

**Chicago Transit Authority**

# **Downtown Transit**

**Sightseeing Guide**

September 2010



[transitchicago.com](http://transitchicago.com)

# All Aboard!

This guide will show you how to use Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) buses and trains to see Downtown Chicago, North Michigan Avenue, and a few places beyond.

The CTA runs buses and elevated/subway trains (the 'L') that serve Chicago and 40 nearby suburbs. From Downtown, travel to most attractions on one bus or train.

## We Have Answers

Get travel information and questions answered about CTA buses and trains, Metra commuter trains, and Pace suburban buses by calling 312-836-7000, 5am to 1am daily (TTY: 312-836-4949 (for hearing and speech impaired)). Or, visit the RTA Trip Planner at [rtachicago.org](http://rtachicago.org).

Maps, train and bus schedules, and brochures can also be ordered through the RTA Travel Information Center. CTA Bus & Rail Maps and this brochure are also available at CTA rail stations.

## We Are Listening

Comment, commendation or inquiry?

Call 1-888-YOUR-CTA (1-888-968-7282) weekdays (excluding holidays) 7am to 8pm, or leave a voice mail message at other times. TTY: 1-888-CTA-TTY1 (1-888-282-8891).

Write us at CTA Customer Service, P.O. Box 7566, Chicago, IL 60680-7566. Or, e-mail us at [feedback@transitchicago.com](mailto:feedback@transitchicago.com).

## Visit Us Online

CTA's web site is **[transitchicago.com](http://transitchicago.com)**. You can get information, see our map, purchase CTA-themed gift items, and even buy your fare in advance! Metra's web site is [metrarail.com](http://metrarail.com). Pace's web site is [pacebus.com](http://pacebus.com).

# Buses

## Riding CTA Buses

CTA buses stop at bus shelters or signs that look like this. Signs list the service days/general hours, route number, name and destinations, and the direction of travel.

When a bus approaches, look at the sign above the windshield. It will first show the route number and route name, then change to show the destination.

First: **151 SHERIDAN** Then: **UNION STATION**

If it's the bus you want, flag it down.



## How They Operate

Bus routes shown on the map operate every day, including all holidays, unless the route number is indicated below. Buses run every 10 to 20 minutes, except route 10 (see below).

**Routes that operate every day do so from early morning until at least 10pm, with some exceptions:**

**124 Navy Pier** until midnight daily in summer between Union, Ogilvie, and Millennium stations and Navy Pier.

**146 Inner Drive/Michigan Express** until 10:30pm daily from Museum Campus and Downtown.

**147 Outer Drive Express** until 9:20pm Sundays.

**Routes that do not operate every day have service as follows:**

**10 Museum of Science & Industry** weekends/holidays year-round; daily Memorial Day to Labor Day and Thanksgiving to New Year's Day. Hours from about 9am, Monday-Saturday (10:25am, Sundays/holidays) to 4:40pm every 30 minutes. No service on Christmas Day.

**X28 Stony Island Express** weekdays 6:30am to 10:05am and 2:50pm to 7:30pm.

**130 Museum Campus** operates mid-May to Labor Day, daily from 9:30am to 6pm.

**157 Streeter/ville/Taylor** weekdays 6:25am to 7:15pm.

## Accessibility








All CTA buses are accessible to people with disabilities.



# Trains

## Riding CTA Trains

Each rail line has a color name. All trains operate Downtown daily until at least midnight, except the Purple Line Express (see map for hours). Trains run every 7 to 10 minutes during the day and early evening, and every 10 to 15 minutes in later evening. Here's a quick guide to boarding in the Downtown area:

	<b>Blue Line</b>	Dearborn Street subway
	<b>Brown Line</b>	Loop elevated
	<b>Green Line</b>	Loop elevated (along Wabash & Lake)
	<b>Orange Line</b>	Loop elevated
	<b>Pink Line</b>	Loop elevated
	<b>Purple Line Exp</b>	Loop elevated
	<b>Red Line</b>	State Street subway

## At the Station

There are Customer Assistants or Security Guards at rail stations to help you.

