

# Andersonville & Uptown

## Neighborhood Top Five

**1 Clark Street** Ambling along this busy thoroughfare, popping into funky shops by day and drinking and dining in gastronomic taverns at night.

**2 Green Mill** (p133) Listening to jazz and sipping martinis with Al Capone's

ghost in velvet booths amid candlelit, art-deco decor.

**3 Argyle Street** (p127) Slurping pho and bubble tea in the steamy-windowed shops of 'Little Saigon.'

**4 Neo-Futurists** (p133) Watching 30 plays in 60 minutes at this offbeat

theater, where a dice throw determines your admission cost.

**5 Montrose Beach** (p134) Exploring the dunes and bird-filled 'magic hedge,' or lounging at the bar while watching sailboats float in the harbor.



For more detail of this area see Map p302 ➔

## Lonely Planet's Top Tip

In addition to serving some of the neighborhood's best food, Hopleaf (p129) and Acre (p132) are fantastic beer bars. Stop in before dinner and enjoy a strong Trappist ale or an unusual microbrew. At Acre you can supplement with \$1.50 oysters.



### Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Hopleaf (p129)
- ➔ Big Jones (p129)
- ➔ Tiztal Cafe (p127)
- ➔ Hot G Dog (p128)
- ➔ Swedish Bakery (p128)

For reviews, see p127 ➔



### Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Simon's (p132)
- ➔ Hamburger Mary's (p132)
- ➔ Big Chicks (p132)
- ➔ Crew (p132)
- ➔ SoFo Tap (p132)

For reviews, see p132 ➔



### Best Entertainment

- ➔ Green Mill (p133)
- ➔ Neo-Futurists (p132)
- ➔ Paper Machete (p133)
- ➔ Black Ensemble Theater (p133)

For reviews, see p133 ➔

## Explore Andersonville & Uptown

These northern neighborhoods are good for a delicious browse. Andersonville is an old Swedish enclave centered on Clark St, where timeworn European-tinged businesses and bakeries mix with new foodie restaurants, funky boutiques, vintage shops and gay and lesbian bars. Places like the butter-lovin' Swedish Bakery carry on the legacy of the original inhabitants, but the residential streets are now home mostly to creative types, young professionals and folks who fly the rainbow flag.

Around the corner to the south, Uptown is a whole different scene. Argyle St runs through the heart of 'Little Saigon,' filled with pho-serving restaurants and clattering shops selling exotic goods from the homeland. Several historic theaters cluster at N Broadway and Lawrence Ave, including Al Capone's favorite speakeasy, the Green Mill. It's still a timeless venue to hear jazz and to tinkle.

Traditional sights are in short supply. You're in the neighborhoods to stroll and window-shop, eat and drink and maybe see a show. Begin in the afternoon and linger on through the night. Or make a full day of it by starting at Montrose Beach for surf and sand in the morning. Further north, Devon Ave – a wild mash-up of Indian, Pakistani, Russian and Jewish shops and restaurants – offers a worthy detour for those with more time.

## Local Life

➔ **Solstice party** In mid-June Andersonville harks back to its Swedish roots, and everyone gets together to dance around the maypole and eat lingonberries for Midsommarfest.

➔ **Saturday salon** Local artists and journalists gather to discuss life on the Green Mill's stage for the Paper Machete (p133) every Saturday.

➔ **Dog beach** When locals need to let Fido roam and splash, they unleash at Montrose Beach (p134). It is *the* four-legged scene.

## Getting There & Away

➔ **El Red Line** to Berwyn (six blocks east of Clark St) for Andersonville. Red Line to Argyle for Argyle St; Red Line to Lawrence for Green Mill and around.

➔ **Bus Number 22** travels along Clark St.

➔ **Car Meter** and on-street parking are available in Andersonville and Uptown, though it gets congested on weekends.