

# Discover the World Girl Scouts Go Hostelling!



## Chicago, a Girl Scouts kind of town: Sample OUTDOOR ADVENTURES itinerary

This itinerary sends you outside for fun and exploration around Chicago. Its companion itinerary, INDOOR ADVENTURES, is offered on separate pages. We encourage you to pick and choose what you want to do while in Chicago from both, or just follow them as written. One tool you will need is a CTA transit visitor pass for either one or two days, and you can buy them at the hostel when you arrive. We hope that our recommendations illuminate the many things to do in Chicago and make your planning easier. Our contact information is below for your questions.

### Arrive Friday late-afternoon

- Check-in at hostel anytime after 2pm, after your orientation by hostel staff settle into your rooms with linen and towels provided by the hostel.
- Hungry? Pick a place for dinner close to the hostel such as pizza at Giordano's or catch the #126 bus, from State and Adams, to Greektown for a great meal at Roditys.
- Come back to hostel: play ping-pong or pool, meet other guests, work on Girl Scouts Discover the World patch.

### Saturday

- A great way to start the day, a breakfast picnic in the park along the lakefront. Early morning is beautiful in Chicago and the hostel is next door to Grant Park. Just walk east toward the sun and the lake to find a grassy spot with a view of the harbor.
- Explore Chicago's lakefront and best attractions on foot. Walk back to the massive Buckingham Fountain and take your postcard shots of the city skyline.
- Walk north from the fountain, through the park. Cross Jackson and then Monroe to find the east side of the winding BP Bridge that crosses over Columbus. Walking east to west over the BP Bridge is a dramatic entrance into the spectacular new Millennium Park.
- Millennium Park thrills the senses with engaging sculptures and fountains. Explore the gardens in the summer and ice skate in the winter. If time permits, go to the Chicago Cultural Center with free art exhibits and Chicago information center across Michigan Avenue from Millennium Park.
- Lunch on the great lawn of the Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park is magnificent. Bring lunch with you or buy sandwiches at the Park Grill Café.
- Do you need a break? Stop back at the hostel, just six blocks south of Millennium Park, walk south on Michigan to Congress.
- Take in the grandeur of the city's major buildings from the relaxation of a river cruise with Chicago From the Lake cruises. With hostel discount: \$13 students, \$21 adults. Departs from the River East Plaza at Illinois and McClurg Court. Take the #29 bus from the hostel.
- Catch the free trolley or the #29 bus along Illinois heading east to Navy Pier where you can grab dinner, take a ride on the Ferris wheel, or go to an IMAX movie. The hostel has discount IMAX tickets. During the summer, see the Saturday fireworks display just after sunset. Getting back to the hostel is easy on the #29 bus.

## Sunday

- Breakfast at the hostel: either make your own in the hostel's big self-service kitchen or eat at one of the many nearby restaurants, such as Orange, Panera or Gourmand.
- One of the best ways to see Chicago is a guided bike tour with Bobby's Bike Hike, a 3-hour bike tour starting at 10 am. Bikes, helmets and guide provided. See the elegant architecture of the Gold Coast, the green of Lincoln Park, the animals in the Zoo, and return along the lakefront.
- Chicago is the USA's third coast and has miles and miles of beaches. Take bus #151 from Water Tower Place a short ride north to North Avenue Beach. Look for the big beach house shaped like a boat.

## Planning Resources

### Itinerary Destination Websites

Hostelling International Chicago	<a href="http://www.hichicago.org">www.hichicago.org</a>
Giordano's Famous Stuffed Pizza	<a href="http://www.giordanos.com">www.giordanos.com</a>
Girl Scouts Discover the World Patch	<a href="http://www.hichicago.org/groups_girlscouts.shtml">www.hichicago.org/groups_girlscouts.shtml</a>
Buckingham Fountain	<a href="http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com">www.chicagoparkdistrict.com</a>
Millennium Park	<a href="http://www.millenniumpark.org">www.millenniumpark.org</a>
Chicago Cultural Center	<a href="http://www.chicagoculturalcenter.org">www.chicagoculturalcenter.org</a>
Chicago From the Lake Cruises	<a href="http://www.chicagoline.com">www.chicagoline.com</a>
Navy Pier	<a href="http://www.navypier.com">www.navypier.com</a>
Bobby's Bike Hike	<a href="http://www.bobbysbikehike.com">www.bobbysbikehike.com</a>
Chicago Beaches	<a href="http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com">www.chicagoparkdistrict.com</a>

### General Chicago Information

City of Chicago	<a href="http://egov.cityofchicago.org">egov.cityofchicago.org</a>
Events and entertainment	<a href="http://metromix.com">metromix.com</a>
Chicago Transit Authority	<a href="http://www.transitchicago.com">www.transitchicago.com</a>

## Contact Information

Emily Paxson, Group Sales Manager  
312.583.2216 • [epaxson@hichicago.org](mailto:epaxson@hichicago.org)

