“You have the right to do things in Chicago. If you want to start a business, a theater, a newspaper, you can find the space, the backing, the audience.”

Bernie Sahlins, AB’43, co-founder of The Second City
A world city.
A top university.

The University of Chicago and its namesake city are intrinsically linked. In the 1890s, the world’s fair brought millions of international visitors to the doorstep of our brand new university. The landmark event celebrated diverse perspectives, curiosity, and innovation—values advanced by UChicago ever since.

Today Chicago is a center of global cultures, worldwide organizations, international commerce, and fine arts. Like UChicago, it’s an intellectual destination, drawing top scholars, companies, entrepreneurs, and artists who enhance the academic experience of our students. Chicago is our classroom, our gallery, and our playground.

Welcome to Chicago.
Chicago is the sum of its many great parts: 77 community areas and more than 100 neighborhoods. Each block is made up of distinct personalities, local flavors, and vibrant cultures. Woven together by an extensive public transportation system, all of Chicago’s wonders are easily accessible to UChicago students.
“There’s a feeling of unity in Hyde Park that connects every member of our community. Whether you’re a student or a professor or a longtime resident, everyone feels vitally engaged.”

Cullen S., Class of 2013
UChicago's home on the South Side combines the best aspects of a world-class city and a vibrant college town. Hyde Park is one of Chicago's most historic neighborhoods: founded in 1853, annexed to the city in 1889, and host of the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893. Today, Hyde Park is known for its intellectual culture, museums, and expansive green spaces.

Where to Go
- DuSable Museum of African American History
- Harper Court
- UChicago Campus
- Osaka Garden
- Promontory Point
- Home of Barack Obama
- Medici on 57th
- Frank Lloyd Wright’s Robie House
- 57th Street Books
- Seminary Co-op Bookstore

UChicago Connections
- Nearly 60 percent of UChicago faculty live in Hyde Park.
- Marshall Field, the famed retail entrepreneur and former Hyde Parker, donated his land for the University of Chicago campus in the late 19th century.
- UChicago supports Hyde Park through various initiatives, civic engagement, and cultural partnerships.
- With four hospitals and an outpatient facility, the University of Chicago Medicine brings compassionate, state-of-the-art health care to campus, Hyde Park, and beyond.
“The South Side is full of parks and gardens that are great for reading outside. Sometimes I’ll take a jog by the lake or see a museum or just sit under a tree with a book.”
Christianna R., Class of 2015
The South Side of Chicago is home to some of the city’s most influential and unique neighborhoods. These cultural epicenters have been shaped by Chicago’s rich history of immigration and share a distinct South Side pride. Venture just a few miles from UChicago by bus or train, and you’ll find even more of authentic Chicago.

Where to Go
- Museum of Science and Industry
- National Museum of Mexican Art
- Bronzeville’s Victory Monument
- U.S. Cellular Field (home of the Chicago White Sox)
- Pullman Historic District
- Chinatown
- Arts Incubator
- Glessner House
- Jackson Park Harbor

UChicago Connections
- The University of Chicago is the largest single employer on the South Side.
- See your studies in action—such renowned intellectuals, artists, and politicians as Gwendolyn Brooks, Richard Wright, and Ida B. Wells all hailed from the South Side.
- UChicago’s Urban Education Institute operates four charter school campuses on the South Side to study and enhance public K-12 education in Chicago.
PICTURED
The Magnificent Mile as it meets the Chicago River, featuring the Wrigley Building and the Tribune Tower.
Downtown Chicago is an international destination for entertainment and business. Marked by our signature skyline, downtown boasts four of the nation’s tallest buildings and world-renowned museums and cultural institutions. Students venture downtown by bus or train to see landmark art exhibits, sample the work of celebrated chefs, and shop on the Magnificent Mile.

Where to Go
- Cloud Gate (“The Bean”) at Millennium Park
- Agora Sculpture
- Chicago Water Tower
- Willis Tower
- Chicago Architecture Foundation
- The Magnificent Mile
- Navy Pier
- The Chicago Theatre
- Museum of Contemporary Art
- Museum Campus: Field Museum
- Adler Planétarium
- Shedd Aquarium
- Chicago Cultural Center

UChicago Connections
- Swing by Sugar Bliss Cake Boutique for a sweet treat by financier-turned-baker UChicago alumna, Teresa Ging, AB’00.
- The namesake of the Jay Pritzker Pavilion in downtown’s Millennium Park is a member of the family for which UChicago’s medical school is named.
- Gleacher Center is the downtown home of the top-ranked University of Chicago Booth School of Business.
- Several UChicago alumni have started companies downtown, including Joe Mansueto, AB’78, MBA’80, chairman and CEO of Morningstar, Inc.

