

Robert Heilbronner's Top 20 List of Things to Do/See in Chicago

As a 20 year resident living in the friendly confines of Chicago, I'd like to offer the following recommendations to my AACN colleagues to maximize their conference experience. I tried to limit it to 10, but was unable to do so! Most of these sites are located within walking distance of the conference hotel.

They are listed in no particular order (* denotes especially good for families)

- 1). **House of Blues:** one block away on Dearborn. Check out the schedule for performers.
www.houseofblues.com/venues/clubvenues/chicago/
- 2). **Trump Tower:** one block away. Visit the bar. It's expensive, but beautiful with a lovely view of the city. www.trumpchicago.com
- 3). **The Hard Rock Hotel:** one block away. Great lobby bar and neat gift shop.
www.hardrockhotelchicago.com
- 4). **The Wit Hotel:** across the street. Has the BEST rooftop deck partying in the city, especially in the summer! www.thewithhotel.com
- 5). ***ESPN Zone:** good for families with kids. Located on Ohio street, about 3 blocks away.
www.espnzone.com
- 6). ***Millennium Park:** Three blocks toward the lake. Check out the "Cloud Gate" sculpture, inaccurately referred to by others as "The Bean." Also, check out Frank Gehry designed band shell. www.millenniumpark.org/
- 7). ***Wrigley Field:** Home of the Chicago Cubs. Cab or bus ride away.
http://chicago.cubs.mlb.com/index.jsp?c_id=chc
- 8). ***Cellular Field:** Home of the Chicago White Sox. Cab or bus ride away.
<http://chicago.whitesox.mlb.com/cws/ballpark/index.jsp>
- 9). **Randolph Street and State Street:** Home to several theatres and play houses, and shopping. About two blocks away.
- 10). **Magnificent Mile:** Michigan Avenue, home to shopping extravaganza. Walking distance.
- 11). **Art Institute of Chicago:** three blocks away. Speaks for itself! Walking distance.
www.artic.edu/aic

- 12). ***Museum of Science and Industry:** a cab ride away toward Hyde Park (also very close to The University of Chicago). www.msichicago.org
- 13). ***Museum District:** Includes the Shedd Aquarium, Adler Planetarium, Field Museum. Short cab ride away or walking distance to those in good physical condition. http://gochicago.about.com/od/chicagomuseums/ss/museum_campus.htm
- 14). **Chicago Architecture Tours:** By boat or double-decker buses. Find them at Michigan and Wacker Streets. Two block walk. www.architecture.org/tours.aspx
- 15). ***Navy Pier:** Great for families. Includes Chicago Children's Museum, Ferris Wheel, and other kid friendly things. Also, home to Chicago Shakespeare Theatre. Take a cab. www.navypier.com
- 16). **Chicago Tribune Building:** check out the façade, which includes stone from various sites throughout the world (e.g., Parthenon, Great Wall of China, etc.). Walking distance. www.op97.k12.il.us/julian/tribrocks/index2.html
- 17). ***John Hancock Building and the Willis (formerly the Sears) Tower:** Great observation decks and views of the city. Bus or cab drive away. www.hancockobservatory.com and www.willistower.com/
- 18). ***Water Tower Place:** If you like shopping....You can walk there or take a cab. www.shopwatertower.com
- 19). **Restaurants:** Far too many to list!!
- 20). **Milwaukee, Wisconsin:** About 90 minutes north. Great place to visit. Also, birthplace of Robert Heilbroner!! Rent a car. Take Amtrak.