

# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

## DINING & COCKTAIL – CHICAGO RIVER

### CHICAGO



# CHICAGO RIVER CRUISE ROUTE



**DOCKING LOCATIONS**



**LANDMARKS**



**CRUISE ROUTE**



- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Dusable Bridge                  | 16. St. Charles Airline Bridge & The "78" Development |
| 2. Wrigley Building                | 17. Ping Tom Memorial Park                            |
| 3. The London Guarantee Building   | 18. 311 S. Wacker                                     |
| 4. Marina City                     | 19. Reid Murdoch Building                             |
| 5. Merchandise Mart                | 20. Bank of America Tower                             |
| 6. Wolf Point                      | 21. Two Riverside Plaza                               |
| 7. Former Montgomery Ward Building | 22. Jewelers Building                                 |
| 8. 333 W. Wacker Drive             | 23. Carbide & Carbon Building                         |
| 9. 150 N. Riverside                | 24. Vista Tower                                       |
| 10. 100 N. Riverside               | 25. Trump Tower                                       |
| 11. Civic Opera Building           | 26. Chicago Locks                                     |
| 12. Union Station                  | 27. Navy Pier   |
| 13. Willis Tower                   | 28. Lake Point Tower                                  |
| 14. Old Chicago Main Post Office   | 29. NBC Tower   |
| 15. River City                     |   |

