

ISSMMM Excursion to Downtown Chicago

Wednesday, March 16th 1:30 pm – 9:15 pm

- 1:30 pm Buses depart Argonne Guest House
- 2:15 pm Buses arrive Museum Campus for optional Field Museum or American Sightseeing coach bus tour
- 2:25 pm Buses drop off at Millennium Park – on your own (no tour)
- 2:30 pm Buses drop off at the Magnificent Mile Shopping/Dining District – on your own (no tour)
- 2:35 pm Buses drop off at Navy Pier – on your own (no tour)
- 8:20 pm Buses pick up at Water Tower Plaza– Please be on time (Chestnut Street Door in front of the John Hancock Tower)
- 8:30 pm Buses pick up at Navy Pier – Please be on time (Entrance #1 on north dock)
- 9:15 pm Buses arrive at Argonne Guest House

ISSMMM Excursion to Downtown Chicago

Downtown Chicago is home to one of the most beautiful skylines in the United States, with excellent cultural, shopping and dining experiences, all within walking distance. The ISSMMM conference excursion will provide bus transportation to Chicago's Museum Campus, Millennium Park, the Magnificent Mile shopping/dining district, and Navy Pier. The new Millennium Park is in the Loop, Chicago's central business district, near the Art Institute, State Street and the 1,353 feet high Willis Tower Skydeck (formerly the Sears Tower). Located on the Magnificent Mile are Chicago's most exclusive stores and restaurants including the renowned Water Tower Place. Across the street from Water Tower Place is the 94th floor John Hancock Observatory along with The Signature Room restaurant and the Lavazza Expression Café, providing spectacular 360 degree views of Chicago and Lake Michigan. Navy Pier, Chicago's most-visited site, is home to free, year-round entertainment plus fifty acres of rides, attractions, restaurants, shops, sightseeing and dining cruises. Each registered participant will receive discounted shopping coupons, some including free gifts, for Macy's, Bloomingdale's, the Shops at North Bridge and Water Tower Place.

For ISSMMM participants that want to see many attractions within the shortest time, American Sightseeing is offering a narrated mini-grand bus tour of Chicago for \$20 starting at 2:30 pm. On the tour, you will view the new Millennium Park (20 minute stop to tour), the restored Chinatown, Grant Park, Adler Planetarium with its sky dome, the Caesar Petrillo band shell, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Shedd Aquarium, and Field Museum of Natural History. Looking over from these sights you'll see the 80 story AON Oil Building, completely faced in white granite. You'll tour the famous "Loop", State Street, and the striking Richard J. Daley Plaza with its acknowledged masterpiece, the Pablo Picasso sculpture. You will travel over the Chicago River, which was made to flow backward by one of the world's greatest engineering feats. You'll see Lake Point Tower, Navy Pier, the Magnificent Mile, the famous Water Tower that survived the Great Chicago Fire, the John Hancock Center and view various sites on Chicago's near north side before being dropped off on the Magnificent Mile at 4:30 pm for dining, shopping and touring on your own.

For those of you who prefer to tour by foot, an escort will lead a separate group to the Field Museum and then a tour of the Museum campus, the "Loop" business district, Millennium/Grant Parks and culminating on the Magnificent Mile. For \$18.50, you will receive general admission and a docent-led tour of the Field Museum of Natural History. On the tour you'll see Sue, the most complete and best preserved T. rex fossil ever discovered. You'll discover *Inside Ancient Egypt*, where a re-created Egyptian tomb with 23 mummies and 5,000 year old hieroglyphics reside and be awed in the *Native American Hall* or dazzled in the renovated *Grainger Halls of Gems and Hall of Jades*. You'll meet the famous man-eating Lions of Tsavo, journey to the glittering Aztec Empire and explore the Dinosaur Hall where giant sloths, woolly mammoths and dinosaurs roam. Weather permitting, at 4:30 PM, the group will reconvene for a walk along the scenic Lake Michigan shoreline, through Grant Park, past Buckingham Fountain, around the new Millennium Park, down State Street, past Daley Plaza and the famous Picasso statue before heading north up Michigan Avenue to the Magnificent Mile. Along the way, you will cross the Chicago River, the famous Tribune Tower, past Chicago's most exclusive stores, and gaze at the John Hancock Center's incredible views of the city. From that point, you will have time for dining and shopping on your own before heading back to Argonne.