's (The Original)

1024 N. Rush Street

(312) 640-0999

Seafood and Steaks

Average Entree: \$25-50

Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Walk 2 blocks to State Street and turn right. Walk 1.5 blocks to Morton's on your left (lower level).

Nomi

800 N. Michigan Avenue

(312) 239-4030

New French

Average Entree: \$60+

Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Turn left on Michigan and walk 4 blocks to Chicago Avenue. Turn right and continue to Park Hyatt Hotel. Nomi is on the 7th floor.

Rosebud Steakhouse

192 E. Walton Place

(312) 397-1000

Italian Steakhouse

Average Entree: \$30-50

Exit the Walton Street door and turn left. Rosebud is on your left.

Saloon Steakhouse

200 E. Chestnut Street

(312) 208-5454

Average Entree: \$15-30

Steaks and Seafood

Exit the Walton Street door and turn left. Walk 1 block to Mies Van der Rohe Place and turn right. Walk 2 blocks to Chestnut Street and turn left. Saloon is on your left in the Seneca Hotel.

Spiggia

980 N. Michigan Avenue

(312) 280-2750

Average Entree: \$20-40

Italian Fine Dining

Exit the Oak Street door and turn left. Walk to the corner and continue straight across Michigan Avenue. Enter the first building on your left. Spiggia is on the 2nd floor.

Signature Room

875 N. Michigan Avenue

(312) 787-9596

New American, Eclectic, 95th floor view of the city.

Average Entree: \$20-40

Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Turn left onto Michigan Avenue and walk 2 blocks to Chestnut Street and turn left. Enter the John Hancock Center and go to the 95th floor.

Tavern on Rush

1031 N. Rush Street

(312) 2664-9600

Steak and Seafood

Average Entree: \$20-40

Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Continue to Rush Street and turn right. Walk 2 blocks and Tavern on Rush is on your right.

Volare

201 E. Grand Avenue

(312) 410-9900

Italian

Average Entree: \$10-20

Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Walk 8 blocks to Ohio Street and turn left. Walk 3 blocks to Fairbanks and turn right. Walk 2 blocks to Grand Avenue. Volare is on the left.

Host Committee Recommendations

REAL Chicago Pizza

Coalfire

1321 W. Grand
(312) 226-2625
Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Turn left onto Michigan Avenue. Turn right onto Ontario Street. Turn left onto State Street. Turn right onto Grand Avenue and continue 1.7 miles. Coalfire is on the left.

Worth a Cab Ride

Basil Leaf

2465 N. Clark Street
(773) 348-7243
Italian
Average Entree: \$10-20

Café Ba-Ba-Reeba

2024 N. Halsted Street
(773) 935-5000
Spanish and Tapas
Average Entree: \$10-20

Coco Pazzo Café

636 N. Saint Clair Street
(312) 662-2777
Italian Tuscan Style
Average Entree: \$10-20

Demera Ethiopian

4801 N. Broadway
(773) 334-8787
Traditional Ethiopian
Average Entree: \$10-20

Truly Chicago Joints

Gold Coast Dogs

159 N. Wabash Avenue
(312) 917-1677
Hot Dogs
Average Entree: \$5-10

Billy Goat Tavern

430 N. Michigan Avenue
(312) 222-1525
Dive Bar
Average Entree: \$5-10

Lou Malnatti's Pizzeria

439 N. Wells Street
(312) 828-9800
Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Turn left onto Michigan Avenue. Turn right onto Ontario Street. Turn left onto Wells Street, and Lou Malnatti's is on the left.

The Gage

24 S. Michigan Avenue
(312) 372-4243
New American, Gastropub
Average Entree: \$15-30

Gibson's

1028 N. Rush Street
(773) 266-8999
Steak and Seafood
Average Entree: \$20-40

Russian Tea Time

77 E. Adams Street
(312) 360-0000
Traditional Russian, High Tea
Average Entree: \$20-30

The Publican

837 W. Fulton Market
(312) 773-9555
Brunch and Dinner
Average Entree: \$20

Lou Mitchell's

565 W. Jackson Boulevard
(312) 939-3111
American
Average Entree: \$10-15

White Palace Grill

1159 S. Canal Street
(312) 939-7167
Diner
Average Entree: \$10-15

Giordano's

Rush & Superior
(312) 951-0747
Exit the Walton Street door and turn right. Turn left onto Michigan Avenue and walk 5 blocks to Superior Street. Turn right onto Superior and walk 1 block to Rush Street. Giordano's is on your right.

