



National Trust for Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours

CHICAGO: Epicenter of American Architecture **May 24–29, 2026**

MONDAY, MAY 24

Welcome to Chicago

Upon arrival in Chicago, transfer independently to the Palmer House Hilton, a revered landmark in the heart of Chicago's Loop and a member of Historic Hotels of America. The Palmer House boasts a fascinating history and an excellent location within walking distance of the Art Institute of Chicago and Millennium Park. In the late afternoon, join fellow travelers and walk to the Chicago River for a special architectural riverboat cruise. An expert guide highlights dozens of Chicago's architecturally significant sites, including numerous landmarks of Modern American architecture. Following the cruise, enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

TUESDAY, MAY 25

Arts and Crafts & the Glassner House

Spend the morning at Crab Tree Farm, a privately owned farm on Lake Michigan, and examine one of the most important private collections of Arts and Crafts furniture and decorative arts, highlighting major works of Gustav Stickley. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant and return to Chicago, driving along the city's famed Magnificent Mile. This afternoon, enjoy a specially arranged visit to Glessner House, designed by the legendary American architect Henry Hobson Richardson. Although its design was deemed controversial upon completion in 1887, it profoundly influenced Frank Lloyd Wright and Louis Sullivan and foreshadowed the development of modern residential architecture. (B, L)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

The Farnsworth House & the Art Institute

Drive to Plano, Illinois, for an exclusive viewing of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's Farnsworth House, an icon of 20th-century Modern architecture and a National Trust Historic Site. Experience its elegant simplicity and compelling coexistence with the surrounding landscape. After lunch at a local restaurant, continue to the Art Institute of Chicago for a highlights tour of its renowned collection of American Art, and see the sleek Modern Wing designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Renzo Piano. Stroll through nearby Millennium Park, an urban space combining cutting-edge architecture, art installations, and landscape design, before returning to the hotel. (B, L)

THURSDAY, MAY 27

In the Footsteps of Wright

Drive to Oak Park, the Chicago suburb where Frank Lloyd Wright lived for two decades and grew from a young draftsman into one of America's most promising and influential architects. Tour Wright's home and studio, a National Trust Historic Site, and see where the Prairie style was born. Then take a stroll through the surrounding neighborhood to see the exteriors of several Wright-designed residential properties and end at the recently renovated Unity Temple, one of the most significant projects from Wright's early career and an icon of Modern architecture. Following lunch at a local restaurant, drive through the

charming Hyde Park community en route to the University of Chicago campus, studded with remarkable architecture including Wright's Robie House. Tour the Robie House with a docent and learn why the American Institute of Architects designated it as one of the 10 most significant structures of the 20th century. In the evening, gather at a popular Chicago restaurant for a festive farewell dinner. (B, L, D)

FRIDAY, MAY 31

Landmarks of the Loop

Spend the morning on a walking tour of the historically significant architectural gems surrounding the hotel, including the Rookery, the Marquette Building, the Monadnock Building, and the Chicago Federal Center. Return to the hotel for check-out before 11:00am and transfer to the hotel independently for return flights home. (B)

Call 888.484.8785 for more details