

Bike-to-Transit Guide

A Guide to Bicycling by Bus and Rail

Spring 2007



This guide introduces several bike rides in the Chicago area that are easily accessible by transit. Explore the region by train, bus and bicycle and see Chicago in a whole new light!

www.transitchicago.com



South Side Buses to the Lakefront Trail

The Lakefront Trail is a prized resource for recreational and commuter cyclists alike. The trail provides uninterrupted views of Lake Michigan and is the perfect place for a mini-getaway from the hustle and bustle of Chicago streets. Take one of many CTA buses to reach the trail and save your energy for a long bike ride along the lakefront.

#18 - 16th/18th: Exit bus at 18th/Indiana. Ride east on 18th and access trail via underpass and overpass.

#39 - Pershing: Exit bus at Oakwood/Lake Park. Ride east on Oakwood until you reach the trail.

#43 - 43rd: Exit bus at 43rd/Oakenwald. Access the trail via the stairs and overpass.

#47 - 47th: Exit bus at 47th/Lake Park. Access the trail via the underpass and overpass.

#15 - Jeffery Local: Exit bus at Hyde Park/Lake Park. Ride east on Hyde Park and access the trail via the overpass.

#55 - Garfield: Exit bus at Hyde Park/55th. Ride east on 55th and access the trail via the underpass.

#63 - 63rd: Exit bus at 63rd and Stony Island. Ride east on Hayes, follow curve south to Richards, turn east on Marquette, and access the trail via the underpass.

#67 - 67th/69th/71st: Exit bus at 67th/South Shore, and access the trail at that intersection.

#71 - 71st/South Shore: Exit bus at 71st/Yates, ride north on South Shore to access the trail.

#49/#X49 to Major Taylor Trail

Want to know why south sider take so much pride in their surroundings? See the West Pullman, Beverly, Blue Island & Morgan Park neighborhoods from a new perspective. The Major Taylor trail opens this summer, providing a great way to enjoy the historic south side.

Transit/Bike Directions

On weekdays, take the #X49 Western Express bus to 83rd Street. Bike 1/4 mile east on 83rd Street to the trail. On the weekends, take the #49 Western Avenue bus to 79th Street. Bike 1/2 mile east to Damen Avenue. Turn south and go 1/2 mile to 83rd Street. Turn west, and go 1/4 mile to trail. In addition, cyclists can take Metra Rock Island Line trains to 91st Street station. For the return trip, take the Metra Electric Line from Riverdale station. Ride to the end of the trail through the Whistler Preserve, turn right on Forestview, left on S. Halsted, left on Riverdale, right on School, and left on 137th. Check schedules and rules on bringing bicycles on Metra in advance by visiting <http://metrarail.com>.

MAP KEY

- Featured bike-transit ride or transfer point
- Featured CTA bus route
- CTA rail route and station
- Off-street trail
- Dedicated bike lane
- Recommended bike route

0 1/2 1 2 Miles

GENERAL BIKE & RIDE RULES

Anyone 14 years or older may bring a bicycle on a CTA train (rail cars with sliding doors only) or rack-equipped bus. Customers 12 and 13 years old must be accompanied by an adult. Children under 12 are not permitted to bring bicycles on CTA trains or buses.

BIKES ON TRAINS

Bicycles are permitted on trains every weekday except from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. On Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, bicycles are allowed on trains all day. If trains are crowded, the use of trains by cyclists may be restricted by the rail operator as appropriate. Bicycles are not permitted on trains July 3.

BIKES ON BUSES

Bicycles are permitted on buses equipped with attached front exterior bicycle racks. Bicycles can be placed on the racks during normal hours of operation for each route. Racks accommodate two (2) bicycles at a time.

INDOOR BICYCLE PARKING

There is indoor bicycle parking at many CTA rail stations. These stations are shown on CTA's Bus & Rail Map. If trains are crowded or you don't want to bring your bicycle on the system, then park your bicycle in the approved parking area and ride the train.

For questions or comments, visit www.transitchicago.com or call 1-888-YOUR-CTA.

Blue Line/Jefferson Park to North Branch Trail

Wind your way along the 20-mile tree-lined path from the corner of Caldwell and Devon to the beautiful and relaxing Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe. Pack a lunch to eat at one of the many picnic groves along the north branch of the Chicago River.

Transit/Bike Directions

From Jefferson Park Blue Line station (also served by #X54, #56, #56A, #68, #81, #81W, #85, #85A, #88, and #92 buses), bicycle northwest on Milwaukee Avenue from the station for about 3/4 mile. Turn north on Central Avenue and ride approximately 1.5 miles to Devon Avenue. Turn west, and ride 2 blocks. The entrance to the trail is on your right. Alternatively, you can ride northwest on Milwaukee Avenue for 2.5 miles to Devon Avenue. The trail is on the northeast corner of the intersection. If you get tired, you can take Metra's Union Pacific North Line train to Chicago from Braeside station near the Botanic Gardens or the Milwaukee District North Line from the Morton Grove station. Check schedules and rules on bringing bicycles on Metra in advance by visiting <http://metrarail.com>.

Blue Line/Logan Square-Wicker Park Neighborhood Tour

Follow the tree-lined boulevards through Logan Square to Humboldt Park and cruise into Wicker Park on some of Chicago's most popular bike routes. Enjoy historic graystone homes that flank the streets of Logan Square, and marvel at the grand fieldhouse built in Humboldt Park in 1928. Visit one of many Puerto Rican restaurants on Division Street on your way into the bustling East Ukrainian Village and Wicker Park commercial districts.

Transit/Bike Directions

Take the Blue Line to the Logan Square station. Exit the station towards the south, and follow the "roundabout" southbound part way around the Logan Square Monument to Kedzie Boulevard. Go south, turn east on Palmer Square, then south on Humboldt Boulevard. Ride through Humboldt Park until you reach Division, or keep riding to Augusta, and turn east. Follow either Division or Augusta to Damen and turn north. Get back on the Blue Line at the Damen Station near North Avenue.

Blue Line/Forest Park to Illinois Prairie Path

The Illinois Prairie Path is a multi-use nature trail that spans approximately 61 miles in Cook, DuPage and Kane Counties. A former right-of-way for the old Chicago Aurora & Elgin electric railroad, it was the first U.S. rail-to-trail conversion in the nation. Trail amenities include restored native prairie areas, interpretive signage, playgrounds, gazebos, water and restrooms. Now you can get to the trailhead in Maywood via a brand new bridge that crosses the Desplaines River directly from the Forest Park Blue Line station. Blue Line ends - nature begins!

Transit/Bike Directions

Take the Blue Line towards Forest Park to the end of the line. Exit the station towards the north and bypass the bus turnaround, turn west into the Park & Ride lot immediately adjacent to the bus turnaround. Follow the signs further west to the overflow parking lot and Maywood bridge. The trailhead is located just across the river. The main stem of the path runs 15 miles west to Wheaton, where it sends one spur 14 miles northwest to connect with the Fox River Trail to Elgin, and a second spur southwest 13 miles to Aurora where you can pick up the Fox River and Virgil Gilman Trails. A spur off the Elgin Spur goes 11 miles west to Geneva, and a spur off the Aurora Spur goes six miles west to Batavia. Choose your own adventure. Visit www.ipp.org for more information.

MAP KEY

- Featured bike-transit ride or transfer point
- Featured CTA bus route
- CTA rail route and station
- Accessible station with elevator
- Indoor bicycle parking
- Off-street trail
- Dedicated bike lane
- Recommended bike route

0 1/2 1 2 Miles