Kenwood

GET SITUATED
• 1.4 miles north of the University of Chicago campus
• 5.3 miles south of downtown Chicago
• Adjacent to Lake Michigan

The Neighborhood
A distinctive community nestled on the southern shores of Lake Michigan, Kenwood’s proximity to the lakefront and downtown Chicago has made it popular since it was founded in the mid-19th century. Many prominent Chicagoans built luxurious Prairie, Queen Anne, Italianate, and Colonial Revival style homes on tree-lined Drexel Boulevard and other charming streets. Its large collection of stately homes and landmarks has earned the community two historic designations—the Kenwood and North Kenwood Historic Districts.

Area Landmarks
The Kenwood Evangelical Church, now known as the Kenwood United Church of Christ, is a superb example of the Romanesque style. Constructed in 1887, this local and national landmark has welcomed many famous congregants throughout the years, including John G. Shedd—the second president of Marshall Field & Co. and benefactor of the Shedd Aquarium.

The Alfred S. Alschuler–designed KAM Isaiah Israel Temple, 1100 East Hyde Park Boulevard, is a unique Byzantine-style building and home of Chicago’s oldest Jewish congregation.

Local Legends
Blues legend Muddy Waters called Kenwood home for more than 20 years. The multiple Grammy Award–winning Waters was hugely influential in the Chicago, American, and international music scenes.

Kenwood is the home of President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama. The Obama’s Georgian-style home has drawn national attention to the community.

Former Sears, Roebuck & Company executive Julius Rosenwald was another prominent Kenwood resident. He is best remembered for founding the Museum of Science and Industry.
The Silver Spray, which ran aground on July 15, 1914, off 49th Street, can still be seen from 49th Street Beach. Intrepid swimmers can sometimes be found sunning themselves on its bow.

Recreation & Entertainment
Chicago’s newest beach, Oakwood, offers summertime relaxation and sweeping skyline views. A planned pedestrian bridge at 43rd Street will improve access to Oakwood Beach and the lakefront.

Little Black Pearl Art and Design Center offers a range of youth arts and technology programs and hosts performances of artists, poets, and other performers throughout the year. The nonprofit’s architecturally stunning headquarters is on 47th Street and Greenwood Avenue. Check their website, blackpearl.org, for more information.

Hyde Park Art Center, 5020 South Cornell Avenue, has been in operation since 1939. The center has many contemporary visual art exhibitions throughout the year. Visit hydeparkart.org for more information.

Community Data
- **Walkability**: Enter any address at walkscore.com to get a unique walkability score. Higher scores mean most errands can be accomplished on foot.
- **Health resources**: Visit the Urban Health Initiative at uhi.uchospitals.edu, which provides a wealth of information on the location of community resources by property.
- **Crime**: Find data published by the City of Chicago at data.cityofchicago.org/Public-Safety/Crimes-2001-to-present/ijzp-q8t2.
- **Elected officials**: Find your state and US House representatives by inputting your address at elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx.

Area Resources
- **4th Ward Alderman William Burns**, 3435 East 35th Street, 60616, ward04@cityofchicago.org, 773.536.8103
- **Chicago Park District**, chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/search/?c=32
- **Chicago Public Library—Blackstone Branch**, 4904 South Lake Park Avenue, 60615, blackstone@chipublib.org, 312.747.0511, chipublib.org/locations/12
- **Hyde Park–Kenwood Community Conference**, hydepark.org/hpkcc
- **Kenwood-Oakland Community Organization**, kocoonline.org
- **Quad Communities Development Corporation**, qcdc.org
- **South East Chicago Commission (SECC)**, secc-chicago.org
- **The University of Chicago Charter School**, uchicagocharter.org
- **Hyde Park Arts Council**, harpercourt.com
- **Chicago Transit Authority**, transitchicago.com
- **Metra Commuter Rail**, metrarail.com

Schools
Kenwood has six public schools and three private schools, including Ariel Community Academy and UChicago Charter North Kenwood/Oakland Campus. The neighborhood high schools are Kenwood Academy High School, 5015 South Blackstone Avenue, and Wendell Phillips Academy High School, 244 East Pershing Road. Find a public school and accountability, assessment, demographic, and performance data at cps.edu.
Douglas

GET SITUATED
• 3.3 miles to the University of Chicago campus
• 3.3 miles south of downtown Chicago
• Adjacent to Lake Michigan

The Neighborhood
Home of the Illinois Institute of Technology, the Douglas community is located between the University of Chicago and downtown Chicago, with direct access to the lakefront. Part of the historic Bronzeville neighborhood, it was the cultural and business center for African Americans in Chicago from the late 1800s through World War II.

