

Chicago Attractions MLA 2008

Associations

American Dental Association

Founded in 1859, the ADA is the world's largest and oldest national dental association and has over 152,000 members.

211 East Chicago Ave [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

American Library Association

Founded in 1876, the ALA is the oldest and largest library association in the world, with over 65,000 members.

50 E. Huron St. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

American Medical Association

Founded in 1847, the AMA is the nation's largest association of physicians and medical students. It also publishes the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*, which has the largest circulation of any medical journal in the world.

515 N. State St. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

American Hospital Association

Founded in 1898, the AHA is a national organization that represents and serves all types of hospitals, health care networks, and their patients and communities. The AHA provides education for health care leaders and is a source of information on health care issues and trends.

1 N. Franklin St. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Medical Libraries

Brennemann Library–Children's Memorial Hospital

CMH is Illinois' only freestanding hospital exclusively for children and ranks number one in volume for pediatric care in the Chicago area. The Brennemann Library provides an authoritative collection of books, periodicals, audiovisual materials, and electronic resources for physicians and the public.

700 W. Fullerton Ave. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Galter Health Sciences Library

This is part of the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and McGaw Medical Center institutions. The vast collection focuses on basic science, clinical science, physical therapy, prosthetics and orthotics, public health, genetic counseling, and clinical psychology. The library also has a large collection of historical documents and artifacts dating back to the eleventh century.

Though not open to the public, special visiting arrangements have been made for the MLA convention.

303 E. Chicago Ave. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Prentice Women's Hospital Health Learning Center

The Prentice Hospital is part of the Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Open to the public, the Alberto Culver Health Center is a medical resource for women, offering a comprehensive collection of journals, videos, books, and pamphlets as well as private Internet workstations.

250 E. Superior St. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Rush University Library

Rush University Medical Center is home to one of the first medical colleges in the Midwest and one of the nation's top-ranked nursing colleges. The library maintains an up-to-date clinical collection of books, journals, databases, and electronic resources.

600 S. Paulina St. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

University of Illinois Health Sciences Library

This is the Regional Medical Library for ten Midwestern states under a contract awarded by the National Library of Medicine. The collection of over 500,000 volumes and 5,100 journals supports education, research, and clinical practice in the university's sixteen health care institutions and affiliated health care institutions.

1750 W. Polk St. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Other Libraries

Art Institute of Chicago Libraries

The Ryerson Library and Burnham Library of Architecture constitute one of the largest art museum libraries in the world. The extensive collection includes monographs on art and architecture, exhibition catalogs, art and architecture journals, auction sales catalogs, microfilm and microfiche, pamphlet files, and archival materials.

111 S. Michigan Ave. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Chicago Public Library

The central location for the Chicago library system is the ten-story [Harold Washington Library](#). This neoclassical-style building has won architectural awards and has appeared in the Guinness Book of Records as the largest public library building in the world, with over seventy miles of shelving.

400 S. State St. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

John Crerar Library - University of Chicago

This is recognized as one of the premier libraries in the country devoted to the sciences, technology, and medicine. The vast collection includes classic texts of Vesalius, Galileo, and Newton, and other rare works by investigators and researchers who helped to establish the intellectual milieu of modern science.

5730 S. Ellis Ave. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Newberry Library

The Newberry is one of the world's leading research libraries. Focusing on the humanities, the collections of rare books, maps, music, and manuscripts embrace the history and literature of the civilizations of Western Europe and the Americas.

60 W. Walton St. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Museums and other attractions

Chicago's Best Buildings

This list, from [ThinkQuest.org](#), provides information on twenty-six of the Windy City's coolest landmarks.

Adler Planetarium

From models of the solar system to ancient astronomical instruments to interactive exhibits, Adler's galleries provide a passageway to explore the universe. It is home to two planetarium theaters, including the world's first all-digital projection theater, the StarRider.

