

312-595-PIER	www.navypier.com
Navy Pier's Family New Year's Eve Bash <i>Dec. 31</i> Family fireworks at 8:15p.m. and again at midnight.	
Royal White Tigers at Navy Pier- Crystal Gardens <i>Jan. 13 - Feb. 12</i> This special exhibit and conservation education program features a Bengal white tiger Gita and her two cubs, Kozmo and Kumal. Admission fee applies.	
Strictly Sail Show <i>Jan. 26-29</i>	
Snow Days <i>Jan. 27-29</i> Gateway Park - Navy Pier Teams of talented artists gather to create sculpting masterpieces out of 10-foot blocks of man-made snow. Other activities include dog sled racing demonstrations, a snowboard rail jam competition and more. Free admission.	
Windy City Circus <i>Feb. 17-26</i> www.windycircus.org/bigtop/	
Chicago Flower and Garden Show <i>March 10-18</i>	
Navy Pier IMAX Theater 312-595-5MAX (5629) www.imax.com/chicago Featuring Chicago's largest flat movie screen.	
Chicago Shakespeare Theater at Navy Pier 312-595-5600 www.chicagoshakes.com	

MCCORMICK PLACE

312-791-7000	www.mccormickplace.com
Progressive Chicago Boat, RV and Outdoor Show <i>Jan. 12-16</i> 312-946-6200	
Chicago Auto Show <i>Feb. 10-19</i> 630-495-2282	
International Cluster of Dogs <i>Feb. 23-26</i> 773-237-5100	
America's Beauty Show <i>March 3-5</i> 800-883-7808	
C2E2 - Chicago Comic and Entertainment Expo <i>March 13-15</i> 888-605-6059	

PARADES

Chinese New Year Parade 312-326-5320 <i>Jan. 29</i> Come join the annual festivities at 1p.m., beginning on the corner of Wentworth and 24th.	
St. Patrick's Day Parade 312-421-1010 <i>March 17</i> River dyeing will take place at 10:45a.m., with the parade at noon proceeding down Columbus Dr. from Balbo to Monroe.	
Memorial Day Parade <i>May 26</i> Starts at noon and proceeds down State St. from Lake to Van Buren.	

PERFORMING ARTS

Chicago Opera Theater 312-704-8420 www.chicagooperatheater.org	
Chicago Symphony Orchestra 312-294-3000 Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center www.cso.org	
The Joffrey Ballet of Chicago 312-739-0120 www.joffrey.com	
Lyric Opera of Chicago 312-332-2244 Civic Opera House www.lyricopera.org	
Looking Glass Theatre www.lookingglasstheatre.org	
Broadway in Chicago www.broadwayinchicago.com	
Goodman Theatre www.goodmantheatre.org	
Chicago Theatre www.thechicagotheatre.com	

METRA'S YOUR TICKET TO FUN!

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Plan your trip at goroo.com

Travel information phones are available at each downtown Metra station. Ask at the ticket office for specific phone locations.

Thank you for choosing Metra and enjoy the ride.

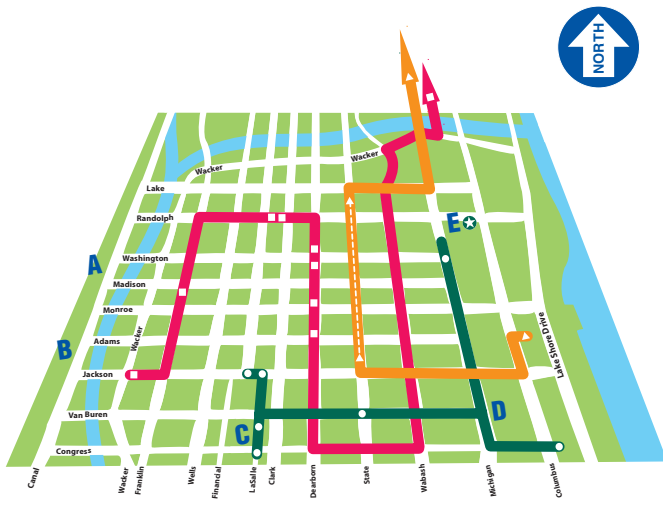


*3 children ride free per fare-paying adult.

Metra fares are subject to change.

