

Chicago, Illinois, USA

The city that reinvented the skyscraper greets Great Lakes cruisers at Navy Pier — a natural launching pad for architecture tours, lakefront strolls, and one of America's most walkable downtowns.

Docked — Navy Pier

Typical call: 8–12 hrs (often overnight)

USD

English

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Navy Pier, Lake Michigan shore — ships dock alongside (broadside)

Best For: Architecture fans, museum-goers, foodies, first-time USA visitors

Walk to center: Millennium Park ~1.5 mi on foot or short ride-share; Magnificent Mile ~0.8 mi

Don't Miss: Chicago Architecture Foundation River Cruise from Michigan Avenue Bridge

🚗 Getting around: 🚗 **Taxi** ✅ \$11–\$14 · 📱 **Rideshare** ✅ Uber, Lyft · 🚌 **Hop-on hop-off** ✅ Big Bus Tours Chicago

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Chicago Architecture River Cruise** — A narrated boat tour along the Chicago River is the single best introduction to the city.
- Millennium Park & The Bean** — Cloud Gate (universally known as 'The Bean') anchors Millennium Park, Chicago's 24.5-acre lakefront showpiece.
- Art Institute of Chicago** — One of the world's great encyclopedic art museums — home to Seurat's Sunday on La Grande Jatte, Grant Wood's American Gothic, and extensive...
- Field Museum & Museum Campus** — The Field Museum of Natural History houses Sue, one of the most complete T.
- Skydeck Chicago — Willis Tower** — Step out onto The Ledge, a glass-floored balcony 1,353 feet above street level at the former Sears Tower.

BEST WALKS

- Navy Pier to Millennium Park Lakefront Walk** 1.5 mi one-way | ~30 min | flat, paved — Head west from Navy Pier along the lake, passing Olive Park and the Ohio Street Beach.
- Chicago Riverwalk Stroll** 1.3 mi one-way | ~25 min | flat, café-lined — The Chicago Riverwalk runs along the south bank of the Chicago River from Lake Shore Drive to Lake Street.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		54°	39°	14d
Jun		77°	61°	13d
Aug		80°	66°	12d
Sep		74°	61°	10d
Oct		61°	48°	12d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:10AM–7:31PM · Jun 5:15AM–8:27PM · Aug 5:59AM–7:49PM · Sep 6:31AM–6:59PM · Oct 7:03AM–6:08PM