Area Landmarks
The Adler and Sullivan–designed Pilgrim Baptist Church was originally a synagogue for the Kehilath Anshe Ma’ariv Jewish congregation. The building is one of Sullivan’s great architectural triumphs. In 2006, a fire spared only the exterior walls. The congregation is raising money to restore the structure.

Established in 1919, Liberty Life Insurance Company was the first African American owned insurance company in the northern United States. Founder Frank L. Gillespie, moved his company to the second floor of the building that still stands at 3501 South Dr. Martin Luther King Drive.

The Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT), offers a modernist campus designed in part by Mies van der Rohe. IIT’s Crown Hall is a Mies masterpiece and National Historic Landmark.

Local Legends
The neighborhood is named after US Senator Stephen A. Douglas, the defeated presidential rival of Abraham Lincoln. Douglas resided on and owned much of the property in the area. His tomb and monument are located in historic Groveland Park, 636 East 35th Street.

Singer and actress Etta Moten Barnett lived in the 3600 block of what is now Dr. Martin Luther King Drive. She was the first African-American woman to perform at the White House in 1934 and is best remembered for her portrayal of Bess in Porgy and Bess.
Activist Ida B. Wells was a Douglas resident. Born into slavery, Wells was an icon of the early civil rights movement, crusading against lynching and for the rights of African American women, and helping to found the NAACP. Her Chicago home still stands at 3624 South Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and is designated a National Historic Landmark.

Douglas was home to the Sunset Café, where jazz greats Louis Armstrong and Cab Calloway performed regularly.

Recreation & Entertainment
31st Street Harbor. Chicago’s newest harbor, features a restaurant, community space, and state-of-the-art accommodations for 1,000 boats. A beach just north of the harbor boasts sweeping views of the lakefront and downtown Chicago, a restaurant with patio, and a new playground.

US Cellular Field. home of the Chicago White Sox, sits just outside of Douglas at 35th Street.

Community Data
- **Walkability:** Enter any address at walkscore.com to get a unique walkability score. Higher scores mean most errands can be accomplished on foot.
- **Health resources:** Visit the Urban Health Initiative at uhi.uchospitals.edu, which provides a wealth of information on the location of community resources by property.
- **Crime:** Find data published by the City of Chicago at data.cityofchicago.org/Public-Safety/Crimes-2001-to-present/ijzp-q8t2.
- **Elected officials:** Find your state and US House representatives by inputting your address at elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx.

Area Resources
- 2nd Ward Alderman Robert Fioretti, 1319 South State Street, Suite A, 60605, ward02@cityofchicago.org, 312.263.9273
- 3rd Ward Alderman Pat Dowell, 5046 South State Street, 60602, ward03@cityofchicago.org, 773.373.9273
- 4th Ward Alderman William Burns, 3435 East 35th Street, 60616, ward04@cityofchicago.org, 773.536.8103
- Chicago Park District, chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/search/?c=32
- Chicago Public Library—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Branch, 3436 South King Drive, 60616, king@chipublib.org, 312.747.7543, chipublib.org/locations/45
- Chicago Public Library—Chicago Bee Branch, 3647 South State Street, 60609, chicagobee@chipublib.org, 312.747.6872, chipublib.org/locations/29
- Chicago Transit Authority, transitchicago.com
- Centers for New Horizons, cnh.org
- The Bronzeville Alliance, bronzezvillealliance.org
- Black Metropolis National Heritage Area Commission, blackmetropolisnha.com
- Bronzeville Area Residents' & Commerce Council, thebarcc.org
- Bronzeville Visitor Information Center, bviconline.info
- Quad Communities Development Corporation, qcdc.org
- The University of Chicago Charter School, uchicagocharter.org
- Metra Commuter Rail, metrarail.com

Schools
Douglas is home to eight public schools and five private schools, including Pershing East Magnet School and Dunbar Vocational Career Academy. Wendell Phillips Academy High School, 244 East Pershing Road, is the designated neighborhood high school for the area. Find a public school and accountability, assessment, demographic, and performance data at cps.edu.
GET SITUATED
- 2.4 miles to the University of Chicago campus
- 4.2 miles south of downtown Chicago
- Adjacent to Lake Michigan

The Neighborhood
With landscaped boulevards, neighborhood parks, and Lake Michigan right next door, the small Oakland community was home to many of Chicago’s elite in the mid-1800s. Regal homes in the Classical Revival, Queen Anne, and Richardson Romanesque styles grace many streets. Downtown access is easy on Lake Shore Drive. For the fitness-focused, the Lakefront Trail is a great option for walking, biking, and running.

Area Landmarks
The renowned architecture firm of Adler and Sullivan got its start designing small residential homes. One such home, the Eliel House, (4122 South Ellis Avenue), was built for Dankmar Adler’s cousin and is now designated a Chicago Landmark.

