

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 35 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, 6am to 7pm, daily. Or, visit the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) trip planner at 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 7pm; TTY: 1-888-CTA-TTY1 (1-888-282-8891).

Or, e-mail us at feedback@transitchicago.com.

Visit Us Online

CTA’s website is transitchicago.com. You can get information, see our map, purchase CTA-themed gift items, and even buy your fare in advance! Metra’s website is metrarail.com. Pace’s website is 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. 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 11:30pm daily from Museum Campus and Downtown.
- 147 Outer Drive Express until 9:15pm Sundays.

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

- 7 Harrison operates weekdays 5:55am to 9:55pm
- 10 Museum of Science & Industry operates daily Memorial Day to Labor Day from about 9am to 4:40pm every 30 minutes.
- 28 Stony Island weekdays 7am to 9:30am and 3:50pm to 6:35pm.
- 130 Museum Campus operates Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day, daily from 9:30am to 6pm.
- 157 Streeterville/Taylor weekdays 6:25am to 7:15pm.

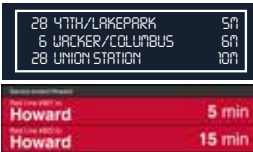
Accessibility

All CTA buses are accessible to people with disabilities.

Bus and Train Tracker

Get estimated arrivals with CTA Bus TrackerSM and CTA Train TrackerSM.

Transit Trackers help to take the waiting out of your trip. Estimated arrival times for both bus and train service is available on the Web (ctabustracker.com and transitchicago.com/traintracker), in apps, by text message, and on digital signs at many CTA bus stops and train stations. (Look for arrivals on either side of the the outside roof on bus shelters or on electronic signs in train stations. Visit transitchicago.com/howto for more detailed information.



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:

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

At the Station

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

Accessibility

Almost sixty-nine (69) 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 (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.



Inside the Station –

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\*

Base/Regular Fares		
Deducted from Transit Value in a Ventra Transit Account on a Ventra Card or contactless bankcard		
	Full	Reduced**
‘L’ train fare	\$2.50*	\$1.25
Bus fare†	\$2.25	\$1.10
Transfer (up to two additional ‘L’ train or bus rides within two hours)	25¢	15¢
Unlimited-Ride Passes		
Loaded onto a Ventra Transit Account on a Ventra Card or contactless bankcard		
1-Day CTA Pass	\$10	
3-Day CTA Pass	\$20	
7-Day CTA Pass	\$28	
Other Fares	Full	Reduced**
†Cash Bus Fare: Cash/coins deposited in farebox when boarding. Exact fare required. No transfers.	\$2.50	\$1.25
Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) Bus/Train Fare: Any personal, contactless bankcard with the «L» symbol can be used to pay directly at turnstiles or bus farebox. No transfers.	\$2.50	\$1.25
*O’Hare ‘L’ Train Fare: Deducted on entry at O’Hare station only. Does not apply to passes.	\$5	\$1.25

Ventra Cards & Disposable Ventra Tickets

New Ventra Card: \$5

Load value/passes onto reusable card. Purchase fee refundable with registration.

Ventra Ticket: Ticket cannot be reloaded.

Single Ride: \$3 (all stations except O’Hare) \$5 (O’Hare only)

Ticket good for entry onto ‘L’ train or bus and two transfers, and includes Limited Use Media Fee for cost of the ticket.

1-Day Pass: \$10

Ticket good for 24 hours of riding from first use. Limited Use Media Fee waived.

Ride Free Programs

Qualifying Seniors and Customers With Disabilities

Seniors ages 65+ and customers with disabilities enrolled in the Illinois Department on Aging Benefit Access Program and have a valid Regional Transportation Authority Ride Free Permit.

Military Personnel

Any active duty military personnel in full uniform with US Armed Forces ID, and active duty personnel and qualifying disabled military veterans with a CTA Military Service Pass ride free on CTA buses and trains.

Children Under Age 7 With a Fare-Paying Customer

\* Fares are subject to change.

\*\* Reduced fares are for children ages 7 – 11, and for seniors 65+ and customers with disabilities with a valid RTA Reduced Fare Card.

