



Welcome from NAPO Chicago Chapter! We've assembled this "Know Before You Go" information to help plan your travel for the [NAPO 2018 Retreat](#). For updates and more info, please check the ["host city" page on our chapter website](#).



LOCATION DETAILS

Location: Please note, the [Q Center](#) in St. Charles, is in the far west suburbs, 45 Miles from Downtown Chicago (The Loop). Travel distance to the Q Center is 35 miles from O'Hare Airport, and 50 miles from Midway Airport. The Q Center campus is about 5 minutes drive from downtown St. Charles. Please consider this in your time and travel planning.

Traffic and Timing: Depending on your arrival time, your travel times to Chicago or the Q Center will vary depending on traffic. During rush hours, travel times can be double or more. Typical Chicago traffic starts to slow each day around 6am, with congestion clearing at 10am. In the evenings, traffic begins to slow starting at 3pm, and subsides in most places around 7pm.

Google Maps estimated travel times for reference:

From O'Hare to Q Center: 40 minutes - 1 hour

From Midway to Q Center: 50 minutes - 1 1/2 hours

BUSINESS CASUAL DRESS CODE

Even though this year's conference is being promoted as a "Retreat, the recommended conference attire will remain **business casual**. Remember:

- Q Center air conditioning may be cool, so remember a sweater or light jacket.
- Some NAPO members choose more dressy party attire for the President's Reception. This year's color theme is **NAPO Blue and Silver!**
- Remember to bring your industry "bling" such as CPO pin or Golden Circle pin.
- Please keep in mind that NAPO has a fragrance-free policy.

TRANSPORTATION TO & FROM AIRPORTS

Arranged and shared ride services are generally more economical than a taxi for transportation from the Chicago airports (Midway and O'Hare). Local driver, app-based ride services (Uber & Lyft) also offer options for shared transportation to and from airports.

Taxi: In addition to on-demand available taxis at the airports, you can consult [Curb](#), an official taxi app for the city of Chicago. The Curb app offers travel and pricing information for 10 local taxi companies.

Uber: For info on the Uber app and services and Uber Cab in Chicago [click here](#). On this Uber Chicago site you can search airport ride options and pricing. (samples below):

Uber from O'Hare to Q Center: \$95-\$125 Uber Select 1-4 seat vehicle, \$173-\$227 for 6 seat SUV, and \$141 - \$187 for Uber Black (high end service with professional driver)

Uber from Midway to Q Center: \$114-\$149 Uber Select 1-4 seat vehicle, \$208-\$274 for 6 seat SUV, and \$170-\$225 for Uber Black.

Lyft: for info on the Lyft app and services in Chicago [click here](#). You can also search online for discount [promo codes](#) if you are new to the service. On the Lyft website, you can search airport ride options and pricing (samples below):

Lyft from O'Hare to Q Center: estimated range \$59 for 1-2 seat vehicle, \$213 for 6 seat SUV.

Lyft from Midway Airport to Q Center: Estimated range \$71 for 1-2 seat vehicle, \$260 for 6 seat SUV

A1 Limo: [A1 Airport Limousine Service](#) is the **Q Center's preferred transportation provider, and the Business Center can coordinate pick-ups**, taking advantage of shared ride rates. Attendees requesting transportation will receive a confirmation number and airport arrival instructions directly from the hired car service 72 hours prior to their arrival. Attendees pay driver directly for car service.

American Coach Limousine: [American Coach Limo](#) offers economy and full size rates, and [5% discount for booking reservations online](#). See sample prices below (not including gratuity and taxes):

From O'Hare to St. Charles:

Economy Car: \$69, Full Size Car: \$75

Luxury Car: \$79, Luxury SUV: \$95

Stretch Limo: \$122

10 passenger van: \$163, 14 passenger van: \$197

From Midway to St. Charles:

Economy Car: \$82, Full Size: \$92

Luxury Car: \$86, Luxury SUV: \$102

Stretch Limo: \$143

10 passenger van: \$152, 14 passenger van: \$177

Your Private Limousine Inc: [Your Private Limo](#) offers economy and luxury rates as well as vans and buses for group options to and from the airports. In addition, they offer hourly rates if you want to [tour & visit downtown Chicago](#), or any other areas in Chicagoland. Rates shown are all inclusive (even including driver gratuity so there are no surprises). Rates from the airports are slighter higher than return trips, due to airport tax on arrivals.

