



715 - 250 Consumers Rd.  
North York  
Ontario, Canada  
M2J 4V6

## CHICAGO APRIL 28th– MAY 1<sup>st</sup> 2024

### TENTATIVE DAY TO DAY ITINERARY

**Day One:** After boarding our coach this morning, we head southwest toward the great state of Michigan. Traversing this lovely state we travel around the south shores of Lake Michigan and into the great state of Illinois. Lunch, coffee and duty free stops along the way! Late afternoon we check into our home away from home, the Hampton Inn downtown Chicago for the next four nights.

**Day Two:** After our included breakfast we depart the hotel at 9:00 am. We experience a “Windy City Wonders” tour today. Our guide will highlight Chicago’s history, architecture, culture, and magnificent skyline as you traverse the city throughout your stay.

After our city tour we will visit the Art Institute of Chicago. The Art Institute of Chicago is located in the heart of Chicago’s Millennium Park, it is one of the oldest and largest art museums in the United States. We will have time for lunch (on your own). There are several dining options available. After our visit to The Art Institute we’ll cruise on the Chicago River & Lake Michigan. Experience the incredible architecture of Chicago from a unique vantage point on the river then take in the breathtaking views of the skyline from the lake. After our cruise we will go back to the hotel to fresh up before we have dinner at Pompei Italian Restaurant in Chicago’s Little Italy, established in 1909, it offers a mix of southern Italian cuisine. Enjoy a family style Italian meal in the heart of Chicago.

**Day Three:** After our included breakfast we depart the hotel at 9:00am. We will start a Windy City Tour with a behind the scenes look at the legendary home of the Chicago Clubs, Wrigley Field. Stroll through the home of the Cubs and get the chance to see what happens behind the scenes of the “Friendly Confines”. Spend some time in the visitor’s clubhouse, the Cub’s clubhouse, the Cub’s dugout as well as a chance to step on the field! Next we enjoy Navy Pier, a 50-acre park that’s an incredible outlet for fun! Recent renovations have been completed adding more local dining along with café style seating with a view of the lake and skyline. The new taller Ferris Wheel has larger, climate-controlled cars and offers a longer ride to better experience the stunning views! (admission not included) Lunch is on your own at the pier. After Navy Pier we’re off on a guided tour of Millennium Park with its stunning outdoor art and philanthropic spirit. This 26-acre park features the Frank Gehry designed concert pavilion and great lawn, the Crown Fountain projecting Chicagoans’ faces onto two 50-foot towers of glass brick, and the amazing Cloud Gate, affectionately called “the Bean”, a 1100-ton elliptical stainless-steel sculpture reflecting the city’s famous skyline and the clouds above. Great photo-op! MARVEL at the incredible variety of Italian edibles at Eataly. Celebrity chef Mario Batali operates this huge emporium devoted to all things tasty and Italian! Visit the Gelato stand or purchase some candy for gifts. Upstairs you’ll find gorgeous cheeses, breads and meats for purchase plus wonderful, imported products and a full-service restaurant! A great place for a glass of wine or a craft beer. Return to the hotel for some relaxation before going out to dinner. Tonight we will have Dinner at Berghoffs. The Berghoffs Restaurant, a Chicago landmark since 1898, offers a blend of German-American cuisine along with contemporary American dishes. The historic venue features an in house bakery, a vibrant main dining area, casual café and Adams Street Brewery, run by the fourth generation Peter Berghoff, it began as a men-only saloon by founder Herman Berghoff. The restaurant evolved during Prohibition, introducing Berghoff Rootbeer and acquiring the city’s first liquor license post Prohibition, now displayed behind its historic bar.



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**Day Four:** After our included breakfast we'll meet our guide at 9:00am. Today we'll go in-depth to see how the city was created from the dawn of the Great Fire, through waves of immigrant settlers, on to the most renowned citizens who created an extensive park system and elegant homes near the lake. We'll also see how buildings from another era are being re-imagined for this generation. Discover the birthplace of the skyscraper in Chicago's Loop. This is where all-star architects from three different centuries have made their names and created history! Tour the booming West Loop. This former meat-packing district is now an entertainment and technology hub for the city! Nearby, we'll make a quick stop for photos at the United Center, where the Chicago Blackhawks and Bulls play their home games. SEE the Chicago Fire Academy – From the “Great Fire” to the “Chicago Fire” of TV fame, the Chicago Fire Department has a legendary reputation. Learn the history of the department with a visit to their training facility located on the site of Mrs. O’Leary’s barn where the Great Chicago Fire allegedly began! Lunch is on your own at Portillo’s – our favorite spot for Chicago style “dogs” or Italian Beef. Order your beef sandwich “Dipped” to soak up as much tasty gravy as possible! Save room for a slice of their unbelievable chocolate cake! No visit to Chicago is complete without capturing the breathtaking view from the John Hancock Observatory’s – “Chicago 360”. See beautiful views of four states and the stunning lakeshore. We will return to the hotel before we go out for dinner tonight. This evening we enjoy a vibrant piece of Chicago’s story at Harry Caray’s Italian Steakhouse River North, consistently voted one of the city’s top dining spots. The famous Chicago Cubs announcer was the king of Chicago nightlife. “Holy Cow” - His legendary gusto and welcoming hospitality live on in the heart of River North. The restaurant’s historic Dutch Renaissance building was once the hideout of Frank Nitti, Al Capone’s right-hand man. His apartment was on the fourth floor, but he used the basement and secret access to the city’s tunnels to come and go without being seen. His vault is recommended as one of Chicago’s top hidden treasures! We’ll have time to explore the building after a delicious dinner! Return to the hotel.

**Day Five:** All good things must come to an end. After breakfast we check out and start our journey home. We’ll leave with GREAT CHICAGO MEMORIES! With stops enroute, including Duty Free, our arrival back in Toronto will be approximately 9:00pm.

**WELCOME HOME!**

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