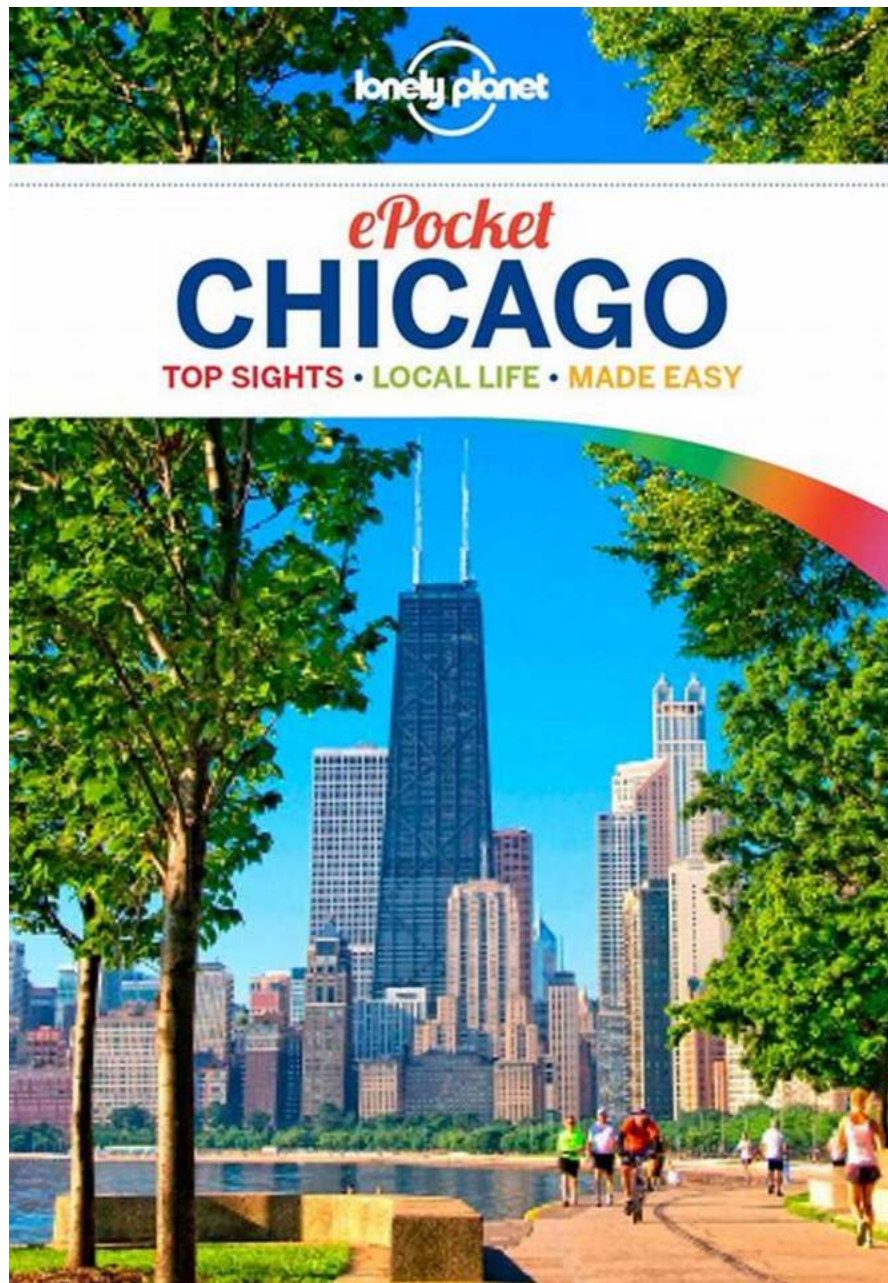


Discover the Hidden Gems of Chicago: A Comprehensive Lonely Planet Travel Guide



When it comes to vibrant cities in the United States, Chicago stands tall among the rest. From stunning architecture to world-renowned food scenes and breathtaking Lake Michigan views, the Windy City has something to offer every

traveler. In this comprehensive travel guide, we'll show you the best places to visit, dine, and explore in Chicago, ensuring an unforgettable experience.