Jenkin Lloyd Jones, uncle to Frank Lloyd Wright, founded the Abraham Lincoln Centre at 700 East Oakwood Boulevard. Wright designed the building, which served as a meeting place for people of diverse backgrounds. Located at Mandrake Park and South Langley Avenue, today the building houses the Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies at Northeastern Illinois University.

Local Legends
Sam Cooke is known as the father of soul music and widely considered one of the greatest singers of all time. Cooke is best known for his major hits “You Send Me,” “Wonderful World,” and “Twistin’ the Night Away.” He moved to the Oakland neighborhood in 1933. He launched his singing career as a student at Wendell Phillips High School in nearby Grand Boulevard. In 2011, 36th Street near Cooke’s family home was given the honorary designation “Sam Cooke Way.”

The father of gospel music, Oakland resident Thomas Dorsey is best known for the hymn “Take My Hand, Precious Lord,” but wrote hundreds
of compositions. Dorsey worked with gospel greats such as Mahalia Jackson, and influenced generations of gospel, jazz, blues, and rock singers.

Hattie Kay Williams and Izora Davis were activists dedicated to improving the lives of their neighbors. Williams fought to integrate and improve the now closed Oakenwald School in the 1950s and was the school’s first African American PTA president. Davis, a Chicago public housing resident, fought for and won the right for CHA residents to return to their communities if they had been displaced by closures. Williams-Davis Park is dedicated to their work.

Recreation & Entertainment
Fitness-minded individuals can use a track at Mandrake Park and run or bike at Burnham Park. Existing bridges at 35th Street and Oakwood Boulevard and two upcoming bridges at 41st and 43rd Streets provide easy access to Lake Michigan. The annual Chicago Gospel Music Festival, located at both Ellis Park in Oakwood and the Chicago Cultural Center downtown, is a popular destination for music lovers.

Oakwood Beach at 41st Street is Chicago’s newest beach. It is an easy walk away and a great place to enjoy

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- **Elected officials:** Find your state and US House representatives by inputting your address at elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx.

Area Resources
- **4th Ward Alderman William Burns,** 3435 East 35th Street, 60616, ward04@cityofchicago.org, 773.536.8103
- **Chicago Park District,** chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/search/?c=65
- **Chicago Public Library—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Branch,** 3436 South King Drive, 60616, king@chipublib.org, 312.747.7543, chipublib.org/locations/45
- **Chicago Public Library—Chicago Bee Branch,** 3647 South State Street, 60609, chicagobee@chipublib.org, 312.747.6872, chipublib.org/locations/29
- **Chicago Transit Authority,** transitchicago.com
- **Kenwood-Oakland Community Organization,** kocoonline.org
- **Quad Communities Development Corporation,** qcdc.org
- **The University of Chicago Charter School,** uchicagocharter.org

Schools
The small community of Oakland has two public schools and two private schools, including UChicago Charter School Donoghue Campus and Jackie Robinson Elementary. Wendell Phillips Academy High School, 244 East Pershing Road, is the designated neighborhood high school for the area. Find a public school and accountability, assessment, demographic, and performance data at cps.edu.
GET SITUATED
• 1.9 miles to the University of Chicago campus
• 4.8 miles south of downtown Chicago
• 1.4 miles from Lake Michigan

The Neighborhood
The center of the historic Bronzeville neighborhood, Grand Boulevard was named for the wide boulevard that bisects the community, now called Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. Cable car and “L” connections to the Loop attracted early Chicagoans to the neighborhood. Grand Boulevard’s stately greystones and brownstones and its rich jazz and blues history make it attractive to residents and visitors alike. Traverse 47th Street or King Drive to see the iconic street furniture, murals, lights, and jazz-themed metal sculptures.

Area Landmarks
Chicago philanthropist Julius Rosenwald developed the Michigan Boulevard Garden Apartments (now Rosenwald Apartments) in 1929 to provide affordable housing for working-class African American families. These apartments, now listed on the National Register of Historic Places, were home to many notable figures: songwriter/producer Quincy Jones, poet Gwendolyn Brooks, singer Nat King Cole, and boxer Joe Louis. Unlike affordable housing of later periods, the apartments were well constructed with modern finishes and appliances. There are plans to rehabilitate the property.

The Melissia Ann Elam Home, a Chicago landmark, housed single African American women and girls migrating to Chicago. More than 30 women and girls lived in the home at a time, with the last resident leaving in the 1970s. Today, the huge masonry home is used by the community organization Centers for New Horizons.

Local Legends
The Chicago Defender was once the most widely circulated African American newspaper in the country. Its founder, Robert S. Abbott, was a resident of Grand Boulevard. A self-made millionaire, Abbott received a law degree from Kent College of Law in 1898.
Oscar Stanton De Priest was the first post-Reconstruction African American elected to Congress, serving from 1929 to 1935. De Priest’s Chicago home, a National Historic Landmark, still stands at South 4536-4538 King Drive.

