EXPLORING CHICAGO

ATTRACTIONS

Chicago History Museum, 1601 N Clark St, Lincoln Park
http://www.chicagohistory.org/
Hours: Monday-Saturday, 9:30 am-4:30 pm
          Sunday, 12 pm-5 pm
Admission: $14
This museum brings Chicago's long and colorful history to life, with exhibits on everything from the Great Fire of 1871 to the city's rich background in sports. In "Sensing Chicago," people can feel what the city was once like—they can catch a fly ball at Comiskey Park (now US Cellular Field), dress up like a Chicago-style hot dog, and "hear" the Great Chicago Fire.

Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S Michigan Ave, Grant Park
http://www.artic.edu/
Hours: Open daily 10:30 am-5 pm
          Thursday, 10:30 am-8 pm
Admission: $23
This museum is home to one of the best and most diverse art collections in the world, and a highlight of any trip to Chicago. The museum's vast range of collections spans from the world's largest group of Monet paintings to contemporary pieces by Picasso, Matisse, Dali, Pollock, and Warhol.

Navy Pier, 600 E Grand Ave
http://www.navypier.com/
Hours: Sunday-Thursday, 10 am- 8 pm
          Friday and Saturday, 10 am-10 pm
Admission: Price varies; $19-23 for onsite parking
Since 1916, Navy Pier has been home not only to the military but to scores of special attractions. Now purely commercial, the pier offers everything from an IMAX theater to performances by a Shakespeare troupe. You can view dancing in a grand ballroom, ride the splendor of a fifteen-story ferris wheel (a replica of the one at 1893 World's Fair), or relax to the sounds of waves quietly lapping on the lakeshore.
Field Museum of Natural History, 1400 S Lake Shore Drive
http://www.mos.org/
Hours: Daily, 9 am-5 pm
Admission: $14
The exterior of this hulking marble facility only hints at the historic treasures inside. The architect’s goal was boldness, and he achieved it with massive columns and striking galleries filled with natural light. Visitors are immediately greeted by two massive elephants and Sue, the museum's famous Tyrannosaurus Rex skeleton. Keep going and you’ll delve into paleontology, geology, botany, anthropology, and much more. With nine acres of space to set up, curators can change displays regularly – they have more than 20 million items to choose from!

Museum of Science and Industry, 5700 S Lake Shore Drive
www.msichicago.org/
Hours: Daily, 9:30 am-4 pm
Admission: $18
As the largest science center in the Western Hemisphere, this museum is home to more than 35,000 artifacts and nearly 14 acres of hands-on experiences designed to spark scientific inquiry and creativity. These experiences are designed to inspire the inventive genius in everyone by presenting captivating exhibits that are real and educational, such as “Science Storms,” an exhibit revealing the science behind some of nature’s most powerful phenomena.

TRANSPORTATION
Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), $2.25 for a single ride