

# Chicago neighborhoods offer plethora of entertainment

**By Ryan Hynes**  
A&E EDITOR

Chicago is home to over 100 different neighborhoods and communities. All are part of the city, but each has its own unique identity. To truly appreciate Chicago as a whole, and to be become a true Chicagoan, you really need to get know these many faces of our great city.

The CTA, whatever your opinion, is the best way to get around the city, and when used correctly, can actually be pretty quick. Chicago natives Danny Resner and John Greenfield rode the entire El system, that's every stop, on every line, in just over 9 ½ hours. Put your UPass to work, they're more valuable than you think; a 30 day CTA pass costs \$90!

Find an excuse to go out, whether it be for a show, a movie, or a quick bite to eat. Just get out there! For those who have never ventured south, go to Hyde Park. Home to the Museum of Science and Industry, the University of Chicago and the 1893 World's Fair, Hyde Park is brimming with history. Rockefeller Chapel and Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House are among the countless things to see in Hyde Park, and conveniently, they're right across the street from each other. If you get hungry, check out Z&H for a sandwich.

The North side has plenty to offer as well. Lincoln Park isn't just a zoo, it's also a pretty vibrant neighborhood home to some of the best hot dog and burger places in the city. Murphy's, Hot Doug's, Devil Dogs, and my personal favorite, the Weiner Circle, all offer quality Chicago style dogs and in some

cases, chocolate shakes. Metropolis Coffee in Edgewater brews a pretty awesome cup, and sponsors the Illinois Tech Cycling Team.

There's more to do than just food of course. If you really want a new bike, and let's be honest, who doesn't, Cycle Smithy has a big selection, and a cool collection of old bikes too. Village Cycle in Old Town also has a huge selection of Trek and Gary Fisher bikes, just be sure to buy a U-Lock.

Go farther north and you'll eventually hit Evanston, a place many people know, but few really get to know. Now arguably, Evanston is the longest trip you'll take on the CTA. You'll have to take the Red Line to Howard, and then transfer to the Purple Line, a journey of about an hour and a half.

The trip is well worth it though, especially if you like bagels. Bagel Art

really knows how to throw the dough, and is the perfect way to get your snack on.

Northwestern University also calls Evanston home, and if you haven't gotten a chance to check out its historic campus, you have to go at least once. Evanston offers a more relaxed, small town vibe compared to the city, and is a nice change of scenery.

If you're a bit of a homebody, then at least check out some of Bridgeport's local offerings.

Did you know that four Chicago Mayors, including Richard J. and Richard M. Daley, are Bridgeport natives? There's so much history right in our backyard, and of course, there's food. Rocky's, Riccobene's, Carbon, Pleasant House, and Bridgeport Coffee are all cool places to check out.

Next weekend, stop staring at the same four walls and get out and live a little, Chicago style.



Images courtesy of [explorechicago.com](#), [iggmoe.com](#), [menupix.com](#) [chicago.com](#)