

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
**NEWS RELEASE**  
CHICAGO OFFICE OF TOURISM

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**NEW HALF-DAY BUS TOURS EXPLORE CHICAGO  
NEIGHBORHOODS, CELEBRATE HISTORIC ANNIVERSARIES  
AND VISIT PUBLIC ART**

**2009 Calendar Features New Albany Park, Land of Lincoln Bicentennial,  
Burnham Centennial, and Art Around Town Excursions**

**President Obama's Neighborhood Featured on the  
Hyde Park & Kenwood Tour**

(January 26, 2009) Experience Chicago's diverse communities from an insider's perspective with four new tours being offered by *Chicago Neighborhood Tours*. Find out where more residents were born from around the globe than in any other Chicago community on the new *Albany Park* tour; celebrate the Lincoln Bicentennial and Burnham Centennial with special tours that travel to multiple neighborhoods; and discover sculpture, mosaics, paintings and monuments in surprising places on the new *Art Around Town* tour.

These affordable half-day bus excursions highlight the history, stories, traditions, and most importantly, the people of Chicago. Choose from three kinds of tours: *Neighborhood Tours* that visit a broad range of Chicago communities, *Special Interest Tours* that explore Chicago themes and historical events, and *Summertime Sampler Tours* that combine brief visits of several Chicago neighborhoods.

With local residents as guides, *NEIGHBORHOOD TOURS* take visitors off the beaten path and into the heart of Chicago's distinctive communities. New this year, the *Albany Park* tour (May 30, August 15) visits the Cambodian American Heritage Museum, the River Park Dam and Waterfall, the 155-acre-North Park Village with its roaming urban wildlife, and the famous Superdawg Drive-In. To commemorate the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth, the new *Land of Lincoln* tour (April 4, August 1) travels to Civil War gravesites at Oak Woods Cemetery, the Stephen A. Douglas Tomb and Monument, Grant and Lincoln Parks, and the Chicago History Museum's collection of Lincoln memorabilia.

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On the *Hyde Park & Kenwood* tour (April 18, July 18, September 19), drive by President Obama's Kenwood home and see the University of Chicago campus where he once taught. Explore Hyde Park's St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and the Oriental Institute Museum followed by a walk through Jackson Park's enchanting Osaka Garden. On the *South Shore Neighborhoods* tour (February 21, November 14), visit the South Shore Cultural Center, the site of President Obama's wedding reception and an architectural landmark; stop at Saint Philip Neri Catholic Church; and see the restored New Regal Theater.

Other *Neighborhood Tours* include *Great Parks of Chicago* (April 4, October 3); *Historic Bronzeville* (April 25, September 12); *Pilsen & Little Village* (June 6, September 26); and *Devon Avenue* (June 6, August 8).

Led by historians and other experts, *SPECIAL INTEREST TOURS* explore Chicago architecture, culture, history, and food. Celebrate Daniel Burnham and William Bennett's 1909 Plan of Chicago and its legacy with the new *Make Big Plans: Burnham Centennial* tour (June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12). Beginning with a presentation at the Chicago Cultural Center followed by a viewing of a Harold Washington Library exhibition, the tour proceeds to Jackson, Burnham, and Lincoln Parks, and ends at Burnham's gravesite in Graceland Cemetery.

A returning favorite, the *White City* tour (various dates from February to November), visits the site of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition where hundreds of buildings originally stood and enthralled 27 million visitors. Another popular tour, *Taste of the Neighborhoods* (various dates from February to November), features trips to ethnic restaurants throughout the city to savor cuisines from lands near and far.

Additional *Special Interest Tours* include *Polish Chicago* (March 21, November 14); *the Great Chicago Fire* (May 9, October 3); *Great Cemeteries of Chicago* (June 13, July 11, August 15); and *Literary Chicago* (October 17).

*SUMMERTIME SAMPLER TOURS* combine the charms and histories of three diverse neighborhoods including *Greek Town, Chinatown, & Little Italy* (every Thursday from May 28 to July 16); *Andersonville, Uptown & Lincoln Square* (May 29, June 26, July 24, August 21); *Humbolt Park, Wicker Park & Ukrainian Village* (June 5, July 31, August 28); and *Little Italy, Pilsen & Little Village* (June 19, July 17, August 14). The new *Art Around Town* tour (June 12, July 10, August 7) visits mosaics, paintings, sculpture and monuments in parks, plazas, building lobbies, viaducts and other surprising places and illustrates why Chicago is a leader in public art.

*Chicago Neighborhood Tours* is a division of the Chicago Office of Tourism. For descriptions of tours and to make reservations, call 312.742.1190 or visit [www.chicagoneighborhoodtours.com](http://www.chicagoneighborhoodtours.com). All tours depart by motorcoach from the Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph Street at Michigan Avenue, at 10 a.m. (check-in at 9:30 a.m.) and include some walking. The cost for each *Neighborhood Tour* is \$30 (\$25 for seniors/students) and includes refreshments. The cost for each *Special Interest Tour* is \$50 (\$45 for seniors/students) and includes lunch. *Summertime Sampler Tours* cost \$20 per person. Group rates are available. Reservations are strongly recommended as tours often sell out. A calendar of all tours follows.