# CHICAGO RIVER LANDMARKS

- 1 DUSABLE BRIDGE (OR MICHIGAN AVENUE BRIDGE)** links the north and south sides of the city, providing a high-traffic thoroughfare connecting the main business district, The Loop, to Chicago's Magnificent Mile commercial district.
- 2 THE WRIGLEY BUILDING** received official Chicago Landmark status in 2012. Named one of the "most beautiful clock towers" by Travel & Leisure Magazine, the facade is made of 250,000 white terracotta tiles that need to be hand-washed regularly.
- 3 LONDON GUARANTEE BUILDING:** Located where Fort Dearborn once stood, the London Guarantee & Accident Building is one of four structures that have anchored the Michigan Avenue Bridge since the 1920s.
- 4 MARINA CITY** has many times been called "The Corncob Towers" by visitors and locals, but the designer's original intention was for the structures to resemble gently stacked flower petals.
- 5 MERCHANDISE MART** covers a total 4.2 million sq. ft. and 2 city blocks. Until 2008, it was one of only a few buildings in the U.S. to have its own zip code.
- 6 WOLF POINT** is known as the intersection of the north, south and main branches of the Chicago River, and for its significance in the early development of the City of Chicago.
- 7 FORMER MONTGOMERY WARD COMPANY BUILDING** was first listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976, having served as the headquarters for the nation's oldest mail-order and department store company.
- 8 333 W. WACKER DRIVE** was twice voted "Chicago's Favorite Building" by Chicago Tribune readers. The façade is notable for how clouds reflect off of the surface.
- 9 150 N. RIVERSIDE** rises 54 stories above the confluence (or intersection) of the Chicago River's north, south and main branches.
- 10 100 N. RIVERSIDE'S** southwest corner is suspended by steel trusses to allow full clearance of commuter trains underneath. For this, the building was once called the "Most Innovative" by the Structural Engineers Association of Illinois.
- 11 THE CIVIC OPERA BUILDING** houses the Lyric Opera of Chicago, one of the premier opera companies in the United States, producing year-round repertory selections.
- 12 UNION STATION:** Since 1972, all Amtrak services in Chicago originate and terminate at Chicago Union Station, fulfilling architect Daniel Burnham's 1909 vision of all intercity trains using the same station without confusing station transfers.
- 13 WILLIS TOWER** is the second tallest building in the United States and, upon its completion in 1973, was the tallest building in the world for nearly 25 years. More than 1 million people visit its observation deck each year.
- 14 OLD CHICAGO MAIN POST OFFICE** was built to its great size in response to the high volume of mail delivery stemming from the competing businesses of Montgomery Ward and Sears, who both had great success in the early 20th century. In the mid-1960s, it's said that 10 million pieces of mail clogged the system for nearly a week.
- 15 RIVER CITY** is a mixed-use property completed in 1986 and bearing resemblance to the Marina City towers, also designed by Bertrand Goldberg.
- 16 ST. CHARLES AIRLINE BRIDGE** is a unique vertical lift bridge, originally designed to pass two railroad tracks over the Chicago River. When completed, it was the heaviest bridge of its kind. The structure was designated as a Chicago Landmark in 2007.
- 16 THE "78":** There are 77 neighborhoods in Chicago. This will be the 78th. Set along a half-mile of riverfront, The 78 is a remarkable 62-acre site that will blend new homes, commercial enterprises, cultural events, academia, and outdoor recreational space into a groundbreaking new neighborhood.
- 17 PING TOM MEMORIAL PARK:** Named in honor of a prominent business and civic leader, the park serves Chicago's Chinatown neighborhood as a peaceful retreat that features an outdoor pavilion, bamboo garden, and recreation.
- 18 311 S. WACKER** is the seventh-tallest building in Chicago and the 24th tallest in the United States. The post-modern skyscraper is 65 stories tall and was completed in 1990.
- 19 REID MURDOCH BUILDING'S** low-rise, flat-roof, and horizontal lines are hallmarks of the Prairie School style of architecture that originated in Chicago in the late 19th century.
- 20 BANK OF AMERICA TOWER:** Since its completion in 1990, the Bank of America Tower has been the tallest commercial office building in Chicago, at 55 stories and 1.5 million sq. ft.
- 21 TWO RIVERSIDE PLAZA:** Two North Riverside Plaza was designed by Chicago's 3rd oldest architecture firm, Holabird & Root, and was completed in 1929. It was known as the Chicago Daily News Building until the newspaper ceased operating in 1978.
- 22 JEWELERS' BUILDING'S** 22-story car elevator used to take tenants directly from the street to their offices and was used to facilitate jewelry exchanges.
- 23 CARBIDE & CARBON BUILDING'S** cap is ornamented with genuine 24-karat gold, though it is only one five-thousandths of an inch thick. Chicago legend says the building was designed to look like a large bottle of champagne.
- 24 VISTA TOWER:** Construction on the St. Regis Tower started in August 2016 and was completed in 2020. Originally called the Vista Tower, it is Chicago's third-tallest building at 1,198 ft.
- 25 TRUMPTOWER:** Built on the former Sun Times Building foundation, the Trump Tower is 1,388 feet high and world's highest residential building until surpassed by the Burj Khalifa.
- 26 CHICAGO LOCKS:** The Chicago Harbor Lock separates the Chicago River from Lake Michigan. It is the 4th-busiest lock in the nation for commercial use, and the 2nd-busiest in the nation for recreational use. Operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the locks were completed in 1938 by the Sanitary District of Chicago as a component of the project to reverse the flow of the Chicago River. This is one of two entrances from the Great Lakes to the Chicago Area.
- 27 NAVY PIER:** A 1.5 mile-long recreational pier, it was the first to combine freight and passenger docking facilities with public entertainment. For its Centennial Celebration in 2016, Navy Pier unveiled a new Ferris wheel with climate-controlled gondolas for year-round sightseeing.
- 28 LAKE POINT TOWER** rises 70 stories high and has a modern style, based off a never-constructed Ludwig Mies van der Rohe design from the 1920s. Lake Point Tower has one of the world's first elevated private parks, with 2.5 acres of green space only accessible from the third floor.
- 29 NBC TOWER:** At 37 stories tall, it is a little more than half the height of 30 Rockefeller Center in New York City, which inspired its design. Over the years, the building has been home to a number of national TV broadcast productions.

# PARKING & DIRECTIONS



## LOCATION:

City Cruises Odyssey Chicago River is docked near NBC Tower at **455 N. Cityfront Plaza Dr.**, on the north side of the River Esplanade between Columbus Dr. and Michigan Ave.

## DROP OFF:

If you are arriving by ride-share or taxi, we recommend asking your ride to drop you off at the Cityfront Plaza roundabout nearest to the river. (Please see the location pin on the map above.) You'll find the stairs right on the south side of the street, closest to the river and between NBC Tower and the Gleacher Center. You will be able to see the City Cruises ticket booth at the bottom of the stairs.