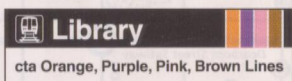
## Accessibility

Over sixty (60) percent of rail stations are accessible and every train has at least two cars that are accessible to customers with disabilities. For information on current accessible rail stations, visit [transitchicago.com](http://transitchicago.com) (click on "Accessibility"), see CTA's Bus & Rail Map or call 312-836-7000.

## Taking a Ride

### Entering the Station –

Signs list station name and route.



### On the Platform –

Signs overhead and on the columns tell you which trains stop there and destinations.



### When the Train Arrives –

Train destination appears on front and sides of train.



**On the Train** – Rail maps are above the doorways. Stops and connections are announced. Watch and listen for your stop.

## Trains to Planes

### Take the Blue Line between O'Hare and Downtown.

From the airport, follow the "Trains to City" signs.  
From Downtown, board in the Dearborn Street subway.

### Take the Orange Line between Midway and Downtown.

From the airport, follow the "Trains to City" signs.  
From Downtown, board at any Loop elevated station.

# Fares

## CTA Passes

Passes offer unlimited rides on CTA buses and trains when activated with first use —

**1-day:** \$5.75; **3-day:** \$14; **7-day:** \$23.

Cannot be shared or recharged.

Passes are sold at select Currency Exchanges, Jewel and Dominick's stores, CVS Pharmacies, and Willis Tower (formerly Sears Tower). Visit [transitchicago.com](http://transitchicago.com) to order CTA Passes in advance.



## Transit Card

Deducts full fares and transfers on CTA and Pace. Can pay for up to 7 full-fare rides at once.

	Full	Reduced*
First ride	\$2 bus; \$2.25 rail	85¢
1st transfer within 2 hours	25¢	15¢
2nd transfer within 2 hours	FREE	FREE

Purchase full-fare Transit Cards (\$2 to \$100) at rail station farecard machines. Or, buy pre-valued, full-fare Transit Cards (\$10 or \$20) at select Currency Exchanges, Jewel and Dominick's stores, CVS Pharmacies, and online at [transitchicago.com](http://transitchicago.com).



## Cash Fare

Accepted on CTA buses only. No cash transfers available. Exact fare (coins and bills accepted).

**Full Fare:** \$2.25; **Reduced Fare\*:** \$1

Connections are free between CTA rail lines at stations marked with a **T**. Exceptions: Customers must use a Transit Card or pass for free connections between State/Lake (elevated) and Lake & (Red Line subway) stations; and between Library-State/Van Buren & (elevated) and Jackson & (Blue and Red subway) stations. No transfer charge or use is deducted.

\* Reduced Fares are for children ages 7-11, and for seniors 65+ and customers with disabilities with a valid RTA Reduced Fare Card. For more information, call 312-836-7000.

## Eligible to Ride Free on CTA

- Seniors 65+ with RTA Seniors Ride Free Smart Card Permits.
- Active duty military personnel in full uniform with U.S. Armed Forces ID or CTA Military Service Pass (MSP), and qualifying disabled military veterans with a MSP.
- Customers enrolled in RTA's People with Disabilities Ride Free Program with a valid RTA issued Circuit Permit.
- Children under age 7 with a fare-paying customer.

