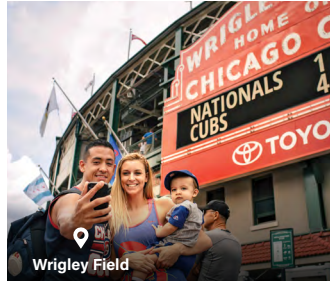


# illinois

experience the  
middle of everything



## Chicago:

The City offers something for everyone: world-class museums, shopping on [the Magnificent Mile](#), Cubs games at the iconic [Wrigley Field](#) and unique outdoor spaces like [Millennium Park](#) where you can snap a selfie with Anish Kapoor's [Cloud Gate](#) sculpture. Enjoy breathtaking views from [Skydeck Chicago](#) or [360 CHICAGO](#), stroll along the [Riverwalk](#), and soak in the vibrant atmosphere of the city. Savor iconic deep-dish pizza while enjoying live music at one of Chicago's local hotspots. Experience the city's skyline, vibrant art scene, and stunning architecture from a fresh perspective with [Navy Pier's](#) new Flyover Chicago.



## Historic Main Street – Galena:

Nestled near the Mississippi River, the quaint town of Galena makes for the perfect getaway, no matter the season. [Galena's Historic Main Street](#) boasts more than 125 independently owned shops and restaurants. Visitors can glide along the Galena River in a kayak or enjoy skiing at [Chestnut Mountain Resort](#) in the winter. The town is located along the [Great River Road](#), which can be explored via a new [EV-friendly itinerary](#).



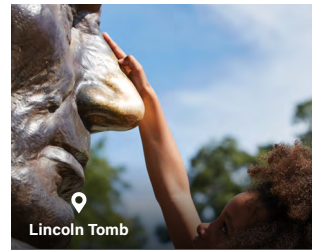
## Get Your Kicks on Route 66: – Celebrating 100 Years in 2026:

- Start your Route 66 journey in downtown Chicago at the iconic "Begin" sign before heading south to tour the [Old Joliet Prison](#), where the popular *Blues Brothers* movie was filmed.
- Visit the [Gemini Giant](#) Muffler Man at its new location, in South Island Park, Wilmington.
- Take a selfie in front of the [Route 66 Shield Mural](#) in Pontiac and visit the new American Giants Museum in Atlanta.
- Visit Springfield's Motorheads for the world's largest Route 66 sign and [Shea's Gas Station Museum](#), a restored Texaco service station.
- Explore the [Legends Neon Sign Park](#) in Springfield and the new [It's Electric Sign Park](#) in Granite City, showcasing historic Route 66 signs.

## Historic Springfield:

Illinois' capital, Springfield, is located along Route 66 and is home to numerous historic attractions, including the [Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum](#) — voted one of the top experiences in the world by TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice Awards. Visit several of Illinois' most popular attractions in historic Springfield!

- [Lincoln Home National Historic Site](#)
- [Lincoln Tomb](#)  
(Rub Lincoln's nose for good luck!)



- [Illinois State Capitol](#)
- [Dana-Thomas House](#)
- [Illinois Governor's Mansion](#)

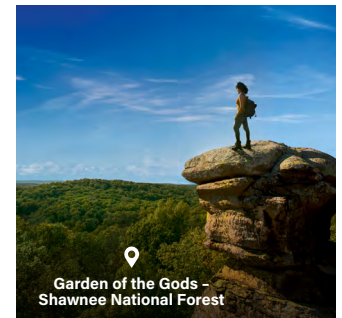


## Illinois' Frank Lloyd Wright Trail:

Illinois' Frank Lloyd Wright Trail is a self-guided architectural adventure featuring 13 Wright-designed buildings throughout the state, all open to the public. The [Frederick C. Robie House](#) in Chicago and [Unity Temple](#) in Oak Park are now designated as UNESCO World Heritage sites.

## Shawnee National Forest

Located in Southern Illinois, nestled between the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, Shawnee National Forest features hiking trails through canyons and forest canopies. Enjoy stunning views at [Garden of the Gods](#) and experience thrilling activities, including rock climbing, zip-lining and wildlife photography, as well as spend the night relaxing in treehouses at [Timber Ridge Outpost & Cabins](#).



the views at [Mississippi Palisades State Park](#) in Savanna, and delve into the history of John Deere in the Quad Cities. Discover Quincy's architecture and visit Alton, the only place in America where the iconic Route 66 meets the Great River Road.

## Great River Road:

Follow the Great River Road, one of seven Illinois scenic byways, as it stretches 2,000 miles along the Mississippi River through 10 states. In Illinois, this 550-mile [All-American Road](#) offers striking vistas, especially scenic in the fall, and is a popular spot for eagle watching in winter. Enjoy



Enjoy Illinois Press Kit  
[media.enjoyillinois.com](http://media.enjoyillinois.com)



# Illinois Accolades

## Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards

- Deer Path Inn in Lake Forest ranked #1 in the Midwest and #6 for Best Hotels in the U.S.

## TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice Awards

### Travelers' Choice Awards

- Four Seasons Hotel Chicago ranked #8 for Best Hotels in the U.S.