## PREFERRED PARKING:

The closest parking garage is located at **219/225 E. North Water St.**, on the LOWER level. For your convenience, we have secured discounted cruise parking rates. This is the preferred lot for City Cruises.

## DIRECTIONS TO PREFERRED PARKING:

- GPS is notoriously unreliable on the lower levels, so please familiarize yourself with the directions noted below.
- There are two entrances to the preferred parking lot located at 219/225 E. North Water St. One entrance can be accessed at the intersection of lower E. North Water and lower St. Clair. The entry gate is located on the south side of the intersection. Look for the black sign reading "NBC Tower Parking" in white text. You will also see black and red signs for Legacy Parking. The second entrance to the lot can be accessed if you continue traveling east on E. North Water St. You will reach the entrance on the south side of the street. Note, this is not a covered garage.
- You may also enter if you are coming from the intersection of Columbus and Illinois St. Take Illinois St. east for roughly 2 blocks, until you reach N. McClurg Ct. Make a right on McClurg Ct., and continue driving south. Take your first right onto E. North Water St. and continue traveling west down E. North Water St. for roughly 2 blocks, and the facility entrance will

be on the south side (left-hand side) of E. North Water St. The entrance to the lot will have a black sign stating "NBC Tower Parking LEGACY PARKING". Please note, you are parking in an OPEN LOT, not a garage.

## VALIDATED RATES\*:

- Lunch Rate — \$18.00 (in after 11 A.M. and out before 4 P.M.)
- Cocktail Rate — \$18.00 (in after 11 A.M. and out before 1 A.M.)
- Dinner Rate — \$14.00 (in after 5 P.M. and out before 1 A.M.)

## VALIDATION PROCESS:

Please refer to the directions below for how to get our discounted parking at the 219/255 E. North Water St. garage.

Simply park within the discounted hours that best accommodate your cruise. We will provide validation at the City Cruises ticket booth that will automatically reduce your rate when you insert the ticket at any of the payment machines after your cruise.

## ADDITIONAL PARKING OPTIONS:

We have secured additional discounted parking at the lot located at **201 E. Illinois St.**, on the LOWER level. The same rates and times listed above are valid for this garage as well. Parking validation directions are the same.

Additional nearby parking is located at **284 E. North Water St.**, however this is not discounted.

If you are interested in securing a parking spot ahead of time, we recommend booking convenient and affordable parking in advance through SpotHero, the nation's leading parking reservation app. There are various parking lots nearby that can be booked on SpotHero.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## HOW DO I ADD GUESTS?

As you receive confirmations and need to increase, let your account manager know and we can add. Just don't wait too long as accommodations are subject to availability

All sales are final. Guest count can be increased *based on availability*, not decreased.

## CAN I BRING A CAKE?

We allow a cake, if it is in a box and can sit at/on your table. We would not be able to refrigerate it. We also cannot allow any candles or any open flames. All cakes are required to be from a licensed bakery.

## CAN I BRING DECORATIONS?

You are able to bring a few balloons for the table and a small center piece. Please ask your account manager prior to the cruise if you would like to bring something not mentioned.

## HOW DO I GET MY TICKETS?

Unless arranged otherwise with your account manager or event coordinator, the group contact should pick up tickets from the ticket booth and distribute to your guests.

## HOW MANY TABLES WILL WE HAVE?

We normally seat up to 8 people to a table for dining cruises. There are no reserve seating/tables for cocktail cruises.

## WHERE IS BOARDING?

We depart from River Esplanade, at 455 N. Cityfront Plaza Drive, Chicago, IL.

## DO YOU HAVE A PHOTOGRAPHER?

We will have a photographer to take your photo as you board the vessel. You may purchase these photos at the end of the cruise before you leave.

## WHAT DRINKS ARE INCLUDED?

Beverages are available for purchase on board. Please inquire about pricing on pre-purchased open bar packages or drink tickets. (Open Bar Packages would need to be purchased for everyone in the group).

If you do not pre-purchase any drink packages, all beverages will be available for purchase from our bar. You can open a tab or guests can pay for themselves.