# Quick Ride Guide

## From the Loop

Attraction	Take Bus or Train:
Art Institute, Chicago Cultural Ctr.	Short walk from most buses and all rail lines
Charter One Pavilion at Northerly Island Park	146 south on State or 130 (summer weekends) east on Jackson
Chinatown	Red Line train (toward 95th/Dan Ryan) in the State Street subway south to Cermak-Chinatown
DuSable Museum	4 south on Michigan (starts at Randolph)
Garfield Park Conservatory	Green Line train (toward Harlem) on the Loop 'L' west to Conservatory-Central Park Drive &
John Hancock Observatory	10, 145, 146, 147 or 151 north on State
Lincoln Park Zoo	151 north on State
McCormick Place	3 south on Michigan
Museum Campus**	146 south on State, or 130 (summer weekends) east on Jackson
Museum of Science & Industry	6 or 10 south on State or X28 (weekday rush hours) east on Jackson. See "Buses" panel for 10 & X28 hours.
Navy Pier	29 north on State or 124 east on Wacker
North Michigan Avenue	10, 145, 146, 147 or 151 north on State, or 3 north on Michigan
River North & Old Town areas	22 or 36 north on Dearborn
Willis (Sears) Tower/Union Station	Any bus west on Adams
Soldier Field (Bears)	146 south on State
United Center (Bulls, Blackhawks)	19 or 20 west on Madison
U.S. Cellular Field (White Sox)	Red Line train (toward 95th/Dan Ryan) in the State Street subway south to Sox-35th &; or Green Line train (toward Cottage Grove or Ashland/63rd) to 35th-Bronzeville-IIT &
Wrigley Field (Cubs)	Red Line train (toward Howard) in the State Street subway north to Addison &

## From North Michigan Avenue

Attraction	Take Bus or Train:
Art Institute, Chicago Cultural Ctr.	3*, 145, 147 or 151 south on Michigan
Lincoln Park Zoo	151 north on Michigan
McCormick Place	3* south on Michigan
Museum Campus**	146 south on Michigan
Museum of Science & Industry	10 south on Michigan. See "Buses" panel for days/hours. Otherwise, 6 west on Wacker at Michigan.
Navy Pier	66 east on Chicago or 29, 65 east on Illinois
Willis (Sears) Tower/Union Station	151 south on Michigan
State Street Shopping	10, 145, 146, 151 or 157 south on Michigan
Soldier Field (Bears)	146 south on Michigan
U.S. Cellular Field (White Sox)	Red Line train (toward 95th/Dan Ryan) in the State Street subway south to Sox-35th &
Wrigley Field (Cubs)	Red Line train (toward Howard) in the State Street subway north to Addison &

