

# CHICAGO

*An Insider's Perspective*



**SPONSORED BY**

**VMFA**

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

**SEPTEMBER 10-15, 2017**



# A World Apart

The story of travel involves more than a ticket and a passport. It should weave together discovery, education and humanity, the best elements of any compelling tale. Your personal travel story begins with our commitment to delivering authentic experiences with local people.

The incomparable value of your journey lies in the personalized care you receive from your Travel Director and the knowledge you gain from expert guides and lecturers, who call this area home.

By eliminating logistical worries, your Travel Director allows you to immerse yourself comfortably in your surroundings.

This high-caliber professional makes you feel safe and important by creating a convivial, welcoming atmosphere.

The other important characters in this story are the guides and lecturers, whose regional expertise shines in their insider perspective and commentary.

With these specialists at your side, become intimately engaged in Chicago's daily rhythms, adding another memorable chapter to the rich story of your life.

*Above: Buckingham Fountain, Grant Park  
Cover photo: Michigan Avenue*

## Inspiring Moments

- ▶ Study the fine details of treasured masterworks up close at the **Art Institute of Chicago**.
- ▶ Admire **the city's incredible architecture** towering above as you cruise along the Chicago River.
- ▶ Experience the Prairie School style brought to life at **Frank Lloyd Wright's home and studio**.
- ▶ Go behind the scenes at Chicago's opulent **Symphony Center**.
- ▶ See Chicago's skyline—and yourself—in the beautifully curved reflection of "Cloud Gate," or "The Bean," at **Millennium Park**.



# VMFA

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

## Dear VMFA Member

Join us on an enthralling journey as we delve into the architecture and art of Chicago! Learn the history and heritage of this storied metropolis as you visit its exceptional landmark buildings, museums and other points of interest with insider guides.

Spend five relaxing nights at the historic Palmer House Hilton, located in the heart of the city. This elegant hotel provides the perfect spot from which to explore Chicago's acclaimed restaurants and theaters, stylish shops and lovely lakefront.

Your expertly planned itinerary includes behind-the-scenes excursions and preferred access to popular attractions. Along with the security and ease of group travel, get an in-depth look at Chicago's local life through exclusive educational content.

Space is limited on this popular program, so please make your reservations without delay!

Sincerely,



Adele "Hutch" Livingston  
Coordinator of Member Travel  
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Foundation

**VMFA Foundation Travel 804-340-1519**

**AHI Travel 800-323-7373**

**[www.vmfa.museum](http://www.vmfa.museum)**

*Aerial view of Chicago River*





**S**leek skyscrapers, impressive museums, world-class restaurants and outstanding entertainment—Chicago has it all. With a stunning skyline, magnificent lakefront and verdant parkland, Chicago bustles with big-city appeal yet serves it all up with indisputable Midwestern charm. Immerse yourself in the city’s art and architectural scene as expert guides share fascinating insights during special excursions, including an architectural river cruise. Visit Oak Park to witness Frank Lloyd Wright’s revolutionary Prairie School creations. Tour the Art Institute of Chicago and ornate Orchestra Hall, home to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. All the while, relax in comfort at the famed Palmer House Hilton, long known for its luxury and service. Be captivated by Chicago’s many charms during this exclusive adventure!

#### DAY ONE

#### CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Depart for Chicago, Illinois. Upon arrival, transfer on your own to the Palmer House Hilton.

**Educational Focus: *Chicago—The Last of the Great American Cities.*** Gain insight into the colorful history of the Windy City as background for your explorations this week.

This evening, get to know your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception and Dinner at a downtown restaurant.

#### DAY TWO

#### CHICAGO | OAK PARK

**Educational Focus: *World Capital of Modern Architecture.*** After the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, architects from around the world flocked to the blank slate left behind. Learn how these visionaries rebuilt the city in the style that became known as the Chicago School of Architecture, and discuss the development of their signature structure, the skyscraper.

**Excursion: *Chicago’s Architectural Treasures.*** Relax as you admire the city’s architectural gems on a guided panoramic tour. See the neoclassical Wrigley Building and Tribune Tower; art deco masterpieces including the Civic Opera House and the Merchandise Mart; and Chicago School standouts such as the Reliance, the Rookery and the Carson Pirie Scott buildings. Snap perfect pictures of the city’s skyline from the lakefront museum campus, then take in the Gothic revival John D. Rockefeller Memorial Chapel and the University of Chicago’s quaint quad in Hyde Park.

**Local Flavor:** Take a break for a tasty lunch at an Oak Park restaurant.

**Excursion: *The Wright Way.*** Explore the painstakingly restored home and studio of Frank Lloyd Wright with an expert guide. The trailblazing architect and his team finetuned their Prairie School style in Oak Park, just outside the city. Unity Temple, Wright’s earliest

L

D





Chicago River



Old Water Tower

commissioned work, is considered one of the most innovative buildings of the 20th century. Tour this recently restored Unitarian church made of cast concrete before strolling along Forest Avenue to admire the largest grouping of Prairie School homes anywhere.

