

Great Lakes, USA & Canada

Five connected freshwater seas stretching 750 miles from Chicago to the St. Lawrence — the Great Lakes offer an utterly unique cruise experience through historic canal locks, remote island wilderness, and classic American and Canadian cities.

 Docked at major ports  Itineraries: 7–15 nights (May–October)  USD & CAD  English (French in Quebec)

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date:	Arrive:	All aboard:
Excursion:	Notes:	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Docked at city piers in Chicago, Toronto, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Duluth and others; occasional tender at smaller stops

Best For: History buffs, nature lovers, North America fans seeking something different from ocean cruising

Season: Late May through early October only — short season, ships sell out a year in advance

Don't Miss: Mackinac Island (no cars allowed), the Soo Locks transit, and the Welland Canal passage

 Getting around:  Taxi  \$8–25 USD ·  Rideshare  Uber, Lyft ·  Hop-on hop-off  Hop-on hop-off

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Mackinac Island Carriage & Fudge Tour** — No cars have been allowed on Mackinac Island since 1898 — you explore by horse-drawn carriage, bicycle, or on foot.
- **Soo Locks Observation & Canal Tour** — Watch massive freighters rise or fall 21 feet through the Soo Locks at Sault Ste.
- **Georgian Bay Island Wilderness** — Viking itineraries often include anchored calls in Georgian Bay — 30,000 islands of windswept pink granite, clear...
- **Chicago Architecture River Cruise** — The Chicago Architecture Center's 90-minute river cruise is one of the best city tours in the world — skyscraper by...
- **Niagara Falls from Port Colborne** — Viking and Victory itineraries call at Port Colborne, Ontario — gateway to Niagara Falls, about 20 miles away.

BEST WALKS

- **Chicago Lakefront Trail from Navy Pier** 3–5 miles · Easy · 1.5–2.5 hrs — Head south from Navy Pier along the paved lakefront path toward Millennium Park and the Museum Campus.
- **Mackinac Island Town & Fort Loop** 2–3 miles · Moderate (uphill to fort) · 1.5 hrs — From the ferry dock, walk Main Street past fudge shops and Victorian hotels to Fort Mackinac at the bluff.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	54°	39°	14d
Jun	77°	61°	13d
Aug	80°	66°	12d
Sep	74°	61°	10d
Oct	61°	48°	12d

 **DAYLIGHT & MONEY**

Apr 6:10AM–7:31PM · Jun 5:15AM–8:27PM · Aug 5:59AM–7:49PM · Sep 6:31AM–6:59PM · Oct 7:03AM–6:08PM

 USD & CAD

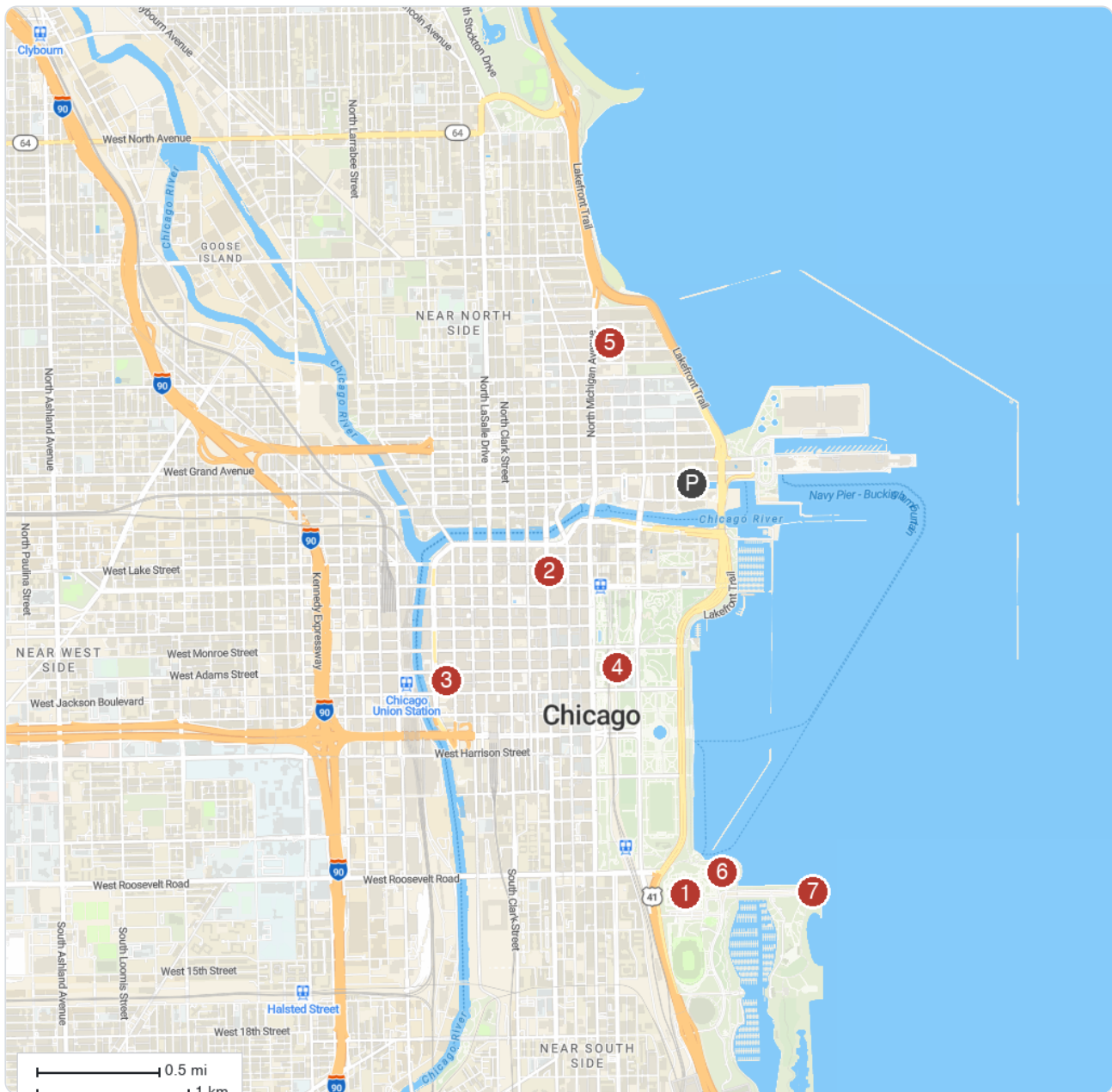
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Passport is non-negotiable. Great Lakes cruises cross US-Canadian waters. Bring a valid passport — even on itineraries marketed as US-only, the ship may enter Canadian waters.

Great Lakes, USA & Canada — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 Field Museum | Chicago's natural history museum, home to Sue the T-Rex. | 2 The Chicago Theatre | Iconic Chicago landmark theatre for live performances. |
| 3 Willis Tower | Chicago's iconic 110-story skyscraper with a glass ledge. | 4 The Art Institute of Chicago | World-renowned art museum with diverse collections. |
| 5 875 North Michigan Avenue | Iconic Chicago skyscraper, formerly John Hancock Center. | 6 Shedd Aquarium | Large indoor aquarium with diverse aquatic life. |
| 7 Adler Planetarium | America's first planetarium, focusing on space and astronomy. | P Cruise port / terminal | |