

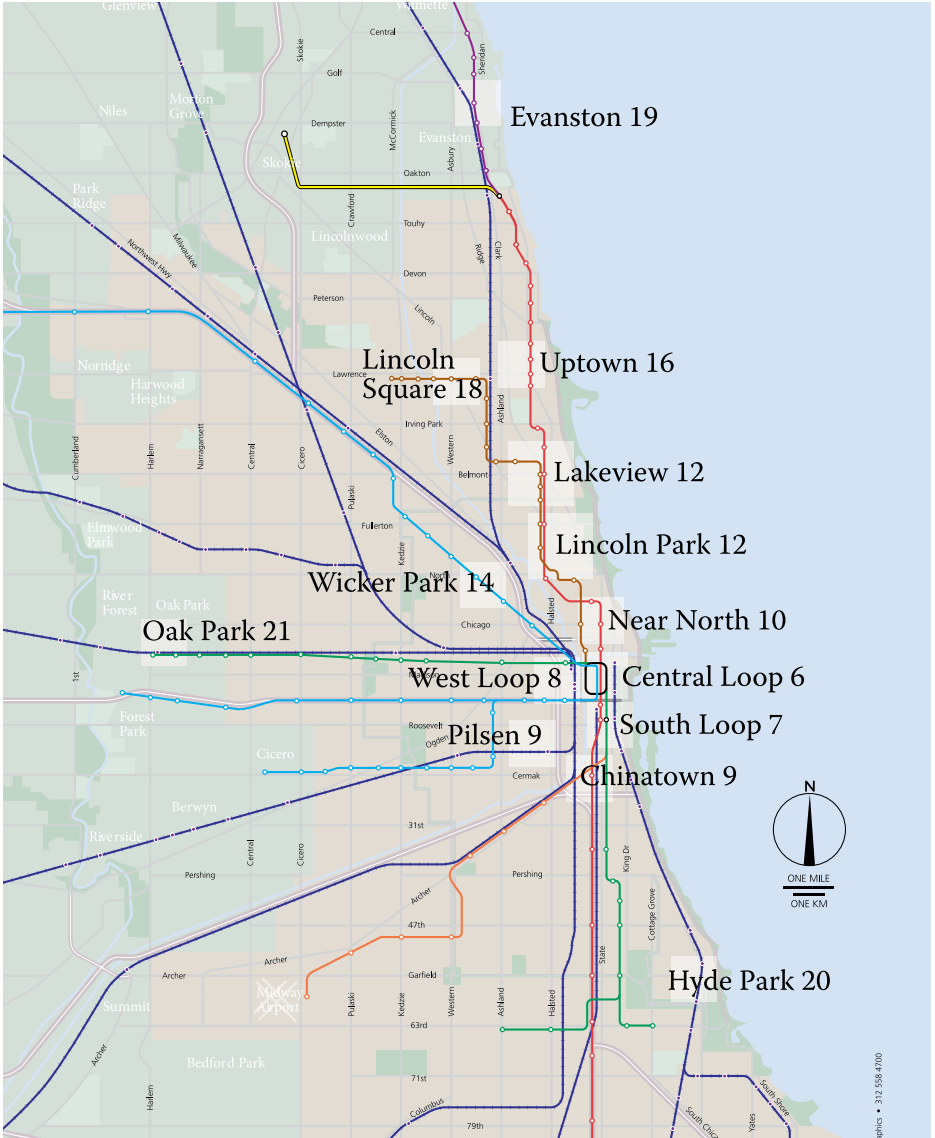
A photograph of an elevated train station in Chicago. The tracks curve into the distance, flanked by wooden walkways and metal railings. People are visible on the walkways. In the background, the city skyline is visible under a clear sky.

# Chicago City Guide

A photograph of a wide city street in Chicago, likely Michigan Avenue. The street is lined with tall, modern skyscrapers. There are trees and a few cars on the road. The sky is clear and blue.

presented by ARUP  
Rail~Volution 2006

# CONTENTS





## Welcome to Chicago! We're excited to have you here for Rail~Volution 2006: Building Livable Communities with Transit.

Chicago — a city built by and around railroads — has borne witness to a long history of innovation in urbanism. Louis Sullivan and the Chicago School invented a brash new architectural vocabulary to express the newly minted city's optimism and energy. At the turn of the last century, the World's Columbian Exposition captured the imaginations of millions and thrust the City Beautiful (and Daniel Burnham) onto the forefront of the world's civic agenda. Mies van der Rohe perfected the glass box here; sadly, it overran many of our finest neighborhoods even as it swept the world. Today, Chicago again stands at the forefront of urban change thanks to an infill building boom of unprecedented scope. The boom has granted urbanists here the luxury of trial and error; we're finding out what works and what doesn't the hard way — building by building.

This unusual guide to Chicago shares with you our favorite blocks and streets from around the city. These are the liveliest, most walkable blocks in town, and they house some of the best restaurants to boot. Chicago's new zoning code will protect the urban design of many of these blocks with a new Pedestrian Streets designation.

Again, we're glad you're here. Enjoy your stay in Chicago.

