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Bank of America Chicago Marathon - 11-Oct-2026

Take the next step on your Abbott World Marathon Majors journey with the Chicago Marathon—one of the world's most iconic races, bringing together elite and recreational runners from all 50 U.S. states and over 100 countries. Renowned for its electric atmosphere and famously fast, flat course, the marathon winds through Chicago's 29 vibrant neighbourhoods before culminating in a spectacular finish at Grant Park. It's a course built for personal bests and has witnessed some of the greatest performances in marathon history like Kelvin Kiptum's world-record time of 2:00:35 in 2023.

As the Official Tour Operator, Active Holiday Company offers carefully-curated travel packages ensuring a seamless and stress-free race weekend. From the moment you arrive until you cross the finish line, we'll take care of the logistics so you can focus on enjoying every step of this unforgettable marathon experience.

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival in Chicago

To make the most of your Chicago Marathon experience and ensure you're well rested before race day, we recommend arriving in Chicago no later than 3:00 PM. Upon arrival, make your own way from the airport to the hotel, where you'll have time to settle in before attending a trip briefing at 4:00 PM. The remainder of the afternoon is yours to explore the Windy City at your own pace. If you haven't already done so, be sure to visit the Abbott Health & Fitness Expo to collect your race bib before it closes at 6:00 PM. If time permits, you may also wish to visit some of Chicago's iconic attractions, such as the Art Institute of Chicago, or spend the evening soaking up the city's legendary music scene at one of its renowned jazz bars.

Meal: None

Day 2: Orientation Walk and Architecture Cruise

After breakfast, join us at 8:30 AM for an orientation walk to familiarise yourself with the Chicago Marathon start and finish areas, helping you feel confident and prepared for race day. In the afternoon, we'll experience one of the city's most popular attractions—the Chicago Architecture Cruise. As you glide along the Chicago River, you'll discover the stories behind the city's world-famous skyline, passing architectural icons such as the John Hancock Center, Willis Tower (formerly the Sears Tower), and the striking Tribune Tower. Later in the evening, we'll regroup for a trip briefing at 8:00 PM, where we'll go over important race-day information and answer any last-minute questions.

Meal: None

Day 3: Optional 5K and Free Time

Start the morning with an easy run to loosen the legs before race day. At 7:30 AM, runners registered for the Chicago 5K will make their way to the start, while everyone else is welcome to enjoy their own relaxed shake-out run around the city. Afterward, return to the hotel at your convenience, either on foot or by bus. The remainder of the day is yours to enjoy—explore more of Chicago, make a final visit to the Abbott Health & Fitness Expo if needed, or simply relax and recharge in preparation for tomorrow's marathon.

Meal: None

Day 4: Race Day!

Race day has arrived! Known for its flat, fast course, the marathon starts and finishes in iconic Grant Park, taking you through the heart of one of the world's great cities. Celebrate with a post-race after party at a local bar (drinks not included).

Meal: Early take-away breakfast

Day 5: Departure

After ticking a World Marathon Major off your bucket list, it's time to head home. Please make your own way to the airport for your onward journey.

Meal: None

INCLUSIONS

- Guaranteed race entry
- 14-week training plan by international coaches
- Stay at an unbeatable location minutes from the start and finish lines
- Networking Chicago Architecture Cruise
- Race-day early breakfast
- Complimentary tea/coffee at the Club Lounge
- One-way transfer to the Expo
- Orientation shake-out run to the start and finish line
- Active Holiday Company T-shirt
- On-Ground support
- Detailed travel documents

EXCLUSIONS

- The cost of flights, visas, passport, insurance is not included in the tour price unless stated otherwise
- Any meals not mentioned under inclusions are at your own expense
- Single rooms and optional tours and extra nights cost extra
- Arrival and departure transfers are not included in your tour price
- Excess baggage, portorage, laundry, phone calls, alcoholic beverages are considered personal

expenses and not included in your tour price

- GST, VAT, and other taxes as applicable in India are additional to the tour price

Event Details

Speciality

- World Marathon Major
- Flat and fast record-breaking course
- Run through 29 vibrant neighborhoods
- Unmatched spectator energy and support
- Iconic finish in Grant Park

Events (Distances & Date)

42.2 km | 11 Oct 2027

Race Start and Finish

Grant Park

Start Time

Wave 1 - 7:35 AM

Wave 2 - 8:00 AM

Wave 3 - 8:35 AM

Cut-Off Time

6 hours 30 mins

Course Map

[Official Course Map](#)

Weather

Mild and comfortable race conditions, with temperatures typically ranging between 6°C – 17°C.

