

# CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### TEN TIPS FOR VISITING CHICAGO

#### Chicago Architecture Foundation Offers Free Ideas to Optimize Visit

CHICAGO April 18, 2007 – Chicago is home to an unrivalled collection of buildings that chronicle the rise and evolution of the skyscraper. A new list of ten tips was developed by the Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF) and is available on a free *10 tips* card at the CAF shop at 224 S. Michigan Avenue at Jackson.

The tips were developed to assist visitors in discovering Chicago's architecture and design resources. For more than 40 years, CAF has been a leader in bringing the rich architectural legacy of Chicago to visitors – both out-of-town and local residents - through tours, exhibitions, lectures and other programs.

“CAF gets so many questions about Chicago, well beyond our tours and exhibitions,” said Lynn Osmond, Chicago Architecture Foundation President and CEO. “It was time we put these suggestions together so people can get the most out of a visit.”

1. Plan ahead: get maps, materials, schedules and information from the web or request information by mail from places you want to visit. Resources include [www.architecture.org](http://www.architecture.org), [www.877chicago.com](http://www.877chicago.com), [www.choosechicago.com](http://www.choosechicago.com), [www.visitillinois.com](http://www.visitillinois.com) and [www.cityofchicago.org](http://www.cityofchicago.org)
2. Create an itinerary with extra time allotted to change plans if necessary. The Historic Loop Skyscrapers walking tour is a perfect introduction – a two-hour summary led by CAF trained volunteer docents. Other popular tours include the Official CAF Architecture River Cruise, architecture Highlights by Bus and other walking tours that take in Art Deco, Millennium Park and Tiffany Stained Glass. There are more than 85 different architecture-themed tours available in the city and neighborhoods.
3. Be sure to include Chicago's Millennium Park, Loop, some neighborhoods and the views from the Sears Tower SkyDeck and the Hancock Observatory. All of these sites are included in various CAF tours or they can be visited on your own.
4. Schedule time-specific tours in conjunction with free time periods to visit museums on your own.

5. If your visit is between April and November, be sure to include the Chicago Architecture Foundation architecture river cruise. It is a great way to relax while seeing Chicago's architecture and hearing about the buildings from the perspective of the river.
6. Wear comfortable shoes; appropriate clothing and bring an umbrella.
7. Bring a camera and take photos of things that will help you relive the visit when you get home.
8. Talk to other people on the tours as well as the docent leading the tour; find out their home towns, get tips on other tours, restaurants and museums.
9. Make sure you see Chicago's downtown and North Michigan Avenue in the evening for the lights and sparkle of the city. CAF offers "Happy Hour" walking tours weekdays May-September.
10. Go out to the museum campus and/or to Navy Pier to get a sense of Chicago's skyline.

In addition to the CAF shop at 224 S. Michigan, free *10 Tips* cards are also available at city of Chicago's Visitor Information Centers at the Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph and at Chicago Water Works, 163 E. Pearson.

**About the Chicago Architecture Foundation:** The Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing public interest and education in architecture and related design. The Chicago Architecture Foundation pursues this mission through a comprehensive program of tours, exhibits, special events, and lectures. CAF's ArchiCenter is located in the Santa Fe Building at 224 South Michigan Avenue at Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, 60604. For further information visit [www.architecture.org](http://www.architecture.org) or call 312.922.3432.

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