

5 DAY

# MUSIC ITINERARY

chicago  
WELCOME HOME

## DAY 1

Start your day on a high-note with weekend jazz brunch at **River Roast** along the Chicago River, or head to **Rockit Bar and Grill** for live music Sunday brunch.

A must-do for every music lover is the **Jazz, Blues and Beyond Tour** by **Chicago Detours**. This tour covers Chicago's deep musical legacy. Perhaps the most notable stop is **Chess Records**, the famous studio where the Rolling Stones were inspired to write "Satisfaction" and Etta James recorded "At Last".

Keep the blues vibe going with a live music lunch at **Buddy Guy's Legends**, while enjoying New Orleans-inspired grub.

**Millennium Park** and **Grant Park** are home to outdoor music and dance festivals May - September. Take a selfie with Cloud Gate aka "the Bean", then listen to local and international artists at the **Chicago Blues** or **Jazz Festivals**. Have a picnic during the **Grant Park Music Festival Series**, or start moving and grooving at the **House Music Festival** or **SummerDance**.

Across the street is the **Chicago Cultural Center** where you'll find free live performances each week, including classical concerts under the world's largest Tiffany stained glass dome. The **Chicago Greeters** can give you a personal tour of Millennium Park, **The River Walk**, or the Cultural Center, and the best part... it's free!

Several restaurants in Chicago offer dinner with live jazz. **Tortoise Supper Club** has an upscale rustic interior. **Catch 35** overlooks the river and has excellent seafood.

After all that jazz, catch a **Broadway in Chicago** show at one of many theatres in Chicago's Theatre District. For a refined experience, see a performance at the **Lyric Opera of Chicago**.

## DAY 2

Begin with breakfast at **Lou Mitchell's**, an iconic diner that has been family owned since 1923 and situated at the start of **Route 66**. If you have a large group, pre-book a buffet breakfast at the **Hard Rock Café** in River North.

For a closer look at Chicago's storied musical theater past, do behind-the-scenes tours at the **Chicago Theatre Marquee Tour** or the **Auditorium Theater**.

During summer check out **Castaway's** beachside bar at Chicago's North Avenue Beach, featuring live DJ sets Friday - Sunday.

Just a block from the beach, visit the **Chicago History Museum** and step into an authentic recreation of a jazz-age club and learn about Chicago's blues and jazz history.

Next, experience the historic **Water Tower**, home to the free **City Gallery**. Then cross the street to do some shopping at **Water Tower Place**, a shopping mall with over 110 stores. During lunch check out the **Chicago Sports Museum** inside **Harry Cary's 7th Inning Stretch** restaurant. In the area you can see Chicago from soaring heights on top **360 Chicago** observation deck.



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End your night with a stop for some BBQ and live country music at **Bub City** or famed blues joint **Kingston Mines**, open 365 days a year until 4 a.m.! Other notables for live blues music are **B.L.U.E.S.** or **Blue Chicago**.

## DAY 3

If you're visiting on a Sunday, make sure to head to the **House of Blues Gospel Brunch** for an energy packed performance, where local talent performs traditional and contemporary gospel songs over breakfast.

For those who love to shop local boutiques or hunt for vintage vinyl, head to **Wicker Park** and **Bucktown**. **Dusty Groove** and **Shuga Records** have obscure and classic collections, while **Reckless Records** offers selections for a more mainstream audience.

A great option for an adventurous group is the **Bizarre Bucktown Tour**, a walking tour centered around the history, hauntings, scandals, and even taverns in the surrounding neighborhood.

For lunch try **Big Star**, a local favorite playing old school country music on vinyl and serving tex-mex style food. Another fun spot is **Northside Bar & Grill**, which hosts an open mic night on Wednesdays.

Nearby, **The Empty Bottle** is a favorite for indie sounds and local artists, with free shows on Monday nights. **Davenport's Piano Bar Cabaret** has a name that speaks for itself. Near downtown, check out **Howl at the Moon** for a lively piano bar with a party vibe. Or head to **The Hideout**, a Prohibition-era bar featuring live music and dancing.

## DAY 4

Start your day with a group buffet breakfast at **Pinstripes** near downtown. You can go bowling or play bocce-ball at this large dining and gaming establishment. Area Tip: **Winter's Jazz Club** is a great new evening spot and located next door.

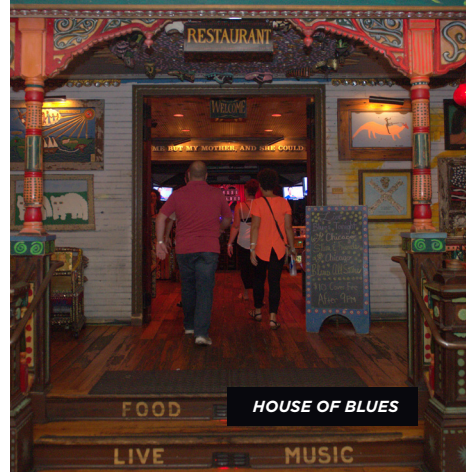
A must do is the **Art Institute of Chicago**. Home to the second largest collection of French Impressionist works in the world, as well as art from Andy Warhol, Picasso, Dalí, and so much more.

After your eyes have feasted, have lunch at **Tesori**, **Seven Lions**, or **The Gage** across the street. Then go shopping at **Macy's on State Street** to find a classy outfit from top designers. While there, head to the **Macy's Visitor's Center** where the staff can answer questions about Chicago's available tourism activities.