Wildfire

159 W. Erie Street
(312) 787-9000
Traditional American Steakhouse
Average Entree: \$10-30

Lula Cafe

2537 N. Kedzie Boulevard
(773) 489-9554
Breakfast, Brunch, Lunch and Dinner
Average Entree: \$16

Nightwood

2119 S. Halsted
(312) 526-3385
Brunch and Dinner
Average Entree: \$20

Pho Xe Tang (Tang Noodle)

4953-55 N. Broadway
(773) 878-2253
Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
Average Entree: \$10

Manny's

1141 S. Jefferson Street
(312) 939-2855
Coffee and Deli
Average Entree: \$15-30

Margie's Candies

1960 N. Western Avenue
(773) 348-0400
Ice Cream and Desert
Average Entree: Under \$10

Life's Necessities

When something breaks, you forgot it at home, or you just need more information.

Walgreens

757 N. Michigan Avenue
1/4 mile south on Michigan Ave.

CVS

1201 N. State Street
3/8 mile from Drake Hotel

Bank of America ATM and Branch

940 N. Michigan Avenue

L'Appetito

(Fantastic Coffee!)
875 N. Michigan Avenue (Bottom Level Hancock Tower)

Target

State and Madison

Chase ATM and Branch

875 N. Michigan Avenue

Chicago Visitor's Center

163 E. Pearson Street

Getting Around Town

Walking

Chicago is absolutely a walking city. Because it's flat virtually throughout the city, one should bring a good pair of walking shoes to explore. In March, any type of weather is possible—both in terms of temperature and precipitation. Bring an umbrella and some shoes you might not mind getting wet. It is relatively safe around the Drake Hotel and in the Michigan Avenue area. It would not be advisable to walk in alleys or dark areas by oneself after midnight. Part of the beauty of the city is the ability to walk for days and see the sites.

Riding the "L"

If you are traveling in Chicago, one of the easiest ways to go is by train. The downtown of Chicago is dense and the traffic is usually heavy. Luckily, Chicago has one of the best train systems in the world. Their train system, nicknamed the "L," has over 140 train stations and over 240 miles of track. Stations are located throughout the city and nearby suburbs, on elevated railways, in subways, or on the ground.

A one-way ride on the L is \$2.25. You get 2 free transfers within a 2 hour period. If you are going to be traveling on the L more than one ride, consider getting a one, three, or seven day pass. These passes give you an unlimited amount of rides during the specified times. They can be purchased at main L stations or in many nearby grocery stores.

Stay safe on the train. Keep all your possessions on your body and stay aware of your surroundings. Be sure that when you exit the train that you are at the right stop.

It is advisable to travel in groups if you are going out late at night.

Be aware, the only L lines that run all night are the Red and Blue. Enjoy the ride!

Host Committee Recommendations

Taxis

Hailing a cab and riding in Chicago is easy if you are in the vicinity of the Drake and most neighborhoods adjoining it. Here are some tips about taxis in Chicago: Chicago taxi cabs don't have a uniform make or color, so just look for the light on the top of the cab. The Chicago Taxi flag-down rates are: \$2.25 first 1/9 mile, 20¢ each additional 1/9 mile, 20¢ for each 36 seconds of waiting time. \$1.00 first additional passenger, 50¢ each additional passenger plus a 10–15% tip and the toll fee if you go via the highways or to the airports. The cab should also have proof of registration and a photo ID posted for the passenger to see. Taxis in Chicago also generally don't mind when you have more than four passengers. Drivers are required to take credit cards, though they occasionally do not specify that they do.

Nightlife

Clubs

Chicago has the nightlife for everyone—from a quiet drink in a neighborhood pub or bar to a wild dance scene in a nightclub. The city is particularly known for its fine collection of jazz clubs.

