

self-guided tours

This guide offers some great suggestions for exploring campus at your own pace. Please note that some of these sites may be closed to the public due to COVID-19. Call ahead to ascertain hours and operation. Please follow appropriate social distancing measures, even while outside, and follow Chicago and Illinois state guidelines for safe conduct during the

IF YOU HAVE 1 HOUR . . .

MAIN QUAD

57th St. - 59th St.
Between S. University Ave. and S. Ellis Ave.
architecture.uchicago.edu

The centerpiece of the University of Chicago campus was designed in 1891 by famed Chicago architect Henry Ives Cobb. The Neo-Gothic style of the Quad lends itself to classrooms, laboratories, and libraries alike. Throughout the year, the Main Quad is the site of everything from quiet study and relaxation to the bustling Spring Convocation ceremony.

HARPER MEMORIAL LIBRARY READING ROOM

1116 E. 59th St. (3rd floor)
catheylearningcenter.uchicago.edu

Housed on the third floor of the neo-gothic William Rainey Harper Memorial Library, the Harper Reading Room is among the chief centers of academic life on campus. Underneath its barrel-vaulted ceiling, students think, study, and sleep in one of the most charming spaces on campus.

✓ **TIP:** Visit Plein Air Café, nestled inside of the new Seminary Co-op space, for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Be sure to enjoy coffee, European-inflected comfort food, and a French atelier-inspired atmosphere.

THE SEMINARY CO-OP BOOKSTORE

5751 S. Woodlawn Ave. (McGiffert House)
semcoop.com

The legendary Seminary Co-op opened over 50 years ago as an independent bookstore on the University of Chicago campus and instantly became a centerpiece of Hyde Park's intellectual and cultural life. The bookstore recently moved from the basement of the labyrinthine stacks of the Chicago Theological Seminary to a new space next door to the Robie House designed by architects Stanley Tigerman and Margaret McCurry.

IF YOU HAVE 4 HOURS . . .

BOTANY POND

57th St. (west of Hutchinson Court)

Located in the middle of campus, Botany Pond is the University's biodiversity hotspot, hosting a variety of animals including ducks, coy fish, four species of turtles, and a dozen species of dragonflies. For over a century, the pond has served as a tranquil outdoor study space and nexus of intellectual life on campus. As the legend goes, if a couple kisses on the bridge over Botany Pond, they are fated to get married.

ROCKEFELLER MEMORIAL CHAPEL

5850 S. Woodlawn Ave. (at E. 59th St.)
rockefeller.uchicago.edu/events

Rockefeller Memorial Chapel is a hub for ceremonies, theater, orchestral performances, chorus groups, concerts, and even circus acts. If you get a chance, make sure to walk up the 271 steps to the top of the chapel as part of the carillon tower tour. While there, enjoy the 360 degree views of Chicago, Lake Michigan, northern Indiana and the port, the Michigan shoreline, and of course, the University itself.

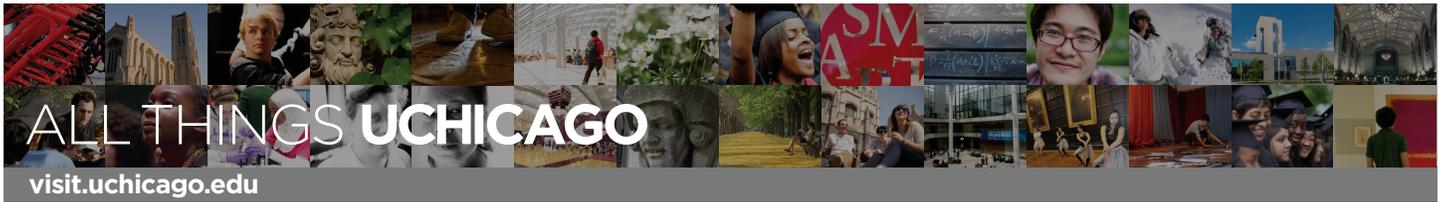
FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT'S ROBIE HOUSE

5757 S. Woodlawn Ave. (at E. 58th St.)
flwright.org/researchexplore/robiehouse

The purest expression of Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie Style architecture, Robie House was completed in 1910 and continues to be considered one of the most important buildings in the history of American architecture. Docent-led tours are available. Advance tickets are highly recommended.