Expo Location

[McCormick Place](#)

Expo Dates and Timings

8th Oct '26 (Thurs): 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM*

9th Oct '26 (Fri): 09:00 AM to 06:00 PM*
10th Oct '26 (Sat): 09:00 AM to 06:00 PM*

*Subject to change

Payment Terms

DEPOSIT

Runner: INR 75,000

Companion: INR 25,000

Please read the conditions to know the non-refundable part of your payment.

FINAL PAYMENT DUE DATE

On or before 30 June 2026

Travel Tips

Treat yourself to a classic Chicago deep-dish pizza

Thick, cheesy, and packed with flavour, it's a must-try. If you can, compare it with the city's equally loved tavern-style thin crust.

Explore beyond Downtown

Chicago is a city of neighbourhoods. Wander Wicker Park for indie cafés and boutiques, Pilsen for incredible Mexican food and vibrant murals, or West Loop for some of the city's best restaurants.

Walk or cycle the Lakefront Trail

Stretching for miles along Lake Michigan, this scenic path offers beaches, skyline views, and a chance to see how Chicagoans spend their free time.

Catch live blues or jazz after dinner

Chicago's music scene is legendary. End your day in an intimate blues club or historic jazz venue for an authentic taste of the city's cultural soul.

Booking Conditions

DEPOSIT

- To confirm your booking, a non-refundable deposit of INR 75,000 per person (with race entry) and INR 25,000 per person (without race entry) is required.

- Bookings without payment within 72 hours are auto-cancelled.
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FINAL PAYMENT

- Full payment is due on or before 30 June 2026.
 - Please ensure you set a reminder on your calendar since we do not follow up for payments individually.
 - Bookings without final payments are auto-cancelled.
 - Race registrations are sent only after we have received your final payment.
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CANCELLATION POLICY

FOR RUNNERS WITH RACE ENTRY

- Cancel on or before 30 Jun 2026 - Non-refundable deposit
- Cancel on or after 01 Jul 2026 - 100% cancellation fee

STAY ONLY - RUNNERS WITH OWN RACE ENTRY

- Cancel on or before 30 Jun 2026 - INR 10,000
- Cancel on or after 01 Jul 2026 - 100% cancellation fee

STAY ONLY - NON-RUNNING COMPANIONS

- Cancel on or before 30 Jun 2026 - No charge
 - Cancel between 01 Jul 2026 and 15 Aug 2026 - 30% cancellation fee
 - Cancel on or after 16 Aug 2026 - 50% cancellation fee
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TRANSFER & DEFERRAL

- In the case of a booking with race entry included, your non-refundable deposit is specifically for the trip and the year that you have booked.
 - Unless the rules of the event permit deferral to another year or a transfer to / replacement for another participant with or without a fee, your non-refundable deposit cannot be applied to another event or year, even if Active Holiday Company is the official travel partner for the event.
 - Bookings without race entry included can be transferred as per policy applicable to the booking.
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OTHER CONDITIONS

- All costs exclude GST 5% and 2% TCS
- All digital payments, including UPI, attract a 3% Platform Fee. Partial payments will be charged the fee to the extent that is paid via the digital platform. To avoid the 3% please arrange a direct bank transfer
- Our prices are per person. Even if you have booked a single room for your exclusive use it is mandatory to pay for all your travel companions
- The use of any service, including hotel services, by anyone who is not a paid participant is strictly prohibited
- Active Holiday Company reserves the right to amend prices if the currency fluctuates more than 5%
- Entries are available on a first-come, first-served basis
- Please do not apply for a slot with us and with the lottery before the ballot results are out. You will get charged twice and neither of the payments will be refunded
- Please note we hold limited rooms for our group and adding a companion later is subject to availability
- Use and promotion of competitor brands, products and logos - specifically of any company involved in selling marathon trips is strictly prohibited on all Active Holiday Company trips. This can result in your

removal from our trip without any refund and refusal on future trips

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