

# IRF / NMRA 2025 Chicago / Lombard Things To Do

By Cindy Tilbury

There are so many things to do in Chicago in late-July that it is hard to choose the best ones. I asked local racquetball players for help, referred to websites, and referenced some from memory. Enjoy.

## Downtown Chicago

| Attraction                       | Link / Reference   |
|----------------------------------|--|
| General Suggestions              | <a href="https://www.timeout.com/chicago/things-to-do/best-things-to-do-in-chicago">https://www.timeout.com/chicago/things-to-do/best-things-to-do-in-chicago</a>  |
| Cubs Major League Baseball       | Wrigley Field<br><a href="https://www.mlb.com/cubs/schedule/printable-schedule">https://www.mlb.com/cubs/schedule/printable-schedule</a>   |
| White Sox Major League Baseball  | Guaranteed Rate Field<br><a href="https://www.mlb.com/whitesox/schedule/printable-schedule">https://www.mlb.com/whitesox/schedule/printable-schedule</a>   |
| Chicago Fire Major League Soccer | Check dates<br><a href="https://www.chicago-fire.com/schedule">https://www.chicago-fire.com/schedule</a>   |
| McDonald's HQ                    | West Loop in Oprah's Old Studios<br><a href="https://popculture.com/trending/2018/06/19/mcdonalds-fancy-new-250-million-headquarters-tour/">https://popculture.com/trending/2018/06/19/mcdonalds-fancy-new-250-million-headquarters-tour/</a>                                      |
| Willis (Sears) Tower             | Includes the 103 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Skydeck, and "The Ledge"<br><a href="https://www.willistower.com/">https://www.willistower.com/</a> <a href="https://theskydeck.com/">https://theskydeck.com/</a> <a href="https://www.signatureroom.com/">https://www.signatureroom.com/</a> |
| John Hancock Building            | 95 <sup>th</sup> Floor Signature Room (Fine Dining) and 96 <sup>th</sup> Floor Bar (for a drink). Great Views. They also have a Skydeck<br><a href="https://www.signatureroom.com/">https://www.signatureroom.com/</a>   |
| Navy Pier                        | Restaurants, Boat Rides, Attractions, Shakespeare Theater, Ferris Wheel, Beer Garden, Lakefront Bike Rentals, Movies, shopping and more<br><a href="https://navypier.org/">https://navypier.org/</a>   |
| Steve's Segway Tours             | Entrepreneur-run Segway Tours on the Lakefront and Downtown. Varying lengths and focus areas. Ask for "Steve" and tell him you know Geoff Peters!<br><a href="https://www.stevessegwaytours.com/Pages/default.html">https://www.stevessegwaytours.com/Pages/default.html</a>       |
| Shedd Aquarium                   | World-class Aquarium on the Lake<br><a href="https://www.sheddaquarium.org/">https://www.sheddaquarium.org/</a>  |
| Natural History Field Museum     | Sue the T-Rex and Much More<br><a href="https://www.fieldmuseum.org/">https://www.fieldmuseum.org/</a>   |
| Observatory                      | Hancock Observatory<br><a href="https://360chicago.com/">https://360chicago.com/</a>   |
| River Tour                       | Chicago River Tour<br><a href="https://www.wendellaboats.com/?utm_source=google&amp;utm_medium=organic&amp;utm_campaign=gmb">https://www.wendellaboats.com/?utm_source=google&amp;utm_medium=organic&amp;utm_campaign=gmb</a>  |
| Gangster Tour                    | <a href="https://gangstertour.com/">https://gangstertour.com/</a>  |
| Concerts                         | <a href="https://www.ticketmaster.com/discover/concerts/chicago?daterange=from20190622-to-20190705">https://www.ticketmaster.com/discover/concerts/chicago?daterange=from20190622-to-20190705</a>  |
| Comedy                           | Second City Theater – No Monday shows<br><a href="https://www.secondcity.com/">https://www.secondcity.com/</a>   |

