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Travel & Lodging in Chicago

Updated: September 3, 2024

Student Affairs has compiled a list of nearby housing options, as well as different transportation modes in Chicago. While Meadville Lombard does not endorse or suggest any specific housing option, we want students to feel that they have a starting point when it comes to making travel arrangements to Chicago. This list is provided for information purposes only.

Transportation

TRAINS:

Our new location is on the north-eastern tip of the Chicago Loop (central downtown area). All of the Chicago Transit Authority's El trains have a station within a couple of blocks from campus, and there are many bus routes that stop nearby.

Both of Chicago's airports, O'Hare and Midway, are connected to downtown with CTA train lines that run very close to Meadville Lombard. You can purchase a "Ventra card" at the vending machines before entering the train stations at the airport. The vending machines take credit card.

- From O'Hare: take the **Blue Line** to Clark/State station downtown (about an hour)
- From Midway: take the **Orange Line** to State/Lake station or Clark/State station downtown (about 30 minutes)

Meadville Lombard is within 3 blocks from each of those stations. The Clark/Lake station is ADA accessible; the State/Lake station is not.

A Chicago Transit Authority system map is available at:

https://www.transitchicago.com/assets/1/6/ctamap_SystemMap.pdf

Plan your trip using Google Transit, which allows you to get directions from anywhere in the city and customize your departure and arrival times: <https://maps.google.com/>

TAXI/UBER/LYFT

If you are taking taxi or using a ride-share service, you can provide the address for Meadville Lombard to your driver.

180 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago, IL 60601

Meadville Lombard is on the 7th floor in Suite 700.

PARKING:

There are many parking garages and parking lots nearby that are listed at online parking space reservation services, such as [ParkWhiz](#) and [SpotHero](#), where you can find lower hourly rates and reserve them ahead of time. Most of the parking garages offer early bird specials if you are arriving before 9:00 a.m.

Grant Park North Garage is about a 10-minute walk from Meadville Lombard.
25 N Michigan Ave, Chicago IL 60602
<https://www.millenniumgarages.com/grant-park-north-garage/>

Accommodations

HOTELS

Cambria Hotel Chicago Loop - Theatre District

32 W Randolph St, Chicago, IL 60601

(312) 763-3822

About 2 blocks from Meadville Lombard

The Chicago Hotel Collection Millennium Park

55 E Washington St, Chicago, IL 60602

(312) 447-9697

About 4 blocks from Meadville Lombard

Club Quarters Hotel, Central Loop

111 W. Adams St, Chicago, IL 60603

(203) 905-2100

About 8 blocks from Meadville Lombard

Hampton Inn Chicago Downtown/N Loop/Michigan Ave

68 E Wacker Pl, Chicago, IL 60601

(312) 419-9014

About 3 blocks from Meadville Lombard

Hilton Garden Inn Chicago Downtown Riverwalk

66 E Wacker Pl, Chicago, IL 60601

(312) 920-6666

About 2 blocks from Meadville Lombard

Arlo Chicago

168 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60601

Phone (312) 346-1200

About a block from Meadville Lombard

River Hotel

75 E. Wacker Dr, Chicago, IL 60601

(312) 777-0990

About 3 blocks from Meadville Lombard

Staypineapple, An Iconic Hotel, The Loop

1 W Washington St, Chicago, IL 60602

(312) 940-7997

about 5 blocks from Meadville Lombard

HOSTEL

[Wrigley Hostel](#)

3514 N Sheffield Ave, Chicago, IL 60657,

(773) 598-4471

About 25 minutes away from Meadville Lombard via Red Line

[HI Chicago Hostel](#)

24 East Ida B. Wells Drive, Chicago, IL 60605

(312) 360-0300

About 3/4 mile (8 blocks), 10 minutes away from Meadville Lombard via Pink Line

Many students also utilize home sharing/renting sites like [AirBnB](#) and [HomeAway](#).

Things to Do in Chicago

We understand that you will be very busy with classes and hanging out with classmates when you are in Chicago, but if you are looking for something to take your mind off your education for a few hours, check out these suggestions below!

[10 Free Things to Do in Chicago Year-Round](#)

[Chicago Style on a Budget](#)

Suggestions from Meadville Faculty/Staff

- [Chicago Fire FC Game](#)
- [Chicago Architectural Center](#), namely Boat tour
- [Art Institute](#), butterflies at [the Nature Museum](#)
- [Promontory Point](#) and [Chicago Sky games](#)
- Going out in [North Halsted \(formerly "Boystown"\)](#), [Andersonville](#), and [Wicker Park](#)
- [Museum of Contemporary Art](#)
- [Lincoln Park](#), [Lincoln Park Zoo](#), [Chicago History Museum](#), [Henry B. Clarke House Museum / Garden](#), [Glessner House Museum](#), [South Side Community Art Center](#), [Jane Addams Hull House Museum](#), [Chicago Cultural Center](#)
- [Millennium Park](#), [Botanic Garden](#), [Lincoln Park Bird Sanctuary](#), Touring [1st UMC and going up to the Sky Chapel](#) looking out at the city, [DuSable Museum of African American History](#) (free admission on Sunday), [National Museum of Mexican Art](#)
- The [Green Mill](#) in uptown, live music 7 days a week and they now have a patio