Relocation Guide

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



Chicago is the third most populous city in the United States and boasts a unique culture defined by history, architecture and food. Sitting on the southwest shore of Lake Michigan, the Windy City is a diverse and appealing place to call home. Learn what makes this Midwestern city shine so bright!



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Living, Dining, Events & Culture





Chicago is known for its vast suburban sprawl, coined Chicagoland. The Metra train line connects these suburbs to the inner city, and the Chicago Transit Authority's L train and bus systems help locals get around. Living inside city limits can bring majestic views of Lake Michigan or the local charm of one of Chicago's many unique neighborhoods. The city ranks at 76% for livability, with the median house price sitting around \$350,000.

Whether you're craving deep-dish pizza or upscale cuisine, Chicago has something to satisfy every appetite. Lou Malnati's, a family-owned pizzeria since 1971, serves iconic Chicago-style deep-dish loaded with cheese and chunky tomato sauce. For breakfast lovers, Wildberry Pancakes is a local favorite known for its fluffy pancakes, signature omelets and fresh-squeezed juices. Walking the streets of the city will offer everything from food trucks and neighborhood bakeries to Michelin-starred restaurants tucked between towering skyscrapers.





Chicago's culture can be explored through architecture tours, local neighborhoods and year-round events. Visit iconic landmarks, murals and parks in places like Pilsen and Bronzeville. The city hosts events like the Chicago Blues Festival, the Air and Water Show, and outdoor movies in Millennium Park. Museums like the Chicago History Museum and the DuSable Black History Museum offer deeper insights into the city's rich history.

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Lincoln Park Zoo, just north of downtown, is one of the oldest zoos in the country and offers free admission year-round. It's home to hundreds of animals and is a favorite spot for families and visitors alike. The Chicago Botanic Garden, located just outside the city, features 27 distinct gardens, making it a peaceful retreat for nature lovers. For stunning skyline views and lakefront breezes, a stroll or bike ride along the 18-mile Lakefront Trail is a must-do.

Chicago is home to major sports teams like the Bears (NFL), Cubs (MLB), White Sox (MLB), Bulls (NBA) and Blackhawks (NHL). The city also boasts top college teams like DePaul and Northwestern. Wrigley Field and the United Center are iconic venues to catch a game or experience the atmosphere. Chicago's passionate sports culture and local rivalries make attending games a thrilling experience year-round.





Don't miss out on a show at the Chicago Theatre, a landmark venue known for its iconic marquee and star-studded lineup of concerts, comedy acts and stage productions. For a taste of Broadway in the Midwest, head to the James M. Nederlander Theatre, where national tours of hit musicals regularly take the stage. Chicago is also home to the world-renowned Steppenwolf Theatre Company, celebrated for its bold, original productions and top-tier ensemble of actors.

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Major Employers & Getaways





Chicagoland hosts a variety of employers across industries, such as Boeing, McDonald's and Walgreens Boots Alliance. The city is also a growing tech hub, with companies like Grubhub and Morningstar. Chicago's diverse economy offers career opportunities in finance, healthcare, tech and more, making it a vibrant city for professionals.

Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, is just a short drive from Chicago and offers a relaxing weekend escape with lakeside resorts, boat tours and scenic hiking trails. For those craving a change of pace, the beaches of Indiana Dunes National Park are less than an hour away. And if you're looking to head farther out, quick flights from Chicago can take you to vibrant destinations like Nashville, New Orleans or even the Rocky Mountains for a dose of adventure.