Bessie Coleman, who moved to what is now East 41st Street and King Drive when she was 23, was the nation’s first female African American pilot. Coleman earned her pilot’s license in France in 1921 and returned to the United States a celebrity, touring the country to perform in air shows.

Recreation & Entertainment
The Harold Washington Cultural Center Performing Arts Theatre is a great place to catch plays, musicals, and other live performances. The building is named after Chicago’s first African American mayor, Harold Washington, who served from 1983 to 1987. The center also offers a range of educational programs, including courses in business and digital media production. To the north and east of the center are Jokes and Notes comedy club and Gallery Guichard at the Bronzeville Artist Lofts.

Grand Boulevard’s Taylor Park is named after Robert Taylor, the first African American to direct the Chicago Housing Authority. The park includes a field house, outdoor pool, baseball diamonds, tennis courts, and an indoor auditorium. Fitness classes are offered year-round.

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- Elected officials: Find your state and US House representatives by inputting your address at elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx.

Area Resources
- 3rd Ward Alderman Pat Dowell, 5046 South State Street, 60602, ward03@cityofchicago.org, 773.373.9273
- 4th Ward Alderman William Burns, 435 East 35th Street, 60616, ward04@cityofchicago.org, 773.536.8103
- Chicago Park District, chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/search/?c=63
- Chicago Public Library—George Cleveland Hall Branch, 4801 South Michigan Avenue, 60615, hall@chipublib.org, 312.747.0511, chipublib.org/locations/33
- Chicago Transit Authority, transitchicago.com
- Centers for New Horizons, cnh.org
- The Bronzeville Alliance, bronzevillealliance.org
- Black Metropolis National Heritage Area Commission, blackmetropolisnha.com
- Bronzeville Area Residents’ & Commerce Council, thebarcc.org
- Bronzeville Visitor Information Center, bviconline.info
- Quad Communities Development Corporation, qcdc.org
- South East Chicago Commission (SECC), secc-chicago.org
- The University of Chicago Charter School, uchicagocharter.org

Schools
Grand Boulevard is a large community with eight public schools and five private schools, including Irwin C. Mollison Elementary and UChicago Charter Carter G. Woodson Campus. Wendell Phillips Academy High School, 244 East Pershing Road, is the designated neighborhood high school for the area. Find a public school and accountability, assessment, demographic, and performance data at cps.edu.
Hyde Park

GET SITUATED
• Home to the University of Chicago campus
• 6.3 miles south of downtown Chicago
• Adjacent to Lake Michigan

The Neighborhood
The University of Chicago’s main campus, designated a botanical garden, is located within the neighborhood of Hyde Park. A recent commercial renaissance, particularly along 53rd Street, has attracted new restaurants, clothing stores, and patrons. The Metra Electric District Line and Lake Shore Drive provide easy access to downtown Chicago and beyond. Hyde Park offers a wide range of housing types, from vintage apartments and condominiums to spacious single family homes.

Area Landmarks
The University of Chicago campus is filled with historic structures and sites, many listed as Chicago Landmarks and on the National Register of Historic Places. The campus was designed in the Gothic style, a nod to Oxford University. Today, a number of modern structures complement the Gothic buildings.

The 13-story Shoreland Hotel, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was a hangout for 1920s politicians and celebrities. The hotel was converted to a University dormitory in the 1970s. Now privately owned, the Shoreland’s intricate terra cotta façade and elaborate interiors underwent major renovations in 2013, transforming it into a high-end rental apartment building.

Local Legends
Enrico Fermi lived in the 5500 block of South Woodlawn Avenue. The physicist is best known for his work creating the first controlled, self-sustaining, nuclear chain reaction as part of the Manhattan Project in 1942.

John Dewey joined the University of Chicago in 1894 to head the School of Education. Dewey revolutionized the American education system, arguing for practical student investment in learning. He was also an ardent advocate for women’s rights and world peace.

Harold Washington Park, located just outside his former Hampton House home at East 53rd Street and South Shore Drive, is named in his honor.

Recreation & Entertainment
Hyde Park has an incredible selection of museums: The Museum of Science and Industry is the largest science museum in the Western Hemisphere; the Oriental Institute Museum holds collections excavated by University of Chicago archaeologists from the ancient Middle East; the Smart Museum of Art includes works by Pablo Picasso, Auguste Rodin, and Mark Rothko; Frank Lloyd Wright’s Robie House offers tours of one of the architectural master’s greatest works; and the Renaissance Society, a contemporary art museum, celebrates its centennial in 2015.