USD

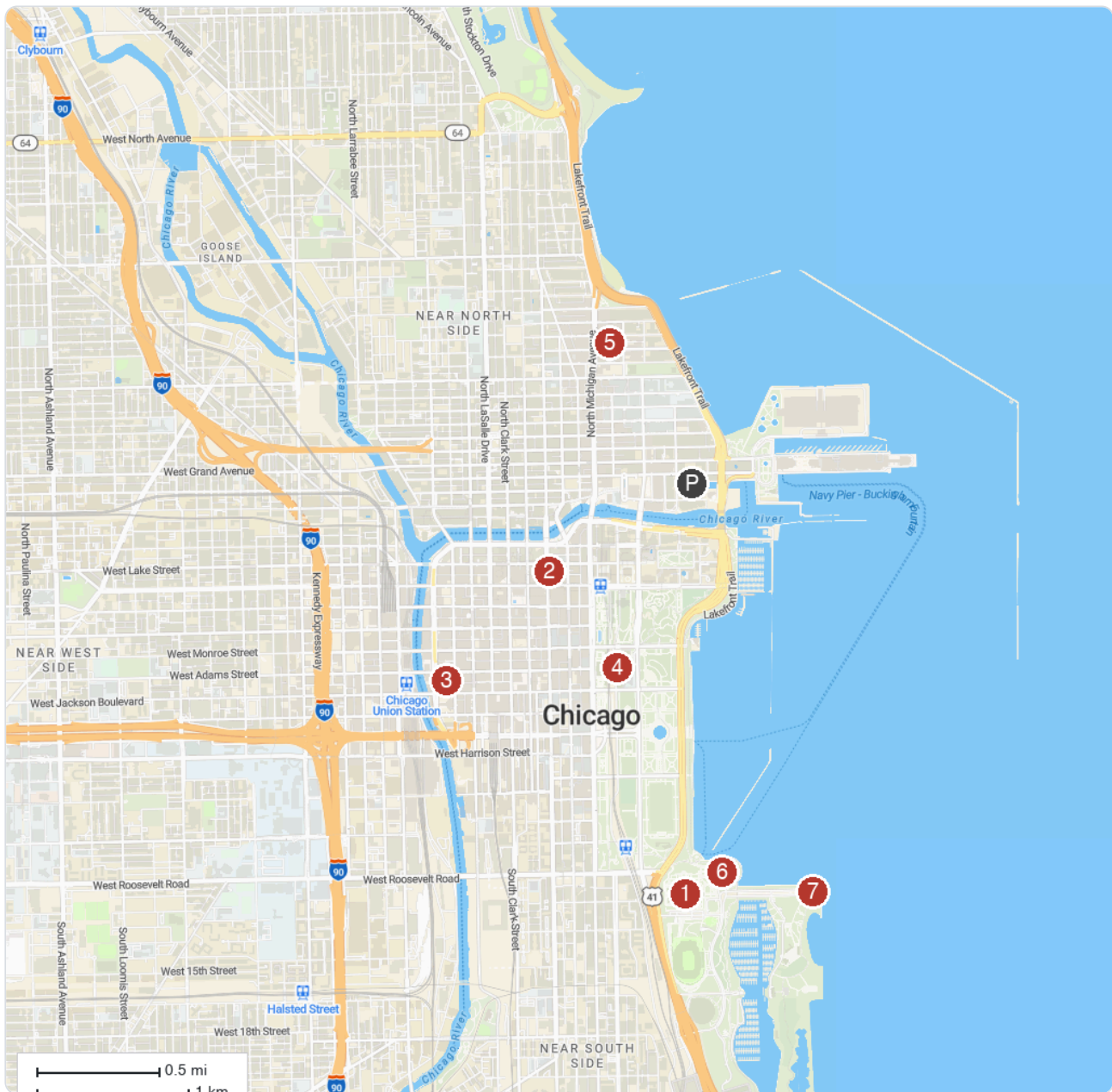
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Pre-book popular attractions. Skydeck Chicago and the Art Institute regularly sell out summer weekends — buy tickets online before docking.
- Ride-shares beat taxis. Uber and Lyft pick up right outside Navy Pier. Downtown fares are typically \$8–14. Avoid renting a car — parking is expensive and unnecessary.
- Lake Michigan weather swings fast. Summer mornings can be foggy and cool even when afternoons hit 85°F. Bring a light layer.
- Cash is rarely needed. Chicago is nearly entirely card and contactless pay. USD is the currency; no exchange needed.
- Deep-dish takes time. A proper deep-dish pizza at Giordano's or Lou Malnati's takes 45 min to bake. Order it early and plan around it.
- Victory Cruise Lines often docks overnight. If your itinerary includes an evening in Chicago, use it — the city lights from the lakefront path are spectacular.

Chicago, Illinois, USA — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



1 Field Museum Field Museum is a natural history museum.

3 Willis Tower Willis Tower is a famous Chicago skyscraper.

5 875 North Michigan Avenue 875 North Michigan Avenue is a distinctive skyscraper.

7 Adler Planetarium Adler Planetarium is a public museum dedicated to astronomy.

2 The Chicago Theatre The Chicago Theatre is a historic landmark theater.

4 The Art Institute of Chicago The Art Institute is a world-renowned art museum.

6 Shedd Aquarium Shedd Aquarium is a large indoor public aquarium.

P Cruise port / terminal