* Use account number NAPO #86939 when making reservation.

From O'Hare to St. Charles:

Sedan (1 - 3 passengers): \$102.40

SUV (1 - 6 passengers): \$121.60

Limo (1 - 8 passengers): \$146.80

14 passenger Van: \$267.00

14 passenger Mini Bus: \$323.25

23 passenger Bus: \$370.13

39 passenger Bus: \$781.75

From St. Charles to O'Hare

\$98.40

\$117.60

\$142.80

\$231.00

\$287.25

\$334.13

\$727.75

From Midway to St. Charles:

Sedan (1 - 3 passengers): \$120.40

SUV (1 - 6 passengers): \$138.40

Limo (1 - 8 passengers): \$163.60

14 passenger Van: \$267.00

14 passenger Mini Bus: \$338.87

23 passenger Bus: \$373.25

39 passenger Bus: \$350.50

From St. Charles to Midway

\$116.40

\$134.40

\$159.60

\$231.00

\$302.87

\$337.25

\$296.50

Rates from St. Charles to Chicago (Point to Point):

Sedan \$105.60, SUV \$123.60, Limo \$147.60

14 passenger Van \$225.00, 14 passenger Mini Bus \$337.50

Hourly Rates (2 hour minimum):

Sedan \$69.60, SUV \$90, Limo \$126

14 passenger Van \$118.75, 14 passenger Mini Bus \$112.50

23 passenger Bus \$131.25, 39 passenger Bus \$143.75

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION TO & FROM DOWNTOWN CHICAGO

Metra Train: Metra is a commuter railroad in the Chicago metropolitan area. 11 suburban commuter train lines from several downtown Chicago terminals. Rush hour service is frequent; otherwise every 1 to 2 hours. Most routes run daily.

Rail service runs between the [Ogilvie Transportation Center](#) (Chicago OTC) in downtown Chicago and Geneva. Geneva is located 5 miles south of the Q Center in St. Charles. Current fare is \$8.25 each way and is a 1-1.25 hour trip between Chicago OTC and [Geneva](#), IL. (approx 5 miles from Q Center).

CTA Bus & Trains: The [CTA](#) operates the nation's second largest public transportation system and covers the City of Chicago and 35 surrounding suburbs. CTA runs buses (routes 1 to 206)

and elevated/subway trains serving the city and 35 nearby suburbs. Most routes run daily through late evening, every 10 to 20 minutes.

Downtown Transit Sightseeing Guide: Click to download a downtown Chicago map with popular destinations: [Downtown Transit Sightseeing Guide](#) (PDF)

DRIVING & PARKING IN CHICAGO

Safe Driving: Driving can be a great way to explore Chicago and take in the beauty of the skyline, the lakeshore, the architecture and neighborhoods. However, Chicago traffic and rush hours are significant factors to consider (especially downtown). In addition to private vehicles we share the road with city buses, bicycles and lots of pedestrians (who have the right of way FYI). For safety's sake it's a good idea to plan to "stop and look" along your journey rather than try to take it all in as you drive. Plan out your route and destinations before you head out and take advantage of travel apps that offer real-time traffic updates and driving directions (like [Waze](#), or [Google Maps](#)).

Parking in Chicago: Parking often also requires some advance planning and is rarely free. There are several off-street paid parking garages and lots downtown, as well as metered street parking throughout the city.

This [Chicago Parking website](#) offers everything you need to know about parking in Chicago, and information is organized by destination, neighborhoods and types of parking!

There are some apps to help you find parking and shop for best prices.

[Park Whiz](#) and [Spot Hero](#) both offer real-time and advance reservations on their website and mobile app.