1300 S. Lake Shore Dr. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Art Institute of Chicago

Considered one of the finest museums in the world, the Institute spans 5,000 years of artistic expression. The collections include paintings, prints and drawings, sculptures, photographs,

video, textiles, and architectural drawings and fragments, complemented by a year-round schedule of special exhibits.

111 S. Michigan Ave. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Chicago History Museum

The museum's collection of over 22 million artifacts is a rich source for the study of Chicago history and culture. The wide range of exhibits include unique items such as the first elevated train car from 1893, Lincoln's death bed, memorabilia from Chicago's two world's fairs, and Al Capone's mugshot.

1601 N. Clark St. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Dusable Museum of African American History

This is the oldest museum in the country dedicated to the collection, preservation, interpretation, and dissemination of the history and culture of African Americans. The collection includes rare books, slave documents, civil rights memorabilia, statues and masks from Africa, and art works.

740 E. 56th Place [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Field Museum of Natural History

Built for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition, the museum has extensive collections in the fields of anthropology, botany, geology, paleontology, and zoology. It is home to Sue, the world's largest and most complete tyrannosaurus rex.

Roosevelt Rd. at Lake Shore Dr. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

John Hancock Building Observatory

Located on the 94th floor above the Magnificent Mile, this is the city's only open-air skywalk, with an incredible view of four states. The Observatory is also home to the History Wall, with over 100 photos featuring Chicago's history.

875 N. Michigan Ave. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Lincoln Park Zoo

This is among the oldest yet most modern zoos in the country. In addition to all of the wonderful animals, the zoo features the Endangered Species Carousel ride, paddleboat and swan boat rides, the 4-D Virtual Safari simulator, and a safari audio tour.

2001 N. Clark St. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Magnificent Mile

This is the famous stretch of Michigan Avenue from the Chicago River to Oak Street. The Mile offers 460 stores, 275 restaurants, unique museums, and a variety of sightseeing and entertainment. Architectural attractions include the 100-story John Hancock Center and the original Water Tower, one of the few buildings to survive the 1871 Great Chicago Fire. At the time of the MLA meeting, the Mile will be blooming with tulips of every color along with Dutch-themed activities.

Merchandise Mart

Spanning two city blocks and rising twenty-five stories along the Chicago River, the Mart is the world's largest commercial building. Beyond the spectacular Art Deco lobby, the public is welcome to explore the first and second floors, which include thirty boutiques featuring the world's largest collection of resources for home building and renovation, as well as a variety of specialty stores and restaurants.

222 Merchandise Mart Plaza

[directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Millennium Park

This not-to-be-missed attraction is located in the heart of downtown Chicago. The highlight is the Cloud Gate; resembling a drop of mercury, the 33-foot-high, 66-foot-long sculpture is formed of seamless polished stainless steel plates that reflect Chicago's skyline and the clouds above. The other main attraction is the Crown Fountain, the first of its kind in the world. Two 50-foot towers stand at either end of a granite plaza submerged under a layer of water, while giant video screens on the towers scroll through images of the faces of Chicagoans.

[directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Museum of Contemporary Art

One of the nation's largest facilities devoted to modern art, the museum offers exhibitions in a wide range of media including painting, sculpture, photography, video and film, and performance.

220 E. Chicago Ave.

[directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Museum of Holography

This museum houses the world's largest collection of holograms and other 3-D images produced by laser lights, representing significant historic, artistic, and experimental advances in the field.

1134 W. Washington Blvd.

[directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Museum of Science and Industry

This is the oldest museum of its kind in the western hemisphere. Among the popular exhibits are a recreated deep shaft coal mine; a German U-505 submarine; Pioneer Zephyr, the first stainless-steel diesel train; a walk-through model of the human heart; Yesterday's Mainstreet, a life-size 1900s street scene; and Omnimax and 3-D theaters. The Henry Crown Space Center contains famous space-related artifacts and equipment, including the Apollo 8 and Mercury 7 spacecraft.