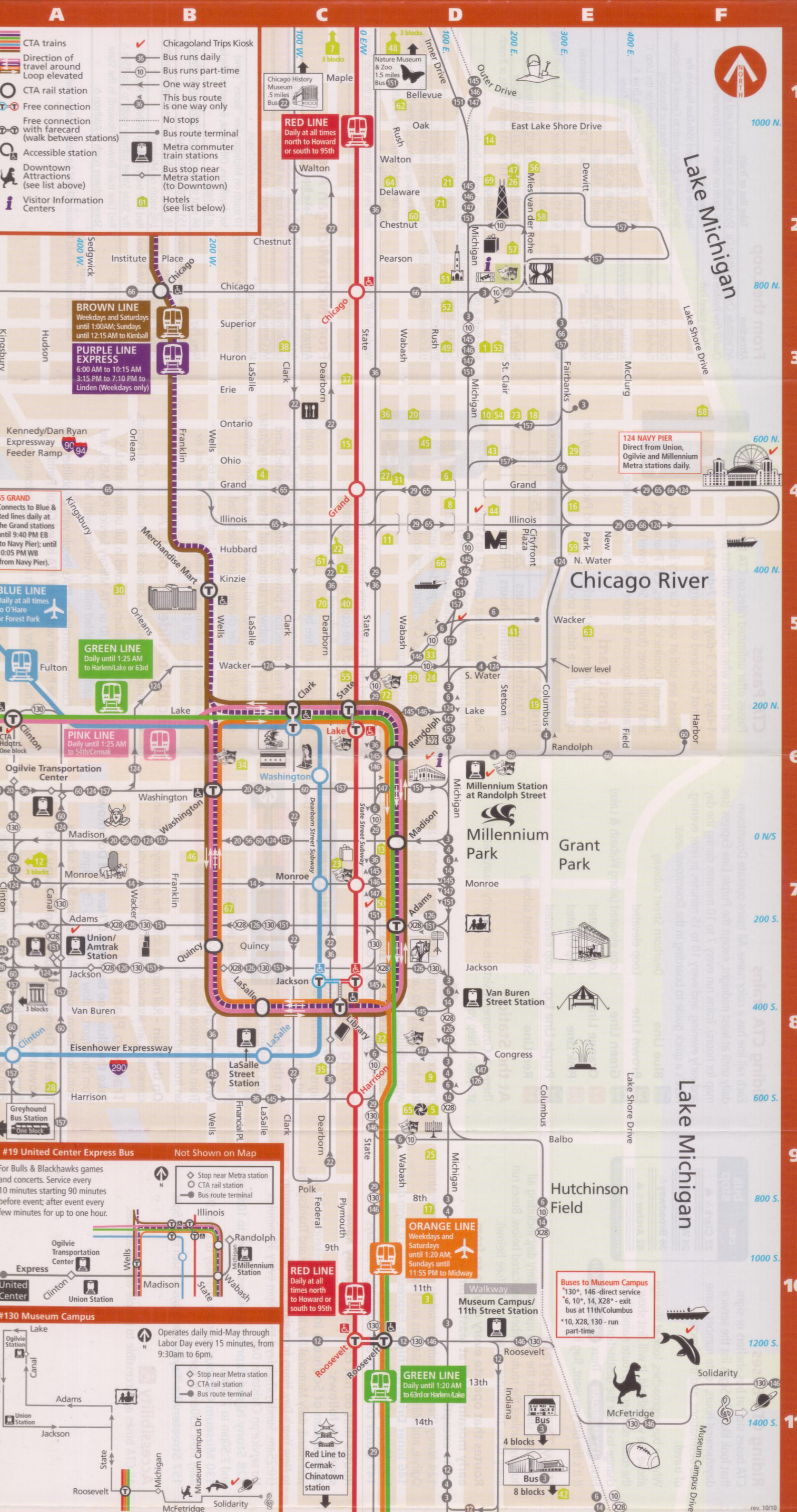
\* starts at Superior

\*\* Adler Planetarium/Field Museum/Shedd Aquarium/Soldier Field



# Downtown Attractions

F-11 Adler Planetarium	A-7 Chicago Mercantile Exchange Tours	D-2 John Hancock Observatory	D-9 Museum of Contemporary Photography	D-6 Pritzker Pavilion - Grant Park Music Festival	D-7 Symphony Center
D-7 Art Institute of Chicago	C-6 City Hall/County Bldg.	C-8 Harold Washington Library Center	F-4 Navy Pier: - Skyline Stage - Chicago Shakespeare Theatre - Chicago Children's Museum - Smith Museum of Stained Glass Windows	C-3 River North Restaurants & Nightlife	E-8 Taste of Chicago (late June-early July)
E-8 Buckingham Fountain	C-6 Daley Center & Picasso	D-2 Hot Tix Booth	D-2 North Michigan Avenue Shopping	B-7 Willis (Sears) Tower Skydeck	Theatres (Live): D-8 Auditorium B-6 Cadillac Palace C-6 Chicago F-4 Chicago Shakespeare (Navy Pier) C-6 Goodman E-6 Harris Music and Dance D-2 Lookingglass C-6 Oriental D-9 Merle Reskin C-7 LaSalle Bank
F-11 Charter One Pavilion Northerly Island Park	C-11 Chinatown	E-11 McCormick Place	E-1 Oak Street Beach	F-10 Shedd Aquarium	
D-7 Chicago Architecture Foundation Tours	E-11 Field Museum	D-5 McCormick Tribune Freedom Museum	D-2 Old Water Tower & Pumping Station (Chicago Water Works; Visitor Info. Center)	D-5, F-4, F-10 Sightseeing Boats	
D-6 Chicago Cultural Center - Loop Tour Train - Visitor Info. Center	D-6 Gallery 37 Center for the Arts	B-5 Merchandise Mart	E-7 Petrillo Music Shell	E-11 Soldier Field	
C-4, C-6, C-7, D-4, D-6, E-6, F-4 Chicagoland Trips Kiosk	A-8 Greektown	E-2 Museum of Contemporary Art		D-9 Spertus Museum of Judaism	
A-6 Civic Opera House	C-6 James R. Thompson (State of Illinois) Center	D-1 Nature Museum and Zoo		C-6, C-7 State Street Shopping	
					E-11 Prairie Avenue Historic District: - Clarke House Museum - Glessner House Museum - Vietnam Veterans Art Museum - Women's Park and Gardens