CHICAGO WALKING TOURS

<p>Art & Architecture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Willis Tower Skydeck Enter on Jackson Blvd. John Hancock Observatory 875 N. Michigan Ave. Louise Nevelson Sculpture, Dawn Shadows, Madison & Franklin James R. Thompson Center Clark & Randolph Jean Dubuffet Sculpture, Monument With Standing Beast, James R. Thompson Center 	<p>Points of Interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Millennium Park CME Group (formerly the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) and the Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT)) 141 W. Jackson Blvd. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago 230 S. LaSalle Chicago Board of Options Exchange (CBOE) 400 S. LaSalle Chicago Stock Exchange 440 S. LaSalle Harold Washington Library 400 S. State Cultural Center 78 E. Washington Buckingham Fountain Grant Park 	<p>Shopping & Entertainment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Magnificent Mile Visit the fabulous stores, galleries and boutiques on North Michigan Avenue. State Street - Enjoy shopping at a variety of stores and specialty shops. American Girl Place 835 N. Michigan Ave. Petrillo Band Shell Grant Park
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metramarket

MetraMarket, a vibrant marketplace in Ogilvie Transportation Center focuses on food-related specialties, including an authentic French Market. Offering Chicago its first year-round indoor marketplace, the French Market gives you convenient access to local artisans and purveyors. You'll find plenty of fresh selections for dining, cooking or taking something to go. Stop in at the MetraMarket Monday through Sunday.

metramarket.com

FOR MORE IDEAS OF FUN THINGS TO DO IN CHICAGO, VISIT CHICAGO'S OFFICIAL TOURISM SITE WWW.EXPLORECHICAGO.ORG



ON WEEKENDS, OUR \$7 WEEKEND PASS IS GOOD FOR UNLIMITED RIDES ON ALL METRA LINES.

AND WITH FAMILY FARES, YOU CAN TAKE CHILDREN 11 AND UNDER ALONG FOR FREE.*

*3 children ride free per fare-paying adult.

EVENT PLANNER WINTER | SPRING 2012



Polar Adventure Days

Jan. 21 & Feb. 18 *Northerly Island*
Don't let winter slow you down. Come out and enjoy the sixth annual Polar Adventure Days. Watch as amazing ice sculptures are created, meet Siberian Huskies, birds of prey and other live animals, and listen to storytelling and live music.

Chicago's Kids and Kites Festival

May 5 *312-744-3370* *www.cityofchicago.org*
Bring the entire family to fly kites around picturesque Montrose Harbor from 10a.m.-4p.m.

The Lincoln Park Conservatory

773.883.PARK (7275)
Experience the charm of a Victorian Era glass house at The Lincoln Park Conservatory. Built between 1890 and 1895, the historic Conservatory displays lush, exotic plants from around the world in four display houses – The Palm House, Orchid House, Fern Room, and Show House. Call for dates for the Annual Spring Flower Show. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission.

CHICAGO CULTURAL CENTER

312-744-6630 *www.explorechicago.org*

Always free and always something for everyone

The Chicago Cultural Center, the nation's first and most comprehensive free municipal cultural venue should be one of your first stops in Chicago. One of the most visited attractions in Chicago, this stunning landmark building is home to two incredible stained-glass domes, as well as free music, dance and theater events, films, lectures, art exhibitions and family events throughout the year. Below is a small example of the kind of events you can enjoy at the Chicago Cultural Center:

Jazz Institute of Chicago: Jazz Links Jam Sessions

Thru May 9 *312.744.6630*
Featuring aspiring young student musicians from Chicago performing alongside local jazz professionals. The sessions take place every 2nd Wednesday of each month from 5 to 7 p.m.

The Vet Art Project Performance Series

Thru Jul. 25 *312.744.6630*
This unique performance series features several short works-in-progress with a brief discussion on the impact of art on the veteran community.

Write Now: Artists and Letterforms

Thru Apr. 29 *312.744.6630*
Aa major exhibition that showcases a diverse range of recent works by more than 60 artists utilizing letters and text in a wide array of mediums from Sept. 30, 2011 to April 29, 2012 in the Chicago Rooms of the Chicago Cultural Center.

