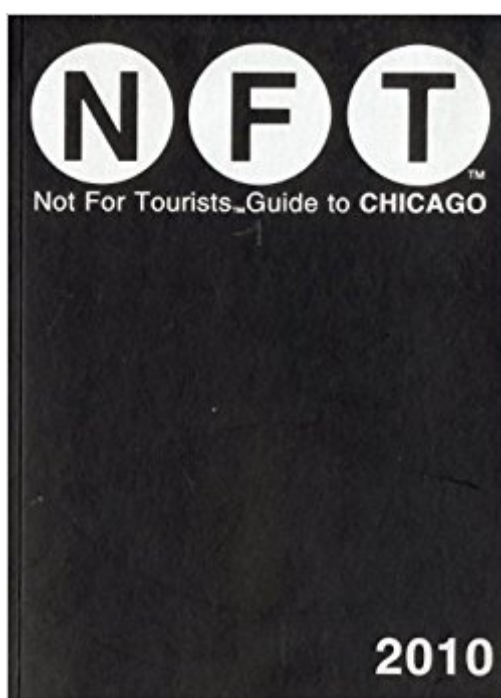




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# Not For Tourists Guide To 2010 Chicago (Not For Tourists Guidebook) (Not For Tourists Guidebooks)



## Synopsis

The Not For Tourists Guide to Chicago divides Chi-town into 60 mapped neighborhoods, with each neighborhood practically a city unto itself. Every map is dotted with user-friendly NFT icons that plot the nearest essential services and entertainment locations while providing important information on things like kid-friendly activities, public transportation, and Chicago's art scene. The book includes sections on the North Side, Near North Side, Near West Side, the Greater Loop, the South Side, Greater Chicago, Parks & Places, Colleges & Universities, Transit, Sports, General Information, and Arts & Entertainment. It's the only key to The Windy City that Daley can't give you.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Take an A-Z, mix it with a Lonely Planet and throw in all the things a guide book should NEVER say and voila, you get the Not for Tourists Guide" - The Observer a most useful book for visitors, full of imaginative advice on shops, sights and restaurants - and jam-packed with invaluable maps." - The Mail on Sunday "The new must-have resource (the Yellow Pages are so over)." - Chicago "...an answer to a prayer." - CBS Newsradio "Survival handbooks for natives -- but they can be lifesavers for visitors as well." - Boston Globe "It's not quite Lonely Planet, and it's not quite the Yellow Pages, but NFT may be their bastard child." - Toronto Star " - the anti-guidebook. It empowers visitors - and locals - to make all their own decisions." - Toronto Star " - for people who don't want to be seen carrying a guidebook." - The New Yorker " - a series of guides designed to make you feel like a local." - CNN "NFT books keep you from looking like that most loathed of public figures: the guy with

the map." - Men's Journal " - sleek, black, concise - " - Men's Journal

Not For Tourists is the ultimate guide for the savvy city-dweller. Our philosophy is simple: Whether you've lived in your neighborhood for 55 years or 55 minutes, NFT will help you navigate and explore the city like a local. Written and designed by in-the-know city slickers themselves, NFT is mobile-oriented, cartographically-inclined, and to-the-point. For over a decade, our cabal of mapmakers, writers, editors, graphic designers, and urban adventurers have scoured the streets, read the writings, and lived the credos of practical, esoteric city travel. Within the matte black covers of our guides, discover secret city spots you never knew existed— from dive bars and extravagant restaurants to local hardware stores and abandoned buildings (we don't judge).

This book was extremely helpful while I was in Chicago. It's got like 40+ maps that break Chicago into tiny pieces, and basically allows you to see what restaurants, atms, grocery stores, bars, etc. are in each section of the 40+ maps. On the left page, there is a detailed map of that section of Chicago, and then on right page, there is a list of all the things that are available in that section (restaurants, atms, etc). In addition to that, in the back of the book, there's suggestions for what to do for entertainment during different times of the year, and there's also reviews of all the bars and restaurants in Chicago. The only thing I think this book is lacking is a better map of Chicago's downtown. There was no map of like all the downtown sections combined together. So, you have to keep flipping pages to find which map section that you are in, instead of just using one large downtown map. Other than that, this book is really helpful in getting around Chicago and finding things to do. It has the phone numbers and hours of like every single store, restaurant, museum, or bar in Chicago, so if you have any questions that the book can't answer, you can just call the number and find out for yourself.

Holy smokes, this book is so cool and handy! Not only do I absolutely love the way it looks and feels, but it gives practical information as well. Perhaps the most important thing this book offers me is the break-down of all the different Chicago neighborhoods. It gives me loads of maps and resources. All of the questions I had that remained unanswered by humans and websites were answered in this book. Books are our future! Now that I have moved to Chicago, I go almost everywhere with my NFT for the maps. I have GPS on my phone, but if my battery is dying, or I'm underground and can't get service, or my GPS isn't updating quickly enough, I turn to my NFT. When I am downtown, in the loop especially, I can get turned around fairly easily. I will get off a

train, choose an exit, and not know quite where I am. All I have to do is find a corner and locate it in my NFT, which is easier than typing it into my phone. Also, the street maps have all the different L lines included, which is indispensable. I've seen many maps here, and none are as good as the maps found in my NFT.

I received this book a couple days ago and just realized that there is a newer (2011) edition. I think this book will do just fine though. NFT Guide to Chicago is an excellent resource. If you're thinking of not buying one of these guidebooks because of the small font that some reviewers have commented about, the font isn't really that small. I can see the street names very clearly and it has not been a problem for me. This book is great for those planning on moving to the Chicago area and deliberating on an area to move to. Each area is broken down into what banks, gas stations, supermarkets, schools, nightlife hot spots, restaurants (and many other businesses) are in the area. It also has tons of other valuable information about Chicago, making it a must-buy for the Chicago newbie.

Lots of info, maps and well-categorized pretty easy to focus in on details by interest and area. In most ways, the book does live up to its promise. The one real issue is the font. The books' printing is SO SMALL that it is nothing short of irritating. Map names are so small as to be almost illegible. While I recommend the book for its info, I give it equally negative rating on its ridiculously tiny print.

This book is great in many ways and has been helpful for me with all my trips to Chicago since 2007. The maps are excellent and the layout makes sense. Also, the authors are truthful about things (for instance they don't sugarcoat when it comes to the lousy public transportation in the city...they are very honest about it). They have a good sense of humor, too. My main problem comes to the small writing of the various places and also the fact that each place does not have a corresponding number on the map, just a symbol. Therefore, there may be 40 different shops on State street, but only a few shopping bags will show up on the map symbolizing all of them. So how do you know which ones are which? Other than that, I really like it.

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