The CNU XII City Guide Committee

Payton Chung, editor-in-chief

Elizabeth Hardy, Carolee Kokola, Joel Mann, Ellen Shubart, Jason Westrope

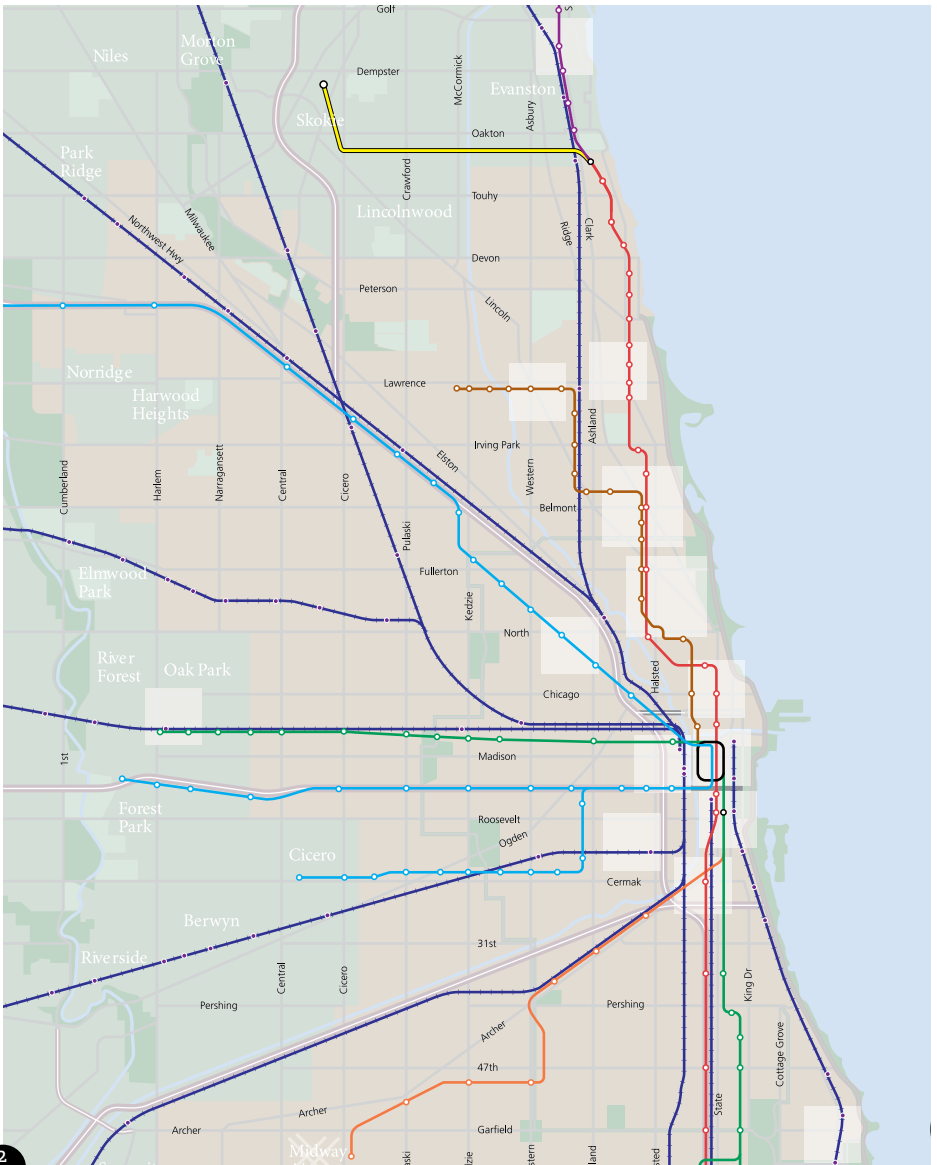
SPECIAL THANKS Anthony Decanini for design services, Matthew Loos for photography, Dennis McClendon of Chicago CartoGraphics for mapping services, Chris Hall, Lynn Osmond, Ben Owen, Kevin Pierce, David Watkins, and the Local Host Committee for ideas, The APA Planner's Guide to Chicago committee for inspiration. Originally printed in 2004 for the Congress for the New Urbanism, revised and reprinted 2006.

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# ORIENTATION

Chicago, like many 19th-century American cities, is laid out on a section-line street grid. The federal government subdivided and sold the West as square-mile “sections;” the section boundaries are today’s large arterials, with smaller arterials on the half-mile and smaller streets in between. A few diagonals – most predating the grid, but some built after the 1909 Plan – slice across the grid. Eight blocks comprise a mile here, and the numbering starts at State and Madison streets downtown. Thus, the corner of Halsted and Chicago, one mile northwest of State and Madison, is 800 North and 800 West.



# GETTING AROUND

## By Transit

All of the attractions mentioned in this book are easily accessible by the Chicago Transit Authority's (CTA) elevated train ("L") and buses. All "L" lines stop within a block of the Palmer House; many bus lines circulate on State Street, right outside the Palmer House. CTA can provide both transportation and sightseeing – the all-elevated Brown, Green, and Orange lines offer a bird's eye view, while bus routes like the 1, 22, 56, and 151 crawl through old streetcar neighborhoods.

Basic fare is \$2 per ride; the second trip within two hours is \$0.25, and the third is free. Electronic fare cards (available at all "L" stations) and cash are accepted for all trips – but bring small bills, since CTA doesn't make change. One, two, three, and five-day passes (\$5 to \$18) are available at airport "L" stations and Visitor Centers. Call 312-836-7000 or visit [www.transitchicago.com](http://www.transitchicago.com) for travel information.

Metra commuter rail quickly reaches outlying neighborhoods and the suburbs from several downtown stations, but trains outside of rush hour can be scarce. Trains to Oak Park and the north suburbs (including Evanston) leave from Ogilvie Transportation Center, at Madison and Canal streets in the West Loop. Trains to Hyde Park, Pullman, and the south suburbs leave from Randolph Street station, at Michigan and Randolph; they also stop at Van Buren station, at Michigan and Van Buren. Call 312-836-7000 or visit [www.metrarail.com](http://www.metrarail.com) for travel information.

## By Taxi

Taxis are a convenient way to get around, especially in the city's most pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods. Basic fare is \$2.25, plus \$1.80 per mile, \$1.00 for the second passenger, and \$0.50 for the third (+) passenger. Tips are welcome.

## By Bicycle

300 miles of bikeways help to make Chicago America's best big city for bicycling. Bicycles may be rented from the McDonald's Cycle Center at the northwest corner of Millennium Park (888-BIKE-WAY). The free Chicago Bike Map shows bikeways, recommended routes, and landmarks; it's available from bike shops, like Kozy's (219 W. Erie, 312-266-1700).

# VISITOR INFORMATION

## Local listings:

*Chicago magazine*: Venerable glossy magazine with serious news up front and revered restaurant listings in the back – including cross-references based on geography and food type. Restaurant listings: [www.chicagomag.com](http://www.chicagomag.com)

*Chicago Reader*: Voluminous free weekly with detailed listings, caustic critiques, and jaded local reporting. Available from book/record store or café lobbies, including Virgin Megastore, 540 N. Michigan Ave. Listings and restaurant search: [www.chicagoreader.com](http://www.chicagoreader.com)

*Chicago Tribune/Red Eye*: The dour broadsheet spawned freebie tabloid RedEye, for news in easily digestible morsels. Sunday edition has comprehensive arts listings. Comprehensive restaurant, entertainment, nightlife reviews: [www.metromix.com](http://www.metromix.com)

*Chicago Sun-Times*: Tabloid daily; Roger Ebert's home. Listings online at [centerstage.net](http://centerstage.net).

*The Onion*: Profoundly satirical free weekly with movie and music listings. Available from store and café lobbies and news boxes.

*Time Out Chicago*: Weekly with well-organized, color-coded listings; kind of like a travel guide, glossy city monthly, and alterna-weekly rolled into one. \$2.50 at newsstands and many shops and restaurants.

*Concierge*: Free pamphlet available from the hotel, with museum listings and convenient fold-out maps.

## Visitor Centers:

- Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph St. (at N. Michigan Ave.), 10 AM –6 PM Mon-Fri, 11 AM – 5 PM Sunday
- Chicago Water Works, 163 E. Pearson St. (at N. Michigan Ave.), 7:30 AM - 7:00 PM
- Millennium Park Welcome Center, 201 E. Randolph St. 10 AM –4 PM

## For Further Reading:

Two indispensable references for any Chicagophile: *The AIA Guide to Chicago* (ed. Alice Sinkevitch) tells the city's story through its buildings, noting almost every building downtown and many in the neighborhoods. *The Encyclopedia of Chicago* presents all there is to know about Chicago and its history; full text: [www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org](http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org). For narrative history, look to *Nature's Metropolis* (William Cronon) for its beginnings, *City of the Century* (Donald Miller) for its early glory years, and *The Pig and the Skyscraper* (Marco d'Eramo) for the "City of Quartz"-like leftist take on the recent past. This guide's map-based format was most directly inspired by the *Moon Metro* guidebook series.