MUSEUMS

CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM

312-642-4600 *www.chicagohistory.org*
Free general admission every Monday

Charles James: Genius Deconstructed

Thru-Apr. 16
Charles James was one of the most innovative minds in fashion. Although his talent is legend, surviving examples of his work are so rare that James's real genius is widely misunderstood. Discover James's roots in Chicago and his efforts to preserve his legacy.

Lincoln's Chicago

This gallery features portraits of Lincoln's contemporaries with lithograph views of Chicago created in the 1860s. The pairings provide a glimpse of the city that Lincoln knew—a dynamic young metropolis on the verge of greatness.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE & INDUSTRY

773-684-1414
For free general admission days visit www.msichicago.org

Fast Forward... Inventing the Future

From cuisine made by ink-jet printers, to urban high-rise farming, to instant-messaged hugs you can feel, you'll meet pioneers working on these and other amazing ideas that could change the way we live.

MythBusters: The Explosive Exhibition

March 15- Sept. 3
MythBusters Adam Savage and Jamie Hyneman bring their expertise in special effects—along with co-hosts, Tory Belleci, Grant Imahara and Kari Byron—to relentlessly busting or confirming myths through the scientific method.

ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

312-443-3600 *www.artic.edu*
Free general admission from 5:00p.m. – 8:00p.m. Thursday evening

Light Years: Conceptual Art and the Photograph, 1964-1977

Thru March 11
Light Years is the very first museum exhibition to examine the pathbreaking role photography played in the development of conceptual art. More than 140 works by 57 artists in an exhibition that will only be seen in Chicago.

The Last Harvest: The Paintings of Rabindranath Tagore

Jan. 29-Apr. 15
There is no bigger cultural icon in India and Bangladesh than Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941). A renowned novelist, poet, musician, and philosopher—the first non-European to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913.

PLAN YOUR VISIT

For easy hotel reservations
1-877-CHICAGO or
visit **ChooseChigago.com**

MUSEUMS

NATIONAL HELLENIC MUSEUM

312-655-1234 *www.nationalhellenicmuseum.org*

Gods Myths & Mortals

An interactive journey through the world of ancient Greece where visitors of all ages will meet the gods, experience ancient Greek daily life and interact with the epic poems.

CHICAGO CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

312-527-1000 *www.chichildrensmuseum.org*
Free general admission Thursday evenings from 5:00p.m. – 8:00p.m.
Free general admission for ages 15 and under first Sunday of every month

Snow Much Fun

Thru Feb. 5
Build a snow fort, throw snowballs, dress up a snowman and ice skate inside at Chicago Children's Museum! All the frosty fun of winter—without the cold!

Dinosaur Expedition

Explore this re-creation of the real Saharan expedition where Chicago paleontologist Paul Sereno discovered a NEW type of dinosaur. Dig for bones in the excavation pit, compare skulls, teeth, and claws with a T-Rex, and learn what it would be like to be part of Paul's expedition team.

THE FIELD MUSEUM

312-922-9410 *www.fieldmuseum.org*
Free general admission the second Monday of the month.

Sue the T-Rex

"Sue" is the largest, best-preserved, and most complete Tyrannosaurus Rex ever found. Measuring 42 feet long from snout to tail and 13 feet tall at the hip.

Genghis Khan

Feb. 24-Sep. 3
Who was Genghis Khan – a ruthless warrior, or a revered statesman? Uncover the amazing story of one of the world's greatest leaders and most misunderstood conquerors.

ADLER PLANETARIUM

312-922-STAR (7827)
For free general admission days visit www.adlerplanetarium.org

Planet Explorers

The Adler has launched the most immersive, hands-on exhibition ever created for families at the museum. The exhibition Planet Explorers offers a great space adventure packed with excitement and fun. Each child becomes a space explorer and embarks on an awe-inspiring journey through the Universe to the mysterious Planet X.

Shoot for the Moon

Shoot for the Moon at the Adler! This permanent exhibition highlights the exciting stories of space exploration and America's bold plans to return to the Moon.

MUSEUMS

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

312-280-2660 *www.mcchicago.org*
Free general admission all day Tuesday
Family Days – Second Saturday of the month from 11a.m. - 3p.m., free general admission for families with children 12 and under

The Language of Less (Then and Now)

Thru March 25
The exhibition is divided into two distinct parts, one devoted to a fresh reinstallation of historical material and a second showcasing five contemporary artists who are working within the stylistic language of their forebears.