Le Bar Chicago

20 E. Chestnut
Martini Bar

Cuvee Ultra Lounge

308 W. Erie
Wine Bar, Lounge

Enclave

220 W. Chicago Live
DJ Dance

Excalibur Nightclub

632 N. Dearborn
3-floor Dance

Green Door Tavern

678 N. Orleans
Live Music

Violet Hour

1520 N. Damen
Cocktail Bar

Terrace at Trump

401 N. Wabash, 16th floor
Downtown View

Skylark

2149 S. Halsted
Nightclub

Nacional 27

325 W. Huron
Latin

Red Head Piano Bar

16 W. Ontario
Live Jazz

Rockit Bar and Grill

22 W. Hubbard
Younger Crowd

Sound Bar

226 W. Ontario Street
Dance

Green Mill

4802 N. Broadway
Jazz Club

Jazz Showcase Chicago

806 S. Plymouth
Live Music

The Velvet Lounge

67 E. Cermak
Jazz and Blues

The Hideout

1354 W. Wabansia
Live Music, Bar

Schubas

3159 N. Southport
Live Music, Bar

Spy Bar

646 N. Franklin
Live Music

Studio Paris

59 W. Hubbard
Dance Lounge

The Underground

56 W. Illinois
Lounge

Vertigo Sky Lounge

2 W. Erie
City Views & Cocktails

Underground Wonder Bar

710 N. Clark
Jazz and Blues

Buddy Guy's Legends

700 S. Wabash
Jazz and Blues

House of Blues Back Porch Stage

329 N. Dearborn
Live Music

Empty Bottle

1035 N. Western
Rock Music

GLBT

Chicago is the nation’s third largest city and boasts a large gay community. Like New York or Atlanta in their regions, Chicago serves as the Midwest’s cosmopolitan hub and attracts young and old alike—all looking to escape to the freedoms and opportunities of the big city. Gay life (and gay bars) in Chicago are mostly concentrated in two areas: Boystown (really “East Lakeview”) and Andersonville which is farther up the city’s north side. Bars and clubs have one of two licenses: most close at 2 AM (3 AM on Saturdays) and few stay open after-hours until 4 AM (5 AM on Saturdays). If you’re up for a late night, you’ll find the after-hours bars packed after the other bars close.

Berlin
954 W. Belmont Avenue

Lizard’s Liquid Lounge
3058 W. Irving Park Road

Roscoe’s
3356 N. Halsted Street

Big Chicks
5024 N. Sheridan Road

Marty’s Martini Bar
1511 W. Balmoral Avenue

Sidetrack
3349 N. Halsted Street

Downtown Bar and Lounge
440 N. State Street

Mary’s Attic
5400 N. Clark Street

T’s Bar and Restaurant
5025 N. Clark Street.

Theaters

Chicago is recognized as one of the finest theater towns in the country. A number of productions that originated in Chicago the past few years have gone on to world-wide fame and recognition. Theater companies are both large and small; some of the best experimental works take place with the fringe troupes.

Chicago Shakespeare Theater
800 E. Grand Avenue
(312) 595-5600

Harris Theatre
205 E. Randolph Street
(312) 334-7777

Steppenwolf Theater
1650 N. Halsted Street
(312) 276-1235

Chicago Theater
175 N. State Street
(312) 276-1235

Lookingglass Theater
821 N. Michigan
(312) 337-0665

Victory Gardens Theater
2433 N. Lincoln Street
(773) 871-3000

Congress Theater
2135 N. Milwaukee Avenue
(773) 276-1235

Oriental Theater
24 W. Randolph Street
(312) 997-1700

Goodman Theater
170 N. Dearborn Street
(312) 443-3800

Second City
1816 N. Wells Street
(312) 337-3992



Museums

No trip to Chicago is complete without visiting its fine museums. First on your list should be the Field Museum of Natural History, located at Museum Campus just south of Grant Park. The Field Museum features “Sue,” the world’s largest, most complete, and best preserved T-Rex. Museum Campus is also the site for the Adler Planetarium and the Shedd Aquarium. Also on your list of “must-sees” is Chicago’s southside Museum of Science and Industry, which is the oldest science museum of its kind in the Western Hemisphere and one of the most visited museums in the world. And on Michigan Avenue, where Adams Street ends, is the Art Institute with its famous lions adorning the front entrance. Chicago is a city of ethnic diversity, further evidenced by its museums. We have the DuSable Museum of African-American History, for example.