## Tours:

*The Chicago Architecture Foundation*, 224 S. Michigan, offers a variety of (mostly) walking tours around town. Check their location for full details – and a delightful, architecture-oriented gift and book shop.

Many CAF tours are offered during Rail-Volution. Call 312-922-3432 or visit [www.architecture.org](http://www.architecture.org) for descriptions, cost, and directions.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
Architecture of Culture & Commerce	X			
Architecture River Cruise	X			
Auditorium Building		X		
Frank Lloyd Wright in Oak Park	X			
Highlights by Bus	X			X
Historic Skyscrapers	X	X	X	X
Intersections		X		X
Loop Retail Historic District	X			
Magnificent Mile		X		
Millennium Park Revealed	X			
Modern Skyscrapers	X	X	X	X
Sears Tower & Its Neighbors			X	
Tiffany on Wednesday				X

## Nearby Bookstores:

*Barbara's*: 111 N. State, lower level. A small bookstore inside Marshall Field's (er, Macy's) flagship, next to the food court.

*Borders*: 830 N. Michigan and 150 N. State. Typical Borders, only more crowded.

*Europa Books*: 832 N. State, 312 335-9677. Two floors of books and news from The Continent.

*Newberry Library Bookstore*: 60 W. Walton (on Washington Square), 312 255-3520. Specialty bookstore, inside a humanities research library; great for history and local interest.

*Prairie Avenue Bookshop*: 418 S. Wabash, 312 922-8311, [www.pabook.com](http://www.pabook.com). A unique independent bookshop, crammed with one of the world's widest selections on architecture and design. Especially deep collections in Chicago School architecture.

*The Savvy Traveler*, 31 S. Michigan, 312 913-9800. A one-stop shop for travelers, located right where Route 66 begins. [www.thesavvytraveller.com](http://www.thesavvytraveller.com)

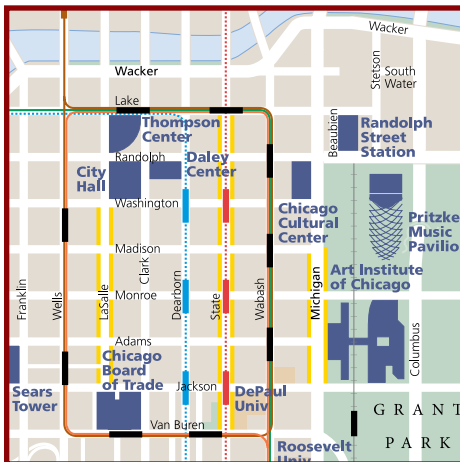


# CENTRAL LOOP



The Loop, defined by the elevated trains that encircle overhead, is Chicago's commercial, political, and cultural heart. A residential boom and reopened theatres along Randolph have sparked vitality in the evenings. Here, the architectural legacy of Chicago – neoclassical temples, ornate yet straightforward Chicago School, and Internationalist marvels of engineering – reaches its (literally) highest expression. The Loop invites exploration: the canyon of sober Deco and po-mo skyscrapers lining LaSalle, a trio of Modern plazas along Dearborn, the unexpectedly sunny riverwalk darting under Wacker's leviathan towers, the dank racket under Wabash's "L," the cliff of terra cotta buildings facing Michigan and the lake, and the refurbished marquees lighting Randolph. Most recently, crowds flocking to Millennium Park's performances and interactive sculptures have activated the East Loop.

State Street was long Chicago's retail showplace, but it suffocated under an ill-considered transit mall plan implemented in the 1970s and undone in the 1990s. Crowds returned to veteran flagship Marshall Field's and to a host of new off-price retailers. Don't miss two newly polished Chicago School landmarks: at Washington, the elegant curtain wall of the Reliance Building (the Hotel Burnham), and at Madison, Louis Sullivan's lavish cast-iron filigrees above the entry to Carson Pirie Scott. Many plans for Block 37, between Washington and Randolph, have crashed under the weight of their own expectations.



**Atwood Café** \$\$\$ *American*  
1 W Washington 312.368.1900  
New American dishes in an ornate, historic room.

**Berghoff Café & 17 West Bar** \$\$ *German*  
17 W Adams 312.427.3170  
Landmark beer hall known for hearty beer and servings, not sublime elegance.

**Seven on State** \$\$  
111 N State 312.781.3693  
Sleek food court serving innovative food at a rapid-fire rate.

**Rhapsody** \$\$ *American*  
65 E Adams 312.786.9911  
Elegant symphony of American cuisine.

**Intelligentsia** \$ *Café*  
53 W. Jackson & 53 E. Randolph  
Local coffee roaster's downtown outposts.



# SOUTH LOOP

CTA Red Line to Harrison or bus #62 south;



The South Loop's newfound popularity as a downtown residential area comes after a century in the wilderness. Although briefly Chicago's preferred residential precinct right after the Great Fire, the South Loop fell into disrepute in the 1890s as mob hangouts, brothels, and rail-yards moved in. The industry that thrived here then has long since declined, but bargain prices and a location convenient to both the Loop and lakefront Museum Campus have remade the South Loop.

Its colorful history and the various redevelopment schemes attempted in recent decades make the South Loop an interesting microcosm of the evolution of urban industrial districts. Loft conversions in Printers Row, centered on Dearborn at Polk, sensitively reuse the architecturally rich printing houses with ground-floor retail. Behind Dearborn Station (at the foot of Dearborn) is 1970s Dearborn Park, praised in its day for pioneering inner-city redevelopment in Chicago but now criticized for shunning the urban fabric. Further east, the new forest of towers rising near Roosevelt and Wabash are testament to the newest wave of infill – decidedly higher density and buoyed by new retail and restaurants with convenient transit access. Plans proceed for the last of the railyards, suggesting an urban future for the South Loop.

## Orange on Harrison \$ Breakfast

75 W Harrison 312.447.1000

Wake up to a pancake flight at the fruit-sushi bar.

## Gourmand \$ Café

728 S Dearborn 312.427.2610

The closest Bohemian café culture gets to the Loop.

## Gioco \$\$\$ Italian

1312 S Wabash (at E 13th St) 312.939.3870

Rustic Italian flavors, impressive wines.