Hyde Park boasts some of Chicago’s most majestic parks. Envisioned by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted for the 1893 World’s Fair, the Midway Plaisance connects Washington Park to Jackson Park. Today, it is a popular place to play soccer and ice-skate. On Hyde Park’s east is the southern extent of Burnham Park, which includes Promontory Point—a great place for a picnic and beautiful views of the lake.

Community Data
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- **Health resources**: Visit the Urban Health Initiative at uhi.uchospitals.edu, which provides a wealth of information on the location of community resources by property.
- **Crime**: Find data published by the City of Chicago at data.cityofchicago.org/Public-Safety/Crimes-2001-to-present/ijzp-q8i2.
- **Elected officials**: Find your state and US House representatives by inputting your address at elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx.

Area Resources
- **4th Ward Alderman William Burns**, 435 East 35th Street, 60616, ward04@cityofchicago.org, 773.536.8103
- **5th Ward Alderman Leslie Hairston**, 2325 East 71st Street, Suite A, 60649, lhairston@cityofchicago.org, 773.324.5555
- **Chicago Park District**, chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/search/?c=71
- **Chicago Transit Authority**, transitchicago.com
- **Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce**, hydeparkchamberchicago.org
- **Hyde Park Historical Society**, hydeparkhistory.org
- **Hyde Park–Kenwood Community Conference**, hydepark.org
- **South East Chicago Commission (SECC)**, secc-chicago.org
- **Metra Commuter Rail**, metrarail.com

Schools
Four public schools and four private schools fall within Hyde Park’s neighborhood boundaries, including William H. Ray and Bret Harte elementary schools. Kenwood Academy High School, 5015 South Blackstone Avenue, is the designated neighborhood high school for the area. Find a public school and accountability, assessment, demographic, and performance data at cps.edu.
GET SITUATED
• 1 mile to the University of Chicago campus
• 6.2 miles south of downtown Chicago
• 1.4 miles from Lake Michigan

The Neighborhood
Washington Park is the western gateway to the University of Chicago. The neighborhood’s Frederick Law Olmsted–designed namesake park is a masterpiece of landscape architecture and the social center of nearby communities. Settled by German and Irish immigrants between the 1860s and 1870s, the neighborhood was an entry point for people looking for opportunity. African Americans moved to the area as part of the Great Migration, driving development of locally owned businesses and cultural institutions such as banks, theaters, hospitals, and music venues. Jazz clubs on Garfield Boulevard in Washington Park and throughout Bronzeville helped cultivate the national music scene.

Area Landmarks
Garfield Boulevard is a part of Chicago’s Emerald Necklace—eight parks connected by 26 miles of boulevards that form a ring around Chicago’s urban core.

Schulze Bakery, former home to Schulze Baking Company, features an impressive terra cotta façade with beautiful ornamentation around the windows and roofline. There are continued efforts to renovate and repurpose this iconic facility.

John Raber, a wealthy Chicago businessman, built his elaborate Italianate estate surrounded by six acres of formal gardens in 1870 at 5760 South Lafayette Avenue. The Raber House is a Chicago Landmark and one of the few remaining structures that pre-date the 1871 Chicago Fire.

The Fountain of Time sculpture at the junction of Washington Park and the Midway Plaisance depicts
humanity’s relationship with time. First dedicated in 1922, the sculpture was designed and constructed by master sculptor Lorado Taft. It underwent major renovations in the early 2000s.

Local Legends
Detroit native Jesse Binga moved to Chicago in 1893. In the early 1900s, he founded Binga State Bank, Chicago’s first African American–owned financial institution. He resided in the 5900 block of South Park Way (now Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive).

Charles Comiskey was an American League baseball player and one of the founders of the Chicago White Sox. Comiskey Park, now US Cellular Field, was named after him. He owned the club from 1900 until his death in 1931. Comiskey lived at 5131 South Michigan Avenue.

Recreation & Entertainment
Washington Park is one of Chicago’s largest and most beautiful parks. With open meadows, lagoons, and a horse riding trail, the park is a pastoral retreat from the bustle of city living. Washington Park has two gymnasiums, a fitness center, and an aquatic center. The park offers year-round fun and relaxation.

The DuSable Museum of African American History, one of the nation’s foremost museums of African American history, now includes more than 15,000 pieces, including paintings, sculptures, and artifacts. The museum is named after Jean Baptiste Point DuSable, a Haitian man of African and French descent who was Chicago’s first permanent resident in 1779.

The University of Chicago Arts Incubator is a space for artist residencies, arts education, community-based arts projects, exhibitions, performances, and talks. Envisioned by artist Theaster Gates, the 1920s building is located at 301 East Garfield Boulevard.

Community Data
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- Health resources: Visit the Urban Health Initiative at uhi.uchospitals.edu, which provides a wealth of information on the location of community resources by property.
- Crime: Find data published by the City of Chicago at data.cityofchicago.org/Public-Safety/Crimes-2001-to-present/ijzp-q8t2.
- Elected officials: Find your state and US House representatives by inputting your address at elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx.