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IF YOU HAVE 8 HOURS . . .

REVA AND DAVID LOGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS
915 E. 60th St. (between S. Ingleside Ave. and S. Drexel Ave.)
logancenter.uchicago.edu

The Logan Center is a hub for the arts on the UChicago campus. Designed by award winning architects Tod Williams and Billie Tsien, the 11-story building houses a performance hall, an experimental black-box theater, a gallery, unparalleled views of campus from the 10th floor DelGiorno Deck, and a café that features lunch and dinner options, wines and craft beers, and a full service espresso bar. Be sure to visit Logan's box office for tickets and information related to campus-wide performances and events or purchase tickets online at ticketsweb.uchicago.edu.

THE RENAISSANCE SOCIETY
5811 S. Ellis Ave. (Cobb Hall 418)
renaissancesociety.org

Don't be fooled by the name. The Renaissance Society is actually a contemporary art museum that presents cutting edge exhibitions, performances, films, readings, and much more. Founded in 1915 in an effort to encourage awareness of contemporary art, the Renaissance Society is one of the oldest modern art museums in the country and has displayed artists including Pablo Picasso, Diego Rivera, Mies van der Rohe, and René Magritte. Admission is free and is open 6 days a week (closed Mondays).

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE MUSEUM
1115 E. 58th St. (corner of E. 58th St. and S. University Ave.)
oi.uchicago.edu

Founded in 1919, the Oriental Institute has been one of the world's foremost centers for Near East research for almost 100 years. Its museum holds artifacts ranging from thin ivory carvings, mummies, and some of the world's earliest written records to a 40-ton human-headed winged bull statue out of an ancient Assyrian throne room. Upstairs, classrooms and offices continue to reform and refine our understanding of the ancient world. Admission is free with a suggested donation. Make sure to stop by the gift shop, The Suq, on your way out!

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER GALLERY
1100 E. 57th St. (inside the Regenstein Library)
lib.uchicago.edu

The Special Collections Research Center in the Regenstein Library is home to the University's rare books, manuscript collections, exhibits, and archives. Included are early editions of the English Bible, Austrian dramas that date to the 17th century, the printed works of composer Frédéric Chopin, and a collection of Soviet pamphlets. The Special Collections Research Center Gallery is free and open to the public.

 **TIP:** Stop by the ID and Privileges Office located in the Regenstein's first floor lobby for guest access to the Gallery.

NUCLEAR ENERGY SCULPTURE
On S. Ellis Ave. between E. 56th St. and E. 57th St. (just north of Mansueto Library)

The sculpture *Nuclear Energy*, designed by Henry Moore, commemorates the site where in 1942, underneath the former Stagg Field, Enrico Fermi and the Manhattan Project team created the world's first nuclear reactor and carried out the first ever self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction. Theories abound on what the sculpture represents. The most common include that this sculpture is a human skull or rather, an atomic mushroom cloud.

HARPER COURT
5235 S. Harper Ct. (on E. 53rd St. between S. Lake Park Ave. and S. Harper Ave.)
www.harpercourtchicago.com

Located along one of Hyde Park's primary retail corridors, Harper Court hosts a variety of restaurants and shops. Harper Court has already begun to brighten the area with restaurants such as Native Foods, a vegan restaurant featuring chef-crafted fresh meals, a movie theater, and a Hyatt Place hotel, opening Hyde Park to the outside world.

 **TIP:** Use the University's new 53rd St. Shuttle to get to Harper Court quickly and easily!

Share your experience

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