## Opera \$\$\$ Chinese

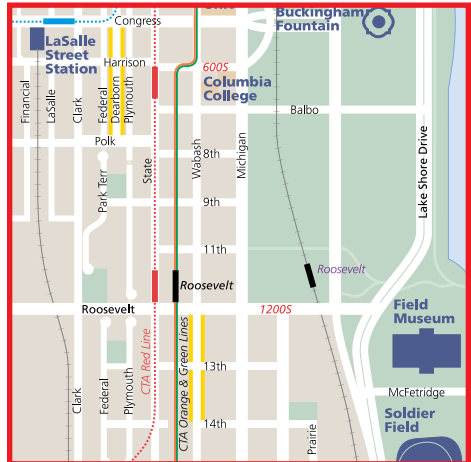
1301 S Wabash 312.461.0161

Reinvigorated Chinese cuisine in a lavishly restored film warehouse.

## Saiko \$\$\$ Japanese

1307 S Wabash 312.922.2222

Beef and seafood with flair; edgy anime decorated room.



# WEST LOOP

CTA bus #20 (Randolph), Blue Line to Halsted (Greektown & UIC); taxicab

Remnants of this heavy industrial district and immigrant slum survived urban renewal to become the seeds of a crazy-quilt post-industrial neighborhood. The office towers peter out into a speculative holding zone west of the river. Urban fabric reappears west of the Kennedy Expressway: at the northern edge is the Randolph Market District, where rugged buildings house trendy restaurants, flower markets, and meat lockers. The street's generous width facilitated deliveries back when this was Haymarket, where 80,000 workers rallying for an eight-hour day clashed with police – martyring (depending on whom you ask) five anarchists or eight policemen and giving the world May Day.

South of Randolph is boomtown West Loop Gate, an instant neighborhood of mid-rise lofts reborn (or recently built) as condos. Greektown, one of the last reminders of the old immigrant West Side, lines Halsted between Washington and Van Buren. The new Skybridge tower by Ralph Johnson, complete with street-level supermarket, soars over restaurants with cement pilasters. Along Halsted south of Roosevelt and past the University of Illinois at Chicago's dreary 1960s compound, University Village (see Pilsen map) combines academic buildings with new housing and retail – some behind reconstructed storefronts from the legendary Maxwell Street Market.

## Jerry's Sandwich Shop

\$ Deli 1045 W. Madison 312.563.1008

Why not add brie and chutney to your BLT?

## Parthenon \$\$ Greek

314 S. Halsted 312.726.2407

Claims to have invented flaming saganaki.

## Blackbird \$\$\$ New American

619 W Randolph 312.715.0708

Hippest spot on Randolph; chef Paul Kahan worked under legendary Rick Bayless.

## Avec \$\$\$ Contemporary

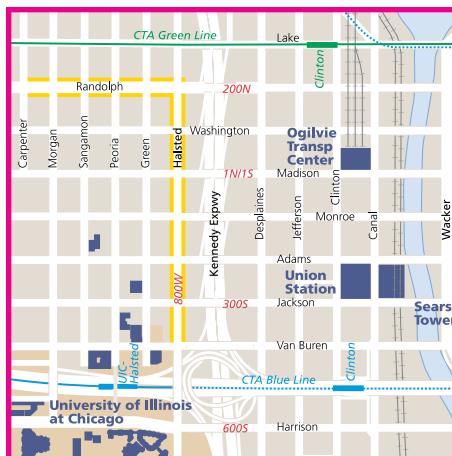
615 W Randolph 312.377.2002

Have a small plate of house-made charcuterie with a wine from the impressive list.

## Red Light \$\$\$ Pan-Asian

820 W Randolph 312.733.8880

Pan-Asian culinary fun house.



# CHINATOWN

CTA Red Line to Cermak

Chinatown, a ten-minute “L” ride south of the Loop, is a small walkable neighborhood long girdled by freeways and railroads. From the Chinatown “L,” walk through the ornamental gate to Wentworth, a pedestrian haven chockablock with restaurants and shops housed in classic buildings. Across Archer Avenue is Chinatown Square (with addresses on China Place), a pedestrian mall of eateries and curio shops built once Chinatown annexed old railyards to its north in the early 1990s. New townhouses, a riverfront park, and even rebuilt public housing round out the new development in this distinctive neighborhood.



# PILSEN

CTA Pink Line to 18th; #60 Blue Island bus

Formerly a first stop for German and Czech immigrants, Pilsen is now the unofficial downtown for the United States’ second largest Mexican population. Colorful 18th Street, retains a wealth of well-maintained Victorian storefronts surrounding two cherished open spaces: Plaza Tenochtitlan, at the diagonal intersection with Blue Island, and Harrison Park, fronted by the Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum. Sunken front yards recall when these streets were raised for sewer construction. Avant-garde art galleries occupy storefronts on Halsted south of 19th; weasel into the lovely courtyard carved out behind.



## Phoenix \$-\$\$ Chinese

2131 S Archer 312.328.0848

Chinatown’s top place for dim sum, with a casual dumpling house downstairs.

## Wing Wah, Ken Kee \$ Chinese

2147A, 2129A S. China Pl.

Two no-frills storefronts in Chinatown Square offering exceptional Cantonese food.

## Won Kow \$\$ Chinese

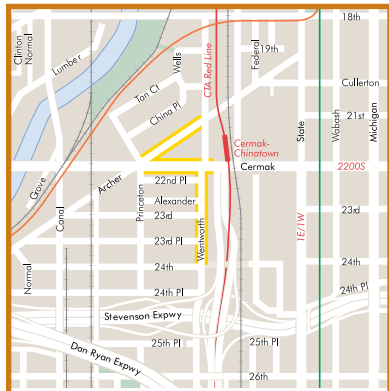
2237 S Wentworth 312.842.7500

This banquet hall offers a blast from the ‘60s, complete with tiki drinks.

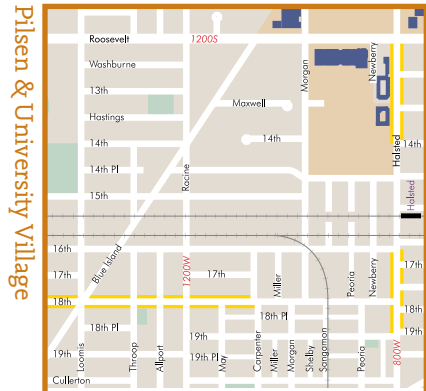
## El Milagro \$ Tacqueria

1923 S Blue Island 433.7620

Molé chicken and fresh tortillas for peanuts.



