A Girl's Guide to Moving to Chicago

Moving to Chicago? That's so exciting! You will love it here! You can use this checklist to help you plan your move to the big city.



Put together a monthly budget

- [ ] rent
- [ ] utitlies
- [ ] food
- [ ] living expenese
- [ ] car (if you bring one to the city)
- [ ] additional bills or debt

Explore a few of Chicago's most popular neighborhoods (at least three)

- [ ] South Loop/Printers Row
- [ ] River North/Gold Coast/Streeterville
- [ ] Old Town
- [ ] Lincoln Park
- [ ] Lake
- [ ] Wicker Park
- [ ] Logan Square
- [ ] West Loop

Make a list of pros and cons about each neighborhoods explored and what neighborhood amenities are a must.

- [ ] grocery store
- [ ] close to public transportation
- [ ] restaurants, bars, and coffee shops nearby
- [ ] nightlife
- [ ] theatre and movie theaters
- [ ] neighborhood vibe
- [ ] close to downtown
- [ ] quiet or more lively

Narrow your choice down to two neighborhoods and plan a day in each one.

- [ ] have coffee in a coffee shop
- [ ] walk around the streets
- [ ] eat brunch, lunch, or dinner
- [ ] building ameneties

Make a list of what you would like to your apartment to include

- [ ] high rise
- [ ] three-flat
- [ ] mid-rise
- [ ] dishwasher
- [ ] in-unit laundry
- [ ] doorman

Find a realtor to help with your apartment search

- [ ] give your neighborhood and apartment "wish list" and neighborhoods you like to your realtor

Find your apartment

- [ ] ask what is required to move in to the apartment

Figure out your work commute options

- [ ] bus
- [ ] train
- [ ] bike
- [ ] drive or take an Uber or Lyft

Once you move in, further explore your neighborhood and also start exploring the city. Remember to have fun! You are now living in one of the best cities in the world!

- [ ] For more about moving to Chicago, read my guide https://girlsguidechicago.com/girls-guide-moving-chicago/