## Alphabetical List of Downtown Hotels

1 Allerton Hotel, D-3	19 The Fairmont Chicago, E-6	38 Hotel Felix, C-3	57 The Ritz-Carlton Chicago, D-2
2 Amalfi Hotel, C-5	20 Four Points by Sheraton, D-3	39 Hotel Monaco, D-5	58 The Seneca Hotel & Suites, E-2
3 Best Western Grant Park Hotel, D-10	21 Four Seasons Hotel Chicago, D-2	40 Hotel Sax, C-5	59 Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers, E-4
4 Best Western River North Hotel, C-4	22 Hampton Inn & Suites, C-4	41 Hyatt Regency Chicago, D-5	60 Sofitel Chicago Water Tower, D-2
5 The Blackstone, A Renaissance Hotel, D-9	23 Hampton Majestic, C-7	42 Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, E-11	61 Springhill Suites Marriott Chicago Downtown, C-5
6 Chicago Marriott Downtown Hotel, D-4	24 Hard Rock Hotel, D-5	43 Inn of Chicago, D-4	62 The Sutton Place Hotel, D-1
7 The Claridge Hotel, C-1	25 Hilton Chicago Inn, D-9	44 InterContinental Chicago, D-4	63 Swissotel Chicago, E-5
8 Conrad Chicago, D-4	26 Hilton Suites Chicago-Mag. Mile, D-2	45 The James Hotel Chicago, D-4	64 The Talbott Hotel, C-2
9 Congress Plaza Hotel, D-8	27 Hilton Garden Inn, C-4	46 La Quinta, B-7	65 Travelodge Downtown Hotel, D-9
10 Courtyard by Marriott Mag. Mile, D-3	28 Holiday Inn & Suites, A-8	47 Millennium Knickerbocker Chicago Hotel, D-2	66 Trump International Hotel & Tower Chicago, D-5
11 Courtyard by Marriott Downtown River North, C-4	29 Holiday Inn Chicago City Centre, E-4	48 Omni Ambassador East, D-1	67 W Chicago City Center, B-7
12 Crowne Plaza Chicago Metro, A-7	30 Holiday Inn - Mart Plaza, A-5	49 Omni Chicago Hotel, D-3	68 W Chicago Lake Shore, F-3
13 Crowne Plaza - Silversmith Hotel, D-7	31 Homewood Suites by Hilton, D-4	50 Palmer House Hilton, D-7	69 The Westin Michigan Avenue, D-2
14 The Drake Hotel, D-1	32 Hostelling International, C-8	51 Park Hyatt Chicago Hotel, D-2	70 The Westin River North, C-5
15 Embassy Suites Chicago Downtown, C-4	33 Hotel 71, D-5	52 The Peninsula Chicago, D-3	71 Whitehall Hotel, D-2
16 Embassy Suites Chicago Lakefront, E-4	34 Hotel Allegro Chicago, B-6	53 Radisson Hotel & Suites Chicago, D-3	72 The Wit, C-5
17 Essex Inn, D-9	35 Hotel Blake, C-8	54 Red Roof Inn Chicago, D-3	73 Wyndham Chicago, D-3
18 Fairfield Inn Suites Chicago Downtown, E-3	36 Hotel Cass - A Holiday Inn Express, C-3	55 Renaissance Chicago Hotel, C-5	
	37 Hotel Dana, C-37	56 Residence Inn by Marriott Chicago Downtown Mag. Mile, E-2	