“Downtown makes me feel like a superwoman. I feel like I can conquer anything!”
Lauren M., Class of 2016
NORTH SIDE

“The North Side is lively, fun, and constantly in motion.”

Tyler L., Class of 2015

Pictured: Chicago’s North Side hugs seven miles of Lake Michigan and the iconic Lake Shore Drive.
Chicago's expansive North Side is a bustling cultural and social hub with miles of lakefront parks and popular public beaches. Its neighborhood streets are lined with shops, restaurants, and theaters. Easily accessible by train, bike, or bus, here you'll find a wealth of excitement and entertainment.

**Where to Go**
- Wrigley Field (home of the Chicago Cubs)
- Steppenwolf Theatre
- Lincoln Park Zoo
- Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
- Wicker Park
- Biograph Theater
- Green Mill
- Chicago History Museum
- Devon Avenue
- Belmont Harbor

**UChicago Connections**
- **Chicago Cubs** owner Tom Ricketts, AB’88, MBA’93, first fell in love with the team as an undergrad at UChicago.
- Founded by a group of UChicago students more than 50 years ago, **The Second City** is a major destination for Chicago's hallmark style of improv and sketch comedy.
- Run by two UChicago alumni, **iCream Café** serves up customized ice cream with a side of science.
Your UChicago Card doubles as an ArtsPass—granting free admission to the Art Institute of Chicago and the Museum of Contemporary Art, as well as discounted tickets to the Goodman Theatre, Joffrey Ballet, and dozens of other ArtsPass-friendly cultural institutions around the city. Exploring the arts and culture of Chicago starts right on UChicago’s campus. The new 1. Logan Center for the Arts (Hyde Park) provides our students a creative home in a gorgeous setting.

Chicago is an international epicenter for the arts, as seen on the walls and stages of renowned institutions and bursting onto the streets and sidewalks of each neighborhood.

Fine art isn’t just in museums; it’s everywhere in Chicago. 2. Cloud Gate (Grant Park)—known to locals as “The Bean,” for reasons that should be obvious—is a common destination for visitors and Chicagoans alike to take zany, contorted photos. UChicago students do their best imitation of Alexander Calder’s 3. Flamingo (Loop). 4. The Museum of Contemporary Art (Streeterville) is one of the nation’s largest modern art facilities and has displayed pieces by UChicago MFA graduates.
Students explore the **5. SMART MUSEUM OF ART (HYDE PARK)**, just a few minutes’ walk from the main quad at UChicago. If they’re up for more of an adventure, they hop on the no. 6 express bus to downtown, where they visit the iconic **6. ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO (LOOP)**. Or hang out with Sue the T. rex at the **7. FIELD MUSEUM (MUSEUM CAMPUS)**. **8. GOODMAN THEATRE (LOOP)** brings award-winning and innovative theater to Chicago, for which it won a Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre. Lyric Opera of Chicago offers world-class performances in the **9. THE CIVIC OPERA HOUSE (LOOP)**, an architectural masterpiece. UChicago students can check out classic ballets and modern debuts by the **10. JOFFREY BALLET (LOOP)** at a discounted rate. Students walk past **11. ROBIE HOUSE (HYDE PARK)**, one of Frank Lloyd Wright’s most prominent designs, just a block away from the center of campus.

“I’ve been to the Art Institute a million times, taking pictures with my friends and trying to reenact the scenes from *Ferris Bueller’s Day Off.*”
Kyle K., Class of 2014
Living and learning in Chicago means never running out of things to do, see, or celebrate. UChicago students rock out at Lollapalooza, cheer on parades, indulge in our famous pizza, explore street fairs, and find countless ways to make Chicago their own.

There’s always something exciting happening on the streets of Chicago. Whether it’s admiring the **1. HOLIDAY DECORATIONS (LOOP)**, rocking out at **2. LOLLAPALOOZA (GRANT PARK)**, watching the **3. NAVY PIER FIREWORKS (STREETerville)** twice a week in the summertime, partying at the **4. PRIDE PARADE (LAKEVIEW)**, or enjoying the **5. MAGNIFICENT MILE LIGHTS FESTIVAL (RIVER NORTH)**, every season is a chance to go out and celebrate.
Looking to sit back and take it all in? You can catch a show at a legendary Chicago venue like the **6. CONGRESS THEATER (LOGAN SQUARE)** or root for the **7. CUBS (WRIGLEYVILLE)**—or White Sox, Bulls, Bears, or Blackhawks, whichever you prefer. And if you’d rather be in the heart of it all, shop the top stores on **8. MICHIGAN AVENUE (STEETERVILLE)** and get a view from the top at the **9. WILLIS TOWER SKYDECK (LOOP)** from 1,353 feet in the air.

