
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



GETTING HERE:

BY AIR – There are two major airports in Chicago: Chicago O’Hare (ORD) and Chicago Midway (MDW). Both provide easy access to downtown Chicago

BY RAIL – The AMTRAK station is within blocks of the hotel and is a very easy and inexpensive option from some cities. It can also be much more relaxing than traveling by air. Bringing a cat, no problem! Amtrak now accepts pets in carriers aboard most of their trains. Added benefit; no parking fees!

BY CAR – Many interstates wind their way through or around Chicago. The waterfront area where the hotel is located can be reached with very little difficulty and minimal city driving.

PARKING

AT THE HOTEL – Overnight parking in the underground garage is \$37.50 per day for hotel guests.

AT A PRIVATE LOT DOWNTOWN – Book parking NOW! If you plan to park and leave your car, there are several options available within walking distance to the hotel

<https://spothero.com/chicago-parking>

<https://www.parkwhiz.com/p/chicago-parking/map/>

AT A CTA COMMUTER PARKING LOT – Daily parking for locals coming in for the day (no overnight parking in CTA lots) <http://www.transitchicago.com/parking/>

BUDGET PARKING at the Airport- There is a parking lot just off of Besse Coleman (west side) in the remote economy parking area of O'Hare airport. The parking fee is just \$ 10.00 per day. They have busses that will take you to the transportation hub for the train into the airport. Get off at either terminal 2 or 3 and go down to the baggage claim area, and then follow the signs to the CTA train. Hop on the Blue line (at the baggage claim level between terminals 2 and 3- it's the only train out of O'Hare) which will take you downtown about four blocks from the hotel (get off around 200 North - signs on the wall tell you where you are in the numbering scheme of Chicago). You can either walk that or take a taxi which you will find waiting at street level.

DIRECTIONS AROUND AND ABOUT - Both Chicago airports have trains that go directly downtown.

MIDWAY: The CTA ORANGE LINE (4:30am-1am daily) to the Randolph/Wabash stop. Exit to Randolph turning right (towards the lake). Walk 4 blocks before turning left on Columbus for one block. Alternately, there are taxi's when you exit the train. This is a very well-lit and secure area of downtown that is busy with pedestrian traffic most hours of the day and night. The hotel is located at 200 N Columbus Dr, Chicago

O'HARE: The CTA BLUE LINE will get you from the airport to downtown in about 30 minutes, running non-stop all day and night. You will exit the train at the Logan Square stop and Exit to Randolph turning right (towards the lake). Walk on block east and then turn left on N. Columbus. The hotel is one block north on N. Columbus.

There are several shuttle services that provide very reasonable rates from the airport to downtown and are less expensive when you have more people riding. If you can coordinate your travel times with other travelers, the door to door shuttle option may be the best solution.

<https://www.airportexpress.com/> and <https://www.supershuttle.com> to reserve a shuttle. If you need additional assistance coordinating airport transportation to or from the hotel, please contact us at CFA-2017@Outlook.com

The area where the Annual is being held is conveniently located at Millennium Park (where you will find the famous 'Bean' sculpture along with many others). It is also connected via a beautiful 57 acre greenspace to the Chicago Museum Campus where you will find the Chicago Art Institute, Field Natural History Museum, Shed Aquarium, Adler Planetarium, The Chicago Cultural Center (with its beautiful Tiffany glass domes), both Opera Houses and Soldier Field. You can enjoy an easy walk to Buckingham Fountain and Chicago beaches or take a short taxi ride to Chicago's Navy Pier and ride the giant Ferris Wheel, take an evening dinner cruise on lake Michigan or spend the afternoon out sailing on the Tall Ship Windy (<https://navypier.com/tall-ship-windy/>). Take advantage of the City of Chicago's 'Everywhere Wireless' project providing free Wi-Fi to visitors of the Chicago Parks.

Chicago is known for its fantastic food and a very lively music scene. We hope you will come a few days early or stay over an extra night and take advantage of the amazing things Chicago has to offer.

Just around the corner is the Harris Theater : www.harristheaterchicago.org

If some Chicago Blues would suit your style better, check out TIME OUT CHICAGO for a list of some great Blues and Jazz clubs that have been frequented by the masters: <https://www.timeout.com/chicago/music/the-9-best-blues-music-clubs-in-chicago>

Don't forget the House of Blues has a World Famous Gospel Brunch every Sunday afternoon (12:30).

And here you will find a ton of additional information on local hot spots, shopping, dining and transportation: <http://www.chicagotraveler.com/maps/chicago-state-street-retail-shopping-map.htm>