West Town has seen waves of immigrants from all over the world. These global influences have shaped the neighborhood into the funky, creative enclave it is today.

**HISTORY**

West Town is less known as the birthplace of the Chicago-style hot dog, which was invented in 1929 by the owner of Fluky’s Hot Dogs on Maxwell Street.

By 1900, Polish immigrants staked a major claim in the neighborhood, transforming the intersection by Division and Ashland (where you’ll find the Division Blue Line ‘L’ stop) into Chicago’s “Polish Downtown.” Since then, Russian Jews, Italians, Ukrainians, Puerto Ricans, and Mexicans have all made West Town home, adding to the neighborhood’s cultural diversity.

HISTORY

**CULTURE**

West Town is home to many “neighborhoods” within a neighborhood, each having its own distinct charm. This is an area defined by a rich history of residents and the entrepreneurial pioneers who’ve helped maintain the essence of what truly defines “Chicago”…its neighborhoods.

**UKRAINIAN VILLAGE**

This neighborhood is known for its Eastern European heritage. You’ll find beautiful historic architecture, cute cafes and boutiques, and a strong community feel. The Ukrainian National Museum houses an unparalleled collection of cultural items and artifacts, and the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art presents works by internationally recognized artists from around the globe.

**WICKER PARK**

Wicker Park is a trendy neighborhood with hives of activity that draws shoppers hunting for unique finds, foodies looking for the trendiest eats, and bar hoppers searching for late-night buzz. It’s home to the city’s favorite indie music venues, late-night clubs, pubs, speakeasies, and neighborhood dive bars.

**NOBLE SQUARE**

Noble Square is a quieter neighborhood that’s a bit more residential than some of the other West Town neighborhoods. Here you can find the Polish Museum of America amongst historic architecture with great restaurants and bars.

**EAST VILLAGE**

East Village is a diverse and eclectic neighborhood with a mix of historic buildings and modern developments. There are plenty of restaurants and shops, and the area has a lively arts scene.

**RIVER WEST**

River West is a bustling neighborhood with a mix of residential and commercial spaces. It’s popular with young professionals, and there are plenty of bars, restaurants, and entertainment options in the area.

**WHAT TO DO?**

- Experience traditional self-care rituals, from thermal baths to saltwater pools, in a restored historic building at AIRE Ancient Baths.
- Grab lunch at Kasia’s Deli, a popular neighborhood delicatessen that has been serving fresh deli sandwiches, homemade soups, salads, and other dishes since 1982. Kasia’s Deli received the James Ward award for the best place in Chicago for home cooking.
- Head to the rooftop bar in The Robey hotel to sip piña coladas and take in 180-degree views of the city skyline.
- Visit the 606, a repurposed rail line that gives you an elevated view of four distinctive Chicago neighborhoods.
- Catch a show at Subterranean, a beloved music venue in a century-old industrial building.

**GETTING THERE**

**BY TRAIN**

West Town is served by three CTA lines: the Blue, Green, and Pink Lines. You can also visit via the Metra Electric line (MD-W) to the Western Avenue Station.

Please confirm routes and schedules at www.transitchicago.com and www.metra.com

**BY BUS**

Several CTA lines service the West Town neighborhood: 8, 9, 49, 50, 56, 65, 66, 70, 94.

Please confirm routes and schedules at www.transitchicago.com

**BY CAR**

West Town is conveniently located off of the I-90/I-94 interstate. Travel north from the Loop via I-90/I-94, take exit 49b, and head to W Augusta Blvd.

**BY BIKE**

West Town has a number of neighborhood bike routes. You can find bike routes along Milwaukee Ave, Halsted St, Grand Ave, Damen, and more with Divvy stations sprinkled throughout the neighborhood for car-free biking options.