

A vibrant collage of Chicago landmarks. The Willis Tower stands prominently in the background. In the foreground, a ferry boat labeled 'LITTLE LADY' is on the water. To the left, a large 'CHICAGO' sign is visible. In the center, a 'CHICAGO RIVERWALK' archway spans the water. To the right, a 'SUBWAY' entrance is shown. The bottom right corner features a 'CHICAGO' logo. The background is a deep blue sky with white clouds.

NEIGHBORHOOD DINING & GRUB

14 Parish Restaurant & Rhum Bar

7.4mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Hyde Park · 1644 E 53rd St.

A lively Caribbean stop in one of Chicago's most academic neighborhoods. Best as part of a Hyde Park afternoon.

🔗 Site

Virtue Restaurant & Bar

7.3mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Hyde Park · 1462 E 53rd St.

A nationally recognized Hyde Park restaurant and a strong reason to spend time on the South Side. Pair it with UChicago, Seminary Co-op, or the Obama Center area.

🔗 Site

Pearl's Place Restaurant

4.8mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Bronzeville · 3901 S Michigan Ave.

A long-running soul-food restaurant that pairs naturally with Bronzeville history and Black cultural institutions.

🔗 Site

The Wiener's Circle

4.2mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Lincoln Park · 2622 N Clark St.

An iconic late-night stop for a char dog and the place's famously sharp humor – staff purposely use profanity and insults. Best after an evening out.

🔗 Site

Manny's Cafeteria & Delicatessen

1.5mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Near West Side / South Loop · 1141 S Jefferson St.

A Chicago institution with deep ties to the city's political and civic culture. Great for lunch between sessions.

🔗 Site

5 Rabanitos Restaurante & Taqueria

3.0mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Pilsen · 1758 W 18th St.

A neighborhood favorite and an easy add-on to the murals at the National Museum of Mexican Art.

🔗 Site

Chicago Pizza & Oven Grinder Co.

3.2mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Lincoln Park · 2121 N Clark St.

A Chicago institution since 1972, best known for its signature pizza pot pie and historic setting across from the site of the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. A worthwhile stop when exploring Lincoln Park or combining with an evening at The Second City.

🔗 Site

Portillo's Chicago

1.6mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Little Italy · 520 W Taylor St.

A fast food place that sells Italian beef and hot dogs. Good for a quick, classic Chicago meal any time of the day.

🔗 [Site](#)



CHICAGO AFTER HOURS

Green Mill Cocktail Lounge

6.8mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Uptown · 4802 N Broadway

One of Chicago's defining jazz rooms, with real history and a feel rooted in the city rather than built for tourists.

🔗 Site

Simone's

2.9mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Pilsen · 960 W 18th St.

A relaxed neighborhood bar that works especially well before or after dinner in Pilsen.

🔗 Site

Lazy Bird

1.6mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 West Loop / Fulton Market · 200 N Green St.

A strong post-conference option for cocktails and live music in a polished but still distinctly Chicago setting.

🔗 Site

Jazz Showcase

0.9mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 South Loop · 806 S Plymouth Ct.

A premier jazz venue close to the conference hotel, making it one of the easiest evening outings.

🔗 Site

Buddy Guy's Legends

0.8mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 South Loop · 700 S Wabash Ave.

A long-standing blues club that gives visitors an accessible introduction to one of Chicago's foundational music traditions.

🔗 Site



ACADEMIC & CIVIC CHICAGO

Chicago Cultural Center

0.4mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Loop · 78 E Washington St.

Free, civic, and architecturally spectacular. It is the strongest short-stop addition for a non-commercial ASC guide.

🔗 Site

Seminary Co-op Bookstore

7.2mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Hyde Park · 5751 S Woodlawn Ave.

One of the country's great academic bookstores and a natural pilgrimage site for scholars visiting Chicago.

🔗 Site

Harold Washington Library Center

0.6mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Loop · 400 S State St.

A useful between-sessions stop for architecture, research collections, and quiet public space.

🔗 Site

Jane Addams Hull-House Museum

1.5mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Near West Side · 800 S Halsted St.

A cornerstone site for reform, urban governance, immigration, and the social history that shaped modern criminology.

🔗 Site

National Public Housing Museum

1.8mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Near West Side · 919 S Ada St.

Particularly strong for attendees interested in housing policy, inequality, displacement, and resident-centered urban history.

🔗 Site

DuSable Black History Museum

7.0mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Washington Park / Bronzeville · 740 E 56th Pl.

Essential for understanding Black Chicago, migration, segregation, and the broader social context of the South Side.

🔗 Site



Late fall · Cool to cold · 30s–40s °F (0–9°C) · Layers recommended

NEIGHBORHOOD EXCURSIONS

Hyde Park Excursion

7.2 mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Hyde Park · 5751 S Woodlawn Ave.

Best all-around half-day trip for academics: UChicago, Seminary Co-op, museums, strong dining, and the nearby Jackson Park area.

[📍 Site](#)

Bronzeville Excursion

4.7 mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Bronzeville · 3831 S Michigan Ave.

A strong neighborhood for understanding Black Metropolis Chicago through historic corridors, museums, public art, and food.

[📍 Site](#)

Pilsen Excursion

3.2 mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Pilsen · 1852 W 19th St.

Ideal for murals, community-scale cultural institutions, and one of Chicago's most dynamic Mexican American neighborhoods.

[📍 Site](#)

Chinatown Excursion

2.2 mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Chinatown · 2206 S Wentworth Ave.

One of the easiest neighborhood excursions from the Loop, with food, public art, community institutions, and a distinctly different urban landscape.

[📍 Site](#)

West Loop / Fulton Market Excursion

1.5 mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 West Loop / Fulton Market · 958 W Lake St.

A useful nearby district for attendees who want to see Chicago's warehouse-to-innovation transformation without spending much travel time.

[📍 Site](#)



CHICAGO ESSENTIALS

Chicago Architecture Center River Cruise

0.8 mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Loop / Chicago River · 112 E Wacker Dr.

Still the best short introduction to Chicago's built environment and urban development. Seasonal and ticketed; reserve ahead.

[🔗 Site](#)

Skydeck Chicago

0.9 mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Loop · 233 S Wacker Dr.

A convenient first-visit classic close to the hotel, especially for attendees with only a small block of free time. The observation deck and interactive museum on the 103rd floor of Willis Tower offer 360° views of the Chicago skyline and the iconic glass-floored balconies.

[🔗 Site](#)

Cloud Gate (The Bean)

0.5 mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Loop · 201 E Randolph St.

Chicago's most recognizable public artwork and an easy pairing with Millennium Park and the Cultural Center.

[🔗 Site](#)

The Second City

3.0 mi
FROM CONF.
HOTEL

📍 Old Town · 1616 N Wells St.

A quintessential Chicago evening outing, especially for first-time visitors who want a local institution rather than a generic theater show. Enjoy improv and sketch comedy performances at one of Chicago's most iconic entertainment venues.

[🔗 Site](#)



Have an amazing trip!