Logan Square is a thriving, multi-cultural community of arts organizations, intimate music venues, locally owned shops, trendy cocktail bars, and beyond. It’s creative energy and urban vibe make it a go-to for locals looking for the next cool thing. Explore the various cultural institutions and events throughout this one-of-a-kind neighborhood including the Taste of Polonia Festival, held annually in September, and the Logan Square Arts Festival every June, which features live music, art installations, and local food and drink vendors.

Logan Square is home to the historic Logan Theatre. This vintage movie house opened in 1915 and has been revamped to include a cozy bar and lounge. The Logan, as the locals call it, screens everything from first-run films to cult classics to indie favorites. It also hosts the annual Chicago Underground Film Festival, the longest-running underground film fest in the world.

Logan Square includes a diverse dining scene. You’ll find Michelin-rated spots, pizza places with cult followings, funky noodle shops, and unexpected fusion concepts. Hip coffee houses, minimalist boutiques, and a Sunday Farmers Market round out the Logan Square experience.

Logan Square is also home to a vibrant arts and nightlife scene. Take your pick from trend-setting cocktail bars, under-the-radar venues with local bands, and burgeoning breweries and distilleries. Check out Longman & Eagle, a modern take on an old-school Chicago inn with a mind-blowing whiskey selection. Or order a cocktail made with small-batch spirits at Chicago Distilling Company. Catch a performance at cool-kid staple Logan Theatre. This vintage movie house opened in 1915 and has been revamped to include a cozy bar and lounge. The Logan, as the locals call it, screens everything from first-run films to cult classics to indie favorites. It also hosts the annual Chicago Underground Film Festival, the longest-running underground film fest in the world.

WHAT TO DO?

- Enjoy a seasonal, locally sourced meal at neighborhood favorite Lula Cafe, a pioneer of the farm-to-table movement.
- Check out Wolfbait & B-Girls, a boutique showcasing wares from more than 300 local makers.
- Parson's Chicken and Fish is known for its spacious outdoor space where you can enjoy negroni slushies and ping pong. You can also grab a seat on the patio at The Moonlighter or cozy up by the fire at Scofflaw.
- Pop into Galerie F to pursue their extensive collection of gig posters, art prints, and street art.

CULTURE

Logan Square

HISTORY

Originally settled by German and Scandinavian immigrants, the area has a rich history and a unique cultural identity from the waves of immigration that have settled in the neighborhood over the years. In the mid-20th century, Logan Square saw another influx of immigrants, particularly from Mexico and Puerto Rico. Today, the neighborhood is known for its vibrant Mexican-American community, which has left its mark on the neighborhood’s culture and cuisine.

One of the most notable and historic features of Logan Square is the beautiful boulevard system that runs through the neighborhood. Designed by legendary architect and planner Daniel Burnham in the late 19th century, the boulevards were created to provide a beautiful, tree-lined connection between the city’s parks and green spaces.

Today, the Logan Square Boulevard National Historic District is lined with regal limestone homes and are a popular spot for biking, walking, and picnicking.

The boulevard is anchored by the soaring Illinois Centennial Monument, designed by the same architect who created the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. It’ll lead you straight to Palmer Square, where you’ll find residents lounging in the grass with a frozen treat from a seasonal pop-up, Miko’s Italian Ice. Once a popular raceway for nineteenth-century carriage drivers and cyclists, this green space is a quiet getaway in the Logan Square neighborhood.

GETTING THERE

BY CAR

Logan Square is conveniently located off of the I-90/I-94 interstate. Travel north from the Loop via the 606/Bloomingdale Trail, a path that borders the southern edge of Logan Square. Milwaukee Avenue cuts right through the heart of Logan Square. Dubbed the Hipster Highway due to its high volume of bikers, it is the most heavily trafficked bike route in the city.

BY BIKE

Logan Square is one of the most bicycle-friendly neighborhoods in the city. The neighborhood is easily accessed from the east via The 606/Bloomingdale Trail, a path that borders the southern edge of Logan Square. Milwaukee Avenue cuts right through the heart of Logan Square. Dubbed the Hipster Highway due to its high volume of bikers, it is the most heavily trafficked bike route in the city.

INSIDER TIP

Stop by the Logan Square Farmers Market (each Sunday from May through October) or check the event calendar at Comfort Station, a historic building that offers free concerts, movie screenings, and more just across from the monument.