

3 DAY

WINTER HOLIDAY ITINERARY

CHICAGO
WELCOME HOME

MACY'S ON STATE STREET

JOFFREY BALLET

CHICAGO BULLS

DAY 1

Holiday brunch can be found all over the city. **Atwood Café** is decorated with classy wreaths and trees. **Dinkel's Bakery & Cafe** displays a Christmas village complete with candy cane houses and a trolley track.

Enjoy a walk through **Millennium Park**, where you can ice skate in the shadow of Cloud Gate (known as "The Bean") or along the ice skating ribbon at **Maggie Daley Park**. Make sure you join in with the **Caroling at Cloud Gate**.

Nearby Macy's on State Street will awe you with its famous holiday window displays. Then head inside to **The Walnut Room** for a holiday pot pie or sparkling poinsettia cocktail. You'll also see the enormous Great Tree, a 111-year tradition.

The 'Holiday Lights, City Lights' tour, put on by the **Chicago Architecture Center** and **Big Bus Tours**, will give you a glimpse of Chicago's architectural highlights all lit up for the holidays.

360 CHICAGO offers stunning views over the city from their 94th floor observation deck. Have a swanky cocktail one floor down at the **Signature Room**. For a classic Chicago meal, **Pizzeria Uno** or **Gino's East** will give you a taste of deep dish pizza.

Theaters throughout the city stage a variety of holiday shows, including the **Joffrey Ballet's** 'Swan Lake' and 'Nutcracker,' and the **Goodman Theatre's** 'Christmas Carol.' Broadway In Chicago also runs 2-4 different shows at any given time.

If you're into sports, head to a **Chicago Bulls** basketball game or **Chicago Blackhawks** hockey match for an action-packed evening at the **United Center**.

DAY 2

Beatrix serves a healthy, all-American breakfast. The **LB Bistro & Patisserie** bakes up French sweets & savory breakfast options.

For family fun, visit the enchanting **Navy Pier Winter WonderFest** featuring a carousel, ice-skating rink, giant Christmas tree, and more at this indoor wonderland. Then enjoy a ride in one of the **Centennial Wheel's** heated cabins. Grab lunch at one of Navy Pier's many Chicago favorite restaurants, including **DMK Burger Bar, Riva Crab House, Billy Goat Tavern, or Giordano's**.

Take a quick ride on the CTA Holiday Train, a decked out 'L' train complete with Santa's elves, and take a picture with Santa Claus.

Afterwards visit **Christkindlmarket** in Daley Plaza, Chicago's very own authentic German Christmas market. Here you can enjoy hot spiced-wine or cocoa, delicious bratwurst, and potato pancakes while shopping for everything from handmade Christmas ornaments to artisanal cheeses.

Once the sun is down, go to **Lincoln Park Zoo**, one of the oldest free zoos in the country. During **ZooLights**, the grounds are covered in millions of twinkling lights for a truly magical holiday display.

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If you'd like to end with a festive nightcap go to **Butch McGuire's** in Gold Coast, a bar that goes all out decorating for the holidays. For an authentic Chicago blues experience go to **Kingston Mines** in Lincoln Park, open 365 days a year until 4 a.m!

DAY 3

Start your third day with a bite at French-inspired **Cochon Volant Brasserie** in the Loop.

Get a multi-cultural Christmas experience at the annual 'Christmas Around the World' exhibition at the **Museum of Science and Industry**, where you'll find trees decorated to represent 50 countries.

After your museum adventure, head to the **Palmer House Hotel** in the Loop for a hot cocoa in their breathtaking lobby. This legendary social hub was visited by Charles Dickens, Frank Sinatra, and more. Did you know the chocolate brownie was invented here, and you can still try the original recipe there today?

The Drake Hotel's beautiful Palm Court is worth a visit for a high tea that's steeped in Chicago tradition. Christmas carolers make their rounds to the guests who can request the classics. Be sure to book ahead to reserve your spot.

If you're lucky enough to be in town the weekend before Thanksgiving, make your way up to Michigan Avenue for the nationally televised **Magnificent Mile Lights Festival**. The festival features a parade led by Mickey Mouse and a fireworks show. The Magnificent Mile is home to over 460 retail stores including two shopping malls, **The Shops at Northbridge** and **Water Tower Place**.

For a classy dinner experience and a tour of the skyline via the Chicago River, book the **Odyssey Chicago River Cruise**. A heated or glass enclosed boat that runs year-round.

The Godfrey Hotel features a heated outdoor rooftop with igloos, firepits and s'mores kits. **Cindy's Rooftop** at the **Chicago Athletic Association** hotel offers hot cocktails and fire pits for the winter months, and overlooks Millennium Park. It's a wonderful place to end your holiday trip to Chicago.

RESTAURANTS, SHOPPING & HOTELS Atwood Café, Beatrix, Billy Goat Tavern, The Drake Hotel, DMK Burger Bar, Giordano's, Cindy's Rooftop, Cochon Volant Brasserie, Dinkel's Bakery & Cafe, LB Bistro & Patisserie, Macy's on State Street, Palmer House Hotel, Pizzeria Uno, Gino's East, Riva Crab House, Signature Room, The Dearborn, The Godfrey Hotel, The Walnut Room, The Shops at Northbridge, Water Tower Place, Chicago Athletic Association Hotel **THEATER & MUSIC** Goodman Theatre, Broadway in Chicago, Joffrey Ballet, Kingston Mines **ATTRACTIONS & MUSEUMS** 360 Chicago, Chicago Architecture Center, Chicago Theatre, Chicago Blackhawks, Chicago Bulls, Centennial Wheel at Navy Pier, CTA Holiday Train, Museum of Science and Industry, Navy Pier Winter WonderFest **FREE ATTRACTIONS, PARKS & FESTIVALS** Caroling at Cloud Gate, Christkindl Market, Maggie Daley Park, Millennium Park, Lincoln Park Zoo, Zoo Lights at Lincoln Park Zoo, The Magnificent Mile Lights Festival **TOURS** Big Bus Tours

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