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|---------------------|--|
| Montrose Beach      | Half -mile long in Uptown Lincoln Park Off Lake Shore Drive  |
| Lincoln Park        | Includes the zoo and conservatory with trails<br><a href="https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g35805-d132894-Reviews-Lincoln_Park-Chicago_Illinois.html">https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g35805-d132894-Reviews-Lincoln_Park-Chicago_Illinois.html</a> |
| Outdoor City Art    | Millennium Park – The Bean and More<br><a href="https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/dca/supp_info/millennium_park_artarchitecture.html">https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/dca/supp_info/millennium_park_artarchitecture.html</a>   |
| Architecture Tour   | Hop aboard Chicago’s First Lady ship for a tour down the Chicago River<br><a href="https://www.cruisechicago.com/architecture-tours">https://www.cruisechicago.com/architecture-tours</a>  |
| Children’s Museum   | On the Navy Pier<br><a href="https://www.chicagochildrensmuseum.org/">https://www.chicagochildrensmuseum.org/</a>  |
| Food Truck Festival | Downtown – Check dates   |

## North/West Suburbs / Nearer Lombard

| Attraction                     | Link / Reference  |
|--------------------------------|---|
| General Suggestions            | <a href="https://www.villageoflombard.org/214/Attractions">https://www.villageoflombard.org/214/Attractions</a><br><a href="https://www.aetvourguide.com/">https://www.aetvourguide.com/</a><br><a href="https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g35805-d132894-Reviews-Lincoln_Park-Chicago_Illinois.html">https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g35805-d132894-Reviews-Lincoln_Park-Chicago_Illinois.html</a> |
| Brookfield Zoo                 | Large suburban zoo – 10 Minutes<br><a href="https://www.czs.org/Brookfield-ZOO/Home">https://www.czs.org/Brookfield-ZOO/Home</a>  |
| Arboretum                      | Morton Arboretum<br><a href="https://www.mortonarb.org/">https://www.mortonarb.org/</a>   |
| Shopping                       | Oak Brook Mall (Upscale Stores) – 5 Minutes<br><a href="https://www.oakbrookcenter.com/en/directory/map/">https://www.oakbrookcenter.com/en/directory/map/</a>  |
| Concerts                       | St. Charles Arcada Theatre – Zepparella or Jimmie Vaughn<br>Owned by a racquetball player’s family<br><a href="http://www.arcadalive.com/">http://www.arcadalive.com/</a>   |
| Architecture                   | Frank Lloyd Wright Home(s) in Oak Park – 20 Minutes<br><a href="https://flwright.org/">https://flwright.org/</a>  |
| Hemingway Museum               | Birthplace Near Oakbrook – 10 Minutes<br><a href="https://www.hemingwaybirthplace.com/">https://www.hemingwaybirthplace.com/</a>  |
| Elmhurst Art Museum            | Elmhurst – 10 Minutes<br><a href="https://elmhurstartmuseum.org">https://elmhurstartmuseum.org</a>  |
| First Division Military Museum | Cantigny Park Oakbrook<br><a href="https://catigny.org">https://catigny.org</a>   |
| Little Orphan Annie House      | Cartoonist William LeRoy’s House<br><a href="https://catigny.org">https://catigny.org</a>   |
| McCormick Museum               | Cantigny Park Oakbrook<br><a href="https://catigny.org">https://catigny.org</a>   |
| Golf Course / Gardens          | Sugar Creek Villa Park<br>Lombard Golf Course<br>Cantigny Park Oakbrook   |



Must See Things in Chicago A-Z



- A** John Hancock Observatory
- B** York
- C** Water Tower
- D** Magnificent Mile
- E** State Street
- F** Ohio Street Beach
- G** Amazing Chicago's Funhouse Maze
- H** Navy Pier
- I** Wrigley Building
- J** Tribune Tower
- K** Lakepoint Tower
- L** James R. Thompson Center
- M** Chicago Theater
- N** Carbide and Carbon Building
- O** Jay Pritzker Pavilion
- P** Crown Fountain
- Q** Cloud Gate
- R** BP Bridge
- S** Sears Tower (Willis Tower)
- T** Art Institute of Chicago
- U** Grant Park
- V** Dearborn Station
- W** Buckingham Fountain
- X** Field Museum
- Y** Shedd Aquarium
- Z** Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum

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