#### DAY THREE

L

#### CHICAGO

##### **Educational Focus and Excursion:**

**Art Institute of Chicago.** This preeminent institution, known for its collection of impressionist paintings and modern artworks, houses centuries of artistic creation. During an engaging talk, learn how its mix of celebrated masterpieces creates a transcendent art experience. Then view the impressive galleries

of this must-see museum with a docent.

**Local Flavor:** Enjoy lunch near the Art Institute.

##### **Excursion: *Chicago Symphony Center.***

Explore the home of the world-renowned Chicago Symphony Orchestra on a behind-the-scenes tour of Symphony Center and Orchestra Hall, the Georgian revival auditorium designed by Chicago School architect Daniel Burnham.

**Excursion: *Millennium Park.*** See how enchanting art enlivens Chicago's beloved public spaces as you visit the city's premier park. Gaze at Chicago's reshaped reflection in the mirror-like surface of Anish Kapoor's sculpture, "Cloud Gate," known locally as "The Bean." Stroll past Jaume Plensa's Crown Fountain and Frank Gehry's striking contributions: the pavilion with its ribbons of steel encircling the stage and the undulating pedestrian bridge that links the park to the lakefront.

#### DAY FOUR

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#### CHICAGO

**Excursion: *The Driehaus Museum.*** Be transported to the beauty of Chicago's Gilded Age as you tour this museum, once the private mansion of a 19th-century Chicago banker. In addition to original furnishings, the grand rooms contain an impressive collection of decorative and fine art pieces, including works by Louis Comfort Tiffany.

**Local Flavor:** Nosh on lunch at a famous Chicago deli.

Below: Paris Street; Rainy Day, Art Institute of Chicago



Carson Pirie Scott Building

**Excursion: Chicago River Architecture Cruise.** Marvel at the city's skyscrapers from a different vantage point onboard a cruise along the Chicago River. Discover fascinating details about the city's famous landmarks and the latest additions gracing the skyline.

**DAY FIVE**

**D**

**CHICAGO**

**Independent Exploration:** Today, pursue your own passions in Chicago. Head to the city's acclaimed attractions such as the Museum of Science and Industry, the Field Museum of Natural History, the Shedd Aquarium and the Lincoln Park Zoo; indulge in Chicago's delicious foodie culture at a hot-spot restaurant or on a food tour; or shop 'til you drop along Michigan Avenue.

This evening, join your fellow travelers for a Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

**DAY SIX**

**IN TRANSIT**

Transfer on your own to your departure airport for your return flight.

**Note:** Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Walking is required on many excursions, and surfaces may be uneven or unpaved.

*B/L/D* denotes included breakfasts, lunches and dinners.

**| INCLUDED FEATURES |**

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

(With baggage handling.)

- Five nights in Chicago, at the first-class Palmer House Hilton.

**MEALS**

- Three lunches and two dinners; tea or coffee included with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Sample authentic regional specialties at local restaurants.
- Attend a special Welcome Reception and Dinner.
- Gather for a Farewell Dinner.

**YOUR EXCITING TRAVEL PROGRAM**

- **Informative educational programs,** presented by local experts, will enhance your insight into the region.
- Tipping of excursion guides and drivers.
- **All excursions:**
  - See Chicago's wide-ranging architectural styles on a panoramic tour.
  - Study Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie School style in Oak Park.
  - Take in masterpieces at the Art Institute of Chicago.
  - Peek backstage at Symphony Center, home of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.
  - Stroll through delightful Millennium Park and gaze at your reflection in "The Bean."
  - Step back into the Gilded Age at the Driehaus Museum.
  - Cruise the Chicago River to admire the cityscape from a new perspective.



Palmer House Hilton



## AHI TRAVEL EXPERTISE

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

*Before you go:*

### ► TRAVEL CONSULTANTS |

These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they guide you through the reservation process.

### ► PASSENGER SERVICE

**REPRESENTATIVE** | Once you have reserved your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who will help you with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.

### ► TRAVEL INFORMATION |

Receive extensive destination information and travel tips compiled by our travel-savvy team to prepare you fully for your journey.

*Once you arrive:*

On the ground, three layers of top-quality professionals offer their insiders' perspective. From suggesting the best café or pub to sharing a laugh over the stories of the day, our dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level.

### ► TRAVEL DIRECTOR |

Throughout your journey, you will be in the care of a seasoned AHI travel professional who will manage all the logistics, allowing you to relax and simply soak up the ambience. Resourceful, knowledgeable and attentive, your Travel Director helps to ensure you enjoy an unforgettable travel experience.

### ► EXPERT GUIDES |

Who better to show you around than the people who live there? We've specially selected informed and enthusiastic local professional guides who understand the needs of our educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they're ready to share their passion for their city with you.

### ► LECTURERS |

Coming from all walks of life, our entertaining local lecturers open your eyes to history and current events. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.