This Will Have Been: Art, Love & Politics in the 1980s

Feb. 11-June 3
This exhibit provides viewers with an overview of the artistic production of the 1980's, as well as impart the decade's sense of political and aesthetic urgency.

Open daily, 6a.m. – 11p.m.

www.millenniumpark.org
Located on Michigan Avenue between Randolph and Monroe Streets, Millennium Park is a must-see experience. Enjoy world-class art, music and architecture.

Ice Skating 2012

Thru-March 11
When you bring your own skates, ice skating on this 16,000 square-foot rink is free and offers visitors one of the best views of Chicago's famed Michigan Ave. Skate rental fees apply.

Lurie Garden Adult Workshop: Landscape Design Series

Jan 14 *Free Admission*
Plan your outdoor space during the winter months. Lurie Garden staff and renowned perennial plantsman Roy Diblik will speak about planning tools for producing a successful garden.

Lurie Garden Family Workshop: Rain Stick Workshop

Jan 14 *Free Admission*
Bring your little ones and create your own musical instrument! Join popular Wiggleworms instructor Shana Harvey as she teaches how to make a rain stick out of recycled materials. Music and movement will both precede and follow the activity.

MILLENNIUM PARK

Northerly Island - Snowshoeing and Cross Country Skiing

On select weekends in January and February (and with at least 3 inches of snow on the ground), trek around Northerly Island on snowshoes or cross country skis. See the sites, track the animals that stay out in the cold and take in the amazing views of the city skyline. It's free if you have your own cross country skis or snowshoes. If you don't, you can check-out snowshoes or cross country skis two hours with \$5 and an I.D. on a first-come, first-served basis. (312) 745.2910. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. call (312) 836.7000 for travel directions or go to goroo.com. *www.chicagoparkdistrict.com*

TOURS AND ATTRACTIONS

The Hancock Observatory

888-875-VIEW (8439) *www.jhochicago.com*
Featuring the multimedia Sky Tour. Then stop by Espression by Lavazza, the world's highest cafe and enjoy a delicious cup of coffee or hot chocolate.

Skating in the Sky at the Hancock

312-654-5019 *www.jhochicago.com*
Imagine a romantic skate in the sky with the city lights behind you. Or, if the romance has moved on to having kids, enjoy a morning of figure-eights or first steps on ice, followed by hot chocolates all round. Jan. 1 - March 31, 2012 from 9a.m.-11p.m. (last session sold at 10p.m.).

Willis Tower Skydeck

312-875-9696 *www.theskydeck.com*
At 1,353 feet up, The Ledge's glass boxes extend out 4.3 feet from the skyscraper's Skydeck on the 103rd floor, providing never-before-seen views of the city.

Chicago Neighborhood Tours

312-742-1190 *www.chicagoneighborhoodtours.com*
This year-round program offers Saturday tours of various Chicago neighborhoods.

Magnificent Mile

312-642-3570 *www.themagnificentmile.com*
Visit the fabulous stores, galleries and boutiques of North Michigan Ave.

Chicago Water Works

1-877-CHICAGO (877-244-2246)
Visit Chicago's historic Water Tower and Pumping Station, which were built in 1869 and survived the Great Chicago Fire in 1871.

Riverwalk Gateway by Ellen Lanyon

312-744-6630 *www.cityofchicago.org*
Riverwalk Gateway gives a panel-by-panel history of Chicago and its river. Located under Lake Shore Drive on the south bank of the river at 400 E. Wacker Dr. (at the river's edge).

The Lakefront Trail

312-742-PLAY (7529) *www.chicagoparkdistrict.com*
Boasting a beautiful and accessible shoreline, this Chicago attraction includes paved pathways ideal for walking, jogging and roller-blading, weather permitting.

SPORTS

Basketball and Hockey

Going to see the Bulls or the Blackhawks?
The CTA's #19 United Center Express is an easy connection from Metra's downtown stations.

Baseball

Going to see the Cubs or White Sox?
Wrigley Field and U.S. Cellular Field are easy connections from Metra's downtown stations on the CTA Red Line subway. Call (312) 836-7000 for more information.

