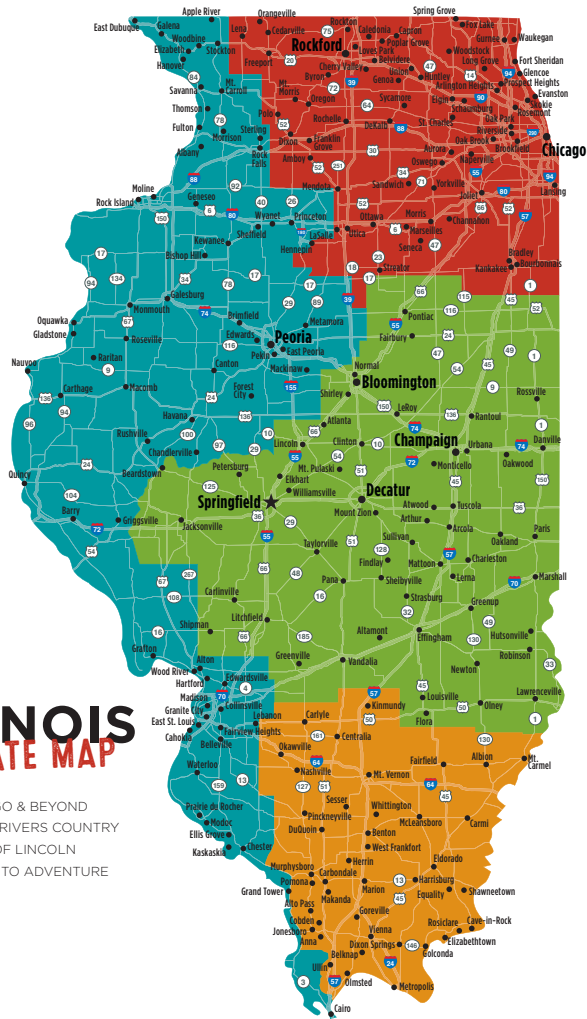




2024 PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS



ILLINOIS STATE MAP

- CHICAGO & BEYOND
- GREAT RIVERS COUNTRY
- LAND OF LINCOLN
- TRAILS TO ADVENTURE



Welcome, motorcoach and tour operator professionals! Here at Tour Illinois, we help take the stress out of planning your next tour in Illinois. Our seasoned and professional CVB members will assist you with submitting RFP's, booking sites & attractions and find the perfect group dining location. We are proud to offer local support every step of the way.



Heritage Corridor Destinations

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The Old Joliet Prison opened in 1858 and was built in an iconic castellated gothic architecture by W.W. Boyington using locally quarried Joliet limestone. By 1878, the Prison was over capacity with nearly 2,000 inmates. Reports of unsanitary and dangerous conditions emerged and by 1905, calls for the closure of the "old prison" were made, but it continued to house offenders until 2002, when it was finally closed by Governor George Ryan. The Old Joliet Prison is open seasonally for group tours conducted by trained staff.



Galena Country Tourism

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Galena's Historic Main Street has more than 125 shops and restaurants, one door after another so less time spent walking and searching. From candy and ice cream shops to spas, wine tasting and amazing dining options, this experience is downright surreal. It all happens along a 1800s street with original buildings and no bland or routine 'brand' shops. These shops are as diverse as the architecture and sights that can be seen while enjoying this easy walking environment.



Great Rivers and Routes

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Great Rivers & Routes is where the country's most iconic roadways - Route 66 and the Great River Road - connect to the confluence of the Mississippi, Missouri, and Illinois Rivers. At the intersection of heritage, culture, natural wonders, and adventure - experience towns like Grafton, where you can zip through the trees on Aeries Resort's Alpine Coaster or enjoy a leisurely scenic SkyTour, an aerial lift up the majestic limestone bluffs. With so much to explore - discover what makes the Great Rivers & Routes Region the adventure of a lifetime!



Visit Springfield

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"To this place, and the kindness of these people, I owe everything". Nearly two centuries after speaking these words, Springfield's most famous resident remains a revered icon and national treasure. Come visit the capitol city and learn of the man behind the historical figure that was our nation's 16th President. After visiting the state-of-the-art Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, you'll see this man and his life with fresh eyes. History comes alive as you explore Lincoln's home, law office, the old state capitol where he practiced law, and finally Abraham and his family's final resting place where you can pay tribute to his life and legacy.



Discover Downstate Illinois

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Discover Downstate Illinois (formerly known as ILLINOISouth Tourism) represents 21 counties spanning from the Mississippi River to the Vincennes River in southern Illinois. Home to Worldwide Technology Raceway, Discover Downstate plays host to countless races every year including the renowned Enjoy Illinois 300 Nascar Cup Series. While in Discover Downstate territory, experience record-breaking attractions while exploring Casey, find your new favorite brew when visiting local breweries and wineries, and get a taste of the outdoors as you experience hiking, biking, and more. Whether you're seeking adventure or your next family road trip, there's something for everyone when you Discover Downstate!



Aurora Area CVB

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Recently named one of the Top Ten Theatres in Chicago by the League of Chicago Theatres, the Paramount continues to provide world-class entertainment—including dance, music, Broadway-caliber theatre, and children's programming—for an annual audience of 150,000 patrons from over 250 communities. The Paramount also hosts free community events and its opulent interiors provide a spectacular backdrop for private functions such as wedding receptions or corporate galas.