Area Resources
- 3rd Ward Alderman Pat Dowell, 5046 South State Street, 60602, ward03@cityofchicago.org, 773.373.9273
- 20th Ward Alderman Willie B. Cochran, 6357 South Cottage Grove Avenue, 60637, ward20@cityofchicago.org, 773.955.5610
- Chicago Park District, chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/search/?c=39
- Chicago Transit Authority, transitchicago.com
- K.L.E.O. Community Family Life Center, thekleocenter.org
- Washington Park Arts Incubator, arts.uchicago.edu/artsandpubliclife/ai
- Washington Park Chamber of Commerce, thewashingtonparkcc.org
- South East Chicago Commission (SECC), secc-chicago.org
- St. Edmund’s Redevelopment Corporation, stedmundsrc.org
- University of Chicago Arts + Public Life Initiative, arts.uchicago.edu/artsandpubliclife

Schools
Washington Park is host to five public schools, including Edmond Burke and William W. Carter elementary schools. Wendell Phillips Academy High School, 244 East Pershing Road, is the designated neighborhood high school for the area. Find a public school and accountability, assessment, demographic, and performance data at cps.edu.
Woodlawn

GET SITUATED

• Home to the University of Chicago campus
• 7.3 miles south of downtown Chicago
• Adjacent to Lake Michigan

The Neighborhood

Site of the University of Chicago’s south campus, Woodlawn is the second most popular community in the Mid-South Side for University of Chicago employees to call home. Woodlawn was settled by Dutch farmers in the 1850s. Less than 40 years later, the 1893 World’s Fair created a building boom in the area. The community boasts easy access to large parks, the lakefront, and the Museum of Science and Industry. Travel downtown via the Chicago Transit Authority Green Line, Metra Electric District Line, and Lake Shore Drive.

Area Landmarks

Lorado Taft was one of America’s most highly regarded sculptors in the early part of the 20th century. He produced work in his “Midway Studio,” which is located at the corner of 60th Street and Ingleside Avenue and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Another Chicago Landmark, St. Gelasius Church, was built in Woodlawn in 1923 and is now occupied by the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest. In the early 2000s, the Woodlawn community launched a successful campaign to reverse the proposed demolition of the church.

Local Legends

Clarence Darrow, one of the best trial attorneys in American history, was a resident of Woodlawn. He is best remembered for his defense of John T. Scopes in the State of Tennessee v. Scopes trial, which centered on the creation-evolution controversy.

A Raisin in the Sun, a play written by Chicago native Lorraine Hansberry, has been a standard in schools for decades. The story was inspired by her family’s battle with a racially restrictive covenant in northwest Woodlawn.

Allison Davis Sr. was the first African-American faculty member at the University of Chicago and one of the great scholars of his generation. As a social anthropologist and psychologist, he pioneered research on race and class and childhood development and education.

Before its move to Los Angeles, Playboy was headquartered in Chicago.
Hugh Hefner assembled the first issue of his magazine in his apartment at 6052 South Harper Avenue in Woodlawn.

Recreation & Entertainment
The University of Chicago's Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts is a great place to catch concerts, exhibitions, performances, programs, and more from world-class, emerging, local, and student artists.

Jackson Park, located on Woodlawn’s eastern border, is a recreational gem. The Osaka Garden, on an island within the park’s lagoons, is a serene location for a walk or picnic. 63rd Street Beach, within Jackson Park’s boundaries and on Lake Michigan, is a great place to spend summers. The historic 63rd Street Beach House, in the Classical Revival style, is a great venue for a wedding or family picnic.

Woodlawn will soon house the MetroSquash Academic and Squash Center, a facility at 61st Street and Cottage Grove Avenue that will be the largest stand-alone squash facility in the Midwest. MetroSquash will use squash, academics, mentoring, cultural enrichment, and community service to empower Chicago Public Schools students to realize their full academic, athletic, and personal potential.

Community Data
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- Elected officials: Find your state and US House representatives by inputting your address at elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx.