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*CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOOD TOURS 2009 CALENDAR*

FEBRUARY

07 CHICAGO'S MAGNIFICENT CHURCHES  
14 THE WHITE CITY  
21 SOUTH SHORE NEIGHBORHOODS  
28 TASTE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS

MARCH

07 IRISH CHICAGO  
07 BEAUTIFUL BEVERLY  
14 GREEK CHICAGO  
21 POLISH CHICAGO  
28 TASTE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS  
28 THE WHITE CITY

APRIL

04 GREAT PARKS OF CHICAGO  
04 LAND OF LINCOLN –new tour  
18 TASTE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS  
18 HYDE PARK & KENWOOD  
25 HISTORIC BRONZEVILLE  
25 THE WHITE CITY

MAY

02 BEAUTIFUL BEVERLY  
02 WICKER PARK & BUCKTOWN  
09 THE GREAT CHICAGO FIRE  
09 PULLMAN HISTORIC DISTRICT  
16 LITTLE ITALY  
28 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN  
29 ANDERSONVILLE, UPTOWN & LINCOLN SQUARE  
30 TASTE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS  
30 ALBANY PARK –new tour

JUNE

04 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN  
05 HUMBOLDT PARK, WICKER PARK & UKRAINIAN VILLAGE  
06 DEVON AVENUE  
06 PILSEN & LITTLE VILLAGE  
11 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN  
12 ART AROUND TOWN  
13 MAKE BIG PLANS; BURNHAM CENTENNIAL – new tour  
13 GREAT CEMETERIES OF CHICAGO - GRACELAND  
18 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN  
19 LITTLE ITALY, PILSEN & LITTLE VILLAGE  
20 THE WHITE CITY  
20 WICKER PARK & BUCKTOWN  
25 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN  
26 ANDERSONVILLE, UPTOWN & LINCOLN SQUARE  
27 TASTE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS

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JULY

- 02 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN
- 09 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN
- 10 ART AROUND TOWN
- 11 MAKE BIG PLANS; BURNHAM CENTENNIAL – new tour
- 11 GREAT CEMETERIES OF CHICAGO - ROSEHILL
- 16 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN
- 17 LITTLE ITALY, PILSEN & LITTLE VILLAGE
- 18 TASTE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS
- 18 HYDE PARK & KENWOOD
- 23 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN
- 24 ANDERSONVILLE, UPTOWN & LINCOLN SQUARE
- 25 THE WHITE CITY
- 25 CHICAGO'S MAGNIFICENT CHURCHES
- 30 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN
- 31 HUMBOLDT PARK, WICKER PARK & UKRAINIAN VILLAGE

AUGUST

- 01 LAND OF LINCOLN – new tour
- 06 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN
- 07 ART AROUND TOWN
- 08 MAKE BIG PLANS; BURNHAM CENTENNIAL – new tour
- 08 DEVON AVENUE
- 13 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN
- 14 LITTLE ITALY, PILSEN & LITTLE VILLAGE
- 15 GREAT CEMETERIES OF CHICAGO - GRACELAND
  
- 15 ALBANY PARK – new tour
- 20 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN
- 21 ANDERSONVILLE, UPTOWN & LINCOLN SQUARE
- 22 TASTE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS
- 22 PULLMAN HISTORIC DISTRICT
- 27 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN
- 28 HUMBOLDT PARK, WICKER PARK & UKRAINIAN VILLAGE
- 29 THE WHITE CITY
- 29 LITTLE ITALY

SEPTEMBER

- 03 GREEKTOWN, LITTLE ITALY & CHINATOWN
- 12 MAKE BIG PLANS; BURNHAM CENTENNIAL – new tour
- 12 HISTORIC BRONZEVILLE
- 19 TASTE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS
- 19 HYDE PARK & KENWOOD
- 26 THE WHITE CITY
- 26 PILSEN & LITTLE VILLAGE

OCTOBER

- 03 THE GREAT CHICAGO FIRE
- 03 GREAT PARKS OF CHICAGO
- 10 IRISH CHICAGO
- 10 BEAUTIFUL BEVERLY
- 17 PULLMAN HISTORIC DISTRICT
- 17 LITERARY CHICAGO
- 24 TASTE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS
- 24 WICKER PARK & BUCKTOWN
- 31 THE WHITE CITY

NOVEMBER

- 07 CHICAGO'S MAGNIFICENT CHURCHES
- 07 GREEK CHICAGO
- 14 SOUTH SHORE NEIGHBORHOODS
- 14 POLISH CHICAGO
- 21 TASTE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS
- 21 THE WHITE CITY

Visitors and Chicagoans planning to entertain out-of-town guests can receive Chicago brochures, reserve hotel accommodations and receive trip-planning assistance by calling toll-free 1.877.CHICAGO (1.877.244.2246) or visiting [www.explorechicago.org](http://www.explorechicago.org). Brochures and information on Chicago events and activities are also available at the Visitor Information Centers located at Chicago Water Works, 163 E. Pearson Street at Michigan Avenue and the Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph Street. The TTY toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1.866.710.0294.

The Chicago Office of Tourism, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, is the official City agency dedicated to promoting Chicago to domestic and international visitors and to providing innovative visitor programs and services.

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