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
FirstMerit Bank Pavilion at Northerly Island Park Chinatown	146 south on State or 130 (Memorial Day weekend thru Labor Day) east on Jackson Red Line train (toward 95th/Dan Ryan) in the State Street Subway south to Cermak-Chinatown or bus 62 South on State
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
360 Chicago (formerly John Hancock Observatory)	10, 146, 147 or 148 north on State; 151 north on Dearborn
Lincoln Park Zoo	151 north on Dearborn
McCormick Place	3 south on Michigan or Green Line (toward Cottage Grove or Ashland/63rd) south to Cermak-McCormick Place
Museum Campus**	146 south on State, or 130 (Memorial Day weekend thru Labor Day) east on Jackson
Museum of Science & Industry	6 or 10 south on State or 28 (weekday rush hours) east on Jackson. See “Buses” panel for 10 & 28 hours.
Navy Pier	29 north on State or 124 east on Washington
North Michigan Avenue	10, 146, 147, or 148 north on State, 151 north on Dearborn, or 3 north on Michigan
River North & Old Town areas	22 or 36 north on Dearborn
Soldier Field (Bears)	146 south on State
Union Station	151 west on Adams
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) south to 35th-Bronzeville-IIT
Willis (Sears) Tower	7, 126 or 151 west on Adams
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* or 147 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, 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

Chicago Transit Authority

Downtown Transit

Sightseeing Guide

November 2016

(Fares updated Jan. 2018)



