



insider's guide

Have you ever wondered what Hyde Park does for fun? Sure you have! For a true taste of Hyde Park and its surrounding neighborhoods, check out these not-to-be-missed South Side gems.

PROMONTORY POINT

5491 S. South Shore Dr.

chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/Burnham-Park/

If you are looking for a great view of the lake and the Chicago skyline, or maybe just a calming place to sit and read, Promontory Point is the site to visit. A great destination for picnics, sunsets, and people-watching, "The Point" is located on Chicago's Lake Front Trail, which stretches south to 95th Street and all the way north to Navy Pier.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO CAMPUS BOTANY

botanicgarden.uchicago.edu

While the entire campus is classified as a botanical garden, Botany Pond is a good place to start. Located at the entrance to UChicago's main quad, this pond is home to several coy fish and ducks. Campus gems also include the midway gardens across from the President's residence and a visit to the greenery of the quadrangles.

HYDE PARK RECORDS

1377 E. 53rd St.

Hyde Park Records is a fun Chicago record store right here in Hyde Park. The friendly, very knowledgeable staff loves helping customers navigate the Chicago blues and jazz archives. Make sure to stop in to say hello and possibly purchase some cool tunes!

NUCLEAR ENERGY SCULPTURE

On S. Ellis Ave. between E. 56th St. and E. 57th St.

publicart.uchicago.edu

To find "Where the end of the world began," as some on campus have taken to calling it, look for the statue on Ellis Avenue between 56th and 57th Streets. It marks the spot where Enrico Fermi directed a team of scientists as they created the world's first self-sustaining nuclear reaction in 1942. Their work, as part of the Manhattan Project would, of course, prove vital in helping end World War II just a few years later.

VALOIS RESTAURANT

1518 E. 53rd St.

valoisrestaurant.com

President Obama's favorite breakfast spot! They serve classic soul food for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Get this: they serve breakfast all day! If you forget cash for this cash-only establishment, worry not, there is an ATM inside.

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE LIBRARY

1155 E. 58th St.

Although Harper Memorial Library tends to attract more tourists and studiers alike, the Oriental Institute is home to a smaller, but just as beautiful reading room. Once inside, head up the stone steps to the second floor and take a right. Open 10am-5pm.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PUB

1212 E. 59th St.

Ida Noyes Hall, lower level

leadership.uchicago.edu/orcsas-pub


Long gone are the days of indoor smoking and 50-cent cans of PBR, but "The Pub," as it's known on campus, maintains its status as a reliably fun place for students and faculty alike. There's an extensive bottle list, but the really good stuff is on tap—every day, the Pub pours selections of Midwestern microbrews. Have a burger or brat (on a pretzel roll!), or come Mondays for cheap wing baskets and \$8 pitchers of cheap American beer. Be sure to come with a University associate, though—membership is restricted, but guests can tag along for a \$3 cover.

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.

 **TIP:** Be sure to check out the South Side Weekly for more information on neighborhood events and happenings at southsideweekly.com.

Share your experience

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1 PROMONTORY POINT
5491 S. South Shore Dr. (off-map)

2 BOTANY POND
57th St. (south of Hull Gate)

3 HYDE PARK RECORDS
1377 E. 53rd St. (off-map)

4 NUCLEAR ENERGY SCULPTURE
S. Ellis Ave. between E. 56th St. and E. 57th St.

5 VALOIS RESTAURANT
1518 E. 53rd St. (off-map)

6 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PUB
1212 East 59th St., Ida Noyes Hall, lower level

7 THE SEMINARY CO-OP BOOKSTORE
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8 ORIENTAL INSTITUTE LIBRARY
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