Chinatown



Pilsen & University Village

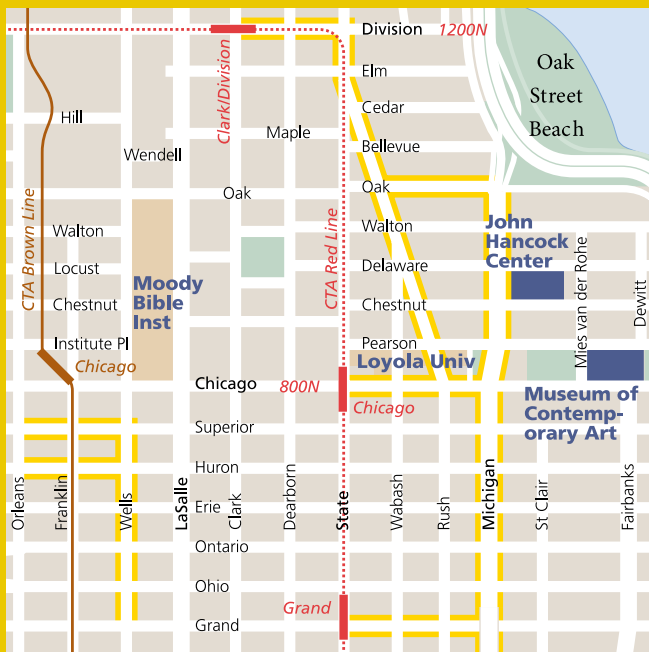


# NEAR NORTH

**CTA Red or Brown lines; many buses**

The Near North Side is Chicago's midtown, a 24-hour counterpart to the workaday Loop. Burnham designated North Michigan Avenue as the Near North's grand boulevard. Now, it's a bustling mecca for mammon, boasting a bevy of chain stores stacked into vertical malls that, in turn, prop up mixed-use skyscrapers. The retail flows from Michigan onto the Gold Coast's main streets: Oak Street, a tranquil and rarefied row of posh shops, and angled Rush Street, a longtime hub of nightclubs now dwarfed by gleaming towers. Polished rowhouses and apartments line the side streets.

An urbane riverwalk leads from Michigan through the half-finished River East development to Navy Pier, a festival marketplace jutting half a mile into Lake Michigan. The Ferris wheel is worth the price, but eat elsewhere. River North's urban fabric of industrial lofts began gentrifying in the 1980s; now they house architects' offices, condominiums, and restaurants both tacky and sublime. Several standout blocks: North Bridge, a quintessential retail-entertainment complex at Grand and State; the hundred art galleries clustered under the "L" on Superior and Huron; a new high-rise precinct along the river, spurred by the mixed-income reuse of Montgomery Ward's former warehouses; and Washington Square, one of the city's few squares.



**Mike Ditka's** \$\$\$ *Steakhouse*  
100 E Chestnut, 312.587.8989  
Ditka graces every steak-laden plate.

**Fox & Obel** \$-\$\$ *Grocery*  
401 E Illinois, 312.410.7301  
Upscale grocer—great for a picnic  
at Navy Pier.

**Kiki's Bistro** \$\$\$ *French*  
900 N Franklin, 312.335.5454  
Kiki's blends country décor and an  
urban palate.

**Cafe Iberico** \$\$ *Spanish*  
739 N LaSalle, 312.573.1510  
Hundreds pack in for sangria and tapas.

**Vermillion** \$\$\$ *Latin-Indian*  
10 W Hubbard, 312.527.4060  
Curious yet well-received fusion.

**Lou Malnati's** \$\$ *Pizza*  
439 N Wells, 312.828.9800  
Quintessential deep dish.

Fancy a drink with that?

**Café des Architects/Le Bar**  
20 E Chestnut, 312.324.4000  
Dine on a drafting table; drink in a sleek  
library.

**Le Colonial**  
937 N Rush, 312.255.0088  
The upstairs lounge suggests colonial  
Vietnam.

**Nacional 27**  
325 W Huron, 312.664.2727  
Dance into the night at this sexy nuevo  
Latino supper club.

**Billy Goat Tavern**  
430 N Michigan (lower level), 312.222.1525  
Cheezborgers; no Pepsi, Coke.

**Quartino**  
626 N. State, 312.698.5000  
Grab wine by the carafe and small plates in  
the warm dining room.



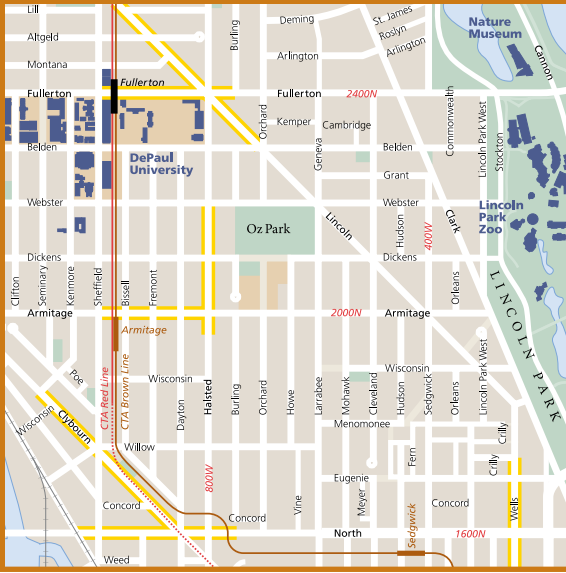


# LINCOLN PARK & LAKEVIEW

CTA Red or Brown Lines, express buses 145 & 146 from N. Michigan

Prosperous, dense, and enthusiastically yuppie Lincoln Park and Lakeview feature vibrant commercial streets with distinct personalities. Downtown meets the gentrified north side along Lincoln Park's lakeshore. Retailers have muscled aside industry along North and Clybourn; the newer buildings take surprisingly urban stances, complete with rooftop parking. The city's finest collection of Victorian shopfronts houses too-precious boutiques along Armitage. Fullerton, Lincoln, and Halsted create a classic six-point entertainment hub near DePaul University; check out the bi-level supermarket adjacent to the "L." An even livelier hub anchors the neighborhood's northeast corner at Clark, Broadway, and Diversey.

Lakeview radiates around the busy Belmont "L"; record shops, thrift stores, and alternative theatres lend a raffish, bohemian vibe to surrounding blocks. Halsted north of Belmont is a hub of gay nightlife; "rainbow rockets" double as traffic-calming devices. Sports bars line Clark south of Wrigley Field, packing in fans whether the Cubs lose or win. Casual restaurants and boutiques cluster around the vintage Music Box cinema on Southport. Farther east, Broadway is Halsted's daytime counterpart, with eclectic shops serving the lakefront neighborhood. Three-flats march up and down the side streets, with courtyard flats and high-rises near the lake.



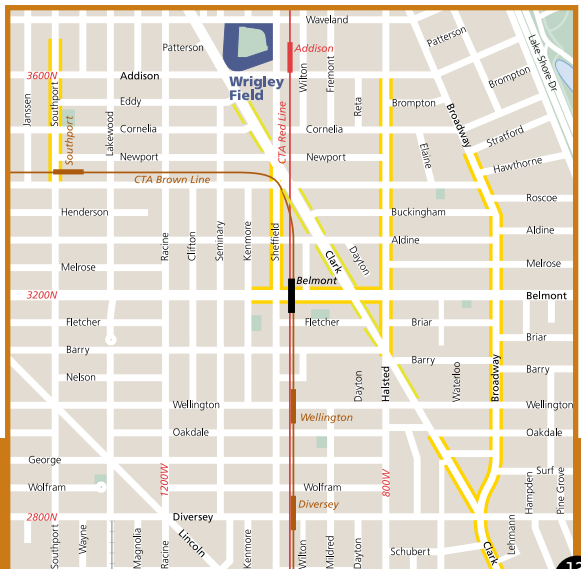
**Ann Sather Café** \$ Breakfast  
 929 W Belmont 773 348 2378  
 Classic Swedish, famed cinnamon rolls.

