

SECRET CHICAGO TOUR



Fri.-Sun., July 6-8

***Get the inside scoop from those “in-the-know”
at world-famous attractions, theaters & culinary venues.***

Friday, July 6

6:00-7:15 AM departures from Lima, Wapak, St. Marys & Celina. Exact times TBA.

Arrive in downtown Chicago around **11:30 AM**.

Rainforest Café—Lunch included on arrival

Enjoy a delicious meal of Caesar salad, Chicken Fried Chicken with gravy and mashed potatoes or Planet Earth Penne Pasta and Tribal Cheesecake and unlimited soda, tea or coffee. This jungle-themed restaurant is a wild place to eat and shop, with waterfalls, aquariums and an enormous green frog.

Chicago Mercantile Exchange—Visit the **Chicago Mercantile Exchange Group**, located in a landmark Art Deco building in the heart of the Loop—it's the world's largest and oldest futures exchange. The Chicago Board of Trade, founded in 1848, merged with the Chicago Mercantile Exchange in 2008. You will view traders in brightly colored jackets using the “Open Outcry” system to make their trades. Have you always wondered what the hand signals mean, or how the traders keep track of all the action in the “pits”? You will learn the answers to these questions and others during your visit.

Terry's Toffee & D'Amatos—Stop for delicious toffee at Terry's Toffee. Made from Terry's grandmother's recipe, this toffee is Donald Trump's favorite and is used at his Trump hotel as a bedtime goodie for guests. Nearby, enjoy a treat at a traditional Italian bakery.

Architecture River Cruise—Cruise along the Chicago River for a unique look at Chicago's architecturally significant buildings. Your fully-narrated architecture cruise along all three branches of the river is one of the top attractions in Chicago. Your cruise guide is an architecture expert and will tell you all about different building styles and explain why Chicago is known as the center of modern architecture.

Yanna's Greektown Restaurant—Enjoy a delicious family-style dinner in Greek Town. You will sample saganaki, the famous flaming cheese invented in Chicago, have a variety of appetizers, salad, Athenian Chicken, dolmades, pastitsio and moussaka, potatoes and rice pilaf, as well as dessert and coffee.

Check into Comfort Suites-Schaumburg—our all-suite hotel for the two nights. 847-330-0133.

Saturday, July 7

Breakfast at hotel

Arlington International Racetrack—Behind-the-scenes tour. Learn about the track's 80-year history, including hosting the world's first million dollar race: The Arlington Million. Watch the thoroughbred horses and their jockeys during morning training on what has been described as “the most beautiful track in America.”

Shop downtown Chicago—The Magnificent Mile is lined with department stores and boutiques, the famous Nike Town, American Girl Place, and the must-see Water Tower vertical shopping mall. See the historic Water Tower and Pumping Station that survived the Great Chicago Fire, the walls of the Tribune Tower that are embedded with rocks and stones from well-known structures throughout the world, the famous Wrigley building, headquarters of Wrigley Chewing Gum, and Fourth Presbyterian Church, with its beautiful stained glass windows. (on your own for about 1 hour)

Merchandise Mart—Lunch on your own

Willis Tower (Sears)—Travel in the world's fastest elevators to the 103rd floor, 1354 feet above the ground in the country's tallest building. **Skydeck Chicago** will give you the best view of Chicago and on a clear day you will see spectacular views spanning up to four states. The Ledge

brings an exhilarating new experience to the Skydeck. The glass boxes of the Ledge extend out 4.3 feet from the skyscraper's Skydeck, providing never-before-seen views of the city.

Private Chicago Theater tour—The theater opened in 1921 and underwent a significant restoration in the late 1980s. Stand on the stage where many of your favorite artists have performed, including Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Liza Minelli and numerous others. See where some of the biggest names in entertainment have autographed the backstage walls. Tour includes the lobby and audience seating. (On event days or days when a set is being built, there is no stage/backstage access.)

Chicago Pedway—Located in the central business district and lined with retail stores and restaurants, Chicagoans use this tunnel system to travel underground between many different commercial and government buildings along the 40-block route.

Macy's Department Store (formerly Marshall Field's)—

Tour the second largest department store in the world. You will learn about the history of this venerated institution, listed on the national register of historic places for the store's Great Clocks, the Tiffany ceiling and the Walnut Room. After the tour, you will have time to shop before dinner.

Dinner at Macy's Culinary Studio—The first restaurant in any store began when a salesperson at Marshall Field's brought in her chicken pot pies for the customers to eat. The chicken pot pie remains the signature entrée in Macy's Walnut Room to this day. While you enjoy your three-course dinner in Macy's Culinary Studio, a chef instructor will demonstrate the chicken pot pie recipe. You will be served a salad, Chicken Pot Pie and the famous Frango Mint Pie.

Return to hotel

Sunday, July 8

Breakfast at hotel

IKEA—Shop at the Swedish store known for its stylish, reasonably priced furniture, home goods, toys, candles, plants and other products. Visit the Swedish market too, and become familiar with Swedish food, sweets and drinks.

Take a behind-the-scenes tour at IKEA.

Enjoy lunch on your own in the IKEA restaurant where you can eat Swedish meatballs and local specialties at fantastic prices.

Pickwick Society Tearoom—as we head for home, stop in Frankfort, IL for ice tea tastings & snacks.

Dinner on your own enroute.

9:30-10:45 PM approximate home arrivals

Trip cost (per person): \$475 double \$465 triple \$455 quad \$565 single

\$75 deposit due two weeks of booking.

Balance due 5/15.

Non-refundable after 5/15 unless able to re-sell or trip cancellation insurance is purchase.

Trip cancellation insurance for medical reasons only: \$30pp

Trip includes: Escorted motorcoach, 2 nts. lodging, luggage handling, 5 meals, tours & attractions above, ice tea tasting, donuts & juice on Fri. departure, taxes & gratuities on included meals, guide/driver gratuities.



103 floors above Chicago at Willis Tower

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- **\$75per person deposit required within 14 days of making your reservation to confirm your reservation**
- **Additional trip information and billing will be sent prior to final balance due date.**
- **If less than 30 passengers sign up for this trip, Choice Travel reserves the right to cancel the trip and return your money or consolidate this trip with another group which could result in a change in the pickup locations and times.**

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CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations by members of the tour after final payment will incur penalties. *Choice Travel* reserves the right to cancel any tour prior to departure and in such event all payments will be refunded without further obligation on our part.

SMOKING: Smoking is not permitted on board the motorcoach or at group meals and activities.

SEAT ROTATION: There may be a mandatory seat rotation on the coach for all tour members.

DEPARTURE LOCATIONS: Departure point(s) will be announced at the time the tour is promoted or at the time of final payment.