Next, take a seat at the **Symphony Center**, home to the world renowned **Chicago Symphony Orchestra**. Alternatively, if swing is your thing, **Andy's Jazz Club** has live jazz seven nights a week.

From August to October, **The Shedd Aquarium** opens their doors on Wednesday nights for Jazzin' at the Shedd. The event features live music, 32,000 aquatic animals, food and drink, and a spectacular view of **Navy Pier** fireworks.

Continue the night in the South Loop at one of the oldest clubs in Chicago, **The Jazz Showcase**.





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WINDY CITY SMOKEOUT

## DAY 5

If you'd like to eat breakfast at one of the most unique spots on the planet, book your group for **"Breakfast on The Ledge"** at **Skydeck Chicago**. You will have private access to dine on the tallest observation deck in North America.

Spend your day by taking the 'L' train to one of the many neighborhood festivals that take place throughout the year. In June check out **Country Lake Shake**, a country music festival on the shores of Lake Michigan. In July the **Windy City Smokeout** features barbeque from across the USA paired with the best country bands.

Throughout the summer and fall each of Chicago's 77 neighborhoods has street festivals where you can experience local art vendors, food, and bands playing everything from rock or reggae, to house music or blues. Attending these festivals is free!

For EDM beats, head to **Spring Awakening** in Addams/Medill Park, or head to Chicago's world renowned original music festival, **Lollapalooza** in August. **Pitchfork** is a great indie and hip-hop music festival each July, and **Riot Fest** in September is a hard rock fan's Valhalla.

Want bizzare and amazing percussion? Book the **Blue Man Group's** interactive show at the **Briar Street Theater**.

Before you go, make sure to check the schedules of popular concert venues like the **Aragon Ballroom** or **United Center**. On your way out, bow out like a rock star and get chauffeured back to the airport with **Windy City Limousines**, **Metropolitan Limousine**, **Aries Charter**, or **M&M Limousine Service**.

ARAGON BALLROOM

UNITED CENTER

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**RESTAURANTS & SHOPPING** Bub City, Big Star, Catch 35, Castaways, House of Blues Gospel Brunch, River Roast, Rockit Bar and Grill, Emerald Loop Bar & Grill, Lou Mitchell's, Northside Bar & Grill, The Gage Seven Lions, Tesori, Pinstripes, Tortoise Supper Club, Water Tower Place, Macy's on State Street **THEATER & MUSIC** Auditorium Theatre, Hard Rock Café, Andy's Jazz Club, Aragon Ballroom, B.L.U.E.S., Blue Man Group, Broadway in Chicago, Briar Street Theater, Buddy Guy's, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Davenport's Piano Bar Cabaret, House of Blues, Howl at the Moon, Kingston Mines, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Reggie's Chicago, Shuga Records, The Empty Bottle, The Hideout, The Jazz Showcase Winter's Jazz Club **ATTRACTIONS & MUSEUMS** Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago History Museum, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago Theatre, City Gallery in the Water Tower, The Magnificent Mile, The Shedd Aquarium, Skydeck Chicago, United Center, Water Tower **ATTRACTIONS, PARKS & FESTIVALS** Grant Park, Millennium Park, Legends, Chicago Blues Festival, Chicago Jazz Festival, Country Lake Shake, Grant Park Music Festival, House Music Festival, Oktoberfest, Spring Awakening, SummerDance, Lollapalooza, Windy City Smokeout, Riot Fest, Pitchfork **TOURS & TRANSPORTATION** Chicago Detours, Chicago Greeter's, Bizarre Bucktown Tour, M&M Limousine Service, Metropolitan Limousine, Windy City Limousines, Aries Charter

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### THEATER & MUSIC

Andy's Jazz Club  
Aragon Ballroom  
Auditorium Theatre  
Blue Man Group  
B.L.U.E.S.  
Briar Street Theater  
Broadway in Chicago  
Buddy Guy's  
Chicago Symphony Orchestra  
Davenport's Piano Bar Cabaret  
Hard Rock Café  
House of Blues  
Howl at the Moon  
Kingston Mines  
Lyric Opera of Chicago  
Reggie's Chicago  
Shuga Records  
The Empty Bottle  
The Hideout  
The Jazz Showcase Winter's Jazz Club

### ATTRACTIONS & MUSEUMS

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Chicago Cultural Center  
Chicago History Museum  
Chicago Theatre  
City Gallery in the Water Tower  
Skydeck Chicago  
The Magnificent Mile  
The Shedd Aquarium  
United Center  
Water Tower

### RESTAURANTS & SHOPPING

Big Star  
Bub City  
Castaways  
Catch 35  
Emerald Loop Bar & Grill  
House of Blues Gospel Brunch  
Lou Mitchell's  
Macy's on State Street  
Northside Bar & Grill  
River Roast  
Rockit Bar and Grill  
Tesori, Pinstripes  
The Gage Seven Lions  
Tortoise Supper Club  
Water Tower Place

### ATTRACTIONS, PARKS & FESTIVALS

Chicago Blues Festival  
Chicago Jazz Festival  
Country Lake Shake  
Grant Park  
Grant Park Music Festival  
House Music Festival  
Legends  
Lollapalooza  
Millennium Park  
Oktoberfest  
Pitchfork  
Spring Awakening  
SummerDance  
Riot Fest  
Windy City Smokeout

### TOURS

Aries Charter  
Bizarre Bucktown Tour  
Chicago Detours  
Chicago Greeter's  
Metropolitan Limousine  
M&M Limousine Service  
Windy City Limousines