57th St. and Lake Shore Dr. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Navy Pier

This is the Midwest's number-one tourist destination. Jutting out into Lake Michigan, the 3,300-foot pier encompasses 50 acres of parks, gardens, shops, restaurants and entertainment. Highlights include a 15-story tall Ferris wheel, a Chicago-themed miniature golf course, Shakespeare Theater, IMAX Theater, a museum of stained glass windows, two performance stages, a botanical garden, and boat tours on Lake Michigan and the Chicago River.

600 E. Grand Ave. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Oriental Institute Museum

Part of the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute, the Museum exhibits major collections of antiquities from Egypt, Israel, Mesopotamia, Persia, Iran, Syria, Turkey, and other ancient Near East civilizations.

1155 East 58th St. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Robie House

Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1908, the Robie House is considered one of the most important buildings in the history of American architecture. As the foremost example of the Prairie House style, it emphasizes free-flowing interior spaces, overhanging roofs, indoor recreational spaces, and strong horizontal lines. The building, which is on the National Historic Landmark registry, inspired a modern architectural revolution.

5757 Woodlawn Ave. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Sears Tower Skydeck

The view from the 103rd floor of the Sears Tower covers fifty miles and four states. On the way up, monitors in the elevators simulate views from the Space Shuttle Endeavor blasting off through the Tower and into space. The Skydeck also features exhibits highlighting Chicago's history and historic characters and high-powered telescopes for a close-up view of the city.

233 S. Wacker Dr. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Shedd Aquarium

This is the world's largest indoor aquarium, with over 22,000 aquatic animals representing 1500 species of fish, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, birds, and mammals. Special exhibits include Amazon Rising, Caribbean Reef, and Wild Reef, complete with several dozen sharks. An amphitheater has shows several times a day featuring staff interacting with dolphins, whales, and other marine mammals.

1200 S. Lake Shore Dr. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Spertus Museum of Judaica

This museum traces 5,000 years of Jewish heritage. The numerous artifacts include historic ceremonial objects, textiles, coins, paintings, sculpture, and photographs. The Zell Memorial is the nation's first permanent exhibition on the Holocaust and features a continuous video montage of the victims.

610 S. Michigan Ave. [directions from Hyatt Regency](#)

Architectural Tours

No visit to Chicago (especially for first-timers!) is complete without a tour of the city's architectural treasures. Chicago is the birthplace of the modern skyscraper and other innovations, and you will see groundbreaking works by the world's most famous and influential designers such as Daniel Burnham, Louis Sullivan, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, and of course Frank Lloyd Wright.

Chicago Architecture Foundation River Cruise

Chicago's most popular river cruise! This 90-minute tour spotlights more than fifty architecturally significant sites where you will discover a new perspective on the city.

Chicago Tours

Chicago Tours offers a variety of cruise boat, speedboat, walking, and bus tours of architectural highlights along the river, lake, and commercial district.

Chicago Line Cruises

Born of the Great Fire, structural steel, and an indomitable spirit, skyscrapers were invented here. . . and here is the best way to see them. Join us for ninety minutes of genuinely tall tales and head-turning sights from the breathtaking vantage point of our cruise deck.

Shoreline Sightseeing

Join Shoreline on an exciting one-hour journey along the Chicago River and its architectural landmarks. Entertaining guides recount the dramatic story of Chicago's rise from the Great Fire of 1871 to become the cradle of modern American architecture.

Other Tours

A wide variety of bus, boat, carriage, trolley, air, and walking tours cover many of Chicago's neighborhoods and landmarks. Even Segway tours, too! Click on these resources for details:

[Chicago Architecture Foundation tours](#)

[Chicago Tours](#)

[Gray Line tours](#)

[Chicago Traveler](#)

[Shoreline Sightseeing](#)

[Chicago Neighborhood Tours 2008](#)

[Trusted Tours](#)

[Chicago Trolley & Double Decker Co.](#)

[CityofChicago.org Landmarks](#)

[Weird Chicago Ghost Tours](#)

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