NEW Adventures Await Summer Visitors to Navy Pier®

NEW “Taste of Tall Ships® Chicago 2011,” NEW Jimmy Buffett’s Margaritaville Bar & Grill, NEW LandShark Lager Navy Pier Beer Garden, NEW Cirque Shanghai performances, NEW Pier Walk, and NEW Fireworks Shows are among exciting summer options at the Midwest’s top destination!

(Chicago) – “Save Summer!” from boredom, thanks to NEW and exciting Chicago-style fun at Navy Pier. Whether you’re awestruck by our spectacular summer fireworks displays every Wednesday and Saturday night over beautiful Lake Michigan or you’re taking a ride aboard one of our many cruise boats or enjoying the latest movies in our IMAX Theater or even experiencing the magic of live performances in our Tony Award-winning Chicago Shakespeare Theater, you’ll find there’s fun for guests of all ages during a visit to Navy Pier.

Navy Pier is the NEW home to Jimmy Buffett’s Margaritaville Bar & Grill, the only such restaurant operating in the Midwest. Opening in early summer, this eating oasis offers island-inspired cuisine, frozen concoctions, legendary music, and dockside atmosphere. Come enjoy your very own “cheeseburger in paradise” or other entrees on the menu.

The NEW “Taste of Tall Ships® Chicago 2011” sails into Navy Pier, August 11 - August 14, for four majestic days. Take a tour of four historic vessels, enjoy a sail-away cruise on Lake Michigan, and learn how these maritime marvels helped Chicago become the Midwest metropolis we know today.

Our NEW LandShark Lager Navy Pier Beer Garden is a great place to unwind and soak up summer, as you relax to live band performances, delicious drinks, and an unbeatable view of the Chicago skyline and our fireworks shows. Opening Friday, May 27, just in time for the Memorial Day weekend, this venue will host live, outdoor entertainment, Wednesdays through Sundays, through Labor Day.

 Witness the return of ‘‘Chicago’s summer spectacle” for a 6th smash season! Extreme Cirque Shanghai will wow audiences with a NEW world premiere of spectacular stagecraft and astonishing acrobatics, all choreographed to a beautiful, new musical score. Extreme Cirque Shanghai opens June 23 and runs through September 5. Updates on performance dates and times are available at www.cirqueshanghai.com.
Also NEW in 2011, don’t miss the return of Navy Pier Walk. This exciting exhibition will fill Gateway Park and Navy Pier’s Dock Street with beautiful, original works of art. The full display opens July 1.

Watch summer’s hottest blockbuster movies on Chicago’s largest flat screen at the Navy Pier IMAX Theatre. Summer showings on the 6-story tall movie screen include: “Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides” (May 20), “Transformers: Dark of the Moon” 3D (July 1. Remember, it’s the big-budget action film shot here in Chicago!), and “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part II” 3D (July 15).

Our award-winning fireworks light up the sky all summer, beginning May 28 through Labor Day. Enjoy the stunning display of fireworks over Lake Michigan, every Wednesday at 9:30 p.m., and every Saturday at 10:15 p.m. Also, you will not want to miss our official City of Chicago Fireworks Spectacular on Monday, July 4 at 9:00 p.m. (official time subject to change). There will be more than 30 fireworks shows, presented by Melrose Pyrotechnics, with accompanying soundtracks by radio stations, Fresh FM and B96.

Navy Pier’s world famous Ferris wheel will be open all summer, allowing you to soar to incredible heights and get a bird’s-eye view of Chicago’s front yard campus. The Wave Swinger will send you flying through the air, lifting you 14 feet above the ground before whisking you around. Take a different sort of swing at our Miniature Golf Course, as you putt-putt your way around Pier Park.

Bike Chicago Tours are back again! Ride along and explore Chicago through an engaging bike tour. Bikes, skates, and other accessories are also available for rent. Segway Experience of Chicago allows visitors a unique and fun, motorized way to tour the lakefront, as you roll your way through Chicago.

The Tony Award-winning Chicago Shakespeare Theatre premiers a comedic “whodunit,” Murder for Two—A Killer Musical, with a twist: one actor plays an inspector, the other plays all 10 suspects. This musical comedy, running from May 12 - June 19, 2001, mixes suspense, mystery, comedy, and wit to tell the tale of an inspector’s investigation at the home of a recently deceased novelist.

Take a boat ride to experience Lake Michigan or the Chicago River up-close with Seadog Speedboat Rides happening throughout the summer. Seadog gives riders a thrilling, high-speed view of Chicago’s lakefront. Shoreline Sightseeing Cruises lead fun and exciting tours that depart daily from Navy Pier. Choose from several options, including architecture cruises, skyline lake tours, fireworks cruises highlighting Navy Pier’s amazing fireworks, or special event cruises that feature everything from food sampling to beer tasting. Or, book your own adventure with Shoreline’s private charter opportunities.

As summer begins to fade, and you find yourself wanting to escape the inevitable Chicago winter, enter the American Airlines Trip Giveaway. From Memorial Day through Labor Day, enter for a chance to win roundtrip airfare to any destination serviced by American Airlines.

Navy Pier is proud to present a summer that offers something to appeal to the play palate of every visitor.

For additional information and event listing, call 312/595-PIER. Outside the Chicagoland area, call, 800/595-PIER. For event bookings and general sales information, call 312/595-5300. You can also check our web site: www.navypier.com or follow us on Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/navypier), Twitter (http://twitter.com/navypier) and YouTube (http://www.youtube.com/navypierytv).

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