### Top Inns and B&Bs

- Aldrich Guest House in Galena ranked #17 in the U.S.

## U.S. News and World Report

### Top 10 Hotels in the U.S.

- The Langham, Chicago ranked #3
- The Peninsula Chicago, ranked #4

### Best Weekend Getaways in the Midwest

- Chicago ranked #3

### Best Foodie Cities in the U.S.

- Chicago ranked #3

## USA Today 10 Best

### Best New Hotel

- The L7 Chicago by LOTTE Hotel, ranked #9

### Best Yoga Retreats

- Soul Farm Yoga Retreats in Amboy ranked #4

### Best Boat Tour

- Chicago Architecture Foundation ranked #2

## Condé Nast Traveler

- Chicago ranked #1 in the Reader's Choice list of Best Big Cities in the U.S. for the 8th consecutive year

## Culinary

- Chicago's culinary scene offers something for everyone, from iconic deep-dish pizza to Michelin-starred dining. The city is home to **20 Michelin-starred restaurants** and **38 Bib Gourmand rated restaurants**.
- Cariño**, celebrated for its Mexican and Central American tasting menu
- Kasama**, the first ever Filipino restaurant in the world to receive a Michelin-star
- Indienne**, Chicago's first Michelin-star Indian restaurant

## UNESCO World Heritage Sites

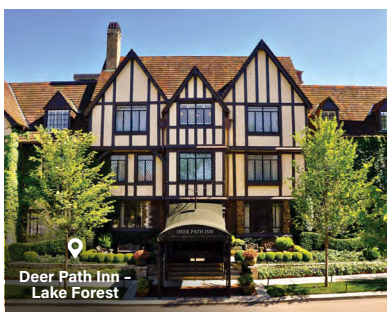
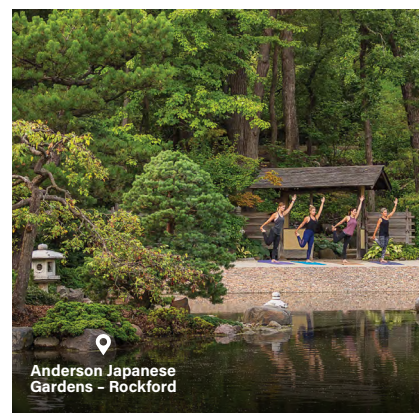
- Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, Collinsville
- Frederick C. Robie House, Chicago
- Unity Temple, Oak Park



## Outdoor Experiences

Home to 64 state parks and recreation areas, 2,900 lakes, and seven national scenic byways, Illinois offers no shortage of outdoor adventure.

- Dark Sky Park Trail, Middle Fork River Forest Preserve - Penfield
- Aerie's Resort: Sky Tour, Alpine Coaster & new Byway Flyway Zipline - Grafton
- Garden of the Gods - Shawnee National Forest
- Chicago Botanic Garden - Glencoe
- Illinois Beach State Park - Zion
- Morton Arboretum - Lisle
- Starved Rock State Park - Oglesby
- Anderson Japanese Gardens - Rockford



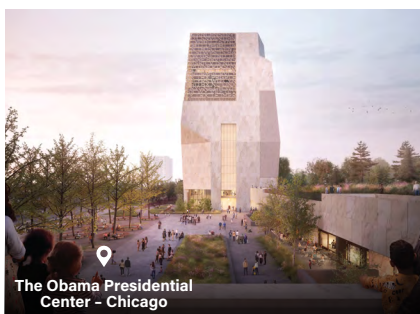
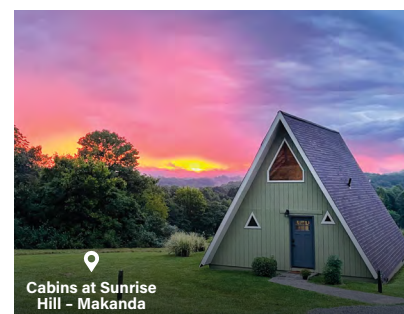
## Luxe by Illinois

Discover unparalleled luxury experiences in Illinois, including these award-winning hotels and spas:

- Jail Hill Inn - Galena
- Deer Path Inn - Lake Forest
- Kohler Waters Spa - Chicago, Burr Ridge
- The Langham Hotel, Chuan Spa - Chicago
- The Peninsula Spa & Wellness Center - Chicago
- The St. Regis Chicago Spa - Chicago

## New & Noteworthy Stays

- L7 CHICAGO by LOTTE Hotel - Chicago
- Riu Plaza Hotel - Chicago
- Duke of Wells Hotel - Chicago
- Illinois Beach Hotel - Zion
- The Cabins at Sunrise Hill - Makanda
- Havisham House and Bourbon Bar - Alto Pass
- Margie B's Lake Lodge - Jonesboro
- Urban Collective Boutique Hotel - Edwardsville



## What's Ahead

- IPW in Chicago - June 2025
- Quincy, Illinois 200th Anniversary - 2025
- Victory Cruise Lines returns to the Great Lakes - 2025
- Route 66 Centennial - 2026
- USA's 250th Birthday - 2026
- The Obama Presidential Center - 2026
- Presidents Cup, Medinah Country Club - September 2026