

**Chicago Travel Itinerary, Family of 4: 6 days/6 nights**  
**March 15<sup>th</sup>-March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019**

**\*Denote the Chicago St. Patrick's festivities dates vary from year to year, due to always liking to have the Chicago River Dyeing and Parade over a weekend. Check out this site:**

<https://www.choosechicago.com/articles/holidays/st-patricks-day-chicago/>

**Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**

- Flight from Denver, CO (DIA) to Chicago, IL (MDW), via Southwest Airlines, direct flight 7am departure, 10:20 am landing. [www.southwest.com](http://www.southwest.com) & [Chicago Midway Airport](#)
- We utilized this shuttle service from Midway to downtown Chicago since there were 4 of us. The price was reasonable for a family of 4: \$50, plus tip. [Go Airport Express Shuttle](#). \*You can take the train from Midway Airport to downtown Chicago, I have done this in the past when traveling on my own. Very easy and convenient, if by yourself or a few you and kids are older.
- Lunch at [Devil Dawgs](#) and of course getting Chicago Dogs!
- Arrive at [Chicago Downtown Hilton](#), the rates for staying at this hotel were really reasonable, surprisingly. Probably because it was during a shoulder season of visiting Chicago during March. The rates go up in later spring and summer and during busy Christmas Holiday season. This hotel was great for our family, since it was in the middle of most everything, we wanted to see in the downtown Chicago area. Bonus, several movies were filmed in this hotel: ***The Fugitive, Road to Perdition & My Best Friend's Wedding*** to name a few.
- Another Hilton property to visit is the beautiful [Palmer House](#), originally built in 1871, fell victim to the big Chicago Fire just days after of the grand opening. The new hotel was built in 1873 and is celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. I stayed in this property back in 2000 & 2001 while attending the Midwest Band & Orchestra Clinic for my sorority, Tau Beta Sigma. It is usually more expensive to stay in this property, but it is definitely worth walking through the lobby, going to the bar for a drink, it is beautiful!
- Dinner at [Kitty O'Sheas](#)! Hey we are in town for the St. Patty's festivities and when in Rome?! My kids surprising loved this pub, family friendly and great eat and drinks for Mom & Dad.
- Turn in for an early bedtime, we have a big day ahead of us: The St. Patty's day parade and a lot of time of on our feet and walking around down to enjoy the festivities.

**Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**

- Breakfast stops at Starbucks on the [Magnificent Mile](#), aka walking down Lake Michigan Ave towards the Chicago River at DuSable Bridge. In the morning, around 10am we watched the river being turned green to kick off the [St. Patrick's Day festivities](#) in Chicago.
- [St. Patrick's Parade](#), kickoff at 12:30pm. Duration about 2-3 hours.
- After Parade, head over to [Willis \(formerly Sears\) Tower](#), which is an amazing experience with beautiful views. \*We used our City Pass for this entrance fee.
- We utilized [City Pass](#) for all of our Chicago Attractions! A great way to see several attractions in a city and save on entrance fees, if you and your family is visiting for the first or 2<sup>nd</sup> time or just want to hit the main attractions. You can save on avg \$50 per person on entrance fees, if indeed you were planning to hit several of the main attractions in the city.
- Dinner, deep dish pizza at [Giordano's!](#)

### **Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**

- [Architecture River Cruise](#) with Shoreline Sightseeing Cruises, \*Seasonal Tours, opens in March, closes in winter months.
- [Chicago Children's Museum](#)
- [Navy Pier](#) & [Centennial Wheel at Navy Pier](#) \*City Pass
- Dinner at [D4 Irish Pub & Cafe](#) with The McCambridge Family

### **Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**

- [Big Bus Tours](#)
- [Shedd Aquarium](#) \*City Pass
- Walk thru at The Palmer House, see above for info
- [The Signature Lounge](#) at The John Hancock Building

### **Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**

- Breakfast at [Chicago Waffle](#)
- [Adler Planetarium](#) \*City Pass
- [The Field Museum](#) \*City Pass
- [Chicago Bean](#)
- Dinner with our friend Alli at [Italian Village](#)

### **Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**

- [Museum of Science & Industry](#) \*City Pass
- Dinner at [Chicago Fire House](#)

### **Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>**

- Departure: Shuttle pick up with Go Express Shuttle to Midway Airport. Flight time 11:30am, direct flight to Denver, arrival ~1:05pm.