**Tango Sur** \$\$ South American  
 3763 N Southport 773 477 5466  
 Argentine beef stars next to the Music Box.

**Bourgeois Pig** \$-\$\$ Café  
 738 W Fullerton Pkwy 773 883 5282  
 Cheeky, literary menu of sandwiches.

**Shine /Morida** \$\$ Chinese/Japanese  
 901 W Armitage  
 Minimalist Szechwan, Hunan, Mandarin, sushi, tempura.

**Goose Island** \$\$ Brewpub  
 1800 N. Clybourn 312 915 0071  
 50+ beers and pub food.





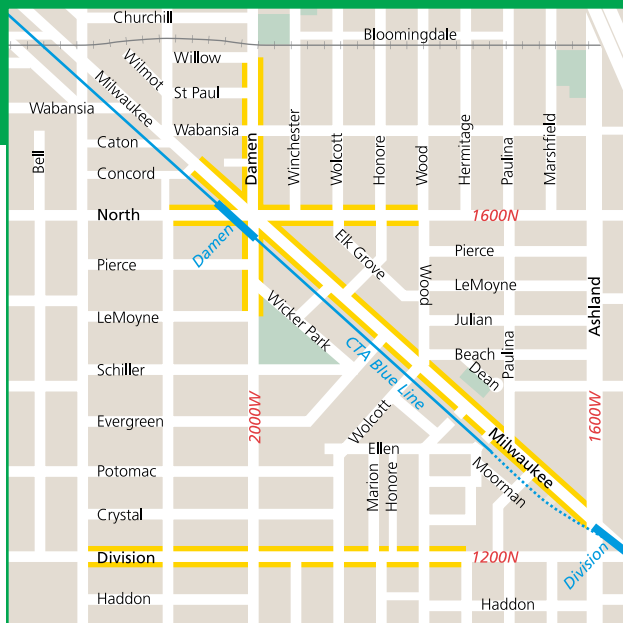


# WICKER PARK & BUCKTOWN

CTA Blue Line to Division or Damen

The landmark Northwest Tower —also known as the Coyote Building for its resemblance to a howling coyote — stands tall in the heart of Wicker Park, whose hub is the bustling intersection of Damen, North, and Milwaukee. Buildings anchor each of the intersection’s six corners, notably the gallery-filled Flatiron Arts Building. Consider exploring the residential streets during a daytime stroll; most notable are the eclectic Victorians built by successful German and Scandinavian immigrants on Hoyne (“beer baron row”) and Pierce, infill on the old industrial precinct along Wabansia west of Damen, and the cottages squeezed by McMansions in Bucktown, northeast of Milwaukee and North.

Nightlife booms along the three arterials — strike out in any of six directions from Damen, North, and Milwaukee deep into the night for restaurants, bars, clubs, and offbeat music and book stores. Half a mile south on Damen takes you to Division, where boutiques squeeze into tiny storefronts and each block has bars serving Pabst, Guinness, and sake. The sonic boom continues to radiate outwards; Chicago Ave. is the very latest outpost for foodies.



## Eats:

### **Earwax** \$ *Vegetarian*

1561 N Milwaukee 773 772 4019  
Hipsters and hippies unite over seitan sandwiches and videos.

### **Sultan's Market** \$ *Middle Eastern*

2057 W North 773 235 3072  
Astoundingly cheap sandwiches, soups, salads.

### **Sweet Thang** \$ *Pastry Shop*

1921 W North 773 772 4166  
Patisserie with light fare including quiches.

### **Hot Chocolate** \$\$\$ *Contemporary American*

1747 N Damen 773 489 1747  
Dessert-focused haute dining toeing the sweet-savory divide.

## Drinks/Entertainment:

**Nick's**, 1516 N Milwaukee, 773 252 1155  
Unpretentious neighborhood hangout with pool.

**Rainbo Room**, 1150 N Damen  
773 489 5999  
Nelson Algren once basked in seedy splendor here; now, it's a hipster fashion parade.

**Phyllis' Musical Inn**, 1800 W Division  
773 486 9862  
Well worn bar in front; live music in back.

**Rodan**, 1530 N Milwaukee 773 276 7036  
Super-glossy fusion restaurant and ambient bar.

**Bin Wine Café**, 1559 N Milwaukee  
773 486 2233  
Take a flight by the wood burning pizza oven.



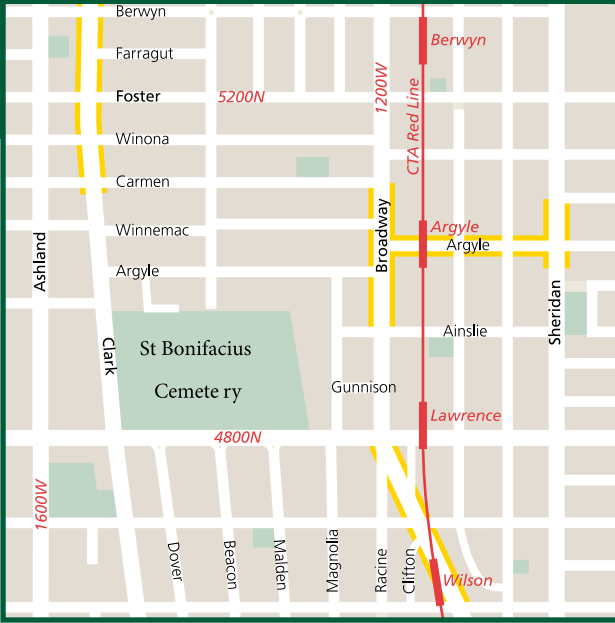
# UPTOWN & EDGEWATER

CTA Red Line to Lawrence (Uptown), Argyle, or Berwyn (Andersonville)

Uptown's heyday was the Roaring Twenties, when booze and (even more scandalously) jazz fueled a glittering entertainment district. Its marvelous architecture testifies to its prewar popularity and wealth. Fantastic terra cotta facades cover nearly everything in sight: the 4,400-seat Uptown Theater (dark for 20 years), the Aragon Ballroom, the Uptown National (now Bridgeview) Bank, the WPA-era Uptown Station post office, even the old Wilson "L" station. After decades of neglect, Uptown is becoming trendy again: the Goldblatt's department store has become a bookstore and condos, and mixed-use mid-rises have sprouted. The sidewalks buzz with Nigerian and Russian immigrants, hippies and yuppies.

Farther north on Broadway, Argyle Street – announced by the pagoda over the "L" – is Chicago's main street for southeast Asian immigrants. On weekends, the market atmosphere pours out of produce and grocery shops onto Argyle Street and Broadway.