## PALMER HOUSE HILTON

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



Our travel experts have carefully selected this first-class property, located within walking distance of Millennium Park and the Art Institute, as well as the theater and shopping districts. It is ideally situated for exploring the city's renowned landmarks, while providing opportunities to immerse yourself in local life. Of utmost importance is the quality of the services, amenities and accommodations, allowing you to enjoy your stay fully.

# Reserve your trip to Chicago today!

**Trip #:4-23224W**

Send to: Chicago~An Insider's Perspective  
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Foundation  
c/o AHI Travel  
International Tower-Suite 600  
8550 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60631

Please contact AHI Travel at **800-323-7373** with questions regarding this trip or to make a reservation.

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: (\_\_\_\_\_) Cell: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Sharing with \_\_\_\_\_ (Form sent separately.)

**I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:**

## Land Program and AHI FlexAir

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the round-trip AHI FlexAir to Chicago, Illinois, to depart from:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Departure City

- Please contact me regarding air options.  
 Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

## Land Program

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

## Single Accommodations

- I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$695 (limited availability).  
 I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by **June 27, 2017** (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

Requirement: VMFA Foundation travel opportunities are open to all members of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. For additional information about joining the museum, please call 804-340-1519.

Enclosed is a deposit of \_\_\_\_\_ (\$600 pp required) to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s).

- Accept my check made payable to **AHI Travel**.  
 Charge my:  MasterCard  Visa  Discover  Amex

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature as it appears on credit card)

**Please note:** Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

If you are interested in making independent travel arrangements before and/or after this program, please contact **AHI Travel** at **800-323-7373** no later than **60 days prior to departure** and they will be happy to assist you with your reservations. *A nonrefundable service fee and additional air/land charges based on reservations apply.*



# LAND PROGRAM

## September 10-15, 2017

Full Price

\$2,945

Special Savings

\$250

Special Price\*

\$2,695\*

\*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional \$695 (limited availability).

**ULTIMATE FLEXIBILITY**-The AHI Travel Passenger Protection Plan offers an **Any Reason Cancellation** feature. Don't worry! Travel happy!

**NOT INCLUDED**-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

**MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL**-The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

**AIR TRANSPORTATION**-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for arrival and departure transfers, and any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

**BAGGAGE**-Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

**AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS**-On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

**RESPONSIBILITY**-AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association do not own or operate any entity which provides goods or services for this program, and act only as agents for the independent suppliers of travel conveyance, transport, accommodations or other services. All such persons or entities are independent contractors. As a result, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not liable for any negligence or willful act of any such person or entity or any third person. In addition and without limitation, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not responsible for any delays, delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, death, damage or injury to person or property or accident, mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature whatsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services or for any substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment, with or without notice, or for any additional expenses occasioned thereby. Dates, Program Details and Tour costs, although given in good faith and based on tariffs, exchange rates and other information current at the time of printing, are subject to change at or before the time of departure. No revisions of the printed itinerary or its included features are anticipated; however, the right is reserved to make any changes, with or without notice, that might become necessary, with the mutual understanding that any additional expenses will be paid by the individual passenger. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. If the entire program is canceled for any reason, participants shall have no claim other than for a full refund. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers and accepts the terms of this contract set out herein and in more specific pre-departure passenger information. The airlines and other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The passage contract in use, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the company(ies) and the passenger and/or purchaser of this trip.

**CANCELLATION**-All cancellations for any reason will be subject to a \$250 per person administrative fee. You may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI Travel. **CANCELLATION OF TRIP OPTIONS**-Purchases of optional excursions, trip extensions and additional hotel nights become fully non-refundable 45 days prior to departure. Air transportation and private transfer purchases are subject only to penalties assessed by the airlines and transfer suppliers.

### Let us arrange your flights!

## September 10-15, 2017

✈ **AHI FlexAir** | Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- ▶ a **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- ▶ **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservations without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights
- ▶ **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays
- ▶ flight insurance worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms

**Travel stress-free with AHI FlexAir.**



Detail, Frank Lloyd Wright studio, Oak Park

All prices listed are in USD. Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined. CST Registration No. 2028271-20. Fla. Seller of Travel Reg. No. ST-33300. Iowa Seller of Travel No. 520. Ohio Seller of Travel Reg. No. 8889139. Washington State Seller of Travel Reg. No. 601-820-871. PARTICIPATING AIRLINES-all IATA and ARC Member Carriers ©2017 AHI Travel Printed in the USA.

VMFA Foundation Travel 804-340-1519

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www.vmfa.museum

# VMFA

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Foundation  
200 N. Boulevard  
Richmond, VA 23220-4007

CHICAGO17 518

**VMFA Foundation Travel 804-340-  
1519 AHI Travel 800-323-7373**  
**[www.vmfa.museum](http://www.vmfa.museum)**



*Navy Pier and Chicago's skyline*



**SMALL GROUP  
MAXIMUM OF  
28 TRAVELERS**

*Art Institute of Chicago*



**Experience the architecture, art and adventure of Chicago with expert guides!**

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**AHI Travel's** mission is to deliver inspirational educational and cultural travel programs that delight travelers.

***With AHI you can rely on:***

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



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