transitchicago.com



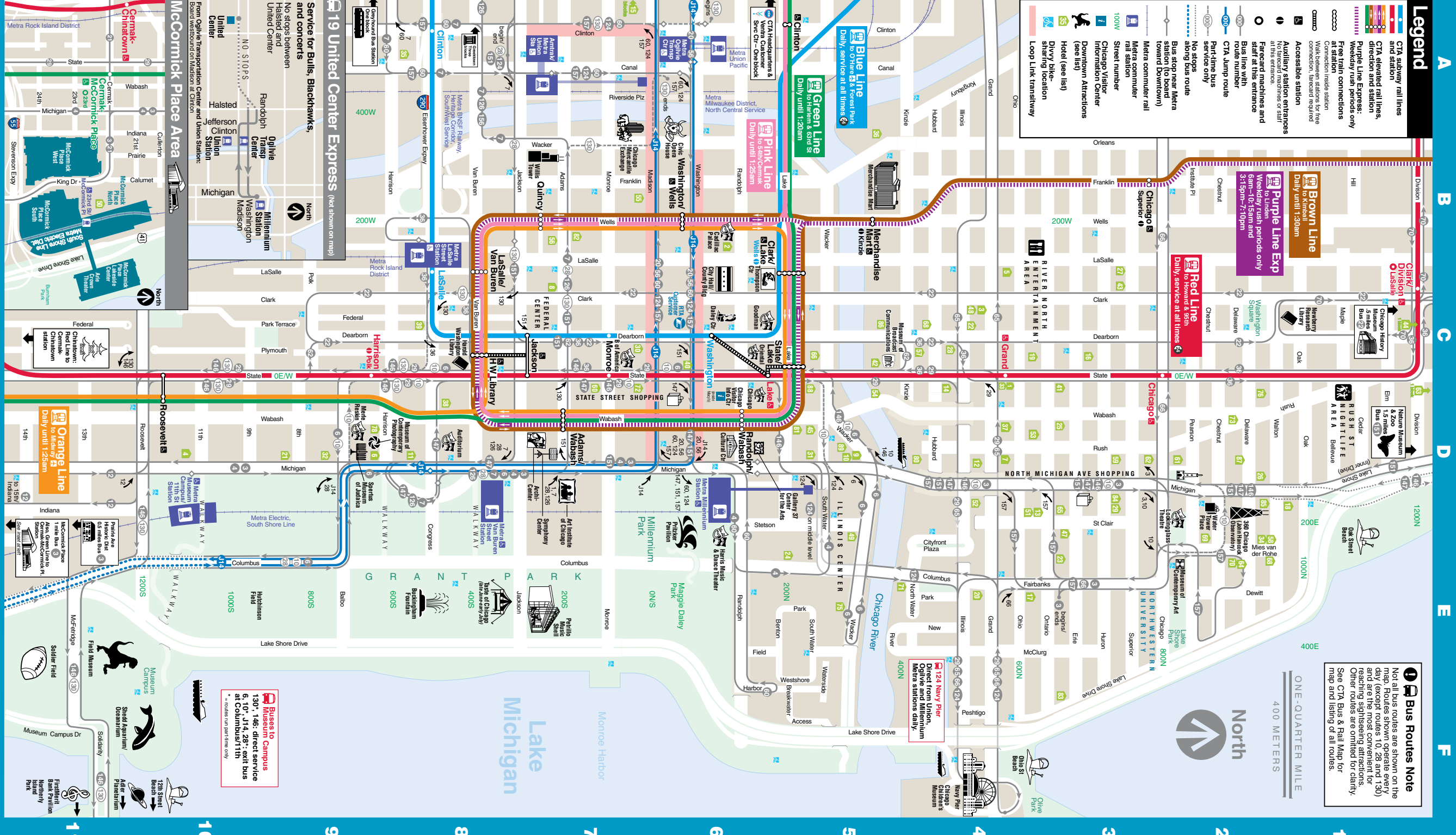


Downtown Attractions

Visitor Info. Centers: Chicago Visitor Information Center inside Macy's on State Street (State/Randolph) Hours: Monday - Saturday, 10am to 7pm; Sunday, 11am to 6pm (closed Easter and Christmas Day).

- |   |   |  |  |  |   |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| F-11 Adler Planetarium                    | 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 | C-3 River North Restaurants & Nightlife                                      | E-8 Taste of Chicago (late June-early July)   |
| D-7 Art Institute of Chicago              | C-6 Daley Center & Picasso                          | D-2 Hot Tix Booth                      | C-1 Newberry Library   | B-7 Willis (Sears) Tower Skydeck   | Theatres (Live): D-8 Auditorium, B-6 Cadillac Palace  |
| E-8 Buckingham Fountain                   | C-11 Chinatown                                      | E-11 McCormick Place                   | D-2 North Michigan Avenue Shopping   | F-10 Shedd Aquarium  | C-6 Chicago (Navy Pier)   |
| F-11 FirstMerit Bank Pavilion             | E-11 Field Museum                                   | C-4 Museum of Broadcast Communication  | Beaches: D-1 Oak Street Beach, F-3 Ohio Street Beach, F-10 12th Street Beach         | D-5, F-4, F-10 Sightseeing Boats   | F-4 Chicago Shakespeare (Navy Pier)   |
| D-7 Chicago Architecture Foundation Tours | B-5 Gallery 37 Merchandise Mart                     | E-2 Museum of Contemporary Art         | D-2 Old Water Tower & Pumping Station  | E-11 Soldier Field   | C-6 Goodman   |
| D-6 Chicago Cultural Center               | A-8 Greektown                                       | D-1 Nature Museum and Zoo              | E-7 Petrillo Music Shell   | D-9 Spectus Museum of Judaica  | E-6 Harris Music and Dance  |
| A-6 Civic Opera House                     | C-6 James R. Thompson (State of Illinois) Center    | D-9 Museum of Contemporary Photography | D-6 Pritzker Pavilion, Grant Park Music Festival                                     | C-6, C-7 State Street Shopping, Chicago Visitor Info. Center (inside Macy's) | D-2 Lookingglass  |
| A-7 Chicago Mercantile Exchange Tours     | D-2 360 Chicago (Formerly John Hancock Observatory) |  |  | D-7 Symphony Center  | D-9 Merie Reskin C-7 Bank of America  |
|   |   |  |  |  | E-11 Prairie Avenue Historic District: Clark House Museum, Gleason House Museum, Women's Park and Gardens |

