

# Blown Away by *Christmas* in the Windy City



Thursday, December 26

**Work:** 3:30 **Home:** 4:00 **Leave:** 4:15

**Comfort Inn** - 29235 Buckingham St, Livonia, MI 48154

T: 4:20 (plus border crossing) D: 4:16 A: 9:15

Friday, December 27

**Wake :** 7:15 Breakfast at the hotel **Leave:** 8:15

**Historic Adventist Village** - Tour is at 10:00. I suspect that it is free. It is a tour in the Seventh Day Adventist. Reservations have already been made.

T: 1:36 D: 168 A: 10:00 S: 90 L: 11:30

**Battle Creek Welcome Center** - Return to town (a very short distance). Hopefully this welcome centre is open. There is a cereal exhibit located here. Maybe get brochures too.

T: short A: 11:40 S: 30 L: 12:10

**Rocket Fizz - Soda Pop and Candy Shop** - Large selection of pop. Get a few for the road.

T: 33 D: 38 A: 12:45 S: 25 L: 1:10

**Illinois Rock & Roll Museum on Route 66** - Free with NARM!

T: 2:33 D: 255 A: (time zone) 2:40 S: 2:20 (closes at 5:00) L: 5:00

**Walmart** - Get supper stuff for the next 3 days.

**Pizza Ranch** - FINALLY, we return to this location!!!

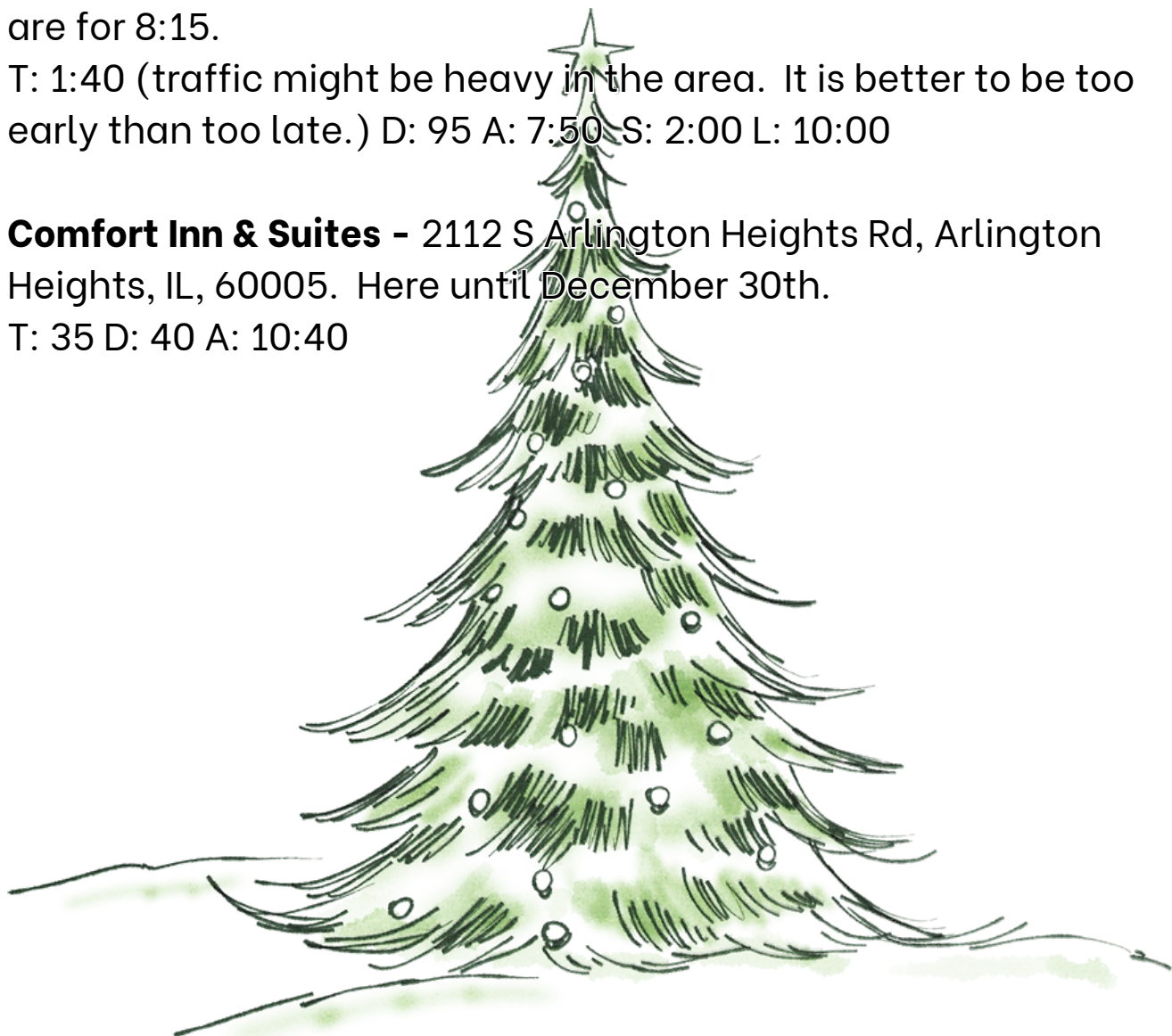
T: 20 D: 11 A: 5:20 S: 50 L: 6:10

**Lightscape at Chicago Botanic Garden** - Tickets and parking passes are in the email. The lights stay on until 11:00. Tickets are for 8:15.

T: 1:40 (traffic might be heavy in the area. It is better to be too early than too late.) D: 95 A: 7:50 S: 2:00 L: 10:00