Hostelling International Chicago  
24 E Congress Pkwy  
Chicago IL 60605-1226

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### Saturday

- Breakfast at the hostel: either make your own in the hostel's big self-service kitchen or eat downstairs at Café Gioia.
- Have fun with fish at the massive Shedd Aquarium and Oceanarium. In addition to the main aquarium, visit the Oceanarium with sea otters, dolphins and beluga whales. Conveniently, bus #6 picks you up just one block from the hostel, at Congress and State.
- Visit Chicago Cultural Center in the old Chicago Library where you will find free art exhibits, information center, and a spectacular Tiffany dome. Located along Michigan Avenue between Randolph and Washington, across the street from Millennium Park.
- Time for lunch. Downtown Chicago is awash in lunch places from the franchises to the local cash-only adventure at Heaven on Seven where New Orleans is on the menu. Find it at 111 N Wabash, at Washington, on the seventh floor. Heaven on Seven is one block from Millennium Park and the Chicago Cultural Center.
- Do you need a break? Stop back at the hostel, just six blocks south of Washington on Wabash.
- Refueled, rested and ready to shop, find your way north on Michigan Ave, Chicago's Magnificent Mile. When you get to the historic Water Tower at Chicago Avenue you will find American Girl Place. Take the subway, Chicago's "L," to get there quicker.
- Visit one of our city's tallest buildings by going up the nearby Hancock Observatory just one block from American Girl Place— don't forget your camera! Buy your discount tickets at the hostel before you go for only \$8.
- For a wonderful Chicago dining adventure at an economical price, go to Café Iberico, a Chicago institution with tasty Spanish tapas. Located just a few blocks west of Michigan Avenue at the corner of Chicago and LaSalle. Get back to the hostel easily on the CTA Brown or Red Lines.

## Sunday

- For fun at breakfast try Orange, close to the hostel, and pick from menu items such as Green Eggs and Ham, Frushi (fruit sushi) and Chai French Toast. It gets busy, so go early, opens at 8am.
- The famous French Impressionists abound in the world famous Art Institute of Chicago. Worth the trip alone is Georges Seurat's greatest work, and one of the most remarkable paintings of the 19th century, A Sunday on La Grande Jatte–1884. Find the Art Institute just a short walk from the hostel at Adams and Michigan.
- Chicago's free Lincoln Park Zoo is a classic and easy to get to on the #151 bus from downtown. Make this your stop for lunch in the central food court. Make sure to see the new ape exhibit.
- If you still have time and energy, you can make a quick stop to the free Lincoln Park Conservatory featuring many seasonal exhibits and an amazing permanent collection of varieties of flora.

## Planning Resources

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Shedd Aquarium	<a href="http://www.sheddaquarium.org">www.sheddaquarium.org</a>
Chicago Cultural Center	<a href="http://www.chicagoculturalcenter.org">www.chicagoculturalcenter.org</a>
Heaven on Seven	<a href="http://www.heavenonseven.com">www.heavenonseven.com</a>
American Girl Place	<a href="http://www.americangirlplace.com">www.americangirlplace.com</a>
Café Iberico	<a href="http://www.cafe-iberico.com">www.cafe-iberico.com</a>
Art Institute of Chicago	<a href="http://www.artic.edu">www.artic.edu</a>
Lincoln Park Zoo	<a href="http://www.lpzoo.com">www.lpzoo.com</a>
Lincoln Park Conservatory	<a href="http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com">www.chicagoparkdistrict.com</a>

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## Discover the World Girl Scouts Go Hostelling!

### Chicago, a Girl Scouts kind of town: Itinerary Alternatives

We list other things to do in Chicago that we recommend including many more museums and attractions.

#### Museums

- Field Museum of Natural History [www.fieldmuseum.org](http://www.fieldmuseum.org)  
Sue, world's largest T-Rex, world cultures, Egyptians, Evolving Planet
- Adler Planetarium [www.adlerplanetarium.org](http://www.adlerplanetarium.org)  
StarRider Theater, digital projection galaxy tour.
- Museum of Science and Industry [www.msichicago.org](http://www.msichicago.org)  
Fairy Castle, Coal Mine, Genetics, Space Center, Omnimax Theater
- Museum of Contemporary Art [www.mcachicago.org](http://www.mcachicago.org)  
Hostel discount \$5 off with coupon. Exhibitions of the most thought-provoking art created since 1945.
- Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum [www.mfacmchicago.org](http://www.mfacmchicago.org)  
Celebrating Mexican art past and present, located in Pilsen neighborhood.
- Chicago Historical Society [www.chicagohistory.org](http://www.chicagohistory.org)  
Devoted to the rich multicultural history of Chicago and Illinois.
- DuSable Museum of African American History [www.dusablemuseum.org](http://www.dusablemuseum.org)  
Interprets the historical experiences and achievements of African-Americans.
- Notebaert Nature Museum [www.chias.org](http://www.chias.org)  
Connect to the natural world through scientific learning and environmental programs.
- Peace Museum [www.peacemuseum.org](http://www.peacemuseum.org)  
A museum dedicated to peace through the arts.

#### Attractions

- Sears Tower Skydeck [www.the-skydeck.com](http://www.the-skydeck.com)  
\$10 tickets from the hostel. Tallest building in the Americas, Chicago history exhibits
- Navy Pier Imax Theater [www.imax.com/chicago](http://www.imax.com/chicago)  
Discount tickets at the hostel. Massive movie experience on 6 story tall screen.
- Chicago Architecture Foundation [www.architecture.org](http://www.architecture.org)  
Discount coupons from hostel for \$3 off walking tours. Discount price \$11. River cruises, bus tours and bike tours also available.
- Chicago From the Lake [www.chicagoline.com](http://www.chicagoline.com)  
Discount coupons at hostel for river and lake boat cruises.
- Chinatown [www.chicagochinatown.org](http://www.chicagochinatown.org)  
Ask the hostel about scheduling a tour of Chinatown or go on your own.