Area Resources
- 5th Ward Alderman Leslie Hairston, 2325 East 71st Street, 60649, lhairston@cityofchicago.org, 773.324.5555
- 6th Ward Alderman Roderick Sawyer, 8001 South King Drive, 60619, scheduler@6thwardchicago.org, 773.731.7777
- 20th Ward Alderman Willie B. Cochran, 6357 South Cottage Grove Avenue, 60637, ward20@cityofchicago.org, 773.955.5610
- Chicago Public Library—Bessie Coleman Branch, 731 East 63rd Street, 60637, coleman@chipublib.org, 312.747.7760, chipublib.org/locations/18
- Chicago Park District, chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/search/?c=41
- Chicago Transit Authority, transitchicago.com
- Network of Woodlawn, facebook.com/NetworkofWoodlawn
- Woodlawn Children's Promise Community, woodlawnpromise.org
- Woodlawn Public Safety Alliance, facebook.com/pages/Woodlawn-Public-Safety-Alliance/636477229713066
- The Woodlawn Organization, twochicago.org/index.html
- Preservation of Affordable Housing, poahchicago.org
- South East Chicago Commission (SECC) secc-chicago.org
- The University of Chicago Charter School, uchicagocharter.org
- Metra Commuter Rail, metrarail.com
- Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts, arts.uchicago.edu/logan-center

Schools
UChicago Charter School Woodlawn Campus and Emmett Till Elementary are among Woodlawn’s six public and three private schools. Hyde Park Academy High School, 6220 South Stony Island Avenue, is the designated neighborhood high school for the community. Find a public school and accountability, assessment, demographic, and performance data at cps.edu.
GET SITUATED

- 2 miles to the University of Chicago campus
- 8.2 miles south of downtown Chicago
- 2.7 miles to Lake Michigan

The Neighborhood

Greater Grand Crossing encompasses several neighborhoods—Grand Crossing, Park Manor, Brookline, Brookdale, and Essex. In the mid-1800s, the Illinois Central Railroad and Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad crossed near 75th Street and South Chicago Avenue. This “grand crossing,” still in existence today, is the root of the neighborhood name. The area is dominated by modest single-family homes and two-flats. Access to downtown and the rest of the Mid-South Side is easy with the Chicago Transit Authority Red Line, Dan Ryan Expressway, and Chicago Skyway.

Area Landmarks

The Gary Comer Youth Center was completed in 2006 and quickly became a gathering place for the community. The center offers extracurricular education and programming for local students and shares a campus with Gary Comer College Prep. Designed by architect John Ronan, the campus is a symbol of community revitalization and has received many awards.

The bungalow is a quintessential Chicago-style home. South Park Manor Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is a cohesive example of a bungalow neighborhood.

Local Legends

Gary Comer was a Chicago billionaire who built his fortune as the founder of Lands’ End. Born and raised in the...
Grand Crossing community, Comer gave away much of his fortune in support of childhood education and health care. His generosity is evident in the Gary Comer Youth Center, Gary Comer College Prep, and the University of Chicago Medicine Comer Children’s Hospital.

In 1950, Gwendolyn Brooks became the first African American to win the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry. An Illinois Poet Laureate, Brooks captured the African American experience on Chicago’s South Side. Considered one of America's greatest poets, she lived at 7428 South Evans Avenue in Grand Crossing from 1953 to 1994. The house still stands and is designated a Chicago Landmark.

Theaster Gates is a world renowned artist known as well for his urban planning and place work as for his conceptual artwork. Locally, Gates has renovated several formerly vacant buildings on the 6900 block of South Dorchester Avenue into popular arts and cultural venues, including the Listening House, the Archive House, and Black Cinema House.

Recreation & Entertainment
Grand Crossing Park, the largest park in the area, features a field house, gymnasium, fitness center, baseball diamonds, pool, and woodshop. The park is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was designed by the Olmsted Brothers, sons of landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted.

Community Data
- **Walkability**: Enter any address at walkscore.com to get a unique walkability score. Higher scores mean most errands can be accomplished on foot.
- **Health resources**: Visit the Urban Health Initiative at uhi.uchospitals.edu, which provides a wealth of information on the location of community resources by property.
- **Crime**: Find data published by the City of Chicago at data.cityofchicago.org/Public-Safety/Crimes-2001-to-present/ijzp-q8t2.
- **Elected officials**: Find your state and US House representatives by inputting your address at elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx.

Area Resources
- **5th Ward Alderman Leslie Hairston**, 2325 East 71st Street, Suite A, 60649, lhairston@cityofchicago.org, 773.324.5555
- **6th Ward Alderman Roderick Sawyer**, 8001 South King Drive, 60619, scheduler@6thwardchicago.com, 773.635.0006
- **17th Ward Alderman Latasha Thomas**, 7811 South Racine Avenue, 60620, ward17@cityofchicago.org, 773.723.0908
- **20th Ward Alderman Willie B. Cochran**, 6357 South Cottage Grove, 60637, ward20@cityofchicago.org, 773.955.5610
- **Chicago Park District**, chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/search/?c=69
- **Chicago Public Library—Whitney M. Young Jr. Branch**, 7901 South King Drive, 60619, whineyyoung@chipublib.org, 312.747.0039, chipublib.org/locations/90
- **Chicago Public Library—Greater Grand Crossing Branch**, 1000 East 73rd Street, 60619, greatergrandcrossing@chipublib.org, 312.745.1608, chipublib.org/locations/172
- **Gary Comer Youth Center**, gcychome.org
- **Rebuild Foundation**, rebuild-foundation.org/chicago