Chicago's North Shore

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Nothing compares to the unsurpassed beauty and distinctive charm of Chicago's North Shore, bordering Chicago, along the glorious shores of Lake Michigan. The inviting communities are just minutes north of Chicago's city center and truly offer something for everyone! Let us help plan the perfect Group Get-A-Way: Illinois Holocaust Museum, Ravinia Music Festival, Northwestern University, World Class Shopping and Dining, Baha'i House of Worship, Critically Acclaimed Performing Arts, Charles Dawes House, Mural Tours, Chicago Botanic Gardens, Architectural Tours, Black Legacy Tours, a Step Back in Time historical tour and more. Your groups will enjoy the most picturesque region in Metropolitan Chicago!



Chicago Southland CVB

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Declared "The World's most perfect town," George Pullman created one of the first racially diverse industrial communities when he launched the Pullman Palace Car Company in 1867 to manufacture luxury sleeping train cars. At the Pullman National Historical Park, groups will experience the interactive exhibits at the Administration Clock Tower Building, explore the factory grounds and tour Pullman homes. While in the historic district, groups can also see Hotel Florence, Greenstone Church and visit the A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum, which celebrates the contributions of Porters and the experiences of the African American railroad worker.



Experience DeKalb County

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DeKalb County's roots run deep in the rich farmland that is part of the landscape of our heritage and history. Check out our self-guided Barn Quilt Tours or our wide-open spaces which provide visitors with endless exploration and recreation. Enjoy the sunset at Whiskey Acres, our seed-to-spirit distillery, or enjoy one of our many other Bold Spirit options. We're home to Northern Illinois University and their D1 sports teams, alongside the thriving arts and culture scene.



Discover DuPage

Contact:
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Welcome to DuPage County! This 500-acre park offers vast display gardens, picnic grounds, the First Division Museum, and a top-ranked 27-hole public golf course. The property is the former home of Robert R. McCormick, long-time editor, and publisher of the Chicago Tribune. His landmark former home, McCormick House, is available for civic gatherings and private receptions. Throughout the year, Cantigny Park stages a wide variety of programs and events, such as festivals, garden tours, lectures, concerts, and workshops. The Visitors Center features a theater, Bertie's Cafe, meeting rooms, and Le Jardin, a full-service banquet facility.



Greater Freeport/ Stephenson County

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Be a Trailblazer in Freeport & Stephenson County! What unique sites are waiting to be discovered? Forge your own path to places off the normal monotony of the highway routine – explore and marvel at the beauty and opportunity of northwest Illinois. Home to the "Freeport Doctrine" at the Lincoln-Douglas Debate, the little Wrigley replica of Little Cubs Field, antique carousel at Krape Park or the 50's-style diner of Union Dairy, there is a destination where memories will be made. Find travel at your own pace in Freeport & Stephenson County - Where every trip will remind you why the two-lane is the best way to travel.



Lake County

Contact:
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The opulent Sanfilippo Estate is a hidden gem and is perfect for mystery tours. Our heart-warming Lambs Farm is featured in our "Chocolate Lovers Trail" as well as new "Cookies, Cocktails and Cannoli". Experience trains and private gardens at Wandering Tree Estate. See stars under the stars at Ravinia Festival; stuff your own monkey plus view the World's Largest Collection of hand-made monkeys at the Sock Monkey Museum in Historic Downtown Long Grove.



Visit Oak Park

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Just 10 miles from downtown Chicago, Oak Park, is a can't miss destination for your groups. Oak Park is a charming village where modern and historical charm collide. Home to the world's largest concentration of Frank Lloyd Wright designed structures and the birthplace of Nobel Prize winning author Ernest Hemingway, Oak Park boasts a variety of restaurants and, unusual one-of-a-kind boutiques. We look forward to planning your unique experience in Oak Park.



Go Rockford

Contact:
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Rockford invites you to check out Anderson Japanese Gardens- is continually ranked as one of the top Japanese gardens in the United States! Frank Lloyd Wright's Laurent House is another great stop considered by Frank Lloyd Wright himself as one of his masterworks, the house was originally build for a disabled World War II veteran. Midway Village has the Rockford Peaches exhibit, Coronado Theater and Starlight Theater are ready to entertain and local midwest restaurant flare will be sure to impress. We will customize group tours-make perfume, cooking class, enjoy Swedish pancakes or we are ready to work within a theme!



Visit Quad Cities

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Get Your Green On! Catch the amazing vibe of this historic destination on the Mississippi River and discover the world of John Deere. Celebrate the evolution from horse-drawn to horsepower at our nationally and internationally recognized John Deere attractions like the John Deere Pavilion. Get a behind-the-scenes look at Combines being made at John Deere Harvester Works and visit the Butterworth Center and Deere Wiman House to learn about the Deere descendants that lived there, their desire for modern comforts and willingness to lead the community toward new technologies. This is John Deere Country and we would love for you to join us!



Visit Pontiac, IL

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Pontiac is a very popular destination that is home to The Illinois Route 66 Museum as well as 3 additional museums, 6 exhibits, and Bob Waldmire's Road Yacht - all of which offer donation only admission. Pontiac has a fabulous collection of 28 outdoor painted murals. Let us schedule a Murals on Main Street Tour via our Jolly Trolley for your group. Visit our Looking for Lincoln and Route 66 heritage sites and take a walk across one of our unique swinging pedestrian bridges.



Experience Champaign Urbana

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We invite you to slow down and enjoy life's simple pleasures just south of Champaign County as you enter the Amish Country in Tuscola and Arthur, the oldest and largest settlement in Illinois. You've arrived when horse-drawn buggies join you on the road, or you see many people out on bicycles, traveling to work or to the store. These slower modes of transportation are just some of the visual representations that show you're surrounded by a different culture. The people of Amish Country will also usher you into a different mindset. From the woodworkers to bakers to farmers, you'll meet the kindest individuals, ready to welcome you into their world.