**Comfort Inn & Suites** - 2112 S Arlington Heights Rd, Arlington Heights, IL, 60005. Here until December 30th.

T: 35 D: 40 A: 10:40



# Saturday, December 28

**Wake:** 7:40 Breakfast at the hotel **Leave:** 8:40

**Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe** - The gift shop opens at 9:00. I hope the shrine is open to view. There is a grotto on site, as well. If it is too early, there is a cemetery nearby.

T: 20 D: 10 A: 9:00 S: 45 L: 9:45

**Queen of All Saints Basilica** - Uncertain if it is open. There are tours, but will the doors be open today. This location is en route to our next destination so it is worth trying.

T: 31 D: 17 A: 10:15 S: 25 L: 10:40

**St Mary Of The Angels Catholic Church** - Confession is at 10:00. Maybe by the time we get there, the church is still open.

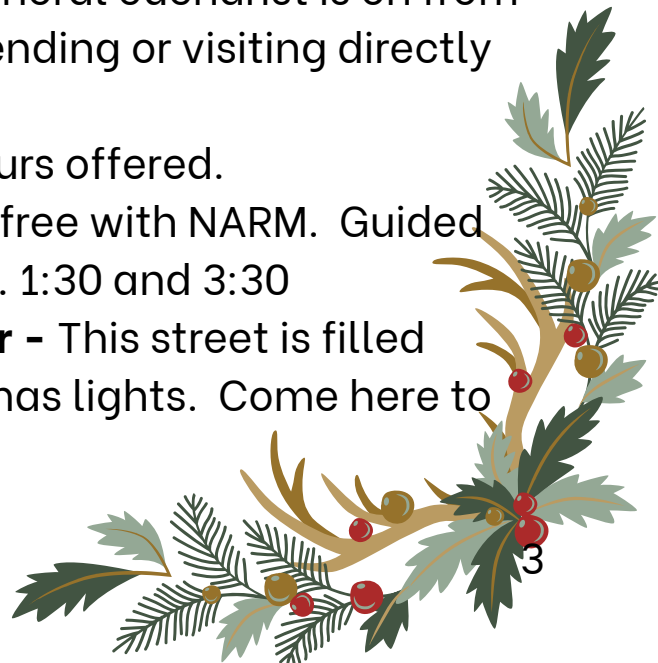
T: 20 D: 13 A: 11:00 S: 20 L: 11:20

## **Find parking at 16 E Huron St, Chicago**

T: 13 D: 6 A: 11:40

## **Walking tour of the Magnificent Mile:**

- **St. James Cathedral, Chicago** - A choral eucharist is on from 11:00 to 12:15. Maybe consider attending or visiting directly after to see the inside.
- **Holy Name Cathedral** - possible tours offered.
- **The Richard H. Driehaus Museum** - free with NARM. Guided tours are \$5 extra. Offered at 11:30. 1:30 and 3:30
- **The Magnificent Mile Visitor Center** - This street is filled with shopping and at night, Christmas lights. Come here to see what they have.