Adler Planetarium

*1300 S. Lake Shore Drive
(312) 992–STAR (7827)*

Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum, founded in 1930, is America’s first and oldest planetarium. It now houses two star-gazing theaters, a unique collection of antique instruments, extensive exhibit space, and many hands-on exhibits. It also offers the most wonderful views of the skyline in the entire city.

Art Institute of Chicago

*111 S. Michigan Avenue
(312) 443–3600*

The Art Institute consistently ranks among Chicago’s most-visited museums. From French Impressionist paintings to African American masks to the new wing for Modern Art, the museum offers visitors a rich cultural experience.

Chicago History Museum

*1601 N. Clark Street
(312) 642–4600*

The Chicago History Museum exhibits artifacts from the depth of their 22 million item collection and from the breadth of the city’s history. From the Chicago Bulls to the Great Chicago Fire, the museum covers it all and offers contexts and exhibits to make Chicago’s history relevant to our lives today.

DuSable Museum of African American History

*740 E. 56th Street
(773) 947–0600*

DuSable is the nation’s oldest museum dedicated to the exploration, documentation, and celebration of the African American Experience.

Field Museum of Natural History

*1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
(312) 738–1503*

The Field Museum is probably best known for the dinosaur displays, but it also has a rich and deep dedication to the “diversity and relationships in nature and among cultures.” It currently holds, conserves, and studies more than 20 million objects, a collection which grew from holdings received after the World’s Columbian Expedition of 1893.

Museum of Contemporary Art

*220 E. Chicago Avenue
(312) 280–2660*

Chicago’s contemporary art center explores, exhibits, and collects art created since 1945. They’re dedicated to allowing the public “to directly experience the work and ideas of living artists, and understand the historical, social, and cultural context of the art of our time.”

Museum of Science and Industry

*57th & Lake Shore Drive
(773) 684-1414*

Since 1933, this enormous museum has been dedicated to educating the public about science and technology. From the coal mine exhibit with a working elevator to the captured German World War II submarine, the museum's collections and hands-on exhibits seem almost endless.

The Shedd Aquarium

*1200 S. Lake Shore Drive
(312) 939-2438*

The Shedd is dedicated to "engaging, inspiring, entertaining, and informing" the public about the life in our oceans and waterways. They feature an Oceanarium, Wild Reef exhibit, Amazon River exhibit, and they pride themselves on their dedication to conservation and the protection of wildlife habitats.

Notebaert Nature Museum

*2430 N. Cannon Drive
(773) 755-5100*

The Nature Museum is devoted to "inspiring people to learn about and care for nature and the environment." The museum works in conjunction with the collections and scientists of the Chicago Academy of Sciences to create exhibits, programs, and more. The museum also features a live butterfly exhibit.

Specialty Film Venues

Music Box Theatre

*3733 North Southport Avenue
(773) 871-6607*

Independently owned and operated, the Music Box Theatre is the premiere venue in Chicago for independent and foreign films. A grand old picture palace.

Facets Multimedia

*1517 W. Fullerton Ave.
(800) 331-6197*

Simply one of the most interesting film facilities in the country. Its educational center, theater and DVD rentals make this one of the hallmarks of Chicago's cinema scene.

Gene Siskel Film Center

*164 N. State St.
(312) 846-2600*

For almost 40 years, the Film Center of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) has presented world-class independent, international, and classic cinema. Renamed in honor of the late film critic in 2000, the Gene Siskel Film Center presents approximately 1,500 screenings and 100 guest artist appearances each year to over 65,000 film enthusiasts at its unique, sophisticated, modern facilities.

Thank You for Attending!