Downtown Map



Alphabetical List of Downtown Hotels

- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| 1 Acme Hotel, C-4                                  | 23 Fairfield Inn & Suites (Ontario St.), E-3       | 45 Hotel Monaco, D-5                           | 67 Residence Inn Chicago Downtown/Mag. Mile, E-2     |
| 2 Allegro Chicago, B-6                             | 24 Fairmont Chicago, Millennium Park, E-6          | 46 Hotel Palomar, C-4                          | 68 Residence Inn Chicago Downtown/ River North, C-5  |
| 3 Atrii Hotel, C-4                                 | 25 Four Points by Sheraton, D-3                    | 47 Hyatt Chicago/Mag. Mile, D-3                | 69 The Ritz-Carlton Chicago, D-2                     |
| 4 Best Western Grant Park Hotel, D-10              | 26 Four Seasons Hotel Chicago, D-2                 | 48 Hyatt Place/River North, C-4                | 70 The Seneca Hotel & Suites, E-2                    |
| 5 Best Western River North Hotel, C-4              | 27 The Godfrey Hotel, C-3                          | 49 Hyatt Regency Chicago, D-5                  | 71 Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, E-4              |
| 6 The Blackstone, A Renaissance Hotel, D-9         | 28 Hampton Inn Suites Downtown (Illinois St.), C-4 | 50 Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, B-11         | 72 The Silversmith Hotel and Suites, D-7             |
| 7 Chicago Marriott Downtown Hotel, D-4             | 29 Hampton Inn & Homewood Suites (Huron St.), D-3  | 51 Inn of Chicago, D-4                         | 73 Soteli Chicago Water Tower, D-2                   |
| 8 Club Quarters/Central Loop, B-7                  | 30 Hampton Inn Maletic, C-7                        | 52 InterContinental Chicago, D-4               | 74 Springfield Suites Marriott Chicago Downtown, C-5 |
| 9 Club Quarters/River Hotel, D-5                   | 31 Hard Rock Hotel, D-5                            | 53 The James Hotel Chicago, D-4                | 75 Swissotel Chicago, E-5                            |
| 10 Comfort Suites, D-5                             | 32 Hilton Chicago, D-9                             | 54 The Langham Hotel, D-4                      | 76 The Talbot Hotel, C-2                             |
| 11 Congress Plaza Hotel, D-8                       | 33 Hilton Garden Inn, C-4                          | 55 La Quinta, B-7                              | 77 Thompson Hotel, C-1                               |
| 12 Conrad Chicago, D-4                             | 34 Hilton Suites Chicago-Mag. Mile, D-2            | 56 JW Marriott, B-7                            | 78 Travelodge Downtown Hotel, D-9                    |
| 13 Courtyard by Marriott Mag. Mile, D-3            | 35 Holiday Inn & Suites, A-8                       | 57 Kinzie Hotel, C-5                           | 79 Tremont Chicago Hotel, D-2                        |
| 14 Courtyard by Marriott Downtown/River North, C-4 | 36 Holiday Inn - Chgo. Mar Plaza, A-5              | 58 Millennium Knickerbocker Chicago Hotel, D-2 | 80 Trump International Hotel & Tower Chicago, D-5    |
| 15 Crowne Plaza Chicago Metro, A-7                 | 37 Homewood Suites by Hilton, D-4                  | 59 Omni Chicago Hotel, D-3                     | 81 Virgin Hotel, D-5                                 |
| 16 Dana Hotel and Spa, C-3                         | 38 Hoteling International, C-8                     | 60 Palmer House Hilton, D-7                    | 82 W Chicago City Center, B-7                        |
| 17 Doubletree Hilton Chgo Mag Mile, E-4            | 39 Hotel Blake, C-8                                | 61 Park Hyatt Chicago Hotel, D-2               | 83 W Chicago Lake Shore, F-3                         |
| 18 The Drake Hotel, D-1                            | 40 Hotel Burnham, C-6                              | 62 The Peninsula Chicago, D-3                  | 84 Warwick Allerton, D-3                             |
| 19 Embassy Suites Chicago Downtown, C-4            | 41 Hotel Cass - A Holiday Inn Express, C-3         | 63 Public Hotel, D-1                           | 85 The Westin Michigan Avenue, D-2                   |
| 20 Embassy Suites Chicago Lakefront, E-4           | 42 Hotel Chicago, C-5                              | 64 Raffaello Hotel, E-2                        | 86 The Westin River North, C-5                       |
| 21 Essex Inn, D-9                                  | 43 Hotel Felix, C-3                                | 65 Red Roof Inn Chicago, D-3                   | 87 Whitehall Hotel, D-2                              |
| 22 Fairfield Inn & Suites (Illinois St.), C-4      | 44 Hotel Indigo, C-1                               | 66 Renaissance Chicago Hotel, C-5              | 88 The Wit, C-5                                      |
|  |  |  | 89 Wyndham Grand Chicago Riverfront, D-5             |