- **Fourth Presbyterian Church** - typically closed on Saturdays, but worth the try.
- **Chicago Cultural Center** - Free entry and events. It's worth popping in.
- **American Writers Museum** - Free with NARM. Closes at 5:00.
- **Design Museum of Chicago** - Free entry. Contemporary art. Closes at 5:00.
- **Mindworks: The Science of Thinking** - Free. Closes at 5:00. 30 to 60 minutes to visit.
- **Museum of Contemporary Photography** - Free. Closes at 5:00.
- **Macy's** - Christmas tree in the Walnut room. Closes at 9:00
- **Cloud Gate** - An iconic bean-shaped sculpture.
- **Millennium Park** - Lights display once it gets dark (sunset 4:30).
- **Navy Pier** - Other Christmas light displays.
- **Magnificent Mile** - This area will also be lit up nicely as we walk back to the car.
- **Garrett Popcorn Shop** - Hopefully, this will compare to Mary's.

Return to **Hotel**

T: 1:00 D: 40



# Sunday, December 29

**Wake:** 8:00 Yesterday was exhausting. Sleep in today.  
Breakfast at the hotel. **Leave:** 9:00

**National Museum of Mexican Art** - Free with NARM. Opens at 10. If early, do murals in the area.  
T: 1:15 D: 50 A: 10:15 S: 2:45 L: 12:00

**Mural Tour of this area** - There are many murals in this community. Check them out.  
S: 90 L: 1:30

**Garfield Park Conservatory** - The Greenhouses are open. Admission is free with AHS. There is free parking on site. Unfortunately, we are unable to make reservations. Hopefully, we can still get in.  
T: 15 D: 8 A: 1:45 S: 30 L: 2:15

**Leaning Tower of Niles** - Why go to Pisa when you can go here. Park in the grocery store parking lot beside this location. Go into grocery first to see what they have for lunch or supper before we head to our final destination of the day.  
T: 35 D: 21 A: 2:50 S: 40 L: 3:30

If we're really early, check out part of **Skokie Northshore Sculpture Park**.

**Lincoln Park Zoo Lights** - Tickets are in email. Get there early to assure parking. Sunset is 4:30 and our tickets are for 4:30.  
T: 30 D: 20 A: 4:00 S: as long as we want.

**Hotel**  
T: 45 D: 35



# Monday, December 30

**Wake:** 8:30 Sleep in today. Breakfast at the hotel. **Leave:** 9:20

**Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center** - Free with NARM. Opens at 10:00. Parking on site.

T: 34 D: 20 A: 9:50 S: 2:00 L: 12:00

**Skokie Northshore Sculpture Park** - Over 60 sculptures. About 5 KM of walking. Three possible parking locations.

T: 12 D: 6 A: 12:15 S; 2:00 L: 2:15

**Best Western Plus Kalamazoo Suites** - 2575 S 11th St, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

T: 3:00 D: 258 A: 6:15 (time zone change)



# Tuesday, December 31

**Wake:** 8:10 Breakfast at the hotel **Leave:** 9:00

**Air Zoo Aerospace and Science Museum** - Free with our NARM.

Opens at 9:00.

T: 12 D: 13 A: 9:15 S: 2:00 L: 11:15

**Harvey's** - Our go-to.

T: 4:00 (plus what is probably a nightmare of a border crossing)

D: 424 A: 3:45 S: 30 L: 4:15

**Home** - Where we live

T: 2:10 D: 171 A: 6:30