Of course, food is a crucial part of Chicago life. We’re famous for our outdoor dining, such as **10. THE MEDICI (HYDE PARK)**, rooftop dining, like at **11. THE WIT (LOOP)**, our **12. DEEP DISH PIZZA**, and **13. CHICAGO-STYLE HOT DOGS**—hold the ketchup! But we’re also home to world-renowned restaurants like **14. ALINEA (LINCOLN PARK)**, founded by celebrity chef Grant Achatz.

“I love going to Cubs games. Wrigleyville is so fun to just walk around. Sometimes I go there just for the energy.” —Christian A., Class of 2015
Chicago is a city on the move, with 26 miles of waterfront parks, bike and running paths, and public beaches. Chicagoans can be found outside in all four seasons: ice-skating in winter, riding bikes in spring, playing beach volleyball in summer, and running the Chicago Marathon in fall. There’s no better city to explore by foot, bike, or boat. Right in the heart of downtown, Chicago’s plentiful green space beckons business people and students alike to come out and play. Children dance through the 1. CROWN FOUNTAIN (LOOP) as the 50-foot-high faces of Chicagoans spout water. 2. GRANT PARK (LOOP) hosts kickball games with the skyline as backdrop. The serene and majestic 3. OSAKA GARDEN (JACKSON PARK) brings Japanese elegance to the South Side. Chicagoans cheer on Da Bears at 4. SOLDIER FIELD (MUSEUM CAMPUS), and the 5. LAKEFRONT TRAIL (LAKEVIEW) is a year-round playground for bicyclists, skateboarders, rollerbladers, joggers, and people watchers.
When the city you live in is planted alongside a Great Lake and filled with parks, there’s always adventure nearby. Whether it’s volleyball at **6. NORTH AVENUE BEACH (LINCOLN PARK)** or whatever it is that those UChicago students are doing with a Frisbee and a shovel at **7. OAK STREET BEACH (GOLD COAST)**, we always find a way to play by the lake.

In the winter, UChicago students enjoy ice-skating on the Midway and at **8. MILLENNIUM PARK (DOWNTOWN)**, greeting the sunrise at **9. PROMONTORY POINT (HYDE PARK)** during Kuvia, the University’s winter festival, and rooting for the Chicago Blackhawks, who celebrated their 2013 Stanley Cup victory in **10. GRANT PARK (DOWNTOWN)** with millions of fans. Once it warms, UChicago rowers and kayakers can be found taking advantage of the **11. CHICAGO RIVER (DOWNTOWN)**.

“I love being up at dawn, rowing on the river and seeing the city come to life.”
Marc K., Class of 2015
Chicago is an international hub for commerce and culture. With two international airports, extensive public transportation, major corporations, and dozens of cultural enclaves, Chicago is a global destination for people and companies. Here, you don’t have to step outside city limits to travel the world.

Major corporations like 1. **Boeing (West Loop)**, United, McDonald’s, and many more have their headquarters here. Find a hub for Chicago history and diversity at the 2. **Chicago Cultural Center (Loop)**. The Chicago Mercantile Exchange and the 3. **Chicago Board of Trade (Loop)** are also in the heart of downtown, helping fuel international commerce.

4. **McCormick Place (South Side)** is the largest convention center in the nation and brings hundreds of conferences and corporations just a quick trip from UChicago’s campus. Investment research firm 5. **Morningstar, Inc. (Loop)**, was founded by UChicago alum, Joe Mansueto, AB’78, MBA’80.
Our city is home to every kind of culture, including **8. CHINA-TOWN (SOUTH SIDE)**, and often celebrated with parades and street festivals like the **9. POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY PARADE (DOWNTOWN)** (the largest Polish parade outside of Poland) and the **10. GREEKTOWN PARADE (WEST SIDE)**. The Hall of Flags at **11. O’HARE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (NORTH SIDE)** greets residents and visitors from around the world.

Chicago provides the backdrop for dozens of major movies and TV shows. The landmark **6. BOARD OF TRADE (DOWNTOWN)**, served as Wayne Enterprises HQ in *Batman Begins*. Each fall, more than 35,000 runners participate in the **7. CHICAGO MARATHON (DOWNTOWN)**.

“Hop on a train or bus and go where your heart desires, whether that be a quaint neighborhood on the North Side, or the glorious, skyscraper-lined, bustling center of it all.”

Rachelle K., Class of 2016
FACTS & FIGURES

4th LARGEST MUNICIPAL GDP IN THE WORLD

15 MILES OF PUBLIC BEACHES

2.7 MILLION RESIDENTS

222 MILES OF CTA TRACK

200 ART GALLERIES

1837 INCORPORATED AS A CITY

1 MILLION FLIGHTS EACH YEAR OUT OF O’HARE AND MIDWAY

200 THEATERS

PICTURED The Jay Pritzker Pavilion, designed by Frank Gehry, in Millennium Park.