1. Experience the Architectural Marvels

Chicago's skyline is known for its architectural splendor, shaped by iconic buildings designed by legendary architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright and Louis Sullivan. Begin your architectural journey at Millennium Park, where you'll find the famous Cloud Gate sculpture by Anish Kapoor. From there, join an architectural boat tour along the Chicago River to learn about the city's rich architectural history.



Lonely Planet Chicago (Travel Guide)

by Lonely Planet (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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Don't miss a visit to the Willis Tower Skydeck, where you can step onto a glass balcony, 1,353 feet above the ground. The breathtaking views of the cityscape will leave you in awe.

2. Immerse Yourself in Culture and Art

Chicago is home to world-class museums and renowned art galleries that cater to every taste. Start your cultural journey at the Art Institute of Chicago, housing an extensive collection of artworks and masterpieces from around the world. Marvel at Van Gogh's "The Bedroom" or Grant Wood's "American Gothic" and lose track of time as you explore the museum's various wings.

In addition to the Art Institute, immerse yourself in Chicago's vibrant art scene by visiting galleries in the River North neighborhood. Here, you'll find contemporary art exhibitions showcasing the talent of local and international artists. Don't forget to check out the famous Chicago Picasso sculpture located at Daley Plaza.

3. Taste the Flavors of Chicago

No visit to Chicago is complete without indulging in its renowned food scene. The city is famous for its deep-dish pizza, so make sure to try one from Lou Malnati's or Giordano's. Enjoy a Chicago-style hot dog loaded with toppings or savor a juicy steak at a local steakhouse.

If you're a foodie looking for a unique culinary experience, head to Chicago's diverse neighborhoods. Explore Greek Town for delectable Mediterranean dishes, enjoy authentic Mexican cuisine in Pilsen, or savor the flavors of Italy in Little Italy.

4. Explore the Natural Beauty

While Chicago is a bustling city, it also offers plenty of opportunities to connect with nature. Take a stroll along the Lakefront Trail, a scenic path that stretches for 18 miles along the shores of Lake Michigan. Enjoy the beach-like atmosphere at North Avenue Beach, where you can relax and soak up the sun during the warmer months.

For a tranquil escape, visit the Chicago Botanic Garden. Explore its vast gardens, admire colorful blooms, and experience the serenity of nature in the heart of the city.

5. Dive into the Thriving Music and Theater Scene

Chicago's art scene extends beyond visual arts. The city is known for its vibrant theater and music scenes. Catch a Broadway show at one of the renowned theaters in the Loop or enjoy a live performance at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

For music lovers, visit the famous blues clubs in the South Side or catch a live jazz performance at one of the numerous jazz clubs scattered throughout the city. Chicago's music history is rich, and you'll feel its influence as you explore the various venues featuring talented musicians.

6. Shop Till You Drop

Chicago is a haven for shopaholics with its diverse shopping options. From luxury boutiques on the Magnificent Mile to vintage and thrift stores in Wicker Park, there's something for every style and budget. Don't miss out on exploring the iconic Macy's on State Street, housed in a historic building with an incredible selection of fashion, cosmetics, and home products.

7. Discover the Neighborhoods

Chicago is a city of neighborhoods, each with its distinct character and charm. Explore Wicker Park, known for its hipster vibes, trendy shops, and unique dining establishments. Get a taste of the city's Polish heritage in the vibrant neighborhood of Avondale or embrace the creative energy of Logan Square.

Don't forget to visit Chinatown, where you can savor delicious Asian cuisine, shop for unique souvenirs, and immerse yourself in the rich cultural heritage.