North and west of Uptown is Andersonville, the old Swedish neighborhood. Clark Street is a traditional main street – a single block houses a shoe store, hardware store, bakery, bank, and video store. No two homes in the Lakewood-Balmoral neighborhood were built alike. Stroll its shady streets of classic, intact Chicago houses and flats to get between Clark Street and the "L."



## Eats:

**Ba Mien** \$-\$\$ *Vietnamese*  
4941 N Broadway 773 878 8811  
Much more than pho.

**Thai Pastry & Restaurant** \$-\$\$ *Thai*  
4925 . Broadway 773 784 5399  
Also, a full menu with lots of noodle dishes.

**Tweet Let's Eat** \$ *Breakfast*  
5020 N Sheridan Rd 773 728 5576  
Stop in for excellent breakfast or creative dinner.

**Andie's, Reza's** \$\$ *Middle Eastern*  
5253 and 5255 N Clark  
Compare menus and decide!

**Jin Ju** \$\$ *Korean*  
5203 N Clark 773 334 6377  
Traditional food in a slick space.

## Drinks/Entertainment:

**Hopleaf** 5148 N Clark 773 334 9851  
Best selection of Belgian brews in town,  
with moules frites to match.

**Simon's** 5210 N Clark 773 878 0894  
A historic tavern modeled after a ship.

**Green Mill Lounge** 4802 N Broadway 773  
878 5552  
Home to jazz since 1908 and mobsters during Prohibition; ask to see the scrapbook.



# LINCOLN SQUARE

## CTA Brown Line to Western

Lincoln Square is a quintessentially healthy and tranquil streetcar suburb, retaining vestiges of its German and Swedish heritage. Because of its original location outside of Chicago city limits, it skirted the city's post-Fire prohibition on wood-frame construction and therefore maintains a fine grain of quaint single-family houses. Gentrification has recently cleaned up some rough edges, but many families remain.

The commercial heart of Lincoln Square is the traffic-calmed stretch of Lincoln Avenue between Leland and Lawrence, created in the late 1970s by realigning of traffic onto Leland and improved in the late 1990s with the addition of a ceremonial lamp, public square, and fountain. A short walk south along Lincoln along a newly rejuvenated retail stretch brings you to the Conrad Sulzer Public Library, the Museum of Decorative Arts (housed in Louis Sullivan's last building), and the house where Carl Sandburg wrote *Chicago*, at 4646 N. Hermitage. To the west, Lawrence parallels the Brown Line in the dizzying mix of Albany Park; Korean, Egyptian, Bosnian, and Mexican businesses jostle for customers.

### Square Kitchen \$\$ American

4600 N Lincoln, 773.751.1500

Popular a la carte entrees in a sleek yet comfortable room.

### Chicago Brauhaus \$\$ German

4732 N Lincoln, 773.784.4444

Traditional German, down to the live Tyrolean-costumed band nightly.

### Sweet Occasions \$ Bakery

4639 N Damen, 773.293.3080

Friendly locally owned ice cream and candy store next to the Damen "L."

### Cafe Selmarie \$\$ Café

4729 N Lincoln, 773.989.5595

Continental pastries, cakes, and dinners for 20 years.

### La Bocca della Verita \$\$\$ Italian

4618 N Lincoln, 773.784.6222

Hearty Northern Italian excellence.





# EVANSTON

CTA Purple Line to Davis;  
Metra UP-North to Davis



The key words in Evanston these days are “look up.” The city is best known as the first outpost of the monied North Shore suburbs and as the home of Northwestern University. Evanston is an urban oasis in a suburban setting – gridded streets, easily accessible transit, homes ranging from small cottages to luxurious lakefront mansions, tree-lined streets, and expansive beachfront parks.

Evanston’s historic downtown is booming – with the suburbs’ best restaurants, a magnificent Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired public library and newly minted mid- and high-rise residential buildings everywhere. A new multiplex and high-rises with striking orange balconies overlook crowds strolling tree-lined sidewalks along Maple, just outside the new train station – this is what transit-oriented development is all about. Just a few years ago, these sites were vacant and slated for laboratories under a stale research-park plan.

Two stately homes downtown offer a look into history: the Historical Society at the Charles Dawes House, 225 Greenwood (847.475.3410), and the Women’s Christian Temperance Union – the ladies who brought you women’s suffrage and Prohibition – at the Frances Willard House, 1730 Chicago (847.864.1396).

## Noodle Garden \$-\$\$ Asian

1241 Chicago, 847 332 2775.  
Fabulous potstickers and out-of-the-ordinary Thai.

## Tommy Nevin’s Pub \$\$ Irish

1450 Sherman, 847 869 0450  
Traditional pub fare served up with live Celtic music.

## Whole Foods Market \$-\$\$ Grocery

1640 Chicago, 847 733 1600  
Earthy goes gourmet in a pedestrian-friendly mixed-use complex.

## Blind Faith Café \$\$ Vegetarian

525 Dempster St, 847 328 6875  
Local favorite with yummy desserts, juice bar, even vegan options.



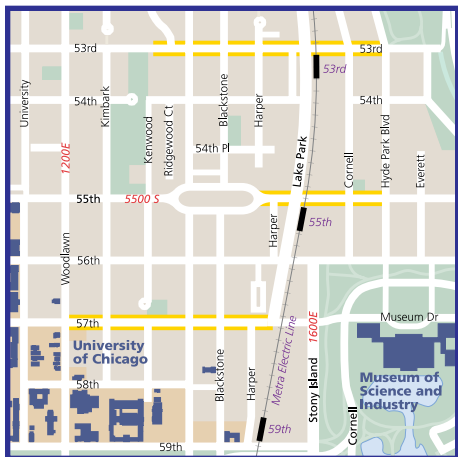
# HYDE PARK

CTA bus #6 south from Loop; Metra Electric to 57th

The limestone battlements of the University of Chicago watch over the quiet, leafy academic enclave of Hyde Park, home to more bookstores and physicists than anywhere this side of Cambridge. The neighborhood shops and dines along 53rd Street, whereas the bookshops and restaurants on 57th cater directly to the university. Frank Lloyd Wright's famed "prairie ship," the Robie House, now looks out onto a new business school designed by Rafael Viñoly.



A 20-minute walk east is lakefront Jackson Park, where the World's Columbian Exposition once drew half the nation to see the White City and where Daniel Burnham's City Beautiful ideas launched into the stratosphere. Remnants of the Fair include the Midway Plaisance – Chicago's broadest boulevard, with new reading gardens near the university – and the Museum of Science and Industry. The placid Osaka Garden grows on Olmsted's Wooded Island, near where Wright admired the Japanese pavilion.