[Park Chicago](#) is the official mobile pay app for Chicago metered street parking. You can also pay for metered parking with cash and credit card at the payment boxes.

VISITOR & TOURISM INFORMATION

Local Weather: April weather is unpredictable, ranging between warm and cooler temps from day to night, and with rain as Spring approaches. Downtown Chicago is "cooler by the lake," and can be 10-15 degrees cooler than inland locations.

Chicago Area: NAPO Chicago Chapter has partnered with Concierge Preferred Magazine to help provide you with easy access to the best restaurants, attractions, shopping and more that our city has to offer. Use this link to plan your visit now, and during NAPO 2018 stop by our hospitality table to pick up your copy of Concierge Preferred. Magazine.

<http://www.conciergepreferred.com/NAPO2018>

St. Charles Area Tourism Information: Check out these websites for information on the St. Charles area near the Q Center.

[St. Charles Visitors Bureau](#)

<http://www.westsuburbanliving.net/February-2018/St-Charles-Town-Focus/>

[General Geneva Attraction Information](#)

Local Events near the Q Center on Thursday, April 26, 2018:

[Kane County Cougars Baseball Game](#) vs. Quad Cities, 6:30pm. 6 miles from Q Center

The Clairvoyants at [Arcada Theater](#), 7:30pm. 2.5 miles from Q Center

[Barn Dance at Kuhn Village Barn](#) at 7:30pm (exactly what you think it is) 12 miles from Q Center

Once the Musical at [The Paramount Theater](#) at 7:00pm 14 miles from Q Center

LOCAL FAVORITES

Members of NAPO Chicago Chapter share some of their favorite ways to enjoy the city of Chicago, as well as the St. Charles & Geneva areas near the Q Center.

Chicago Sightseeing Recommendations:

Shopping on the Michigan Avenue, the "[Magnificent Mile](#),"

A trip to the [SkyDeck](#) (take your photo op on The Ledge) at top of the Willis Tower

A stop under [Cloud Gate](#) (informally known as "The Bean") for a photo op in Millennium Park

[Art Institute](#)

[Shedd Aquarium](#)

[Field Museum](#)

[Navy Pier](#) or the [Lakefront Trail](#) if the weather is nice and you want to be outside

[Double decker bus tour](#)

[Water Taxi](#) Board at the river right by the Metra Train Station on Madison and get off at Michigan Avenue or the River Walk area. Only about \$3 and though you don't get a history lesson it's fun and cheap. You can also just buy your ticket on the boat. [Connecting Chicago - Chicago Water Taxi](#)

[Chicago Architecture Foundation](#) (CAF) River Cruise. The CAF has many other tours from which to choose.

Dining & Attractions Near St. Charles (Q Center)

St. Charles is considered one of the [Tri-Cities](#) -- three cities including St. Charles, Geneva and Batavia that are all along the Fox River. St. Charles is to the North and Batavia to the South.

Local Shopping: If you are shopping for fun and don't want to drive into Chicago, **3rd Street** in Geneva is a great option for a unique shops (most located south of State Street). This is a regional destination of small locally owned shops and restaurants. Don't skip the Little Traveler or one of the candy shops; Graham's or All Chocolate Kitchen.

<http://members.genevachamber.com/list/category/specialty-shops-405>

Or <http://www.genevachamber.com/shop.php>

If you forgot something on your trip or want to hit some strip malls or big box stores, head west to Randall Road. You'll find anything you want between Rt. 64 (Main Street in St. Charles) down to Main Street in Batavia.

Coffee Shops. If you want to stretch out and get some work done [Arcedium Coffee](#) shop is the place to go. Don't worry there is also a Starbucks in downtown St. Charles and Geneva. The closest Panera is at Kirk Road and Rt. 64 on the East side of St. Charles.

Breakfast: Check out [the Brunch Cafe](#) in St. Charles. [Mother's Pancake House](#) is on the east side of St. Charles and [DRM European Café](#) in downtown. It also has a Polish buffet at lunch. If you are in Geneva [Nosh](#) and [Egg Harbor](#) are good spots. [Buttermilk](#) is also a popular restaurant in Geneva, but if you want to go on a busy day, make a reservation through the [nowait app](#).