8. Sports Galore

Chicagoans are known for their passion for sports, so attending a game is a must for any sports enthusiast. Catch a baseball game at Wrigley Field, home of the Chicago Cubs, or head to the United Center to watch the Chicago Bulls or Chicago Blackhawks in action.

For a truly memorable experience, join the electrifying atmosphere during a Chicago Bears football game at Soldier Field. The energy and spirit of the fans will leave an indelible impression.

Chicago is a city that offers an unforgettable experience for every traveler. From its remarkable architectural wonders, world-class museums, diverse culinary scene, and vibrant culture, the Windy City never fails to impress. Use this comprehensive Lonely Planet travel guide to make the most of your trip to Chicago and uncover its hidden gems that will leave you with memories to cherish for a lifetime.



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Lonely Planet: The world's number one travel guide publisher*

Lonely Planet's Chicago is your passport to the most relevant, up-to-date advice on what to see and skip, and what hidden discoveries await you. Admire the city's architecture on a river tour, visit the magnificent Art Institute of Chicago, and see a show at one of the city's 200 theaters - all with your trusted travel companion. Get to the heart of Chicago and begin your journey now!

Inside Lonely Planet's Chicago:

- NEW pull-out, passport-size 'Just Landed' card with wi-fi, ATM and transportation info - all you need for a smooth journey from airport to hotel
- Colour maps and images throughout
- Highlights and itineraries help you tailor your trip to your personal needs and interests
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- Cultural insights give you a richer, more rewarding travel experience - history, people, music, landscapes, wildlife, cuisine, politics

- Covers The Loop, Near North, Gold Coast, Old Town, Boystown, Wrigleyville, Andersonville, Uptown, Wicker Park, Bucktown, Ukrainian Village, Logan Square, Humboldt Park, West Loop, Pilsen, South Side, and more

The Perfect Choice: Lonely Planet's Chicago is our most comprehensive guide to Chicago, and is perfect for discovering both popular and off-the-beaten-path experiences.

Looking for more extensive coverage? Check out Lonely Planet's USA for an in-depth guide to the country.

Just want the highlights? Pocket Chicago is a smaller guide featuring the top sights and experiences for a shorter trip or weekend visit.

About Lonely Planet: Lonely Planet is a leading travel media company and the world's number one travel guidebook brand, providing both inspiring and trustworthy information for every kind of traveler since 1973. Over the past four decades, we've printed over 145 million guidebooks and grown a dedicated, passionate global community of travelers. You'll also find our content online, and in mobile apps, video, 14 languages, nine international magazines, armchair and lifestyle books, ebooks, and more.

TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice Awards 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 winner in Favorite Travel Guide category

'Lonely Planet guides are, quite simply, like no other.' - New York Times

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*Source: Nielsen BookScan: Australia, UK, USA, 5/2016-4/2017

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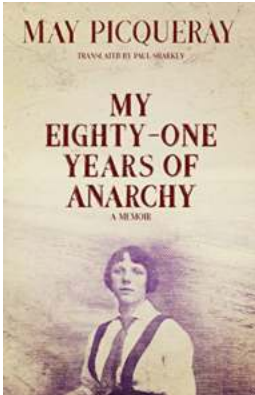
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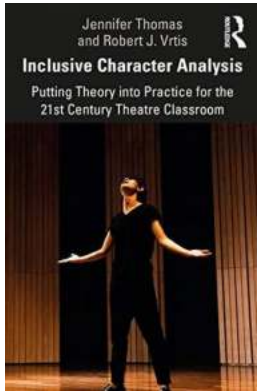
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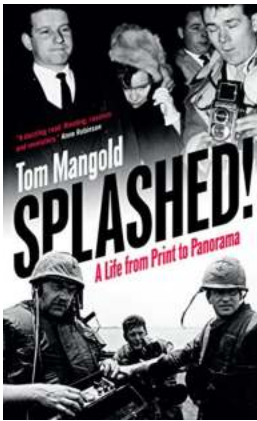
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