## Snail's Thai Cuisine \$ Thai

1649 E 55th 773 667 5423  
Delicious, cheap Thai.

## Ragin' Cajun \$-\$\$ Indian & Soul

1459 E 53rd 773-955-1145  
Quirky spot; get your curry with collards.

## Valois \$ American

1518 E 53rd 773 667 0647  
Classic cash-only Chicago cafeteria; breakfast until 4 pm.

## Medici & Medici Bakery \$ American

1327 E 57th 773 667 7394  
Usual pizza parlor for an unusual campus; artisan bakery next door.

## La Petite Folie \$\$ French

1504 E 55th 773 493 1394  
Unpretentious but refined, La Petite Folie excels at elegant simplicity.



# OAK PARK

CTA Green Line “L” to Marion; Metra UP-West to Marion

Justly famous for the world’s largest collection of Frank Lloyd Wright homes (40) and his magnificent 1905 Unity Temple, Oak Park also touts a bustling downtown augmented by adaptive reuse and new infill.

The “L” ride offers a bird’s eye view of the economically distressed but rebounding west side. Trains arrive in Oak Park at a new multimodal station one block south of Lake, the town’s busy main street. Almost everything is walkable, but if you’d rather, a free shuttle runs throughout the day from the Oak Park “L.” A helpful visitor’s center is at 118 Westgate, on a short pedestrian mall next to the Marion station. Lake Street features a mix of local entrepreneurs and national chains, including specialty shops like a spice emporium and the usual apparel chains.

Oak Park proudly proclaims itself a “nurturing ground for entire schools of architecture, literature, visual and performing arts” – including Wright, his fellow Prairie School architect George Maher, and Ernest Hemingway. Never mind that both Hemingway and Wright left Oak Park early in their careers.



## Khyber Pass \$\$ Indian

1031 Lake, 708.445.9032

Don’t miss the mango ice cream.

## Erik’s Delicatessen \$ Deli

107 N Oak Park, 708.848.8806

Huge salad bar, homemade soups, laid-back outdoors dining.

## Oberweis Dairy \$ Ice Cream

124 N Oak Park, 708.660.1350

25 locally made flavors, served in cones, floats, splits...

## New Rebozo \$\$ Mexican

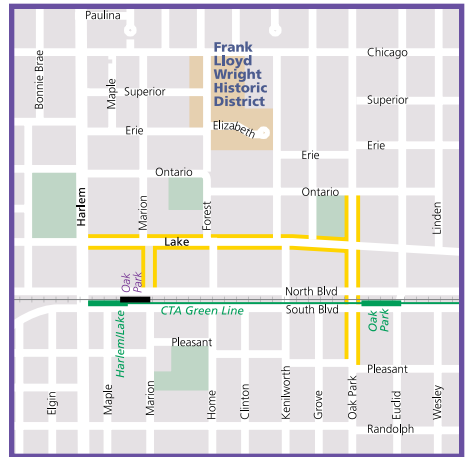
1116 Madison, 708 445 0370

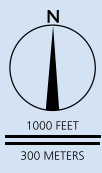
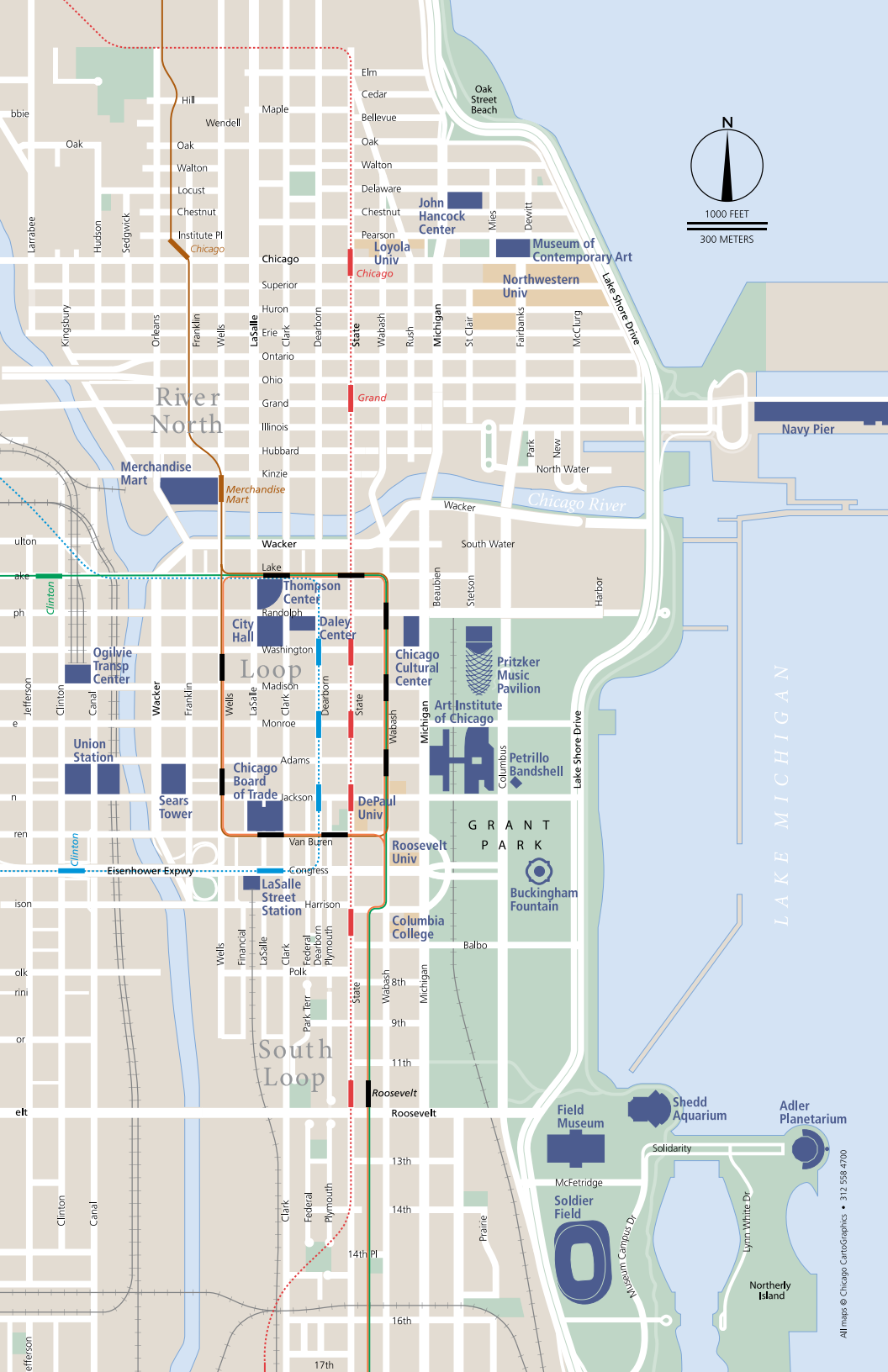
Enchiladas just like Mama made.

## The Pasta Shop \$\$ Italian

116 Oak Park, 708 763 0600

Dine deliciously on homemade pasta and finish with a gelato.





River North

South Loop

Loop

GRANT PARK

LAKE MICHIGAN