Schools
Greater Grand Crossing’s 10 public and four private schools include the Gary Comer College Prep Middle School. Neighborhood high schools include Paul Robeson (6835 South Normal), James H. Bowen (2710 East 89th Street), and Emil G. Hirsch (7740 South Ingleside Avenue). Find a public school and accountability, assessment, demographic, and performance data at cps.edu.
South Shore

GET SITUATED
- 2.4 miles south of the University of Chicago campus
- 8.8 miles south of downtown Chicago
- Adjacent to Lake Michigan

The Neighborhood
Home to two golf courses, extensive park facilities, and a range of residential buildings—including American Four Square, Classical Revival, Queen Anne, and Prairie School style houses—South Shore's amenities reflect its historic past.

Situated south of historic Jackson Park and west of the southern shores of Lake Michigan, one of the first developments in the South Shore community was sparked by the 1893 World’s Fair. The area has easy access to some of the city’s best lakefront parks and to downtown Chicago via the Metra Electric District Line. The Jackson Park Highlands Historic District lies within the community.

Area Landmarks
Chicago’s early 20th-century elite flocked to the exclusive South Shore Country Club. The club itself is gone, but its Marshall and Fox-designed clubhouse and grounds now house the South Shore Cultural Center and are open to the public. The Cultural Center is a great site for large events. President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama had their wedding reception there in 1992.

Completed in 1929, the Oglesby Cooperative Apartment Building (6901 South Oglesby Avenue) is an impressive 11-story example of the English Gothic style. The building was constructed for wealthy Chicagoans, many of whom were members of the South Shore Country Club. Still operated as a cooperative, the building offers sweeping views of Lake Michigan.

Local Legends
First Lady Michelle Obama is a South Shore native. Before meeting her future husband or attending Harvard Law School, the first lady grew up in a quaint brick bungalow in South Shore. She still speaks fondly of her time living there and summers at Rainbow Beach.

Wildly successful rapper Kanye West was born in Atlanta, but spent most of his grade school years in South Shore. West got his start in the Chicago music scene when he was only a teenager.
Civil rights leader, founder of the Rainbow/Push Coalition, and former US presidential candidate Jesse Jackson Sr. is a South Shore resident. Jackson has been an important advocate for African American rights since marching with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1965. In 2000, President Clinton awarded Jackson the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award of the United States.

Recreation & Entertainment
South Shore has two great beaches for summer fun—Rainbow and South Shore. Rainbow Beach, one of Chicago’s largest, offers many facilities, including racquetball courts, a fitness center, playground, and volleyball courts. South Shore Beach is part of the South Shore Cultural Center. It has a golf course and prairie preserve on its grounds.

A popular gathering place for South Shore residents, the Don Nash Community Center (1833 East 71st Street) has a gymnasium, indoor swimming pool, kitchen, fitness center, and club rooms. The indoor facility is a great place to play during winter months, and children’s programs are offered throughout the year.

Community Data
- **Walkability:** Enter any address at walkscore.com to get a unique walkability score. Higher scores mean most errands can be accomplished on foot.
- **Health resources:** Visit the Urban Health Initiative at uhi.uchospitals.edu, which provides a wealth of information on the location of community resources by property.
- **Crime:** Find data published by the City of Chicago at data.cityofchicago.org/Public-Safety/Crimes-2001-to-present/ijzp-q8t2.
- **Elected officials:** Find your state and US House representatives by inputting your address at elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx.

Area Resources
- **5th Ward Alderman Leslie Hairston**, 2325 East 71st Street, Suite A, 60649, hairston@cityofchicago.org, 773.324.5555
- **7th Ward Alderman Natasha Holmes**, 2459 East 75th Street, 60649, ward07@cityofchicago.org, 773.731.7777
- **8th Ward Alderman Michelle Harris**, 8539 South Cottage Grove Avenue, 60619, ward08@cityofchicago.org, 773.874.3300
- **Chicago Public Library—South Shore Branch**, 2505 East 73rd Street, 60649, southshore@chipublib.org, 312.747.5281
- **Chicago Park District**, chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/search/?c=72
- **South Shore Chamber, Inc.**, southshorechamberinc.org
- **South Shore Arts**, southshoreartsonline.org
- **Reclaiming South Shore for All**, southshoreforall.org
- **Chicago Transit Authority**, transitchicago.com
- **Metra Commuter Rail**, metrarail.com

Schools
South Shore has eight public and 10 private schools, including Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Paideia Academy and Isabelle C. O’Keeffe Elementary. Find a public school and accountability, assessment, demographic, and performance data at cps.edu.