Chicago Food Faves Without The Drive:

[Portillo's](#) – if you want a quick service restaurant with Chicago flair this is it. Chicagoans love their Italian beef from Portillos. Salads and ribs are also popular items and hot dogs!

If you need to get a taste of Chicago deep dish pizza without the drive, there is a [Giordano's](#) (if you don't mind dining in a strip mall)

St. Charles Dining: There are lots of restaurants in downtown St. Charles. For a fine dining experience check out [St. Charles Place](#) or [La ZaZa's Trattoria](#). For Italian try [Nova Italian](#). [Wok 'n Fire](#) serves Sushi and PanAsian Cuisine with a great atmosphere – busy, so make a reservation or call ahead. For Mexican try [El Puente](#). For Indian and Nepali cuisine, try [Taste of Himalayas](#).

Geneva Dining: Too many restaurants and shops to list. This is a dining and shopping destination for the area. Parking can often be difficult to find (but free) and you may need to walk a bit to your destination (mostly on weekends and in summer). Take a look at the [parking maps](#). This is still a small town though, so really you don't have much to worry about.

Mexican: [Bien Trucha](#) is a tapas still Mexican restaurant that is very popular, it is also easy to miss on State Street because of its nondescript location. If you can't get in there, [Altiro Fusion](#) has a similar menu.

American Fair: Patton House, home cooking try [Preservation](#) (this is a small restaurant), Burgers (including a fantastic shrimp burger) at [Burger Local](#). More fine dining, but if the weather is nice, [Fiora's](#) has the best outdoor seating in Geneva. For more pub food try [Old Towne Pub](#) or [Stockholm's Brew Pub](#). If you like whiskey and other liquor check out [Barrel + Rye](#) on 3rd Street.

Farm to Table: Try [Niche](#) for a fine dining experience, also on 3rd Street.

Italian: [Riganato Old World Grill](#) has a Martini Bar upstairs. [Gia Mia](#) is a newer restaurant in Geneva that serves small plates, pasta and pizza. Other good pizza can be found at [Cotto A Legna](#) and [Doughocracy](#).

Sweets and Wine: [All Chocolate Kitchen](#) serves as you guessed it, chocolate. They also have a lunch menu and a wine Bar called [Primo](#). If nothing else, stop it, and check out the amazing chocolate sculptures. Everything is good there, including gelato. Chef Roby is a celebrity Chef and you might find him there making sugar sculptures. If you want old time fudge and chocolate, check out [Graham's](#) just down a block or so on 3rd street.

Batavia Dining: [Gaetanos](#), a fantastic Italian restaurant, is about 15 minutes down Route 25 or 31. Splurge and get the *Gaetapas*, you won't regret it. Small restaurant, so make a reservation or call ahead.

Get Out And Explore Near Q Center:

Nightlife: [Arcada Speakeasy](#) is a popular St. Charles destination, or [Evenflow](#) in Geneva.

Outdoors: Take a walk or short hike in [Pottawatomie Park](#) in St. Charles or in [Fabyan Wood Forest Preserve](#) in Geneva. If you want to go further out, check out [Cantigny](#) in Wheaton about 12 miles SE of St. Charles.

Bike Ride: Bring your bike or rent one at [Mill Race Cyclery in Geneva](#) and take a ride up and down the [Fox Valley Trails](#). Check out the Japanese Gardens next to the Fox River along the bicycle trail in Geneva, just north of Fabyan Parkway.

Books: Check out local bookstore [TownHouse Books](#) and have lunch there as well.

Science: If you're a science geek, head down to [Fermilab National Accelerator Lab in Batavia](#). More extensive tours of Fermilab are offered on Wednesday morning. See [Calendar](#) (15 minutes from Q Center).

Have a group and want to try an escape room? Try [iPanic Escape Rooms](#) in St. Charles

Need to relax some more? Try out a Salt Cave – [The Salt Escape](#) in Batavia.